Please Vote in the Upcoming FLS Elections

The FLS Executive Board approved the following slate of candidates to be placed on the ballot for the FLS election to be held June 15 through July 15 in conjunction with NYLA’s annual election:

Vice President/President-Elect
Rebecca Fuss – Rochester

Second Vice President
Terry Mulee* – Rochester

Treasurer
Jennifer L. Kegler – Spencerport

Members At Large
Vicki N. Kosovac* – Hudson
Leslie S.W. Riley* – Cornwall-on-Hudson
Ristiina Wigg* – Corning

The term for each office runs from November 2016 through November 2018 coinciding with the NYLA Annual Conference. The Vice President/President-Elect serves from 2016 through 2019.

The candidates' position statements are on page 6 of this newsletter.

The FLS election is held online. All members who are eligible to vote will be notified by a message from NYLA to indicate the election is open. This e-mail blast will detail the log in process for casting ballots through NYLA's Online Membership Center.

Results of the election will be sent to all NYLA/FLS members on July 22, 2016.

The FLS Board thanks these candidates for their willingness to serve the Section by sharing their time, talent, and expertise.

(* denotes incumbent)
A Letter from the FLS President: What My Friends Group Did This Week

Dear Friends,

In my day job I do a lot of children's programming, which often involves incentives and awards. I can't give away things that my taxpayers purchased, so, when it is time to do that, my Friends of the Library step in with financial support.

This week our local library hosted its eleventh annual Battle of the Books, which is a trivia competition for fourth through sixth graders. After long months of children mastering the contents of twenty books, we host a double elimination tournament for teams of four youngsters. It is wonderful to be able to award the winning three teams with prizes (gift certificates for more books, of course) while supporting local business. This year twenty-six kids participated, making up seven teams and thirteen rounds. This is one of my favorite events of the year and I am so grateful that we have a Friends group that makes it possible!

I also wanted to let you know how very excited I am about the slate of candidates for this year's FLS Election. I hope you will take the time to read about the candidates and to log in and vote at www.nyla.org. (Editor's note: Find FLS elections information on pages 1 and 6 of this newsletter.)

Sincerely, Sarah Sachs

Literary Landmark™ Update: Robert Louis Stevenson Cottage and Museum Turns 100!

Last year, FLS assisted the Board of Directors of the Robert Louis Stevenson Cottage and Museum with their application to be designated a Literary Landmark™. The New York Library Association and the Empire State Center for the Book felt the Cottage and its unique ties to a classic author and children's poet who penned A Child's Garden of Verses in 1885 made it a perfect candidate for this honor. United for Libraries approved the Cottage's nomination for the national program which is administered by this division of the American Library Association.

In her letter informing the Cottage of the successful application, Executive Director of United for Libraries Sally G. Reed, said "What a terrific addition to New York's growing list of Landmarks!" The Cottage is the 17th Landmark in New York and only the second in northern New York State. The Wilder Homestead in Burke became #16 in July 2015 highlighting the farm's connections to Farmer Boy by Laura Ingalls Wilder. Since its establishment in 2010, the Empire State Center for the Book, the New York State affiliate for the Library of Congress Center for the Book, has been very proactive in identifying and nominating Literary Landmarks™ for this prestigious designation.

Any special location in a community that is tied to a deceased author, a literary work, or an important figure in literature may qualify for recognition as a Literary Landmark™ by United for Libraries. If you have a site that you think is worthy of Literary Landmark™ designation, full details of applying and hosting a dedication event for a Literary Landmark™ can be found on the United for Libraries Web page: www.ala.org/united/products_services/literarylandmarks.

It is the ideal time to bring attention to this literary site in the Adirondack Park as the Cottage celebrates its 100th anniversary of the founding of the museum. They are planning an upcoming event at the Cottage in late summer.

As they begin their second century, the Stevenson Society of America will soon have another plaque to display with the one by Gutzon Borglum at this beloved literary shrine. Watch the FLS webpage for the date of this plaque dedication.

Sincerely, Sarah Sachs
Friday, November 4, 2016
Saratoga Hilton and City Center, Saratoga Springs, NY

“Strong. Strategic. Sustainable.” isn’t just a theme for this year’s conference, it’s what libraries and Friends of the Library Groups need to be in order to survive and thrive. Plan now to spend a profitable Friends Friday and Saturday at the New York Library Association’s 2016 Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs.

FLS is offering four workshops full of ideas to help Friends make our libraries strong, strategic and sustainable. NYLA members registered as Friends or with a Friends Group are eligible for greatly reduced rates to attend the conference for a day or the entire conference. Registration entitles you to attend non-ticketed programs and have access to the Trade Show. Many ticketed events are included in the conference package rate. Complete conference information will be available online in June. Visit www.nyla.org and click on News and Events, then select Conference and Trade Show.

The early bird registration is just $25 for any one single day admission to the conference for the following NYLA member types: personal members at the Friend level and individuals belonging to an organizational member Friends Group including the primary contact for the group (voting member) and the elected officers of that Friends Group who have been registered as non-voting members of NYLA. The conference registration entitles participants to an entire day of workshops sponsored by FLS and other NYLA Sections, Roundtables, and Affiliates plus a great trade show* of library-related vendors. After August 19 the rate increases to $30 and after September 30 to $35 for a single day. *The trade show is not open on Saturday.

Are you planning to attend for more than two days? NYLA is offering a Package Plan registration rate for NYLA/FLS members (same membership requirements as stated above). Register by August 19 for the early bird rate* of $175. The package includes attendance Thursday through Saturday plus tickets to luncheons on Thursday and Friday, a breakfast on Saturday, the scholarship event on Thursday evening, and the inaugural banquet on Friday night. *After August 19 the rate increases to $215 and after September 30 to $235.

If you do not wish to attend these extra events, there is a Full Conference registration rate covering all non-ticketed programs scheduled from Thursday through Saturday, the trade show on Thursday and Friday, and a ticket to Friday’s inaugural banquet for only $99. After August 19 the rate increases to $139 and after September 30 to $159.

Anyone registered may purchase a ticket to a Friday luncheon for $35.

NYLA offers these same deeply discounted registration rates for their members registered as students, trustees, and retirees.

All registrations must be submitted online; check the early bird and advance cut-off dates and fees at www.nyla.org. You must have a NYLA login and password in order to receive these member benefits. Please contact Lois Powell, Director of Membership Services and Conference Registrar, by telephone for assistance in registering if you are paying by organizational check, need to be invoiced, or are joining as a new NYLA member in order to attend the conference: (800) 252-6952, ext. 104 or (518) 432-6952. NYLA does not take credit card payments over the telephone.

Friends Day at a Glance
Friday, November 4

9:45 – 10:45 a.m. Exclusive NYLA Trade Show Time
Visit the exhibits in the convention hall. Trade Show is open from 9:00 a.m. - Noon

11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Friends Grow Friends Online

12:30 p.m. Section Luncheons
FLS is not hosting a luncheon this year but there are several to choose from. Luncheons are a ticketed event and require advance registration (included in Conference Package Plan).

2:15 - 3:30 p.m. Book Sale Bonanza

3:45 - 5 p.m. Friends Showcase
The FLS annual membership meeting, including the announcement of the Dan Casey Award winner and installation of the 2016 Executive Board, will begin the session, followed immediately by the program.

Saturday, November 5

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Friends of Academic Libraries

Editor’s note: Times subject to change based on final schedule. See the NYLA Annual Conference Brochure or go to www.nyla.org for more information.
Friday, November 4
9:45 - 10:45 a.m.  Exclusive Trade Show Time

Visit the exhibits in the convention hall. Stop by the FLS booth to buy a raffle ticket and meet your fellow Friends members.

The Trade Show ends at 12 noon. You may have lunch on your own or attend one of the NYLA Section luncheons with featured speakers. Pre-registration is required for all luncheons. (Your choice of luncheons is included in the Conference Package Plan registration.)

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  Program Slot #4
Friends Grow Friends Online
co-sponsored by LTA.

Whether hosted on the library’s website or a Facebook page, content about the Friends should make it easy to become a member and actively engaged to support the library. Photos of activities, newsletters, program calendars, and other valuable enhancements can keep your group growing and vital. Polly-Alida Farrington will provide fresh inspiration with a variety of best practices.

Polly is a consultant and the owner of PA Farrington Associates, with nearly 20 years of experience providing technology related training, web project development, and consulting services to libraries, library systems, and schools. Prior to starting PA Farrington Associates, Polly was an Associate Librarian at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York with 17 years of experience in reference, government documents, ILL and technology.

2:15 - 3:30 p.m.  Program Slot #5
Book Sale Bonanza
co-sponsored by LTA.

Friends of Tompkins County Public Library will explain how they gradually developed their book sale into one of the ten largest in the nation. Customers now camp out overnight to get a good spot in line! Using photos and statistics, Jai Blackburn, Nina Scholtz and Beryl Barr will demonstrate how the processing and sale work are organized. They will also address such unique issues as managing overnight lines for the sale and how the “line cam” on their website helps customers to choose their arrival time. In addition, they will describe what the sale enables the Friends to fund.

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Friends of Academic Libraries
co-sponsored by LTA, ESLN, and ASLS.

Friends groups aren't just for public libraries! Panelists from a state university and a private college who have established successful groups will furnish the tools and inspiration you need to attract and collaborate with Friends to the benefit of your library and campus.

Charlie Cowling is College Archivist, Local History & General Reference Librarian at Drake Memorial Library, SUNY Brockport. Amy Pass is Assistant Professor, Information Literacy Librarian at James Wheelock Clark Library, The Sage Colleges, Troy.

You may also be interested in this program sponsored by the Youth Services Section and co-sponsored by FLS.

9:30 - 10:45 a.m.  Program Slot #7
Family Literacy in a Food Pantry

The Cazenovia Public Library is connecting the dots between early literacy, the local food pantry and family well-being, and they're doing it all on a small budget. Starting with an Early Literacy project at the CazCares food pantry, library outreach coordinators began to build more in-depth relationships with food pantry's clients. Library Director Betsy Kennedy will describe how their interactions led to unexpected positive outcomes: adults obtaining their high school equivalency through the library tutoring program, school age children participating in an interactive summer learning program and book club, and the food pantry becoming the site for ESL classes, Dolly Parton Imagination Library sign ups and healthy literacy initiatives. Find out how this innovative library team supplemented their small budget with donations and volunteers to make Family Literacy work for the community.

Friends of Libraries Section of NYLA
2016 Daniel W. Casey
Library Advocacy Award
Call for Nominations

Look around at your FRIENDS! Who has been a leader; a program innovator; the "rock" of the organization; a group of people that your FRIENDS can always count on? Are you thinking of someone special? The special person or group is exactly who FLS wants to celebrate with the Casey Award.

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, please follow the link www.NYLA.org/Friends to the "Awards and Scholarships" page. The deadline for submission of nominations for this prestigious award is July 1, 2016. This year's award recipient will be announced at FLS's annual meeting at the NYLA Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs on November 4, 2016.

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.

An FLS Membership Snapshot

Based on figures from May 2, here's an interesting look at several FLS membership statistics.
Total membership - 163
FLS as primary section in NYLA - 106
FLS as an added section in NYLA - 57
Friends groups, libraries, systems, and organizations represented:
33 public libraries
3 academic libraries
4 systems
33 Friends groups
5 companies / organizations
**First Vice President / President-Elect**
Rebecca Fuss, Director of Programming & Outreach
Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library

Position Statement:
Libraries are the trusted spaces where anyone can learn, through books and traditional materials, technology and new media, or person to person. Friends groups are the main community support to make this happen. I welcome the opportunity to form relationships with Friends groups throughout New York State to share ideas, projects, and recognition of successes.

**Second Vice President**
Terry Mulee

Position Statement:
Libraries are the heartbeat of communities and Friends of Library groups are the lifeblood that helps maintain these gems. It's been a rewarding experience to be involved in the Empire Friends Roundtable and now FLS as we became a Section. Working on membership since the beginning and adding the responsibilities of newsletter editor and webpage coordinator have been challenging, in a good way. These tools are excellent methods to spread the message of FLS that we're here to help. We've nearly doubled our membership since 2012. Library Friends have a good time together. That's also a good reason to be involved.

**Treasurer**
Jennifer L. Kegler, Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Library Instruction
The College at Brockport, SUNY

Position Statement:
I am delighted to work with the Friends of Libraries Section, as a member of both my local public library's and my newly-formed academic library's Friends groups. Our shared love for libraries and equal access to information has encouraged me greatly! My first love for libraries developed in the rural Adirondacks where the Bookmobile would stop in my little hamlet. I grew to know and love the librarian; I found it so magical that new books, based on my interests, would arrive on the next highly anticipated visit. I also had a wonderful school librarian who inspired me with her knowledge and encouraged me to try different genres and new books. This love for books and learning continued into college and graduate school, where I became a librarian myself. I am looking forward to giving back to the communities, both large and tiny, that so inspired me.

**Member At Large**
Vicki N. Kosovac

Position Statement:
Friends groups have an important role to play in the success of their associated libraries. Developing a Friends group to its full potential is hard work and the volunteer's time is precious. Hopefully, with the insights I've gleaned from my experiences of revamping a moribund local group to the vital organization it is today, my help will inspire and motive other Friends groups statewide in the future.

**Member At Large**
Leslie S. W. Riley, Retired

Position Statement:
A vital Friends of the Library organization develops good communication between the Friends, the Library Director and staff, Library Trustees, and/or the Library Foundation and the community. It is a great pleasure to serve with the dynamic leadership of the Friends of Libraries Section, "to promote and inspire local Friends groups." During a 42-year library career, there have been exceptional opportunities to reach out and generate interest that would affect the libraries' impact on their communities. I am looking forward to assisting the FLS Daniel W. Casey Library Advocacy Award Committee; being available to share experiences and ideas that add value to NYS's Friends organizations; and participating in the outcomes and projects of FLS. Thank you!

**Member At Large**
Ristiina Wigg, Retired

Position Statement:
As Friends, you are an essential support for your library. So often our neighbors don't know the wonderful resources—materials, programs, and staff—that our libraries have; Friends spread the word. Friends groups are vital as libraries balance the traditional programs and collections that people love, with the new, ever-changing services and materials that people need and want. As a member of the Friends of Libraries Section Board, I look forward to using my years of library experience and understanding of the unique needs of individual communities to work with you, sharing ideas, finding information that you need, and strengthening advocacy for our libraries.

Please note: these profiles have been edited for length to appear in the newsletter. Full profiles with the candidates' work and volunteer experience, education, activities, and affiliations are available at www.NYLA.org/Friends under Board & Officers then Elections. Also, only the primary contact person of a Friends Group Organizational Member is eligible to vote on behalf of the organization. Elected officers of a Friends Group Organizational Member registered with NYLA are non-voting members of NYLA and are not eligible to take part in the election.
Once again FLS is happy to announce that State Senator Joseph Robach has sponsored a proclamation, read on the Senate floor on March 8, 2016, observing National Friends of Libraries Week and honoring the work of Friends groups across New York State. A facsimile of the proclamation appears here, and you can order copies by using the order form below.

Last year the Friends of the Kinderhook Memorial Library displayed a framed copy of the proclamation at the library and you might want to do the same to draw attention to the many contributions your Friends group makes to your library and community. And now is the time to seek sponsorship for a similar resolution from your local municipality; be it County, Town or Village. Feel free to adapt the wording of the State resolution to meet your needs.

National Friends of Libraries Week is a perfect time to plan a special program or event, to send press releases and letters to the editor of your local newspapers, or to present a gift to your library on behalf of the Friends. Many ideas can be found on the United for Libraries website www.ala.org/united/events_conferences/folweek.

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Good Ideas From All Over
by Phyllis Kitt

The Pittsford Community Library (NY) feels sure that if anything goes together like A Horse and Carriage it's Literacy and Libraries. Tutors are invited to bring their students to the library's several quiet study areas where there is easy access to a wealth of teaching materials to suit any age. It also helps the student create "the library habit!"

The Gates Public Library (NY) offered a sneak peek of the Downton Abbey Finale. Scones and loose leaf tea were served. Period dress was invited but not required. Lovely, my dear.

The Chili Public Library (NY) honored America's service men and women with a Military Veterans Meet and Greet. It was hosted by World War II veteran Adam De Santis and the Library. Veterans were invited to share stories, camaraderie, and light refreshments.

The Scranton Library Friends (CT) hosted the 10th annual Parade of Pooches to benefit the Scranton Memorial Library. Dogs were judged on the size of their ears and paws and on their height. Ribbons were given for the youngest and oldest. Entry fees were modest and the dogs were happy to do their part to support the library.

FLS Tribute Fund
Honor Roll

~ ~ Friend ~ ~
Doug Mason, Troy, NY

Add a name to the FLS Tribute Fund List and honor that special individual or group.

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