# REPORT

## New England Library Association
## Boxborough, MA – October 19-21, 2014

This year's NELA Conference was not as well attended as in previous years and attracted approximately 500 librarians. Normally NELA gets upwards of 800-900 librarians. This was due to several factors. The first and probably the main reason is that NELA went to an all-volunteer staff to run the conference and exhibits. The second reason was the location. The conference and exhibits were held in the Boxborough Holiday Inn which I'm sure was a great facility in its hay day. Unfortunately it has seen better days. This coupled with the remote location with virtually no restaurants or other services within 30 minutes of the hotel did not make Boxborough a travel destination.

There were a number of no conflict times scheduled and most of these were fairly well attended. Those who came in to the exhibit hall were interested in seeing the products on display and spent that time perusing the myriad of products and services. The CBE display was well received and once word spread that we were giving out free advance reading copies from Macmillan, we became a destination in the exhibit hall.

We displayed a quality collection from publishers like, Random House, Macmillan, Bella & Harry, NorthSouth Books, Scholastic, John Wiley and others as well as from independent presses and authors. Independent press, Ghihon River Books specializing in books and stories about the holocaust attracted a lot of attention. "*Live Your Dreams*" by author Jean Criss was also popular.

At the NELA exhibitors meeting, many of the vendors complained about the show. The NELA staff was there and promised that next's year conference in Manchester, NH will be a much better show in terms of programming and attendance. The last time NELA was held in Manchester, there were over 800 librarians in attendance. With this in mind, we think NELA will be back to its normal high attendance with a busy exhibit hall.

Representative for the 2014 NELA was Jon Malinowski