



State Capitol, July 2016

– In This Issue –

A Challenging Year!

by Kendall F. Wiggin, Page 2-3

***Willimantic Library Service Center:
End of an Era***

by Dawn La Valle, Page 4

Lewis and Clark and the Corp of Discovery

by Jackie Bagwell, Page 5

***Help is Available for Local
Archive Collections in Connecticut***

by Kathy Craughwell-Varda, Page 6-7

Kendall Wiggin Receives Award!

Page 7

***findIT CT-Statewide Library Catalog
Implementation***

by Stephen Cauffman, Page 8

***Susan Cormier Retires from the
CT State Library***

by Linda Williams, Page 9-10

***Charles E. Arnold Amateur
Periodicals Collection***

by William Anderson, Page 11-12

New & Noteworthy, Page 13-15

Sue Cormier's Resolution!

Page 16

A Challenging Year!

By State Librarian Kendall F. Wiggin



I was not at all sad to see Fiscal Year 2016 come to an end on June 30th. It was an extremely challenging and discouraging fiscal year. Over the course of the past 12 months the budget remained in flux. There were rescissions, deficit mitigation plans, budget adjustments, and holdbacks. When it was over, the State Library's budget had been reduced by over \$750,000—6% of our original budget. These cuts impacted all State Library services.

Last Fall reductions in the appropriation for the researchIT databases (formerly iCONN) meant cancelling one of the major academic



database offerings. The colleges and universities dug deep into their already stretched budgets and contributed to the cost of maintaining that database through the end of the fiscal year. The volume on deliverIT had risen at such a rate that the vendor for the "A" routes sought higher fees. In addition to the contractual issues this raised, the budget could not support the increases, and the contractor

chose to terminate the contract. We put together a plan to keep the service running within our available budget. This was not a magic bullet: the increased volume that plagued the vendor continued to grow, and lacking additional funding, the State Library imposed restrictions on the use of the delivery system.



In response to reduced funding for the State Library's library materials budget, we continued to cancel legal practice titles, law reviews, and law journals, further impacting the ability of the state's principal law library to support legal research.

As we were dealing with what seemed like the reduction of the month, we were also addressing proposals to reduce funding for FY17, the fiscal year that just began. In anticipation of those reductions, I continued to make hard decisions. One of those decisions was to close the Willimantic Library Service Center and consolidate operations in the state-owned Library Service Center building in Middletown, saving nearly \$190,000 in annual leasing and operating costs. Staff were transferred to Middletown and the large print collections from both Library Service Centers were moved to the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. The staff of the Division of Library Development worked tirelessly to accomplish this move in a very short time.

As difficult as the fiscal situation was, there were bright spots. Staff throughout the State Library continued to provide a high level of service, despite a mounting number of vacant positions.

The State Library signed a partnership agreement with the New York Public Library and work has begun to develop and deploy the SimplyE eBook reader app in Connecticut, and to build a statewide eBook collection. The first phase of findIT (the statewide union catalog) was launched, and work is progressing to bring the

Continued on Page 3

A Challenging Year, continued

interlibrary loan component online. The Bond Commission released \$3.6 million for grants-in-aid to provide over 90 libraries in the state with high speed fiber connections to the Connecticut Education Network.

Several significant collections were accessioned by the State Archives, from the aerial photographs and indexes for 1951-2000 to the records of the Connecticut State Farm for Women, circa 1917-1970. The staff from the Office of the Public Records Administrator and the State Archives worked diligently to help more than eight state agencies properly handle their public records, as these agencies prepared to move their operations to new office buildings.

The Historic Documents Preservation Program reached a milestone. Now entering its sixteenth year, the program has awarded over \$14,500,000 in grants to municipalities. With this funding, towns have completed more than 2,200 projects to improve local government records preservation, access, and management.

Work began on transitioning to a new Integrated Library System (ILS). The State Library currently shares its catalog and circulation system with the four State Universities. The new ILS will serve the four State Universities, 12 Community Colleges, Charter Oak State College, and the State Library. This project is being funded by the Board of Regents.

The Division of Library Development continued to provide a wide range of professional development opportunities to help Connecticut librarians improve and enhance their skills in leadership, innovation, collaboration, and project management.

Tens of thousands of pages from books and documents in the State Library's collection were digitized and added to the State Library's Digital Collections.



The State Library is taking a leadership role in the commemoration of World War I. Through our Remembering WWI project (<http://ctinworldwar1.org/>) and partnering with libraries and historical societies around the state, the State Library has identified a large number of personally held collections of letters and objects relating to the War. The State Library also received a CT Humanities grant to develop an exhibit at the Museum of Connecticut History along with a traveling exhibit, both of which will focus on the impact the War had on Connecticut.

It was quite a year.

And the challenges continue. We begin Fiscal Year 2017 with \$673,452 less than we had in Fiscal Year 2016. There will likely be additional reductions, less staff, and a continuing need to make difficult choices. But despite another year of challenges, we will continue to watch for any and all opportunities.*

Willimantic Library Service Center: End of an Era

By Dawn La Valle, Director, Division of Library Development

"Every story has an end, but in life every end is a new beginning" – Anonymous

On Monday, March 28th, the Connecticut State Library Board voted on the recommendation of State Librarian Kendall Wiggin to close the Willimantic Library Service Center (WLSC) and consolidate service center operations into the Middletown Library Service Center (MLSC) by the end of June. This consolidation was necessary to offset a considerable reduction in the State Library budget. First authorized in 1959 when statewide library programs were under the State Board of Education, the service center was established in the Windham-Tolland County area to provide schools and libraries in that area with supplementary library service. Later, responsibility for statewide library services, including the service centers, was transferred to the State Library. Moving forward, Division of Library Development staff will focus more on working with their liaison libraries and delivering services such as continuing education classes, in more creative ways.



Grace Burchard & Susan Cormier at WLSC

Division of Library Development staff, with Julie Styles, Professional Development Coordinator and Susan Cormier, WLSC Director leading the way, have over a very short period of time, orchestrated a very complicated move, bringing the two Service Centers together as one. The consolidation of collections, furniture and equipment, and personnel was made possible by Julie's precision space planning involving signs, color coded labels, detailed floor plans, and a depth perception sense that made fitting large items into seemingly small spaces possible. Susan's extreme patience and moving expertise enabled the packing up of Willimantic to be smooth and without issues. Her clever use of skull and crossbones signs prevented wayward librarians from attempting to take unauthorized materials during a very well attended giveaway.



Before

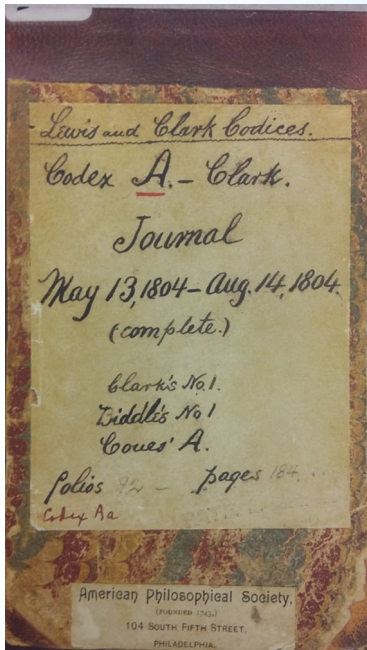
Prior to the actual move, the entire Division staff spent April Fool's Day cleaning the grimy garage at MLSC, moving furniture, and defying all state library employee stereotypes. This was necessary to allow for excess furniture to be stored for possible future expansion, because you never know. Steve moved mountains of file cabinets; Eric navigated oceans of paperwork; Maria carted away

acres of scrap; Gail made sure we were compliant with retention; Linda, Tom, Sue, Grace, and Harry packed up Willimantic; and Diane and Judy cleared the way for our co-workers. We were also fortunate to plan and expedite the new collaborative workspace with thanks to Pinnacle Maintenance for an excellent job in creating a warm and inviting space.*

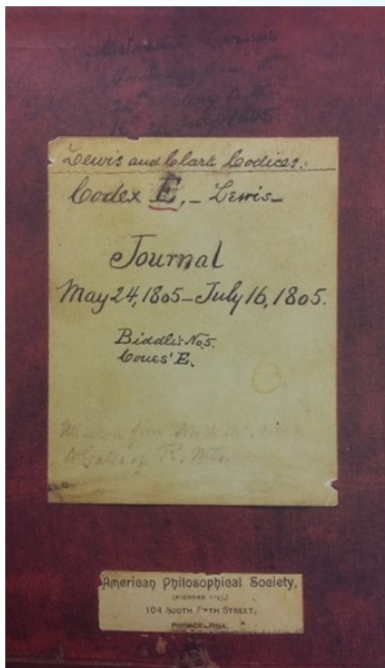


After

Lewis and Clark and the Corp of Discovery by Jackie Bagwell, Information Technology Analyst



Front cover of facsimile Journal from William Clark May 13, 1804 to August 14, 1804.



Front cover of facsimile Journal from Meriwether Lewis May 24, 1805 to July 16, 1805.

There are many curious books housed in the stacks at the Connecticut State Library, but two are particularly interesting because they are faithful facsimiles of the Journals of Lewis and Clark. One journal was written by Captain William Clark between May 13 and August 14, 1804. The other journal was chronicled by Captain Meriwether Lewis between May 24 and July 16, 1805.

Next to the two journals on the shelf is a booklet that describes the journals and provides the reader with background information. All three booklets were provided to U. S. State Libraries by the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Edward C. Carter II, Editor in 2000.

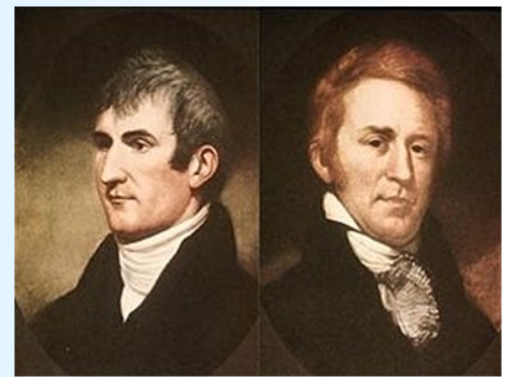
The Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804-06 was the greatest journey of exploration in the history of the United States. In June 1803, President Jefferson wrote to his private secretary, Meriwether Lewis:

The object of your mission is to explore the Missouri river, and such principal stream of it as by its course and communication with the waters of the Pacific Ocean whether the Columbia, Oregon, Colorado or any other river may offer the most direct & practicable water communication across this continent for the purposes of commerce.

Beginning at the mouth of the Missouri, you will take [careful] observations of latitude & longitude at all remarkable points on the river, & especially at the mouth of rivers, at rapids, at islands, & other places & objects distinguished by such [durable] natural marks & characters of a durable [nature] kind as that they may with certainty be recognized hereafter. The course of the river between these points of observation ma[y] be supplied by the compass, the log-line & by time, corrected by the observations themselves. The variations of the compass too, in different places should be noticed.

The interesting points of the portage between the heads of the Missouri, & of the water offering the best communication with the Pacific ocean, should also be fixed by observation, & the course of that water to the ocean, in the same manner as that of the Missouri.

The full instruction, including insights into the political climate of the time, can be read from the Library of Congress transcript: <https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/lewisandclark/transcript57.html>.✱



[Capt. Meriwether Lewis and Capt. William Clark](#)

Help is Available for Local Archive Collections in Connecticut ***by Kathy Craughwell-Varda, Project Director Conservation ConneCTion***

The Connecticut State Historical Records Advisory Board (CT SHRAB), in collaboration with Conservation ConneCTion, is pleased to announce that it has received a grant from the National Historic Publications & Records Commission (NHPRC) through the Connecticut State Library, to provide training opportunities and site visits for cultural heritage organizations with archive collections.

The archival collections held by Connecticut's mid-sized and small cultural heritage organizations are incredibly important in documenting and understanding the history of our state as it reflects the national experience. These repositories hold the private and public history of the people, communities, businesses, and political entities that have shaped the history of Connecticut. These archival collections serve as the threads that tie together diverse institutions and communities to create each unique local identity.

Over the next two years, CT SHRAB will hold six Archives Roundtable meetings throughout Connecticut. The Roundtable meetings will focus on specific issues regarding the management, arrangement, preservation, and access to archival collections, such as: creating and sharing finding aids; tackling the backlog of unprocessed archival collections; tutorials in Metadata, Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and Encoded Archival Description (EAD); when to call a conservator; and digital collections. Roundtable participants are encouraged to use these sessions as problem-solving and networking opportunities.

In addition, the very popular Traveling Archivist Program, which was launched in 2013, will expand into a team of Traveling Archivists who will provide free half-day site visits to museums, historical societies, libraries, and other cultural heritage organizations across the state. "We are delighted to have received funding from NHPRC to expand our very successful Traveling Archivist Program," said Lizette Pelletier, CT SHRAB chair and Connecticut State Archivist. "The team of archivists we have hired are exceptionally knowledgeable in archival best practices and standards and are excited to have the opportunity to share their knowledge and expertise with the staff and volunteers of small and mid-sized cultural heritage institutions."

The team includes returning Traveling Archivist, Elizabeth Boucher, an archives consultant, as well as Jamie Cantoni and Brian Stevens, both from Western Connecticut State University, Kristin Eshelman from the University of Connecticut, and archives consultants Moira Conlan, Kathleen Foulke, Evelyn Green, and Martha Lund Smalley. "The expanded number of Traveling Archivists will allow us to match the expertise of team members to the needs of the organizations who have requested a site visit," said Pelletier. The Traveling Archivists will begin their site visits this summer and will complete their work by late spring 2017.

The Traveling Archivist works with each site's staff and volunteers to answer their questions, and help them through a pre-determined project for one of their archival collections. Every participant receives a report outlining what was accomplished during the site visit, including recommendations for further work and improvement. The Traveling Archivists will continue to be available by phone or email to answer questions.

"The Traveling Archivists will begin their site visits this summer and will complete their work by late spring 2017."

"The team of archivists we have hired are exceptionally knowledgeable in archival best practices and standards..."

Continued on Page 7

Help is Available, continued

To date, the program has assisted 35 cultural heritage institutions across the state. During this next phase, 40 additional institutions will receive assistance with their archives.

About CT SHRAB and Conservation ConneCTion

CT SHRAB (Connecticut State Historical Records Advisory Board) and Conservation ConneCTion have collaborated on four grants funded through the National Historic Publications & Records Commission (NHPRC) since 2010.

To apply for a free half-day visit from a Traveling Archivist please go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TravelingArchivistApp2016>

Questions? Please contact Kathy Craughwell-Varda at Conservation ConneCTion –

CSL.ConservationConnection@ct.gov or 203-241-0618.✴



**State Librarian
Kendall F. Wiggin**

State Librarian Kendall F. Wiggin Receives the Bice Clemow Award from the Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information

On June 15, 2016, Connecticut State Librarian Kendall F. Wiggin received the Bice Clemow Award from the Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information (CCFOI) for his support of CCFOI's historical records legislation, as well as his demonstrated commitment to the cause of open government over many years.

In accepting the award, Wiggin acknowledged the efforts of the staff of the State Archives and the Office of the Public Records Administrator to ensure access to the public records they are entrusted with maintaining and preserving. Fostering the greatest possible access to, and dissemination of, information to the public is a core value of the State Library. Wiggin said that, as a librarian, he strongly respects and defends an individual's right to privacy and the confidentiality of their use of a library or archive. As an historian, he understands and values the role records play in our understanding of history and in holding government accountable.

The Bice Clemow Award is given to public officials for outstanding leadership in "promoting open and accountable government." The award is named for Bice Clemow, a prominent Connecticut journalist, editor, and commentator for nearly half a century, who was a driving force behind the creation of the state's Freedom of Information Act and a leading advocate for open government in Connecticut. Wiggin has served as the Connecticut State Librarian since October 1998. Prior to arriving in Connecticut, he worked in academic and public libraries in New Hampshire, where he also served as State Librarian. Over the years he has served on and worked closely with many organizations, boards, and commissions dealing with libraries, archives, and museums.

For the past several legislative sessions, the State Library and the CCFOI have worked together to support legislation that would make available to the public virtually all government records in the State Archives 75 years after their creation, and all medical records 50 years after a patient's death.



findIT CT Statewide Library Catalog Implementation

**by Stephen Cauffman, requestIT CT Coordinator,
Division of Library Development**

The Connecticut State Library's Division of Library Development is pleased to announce that the first version of findIT CT, the statewide library catalog, went live on May 18. The catalog contains over 10.3 million item holdings from more than 150 public, school, and academic libraries from four of Connecticut's consortia. You can findIT at <https://finditct.org>.

findIT CT is being developed in phases and this is only the beginning. The next phase will see the holdings of all other participating libraries loaded into the catalog, representing approximately an additional 10.4 million item records. The third phase will begin in the fall and will see the requestIT CT Interlibrary Loan (ILL) system developed and implemented. The catalog available now serves as a snapshot from Fall 2015, of the holdings of 4 of the library consortia in Connecticut. More frequent data extracts to keep the catalog up to date will take place once the overall development of findIT CT is complete.

The next phase of development of findIT CT, adding the holdings of all other participating libraries, starts now and will continue through the summer. The easiest way for our development partners to accomplish the loading of the catalog is by adding holdings by ILS vendor. The first version of the catalog included consortiums that used either Evergreen or Innovative Interfaces, Inc., and loading of libraries in this next phase resumes with those that use Innovative Interfaces, Inc. The State Library will put out a call for your library's holdings based on the schedule below.

ILS/Vendor: Koha; SirsiDynix; Innovative Interfaces, Inc. (excluding libraries in LCI, LION, & CONSULS);

Submission of holdings opens: Wednesday, June 15

Deadline for submission of holdings: Thursday, June 30

ILS/Vendor: Ex Libris; TLC; Polaris

Submission of holdings opens: Tuesday, July 5

Deadline for submission of holdings: Tuesday, July 19

ILS/Vendor: Auto-Graphics (Auto-Graphics will send us this update)

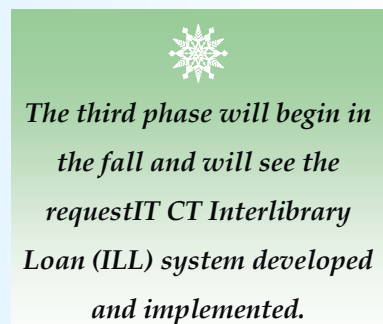
Submission of holdings opens: Mon, July 25

Deadline for submission of holdings: Friday, August 5

ILS/Vendor: Follett; Any other ILS not listed above

Submission of holdings opens: Monday, August 15

Deadline for submission of holdings: Wednesday, August 31



*The third phase will begin in
the fall and will see the
requestIT CT Interlibrary
Loan (ILL) system developed
and implemented.*

The Connecticut State Library thanks Bibliomation for partnering with us on this project, Equinox for developing the software, and participating libraries for contributing their records to the catalog. If you wish to keep up to date on the findIT project, visit <http://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org/dld/finditct> or send an e-mail to stephen.cauffman@ct.gov and ask to be added to the findIT CT e-mail announcement list.*

Susan Cormier Retires from the CT State Library

by Linda Williams, Children's Services Consultant



***Sue Cormier and
her daughter, Ellen***

After 29 years with the State Library, Service Center Director and Children's Services Consultant Susan Cormier is retiring. She said in her farewell post to the listserv she started over 20 years ago, "to paraphrase Bilbo Baggins, 'Thirty years is too short a time to work among such excellent and admirable colleagues.' Like Bilbo, I am off on a journey, the journey of retirement."

Susan began her library career at the Eisenhower Public Library in Harwood Heights, a Chicago suburb. As a children's librarian there in the early 1980s, in addition to the usual things children's librarians do, she was somewhat of a second mom to the latchkey kids whose real mothers had joined the workforce.

When her husband's job took him to Connecticut, Susan moved nearer to her native home of Cherry Hill, New Jersey and began her next chapter as the children's librarian at the East Lyme Public Library. The ten story hours she ran personally each week there would give her the idea for her first big project when she later went to work at the State Library.

In Connecticut, she attended trainings and events delivered by Faith Hektoen, Connecticut's first Children's Services Consultant. Susan was awed by Faith, who was "overwhelming, terrifying and brilliant - such a force!"

After three years in East Lyme she got a call from Faith asking her to apply for a new position at the State Library. She had never considered this kind of job switch, but she applied anyway. In August 1986, Susan Cormier began her State Library career.

Working out of the Middletown Library Service Center (MLSC), Susan's time was divided between being the Assistant Director to Mary Engels directorship of MLSC, and the Assistant to Faith Hektoen. When Faith retired, Susan became the next Children's Services Consultant.

Susan recalls Faith's parting advice to her - "Don't let anyone ever talk you into a statewide summer reading program!" It would be another fifteen years or so before that actually happened.

While Faith was a force, a gentler approach was more natural for Susan. Based on her experience with running two story hours a day for three years in East Lyme, she had the idea of putting together ready-to-go kits that children's librarians could borrow. Her first project as Children's Services Consultant was creating these kits and getting them circulating to children's librarians.

Observing that the LSCA (now LSTA) Grants that were given to libraries each year were never for children's projects, Susan asked if there was any reason why children's projects could not receive LSCA money. When there wasn't, she embarked on a mission to train children's librarians in grant writing. She did day-long workshops all around Connecticut, and the federal grant funding secured for children's projects seeded many programs that still run today.

Continued

Susan Cormier, continued

And, she learned something through the process. Many children's librarians didn't know about their budgets, their statistics, and other management aspects of the job. So her next endeavor was a 1991 management series entitled *Strategies for Success: Workshops on Managing Children's Services in Public Libraries*. The series included separate workshops on all aspects of planning, budgeting, leadership skills, and marketing.

Whenever children's librarians got together for these and other workshops, it was often difficult to get them on task, so starved were they for the chance to network with colleagues. It was Susan's next big idea to start a discussion list, similar to PUBYAC, in Connecticut. But what should it be called? After soliciting suggestions from librarians around the state, it was Marian Amadeo, now director of the Hamden Library, who came up with the friendly name, "goodnightmoon," and it stuck! As of this writing *goodnightmoon* has 941 members.

It would be impossible to list all the important contributions Susan Cormier has made to the community of children's and teen librarians in Connecticut. Here are few the more recent programs:

Based on the Maryland program *It's Never Too Early* about teaching parents how important it is to read to their children from birth, Susan worked with Haskins Labs' Anne Fowler and Julia Irwin to provide research-based training on what children's librarians could do in their storytimes to increase their impact on children's readiness for learning to read. This program pointed out the same basic set of recommendations that were later made in the Association for Library Service's Every Child Ready to Read initiative. Along with the *Connecticut - It's Never Too Early* initiative, a set of brochures were created and given free of charge to Connecticut libraries for distribution to parents. These brochures gave parents, in understandable language, the simple things they could do to increase their children's readiness for learning to read.

Contrary to advice from Faith, Susan finally led us to a statewide summer reading program by providing all libraries in the state with membership in the Collaborative Summer Library Program. This ready-made program, complete with reading logs, certificate, incentives, and other theme-based ideas, has been a successful entry into a not quite statewide embrace of membership. To back up the program, Susan worked to offer access to online summer reading management through an Evanced system, and offered another training program on reading research and on setting summer reading goals.

There's so much more! But just one last program to mention and this one took place early in Susan's career. She had an idea for a program called *This Old Library*, modeled loosely on the *This Old House* program on PBS. Division of Library Development staff all worked together on this project, refreshing the Andover and Oxford Libraries, and these projects have been referred to within the Division as one of the most fun projects ever done together.

And that is one of the lesser-known qualities we will miss the most about Susan. She provided enthusiasm, motivation, encouragement, and inspiration to all of us who worked with her. She was our *Pollyanna* with the out-of-the-box ideas and a tenacious spirit. We'll miss her, but we wish her a most excellent journey.*

"After soliciting suggestions from librarians around the state, it was Marian Amadeo, now director of the Hamden Library, who came up with the friendly name, 'goodnightmoon,' and it stuck!"



Charles E. Arnold Amateur Periodicals Collection*by William Anderson, Catalog Librarian*

The Connecticut State Library has a collection of around 100 amateur periodicals, dating from 1849 to 1914 collected by Charles E. Arnold, an amateur journalist himself. Most of the collection dates from 1878-1879, when Arnold was publishing his own periodical *The Victor* out of Hartford, Connecticut. The periodicals come from all regions of the country: from Charleston, South Carolina to San Francisco, California, though as might be expected for a Hartford collector, a substantial number come from Connecticut, New England in general, and nearby states.

Amateur journalism is well described by Finlay Grant, an amateur journalist from Nova Scotia:

Amateur journalism is an institution of youth who edit, publish, print, or contribute to, miniature journals as a means of self-improvement, as a pleasing pastime, and for the advancement of their own peculiar institution.¹

The origins of amateur journalism are somewhat in doubt. In 1786, George Canning, a student at Eton College, and future British prime minister, published an amateur paper called the *Microcosm*. In the United States in about 1812, Thomas Gray Condie Jr. published a weekly magazine known as the *Juvenile Port-Folio and Literary Miscellany*, and is often regarded as the father of amateur journalism (Ben Franklin receives a nod, though he was precociously contributing to mainstream periodicals and newspapers).

These periodicals were in general a miscellany of essays, fiction, poetry, jokes, and usually a section of one or two sentence comments on other amateur periodicals that had been received by publishers of the journal. Most were published monthly.



*The Poultry Paper
from Norwich, Conn.*

A few periodicals had a more specific focus. E. E. Hamilton's *Mystic Knight*, published out of Danbury, Connecticut around 1878-1879, was almost entirely devoted to word puzzles. *The Young American* published out of Lititz, Pennsylvania was devoted to temperance articles. One journal published out of Norwich, Connecticut in 1914, with the very direct title *The Poultry Paper* was "issued in the interests of poultrymen and fanciers." It included articles on the reasoning faculties of hens, the history of poultry, advice on poultry keeping, and the occasional piece of moral advice ("Don't be like the rooster who thought the sun came up to hear him crow" from the Feb. 1914 issue).

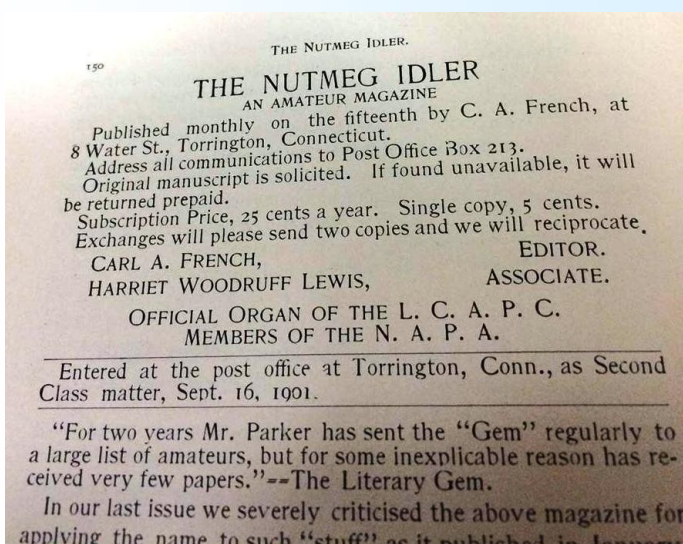
Continued

Amateur Periodicals Collection continued

A regular feature of many was an editorial section on other amateur papers, generally a sentence or two on each paper ("The Victor looks immense. What kind of press have you, Arnold?"; "The Catchall enlarged with its July number. We know editor Richardson, and opine that he deserves success" — both from the Aug./Sept. 1879 issue of the *Granite Echo* from Concord, N.H.). It was clearly the custom of amateur journalists to exchange papers among themselves. This was almost certainly the origin of most of the collection compiled by Charles E. Arnold.



**Small sized amateur press
from the collections of the
Museum of Connecticut History**



**The Nutmeg Idler - Carl French's and
Harriet Lewis' periodical**

Some journals printed advertisements. These were commonly for items of interest to amateur journalists such as printing supplies, services, etc. A few papers offer a wider selection of advertisements. One example is the July 5, 1879 issue of the *Weekly Advocate* out of Mount Carroll, Illinois, which contains advertisements for a blacksmith, cigars, and tobacco.

One interesting aspect of the hobby of amateur journalism was the fact that both sexes participated. While it is true that males predominated, it was not rare for female amateur journalists to contribute articles to a journal. One of the amateur journals in the collection, the *Springfield Joker* out of Springfield Mass., was published by Virginia J. Stephens.

Another, the 1902 *Nutmeg Idler* out of Torrington, Connecticut was co-edited by Carl A. French and Harriet Woodruff Lewis. Their working partnership became romantic as records on Ancestry.com have the two marrying in 1903 to share 40 years together and dying within a year of each other in Florida in 1943/1944.

Amateur journals, the ancestors of today's "zines" and blogs, provide a fascinating look into an aspect of Victorian youth culture. The Charles E. Arnold Amateur Periodicals Collection held by the Connecticut State Library contains a wide selection of such periodicals from across the country, including a substantial share from Connecticut and the New England area.*

¹The Early Pioneers of Amateur Journalism (before 1876)

<http://www.thefossils.org/horvat/aj/pioneers.htm>

New & Noteworthy

Outreach Librarian Robert Kinney was in the main lobby of the Library on Saturday, June 11 to meet visitors to the Library for the annual Open House Day. Open House Day is sponsored by the CT Office of Tourism and strives to showcase historical and cultural places of interest in Connecticut. Among the visitors to the CT State Library were a family from Puerto Rico, a family from India, and a group from Trinity college.

Robert distributed Frisbees and informational material to the visitors. He estimates we had 100 visitors that day. The public is welcome to visit the Museum of CT History, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The State Library is open Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Both are closed on Saturdays that precede Monday State Holiday or follow Friday State Holidays.



Open House Visitors to the State Library, June 2016

Third Thursdays at the CT State Library



Marc Casslar and Martha Griffin, from the Vintage Dance Society recreated some of the most popular dances from the World War I era such as the Tango, Waltz, Hesitation, Blues, Foxtrot, and Castle Walk on June 16, from 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.

[See Video of Marc and Martha from our website](#)



Author Deborah Child gave a discussion based on her book *"Soldier, Engraver, Forger: Richard Brunton's Life on the Fringe in America's New Republic"*, on May 19, from 12:00 p.m.-12: 45 p.m.

[See Video of Deborah Child from our website](#)

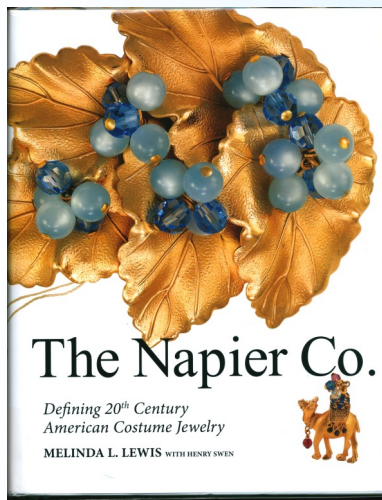


Ray Bendici discussed his latest book, *Speaking Ill of the Dead: Jerks in Connecticut History*, on April 21, 2016, from 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. The book is part of a series of "Jerk" books that have been written by various authors from around the country.

[See Video of Ray Bendici from our website](#)

New & Noteworthy

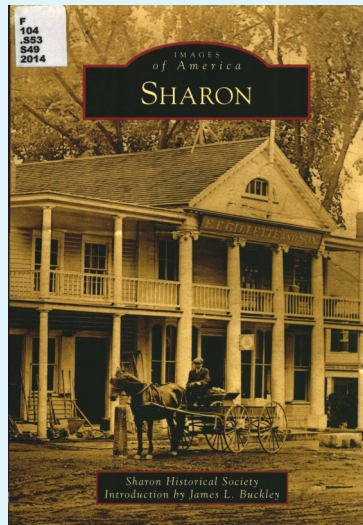
New Books



***The Napier Co.:
Defining 20th Century
American Costume
Jewelry***

By Melinda Lewis, with
Henry Swen

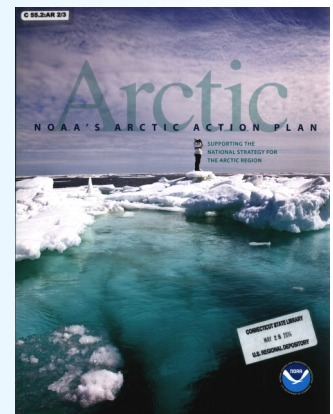
[NK4890.C67 L49 2013](#)



Sharon

By The Sharon Historical
Society; Introduction by
James L. Buckley

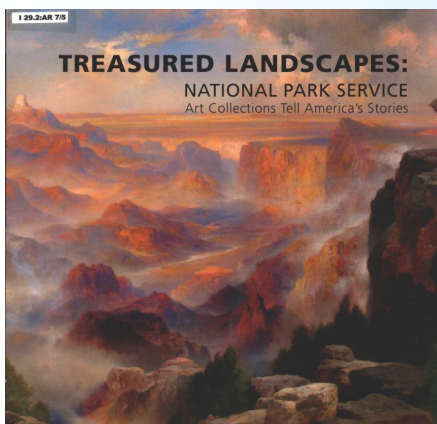
[F104.S53 S49 2014](#)



***NOAA's Arctic Action
Plan: Supporting the
National Strategy for
the Arctic Regions***

By United States.
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric
Administration

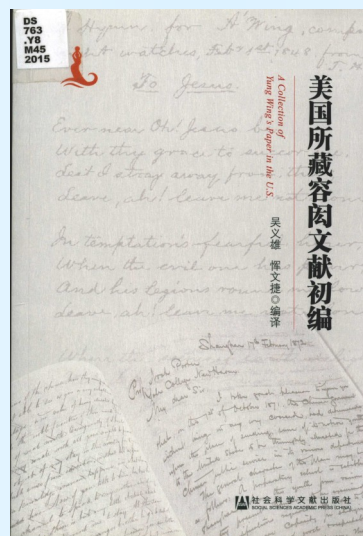
[C 55.2:AR 2/3](#)



***Treasured landscapes:
National Park Service Art
Collections Tell America's
Stories***

Published by Washington,
D.C.: National Park Service
Museum Management
Program, 2016

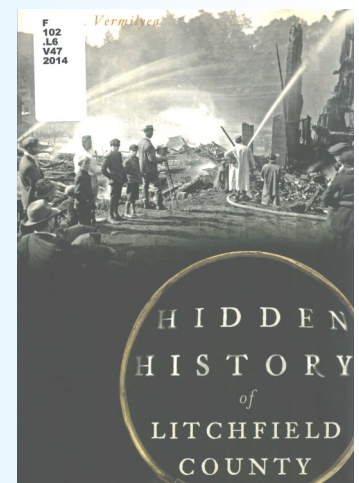
[I 29.2:AR 7/5](#)



***Meiguo suo cang Rong
Hong wen xian chu
bian = Collection of
Yung Wing's paper in
the U.S.***

By Wu Yixiong,
Yun enjie bian yi

[ds 763 .y8 m45](#)



***Hidden History of
Litchfield County***

By Peter C. Vermilyea

[F102.L6 V47 2014](#)

New & Noteworthy

New EBooks

The CT State Library has purchased the following eBooks. These are remotely accessible using a library card issued by the Connecticut State Library.

[Internet Legal Research on a Budget: Free and Low-Cost Resources for Lawyers](#)

By Carol A. Levitt

[Identifying the Culprit: Assessing Eyewitness Identification](#)

By Committee on Scientific Approaches to Understanding and Maximizing the Validity and Reliability of Eyewitness Identification in Law Enforcement and the Courts;

Committee on Science, Technology, and Law; Policy and Global Affairs; Committee on Law and Justice; Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education; National Research Council of the National Academies

[Floating Collections: a Collection Development Model for Long-Term Success](#)

By Wendy K. Bartlett

[The Collapse of American Criminal Justice](#)

By William J. Stentz



***Sue Cormier's Retirement Party, June 30, 2016,
Middletown Library service Center!***



*Gifts presented to Susan at
her Retirement Celebration*



*Susan Cormier and
her mother*



*State Librarian Kendall
Wiggin, Susan Cormier, and
DLD Director Dawn La Valle*

State of Connecticut
State Library Board
Resolution
Susan Cormier

- Whereas, Susan Cormier has provided invaluable service as a dedicated employee of the Connecticut State Library for 29 years; and,
- Whereas, Susan, Children's Consultant and Director of the Willimantic Library Service Center, has been a true advocate for libraries and children's services librarians in the Quiet Corner and throughout the State of Connecticut; and,
- Whereas, Susan founded the groundbreaking children's discussion listserve, *goodnightmoon*; which played a critical role in keeping children's librarians connected and informed; and,
- Whereas, Susan started the first statewide summer reading program ever in Connecticut by joining the Collaborative Summer Reading program; and,
- Whereas, Susan was the power behind increasing LSTA grants for children's services programs, by offering in-depth grant writing training to children's librarians, and mentoring them through the writing process; and,
- Whereas, Susan has been ahead of the curve in keeping children's librarians up on the most current library programs and principles assuring that Connecticut children's librarians were trained in current research and practice by providing programs, such as Every Child Ready to Read and CT Libraries It's Never too Early; and,
- Whereas, Susan administered many summer reading surveys, which led her to facilitate a contract with Evanced Solutions to provide use of the *Summer Reader* program, as an easy online reading program management system; and,
- Whereas, Susan partnered with the State Department of Education for the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge held at the Connecticut State Library; and,
- Whereas, Susan created and maintained the Summer Reading and Conversational Reading resource page on the Division of Library Development's LibGuides; and,
- Whereas, Susan was a facilitator and member on the ever important Public Library Standards Task Force; and,
- Whereas, The State Library applauds Susan's lengthy and notable and very successful career and wishes her the very best for a happy and healthy retirement;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on this 20th day of June, 2016, the Connecticut State Library Board hereby unanimously and enthusiastically acknowledges Susan Cormier's 29 years of dedicated service to the Connecticut State Library, expresses its appreciation for her loyalty and longevity, and extends its sincere wishes for many fulfilling and pleasurable retirement years.

John N. Barry, Chairperson

Kendall F. Wiggin, State Librarian

STATE LIBRARY BOARD

John N. Barry, Chair

Robert D. Harris, Jr., Vice Chair

Honorable Michael R. Sheldon

Honorable Peter T. Zarella

Commissioner Dianna Wentzell

Alison Clemens

Allen Hoffman

James Johnston

Matthew Poland

The Connecticut State Library has entered into a licensing relationship with EBSCO Publishing. The full text of The CONNector is available in LISTA (Library Information Science & Technology) Full Text, one of the EBSCOhost® databases.



CT State Library

Preserving the Past. Informing the Future.



CONNector EDITORIAL BOARD

State Librarian Kendall F. Wiggin

Lizette Pelletier, State Archivist

David Corrigan, Museum Curator

Robert Kinney, Outreach Services Librarian

Ursula Hunt, Editor

Eric Hansen, Copy Editor

Bill Anderson, Catalog Librarian

Jackie Bagwell, Information Technology Analyst

Steve Rice, Reference Librarian

Christine Pittsley, Digital Imaging

Mark Smith, Fiscal Administrator

Mel Smith, Reference Librarian



[Connecticut State Library](http://www.ctstatelibrary.org)

231 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
(860) 757-6500