



NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
The Voice of the Library Community

New York Library Association Friends of Libraries Section Annual Report to the Membership November 17, 2020, A Virtual Meeting



FLS Year in Review

Awards:

- ★ 2020 FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award Recipients:
 - ★ Friends of the Clifton Park - Halfmoon Public Library (Southern Adirondack Library System)
 - ★ The Friends of the Olean Public Library, Inc. (Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System)
- ★ 2020 FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award Certificate of Merit to: Mary Louise Morgan, Elizabethtown Library Association (Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System)

We say a thousand thanks to Marie Bindeman who has ably and diligently served as the FLS Casey Award Coordinator for the past three years, turning over the duties to Helen Rados of the Friends of the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library (Monticello NY) who was the 2019 Casey Award recipient.

- ★ 2020 FLS Dewey Fellowship
First Vice President/President Elect Kerstin Cruger is this year's FLS Dewey Fellow. The award is underwritten by the Lake Placid Foundation and pays for the costs of attending the NYLA Annual Conference.

2020 Meet-Ups and Regional Workshops on Pause:

When we are able to meet in person again, FLS will continue to offer workshops around the state. "Getting Started: Creating and Supporting a Friends Group for Your Library" and "Keep It Growing! Strengthening Your Friends of the Library Group" will be available for booking by library systems or other sponsors. We hope to have our popular meet-ups in conjunction with future in-person meetings of the FLS Executive Board.

FLS Board members met with the Friends Council of the Monroe County Library System via Zoom, just prior to National Friends of Libraries Week (October 18-24, 2020). The virtual meeting attracted 24 representatives from 11 Friends organizations in the Rochester region.

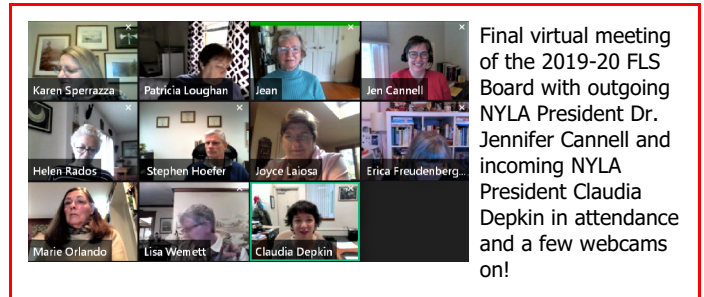
Financial Report:

Opening fund balance July 1, 2019: \$12,564
Closing fund balance June 30, 2020: \$11,533

General Fund	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/19	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/20	Year to Date 09/30/20
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 6,746	\$ 7,939	\$ 7,514
Income	5,451	3,680	1,335
Expenses	(4,258)	(4,105)	(965)
Ending Fund Balance	7,939	7,514	7,884

Enos Scholarship Fund	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/19	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/20	Year to Date 09/30/20
Beginning Fund Balance	-	4,625	4,019
Donations	4,625	120	25
Expenses	-	(726)	-
Ending Fund Balance	4,625	4,019	4,044

Total FLS Fund Balance \$ 12,564 \$ 11,533 \$ 11,928



Final virtual meeting of the 2019-20 FLS Board with outgoing NYLA President Dr. Jennifer Cannell and incoming NYLA President Claudia Depkin in attendance and a few webcams on!

Webinars:

Charitable Planned Giving as a Fundraising Tool
June 9, 2020

Presenter: Maria Bucci, Development Specialist, Wood Library, Canandaigua
19 viewers, including 15 FLS members

Engaging Millennials as Friends Volunteers
September 23, 2020

40 viewers, including 18 FLS members
Presenters: Tess Wilson, MLIS, Community Engagement Coordinator for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine – Middle Atlantic Region; Madeline Jarvis, MLIS, Adult and Information Services Manager, Marion (Iowa) Public Library

All members of FLS, included registered non-voting members of FLS organizational members, are eligible to participate in FLS-sponsored webinars at no charge.

You can watch previous FLS webinars in the NYLA webinar archive at any time, free of charge. Go to www.NYLA.com/Friends > Events > Webinars. You'll find a complete listing of FLS webinars. Handouts are also posted. Each webinar runs about one hour.

To assist with promotion of our webinar offerings and other FLS events, the Board created the position of Marketing Coordinator and appointed Meg Sgombick, a 2019 FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship recipient, to this important post.

NYLA Virtual Annual Conference:

November 5-6, 2020

Best Practices for a Friends Operated Bookstore, featuring manager Jeff Budge of The Book Bag Shop of the Saratoga Springs Public Library, was offered "on demand" plus FLS co-sponsored several sessions developed by other NYLA units. Additional content planned by FLS Conference Curator Karen Sperrazza was developed into the Focus on Friends webinar series for 2021.

Comparison to 2019 NYLA Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs NY:
6 programs, 236 attendees.

Long-Range Plan 2021-2023

A task force was appointed in January 2020 to develop the Section's second long-range plan (2021 – 2023). As FLS embarked on this process, we wanted to learn how we can better assist our members. What FLS member benefits and services are most important? How should we be prioritizing our efforts going forward? A member survey was posted from mid-March to April 30, when all New Yorkers were under stay-at-home orders. People had some time to answer our questions! We were thrilled to receive 119 responses. People identified as Friends or volunteers (75%), trustees (4%), library staff (9%), and system personnel (2%). Participants identified their geographic region by zip code, with the highest number of responses from Rochester, Albany, Syracuse, and Westchester.

Questions focused on what members needed to succeed in their work with the Friends and the awareness of Section activities and services. 46% of the respondents indicated they had participated in FLS regional workshops on starting and supporting Friends groups. We were pleased that individuals locate information easily on the FLS webpage (84%), the page gives access to valuable content and information (93%), and that our quarterly newsletter provides useful information (91%). We were gratified to learn that 92% of the participants feel that FLS addresses their needs as a member.

In May, the Board accepted the Task Force's recommendation of a revised mission statement for the Section as follows: FLS creates a network to connect and inspire Friends groups in all types of libraries to support the New York library community. The Task Force wrapped up its work on **New Frontiers for Friends, the FLS Long-Range Plan for 2021-2023**, along with an Executive Summary of the same. The Board finished its review and feedback by June 30. The new plan was adopted at the July Board meeting.

Membership:

July 1, 2019: 206

July 1, 2020: 213; 10/31/20: 179

58 Friends of Libraries group members

138 members who selected FLS as their primary section

Thank you for your support!

Newsletters:

4 newsletters sent by mail (766) and electronically (548)

No additional copies were distributed at the NYLA Annual Conference, meetings, or trainings due to COVID-19.

Volume 5, Issue 1 (Dec 2019) was 12 pages long instead of the usual 8 and included the FLS 2019 Annual Report to the Membership.

FLS Website, www.NYLA.org/Friends:

NYLA rolled out a new format website in the fall of 2019. This has afforded FLS the opportunity to revamp and fine-tune its webpages. Many FLS pages now include bookmarks for easier page navigation.

FLS Executive Board 2019 - 2020

President: Lisa C. Wemett

First Vice President: Karen Sperrazza

Second Vice President: Terry Mulee

Past President: vacant

Secretary: Lynne Madden

Treasurer: Stephen Hoefler

Members At Large:

Anne Andrianos

Kerstin Cruger

Erica Freudenberger

Patricia Loughan

Marie Orlando

Leslie S. W. Riley

Ristiina Wigg

President Emeritus: Randall Enos

Assistant Conference Curator: Christine Beck

FLS Newsletter and Web Editor: Terry Mulee

FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award Coordinator:

Marie Bindeman

FLS Casey Award Readers: Joyce Laiosa, Leslie S. W. Riley

Coordinator for FLS Scholarship Awards: Anne Andrianos

FLS Scholarship Award Readers: Janet Kreason, Margaret

Pilaroscia

Marketing Coordinator: Meg Sgombick

Representatives to NYLA Committees:

Conference Curator: Karen Sperrazza

Continuing Education: Amy Discenza

Intellectual Freedom Committee: Annabeth Hayes

Legislative: Jean Sheviak

Membership: Terry Mulee

Web Editor: Terry Mulee

Board of Directors 2020 - 2021

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

Joining the Board in these volunteer capacities:

First Vice President/Conference Curator: Kerstin Cruger

Immediate Past President: Lisa C. Wemett

FLS Representative to the Communications Committee:

Danielle Krause

Member At Large (one-year term): Marie Bindeman

FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award Coordinator:

Helen Rados

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

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