

# READS

Reference and Adult Services

A section of *nhLa*

2013 Annual Reports of Executive Board and Committees  
October 23, 2013

## **READS Annual Report of the President 2013**

I've been the interim President of READS for the last few months which I've managed to accomplish with varying degrees competency.

When Myra Emmons bribed me, with excellent cookies, to take on the task it was during a period of relative calm at the Gordon-Nash Library. I was flattered and thrilled to be able to help and thought I would be able to fulfill my duties even though it was my first year at a new job, and I was moving my entire household from Deerfield to Danbury.

Famous last words...

In spite of the challenge of a new interim President, READS accomplished great things this year!

READS-to-Go has grown to have 114 book bags to lend.

The READS Round Table discussions format changed, with great success, by having the discussions held in conjunction with local library cooperative meetings. The meetings had a much higher turnout in each location and the discussions were fruitful and lively!

The theme this year was:

"How Far Do You Go?"

This provocative question centered on the challenges library staff face dealing with patrons who are very needy, demanding, or in other ways difficult.

The READS committee also helped organize the NHLA conference at the Hooksett Public Library.

In the end, I've enjoyed doing what I could to help this most excellent organization, which I've always admired from afar. The people in this organization were very helpful and supportive of me when I was

floundering—I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all being there and for the great work they do to keep READS going.

I hope other people will volunteer to keep this great organization going. I highly recommend it—even without cookie bribery!

Cathy Vincevic  
President

### **READS Annual Report from the Past President - October 2013**

The Past President chairs both the Nominating Committee, to nominate Board members for service, and the Award Committee, which presents the annual Award of Excellence to an exemplary staff member of a NH library.

This year, the Nominating Committee was responsible for finding candidates to fill upcoming vacancy for Vice President/President Elect and for Secretary. The search was long and arduous, and I thank everyone who helped with the process.

Corinne Chronopolous of the Pelham Public Library in Pelham NH agreed to run for the position of Vice President/President Elect, and Rebekka Mateyk of the Pease Public Library in Plymouth, NH accepted the nomination for Secretary.

The current Secretary, Mary Cronin, was of immeasurable assistance in getting forms out and analyzing votes received.

Mary also helped with the revision of the Award of Excellence nominating form, which is a bit simpler and is now accessible online for future use.

The 2013 Award Committee included the Past President, the previous year's Past President, Pat Fickett, and the three immediate past winners: Sophie Smith, Lois Freeston and Thelma Tracy. Nominations were due by June 1. The committee reviewed all forms received, and selected this year's winner. With so many dedicated, talented and giving colleagues, it is a real pleasure to have the opportunity to recognize one person's outstanding achievements.

Respectfully submitted,

Myra Emmons

## READS Treasurer Annual Report 2013

**Balance 7/1/12**                      **2,318.38**

### **Income:**

Interest	0.45
Fall Program	5,382.00
Membership	1,095.00
Overpayment	46.11
Reimbursement	60.00
Spring Roundtable	480.00
	<b>7,063.56</b>

### **Expenses :**

Annual Meeting	4.95
Award of Excellence	110.00
Fall Program	4,280.72
Publicity	455.00
READS TO GO	704.22
Returned Check Fees	60.00
	<b>5,614.89</b>

**Balance 6/30/13**                      **3,767.05**

Respectfully submitted,

Deann Hunter, Treasurer

## **READS Secretary Annual Report 2013**

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

For the 2013 election, I chose to use SurveyMonkey online tool instead of BallotBin, which was no longer available. Each member who provided an email address and did not opt for mail-only communication from NHLA received a READS election ballot by email. READS members who opted for paper-only correspondence were sent paper ballots by mail. As for voter response, 24% of those who received paper ballots voted, and 23% of those who received an email ballot voted.

I have enjoyed my time as READS Secretary, and would encourage any READS member to become involved as an executive board member. It's a great group of committed and competent librarians. We learn a lot from each other as we work together.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cronin

## **2013 READS Publicity Annual Report**

As of October 11, 2013 READS has the following supply inventory available:

472 READS pads

548 READS pens

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

111 pads/107 pens at the 2012 READS fall conference held in November 2012

85 pads/85 pens to the three READS roundtables held in March & April 2013

86 pads/98 pens for the NHLA one-day conference on 5/31/2013 at Hooksett Public Library

All three READS banners were used successfully at the various READS roundtables held in March/April 2013. Thank you to roundtable chairs for sending the banners and left over pads/pens back to me in a timely manner.

The READS Executive Board volunteered to help the NHLA Executive Board by coordinating and presenting the spring one-day conference in 2013. A big thank you to the members of the READS board for stepping up to help out our larger parent organization – attendance at this event was similar to 2012, and special kudos to Mary Cronin (READS secretary, Madison Library) for contacting and making all of the arrangements with our keynote speaker, David Vinjamuri. Also, thank you to Heather Shumway for allowing this conference to take place, free of charge, again at Hooksett Public Library.

After last year's success with folders at the annual READS Fall conference, we again are using the folders this year to contain all of the handouts, agendas, etc. for the day. Thank you to Pat Fickett (READS past president, Wilton Public Library) for donating the folders again this year.

The New Hampshire State Library Advisory Council has not held a meeting either in-person or via phone since 2012. If a meeting is held, I will make sure to attend as the READS representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Fisher, Publicity Chair

### **READS Membership Report - 2012**

This year we were pleased to welcome 15 new members and 197 returning members, bringing our total membership to 212 members. (Last year we had 207 members.)

Members who supplied us with an email address received the two eNewsletters that went out this year. One eNewsletter was sent in May, the other in September.

Respectfully submitted,

Kersten Matera  
READS Membership chair

### **READS Program Committee Report October 5, 2013**

The READS Program Committee planned events for the 2012 Fall Meeting. The theme was "Not Your Grandma's Library". The conference was held at Plymouth State College on October 26, 2012. There were 130 attendees.

The first segment of the conference was a panel discussion on Interlibrary Loans. The panel members were Amy Bain, the ILL Coordinator for Baker Free Library in Bow, Steve Butzel, the Assistant Director for Portsmouth Public Library and David Harris, from NHAIS Services at the State Library. They discussed the ILL processes used in their libraries. Additionally David Harris gave insight into the workings of the ILL module from the State Library perspective. Attendees had many questions for the panel.

The second program was presented by Christopher Leland, Systems Librarian at the Meredith Public Library. Christopher is in charge of technology, teaches computer classes to the staff and public and has started one-on-one technology training with patrons. The program today focused on demonstrating

Free Software for Librarians. This was very well received and Christopher fielded numerous questions from the group.

A panel discussion on Intellectual Freedom kicked off the afternoon session. Members Laura Clerkin, Library Director at Bethlehem Public Library, Debbie Christie, Library Director at the Goodwin Library in Farmington and Tom Ladd, Independent Library Consultant discussed incidents at their libraries as well as policy development. Question and answer period followed the presentation.

Gail Zachariah, YA Librarian at the Keene Public Library is NHLA's Intellectual Freedom Chair. Gail discussed legal issues and Intellectual Freedom in Libraries and took questions from the floor.

The last presentation of the day was a READS-TO-GO update presented by Diane Mayr, Assistant Library Director at Nesmith Library and the Chair of the Reads-To-Go Committee.

#### *Round Tables*

This year READS Program Committee hosted Round Tables in conjunction with co-op meetings. The Seacoast, Scrooge-Marley, Nubanusit, and Hillstown co-ops were co-sponsors. The theme was "How Far Do You Go?" and focused on the day to day interactions one has with patrons. This set of Round Tables was very successful with a total of 175 attendees.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol R. Roberts READS Program Committee Chair

#### **READS-TO-GO Committee 2013 Annual Report**

As of October 11, 2013, READS-TO-GO has 115 kits in circulation. 116 titles have been assigned, leaving one awaiting completion of processing and entry in the NHU-PAC. (For those keeping track, that's 19 new titles assigned in the past year!) The committee has read and approved several additional titles, so if your library, or local organization would like to sponsor a kit, please contact [dmayr@nesmithlibrary.org](mailto:dmayr@nesmithlibrary.org). (The cost of a kit is around \$180 plus staff time for processing).

The READS-TO-GO blog ([www.reads-to-go.org](http://www.reads-to-go.org)) is updated primarily with announcements of new kit titles. Hosting libraries should periodically check the page and let us know if any of the information included is missing or inaccurate (for example, if your library has changed a phone #). For the period January 1 - October 10, 2013, the blog had 1,797 visits and 3,582 page loads.

Time sensitive information of interest to librarians and book groups is provided on our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/ReadsToGo](http://www.facebook.com/ReadsToGo)). Our Facebook page has 112 "likes." We urge libraries to use the Facebook page to share information about kit availability, to recommend titles, and to generally discuss RTG issues.

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

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!

Respectfully submitted by Diane Mayr, chairperson  
10/11/13

### **READS Website Coordinator Report 2013**

The READS website can be found at <http://reads.nhlibrarians.org>. The site was redesigned with a new template in 2012, so coordinating the website this year meant keeping the site up to date. Content was added to the site by me and by other READS representatives throughout the year, including meeting minutes, posts on upcoming programs, news about Reads-to-Go kits, conference and roundtable program registration information and post-conference links and handouts.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cronin