

Connections

Spring/Summer 2006



President's Column

As educators, one of our goals is to instill within our students the desire to become lifelong learners.

How many of us are practicing what we preach and taking advantage of the many and varied trainings available thru the SLS, BOCES, ENYSLMA, SLMS, Teaching Center etc.? These opportunities provide a chance to leave our school building where most of us are the only library media specialist and network with other professionals in our field. Everyone of us has something valuable to share and when working with others in our profession we always come away inspired with many new ideas.

I invite you to become an active participant with ENYSLMA by attending our events, joining our program committee or most importantly to consider becoming the VP for the next year and stepping into the position of President. YOU are the organization and we need your help!

If you have any questions or suggestions please contact one of the board members listed below:

President Barbara Zuccaro
zuccarob@sgfallssd.org

Past President Cheryl Cufari
cal49cio@yahoo.com

Treasurer Donna Smyth
smyth78@adelphia.net

Program Comm Cathy Casler
ccasler@gfsd.org

Jackie Adler
winsler2003@hotmail.com



WANTED

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENYSLMA

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR THIS REWARDING POSITION.

SLMS Rochester.....May 1, 2006

Maggie McCabe, SLMS Region IV Coordinator

The SLMS Spring Conference, April 27-29th in Rochester provided attendees with a dynamic experience. Based on the variety of workshops offered, there was something for all to gain. One particular workshop entitled "Research Shouldn't Be Drudgery And Neither Should Teaching It" provided attendees with a packet of materia developed by Rochester City School District Librarians' Collegial Circle. Anyone interested in getting this can contact Maggie McCabe at Maggie@wj-mccabe.com.

Gary Hartzell provided the know-how (and inspiration!) reminding us how important we are as school library media specialists and the ways to prove it! The upcoming Summer Leadership Retreat being held on August 7 & 8 will bring Gary Hartzell back along with Barbara Stripling. It guarantees to bring a worthwhile opportunity to learn how to tap your own potential in positively impacting student achievement.

Please take time to visit the new and improved NYLA SLMS website at <http://www.nyla.org> - click School Library Media Section.

Due to some technicalities with the SLMS Listserv I was left out of the loop of communications until the Board discovered it at our recent meeting. I apologize for the absence of our regional news in the SLMSGram. Look for us in the next issue - we are finally represented!

New York State Budget Update: Advocacy Makes the Sun Shine!



Mary Ratzer

Michael Borges, NYLA Director, and State Librarian Janet Welch have announced the final good news that New York's libraries and Library Systems have a \$19.75 million dollars funding increase in the 2006 State Budget. The coalitions of school librarians, public librarians, library systems directors and coordinators, SUNY Albany Department of Information Studies graduate students, teachers, parents and even kids succeeded in convincing legislative decision makers that libraries merit a funding boost in 2006! Conveying the all important realities of libraries and learners, advocates shared the good news! Testifying to the boost in student achievement because of school library programs and resources, the value of access to databases, the HAVE and HAVE NOT learners and the benefits of interlibrary loan, library and library system ADVOCATE VOICES were heard. Gathering for Lobby Day March 14, the librarians from all over New York made a visible and unified stand. For the first time in 14 years, funding increases just for 2006 will be coming to library systems. With a budget surplus in their hands, the leadership of both houses and both parties come together to make this and other advances happen.

Senator Bruno, Senator Farley, and Senate Education and Finance Committee leadership forged a library funding bill which was eventually matched in the Assembly. Libraries and Technology Committee chair, Assemblywoman Patricia Eddington, Assembly Education Committee Chair, Catherine Nolan, Assembly Minority Leader Jim Tedisco, Assembly Majority Leader Sheldon Silver, Assemblyman Paul Tonko and many others saw the funding through the Conference Committees. When the budget was announced on April 1, library funding was in place. Governor Pataki chose not to veto that particular area of the budget, so no override was needed.

The outcome of the legislative visits, testimony from school librarians and teachers, emails, letters, and phone calls is \$19.75 million dollars of additional funding for libraries in 2006. Full funding for library aid under the 2000 census represents about \$2.7 million dollars. Library systems state wide will share a one time funding boost of \$3 million, and capital construction funds came in at \$14 million. NOVEL databases for which so many worked so hard will be funded through a renewed attempt at a federal grant. The work ahead is already defined since two out the three areas funded are only funded for one year. ALA has identified advocacy as its number one goal for the next year.



Author Dinner

March 15th

Jennifer Donnelly

Author of A Northern Light, Tea Rose and Humble Pie.

Barbara Zuccaro

The award winning author, Jennifer Donnelly, spoke at our winter program to 38 school librarians on the Parkwood Restaurant in Clifton Park. Through her power point presentation we were able to gain insight into the writing process of A Northern Light.

A Northern Light is a coming of age story set against the backdrop of a true murder, which took place in the Adirondacks in the summer of 1906. Jennifer grew up hearing tales of a murder in the Adirondacks from relatives who lived in the area at the time who reminisced about the old days at family gatherings.

It was interesting to hear about the research that went into writing an historical novel where one must be accurate in the descriptions of the setting and portrayal of the people living in 1906. She shared with us pictures of Grace Brown and others of that time period who inspired her to question what they were thinking and then to tell their story.

Many of us left the dinner ready to search out pictures of our great grandparents and try to write about their lives from stories shared with us around the dinner table.

If you did not have the opportunity to attend the dinner, Jennifer will be in our area attending the NYS Reading Conference at Saratoga in November. A Northern Light has just been named the 2006 Charlotte Award winner for the Young Adult category!



New York, New York it's a wonderful trip!

Please join ENYSLMA for its annual summer trip

to NYC

to visit the newly renovated

Pierpont Morgan Library

and see the Broadway show

“The Drowsy Chaperone”.

Enjoy round trip bus transportation from /Wilton
mall, Crossgates mall or Exit 20 to NYC

with old friends and new to catch up after the busy
school year and summer vacation.

It's the best trip in town and this year an extra
special bargain
at \$100 total for members
and \$105 for non-members.

Contact Elaine Cowin at 518-623-2302 (home) or 518-
932-9434(cell) for additional information.

Bev Valenti





MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!
TAKE A BREAK FROM THE FAMILY AND THE BEACH!



ENYSLMA SUMMER GET-TOGETHER
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1ST
ALBANY BOCES

900 Watervliet-Shaker Road, Albany

Schedule:

9:30 - 10:00
10:00 - 10:45

Coffee and Danish and Socializing
 Cracker Barrel Session
Breakout for "Show and Tell and Sharing Great Lesson Plans". K-5, Middle and High School Group:
 Please bring a copy of your best lesson plan or resource to share with your group.

11:00 - 11:45

Page One Bookstore, Central Ave., Albany, NY
 Dave Miller, co-owner of this unique bookstore will share insights regarding books by minority authors that students will love.

"Books That Fly Off the Shelf", K-2 book talks

11:45 - 12:45

Lunch - Cold cuts, rolls, salads and dessert

12:45 - 1:30

Introduction to Grants and Grant Writing, *presented by Ronnie Pastecki, Albany School District*
 The basics of how to get started on grant writing will be presented.

Cost: \$7.00 for members
 \$12.00 for non-members

Please send your reservation response and check made payable to ENYSLMA to Donna Smyth, 4 Homer Ave., Queensbury, NY 12811
 July 17th.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Circle One:	
K-5	K-12
Middle School	High School

Cathy Cassler

JUDITH STOTT
 LIBRARY
 SHAKER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
 475 WATERVLIET-SHAKER ROAD
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