Candidate Profile
2019 FLS Executive Board Election

Nominee For: President/President-Elect (to fill an unexpired term due to vacancy) Incumbent

Term Ending: November 2021

Name:
Lisa C. Wemett
Macedon (Pioneer Library System)

Present Position:
Retired
FLS President 2018-2019
FLS Representative to the NYLA Continuing Education Committee 2016 - present

Prior Work Experience:
Webster Public Library, Webster NY - 1/97 to 3/09
Assistant Library Director III for Reference and Teen Services (retired)
Pioneer Library System, Canandaigua NY - 7/93 to 1/97
Youth Services Coordinator

Volunteer Experience:
FLS: President 2014 - 2015; Immediate Past President 2015 - 2016; Vice President and Conference Curator 2017 - 2018
Greater Rochester Teen Book Festival, Inc. Director on the Board of Directors 7/2014 – 9/2018
Young Adult Library Services Association of the American Library Association: Certified Trainer of Young Adult Services (1996)

Education:
School of Library Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, M.S. in L.S.
Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, Florida, B.A.

Activities and Affiliations:
Lifetime member of the Girl Scouts of the USA and the American Library Association

Position Statement:
Serving as the first President of FLS as it became the newest Section of NYLA in 2014, I helped the Board lay a firm foundation to support Friends organizations across the Empire State. In my second opportunity to serve as President this year, I have guided the Board’s steady progress on achieving the goals of the Section’s long-range plan. The establishment of the FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship, which will be offered for the first time this fall, is a wonderful accomplishment for a small but mighty Section. In November 2018, I volunteered to fill the vacancy for FLS Conference Curator and am excited to offer another line-up of programs in Saratoga Springs. My work continues in both creating and delivering regional training sessions to help Friends groups develop and grow. Friends, supported by their library administrators and trustees, are accomplishing so much for our libraries—it’s great to attend our meet-ups and become energized, as we share our successes with one another! Thank you for supporting me as I continue into my third Presidential term.
Candidate Profile
2019 FLS Executive Board Election

Nominee For:  First Vice President/President-Elect

Term Ending:  November 2022

Name:
Karen Sperrazza
Sauquoit (Mid York Library System)

Present Position:
Retired
Friends of Clayville Library Liaison from the Board of Trustees
Clayville Library Association Board of Trustees

Prior Work and/or Volunteer Experience:
33 years School Librarian in the Rome City School District
20+ years Board of Trustees for the Clayville Library Association
Section of School Librarians (SSL) Board member 15 years
SSL President 2013-2014

Education:
BS in Education from Clarion University, Clarion, PA, 1973
MLS SUNY Buffalo, 1978

Activities and Affiliations:
Town of Paris Zoning Board of Appeals

Position Statement:
After attending the "Getting Started" workshop in 2018 hosted by Central NY Library Resources Council and Friends of the Cazenovia Public Library, I have been inspired to revive our Friends group in my public library, Clayville Library Association. A Friends group can connect the library to the wider community, advocate for funds and support the work of the library director and staff.

The working relationship of the Board of Trustees, Library Director, and Friends forms the basis of a strong and united voice for the library within the community. That is what I am striving for in my community and what all libraries with a Friends group can experience.

I look forward to continuing the good work of the Friends of Libraries Section.
Nominee For: Secretary

Term Ending: November 2021

Name:
Lynne Madden (Incumbent)
Forestport (Mid York Library System)

Present Position:
Retired
FLS Secretary 2015 - present

Prior Work and/or Volunteer Experience:
I retired in May 2017 from the Victor Farmington Library where I had been the Children’s Services Specialist for 32 years. I have volunteered as a Girl Scout leader, have taught religious education, served on a local day care board, and worked for many years with the Friends of the Victor Farmington Library. I have served two terms as Secretary for the Friends of Libraries Section of NYLA.

Education:
BS (Elementary Education), SUNY Oswego

Activities and Affiliations:
We have recently moved to Forestport. I haven't joined a local Friends group or gotten involved with any community organizations yet.

Position Statement:
Having worked in a library for 32 years I understand the vital role that Friends organizations play in a library’s success. I have also seen the impact Friends groups can have on statewide issues that effect libraries when they join together. Over the past four years serving on the FLS Executive Board I have come to see and appreciate the support FLS offers individual Friends groups across the state as well as advocating for libraries in general. I believe this support is more important now than it has ever been. I have enjoyed serving on the Board and getting to meet Friends members from all over the state. I am pleased to be offered the opportunity to continue to work with this hardworking, vibrant organization.
Candidate Profile
2019 FLS Executive Board Election

Nominee For: Member At Large

Term Ending: November 2021

Name:
Kerstin Cruger (Incumbent)
Poughkeepsie (Mid-Hudson Library System)

Present Position:
Library Sustainability Associate & Communications Specialist at Mid-Hudson Library System
FLS Member At Large 2019 - present

Education:
State University of New York Empire State College
Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Human Development
Graduated – 2018

SUNY New Paltz
Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Art History, Criticism and Conservation
Graduated – 1995

Activities and Affiliations:
Member At Large – NYLA Communications Committee
Member Town of Poughkeepsie Conservation Advisory Commission, CSEA Election Chair

Position Statement:
I have been serving at the pleasure of public librarians for seventeen years and it has been my honor to work with our more than forty active Friends groups within the Mid-Hudson Library System for over a decade. The libraries that we serve range from small, rural communities to our largest library district, which covers 73,000 people. Consequently, our Friends groups vary from a handful of dedicated individuals to a network of dozens of volunteers. I have witnessed Friends groups thrive when offered opportunities for continuing education and peer support. When Friends combine their collective knowledge, they can overcome any challenge to achieve their goals.

Our Friends not only support the mission of our public libraries but bring vitality, vision and inspiration to the communities they serve. It is my privilege to help champion the excellent work of our NY Friends as a member of the FLS Executive Board.
Candidate Profile
2019 FLS Executive Board Election

Nominee For: Member At Large

Term Ending: November 2021

Name: Patricia L. Loughan (Incumbent)
Plattsburgh

Present Position:
Retired
Friends of the Plattsburgh Public Library: President
FLS Member At Large 2017 - present

Prior Work Experience:
High School Social Studies Teacher for 32 years at Saranac Central School
Advisor for the Student Council for 20 years; Union Building Rep for 10 years
Taught Social Studies for CVTech during the summer for 5 years

Education:
BA in Secondary Social Studies SUNY Plattsburgh

Activities and Affiliations:
Kent-Delord House Museum: Member of the Board of Trustees, Volunteer Docent, Researcher, Past President of the Board of Trustees

Position Statement:
A Library is a vital part of our community. Friends of the Library groups are important vehicles to provide the support libraries need as new ideas and methods are quickly being established in our communities.
Nominee For: Member At Large

Term Ending: November 2021

Name:
Terry Morris (Incumbent)
DeWitt (Onondaga County Public Library)

Present Position:
Northern Onondaga Public Library, Syracuse NY: Teen Librarian
Friends of the Central Library (OCPL): Secretary
FLS Member At Large 2017 - present
FLS Representative to NYLA Communications Committee, 2018 - 2019

Prior Work and Volunteer Experience:
Board member of the Friends of the Central Library OCPL NY
Vice President Friends Group Fayetteville Public Library NY

Education:
MA Masters of Library Science SUNY BUFFALO
BA Communications SUNY BUFFALO

Position Statement:
The importance of public libraries cannot be overstated. The public library is not just a place to find a good movie or read nor is it just a place to busy your kids. It is the one place in our community where business owners can get what they need to start or maintain their business, the unemployed can find resources to get a job, the uneducated can come to learn, children and teens can come to meet others with the same interests. All for free. The public library can be and should be the heart of your community.
Candidate Profile
2019 FLS Executive Board Election

Nominee For: Member At Large

Term Ending: November 2021

Name:
Marie Orlando (Incumbent)
Valatie (Mid-Hudson Library System)

Present Position:
Retired
Chair, Friends of the Kinderhook Memorial Library
FLS Member At Large 2019 - present
FLS National Friends of Libraries Week (NFOLW) Coordinator

Prior Work and Volunteer Experience:
Youth Services Coordinator, Suffolk Cooperative Library System (Retired)
President, Youth Services Section, NYLA
President, Children’s Librarians Association of Suffolk County, Inc.
Member, ALSC/ALA
Member, ALSC Newbery Award Committee
Member, ALSC Caldecott Award Committee

Education:
BA, St. Joseph’s College, Brooklyn, NY
MLS, Long Island University

Activities and Affiliations:
NYLA
ALA/ALSC

Position Statement:
As chair of my local Friends of the Library group I have seen firsthand how valuable a Friends organization can be in support of the goals of the library. For this reason I have been honored to be a part of the Friends of Libraries Section of NYLA, the state-level entity which supports Friends groups in their efforts to support their local libraries. I have seen FLS grow from a roundtable to a vital section of NYLA and hope to contribute to the fulfillment of its mission.