



Friends News and Notes

Friends of Libraries Section — A Network of Library Advocates in New York State

www.nyla.org/Friends

Volume 11, #5 -- September 2025

NYLA Conference

FLS Showcase: Spotlight on Friends!

Saturday, November 8

9:30 to 10:45 a.m.

FLS is very excited to bring three Friends groups into the spotlight, highlighting their projects that support their community libraries.

In keeping with the NYLA conference theme of "Actionable Advocacy," Ellen Burns, Co-Chair, Get Out the Vote Committee, [Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library](#), alongside Rebecca Verhayden, the library's Assistant Director of Planning and Communication, will share tips on the Friends annual "Get Out The Vote" campaign that helps their school district public library succeed in passing their operating budget year after year.

The [Friends of the Sand Lake Town Library](#) have been very successful in keeping their community connected to the library in some unusual ways. The Friends have offered an adult spelling bee annually for three years, where they've met new members and engaged their patrons with some good old-fashioned fun and friendly competition. With the goal of keeping gently worn clothing out of the landfill, the group has held several seasonal clothing swaps. Everyone has been encouraged to participate in these free events, which certainly have raised awareness of the Friends group beyond their traditional book sales. President Lori Farrell and Secretary Nancy Bush will share tips on how to coordinate these unique "Friend-raising" events.

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Actionable Advocacy

Friends-Themed Preview NYLA 2025 Conference

FLS works with Friends and friends to ensure dynamic programming on topics of interest for Friends, volunteers, library staff, and trustees.

Here's this year's line-up:

Writing Winning Grant Proposals for Library Programming

Wednesday, Nov 5, 1:30-4:30 pm

Fighting Censorship: Friends as Allies

Thursday, Nov 6, 4:00-5:15 pm

A Crafty Way to Support Sustainability

Friday, Nov 7, 3:45-5:00 pm

FLS Showcase: Spotlight on Friends!

Saturday, Nov 8, 9:30-10:45 am

Collaborative Social Media Marketing for the Friends

Saturday, Nov 8, 11:00 am - 12:15 pm

Strengthening Community Connections: Friends Groups in Library Advocacy

Saturday, Nov 8, 11:00 am - 12:15 pm

See more program details starting on [page 3](#). To access the conference app and more schedule and speaker details, go to www.nyla.org > Events > Conference Schedule. On that page, click the Schedule button. That will take you to the app. Use the tabs to find the Schedule, Speakers, etc.

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FLS creates a network to connect and inspire Friends groups in all types of libraries to support the New York library community.

FLS, a unit of NYLA, embraces and promotes diversity and inclusion in all their forms.





A Message from FLS President Chris Lund

It's hard to believe that this is my final President's message. It's been a whirlwind journey since I first began my involvement with FLS, which started off a little over five years ago when I joined FLS but forgot

to update my mailing address in my NYLA profile. That error led to my first newsletter issue being undeliverable and returned to sender, which in turn led to a request from newsletter editor Terry Mulee for a current address. That interaction expanded into a broader discussion of rural libraries, which is how I ended up responding to a new survey about rural Friends groups, and the next thing I knew (and like many FLS Presidents and Board Members before me), I was being recruited by Lisa Wemett to run for a position as Member-at-Large.

What I thought would be a one-year term as President expanded into nineteen months, although in many ways it still feels like I just started in this position yesterday. But quite a bit has happened over these last nineteen months that I'm proud and honored to have been a part of. Some personal highlights for me include our Bylaws updates, establishing a procedure for providing a voting alternate at NYLA Council meetings, a strong FLS showing at the 2024 Annual Conference (including the debut of the "Forming

Friends" board game!), and having the privilege of presiding over two in person meetings at our annual meet-ups in 2024 and 2025 (amongst many, many other things).

I'm also excited to see that my predecessor, Kerstin Cruger, will be starting her term as NYLA President-Elect in November. Kerstin's organizational efforts were an immense help to my own management of FLS, and like me, Kerstin also served an extended term as FLS President due to unforeseen circumstances. I learned quite a lot watching her lead our Section, and I'm confident she'll be an excellent leader of NYLA, with an intimate understanding of the many unique needs of Friends members.

There have been lots of ups and downs over the past year and half, but I've made so many great friends from being a part of this group, and all the work always feels worth it whenever I get to join my fellow board members for the next meeting, conference, meet-up, event, or just an evening dinner gathering.

I'm also looking forward to inaugurating our newly renamed "Board Advisor" position, which will include organizing next year's annual meet-up (location hopefully to be announced soon!), and chairing the nominations committee to find our next batch of FLS leaders. Speaking of which, if you know of anybody (including yourself!) who you think would be an asset to our board, please send those names my way!

Chris

2025 FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship Recipients

by Terry Mulee, FLS Scholarship Coordinator

On behalf of the Friends of Libraries Section, I am pleased to congratulate Elaine Dunne, Friends of the Massena Public Library, and Michele Merwarth, Friends of Marcellus Free Library, on their selection as the 2025 FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship recipients. We look forward to welcoming both women to the 2025 NYLA Conference in Saratoga Springs this November.

FLS established this scholarship in 2018 to celebrate the contributions of Randy Enos, a founding member of the Empire Friends Roundtable in 1992. EFR is the precursor to FLS, established in 2014. He has been a continuous member from the beginning, served as EFR President no less than six times, and was honored with the title FLS President Emeritus in 2015. The FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship provides up to \$1,000 for a member of a Friends of the library group, who is also an FLS member, to attend a NYLA annual conference. Find more information on this scholarship and its namesake [here](#).

Elaine Dunne

Prior to her retirement as Director of the Massena Public Library, Elaine worked with library volunteers to get a Friends group established to help ensure the financial stability of the library into the future. As her application stated, "The library had several Friends groups in the past, but unfortunately the groups disbanded, mainly due to a lack of an active membership.

Fortunately, a couple of past members continued to run



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Actionable Advocacy
NYLA 2025 Conference, November 4 - 8
Saratoga Hilton and City Center, Saratoga Springs NY
Opportunities for Friends



Have you signed up for the conference yet? Online registration closes on October 10. You will also be able to register, at an increased rate, onsite. You can find [registration information](#) on the NYLA website.

There is a wide selection Friends-themed programming throughout the conference, starting with a Pre-Conference program on Grant Writing, and at least one offering on each day, Thursday through Saturday. The full schedule can be found at <https://www.nyla.org/conference-schedule>. You can also find a complete listing of Friends programming in the July-August issue of Friends News and Notes. That newsletter will be found in the archives once this newsletter is posted. Go to Archived Newsletters at <https://www.nyla.org/friends-of-libraries-section---newsletter>

Don't forget to check out all of the optional events like luncheons, breakfasts, the awards reception, and much more. And be sure to visit the trade show. FLS will have a booth. Stop by and visit with FLS Board members and other library supporters.

Conference Programming for Friends

Wednesday | November 5th

FLS Pre-Conference Continuing Education Workshop: Writing Winning Grant Proposals for Library Programming

1:30-4:30 pm

Presenters:

Erica Freudenberger, Library Development Specialist,
Division of Library Development, New York State Library
Lisa C. Wemett, Coordinator for Professional Development,
Friends of Libraries Section

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

1. describe the importance of developing solid working relationships with grant funders
2. prepare an achievable proposal which will meet the organization's needs and match the interests of the funders
3. design a comprehensive report on a grant project's progress and impact

Thursday | November 6th

Fighting Censorship: Friends as Allies

4:00-5:15 pm

Presenter:

Michael Kirby, Assistant Professor/Metadata Librarian

Kingsborough Community College

Learning Objectives:

1. Familiarity with NYS Library procedures for defending freedom to read.
2. Be able to locate resources to assist with promoting and defending intellectual freedom.
3. Provide information about intellectual freedom.

Friday | November 7th

A Crafty Way to Support Sustainability

3:45-5:00 pm

Presenters:

Wilma Jozwiak, Co-President, Diane Madrigal, Member,
Friends of the Clifton Park Halfmoon Public Library
Lisa C. Wemett, Coordinator for Professional Development,
Friends of Libraries Section

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

1. identify ways Friends groups can embed sustainability into their work to support their library
2. conduct a free-will donation event as an eco-friendly fundraiser for their library and community
3. summarize the important aspects of volunteers meeting to debrief an event in order to design and improve the success of a future event

Saturday | November 8th

FLS Showcase: Spotlight on Friends!

9:30-10:45 am

(see article on page 1)

Presenters:

Ellen Burns, Co-Chair, Get Out the Vote Committee
Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library
Rebecca Verhayden, Assistant Director of Planning and
Communication

Clifton Park Halfmoon Public Library
Lori Farrell, President, Nancy Bush, Secretary
Friends of the Sand Lake Town Library
Elaine Dunne, Friends Trustee
Friends of the Massena Public Library

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

1. describe the importance of community volunteers and library staff developing solid working relationships to complete projects benefiting the library

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Conference Programming for Friends, continued

Saturday | November 8th

FLS Showcase: Spotlight on Friends! continued

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

2. prepare a pitch to their Friends organization to replicate initiatives from our speakers that will meet the needs and interests of their home library's community
3. design an activity or initiative which will have a positive impact on library patrons

Collaborative Social Media Marketing for the Friends

11:00 am - 12:15 pm

Presenters:

Amanda Menneto, Web and Digital Coordinator, Clifton Park Halfmoon Public Library

Lisa Totaro, Chair, Communications Committee, Friends of the Clifton Park Halfmoon Public Library

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

1. identify ways Friends organizations can work collaboratively on marketing initiatives with their library staff members.

2. use social media effectively to align the Friends' and library's branding to engage the community.
3. summarize how social media can positively impact membership, volunteerism, and the financial viability of the Friends.

Strengthening Community Connections: Friends Groups in Library Advocacy

11:00 am - 12:15 pm

Presenters:

Alicia Pritchard, Branch Manager, Nicole Bryan, Branch Manager, Sharon Palmer, Regional Director, LaMeane Isaac, Regional Director, all from Brooklyn Public Library

Learning Objectives:

Participants will learn:

1. actionable advocacy strategies and practical methods to strengthen the efforts of Friends groups.
2. how to cultivate valuable partnerships with local organizations, businesses, and government entities to support library advocacy efforts.
3. how to mobilize Friends Groups for Impact: Activating, Energizing, and Fundraising to Drive Change for Libraries.

The Library Friends, Foundations, and Trusts Handbook

Book review by Lisa C. Wemett

Avid readers know what I'm talking about: you read a chapter or even a page or two of a book and you want to share it with someone: your family, friends, your book discussion group. You cannot wait to introduce someone else to this fabulous book, a goldmine in your mind, of ideas, thoughtful commentary, and even, shall I say, wisdom! That's how I feel about Diane Tuccillo's new book on Friends of the Library.

Pick a topic, any topic, that has to do with Friends. Her four pages on teens serving on Friends boards is something I could quote "chapter and verse" to any library support group. This isn't just theoretical. She cites actual libraries' examples of how teens can serve as youth representatives on adult boards: legal considerations, philosophical reasons why this move is "a good thing to do," job descriptions, recruitment techniques, and personal narratives from teens who have served and how the experience impacted their young adult lives. I could build a newsletter article or a segment of a webinar around just these four pages! And that's just one topic!!

Tuccillo provides "the elements of background, planning, operating, evaluating, enhancing, and maintaining library support groups," where she has chosen to not only highlight Friends of the Library organizations, but also library foundations and trusts. Each of these types of groups receive coverage of their purposes and activities which are often parallel but distinctly different as they all work to

support their libraries. Whatever they are called, they generally receive donations, recruit volunteers, and create a network of supporters to advocate for the library, increasing its visibility in the community it serves.

The early chapters cover some background and history of library philanthropy (think Andrew Carnegie) and the growth of community support groups. Did you know there was a Friends of the Library in Syracuse as early as 1922? It's important for us to know where we've come from. Her organizational scheme covers the purpose, mission, and value of Friends; creation and development of support groups (by-laws, tax exempt and other legal requirements, policies); strategic planning; handling challenging issues (membership growth and engagement, volunteer participation, Board conflicts); social media; keeping the group moving forward with succession planning and community partnerships; fundraising and donor relations; outreach activities; grant writing; distribution of funds in collaboration with the library administration. An entire chapter focuses on unique fundraisers that have proven lucrative for several organizations. And when you want to know more, chapter notes are carefully footnoted to send you off to read details in online resources.

One of the author's strengths is to include sidebar examples or case studies on nearly every point she is making, to keep

~ continued on [page 6](#) ~

Enos Conference Scholarship Recipients, continued from [page 2](#)

book sales. Building off the success of the book sales, I recruited some willing library patrons to help launch a new Friends group to continue and expand the book sales, and create new fundraising opportunities for the library.” After retiring, Elaine’s role changed from Friends Liaison to Friends Board Trustee.

Over the last two and a half years, the group has gone through the process of finding leadership, developing by-laws and procedures, and securing their 501(c)(3). They’ve expanded their fundraising efforts beyond book sales to include “plant sales, bake sales, author visits, concerts and children’s events, all with the goal of expanding our visibility, and raising much needed revenue for our library.”

Elaine has continued to work on initiatives that she began as the library director. “I became part of the Let’s Move in Libraries initiative presented by the Association for Rural and Small Libraries. The initiative encouraged healthy lifestyles through exercise, healthy eating, and spending time outdoors. Through several grants I was able to establish a learning garden that allowed our summer reading program children to grow and harvest vegetables in the library garden. We also began a Gerifit program for retirees, yoga classes, and a walking group. As the grants finished, our Friends group has adopted and expanded these programs. We have purchased a [Charlie Cart](#) for the library and host monthly healthy cooking/eating demonstrations with our local Cornell Cooperative Center. We have also expanded the learning garden and now donate the surplus vegetables to our food banks. These contributions continue to expand the visibility of our Friends group as we continue to support our library in a meaningful way.”

You may recognize Elaine. She was elected to the FLS Executive Board in June and will begin her term as a Member At Large in November. You can read her candidate profile in the May 2025 issue of Friends News and Notes. Go to [Our Newsletters](#) > Archived Issues. She’ll also be presenting at this year’s conference at the Friends Showcase on Saturday morning. See [page 6](#) for more details.

Michele Merwarth

Michele’s relationship with libraries developed in grade school and only grew from there. From her application, “I can say that my love for libraries has gone back to sixth grade. Being a good student in school, I was bored when I had to wait for other classmates to complete their work. Realizing this, my astute teacher knew I needed something else meaningful to do. The next thing I knew, I was assigned the duty of helping the school librarian during my free time, a job that I loved. I was also very good at math and upon graduating high school, I completed my It was not until many years later, after substituting in an elementary school library, that my love for libraries reignited and I returned to college online to complete my Associate’s degree

in Accounting. It was not until many years later, after substituting in an elementary school library, that my love for libraries reignited and I returned to college online to complete a Bachelor’s degree in Library Science and Information Technology. During this time, I was working full-time at an elementary school library, a position I loved until my retirement.”



From there, Michele’s story is not an unfamiliar one. She moved to a new community, went to her local library to get her new library card, and picked up a Friends membership form. Shortly after that, she attended her first Friends meeting. Months later she became the Vice President. The following year, she took over as President. After three years in that role, she became the Past President and the

Recording Secretary. Currently Michele serves as the Corresponding Secretary and Membership Chair. Over the years she has been a mentor to many up-and-coming board members.

If you’re thinking, wow, Michele looks familiar, you’re right! She was a speaker on the FLS Beyond the Book Sale panel at last year’s conference in Syracuse. Michele orchestrated a birdhouse raffle to raise money during the pandemic when the Friends were unable to do a book sale. But it was more than just a sale. It brought community members and the library together by having individuals and businesses purchase and decorate the birdhouses that would be raffled off. The creations were displayed throughout the library and the bids came flying in. This was Friend-raising, fund-raising, and FUN-raising! You can read more in the conference wrap-up in the Friends News and Notes January 2025 issue. And for more of Michele’s creativity, see the article in the May 2025 issue, “What’s All the Buzz About? Membership!” Go to [Our Newsletters](#) > Archived Issues.

When you see Elaine and Michele at the conference in November, please congratulate them on their good work for their Friends groups and for their careers serving in libraries. These two Friends are friendly and they truly embody the purpose of NYLA to lead, educate, and advocate for the advancement of the New York library community.

You’ll be able to read about Elaine and Michele’s experiences in the conference wrap-up issue of Friends News and Notes in January. Again, congratulations to two very deserving women.

her advice concrete. There are replicable examples of a Donor's Bill of Rights, online privacy notices, value statements, further resources and toolkits, and personal testimonials shared by experienced volunteers. Appendices include additional tangible examples from successful organizations, bibliographies, and webliographies. Tuccillo, an experienced reference librarian, left no stone unturned in developing this 316-page monograph into a resource you'll turn to again and again, guided by its thorough table of contents and detailed index. She met her personal goal of passing along examples from many dedicated voices, "the wisdom others have bestowed upon me to keep library Friends, foundations, and trusts robustly moving into the future." (Yes, the Friends of Libraries of the New York Library Association was one of those.)

Tuccillo had previously written five other resource books for library professionals before she tackled this topic. Her clear writing style and thorough research with examples from libraries of all sizes from across the USA makes this book accessible to both library staff members and community volunteers. Many people have no background in library and information science before they step up to help with a book sale and then find themselves bringing their skills to a leadership position in the Friends. (I hear this scenario over and over!) Tuccillo's title will be a goldmine to any reader: dip into it on any topic and you'll find it hard to put down—you're going to want to share and implement all the great ideas she has gathered! Bravo, Diane—what a legacy you have given to Friends.

Tuccillo, Diane P. *The Library Friends, Foundations, and Trusts Handbook*. Rowman & Littlefield, 2024.
www.rowman.com.

Editorial note: the list price of this title seems quite expensive, but many used paperback copies in good condition are available online, which will make it a more affordable purchase. If your group feels it is more of an investment than you want to make, request that your library system include this in their professional collection so it can be loaned to system members.

By the time you are reading this, you will have received multiples installments of Membership in a Minute, the weekly email with tips and resources on growing and caring for your membership. How do you like it?

Are you learning anything new? Are you planning to implement any of the ideas? Are you reading on for more information when there's something extra included, like the article about the Arnett Branch murals in #1? Is this email series a valuable resource for you?

We'd love to hear from you. Please drop us an email at FLS.nyla@yahoo.com and let us know what you think. Thanks!

More About the Conference Presenters

We can only fit so much into this newsletter, so I encourage you to check out the full bios for all of the speakers providing the great Friends-themed offerings at this year's conference – and all the other wonderful people, too!

In the conference app you'll find a tab for Speakers. Each entry includes a bio and often a photo of the presenter. Take a few minutes to discover the breadth of knowledge and experience that these speakers bring to each topic.

Go to www.nyla.org > Events > Conference Schedule. On that page, click the Schedule button, then Speakers.

Tell Us About Your NFOLW Celebrations!

Are you a library director planning to surprise your Friends group during National Friends of Libraries Week (October 19-25) to say thanks for all they do for your library? Are you a Friends group president planning a membership drive or some other activity to celebrate NFOLW?

Please take some photos and send us your story so we can share it with others, doubling your impact! Friends help libraries to not only survive, but thrive. Share your good news! Email us at FLS.nyla@yahoo.com. Thanks.

Spotlight on Friends! continued from [page 1](#)

Elaine Dunne, Friends Trustee and former director of the [Massena Public Library](#), will outline her successes with several different grants and program initiatives that highlighted healthy lifestyles which are now underwritten by the [Friends](#). Sessions on exercise (walking, chair yoga), healthy eating (Charlie Cart demonstrations), and spending time outdoors have all proven popular and have supported some networking and partnerships in the community that might not have been possible otherwise. (You can read more about Elaine Dunne, a 2025 FLS Randall Enos Conference

Scholarship recipient, on page 2 and 5.)

The audience will have a chance to interact informally with our speakers one-on-one and get details on their best ideas. Great things are happening in our multi-talented volunteer groups that support libraries of all sizes all across New York.

Join us and get energized to guide your Friends group to plan their own attention-getting events!

Friends of the Bloomfield Public Library Garden Project

by Sandy Mitchell and Lisa C. Wemett

As a member of the Friends Steering Committee, Sandy Mitchell played an active role in both the planning and execution of the Sensory Garden. Friends funding, a contribution from the Bloomfield Garden Club (\$500), and a grant through the OWWL Library System (\$3,000) all helped to restore what had been an underutilized and neglected garden at the rear of the library's property. With careful landscaping, pavers, and benches, the area has been transformed into a Sensory Garden with a StoryWalk®.



The overgrown garden was known as the Memory Garden. Sandy points out, "Unfortunately, despite thorough investigation, original documentation concerning its purpose could not be found in library records." Similarly, the origins and intended purposes of stone statuary and benches staged in that garden remain undetermined.

The Memory Garden had been forgotten and neglected.
above - before; below - after



After reviewing several landscaping proposals and securing permits, the Friends Steering Committee chose Spring Valley Gardens of Canandaigua for the restoration (\$8,500). The renovation was completed in three days

in July 2023, including cleanup, installation of pavers, and planting new shrubs, trees, and perennials. Additionally, the library purchased two Tree of Life bronze glider benches from Spring Valley for the area (\$1,400) using the grant funds.

In a sensory garden, plants are chosen for their aroma as well as their visual appeal that enliven the senses for adults and children of all ages. The colors of the flowers through the seasons and light and shadow on the plantings give us much to look at. The glider benches gently sway us back and forth, as we listen to the wind through the leaves and to the birds who are stopping by. There may be different textures to see and touch, like tree bark. Can you smell the pine needles, the mulch, or the grass clippings? Lavender was in profusion in July!

The Sensory Garden is now a beautiful and well-maintained

space where the library hosts rotating StoryWalks®. The installation is based on the [StoryWalk® Project](#) which was originally created at the Kellogg-Hubbard Library in Montpelier, Vermont. This concept of reading a picture book, with laminated pages mounted at a child's eye level on stakes along a pathway, has been enthusiastically embraced by libraries all over the country. The project's mission is to promote early literacy, physical activity, and family time together in an outdoor setting.

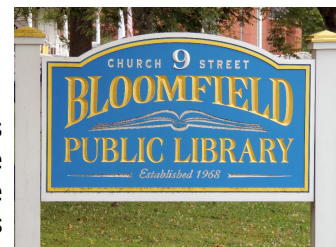
Also in 2023, the library's Board of Trustees identified an opportunity through the New York State Library Construction Grant and determined to submit a proposal for several projects including a gazebo adjacent to the Sensory Garden. The gazebo was approved as it met grant criteria related to access, increased capacity, and ADA compliance. The project's costs were initially covered by the library's operating budget and when awarded, the grant funds reimbursed the library for these capital expenditures.



The gazebo, purchased from Springwater Amish Workshop for \$17,539, was delivered and installed with a base fabricated by Spring Valley Gardens in September 2023. Spring Valley later finished the walkway and landscaping surrounding the gazebo in October. Hardscape and landscaping costs were \$7,750, bringing the total gazebo project cost to \$25,289.

Sandy said, "The Library and the Friends were grateful for the financial assistance that enabled us to make our facility a more welcome place to be." Patrons' experiences with the library have certainly been enhanced by these inviting spaces.

~ see more photos on next page ~



More Photos from the BPL Garden Project



"After Photo" of the Bloomfield Public Library outdoor renovation taken from the parking lot

- ◆ Pavers lead patrons from the back library parking lot to the Sensory Garden along the StoryWalk® on an accessible pathway, easy to traverse with wheelchairs, walkers, or strollers.
- ◆ Visitors find trees, shrubs, and perennials of different colors, textures, and scents.

Visit the [Bloomfield Public Library](#).

Before:



After:



Editorial note: Interested in seeing another garden project? The [Friends of the South Huntington Public Library](#) funded the [Outdoor Garden](#) in 2024 through a successful Donor Recognition Campaign. Library patrons and supporters purchased bluestone engravings on the pathway that encircles the space, which is used for reading, studying, and, in the summer, Friday evening concerts. A **Learning Garden**, also funded by the Friends, was recently installed with four raised beds to grow vegetables and herbs. The garden is used to teach children about gardening and nature. The harvest is donated to local food pantries.

Benches provide seating to relax, enjoy quiet, peace, and tranquility, read a book, use the library's Wi-Fi, or participate in an outdoor program.



Has Your Friends Group Done a Special Project for Your Library?

Tell us about it. We'd love to share your project or success story with the other members of FLS, NYLA, and the library community. Send an email to FLS.nyla@yahoo.com with details and contact information.

FLS Executive Board and Auxiliary Volunteers

Officers

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FLS Enos Scholarship Coordinator: Terry Mulee
Coordinator for Professional Development:
Lisa C. Wemett
Coordinator of FLS Trade Show Booth: Jen Allen
Coordinator on Friends Councils: Jim Foster
Marketing Coordinator: Meg Sgombick
Nominating Committee Chair: Erica Freudenberger
NFOLW Coordinator: Paulette Quinn
Regional Workshop Trainers:
Joyce Laiosa
Lisa C. Wemett

Contact us anytime at FLS.nyla@yahoo.com
Visit the Friends of Libraries Section at
www.nyla.org/Friends

FLS is not publishing email addresses in an attempt to eliminate phishing scams. Please use the NYLA Membership Directory to find contact information or use the FLS email. Please indicate your email recipient. We apologize for any inconvenience.



Celebrate the 20th anniversary of National Friends of Libraries Week

[National Friends of Libraries Week](#) (NFOLW) is celebrating its 20th anniversary October 19-25, 2025. The celebration offers a two-fold opportunity to both celebrate and recognize Friends. Learn ideas for celebrating and download editable marketing materials, including logos, flyers, and social media graphics.

National Friends of Libraries Week is an initiative of United for Libraries, the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations - a Division of the American Library Association.

Donate to the FLS Enos Conference Scholarship Fund

Please consider a donation to the FLS Randall Enos Conference Scholarship Fund to ensure this worthy scholarship well into the future.

To make a donation, log in to your existing NYLA account (or create one) at <http://www.nyla.org>. Once you have logged in, select "Make a Donation" from the Quick Links. Scroll down that page until you find the FLS Randall Enos Scholarship Fund and enter your donation amount. Then scroll to the bottom and select "next" to complete your donation. To use your credit card, select "Pay Now" and continue with your payment details. To send a check, select "Invoice Me" and complete the page. Once you receive the invoice via email, print it out and mail it to NYLA along with your check.

Thanks for your continued support of FLS and the Friends who help libraries across New York State.

This newsletter is a publication of the
Friends of Libraries Section of the New York Library Association.

Newsletter Editor: Terry Mulee
Proofreader and Contributor: Lisa C. Wemett

The current issue of Friends News and Notes is available on the FLS [Our Newsletter](#) page. Archived issues back to August of 2023 may be accessed by FLS members.

NYLA leads, educates, and advocates for the advancement of the New York library community.