Hyannis, MA (April 30, 2010) – James Sutton of Andover was inducted to the Massachusetts Library Association (MLA) Hall of Fame during the organization’s Annual Conference held April 30, 2010 at The Resort and Conference Center at Hyannis, MA. This honor is bestowed upon practicing or retired librarians who have made a substantial, sustained contribution to advancing the cause of Massachusetts librarians or librarianship over a career of at least ten years. Inductees’ contributions may be in the fields of public service, education, advocacy, mentoring, service to the profession, or other areas. Inductees may work or have worked in school, public, special, or academic libraries, in library education, agencies, or associations.

While working at the Newton Free Library, Mr. Sutton earned his graduate degree in library science. He later served at the Stoughton Public Library and at the Morse Institute Library in Natick before being named Director of Andover’s Memorial Hall Library in 1993 where he remained until his June 2009 retirement. Mr. Sutton’s continuing focus has been to find new opportunities for libraries as the “information place” to serve the public. His leadership and dedication to Massachusetts libraries are evidenced by terms as president of the Massachusetts Library Association and the Minuteman Library Network. He is a tireless advocate for libraries and library services as demonstrated by his leadership in legislative advocacy efforts.

MLA introduces inductees to the Hall of Fame Award during even numbered years at its Annual Conference. Nominations for induction are approved by the MLA Executive Board.