



NCLS @ccess

North Country Library System - 22072 County Route 190 - Watertown, NY 13601 - www.nclsweb.org

January
2012



The dissemination of knowledge is one of the cornerstones of civilization.

- John F. Budd

Happy
New
Year!

2011 NYS Annual Reports

This year, you will all be entering your annual report information directly into the Bibliostat Collect database. You are still able to use the NCLS Online Annual Report, monthly or yearly, if you choose.

Please be advised:

- Bibliostat Collect is not open for use until the end of January. This is the soonest that the State can make it available to us. This means that you will have a shorter window of time to enter your data and submit it (but if you continue to use the NCLS Online Annual Report, you will only need to transfer your already completed data over into Bibliostat Collect when it opens up)
- **Reports will be due to NCLS by February 10th, 2012.**
- The program will let you know if you have left anything blank.
- Answers that are 'questionable' or seem to be too much higher or lower than last year's figures will prompt an 'edit check.' You will be given the opportunity to either correct the typo or inaccurate answer, or explain why there is a large increase or decrease .
- Once you click 'submit', the report gets submitted to NCLS and we will still review and work on problem areas or inaccuracies with you before it is submitted to New York State.
- Every trustee **MUST** have an original e-mail address.
- Every trustee of public (not association) libraries must take and file the Oath of Office and provide the date in which the oath was filed. Last year the report asked only for the most recent oath. This year, the report asks for the date for every trustee.

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SnapshotNY Weeks

February 12th-18th & February 19th-25th

Library Lobby Day

Tuesday, March 6th



NYLA is encouraging all libraries to participate in this year's **SnapshotNY Week** that documents a day in the life of your library during the weeks of either **February 12th - 18th** or **February 19th - 25th**. The purpose of the initiative is to provide the public, administrators, state and local funders with both factual data and testimonials that detail the essential nature of libraries to our communities.

The www.protectnylibraries.org website has been updated and awaits your participation by collecting the info/testimonials and filling out the online survey. The deadline for submitting the information/photos/videos is February 29th, which will give NYLA a week to collate the information and have it ready for **Library Lobby Day on Tuesday, March 6th**.

In addition, Communication Services (Libby Post) and NYLA have developed **Library Champion** logos (two of them are at the top of this page!) that your library can post on its website to encourage patrons, users, students, etc to become library advocates. The icon will link to the NYLA website where they can send a letter, find out more about our legislative priorities, etc. Download the logos and the link to add to your web site at www.protectnylibraries.org.

To Albany or bust!



Every year libraries send representatives to Albany on the first Tuesday in March to speak to our State Legislators and to rally for our cause. Because libraries have been cut 22% in the past four years, and because the effect of these cuts and years of flat funding have reduced the level of support to the amount received in 1993, we have to do something different to make our point.

This year NCLS and the Northern NY Library Network will provide a bus to transport library supporters to Albany to help state the case for libraries. This will not be a minor commitment for the people who choose to make the trip. The bus will leave NCLS **Tuesday March 6th at 5:30 AM**, make a stop in **Lowville** (at the Wal-Mart) **about 6:15**, then proceed to Albany. We will set meetings with Legislators and legislative staff. The bus will leave Albany about 3:00 PM and return to Watertown about 7:00 PM. Quite a day!

Please contact Steve Bolton at bolton@ncls.org by January 27 if you want to participate in this trek. The bus trip is free.

The bus will be comfortable (feel free to bring a blanket and pillow!). We will provide coffee, yogurt and donuts. Please bring a bag lunch.

10 New PC's and Library Metricks installed in Clayton

In December, The IT Department installed TEN brand new Dell computers at the Hawn Memorial Library in Clayton!

The Library Metricks PC reservation and management system was also installed. Adams, Colton, Fulton, Massena, and Mexico libraries are also using the Library Metricks program. Watertown, Pulaski, and Oswego use a similar program called Envisionware.

PC management systems enable automated PC reservation as well as the option to manage printing by patrons. For more information about these PC management systems, please contact Jerry Schell in our IT Department.

Brantingham-Greig Reading and Technology Center

This past year, the reading center became an official tax-exempt organization and gave themselves a new name. Best of all, the Town of Greig included a space for them in their brand new building!

Here is a sneak peek at their new space....look for more in next month's newsletter.



NCLS Calendar of Events



January

2nd- NCLS Closed for New Year's Day (observed)

16th- NCLS Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February

No events scheduled at this time

Williamstown Library Granted Absolute Charter

Congratulations to Beverly Ripka, Director, and the board of trustees of the Williamstown Library on the granting by the NYS Board of Regents of their absolute charter.

The Williamstown Library was granted its provisional charter in May 2006 for a five year probationary period. On November 15, 2011, the Board of Regents voted to grant the library an absolute charter. The charter could have been extended for another five years and remained provisional had the performance of the library not been exemplary.

The Williamstown Library's local public funding has increased by more than 40% since 2006. Program attendance, registered patrons, and circulation have skyrocketed as well. The library completed automation this past year and is now embarking on a major building renovation and expansion.



From left: Bev Ripka, Director, Cherie Tietjen, Board President, Sue Billington, trustee, and Alice Trumble, Treasurer.



Library Journal's fourth national rating of public libraries identifies 262 Star libraries. It rates 7,513 public libraries using a formula that includes circulation per capita, visits per capita, program attendance per capita, and internet use per capita. The top libraries in each group get five, four, or three stars. All rated libraries, stars or not can use their scores to learn from their peers, inform their stakeholders of achievements and service opportunities, and improve library awareness and funding.

This year there were 39 “starred” libraries in New York State, with 3 of those being libraries within the North Country Library System. For the third year in a row, the **Macsherry Library in Alexandria Bay** received a 4 star rating. For the second year in a row, the **Pulaski Public Library** received a 5 star rating. The only other library from within our system to have been a star library since the rating index began in 2009 was Mexico Public Library, which received 3 stars in 2009.

Congratulations to the Macsherry Library and the Pulaski Public Library for this achievement!

To read more about the *Library Journal* Index of Public Library Service and see all the ratings, visit www.libraryjournal.com.



If your library has information to share in NCLS @ccss,
Please contact Amy Zuch at NCLS: 782-5540 or azuch@ncls.org

Automation Update

The Lyons Falls Library and the Morley branch of the Canton Free Library are now fully automated! They “went live” in November.

Currently involved in some stage of the automation process are Hay Memorial Library in Sackets Harbor, Clifton Community Library in Cranberry Lake, and the Hepburn Library of Lisbon.