This report is prepared bi-monthly in conjunction with the regular meetings of the Connecticut State Library Board. The report, which will be included in the minutes of the January 22, 2018 meeting of the Board, covers the period of November 28, 2017, through January 19, 2018.

Office of the State Librarian

Hartford Foundation for Public Giving Grants
The State Library has received two grants from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving (HFPG).

The first grant of up to $98,000 is to purchase up to 15,750 copies of Gerald McBoing Boing, by Dr. Seuss, for distribution statewide.

The second grant of up to $70,250 is to purchase 2,500 Hohner Special 20 harmonicas. The purpose of this grant is to implement a demonstration project that will distribute free harmonicas to students in grades 5-12, at three selected libraries in Greater Hartford (excluding Hartford libraries).

Both grants were made possible through the generosity of an anonymous donor. The State Library had worked over the past two years with the HFPG and the anonymous donor to distribute copies of the book Harold and the Purple Crayon to libraries statewide.

Professional Activities

At the request of the Blackstone Library (Branford), I attended their Representative Town Meeting to speak about the library's proposed expansion and renovation. The State Library Board has approved a $1 million public library construction grant for this project.

Division of Library Development (DLD)
EXCITE Innovation for Libraries Institute for Museums and Library Services (IMLS) Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Programs Grant
DLD, along with Jeanine Esposito of Innovation Builders, facilitated the first 3 day immersive session for Cohort 1 consisting of teams representing Central Connecticut State University; Charles County Library System, Maryland; Hall Memorial Library, Ellington, CT; North Carolina
State Library; Ossining Public Library, New York, and the Springfield City Library, Massachusetts. Beginning January 9th, the teams attended a 3-day boot camp where they learned the language, tools, and process for the project. Teams will then start research within their communities to uncover insights, needs, and drivers with an interim coaching session by phone with the facilitator. The teams will return in March when they will immerse themselves in sharing insight from research, fueling and transforming ideas to address community needs and turn these ideas into real initiatives for programs or services. Prototypes and storytelling completed the design cycle. Teams will then return to their communities with their ideas and seek to gain stakeholder support, setup partnerships, and develop the final implementation of their projects.

**borrowIT CT**
After the recent rescission, the budget for this program is now $703,638. When adjusted for inflation, this is the lowest level of funding ever for this 43-year-old program.

**Professional Activities**
**Dawn La Valle**
- Participated in a United Way 2-1-1 partner focus group to assess, evaluate and make recommendations for improvement for their new user website.
- Presented overview of CSL Agency as part of the Advisory Council for Library Planning and Development (ACLPD) Resource Sharing Committee Orientation Meeting.
- Participated in 2017 Futures Conference wrap-up meeting to discuss conference evaluations and plans to move forward with the “Futures” conversation including follow-up with libraries that implement tools and concepts learned at the conference.
- Worked with deliverIT CT Supervisor, Walter Magnavice to reconfigure deliverIT CT service with the departure of one full time driver.

**Tom Newman**
- Bridgeport and Simsbury are joining the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon in requesting funding approval from the State Bond Commission. These libraries notified us that they have their local funding in place.
- **Annual Report, State Aid, and Statistics** - 178 public libraries, including all the principal public libraries have submitted their Annual Report to the State Library. These reports provided the data for:
  - “**Connecticut’s Public Libraries: A Statistical Profile, July 2016 – June 2017**”.
  - **New Chart and Report Creators** – create suites of charts in seconds.
  - **Statewide Statistical Trends in Public Libraries** - see changes in important statistics since 2001.
  - **Library Facts and Advocacy Flyer** – a flyer individualized for each library, plus a general CT flyer.
- **ACLPD Resource Sharing Committee** – with Dawn, drafted a survey for the CT library community to address questions regarding the philosophy of resource sharing and to provide input towards a definition of Interlibrary Loan (ILL) for CT libraries.
Gail Hurley
- Prepared a press release that went out on December 1st, announcing the completion of the digitization of New Haven’s *Morning Journal and Courier* from 1880-1908, *The Newtown Bee*, from 1877-1909, and *The Waterbury Evening Democrat* from 1887-1908, as part of the Connecticut Digital Newspaper Project (CDNP) grant. These titles are freely accessible through the Library of Congress' *Chronicling America* database [http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/).
- Held CDNP Advisory Board meeting on December 7 to select the next set of newspapers to be digitized through the grant project.
- Started the recruitment process for a Project Assistant for the grant-funded CDNP project. Interviews will be set up in January.
- As part of the Newspapers of Connecticut project, added 50+ issues of historical newspapers from 1865 into the CT Digital Archive in December.
- Submitted 4 program proposals for the Connecticut Library Association annual conference for both DLD and the Technical Services section of which Gail is Chair.
- Began the setup of the Oculus Rift Virtual Reality equipment that DLD will be using for professional development; educational outreach; experiential outreach and other implementations.
- A new structure was set up in findIT to include the State Library, State Universities and Community Colleges into one consortia group. Worked with the consortia libraries and project staff to get files together to load into the catalog.

Stephen Cauffman
- Offered requestIT training at the Middletown Library Service Center (MLSC) on December 8 and at Bridgeport Public Library on December 14. There are 141 libraries participating in requestIT, the statewide Interlibrary Loan (ILL) service. Here’s a wrap up of the requestIT training that we offered from September to December 2017:
  - 17 hands-on training sessions
  - 8 different locations in the state
  - 193 attendees
  - 133 libraries represented
- Attended ILL Roundtable West at Beardsley Library in Winsted and ILL Roundtable East at Tolland Library to update everyone on requestIT and other DLD ILL-related services.
- Continued to add relevant, free webinars, Connecticut Library Consortium Roundtable meetings, and DLD offerings, to the Continuing Education calendar. Announced DLD classes on Conntech and Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL) e-mail lists. Held one half-day and one full-day session on grant writing with Ira Revels and two half-day sessions with Tom Lawrence on library management topics.
- Coordinated with DLD colleagues and with Dawn's permission, extended the pilot of MLSC hours for 2018. MLSC will be open until 8 p.m. the first Thursday of the month and from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of the month for 2018. MLSC welcomes the CASL Board who will be using our meeting room on the first Thursday of the month in the evening.

Linda Williams
- November 3-5, attended the annual Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Symposium. Attended the following programs:
  - Helping Teens Navigate Information in a Post-Truth, Alternative Fact World
The Real-World Road to Virtual Reality (VR): Our Journey to Incorporate VR Gaming into Teen Programming
Don't SEL Yourself Short: How to Build Social-Emotional Learning into Any Teen Program
Leave No Teen Behind: A Teen Driven Mental Health Initiative
Identity in YA: Representing All Teens through Library Programming
Future Ready Middle Schoolers

- Attended a meeting of state library youth consultants, Transforming Teen Services by invitation from YALSA. The main focus was YALSA's draft competencies. YALSA wanted input from state consultants on this and there was a lot of interactive work. They also focused on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) which is a concept they are trying to spread to libraries.
- Served as a panelist in the CLA Technical Services annual program. The topic was weeding. The two other panelists were from academic libraries.
- With Lisa Polack, held a Nutmeg Orientation meeting for the eight incoming Nutmeg Award Selection Committee Chairs.
- With Maria Bernier, presented Weeding in the Garden of Good and Evil at the Scranton Library in Madison.

Maria Bernier
- Completed the State Program Report and Financial Status Report to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), including match and Maintenance of Effort information, which Ken Wiggin certified on December 20.
- Responded to vendor questions about Fiber Consortium's Forms 470 for fiber and internet service, collected bid responses (due Dec. 18), and followed E-rate process to select the most cost effective option for each participating library.
- Continued recruitment of libraries to participate in Year 3 of the fiber project through regional director meetings and outreach to boards and municipalities, including visit to Quiet Corner directors meeting on Nov. 17 and a meeting with East Hampton municipal staff on December 12.
- With Paul Tarsa from Connecticut Education Network, conducted site visit at Cornwall Public Library to test use of Internet2 broadband toolkit on December 15.
- Presented an hour-long webinar for the Connecticut Education Network/Commission of Education Technology on Category 2 E-rate funding and compliance with Children’s Internet Protection Act on December 18.

Eric Hansen
- Developed statewide eResource assessment survey questions with Task Force and released survey in SurveyMonkey and promoted it to library e-mail discussion lists.
- Coordinated initial efforts between LYRASIS and Library Connection, Inc. (LCI) to create eGO's first Library Simplified circulation manager and successful communication between it and LCI's III configuration.
- Conducted two-hour researchIT CT and eGO training & information session for 28 middle school teachers in-service at Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School in Moodus.
Access Services
The holidays combined with flu season, furlough days, weather conditions and staff changes have made juggling the public desk coverage challenging. We are very thankful for the amazing cooperation and professional attitude of staff.

All Staff Day provided an opportunity to demonstrate a way to highlight CSL collections. Staff from different areas of the library combined their talents to produce a preliminary Libguide showcasing the Enfield Shaker collection. This is not yet ready for the public, but we are developing an outline for workflows and presentations. This approach combines a potential web-based "notification system" with specialized collections. It is hard for anyone to do research if they don't know where to look for resources.

More databases and indices are being posted online. Jeannie Sherman produced The Connecticut Nurses Census, 1917. http://www.cttatelibrarydata.org/connecticut-nurses-census-1917/ . The Connecticut Nurses Census is a part of State Archives Record Group 029: Records of the Military Census Department. The census forms may give basic details such as birthplace, age, marital status, maiden name, and current residence, as well as more specific information such as the name of the nursing school attended, medical specialty, and year of licensure. This census included the registration of both female and male nurses.

Microform reader printers are still with us. The goal is to replace these machines with newer digital readers that can be connected to our new printing system.

Judicial staffing shortages and changes have caused periodic closure of the south door. Judicial has hired Murphy Security to assist in keeping the entrances open. We have supplied a sandwich board that can be placed on the sidewalk to alert patrons to the closure. The sign has been used several times.

The law librarians and Collection Management staff continue to review law materials that can be discarded or moved. We are looking at the collection development policy and may need to make changes in the future. This is driven by space needs and available access found in online resources.

Harvesting state websites can no longer be done through OCLC. We are looking at Archive-It. Discussions have included Archives, Cataloging, and Public Records staff. In December Stephen Rice suggested some State websites that Archive-It could demo for us. We are still reviewing them.

Collection Services
Diane Pizzo retired at the end of December after 35 years of service with the State Library. She will be missed along with her knowledge of our collections and the library's history. Carol Trinchitella, Library Specialist, is acting as head of Collection Services.
**Discovery Services**
In cooperation with the Division of Library Development and with Central Connecticut State University, the State Library configured the parameters for delivery of 751,625 records from our library management application Alma into findItCt. These records represent the physical holdings of the State Library in Hartford, the Library Service Center, and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

We configured and tested Alma parameters for the new Enfield Shaker Collection. William Anderson cataloged 69 titles for it.

Stephen Slovasky participated in an ongoing collaborative effort with librarians from the Connecticut state universities and community colleges to define best practices for bibliographic record display in Primo, our consortium's campus discovery product. Six online conferences were held to determine which of 139 officially sanctioned MArchine-Readable Cataloging (MARC) fields to incorporate in Primo display and to determine their groupings, rankings, captions and other manipulations.

We collaborated with Federal Depository Coordinator Kris Abery in establishing cataloging protocols and best practices in Alma/Primo and in OCLC for the Federal Information Preservation Network (FIPnet) project. Interesting mid-20th-century titles Kris cataloged from the government documents stacks for FIPnet include United States Geological Survey (USGS) reports on ground water levels and pressure in Connecticut, and a USGS report on spirit leveling in Connecticut.

We increased the federal documents collection available in Primo by 795 new electronic titles, supplied by the catalogers at the US Government Printing Office. Ninety-five are also available in print or microfiche at CSL; 700 are distributed in electronic format only. Interesting federal publications now available in e-format through Primo include the first 387 numbers of the Geological Survey professional papers, and several hundred NASA technical reports and memoranda from the late 20th century.

Verna Thomas-Green cataloged the contents of 23 federal depository shipping lists comprising 272 physical titles of which 227 are also available online. A significant portion of these titles are documents, reports and hearings from the current session of the 115th Congress.

Several thousand records for "boundwith" items (where a single volume or microfilm reel comprises multiple titles) need correcting in Alma. Ursula Hunt corrected over 1000 of these "Host bibliographic records" describing bound volumes from the United States Congressional Serial Set.

**Office of the Public Records Administrator (OPRA)**
**Enterprise Content Management Implementation Project**
The State Library and the Department of Administrative Services, Bureau of Enterprise Systems & Technology (DAS/BEST) are continuing to collaborate on a project to enhance the Enterprise Content Management (ECM) environment to manage the State of Connecticut’s information assets. The ECM system will allow State agencies to more effectively and efficiently store and manage electronic records to ensure compliance and support Agency requirements.

LeAnn Power, Lizette Pelletier, Allen Ramsey and consultant Bob Williams are working with BEST to configure the system to meet the needs of the state and to serve as a pilot agency using the Enterprise Management to manage Agency and Municipal Retention Schedules. 
Atlas application has been installed in the Staging environment, but testing/training was delayed while BEST completed the security and configuration requirements and built additional servers to support the application. Testing and training is currently scheduled to be completed in January with a go live target in late February. The electronic repository for retention schedules is online and will be a pilot for testing the integration of the ECM application.

Historic Documents Preservation Program
The land recording fee for the Historic Documents Preservation Program was increased pursuant to Public Act No. 17-2, An Act Concerning the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June 30, 2019, Making Appropriations Therefor, Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State and Implementing Provisions of the Budget, effective December 1, 2017.

Previously municipalities collected a $3 land recording fee for records preservation and management, retaining $1 for the town clerks' offices and remitting $2 for deposit to the program's account.

Effective December 1, 2017, municipalities are collecting a $10 fee, with $6 directed to records preservation and management. Municipalities retain $2 and remit $4 for deposit to the program’s account. In addition, $4 is remitted for deposit to the state’s General Fund.

Staff met with the Historic Documents Preservation Advisory Committee on November 29th. With the increase in projected revenues, it was decided that FY2019 grant awards would be increased to $4,500, $6,500 and $9,500 for Small, Medium and Large towns respectively.

In addition, the committee adjusted the town population cutoffs for the Small, Medium and Large categories, allowing several towns to move up to the next category and become eligible for larger grant awards. The base population for the Medium category was changed from 25,000 to 20,000; and for the Large category from 100,000 to 70,000. Three towns moved from Medium to Large; and 7 towns from Small to Medium. Town population sizes are determined by the latest published US Census Figures (2010 Census).

For the current FY2018 grant year, the program has awarded a total of $666,500 in targeted grants to 153 towns. Grants were awarded in the amounts of $4,000, $5,000 and $7,500 for Small, Medium and Large towns respectively. In Cycle 1, 122 towns received grants totaling $539,500. In Cycle 2, 31 towns received grants totaling $127,000. Cycle 2 award letters and contracts were mailed to the towns on December 18th. Grant contracts, payments, and final reports are continuing to be processed.

Training, Outreach & Site Inspections
Staff continue to work with municipal and state agency personnel on issues related to records retention, management, storage and records vaults. This work includes assisting state agencies that are managing reorganization, consolidation, relocation, closure of facilities and staffing changes, often resulting in the need to expedite retention schedule updates and disposal request authorizations.

Kathy Makover met with Joseph Kingston of the Office of the State Fire Marshal for a technical review of the vault plans for the Town of Watertown on November 30th; and also consulted with the modular vault manufacturer. She held a conference call with the Watertown architect on December 1st to review concerns and recommendations and sent a written summary with a request for response.
Kathy Makover held a conference call with Town of Waterford officials on December 7th regarding plans for a new vault heating/cooling system; the town is in the design phase.

Kathy Makover, Lizette Pelletier and Allen Ramsey attended a Records Management Committee meeting at the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) on December 13th to answer questions and provide recommendations concerning records issues related to upcoming agency relocations.

LeAnn Power and Kathy Makover held a meeting with representatives from the Department of Corrections to revise their agency-specific retention schedule on December 14th; and prepared and sent a revised draft for continuing work on the changes.

LeAnn participated in a conference call on December 19th with Angela Taetz from DAS/BEST and Spencer Hill from the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) regarding a records discussion on imaging and maintaining CHRO case file records in a FileNet repository.

State Records Center
The State Records Center provides off-site inactive records storage for state agencies free of charge. During this reporting period, Doug Yaeger and Mike Soltesz accessioned 695 cubic feet of agency records; processed 1,081 reference requests; and processed 468 re-files and inter-files.

Additional Staff Activities
Kathy Makover participated in a risk assessment inspection for the Van Block Facility by FM Global Insurance on November 14th. These annual reviews help to ensure the protection of the State Library’s collections by identifying issues with the building or security/fire protection systems that can be corrected or improved.

Kathy Makover attended a webinar, “Storage Environments: The Big Picture,” offered by the Image Permanence Institute (IPI) on December 5th. The webinar covered advances in research regarding temperature and humidity requirements for long-term records preservation.

Kathy Makover attended a webinar, “Caring for Architectural Records,” offered by the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) on December 6th. The webinar reviewed preservation issues and recommendations concerning a wide variety of map formats, many of which are commonly found in town clerk vaults.

State Archives
Probate Record Accessions:
   RG 004:131, Southington Probate Court wills, 1934-1975, 13 cubic feet.

Other Accessions:
   RG 062:106, Town of Old Saybrook records, circa 1924-1957, 2 cubic feet.
   The records consist of rate books, 1932-1957; old age assistance suspense books, 1936-1946; personal tax collections, 1924, 1934; checkbook, 1931; and rate book receipts, 1925.
RG 062:164, Town of Windsor, Town Manager records, 1963-2014, 3 cubic feet.
   The records include local collective bargain agreements, correspondence, boards and
   commissions lists, membership letters, agendas, policies, publications, and
   organizational charts.

RG 070:085, United Congregational Church of Norwich records, circa 1757-2000, 28 cubic
   feet.
   The United Congregational Church, located at 87 Broadway in downtown Norwich,
   Connecticut, was formed in 1918 through the merger of two congregational churches,
   the Second Congregational Church, founded in 1760, and the Broadway Congregational
   Church, founded as an offshoot of the Second Church in 1842.

Second Church was the home of the African Sunday School, founded in 1815. The
   church included among its members the Harris family, who were later connected with
   Prudence Crandall's school in Canterbury, Connecticut. Other members were involved
   with the school, including Calvin Goddard, a Norwich Attorney who defended Prudence
   Crandall. Governor Buckingham was a member of Second who was involved in founding
   the Broadway Church. Both Second and Broadway members were involved in anti-
   slavery, and at least one was a leader in the local Underground Railroad. Following the
   Civil War, both were involved in education of formerly enslaved persons in the South, as
   well as missionary work.

   These churches represented Congregationalism in downtown Norwich from the mid 18th
   century to the present. Their fortunes were intertwined with that of the downtown. The
   churches had a major impact on educational, social, and cultural development in
   Norwich and elsewhere.

   The records consist of correspondence, minutes, secretary’s notebooks, reports,
   sermons, pew rental and subscription account books, pew charts, membership lists and
   transfers, letters of dismission, bibles, pledge account books, bills, receipts, deeds,
   ledgers, newspaper clippings, directories, architectural records, photographs,
   publications, Norwich & Worcester Railroad receipt book, and offering box.

RG 176, Permanent Commission on the Status of Women records, 1972-2014, 11 cubic
   feet.
   The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women along with the Commission on
   Children and Commission on Aging was consolidated into the Commission on Women,
   Children and Seniors on July 1, 2016. The records consist of meeting materials,
   communications director files, project files, working group files, training materials, and
   materials on the history of the commission.

RG 192, Commission on Aging records, 1993-2016, 3 cubic feet.
   The Commission on Aging along with the Permanent Commission on the Status of
   Women and Commission on Children was consolidated into the Commission on Women,
Children and Seniors on July 1, 2016. The records consist of board meeting materials and display panels.

**Outreach:**
State Archivist Lizette Pelletier met with John Cook, Territorial Archivist of the Northern Marianna Islands. Lizette provided him with a tour of the archival storage areas at the main library building, highlighting some of the more interesting items in the collection, as well as the archives reading area. They also met with Jane Cullinane to discuss the State Library's digitization efforts and the Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA) project.

**Training:**
Archives staff participated in the following webinars:


Government Records Archivist Damon Munz began NEDCC’s ten week on-line Preservation 101 course on January 11. This introductory interactive course covers a variety of preservation topics such as environmental management, deterioration of materials, and emergency preparedness.

**Other:**
Lizette continues to work for the recovery of five New London County Overseer documents related to the Pequot tribe that were sold at auction on eBay last April.

Lizette and Assistant State Archivist Allen Ramsey continued to participate in the Electronic Content Management [ECM] system development project with Public Records and DAS BEST staff. Lizette, Allen, and Public Records Administrator LeAnn Power attended a presentation about the State of Connecticut IBM ECM Eco System on December 11.


Lizette completed her work on the State Historical Records Advisory Board’s [CT SHRAB] programming grant from the NHPRC. The grant ended in September and the final reports were submitted. The CT SHRAB received notification that its application was approved for funding by the NHRPC for the next phase of the project. The project is scheduled to begin in February 2018 pending adoption of a full federal budget.

BELFOR USA has completed drying and reboxing the records damaged by the October 25th water leak at the Van Block facility. Staff tentatively expects delivery of the records around January 17.
Lizette attended Council of State Archivists [CoSA] Development Committee meetings on November 28 and December 19; CoSA Board of Directors meetings on November 29 and December 20.

Allen attended CoSA State Electronic Records Initiative [SERI] Steering Committee meetings on December 14 and January 11 and Tools and Resources Subcommittee meetings on December 5 and January 9.

Ken, Lizette, and Allen met with Matthew Warshauer, professor of history at Central Connecticut State University, and Jeffrey Daniels and Michele Jacklin members with the Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information to discuss proposed legislation to open up access to restricted archival records in the custody of the State Archives after 75 years.

Lizette, Allen, and Damon met with retiring staff member Diane Pizzo and her staff to identify which of her office files should be transferred to the Library's institutional archives.

Lizette, Allen, and Field Archivist Kathy Makover met with the records management committee for the constitutional officers relocation to discuss managing records during agency moves. Constitutional offices in mid to late 2019 will move to the renovated State Office Building at 165 Capitol Ave.

Lizette had a conference call with the staff of the Drinking Water Section of the Department of Public Health regarding the potential transfer of the paper copy of certain records upon completion of a digitization project.

Ken, Lizette and Allen met with Doug Arnold, editor of the Public Records of the State of Connecticut series to discuss the printing of volume 22 which is nearing completion and the future of the project including succession planning for when Doug retires.

**Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH)**

**WebREADS software for LBPH:** Held a telecon with the software installation contractor, Data Management, on Jan. 8, to begin the migration to WebREADS. Though reluctant to give an estimated completion date due to the nature of migrations, they are unofficially looking at April to have this done and sooner if all goes well.

**Connecticut Volunteer Services for the Blind and Handicapped (CVSBH) backlog of 70 newly recorded digital books are now being processed by the Potomac Talking Book Services and should soon be available for uploading to the NLS website called BARD. Two additional completed books have been uploaded to the NLS online collection and are thus available nationwide for downloading by patrons.**
The LBPH Friends group met on December 12.

The LBPH Advisory Committee will meet on the third Friday of January, April, July, and October beginning in January 2018.

Braille book donations overseas have resumed after receiving nearly 2,400 shipping boxes.

Outreach included a presentation at the Bloomfield Senior Center.

OSHA annual survey of occupational injuries and illnesses was completed for 2017 with 12,515 hours worked at the LBPH by 8 staff with no injuries.

Museum of Connecticut History
Museum Education Program

- Recent school outreach program visits have included Newtown, Enfield, Windsor, Sherman and Pawcatuck.
- Upcoming trips to schools will include annual visits to teach all the 4th graders in Wolcott as part of their Connecticut Invention Convention projects.
- A Connecticut Invents adult program is scheduled for February at the North Haven Public Library.
- Patrick Smith will host several teachers from local CREC (Capitol Region Education Council) schools at the Museum in February to guide them through our Library and Museum resources for teachers and students.
- Patrick is working on developing a new class which will be taught this spring for 6 weeks at the Lutz Museum in Manchester as part of a large Home School cooperative group. Titled “Change for Connecticut, Change for the Nation” it will explore the role of Connecticut citizens in social movements both here and nationally. Abolition, Women’s Right to Vote, The Good Roads Movement and Anti War Protests are among the topics to be explored using both Museum and State Library materials.

Coltville
Dean Nelson and Ken Wiggin will attend a meeting on January 11 at the Church of the Good Shepherd – Parish House under the auspices of the National Park Service, to discuss Ideas for Visitor Services at Coltville National Historical Park. The National Park Service (NPS) is in the process of acquiring the two 1855 era brownstones (the only original portions of Colt’s 1850s era factory) for a future visitor center and will use this meeting as part of the planning for the future restoration of these structures.