



Cornell University
ILR School

ILR Memory Book Series

From time to time, on-line memory books are made available on the web site of Cornell University's ILR School as a way for past students, colleagues, and friends to post their recollections of faculty and distinguished staff members.

This series collects the comments left by visitors to these memory books.

Fran Secord

My career at Cornell began on June 28, 1979, as a Kitchen Assistant in the the ILR Conference Center under Irene Grant's supervision.

In 1981, I was hired as an administrative assistant by David Eastman. I moved to the Research Building and took on very different responsibilities.

My career took another turn in October of 1987, I joined the Martin P. Catherwood library staff with Phil Dankert as my supervisor. This was quite an undertaking. I had no library experience. A couple weeks into the job, I wondered if I had made the mistake of a lifetime. I worked very hard, learned the necessary new skills and prevailed.

My job in the library changed in 2004. I became a web assistant for our web site Digital Commons. This was another challenge which required learning new skills.

It has been quite a journey. 28 years later, it is time to start yet another journey. My career at Cornell has come to an end.



The following submissions were made by visitors to the memory book from June 4, 2007 to July 12, 2007.

Fran, I will miss you for your smile, your advice on how-to matters and your wonderful humor. Thank you for being such a wonderful person.

- *Jean Gustafson, Liverpool, NY Jun 4 2007*

Fran, such accomplishments here at Cornell. Now you move onto something fun for you. Something that we all work for. Take time for yourself and enjoy life. Let's do lunch. Good luck in your Retirement Life and enjoy, you deserve it. Bert

- *Elberta Donahue, Burdett Jun 4 2007*

Mom, I know that you will be missed very much by your colleagues as you have always treated everyone with kindness and compassion, a few traits that are rarely seen in the workplace today. You have always gone above and beyond your duties, professionally and personally, a hard act to follow. I'm sure your friends will miss all of your advice and concerns for their well being, as I also will come to do. I have no idea how we will all manage without you. I hope that you find that your retirement is as successful as your career at Cornell has been. Congratulations and Enjoy! Love You, Cheli

- *Cheli Secord Blauvelt, Burdett, NY Jun 4 2007*

Fran, You are definitely among the most conscientious of people I have ever worked with in a long library career. You have high standards and it is important that things be done well, and preferably the first time around. I have much respect for that approach. Another quality which comes to mind is how quickly you learn new things. You came into the Catherwood environment about four years after we started to use personal computers. You mastered the computer with ease, developed ingenious macros to input publishers' addresses, and soon became the world's foremost expert in acquiring the types of materials added to Catherwood's collections. You once told me that the keys to success included (a) being organized, and (b) knowing what task would take longer to accomplish and doing that first. Good advice for life in practically any situation. You have made an important difference. We will miss you and wish you the best in all your endeavors. 6.4.07

- *Gordon Law, Ithaca Jun 4 2007*

Fran I cannot conceive of ILR without you. You are like a ray of sunshine; your smile is infectious and brings happiness to all around you. And just today, as my wife and I were driving from Rochester back to Albany, I told her how much I treasured the electronic birthday card that you sent me each year. I hope the years ahead will be ones of happiness and health for you, and please don't be a stranger. Ron

- *Ron Ehrenberg, Ithaca Jun 4 2007*

Fran: wow, what does one say...it's been a long time and you so deserve this!! I know there will be a lot of us here at ILR that are going to miss you so much. You are a hard worker and a good person. I'm sure you are going to be so happy once you are retired. Please, enjoy yourself and keep in touch!!! I'll miss you!!!

- Colleen Clauson, *Alpine Jun 4 2007*

Seems like we always say goodbye. Since I moved away after our Shelly & Cheli were born, I am not likely to run into you again now that you're leaving Cornell. So much has happened to us over the years, and time somehow seems to have a way to catch us up. So maybe this isn't goodbye. I never even worked with you here, but I've heard everyone just absolutely loves you. I wish you all the best in the future for you and Harold both. Take care, and hopefully we'll meet again.

- Joan (Mason) Brink, *Freeville Jun 4 2007*

Frannie, I will miss you. Michael

- Michael Gold, *Ithaca Jun 4 2007*

Dear Fran, We will very much miss your many contributions to our efforts within EDI, particularly your assistance over the past two years with the DigitalCommons@ILR. Most of all, we will miss your ready smile and willingness to help whenever we have asked. Our best wishes to you as you enter a well-deserved retirement phase of your life! Susanne

- Susanne Bruyere, *Ithaca, New York Jun 4 2007*

Fran, I can't believe it has been 28 years! That sounds like a well-deserved retirement to me. Thanks for all of your contributions to the library. It has been great working with you. Enjoy your retirement. Sincerely, Bob Hutchens

- Bob Hutchens, *Ithaca Jun 4 2007*

Hey Fran --- no fair! I wanted to go first ... but I'm so happy you are at this point in your life. You've earned every minute of your new-found free time. I'll miss talking with you, and solving Cornell's problems. ;-) I hope you have a long and happy "new life". Enjoy, and smell the roses. -- pat

- Pat Jones, *Newfield, NY Jun 5 2007*

Fran: What can I say..."TAKE ME WITH YOU.." Enjoy your much deserved retirement..Remember fondly Cornell and take with you the knowledge that your sweet and gentle nature has set the bar high for your replacement. I am positive that our paths will cross again--like always at the grocery store or WalMart. Always, Linda

- Linda Mapes, *Watkins Glen, NY Jun 5 2007*

Fran - While I've not had the opportunity to work with you directly, seeing your smile has always brightened my day! I wish you a happy, relaxing retirement. May it bring you health and good fortune!
Jenn

- Jennifer Woodward, Ithaca Jun 5 2007

Dear Fran: Fran you are really retiring, that is so wonderful for you. It is so hard to believe how quickly time has gone by, we used to chat a lot, now off you go. God's speed to you and enjoy every moment of your retirement. A friend always, Judy

- Judy Adams, Harford, NY Jun 5 2007

Fran, It has been a pleasure knowing you. I will miss your birthday emails. I hope retirement finds you relaxation as well as excitement. After 28 years with Cornell...you deserve it! Best wishes

- Bonnie Hockenberry, Newfield Jun 5 2007

Fran, It has been a pleasure to have you as a colleague and friend. I have truly enjoyed our many conversations and lunch gatherings. Wishing you the very best on your retirement.

- Kathy Roberts, Candor, NY Jun 5 2007

Fran, Best wishes in yet another new adventure. This one will take you to great places and give you the opportunity to enjoy, spend time, and relax with your family and friends. Wishing you a great retirement, Angie

- Angie Wagner, Groton, NY Jun 5 2007

Dear Frannie - Congratulations to you, what an accomplishment! Thank you so much for your wealth of knowledge, patience and thoughtfulness throughout the years. Your words of wisdom and kindness to me over the years (20+) I am very grateful to you for. You will be deeply missed (and so will your birthday & get-well cards). Have fun, be happy & healthy. All my best, Jackie

- Jackie Dodge, Candor Jun 5 2007

Fran, It's hard to believe you will be leaving ILR and Cornell. I enjoyed the time we worked together and always appreciated your willingness to learn new things and to imagine different ways of doing things. I wish you all the best in your retirement. It has been a pleasure knowing you and working with you.

- David Banush, Ithaca, NY Jun 5 2007

Oh Fran! It is hard to believe that the time has really come for your next life adventure! I am excited for you and feel certain that you will find joy in retirement...after all, you have always liked to try new things and now you can do just the things that YOU really want to do! Hooray! I very much enjoyed working with you and getting to know you when I was at Catherwood. Just as David Banush wrote, I appreciated your willingness to try new things and your effort to embrace the many changes that were taking place in the library world at that time (multiple office moves and all!). I also appreciated the thoughtful and special things you did for everyone, like making the coffee and tending to social events and birthday cards and working in the flower beds and etc. and etc. You've always gone the extra mile and you will be missed by many at ILR (just as I miss you already!) I wish you all good things in your next phase of life and hope we can keep in touch so that I can hear about what all you are doing! With hugs, Boodie

- Boodie McGinnis, Cortland, NY Jun 5 2007

Hi Fran! You have been so patient and wonderful with all of my Digital Commons questions- THANK YOU =) I will miss seeing you around ILR, you are such a very sweet and wonderful person. Sincerely, Alexis

- Alexis Falise, Employment and Disability Institute Jun 5 2007

Hi Fran, Goodness, you really are going to do this aren't you? So many times I heard you mention retirement and now you decided it is the right time. Good for you. I was thinking about a few of the "fun times" and I remember, Frank's Egg Nog Day, St. Valentine's Day Breakfast, St. Patrick's Reuben Day, Hot Dog Day, Spring Luncheon with fried chicken (or was that cold cuts) and the Holiday Luncheon with folks preparing their favorite recipe. Do you remember when we all made centerpieces for the tables? The many fund raisers for the gardens -- selling candy and more candy and when we had craft fairs, oh my just a lot of stuff. You always volunteered -- sending get well, sympathy, and birthday cards, and maintaining the birthday lists! Oh my, who will wipe out the microwave ovens now that you are no longer here? Thank you, Fran, and I wish you great health and happiness in this new Chapter of the Book of Fran's Life. Take care, enjoy yourself, but remember to misbehave once in a while too. You will be missed. Blessings, Ann

- Ann Herson, Ithaca, NY Jun 5 2007

Hi Frannie! Remember me? Boy, we go waaaaaaaaay back! I don't dare print all of the memories we have had but you sure did make commuting back and forth to Cornell much more interesting. You were always a very special friend to me and I always tried to catch up with you whenever I returned for a visit. I've been retired over 12 years but it only seems like yesterday. I'm so happy to hear you're taking this important step in life and believe me you will not regret it for one moment. I wish all the best to you that life has to offer and never lose your smile or sense of humor. If you are ever in Virginia do look me up. Good Luck and God Bless, Nancy

- Nancy Van Camp, Gordonsville, Virginia Jun 5 2007

Hello Baby Sister, You are ready for a new chapter in your life. Retirement gives us opportunities to grow in ways that never occurred to us before. May God Bless You. I love you, Sister Jeanne

- Jeanne Payne, Charlottesville, VA Jun 6 2007

My memories are of a little sister that I loved and enjoyed so much and have continued to love and enjoy her through the years. Now she is ready for a new chapter in her life; may she find much joy and contentment in her retirement. Much love, Sister Jeanne

- Jeanne Payne, Charlottesville, VA Jun 6 2007

Fran - you will be deeply missed by your many friends at ILR. But you need to take that next step and enjoy the other side of life away from the job! I remember fondly your days in the kitchen, and hanging out with Frank. You've always been there to help and volunteer in anything that came along. My very best wishes to you in your retirement. May it be a long and happy phase of your life.

- Claudia, Newfield Jun 6 2007

Hi Fran, Congratulations on your retirement, it is well deserved. We will deeply miss you around here. Your service to the School and the ILR Staff Association is greatly appreciated. Enjoy yourself. Best wishes Jo

- Jo Hagin, Ithaca, NY Jun 6 2007

Fran, Best of everything to you on your retirement. Enjoy yourself and this time to unwind from your years of service to the University and the ILR School. Now's your chance to do all of the things you haven't had time to do! God bless! Lorie

- Lorie Anderson, Athens PA Jun 6 2007

Dear Sister, I am so proud of your accomplishments. Congratulations on your retirement. I hope you enjoy your retirement as much as I have mine. It is wonderful to do what you want to do and not do anything if you do not want to. Best wishes and God Bless.

- Ruth Anna Smith, Arkport, N.Y Jun 6 2007

Fran, Congratulations on your retirement! I hope this allows you the time to relax and just enjoy your friends and your family more. It has been such a pleasure getting to know you over the years. You always have such good advice and words of encouragement and I really appreciate that! But I will miss your funny stories most of all! Take care and keep in touch!

- Renee Orak, Ithaca, NY Jun 6 2007

Hey Miss Frannie- I remember when you started counting the days to retirement five years ago! And, it's finally here... What a great feeling! You have been such a wonderful friend to so many people. I'm sure you have made each and every one of your friends feel very special, and cared for, just as you have done for me. You will be missed because of all that you are to your co-workers and friends at ILR. Your "community service" at your desk, and beyond will surely be a huge void. However, knowing "our Fran" you won't be sitting idle while retired. I'm sure you will be volunteering for every committee that needs you, and lucky them! I'm looking forward to our lunch, and to many more in the future. Hugs to you, dear friend.

- Shannon, Genoa, NY Jun 6 2007

Just a note to wish you the best. We first met when you were operating the printing equipment (was it a multilith machine?) in the Research Building. When you applied to the Library, Shirley asked me what I thought about the idea. "Fran has always appeared hard working, knowledgeable about her job and efficient about getting projects done," I replied. How right I was! The Catherwood and the School have continued to gain from your dedication and thoughtful contributions. Thank you. Rich

- Richard Strassberg, Catherwood Library Jun 6 2007

Fran, My very best wishes to you as you move into new adventures in your life, retiring from Cornell. From the way you described your varied career, I have no doubt that you'll welcome new challenges and interests that come your way. Maybe I'll even see you at the garage from time to time. Enjoy it all!
Susann

- Susann Argetsinger, Burdett, NY Jun 6 2007

Fran, It's been a great pleasure to know you and work with you. We have seen a lot of changes through the years, some good and some bad but we also have had a lot of fun and laughs. I hope I'm not too far behind you, couple years. I wish you all the great things in retirement. Carol

- Carol Foster, Candor Jun 6 2007

Dear Frannie, Congratulations on your retirement from Cornell. It seems just yesterday we were still kids playing on the farm, oh where has time gone? Now we are all retired and getting a little grayer. God has bless me by giving me a wonderful sister like you, thank you God for sister frannie and my other brothers and sisters. God bless sister, i love you. Brother Jack

- jack tuttle, bluffton, s.c. Jun 7 2007

Dear Fran, You've been like the personal/personality side of ILR. Your efforts with the staff organization, birthday listings, hot dog day, etc. etc. ..ETC(!), are what have brought staff together and personalized our experience with coworkers and ILR. I hope that these special efforts don't disappear after you've left us. I'm so happy that you've reached Pleasure Time status and hope that you keep up with those trips and time with the family. I do wish you oh just so much fun and good health in your future years! Best ongoing wishes...

- Joan Roberts, Candor, NY Jun 7 2007

Frannie, Congratulations on your well-deserved retirement! I'll always remember the "old days" when we all used to have so much fun -- the coffee hours, the Friday lunches with the BFLB (if you can't figure out the initials, email me). We sure did have some great times with you, me, Nancy, Frank, Terry, etc. Best wishes for all the best in your retirement; I'm sure all of ILR will greatly miss you.

- Pat Dickerson, T-Burg Jun 7 2007

Frances: Your accomplishments have been many and I'm sure you will be greatly missed by your colleagues. Congratulations and enjoy your retirement. Everyone tells me that after you retire, you are busier than when you were working. Hopefully, you won't be too busy to come for a visit. Best wishes and God Bless. Love, Jim, Sheila and Regina

- Jim, Sheila and Regina Tuttle, Vero Beach, FL Jun 10 2007

Aunt Frannie: Congratulations on your retirement! We hope this will be the time for you to have new adventures and make some very happy memories. You have worked so hard, now it's time to smell the roses. God bless you! We love you so much!

- Jill & Steve Sloan, Wyoming, IL Jun 10 2007

Fran: Best wishes to you in retirement...28 years...fabulous! Enjoy yourself; you've certainly earned it. Thank you for all your hard work with the ILR Staff Organization.

- Dottie Carlson, ILR Career Services Jun 11 2007

Fran -- you've been such a lovely presence here for so long -- you will be greatly missed! Lowell

- Lowell Turner, Ithaca Jun 12 2007

Fran, Congratulations! I hope you have many wonderful plans for your retirement. You are like the Mother of ILR to me -- always ready and willing to lend an ear and give advice. All the great ILR functions you worked so hard on were part of what made the ILR school such a nice place to work. Our paths didn't cross often, but I will miss you. Jane

- Jane McLarty, ILR Fiscal Ofc Jun 13 2007

Dear Miss Fran, Will I miss you? You bet! I could always count on you to put things into perspective and give us a reality check, regardless of the situation. I love your sense of humor as well - we have had some good laughs over the years. Add to that all the other things that people have already said here - your ability to come through in the clutch, your willingness to try new things, all the "extra" activities you did for the entire school like the gardens and the social committee and you have the complete employee. The entire school will miss you and all your contributions. Enjoy the rest of your life - you certainly deserve it! deb

- DLD, Catherwood Library Jun 13 2007

Dear Fran: What will I do without your eagle eye for misspellings and other oversights? ILR is losing a dedicated member of the community whose high standards and diligence will be long missed and near impossible to replace. You've been a first-class guide into the world of Digital Commons. Much happiness and satisfaction in whatever comes next. Warm regards, Maralyn

- Maralyn Edid, Ithaca Jun 14 2007

Congratulations on your retirement! We've had some good times and good talks as co-workers, and I'll miss you. "It's 5 O'Clock Somewhere" so enjoy, enjoy, enjoy!

- Krista, Ithaca Jun 14 2007

Fran- I hope you have great things planned for retirement. Enjoy it all and let us know how it's going. Congratulations.

- Melissa Holland, Catherwood Library Jun 14 2007

I didn't get a chance to work with you here in ILR, but it was nice talking to you earlier in the year about living in Hector / Burdett. I'll keep my eyes open for more "Vote for Secord" signs, and I'll know it's your relatives who are running. Have a great retirement!

- Caroline Hecht, Hector, NY Jun 18 2007

Fran, I especially enjoyed working (and socializing!) more closely with you this past year. While I always knew that your job in acquisitions kept our collection growing successfully and you were always available to answer my questions, this past year gave me a chance to recognize your high standards for your work, including an amazing attention to detail. Thanks for everything and enjoy this next phase of life.

- Suzanne C., Catherwood Library Jun 20 2007

Dear Fran, I wish you the best in your retirement. I know you have made the right decision. Enjoy your new found freedom and be well. As Always, Sandy J

- Sandy J, Candor, NY Jun 21 2007

Fran, Congratulations on your retirement. You have been a wonderful colleague in my time at ILR. Your dedication to this school is to be modeled after and admired. You are a wonderful person and you will be greatly missed. All my best, Darrie

- Darrie, Cortland Jun 22 2007

Hey Fran, It has been great working with you and seeing you respond with energy and flexibility as new opportunities opened ahead of you. You are the consummate student, always approaching new ideas and information with curiosity and diligence. Your attention to detail is legendary, and has put us all back on the right track more than once. Thank you! I hope that your plans will include some restful time, as well as more excitement of your own choosing. I will miss you, and not just because you're out having fun without us! My best wishes for a long and enjoyable retirement, Barb

- Barb, Alpine Jun 25 2007

Fran, I will always be impressed by the many, and varied, tasks you were always more than willing to take on, and, just as importantly, to complete on time. At the time of my retirement you reminded me that I was the one who hired you to work in the Catherwood Library's Acquisitions Unit. In retrospect I can say in all honesty that this was one of the best decisions I ever made. I will also never forget the fun times we had as part of the now dwindling coffee break crowd. It sure enlivened the work day! The very best wishes for a long and fulfilling retirement. Phil

- Phil Dankert, Ithaca, NY Jun 25 2007

Dear Fran, It has been great to work with you. When I was dean, you were very helpful as head of the staff organization. I could always rely on you for good advice and for ensuring that I was aware of concerns or issues among the staff. Thanks much for all of your help. Your thoughtful notes and electronic cards on positive occasions were much appreciated. Such notes of appreciation or congratulations may be "small" acts, but they contribute significantly to the overall environment of the school. You have added much to the ILR community in your many years here, and we are going to miss you greatly. Hope you get some R and R and enjoy your more flexible life. All the best, Ed

- Ed Lawler, Ithaca Jun 25 2007

Hi Fran: Thank you for all the things that you do behind the scenes. You will be missed, but know that you will enjoy each day that you do not have to drive so far! Take care and be well. Ginny

- Ginny, Ithaca Jun 26 2007

Our adventure here at Catherwood started the same day, as I keep telling you I think you should stay around, but, you know that's all in good fun. To say you'll be missed is an understatement. Enjoy all the years to come, we know you'll keep busy, but, hopefully not too busy to remember all of us back here remembering you. How will I know when all the social events are taking place without your guidance. he he You've set standards for us all to aim for, thank you for that. Here's to a wonderful relaxing, fun and healthy retirement for you! Marcia

- Marcia, Locke, NY Jun 26 2007

Dear Fran: ILR and the Catherwood Library will not be the same without you. You've always been very dedicated to your work, to ILR and to the ILR staff and faculty. I will miss you...and I do know that you won't let any grass grow under your feet. You'll keep busy every day and stay fit, happy and healthy! Keep on smiling and doing for others...that's what has made you so special. Hugs and Love, Theresa

- Theresa Woodhouse, Genoa, NY Jun 26 2007

You have had an amazing career in ILR! Although we never worked together directly, I always appreciated the notes of congratulations or happy birthday. Those simple gestures meant a lot to me and I am sure others. Best of luck to you as you begin the next chapter of your life. -Anu

- Anu Lyons, ILR Office of Career Services, Ithaca, NY Jun 26 2007

Fran, It was always so much fun working with you on Staff Events and the gardens. Have fun and enjoy yourself - I know you will!! Laurie

- Laurie McEvoy, Cortland, NY Jun 27 2007

Hey Fran, Well the time has finally come. You've seen a lot of things come and go over the years and you're still smiling! Through all of that you were always willing to try out the new thing (and let the right people know if you thought the old thing was a lot better). You've always put service and commitment to quality at the top of your list, and you helped many others do the same. I hope that you enjoy this next chapter in your life and use it to do some of the things you've always wanted to do. I'm sure you won't stand still, but I hope you'll find time to relax. Best wishes! David

- David DeMello, Ithaca Jun 27 2007

Dear Fran, What am I going to do without you here? You have meant a great deal to me for 20 years. You have taught me so much about people and life. You have been special in the eyes of my daughters and my mother over all these years as well. You keep that Junior Deputy in line now that there is a new Sheriff in town. If you need some time away just give me a call and I will take you on another outing or meet you someplace where we can chat. It's been really nice to work with you for all these years and to get to know that "pretty lady with the beautiful hair" that rode my bus many years ago. You better continue to keep me up on all the latest products and gadgets that hit the market. You have been so good at keeping me up on all the latest healthy foods and new inventions that make life easier. I will never find a friend as special as you. Thank you for everything you have been to me and for a future of continued friendship. Let's make a promise to get together as often as possible. I wish you and Harold the best of everything in your retirement. Most of all I hope you will find time to enjoy life and good health. God bless you. Lynn

- Lynn, Cortland Jun 28 2007

Dear Fran: I have enjoyed working with you on various staff issues, and very much appreciate your willingness to communicate, suggest ways to solve problems and your fundamental commitment to both your colleagues and the School as a whole. Thank you very much for your service, and best wishes for your retirement! Bob Smith

- Robert Smith, Ithaca Jun 28 2007

Fran, It is such a pleasure to know someone who is upbeat and always thinking of others. I enjoyed working with you on staff events at ILR. I know you will enjoy retirement as much as all of the other ILR retirees have and you will soon be asking yourself: "how did I ever have time to work"? Don't forget those of us still working on the hill as we won't forget you. Best wishes, Brenda

- Brenda L, Newfield, NY Jun 28 2007

Wishing you all the best in your retirement - I know you will fill your days with family, friends, and fellowship. It was a pleasure to work with you these last few years; Catherwood will not be the same without you. I know you won't miss those long early morning drives, but I do hope you stop and see us from time to time. If only to share with us how great retirement is!

- Mary Newhart, Catherwood Library Jun 28 2007

Hi Fran, I just might be the last person to add to your "Memory Book." Hey, but what else would you expect? I hope you are still sighing with smiles - like you have been here for the last few weeks. (It's been driving me crazy.) You really deserve a break, before your next mission. There are so many chores to be done, organizations to shape up, family members to love and support, and diet recipes to try - but remember your other goals of relaxing and reading some good books! You know how much I love and admire you. Keep on truckin' and don't be a stranger.

- Susan, ILR Library Jul 6 2007

Fran, It's been an honor working with you for the short time I've been at the library. Thank you for all the guidance you've given me. You will be missed. Take care!

- *Jim DelRosso, Catherwood Library Jul 11 2007*

Fran, You were certainly an asset to ILR. I will sure miss you as I am sure many will. I hope you enjoy retirement to the fullest! Stay healthy and live well. Cheryl

- *Cheryl Noble, Owego Jul 11 2007*

Dear Frannie, Well, I guess it finally has happened. I remember when the countdown began and it came fast these last few months. Your smile never faded after you made your decision. It was the right one to make, and a lot of people will want to walk in your footsteps (maybe sooner than later). You will be a hard act to follow. Not sure if ILR and Catherwood will ever be the same again. You were the one positive that kept things flowing. Your caring for everyone will be deeply missed. Your friendship will be hard to replace. I know you will be volunteering for everything that comes along. What a great way to spend your time. No time card, no more days spent trying to fix problems (unless you want to). Enjoy this new phase of your life. Stay healthy and happy. Take care, Sharon

- *Sharon Reeves, Genoa Jul 11 2007*

Fran: Sorry I missed your party and send-off into another part of your life. We have known each other for almost 30 years since the old days in the Conference Center. After your 28 years here, it's time to get into the experience of retirement. Make the most of it. There are many challenges ahead but I am sure you can meet them and deal with them. I will treasure the many conversations we have had over the years and I will miss seeing and chatting with you. Love, BJ

- *Bob Julian, Ithaca Jul 11 2007*

"Franny", It has been a pleasure knowing you over the years. You were one of the first people I met at ILR and have always been so friendly and cheerful. Plus, you're fun to help when you need help with your computer! ENJOY! Lots of love, Christina

- *Christina Homrighouse, Spencer, NY Jul 11 2007*

Fran, Thank you for the kindness you've shown me. Now's your chance to live it up. Have a great retirement!

- *Kevin Miller, Ithaca Jul 11 2007*

Hi Fran, I certainly want to add my congratulations and good wishes for a bright, enjoyable, and long retirement. And I want you to know I've always enjoyed working with you. You possess the commonsense, responsible, and definitely hardworking qualities that make everyone else look good. Your willingness to help out with anything that needs doing will be missed by everyone here at ILR. But most of all, I'll miss your bright smile. You always lit up a room when you walked in. Thanks for making Catherwood a more pleasant place to work. And remember, once you get all the projects done at home that you've been saving to tackle when you retired, take time to do some really fun things for yourself. Life's short -- enjoy yourself. And keep in touch! Your good friend, Linda

- Linda J. Young, Owego, NY Jul 11 2007

Hi Fran, Although I haven't been at ILR very long, I feel as though I've known you for a long time. You make it very easy to be a friend!! I'll always remember how welcome you made me feel when I first arrived at ILR. Thank you for your gift of friendship.....it has meant a lot to me and I wish you many, many years of happiness in your retirement. I'll miss you at lunch!!

- Judy Mead, Genoa, NY Jul 11 2007

Dear Fran, I remember you from my first days here at ILR when you were always working hard helping out with all the ILR staff festivities. You have been so helpful to me, just having our great chats in the cafe, hallways and wherever we happened to run into each other (I will greatly miss those conversations). Then you started helping me to put up publications on the Digital Commons, which I will be forever grateful to you for. Thank you also, for the birthday wishes every year, I truly don't get much acknowledgment for getting older! Hope you have many years of fun and bliss being a retired lady of leisure now! With affection, Shelia

- Shelia Smith, Alpine, NY Jul 11 2007

Dear Fran, Many years have passed since we first met. Lots of changes have taken place at ILR, both good and bad. I certainly have enjoyed working with you over the decades. I especially liked your helpful and friendly attitude. You were always on the spot when timely, major, and eventful projects occurred. No one else at ILR has cared about "us" as much as you. When you were President of the Staff Organization everyone liked your ideas and suggestions. You certainly were respected by the staff. The time and effort you put into social events at ILR were outstanding; for this you will be greatly missed. Now that you are retired, have fun. Put those coins in the casino slot machines and WIN BIG! Elvis is sad you are gone, but happy that Alan Jackson has left the building. Hugs, Helen H.

- Helen Hamilton, Ithaca, NY Jul 12 2007

Fran - Thanks for being a friendly face and someone who I always enjoyed talking with. Party like a rock star!!!

- Lisa Rose, ILR Human Resources Jul 12 2007

