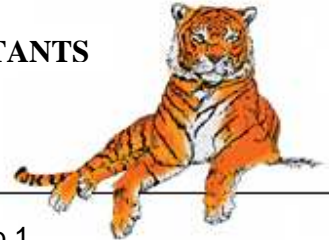


NJALA QUARTERLY REVIEW

A Newsletter for Library Assistants



A Publication of the
NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF LIBRARY ASSISTANTS



Editor: Annette Tyler

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Message from the President

Happy New Year to everyone; I hope your holidays were restful and enjoyable.

Conference planning for 2009 is moving along smoothly, and we have many interesting programs, which I am sure you will enjoy. We are also hoping to have a few vendors at our next conference along with new items at our Ways and Means table.

The theme for the 2009 conference is "Today's Choices Affect Tomorrow Dreams." Make some great choices today, and see how well your dreams turn out tomorrow.

Please consider joining us at our Conference Planning meetings. The dates and places are listed on page 6 in this newsletter. Our meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. Now is a great time to get involved in YOUR association and make some choices that can affect your dreams of tomorrow. For directions please e-mail me, wardbarb@shu.edu or call 973-761-9441.

One of the past presidents of NJALA Regina (Jinx) Bociulis retired from the Burlington County Library System this past month. When she retired Jinx was Branch Manager of the Bordentown Library. We all wish her well and thank her for her many years of service to

NJALA. Jinx held many positions in our association and gave us so much of her time and talent. To name a few positions: She was Conference Co-Chair, Vice President-President Elect, President, Immediate Past President, and Corresponding Secretary.

Because I am trying to keep within my budget as NJALA President I will not be attending January's American Library Association Midwinter Conference being held in Denver CO this year. If you are fortunate enough to be there please send us your impressions of the gathering for our next newsletter.

If you have news about special events or projects taking place in your library write to our editor about them; we would love to hear about what is going on in other libraries.

On a personal note: My newest grandson who was born premature just before our last newsletter is doing just great. He has more than doubled his weight and grown a few inches. It's a joy watching his 3 ½ year old brother getting used to sharing the spot-light. What great joys are ahead.

Barbara Ward
Seton Hall University
Walsh Library

In My Life

Meet Connie Reese. Connie was recently selected as the Ocean County Library (OCL) Support Staff Person of the Year for 2008, by her peers. *This award honors a Librarian or*



Support Staff Person, who demonstrates on-going excellence in the performance of work as it impacts the Ocean County

Library System. This employee is committed in action to our Vision – Connecting People, Building Community. They present unusual initiative or creativity in the performance of their work or of outstanding teamwork, cooperation and /or leadership. They provide exceptional or unusual service in meeting special needs. They are an outstanding supervisor or co-worker who contributes to an unusual extent to the success of staff and the Ocean County Library System.

Before coming to work in libraries Connie worked at Shop Rite for many years. She made vertical blinds and worked in an ice cream store with her family. Connie also did many volunteer jobs in the school system.

When Connie was hired in Tuckerton she had a letter of recommendation from the school librarian, because she did a lot of volunteer time there, and that was probably where she developed the interest in working at the library.

Connie likes everything about working in the library. The continuing education that is available at OCL is her favorite. She will have completed the Certified Public Managers 1-6 class in March. "I think the opportunities for networking throughout the state also appeals to me."

She has worked in the library for 14 years and has always been in the circulation department. Connie has worked at many of the branches including Tuckerton, Waretown, Lacey, Beachwood, Brick, and now Berkeley.

Connie has been a member of NJALA for 3 years, starting off as Recording Secretary. She has been Conference Co-Chair for two years and is currently Vice President/President Elect. She loves the networking with people from all over the state; "I believe that I will be able to help the association come into the technology age and recruit new people to keep the organization going. Furthering education is a passion of mine, and it is wonderful to be a part of a group which helps library assistants from New Jersey to grow."

Connie's hobbies include camping and kayaking, drinking martinis with her camping girls, gardening, and she likes to embroider but hasn't had the time to work on any projects lately.

Connie coaches Pop Warner Cheerleading and has done so for about 12 years. Her daughter is still in the program, and Connie is counting down two more years until that commitment is done. Coaching includes dealing with irate parents and teaching kids sportsmanship, stunting, football and competition. Connie uses a lot of the leadership skills that she receives through library training to deal with this volunteer duty, which has its share of stressful moments. She is also Secretary of the Executive Board of the Lacey Pop Warner Organization.

Connie has three children, ages 25, 18, and 11 and a grandson, who was born on January.

When the time comes she plans to retire with her husband in Whitehills, Arizona where he wants to build his own "green" house. Connie hopes to work part time in a library there in Mohave County

RITA L. HILBERT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD 2009

The NJALA Scholarship Committee is proud to announce our annual scholarship award of \$250.00 for the 2009-2010 academic year. This scholarship will be offered to a library support staff person who would like to pursue any degree or certificate program that enhances work skills.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicant must be a legal resident of New Jersey.
2. Scholarships are available to current NJALA members only.
3. Recipient must attend any accredited college program or certified post-secondary program.
4. Recipient must use the award in a job-related field.
5. Applicant must enclose a 150 word essay explaining how this scholarship will help her/him reach career goals.
6. If the Scholarship Committee deems a personal interview necessary the applicant must be available to meet with the committee.
7. Tuition payment will be sent directly to the institution of enrollment along with the recipient's registration application. Proof of completion of course is required.

If you have any questions or would like an application please contact the Scholarship Committee Chairperson:

East Orange Public Library
Attn: John Guido
21 South Arlington Avenue
East Orange, NJ 07018
Phone: 973-266-5601 or
E-mail: jguido@eopl.org

All applications must be postmarked by May 8, 2009.

RITA L. HILBERT 2009 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. NAME: _____
(Please Print) (Last) (First) (Middle)

2. Legal Residence: _____
(Number) (Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Phone: __ (____) _____

3. Post Secondary:

Have you applied for admission to any school(s)? Yes: ____ No: ____

Specify school(s): _____

Have you been accepted for any school(s)?

Specify: _____

Are you presently attending a post secondary school? Yes: ____ No: ____

4. Education: _____
(College) (Year)

(Degree) (Major) (G.P.A.)

Post Graduate Education: _____
(College) (Year) (Degree) (Major)

5. Work Experience: (Most recent employment first)

A. _____
(Employer's Name) (Address)

(Position/Title) (Employment Dates)

B. _____
(Employer's Name) (Address)

(Position/Title) (Employment Dates)

I understand that it may be necessary to be interviewed for this scholarship and agree to make myself available for this interview if so requested by the scholarship committee. I understand that in order to be considered for this scholarship I will be required to submit proof of course completion.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

NJALA RECOGNITION AND KEHNAST AWARDS Application

Each year at the conference of the **New Jersey Association of Library Assistants** the NJALA Recognition and Kehnast awards are presented.

The NJALA Recognition Award is given to a dedicated Director, Trustee, or Librarian in a New Jersey Library or Libraries who encourages and supports participation in career development or activities for library assistants in New Jersey.

The Kehnast Award is given to a dedicated library assistant in a New Jersey Library who has made a significant contribution to the profession or to his/her library and actively participates in career development or activities in New Jersey. This award is named for AnnaMarie Kehnast who served as President and Liaison of **NJALA**.

To submit your recommendation for a candidate for either award please include the following:

Your information:

1. Name: _____
(Please print.) (Last) (First) (Middle)
2. Library name & address: _____
(Street or P.O. Box #)

(City) (State) (Zip)
3. Title: _____ 4. Phone: _____

Candidate information:

5. Name: _____
(Please print.) (Last) (First) (Middle)
6. Library name & address: _____
(Street or P.O. Box #)

(City) (State) (Zip)
7. Title: _____ 8. Phone: _____
9. Award you are applying for: _____

Include an essay of no more than 200 words explaining why the candidate deserves this award. This application along with the essay must be postmarked by May 8, 2009; send these documents to:

East Orange Public Library
Attn: John Guido
21 South Arlington Avenue
East Orange NJ 07018
Phone: 973-266-5601
Email: jguido@eopl.org

Conference Planning Schedule for 2009:

- Thursday, January 15
Morristown & Township Public Library, Morristown
- Friday, February 6
Seton Hall University, Walsh Library, South Orange
- Tuesday, March 10
an Ocean County Library
- Wednesday, April 8
location TBA
- Thursday, May 14
Somerset County Library, Bridgewater
- June, Enterprise Center
Burlington County College, Mount Laurel



Give Us a T

The Atlantic City Free Public Library was selected to receive \$40,000 in funding to create a special Teen Space as part of the South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative's *A+ Teen Space Demonstration Project*, which was made possible with funding from the Atlantic City Free Public Library, South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative (SJRLC), and New Jersey State Library. The Atlantic City Library will provide a match of \$35,000 for the work. The Camden County Library was also chosen for funding.

Scheduled for a grand opening in September 2009 the special area will be comprised of two main sections: The Lounge and Teen Central. The Lounge will be a casual, teen-only area for teens to gather, and it will include work stations, modern lounge furniture, space to hold meetings and special programs, a large screen television, video gaming area, computers and CD listening station. Teen Central will be a quiet area designed for teens to read, study, use a computer, and do homework or research. The library's teen collection of books, magazines, movies, games and music will be located in Teen Central, and parents, teachers, and others will have access to this area to use those resources.

The Atlantic City Library and teen community put together the proposal that really impressed the SJRLC. Teen Services Coordinator Jennifer Boyce led the team in preparing the library's submission. Local teens were involved throughout the design phase, and interior designer Shaina Horton created designs based on their suggestions and preferences.

Graffiti artist Stephen Stuart-Gibson will seek teen input and participation in creating a design for a large, visually dramatic mural.

Jennifer Boyce



So Long; Farewell & Happy Retirement!

Just a few words about Regina (Jinx) Bociulis: I really did not know her until we started traveling together for the NJALA Conference Committee. I think we did it for 6 years. Jinx always drove. She loves The Mommas and The Pappas, especially their *Monday, Monday* and *California Dreamin'*; those songs were always playing on CD. She was "in charge" of Linda Porter and me. I found Jinx to be a very understanding, empathetic, courteous, very etiquette minded, knowledgeable in many things, competent, gentle and just plain a lot of fun--as well as stylish and au courant. She also had/has fabulous hair.

She did a lot for NJALA--more than most people realize.

I will miss Jinx very much. When Norma Blake chose her to be the manager of Bordentown, Norma picked a sure winner.

Tami Kessler



DEADLINE

for the next

NJALA Quarterly Review

is April 6, 2009.

Feel free to send your articles or other information anytime before this date.

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The NJALA website is <http://www.njala.org>