

The Folklife Center Annual Report 2018

Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY 12801

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5 pages

Grants & Income

1. **New York State Council on the Arts - Folk Arts** - award of \$36,000 (fourth of 4 multiyear grants) 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 \$11,500 towards 2018 *Live! Folklife Concerts* (Spring & Fall), *Summerland Music* series (July-August), *Winter Bluegrass Jams* (January, February, November, December) & *Colgate Resolutions* concert (January).
3. **Touba Family Foundation** - award of \$4,000 to commission an original score to commemorate the Library's 125th anniversary, in partnership with Summerland Music Society.
4. **Capital District Library Council** - award of \$2,500 to hire a consultant to add 250 items into our Arts & Artifacts subsection in New York Heritage Digital Collections (nyheritage.org).
5. **William G. Pomeroy Foundation** - award of \$1,100 to install a Legends & Lore Marker for the Shushan Postmaster in Shushan, Washington County, NY.
6. **Donations** - \$200 (New York Division Woman's National Farm & Garden Association and 2 others).

Interns & Volunteers

1. Special thanks to our 19 volunteers, providing 1,416.25 hours of assistance:
Kim Andrews, Judy Bardin, Hannah DeGarmo, Lisa Dougherty, Maureen Dye, Joan Elsner, Jim Gonyea, Colin Graham, Osaunia Hart, Josh Henderson, Bonnie Kane, Jean Kay, Lillian LaFrance, Loanne Lakso, Jacqueline McConnell, Pam Reed, Emma Rogan, Dana Stimpson, Pat Trepainer.

Archives & Special Collections

1. **Reading Room** (Monday-Friday 10-12, 1-4; & Tuesday 5-8): 2,367 patrons using 3,528 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. Manuscript & Other Special Collections - new collections processed, inventories and described.
 - f. Vertical Files (Glens Falls/Queensbury, Regional, Biographical) - filing/preservation copying.
 - g. Concerts, storytelling, etc videotaped, edited, stored, and uploaded to YouTube.
3. **New Collections**
 - a. Holden Reference Book Collection: 453 new titles on Polaris catalog.

- b. Special Titles & Other Publications
 - i. Richard Carella Poetry additions.
 - ii. *Champlain Valley Fiddlers* (LP) donated by Maury Thompson.
 - iii. Assorted titles from Lake George Library deaccessions.
 - iv. Assorted titles donated by Herbert B. Hudnut, Jr.
 - v. Hartford High School Yearbook.
 - vi. Newspapers, *Northern Post*, Salem, NY, 1805-1807 (16 issues).
 - vii. *Modern Wonderworks* 150 book classroom library in box, circa 1935.
 - viii. Magazines, *Saratoga Living*, 1999-2017 (57 issues) donated by the publisher.
- c. Manuscript Collections
 - i. American Association of University Women/Adirondack Chapter - additions.
 - ii. Joseph S. Goren World War I Documents.
 - iii. Lee Family Collection, donated by A.J. Davidson.
 - iv. Sunny Buchman Collection additions.
 - v. Photograph of Glens Falls Academy basketball team, donated by Rachel Clothier.
 - vi. Cary Genealogy by Joyce Cary, donated by her son Michael Cirino-Cary.
 - vii. Anne LaBastille Writings, donated by Anne Brennan from the estate of Anne LaBastille.
- d. Folk Art Collections
 - i. Barrels (5 & 2.5 gal) by master cooper Robert Hockert, US Barrel LLC, Wilmington, NY.
 - ii. Stitch Buffalo handicrafts (3) by new immigrants from Bhutan.
 - iii. Balsam pillows (3) by Kathleen Herrick, Indian Lake, NY.
 - iv. Standard Supply souvenir pennants of the Adirondacks, Otter Lake, NY (6).
 - v. Free Tibet pennant, gift of musician Techung, Lake Placid, NY.
- e. Art & Objects Collections
 - i. Grey Villet Photographs (3), *Life* (mag) photographer, donated by Barbara Villet, Shushan, NY.
 - ii. Plein air oil painting, *County Rte 61 - Battenville Bridge* by Matt Chinian, Cambridge, NY.
 - iii. Plein air watercolor painting, *Crandall Library* by Tom Ryan, donated by the artist.
 - iv. Richard Cavanolo Photographs (3) donated by the photographer, Mechanicville, NY.
 - v. First Day of Issue: Dedication of Glens Falls Airport, May 19, 1938, donated by Peter Benoit.

Folklife Gallery

1. **Rights, Race & Revolutions: A Portrait of LIFE in 1960s by Grey Villet**- extended to January 31.
2. **Crandall Public Library Celebrates 125 Years** - a new original exhibition taking a look at the people, programs, and buildings that made the Library a special place for the greater Glens Falls community over the generations. Also, celebrating 25 years of the Folklife Center with displays of programs and *Folk Arts from the Trees*. All on display January to December 2018.
3. **The Folklife Center celebrates 25 years** as a department of Crandall Public Library, created by the Board of Trustees on July 23, 1993. To commemorate the occasion, we have adopted a new logo, inspired by the Library's original benefactor, Henry Crandall who used the 5-pointed star as his log mark to distinguish his logs at the end of the spring river drive to Glens Falls. Todd DeGarmo writes about the origins of the new logo in his "Editor's Column" in *Voices: The Journal of New York Folklore* double issue, 2018.
4. **Social Justice Revisited by Betty LaDuke** - traveling exhibition featuring 5 decades of artwork raising questions about personal and political relationships concerning how we live, what we have

done, and what we need to do individually and collectively for peace and global survival, on display December 13 to April 30, 2019.

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

1. **YouTube: The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library**
 - a. 250 subscribers, 348 videos, 113,107 views as of December 31, 2018.
 - b. Our own original content organized into the following playlists (# of videos in each):
 - i. Live! Folklife Concerts (170)
 - ii. Do Tell: Learning to Perform Personal Stories (51)
 - iii. Battenkill Inspired (30)
 - iv. Colgate Resolutions (27)
 - v. Summerland Music Society (17)
 - vi. Portraits: Documentary Shorts (16)
 - vii. Live! Storytelling (15)
 - viii. Around the Library (11)
 - ix. Folklife Gallery Exhibitions (6)
 - x. Special Collections & Archives (2)
 - xi. Folklife After Hours (2)
 - xii. Empire City Stories (1)
 - c. Also features subscription to 14 organizations with folklife interest
2. **Colgate Resolutions Live!** second annual visit by this co-ed a cappella group, January 18, 5 pm, funded in part by the Friends of Crandall Public Library, with the entire free concert recorded live and added to our YouTube page; 100 attendees.
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 (January, February) and 2nd Thursdays (November, December) of the winter months, 6:30 to 8:30 pm:
 - a. January 18 - 25 musicians + 50 listeners
 - b. February 15 - 25 musicians + 46 listeners
 - c. November 8 - 20 musicians + 40 listeners
 - d. December 13 - 27 musicians + 60 listeners.
4. **Family History One-to-One** - drop-in, personalized help with volunteer genealogist Lisa Dougherty 3rd Wednesday of the month (January to December) 10 am-noon, 45 individual consultations.
5. **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 or 3 songs from each concert posted to our YouTube channel, *The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library*.
 - a. March 1 - Ronstadt Brothers - 200 attendees.
 - b. March 8 - Music of Ottoman Turkish Women - 110 attendees.
 - c. March 15 - Kitchen Ceili - 180 attendees.
 - d. March 22 - Tim O'Shea & Friends - 160 attendees.
 - e. March 29 - Rusticator - 110 attendees.
 - f. April 5 - Golden Oak - 140 attendees.
 - g. April 12 - Emerald Rae - 185 attendees.
 - h. April 19 - The Sea The Sea - 184 attendees.

- i. April 26 - Che Apalache - 190 attendees.
 - j. May 3 - Nordic Fiddlers Bloc (Norway, Sweden, Shetland Islands) - 184 attendees.
 - k. May 10 - Fara (Scotland) - 190 attendees.
 - l. May 17 - Techung with Tenzin (Tibet) - 130 attendees
 - m. September 6 - Ryanhood - 145 attendees.
 - n. September 13 - Quickstep- 205 attendees.
 - o. September 20 - Imar- 210 attendees.
 - p. September 27 - Marty Wendell - 130 attendees.
 - q. October 11 - Maivish - 175 attendees.
 - r. October 26 - Julin & Epstein - 175 attendees.
6. **Battenkill Inspired: The Flow of Creativity, Ingenuity, & the River** - an original documentary video series based on a 2015 Folklife Gallery exhibition that celebrates art and culture along the Battenkill watershed.
- a. Videos were released weekly beginning in mid-February to our YouTube page and promoted through social media, and leading to the placement of the 30-part series on touchscreen iPad kiosks at community locations (including Greenwich Library, Historic Salem Courthouse Community Center, Roundhouse Bakery Cafe (Cambridge), Gardenworks (Hebron), and temporary sites at the Battenkill Conservancy, Akland Family Farm and Washington County Fair.
 - b. Special thanks to all the participants, and especially to Hannah DeGarmo, one-time intern and then volunteer, becoming a hired media consultant on the project responsible for many of the later episodes and the social media promotion.
7. **Red Flag! Identifying Preservation Needs While Processing Collections** - hosted the DHPSNY (Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services of New York) workshop on Wednesday, April 18, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm - 32 attendees.
8. **Researching the People of the Feeder Canal** - illustrated presentation by Erica Wolfe Burke for Lakes to Locks Passage, May 19, 5 attendees.
9. **Author talk & booksigning** - *Animated Feather Duster* by Maury Thompson, June 4, 50 attendees.
10. **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 12 - Cabrini Trio - music of Mendelssohn, Brahms, Beethoven, Schubert, Weill, 100 attendees.
 - b. July 13 - Let's Dance, family concert with the Cabrini Trio (Friday morning) 35 attendees.
 - c. July 26 - Folklife Fantasy, world premiere of *Bujeo* by Panamanian composer Emiliano Pardo-Tristan, commissioned by Summerland and Crandall with funding from the Toubia Family Foundation, to celebrate the library's 125th, plus folk song-inspired works by Sheng, Schumann, Vaughn Williams, D'Rivera, 90 attendees.
 - d. August 9 - The Mysterious Lady (1928) - classic silent movie thriller starring Greta Garbo with live improvised piano accompaniment by Cary Brown, 95 attendees.
11. **Abbie & Will Csaplak Lake George Collection** - illustrated talk by Todd DeGarmo to the Northern Lake George Rotary Club at Silver Bay, Tuesday, September 25, 7 pm, 30 attendees.
12. **American Folklore Society presentation** - Todd DeGarmo presented *Battenkill Inspired* on the panel, "Public History/Public Folklore: Sharing Perspectives on Shared Authority and Programming" at the 2018 AFS annual meeting, *No Illusions, No Exclusions*, Buffalo, NY, October 17-20, 30 attendees.

13. **Battenkill Conservancy keynote** - Hannah DeGarmo spoke of her work as a director/filmmaker of the project, *Battenkill Inspired*, at BC's annual meeting in Cambridge, NY, November 4, 30 attendees.
14. **Author Talk & Book Signing** - *A Glens Falls - Lake George Portfolio 1904-1946: Photographs of Francis Bayle & Some Local History* by Bob Bayle, November 7, 7 pm, 26 attendees.
15. **Film & Discussion** - *Harnessing Nature: Building The Great Sacandaga* with director/Saratoga County Historian, Lauren Roberts, co-hosted by the Adirondack Mountain Club, November 14, 7 pm, 175 attendees.
16. **Holiday Display in Folklife Center** - Christmas tree ornaments by local artists.
17. **Tours of FC** - 2/12 - 21 patrons; 4/17 - 11 Brownie Girl Scouts; 4/18 - 9 Historians; 4/18 - 25 from Warrenburg school; 10/23 - 25 from BOCES.

Workshops & Meetings

1. Todd DeGarmo participated in a New York State Council on the Arts conference calls February 12, 20.
2. Todd DeGarmo participated in a New York State Folk Arts Roundtable conference call February 28.
3. Todd DeGarmo & Kathy Naftaly hosted Robert Baron, Director of Folk Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, for the Folklife Center review for multiyear funding beginning in 2019, July 20.
4. Todd DeGarmo interviewed for Maury Thompson's film on Charles Evans Hughes, August 13.
5. Todd DeGarmo attended folk singer George Ward's 80th birthday party at Caffe Lena, August 28.
6. Erica Wolfe attended Heritage Hunters meeting, Schuylerville, October 20.
7. Erica Burke attended a presentation & tour of the Albany Hall of Records, October 24.
8. Todd DeGarmo attended the Champlain Valley National Heritage Network International Summit November 5, in Burlington, Vermont.
9. Todd DeGarmo phone interview re: NYS Council on the Arts strategic planning November 8.

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 (Jan 25, May 8, Aug 29).

New York State Folk Arts Roundtable - DeGarmo attended the annual statewide meeting of folklorists in Buffalo, NY, May 20-23.

New York Heritage Digital Collections - Crandall Public Library Folklife Center is a contributor to this website (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).

NYSFA Living Traditions - The Folklife Center is represented on this new digital gateway to New York State's folk arts (<http://nytraditions.org>).