The First FLS Dewey Fellowship Award

Since 1992, NYLA has received grants from the Lake Placid Education Foundation to fund Dewey Fellows. NYLA Sections in turn select a member to attend that year's NYLA Annual Conference. The Fellows receive a complimentary conference registration and funds to cover travel, meals, and lodging. Past Dewey Fellows have been direct service librarians. But with a new Section, volunteers and other staff members working with Friends of the Libraries organizations became eligible for this award for the first time in 2016.

The FLS Board is proud to announce our first Dewey Fellowship has been awarded to Kitty Bressington. Kitty is the President of the Friends of the Avon Free Library which she helped revitalize three years ago after the organization had been dormant for more than ten years. Kitty assisted in the group's incorporation, secured their 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status, and guided the initial steering committee. The Friends now have more than 50 members. The Friends Board adopted a long-range plan that dovetails with the library's plan and established a Memorandum of Understanding with the library's Board of Trustees. Their work continues in putting standard operating procedures in place for Friends activities.

Their mission is to promote the library within the local community and they continuously lend their support to represent the library at many events including parades, celebrations, and popular food truck rodeos. Kitty said, "I view 'my accomplishments' in terms of our team's accomplishments. No one of us can do this work alone; I have been and will remain honored to have such a great team to support me and the work we do." Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn, the library director, calls Kitty "a powerhouse and a boon for the library and the Friends." Kitty works full-time managing her own financial consultant business and is President-Elect of the Society of Financial

~ continued on page 3 ~

New York Library Association
2016 Annual Conference
Strong. Strategic. Sustainable.

Saratoga Hilton and City Center, Saratoga Springs, NY

Friday, November 4
Friends Day
Just $30 for the day!
9:00 a.m. - noon NYLA Trade Show
Visit the exhibits. Exclusive trade show time: 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Friends Grow Friends Online
(co-sponsored with Library Trustees Association)

12:30 p.m. Section Luncheons are ticketed events and require advance registration. FLS is not hosting a luncheon but there are several others to choose from.

2:15 - 3:30 p.m.
Book Sale Bonanza
(co-sponsored with LTA)

3:45 - 5 p.m.
Friends of Libraries Showcase / Membership Meeting

Saturday morning, November 5
($30/day)
9:30 - 10:45 a.m.
Friends of Academic Libraries
(co-sponsored with LTA, ESLN, and ASLS)
also available, Family Literacy in a Food Pantry sponsored by YSS and co-sponsored by FLS
A Letter from the FLS President

August 24, 2016

Dear Friends,

At our recent Second Annual Friends Meet-up in Marcellus, NY, I promised to share something about dealing with all of those book sale leftovers that are headed for a dumpster. One of the most creative solutions that I have encountered is Shelfies, the brainchild of Maria Morrison, the Program Manager for Literacy of Northern New York/St. Lawrence County. The amusing background story is that one day Maria was asked by me to clean out a large quantity of Literacy Volunteer VHS training tapes that were taking up room in storage at my library. Rather than discard the tapes, Maria first crocheted several items out of the tape – a cowboy hat and vest, a canoe, a tote bag – then duct-taped the cases together to create small book shelves. The Shelfie was born.

Maria now fills these shelves with free books and locates them all over the community for people to take. Laundromats, doctors’ offices, and car repair shops are now encouraging literacy in the community by making cast off books readily available at places where people are waiting for other things to happen. Brilliant!

NYLA’s Administrative Support Services for Friends of Libraries Groups was described as an alternative to groups applying for their own 501(c)(3) status. National Friends of Libraries Week in October was mentioned as a way to highlight the "good works" of Friends. The FLS Board shared the plans for upcoming workshops on "Friends Day" at the New York Library Association’s annual conference in Saratoga Springs in November and explained the benefits of personal and organizational memberships in NYLA.

The meet-up was a lively exchange of "best practices" and tips to keep Friends groups robust in order to carry out their valuable work. If you are interested to have the assistance of the FLS Board in holding a meet-up in your area of New York State, please contact FLS.nyla@yahoo.com. We’d be glad to help.

The Friends Group meet-up followed a face-to-face meeting of the FLS Executive Board. This is the third year in a row that the Board has met together to discuss the business of FLS and to have an opportunity to meet each other in person, putting faces to the voices we hear on our regularly scheduled conference call meetings.

Sincerely,
Sarah

Second Annual FLS Meet-Up

The FLS Executive Board was thrilled to double last year's attendance at our Second Annual Friends Meet-up. We’d like to thank the Friends of the Marcellus Free Library, especially Audrey Kearney, President, and Paulette Quinn, for hosting us and providing delicious homemade refreshments.

Twenty-two representatives of Friends of the Library groups from eight public libraries in five library systems were eager to talk with their fellow volunteers and the FLS board members on August 15. The group was pleased to have NYLA President Debby Emerson attend as well as Lauren Moore, Executive Director of the Pioneer Library System, and several other system staff members from around NYS. A total of 31 people brought varying levels of experience to the table where ideas were shared to help strengthen the work of Friends in all types of libraries, large and small.

Before the meeting, Friends suggested topics they were interested to discuss with the FLS Board and their peers. Participants were looking for best practices for governance of their groups (e.g., size and ways of work for the Friends Board of Directors), fund-raising ideas including ongoing book shops and stores operated by the Friends, and ways to engage volunteers in committees and projects the group undertakes. Representatives brought handouts from their libraries to share including membership brochures, book sales promotional pieces, and newsletters.

Check out an article here: http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/news05/literacy-professional-aims-to-get-free-books-into-the-hands-of-rural-families-with-shelfie-program-20160114

Sincerely,

Sarah
FLS at the 2016 NYLA Annual Conference

Need some fresh ideas to attract community members to your web site, book sale, or community events? The 2016 NYLA Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs is an ideal place to network. Register now, and prepare to be inspired by success stories from colleagues around the state.

**FLS Conference Programs**

On Friends Day, Friday, November 4, Internet guru Polly Farrington will get you thinking about ways to maximize the effectiveness of your group’s online presence. Three longtime members of the Friends of Tompkins County Public Library will describe how they transformed their book sale. Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library will detail their involvement in community reads and an event highlighting the various cultures in their area. Our host city's Friends of the Saratoga Springs Public Library will illustrate how it evaluated and changed the type of programs it supports.

On Saturday morning, FLS will offer an historic first in our conference program lineup. Librarians from the Sage Colleges and SUNY Brockport will share their secrets of success in founding and nurturing Friends of Academic Library groups. Also of interest is a Youth Services Section workshop co-sponsored by FLS. Discover how Cazenovia Public Library achieved varied and stunning family literacy results through outreach to a food pantry.

**Friday Luncheon**

Will you be attending Friday's Empire State Award luncheon? FLS has reserved two tables for Friends who have tickets to that luncheon. This year the Youth Services Section of NYLA will honor popular nonfiction author Steve Sheinkin for his distinguished body of work. If you are attending the event, a warm welcome awaits you at the FLS tables. (Please note, FLS will not be hosting a luncheon at the conference.)

**FLS Member-Only Perks at the Booth**

Visit the FLS booth on the trade show floor to collect your FLS Section ribbon to attach to your name badge and receive your conference attendee FLS member gift. You won't want to miss out on this symbol of sustainability!

**FLS Gift Basket Raffle**

Get your raffle tickets for this great gift basket, everything you need to have a growing good time! All proceeds benefit the Friends of Libraries Section. Raffle tickets are $1.00 each, 6 for $5.00, or 10 for $7.00. Current NYLA members may add FLS to their membership with the purchase of a $7.00 ticket pack! Bring pre-printed address labels to make it easier to fill out raffle tickets and special offers throughout the trade show.

**FLS Annual Meeting**

Join us for the Friends of Libraries Section’s annual membership meeting. Hear a recap of accomplishments in our second year as a NYLA Section, meet board members, and witness the installation of the 2016 - 2017 Executive Board. Then stay on for an exciting “showcase” featuring three Friends groups from around New York State.

**Consultant Hours in Saratoga Springs**

For the second time, FLS Board members will be participating in NYLA's "Consultant Give Back: Open Office Hours" at the NYLA Annual Conference. Twenty-minute appointments will allow conference attendees to receive assistance on topics about Friends of Libraries organizations. What would you like to talk about? How to create or revitalize a Friends group? Merging Friends and Foundations? Updating your Friends by-laws? Developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the library's Board of Trustees? We'll be happy to discuss your area of interest.

When NYLA sends out the information on the consultant hours, please sign up online and select a time to meet. Eight slots are available. Last year seven libraries chatted with us about Friends topics. This appointment format provides a chance for more in-depth assistance than we can readily offer at our booth during NYLA's trade show. We want to help—and heh, we’re friendly! And of course there is no charge. Hope to see you there!

**Additional Information**

More information about our programs is available in our June 2016 newsletter and online at [www.NYLA.org/Friends](http://www.NYLA.org/Friends). For general conference information visit [www.NYLA.org](http://www.NYLA.org) and click on News and Events. See you in Saratoga Springs!

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**FLS Dewey Fellowship**

*continued from page 1*

Services Professionals. She established the nonprofit Foundation for Women’s Financial Education and serves as its Managing Director.

Kitty is looking forward to gaining ideas from outside her geographic region and being "exposed to a broader range of minds." She attended the 2014 NYLA Conference in Saratoga Springs and is pleased to be returning this fall.

The Dewey Conference Fellows can engage in professional development and educational enrichment, while simultaneously networking with like-minded library staff and volunteers. There is time to rest and relax at conference social events as well and then return home to share their experiences. When you see Kitty in Saratoga Springs, please congratulate her and thank her for her dedication to the Friends of the Avon Free Library.
Friends of Libraries Section 2016 Election Results
by Lisa C. Wemett, FLS Immediate Past President; Chair, Nominating Committee

Thanks to all FLS members who voted in this year's election. In our second year of participating in NYLA's online election, 22% of our members cast their ballots. Each of our candidates was eager to serve and had outstanding qualifications.

Joining the FLS Executive Board in November will be Vice President/President-Elect Rebecca Fuss of Rochester. Rebecca is employed as the Director of Programming and Outreach for the Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library. From 2005 to 2008, she was a member of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Rochester Public Library.

Newly-elected Treasurer Jennifer Little Kegler of Spencerport is Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Library Instruction at Drake Library at The College at Brockport, SUNY. Jennifer also volunteers her time in her community as Secretary for the Friends of the Ogden Farmers' Library.

Second Vice President Terry Mulee, a resident of Rochester, was re-elected for her second two-year term, continuing to provide oversight for the FLS membership rolls and editing our quarterly newsletter. Three incumbent Members At Large were re-elected and will now be serving from 2016-2018: Vicki N. Kosovac of Hudson, Leslie S. W. Riley of Cornwall-on Hudson, and Ristiina Wigg of Corning.

Other elected officers who will be continuing their service to FLS on the 2016-2017 Executive Board are Janet Kreason, Clifton Park, (President-Elect) and Sarah Sachs, Potsdam (Immediate Past President). Randy Enos, Middletown (President Emeritus) continues to guide and support us. Members At Large who are continuing are Marie Orlando, Valatie; Susan Swanton, Rush; Betsy Sywetz, Richfield Springs; and Frank Van Zanten, Poughkeepsie. The Executive Board is also assisted by Joyce Laiosa, Slingerlands (Coordinator of the Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award) and by Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Hudson (FLS Representative to NYLA's Legislative Committee).

Treasurer Extraordinaire Marcia Elwitt will be leaving the Board in November after eight years of service to both the Empire Friends Roundtable and FLS. Marcia was recruited to EFR by founding Board member Phyllis Kitt and became Treasurer under Betsy Sywetz's tenure. We are extremely appreciative of Marcia's steadfast and accurate accounting of our revenue and expenses, not to mention her willingness to rework our by-laws at least twice! She will continue her library advocacy work with the Friends of the Brighton Memorial Library and we hope our paths will cross again.

The Nominating Committee for the 2017 FLS election will be chaired by Sarah Sachs as she becomes Immediate Past President. Sarah is actively looking for volunteers to serve on the Board. She will be recruiting candidates for Vice President/President-Elect, four Members At Large, and Secretary. When she contacts you, please say "yes" to FLS! You will find volunteering on the Section's Board is extremely rewarding as you expand your network of library Friends and personal friends across NYS.

Editor's Note: Also leaving elected service to the FLS Board is Immediate Past President Lisa Wemett, who has also been this year's Section representative to the NYLA Continuing Education Committee as well as the presenter of several FLS workshops across New York State. Fortunately for FLS, Lisa will continue to volunteer her services to the Section in an as-of-yet undetermined capacity. Thank you Lisa!

Library Friends Issue of JLAMS
by Lisa C. Wemett

Thank you to NYLA's Leadership and Management Section (LAMS) for highlighting Friends of the Library organizations in their Spring 2016 issue of JLAMS, a peer-reviewed journal (vol. 12, no.1). The full-text of the journal is available at www.nyla.org/lams. It has a wealth of information for Friends groups large and small.

In "All for One and One for All," Kathleen Naftaly describes the synergistic process between library administrators, the Board of Trustees, and the Friends organization when it comes to fund-raising for the library. The issue includes excerpts from the Handbook for Library Trustees of New York State (2015 edition) about Friends and foundations and the text of Brett Bonfield's speech from the LAMS' luncheon at Lake Placid in October 2015.

Graduate students from the University at Albany identified and annotated Internet resources for a Friends toolkit. Lisa Wemett contributed an article based on the FLS "Getting Started" workshop with pointers for creating and sustaining a Friends group. Appendices cover resources for Friends groups, best practices for Friends by-laws, and tips on growing the organization's membership base. Happy reading!
Friends Give Back

You are probably familiar with "Black Friday" (the day holiday shopping kicks off after Thanksgiving) and "Cyber Monday" (when online shoppers ramp up for their holiday gift giving without the hassle of the mall). But how about "Giving Tuesday," the Tuesday following Thanksgiving? If your holiday spirit is on the decline, this newly minted "Giving Season" might be the ticket for you and your Friends group.

Taking place this year on Tuesday, November 29, "Giving Tuesday" harnesses the power of social media to create a national movement around the holidays dedicated to giving, both financially and through volunteer efforts. Created to promote the spirit and act of giving, #GivingTuesday might be a way for Friends to give back to the communities that support their fund-raising efforts.

For the last two years, the Friends of Cornwall Library determined to donate 50% of their bookstore income for the week that included Giving Tuesday to BFF (Backpacks for Food). The library is a BFF drop-off location. The mission of Backpacks for Food is to provide nourishing food for weekend meals to elementary students in the Cornwall Central School District who are enrolled in the Federal free lunch program. When students are not worried about their basic food needs, they can be better prepared to focus on their school work.

Why not share this give-back-to-your-community idea at your next Friends meeting?

Visit www.givingtuesday.org for additional information.

Friends of Libraries Section Announces
2016 Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award Recipient
by Joyce Laiosa

The Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award, sponsored by the Friends of Libraries Section, 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. We are pleased to announce that this year's winner is Anne Andrianos, President of the Friends of Onondaga Free Library.

We received four applications for the Daniel W. Casey Award, all worthy of being winners; it was an excellent field. Three of the nominations were for exemplary Friends groups or an individual, committed to their libraries with admirable work.

Anne Andrianos' challenge was different. The Friends of Onondaga Free Library had a crisis in leadership that left the Friends adrift with a possibility to cease operations. In 2014 there were no fund-raising activities, no used book sale and no gift was made to the library. Anne started from ground zero and under her zealous leadership the Friends made a dramatic rebound both in creative activities and monetary gifts to the library, which continue to increase.

Anne has served as President of the Friends of Onondaga Free Library for the past two years. She is a strong advocate for the library as they embark on a town referendum this fall. Her support, enthusiasm, and leadership are essential to the Friends and library community.

She's done an excellent job attracting new members to the Friends group and re-energizing current members. Under her leadership she has created a new section of the Friends called the "Ambassadors." This group has provided a new way for community members to become actively involved in the Friends and help spread the word about the library's programs and services. The Ambassadors supported many new programs that the library held this past year including a baking competition, artist receptions, and a summer garden concert.

Anne's innovative fund-raising ideas have led the Friends to expand their efforts in supporting the library and attracted new interest in library programs and services, including a Shamrock Sale that coincided with Irish step dance performances and a Spring Geranium Sale.

Anne has done an excellent job taking a leadership role for the legacy Friends fund-raisers including the Annual Book Sale and Festival of Trees. Her energy and enthusiasm attracted new volunteers to assist with these activities and led to record breaking successes for both endeavors.

She also initiated the Friends’ sponsorship and support of new programming opportunities attracting large crowds. Patrons are thrilled with the fun and exciting experiences at the library. These are all thanks to Anne Andrianos and her Friends volunteers!

For additional information on the FLS Casey Award visit www.NYLA.org/Friends and click on Awards and Scholarships.
The FLS Executive Board extends our heartfelt gratitude to Marcia Elwitt for her years of service as treasurer to both FLS and EFR. Who better to be the first one named to our BEST Friend Honor Roll! Thank you Marcia!!

The FLS Executive Board extends our deep appreciation to Marci Bloss for going above and beyond to facilitate the printing of our FLS newsletter. We also extend our gratitude to General Code and Speedy Print for their part in printing our newsletter. All of your efforts make FLS look good! Thanks Best Friends!

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

National Friends of Libraries Week
October 16 - 22, 2016

Are you looking for something special to celebrate NFOLW? Order a facsimile of the NYS Senate Proclamation in honor of this event.

Purchasing details are available in the June 2016 edition of Friends News and Notes. A link to the newsletter is on the FLS homepage at www.NYLA.org/Friends.