



The Newsletter of the New Hampshire Library Trustees Association

MEET LIZ TENTARELLI

By Adele Knight, NHLTA Director

Welcome to Liz Tentarelli from Newbury, who is the newest member of the NHLTA Board of Directors. After learning about her impressive array of skills, which included teaching/training, legislative acumen, and strategic planning, the NHLTA Board of Directors appointed Liz to the Board. The fact that Liz has been a trustee for the Newbury Public Library for 12 years, nine of those years as chair, is another asset that confirmed how valuable she could be to the NHLTA.

Professionally, Liz has been a life-long educator. Her career began as a junior/senior high school English teacher. She then spent 23 years teaching English (mostly writing skills) at the college level. Now retired, Liz is still dedicated and substitutes at the local elementary school.



Liz has joined the NHLTA Education Committee and looks forward to presenting at the Orientation Work-shop in June. She believes it is up to the Education Committee to make clear and simple for first-time trustees what it means to be a trustee. Trustees need to fully understand their duties and the tools that are available to them. She said, "We must develop easier access for information so that trustees can deal with day-to-day issues."

Continuing with her skills as an educator, Liz spent thirty-three years as a Girl Scout volunteer in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Her twenty-five years in administration, supervision and training, working primarily with the adults that delivered programs to the girls, are congruent with the talents needed to serve the NHLTA.

Liz currently is president of the League of Women Voters NH. She tracks legislation and has testified and advocated in favor of or in opposition to proposed

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2016 SPRING CONFERENCE & ANNUAL MEETING

May 23, 2016

Grappone Conference Center
70 Constitution Avenue, Concord

LIBRARIES IN TRANSITION: Past, Present, Future

Remember when defining the library as 'where you go to borrow books' just about said it all? Today's libraries are increasingly filling multiple roles in their communities and becoming vibrant learning centers in ways they never were in the past. This year's NHLTA Spring Conference will reflect on the changing role of the public library by celebrating the library's traditional role, sharing information to make today's libraries better, and exploring ways to meet the needs of the future. The combination of an excellent array of professional speakers, a wide variety of topics, and the opportunity to network with library colleagues adds up to a conference designed to assist you as you work with your library and your community.

The conference will begin with a keynote address by writer, editor, journalist, essayist and lecturer Edie Clark. For almost twenty years, Edie has written a popular monthly essay for *Yankee* magazine. Known as "Mary's Farm," the column is rooted in the place where she lives, an old farm in the Monadnock Region of New Hampshire. Her love of libraries is expressed in her essay, "The Most Important Building in Town," published by *Yankee* magazine in March 2011.

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Message from the President . . .

Welcome new trustees. We hope you take advantage of the educational workshops NHLTA is offering this year, especially the Annual Spring Conference on May 23. In addition to a “new trustee” track of workshops identified as important to your orientation, we are offering four other workshops focusing on fundraising, trusts, and foundations.

Trustees have the responsibility of managing library trust funds, and an enlightening article in the Wednesday, 17 February, *USA Today* Money Section should be of interest to all.

Eight years into his 10-year bet against the hedge fund industry, Warren Buffett—using the Vanguard 500 Index Fund Admiral Shares (an unmanaged, low cost index fund)—has beaten five hedge funds selected by Protégé Partners, 65.7% to 21.9% with 2 years left on the bet. It seems safe that he is right; that managed hedge funds and managed money in general has difficulty as a value proposition compared to his chosen index fund.

Trustees may want to keep this in mind before assuming you can't do as well with library trust funds.



Ed Moran
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Meet Liz Tentarelli continued from page 1

legislation a number of times. As a result of co-chairing a three-year League study of the issues facing incarcerated women, Liz was appointed to the Citizens Advisory Board to the NH Correctional Center Facility for Women. Liz and a colleague have developed a course on the impact of women incarcerated in NH, which they have presented multiple times. Liz also writes articles for various newspapers and newsletters as related to her volunteer work, and develops and presents slideshows for a variety of audiences.

On a personal note, Liz loves to travel. This photo shows her conversing with a Barbary ape on the Rock of Gibraltar. Her most recent trips were to Belize and Croatia.

When I asked Liz why she enthusiastically agreed to serve on the NHLTA Board of Directors, she replied that she was drawn to the goal of better educating trustees so they could better serve their libraries. We believe she will do just that. Thank you, Liz. 📖



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“The NHLTA assists Trustees to be knowledgeable and effective in order to serve, improve and promote NH Public Libraries.”

MORE THAN MONEY: Programs Sponsored by Friends

By Susan Gaudiello, NHLTA Director

This is the third article on Friends groups, drawn from information gathered in a survey conducted in the spring of 2015.

Most Friends groups are formed to raise funds in order to supplement the programs, materials and services offered at their local public library. Of those responding to the NHLTA survey in the Spring of 2015, Friends reported spending their hard-earned money most frequently on museum passes (87%), Summer Reading Program activities (78%), purchase of materials (76%), children's programming (70%), adult lectures (57%), and providing hospitality (refreshments) for library programs (50%).

Programs

Some Friends have actually taken on responsibility for coordinating some programs for the Library while others underwrite specific programs. The Friends of the Hooksett Library started a FIRST Lego Robotic League in the Fall of 2014 with 5 teams, and held a robotic expo at the library with over 100 people in attendance. They purchased Lego kits for the library to circulate, which have been a huge hit with the patrons. Most Friends groups support both adult and children's programs, like the American Girl Tea sponsored by the Friends of the Kingston Community Library. The Friends of the Brown Memorial Library (Bradford) offers a monthly chess night, and have offered poetry writing workshops for teens. And The Friends of the Weeks Memorial Library (Lancaster) supports, among other programs, the annual Library Card Party for Lancaster School first-graders.

While museum passes are by far the most common benefit offered by Friends, the Friends of the Barrington Public Library found that the expensive passes were not used enough to justify their cost. They launched instead a "museum reimbursement program," taking the funds they were spending on passes and using that pool to reimburse patrons up to \$20 per family per year for admission fees to any New England museum. Patrons love the freedom this approach gives them.

Landscaping

At a number of libraries, the Friends seem to have a lot of members with green thumbs. The Friends of the Whipple Free Library (New Boston) has paid for the plants for gardens and recruits and coordinates volunteers to work in the gardens, and they supported the landscaping at the new library as well. The Friends of the Meredith Public Library also help to plant and maintain their library's garden each year.

Communications

Friends of the Paul Memorial Library (Newfields) provide a newsletter to the town that is mailed out quarterly with information about the library and other organizations in town. They also produce a monthly e-newsletter using Constant Contact which is sent to Friends and others who ask to be on their mailing list. The Friends of the Barrington Public

Library publish a monthly newsletter as well, using the free service MailChimp. In addition to announcing news of fundraisers and programs supported, the Barrington newsletter includes a list of books recommended by the Friends every month (the closing agenda item of their monthly meeting).

Equipment and Furnishings

Many Friends groups have assisted with the purchase of equipment and contributed toward library renovations. The Friends of the Effingham Public Library raised funds to furnish a children's room in the library, and the Friends of the Amherst Town Library purchased an AED for the library, among other items. The Friends of the Northwood Libraries are particularly proud of the exterior sign they purchased for the library, which helps to promote the library and its programs. The Friends of the Nashua Public Library purchased several big-ticket items related to library programming, including a portable indoor stage, a sound system, and a BluRay player for their film nights.

The Secret of Friends' Success

As Mary Jo Martin of the Friends of the Jaffrey Library wrote, "We raise money for anything not covered in the budget, or things to enhance library services, ranging from specialized shelving and carpet to professional magazines, puppets, databases, museum passes. We respond to requests from the library staff." It is that coordination and collaboration with the Library staff that makes the support offered by Friends groups so successful and so much appreciated by their library staff, trustees and patrons.

NHLTA also values the great contribution of Friends groups and wishes to support their efforts through education and networking. We've added a Friends page on the NHLTA website with some IRS information and links to other resources. We also welcome Friends as NHLTA members, and offer discounted registration for the NHLTA Annual Conference to all members of library Friends groups. 



Friends of the Meredith Public Library

Edie has established her reputation as one who writes about ordinary people, each changed by one extraordinary act or circumstance. In addition to *Yankee* magazine, her work has appeared in *The Boston Globe Sunday Magazine*, *Northeast* magazine, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Hope* magazine and *Reader's Digest*. She has received the New Hampshire Writers and Publishers Project's award for Excellence in Journalism and for four years in a row, her essays have been listed in the Best American Essays. In 1998, she was named "Writer of the Year" by the City and Regional Magazine Publishers Association.

Currently, Edie is Contributing Editor for *Yankee* magazine. She teaches writing and has taught many workshops. For several years, she taught in the MFA program at Emerson College in Boston and now teaches at Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, NH.

Additional information about Edie Clark is on her website: www.edieclark.com.

Workshop Sessions

Conference presentations will be offered over three sessions, 9:50–10:50 am, 11:00–12:15 pm, 2:15–3:30 pm, and will cover a variety of topics.

During the first session, NHLTA will present a basic orientation for new trustees. Two members of the NHLTA Board of Directors, Adele Knight (Past President) and David Simpson (Vice President), will present *Starting on the Right Foot: A Basic Orientation for Newly Elected Trustees*. If you are a newly elected trustee, this session is a "must!" The presentation of an orientation session during the conference is in response to suggestions from previous orientation participants.

The first session will also include *How to be a Successful Fundraiser*, with Jeanine Tousignant, President of Jeanine & Company, a recognized expert fundraiser, highly successful team builder, and strategic networker. Terri Jilson White and Mindy Atwood will share their experiences in *Building a New Library: the Sunapee Experience*. In *How the NH Charitable Foundation Works with Libraries and Your Communities*, Linda Reinish and Andrea Thorpe will discuss how the NH Charitable Foundation can bring more resources to your program and the greater community while you steward funds for future generations, using the experience of the Richards Free Library in Newport as an example. Kate Hamel, founder of Community Matters, will share ideas on how to shift the focus from conflict to finding solutions, in *Managing Stress & Conflict in Libraries*.

During the second session, Terry Knowles, Assistant Director of Charitable Trusts at the NH Attorney General's Office, will discuss how to legally accept, administer and

expend all private and non-tax categories of money given to your library in *The Other Money*. George Needham, Director of the Delaware County District Library, Delaware, OH, will present *Community Based Strategic Planning*, the topic most requested by last year's conference participants. Learn how to be aware of safety issues and prepared for emergencies in *Safety in the Library*, presented by Steve Goldman, an internationally recognized expert in crisis management and crisis communication. Trustees with questions about the RSAs related to employment in the public library will not want to miss *Appointing the Library Director and Related Employment Issues*, presented by Margaret M.L. Byrnes, staff attorney at the New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA). David Blake, co-founder of The Marketing Mix, will demonstrate how state-of-the-art database marketing can help you have an in-depth, ongoing understanding of your existing and potential clientele in order to win, retain, and expand both your patron base and community support, in *Leveraging Database Marketing for Competitive Advantage: How to Understand and Reach Your Clientele*.

In session three, Julia Campbell, founder of J. Campbell Social Marketing, will explore the components of telling an effective story using online tools, and will review how your library can use online tools to build an engaged and active online community, in *Engaging your Library Community with Storytelling & Social Media*. Deb Hoadley, a consultant and trainer specializing in libraries for over 10 years, will discuss how to expand community outreach and create beneficial partnerships with community organizations in *Community Building and Engagement: Partnerships at Work*. The workshop, *Technology—What's Next?* with George Needham, Director of the Delaware County District Library, Delaware, OH, is designed to help you determine which new tech tools are lasting and to provide added confidence when deciding to invest your institution's time and money. Terry Knowles, Assistant Director of Charitable Trusts at the NH Attorney General's Office, will explain how to form a Foundation and will provide tips for a mutually beneficial relationship between the foundation directors and the library trustees, in *Forming a Library Foundation and Trustee/Foundation Relationships*. Cordell Johnston, Government Affairs Counsel for the New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA), will present *Right-to-Know*, a workshop covering recent changes to the law including a segment on non-public meetings.

In addition, during the last session of the conference there will be a *Roundtable for Small Libraries*. As with the Orientation presentation in the first session, the Roundtable is being presented in response to comments from last year's

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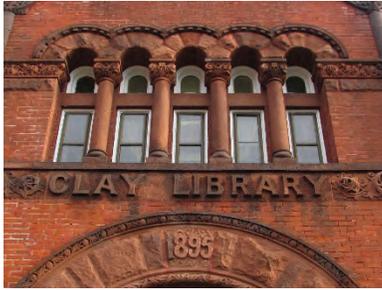
SPOTLIGHT ON OUR LIBRARIES

JAFFREY PUBLIC LIBRARY

By Stephanie Minter, Trustee, and Libby Feil, Director

*“Let Us Strive as Lovers of Our Land to Use Aright Such a Treasure-Trove” **

It began like this: Susan B. Clay and her brother James were returning home from church one Sunday, absorbed in conversation about the further meaning of the lesson they had just heard, when James spoke of his ambition: “Let us give a library to Jaffrey.” Thus, the gift, which came through the will of his surviving sister in 1896, became a memorial to both.



The façade of the original library building.

Clay Library of Jaffrey. We prefer to give the credit to Susan rather than James!

Reverend Leonard Dean in his address at the library dedication quoted the great New Hampshire orator Daniel Webster, his words as true today as centuries ago.

“If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work upon brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples, they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds, if we imbue them with lofty principles, with just sentiments toward God and their fellow men, we shall engrave upon those tablets something which no time can efface, and which will brighten and brighten to all eternity.”

Jaffrey’s Clay Library will be 120 years old on July 4, 2016. On July 4, 1896, a very large crowd of 800 people gathered in a tent on the lawn to witness the acceptance of this magnificent gift to the town of Jaffrey. Professor Charles Richardson of Dartmouth College delivered an address entitled “The Public Library and its Place in the Community,” a topic we are discussing and debating even today. One of the other foresighted addresses that day even concerned the topic of weeding items from the collection—and was in favor of the practice!

Jaffrey’s beautiful red sandstone public library was built by J. D. Littlehale of Fitchburg, Massachusetts, in 1895, designed by the well-known architect H. M. Francis, also of Fitchburg. An addition that roughly doubled

the original space was built in 1989, with red brick facing that complements the original structure.

Devoted citizens have been generous with endowments over the years, which are managed professionally and overseen by the Board of Trustees. These trust funds have supported facilities updates, extensive new technology, children’s programs and toys, new materials, and many other upgrades. The Friends of the Jaffrey Public Library are also significant supporters of the library and form one of the most dedicated and active friends groups in the state. With funds raised through membership and book sales, our Friends provide two to three special adult programs a year and underwrite many library needs, from refreshments to upholstery to new projection equipment.

From its initial collection of 2,200 bound volumes, the library boasts today over 36,000 volumes in print for adults, children and young adults; in excess of 1,600 audiobooks; 1,500+ DVDs; and more than a dozen magazine subscriptions—not to mention several museum passes and a telescope! Our library has embraced technology, providing 10 public-access laptop and desktop computers, technology help for patrons, and access to downloadable books, genealogical databases, and online legal forms.

Children’s programming is frequent, with twice-weekly story times, weekly STEM maker play, a junior book club, drop-in crafts, and special events on holidays and during summer reading. Adult programming has been beefed up over the past couple of years, with adult participation added

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to summer reading in 2014 and monthly speakers brought in starting in 2015. Adults also have their own book club, knitting circle, and movie series. Staff provides weekly outreach to local preschools and a nursing home, as well as hosting visits from local schools and after-school programs.

Our five trustees are elected on a rotating basis every three years, with two alternates chosen each year. This year we welcomed as new director a professional librarian, Libby Feil, who has been working with the staff, the town, the trustees, and many civic organizations to expand and enhance library service to the community. The entire library staff, trustees, and friends are building upon Daniel Webster’s philosophy that education, information, and enlightenment brought to the minds and hearts of our citizenry will “brighten for all eternity.”

* From the original poem by Richard Burton of Hartford, Connecticut, written for the dedication of the Clay Library Building, July 4, 1896. 

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

NHLTA is actively seeking volunteers to work on a project-by-project basis or on a long-term basis. Do you have skills to share to fill in some gaps? Are you looking for something to sink your teeth into in support of libraries?

The NHLTA Board of Directors is an all-volunteer group of current and former library trustees. We need help in the following areas:

Education: Help us put together exciting and educational annual conferences, orientation sessions for new trustees, and topical workshops.

Technology: We need a computer-savvy person with experience working with MSWord, Excel, PowerPoint, and Photoshop. Knowledge of MailChimp and SurveyMonkey would be a plus.

Communications: Support the Editor in creating our quarterly newsletter with content, regional reporting, and feature articles.

For information on how to volunteer with the NHLTA, please contact Loring Webster at l.webster@nhlta.org or Adele Knight at a.knight@nhlta.org with an estimate of the time you can offer, areas of interest, and special skills.

If you care about libraries and want to make a difference, volunteering with NHLTA is a great way to do it! 

Did you enjoy this issue?
Was the information of value to you?
Do you have any suggestions?
Please e-mail the Editor, Adele Knight at a.knight@nhlta.org.

conference participants and NHLTA members throughout the year. It will be moderated by Margaret Walker, Trustee, Chesley Memorial Library, Northwood; Claire Martineau, NHLTA Board Member, Stratford; and Stephanie Charlefour, Library Director, Gay-Kimball Library, Troy.

This year’s conference workshop topics are the result of much discussion and research concerning issues facing libraries today and in the future, response to the needs and questions voiced by NHLTA members, and outreach to professionals with the expertise to assist trustees in successfully performing their duties and achieving their goals. 

— Janice Clark, NHLTA Director



Conference Site

The 2016 Conference will take place at the Grappone Conference Center, 70 Constitution Ave, Concord (same as last year). Directions are available on their website: www.grapponeconferencecenter.com.

Hotel Accommodations

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Courtyard, connected to the Grappone Conference Center, at a discounted rate of \$98 per night. Registrations must be made by April 26 to secure this rate, and refer to NHLTA when making your reservation. Phone: 603-225-0303.

Registration

Brochures were mailed in early March to all NHLTA members and NH library directors. Despite the larger venue, space is limited, and early registration is recommended. While traditional paper registration is still available, we encourage members to register online at the NHLTA website: www.nhlta.org. Payment must be made by check. Online registrants will receive an email confirmation to print and submit with their checks.

NOTICE

Scholarships are available for the NHLTA Spring Conference

Mildred P. McKay Scholarship application form is available on the NHLTA website: www.nhlta.org.

WORKSHOPS

Protecting Patron Confidentiality & Privacy in Public Libraries

Wednesday, April 20 from 9:00 – 1:00

Derry Public Library, 64 E Broadway Derry 603-432-6140

Preregistration Required

Link is available on the NHLTA website: www.nhlta.org.

This FREE program is designed for Library Trustees, Directors, and Librarians. Topics covered will include:

- Why protecting patron confidentiality and privacy is an important part of what public libraries do
- Ways to respond to requests for patron information
- Ways to protect confidentiality and privacy in your library

Speakers are:

Krista McLeod, Director of the Nevins Memorial Library, Methuen, MA. Krista has served as president, conference chair and in other leadership roles for both the Massachusetts Library Association and the New England Library Association. In 2008 she was inducted into the Massachusetts Library Association Hall of Fame in recognition of her advocacy for public libraries, and she is currently co-chair of the New England Library Leadership Symposium (NELLS) committee. NELLS “fosters the mentoring and development of leaders in state and regional library associations.”

Devon Chaffee, Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of New Hampshire, Devon came to New Hampshire from the ACLU’s Washington office, where she worked to stop bias policing, prisoner abuse, privacy violations and free speech infringement. Prior to joining the ACLU, Devon served as Advocacy Counsel at Human Rights First, fighting against U.S. counterterrorism and national security policies that violate human rights.

Panel of New Hampshire Librarians: a panel of New Hampshire librarians will present how they protect patron confidentiality and privacy in their libraries. Panelists will be from a variety of public libraries and discussion will focus on patron data, circulation systems and public access computers.

If you have any questions, contact Library Director, Cara Barlow, at 603-432-6140. 

*Education is the most powerful weapon which
you can use to change the world.*

— Nelson Mandela

TRUSTEE ORIENTATION

Two Opportunities • May 23 and June 18

Whether you are a newly elected trustee or have a few years of service under your belt, NHLTA Trustee Orientation workshops will provide you with the tools and information you need to be an effective library leader. The sessions will cover NH Library laws; Trustee Job Description; Establishing Library Policies; Budgets and the Process from Adoption to Management; Trustee Meetings and the Right-to-Know Law; Trustees as Employers; Trustees as Library Advocates; and The Impact of Technology on libraries.

Monday, May 23

Grappone Conference Center, 70 Constitutional Ave, Concord

This year NHLTA is offering a track of Trustee Orientation workshops at the **Spring Conference**. Download the detailed brochure from the NHLTA website at www.nhlta.org.

NEW TRUSTEE WORKSHOP TRACK

1. Starting on the Right Foot: A Basic Orientation for Newly Elected Trustees.
6. The Other Money
14. Technology – What’s Next?
15. Complying with the Right-to-Know Law

Online registration is recommended—link available on the NHLTA website at www.nhlta.org.

Saturday, June 18

Hooksett Public Library, 31 Mount Saint Marys Way, Hooksett

10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

This **Orientation Workshop** is a comprehensive overview of trusteeship and will provide you with the tools and information you need to be an effective library leader. The following topics will be presented and there will be time available to answer your questions.

NH Laws Relative to Public Libraries
Library Trustees—A Job Description
Establishing Policies for the Library
Budgets—The Process from Adoption to Management
Trustees as Employers
Trustee Meetings and the Right to Know Law
The Trustee as Library Advocate

Online registration required: www.nhlta.org. This workshop is FREE. Handouts and mid-morning refreshments provided.



2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

By Susan Gaudiello, NHLTA Director

NHLTA has been following several bills this session that affect public libraries.

HB 1205

This bill, sponsored by Rep. James Gray (R-Rochester), included libraries that provide children's programming in the definition of drug-free school zone. The bill, which has been seen in prior legislative sessions, was voted Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL) by the House Education Committee and by the full House on March 9.

HB 1401

This bill would have had a direct impact on trustees' oversight of library staff. Rep. Michael Vose (R-Epping) introduced the bill to address issues he encountered as a library trustee in Epping from 2012-15. He proposed to create a default one-year term of appointment for a newly hired director if the trustees fail to make an appointment as required in RSA 202-A:15, and to add as a cause for dismissal "documented violations of the library's personnel policies" in RSA 202-A:17.

NHLTA met with Rep. Vose twice to discuss his goals and concluded that the bill would not harm trustees' authority. NHLTA conveyed this position at the public hearing before the House Municipal and County Government Committee on February 8, and submitted an additional amendment for the committee's consideration: to move the authority to fill trustee vacancies and appoint alternates to the trustees. The NH Library Association opposed the bill at the hearing. On February 17, the bill was voted Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL) by the Committee and by the full House on March 10.

HB 1508

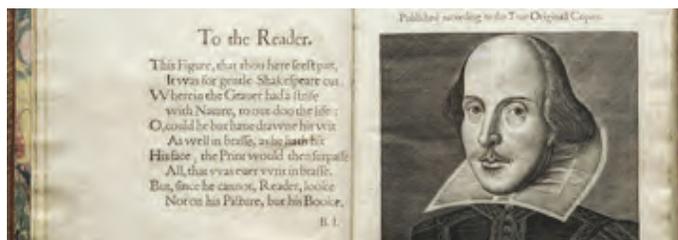
Sponsored by a number of Hillsborough County representatives, this bill will allow public libraries to run certain privacy software. The bill would amend RSA 202-A by inserting a provision allowing "the installation and use of cryptographic privacy platforms on public library computers for library patrons use..." This bill was introduced in response to last year's very public debate on the use of such a platform at Kilton Public Library in West Lebanon, NH. Local law enforcement had expressed concerns about the privacy software, but the trustees reaffirmed its use at the library and this bill would appear to support the trustees' decision. NHLTA took no position on the bill, which has been recommended Ought to Pass (OTP) by the House Municipal and County Government Committee. On March 10, the bill was passed with amendment by the full House and it will go over to the Senate. 

FIRST FOLIO!

The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare

April 9–May 1

Four hundred years after Shakespeare's death, his characters are still timeless and familiar. For many of the plays, the answer is a single book: the 1623 First Folio of Shakespeare. Assembled seven years after Shakespeare's death, the First Folio includes 36 of his plays—18 of which had never been before published.



In partnership with the Cincinnati Museum Center and the American Library Association, *First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare* will be at the **Currier Museum, 150 Ash Street, Manchester**. The exhibition, which also includes panels and digital content, exclusively features First Folios from the Folger Shakespeare Library, whose collection of 82 First Folios is by far the largest in the world. 

NH LIBRARIES ON NHPR

Library sponsorship on New Hampshire Public Radio (NHPR) was launched on January 6 with the first of a series of fifteen promotion ads for public libraries in NH. The 10-second ads will air during the Diane Rehm show every other Monday. The message reads "Support made possible by New Hampshire public libraries, connecting communities in New Hampshire since 1833. Your local library provides information, entertainment, and learning opportunities for all ages." The marketing effort was organized by Lichen Jennings Rancourt, Library Director, Jackson Public Library. Please contact her for more information. 

2016 NHLTA ANNUAL AWARDS

Who will be the special contributors who connect the library with the community? Who are those individuals or groups that have given exemplary library service to their communities? It is not too soon to begin thinking of your nominees for the NHLTA Annual Awards.

A full description of the NHLTA Award criteria will be mailed to every NHLTA member in April and information about the awards can also be found on the NHLTA website. www.nhlta.org. 

The New Hampshire Curmudgeon

Renewal

As each new year is upon us we promise to do things better, or at least differently. Might that also apply to our libraries? Are we growing enough for our patrons, or just doing more of the same? When was the last time we polled the patrons as to what they want? Break it down by age groups and you may be surprised that the needs of the older community are markedly different from those of the millennials in our midst. We need to listen to them, as they are the library patrons of the future. In parallel with the saying in academia, “publish or perish,” libraries must adapt to the times and maintain currency, or risk becoming unsatisfying and irrelevant to many.

Are we doing anything to make sure that doesn't happen? Are we proactive or reactive? Do we have a five-year or ten-year vision? A service-upgrade plan?

Many libraries are becoming the center of the community where a wide range of activities begin or are sustained, where people congregate. Is your library on the forefront or waiting to see what's happening? Make your library a place that people want to visit. How will you make it happen? What needs to change? Who will make it happen?

So seek out others such as patrons or “Friends” who are interested in the future of libraries to help you with the change. Get busy and poll your patrons as to what they want from their library. Set a five-year plan in place, and make it happen.

It's springtime—spring forth!

The Wordy Whippersnapper

Fresh Start

The upcoming generation is more connected than ever. Anything we want to know is literally at our fingertips and downloading new entertainment takes mere seconds. So how do libraries stay relevant when kids have the whole world in their pocket? Experience and IRL (in real life) connections.

Are you offering events and experiences that connect with your community in fresh and fun ways? For example, book-to-movie adaptations have brought a new generation to reading and created “fandoms” that will obsess over every detail together. Offer opportunities for people to get out from behind the screens to interact with the books they love and with other fans. Get creative! Host your own Comic Con, bring in authors, have YA trivia nights, design a Capitol fashion show (Hunger Games cosplay) [costume play for the Curmudgeon's generation], or plan a Harry Potter House party. The possibilities are limitless to bring beloved books to life!

If you are not yet on social media, consider cultivating an online presence that connects with patrons. Many young people are moving away from Facebook to sites like Twitter, Tumblr, or YouTube. Ask your patrons where their book info comes from and go there! Do your research and offer a comparable resource.

This season is always one of fresh starts. A time to clean house and spiff things up. How can your library do the same and offer a breath of fresh air to the people in your community?

ASK THE CURMUDGEON (at www.nhlt.org)

Dear Curmudgeon,

Is it true that in ancient Egypt, papyrus farmers taught people the importance of reeding?

— The Punnisher

Dear Punnisher,

Ancient Egyptians were noted for growing reeds from which they derived papyrus, an early form of paper. Papyrus/Paper/Reading, got it? Reeding, however, came much later as young men grew frisky and had to be disciplined. Reeds were readily available and stung when slashed quickly across bare skin. Ouch!

Thank you for asking The Curmudgeon

REGIONAL TRUSTEE NETWORKING

NHLTA encourages networking among trustees. If you need help organizing, contact Adele Knight at a.knight@nhlta.org. We will publish your meeting date/time/location in the NHLTA newsletter and on the website calendar: www.nhlta.org. Area groups that have had gatherings are: Greater Hooksett Area, Monadnock Area Trustees, North Country Trustees, Seacoast Region Trustees, Rockingham-Strafford Counties Trustees, and Souhegan Valley Area Trustees. Check with your neighboring library trustee boards and enjoy the benefits of meeting your peers and learning from each other.

Monadnock Area Trustees Gathering

By Connie Kirwin, NHLTA Director

The Monadnock Area Trustees met on February 12 at the Stephenson Memorial Library in Greenfield. The meeting was hosted by Trustee Jami Bascom and Library Director Julie Steenson. There were eleven attendees representing six libraries. The discussion ranged from code of conduct (pets in the library, smoking in public buildings, dress code, etc.), staffing issues, Library of Congress surplus books program (free books to libraries), town meetings, and much more. Organized by Adele Knight, the Monadnock Area Trustees have been meeting regularly for almost 10 years and each time new information and experiences—both good and bad—are shared and new friends made. 📖



The Friends presented each Moultonborough kindergartner with a copy of *Summer Visits* by Karel Hayes.

MOULTONBOROUGH FOL

One Book–One Child Program

Friends of the Library presented each kindergartner at the Moultonborough Central School with a gift book to take home and begin their personal home library. Inside each book is a bookplate stating that the book is a gift from the Friends of the Moultonborough Public Library. This Friends-sponsored program seeks to encourage school-aged children to take advantage of all the wonderful books, programs, and resources at the Moultonborough Public Library.

Working with the children's librarian, classroom teachers, and the school librarian, the Friends select book titles for gifts for students. By the end of the school year, each child in grades K through 6 will have received a gift book. 📖

1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

Attention parents and caregivers of all babies, toddlers and preschoolers! *1000 Books Before Kindergarten* is a program designed to help prepare children for one of life's biggest milestones: Kindergarten! Research has shown that children get ready to read years before they begin their formal education. An excellent way to get your child ready to learn is to read to them.

Each time one log sheet (100 books) is completed, the child will receive a small prize and a milestone sticker. After completing 1,000 books, the child will receive a brand new book of their choice!

"Experts tell us that children need to hear a thousand stories read aloud before they begin to learn to read for themselves."

– Mem Fox, *Reading Magic* 📖



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POSTMASTER: Address correction requested.

TRUSTEE TOOLKIT

ORIENTATION

A good orientation is essential for a new trustee (including alternates) to perform effectively. This can range from an informal session with the chair of the board and the library director to a full meeting with the entire board. New trustees should be given a complete tour of the library, an explanation of its services and an introduction to the staff. We strongly recommend that each trustee should have a notebook containing the following information (the notebook should be passed on to incoming trustees from outgoing trustees):

- List of library trustees, including trustee address, phone, email, term expiration
- The board of trustees by-laws
- The board's committees, assignments and duties
- The charter/history of your library
- NH Library Trustees Manual
- Organizational chart of your library
- List of library staff, positions, date of hire
- Job descriptions of staff
- Mission statement
- Library goals/objectives and long range plan; board's annual goals
- Your library's policies and procedures; approved annual holidays
- Board approved budget for current year with back-up materials
- Library board meeting agendas, minutes, monthly reports
- Last annual report and current library statistics of use and holdings
- Copy of Director's Performance Review form
- NH state laws pertaining to libraries

After the new trustee has had a chance to review the notebook, the chair and director should meet with that trustee before the next board meeting. The chair should review the board's committee structure so the new trustee can express an interest in where he/she might best serve. The director should discuss what the staff is presently working on and what challenges he/she perceives for the future. This would be a good opportunity for the chair to review sections of the NHLTA Manual, especially the RSAs, duties and responsibilities and other pertinent sections.

It is essential that all new trustees be made to feel knowledgeable and welcome in order to find a place within the board to make their contribution to library service. NHLTA holds a variety of workshops, including orientations, which are beneficial for new trustees. Board chairs should encourage new trustees to participate in continuing education programs as appropriate.

ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEE

Recruits, appoints, supervises and reviews performance of the library director.

Appoints all other employees of the library and determines their duties and wages in consultation with the director.

Establishes, reviews and revises all policies, including but not limited to personnel, material selection/use and the use of the building.

Enforces all local, state and federal laws that pertain to the library, library employees and the accessibility of materials to the public.

Prepares the annual budget in consultation with the director.

Presents and defends the budget to the municipal budgetary authority.

Has sole authority to determine budget lines for expenditures and move monies from one budget line to another.

Reviews budget on a regular basis and approves expenditures for unforeseen circumstances.

Maintains library revenue in a separate non-lapsing account from the operating budget; approves all expenditures of those funds.

Provides adequate insurance to cover the building equipment, collection materials, and their replacement costs.

Adopts, reviews and revises bylaws, rules and regulations for the board's own transaction of business and for the governance of the library.

Develops and approves the mission statement for the library; contributes to and approves the development of short and long term goals for the library.

Actively participates in and contributes to the meetings and work of the board.

Supports all decisions made by the board.

Acts as a member of a board and assumes individually only those duties delegated by the board.

Acquires full knowledge and awareness of local, state and federal laws pertaining to the governance of a public library.

Seeks training opportunities for enhancing the performance of trustee duties and responsibilities.

Advocates for the library and library service in the community, state and nation.

Participates in state and national library organizations.



**New Hampshire
Library Trustees Association**

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Concord, NH 03301

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2016 CALENDAR

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|---|
| April 20 | 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Protecting Patron Confidentiality & Privacy Workshop
Presented by the Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry
(more information on the NHLTA website: www.nhlta.org) |
| May 4 | 10:00 a.m. | NHLTA Board of Directors meeting
NHMA, 25 Triangle Park Drive, Concord |
| May 23 | 8:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m. | NHLTA Spring Conference & Annual Meeting
Grappone Conference Center, 70 Constitution Ave, Concord
(more information on the NHLTA website: www.nhlta.org) |
| June 1 | 10:00 a.m. | NHLTA Board of Directors meeting
NHMA, 25 Triangle Park Drive, Concord |
| June 18 | 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | NHLTA Orientation Workshop
Hooksett Public Library, 31 Mount Saint Marys Way, Hooksett
(more information on the NHLTA website: www.nhlta.org) |