

# The Folklife Center Annual Report 2017

Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY 12801

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6 pages

## Grants & Income

1. **New York State Council on the Arts - Folk Arts** - award of \$36,000 (third of 4, multiyear grant) for the folk arts programs developed and presented by The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library, as a regional folk art program.
2. **Friends of Crandall Public Library** - award of \$10,000 towards 2017 *Live! Folklife Concerts* (Spring & Fall), *Summerland Music* series (July-Aug), *Winter Bluegrass Jams* (Jan, Feb, Nov, Dec) & *Colgate Resolutions* concert (Jan).
3. **Leo Cox Beach Philanthropic Foundation** - award of \$7,000 for the 2017 Folklife Gallery exhibition, *Wings Falls Quilter Guild Celebrates 40 Years of Quilting 1977 to 2017*, and its associated programs.
4. **Donations** - \$100 from Wings Falls Quilters Guild; \$50 from the New York Division Woman's National Farm & Garden Association, \$35 from American Research Bureau.

## Interns & Volunteers

1. Special thanks to our 3 interns:
  - a. Hannah DeGarmo, Colgate University, Art History major, class of 2017.
  - b. Sara LaPelle, SUNY Oneonta, English major, class of 2018, who received a Helen & Michael Casper Fellowship for Internship support from the college.
  - c. Ben Phelps, Colgate University, Music & Psychology major, class of 2018.
2. Special thanks to our 21 volunteers, providing 1,086.5 hours of assistance:

Kim Andrews, Tari Bacon, Judy Bardin, Camp Chingachook Alumni, Julia Cutshall-King, Lisa Dougherty, Maureen Dye, Hannah Forbes, Jim Gonyea, Josh Henderson, Lillian LaFrance, Robin Lyle, Jacqueline McConnell, Nancy Jones Morris, Brie O'Keefe, Pam Reed, Tracy Richmond, Dana Simpson.

## Archives & Special Collections

1. **Reading Room** (Monday-Friday 10-12, 1-4; & Tuesday 5-8): 2,384 patrons using 6,393 items
2. **Collection Management**
  - a. NYS Vital Record Indexes - updates from NYS Archives & Department of Health.
  - b. Folk Music Libraries - ongoing digitization of albums for patron access at iTunes stations.
  - c. Crandall Public Library Archives - additions, indexing.
  - d. Csaplár Silver Bay Collection - ongoing item-level inventory into FileMaker Pro database.
  - e. Camp Chingachook Archives - December 7 return of 5-year deposit to newly renovated archives at Camp Chingachook, Lake George organized by the Alumni.
  - f. Manuscript & Other Special Collections - new collections processed, inventories and described.
  - g. Vertical Files (Glens Falls/Queensbury, Regional, Biographical) - filing/preservation copying.
  - h. Concerts, storytelling, etc videotaped, edited, stored, and uploaded to YouTube.

### 3. New Collections

- a. Holden Reference Book Collection: 537 new titles on Polaris catalog.
- b. Special Titles & Other Publications
  - i. Judge John Austin's library, donated by son Jay Austin; duplicates to area historical societies.
  - ii. South Glens Falls high school yearbooks.
  - iii. Misc materials (books, pamphlets, ephemera) purchased from Leslie Kendall.
  - iv. Model railroad magazines (1349 issues) donated by Daniel Brown, Glens Falls.
  - v. *Old House Journal* (magazines) donated by Daniel Brown, Glens Falls.
  - vi. *Adirondack Map 1908* by NYS Forest, Fish, Game Commission, donated by Lola Meyer, Holiday, Florida
  - vii. Fort Edward high school yearbooks (1998-2010, 2012, 2013, 2015-2017).
  - viii. *Sanborne Fire Insurance Map of Glens Falls 1908* (large atlas with additions) donated by McPhilips Insurance Company, Glens Falls, NY.
  - ix. *Fourth Lake: 100 Summers* donated by author, Julie Hutchinson.
  - x. 1895 Dictionary, 2 volumes, from Richard Hudnut Pharmacy, donated by Herbert B. Hudnut, Glens Falls.
  - xi. Assorted books donated by Bill Crawshaw, Stillwater.
- c. Manuscript Collections
  - i. Women's March, January 21, 2017, collection of photographs and memorabilia.
  - ii. Glens Falls Community Theater additions.
  - iii. William Gubitz Book Binder Account Books, donated by the Chapman Historical Museum.
  - iv. American Association of University Women Archives additions.
  - v. Christ Church United Methodist additions to files.
  - vi. Teresa Lanfear Diaries 1955-2000, 11 volumes, donated by Eugene Ward, Queensbury
  - vii. Wings Falls Quilters Guild Archives - additions of 6 scrapbooks & 4 Block of the Month.
  - viii. Women's Suffrage 100th Anniversary - photographic documentation of Rally in City Park, May 7 and video documentation of Convention at First Baptist Church, Glens Falls, October 21.
- d. Folk Art Collections
  - i. Fingernail Fiddle #12, Fingernail Fiddle Box #3 by Eric L. Ball, South Glens Falls.
  - ii. Edward Eggleston Signature Quilt (85 x 106 inches, circa 1880) donated by Elizabeth A. Branson of California.
  - iii. Half Moon ship model donated by Donald E. Sevits of Saratoga Springs.
- e. Art & Objects Collections
  - i. *Three from Three* limited edition broadside by Richard Carella, Weathered Orb Press.
  - ii. *Book of No-One*, poems by Richard Carella, limited edition, hand-numbered & signed.
  - iii. *Book of Nothing*, poems by Richard Carella, clothbound limited edition, press numbered & signed, printed from handset type by Chester Creek Press.
  - iv. David Grey art prints of downtown Glens Falls, donated by Grace Kanner, Queensbury

## Folklife Gallery

1. **A Wings Falls Quilters Guild Celebrates 40 Years of Quilting 1977-2017** - an original Folklife Gallery exhibition on display January 11 to July 7, 2017, curated by Marina Skea & Linda Zila of the Wings Falls Quilters Guild. Associated programs included:
  - a. Reception: January 18, 5 to 7 pm, 70 attendees.
  - b. Quilters of Gees Bend, film hosted by Library's Film series, February 7.

- c. Make a Toy-Sized Quilt with Jeanne Kozloski, co-hosted by the Children's Department, February 22, 10 am to noon, 38 kids & 12 helpers.
  - d. Trails to Tales: Schoharie County Quilt Barn Trail, illustrated talk by Ellen McHale & Virginia Schaum, April 19 at 7 pm, 25 attendees.
  - e. Sharing a Passion for Quilts - Block Therapy, illustrated talk & historic appraisals by Bonnie Dwyer, May 24 at 7 pm, 20 attendees.
2. **Rights, Race & Revolutions: A Portrait of LIFE in 1960s by Grey Villet** - July 24 to December 31, 2017 (extended to January 31, 2018) in the Folklife Gallery. This exhibition is co-curated by Villet's wife, Barbara Villet, who had been Grey's collaborator during his career with LIFE, and is a longtime resident of Washington County, NY. From 1950s to 1980s, the South African-born Villet traveled America and the world for LIFE magazine, exposing the changing nature of the times in images that were, in his words, "as real as real can get." Drawn from politics, sports, major news events, and essays, the selections from this work arrive at a portrait of the period while tracing a journey of personal and professional growth that carried Grey to a place of eminence among photojournalism's great masters. Accompanying programs:
- a. Loving, film presented by Library's Film series, September 12, 2:30 & 6:30 pm
  - b. Reception on September 14, 5 to 7 pm with estimated 100 attendees.
  - c. The Lovings: An Intimate Portrait, author talk and book signing by Barbara Villet, Friday, October 13, 7 pm at Northshire Bookstore, Saratoga Springs, 30 attendees.

## **Cultural Programs - (music, storytelling, workshops, presentations)**

1. **YouTube: The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library**
  - a. Our own original content: 239 videos, with 109 subscribers and 50,700 views.
  - b. Playlists (# of videos):
    - i. Live! Folklife Concerts (117)
    - ii. Do Tell: Learning to Perform Personal Stories (51)
    - iii. Portraits: Documentary Shorts (16)
    - iv. Live! Storytelling (13)
    - v. Summerland Music Society (12)
    - vi. Around the Library (6)
    - vii. Folklife Gallery Exhibitions (5)
    - viii. Special Collections & Archives (2)
    - ix. Folklife After Hours (2)
    - x. Empire City Stories (1)
  - c. Also featuring subscription to 12 organizations with folklife interest
2. **Colgate Resolutions Live!** co-ed a cappella group's 25th anniversary tour, January 12, 7 pm, funded in part by the Friends of Crandall Public Library, with the entire free concert recorded live and added to our YouTube page; 255+ attendees (with many more turned away).
3. **Winter Bluegrass Jam** a musical series for pickers and listeners alike, hosted by Alan Epstein, sponsored by the Folklife Center on the 3rd Thursdays of the winter months (November, December, January, February):
  - a. January 19 - 20 musicians + 60 listeners

- b. February 16 - 16 musicians + 50 listeners
- c. November 16 - 15 musicians + 40 listeners
- d. December 21 - 20 musicians + 30 listeners.

4. **Black History Celebration**

- a. Solomon Northup, 12 Years a Slave, portrayed by Clifford Oliver Mealy, January 25, 48 attendees.
- b. Peace Corps - Cameroon, illustrated talk by Renee St. Jacques, February 1, 7 pm, 54 attendees.
- c. Inspiration Street: Two City Blocks That Helped Change America, author talk and book signing with Darrell Laurent, February 8, 9 attendees.

5. **Family History One-to-One** - 3rd Wednesday of the month (January to December) personalized help offered by volunteer genealogist Lisa Dougherty in the Folklife Center's research room 10 to noon.

6. **Live! Folklife Concert Series**, featured 12 live concerts in the Spring, and 6 concerts in the Fall, free to the public, thanks to funding from the Friends of Crandall Public Library (who also distribute our publicity bookmarks at their book sales) and the New York State Council on the Arts-Folk Arts Program. All are on Thursdays, 7 to 9 pm (doors open 6:30) in the Community Room with portable stage & sound system, digital video recorded with 3 cameras for the archives, with 2 songs from each concert posted to our YouTube channel, *The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library*.

- a. March 9 - Ameranouche - 155 attendees.
- b. March 16 - Fellow Pynins - 110 attendees.
- c. March 23 - Copley Street with Owen Marshall - 160 attendees.
- d. March 30 - Laney Jones & the Spirits - 125 attendees.
- e. April 6 - Homegrown String Band - 155 attendees.
- f. April 13 - Oliver the Crow - 110 attendees.
- g. April 20 - Old Songs Forward Into the Light- 135 attendees.
- h. April 27 - Slocan Ramblers - 150 attendees.
- i. May 4 - Tom Connelly Aksten - 88 attendees.
- j. May 11 - Ari & Mia - 90 attendees.
- k. May 18 - Les Poules a Colin - 140 attendees.
- l. May 25 - Ozere - 115 attendees
- m. September 14 - Alex Smith & Dan Berggren - 145 attendees.
- n. September 21 - Brother Brothers - 110 attendees.
- o. September 28 - Qristina & Quinn Bachand - 106 attendees.
- p. October 5 - 5j Barrow - 110 attendees.
- q. October 19 - Tim Connell & Cesar Garabini - 120 attendees.
- r. October 26 - Honeysuckle - 145 attendees.

7. **Ukrainian Craft Display**: collection of Loya Velesko on the 2nd floor in 3 cases between the Children's Department and the Friends Gallery, February 16 through April 30 (Easter).

8. **Adirondack Women**, *Woodblock Portraits by Cheryl Mirer*, exhibition loan to the Lake George Historical Society, May to December 2016, extended to September 2017.

9. **Academy of Life Long Learning**: DeGarmo gave an illustrated talk on the exhibition and ongoing video project, Battenkill Inspired, Empire State College, Saratoga Springs, May 9, 25 students.

10. **Dream of America**, exhibit produced for Folklife Gallery to travel via Castelloni Art Museum at Niagara University for a western New York tour: GO ART! Bank of Castile Main Gallery in Batavia (May 16 to July 7) and GO ART! Idris Salih Gallery in Albion (July 15 to August 19).

11. **Summertime Music Society** indoor chamber music series presented free to the public on Thursdays at 7 pm (doors open 6:30), curated by Summerland Music Society's Carol Minor and Christopher Bush, and presented in partnership with the Folklife Center, and funded in part by Friends of Crandall Public Library:
  - a. July 13 - Alfred Hitchcock's The Lodger (1927) silent, black & white film with live piano accompaniment by Cary Brown, 97 attendees.
  - b. July 27 - A Night at the Opera, with Jose Adan Perez, baritone; Sahoko Sato Timpone, mezzo-soprano; Michiyo Morikawa, piano. The stars of the off-Broadway hit Figaro (90210) present an evening of best-loved arias and duets from favorite operas, featuring selections from the Barber of Seville, Don Giovanni, The Marriage of Figaro, Cosi fan tutte and more, 107 attendees.
  - c. August 4 - Carnival of Animals, co-hosted by the Children's Department for a 11 am show.
  - d. August 9 - TV 8 feature Summerland rehearsals at the Library.
  - e. August 10 - Upon the Water with Gary Ianco, violin, Aleksander Dvornichenko, viola; Charles Powers, cello; Matthew Way, double bass; Christopher Bush, basset horn; Carol Minor, piano, featuring Schubert's Piano Quintet in A major, D. 667 "The Trout" and more; 134 attendees.
12. **American Voices: Immigrant Stories** - storytelling performance with storytellers Margaret French, Motoko Dworkin, and Barbara Aliprantis, Wednesday, October 4, 7 pm, 64 attendees (also filmed/edited for our YouTube page).
13. **Do Tell: Learning to Perform Personal Stories** - a free 4-part workshop series led by storytellers/educators Margaret French and Betty Cassidy, on Mondays 6:30 to 8:30 pm (October 16, 23, 30, November 6), 21, 28, December 5), with participants final stories filmed and shared on our YouTube page.
14. **Glens Falls Senior Center**: talk by Erica Burke on Augustus Sherman, December 15, 50 attendees.
15. **Holiday Display in Folklife Center**: Christmas tree ornaments by local artists, paper snowflakes by staff and friends, holiday books for the season, Nativity puppets by Erica Burke.
16. **Tours of FC** - March 16 Guilderland librarians (6); March 23, SUNY Adirondack (5); May 4 SUNY Adirondack (6); May 4 Capital District Library Council (6); May 9 Granville 3rd graders (92); August 4 President of New York Folklore Society Tom van Buren (2); November 28 Glens Falls Cub Scouts (30); December 4 Hudson Falls 3rd Graders (60).

## Workshops & Meetings

1. Todd DeGarmo & Kathy Naftaly participated in a New York State Council on the Arts -Folk Arts conference call January 19.
2. Todd DeGarmo participated in a New York State Folk Arts Roundtable conference call March 9.
3. Todd DeGarmo was interviewed by Anne Rappaport for a Western Kentucky University graduate school project, April 12
4. Todd DeGarmo attended the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership meeting at Lake George Historical Society May 18.
5. Kevin Rogan attended a documentary film workshop presented by the Vermont Folklife Center, Middlebury, Vermont, June 2.
6. Todd DeGarmo attended Saratoga Info Mingle, with SALS library employees at Saratoga Springs Library, June 8.

7. Todd DeGarmo attended a strategic planning retreat for the New York Folklore Society at Schoharie River Center, Burtonsville, NY, June 21.
8. Todd DeGarmo consulted with artist Christopher Baldwin on his depiction of The Folklife Center for an upcoming graphic novel, August.
9. Todd DeGarmo attended Champlain Valley Heritage Partnership meeting, Lake George, September 8.
10. Erica Wolfe attended Heritage Hunters meeting, September 16.
11. Todd DeGarmo attended 40th annual conference of the New Netherland Institute, *Women in New Netherland*, at the NYS Museum, September 22-23.
12. Erica Burke attended Washington County Historical Society History Fair, September 30
13. Todd DeGarmo attended the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership International Summit in Lake George, October 23.
14. Erica Burke attended the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society's 2 day seminar on using DNA in family history, in New York City, October 27-28.

## Professional Affiliations

**New York Folklore Society:** Todd DeGarmo is the acquisitions editor *Voices: Journal of New York Folklore*, the membership magazine published twice a year by the New York Folklore Society (<http://www.nyfolklore.org/pubs/voices.html>).

**Documentary Heritage & Preservation Services in New York** - DeGarmo serves on the advisory committee to review and award grants for planning and assessment services.

**New York State Folk Arts Roundtable** - DeGarmo attended the annual statewide meeting of folklorists in Peekskill, May 10 to 12 (returned early for May 11 concert & May 12 staff day).

**New York Heritage Digital Collections** - Crandall Public Library Folklife Center is a contributor to this website ([nyheritage.org](http://nyheritage.org)) with a link to the Digital Public Library of America.

**Path Through History** - The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library is a participant in this tourism promotion through a New York State sponsored website, calendar, and roadside signage [www.paththroughhistory.ny.gov](http://www.paththroughhistory.ny.gov).