

**Friends of Libraries Section/NYLA**  
**The Friendly Café Meet-Up**  
**Rochester, NY – November 9, 2018 – 3:45 – 5 p.m.**

Please sign the attendance sheet and pick up any handouts you would like.  
Providing us with your e-mail will allow us to inform you of FLS activities from time to time.

**Handouts:**

- Friends News and Notes newsletters – sample issue

**Welcome remarks and Introductions** – Presider Lynne Madden, Secretary for the FLS Executive Board, NYLA; Introduction of members of FLS Board in attendance

Discussion moderator: **Kenya Malcolm** (Friends of the Ogden Farmers Library, Spencerport, Monroe County)

**Agenda:**

1. Background and overview of the Monroe County Library System’s Friends Council – **Lisa Wemett**, Secretary, MCLS Friends Council
2. How the MCLS Friends Council has benefited the Friends of the Chili Public Library – Bob Pacer, Immediate Past President
3. Friends support groups in the Ramapo Catskill and Mid-Hudson Library Systems – **Randall Enos**, Youth Services Consultant, RCLS
  - a. what support is provided at the system level
  - b. importance of continuing education for volunteers
  - c. System web pages with Friends resources (see end of this agenda)
4. **Brainstorm list of topics participants want to discuss**  
e.g., volunteer recruitment and engagement, program ideas, book sale tips  
*As we discuss these suggested topics, please feel free to join the conversation to tell us about your group’s successes and programs in your community.*
5. Round-the-room introductions in the following manner, for the topic of “**membership promotion/recruitment efforts**”:  
**Please introduce yourself with your name, library affiliation, position** (e.g., Friends volunteer, officer, library director, trustee, etc.), an estimate of the **number of Friends members you have** (if you have a group) and lastly, **quickly name one way the group promotes joining the Friends to your community** (e.g., Friends membership forms at a community bookstore; staffing a table in the library during National Friends of Libraries Week in October) **without repeating an idea that someone else has offered up!** (We’ll record the list of our ideas.)
6. **Potential Topics to Discuss:**
  - a. **Promoting volunteerism and participation** – What strategies have worked to involve volunteers, getting them to join in and play an active role in the group?

- b.** Leadership and succession plans – How does your group progress from one president to the next?

Interested in an alternative leadership model? Mark your calendar for **Tuesday, February 12, 2019**, for FLS's one-hour webinar with the Friends of the Clifton Park - Halfmoon Public Library: ***Administrative Teams: A New Approach for Friends Leadership***. Registration will be after January 1, 2019.

**7. A word from our sponsor....**

Benefits of organizational and personal **membership in New York Library Association/Friends of Libraries Section** and reminder about the FLS **Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award** deadline, July 1 annually – Terry Mulee, Second Vice President for Membership, FLS/NYLA

If you would like assistance from the FLS Executive Board in establishing a support group (Friends Council) for your library system, please contact us at [FLS.NYLA@yahoo.com](mailto:FLS.NYLA@yahoo.com).

**Resources:**

- Ramapo Catskill Library System Friends page: <http://www.rcls.org/?q=node/288>
- Mid-Hudson Library System Friends page: <http://midhudson.org/topics/sustainable-libraries/friends-groups/>
- Friends of Libraries Section/New York Library Association webpage: [www.nyla.org/friends](http://www.nyla.org/friends)