

# NETWORK CONNECTION



Official Newsletter of the New York State Library Assistants' Association

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## 2013 Annual NYSLAA Conference

Ruth V. Oberg, Conference Coordinator

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference will be held at the High Peaks Resort in Lake Placid, NY. ([www.highpeaksresort.com](http://www.highpeaksresort.com)) The Executive Council did a site visit on August 23 and 24, 2012. The room rate is \$99.00 and the block has been reserved.



Make your reservations as soon as you like. The hotel has beautiful views of the mountains and Mirror Lake

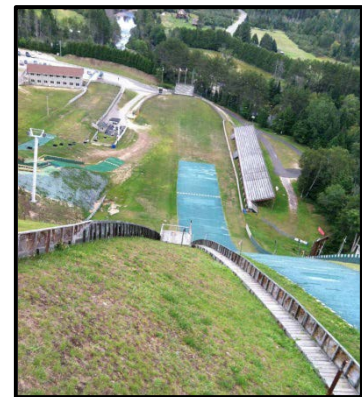
across the street. It has a fitness room and an outdoor pool. I posted pictures on Facebook so you can see some of the sites we visited (and these pictures in color.)

There is a lot of history in the area including John Brown's Farm which is right behind the ski jumps we visited. Speaking of ski jumps, I am working on negotiating a deal with the Olympic Center to hold our Thursday evening event there.



We can watch practice ski jump runs! Yes, ski jumping in June.

They practice in the summer by using a small ski jump which lands them in a swimming pool. Then they move to the big ski jumps and land on artificial turf. We will be able



to ride the chairlift to the base of the jump towers and then take an elevator up to the top where the skiers lift-off. It was really neat to stand up there and look down the ski jump. I could never make that jump! The views were spectacular from there too. Still hoping to work this out, it should be a blast!

While I'm busy working with the venues and catering details, Darlene Strack and the local committee are working on workshops and speakers.

More details as they become available!

**INSIDE:** Elections...Fundraising...Membership... CAP...NYSLAA/NYLA...Scholarship.

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2012

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hjensen@pls-net.org

“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.

To follow us on Facebook search for New York State Library Assistants’ Association.

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

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## The NYSLAA Lottery Is Back

Coleen Hopkins

NYSLAA will be conducting the lottery for the 35th Annual Conference being held in Lake Placid, NY.



The tickets are being printed and will be available shortly so we hope you will all hop on board and purchase/sell tickets to help defray conference costs. They make excellent stocking stuffers, I have done this for years and my family has won many times.

Tickets are \$5.00 each and the lottery runs for the month of February. It is based on the daily evening New York State Lottery numbers. If your number is drawn, you win \$25.00...except on February 14th you win \$50.00. I have even seen someone win twice in one year!

Contact Darlene Strack at: [strackds@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:strackds@plattsburgh.edu) or 518-564-5199 Offer to sell tickets or at least make a purchase, it supports the Lake Placid Conference and could very possibly win you some money!



## CAP

Michele Matthews, CAP Coordinator



Since the conference, the Certificate of Achievement Review Board has been assisting several members in earning their certificate. Evanna DiSalvo is the first member this year to earn hers. Evanna, who hails from St.

John Fisher College's Lavery Library, earned a Level IV in Public Services. The CAP Review Board congratulates Evanna!

A gentleman from Lancashire, England, wrote and asked for more information on our Certificate of Achievement. A packet and more information about NYSLAA were sent to him. Hopefully, we will award our first international certificate this year.

In August, Melissa Cody and I presented a CAP workshop at the Florida Public Library in Florida, NY, at the request of the library director, Madelyn Folino. Ten library assistants, as well as Madelyn, were in attendance. Several of the library assistants had never heard of NYSLAA or our certificate. I received a thank you note from Madelyn that stated several of the attendees were planning to meet to work on their certificates.

I was also pleased to receive a thank you note from the Niagara Community Action Program, Inc. In the note Ms. Suzanne Shears, Executive Director, states "I wish to extend our appreciation and thanks to you for the donation of 263 pounds of assorted non-perishable food items and a check for \$89.00."

The Certificate of Achievement Review Board welcomes its three newest members:

Viorela Bryant – Berkley College ([viorelabryant@gmail.com](mailto:viorelabryant@gmail.com))

Carrie Goetz – University at Buffalo ([ceoberg@buffalo.edu](mailto:ceoberg@buffalo.edu))

Galina Levina – Onondaga County Public Library ([GLEvina@onlib.org](mailto:GLEvina@onlib.org))

## NYSLAA/NYLA Exploratory Committee

Heidi Jensen, Exploratory Committee Chair

Hello everyone. First of all we hope that you all had a great time at the conference this year and are looking forward to the 2013 conference in Lake Placid.

This year all members received a packet from the Exploratory Committee concerning the possibility of NYSLAA becoming a section of the New York Library Association (NYLA). The packet was handed out at the conference and then emailed/snail mailed to those who were not in attendance. There was a brief discussion about this merger at the conference Town Meeting and all were asked to read over their packets and to respond with any feelings, comments, or questions, all of which would be kept anonymous unless otherwise noted. We received a few responses and those were answered. At some point this may be brought to a membership vote and we want to make sure that **all** members have had their questions answered.

Also feel free to discuss the subject on our association's listserv: NYSLAA-1. Please remember to let us know if we may post your responses on NYLSAA-1 or if you wish to have them remain anonymous.

We (*the Exploratory Committee, Executive Council and the **entire** membership*) need to look deeper into what the advantages and/or disadvantages may be of NYSLAA becoming a section of NYLA versus remaining independent, but as indicated by the name, the Exploratory Committee is dedicated to exploring and making known to all members of NYSLAA what the impact of either choice could be as each member puts forth their own thoughts on the topic.

Please send your feelings, comments or questions to:

Heidi Jensen, Committee Chair  
**[hjensen@pls-net.org](mailto:hjensen@pls-net.org)**

or

Sally McMaster, NYSLAA President  
**[smcmaster@library.rochester.edu](mailto:smcmaster@library.rochester.edu)**



## NYSLAA Scholarships

Coleen Hopkins

It is time to start thinking about NYSLAA Scholarships. The Executive Council is working on minor re-wording to clarify what types of classes qualify for each scholarship as there has been confusion in the past. Our next Executive Council Meeting is October 26, 2012 at Liverpool Public Library. The changes will be

completed at this meeting and promptly posted on our webpage, NYSLAA.org. As the application deadline is December 31, 2012 an applicant will still have plenty of time to apply. We apologize for any inconvenience. If you have any questions please contact Sally McMaster. (*See page 2*)

## NYSLAA Elections

The 2012 Election Chair is Donna Kuhner and we will be having an election. Watch your mailboxes for your ballot and VOTE! This is your opportunity to express your choice for the officers of NYSLAA



## Beat the Rush

## Renew Your Membership for 2013

**NOW!**



## Membership Update

Donna Hanna

Membership for 2012 is at 356. Of the 356 there are 73 new members! Renewal reminders were mailed out in August and unfortunately, it didn't generate very many renewals.



If you move, please be sure to alert me that you have a new address. This will help avoid unnecessary delays in receiving your mail.

Are you on NYSLAA-L? This is a great avenue to share information. It's not a busy list making email messages very easy to manage. Why not take a minute to sign up? Go to [NYSLAA.org](http://NYSLAA.org), click on NYSLAA-L listserv, and follow the instructions.

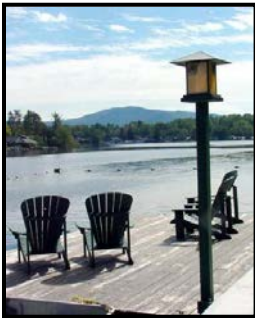
As always, if you have a question regarding your membership or if you need a letter verifying your years of NYSLAA membership for the Certificate of Achievement Program please let me know.



**From Niagara Falls...**



**To Lake Placid!**



# New York State Library Assistants' Association

## Membership Application/Renewal Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Library Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Library Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Library City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

New Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_

- **Regular Membership \$15.00**  
(Currently working in a library or library system in New York State as a library assistant)
- **Associate Membership \$12.00**  
(Does not presently meet criteria for Regular Membership, but supports the goals of the organization)

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

An annual drawing is held of the **regular** members who are interested in attending out-of-state conferences. Please check the state(s) to be included if you are **serious** about attending.

NJ  VA

(Note: Winners receive registration and 2 nights lodging. Travel expenses are *not* included.)

Would you be interested in: Serving on a committee?  **Yes** Running for office?  **Yes**

NYSLAA's membership year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Dues will be applied to the year received unless specified otherwise.

Make check payable to: *New York State Library Assistants' Association*

Return check with form to: **Donna Hanna**  
**SUNY Geneseo**  
**Milne Library**  
**1 College Circle**  
**Geneseo, NY 14454-1498**

Phone: 585-245-5508

*Contributions or gifts to NYSLAA are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes.*

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Niagara Falls conference networking.

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