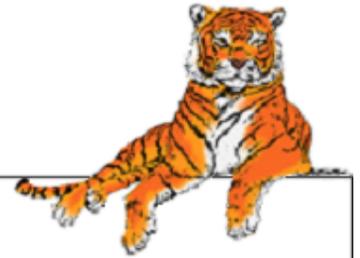


NJALA QUARTERLY REVIEW

A Newsletter for Library Assistants



A Publication of the
New Jersey Association of Library Assistants



Editor: Annette Tyler
Distribution Manager: Heather Rivera

Winter 2011 Vol.13 No.1

Message from the President

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and is managing to stay warm during these snowstorms!

As part of the celebration of our Association's 25th Anniversary we have decided to change our annual conference to a one day event. Please mark your calendar for Tuesday, June 7, 2011.

Our other exciting change is that we are switching our venue this year. The new location is The Conference Center at Mercer, on the grounds of Mercer County Community College, surrounded by 292 acres of woodland in West Windsor, New Jersey. This area is in the center of New Jersey, easily accessible to all of us.

As always, we promise to bring you new and exciting programs and a chance to network with other library staff. This is a wonderful learning opportunity for everyone, and we hope you will be joining us again in June. Please stay tuned for more details. Have a happy, healthy, prosperous 2011.

Cathy Lynch
Ocean County Library

We second the Motion!

Since Cathy has already broken the news we want to make sure that you know how pleased we are with the decision to move the conference to a spot that will probably cut down on your travel time.

We are putting together a great slate of speakers, some new, some returning favorites, on a wide variety of topics from personal growth to professional development.

Please join us on June 7 to grow, learn, network and celebrate our 25th year! We want to see you there; it won't be the same without YOU!

Ginger Cairns, Ocean County Library
and
Jacqui Ridzy, Somerset County Library

NJALA Conference Co-Chairs



NJALA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

JANUARY-DECEMBER 2011

As an NJALA member you receive newsletters, invaluable networking opportunities, discounts on workshops, and an annual two-day conference. To join now return this form to our Membership Secretary:

**Heather Rivera
North End Branch Library
722 Summer Ave.
Newark NJ 07104**

Name: _____

Title/Dept: _____

Library: _____

Library Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Business Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Area of Expertise: _____

Renewal
 New

Regular Dues \$20 (support staff, i.e.: library assistants, clerks, technicians, paraprofessionals, etc.)

Associate Dues \$15 (all those who do not qualify as regular members)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NJALA

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 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 April 30, 2011; send them to:

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

RITA L. HILBERT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD 2011

The NJALA Scholarship Committee is proud to announce our annual scholarship award of \$250.00 for the 2011-2012 academic year. This scholarship will be offered to a library support staff person who would like to pursue a 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 an 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. The scholarship recipient will receive the award money after proof of completion of the course is shown.

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

There is an application form on the next page, and you will also find one on the NJALA website, www.njala.org

All applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2011.

RITA L. HILBERT 2010 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

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

Legal Residence: _____
(Number) (Street)

(City) (State) (Zip) (phone)

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: ____

Education: _____
(College) (Year)

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

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

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: _____

MORRISTOWN LIBRARY REOPENS

As you may already know the Joint Free Public Library of Morristown and Morris Township sustained major damage from an explosion on the morning of May 3, 2010. The oldest wing of the library, built in 1917, suffered the most devastation, including upheaval of part of the concrete floor, which was about 8 inches thick.

Library employees worked through the rest of the spring and into summer, fall, and winter at various locations. The staff of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, across the street from the library, ensured that we had office space, room for all of our children's summer activities, and a concert venue for our Jazz in July evenings. The Presbyterian Church, next to the library also extended their hospitality, most notably for the Director's Book Club and a staff and volunteer luncheon. Our bookmobile continued with an expanded list of stops, and some library members of our consortium, the Morris Automated Information Network, were especially helpful in making sure that we had space to house our returned items. During July we acquired storefront space almost directly across the street from the front of the library. The library administration and cataloging departments will be using these offices until they are able to return to the library building.

On January 5 our newly appointed Director Maria Norton held a press conference along with the mayors of Morristown and Morris Township. And then on January 6 at 1 p.m. we opened our doors to the public, who have been clamoring for months to come inside their favorite place in town.

Of course things are not quite back to normal, since we are squeezed into one third of our space, but we have learned to make do with what we have.

Annette Tyler
Morristown & Morris Township Library



NEWS FROM SETON HALL

Seton Hall University recently named Dr. A Gabriel Esteban its new president. Dr. Esteban was serving as the University's Interim President since July 2010. He is now Seton Hall University's 20th President and one of the few lay people to have held this position.



On January 19 a memorial Mass of remembrance and hope was held in the University Chapel of the Immaculate Conception; this was the anniversary of the Boland Hall fire. Eleven years have passed since this terrible event. In response to this tragedy many universities put sprinkler systems in their dormitories. Starting this fall, colleges across the nation will be required to publicly report their fire statistics for the first time under a new federal Fire Safety Right-to-Know law introduced by New Jersey legislators inspired by the Seton Hall tragedy. National fire safety advocates are also continuing the movement with a campaign to improve fire safety in off-campus housing, where students often live in dangerous houses and apartments. Members of the Seton Hall community were asked to wear the color of Blue on the day of the Mass to acknowledge this sad day.

Barbara Ward
Seton Hall University
Walsh Library

Travelling for NJALA

I attended the American Library Association (ALA) Mid-Winter Meeting held in San Diego, CA from January 6 - 11. As many of you know Mid-Winter is mainly meetings, meetings, and more meetings preparing for the annual conference in June.

Although nearly all Divisions and most Round Tables of ALA are showing a dip in membership the Library Support Staff Interest Round Table (LSSIRT) numbers went up in the past year. The mission of LSSIRT is *to provide an arena within ALA for addressing a wide variety of issues of concern to library support staff, including but not limited to basic training programs, education, career development, job duties and responsibilities and other related issues for the purpose of fostering communication and networking among all levels of library personnel. To be responsible for the timely dissemination of information to local, regional, state and national support staff organizations.*

I attended several meetings which included an LSSIRT board and membership meeting, Round Table Assembly (RTCA) meeting, and several ALA council meetings. All these meetings could be summed up the same: the fate of future Mid-Winter meetings and, of course, the budgets.

At the LSSIRT meeting Karen Strege, who is one of the directors of the Library Support Staff Certification Program (LSSCP) stated that there are now 124 candidates in 28 states signed up for the program, Two of these candidates are from New Jersey. There are a total of 55 courses ranging from \$250.00 - \$800.00 per course.

John Berry from *Library Journal* wanted LSSIRT to vote on changing the *Library*

Journal's Paraprofessional of the Year Award to Paralibrarian of the Year Award. We voted to keep the term Paraprofessional.

Marilyn Jack-Brown
Montclair State University
NJALA Liaison



Experience Atlantic City

Travel to A.C. in person or via a new website: www.atlanticcityexperience.org. The website provides some of the extensive resources contained in the library's Alfred M. Heston Collection, which contains books, photographs, postcards, audio, video, digital files, and memorabilia pertaining to the city's history.

The library's first special exhibit: "The Atlantic City Experience: 1920s" will be on display at the main library until the spring.

Heather Perez
Atlantic City Free Public Library



DEADLINE

for the next

NJALA Quarterly Review
is April 5, 2011

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

NJALA Quarterly Review

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973-538-3473 FAX 973-267-4064

E-mail: Annette.Tyler@mainlib.org

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

LIBRARY SUPPORT STAFF CERTIFICATION PROGRAM OFFERS REGISTRATION ASSISTANCE AWARDS

Released by the American Library Association – Allied Professional Association, January 31, 2011

For more information call Nancy Bolt at 303 642 0338 or email nancybolt@earthlink.net

As part of a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) program, a program of the American Library Association-Allied Professional Association, will be offering Registration Assistance Awards of \$175 to library support staff, half of the fee to register to become a candidate for library support staff certification.

The LSSC Program offers library employees the opportunity to achieve recognition for their experience, enhance library service, and increase skills and knowledge in areas like the foundations of librarianship, technology and communication.

The Awards are being offered jointly by the LSSC program, several state library agencies across the US, and the Library Support Staff Interests Round Table (LSSIRT) of the American Library Association.

The participating state library agencies are the Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public Records; the District of Columbia; the Idaho Commission for Libraries; the Mississippi State Library; the Oregon State Library; Pennsylvania Office of the Commonwealth of Libraries; the Washington State Library; and the Wyoming State Library.

Each state library agency will offer between two and four Registration Assistance Awards. Library support staff who are interested in becoming certified should contact the state library agency in these states. Each state will be setting its own deadline to receive applications.

The Library Support Staff Interests Round Ta-

ble of the American Library Association will also announce its participation in the Awards in the near future. Library support staff will also be invited to submit applications to LSSIRT.

Nancy Bolt, Co-Project Director of LSSC comments, "Research in Maryland and Minnesota has shown that certification results in library support staff who have a more comprehensive understanding of library service, are more confident, and contribute more to library operation and success. And ultimately, it results in library users that are better served."

To be eligible to participate in LSSC and thus receive an Assistance Award, applicants must have a high school degree or its equivalent and have worked for the equivalent of one year (1820 hours) as a library staff member or volunteer within the last five years.

Library Support Staff Certification (LSSC) provides a path to recognition and awareness of the critical role that library support staff play in the delivery of quality library service. To achieve certification, support staff must achieve six of ten competency sets either through development of an online portfolio or taking LSSC approved courses. The competency sets are: Foundation of Library Service; Technology; Communication and Teamwork; Access Services, Adult Readers' Advisory Services; Cataloging and Classification; Collection Management; Reference and Information Services; Supervision and Management; and Youth Services.

Detailed additional information is available on the LSSC website: <http://ala-apa.org/lssc/lssc-news/> or by contacting Nancy Bolt at 303 642 0338 or nancybolt@earthlink.net

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<http://ala-apa.org/lssc>**