

# NETWORK CONNECTION



Official Newsletter of the New York State Library Assistants' Association

Jan.-Mar. 2017 Vol.29, No.1

## Library Assistants: Central to Libraries

Anna Dobkowski, Conference Committee

So the groundhog saw his shadow. Six more weeks of winter and less than fourteen weeks to NYSLAA's 39th annual conference. **June 7-9, 2017** at the Holiday Inn, Electronics Parkway in Liverpool.

What a jam-packed, amazing, three days the Executive Council conference committee has planned for you!

Wednesday evening's mixer will be held on the conference hotel patio, a DJ spinning tunes, an outdoor fire pit setting the mood, and a sneak peek at the Northern Onondaga Public Library's Pop-Up, their mobile library. Please wear a shirt with your library's logo. A great way to meet old colleagues and greet new friends.



Some of Thursday's conference sessions include Fostering Writers in Your Community, Using Your State's Digital Heritage Resources, a panel on Community Outreach, and Hosting Your Own Death Café.

Speakers back by popular demand include: Michele Matthews with her Certificate of Achievement presentation, Fred Stoss with his environmental viewpoint, Lisa Wemett and Terry Mulee with another travel log, Ben Hogben with a leadership workshop, Amanda Perrine with more customer service advice, and Jaclyn McKewan with Google Tools for Collaboration.

Thursday evening we will be holding the conference dinner at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo. Enjoy a delicious hot buffet and a self-guided tour of the animal habitats and exhibits. We have rented the facility and can roam among the animals at our leisure. Lions and tigers and bears. Elephants, penguins and an octopus. Oh, my!

Some of Friday's conference sessions will include Fake News Phenomenon, How the Statue of Liberty Was Built, Safety and Security in the Library, Historical Oakwood Cemetery, Climate Change and Coding for Libraries.

Nate Hill, Executive Director of the Metro Library Resources Council in New York City, will be the Keynote Speaker at Friday's luncheon. Nate is a fantastic presenter and we're sure to leave the conference with some laughs and some deep thoughts about the path of libraries.

As you can see, we have plenty of professional development and networking opportunities at this year's annual conference. But, there is also an opportunity to give back to the local community. We will be asking for your generous donations to the local Food Bank, SPCA and/or Golisano Children's Hospital. Please open your hearts and purses for these needy charities.

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**INSIDE:** Annual Reports... Craig Koste and Ray Murray Nominations...Eileen Lemley Scholarship...Ongoing Series-  
New York: Literary Map

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2017

### **Michele Matthews**

President  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
(518) 276-8330  
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

### **Tammy Southard**

Recording Secretary  
SUNY Oneonta  
(607) 436-2727  
Tammy.Southard@oneonta.edu

### **Dawn Gage**

Corresponding Secretary  
SUNY Oneonta  
(607) 436-2008  
Dawn.Gage@oneonta.edu

### **Donna Hanna**

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

### **Rose Flickner**

Conference Coordinator  
University of Rochester  
(585) 375-4454  
rflickner@library.rochester.edu

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## Standing Committees

### **Public Relations Chair** – and – **Community Outreach Chair**

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

### **Donations Chair**

**Sheila Tshudy**  
Corning Museum of Glass  
(607) 438-5337  
tshudysa@cmog.org

### **Certificate of Achievement**

### **Review Board Coordinator** – and – **Ambassador**

**Michele Matthews**  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
(518) 276- 8330  
prendm@rpi.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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The *NYSLAA Network Connection* is published four times a year by the New York State Library Assistants’ Association. Articles may be reprinted with the permission of the editor.

### **Editor: Tammy Southard**

SUNY Oneonta, Milne Library  
Email: Tammy.Southard@oneonta.edu

**Newsletter Committee: Chair, Tammy Southard, SUNY Oneonta**

**Laureen Anthony-Palmer, Webster Public Library**

**Michele Giuffre, Bethlehem Public Library**

**Ruth V. Oberg, Unaffiliated**

Next publication date: *May 15, 2017*

Submission deadline: *April 30, 2017*

# NYSLAA Annual Reports for 2016

## President

Michele A. Matthews

My third year as NYSLAA president was very busy. My duties included setting the agenda for the Executive Council meetings and presiding over the general session of members at the annual conference.

The Executive Council said goodbye to Ruth Oberg, our Conference Coordinator, who stepped down in July. Thank you, Ruth for your many years of service. Rose Flickner from University of Rochester stepped up to serve as Conference Coordinator. The Executive Council voted unanimously on her appointment. Thank you, Rose.

There were no applications received for the NYSLAA's Degree Program Scholarship or our Continuing Education Scholarship. Nancy Davis from the University at Albany received the Eileen Lemley Conference Scholarship.

The 38th Annual Conference was held at Chautauqua Institution. Ruth Oberg chaired the conference with a committee from the University at Buffalo, the conference was a huge success. Thank you, Ruth!

Nancy Davis and Dawn Gage received the Craig Koste Award. Nancy is employed at the University at Albany and Dawn is employed at SUNY Oneonta. Several letters written by colleagues and supervisors detailing their involvement in the library community and in support of library assistants were received by the Executive Council. Congratulations, Nancy and Dawn!

Sheryl Knab, Director of the Western New York Library Resource Council, was awarded the Ray Murray Award. Sheryl has been a supporter of library assistants since joining WNYLRC. Congratulations, Sheryl!

The Donations Committee with Sheila Tshudy as the chair ran two more campaigns with Schwan's and Yankee Candle raising approximately \$700.00. The monies from these campaigns are used to defray some of our yearly conference costs. Sheila also secured several items which were raffled off at our conference.

The Public Relations Committee with Nancy Davis as the chair worked with the State Assembly Representatives to secure Thursday, April 14, 2016 as Library Assistants' Day. NYSLAA also used Nancy's idea to allow library assistants to join NYSLAA for free during Library Week. Thanks to Nancy's idea we saw another growth in our membership.

The Community Outreach Committee with Nancy Davis as the chair collected items for a Food Pantry and Animal Shelter at the Chautauqua conference in June. They also collected homemade blankets from our members for the Linus Project in Buffalo and Albany.

The Certificate of Achievement Review Board awarded six certificates at the conference. They continue to guide anyone who is interested.

It has been an honor to serve as your President.

## Vice President

Kathy Rossello

I can't believe I am entering my 5th year of being Vice President of NYSLAA. I have attended all Executive Council meetings during 2016. I maintain the archives by filing minutes and all other association documents. I post updates for NYSLAA on their Facebook page as well. The Certificate of Achievement Review Board is another way in which I support library assistants. If you haven't received your Library Assistant Certificate of Achievement please contact me and I will point you in the right direction. I have found it very rewarding to work with the rest of the Executive Council. Let's continue to make NYSLAA Successful in the future.

## Recording Secretary

Tammy Southard

I've just completed my second year as the NYSLAA Recording Secretary. As the Recording Secretary my duties have been to record and submit all of the minutes from the Executive Council Meetings and the Town Hall Meeting at the NYSLAA Conference.

The Recording Secretary also compiles, edits and publishes the NYSLAA Network Connections Newsletter four times a year with the assistance of the Newsletter Committee. This year the Newsletter Committee consisted of Laureen Anthony-Palmer, Adrienne Birchler, Michele Giuffre, Ruth Oberg and myself. Adrienne retired from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute last summer and her expertise with editing the newsletter is surely missed! Ruth has retired from her position at the University at Buffalo but thankfully has still been able to edit, do the formatting of the newsletter and publish the newsletter on the NYSLAA web site. Thank you so much Ruth! I appreciate all of the articles, announcements and photographs for events that all of you are hosting to be included in the newsletter. I try to promote what is going on with our members and their libraries and we like to hear what our fellow library assistants are accomplishing.

As I enter my second term as Recording Secretary for the Executive Council of NYSLAA, I look forward to our 39th Annual Conference to be held in Syracuse this year. I enjoy working with the Executive Council on the conference planning and making it a valuable time for all attendees.

Please consider getting involved with NYSLAA whether it be as an officer or on a committee. We are always looking for new members and more of you to volunteer. NYSLAA is such a worthwhile organization.



Thursday evening conference  
dinner location.

## Corresponding Secretary

Dawn Gage

One of my duties is to inform the winners of awards or scholarships. Chaniqua Mauldin, Mount St. Mary College in Newburgh, NY was the winner of the drawing which allowed her to attend the Virginia Library Association Paraprofessional Forum Conference held in May 2016.

Nancy Davis, University at Albany, won the NYSLAA Conference Contest which enabled her to attend the 2016 NYSLAA Conference at the Chautauqua Institution on Chautauqua Lake.

Sheryl Knab, Director of Western New York Library Resources Council in Buffalo, NY received the Ray Murray Award. Nancy Davis, University at Albany and Dawn Gage, SUNY Oneonta were the recipients of the Craig Koste Award. They all received their respective awards at the NYSLAA Conference at the Chautauqua Institution.

As this was an even year, I presided over the NYSLAA elections for the Executive Council. The winners for the NYSLAA election were:

**Vice President:** Kathy Rossello,

East Greenbush Community Library

**Membership Secretary:** Donna Hanna,  
SUNY Geneseo

**Recording Secretary:** Tammy Southard,  
SUNY Oneonta

**Conference Coordinator:** Rose Flickner,  
University of Rochester

I will be stepping down as Corresponding Secretary in April 2017 as I will be retiring from my full time employment. I would like to urge you as members to ask Executive Council members volunteer opportunities. Helping hands are always needed for many things. It also gives you an opportunity to meet and network closely with other library assistants around the state.

The council will need a Corresponding Secretary in April, so this would be a way to work with some very nice and dedicated people. I have enjoyed working with them and serving NYSLAA at the same time.

## Treasurer

Carrie Goetz

Since the Network Connection Newsletter is only available online, we will not post our financial report on the web. The 2016 Treasurer's Annual Report is subject to our CPA's approval in May/June. Our books will be finalized in the next few months and taxes are filed in May. All NYSLAA members are entitled to see a full report. If you are interested in seeing it after our CPA has approved them, please contact me at [ceoberg@buffalo.edu](mailto:ceoberg@buffalo.edu).

I am glad to see many people still using PayPal to renew their memberships and pay for their conference registrations. I hope you have found it to be convenient and easy to use. I have been using this service personally for years and have found it very secure for making payments. If you are still unsure of this service or have questions on using PayPal, please feel free to shoot me an email.

Again this year I was sad to see no one applied for our scholarships. If there is a class you would like to take and your institution will not pay for it, let us know why you want to go and we would be happy to help. If you haven't applied before, it is free money that we offer for you just for writing just a short paragraph. The **Eileen Lemley Conference Scholarship** is still available if you would like to come to the conference but receive no funding. The information can be found on our scholarship page, [nyslaa.org/scholarships.html](http://nyslaa.org/scholarships.html).

I am looking forward to the conference this year at the Holiday Inn in Liverpool, NY. See you all soon!

## Conference Coordinator

Ruth V. Oberg

The first half of 2016 was spent working on planning the 2016 conference to be held at the Chautauqua Institution located in the Southwest corner of New York State. It was a very unique location nestled on the shores of Chautauqua Lake. It got its start in the 1800s as an educational retreat for philosophers and others looking for an education without being able to go to college. I was also conference chair this year. The committee was from the University at Buffalo Libraries and consisted of: Carrie Goetz, Karen Ridler, Nora Renda, Karen Kuta and Cindy Kloss. The committee

worked on donations and many other details and really stepped up at the conference to make it run smoothly. I worked with the hotel and the institution for the catering and other onsite arrangements as well as the other venues we used. We offered a walking tour of the institution grounds and a bus driven wine tour. There was a wonderful selection of workshops that would not have been possible without our presenters going miles out of their way to get to our remote location. The mixer was a dinner cruise on the Summer Wind on Chautauqua Lake with a wonderful buffet. Thursday's event was held at the Lucy and Desi Museum and Comedy Center. It included guided tours of the two museums and dinner in the replicated Tropicana Room while watching a Lucy episode. The inspiring keynote address was given by Jason Van Gardner from Virginia. The conference evaluations were good and it was rated a success. We had good weather except for the chilly boat ride. A large thank you goes to my committee for their work helping me put together another great NYSLAA conference.

This was my last conference as Conference Chair, I retired from UB at the end of June. It has been my pleasure to serve in this position for 20 years. I'm passing the torch to Rose Flicker who is off to a great start. I hope you will all help where you can.

## Public Relations Committee

Nancy Davis, Chair

Thursday, April 13, 2017 will be New York State Library Assistants' Day, and the week of April 9th through 15th will be National Library Week! I am currently actively seeking our Resolution for the fourth year in this office. I enjoy the opportunities we get to speak to our New York State Legislatures in this process.

I encourage you all to consider a New York State Library Assistants' Day celebration in your home libraries on April 13th especially if you haven't done it before. It can be a lot of fun! Share your pictures and ideas with us. I know it's debatable, but I think the best part of being a NYSLAA member is the networking and ideas we share.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all again. Please feel free to introduce yourself and chat if you see me at the conference.

## Donations Committee

Sheila Tshudy, Chair

First, I'd like to thank Schwan's and Yankee Candle for once again allowing NYSLAA to raise funds through their online sales programs. NYSLAA earned \$393 through Schwan's and an additional \$602.80 from Yankee Candle in our 2016 campaigns.

In addition to these fundraisers, a huge thank you goes out to all our members who supported NYSLAA (and the conference committee) by donating raffle baskets, purchasing raffle basket and 50-50 tickets, and those who chose to make monetary donations to NYSLAA. All your contributions are greatly appreciated!

As always, NYSLAA is indebted to the many businesses, organizations, and individuals who continue to support NYSLAA by donating items for our conference bags or raffle baskets, presenting at our conference, or supporting our organization in any way.

As we all know, securing monetary donations has become more difficult and we as a committee (and organization!) continue to investigate other avenues as a means to raise funds for our annual conferences. If you have any fundraising ideas or suggestions you'd like to share, please contact me. In the meantime, stay tuned for new fundraising events in 2017!

## Community Outreach Committee

Nancy Davis, Chair

Do you see the one you made here? Thank you so much! Our recipients of these blankets were so pleased, that I decided to offer you all an incentive to keep working! I will donate a **\$40 VISA gift card** to one winner from a drawing of all the blanket makers for this year's conference. Remember, they have to be homemade, and they have to be at least 36 inches square. You can knit, sew, quilt, tie or crochet your contribution. Get going!



## Certificate of Achievement

Michele A. Matthews, Review Board Coordinator

Current Committee members are Michele Mathews, Coordinator, Dawn Gage, Carrie Goetz, Michele Giuffre, Kathy Rossello, and Melissa Tidd. The Certificate of Achievement Review Board will be losing Dawn Gage in April to retirement, so if anyone is interested in serving on the committee please contact me at [prendm@rpi.edu](mailto:prendm@rpi.edu). Congratulations to Dawn, we wish her well and thank her for her service.

Six people were awarded certificates at this year's conference. They are:

**Paula Gresen**, College of St. Rose,  
Level IV in Technical Services

**Sadisha Edgerton**, NY Library for the Performing Arts, Level IV Administration/Management

**Christine Havens**, Albany Public Library,  
Level IV, Technical Services

**Carole Ray**, Retired – Old Dominion University,  
Level IV, Administration/Management

**Britta Stackwick**, Saint John Fisher College,  
Level IV, General Library Services

**Ronda Turner**, Cattaraugus Allegany BOCES,  
Level IV, Public Services

**Congratulations!**

If you are interested in earning your certificate feel free to contact one of us.

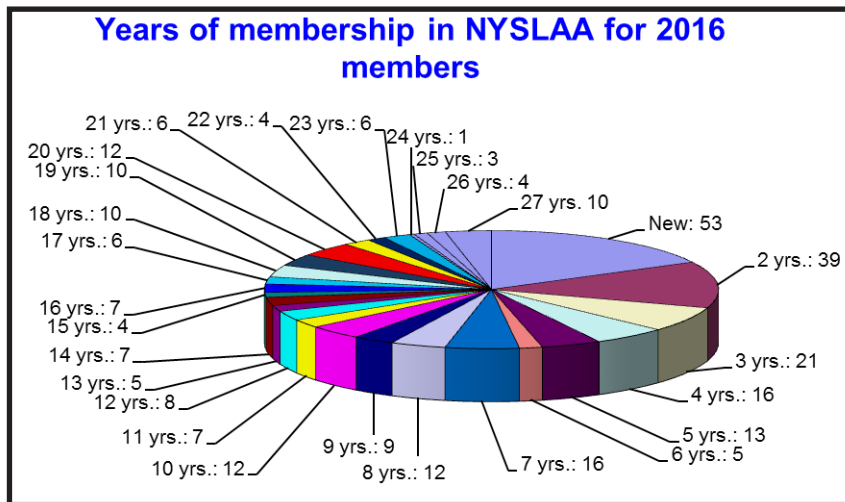
Make it a group project. Last year I got the Women's Committee at SUNY Albany to help. We took a lunch hour meeting and cut and tied a blanket. We had a lot of fun doing this together.

We always have fun collecting your contributions and delivering them to the grateful community. You all are so generous it just amazes me, and makes me so proud to be a NYSLAA member. We are continuing to collect for the local humane society and food bank, so don't forget to bring those items to registration. Financial donations are always welcome too. Thanks so much for all you do. See you all in June!

## Membership Secretary

Donna Hanna

The 2016 membership year ended at 303 members. Associate status is held by 39 of our members.



The regional distribution of members is:

- (1) Capital District Library Council — **21** (40, 29, 20, 23, 21, 20)
  - (2) Central New York Library Resources Council — **23** (32, 26, 27, 28, 28, 31)
  - (3) Long Island Library Resources Council — **6** (13, 9, 10, 33, 12, 23)
  - (4) Metropolitan New York Library Council — **58** (57, 63, 55, 67, 31, 36)
  - (5) Northern Country Library Council — **15** (17, 20, 23, 14, 15, 17)
  - (6) Rochester Regional Library Council — **56** (78, 53, 60, 77, 79, 85)
  - (7) South Central Research Library Council — **50** (54, 50, 46, 48, 56, 63)
  - (8) Southeastern New York Library Resources Council — **27** (34, 23, 26, 20, 19, 27)
  - (9) Western New York Library Resources Council — **37** (25, 21, 24, 48, 26, 27)
- Out of state members — **9** (8, 7, 8, 9, 8, 10)

*Numbers in parenthesis are 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, and 2010 totals so you can see growth or decline.*

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

- College and University — **81** (112, 90, 94, 102, 90, 103)  
Junior College — **10** (15, 16, 15, 15, 14, 18)  
Law — **5** (7, 6, 5, 9, 6, 9)  
Medical — **6** (5, 4, 1, 5, 3, 8)  
Non-library — **24** (23, 25, 22, 19, 18, 17)  
Public — **168** (184, 153, 157, 195, 151, 165)  
School — **5** (9, 5, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9)  
Special — **3** (3, 2, 2, 6, 7, 11)

*Numbers in parenthesis are 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, and 2010 totals so you can see growth or decline.*

The 2016 Membership directory is in the works and should be online shortly. Printed copies will only be available upon request.

I would like to thank Beverly Murphy, SUNY Geneseo, for her assistance with the proofreading of registrations for the 2016 and the many previous conferences. Bev retired this year and her attention to detail will be sorely missed.

***End of Annual Reports***

# Award Nominations

Each year, NYSLAA seeks nominations from its members for each of these awards.

The Executive Council reviews the nominations in April of each year and notifies the recipients. The awards are presented at the annual conference in June.

## **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 members of NYSLAA. Its name was changed in 1995 to honor Craig Koste, a library assistant who passed away 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**

The Ray Murray Award was established in 1989 to recognize a librarian, library director, trustee, board member or any individual who has demonstrated outstanding support to library assistants.

Ray Murray began his library career at the University of Minnesota in 1961. He started at circulation and later transferred to acquisitions. While at Minnesota, Ray attended library school. He came to SUNY Oswego in 1975. With Ray’s help, a planning committee from SUNY Oswego, SUNY Cortland, and the University of Rochester brought about the 1977 conference, laying the groundwork for NYSLAA.

Ray left New York in 1980 where he had been the library director at Upsala College in New Jersey and Cardinal Stretch College in Milwaukee. He became the director of the Essex-Hudson Regional Library Cooperative in Newark, New Jersey in 1986. The New Jersey Cooperative is very similar to New York’s Three R’s Organization. One of Ray’s first projects in New Jersey was to bring about a conference for library assistants at Seton Hall in 1987.

To nominate someone for either award, please compile a packet including: your nomination letter, supporting letters, and any other pertinent documentation. The deadline for the submission is March 31st.

See [nyslaa.org](http://nyslaa.org) for more information.

Send nomination packets (or questions) for either award to the NYSLAA President. (*See page 2.*)

## **Eileen Lemley Conference Scholarship**

The Eileen Lemley Conference Scholarship (ELCS), previously known as the NYSLAA Conference Contest, was renamed to honor the memory of Eileen Lemley who passed away while attending the 2014 conference. Eileen loved working in the library and attending NYSLAA conferences. The recipient will receive a full conference registration, up to two night’s lodging, the mixer, and one tour of your choice. Entries will be accepted from March 1st to March 31st. Applicants must complete a form and write an essay on “what NYSLAA means to me and why I want to attend the annual conference.” Only members who do not receive any funding from their library may apply.

Find the application forms for all three of the above scholarships and more information on the web at: [nyslaa.org/scholarships.html](http://nyslaa.org/scholarships.html).



# New York: A Literary Map

## Chapter 5: Rolling Down the Chemung River

Kim Barbato

Gould Law Library, Touro Law School

*“Let us endeavor so to live so that when we come to die even the undertaker will be sorry.”*

*- Mark Twain*

Come join me this beautiful autumn season at the “place of the horns,” as the Algonquin Native Americans called it. I am speaking of course about Chemung County, so named for the Chemung River where the native

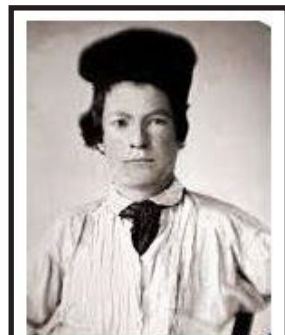


The Beautiful Chemung River

tribes would often find the tusks of mammals clustered along its banks. Over the years, Chemung County has received its fair share of notables and achievements: astronaut Eileen Collins of Elmira, NY, was the first woman to pilot a space shuttle; Ernie Davis was the first African American to win the Heisman Trophy; and

of course fashion icon Tommy Hilfiger, also born in Elmira. Chemung County holds the title of “National Soaring Capital of America” and contains the world’s largest sailplane collection. But the county’s most incredible claim to fame is none other than Mark Twain himself. With this stop in Chemung County, we are proud to pay homage to one of America’s most celebrated writers with this installment of *New York: A Literary Map*.

Mark Twain is virtually a household name in America. When it comes to children’s literature, his books such as *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* are a fundamental prerequisite. I can still clearly recall the Christmas morning when I received my copy of *Tom Sawyer* and began reading it instantly, chuckling at the scene where Tom hires his friends to white-wash the fence a chore meant to be his punishment for skipping school.



Samuel Langhorne Clemens, Aged 15

Mark Twain’s brilliant writing came to define the great American novel. He was praised by everyone from his peers, American Presidents, and even European royalty. This writer, lecturer, entrepreneur and publisher was hailed by William Faulkner as “the father of American literature.”

### A Stellar Approach.

Born on November 30th, 1835 in Florida, Missouri, Samuel Langhorne Clemens entered this world in a blaze of glory, the same day that Haley’s Comet came to pass by Earth. At first, young Samuel didn’t have such a strong start. His health often kept him shut-in until age nine when he overcame his ailments. At age 12, he quit school to become a printer’s apprentice. Two years later, he found work at his brother Orion’s newspaper as a printer and editorial assistant, where he discovered his passion for writing.

At age eighteen, he left Missouri for New York to become a full time printer and join the newly-minted International Typographical Union as well as the printers union. The next decade would see him travelling about the country and the world before briefly settling down in the West to become a failed miner. He became a writer for *The Territorial Enterprise* in Nevada, and it was there he took on his famous satirical pen name Mark Twain, a Mississippi River term from his days of becoming a riverboat pilot in Missouri. “Mark twain” was a phrase the leadsman would yell out to measure the river’s depth, in this case, twelve feet deep.

Riverboat pilot, miner, world traveler, writer; Mark Twain certainly led a life of adventure himself, much like his characters. So how did he come to establish roots in New York? In 1867, he met his wife Olivia Langdon at a Charles Dickens reading in New York City. She came from a wealthy, liberal family in Elmira, NY. At first, she rejected his marriage proposal. However, they later became engaged and married in February of 1870. The marriage produced four children. The family kept a cherished summer home called Quarry Farm in Elmira. But it was more than just a family

vacation. For Mark Twain, it was a personal quiet sanctuary that afforded him retreat, privacy and a sense of home which he longed for after his many travels. It was the place where he wrote his two best known works *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and its sequel, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. While sitting on his porch every evening, which overlooked



the Chemung River, Twain said *“once or twice each night, we'd see a Steamboat slipping along in the dark. And every now and again, she'd belch a whole world of sparks up out of her chimney. And they would rain down in the river. And look awful pretty.”* It is easy to see how the picturesque Chemung would have stirred up his imagination to write about his childhood by the Mississippi and create the adventures of Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn.



**Gravesite of Mark Twain with headstone,  
Woodlawn Cemetery, Elmira, NY.**

What could be more fitting for Halloween than a visit to the cemetery? In true eerie fashion, Mark Twain predicted his own death in 1909 when he heard of Haley's Comet making its 70-year approach:

*“I came in with Halley's Comet in 1835. It is coming again next year, and I expect to go out with it. It will be the greatest disappointment of my life if I don't go out with Halley's Comet. The Almighty has said, no doubt: 'Now here are these two unaccountable freaks; they came in together, they must go out together'.”*

On April 21st, 1910, Twain's prediction came true. He passed away of a heart attack in Redding, Connecticut a day after Haley's comet passed by the Earth. Buried with his wife's plot in the Woodlawn Cemetery in Elmira, NY. His grave is adorned with a twelve-foot (two fathoms, or “mark twain”) monument, commemorating his life and work.



**Gravesite monument,  
Woodlawn Cemetery, Elmira, NY.**

For more information, please visit:  
<http://www.npr.org/2010/11/30/131699840/twain-s-summer-home-visiting-elmira-new-york>  
<http://www.marktwaincountry.com/>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark\\_Twain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain)  
<http://www.biography.com/people/mark-twain-9512564>  
<http://www.marktwainhouse.org/>