

NETWORK CONNECTION



Official Newsletter of the New York State Library Assistants' Association

Oct.-Dec. 2017 Vol.29, No.4

NYSLAA: Past, Present and Future

Sheila Tshudy, 2018 Conference Committee Chair

We are pleased to announce that NYSLAA's 40th annual conference will be taking place at The Radisson Hotel Corning, Corning, New York, June 6-8, 2018. Our theme for the conference is simple, but says it all, "NYSLAA: Past, Present and Future."

As 2018 marks a milestone for NYSLAA, we want to celebrate our roots and accomplishments as well as where we're headed. With this in mind, we've decided to make a few changes to the conference schedule:

- We are devoting more time at the town meeting on Thursday morning for discussion amongst all members and the Executive Council. This is your time to ask questions, to share and openly discuss NYSLAA: its structure, committees, goals, benefits, membership, etc. Please plan on attending and participating as your input is important for NYSLAA's growth!

- Our awards luncheon on Friday has always featured a keynote speaker, but for this conference we will put the spotlight on our own members by scheduling 3-minute time slots (up to 10 members) to speak on a special accomplishment, award, their career, whatever they'd like to share. This is your opportunity, so please consider participating (contact me at tshudysa@cmog.org).

Corning has been NYSLAA's host city in 2010, 2015 and now again in 2018. If you've been to Corning before, don't be fooled into thinking you've seen and done it all. We are still in the process of scheduling the Wednesday afternoon tours and the evening Mixer. We will share more information as soon as everything is in place. As previously announced, our Thursday evening dinner will be held at The Watkins Glen International



raceway. The view and the atmosphere at the track are incredible, and for a small fee you'll have an opportunity to ride around the track in an official Watkins Glen Pace Car! While in Corning, filling your free time will not be

difficult. Step outside the hotel into Corning's Gaffer District where you'll find shops, galleries, restaurants and more. In 2018, Corning Incorporated (formerly Corning Glass Works) will celebrate its 150th year of business in this area -- it will be an exciting time to be in Corning!

Most importantly, we are busy confirming some amazing workshops and presenters and promise there will be something of interest for all of you. So mark your calendars and join us June 6th-8th, 2018, in Corning, NY to celebrate NYSLAA's 40th Annual Conference!

INSIDE: Elections...Donations...Membership...Community Outreach...Scholarships and much more...

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Certificate of Achievement

Review Board Coordinator – and – Ambassador

Michele Matthews

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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.”

CHECK OUT NYSLAA’S WEBSITE: nyslaa.org

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, click on “Join Our Email List” and follow the instructions.



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

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Erma Nieves, Bronx Community College

Jessica Skeldon, Utica College

Ruth V. Oberg, Unaffiliated

Next publication date: *February 15, 2018*

Submission deadline: *January 31, 2018*

Executive Council Elections

Tammy Southard
2017 Election Chair

2017 NYSLAA Election Results



Elections were held for the following offices:

President
Treasurer
Corresponding Secretary

NYSLAA received two nominations for the office of President, one for the office of Treasurer, and one for the office of Corresponding Secretary.

Election ballots were mailed in early October. They were tallied after the October 31st deadline. Nominees for President were **Michele Matthews** and **Valentin Colon**. Michele received the higher amount of votes and will serve another term as President.

Carrie Goetz ran unopposed and will serve another term as Treasurer.

Nora Renda ran unopposed as Corresponding Secretary and will begin in her new position in January.

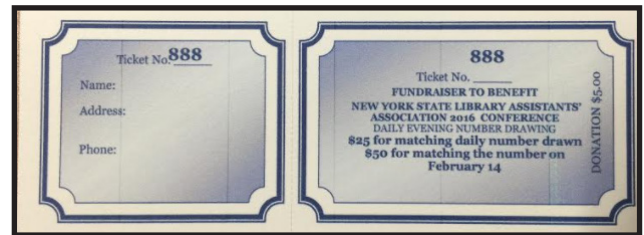
*Please join us in congratulating
Michele, Carrie and Nora.*



Donations Committee

Sheila Tshudy, Chair

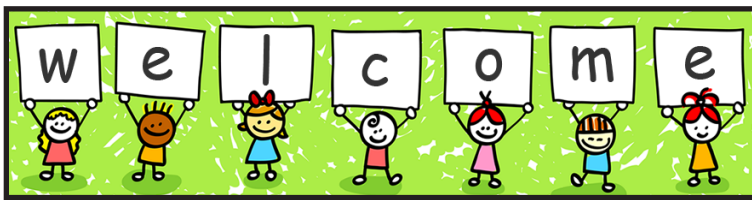
This year's Donations Committee is pulling double-duty, also acting as your 2018 Conference Committee. With all there is to do, we have decided not to do online sales this year, instead we are bringing back the lottery fundraiser! It's a fun fundraiser, with the proceeds used to help defray associated conference costs, which in turn helps to keep registration fees affordable. Lottery numbers will be good for the entire month of February, based on the New York State Lottery's evening drawing. Daily winnings are \$25 except for Valentine's Day (February 14th) when we'll double the payout to \$50. We encourage everyone to purchase and/or sell tickets for \$5 each. We have some extra surprises in store for the conference next year, so this really needs to be successful. Buy some for yourself, sell to your co-workers, family and friends--don't forget they make great stocking stuffers! Stay tuned for more information and kick-off date!



We would also like to encourage everyone to consider donating a basket (or two) for our basket raffle -- one of the highlights of the conference! This raffle generates a great deal of money for our organization as well as wrapping up the conference in style. If you are willing to donate, please let us know so we can be sure to add you to our list.



Questions? Feel free to contact one of the committee members:
Sheila Tshudy tshudysa@cmog.org
Terry Berl tberl@brockport.edu
Holley Laudico hlaudico@brockport.edu



Welcome New Members!

Taylor Domenick

Newburgh Free Library

Jose Rodriguez-Morell

The Salvation Army College for Officer Training,
The Brengle Library

Welcome to Our New Committee Chairs and Committee Members:

Public Relations Chair:

Kara Greene, KGreene@onlib.org

Robert P. Kinchen Central Library

Community Outreach Chair:

Laureen Anthony-Palmer, lanthony@libraryweb.org

Webster Public Library

Newsletter Committee:

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Newburgh Free Library

Erma Nieves, Erma.nieves@bcc.cuny.edu

Bronx Community College

Jessica Skeldon, jeskeldo@utica.edu

Utica College

Thank you for stepping up to serve NYSLAA and its members.



RRLC News

Laureen Anthony-Palmer

Four members of the Rochester Regional Library Council's Library Assistant's Group prepared and served a BBQ chicken dinner to 40 family members who were staying at the Ronald McDonald House near Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester on August 19. This community service project is always well received by those enjoying a home cooked meal and is quite rewarding for the volunteers who give of their time and efforts.

Certificate of Achievement

Michele Matthews

The Certificate of Achievement Review Board has awarded one certificate so far this year. **Jane Coates** of Huntington Public Library earned a Level IV in Technical Services in July.

If you are interested in earning your Certificate of Achievement please contact one of the following Review Board members:

Michele Matthews – Coordinator

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, prendm@rpi.edu

Terry Berl – SUNY Brockport

tberl@brockport.edu

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Carrie Goetz – University at Buffalo

ceoberg@buffalo.edu

Chris Havens – Albany Public Library

havensc@albanypubliclibrary.org

Kathy Rossello – East Greenbush Public Library

rossek@eglibrary.org

Melissa Tidd – Goshen Public Library &

Historical Society, mcody@rcls.org



Membership Update

Donna Hanna

Membership for 2017 is at 272 including 46 new members.

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

Community Outreach

Lauren Anthony-Palmer

In addition to determining the conference donations (see below), I hope to share community outreach activities that take place throughout the year across the state in this newsletter and on the NYSLAA Facebook page. At this point, I have been able to share the Rochester Regional Library Council's activity, but I hope to have pictures and posts from other regional councils in the future.

Designated Donations for the June 2018 Conference

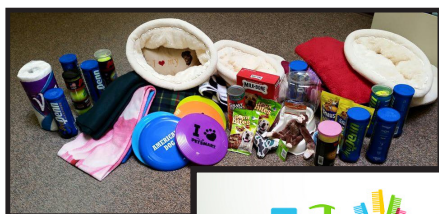
After researching and collaborating with the Conference Committee, the following 4 donation categories have been selected that will benefit community members in the Corning area.

1. **blankets** (following the Project Linus guidelines) for Pediatrics Department **OR** new long sleeved onesies (premie & newborn size; no zippers) for the NICU at <http://www.arnothhealth.org/arnot-ogden-medical-center>

2. **books**, new and gently used (toddlers to teens) for the **Red Book Shelf** program which offers free books in public places throughout Steuben and Yates counties <http://proactioninc.org/resilient-children-and-families/#family-literacy-and-development>

3. **food and toiletries** distributed to local residents <https://corningfoodpantry.com/>

4. **Pet items and cleaning supplies** for Tanner's PAWS (paper towels, bleach, Clorox concentrated cleaner, Mrs. Meyers concentrated Household Cleaner) <http://www.tannerspaws.org>



Rochester's Giant Read

Holley Laudico

Friday morning October 20, library staff members **Terry Berl**, Adrianna Barone (Terry's granddaughter) Laura Emerson and Jennifer Kegler along with 30 athletes



of various sports at The College at Brockport traveled to Rochester City School No. 43 as part of the READ program. Originally started in 2011, local colleges collaborate with the Rochester City School District to bring collegiate student-

athletes together with elementary school children. This program was initially funded by a grant which has since been eliminated. However, the impact this program has had was too valuable for it not to continue.

The library staff graciously donated a copy of "Pete the Cat and the Treasure Map" for each student in the second grade. The "Friends of the Library" purchased enough new drawstring book bags to continue this program through the next four years. Each student receives a drawstring backpack that includes a copy of "Pete the Cat and the Treasure Map", a bookmark, crayons, composition notebook and writing utensils donated by Drake Memorial Library. The local dental office of Stephen Weinstein donated toothbrushes, dental floss and toothpaste for the second graders.



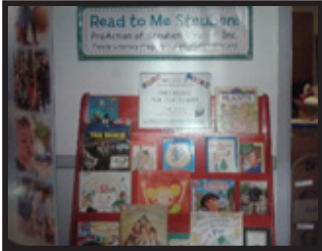
The morning started in three classrooms where the Brockport student-athletes joined the children to read "Pete the Cat and the Treasure Map" together. Later, all the classes assembled in the gym for physical activity. The children played basketball, climbed the rock wall, jumped rope and had scooter rides with their new friends. The highlight of the morning was when Ellsworth (The College at Brockport mascot) arrived and interacted with the children. Ellsworth is always a big hit; he gets the second graders excited about reading.



Family Literacy Program

Holley Laudico

Drake Memorial Library at The College at Brockport has been in the midst of a Collection Evaluation Project. Recent changes in personnel brought about focus on the library's Juvenile Collection. **Terry Berl** is committed



to Literacy Programming. She experiences firsthand the excitement that the gift of a book can bring to a child through her coordination and participation in the Giant Read program every year.

Through the Giant Read program, local colleges collaborate with the Rochester City School District to bring student-athletes together with elementary school children. As a member of the NYSLAA Donation Committee and the NYSLAA 2018 Conference Committee, Terry was aware that this year Family Literacy Services Red Bookshelf through ProAction of Steuben and Yates, Inc. is one of the 2018 conference's community outreach recipients. The

75 Red bookshelves in public places throughout Steuben and Yates Counties provide free children's books to anyone in the community. Terry saw an opportunity to help this cause. Drake



Memorial Library's Juvenile Librarian and Collection Management Librarian enthusiastically agreed to donate the deselected material to the Red Book Shelf. Terry sorted through thousands of withdrawn books from the library's Juvenile collection and selected 1263 of them to donate to the Red Bookshelf. After reaching out to Linda George (Family Literacy coordinator) Terry boxed, labeled and personally delivered the

books to the Red Bookshelf warehouse location in Bath, NY to meet with Linda. The Family Literacy Program was very grateful for the truckload of donated books.



Fisher Fridays

Jenny Bigenwald & Britta Stackwick

What started as a fun workplace incentive turned into an amazing philanthropic venture.

In the summer of 2012, someone suggested starting "Fisher Fridays", a day where all the employees in Lavery Library at St. John Fisher College could dress down in their Fisher gear for the day. Employees who



wanted to participate were asked to donate \$1.00 for the honor of dressing down. Before we knew it, we had collected quite a bit of cash. So, unanimously it was decided that we would donate to a local charity. That summer we were able to donate \$150.00 to the Town of Irondequoit's Community Food Cupboard. Since then, Lavery Library has donated over \$3600 to 32 charities. Some charities held a personal connection, like our donation to Pancreatic Cancer to honor one of our Deans who lost his battle to that disease or showing support to one of our student worker's participation in the annual Relay for Life walk. He was the winner of highest amount raised that year.

Our process is simple, once we reach \$100.00 raised, we send out an email and vote on who we should donate to. This has become something that we are all equally proud of and will continue for years to come!

"I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver."

~ Maya Angelou



Meet the Author Night at North Tonawanda Library

Deb Marshall



In case you missed it....

We had 80 people last night for Anya's program! And we had the opportunity to chat both with Susan as well as her husband Noel MacNeal.

MEET THE AUTHOR
Discussion / Book Signing



Susan Elia MacNeal
Wednesday, August 30
6:00 pm
North Tonawanda Public Library
505 Mendota Center
North Tonawanda, NY 14210
716-662-4232 x4

She acknowledged retired Librarian, Mrs. Elizabeth Lewin (North Tonawanda Public Library) as being highly influential during her school years.



Beth Lewin



NYSLAA

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 current regular member of NYSLAA
- ❖ A NYSLAA member for the previous consecutive three 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 below
- ❖ 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
- ❖ A letter from the NYSLAA Membership Secretary verifying your years of membership

Please note:

- ❖ Applications must be postmarked no later than December 31st
- ❖ Applicants may receive this scholarship only once. Previous winners may not apply.

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Name of Educational Institution: _____

- ❖ If you are awarded this scholarship, would you like your director/supervisor notified in writing by NYSLAA? Yes No

If yes, please provide a name and address below:

Signature: _____

Return completed packet to the NYSLAA President. (*see nyslaa.org*)



NYSLAA

Continuing Education Scholarship

NYSLAA will award one scholarship up to \$250.

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

- ❖ A current regular member of NYSLAA
- ❖ A NYSLAA member for the previous consecutive three 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 below
- ❖ 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 showing that you are enrolled and the cost of the course
- ❖ A letter from the NYSLAA Membership Secretary verifying your years of membership

Please note:

- ❖ Applications must be postmarked no later than December 31st
- ❖ First consideration will be given to those applicants who have not received a NYSLAA scholarship in the past.

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Name of Educational Institution: _____

- ❖ If you are awarded this scholarship, would you like your director/supervisor notified in writing by NYSLAA? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, please provide a name and address below:

Signature: _____

Return completed packet to the NYSLAA President. (*see nyslaa.org*)