

**STATE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT**  
**March 28, 2016**

This report is prepared bi-monthly in conjunction with the regular meetings of the Connecticut State Library Board. Items to be routinely covered include the following: the significant activities of the State Librarian and the staff, significant administrative decisions affecting the operation of the Library, status reports regarding in-progress activities, information regarding external events having an impact on the Library, media coverage of the Library, and information of general interest to the members of the Board.

The following report by the State Librarian, which will be included in the minutes of the March 28, 2016 meeting of the Board, covers the period of January 26, 2016, through March 25, 2016.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Attached to this report.

**OFFICE OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN**

**Established the CTDA Steering Committee**

The State Librarian established the Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA) Steering Committee to 1) coordinate the move of CSL's digital assets to the CTDA; 2) identify training needs for staff to accomplish this transition and ongoing ingest into the CTDA; 3) keep the CSL staff apprised of developments and progress in the move to the CTDA, 4) advise and make recommendations to the State Librarian. The Steering Committee has representation from all across the Library. The Committee's first meeting is scheduled for March 24. Collection Management has been coordinating a series of training sessions for State Library staff on the CTDA. The CTDA will eventually replace ContentDM as the Library's digital repository.

**Collections Preservation Facility**

The University of Connecticut Libraries, the Connecticut State Library and the libraries of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities have completed work on a proposal to establish a collections preservation facility. This shared, centralized, high density preservation facility is designed to safeguard the enduring intellectual and cultural assets of Connecticut. Rather than expand current structures or construct multiple new library facilities across the state, this proposed facility would house and service a million plus volumes of valued, but less frequently used, library items safely, efficiently, and cost effectively. By moving essential but less frequently consulted library materials to a centralized shelving facility, all these institutions can repurpose valuable space within their existing buildings; consolidate and de-duplicate their collective holdings; and assure long term shared access to the vast and unique information they contain. The plan calls for locating the facility on UConn's Depot Campus. The cost for the facility is now being developed along with some funding models.

**DIVISION OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT (DLD)**

The Advisory Council on Library Planning and Development (ACLPD) Public Library Standards Report will be distributed to board members at the meeting.

### DeliverIT CT Transition

We are happy to welcome aboard our 6 new driver/maintainers Winston Quiros, Juan Machin, Melvin Resto, Chris Williams, Michael Gigliotti and Jose Marques. We would also like to thank our longtime staff Jennifer Hurta, Sammy Colon, Rich Gagne, and Stan Niro for their dedication to making this a successful transition. Most importantly, deep appreciation is expressed to Walter Magnavice Jr. for his expertise and leadership in making this transition possible.

Transition of the vendor “A” route to the Division of Library Development was complete on March 16<sup>th</sup>. The deliverIT CT staff will continue to assess the operational integrity of the new routes and overall service, making any adjustments as deemed necessary.

### Construction Grants

There will be no substantive changes this year to the “State Grant Program for Public Library Construction Timetable and Guidelines 2015-2016,” or the grant application forms. With funding available for both distressed and non-distressed municipalities, we expect to announce the availability of construction grants in April or May. Notice of Intent forms won’t be due until the end of June.

### borrowIT CT (Connecticard)

The borrowIT CT year ends in February and public libraries seeking reimbursement have until March 15 to provide a report of the year’s non-resident loans. This is the first year that all libraries are required to use a report form that is sent by email rather than accessed through the Web. Reimbursement payments are scheduled to go out in April, however the Governor’s 5% rescission of 3/16/2016 will further reduce the funding available for borrowIT CT payments to \$801,000 as compared with \$900,000 in 2015.

### Public Libraries Annual Report, State Aid, Statistics

Much time has been expended in uploading our most recent public library statistics into the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Public Library Survey report portal. IMLS’ new vendor did not have the portal working properly and it took weeks longer to complete the task this year. IMLS won’t release the data from this national survey until the summer of 2017, at the earliest. The FY2014 data has yet to be released.

### E-rate Request For Proposal RFP

Working with Ken, Dawn, Doug Casey (Commission for Educational Technology), and Joe Fredosso of USAC (Universal Service Administrative Company), Maria Bernier researched and wrote an E-rate RFP (Request for Proposal) to build new fiber connections to public libraries establishing a “Connecticut Libraries Fiber Consortium” to connect the individual member libraries with their nearest Internet Access Point/Point of Presence (PoP) including related installation, maintenance and operation services. Responses to the RFP are due April 8.

### Professional Activities and Outreach

#### Dawn La Valle

- Facilitated 6 Public Library Standards Focus Groups with Maria Bernier and oversaw 2 of the 3 pilots with findings, feedback and suggestions have been compiled.
- Worked with Ursula Hunt and Walt Magnavice to expedite the receipt and installation of the shelving for the Van Block sorting facility.
- Worked with the Association of Connecticut Library Boards (ACLB) Executive Committee in the successful recruitment of three new ACLB board members.

- Attended Access to Justice Working Group to discuss activities and initiatives moving forward.

#### Tom Newman

- Work has begun on next year's Annual Report to be released in July. This will be the first year without the online Bibliostat survey portal. Changes to the survey are being made to reflect comments received from libraries, mandates from IMLS, and a general concern that the survey is too long.
- Provided analysis, data and benchmarks for the Public Library Standards document.

#### Maria Bernier

- Appointed as the DLD representative to the CSL Connecticut Digital Archives Steering Committee.
- Visited Bethel Library to view Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant activity in progress – musical theatre performance by tweens and teens.

#### Julie Styles

- Attended Computers in Libraries Conference in Washington D.C.
- Coordinated the transition to the new Continuing Education calendar – LibCal by Springshare.
- Working with Linda Williams to create Infographics for marketing DLD statewide services using newly acquired Venngage software.

#### Eric Hansen

- Branded the EZproxy bar code login page with the researchIT CT logo and customized text, re-linked the existing (hidden) web button and restored the button on all researchIT CT resource menu web pages, and added the link to the Links to researchIT CT Resources document for librarians.
- Completed domain name change from iconn.org to researchitct.org on 2/24. On 2/25 announced the change to selected E-mail lists with web page URL equivalencies included, and that the domain name iCONN.org will continue to function until May 1, at which time all iconn.org traffic will redirect to researchitct.org. Updated web links (iCONN to researchIT CT) in researchIT CT libguide.

#### Gail Hurley

- Participated in a CT Saves partners call on February 8, and participated in the CT Saves Financial Expo at the Legislative Office Building on February 17. Met new contacts to include in financial literacy program planning.
- Worked much of the month preparing talks, PowerPoints and handouts for Newspaper Digitization 101 Workshop on February 26. Presented an overview of newspaper digitization from worldwide to local projects, copyright and permissions, and funding a project. Also prepared a Survey Monkey evaluation form that was sent to attendees following the program.

#### Linda Williams

- Creating the annual summer reading lists for the State Department of Education.
- Created a Pinterest Board and a LibGuide on items children's librarians are purchasing for their maker programs. Beginning to put together discussion guides for the new Nutmeg book nominees. Those pages will not go live until the official unveiling of the new lists on May 1.

#### Steve Cauffman

- Representative for the "scope review" meeting for the MLSC roofing project. The project has to be approved by the Bond Commission, so if it gets on their April agenda, the earliest that the roofer will be able to start the project is late May or early June. The

roofer said he expects it will only take one week to complete the project as long as the weather cooperates. We will be open while they are putting on a new roof.

#### Susan Cormier

- Tom Newman and Susan Cormier met with the Brooklyn Town Library Board (15 members) to discuss future directions for the library. It was a lively discussion, covering past efforts to build a new library, limitations of being an association rather than a town department, the historic underfunding of library service in Brooklyn, and ideas for moving forward with a community needs assessment and new strategic plan. A wealth of comparative data gave much food for thought. For example, Putnam, a near neighbor, is very similar in population, wealth rank and tax revenue. Yet historically, Putnam has provided much better funding for its public library; last year the town spent almost four times as much for library service as the town of Brooklyn.
- Six *Summer Reader/Wandoo Reader* training sessions have been scheduled. Summer 2015 surveys continue to trickle in as people realize they don't have a summer manual or they get a phone call from one of the children's services consultants. Approximately 30 libraries have requested *Wandoo Reader* demo accounts so far this year. Libraries have until March 31 to decide if they are going to use *Summer Reader* or switch to *Wandoo Reader*. A demo *Wandoo Reader* site has been created where librarians can sign up and use the site as if they were patrons.

#### **ACCESS SERVICES**

Access Services has maintained a high level of public service through a period of several staff illnesses and staff family illnesses. We are also bracing for the new and combined catalogs. Workflows and procedures will change.

Access Services has been working on different ways to collect and present statistics for better and more meaningful reporting. Lindsay Young will be working on analytics from our Website. Debra Pond is designing a new form that is being tested by all reference sections. The plan is to use it for the April statistics.

The Legislative session has started. Jean Kindcaid-Ross and Laura Klojzy will not receive the remaining 2015 transcripts until after the current session, but the contract has been signed with a Virginia transcription company. Both Jean and Laura were instrumental in providing patrons with hearing/testimony information for 2015. They provided patrons with the approximate MP3 time location for a bill's discussion.

Changes to the Ct.gov portal have effected harvesting of some sites. For example the Governor's press releases have presented a problem. Steve Rice will be working on solutions with the State Archivist and our contact at the Bureau of Enterprise Systems and Technology (BEST). These portal changes will also affect the archiving of state agency websites.

Carol Trinchitella and Kris Abery were contacted by Proquest about the possibility of participating in a Federal Document digitization project. This would involve Federal Documents published before 1976. A Proquest representative visited on March 1. Kris and Carol are in the process of contacting some participating libraries (Ohio State Library and Boston Public) to gain some insights into the project. They will be making recommendations on whether or not CSL should participate.

Debra Pond is collecting questions staff have about the Secretary of the State's new eRegs system. There are many questions about how to cover materials from 2013 to 2015. All of the questions will be forwarded to the Secretary of the State's Office. Consideration is being given to inviting them come to the Library for a demonstration / in-service training.

Mel Smith, Carolyn Picciano and Maria Paxi tested a form and instruction set for the WW1 project volunteers. These forms will be used at intake sites hosted by public libraries.

Jeannie Sherman changed the Newspaper page on the CSL website to include online and free databases of Connecticut newspapers. The links are only included if the database has at least 500 issues.

There is public WiFi in the law reading room and on the balcony. Staff and patrons are very pleased.

Security coverage problems at the south entrance have not been solved but new signs are up. The signs explain hours of operations for the different services housed at 231. They also alert patrons on how to access the building if the south door is locked during business hours. This was a cooperative effort between Judicial and Library staff.

With many retirements and state agencies moving, the Library has been receiving boxes of state documents. These items are used to fill in the Library's state document collection. It is anticipated that more boxes will be coming.

#### Professional Activities and Outreach

14 CSL staff attended a tour of the Office of Legislative Research Library & the Legislative Office Building.

Between 3/8- 3/10 the History & Genealogy reference section hosted the New England Historic Genealogical Society tour group visit.

Debra Pond (LAW) and Nancy Liefkort (GIRS) gave interns from the Office of Legislative Research (OLR) & Legislative Commissioners' Office (LCO) staff a tour. They also gave interns from the Connecticut General Assembly tours of the State Library.

#### Kevin Johnson (H&G)

February (Black History Month) is a busy time for Kevin. He performed before 865 students and adults during the month. He gave his William Webb presentation to 7th & 8th graders at the Griswold Middle School, the Ellington Historical Society; Plainfield Middle school; Mt. Hope Temple Church in New Haven; Emory Miller Luncheon at Belmont AME Zion Church, Worcester, MA.; Mt Calvary Baptist church, Hartford, Recognition for veterans; ADRC (recovery program for substance abuse) under the auspices St. Francis Hospital  
Kevin gave his Jordon Freeman presentation for Deloitte Company in Stamford and Pleasant Valley Elementary School in South Windsor.

Kevin assisted Region 15 students in National History Day preparations.

Nancy Liefkort (GIRS) met with UConn faculty for a preliminary tour of the State Library. She also gave a tour and research assistance to the UConn Doctoral History students and faculty.

Bonnie Gallagher (LAW) attended the annual Southern New England Law Library Association dinner. Bonnie started US Legal System and Federal legislative history training.

Kris Avery (GIRS) attended Cross-Cultural Communication: The Role of Ethnic and Traditional Media in Public Outreach and Advocacy by DCP.

## **COLLECTION SERVICES**

### **Newspapers of Connecticut (A Statewide Newspaper Project)**

The State Library has been promoting newspaper digitization for several years now. In January we finished adding the first batch of newspapers contributed by the public libraries of Enfield and Norwalk. Each library found local funding to pay for scanning. The State Library made the commitment to pay for the preservation of the digital files in the Connecticut Digital Archive and to present them for free online access in Newspapers of Connecticut

<http://cslib.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p15019coll9>. The State Library added a World War I newspaper to this collection as well.

Thompsonville Press (1880-1897, 1899-1922) = 2112 issues

- Daily Gazette and Saturday's Norwalk Record (1890-1891, 1893-1896) = 1038 issues; and Evening Gazette (Norwalk) (1896-1899) = 860 issues
- Home Guard News (1918) = 3 issues; and State Guard News (1918-1919) = 23 issues; and Veteran's Journal and State Guard News (1919-1920) = 14 issues

On Feb. 28, 2016 the Newspaper Project offered a workshop "Newspaper Digitization 101" to encourage other libraries to help make the statewide project grow. It featured Jane Cullinane; Gail Hurley, from the Division of Library Development; and Christine Gauvreau, talking about copyright, working with vendors and best practices.

### **Meetings, Presentations, Workshops, etc**

- Alma Functional Committees Kickoff Meeting on January 14 at Manchester Community College)-attended by Carol Trinchitella and Diane Pizzo.
- "Managing Your Digital Assets With Islandora" webinar by Lyris, January 15, 2016, attended by Jane Cullinane, Diane Pizzo, Glenn Sherman and Carol Trinchitella.
- "State Government Information and the Copyright Conundrum" American Library Association CopyTalk Webinar on February 4. Diane Pizzo.
- Alma Systems Committee Meeting on February 11 (WebEx)-Carol Trinchitella
- Alma Systems Committee OCLC Ezproxy Study Group on February 23 (WebEx) Carol Trinchitella.
- Alma Systems Committee Meeting on February 24 (WebEx) Carol Trinchitella,
- Alma Systems Committee III Migration Study Group on February 26 (WebEx) Carol Trinchitella.
- ProQuest Executive Branch Documents Digitization Discussion on March 1 (at CSL) Carol Trinchitella.
- CONSULS Serials Librarians Meeting on March 3 (Webex)- Carol Trinchitella
- "Introduction to CTDA (Connecticut Digital Archive)" training offered by Jennifer Eustis of Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA) on March. 9 attended by Yasemin Agis, Jane Cullinane, Christine Gauvreau, Gratien Meda, Claire Murphy, Diane Pizzo, Glenn Sherman, Carol Trinchitella and other library staff.
- Alma Systems Committee Meeting on March 10 (WebEx) Carol Trinchitella.
- "CTDA Site Administrator" training offered by Jennifer Eustis on March 11, March 15, March 31, attended by Glenn Sherman, Jane Cullinane and IT staff.
- "Pathfinders: Creating Better Research Guides" webinar offered by Nebraska Library Commission on March 9, attended by Christine Gauvreau.

- “CTDA Content Models” webinar offered by Jennifer Eustis, March 16 attended by Jane Cullinane.
- “Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA) Technical Roadmap” meetings via webinar with the staff of the Connecticut Digital Archive at the Univ. of Connecticut, January. 4, January 25, and February 22 attended by Jane Cullinane.

## **PUBLIC RECORDS ADMINISTRATION**

### Records Retention Schedules

After completing reviews and revisions, the Office of the Public Records Administrator issued the following records retention schedules:

- 16-1-1, Department of Administrative Services (DAS) – Statewide Human Resources
- 16-1-2, Department of Administrative Services (DAS) – Procurement Services

### Training, Outreach & Site Inspections

LeAnn Power and Kathy Makover presented training as part of a New Town Clerks Workshop organized by the Town Clerks Association on January 22. Topics covered included records management responsibilities, vault requirements and the Historic Documents Preservation Grant Program.

LeAnn and Kathy met with town officials and department heads in Suffield on February 3, to discuss the town’s plans for managing its records during a town hall renovation project that requires town offices to move off-site. In addition, they toured several vaults and records storage areas within the town hall, providing specific recommendations regarding the records stored in these locations.

### Historic Documents Preservation Program

For the FY2017 grant year, grant awards have been set in the amounts of \$4,000, \$5,000 and \$7,500 for small, medium and large towns respectively, for projects supporting the preservation and management of local government records. The award levels and guidelines were announced to Municipal CEOs and Town Clerks in early February and are posted on the State Library website. The final batch of FY2016 contracts was processed in early March, for projects to be completed by June 30. The program is accepting Cycle 1 applications for FY2017 through April 30.

Staff met with the Historic Documents Preservation Advisory Committee on March 16. Consisting of town clerk representatives and State Library staff, the committee provides input regarding the program and other issues related to municipal records preservation and management.

### Enterprise Content Management Implementation Project

The Department of Administrative Services, Bureau of Enterprise Systems & Technology (DAS/BEST) and the State Library are continuing to collaborate on a project to enhance the Enterprise Content Management (ECM) environment through review and improvements to the existing ECM components and the addition of new components, which will allow State agencies to more effectively and efficiently store and manage electronic records.

LeAnn, Lizette, Allen Ramsey and consultant Bob Williams participated in recurring weekly meetings and conference calls with DAS/BEST to discuss progress for the ECM Service Development project. The project is now in Phase 2. Staff completed work on the Connecticut

State Library's Atlas requirements for the ECM project, developing a Statement of Work and defining all roles for Public Records Staff, State Archives Staff and Records Management Liaison Officers.

#### State Records Center

Doug Yaeger and Mike Soltesz accessioned 2,169 cubic feet of agency records; deaccessioned 1,695 cubic feet of agency records; processed 1,409 reference requests; and processed 842 re-files and inter-files.

#### Committees and Additional Staff Activities

Ken Wiggin, LeAnn and Lizette met with Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Commissioner Melody Currey and staff on February 19. DAS will be moving out of their current location in November 2016. Public Records and Archives staff are working closely with DAS in the development of retention schedules and transferring of boxes to the State Records Center and State Archives.

LeAnn and Lizette met with Brenda Mill, Curator of the Hartford History Center on March 3. They discussed the status of the City of Hartford Archives collection, the upcoming remodeling project and the temporary relocation of the City of Hartford Archives during the project.

### **ARCHIVES**

#### Accessions:

RG 014, Dept. of Banking Commissioners' records, 1992-2005, .25 How many cubic feet  
*The records consist of correspondence and testimony regarding a variety of issues which came before the commissioner.*

RG 017, Dept. of Correction, Connecticut State Farm for Women records, circa 1917-1970, 48 cubic feet  
*The Connecticut State Farm for Women was established by an act of the General Assembly in 1917 and was opened to receive inmates in July 1918. Women committed to the farm had to be over sixteen years old and convicted or plead guilty to felonies or misdemeanors or unmarried women between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one years who were deemed in danger of falling into habits of vice. The records include inmate files, index cards to the files, admission and discharge log books, and a financial ledger book.*

#### Outreach:

State Archivist Lizette Pelletier gave a presentation on *Preserving Family Records* on Sunday, January 24 at the Cornwall Historical Society.

Lizette met with Professor Alden Gorden from Trinity College and 8 of his Art History students on March 2 to introduce them to primary source materials in the State Archives collections related to the construction of the Capitol building especially the statuary located on the Capitol grounds. The students are planning to develop a phone app that would allow visitors to the Capitol grounds to access information about sculptures located there.

Lizette and Assistant State Archivist Allen Ramsey met with two students from the Library and Information Science program at Simmons College on March 9. They were working on an assignment to create a five-year Strategic Plan at a repository of their choice. The goal of the plan is to unite and focus the repository staff on a shared mission and goals. They

discussed State Archives policies and procedures, critical needs, collections use, storage, functions/activities, and funding. The students toured the archival research and storage areas in the main library building.

Allen served as a judge in the Junior Group Documentary category at the regional *History Day in CT* contest at Capital Community College in Hartford on March 5.

#### Other

Lizette and Allen continued to participate in the Electronic Content Management [ECM] system development project with Public Records and DAS BEST staff.

Lizette continued to assist Public Records staff on updating DAS record retention schedules in preparation for relocation of DAS staff from the State Office Building to new offices as part of the building renovation project.

Lizette continued with her responsibilities as the Project Director on the National Historic Publications and Records Commission [NHPRC] funded board programming grant for the State Historical Records Advisory Board [SHRAB]. This is the 5th in an on-going series of grants to provide assistance and education to historical societies, public libraries and museums on best practices for their archival collections and institutional archives.

Lizette, Allen, and Christine Pittsley continued their work on the Connecticut Radio Information System's [CRIS] NHPRC grant to make historic records more accessible to individuals with visual impairments and learning disabilities.

Lizette and Allen assisted the State Librarian with testimony before the Government Administration and Elections Committee on Monday March 7, concerning Raised Bill 5499, THE PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL RECORDS AND ACCESS TO RESTRICTED RECORDS IN THE STATE ARCHIVES.

Lizette and Allen assisted the State Librarian with testimony before the Government Administration and Elections Committee on Friday, March 18 concerning Raised Bill 5616, AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICES AND PUBLIC INFORMATION.

Allen attended Council of State Archivists [CoSA] State Electronic Records Initiative [SERI] Steering Committee meetings on January 14, February 11, and March 10.

Allen co-chaired the CoSA SERI Tools and Resources Subcommittee meeting on March 1.

Lizette attended a meeting with the Public Records Administrator and staff members of the State Elections Enforcement Commission on March 11 to discuss records retention and disposition issues including potential transfer of records to the State Archives.

Lizette and Christine Pittsley worked with producers from the CBS news program Sunday Morning to provide images of the Colt Armory from Picture Group 460, *Colt Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Company* for a Special Broadcast on "Guns and America", on March 13. The video segment is available at <http://www.cbsnews.com/sunday-morning/show-notes/>.

Lizette and Allen met with Kandace Yeung, Connecticut Valley Hospital [CVH] Librarian, and Pat Guerard, CVH Historian, on March 22 regarding the proposed CVH Museum.

## **LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED (LBPH)**

### **Transition to Digital Books**

The first 14 CVSBH cassette books have been sent to the Utah LBPH for conversion to digital format and are in process.

### **Braille Book Donations**

The LBPH emailed solicitations to several overseas libraries/organizations for our surplus braille books. Thus far we've received positive responses from the charitable All Book Corporation in Bangladesh, the Malaysian Association for the Blind, and the Fima Institute for Disabled Society in Bangladesh. The American Friends of Kenya are currently developing their list of desired braille books.

### **Outreach**

Gordon gave a presentation at the monthly meeting at the Southeast Connecticut Center for the Blind in New London on Feb 18.

### **Staff**

Mary Minow retired on Feb 29, 2016, after close to 29 years of service to the Conn. State Library - LBPH as a Library Technical Assistant. Mary was a highly regarded reader advisor with very loyal patrons and she'll be missed.

The refill of the LBPH Library Specialist position that was approved by OPM and posted in mid-February has been suspended per directive from the Office of Policy and Management. The position is the Deputy Director and head of circulation and technical services. The posting was widely disseminated including the national LBPH network, COSLA, NELA, CLA, and Conntech.

For the first time, LBPH has a college student intern. Jennifer Ritchie, from the MLS program at the Univ. of Rhode Island needs to complete 135 hours of work as part of her program requirements. She also works part time at the Rocky Hill Public Library. She'll begin in March and end in July.

The LBPH Friends Group met on March 8th, along with the LBPH Book Club. Their recent activity included rallying support for CRIS Radio in their efforts to rescind proposed budget cuts. Several wrote letters and a couple of members attended the hearing with their guide dogs.

## **MUSEUM OF CONNECTICUT HISTORY**

- Education outreach programs continue to Connecticut schools. Recent visits include schools in Windsor, Litchfield, Waterford, Enfield, Wolcott and Seymour.
- Thus far this school year, 39 presentations have been given to approximately 775 students in grades 3-7.
- The Museum recently hosted a Home School Association meeting and half day of programming. 35 students, ages 3-12 took part along with their parents. A program about Connecticut inventions and highlights of the Museum collections was part of the program. Plans are to make it a yearly part of their curriculum.
- Education Curator Patrick Smith participated in two Skype distance learning sessions with the Redding Elementary School. Planned and coordinated with the Library Media Specialist at the school, groups of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders had live chat and question and

answer sessions with Patrick about the Museum and Connecticut history. It was quite successful and may be expanded to other schools in the future.