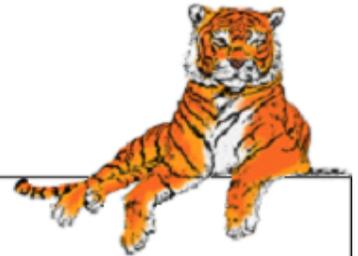


NJALA QUARTERLY REVIEW

A Newsletter for Library Assistants



A Publication of the
New Jersey Association of Library Assistants



Editor: Annette Tyler
Distribution Manager: Heather Rivera

Spring 2011 Vol.13 No.2

Message from the President

Spring is the season according to the calendar, and maybe soon the weather will cooperate too.

Deadlines for turning in your applications for the NJALA scholarship and awards are coming fast, so please don't delay. See pages 5, 6, and 7 for information about how you may collect much needed funds to aid you in furthering your education and about how to honor a worthy library assistant, librarian, director, or library trustee.

Volunteer to be our new NJALA webmaster; see the ad on page 3.

Most important of all:

Please renew your membership; see page 4.

I look forward to seeing you at our 25th anniversary celebration on June 7.



Cathy Lynch
Ocean County Library



News from Seton Hall

During the month of March Seton Hall University honored women and their achievements in history with several events.

News continued on page 2.

Celebrate our Silver Anniversary

As you probably know this year's conference marks the 25th Anniversary of NJALA. Our theme for 2011 is *NJALA: 25 years of Connection and Commitment*. All of the conference planning committee members hope that you will join us at our new location on June 7 at the Mercer Conference Center in West Windsor. We are very excited about the change in venue and hope its central location will be more convenient for our members.

We have what we think is a very diverse line-up of presentations for you with a return of several of our most popular presenters. We've got the programs you've asked for: customer service, time management, book chat, adult literacy, and some computer programs to name a few.

And as always we are interested in your ideas; we would love to have you join us on the Conference Planning Committee. We need and welcome your input and involvement. Our meetings are held from September to June at various libraries around the state. Can't join the committee? Well, you can host a meeting to see what we are all about. If you invite us we will come!

These are the meetings prior to this year's conference:
4/15 Bordentown Branch, Burlington County Library
5/18 Mary Jacobs Branch, Somerset County Library in Rocky Hill
6/2 Mercer conference Center

See you on June 7 for NJALA's 25th anniversary. Be there; YOU are what makes NJALA.

Ginger Cairns, Ocean County Library
Jacqui Ridzy, Somerset County Library
Conference Co-Chairs

And to think that I saw it on Washington Street!

Dear Friends all,

Upon hearing of my imminent retirement, Barbara Ward asked me to write a few words to the Association, and so here I am. (I feel almost like Randy Pausch and his “**Last Lecture!**”) More than 25 years ago, I was proud and happy to work on the very first conference. Yes, the association is unique! Most associations start with a few members, a series of meetings, then decide to sponsor a conference. NJALA started with a conference, initiated by Ray Murray, director in charge of the region, for purposes of continuing education. The conference, held at Seton Hall, was a huge success and well-attended by library support staff, a few librarians, and even a few directors. A small core did the planning and set up the program. Little did we know that it would flourish and grow, soon to be taken over by enthusiastic support staff who continued the work with many meetings and conferences over the years.

I have enjoyed the friends I made through NJALA, and am proud of the work they've done and the recognition they have garnered. Though I have not been able to attend several of the latest conferences (time and distance and other obligations), when the organizing committee meets at Seton Hall, I welcome the opportunity to stop in for a short chat. And of course, I sometimes meet up with NJALA members at NJLA annual conference, and even ALA!

So, as I ride off into the sunset, I would like to wish you all the best in your library futures. Having worked in libraries for more than 50 years (in many capacities....beginning as a “page” in the Trenton Free Public Library), I can only say it's been a great life! I will continue to be involved in library work and research, but as a volunteer. Hope to see you around! Good luck and God bless!

Sister Anita Talar



This is a picture I took of a beautiful white squirrel in our back yard here at the library. We have been spotting him running along the fence out back since this past summer. On another day we saw him playing with a typical grey squirrel and hiding from me by flattening himself onto the branch.

Suzanne J. Ridzy
Somerset County Library
Mary Jacobs Branch, Rocky Hill



News continued from page 1.

A Woman's Conference on campus included many workshops of great interest for women concerning their everyday living. We also held a community service event to support a local Battered Women's Shelter in Essex County; items were collected to give to this organization. At the conference Dean Chrysanthy Grieco was named “WOMAN OF THE YEAR.” She has spent over 50 years on our campus holding various titles including Head of the English Departments. The month ended with a Woman's Appreciation Dinner.

●●●
Seton Hall honored one of the Chilean miners, who had been trapped in a mine collapse for 69 days. Mario Sepulveda, dressed in traditional Chilean attire, was on campus and spoke about his experience in the mine and its effect on his life. Sepulveda created a foundation, “Miner's Miracle,” with which the University has partnered. Mario toured the campus during his visit and met with many professors, students and staff; he spoke in an auditorium filled to capacity. Julie Fiol, the Consul General of Chile in New York, also spoke about the impact that the mine collapse had.

Barbara Ward, Walsh Library
Seton Hall University
Walsh Library

NJALA

is in

need of a new

WEBMASTER.

Can you help?



Please contact

Annette Tyler

at

Annette.Tyler@mainlib.org

NJALA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

JANUARY-DECEMBER 2011

As an NJALA member you receive newsletters, invaluable networking opportunities, discounts on workshops, and an annual 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 (Please print.):

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

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

Candidate information (Please print.):

5. Name: _____
(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 2011 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 receive this scholarship I will be required to submit proof of course completion.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Libraries Without Walls

A number of customers have told me that they are very concerned that libraries will become a thing of the past, that the Internet, Google, and e-readers will make our jobs irrelevant. In fact, this question was explored in the Asbury Park Press in an article entitled, *Are Public Libraries an Anachronism in the Digital Age?* (1/2/11). The conclusion was that libraries are even more relevant now due to economic conditions and because there is so much information available.

Libraries today have evolved from being hushed halls of books to bustling community centers, where customers may borrow books *plus* music and movies. They may also use Internet computers to download photos, compose presentations, and apply for jobs. In addition, thousands of people come for movies, book discussions, lectures and self-improvement programs. And more and more parents bring their children to the library for the story times and other programs that help enlarge and enrich their world. Today's libraries serve a diverse population with wide-ranging interests and needs.

Yet, the virtual world could be a threat to libraries if libraries fail to keep up with it and incorporate those conveniences with the reliable information, which is the responsibility of libraries to provide. It's very easy to use Google, but then it is a challenge for the user to verify what information is accurate. Content matters, and that is what libraries provide -- reliable information inside and, now, outside the walls of the building. We have entered the age of Libraries Without Walls.

Lately, with the current economic climate as it is, we read about library cut-backs and closings. We are fortunate in Ocean County that our library system receives both community and political support. This support allows our library to provide the kinds of on-line services that do keep us relevant.

Our website, www.theoceancountylibrary.org, is the gateway to a myriad of resources. You may browse the catalog and reserve books, movies, and other materials and have them sent to the branch most convenient to you. You may retrieve millions of newspaper, magazine, and journal articles, including *Consumer Reports*, for

free from the EBSCOhost database. You may learn languages with "Mango Languages" and "Tell Me More." You may keep abreast of financial information with "Morningstar." You may fix your lawnmower or your car with the "Chilton Library" and "Small Engine Repair Reference Center." You may download audio-books and e-books to your audio device or e-reader from "ListenNJ." And, just added is **Universal Class**, a selection of over 500 online non-college credit Continuing Education Courses that you may take for free! And even more is available to you from the 101 different online resources, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from the Ocean County Library website. For free. All you need is a library card.

That's how libraries stay relevant in the digital age.

Ocean County Library
Connecting People... Building Community

Linda Feaster, Branch Manager
Ocean County Library
Long Beach Island



DEADLINE
for the next

NJALA Quarterly Review
is July 5, 2011

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

NJALA Quarterly Review
Editor Annette Tyler

Morristown & Morris Township Public Library
1 Miller Road, Morristown NJ 07960
973-538-3473 FAX 973-267-4064
E-mail: Annette.Tyler@mainlib.org

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