

READS

Reference and Adult Services

A section of 

2012 Annual Reports of Executive Board and Committees
October 18, 2012

READS Annual Report of the President 2012

2012 has been a year of challenges, of joys and frustrations, of achievements, and of some true learning experiences. The READS Executive Board began its year with the goal of encouraging member involvement and volunteerism; throughout the year, many have stepped up to help: to plan, host, share and serve in myriad ways.

The READS newsletters have been useful and informative, and membership has continued to increase in 2012. A warm welcome to our new and returning members!

The READS programming committee conducted three spring Roundtable Discussions on *Continuing Education: Librarianship in the 21st Century*. The series was hosted this year by Rye Public Library, Boscawen Public Library, and Weeks Library in Lancaster. The sessions were well attended and productive, and READS was pleased to work in cooperation with North Country Coop in the first of what we hope will be many such collaborations with regional cooperatives.

A Pop Up Roundtable was hosted by the Hooksett Public Library in March. The Digital Foothills roundtable discussion was organized in response to librarians' concerns about digital issues, and was a timely lead-in to NHLA's Digital Summit.

With the addition of many new book discussion kits, READS-TO-GO now has 94 kits available, with more kits in processing. Special thanks to NHLA for a generous grant to RTG, and to all the committee members, sponsors and host libraries for their dedication and hard work.

The Nominating Committee received three nominations for this year's READS Award of Excellence. The winner will be announced at the READS Fall Business Meeting.

The 2012 Executive Board includes:

President: Myra Emmons, Brookline Public Library

Vice President/President Elect: Tara Thomas, Conway Public Library

Secretary: Mary Cronin, Madison Library

Treasurer: Deann Hunter, Laconia Public Library

Past President: Pat Fickett, Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library

Public Relations: Lori Fisher, Baker Free Library (Bow)

Membership: Kersten Matera, Nashua Public Library

Program Committee: Erin Apostolos, Meredith Public Library & Carol Roberts, Library Consultant

READS-TO-GO: Diane Mayr, Nesmith Library (Windham)

Conference Liaison: Caitlin Andrews, Bedford Public Library

Pat Fickett completes her commitment to the board as VP, President and Past President. Erin Apostolos will remain on the Program Committee, but will step down as Chair; Carol Roberts will serve as Chair in the coming year.

To all of you, who give so much: You are all truly appreciated. Thank you!

If you would like to participate on any of the READS committees please contact Carol (programming), Lori (public relations), Diane (READS-TO-GO) or Kersten (membership).

Respectfully submitted,

Myra Emmons

READS Vice President/President Elect Annual Report for 2012

The Executive Board discussed the need to revise the current by-laws including the clarification of officer roles within the annual budget process. I submitted proposed changes and additions for discussion. Upon discussion, the Executive Board, agreed to place the following changes to the by-laws on the ballot to the READS membership for a vote:

ARTICLE II. Objective.

The objective of the Reference and Adult Services Section is to disseminate information and advocate for matters pertaining to work in

- reference
- adult services
- circulation
- technical services

- interlibrary loan
- readers' advisory
- collection development ~~and~~
- adult programming

In addition to an annual conference, various ~~Discussions, workshops, and other types of~~ informal formats will be used to educate, empower and provide opportunities for collaboration.

ARTICLE IV. Officers.

Section 3.

The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

A. The President shall conduct all meetings and, with the advice of the Executive Board, shall appoint any special committees as necessary. The President shall be an ex-officio member of each committee, voting only in the case of a tie. The president shall represent the Reference and Adult Services Section to the NHLA Executive Board. *The President shall ensure fiscal oversight of the annual budget in cooperation with the Executive Board.*

B. The Vice-President/President-Elect shall assume the responsibilities of the President in the absence of the President. Vice-President/President-Elect shall serve as parliamentarian and shall coordinate all bylaw revisions.

C. The Secretary shall notify all Executive Board members of Board meetings, shall keep minutes of all general membership and Executive Board meetings and forward these to the Reference and Adult Services Section President.

D. The Treasurer shall keep and report all necessary and proper financial records, and shall work with the NHLA Treasurer to manage READS finances. *The Treasurer shall draft and submit an annual budget for approval to the Executive Board. The Treasurer will forward the approved budget to the NHLA Treasurer.*

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve on the Executive Board with such dedicated peers.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Thomas

Vice President/President Elect

READS Annual Report from the Past President - October 2012

The Past President has the dual role of chairing the Nominating Committee and the Award Committee.

This year, the Nominating Committee was responsible for finding candidates to fill upcoming vacancy for Vice President/President Elect and for Program Committee Chair. Katherine Dormody of the Gilford Public Library was approached and agreed to run for the position of Vice President/President Elect. Carol Roberts of Wilton joined the Program Committee and will become the Program Committee Chair in November.

The Award Committee consists of the three immediate past winners, Pamela Smith, Lois Freeston and Thelma Tracy, as well as the previous year's past president, Linda Taggart. This year Pamela Smith and Linda Taggart recused themselves from the committee as they were each part of the nomination process for one of this year's nominees.

Three nominations were made by the June 1 deadline. The committee reviewed these recommendations, each representing an outstanding NH librarian. After much discussion, a winner was selected. The winner will be announced at the annual fall conference. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated and talented colleagues!

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Fickett

READS Secretary Annual Report 2012

Minutes from READS Executive Board meetings are posted to the READS website, <http://reads.nhlibrarians.org/about-reads/executive-board/meeting-minutes/>

One of the Secretary's responsibilities is to coordinate the annual election of officers. For the 2012 election, we once again opted to use BallotBin as a tool for our online election. Each member who provided an email address and did not opt for mail-only communication from NHSLA received a READS election ballot by email. READS members who opted for paper-only correspondence were sent paper ballots, either by NHSL van for those who provided a library address, or by USPS for those who provided a home address. This is the second year we have held a mostly online election. Feedback and suggestions for improving the election process is welcome, and while there is room for improvement in delivery of e-ballots and in voting participation (by both e-ballot voters and paper ballot voters), by sending 3/4 of the ballots by email, and the paper ballots going to library addresses by NHSL van, we saved 306 sheets of paper and \$42.30 in postage.

One of my other READS duties is to manage the READS website, which was completely overhauled and updated this year. I'd like to thank Amy Graves, NHLA website coordinator for setting up a template that is easy to work with and for providing a seamless way for the READS website to connect to the NHLA website.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cronin, Secretary

READS Treasurer Annual Report 2012

Balance 7/1/11 **2,614.09**

Income:

Interest	0.81
Membership	1,060.00
Fall Program	3,495.00
Reimbursement (NHLA grant)	553.49
Spring Roundtable	225.00
Refund	18.93
	5,353.23

Expenses :

Membership	36.17
Publicity	563.21
Fall Program	3,949.30
Annual Meeting	60.48
Award of Excellence	331.35
Spring Roundtable	124.60
READS TO GO	583.83
	5,648.94

Balance 6/30/12 **2,318.38**

Respectfully submitted,

Deann Hunter, Treasurer

2012 READS Publicity Annual Report

As of September 30, 2012 READS has the following supply inventory available:

273 READS pads

359 READS pens

READS provided pads and pens for the following workshops/conferences:

110 pads/72 pens at the 2011 READS fall conference held in November 2011

43 pads/31 pens to the three READS roundtables held in April

103 pads/130 pens for the NHLA Digital Summit in June

Communicating with READS members continues primarily through direct e-mail, the NHAIS list, the READS web site, and NHLA web site blog. The implementation of electronic voting in 2011 continues to be a very good option for our members, with a few technical glitches here and there that are ably dealt with by Mary Cronin. Kersten Matera, our Membership chair, has done a superb job of communicating with our members via a regular Mail Chimp e-newsletter. This effort has been met with enthusiasm by our members, and we intend to continue that, along with regular postings to the READS blog, in 2013.

The READS website was redesigned, along with all of the other NHLA section websites, in the spring by Amy Graves, Website Coordinator for NHLA. She did a super job, and now any posts to the READS blog on our website go directly to the NHLA blog – no double posting necessary! Thank you, Amy, and Mary Cronin, for all of the effort you gave to make the redesign work.

We obtained two new 6' x 3' READS banners, which were used this spring (along with our old banner) at the three spring roundtables. Allowing each site to have its own banner was very helpful given that the dates for the roundtables were close together but the locations were not.

The READ program committee wanted to try providing folders for handouts at the READS fall conference this year. After coordinating with Pat Fickett (whose husband donated the folders), we were able to sticker the folders for our event and provide them to members at minimal cost. Please let us know if this was a helpful addition to the fall conference.

The New Hampshire State Library Advisory Council decided that due to state cutbacks and individual organization budget cuts, it is too difficult to actually meet in person four times a year. The Council communicates quarterly via e-mailed reports, and they hope to have a face-to-face meeting in Spring 2013.

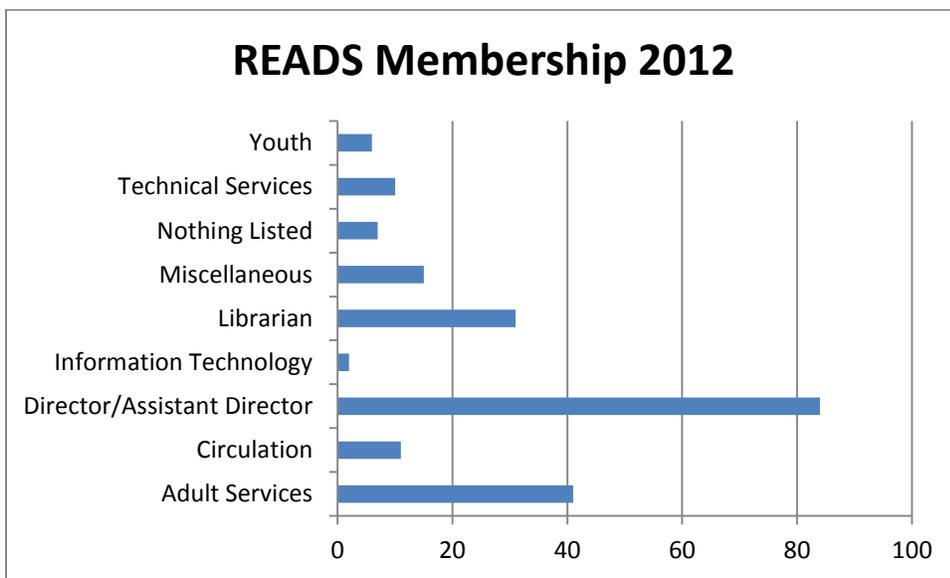
Respectfully submitted,
Lori Fisher, Publicity Chair

READS Membership Report - 2012

This year we were pleased to welcome 47 new members and 160 returning members, bringing our total membership to 207 members.

Three-fourth of READS members have chosen to receive READS communications via email. I've been using MailChimp which my predecessor set up to make it easy to send out newsletters and notices about READS programs. This year we sent out two eNewsletters to members: one in May and one in September.

Using the READS membership list from 10/15/12, below is a graphical representation of the different types of READS members:



Respectfully submitted,

Kersten Matera
READS Membership chair

READS Program Committee Report October 10, 2012

The READS Program Committee planned the events for the Fall Meeting in 2011. The theme was "Collections on the Edge: Rethinking Reference, Non-fiction and Local History". Speaker Brian Herzog, Head of Reference at the Chelmsford Public Library and writer of the Swiss Army Librarian blog started things off with his presentation on "Revitalizing Reference." He discussed how his library has weeded a lot of its reference collection and used much of the space to add tables and private meeting rooms. He

also showed us Chelmsford Library's Obituary Database, which allows users to find obituary information online and request the full obituary from the reference staff via e-mail.

We also had a panel on "Rethinking Dewey" where several librarians discussed how they have either eliminated Dewey completely from their library or partially eliminated it in favor of the BISAC method. Patrons reacted enthusiastically to the changes and found things much easier to find. Finally Donna Gilbreth, Supervisor of Reference and Information Services at the NH State Library discussed Local History resources available at the State Library and gave advice on what resources libraries should have in their collection. There were 120 attendees.

In the spring there were three Round Tables on "Continuing Education: Librarianship in the 21st Century." Librarians were asked to consider their continuing education needs and to share low-cost or free ways that they have kept up with the needs of the 21st Century library. Host sites were Rye Public Library, Boscawen Public Library and Weeks Memorial Library in Lancaster. There was a total of 37 attendees at all three sites. The discussion at the Weeks Library was part of their usual Cooperative meeting. Because this was so well received, the Program Committee has decided to host future Round Tables in conjunction with regular Co-op meetings.

This is the last year I will be chairing the Program Committee. Carol Roberts, Library Consultant, will be taking over the duty. I've enjoyed working with the committee and will continue on as a member.

Erin Apostolos
Program Committee Chair

READS-TO-GO Committee 2012 Annual Report

As of October 10, 2012, READS-TO-GO has 94 kits in circulation. 97 titles have been assigned, leaving three awaiting completion of processing, and entry in the NHU-PAC.

Ten kits were made available through a grant provided by NHLA, to which we offer our appreciation and thanks. All kits have been assigned and at this point there are only two not yet in NHU-PAC (marked by * on the list below):

Room
The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake*
Red Hook Road
Sister
Before I Go to Sleep
The Art of Fielding*
The Leftovers

State of Wonder
The Weird Sisters
The Night Circus

The READS-TO-GO blog (www.reads-to-go.org) is now updated primarily with announcements of new kit titles. Time sensitive information of interest to librarians and book groups is provided on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ReadsToGo). For the January - October 10, 2012, the blog had 2,191 visits and 4,237 page loads. Our Facebook page has 102 "likes," (other statistics are difficult to tabulate due to Facebook limitations). A brief overview of these READS-TO-GO social media sites is scheduled to be presented at the READS conference on October 26.

Thanks to our committee members for the time, energy, and creativity they put into the READS-TO-GO program. Current members are Diane Mayr, Nesmith Library, Windham, Claudia Mayer and Sarah Basbas, Manchester City Library, Tricia Ryden, Wiggin Memorial Library, Stratham, Elizabeth Nerbonne, Rochester Public Library, and Elizabeth Flot, North Hampton Public Library.

We appreciate the continued support of the NH library community. We offer our thanks to the kit host libraries, to Mary Russell at NHSL, and to the van drivers who transport the kits between libraries. And of course, we'd like to recognize the readers who continue to borrow, read, and discuss the books in RTG kits!

If a library or local group would like to sponsor, or host a kit, please contact dmayr@nesmithlibrary.org.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Mayr, chairperson
10/10/12