

FLS Year in Review

Awards:

★ **2021 FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award**
Recipients:

- ★ Friends of Fairport Public Library (Monroe County Library System)
- ★ Kris Macdonald of the Friends of Beekman Library (Mid-Hudson Library System)

Many thanks to Helen Rados serving her first year as the FLS Coordinator for the FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award.

★ **2021 FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship**

Recipient: Christopher Lund, President of the Friends of the Cortland Free Library (Finger Lakes Library System)

Thank you to Anne Andrianos, Coordinator for FLS Scholarship Awards. She is stepping down after serving for the last three years. She continues on the FLS Executive Board as a Member At Large.

New Frontiers for Friends - FLS Long Range Plan Initiatives for 2021:

- ★ *Task Force on Friends Councils* – Jim Foster, Assistant Library Director, Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library, chair. Established in January to initiate and establish networking groups in additional public library systems.
- ★ *Ad Hoc Committee on Governance* – Developing procedures and support systems for smooth transitions in Section leadership, both planned and unplanned. Marie Bindeman, FLS Member At Large, chair.
- ★ *Task Force on Friends and Rural Libraries* – conducted a statewide survey in the spring to gather information on the relationship between Friends groups and Rural and Small Libraries. As a kick off to our FLS 30th Anniversary Celebration, survey respondents could enter a drawing to receive a one year Friend Group Organizational Membership in NYLA. Twelve memberships were awarded.

Membership in a Minute!

In mid-September, FLS began sending weekly e-mails with helpful tips to grow, retain, engage, and recognize members in your Friends groups. Beginning in January the subscription will be a members-only benefit. This service was another outgrowth of the Task Force on Friends and Rural Libraries.

Webinars:

Effective, Efficient Boards and Board Meetings

January 12, 2021

59 viewers, including 16 FLS members

Presenter: Judy Siegel, Esq., Pro Bono Partnership.

Friendly Partnerships Strengthen Communities

March 11, 2021

35 viewers

Presenters: Jason Poole, Children's Librarian at the Webster Public Library (Monroe County Library System)

Helen Rados, Friends of the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library (Ramapo Catskill Library System)

Cheryl Jones, Youth Services Librarian at the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library

Before Friends Become Frenemies

September 30, 2021

28 viewers

Presenters: Lisa C. Wemett, MSLS, FLS Immediate Past President; Melissa Tacke, MLS, Director of the Castleton Public Library (Upper Hudson Library System).

All members of FLS, including registered non-voting members of Friends Group Organizational Memberships, are eligible to participate in FLS-sponsored webinars at no charge. Webinars may be viewed at any time, free of charge. Go to: www.NYLA.org/Friends > Events > Webinars. You'll find a complete listing of FLS webinars and accompanying handouts. Each webinar runs about one hour.

FLS Connections:

These virtual gatherings have taken the place of our in-person regional FLS Meet-ups allowing groups across the state to network and share on various topics.

The initial gathering on May 12 featured Friends groups describing innovations implemented in projects and services during the pandemic. We had 12 attendees from 9 different Friends groups.

Fundraising was the topic for July 15 and had 25 participants representing 16 Friends groups.

Membership Recruitment, Engagement, and Retention was the topic on September 13. With 19 participants representing 12 Friends of the Library groups, a wide variety of techniques used to attract, retain, and recognize Friends were described.

Plans to continue FLS Connections are underway for 2022 along with the hopes of in-person gatherings as well.



Membership:

June 30, 2020: 213

June 30, 2021: 171

55 Friends Group Organizational Memberships which includes an additional 121 Friends Group Volunteers
Thank you for your support!

Financial Report:

Opening fund balance July 1, 2020: \$11,533

Closing fund balance June 30, 2021: \$13,363

General Fund	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/20	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/21
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 7,939	\$ 7,514
Income	3,680	3,649
Expenses	(4,105)	(2,064)
Net Activity	(425)	1,585
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 7,514	\$ 9,099

Enos Scholarship Fund	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/20	Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/21
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 4,019	\$ 4,019
Donations	-	245
Expenses	-	-
Net Activity	-	245
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 4,019	\$ 4,264

Donate to the FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship Fund [online](#) (scroll down the page to the FLS Fund). We welcome your support!

#NYLA2021 Annual Conference:

In-person Programs:

Financial FAQs for Nonprofits Pre-Conference Workshop
Friendly Relationships, Working Together for the Library

Virtual Programs:

ABCs of Best Practices for Friends Groups - Live Virtual
Fundraising Without Book Sales - OnDemand

Cosponsored 5 additional programs

FLS Trade Show Booth at Virtual and In-person events

Attendance details are not yet available

Website - www.NYLA.org/Friends:

Refinements to the FLS webpages, a subset of www.NYLA.org, are made continuously throughout the year. The FLS online archives for the Executive Board have been expanded and the pages are gradually being populated. Resources from FLS sponsored Webinars, NYLA Annual Conference programs, and other FLS events are added as they become available. Check back often for the latest information. Visit the FLS website to find the archive of FLS newsletters, the current Executive Board list, award nomination forms and applications, upcoming webinars, events, and more.

Newsletters:

Quarterly *Friends News and Notes* sent by mail (644) and 2 issues sent electronically (350). The 2020 FLS Annual Report to the Membership was included in the mailing for the December 2020 newsletter and was included in the electronic version. Due to COVID-19, less than 50 additional copies were distributed throughout the year.

FLS Executive Board 2020-2021 - Thank You

President: Karen Sperrazza

President Elect: Kerstin Cruger

Immediate Past President: Lisa C. Wemett

Second Vice President: Terry Mulee⁺Secretary: Lynne Madden⁺

Treasurer: Stephen Hoefler

Members At Large:

Anne Andrianos

Christine Beck*

Marie Bindeman⁺Erica Freudenberger⁺

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 Casey Advocacy Award Coordinator: Helen Rados

FLS Casey Award Readers: Joyce Laiosa,

Leslie S. W. Riley

Coordinator for FLS Scholarship Awards: Anne Andrianos*

FLS Scholarship Awards Readers: Rebecca Fuss,

Margaret Pilaroscia*

Coordinator for Professional Development: Lisa C. Wemett

Marketing Coordinator: Meg Sgombick

NYLA Committee Representatives:

Awards: Joyce Laiosa

Communications: Danielle Krause

Conference Curator: Kerstin Cruger

Continuing Education: Amy Discenza*

Intellectual Freedom: Annabeth Hayes*

Legislative: Jean Sheviak

Membership: Terry Mulee

New to the Board for 2022:First Vice President: Christina Ryan-Linder⁺Members At Large: Christopher Lund⁺ and Amy Discenza⁺*leaving this position, ⁺newly elected or re-elected

Thank you to all current and incoming FLS Board members and volunteers. Your dedication is greatly appreciated.

FLS Commitment to Diversity

The Friends of Libraries Section (FLS) of the New York Library Association embraces and promotes diversity and inclusion in all their forms.

On March 25, 2021, the FLS Board approved the "Commitment to Diversity" statement. Please read it in its entirety at www.NYLA.org/Friends.