

October 2014

CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY

...Preserving the Past, Informing the Future



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People, Place and Platform

by Kendall F. Wiggin, State Librarian



State Librarian Kendall F. Wiggin

On October 14, 2014 the Aspen Institute released *Rising to the Challenge: Re-Envision Public Libraries*. This report by Amy Garmer, Director of the Aspen Dialogue on Public Libraries, is a must-read for all library directors, library trustees, friends of libraries, community leaders, and policy makers at the state and local level. To me, it is the playbook for creating sustainable libraries for the twenty first century. The report offers four strategic opportunities for successful libraries: (1) Aligning library services in support of community goals, (2) providing access to content in all formats, (3) insuring the long-term sustainability of public libraries, and (4) cultivating leadership. The report will validate what some of you have been doing and for others it is a road map. Most importantly, the report is a call to action for the entire community—not just library leaders, but the community and policy makers alike. As such, the report lists 15 action steps library leaders, policy makers, and the community can each take.

The State Library, through the Division of Library Development, has been and will continue to align its training, consulting, and work with libraries, trustees, and friends with the value proposition, found in the report, that the public library is built around three key assets: people, place, and platform.

I encourage you to download the report at http://csreports.aspeninstitute.org/documents// AspenLibrariesReport.pdf and share it with your staff, trustees, friends, and community leaders. For my part, I will be sharing it with the State Library Board, the Governor, and legislators. Now is the time for all of us to reenvision public libraries and work toward a sustainable future for each and every public library in Connecticut.







Electronic Records Day

by Allen Ramsey, Assistant State Archivist

October 10 was Electronic Records Day which is sponsored by the Council of State Archivists. The purpose of the celebration is to raise awareness of electronic records and the need to manage and preserve them. In recognition of Electronic Records Day 2014, here is a list from the Council of State Archivists of reasons why everyone should be thinking more about electronic records.



- 1. Managing electronic records is like caring for a perpetual toddler: they need regular attention and care in order to remain accessible.
- **2.** Electronic records can become unreadable very quickly. While records on paper can sometimes be read after thousands of years, digital files can be virtually inaccessible after just a few years.
- **3.** Scanning paper records is not the end of the preservation process—it is the beginning. Careful planning for ongoing management expenses must be involved as well.
- **4.** There are no permanent storage media. Hard drives, CDs, magnetic tape or any other storage formats will need to be tested and replaced on a regular schedule. Proactive management is required to avoid catastrophic loss of records.
- **5.** The lack of a "physical" presence can make it very easy to lose track of electronic records. Special care must be taken to ensure they remain in controlled custody and do not get lost in masses of other data.
- **6.** It can be easy to create copies of electronic records and share them with others, but this can raise concerns about the authenticity of those records. Extra security precautions are needed to ensure e-records are not altered inappropriately.
- 7. The best time to plan for electronic records preservation is when they are created. Don't wait until software is being replaced or a project is ending to think about how records are going to be preserved.
- **8.** No one system you buy will solve all your e-records problems. Despite what vendors say, there's no magic bullet that will manage and preserve your e-records for you.
- **9.** Electronic records can help ensure the rights of the public through greater accessibility than ever before, but only if creators, managers, and users all recognize their importance and contribute resources to their preservation.
- **10.** While they may seem commonplace now, electronic records will form the backbone of the historical record for researchers of the future.

Remember, archivists are here to help you tackle these difficult problems. Contact your state, local, or college archives to find out what they are working towards and what they need in order to make sure that electronic records remain accessible for generations to come!

Take a Book or Leave a Book: the Little Free Library Movement

by Mel Smith, History & Genealogy Reference Librarian

In early 2009 Todd Bol of Hudson, Wisconsin did something remarkable. As a do-it-yourself project, and in honor of his mother a former school teacher, he built a model one room schoolhouse, filled it with books and posted it on his front yard. The idea was that anyone was welcome to take a book from the Little Free Library, or if so inclined, leave one for others to enjoy. What happened next is truly amazing!

Friends of Todd's, such as Rick Brooks of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, saw the potential to achieve a wider goal of promoting literacy while bringing communities together to support a positive objective. And so the Little Free Library movement was born!

The goal was to encourage others to build their own Little Free Libraries and in time, surpass the 2,510 libraries built by the great philanthropist Andrew Carnegie in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

I first became aware of the Little Free Library movement quite by accident. It happened on a family drive in our old neighborhood in Windsor, Connecticut. As we drove

down Pleasant Street, we spied an odd-looking little house on a post on the front lawn of a home with dozens of books peeking out at us. We all wondered what it was. Upon closer inspection, we noticed a sign on it that read "Little Free Library" and "Take a Book, Leave a Book." My children, Alyssa and Ethan, thought it was very cool and we decided to go home and find out what the Little Free Library was all about. After checking out the Little Free Library website at http://littlefreelibrary.org/ we decided to build one ourselves.



The very first Little Free Library built by Todd Bol.

Image Source: http://
http://
littlefreelibrary.org/ourhistory/

With creative direction from Alyssa and Ethan, over the past summer we created a Little Free Library that somewhat resembles a TARDIS or a "Time and Relative Dimension in Space" -- a device which serves as a time machine spacecraft in the popular *Dr. Who* television series. On August 24th we installed our Little Free Library

in front of our house in Granby, Connecticut, stocked it with books that we had purchased from a used book sale along with some of our own, and we were in business.

Immediately our neighbors and those passing thru the neighborhood would stop and see what the library was all about. Many of the original books have been taken by book lovers, only to be replaced by new ones donated by other book lovers.

It has been a wonderful experience building something with our family that will be used and shared by the wider community in which we live. And what of the original goal of those who founded the Little Free Library movement to surpass the 2,510 libraries funded by Andrew Carnegie? The Little Free Library that we built

has the registration number of 14,095! The Little Free Library movement has spread and reached every state of the union, Canada, Mexico, and overseas to countless other communities. We hope that you might consider sharing your love of books and support your local Little Free Libraries by "taking a book or leaving a book," by hosting your very own Little Free Library, by purchasing a pre-made library from the Little Free Library website, or like my family, by building your own.



Smith Family Little Free Library Spring Glen Drive, Granby, Connecticut

What's Not to Love about Hordes of Book Lovers? Connecticut at The 2014 National Book Festival

by Julie Styles and Steve Cauffman, Division of Library Development



The Booth Just Before Opening

Book lovers of all ages gathered en masse for the National Book Festival, which took place on Saturday, August 30, 2014 in Washington, DC. The festival is sponsored by the Library of Congress and is free to attend. The 2014 edition of the festival featured talks and book signings by more than 110 authors, including E. L. Doctorow, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Alan Greenspan, and Sandra Day O'Connor.

Changes were afoot for this the 14th annual book festival. The event took place on Saturday of Labor Day weekend instead of later in September, as in past years. The festival returned

to a one-day format and the location was moved from outdoors on National Mall to the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. The new venue allowed for the addition of three new genre pavilions: Science, Culinary Arts, and Picture Books for young readers. New evening events were added and included a "Great Books to Great Movies" panel discussion, a discussion of Mexican authors, a "Graphic Novels Super Session," and a poetry slam. These changes only seemed to increase attendance at what had already been a very well-attended event.

One of the highlights of the festival is the Pavilion of the States. Sponsored by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) with additional funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the pavilion consists of exhibit booths for each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U. S. territories, and the Library of Congress's Center for the Book. Exhibit space allowed each state to share information on its cultural and literary heritage with festival-goers. This year the Pavilion of the States was held in a large exhibit hall, a space shared with areas for cooking demonstrations and 'Let's Read

America' family-oriented activities.

Connecticut's exhibit booth in the Pavilion of the States was coordinated by Amanda Roy and Brett Thompson from the Connecticut Humanities Council, which includes the Connecticut Center for the Book, and Julie Styles and Steve Cauffman from the Division of Library Development for the Connecticut State Library. The Center for the Book chose *Strega Nona* by Meriden-born Tomie dePaola as the 'Great Read' book for Connecticut. The Connecticut exhibit space featured a homage to *Strega Nona* and included a multi-



Crowds at the Pavilion of the States



Connecticut booth staff with Susan Hildreth, Director of IMLS, (left to right) Steve Cauffman, Brett Thompson, Susan Hildreth, Amanda Roy, Junior League Volunteer, and Julie Styles.

page birthday card for the author, which attendees signed as they visited the booth. The card was subsequently sent to the now 80-year-old beloved author, and gathered over 700 signatures.

As in past years, staff at the Connecticut booth distributed various maps, brochures, and bookmarks that highlighted Connecticut landmarks. A new and very popular handout this year was the fall 2014 issue of Connecticut Explored, the magazine of Connecticut history, whose theme coincidentally and appropriately was "the power of the pen." Also very popular were pencil erasers that were shaped as Lego pieces. Other giveaways at the booth included pencils inscribed with "I visited the Connecticut booth at the National Book Festival!" and handouts compiled by the State Library's Linda

Williams, which featured lists of children's and YA fiction books by Connecticut authors and children's and YA fiction books set in Connecticut.

Given the large and literate crowds, the National Book Festival is a great place to show off Connecticut's literary heritage. Plans are underway for a Connecticut booth at the 2015 National Book Festival.

You can watch archived videos of sessions from the book festival at: http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/results.php?mode=s&cat=66

Connecticut Network (CT·N) recordings at the Connecticut State Library

by William Anderson, Catalog Librarian

The web site of the Connecticut Network, also known as CT·N, states that "It is the mission of the Connecticut Network to provide Connecticut's citizens with access to unbiased information about state government deliberations and public policy events through noncommercial television coverage and other relevant technologies in order to educate the public and advance the public's understanding of political

processes and the development of public policy." CT·N is run by the Connecticut Public Affairs Network (CPAN), a nonprofit corporation founded in 1997 to foster civic engagement through educational programming and outreach. CPAN launched CT·N in 1999 to provide "C-SPAN-style gavel-to-gavel coverage of state government and public policy on both television and internet platforms."

honoring veterans, public statements by governors, state officials and the heads of the state political parties, and lectures and forums held around the state on issues of interest to the public such as the environment, the economy, healthcare, and education.

The CT·N broadcast collection held by the

Connecticut State Library is important not only for its immediate value as a tool for transparency and accountability in the present affairs of Connecticut state government, but also as a historical record of how Connecticut's democracy has debated and acted upon the issues of the 21st century. In cataloging those broadcasts I have become aware that many of the issues recorded by

CT·N, such as Broadwater Long Island Sound Project, Husky Healthcare Plan, and Sheff v. O'Neill, have taken years if not decades to resolve, and are likely to be relevant in policy making for years to come.

The CT·N DVD collection is arranged by date in the State Library stacks, and efforts continue to provide complete cataloging for topics, persons, committees, etc. of individual broadcasts in our public catalog. Individual DVDs are available for circulation and interlibrary loan to members of the public.



By 2000, the State Library began to collect CT·N broadcasts on DVD. Though not the official archive of CT·N, the library maintains a fairly comprehensive collection of CT·N broadcasts, including older broadcasts no longer streamed on the CT·N website. The broadcasts on the shelf run from February 2, 2000 to about a week before the present date. As one might expect, the DVDs record the day-to-day affairs of state government such as the legislative sessions of the House and Senate, meetings and public hearings of various joint legislative committees, and oral arguments before the Supreme Court. In addition, CT·N broadcasts provide recordings of commemorations of important events such as the September 11 bombings, ceremonies

Sources

- i. http://www.ctn.state.ct.us/about_mission.asp
- ii. http://ctpublicaffairsnetwork.org/

Connecticut Answers the Call: Celebrating Archives and Archivists

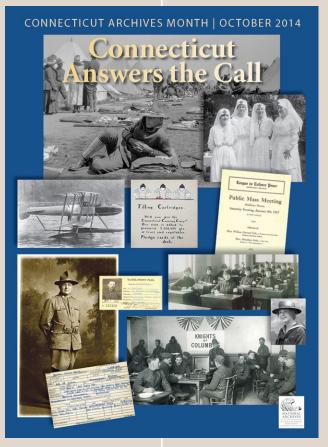
by Lizette Pelletier, State Archivist

Every October, archivists and records managers across the country celebrate the role that archives and records play in our lives. Connecticut Archives Month is an opportunity to raise the public's awareness about the value of Connecticut's historical records as well as the archival institutions and archivists who care for them and make them accessible. The Connecticut State Historical Records Advisory Board (CT SHRAB), which is the central advisory body for historical records planning within the state, has led this initiative since 2005.

The primary way that the CT

SHRAB promotes archives is through the production and distribution of an Archives Month poster. The posters highlight interesting historical photographs and documents located in repositories across the state. Past themes have included disaster preparedness and Connecticut at work. The 2014 poster acknowledges the World War I centenary and features photographs and documents about how Connecticut's citizens answered the call for service.

The board sees the poster as a way to build cooperation among historical repositories. This year's poster is co-sponsored with the Connecticut League of History Organizations (CLHO) and the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, University of Connecticut Libraries. CLHO members answered the board's call for contributions with the same enthusiasm as the



WWI volunteers and servicemen pictured on the poster. Contributing institutions include the Gunn Memorial Museum, the Hill-Stead Museum, the Knights of Columbus Multimedia Archives, the Middlesex County Historical Society, the Ramsay Research Library—New England Air Museum, and the Russell Library in Middletown, CT, as well as AT&T.

The poster is funded by a grant awarded to the Connecticut State Library from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) on behalf of the board. The State

Library distributes the poster free of charge to public and academic libraries, historical societies, and museums across the state. Individuals or other groups who would like a copy may contact State Archivist Lizette Pelletier at lizette.pelletier@ct.gov.

The State Library graciously hosts an Archives Month page for the CT SHRAB on its website. The Governor's recognition of October as Archives Month and announcements of Archives Month activities by historical societies, museums, libraries and archives are located there. For more information, go to http://www.ctstatelibrary.org/archivesmonth.htm.

History & Genealogy Renovations

by Mel Smith and Carolyn Picciano, History & Genealogy Reference Librarians

After months of planning, the History & Genealogy Reading room of the Connecticut State Library has seen an extensive renovation that includes many improvements and upgrades for our staff and library patrons. Chief among them includes new carpeting, electrical upgrades, walls for the archives reading area, a new entrance point that highlights the architecture of the genealogical index corridor. In addition, the coming months will see the delivery of microfilm cabinets and furnishings which will complete the new look for the reading room.

The following photo essay of images will provide you with a visual perspective of some of the changes that have occurred up to this point!



The History & Genealogy Reading Room has seen many changes during the past 100 years.

Above: The History & Genealogy Unit shortly after the State Library was opened in 1910. Right: The reading room in the 1970s. Below: The archives area shortly before the recent renovation.









Above: The archives reading area with newly installed walls and entrance gate for staff and patrons.





Above: The empty genealogical index corridor and the fresh look corridor with a new patron entrance.





The old photocopy area seen in the upper right has made way for a new photocopy area with a patron friendly sitting area to view our newest titles.



With a new rug, paint job, walls for the archives reading area, along with new map cases, the History & Genealogy Reading Room has a more spacious feeling.







New Electrical outlets have been placed in the floor of a section of the History & Genealogy Reading Room for patron computer use.

Stop by the History & Genealogy Unit, and see firsthand the changes that have been made!

Political Advertising, 1873 by Dave Corrigan, Curator, Museum of Connecticut History



The Crock

In 1873 Hartford potter Orson H. Seymour crafted a 4-gallon stoneware crock bearing the cobalt blue slip inscription "Ingersoll/ Governor/1873." Charles R. Ingersoll was the Democratic candidate for Governor in 1873 and Seymour's stoneware crock, recently acquired by the Museum of Connecticut History, raises several questions. Was Orson H. Seymour a Democrat, using his craft to further Ingersoll's candidacy, or was the crock produced after the gubernatorial campaign to celebrate Ingersoll's election? Was this crock a unique product of Seymour's pottery on Front Street or was it one of many more that no

longer survive?

The crock stands 11 ¾ inches tall and has a diameter of 12 inches. On the inside, two inches from the top, is a thin white ring that stands out against the dark brown Albany slip coating the interior. The ring is a residue of the briny liquid used to preserve food in the crock. Covered with a stoneware lid, or cheesecloth securely tied around the rim, the crock and its contents would have been placed in a cool location, such as a cellar, until the contents were needed. Thus, the crock bears evidence of its continued use and survival as a utilitarian storage vessel, long after it played its role in the 1873 gubernatorial campaign, unlike the bumper stickers and lawn signs which constitute the bulk of artifacts produced by contemporary political campaigns and whose useful lives end when the polls close on election day.

The Governor

Charles Robert Ingersoll served as the Democratic governor of Connecticut from 1873 to 1877. In those years the state weathered a national financial depression, Hartford became the sole capital of the state, ending New Haven's long run as co-capital, and an amendment to the state constitution was passed that increased the governor's term of office from one to two years. As Governor in the United States' Centennial year of 1876, Ingersoll was credited with ensuring the success of the exhibits of Connecticut manufacturers at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia.

Ingersoll graduated from Yale College in 1840, spent two years abroad, returned to Yale, and graduated from the Law School in 1844. Admitted to the bar



Portrait of Governor Charles R. Ingersoll, 1874, by Jared B. Flagg (1820-1899) Museum of Connecticut History

in 1845, he began a long partnership with his father, Ralph Isaacs Ingersoll, in New Haven. A year later he entered politics, serving as Clerk of the Connecticut General Assembly. He was elected Representative from New Haven in 1856-1858, and again in 1866 and 1871, and was a delegate to the Democratic National Conventions in 1864 and 1872.

Declining re-nomination as Governor in 1877, Ingersoll returned to his law practice, one that continued to bring him into state and federal courts, as well as several appearances before the U.S. Supreme Court. He died on



January 25, 1903 in his home in New Haven and is buried in Grove Street Cemetery.

The Potter

Orson Hart Seymour (1807-1883) was the son of Moses and Abigail Hart Seymour of New Britain, and the nephew of Israel T. Seymour (1784-1852), a stoneware potter who was born in West Hartford and who operated potteries in the Troy, New York area from circa 1824-1850. It is unclear where Orson Seymour learned the potter's trade, but from 1857 to 1867 he was the partner of Mack C. Webster in the

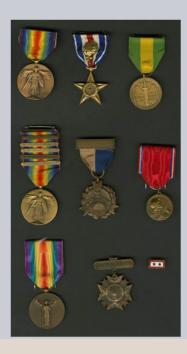
pottery on Front Street in Hartford, under the name "Webster & Seymour." In 1867 the firm became "Seymour Brothers," when Henry Porter Seymour (1818-1871), who had previously worked with his uncle Israel Seymour in Troy, joined his brother Orson in the business. Upon Henry Seymour's death in 1871, the business continued as "O.H. Seymour" until around 1874, when Orson Seymour partnered with Stanley B. Bosworth. "Seymour & Bosworth" produced stoneware pottery into the 1880s. Orson H. Seymour died in 1883.

While we may never know Orson H. Seymour's political leanings, his "Governor Ingersoll" crock, manufactured during the short-lived "O.H. Seymour" pottery, survives both as a significant



Connecticut political artifact and as an example of the utilitarian stoneware forms produced by a succession of 19thcentury Hartford potters.

Remembering World War One: Sharing History/Preserving Memories



The centenary of World War One has begun and Connecticut is preparing to commemorate with Remembering World War One: Sharing History/Preserving Memories. This project, a collaboration between Connecticut State Library, Connecticut Digital Archive and Historypin, seeks to document Connecticut's role in the war at home and abroad.

We will accomplish this through a series of digitization events that will allow us to digitally capture and preserve the keepsakes and stories of Connecticut residents and institutions. The digital images we collect through this project will be added to the Connecticut Digital Archive for preservation and will be available for use by scholars, students, and enthusiasts.

For more information about how you can get involved please visit us at http://ctinworldwar1.org/ or contact Christine Pittsley at Christine.Pittsley@ct.gov.

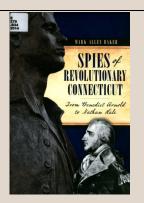


State Library Catalog Librarian Bill Anderson gave a presentation on October 8, 2014, to about a dozen librarians of the Connecticut Library Consortium Cataloging Roundtable at the Middletown Library Service Center. Marian Sheehan, Chair of the Roundtable invited Bill to represent the Connecticut State Library and speak on Resource Description and Access (RDA). These new cataloging rules are intended to replace the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, which have served the cataloging community in their 2nd edition (AACR2) since 1978. RDA is intended to bring cataloging practices more in line with modern data practices such as the entity-relationship model.

Mr. Anderson guided the participants through the organization of the text of RDA, which differs significantly from the older rules. He then explained the options for



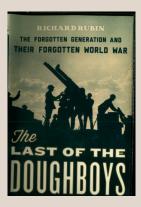
accessing the text rules, both print and online. He continued with a practical oriented walk-through an RDA catalog record, field by field, using the current MARC21 data field standard. Post-presentation questions and discussions were lively, focusing on matters of implementation.



Spies of Revolutionary Connecticut: From Benedict Arnold to Nathan Hale

Mark Allen Baker

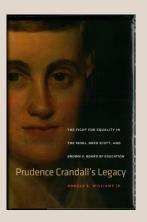
E279.B34 2014



The Last of the Doughboys: the Forgotten Generation and their Forgotten World War /

Richard Rubin

D639.V48 U67 2013



Prudence Crandall's Legacy: the Fight for Equality in the 1830s: Dred Scott, and Brown v. Board of Education

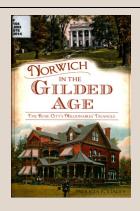
Donald E. Williams

LA2317.C73 W55 2014



The British Raid on Essex: The Forgotten Battle of the War of 1812 Jerry Roberts

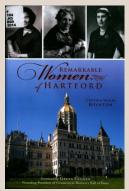
E359.5.C7 R63 2014



Norwich in the Gilded Age: the Rose City's Millionaires' Triangle

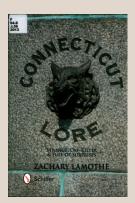
Patricia F. Staley

F104.N93 S76 2014



Remarkable Women of Hartford

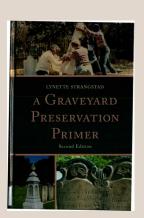
Cynthia Wolfe Boynton F104.H3 B69 2014



Connecticut Lore: Strange, Off-kilter, & Full of Surprises

Zachary Lamothe

F94.6 .L36 2013



A Graveyard Preservation Primer Lynette Strangstad NB1855.S77 2013



Review of Climate Change Impacts on Future Carbon Stores and Management of Warm Deserts of the United States

Michell L. Thomey

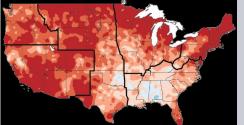
1 online resource ([4], 26, [2] pages) : color illustrations

[Fort Collins, Colo.]: United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, [2014]



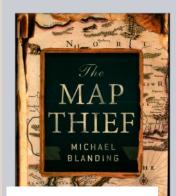
U.S. Global Change Research Program, issuing body Washington, DC: U.S. Global Change Research Program, 2014

PREX 30.2:IM 7/HIGH



New Online Connecticut State Library Resource for Patron Use: <u>Colonial State Papers</u>

A new online resource is available for use by Connecticut State Library patrons either onsite, or remotely by Connecticut residents with a Connecticut State Library card. *Colonial State Papers*, by ProQuest provides access to thousands of papers concerning English activities in the American, Canadian, and West Indian colonies between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries. Also included is a digitized version of *The Calendar of State Papers, Colonial: North America and the West Indies 1574-1739*, which contains bibliographic records and extracts for thousands of additional documents.



The Map Thief
Michael Blanding
Z286.M3 B53 2014

Book Review by Mel Smith, H&G Reference Librarian

"The Map Thief", by Michael Blanding is a riveting story of how one man, E. Forbes Smiley III, went from respected antiquarian map dealer to robbing the very institutions that helped create and promote his career.

"The Map Thief" is one part history of cartography and one part detective thriller which opens the door to the privileged world of high-class map dealers. Blanding does a thorough investigation of Mr. Smiley's life in New Hampshire as a boy, his days at Hampshire College and later as a antique book and map dealer in New York City. Smiley excelled at knowing his product, maps, and finding them in obscure places. Quite often the very institutions that he found them in did not realize they were among their holdings.

Unfortunately, due to a myriad of factors, Mr. Smiley arrived at a point in his life where stealing maps for financial gain to keep his creditors at bay became a way of life. In all, Smiley admitted to stealing 97 maps from some of the most prestigious institutions in the world before being caught in June 2005.

"The Map Thief" is a cautionary tale for both those who plot to steal materials from public and historic institutions and those archivists and librarians who work diligently to preserve and protect historical cultural items for use by future generations. While some sections of the "The Map Thief" pertaining to the history of cartography may drag a bit for some readers, the book should be required reading for any individual who works in an archives or an institution with a unique or valuable collection.

Samuel Colt's 200th Celebration-Robert Kinney, Outreach Librarian



On July 19, 2014, the 200th birthday of Samuel Colt was celebrated at Colt Park, Hartford, CT. The Connecticut State Library was part of the celebration which included special events and activities. One of the special activities included the display of Sam Colt's Connecticut State Militia uniform at the Museum of Connecticut History. Outreach Services Librarian Robert Kinney, Digital Collection Technician Christine Pittsley, Library Aide Lisa Lew, Photo Duplication Supervisor Andre Bascom, Government Services Reference Librarian Nancy Lieffort, and Collection Management Unit Head Diane Pizzo were all on hand for this celebration.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY AT CSL New Staff

Lara Day has accepted the position of Library Aide in the History & Genealogy Unit, beginning work on October 3. Lara recently worked as the Connecticut State Library Archives summer worker. She has previously worked at the Williston Memorial Library at Mount Holyoke College, and the Norwich Free Academy Slater Memorial Museum. Lara holds a B.A. in English from Mount Holyoke College.



Maria Bernier accepted the position of LSTA Coordinator and began work on July 31st. Maria was the Assistant Director at the Redwood Library & Athenaeum in Newport, RI . She holds an MBA from Salve Regina University, MLS from Simmons College, and a BA from Amherst College. Maria's grant experience includes: grant reviewer

for IMLS Building Digital Resources program, grant reviewer for U.S. Department of Education's Teaching American History program, fundraising for archival arrangement and description projects and capital equipment purchases, grant writer and project director of multiple grant funded projects at the Redwood Library as well as an 18 month retrospective conversion project funded by NHPRC and a 4-month photograph management project. Maria is working at the Middletown Library Service Center. Maria is very enthusiastic and excited about the opportunity to step in as LSTA Coordinator and build the program.



Asaf Aliev was appointed to the position of Office Assistant in the Law/Legislative Reference Unit on September 19th. Asaf most recently worked as an independent insurance agent and previously was a litigation support specialist for 11 years at the law firm of Gersten Clifford & Rome. Asaf will be working 20 hours per week maintaining the law collection which will include digitizing & replacing deteriorated CT primary source law material as needed. Asaf holds a law degree from Baku State University Law School and is licensed to practice in Azerbaijan. He is fluent in English, Russian, Turkish, and Azerbaijani.



NEW & NOTEWORTHY AT CSL Retirements



Staff and friends gathered to say goodbye to Mary Engels at a retirement reception in Memorial Hall on Thursday, September 25. Mary worked for the State Library for 30 years, 28 as the Director of the Middletown Library Service Center (MLSC). Mary was loved by staff and was recognized numerous times by her colleagues, receiving the Friends of Connecticut Libraries, Lillian Levin Meritorious Service Award in 2014; and being named the Connecticut Library Association's Outstanding Librarian in 2001. Mary also served the Connecticut Library Association as President, as a member of the Publicity Committee and as Chair of the ADA Committee. Mary will truly be missed.

Third Thursdays

Connecticut State Library 2015 Winter Schedule

12:00 PM-12:45 PM, Memorial Hall 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

November 20, 2014

Author Bob Steele will discuss his book *The Curse*. During the 1990s, two Connecticut Indian tribes built the world's two biggest gambling casinos in the southeastern corner of the state, resulting in what has been termed a "Gambling Chernobyl."

January 15, 2015

Project Coordinator of the Connecticut Digital Newspaper Project, Christinne Gavreau will present slides and stories about the World War I homefront from the Norwich and Bridgeport newspapers.

February 19, 2015

Author Don Williams will discuss his latest book, Prudence Crandall's Legacy: The Fight for Equality in the 1830s, Dred Scott, and Brown v. Board of Education.

The State Library and Museum of Connecticut History's Third Thursdays BrownBag Lunchtime speaker series features a variety of speakers on various aspects of Connecticut history. All programs are free and open to the public and attendees should feel free to bring their lunch.

More information is available at www.ctstatelibrary.org or by calling 860-757-6668. Funding for this series is provided by the Connecticut Heritage Foundation.

State Library Board News

At the Annual Meeting of the State Library Board, September 22, 2014, John N. Barry (Southington) and Bob Harris (Woodbridge) were reelected Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board.

Chief Justice Rogers recently named Justice Peter T. Zarella as her designee to the State Library Board:

Peter T. Zarella is a Boston native who received his Bachelor of Science degree from Northeastern University in 1972 and his Juris Doctor from Suffolk University Law School in 1975. He was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar in 1975, the Connecticut Bar in 1977, the U.S. District Courts in Massachusetts (1976) and Connecticut (1977), the U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit (1985), the U.S. Supreme Court (1985) and the U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York (1990). He was in the private practice of law from 1977-96 and was a partner in the Hartford firm of Brown, Paindiris & Zarella from 1978 until his appointment as a Superior Court Judge in 1996. In December 1999 he was elevated to Judge of the Appellate Court.

He was nominated by Governor John G. Rowland as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court on January 4th, 2001. He was sworn in on January 22, 2001.

Prior to his service on the bench, Justice Zarella served as a commissioner of the Metropolitan District Commission. His professional affiliations included his service on the Connecticut Bar Executive Committee of the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section, 1985-90; the CBA's Banking Law Committee, 1990-94; a member of the Town of West Hartford Ethics Commission (1992-95) and Charter Revision Commission (1995-96).

He previously served as the Chairman of the Criminal Justice Commission and as the Chairman of the Rules Committee, which is charged with proposing revisions to the Superior Court rules for submission to the judges of the Superior Court for their approval.

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