



The Newsletter of the New Hampshire Library Trustees Association

ALL ROADS LEAD TO THE LIBRARY



Photo at the Concord Public Library by Marty Davis, NHLTA Director

ANNUAL CONFERENCE REVIEW

By Adele Knight, NHLTA Director

LIBRARIES IN TRANSITION: Past Present, Future was the theme of this year’s annual conference which reflected on the important role of public libraries in our communities, exploring ways to make them better today, and to prepare ourselves and our libraries for an exciting future. The 314 registrants, fifteen engaging presenters, and eight informative exhibitors enjoyed a day of enlightenment and camaraderie.

Keynote speaker, Edie Clark gave a vision of the past, present, and the future. As one participant noted about the presentation, “I think it is very

effective—hearing about the challenges of the past, how far we’ve come, and what’s to be done—from the view of a person who has been through it all. Thank you.”

The workshop sessions were filled to capacity. Also, trustees appreciated the contact with exhibitors and sponsors who offered information about their companies and the services they offer to libraries. NHLTA did the hard work, but members of the New Hampshire Library community—trustees, librarians, friends, and our

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SUSAN YOUNG GAUDIELLO *President Elect*

By Adele Knight, NHLTA Director

It is with great enthusiasm that the NHLTA Board of Directors welcomes Susan to serve as President of the Association. Susan has been a very active member of the NHLTA Board of Directors since she was elected in 2012. She came to the NHLTA with much experience in trusteeship, having served as a trustee of the Barrington Public Library for twelve years (five of those years as President).

After learning of Susan’s work with the Barrington Public Library and noting her attendance at conferences, the Governance Committee asked Susan if she would consider joining the Board of Directors. She accepted as she was attracted to the Board for several reasons. One: she had read an article in the NHLTA newsletter about the strategic planning the board was undertaking; and two: she was impressed with

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Message from the President . . .

NHLTA is committed to helping our New Hampshire libraries increase their ongoing contributions to the quality of life in the communities they serve. This necessitates the continual education of trustees and staff. Our regular educational forums such as workshops, annual conference, website resources, and newsletter are dedicated to this end.

Our incoming President, Susan Young Gaudiello, has been the critical organizer of these forums, particularly the annual Spring Conference. Susan is an articulate advocate for library excellence. Her strong work ethic and people skills will serve us all admirably.

Welcome Susan.



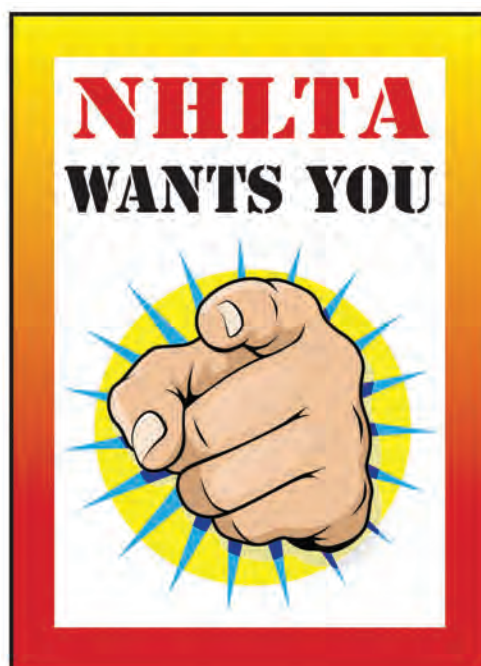
Ed Moran
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YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

NHLTA is actively seeking volunteers to work on a project-by-project basis or on a long-term basis. Do you have skills to share to fill in some gaps? Are you looking for something to sink your teeth into in support of libraries?

The NHLTA Board of Directors is an all-volunteer group of current and former library trustees. We need help on the following committees. **Education:** help us put together exciting and educational annual conferences, orientation sessions for new trustees, and topical workshops. **Communications:** support the Editor in reporting for our quarterly newsletter with content, regional reporting, and feature articles. **Technology:** experience with SurveyMonkey, MailChimp, and various MicroSoft programs.

For information on how to volunteer with the NHLTA, please contact Loring Webster at l.webster@nhlta.org or Adele Knight at a.knight@nhlta.org with an estimate of the time you can offer, areas of interest, and special skills. 📖



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“The NHLTA assists Trustees to be knowledgeable and effective in order to serve, improve and promote NH Public Libraries.”

the board's timely and ambitious goals as well as the quality of discussion she observed while sitting in on several board meetings. Susan thought she had the skills to effectively serve on the board and also to contribute as a member of the Legislative Committee, and she looked forward to being part of the association's leadership. Susan, we are all so glad that you did join.

Susan has exhibited many talents. Among her areas of strength are board development and strategic planning and advocacy and she has been a tremendous asset to the Education and Legislative Committees. Our sponsorship program was developed by Susan in 2012 and she continues to manage that aspect of the Annual Conference. She also designed our conference program, and has presented the advocacy segment at most of our orientation workshops the last few years. In 2013, Susan drafted the NHLTA Legislative Advocacy Guide which is posted on the NHLTA advocacy webpage. Last year, Susan took on the daunting task of chairing the Education Committee which put her in charge of the Annual Conference, workshops and orientations.

Susan's professional experience includes employment from 1992–2011 as CEO of the Home Care Association of NH where she worked as a registered lobbyist (making her a natural to be appointed to the NHLTA Legislative Committee). Susan was the Executive Director for South Shore Elder Services in Braintree, MA, from 1985–1992, and Home Care Program Director at Bristol Elder Services in Fall River, MA, from 1978–1985.

Susan's volunteer service and affiliations are impressive as well. In addition to serving on the NHLTA Board of Directors, she is a Friend of the Barrington Public Library, a Selectman in the Town of Barrington, and President of the Board of Cornerstone VNA in Rochester.

Susan is not worried about libraries becoming irrelevant in the digital age, as some would have us believe, because public libraries are so important to the community and the public. She did comment that "the NHLTA is challenged because of the competition for time and skills to carry out the NHLTA mission with volunteer support. To continue in our role as an educator and advocate, the NHLTA needs increased involvement from our members." Under Susan's leadership, we are certain that the organization will continue to move forward and help our public libraries.

On a personal note, Susan loves to travel. Even with her busy volunteer schedule, she managed several trips abroad this past year. She's now looking at the schedule for live theatre presentations which she and her husband plan to attend this summer. Gardening is another interest. As we ended our interview Susan was thinking about the huge plant sale that the Friends of the Barrington Library were going to hold the next morning. 📖



To continue in our role as an educator and advocate, the NHLTA needs increased involvement from our members.

— Susan Gaudiello

McKAY SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

By Mark Branoff

Scholarships are available from NHLTA's Mildred P. McKay Scholarship Fund and are awarded for graduate courses (e.g., MLS and MLIS courses), certificate courses, conferences (including NHLTA's Annual Conference) and workshops. Applications for fall 2016 semester graduate courses must be received by September 15, 2016.

Criteria for eligibility and an application can be found on NHLTA's web-site, www.nhlta.org. Past McKay Scholarship recipients can also apply for another scholarship.

A brief historical perspective on the Mildred P. McKay Scholarship Fund was printed in the Spring 2014 NHLTA newsletter. Mildred P. McKay was New Hampshire State Librarian, 1942–1964. A brief biography on McKay's library career was printed in the Autumn 2015 NHLTA newsletter. The Mildred P. McKay Scholarship Fund was established by NHLTA in 1965. Last year, 2015, marked the 50th Anniversary of the scholarship. 📖

generous sponsors—added to the success by their interest and attendance.

The track of workshops recommended for new trustees was appreciated. The track included *Starting on the Right Foot: A Basic Orientation for New Trustees*, *The Other Money*, *Technology—What’s next?*, and *Complying with the Right-to-Know Law*.

The other twelve workshops offered sound advice on *Fundraising*, *Building a New Library: The Sunapee Experience*, *Community Based Strategic Planning*, *Safety in the Library*, *Appointing the Library Director and Related Employment Issues*, and *Managing Stress and Conflict in Libraries*.

A few samples of some of the feedback we received from the attendees who completed and returned the on-line evaluations are listed below and give a sense of how well the speakers and their information was received.

One attendee commented about presenter Margaret Byrnes, a staff attorney at the (NHMA) New Hampshire Municipal Association, who’s workshop addressed the important issue of appointing a library director and related employment issues. “Byrnes was excellent—well prepared, informative, and great at answering questions. Please have her back again!”

As always, Terry Knowles gave “top notch information and direct, clear presentation.” “There was a wealth (pun intended) of information with the realistic scenarios facing Boards of Trustees.”



Kate Hamel Bishop presenting *Managing Stress and Conflict in Libraries*.

Cordell Johnston gave an engaging talk about the Right-to-Know Law. “There was a tremendous amount of information provided to the audience as well as a number of questions addressing situations facing trustees. I would have liked the session to be longer.”

Dr. Goldman, talking about safety in libraries, “... got right down to business and covered many items during the short time he had.” “The presenter provided an excellent template for creating a safety plan/policy for libraries. I’ll be sharing this at our upcoming Trustee meeting.”

Generally speaking, attendees were impressed by the quantity and quality of information that they received. “I think that overall, the conference was a success. This is my third conference and I see that they continue to improve. I especially like that the small round table happened.” Another commented “This was my first NHLTA Conference as a new alternate trustee. I came away with some very good, helpful information in understanding the position and what my role can be to help our library.”

The evaluations also pointed out that some of the audiences wished that the sessions had been longer as there was so much information to be absorbed in a short time. In some instances, there was not enough time to fully cover the subject, and they would have liked more time to ask questions.

Thank you to every attendee who did take the time to fill out and return the on-line evaluations. The Conference Planning Committee always takes attendees’ comments and suggestions seriously when planning the 2017 Annual Conference. 📖



Keynote speaker, Edie Clark.

GAY-KIMBALL LIBRARY – A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION

By Allan Bailey, Trustee

When a long-serving library director decides to leave, the board of trustees faces several challenges. The first challenge is the obvious one: finding a new director.

In January 2016, Catherine Callegari, a ten-year veteran of the Gay-Kimball Library in Troy, decided it was time to move on. She gave the trustees a heads-up 18 months before her departure, so we had time to think about the direction we wanted to take.

We put that time to good use. We reviewed several resources about searching for a library director. One of the trustees met with a human resources consultant for a free, one-hour, one-on-one discussion about what *not* to do when conducting a job interview.

In late 2015, we advertised the position on the New Hampshire Library Association listserv. We received ten resumes. The trustees reviewed them and decided to interview four of them.



From left: Director Stephanie Charlefour and Library Assistant Darline Harris at the customer service desk of Troy's Gay-Kimball Library.

Catherine contacted all four to discuss the position's work environment and salary. One applicant withdrew her application because of the salary level. We interviewed two applicants from New Hampshire in person.

Since we were not willing to pay travel expenses for an out-of-state applicant, we agreed to interview a candidate from Michigan via Facetime, the Apple equivalent of Skype.

The trustees bunched together, shoulder-to-shoulder for about an hour one afternoon in November 2015. Despite some connectivity issues, we conducted a satisfactory interview and offered the position to our Michigan applicant, Stephanie Charlefour. Stephanie accepted.

The second challenge is overcoming the loss of institutional knowledge. With an 18-month preparation period, we were able to review and streamline policies and procedures, something that should be done regularly anyway. Old files were cleaned up, junk was carted away, and regularly performed tasks were documented.

Thanks to the long lead time, we were able to increase the library's budget for 2016 to allow a two-week overlap between the outgoing and incoming directors. And, Catherine gave Stephanie her cell phone number and encouraged her to call anytime with questions.

The third challenge is a tricky one. Public acceptance of the new director takes time and effort. During Catherine's years as director, she made many friends among our patrons. I once pointed out to her that for most people, she was not only the director of the Gay-Kimball Library—she *was* the Gay-Kimball Library.

We announced the changeover in the town's monthly newsletter, and on a Monday evening, we scheduled a "hail and farewell" in the library's meeting room. About fifty people stopped in to say goodbye to Catherine and to meet Stephanie.

Stephanie has made a point of getting out into the community to meet the people at various town events. She has also teamed with the select board's administrative assistant to make the library a resource for people dealing with drug addiction. Many of the library's ongoing programs are continuing, and Stephanie is exploring opportunities to expand the library's role in the community.

So, the first challenge was successfully met. The second challenge was met with more success than we expected. And the third challenge is an ongoing success. 📖

CLiF GRANTS

Six New Hampshire libraries won 2016-2017 Rural Libraries grants from the Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF). Grants include \$2,000 in new books for public libraries and \$250 mini-grants to support library programs.

The libraries awarded grants are: Libbie Cass Library (Springfield), Milton Free Public Library (Milton Mills), GayKimball Library (Troy), Stephenson Memorial Library (Greenfield), Jefferson Public Library (Jefferson), and Monroe Public Library (Monroe)

CLiF is a nonprofit organization founded in 1998. Its mission is to nurture a love of reading and writing among low-income, at-risk, and rural children in New Hampshire and Vermont. 📖



Conference candid photos by Marty Davis, NHLTA Director

THANK YOU TO OUR CONFERENCE SPONSORS, EXHIBITORS, AND SUPPORTERS

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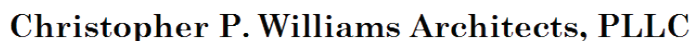
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COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

For over half a century NHLTA has worked to advance our public libraries by delivering quality information and education, fostering networking among trustees, and advocating on behalf of libraries at the state level. During the past year, we have continued this activity, taking action on recent state legislation, as well as offering workshops and timely information through our publications.

We plan to actively renew our efforts so that our libraries and this association will continue to thrive. To that end, we are asking NHLTA members to step up and volunteer to serve, whether it is for a few hours a month or only a few days a year.


Committee members are: Ed Moran (President), David Simpson (Vice President), Carol Snelling (Secretary), Mark Branoff (Treasurer) and Adele Knight (Past President). 

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The Governance Committee continued to research, interview and recommend candidates for open director positions on the NHLTA Board. We are delighted to welcome Liz Tentarelli, our newest director. Liz has experience in education and planning and is the current president of the NH League of Women Voters.

Additional directors are needed and anyone interested in a position on the Board should contact any member of the Governance Committee. We are specifically looking for people with skills in education, fundraising, graphics, technology, event planning and logistics.

The committee continued to review and modify policies and procedures and to prepare a detailed plan for director development.

Loring Webster (Chair), Connie Kirwin, Adele Knight, Tom Ladd, Conrad Moses, Ed Moran. 

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

The Technology Committee continued to incorporate ways to improve communications and supply timely information to its members. We used electronic email service for announcements of upcoming events; used surveys to solicit members' input; and maintained the website with current access to the library world through links, resources, and other important data. The NHLTA LISTSERV® allowed members to exchange ideas and assist each other. We offered workshops on technology of benefit to trustees and libraries.

As we move forward in the challenging and changing world of technology, we will continue to explore and evaluate new avenues of service to inform members and libraries,

such as the possibility of offering webinars and other related programs. And we will keep members informed and updated through workshops, email, Listserv, and the quarterly newsletters.

Conrad Moses (Chair) 

EDUCATION COMMITTEE


The Education Committee is celebrating the conclusion of another successful Spring Conference, held May 23 at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord. We welcomed 314 registrants, 15 engaging presenters, and eight informative exhibitors this year. Despite a few logistical glitches, participants rated the event very positively. We are already underway planning the 2017 conference, which will again be held in Concord.

NHLTA offered several trustee orientation workshops in the Fall of 2015 and June 2016. Including those who registered for the orientation workshop at the Spring Conference, we will have reached over 150 trustees this year! We also delivered a new workshop targeted to officers of trustee boards, billed as the Leadership Boot Camp. It was well attended, and with some re-tooling based on participant evaluations, we will consider repeating the program in the future.

The Education Committee is also responsible for updating NHLTA's Library Trustee Manual, a task undertaken every five years. The update is complete and the manual is now at the printer. To save the cost of printing a manual for every trustee (which would mean printing over 1,000 copies!), NHLTA will be sending one copy of the manual in a hard-cover binder to each NH public library to share with their trustees. We will also be posting the 2016 updated version to the NHLTA website, where all trustees can read it online, or print or download a copy for their personal reference.

Looking forward, NHLTA expects to add a few webinars to its educational offerings in the coming year. Attendees at the Spring Conference indicated a strong interest in this available-on-demand mode of receiving training.

Finally, the NHLTA Education Committee is seeking new members. We will be operating as two collaborating subcommittees—one focused on the annual conference, and the other responsible for workshops, orientations and webinars. If you have a background in education or just an interest in working on either of these workgroups, please contact Jan Clark at j.clark@nhlta.org.

Members of the committee are: Susan Gaudiello (Chair), Janice Clark (Vice-Chair) Mark Branoff, Adele Knight, Dee Santoso, Carol Snelling, Liz Tentarelli. 

— Committee Reports continued on page 10 —

NEWS ALERT: NHLTA Annual Awards

By Adele Knight, NHLTA Director

It is time to honor those special contributors who connect the Library to the Community by nominating that special trustee or library director or friend of the library for one of the **NHLTA Annual Awards**. These awards are presented to individuals or groups who have contributed to the excellence of New Hampshire libraries and have given exemplary library service to their community. To help you with your selection in the various categories, I will briefly list some of the criteria.

The **Lillian Edlmann Trustee of the Year** embodies the characteristics of a library trustee as outlined in the NHLTA manual. If you do not have a manual at your fingertips, you can access it on the NHLTA website: www.nhlta.org.

The **Library Director of the Year** exhibits professionalism, leadership and outstanding performance and has made notable contributions toward fulfilling the mission and goals of the library.

The **Special Library Service Contribution** award is presented to an individual or group, other than staff or board members, who has given outstanding service to New Hampshire public libraries for at least three years.

The Sue Palmatier Award for Outstanding Support by a **"Friends of the Library"** Group is offered to recognize the tremendous values of Friends of the Library.

The **Dorothy M. Little Award** recipient has demonstrated sustained, extraordinary library advocacy and activism.

And, the **Library of the Year** has demonstrated expansion and improvement of services and technology, developed partnerships with other community organizations and has proven value to the community measured by relationship with and support from town officials and members of the community.

Please send your submissions to Carol Snelling, PO Box 726, Holderness, NH 03245. The deadline is **July 31, 2016**.

LIBRARY SERVICES FOR SENIORS

By Ann Hoey

According to the *NH State Plan on Aging*, NH is now ranked as the third state with the fastest growing older population. The NH Center for Public Policy Studies estimates that by 2030 New Hampshire will have 437,194 senior citizens, up from 191,403 as reported in the 2010 U.S. Census.

Clearly this growing aging population impacts public libraries in many ways. Asked to help NH libraries address this issue, Youth and Adult Services Coordinator Ann Hoey convened a taskforce of librarians from around the state, including State Librarian Michael York and director of the Talking Books Services, Marilyn Stevenson. A group of approximately 33 librarians from a range of public libraries—urban and rural, big and small—met to discuss the challenges and opportunities posed by the increasing numbers of seniors in their communities.

After sharing successful programming ideas and creating a "wish list" of resources that would help them improve their library service for seniors, the group identified some next steps for helping libraries serve this aging population. Some of these steps include the following:

- Establish a LISTSERV® for librarians to discuss issues and share resources related to library services for seniors.
- Create a webpage that identifies resources that librarians would find helpful in programming or providing reference for seniors.

- Develop a survey that librarians can use to gather information from seniors.
- Work with READS to develop a program on library services for seniors at their fall conference.
- Provide more continuing education opportunities for librarians on the topic senior library services.
- Look into providing kits geared to seniors such as the BiFolkal bags distributed in the past by the State Library and publicize the services of the Talking Books Program.

The group has already started to take some of these steps. A LISTSERV® was recently established; librarians can subscribe to the list and post information about library services for seniors. The State Library has developed a webpage containing an extensive list of resources available to seniors and libraries serving seniors: www.nh.gov/nhsl/services/librarians/senior_services. Lois Powers, from the Kimball Library in Atkinson, shared a template for a survey, and task force members are expected to discuss the results of surveys conducted in their communities at the next meeting.

The lively group that met earlier this year seems eager to discover what NH libraries can do collectively to deliver excellent library service for our growing population of seniors. For more information about this initiative, please contact Ann Hoey at Ann.Hoey@dcr.nh.gov or call 271-2865. 📖


COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The goal of the committee is to provide and facilitate communications between the Board of Directors, the NHLTA membership and the public through print and digital media.

The quarterly newsletter provided expanded coverage with the addition of regional reporting from the Libraries of the Upper Valley. The popular library profiles articles featured Pillsbury Free Library in Warner, Rochester Public Library, Stephenson Memorial Library in Greenfield, and the Jaffrey Public Library. Regular articles included updates on regional trustee networking meetings, sample policies, trustee toolkit, unique programs for adults, RSA review, FAQs, the philosophical musings from the NH Curmudgeon, and the reflections of a Millennial Whippersnapper. Special interest articles included a three-part series on Friends groups and the history of the Mildred P. McKay scholarship in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary.

Improvements to the website include listing current educational opportunities for trustees. In addition to providing resources of information such as current news, links to newspaper and magazine articles, calendar of events, legislative updates, sample policies, sample job descriptions, and management best practices shared by other trustee boards, the website contains an improved Friends page with information specific to Friends groups including resources and links.

NHLTA's 970 members represented 198 libraries—82% Trustees, 6% Alternates, 11% Library Directors, and 1% Individuals and Friends. Successful outreach action was conducted towards non-member libraries.

Committee members are: Connie Kirwin, Chair (Website and Newsletter), Marty Davis (Membership), Adele Knight (Newsletter Editor), and the late Karen Sheehan Lord (Newsletter Feature Editor). 

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

During the 2016 legislative session, NHLTA tracked three bills it felt could impact public libraries.


HB 1205 proposed that libraries providing children's programs be included in the definition of drug-free school zone. This bill, which has been seen in prior legislative sessions, was voted Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL) by the House Education Committee and by the full House.

HB 1401 proposed amending several provisions of our library law impacting trustee oversight of library staff. The bill created a default one-year term of appointment for a newly hired director if the trustees fail to make an appointment as required in RSA 202-A:15, and added additional

language as cause for dismissal "documented violations of the library's personnel policies" in RSA 202-A:17.

Members of the NHLTA Legislative Committee met twice with the sponsor to discuss his goals and concluded that the bill would not harm trustees' authority. NHLTA conveyed this position at the public hearing before the House Municipal and County Government Committee and submitted an additional amendment for the committee's consideration: to move the authority to fill trustee vacancies and appoint alternates to the trustees. The bill was voted Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL) by the House Municipal and County Government Committee and by the full House.

HB 1508 enabled public libraries to run privacy software. It sponsored by a number of Hillsborough County representatives. The bill would amend RSA 202-A by inserting a provision allowing "the installation and use of cryptographic privacy platforms on public library computers for library patrons use..." NHLTA took no position on the bill, which was recommended Ought to Pass (OTP) by the House Municipal and County Government Committee. The bill was passed with amendment by the full House and is currently referred to Interim Study by the Senate.

Members of the committee are: Ed Moran (Chair), Mark Branoff, Susan Young Gaudiello, and Thomas Ladd. 


FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee oversees the management of NHLTA's finances, and it also serves as the Scholarship Committee for the Mildred P. McKay Scholarship Fund. The committee establishes and periodically reviews financial policies, procedures and practices to ensure proper financial management.

The committee recommended amendments to NHLTA's Financial Reserves Management Policy. The amendments were adopted by the Board of Directors on May 4, 2016.

In calendar year 2015, the Scholarship Committee awarded eighteen full or partial McKay scholarships, including four MLS course scholarships. For 2016, as of May 31, fifteen scholarships have been awarded, including seven MLS course scholarships.

Mildred P. McKay was New Hampshire State Librarian, 1942–1964. In 1965, NHLTA established the Mildred P. McKay Scholarship Fund. The New Hampshire Charitable Foundation annually grants NHLTA new funds for McKay scholarship awards. Criteria for McKay scholarship eligibility and a scholarship application can be found on NHLTA's website, www.nhlta.org.

Finance Committee members are Mark Branoff (Chair), Thomas Wallace and Loring Webster. 

The New Hampshire Curmudgeon

The Newness of Summer

In the last issue we reflected on how we might approach the new year with renewed interest in making our library a place that people want to come to explore. Now let's apply all that to our own lives.

Perhaps 2016 will be a year to explore new authors. Two I recently came across as I was looking for some weekend reading are:

Margaret Mizushima

Timber Creek K-9 Mystery *Killing Trail* is an interesting detective plot with a highly trained K-9 for a partner. You will be enchanted by officer Mattie Cobb and her near-human partner Robo.

John Fortunato

Dark Reservations—a Tony Hillerman style, centered in Navajo Nation New Mexico but with a fresh new approach. Bureau of Indian Affairs Special Agent Joe Evers must overcome his emotional demons and resurrect a failing career to solve this twenty-year-old mysterious cold case.

Have you discovered new authors this year? How about sharing them in the next edition of the NHLTA Newsletter? We're always looking for budding "authors" from our ranks. If nothing has caught your eye just ask your librarian. They often have favorites of their own to recommend.

The Wordy Whippersnapper

Book-Expo-America High

I'm fresh off a Book-Expo-America high, and now it is my personal goal to get everyone to read *Illuminae* by Jay Kristoff and Amie Kaufman. I am completely *obsessed* with this YA sci-fi series (the second book, *Gemina*, hits shelves in October and trust me; there is no "second book slump" in sight!). This first book follows survivors of a destroyed planet as they attempt to find help, encountering enemy spaceships, uncontrollable artificial intelligence, and a mysterious plague along the way. What makes this book really stand out is its style. The entire series is told through hacked documents such as emails, AI reports, security footage transcription, schematics, and absolutely gorgeous font tricks that are hard to explain. The characters are wonderful, the story is gripping, the pages are beautiful, and you should just read it now. It's unlike any reading experience I've ever had.

Another new author I'm loving is Nicola Yoon. Her debut novel, *Everything Everything*, was beautiful and surprising (a movie is even in the works!). In it we meet 17-year-old Maddy who is allergic to everything. She lives in her perfectly sterile home, never leaving, with only her mom and online tutor for company. But when Olly moves in next door, Maddy wonders if risking everything might be worth any consequences. Nicola's sophomore novel, *The Sun is Also a Star* (out in November), is even better! She weaves a story of young love and lost dreams with a diverse cast and beautiful writing to tell a wholly wonderful story.

ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE

I read the articles by the Wordy Whippersnapper and the New Hampshire Curmudgeon with great interest as I too, am an avid reader, and am always looking for suggestions for reading. Email your recommended book titles to a.knight@nhlta.org.

— Adele Knight, Editor

Even though the genre of books that I prefer differs from theirs, it makes no difference because there are books for everyone and they can all be found at our local library, or if need be through Interlibrary Loan. I have also been introduced to some very enjoyable books through the local book group that meets at the library and from other reading aficionados.

My favorite books out of the many I have recently read include: *The Light from A Distant Star* by Mary McGarry Morris. I have always admired her novels and this one did not disappoint. It involves a young woman coming of age amidst an interesting family. It even includes a murder. She knows whodunit or thinks she does, but who believes her?

The Language of Flowers by Vanessa Diffenbaugh tells us about a woman who was brought up in foster care. She

seems to connect to others only through the world of flowers and their meanings.

Theodore Roosevelt's exploration of one of the most dangerous rivers on earth is described in *The River of Doubt* authored by Candice Millard. The feats that Roosevelt accomplished and endured are truly remarkable.

Colm Tóibín wrote the original book, *Brooklyn*, which was made into an award-winning movie. I found this book so engaging that I have recently checked out another book by Tobin.

The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend by Katarina Bivald was fairly light reading but I enjoyed the account of a young woman who came to this small town, opened a bookshop and was able to make an impact on the town as well as on herself. 📖



**New Hampshire
Library Trustees Association**

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2016 CALENDAR

August 3	10:00 a.m.	NHLTA Board of Directors meeting NHMA, 25 Triangle Park Drive, Concord
September 7	10:00 a.m.	NHLTA Board of Directors meeting NHMA, 25 Triangle Park Drive, Concord
October 5	10:00 a.m.	NHLTA Board of Directors meeting NHMA, 25 Triangle Park Drive, Concord

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