

Director's Report  
Frank J. Basloe Library  
Nov. 9, 2015

Children's Librarian Nancy Stowell and I attended the 2015 NYLA Conference in Lake Placid from Oct. 21-Oct. 24. We both attended multiple sessions on a variety of topics. I attended sessions on Strategic Planning, Social Outreach in a Digital Age, Fundraising Ideas for Smaller Libraries, Small Library Leadership, and Friends Groups, among others. 74% of the libraries in NY State are considered small, serving populations of less than 10,000 and much of the programming reflected this statistic. The most noticeable trend among the libraries is to promote the library as a community center and to implement programming that meets non-traditional library roles. There was much discussion of job skills workshops, technical skills training, summer camp programs, summer lunch programs, even a garden produce exchange. The emphasis is to make the libraries more visible in the community with the goal of increasing community support when the time comes to approve the budget.

On Oct. 27, we came in to very little heat in the main part of the building. Despite the very rainy weather, Bravo Heating was able to come and take a look at the rooftop units. He located one HVAC unit that was not functioning at all because of an extremely dirty filter. He was able to get it operational again and has since returned to replace all the filters in all units. There is still one unit that is not working; it needs a new inducer motor. Another unit needs a belt replaced as the old one is quite worn and about to break. Bravo Heating is able to do the work for us. They are also willing to service the units on a regular basis, 2 or 3 times a year, to keep the system operating efficiently.

The library will be closed December 10<sup>th</sup> for staff development. In addition to the originally planned training in Workflows (the circulation system we use) and the various electronic resources, we will learn how to use the AED recently donated by EMS Global. David Ronan will be the presenter for this session.

I've been in contact with various organizations, inviting them to partner with the Basloe Library to offer a type of mentoring program for school age children. The idea is to have older children, teens and pre-teens, work with the younger kids to provide stories, crafts, games and other activities of their choice. To date, we've had a very positive response from the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts, as well as the Kids Club from Christian Assembly of Schuyler Church. We're waiting for responses from the Herkimer High School and the 4H Club. We are expecting to start the program in early December, tying it into the current After School program.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine A. Fleischer