

NETWORK CONNECTION



Official Newsletter of the New York State Library Assistants' Association

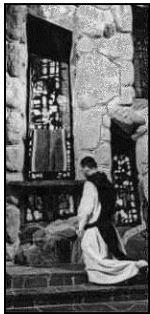
Jan.-Mar. 2011 Vol.23, no.1

We're Getting Ready!

Coleen Hopkins

Everyone at Milne Library is getting ready to welcome you to SUNY Geneseo in June.

The Wednesday tours are scheduled at the Abbey of the Genesee and the Mt. Morris Dam.



At the Abbey of the Genesee, visitors will see their beautiful chapel and learn about monastic life. While there, you will certainly want to purchase some delicious Monk's Bread (made on the premises) or goodies from other Monasteries that are available in their store.

For those who choose to visit the Mt. Morris Dam, you will be able to tour the dam and their Visitor's Center. The structure was built in the 1950's and continues to function as the flood control between Mt. Morris and Rochester saving millions in property damage annually.



The Mixer will be a very exciting event featuring historic locations in Geneseo with a sampling of period appropriate cuisine and a brief talk at each location. The evening will end at The Big Tree Inn for dessert, beverages and a short tale on the history of the Inn as they celebrate their 125th Anniversary.

After breakfast and the Town Meeting, we will be off and running. The committee has coordinated an array of workshops to address issues of library assistants in all types of libraries. Thursday evening we will travel to Genesee Country Village and Museum. NYSLAA attendees will be able to enjoy guided tours and a catered buffet dinner.



Photo courtesy the Genesee Country Village & Museum

The evening will conclude with entertainment by comedian/magician Sky Sands.

INSIDE: Annual Reports...NYSLAA Essay Contest...Craig Koste and Ray Murray Awards Nominations...
CAP...Membership Update

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“We would like to see a library community in New York State where library assistants have a voice in decisions that affect their future, are valued for their contributions, recognized and rewarded appropriately, and where there is equitable access to professional development opportunities.”

NYSLAA'S MISSION

“The mission of the New York State Library Assistants' Association is:

1. To enhance the professional image and status of NY State's library assistants.
2. To further their professional growth.
3. To provide a network for communication to our members and the profession on library and library assistant issues.
4. To network and cooperate with library organizations on local, state, national, and international levels.”

CHECK OUT NYSLAA'S WEBSITE: nyslaa.org

Join NYSLAA-L, NYSLAA's Electronic Forum

To subscribe, send the following command to listproc@cornell.edu
Subscribe nyslaa-l <first name><last name>. Do not include a subject.

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Unsubscribe nyslaa-l <first name><last name>. Do not include a subject.

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2010 NYSLAA Annual Reports

President

My first year as President of NYSLAA has been a growing experience for me. The Executive Council (EC) works well together and has been great in guiding me. I have attended all the EC meetings this past year and my responsibilities include setting-up the agenda and presiding over the meetings. As a volunteer in the past, it has been an eye opener for me to realize what goes into making NYSLAA.

Thanks to Sheila Tshudy, the group from The Rakow Library at The Corning Museum of Glass and the Southern Tier Library System for hosting a great conference this past year. We had an excellent turn out from our members even with the challenges and concerns of budget cuts that many libraries are experiencing.

Since no one applied in 2009, we awarded two scholarships in 2010 to the conference in Corning. Peg Pelletier (Newark Public Library) and Viorela Bryant (Berkeley College) both wrote wonderful essays on what NYSLAA means to them.

One of the suggestions that came from the Town Meeting was to have a NYSLAA presence at the NYLA conference. Donna Kuhner presented a workshop on CAP and NYSLAA and I assisted her with a display at the poster session. We did hand out a lot of information so hopefully we have spread the word about NYSLAA and will interest new members

We also set up a display at the 4th Annual Library Assistants' day In Syracuse. It was a pleasure to talk about NYSLAA.

Dorothy Morgan resigned as the Chair of the Certificate of Achievement Program Review Board and NYSLAA Ambassador for personal reasons. **Thank you, Dorothy, for being the "face of NYSLAA" for many years.** Michele Matthews agreed to Chair the CAP Review Board and we also gained two new members of the CAP Review Board. Currently we have no NYSLAA Ambassador.

If you are interested in getting involved, please let us know. Consider running for an office or volunteering for a committee.

I look forward to the rest of my term and the success of NYSLAA. Hope to see you in Geneseo for the 33rd Annual NYSLAA Conference, June 8-10, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally McMaster

Vice President

As Vice President I attended every Executive Council meeting during 2010, I participated in discussions and helped where I was needed. I maintain the archives by filing minutes and other association documents. It was my hope that by the end of 2010, when nominations were requested, someone new would step up and take on this role. No one did so I have accepted another term. Attending meetings, helping with the conference, and filing the archives are the only specific duties, but working for this organization and with the members of the Executive Council is very rewarding.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth V. Oberg

Recording Secretary

It has been my pleasure to serve NYSLAA as the Recording Secretary and Editor of the *Network Connection* newsletter for several years now. Every year brings new opportunities and challenges on how to do my best in recording the Minutes, publishing a quality newsletter and working with the other Executive Council Members to serve the best interests of NYSLAA.

As in the past, I will continue to remind the Membership that they are always welcome to attend an Executive Council Meeting and/or request a copy of the Minutes. A simple request in writing via email to hopkinsc@geneseo.edu or a letter is all that is necessary.

I recently took workshops on Publisher™ and am looking forward to giving the newsletter a more polished appearance.

Again, I would like to thank Donna Hanna and Ruth Oberg for their invaluable assistance in proofreading, editing, printing and distributing the *Network Connection*. I look forward to serving NYSLAA for another two-year term.

Respectfully submitted,
Coleen Hopkins

Corresponding Secretary

As I complete the first half of my second term as Corresponding Secretary I validate the importance of this organization and how vital it is to see NYSLAA continue independently.

As Corresponding Secretary it is one of my duties to notify the winners and runners-up chosen from those who indicated they would like to attend the New Jersey and Virginia conferences. To have your name submitted for one of these drawings you need to indicate it on your membership renewal form. Please put a check mark by which conference you would like to attend. The recipients of these drawings have enjoyed the opportunity to attend conferences outside of New York State and have the pleasure of networking with those in different states. Remember, the chance to network and learn new ways of doing our jobs is an invaluable tool. This year's winner to the Virginia conference was Sally McMaster. We were not able to send someone to New Jersey. The Executive Council instituted a new essay contest for the NYSLAA Conference. Since we did not have a winner for the 2009 conference, we decided to award two for 2010. Viorela Bryant, Berkeley College, and

Peg Pelletier, Newark Public Library were our first winners. Congratulations to all.

Another duty of the Corresponding Secretary is to notify those individuals selected to receive the Craig Koste Award for Outstanding Service and the Ray Murray Award. The recipients of these awards are honored at our annual conference each year. These awards and how they were established can be found on the NYSLAA website. This year's winner for the Craig Koste Award was Susan Morehead, Guernsey Memorial Library. Congratulations Susan! We did not receive any nominations for the Ray Murray Award this year.

I had the pleasure of presenting the NYSLAA Certificate of Achievement Program at the NYLA Conference in Saratoga Springs in November. Sally McMaster accompanied me with the program. We had two very enthusiastic individuals from the North Country attend. Both were anxious to take back the information to share with library assistants in their communities. Sally and I also participated in the Poster Session at NYLA. Several attendees stopped by our display to view and ask us questions about NYSLAA.

On alternate years I preside over the Election of Officers for the following positions: Vice-President, Membership Secretary, and Recording Secretary. No nominations were received from the membership, therefore, Ruth Oberg (Vice-President), Donna Hanna (Membership Secretary) and Coleen Hopkins (Recording Secretary) agreed to continue their positions for another two-year term. Thank you Ruth, Donna, and Coleen.

As I try to remind all of you that this is "your" organization, I want to encourage you to participate. Please take an active role no matter how small or large. NYSLAA depends on each and every one of us helping to make this organization continue.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Kuhner

Treasurer

The Treasurer's Annual Report is not intended for viewing on the web site. If you are a NYSLAA member you may request a copy from the NYSLAA Treasurer or check your paper copy of the newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn M. Burnett

Membership Secretary

The 2010 membership year ended at 338 members. Years with our organization for members are: 17 twenty one-year; 28 twenty-year; 9 nineteen-year, 3 eighteen-year, 13 seventeen-year, 14 sixteen-year, 12 fifteen-year, 23 fourteen-year, 16 thirteen-year, 10 twelve-year, 16 eleven-year, 16 ten-year, 12 nine-year, 12 eight-year, 17 seven-year, 14 six-year, 14 five-year, 26 four-year, 29 three-year, 24 two-year and 32 of our members were new. Associate status is held by 43 members which increased by 11 due for the most part to retirements.

The regional distribution of members is:

(1) Capital District Library Council –	20 (35, 23, 20, 19, 24)
(2) Central New York Library Resources Council –	31 (39, 53, 49, 49, 48)
(3) Long Island Library Resources Council –	23 (19, 26, 33, 42, 36)
(4) Metropolitan New York Library Council –	36 (62, 82, 84, 75, 54)
(5) Northern Country Library Council –	17 (15, 18, 20, 25, 29)
(6) Rochester Regional Library Council –	85 (88, 94, 91, 101, 128)
(7) South Central Research Library Council –	63 (63, 62, 66, 53, 77)
(8) Southeastern New York Library Resources Council –	27 (22, 25, 30, 24, 24)
(9) Western New York Library Resources Council –	27 (28, 34, 34, 35, 42)
Out of state members –	10 (11, 11, 12, 13, 10)

**Numbers in parenthesis are 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, and 2005 totals.*

Regions 1, 2 and 4 reflect a significant decline in numbers. Regions, 6, 8, and 9 had slight declines, but the remaining regions memberships' held steady or advanced.

Types of institutions represented by this year's membership are:

College and University –	103 (120, 131, 128, 130, 146)
Junior College –	18 (20, 26, 26, 19, 22)
Law –	9 (12, 26, 41, 40, 37)
Medical –	8 (8, 10, 11, 12, 10)
Non-library –	17 (13, 17, 20, 15, 20)
Public –	165 (187, 206, 197, 193, 213)
School –	7 (9, 10, 10, 11, 11)
Special –	11 (11, 6, 6, 16, 13)

**Numbers in parenthesis are 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2005 totals.*

All library type memberships reflect a decline except for Medical and Special. The increase in Non-library numbers again reflect retirements during the 2010 membership year.

Unfortunately, our membership numbers are way down from 2010. In fact, we lost 44 members this year and 46 from the previous year. We will again have to focus more on actively bringing members back into the fold and recruiting new members as well.

The 2009 Directory was mailed to members along with the 2010 conference brochures, membership letters/cards, newsletters and renewal reminders where applicable in early March 2010. This next year will begin our new green effort and the 2010 NYSLAA Membership Directory will be made available online. Printed copies will only be available upon request. I would like to thank Sally McMaster, University of Rochester; Heidi Jensen, Pioneer Library System; and Ruth Oberg, University at Buffalo for their help in proofreading the 2010 directory.

I would also like to thank Coleen Hopkins and Beverly Murphy for helping with the numerous preliminary details that went into getting people registered for the 2010 conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Hanna

Conference Coordinator

The first half of 2010 was spent working on the conference planning that began in 2009 with Sheila Tshudy. Sheila headed the committee consisting of library assistants from both The Rakow Library at The Corning Museum of Glass and two from the Southern Tier Library System. The 2010 conference was held at The Radisson Corning and The Corning Museum of Glass (CMOG) in Corning. We enjoyed a wonderful evening at CMOG which included a hot glass show followed by dinner and karaoke. We discovered some great talent as we were entertained by our attendees and hosts. There was a very nice selection of workshops. The keynote address was given by author Lee Welles. She was a wonderful wrap up to the conference. The conference received good reviews on the evaluation forms and was rated a success. A large thank you goes to the local planning committee for all their commitment and hard work putting together another great NYSLAA conference.

In the second half of 2010 I began the planning for the 2011 conference with Donna Hanna, Coleen Hopkins and the library staff from SUNY Geneseo. I made a site visit in August with the Executive Council. The conference will be held on the beautiful campus in Geneseo. The planning continues over the phone and email.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth V. Oberg

Public Relations

In January, arrangements were made with the office of Congressman Jonathan Bing to have Thursday, April 15, 2010, proclaimed New York State Library Assistants' Day. The proclamation was received from Albany in late May - just in time to be displayed at the NYSLAA Conference.

A message was sent on nyslaa-l reminding everyone about Library Assistants' Day.

Several people responded, sharing how their libraries celebrated the day. Festivities ranged from luncheons to munchies and gifts of appreciation.

Associates magazine published a large advertisement for the 32nd Annual NYSLAA Conference in their spring issue.

The 32nd Annual NYSLAA Conference was held in Corning, New York. I had the honor of presenting the Craig Koste Award to Susan Morehead from Guernsey Memorial Library in Norwich, New York. There were no nominations for the Ray Murray Award. Membership awards for 5, 10, 15, and 20 years were presented.

Regional Representatives were asked to provide a brief written report of events from their region, and to give a synopsis to the membership at the Friday afternoon awards ceremony.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth A. Mason

Certificate of Achievement Program

In September, I took over as the Coordinator of the Certificate of Achievement Review Board, when Dorothy Morgan stepped down.

The Certificate of Achievement Review Board was happy to award three Certificates at the conference in Corning. Congratulations to the following recipients.



General Services Level 4

Debra Curry New York Public Library,
New York City, NY.

Technical Services Level 4

Kelly Bliss The Rakow Research Library,
The Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY.
Kathleen Kapral The Rakow Research Library,
The Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY.

Two new members were added to the Review Board, Debra Curry from New York Public Library and Michele Giuffre from Bethlehem Public Library.

The Review Board is working on two packets at this time. We are able to do this by scanning Form B and the competency statement and discussing it via email. This process has been working out well. If we come across an issue that needs in depth discussion we table it until we are able to meet in person.

The Review Board is planning to add "In Training" members in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Matthews

Donations Chair

For the 2010 NYSLAA Annual Conference, I sent out nearly 50 vendor donation requests. Most requests were sent via email and if I didn't get a response, I sent a letter by snail mail. Unfortunately, not many vendors were forthcoming, as it was a tough year for everyone. We did receive several donations however, and NYLA was particularly generous. Their support was appreciated.

As this was my first endeavor doing this kind of work, I did have a lot to learn. I will be doing things a bit differently in 2011 and I am grateful for the opportunity to try new strategies and to support NYSLAA. I look forward to seeing many of you at the conference in Geneseo!

Respectfully submitted,
Susan J. Flick,



End of Annual Reports



Free NYSLAA Conference Offer



The Executive Council will present one NYSLAA member an award allowing them to attend the 2011 conference for free! The recipient will receive full conference registration and one night's lodging. (Tours, mixer and shirts are on your own.)

To qualify you must be a current NYSLAA member and will NOT be receiving any funding from your library to attend the conference.

Write a statement of 150 to 300 words on "What NYSLAA means to me and why I would love to attend this year's conference in Geneseo NY."

Please send your essay to:

Sally McMaster
NYSLAA President
University of Rochester Library
755 Library Rd
Rochester, NY 14627
smcmaster@library.rochester.edu

Deadline date for entering to be eligible for this year's conference is April 1st.

Nominations Sought

Craig Koste Award for Outstanding Service

In 1992, the Executive Council created “The NYSLAA Award for Outstanding Service” specifically for New York State library assistants who are current members of NYSLAA. In 1997, its name was changed to honor Craig Koste, a library assistant who passed away in 1995 and bequeathed an endowment to NYSLAA. The award recognizes those library assistants who have distinguished themselves by their service to our organization and to the library assistants of New York on either a state or local level. A stipend of \$100 will be given to the library of the winner for collection development.



Ray Murray Award

In 1989, the Ray Murray Award was created to honor Ray Murray, a librarian who opened the door for creation of the annual library assistants’ conference, thereby laying the groundwork for NYSLAA. The Ray Murray Award is given to librarians, library directors, trustees, board members, and others who have contributed to the recognition and/or professional growth of library assistants.

To nominate:

Send a letter of nomination for either award to:
Sally McMaster
University of Rochester
Rush Rhees Library
775 Library Road
Rochester, NY 14627
FAX: (585) 273-5309
smcmaster@library.rochester.edu

Supporting letters and documentation are encouraged along with the nomination letter for either award. For the Craig Koste Award, please include the name of the nominee’s supervisor for notification. The deadline for nominations is March 31, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact Sally. Awards will be presented at the 2011 Conference in Geneseo.

Updates...

Things you have asked for and the Executive Council is addressing.

Buy Back Membership Years The criteria was announced in the Oct.-Dec. 2010 *Network Connection* and this option is available during calendar year 2011 only. If you are interested, please contact Donna Hanna at (585) 245-5508 or hanna@geneseo.edu.

More Information on the NYSLAA Web Site. The Executive Council is now posting their meetings on the website. We are looking into an easy method of alerting the Web Master and will continue to add information as it becomes available.

Posting NYSLAA Conference Photos.

This request sparked an excellent discussion on nyslaa-l and we have had several members step forward to volunteer to post photos on facebook and flickr. We will also be putting more photos on the web site. Watch for more on this in the next issue of the *Network Connection*.

NYSLAA and Credit Cards. There will be information on the feasibility of paying your membership or conference registration with a credit card at the Town Meeting during the 2011 Annual NYSLAA Conference and in the July-September issue of this newsletter.



Hear what regional groups are doing around the State.

**NYSLAA'S
GREATEST
CHEERLEADER**



Join us to network and have a good time!



On to Geneseo for 2011!