



NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
The Voice of the Library Community

New York Library Association Friends of Libraries Section Annual Report to the Membership November 15, 2019 at the NYLA Annual Conference Saratoga Springs, NY



FLS Year in Review

Awards:

- ★ 2019 Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award
Recipient: Helen Rados, President, Friends of the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library, Monticello
- ★ 2019 Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award
Certificates of Merit to:
 - ★ Ann Hayes, Big Flats Library Advocates
 - ★ Friends of the Pleasant Valley Library
 - ★ Friends of the Maxwell Memorial Library
 - ★ Suzanne and Lou Dawes, Friends of the Newburgh Free Library
- ★ Offered for the first time this year:
2019 FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarships:
 - ★ Marianne Michaud
Friends of the Fairport Public Library
 - ★ Meg Sgombick
Friends of the Florida Public Library

Developed by the Scholarship Task Force and established by the FLS Board in 2018, this new scholarship will be offered in odd-numbered years to better educate and support FLS members through attendance at the NYLA Annual Conference. During the administration of the scholarship process the FLS Board increased the grant from \$500 to \$750 for each recipient.

Meet-Up:

Our 5th Annual! August 2, 2019

Hosted by the Friends of the East Greenbush Community Library
26 attendees representing 13 Friends groups in four public library systems met with 10 members of the FLS Executive Board to discuss membership recruitment strategies, book sales, fund-raising ideas, and outreach to the community.

Regional Workshops:

Getting Started: Creating and Supporting a Friends Group for Your Library:

- ★ Friday, May 31. Sponsored by the Upper Hudson Library System. 24 attendees.
- ★ Tuesday, October 15. Sponsored by the North Country Library System, Watertown. 3 attendees.

Keep It Growing! Strengthening Your Friends of the Library Group:

- ★ Friday, June 7. Sponsored by the Central NY Library Resources Council and hosted by the Friends of the Community Library of DeWitt and Jamesville (Onondaga County). 27 attendees.

National Friends of Libraries Week:

- ★ October 20-26, 2019

Webinars:

- ★ Administrative Teams: A New Approach for Friends Leadership
March 19, 2019 - Presented by the leadership team of the Friends of the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Public Library.
40+ viewers, including 30 FLS members
- ★ Connecting with Today's Volunteers to Transform the Friends of the Library: Expectations, Engagement & Impact
September 25, 2019 - Presented by Carla Lehn, author of From Library Volunteer to Library Advocate: Tapping into the Power of Community Engagement.
50+ viewers, including 21 FLS members.
- ★ A new benefit was established this year, reinforcing our emphasis on professional development for Friends and the staff members who support their activities. Elected officers of a Friends Group who are registered as part of an FLS Organizational Membership (as non-voting members of NYLA) are now eligible to participate in FLS-sponsored webinars at no charge by using their NYLA login and password to sign up for the events.
- ★ All archived FLS webinars may be accessed by visiting www.NYLA.org/Friends > Events.

NYLA Annual Conferences:

November 13 – 16, 2019 – Saratoga Springs, NY

- ★ 4 programs offered plus
- ★ C.E. Workshop on strategic planning during the NYLA pre-conference
- ★ Assistant Curator Position created and ably filled by Christine Beck, Friends of the Fairport Public Library
- ★ Thank you to the **Library Trustees Association of New York State** for their financial support of our conference programs!
- ★ Comparison to 2018 NYLA Annual Conference, Rochester NY:
 - ★ 5 programs
 - ★ 399 attendees
 - ★ Average attendance per program increased 43% over Saratoga Springs in 2017
 - ★ Included the Friend-Raiser Luncheon – Let's Market Our Libraries

Website:

www.NYLA.org/Friends

The NYLA website was revamped in mid-September to be more streamlined and to facilitate use across multiple platforms including phones and tablets. FLS continues to develop its pages to be useful for our members and "visitors" through continual evaluation of content for relevance and ease of navigation.

Membership Report:

- ★ 191 members, 4% increase from last year
- ★ 55 Friends of the Library group organizational members
- ★ 147 members (77%) who selected FLS as their primary section
- ★ Email renewal reminders sent consistently year round
- ★ When FLS was established in November 2014, we started with 108 members. By July 1 of this year, we had increased our membership by 92%. Thank you for your continued support!

Newsletters:

- ★ Quarterly eight-page newsletters sent by mail (830) and electronically (491)
- ★ Additional 300 copies distributed at meetings, trainings, workshops
- ★ 10% increase in total distribution

Financial Report:

General Fund	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/18	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/19	Year to Date 10/31/19
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 4,719	\$ 6,746	\$ 7,939
Income	6,767	5,451	2,115
Expenses	(4,740)	(4,258)	(1,207)
Ending Fund Balance	6,746	7,939	8,847

Enos Scholarship Fund	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/18	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/19	Year to Date 10/31/19
Beginning Fund Balance	-	-	4,625
Donations	-	4,625	-
Expenses	-	-	(379)
Ending Fund Balance	-	4,625	4,246

Total FLS Fund Balance \$ 6,746 \$ 12,564 \$13,093

- ★ With the establishment of the FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship, FLS received donations totaling \$4,625 in honor of Randall's retirement from the Ramapo Catskill Library System.
- ★ FLS is still accepting donations for this scholarship fund. That information is available at www.NYLA.org/Friends > Awards & Scholarships.

Visit the FLS website, www.NYLA.org/Friends, to find the archive of FLS newsletters, contact information for the Executive Board, award nomination forms, scholarship applications, and more.

Would you like to host a meet-up? Want to bring an FLS workshop to your region? Need guidance with a question about your Friends group? E-mail us at fls.nyla@yahoo.com. We'd be glad to help!

Board of Directors 2018 - 2019

President: Lisa C. Wemett
Vice President: Vacant
Second Vice President: Terry Mulee
Past President: Rebecca Fuss
Secretary: Lynne Madden
Treasurer: Stephen Hoefler
Members At Large:
Anne Andrianos
Patricia Loughan
Terry Morris
Marie Orlando
Leslie S. W. Riley
Susan Swanton (retired 03/2019)
Kerstin Cruger (appointed 03/2019)
Ristiina Wigg
President Emeritus: Randall Enos
Archivist: Susan Swanton
Assistant Conference Curator: Christine Beck
FLS Newsletter and Webpage Editor: Terry Mulee
FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award
Coordinator: Marie Bindeman
Casey Award Readers:
Joyce Laiosa, Leslie S. W. Riley
Coordinator for FLS Scholarships: Anne Andrianos
Scholarship Readers:
Janet Kreason, Margaret Pilaroscia
FLS Communications and Membership Volunteer and
Project Director for FLS Fall Webinar: Amy Discenza

Representatives to NYLA Committees

Communications: Terry Morris
Conference Curator: Lisa C. Wemett
Continuing Education: Lisa C. Wemett
Intellectual Freedom: Amy Discenza
Legislative: Jean Sheviak
Membership: Terry Mulee
Web Editor: Terry Mulee

Board of Directors 2019 - 2020

Thank you everyone listed above for continuing to serve FLS next year!

Adding:

First Vice President/Conference Curator:
Karen Sperrazza
FLS Rep to Continuing Education Committee:
Amy Discenza
FLS Rep to Intellectual Freedom Committee:
Travis Olivera

Farewell, Rebecca Fuss! Thank you for your 3 years of service to Friends across the state!

In Grateful Appreciation! The FLS Executive Board expresses its heartfelt gratitude to Susan Swanton, longtime board member and officer of EFR and FLS for her years of service to our organization, Friends of libraries, and the library community in New York State and beyond. "Thank You" is hardly adequate for all of your years of service! FLS is proud to add you as a Best Friend to our Tribute Fund Honor Roll.