Another First for FLS

When you are the newest Section of NYLA, “firsts” keep coming your way. This fall, at NYLA’s 2017 Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs, FLS will be offering its first continuing education workshop along side other professional development opportunities on Wednesday, November 8.

The three-hour workshop entitled Fiduciary Practices for Nonprofit Organizations will help participants find those elusive answers to questions that arise while administering the financial aspects of a nonprofit. Officers and Treasurers of Friends of Libraries groups, library administrators and staff, trustees of public and association libraries, and treasurers of library boards of trustees are encouraged to attend.

We are bringing back John C. Parcell IV, a Certified Public Accountant, and Nathan Wray, Staff Accountant, of the John C. Parcell Accounting Firm in Canton, NY. John and Nathan presented at the NYLA Conference in Lake Placid, where they ran out of time before they ran out of answers for the myriad of questions posed to them about accounting for nonprofits. John serves as an internal auditor for the Potsdam Public Library. He received his BS in Accounting from Clarkson University in 1994 and has been licensed as a Certified Fraud Examiner since December 2004.

Some Friends groups have nearly jeopardized their nonprofit status by not meeting regulations that govern charity operations. If you are unsure of how to be compliant and properly manage your group's or library's assets, John will provide advice on how to implement policies needed by the Nonprofit Revitalization Act of 2013, procedures for acknowledging donations, and financial reporting practices for 501(c)(3) organizations.

Please consult NYLA’s preliminary conference brochure mailed to NYLA members or www.nyla.org/conference in June for the cost and registration procedures. Anyone interested in this topic, whether they are a member of NYLA or not, may attend this half-day training session. Participants are not required to register for the full conference in order to attend this workshop. NYLA members are entitled to a reduced registration rate for this training.

FLS 2017 Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award Call for Nominations

Given annually, the Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award is sponsored by the Friends of Libraries Section of NYLA. The award has been given since 1993, through the precursor to FLS, the Empire Friends Roundtable. The award honors a volunteer member or a group of the library community whose efforts have contributed to the growth of libraries or Friends of the Library organizations.

To learn more about Daniel W. Casey and to find the nomination form, go to www.nyla.org/Friends to the "Awards and Scholarships" page. The deadline for submission of nominations for this prestigious award is June 30, 2017. This year's award recipient will be announced at the FLS annual meeting in Saratoga Springs on November 10, 2017 at the NYLA Annual Conference.

Nominations must include all relevant information (nominee and sponsor contact information including mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses). Describe the contribution of the group or individual nominee to library service in detail; i.e., positions held, years of service, accomplishments, successful fund-raiser, etc.

Please submit the nomination form and all supporting materials (clippings of press releases, promotional materials, etc.) electronically to jrlaiosa@gmail.com or by mail to Joyce Laiosa, 22 McCormack Road, Slingerlands, NY 12159. These materials will not be returned.

For further information please contact Joyce Laiosa at jrlaiosa@gmail.com or call 518-439-7839.
Variations on a Theme of Friendship
A Message from FLS President Janet Kreason

How do personal friends enrich your life? There are countless reasons to be grateful for both our oldest and newest acquaintances. We deeply value Friends of the Library for many of the same traits.

Relationships are built on common interests, be it quilting, baking, golf, gardening, travel or libraries. They may also involve mutual goals, such as building a home for someone in need, raising funds for a worthy cause, or winning the budget vote.

Friends can be stimulating, recognizing our potential and helping us reach it. They bring inspiration, fresh perspectives and deeper understanding as we work through challenges together. We all need excellent sounding boards and brainstormers.

Companions with a sense of adventure embrace the opportunity to try new things: new cuisine, new hobbies, or creative ways to raise funds. Their contagious enthusiasm enlivens each venture and opens the door to additional exploration.

Friends can be comfortable, providing instinctive understanding and support. Listening ears and words of encouragement refresh us and keep us steady on a sometimes trying course.

True friends know your value, remind you of it, and tell others. They are your very best PR!

Friends build relationships and partnerships, growing with us and establishing valuable networks and ventures with win-win outcomes.

When there is a need, loyal friends are quick to generously share whatever knowledge or resources they have to meet it. They may alert others who can help.

Celebrating a success? The true friend who has been rooting for you and supporting you is now rejoicing with you.

Friends who are available, reliable and dedicated bless all the lives they touch.

You are already doing much to support your library, its staff, its Friends group, and its community. As spring approaches, take the challenge to bring forth fresh life and beauty wherever you are planted. FLS workshops, newsletters and meet-ups can help you flourish. Your successes can in turn inspire other Friends around the state.

Together we are strongest. Every day, in every way, Friends make all the difference!

Celebrate Volunteers Every Day!

In Friends circles, one of the roads to a successful organization is often labeled "Volunteer Engagement." It can be a "lane" or an "avenue," but this is a road we need to take. We want members who are engaged in our group and the Friends' activities; people who have the drive and willingness to put in their time and sometimes contribute extra donations beyond their dues. What projects will appeal to new members and turn supporters into active volunteers? Hopefully your Friends group offers several ways that volunteers can enthusiastically participate in the life of the library.

A vital aspect of working with volunteers is showing appreciation for what they do. National Volunteer Week was established to honor the people who dedicate themselves to taking action and solving problems in our communities. This year it runs April 23 through 29 and it’s a great time to say thanks. Consider using this national designation as an opportunity to recognize those who give so much of their time and talent to help.

If your membership numbers have been dwindling, turn your attention towards retention of your current members through recognition. Can you think of ways to acknowledge their good works and show the community how valuable these volunteer efforts are for the library? Knowing that their time and hard work really matters can encourage volunteers to continue to stay involved in the library and its mission.

Here are a few ways to shine a light on your active members:

★ Provide attractive name tags to wear, identifying the volunteer as a Friend of the Library. Encourage the volunteers to wear them with pride.
★ Use a PowerPoint slide show with photos of volunteers on the library's electronic sign board with the message "please join us!"
★ Award small tokens of appreciation like a volunteer pin. Present the pin at an event such as the Friends annual meeting to give public recognition to the volunteers.
★ Nominate your Friends for a local civic award or a state honor like the Daniel W. Casey Library...
Successful Inaugural Photography Contest

Most Friends groups are required to hold an annual meeting by their bylaws or constitution. The Friends of the Avon Free Library (Pioneer Library System) faced that question in 2016, after re-forming a few years before. At the semi-annual Friends Council meeting of the Monroe County Library System’s Friends groups, the Avon Friends heard how the Friends of the Gates Public Library developed an annual poetry contest for youth living in or attending schools in the Town of Gates to boost the attendance at their annual meeting. This event soon outgrew the library's meeting room and became the Gates Friends' very successful Spring Celebration.

The Avon Friends decided to develop their own contest and chose a photography contest with youth and adult categories. They offered prizes for 1st place and 2nd place in each category. The Avon Friends' first contest attracted 15 participants split over adult and youth categories. The contest was promoted around the town to attract adult participants and the key to youth participation was promotion by the school's art teachers. Local judges selected the winning photographs with prizes awarded at the Avon Friends' annual meeting. Participating teenagers brought their families and interested adults also attended. All agreed this was an auspicious first beginning and the contest will be continued for future Avon Friends annual meetings.

As a side note, the Friends of Gates Public Library’s Poetry contest is so successful the library closes for the night of the Friends' Spring Celebration so the Friends audience can fill the library’s 1st floor atrium. Good things happen to Friends who share their successful ideas!

For more information on the photography contest, contact Amy Peri (Treasurer) or Kitty Bressington (President) of the Friends of the Avon Free Library at books4AvonFriends@yahoo.com or 143 Genesee Street, Avon, NY 14414. For information on the poetry contest, contact Cindy Ratajczak at cinra99@yahoo.com or Susan Swanton at sswanton1@frontier.com or write either of them c/o Friends of Gates Public Library, 902 Elmgrove Road, Rochester, NY 14624.

Standing Up and Speaking Out

A recent article in the national publication Library Journal (LJ) highlighted two Friends groups in New York State and their efforts as library champions. "Getting Friends to Advocate AND Sell Books" by Libby Post was published in the October 7, 2016, issue of LJ. Ms. Post is President and CEO of Communication Services, a firm that develops advocacy programs for libraries including strategies for referendum votes.

"It is essential for Friends groups to climb the ladder of library advocacy and see themselves as citizens who stand up for their libraries," said Post. She pointed to the Friends of the Irondequoit Public Library in Rochester and the Friends of the Mt. Vernon (NY) Public Library. Irondequoit's efforts helped merge two branch locations into a state-of-the-art library on a single municipal campus. The Mt. Vernon Friends were successful in saving a beautiful Carnegie facility for the community. Congratulations to both groups on these wins!

Post serves on the American Library Association's Library Advocacy Committee and sees Friends book sales as "the first rung" of the library advocacy ladder. Book sales send the subtle message that "supporting the library is a good thing." But she encourages Friends to go further, redefining Friends work to include participating in library budget advocacy discussions with their fellow volunteers, the library’s Board of Trustees. Post concludes, "After all, if the Friends don't stand up for the library, who will?" Who indeed?

From the Archives

Note: FLS is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Founded in 1992 as the Empire Friends Roundtable, our organization has grown dramatically in recent years. Our goal is to add 25 Friends groups as new members of FLS during a year-long membership drive. Help us reach our goal – share your newsletter with another Friends group in your region and tell them how FLS has helped your group.


Empire Friends: Why Were We Born...Why Are We Living...

The Library Friends of New York State Roundtable (now known as Empire Friends) came into being as a direct result of the 1991 White House Conference on Library and Information Services. At the conference, delegates identified the challenges that would face us in the 21st century, and do indeed face us now:

• Increasing the level of literacy in this country, which is now only 49th among the 158 member countries of the United Nations
• Fostering an intellectual democracy
• Increasing productivity in our information-based workplace.

The delegates then recommended ways in which libraries

~ continued on page 5 ~
Sales Tax and Book Sales

At the 2016 NYLA annual conference, presenters from the Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library (FTCPL) in their session "Book Sale Bonanza" mentioned that they had requested and received an Advisory Opinion from the Office of Counsel of the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance in March 2015.

There is a caveat at the end of the opinion: "the information provided in this document does not cover every situation" and "It is limited ...and binding on the Department only with respect to the entity to whom it is issued...". However, there are some points that make it clear to any Friends group that they will most likely need to pay sales tax, despite being a 501(c)(3) charity. The points are that (a) items are on display and available for purchase on a regular and continuous basis and (b) the sales are made with a degree of regularity or frequency.

A + B here constitutes a "shop or store" as defined by the Department of Taxation. Point A really covers any library that has a bookshelf, a book truck, or a more formal area of the library’s floor plan that is designated the "Friends book sale." If the sales area has materials continuously available during library hours, it is considered a store. For Point B, the Office of Counsel cited the Tompkins County Public Library's website that indicates book sales are held "May and October" – in the same location year to year. This continuity again "constitute[s] a sale from a 'shop or store'."

In the Analysis Section of this Advisory Opinion, the Department of Taxation and Finance went on to say "Sales that are held sporadically and infrequently (for example, sales held on only a few days over the course of a year, and on no particular schedule) will not be considered sales from a shop or a store." So a "pop-up" paperback sale at a farmers’ market one time in the summer—not so taxable. But every April and October in the library’s meeting room for a number of days each time, definitely taxable. If there is a "shop or a store" being offered by the Friends (using this definition from the Taxation Department), other inventory besides used books, like new tote bags, are also subject to sales tax.

The information provided in this Advisory Opinion does not cover every situation and it not intended to replace the law or change its meaning. However, Friends groups should consider how their own book sales practices parallel the circumstances set forth here by FTCPL and discuss the collection of sales tax with a tax advisor knowledgeable in nonprofit law.

Liability Exposure for Friends Groups

What insurance policies should Friends groups have in place? How much money should the group set aside in their operating budget to pay these premiums? These are recent questions that have been raised in gatherings of Friends groups around the state.

A Directors and Officers liability policy (often called D&O) will pay for claims and defense expenses for allegations for wrongful acts resulting from the management and governance practices of an organization, such as misappropriated funds or conflicts of interest. Elected officers, committee members, and volunteers are vulnerable to being sued. Most of the cost of a D&O claim is the associated legal defense expenses. Nonprofits generally do not have sufficient resources to spare to defend against a claim and possibly years of litigation. D&O is payable to the organization as indemnification (reimbursement) for losses or defense costs in these civil and criminal actions.

"Liability Limits for Directors and Officers Liability Insurance" was published in the April 2016 issue of the NYLA e-Bulletin by Peter Andrew, President and CEO of Council Services Plus (www.councilservicesplus.com). Andrew recommends evaluating insurance coverage and policy limits every three years; "there is no guarantee that these limits will always be sufficient." His article addresses typical per claim limits and aggregate limits for all claims in a policy year. He cites statistics on the national averages for the nonprofit community for claims paid and defense costs for litigation and settlement; these defense costs might be outside the policy's limits. His article can be accessed on the NYLA website (www.nyla.org).

The Friends Board in combination with the library’s management (the director and the Board of Trustees) should review the risks and insurance options available to decide what coverages the organization should buy. Any insurance purchase decisions discussed at Friends meetings should be documented appropriately in the minutes.

The group may need to amend its by-laws to include a section on indemnification, including a statement that the organization will be required to purchase and maintain insurance coverage. The New York Council of Nonprofits (NYCON) states a pitfall of most organizations is having overly generalized indemnification and insurance clauses in their by-laws. "When it comes to potential exposure to personal liability faced by board members, many organizations fail to clearly and sufficiently stipulate what guarantees and protections they offer" their officers or direct service volunteers. A clause can also state that coverage will be excluded for willful misconduct or persons acting in gross negligence or with the intent to cause harm. See NYCON’s webpage (www.nycon.org) for questions to consider in order to avoid brief, "catch-all" clauses in the group's by-laws. NYCON has announced a discounted ~ continued on page 7 ~
Lisa Wemett and Terry Mulee presented the FLS "Keep It Growing" workshop at the Victor Farmington Library on Friday, January 27. A strong turnout of Friends officers and volunteers, library directors, and trustees totaled 34 people in attendance representing 13 libraries from the Pioneer and Monroe County Library Systems. Thanks to the Friends of the Victor Farmington Library for hosting and providing a generous breakfast of homemade goodies. With a 94% return rate of evaluations, a solid 88% of the participants rated the overall training event "Outstanding."

Here are some of the comments from the participants:

♦ Outstanding – a good use of my time.
♦ Got me thinking about things we are missing and things we can try!
♦ So many constructive ideas for us to "pick and choose" what will help our Friends group!
♦ A library trustee said "Thank you for all the resources you provided! This will help us continue to learn more."

The North County Library System (NCLS) will be hosting "Keep It Growing! Strengthening Your Friends of the Library Group" on Wednesday, May 10, from 10 a.m. until noon. Registration is open to any person wanting to learn more about revitalizing a Friends group, attracting new volunteers, and expanding the organization's membership. The free training will be held at the North Country Library System's headquarters at 22072 County Road 190 in Watertown, with videoconferencing to two additional sites (Oswego Public Library and Potsdam Public Library). Links to registration for the site of your choice are available on the NYLA Continuing Education Calendar under May 10: www.nyla.org/calendar or under "Classes & Events" under Education at https://web.ncls.org. Questions can be directed to Angela Newman, Youth Services & Outreach Consultant, anewman@ncls.org.

Celebrate Volunteers Every Day! continued from page 2

Advocacy Award from FLS/NYLA

★ Highlight a member's volunteer activities with a "spotlight" article published on the Friends webpage or in the library's newsletter (see more on page 7 in Friendly Faces in Your Community)

Keeping volunteers participating in activities that attract and hold their interest will sustain the organization in the long run. Engaged volunteers willingly employ their talents, skills, and time to the Friends when they feel they are making a difference and that their efforts are being noticed. Marketing Friends' activities, partnering with local businesses and organizations, and advocating the value of the library to elected leaders are all important actions for Friends members to undertake. But don't neglect volunteer recognition as an organizational priority. A heart-felt "Thank you!" and a friendly "How's it going?" from a library staff member or a fellow volunteer will go a long way to keep busy helpers coming back for more!

From the Archives continued from page 3

could help meet those challenges. Among them were recommendations in these categories:

- Bridging the population diversity
- Supporting the business sector
- Eliminating physical barriers
- Implementing literacy programs
- Extending service through supporting continuing education
- Involving the community.

What a work load! Libraries have never needed Friends more.

So we have a job to do. The book The Whole Library Handbook (editor's note: ALA Editions, 2013, now in its 5th edition, edited by George M. Eberhart) devotes a section to Friends. "Services to the Community" lists the following: literacy programs; exhibit booth at local functions; high school essay contests; Newcomers' Day; outreach to the homebound; legislative lobbying; flowers on library grounds; book sales; promoting endowments; open houses.

Now the question we need to ask ourselves: Have we been doing all this? Or have we been running our book sales (tremendously valuable though they are) and considered that we have done our duty?

Empire Friends exists to strive to be shakers of the old Friends and shapers of the new—more aware, more involved, more vigorous.
A New Generation of Volunteers
by Lisa C. Wemett

It appears that nearly every Friends of the Library group wants to reach out to younger volunteers to help their organization remain vital and sustain the group long-term. Millennials are young adults who were born from 1980 through 2000. That makes the youngest of them 16 years old, but we primarily think of millennials as college-age or early career workers who have not yet turned 40. Over the past five years, a marketing and research group named "Achieve" partnered with the Case Foundation, a foundation that encourages innovative philanthropy, to carry out research to help nonprofit organizations better understand and engage this generation.

"The Millennial Impact Report Retrospective: Five Years of Trends. Cause, Influence and the Workplace, Nov. 2016" can be found online at www.themillennialimpact.com or under "Resources" on the Case Foundation website (http://casefoundation.org). The work carried out by Achieve is based on interviews with more than 75,000 millennials.

The Millennial Impact Report offers many insights. For example, in just three more years, millennials will be 50% of the workforce. "These young people have spent every minute amid a generation of individuals eager to connect, get involved with, and give to causes they’re passionate about." (p.3) Think about the children coming up behind the millennials who ask for donations at their birthday parties to give to the local animal shelter instead of presents for themselves. Community awareness begins in school with projects like collecting scarves and gloves for the homeless shelter.

But something that surprised me: this age group is more likely to volunteer if they have already donated to the organization. This finding seems just the reverse of what we might think, that if you’ve been a long-time volunteer, you will give to the cause. But it appears that millennials will donate first and then later put their time into the cause.

Here are a few more revelations: 84% of millennials gave to a nonprofit in the past year and 67% gave up to $499 for a cause they supported. 77% of millennials would be more likely to volunteer if they could use their specific skills or expertise to benefit a cause (p.9). Bottom line: "This generation is eager to connect, get involved with, and give to causes they're passionate about." (p.2)

The research very clearly shows that the millennials' preferences in "cause engagement" will fundamentally alter the current charity giving models we know—both in how we raise funds and how we reach volunteers to support the library. Consider this report required reading for discussion at your Friends group meetings to help your group explore new strategies to engage these young adults. Let's focus some effort on helping the millennials become passionate about libraries!

Looking for a Fund-raising Idea?

Grab 'Em As They Drive By!!

In Shortville (Ontario County) when it is time to vote for the local school budget in May, this announcement appears on the Red Jacket Community Library’s Facebook page: "Today is the day! After you vote on the school district budget, stop by and pick up a finger-lickin' good BBQ chicken meal with salt potatoes, roll and slaw or baked beans. The BBQ is hosted by Friends of the Red Jacket Community Library and proceeds will support summer reading, new technology upgrades, and general programming needs. It's good food for a good cause!" The Friends have held this fund-raiser for more than 10 years. A local caterer cooks the food; the Friends deliver it to the cars that drive up—no onsite seating. The BBQ is staged in the parking lot near the school entrance to the polling site and continues until 175 dinners are sold out. About a dozen helpers help raise between $400 and $500 in three hours. The aroma will certainly draw the voters to this dinner-to-go!

Loose Change?

No doubt you've seen a "Whirl-A-Wish" coin funnel in an arcade or museum where children are just mesmerized by a penny making a slow circular path into the center before it disappears. (There's probably a science lesson here, too, about gravity and centripetal force!) The Friends of Wood Library in Canandaigua (Pioneer Library System) just gifted a new coin funnel which was installed in the entrance to the Children's Room. All the proceeds from the loose change will fund children's programs. Children's Services Librarian Mary Ferris had 11,554 children participate in program activities in 2016, nearly 7% of all the visitors to the library. If every child dropped a dime and watched it spin lazily round and round, down the funnel, that would be nearly $1200 in "easy" revenue! Great idea!!
Friendly Faces in Your Community

Who are the Friends of the Library? If you look at your Friends website or the Friends section of your library's website, can you find the names of the Friends officers? Is there a way to contact a "real person," not just fill out an application form to join? Consider introducing the Friends in ways that might entice a new member to become involved with their neighbors in the organization's projects.

The Friends of the Florida (NY) Public Library (Ramoapo Catskill Library System) present several of their members with in-depth interviews, posted on the Friends' webpage with the caption "Meet a Friend of the Florida Public Library." www.floridapubliclibrary.org/about-florida-public-library/friends-of-library. It's a wonderful way to recognize the person, but also shows the community the variety of people who volunteer, whether a young single mother, a senior citizen, or the mother of a young man who earned the rank of Eagle Scout through several volunteer projects for the library.

In a similar vein, the Friends of the East Fishkill Community Library (Mid-Hudson Library System) introduce the members of their Board of Directors with smiling headshots of each person. (See "The Board" tab at www.befriendyourlibrary.org. Could there be a better URL?) "Our board is a diverse group of people who all want to support the Library's plans, progress, decisions, and future needs." Each officer and director has a carefully crafted bio that highlights the person's volunteer service and links to the community. Reading the bios makes this group come alive and shows the dedication and commitment these residents bring to their role in the life of the library.

No webpage? Think about publishing similar stories in your print or electronic newsletters. The Friends of the Library (FOL) of the Albert Wisner Public Library (Ramoapo Catskill Library System, www.albertwisnerlibrary.org) has a regular column called "Friends Spotlight" in the library newsletter. The winter 2017 issue of "Connections" featured a Friends board member who also volunteers in their used bookstore, "Friends and Bookends." She is accustomed to being in the spotlight as a member of a Senior Improv group in Warwick that performs at the library. Also, congratulations to the library for being named "Best Small Library in America" for 2016 by Library Journal.

Why not implement one of these ideas and introduce your Friends members to the community? If your neighbor stops you in the grocery store and says "I just read about you on the library's webpage," you'll have succeeded!

FLS Election Process

The Friends of Libraries Section holds its election for the FLS Executive Board exclusively online. Those FLS members without Internet access at home or at work can access NYLA's election process by visiting their local public library.

In June notification of the election is sent via an e-mail blast to all NYLA members eligible to vote detailing the log in process for casting ballots. For Friends group organizational members only the primary contact person is eligible to vote on behalf of that group. (Elected officers registered with NYLA through a Friends group organizational membership are non-voting members and are therefore not eligible to take part in the election.)

This year the FLS Nominating Committee will choose candidates from among FLS members for the positions of President-elect, Secretary, and for Members At Large of the Executive Board. Individuals who are not selected by the Nominating Committee may run for office by petition.

ARTICLE VII, NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS, Section B. of the FLS By-Laws states that additional nominations of Section members may be added to the slate of candidates by petition signed by ten members submitted by May 31, prior to the scheduled issuing of the ballot by NYLA. Individuals wishing to appear on the 2017 ballot as a petition candidate for the office of FLS President-Elect, Secretary, or Member At Large must complete a petition along with a candidate profile sheet and submit both to this year's Nominating Chair Sarah Sachs, Potsdam Public Library, 2 Park Street, Potsdam, New York 13676 no later than Wednesday, May 31, 2017. Job descriptions for these elected positions and a candidate profile sheet can be found under "Board Resources > Elections" at www.NYLA.org/Friends. Thank you for your interest.

Liability Exposure for Friends Groups

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On a related note, NYLA's Executive Director Jeremy Johannesen recommends that Friends groups ask their library to endorse and co-sponsor any large events that are open to the public. The event would then be covered under the library's liability insurance. For extra protection, the library may want to purchase an additional one-day "event rider" and pass the cost along to the Friends. Costs vary based on the insurance provider and the nature of the event.

memorship program for NYLA members for 2017 (NYLA e-Bulletin, December 2016, "NYLA Partners with New York Council of Nonprofits"), which includes discounts on D&O insurance coverage.

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Add a name to the FLS Tribute Fund List and honor that special individual or group. Choose Friend, Good Friend, or Best Friend!

It’s so easy to do! Visit www.NYLA.org/Friends and click on Awards & Scholarships for more information and to download the form.

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Call or write to us anytime. To visit the Friends of Libraries Section website, go to www.NYLA.org/friends

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NYLA leads, educates, and advocates for the advancement of the New York library community.

FLS is a member of United for Libraries: The Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations, a division of the American Library Association www.alac.org/united

Save the date - May 15th!

Third Annual Meet-up with FLS Board

The Executive Board of the Friends of Libraries Section invites representatives of Friends groups to “talk shop” with them on Monday, May 15, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. at the Clifton Park - Halfmoon Public Library, 475 Moe Road, Clifton Park, NY 12065, north of Albany. The meet-up will offer a chance for Friends groups in the region to get together and discuss topics of interest, such as fund-raising ideas, book sales, advocacy, energizing volunteers, and programs and services that the Friends offer to their community. Meet-ups with the FLS Board have previously been held in Vestal in 2015 and Marcellus in 2016. Participants leave energized and excited to try new ideas they have heard from their volunteer peers.

Advanced registration is required; no walk-ins, please. You do not need to be a NYLA/FLS member to attend. Individual participants should respond to Terry Mulee (FLS.NYLA@yahoo.com) by Wednesday, May 10. Let us know what discussion topics are of interest to your group. We look forward to seeing you and sharing great ideas.

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