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Stephen Bartkus - Curator
Katharine MacLaren - Museum Assistant (thru May 2021)
Ashley Doerwald - Museum Assistant (from May 2021)
After almost 40 years of service, Jean Chapin handed over the Executive Director reins of the Gunn Memorial Library and Museum and assumed a part-time, senior advisory role. Jean’s many contributions to our institution are too long to list, but her leadership was instrumental in transforming the Library from the much smaller building designed by Ehrick Rossiter in 1907 to today’s multi-level, multi-building Library and Museum campus.

Over the years our organization has grown with the community, delivered cutting edge services in our Junior and Adult Libraries, designed and constructed numerous exhibits at our Museum, and received many state and national awards and grants for our stellar services. Many of these successes are a direct result of Jean’s efforts, including our receiving the first State of CT and Connecticut Library Association award for Excellence in Public Library Service given to a library serving a community under 5,000 people.

Jean began her career as an assistant in the Junior Library where her innovative programming drew families to capacity and culminated in the Library building’s eventual expansion. Jean went on to become the Children’s Librarian, then Library Director, and finally the Executive Director of the Library and Museum. Many accomplishments were met during this time, including the automation of the collections, the inauguration of our Library Luminaries fundraiser, and receiving municipal financial support from the town. During her final year as ED, when Covid 19 hit, Jean was the driving force behind developing safety protocols and upgrading our ventilation systems to keep our staff and patrons safe, delivering curbside services and upgrading digital content, supporting staff to work from home when we were mandated to briefly close our doors, and quickly reopening when most public libraries remained closed.

We cannot thank Jean enough for her leadership over these many years in making the Gunn Memorial Library and Museum such wonderful assets for our community. Once the pandemic is over and we can return to normal life, we will organize a well-deserved celebration of Jean’s long career. For now please join me in congratulating and thanking Jean for her many years of service and successes in creating the organization we all know and love.

Audra MacLaren became the Gunn Memorial Library and Museum’s Executive Director in January. Audra came to us with a Masters in Library Sciences and many years of experience at the Oliver Wolcott Library in various roles, including: community outreach, curating collections, technology oversight, people management, and running the day to day operations. We are thrilled to have found a skilled professional from a local community, and Audra has eagerly embraced her new role with us. Please introduce yourselves to Audra when you visit the Library and Museum.

Sal Sorce,
Outgoing President
Thank you for your generosity. We appreciate every gift & regret any errors in listings. Please inform us of corrections or omissions.
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All the people who did such a great job keeping things going in 2020!

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**MUSEUM NUMBERS**

- **4,500** program participants
- **27** oral history interviews recorded
- **269** exhibit attendees
- **620** people accessed the Museum
- **1,099** volunteer hours contributed

**WASHINGTON CEMETERY TOUR**

The 13th Annual Washington Cemetery Tour was recorded and made available on YouTube.

**WASHINGTON GARDEN CLUB**

The panel gardens at the Museum were created and are maintained by the Washington Garden Club in memory of Adele Worsley.

**ITEMS OF NOTE**

**LIBRARY PROGRAMS**

- **2,175** people attended/viewed 42 adult programs
- **276** children attended 33 Junior Library programs
- **461** children attended 68 story time sessions
- **2,213** curbside Take & Make Kits were distributed

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MUSEUM PROGRAMS

- 19 virtual programs
- Guest lectures
- 13th Annual Washington Cemetery Tour
- Readings from the Archives
- Washington History Club
- Community outreach at town events

LIBRARY NUMBERS

- 23,076 visits
- 46,399 items in our collection
- 12,504 downloadable eBooks & audiobooks
- 1,361 summer reading hours logged
- 737 junior library program attendees (virtual and in person)
- 38,142 items were circulated (over 7,000 more than the previous year)

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

Out of 189 CT libraries surveyed, Gunn was one of only 24 to fully reopen to the public as of June 2020.

- 426 patrons utilized our continued curbside service.
- 109 new patrons joined

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our team expanded community outreach. Library and Museum staff attended the Washington Block Party, collaborated with Judy Black to present Drive-In movies, and supplied books for the Macricostas Preserve Story Walk.

We also planned story times at 3 local town beaches!

We combined forces with neighboring libraries, Burnham Library in Bridgewater and Minor Memorial Library in Roxbury, to bring a wider variety of virtual programming to our broader community.

We teamed up with the Hickory Stick Bookshop to jointly host monthly, virtual author talks.
FINANCIAL REPORT

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021
(unaudited)

Source of Funds for Operations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Funds</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Events</td>
<td>$302,520</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town Contribution</td>
<td>$185,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other (grants, sales, fines, etc.)</td>
<td>$114,873</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$602,893</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfers from Investment</td>
<td>$89,667</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total including Transfers</strong></td>
<td><strong>$692,560</strong></td>
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Use of Funds by Operations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Expense</td>
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<tr>
<td>Museum Expense</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan Repayment</td>
<td>$6,484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Including Loan</strong></td>
<td><strong>$678,515</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you to our student volunteers and all those who assisted with the Cemetery Tour!

Sal Sorce  
Outgoing President, Trustee 2014-2021

Sal joined the Board of Trustees in 2014, served as Treasurer and President, and continues to be a member of the Investment Committee. He was involved in numerous long-term initiatives which enabled us to broaden our outreach and upgrade our facilities.

Over the last 7 years, Sal oversaw many projects including the audio/visual installations for the Community and Wykeham rooms, the conversion of the Museum from oil to propane with the installation of a new HVAC system and generator. As Treasurer, Sal further developed the financial reporting and controls for the overall organization, and took special interest in the management of GML’s investment portfolio.

In addition, Sal oversaw the completion of the Museum’s long-term, award-winning exhibit on the History of Washington, funded by a State cultural Good to Great grant, and worked closely with our broad array of contributors and creative resources. More recently, Sal worked with library leadership during COVID, ensuring the continued engagement and safety of our community and staff. Finally, Sal was instrumental in the search for our new Executive Director Audra MacLaren and in managing a smooth transition.

Sal’s diligence and commitment will be missed and we are thankful for everything he has done to set us up for the next phase of our evolution.
Many of our patrons and friends support the Library through our Annual Appeal and other fundraising events. Through gifts by will, transfer, or beneficiary designation under life insurance policies and retirement plan assets, as well as charitable trusts, individuals and families may continue their legacy of support.

Please help Gunn Memorial plan for the future by telling us if you have included us in your plans, or by requesting information for planning a bequest. By joining the Wykeham Legacy Society, you may create a heritage for future generations.

Please contact Jean Chapin at jchapin@biblio.org if you would like further information.