

# NETWORK CONNECTION



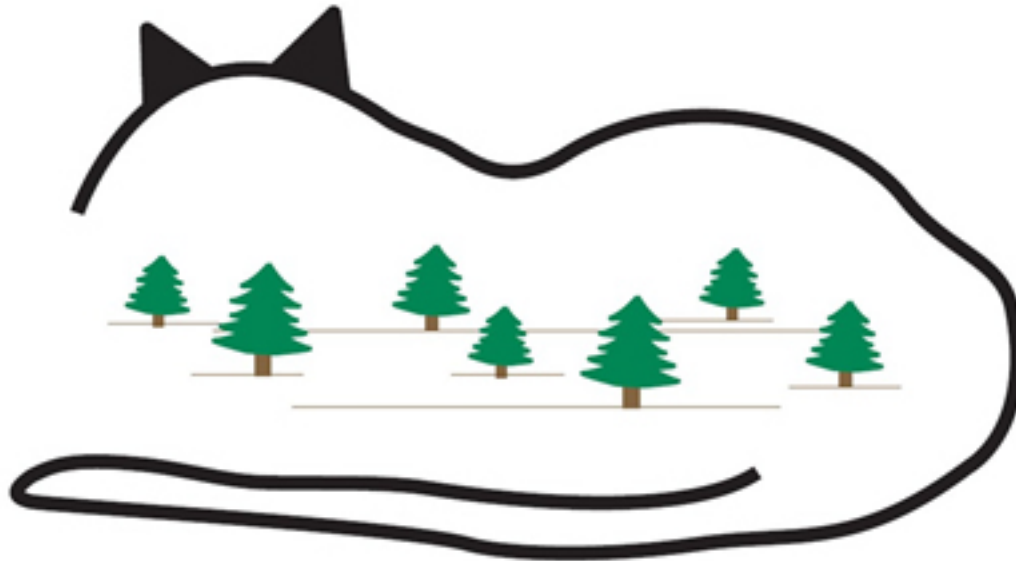
Official Newsletter of the New York State Library Assistants' Association

April - June 2022 Vol.34, No.2

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## NYSLAA Conference June 2023

Cat Wise



Although we are not having a conference this summer, we are working diligently on planning next summer's conference. Everything is still going through the approval process but we are excited at the prospect of offering the conference at SUNY College at Oneonta for June 7-9, 2023.

We hope to utilize SUNY Oneonta's campus dorms for our group to keep conference costs down and provide easy access to our workshops. Our theme: Create, Learn and Explore in the Catskills

More information on the conference will be updated as we confirm events. Please think about what you would like to have offered for workshops at this conference and share your thoughts with me on our New York State Library Assistants' Facebook page or email me at [Cathy.Wise@oneonta.edu](mailto:Cathy.Wise@oneonta.edu). I am also attempting to reach all of our members individually over the summer to personally chat with you and discuss what NYSLAA is doing and what you would like us to do in the future. We value your opinion because without you all, we wouldn't have an organization.

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**INSIDE: Membership... New Treasurer... Proclamation... Gratitude and Star Wars.**

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2022**

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**Standing Committees**

**Community Outreach Chair  
(vacant)**

**Donations Chair  
(vacant)**

**Public Relations Chair  
(vacant)**

**Certificate of Achievement  
Review Board Coordinator**

**Kathy Rossello**  
East Greenbush Community Library  
(518) 477-7476 ext. 108  
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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.”

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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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Newsletter Committee: **Chair, Tammy Southard**, SUNY Oneonta  
**Adrienne Birchler**, William K. Sanford Public Library volunteer  
**Ruth V. Oberg**, Unaffiliated

Next publication date: *August 15, 2022*  
Submission deadline: *July 31, 2022*

## Membership Update

Donna Hanna

We currently have 141 members for 2022. Thirty-one of these members hold associate status. We have 44 new members with 39 of them taking advantage of NYSLAA's free offer for new membership during National Library Week! Membership cards/letters have been sent to all current members so if you renewed and did not get one, please let me know.

Membership forms are available on our [nyslaa.org](http://nyslaa.org) website under the "Membership Application" on the right. You can fill out your renewal and mail it in with your check or you can renew via the "tools and resources" tab and following the directions. If you renew using this method, you do not need to send a membership form. I would just need to know if any of your information has changed. As a reminder, membership cards/letters are also mailed electronically to anyone who has an email.

If you move or your email has changed, please be sure to alert me of these changes. This will help avoid unnecessary delays in receiving your membership information.

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).

## Dutch Bulb Fundraiser

Our most recent fundraising event has been completed. Unfortunately, there were not many sales. Total sales were \$143 and our profit was \$71.50.

We would like your help in supporting NYSLAA, not just with participating in the fundraising but also with fundraising suggestions.

Our fundraising efforts will support the 2023 NYSLAA conference as well as our scholarships.

## Meet Our New Treasurer



My name is **Melanie Castine** and I am the Student Supervisor in the Circulation Department at James M. Milne Library. I hire, train, and supervise the 30+ student workers who staff the Milne Library Circulation desk. I've been a part of the library team for three years and am

happy to say that it is a great place to work. I enjoy the camaraderie among the staff and feel at home here. I am currently a member of the Student Worker Team and the Sustainability Team at the library. I've been a member of NYSLAA for the past three years and am proud to serve NYSLAA as the new Treasurer. I'm looking forward to SUNY Oneonta hosting the NYSLAA Conference in 2023!

Prior to SUNY Oneonta, I worked for five years at the local public library where I oversaw interlibrary loans and coordinated art exhibitions by local artists. It was a vastly different place to work, where our library patrons were local folks from all walks of life. It was a valuable learning experience and I got to know the Oneonta community well.

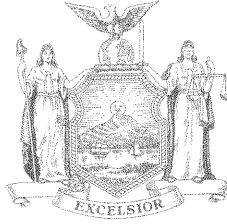
*Welcome Melanie!!*

## Welcome New Members!



|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Kathryn (Katie) Agan</b>  | Upper Hudson Library System, Troy Public Library                            |
| <b>Amy Bader</b>             | Onondaga County Public Libraries, Soule Branch Library                      |
| <b>Deidre Brennan</b>        | Upstate Medical University, Health Sciences Library                         |
| <b>Sarah Dennison</b>        | Henrietta Public Library  |
| <b>Richard Deverell PhD</b>  | St. John Fisher College, Lavery Library                                     |
| <b>Tanya Farrokh</b>         | New Hartford Public Library   |
| <b>Sue Mei Grierson</b>      | University at Buffalo, Lockwood Library                                     |
| <b>Shirley Harrington</b>    | Rochester Public Library  |
| <b>Pam Heller</b>            | Livonia Public Library  |
| <b>Tala Henry-Halabi</b>     | Crandall Public Library   |
| <b>Jonathan Herr</b>         | Cortland High School, Cortland Jr.-Sr. High School Library                  |
| <b>Lola Hopseker</b>         | Fabius-Pompey Central School District, Fabius-Pompey MS/HS Library          |
| <b>Rachel Hyde</b>           | Deruyter Central School, DeRuyter School Library Media Center               |
| <b>Toni Jachimowicz</b>      | SUNY Fredonia, Daniel A. Reed Library                                       |
| <b>Jennifer Jacob</b>        | Henrietta Public Library  |
| <b>Laura Jeffery</b>         | Nioga Library System  |
| <b>Kayla Kent</b>            | Munson-Williams-Proctor-Arts Institute/Pratt MWP                            |
| <b>Johanna Kohler</b>        | Lafayette Town Library  |
| <b>Nicole Lagree</b>         | SUNY Plattsburgh, Feinberg Library  |
| <b>Kathy Lathrop</b>         | Phoenix Central School District, John C. Birdlebough High School Library    |
| <b>Marta Loomis</b>          | Ononda Community College, Coulter Library                                   |
| <b>Jordyn Loveless</b>       | Pioneer Library System, Newark Public Library                               |
| <b>Melanie Maglietta</b>     | Kent Public Library   |
| <b>Diane Mather</b>          | Solvay Union Free School District, Solvay School Library                    |
| <b>Jessie Moore</b>          | Onondaga County Public Library, Betts Branch Library                        |
| <b>Sonja Niles</b>           | Pioneer Library System, Williamson Public Library                           |
| <b>Elizabeth Ramsden</b>     | Marcellus Central School District, K.C. Heffernan Elementary School Library |
| <b>Janet Richards</b>        | Salina Free Library   |
| <b>Christine Riggi</b>       | University at Buffalo, Charles B. Sears Law Library                         |
| <b>Michael Schwartz</b>      | Greece Public Library   |
| <b>Neely Sisto</b>           | Fabius-Pompey Central School District, Fabius-Pompey Elem. School Library   |
| <b>Jennifer Stell</b>        | Newark Public Library   |
| <b>Rebecca Stewart</b>       | New York State College of Cermacs @ Alfred University, Scholes Library      |
| <b>Monica Veri</b>           | SUNY Upstate Medical University, Health Sciences Library                    |
| <b>Jakubek Wicks</b>         | Fayetteville Free Library   |
| <b>Yona Williams</b>         | Onondaga County Public Libraries, Paine Branch Library                      |
| <b>Alissa Wood</b>           | Crandall Public Library   |
| <b>Kristan Young</b>         | Durgee Junior High School, Durgee Junior High School Library                |
| <b>Catherine Zawodzinski</b> | Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, Central Library                       |

# State of New York Legislative Resolution



Assembly No. 733

BY: M. of A. Jean-Pierre

**MEMORIALIZING** Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 7, 2022, as Library Assistants' Day in the State of New York

**WHEREAS**, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those community-based organizations which unselfishly devote their energy, resources and thoughtful care on behalf of improving the quality and character of life in that community; and

**WHEREAS**, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 7, 2022, as Library Assistants' Day in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Library Week; and

**WHEREAS**, National Library Week is an annual event that is designated for the week of April 3-9, 2022, with the theme "Welcome to Your Library"; and

**WHEREAS**, Library Assistants help facilitate the operation of the library by aiding the librarian in their daily routine; they are instrumental as circulation clerks, maintain the cataloging system, process and repair books and audio-visual formats, shelve books and other mediums, and work behind the scenes in many other capacities; and

**WHEREAS**, The New York State Library Assistants' Association (NYSLAA) 2022 Executive Council members are: Cathy Wise, President; Kathy Rossello, Vice President; Melanie Castine, Treasurer; Tammy Southard, Recording Secretary; Dawn Foland, Corresponding Secretary; Donna Hanna, Membership Secretary; and Wendy Freier, Conference Coordinator; and

**WHEREAS**, The NYSLAA is a state organization established by library assistants to promote and enhance the professional image and status of New York State's library assistant; to further their professional growth; to provide a network for communication to the members and the profession on library and library assistant issues; and to network and cooperate with library organizations on local, state, national and international levels; and

**WHEREAS**, The NYSLAA has taken on a variety of roles to improving and promoting the Association, such as membership recognition, fundraisers and innovative programs; NYSLAA's most distinctive program is the Certificate of Achievement; in 1992, the NYSLAA conducted a membership survey which included questions about certification for library assistants; seventy-eight percent of those responding indicated that they favored a voluntary program; as the professional association of library assistants in New York State, NYSLAA is the appropriate body to administer such program; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1993, a majority of library assistants attending the NYSLAA Annual Conference indicated that the NYSLAA should work on a voluntary program; a draft of the program was presented to focus groups of library assistants and library administrators for their input; a two-year pilot program was approved by the NYSLAA Executive Council and implemented in January 1995; the first eight applicants received their certificates at the 1995 NYSLAA Annual Conference held in Buffalo, New York; and

**WHEREAS**, This program is designed to recognize the involvement and contributions of career-oriented library assistants and to acknowledge their support of libraries and the library profession; for the purposes of this program, a librarian assistant is defined as a library worker who does not hold a position as a librarian; and

**WHEREAS**, Library assistants support the mission of libraries by providing important patron and support services; they promote personal development through professional involvement; they share concerns about issues facing the library profession and work with others in addressing them; through this program, library assistants demonstrate a continuing commitment to their work; library assistant service is recognized by library professionals and administrators as a valid career choice; and

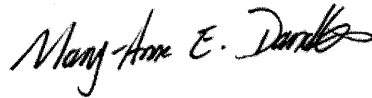
**WHEREAS**, In light of their commitment, dedication and successful efforts, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to extend its highest commendation to all of the Library Assistants in the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim April 7, 2022, as Library Assistants' Day in the State of New York; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York; and Cathy Wise, President of the New York State Library Assistants' Association.

**ADOPTED IN ASSEMBLY ON**  
April 7, 2022

By order of the Assembly,



Mary-Anne E. Dandles, *Clerk*



## Gratitude Tree

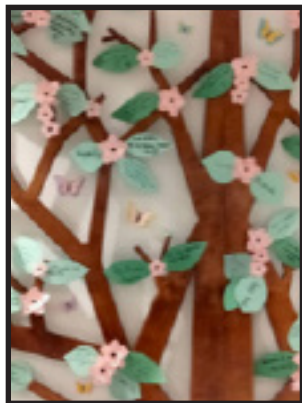
Cat Wise

What can a tree teach us?

Trees access nutrients from the ground through their roots, and transport them through the core of the tree to grow strong branches and beautiful leaves. Trees represent life and growth. Our Gratitude tree presents a physical opportunity to encourage the expression of appreciation, gratitude, and growth.

Last semester we started our newly built tree with spring leaves and butterflies. As the semester got close to graduation, we added grad caps for our graduating students.

We are looking forward to changing the tree and theme each semester always keeping it fresh and positive. We have extreme gratitude to our carpentry shop on campus for building us such a beautiful tree to work with.



## Student Party-May the 4th Be With You

Cat Wise

We would be lost in a college Library without our Student employees. As a thank you for their hard work last semester we held a student party. Our staff all brought a dish to share, and we had fun decorating with a Star Wars theme.

Our creative staff member Christie Doularis discovered a way to make a light display with mini light sabers. It is hard to believe looking at them they were made from colored straws and tape. The picture does not do it justice how beautiful they looked in the lounge. Many of our staff members dressed in theme to Star Wars and we even had a visit from the Wookiee Chewbacca.

