

# NETWORK CONNECTION



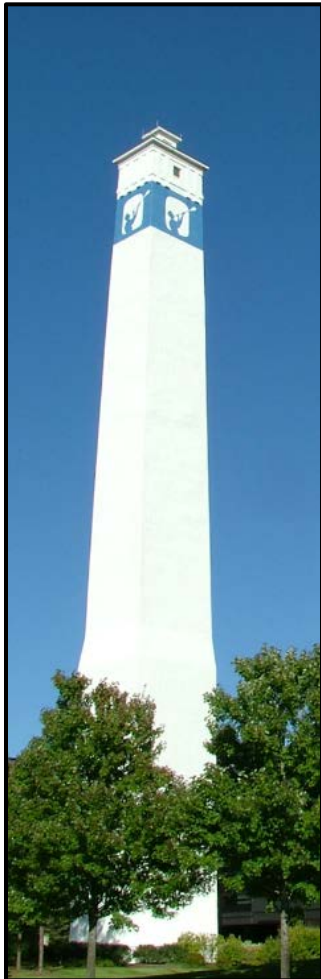
*Official Newsletter of the New York State Library Assistants' Association*

*Oct.-Dec. 2014 Vol.26, no.4*

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## Corning Welcomes NYSLAA Back Again!

Coleen Hopkins, 2015 Conference Committee Member



You may have been aware that the New York City/NYPL area members expressed interest in hosting the 2015 Conference. After discussions with many hotels in the area, Ruth Oberg, Conference Coordinator, and the group decided that they should consider hosting at a later date to give them more time to plan and find a reasonably priced location.

Ruth made a few inquiries elsewhere and Sheila Tshudy, Rakow Library, Corning Museum of Glass, graciously agreed to form a committee and bring the 2015 Conference back to Corning. Sheila brings both expertise and experience as she previously chaired the 2010 Conference. Sheila gathered Judith Andrew, Vickie Button, Coleen Hopkins and Pamela Rogers to serve on the 2015 Conference Committee. Sheila Hallahan recently joined the group and we are all working together to prepare for your visit in June 2015.

As in 2010, we will hold the conference at the Radisson Hotel in Corning. Please note: due to hotel availability the 2015 Annual NYSLAA Conference will be held **June 17-19, 2015**.

The Committee has selected the Little Joe Tower and "**Library Assistants: Towering Within the Library Profession**" as our logo and theme.

The Corning Museum of Glass will be opening their new Contemporary Glass Galleries in the spring. They will feature special temporary projects including large-scale installations.

Wednesday evening we will be gathering for a BBQ Mixer and the Thursday event will provide a different activity at a local venue. The 2015 Committee is happy to announce the return of Round Table discussions so prepare your questions to share with others for some interesting networking. Our aim is to set up workshops with broad appeal. Sheila Tshudy and the rest of the 2015 Conference Committee are excited about our plans and are looking forward to hosting in June.

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**INSIDE:** NYSLAA Election Results...CAP...Scholarships...Membership...etc.

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2014**

**Michele Matthews**

President  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
(518) 276- 8337  
prendm@rpi.edu

**Kathy Rosello**

Vice-President  
East Greenbush Community Library  
(518) 477-7476 ext. 108  
rossek@eastgreenbushlibrary.org

**Carrie Goetz**

Treasurer  
University at Buffalo  
(716) 645-5113  
ceoberg@buffalo.edu

**Coleen Hopkins**

Recording Secretary  
Rushford Free Library  
hopkinsc@geneseo.edu

**Donna Kuhner**

Corresponding Secretary  
Gloversville Public Library  
(518) 725-2819  
dkuhner@sals.edu

**Donna Hanna**

Membership Secretary  
SUNY Geneseo  
(585) 245-5508  
hanna@geneseo.edu

**Conference Coordinator**

Ruth V. Oberg  
University at Buffalo  
(716) 645-1336  
oberg@buffalo.edu

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**Standing Committees**

**Public Relations Chair**

Nancy Davis  
University at Albany  
(518) 442-3616  
ndavis@albany.edu

**Donations Chair**

Sheila Tshudy  
Corning Museum of Glass  
tshudysa@cmog.org

**Certificate of Achievement**

**Review Board Coordinator**

Michele Matthews  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
(518) 276- 8337  
prendm@rpi.edu

**Ambassador**

(Vacant))

**Community Outreach Committee**

Nancy Davis  
University at Albany  
(518) 442-3616  
ndavis@albany.edu

“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.”

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CHECK OUT NYSLAA’S WEBSITE: [nyslaa.org](http://nyslaa.org)

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**Join NYSLAA’s Electronic Listserv (NYSLAA-L) and follow us on Facebook**

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the NYSLAA listserv simply go to [nyslaa.org](http://nyslaa.org), click on “Join Our Email List” and follow the instructions.



Search for: **New York State Library Assistants' Association**

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**Editor: Coleen Hopkins**

*Volunteer Rushford Free Library*

*Email: [hopkinsc@geneseo.edu](mailto:hopkinsc@geneseo.edu)*

*Newsletter Committee: Chair, Coleen Hopkins, Rushford Free Library;*

*Donna Hanna, SUNY Geneseo; Ruth V. Oberg, University at Buffalo*

*Next publication date: February 15, 2015*

*Submission deadline: January 31, 2015*

## Executive Council Elections

Donna Kuhner, 2014 Election Chair



We have just completed the 2014 Executive Council Elections for the following offices: Vice President, Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary and the new Executive Council Office, Conference Coordinator.

A call for nominations was announced on nyslaa-l, our Facebook page and in the July-September issue of the *Network Connection*. We received one nomination for each office creating an unopposed slate.

### The winners are:

Vice President: Kathy Rossello  
Membership Secretary: Donna Hanna  
Recording Secretary: Tammy Southard  
Conference Coordinator: Ruth V. Oberg

As stated in the NYSLAA Bylaws, Article II: Elections Section B: Election Procedures:

B.1 “In the event of a totally unopposed slate of nominees, the Chair of the Election Committee shall inform the membership before the end of the year, and shall declare those nominees to be the new officers in January.”

Please consider running for a NYSLAA office. Our organization depends on the involvement of its membership and several current Executive Council Officers are nearing retirement. It is important to become an active member to insure the future of NYSLAA.

Please feel free to talk with any of the Officers and consider running for an office. Of course, members are always welcome to attend Executive Council Meetings and take a first-hand look at how we conduct business!

**Please join us in congratulating ~ Kathy, Donna, Tammy, and Ruth.**

**And to our retiring Recording Secretary, Coleen Hopkins, a BIG thank you for your many years of service. Enjoy your retirement!**



## Hot Off The Presses!

The 2015 NYSLAA Conference Committee is offering the lottery tickets as a fundraiser for the conference to be held in Corning, New York, June 17-19, 2015. The tickets are a mere \$5.00 each. The numbers are based on the New York State Lottery’s daily evening drawing for the whole month of February 2015.

The daily winnings are **\$25.00**.  
On **Valentine’s Day** it will be **\$50.00**.

These tickets make great stocking stuffers!  
Contact Michele Matthews for tickets at [premdm@rpi.edu](mailto:premdm@rpi.edu)



## Continuing to Give Back!

Nancy Davis, Community Outreach Chair

The Community Outreach Committee wants to send a big thank you to all who gave at our 2014 Annual NYSLAA Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY. One of my favorite things about NYSLAA, being a new conference attendee in 2012, was the generosity of its members. You give back to the community that hosts our conferences. The 2015 Annual NYSLAA Conference Committee would once again like to ask conference attendees to consider two ways to give back this year.



You can bring a new or gently used backpack and/or school supplies to the conference. All items will then be turned over to the appropriate local agency to assure your donations are distributed to those who are in the most need.

The Community Outreach Committee will also be asking for non-perishable donations for the local food pantry.



Thank you again for your generosity!



## Your Public Relations Committee at Work!

Nancy Davis, Public Relations Chair

*Hello NYSLAA members!*

I have been busy contacting your directors in hopes of increasing membership and conference attendance. I have sent out over 250 letters to three Regions at this point, so watch for an email from your director about NYSLAA. You might even be proactive and ask if they have heard from me and how could you assist them in spreading the NYSLAA message.

Please be sure to reach out to your co-workers, and local libraries about NYSLAA and our very beneficial conference! This is a job I really need your help with, my best efforts would never equal what each of you could do in your own backyard. I appreciate your input and assistance in spreading the word about NYSLAA. Please send any ideas you may have that can help our organization grow and improve.



## A Look Back at Saratoga Springs!



## Certificate of Achievement

Michele Matthews, Review Board Coordinator

Please join the Certificate of Achievement Review Board in congratulating Sujatha Bhuvanaraj from Kirksville MO for achieving a Level IV in Technical Services and Eileen Sirianni from the University at Buffalo for achieving a Level IV in Administration/Management.



We are off to a good start this year, but the Review Board is anxious to review your packet. If you would like some information please feel free to contact me at [prendm@rpi.edu](mailto:prendm@rpi.edu). I will even travel to your library and do a Certificate of Achievement presentation.



## Membership Update

Donna Hanna, Membership Secretary

Memberships for 2014 is at 293 and 41 members are new. Renewal reminders were sent out October 14<sup>th</sup> to 126 2013 members offering them an opportunity to renew for the 2014 membership year.

If you move, please be sure to alert me that you have a new address. This will help avoid

unnecessary delays in receiving your membership mailings.

As always, if you have a question regarding your membership or if you need a letter verifying your years of NYSLAA membership for the Certificate of Achievement Program please let me know via [hanna@geneseo.edu](mailto:hanna@geneseo.edu).



## Welcome New Member!

Laura Swayer Guernsey Memorial Library



## NYSLAA Membership Activity

Coleen Hopkins, *Network Connection* Editor

NYSLAA members are a very active people, whether it is in your professional or personal lives. You are all out there attending workshops, conferences, or advocating for libraries in more unique ways. I would like to encourage you to share your professional experiences with NYSLAA by sending an article to your incoming editor:

[Tammy Southard, SUNY Oneonta at Tammy.Southard@oneonta.edu](mailto:Tammy.Southard@oneonta.edu).

Your information could educate or inspire another member. It may even create a mentoring opportunity for you.

If you have a personal accomplishment about yourself or a colleague, please share it on nyslaa-l or on our Facebook page under New York State Library Assistants.

Your endeavors are important and valuable. Share them with all of us!

## NYSLAA Scholarships

### Continuing Education Scholarship

*NYSLAA will award one scholarship up to \$250*



**To qualify** for the NYSLAA Continuing Education Scholarship, you must be:

- \* A regular member of NYSLAA for at least two years
- \* Continuing your professional development in a non-matriculated program

**To apply** for a scholarship submit the following to the NYSLAA President:

- \* Complete the application form found at [nyslaa.org](http://nyslaa.org)
- \* Write a statement of 150 to 300 words explaining your goals and how this scholarship will aid you
- \* Include a letter from the Registrar's office or a receipt that you are enrolled
- \* The cost of the course

**Please note:**

- \* Applications must be sent to **Michele Matthews at [prendm@rpi.edu](mailto:prendm@rpi.edu)** and postmarked no later than December 31, 2014.

First consideration will be given to applicants who have not received a NYSLAA scholarship in the past.

### The Degree Program Scholarship

*NYSLAA will award one scholarship in the amount of \$350*



**To qualify** for the NYSLAA Degree Program Scholarship, you must be:

- \* A regular member of NYSLAA for at least two years
- \* Actively pursuing a matriculated degree at an accredited educational institution

**To apply** for a scholarship submit the following to the NYSLAA President:

- \* Complete the application form found at [nyslaa.org](http://nyslaa.org)
- \* Write a statement of 150 to 300 words explaining your goals and how this scholarship will aid you
- \* Include a copy of your transcript, or letter from the Registrar's office citing the number of credit hours taken

**Please note:**

- \* Applications must be sent to **Michele Matthews at [prendm@rpi.edu](mailto:prendm@rpi.edu)** and postmarked no later than December 31, 2014.

Applicants may receive this scholarship only once. Previous winners may not apply.



Photo by **Jason Oberg**.  
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