The 2010 Annual Conference was back in Saratoga Springs this past November and will be returning again for the next two more years. The Library: Your Story Starts Here was the theme of this year’s conference that attracted approximately 1,281 attendees, speakers and exhibitors.

The keynote speaker was Jonathan Palfrey, Professor of Law and Vice Dean for Library and Information Resources at Harvard Law School. Prof. Palfrey provided both an enlightening and entertaining presentation on the internet’s impact on how students learn, retain and share information.

The new Scholarship Bash (formerly Vitality Event) raised over $8,000 towards scholarships that NYLA will award to a student at each of the seven library schools in the state. The Scholarship Bash was held at the City Tavern and offered a smorgasbord of food, fun and festivities on three floors. NYLA thanks everyone who attended the event and donated to the Scholarship Fund so far and there still is time to make a tax-deductible donation by the end of year.

The Inaugural Celebration was either memorable or unforgettable depending on your nautical viewpoint, but this year’s Award winners were some of the best the library community has to offer in this state. Brian Hildreth, Director of the David A. Howe Library was the recipient of the first annual Mary Bobinksi Innovative Public Library Director Award and his accomplishments and remarks that evening give us all hope for a brighter future for libraries. Lockport Public Library Trustee Norman Sinclair received the Outstanding Service to Libraries Award for dedication and long-term commitment to libraries and is a trustee any library director would covet.

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INTERVIEW WITH NYLA MEMBER

Bea Baaden

by Michael Borges

This Fall I interviewed Bea Baaden, Director of the School Library Media Program at the College of Education and Information Sciences at Long Island University. Bea was part of group of representatives from the seven library/information science schools that meet regularly at the NYLA Annual Conference to discuss issues of mutual interest. At this year’s conference Ed Rivenburgh, Milne Library Director at SUNY Geneseo and his colleagues made a presentation on the need to include teaching methods (pedagogy) as part of the required curriculum for all library school students. NYLA will be working with the library schools to see if this can implemented.

So why did Bea Baaden become a librarian? “It has been an interesting journey. This certainly was not my first choice of occupation, especially since I didn’t even know the job of school media specialist existed until after I was teaching in a high school. My first career was as a teacher of English, Speech Arts and Theatre Arts in a high school. I found that as I taught my English 9 students I gravitated into the library for them (and me) to gather background information about the novels, poems, drama we were reading. A very proactive librarian took me under her wing and introduced me to this wonderful profession,” responded Bea.

Bea has several degrees, from a B.S. in Speech (Arts) Education from St. John’s University to a M.A. in Theatre Arts at Adelphi University and an M.S. in Library and Information Science (School media specialization) from the Palmer School of Library and Information Science at C.W. Post. While working full-time as a high school librarian she obtained her doctorate in education at Hofstra University. What was Bea’s first library job like and how did her career unfold? “When I was completing my library degree, I got a job as a Children’s Librarian Trainee at the South Huntington Public Library. I remember vividly my supervisor, a wonderful librarian, who always wished me ‘an interesting research question’ for those quiet evenings that I worked there. She taught me all the practical things a good librarian needed to know, including making sure I went to the processing librarians to learn how to cover books. She was a wonderful teacher! Once I got my degree, I was offered a part time position as a Children’s Librarian at this library. I loved every minute of it! First of all, being surrounded by so many books (this was a long time ago – 1979/80!) and having the luxury of browsing through so many of them. I met wonderful teachers visiting the library for information on teaching and reading to their classes and I worked with students doing projects, so that I learned what students were doing in the schools (and it was here I learned that people usually have no idea what information they are really looking for when they ask for it, so I honed my “reference interview” skills). I knew that working with materials and kids and teachers was what I wanted to do. The only down side at the public library was working nights and weekends when my children were home!” stated Ms. Baaden.

“My first school media job was at a private, Catholic girls school where I had sole charge of the library, except for one 90 year old nun who came every week from the mother house to type catalog cards! But it was here I learned how to be a teacher librarian. All 9th grade students had a library class as part of their cycle and I needed to develop a curriculum and les-
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Despite the economy and the continuing dysfunctional nature of our state government, this year saw some major accomplishments by NYLA including: approval by the NYS Department of Civil Service of updates and reforms to the exams and scoring for Librarian I, II and Library Director I, which are the first major changes to the exams in over 20 years; the signing into law of the Cooperative Bidding Bill, that will allow libraries and systems to coordinate the purchase of services and products jointly thereby saving them and their taxpayers money; the publication of the first Voters Guide on the state Legislature in conjunction with the New Yorkers for Better Libraries; the hosting of the first annual Empire State Book Festival and NYS Writers Hall of Fame and being designated a Center for the Book by the Library of Congress; and finally the awarding of a $1 million federal stimulus grant to provide digital literacy training to librarians throughout the state.

Still in the works are a statewide salary survey, launching our new website and offering some new membership benefits in 2011. So Happy Holidays! And I look forward to working with the library community again next year in shaping the future of libraries and the library profession in New York State. ♦

The NYLA Bulletin
Fall 2010

Executive Director’s Report

Michael J. Borges

2010 Annual Conference Highlights

The legal dynamic duo of Ellen Bach and Bob Schofield from the law firm of Whiteman Osterman and Hanna received the Outstanding Advocate of Libraries Award for their advocacy of libraries in the court of law throughout New York State. The National Coalition Against Censorship received the NYLA/Sirsi-Dynix Intellectual Freedom Award for their defense of free speech and intellectual freedom and the role libraries play in that effort. The Regents Advisory Council for Libraries presented the annual Joseph L. Shubert Award to the Queens Library.

Frances Roscello, retired school librarian and Associate for School Library Media Programs at the State Education Department received the President’s Lifetime Achievement Award for her many years of service and dedication to the library community and especially for her efforts on behalf of school libraries.

In addition to all the speakers and events, there was an outstanding array of 116 educational workshops with interesting titles ranging from “21 Idea’s for the 21st Century” and “How to be the Bad Guy without Being Bad” to “I Still Don’t Want to Talk About It” and the “Hyperlinked Library.” The Conference also included several important programs dealing with advocacy, the future of libraries and library education that involved state Education Commissioner David Steiner, ALA President Roberta Stevens and Past-ALA President Camila Alire among others.

The Annual Conference ended with an amusing and passionate talk by author and library advocate extraordinaire Marilyn Johnson, who wrote This Book is Overdue. According to our survey of this year’s attendees, 87% were satisfied with this year’s conference and 96% are planning on coming back to Saratoga next year. Planning is already underway for next year’s event under the expert leadership of Ellen Rubin, 2009/2010/2011 Conference Chair and her colleagues on the Conference Planning Committee, which will incorporate many of the suggestions expressed by attendees and exhibitors. ♦
Stay-cations began simply as a term coined by the media to describe how families would cope with the escalating financial crisis during the summer of 2008. The predictions of stay-cations have not only materialized, but in fact increased. The Conference Board has reported that in 2010, 32% of families with children spent their vacations within 50 miles of home.

What activities are families turning to? Museums and other similar cultural institutions, according to Ford Bell, president of the American Association of Museums. “It’s the concept of the staycation, keeping people closer to home.”

Enterprising librarians in New York’s public libraries, as in other states, have stepped in to make local museums even more accessible and affordable to their patrons. They have implemented museum pass programs that offer free or reduced admissions. As Marc Horowitz explains, “At the North Babylon Public Library, we have limited space for programming and hoped to offer our patrons a new form of programming.”
A Gates Foundation survey recently determined that 78% of people in their communities still depend on their local public library to provide them with Internet access. The phrase “affordable and adequate broadband” is one that is heard frequently and is especially relevant to libraries so they can deliver such important services as E-Government services, current health information, distance learning, and workforce development skills training and resources.

The State Library, in partnership with NYLA, has been providing leadership in statewide broadband issues since the late 1990’s, providing public libraries with needed computer hardware and internet connections and helping them with associated costs through a series of grant programs.

Partnering with the Gates Foundation in 2007-2010 resulted in a $6.1 million grant that provided 421 public libraries statewide with over 3,200 computers, followed by a recent Gates grant worth $1 million which is providing

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WITH THE WINTRY MONTHS approaching it’s time to start thinking about who you will let light up your house this season. As the weather conditions start to cool down it is important to make sure your business and home are equipped to handle the coming months, making little changes can help to improve efficiency and can have a big impact on both your electricity bill and the environment.

While the winter weather outside may be frightful, we found a few tips to help keep your energy bill delightful!

- **Switch to Cold Water** - Try washing your laundry with cold water, you will save 85% of the energy needed for hot water. Don’t forget to only wash your laundry when you have a full load.
- **Pull out your dark clothes** - Wear layers of warm clothing; make sure they are dark colors so that they can absorb light and heat.
- **Let the sun shine** - Open your drapes and curtains so the sun can stream in, helping to keep your home or business toasty and your electricity bill low! Don’t forget to close your drapes and curtains when the sun goes down to preserve heat.
- **Turn off the Television** - Instead of turning on the television at night, try reading a book or having a game night.
- **Have a Party** - Each guest is the equivalent of a 175-watt heater, so invite all of your friends over, the more the merrier.

In addition, the NYLA has partnered with Energy Plus to offer members an exclusive, customized electricity program that includes annual Cash Back, a sales tax savings every month, and the same reliable service from your local utility company.

By enrolling, you’ll receive a sales tax waiver of up to 9.75% on the delivery portion of your bill each month, a $25 Activation Bonus and receive an automatic 3% Cash Back Rebate on your annual electricity supply charges for your home and/or privately owned business.

The best part is that you can try Energy Plus risk-free. There are no changes to your service - your utility company will continue to deliver your electricity, mail your bill, read your meter, and handle any power outages. Also, there are no sign-up fees, cancellation fees, or long-term commitments. To be eligible you just need an address within the Energy Plus service area, which covers all of New York State, except areas covered by the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA).

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Members on the Move

Theresa Adams, recently retired from Spencerport High School, a volunteer at St. John Fisher College Library and an officer of the Rochester Area School Librarians (RASL), visited the Youth Services Course at the School of Information Studies of Syracuse University. Adams promoted the value of professional membership in NYLA, its sections and regional affiliates.

The Albany Public Library was honored to receive the NYLA 2010 Public Libraries Section Outstanding Public Library Building Award for the Delaware Branch Library renovation project. The renovated branch is a center of the Delaware Avenue neighborhood and has seen its circulation increase 95 percent since its grand opening in early January.

Michelle Currier, the new Assistant Librarian for Digital Technologies and Learning at SUNY Canton’s Southworth Library.

Judith Dzikowski, director of the OCM School Library System (SLS) and Mary Tiedemann, OCM SLS librarian, co-authored the featured article “The Data-Driven Library Program” published in Library Media Connection magazine, a national publication.

Muriel Feldshuh completed her 5th Literary Quilt which celebrates the MAGIC of Children’s Books! The quilts contain squares from 151 Children’s Book Authors who were kind enough to participate in the project. This latest quilt will be on exhibit at the National Center of Children’s Book Authors who were kind enough to participate in the project. This latest quilt will be on exhibit at the National Center of Children’s Book Authors who were kind enough to participate in the project.

Maureen Frei left the Horseheads Middle School after serving five years to fill the opening left at the Horseheads High School after the retirement of Carolyn Clack.

Erica Freudenberger was appointed Director of Red Hook Public Library in August.

Ann Gainer, librarian at Mary E. Dardess Elementary School in Chatham, is the new Co-President of the Albany region Children’s Literature Connection, www.childrensliteratureconnection.org

Kevin J. Gallagher has retired as Library Director of the Thrall Public Library District of Middletown & Wallkill (Middletown Thrall Library), effective Dec. 31, 2010.

The George F. Johnson Memorial Library received a 2010 Broadband Technology Opportunity Program grant to establish a Public Computing Center. The space the PCC occupies looks to be awarded with funding partially provided by a New York State Public Library Construction Grant.

The George F. Johnson Memorial Library has also joined with several other libraries in the Four County System to make downloadable “e” and audio-books available via a contract with Overdrive. The service is scheduled to debut in January 2011.

Ashley Groff is the new Children’s Librarian at Flower Memorial Library.

Suzanne Hermans, formerly the Central Reference Library Services Coordinator at the Adrian Memorial Library, is the new School Library System Coordinator at Orange-Ulster BOCES.

Sue A. Hoadley was appointed Director of the Town of Westerlo Public Library in September.

Nancy Howe has been hired by The Baldwinsville Public Library to oversee a $244,517 Public Computer Center grant awarded to the library as part of the Broadbandexpress@yourlibrary project from the U.S. Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Nancy comes to the library from the Central New York Library Resources Council where her responsibilities included grant administration and training library staff in a four-county region.

Kim Iraci, previously the Communications, Advocacy and Outreach Librarian at the Pioneer Library System, has been appointed the Executive Director of the Finger Lakes Library System. Kim is a Past President of the NYLA Reference and Adult Services Section, served on NYLA Council and chaired NYLA’s Public Awareness Committee.

Suzanne M. Johnson, Assistant Director of the Longwood Public Library, has been named the new director of the library, effective January 1, 2010.

Déirdre Joyce is the new Assistant Director at the Central New York Library Resources Council.

Mary C. Little joins the Rye Free Reading Room as Director on January 3, 2011.

Jennifer Lombardo has been hired as the new Young Adult Librarian of the Highland Public Library.

Joseph J. Mattie retired after more than 25 years of service as a Library Development Specialist at the New York State Library’s Division of Library Development.

Chuck McMorran, Director of the New City Library, co-authored an article titled “Sign-a-Palooza” that was published in the October issue of Computers in Libraries. The article reports on their innovative use of digital picture frames to replace paper signs that cluttered the desk and the library as a whole.

The Mid-Hudson Library System was named a 2010 Eleanor Roosevelt Val-Kill Medal honoree. The award was created in 1987 to recognize people who embody Roosevelt’s spirit and legacy.

The New York Society Library, the oldest cultural institution in New York City and the city’s oldest surviving library (est. 1754), released its first charging ledger website at www.nysoclib.org/ledger. The ledger, which records borrowing activity during the period between July 1789 and April 1792, is a window into the reading habits of over five hundred members of the Society Library, many of whom were prominent New Yorkers during these early years of our nation. The Library has just received a grant from The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation towards the transcription, analysis and cataloging of the second charging ledger (1799-1805).

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Interview with Bea Baaden continued from page 2

son for each class. One real plus of this job was that I had the freedom to learn how to do everything by myself – and learn from my mistakes,” continued Bea.

“When the parochial closed I moved to a public school as the middle school librarian at Sylvia Packard Middle School for the Plainedge School District, where I spent 17 years. We ‘experimented’ with every educational trend every year or two, all of which I implemented in my library with my middle school students. I was never bored! I also got involved in the Nassau School Library System in the late 1980s and 90s, which was the best leadership opportunity under the direction of Carol Kroll; she was so amazing and helped Nassau County school librarians realize many opportunities for becoming innovative educators in our schools.”

“Upon retirement, I then went to the Palmer School as an Assistant Professor and then accepted an appointment as the Director of the School Library Media Program. I think I have been so lucky in that I was able to grow in each of my work experiences and learn from so many wonderful library and educational professionals. I learned something valuable from everyone I’ve worked with, whether it was something about leadership or about educational trends. I had the opportunity and the freedom to experiment and play with many ideas, some of which worked with my classes and some of which didn’t, but always provided a learning opportunity,” concluded Bea.

I asked Bea about her most important achievements in her career so far. “Growing the School Library Media Program at Palmer from one that was good to one that is great. We have just submitted an application to NYSED to make our blended learning school media program into a fully distance education program (online). Developing that proposal and getting the approval of the university administrators is definitely one of my greatest professional achievements. I think the Palmer School has the best school library media program in NYS, because of its unique qualities: we have an emphasis on teaching with our own teaching methods course and instructional design course, as well as how we fuse theory/principles with practice. Another important achievement is the growth in enrollment, substantiating for me the quality of our program in a competitive area,” responded Bea.

Bea also spoke of the challenges she believes library schools and the library profession are facing. She identified aging faculty and the need to recruit new blood to revitalize the programs and update the curriculum. The economy has made recruiting students more competitive and challenging as well as meeting the needs of this younger audience.

And finally I asked what role can NYLA play with the library schools? She responded, “Continue to be a coordinator, help us plan for meetings for issues of interest (as you have done); arrange for access to information from NYSED (meetings with our representatives in the state ed. dept., eg. John Brock); help us get timely and frequent information that will affect us; provide a forum for “out of the box” ideas. As with most librarians, we are so isolated in our own “spheres”; having us meet twice a year is so very valuable (at the NYLA and SLMS conferences). What comes out of those meetings is a sense of collegiality rather than competition.”
These programs are as diverse as the communities they serve but have similar features. The library obtains annual membership passes from local cultural centers and makes them available for adults to check out for a limited number of days, 3 days is common. Other stipulations may include that the patron be in good standing and from the immediate community served. The passes are generally for family groups, and higher overdue and replacement fees are usually charged.

These programs are financed in a number of ways. Some museums donate passes, and a few libraries report passes donated to them by library patrons who want to support the service. Henry Waldinger Memorial Library (Valley Stream) received initial support from a local community cultural group. Middleburgh Library has found corporate sponsorship. Many of the programs are funded or co-sponsored by Friends groups. Sachem Public Library (Holbrook) welcomed a $7000 gift from their Friends for start-up costs and continues to receive $5000 annually to continue the program. Locust Valley, Mahopac Public, Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public, Dennis P. McHugh Piermont Public and Bethlehem Public Libraries, among others, also receive funding from their Friends. And of course, some libraries purchase the passes directly. In their turn, some museums, the Mid-Hudson Children’s Museum for example, are now offering a library membership rate.

The museums represented in a library’s program are reflections of the community. Smaller libraries in non-metropolitan areas may have passes to one or two local institutions. Pember Library (Granville) and Ellenburg Sarah A. Munsil Free Library offer passes to the ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center (Burlington, VT) while the Ethelbert B. Crawford Public Library (Monticello) offers a Bethel Woods Museum pass. Libraries in Rockland, Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk counties may have passes to a dozen or more museums and multiple passes for popular venues. Sachem Public Library maintains 10 passes for the American Museum of Natural History alone.

The directors of libraries that have established these museum pass programs stress their popularity. Evelyn Butrico, East Greenbush Community Library, reports a 91% increase in use of their program, now in its third year, from 165 users in 2009 to 315 in 2010. Bryant Library (Roslyn) also reported over 165 uses last year. Nanuet is investigating extending their program. North Babylon recently expanded their program due to its popularity and patron requests. “Patrons LOVE the program,” Marc Horowitz reports. “They are very excited to visit these great museums for free.”

These programs are so popular and successful that they are garnering media coverage. NewsLI.com recently (3 Sept 2010) featured an article about the museum pass program at Elmont Memorial Library. Real Simple magazine’s web site posted an article on “10 Ways to Spend Smarter.” Third on their list is Dust off your library card, and one of the 7 free library services they highlight is Borrow a museum pass. In the SmartMoney.com article cited above (9 July 2008), six ways to save at museums are described, including #2 Visit the library.

According to Maggie Gough, Elmont Memorial Library Director, quoted in the NewsLI.com article notes “This is one of the many ‘perks’ afforded to our Library members. We encourage our patrons to take full advantage of our no-cost programs, both taking place at the Library and beyond our walls.”
Information literacy instruction is an essential component of many library positions yet few librarians have formal schooling in pedagogy and few library science programs require such coursework. The problem is well documented by the literature that surveys library science curricula, job postings and professional development initiatives related to information literacy instruction.

Responding to the glaring lack of formal teacher education, coupled with special limitations encountered by librarians in the classroom (i.e., one-shot 50-minute sessions, inability to establish meaningful rapport with students in a short time-frame, seen as a “guest lecturer” rather than a teaching partner tied to specialized coursework), Rochester-area librarians sought to rectify the challenges faced especially by newly-minted instruction librarians. Following up on past success of SUNYLA WGIL* workshops (January 2009’s Library Instruction: Teaching Tips from the Trenches and June 2009’s Passing the Torch: Instruction Librarians Keeping the Flames of Active Learning Alive), the event instigators, Michelle Costello and Kimberly Davies-Hoffman of SUNY Geneseo, hatched a new plan when a call for the Harold Hacker Advancement of Libraries grant opportunity presented itself. Based on participant feedback from the previous workshops, along with past experience and frustration of more seasoned librarian instructors, it became clear that a one-day conference was not enough to satisfy the pedagogical needs of budding instructors. Instead, what developed through the collaborative efforts of librarians and teachers representing K-12 through graduate-level university programs was a semester-long academy designed to strengthen the skills of librarians teaching in a variety of settings: academic, school and public, those delivering instruction in-person and online. With a home-base in Rochester, NY—“lilac capital of the world” (Loewer, 2004, p.211)—this library instruction leadership academy became known as LILAC.

With grassroots efforts, a passion shared by committee members and wide support from library directors, LILAC welcomed its first cohort of eleven students at a kickoff gathering in January 2010. From there, participants studied and reflected on the theory and practice of information literacy instruction through five full day workshops between January and May, at least three observations of library instructors in action, assigned readings, in-class and online discussions and critical thinking, assessment and brainstorming through a personal blog.

The response to LILAC has been tremendous. Academy participants were surveyed throughout the project and at semester’s end using a variety of assessment tools. When asked “What was your most rewarding experience or moment in this academy?,” participants answered: “. . . getting to know the members of this outstanding group through discussions and interactive activities and the variety of presentation subjects and styles on teaching techniques and tips for success,” “I am excited about all that I have learned. I look forward to implementing many of these techniques in my online courses,” “implementing some of what I learned and seeing how small changes impacted the level of my effectiveness as a teacher,” and “I immediately applied teaching to everyone in the classroom, consciously, after our first session.” LILAC students unanimously state they would recommend the academy to a colleague and eighty-eight percent mention they have already applied something learned at LILAC in her teaching or other duties.

Though the academy’s first run has ended, committee members, workshop instructors, volunteer observation librarians and LILAC students have formed lasting bonds and meet whenever possible. Multiple opportunities to present and publish on the LILAC experience have made this an easy chore, but the group also tries to maintain momentum by organizing informal coffee hours where library instruction is our topic of choice.

Regional initiatives like LILAC serving small groups of librarians can somewhat mitigate the problem of inadequate pedagogic preparation, but they do not constitute a sustainable solution to this deficient situation. Since completing the first LILAC program, academy representatives met with New York State’s library school deans at NYLA’s 2010 conference to address their concerns and highlight the success of a grassroots

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Changes to the Annual Professional Performance Reviews for Teachers

by John Brock

Research indicates that the quality of teachers and school leaders is a key variable to explaining differences in student achievement. An important component of the New York State Education Department reform agenda is centered on strengthening teaching and learners in New York. In this effort, the NYS Board of Regents, NYS Legislature, and the Governor, have provided for changes to the Annual Professional Performance Review for Teachers.

Following the NYS Board of Regents adoption of proposed amendments to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education relating to the Annual Professional Performance Review for Teachers in the Classroom Teaching Service subparagraph (o) of Section 100.2, http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1002.html#o, the NYS Legislature and Governor enacted Chapter 103 of the Laws of 2010, in May, 2010. These laws provide for a new comprehensive annual evaluation system for teachers and principals based on multiple measures of effectiveness, including student achievement measures, and are intended to result in a single, composite, effectiveness score for every teacher and principal.

The new APPR will apply for school years commencing on or after July 1, 2010. There are three major changes from the prior APPR for teachers:

First: the new APPR requires districts and BOCES to include student growth as mandatory criteria in the evaluation of teachers. Student growth is defined as a positive change in student achievement between at least two points in time as determined by the school district or BOCES. Existing student achievement data from State and local assessments can be used to assess student growth until the P-20 student data system that is now under development provides data to feed the teacher performance review process.

SED is taking steps to strengthen the New York State assessments, and the use of student data for teacher evaluation will be grounded in those improvements including making the assessments more comprehensive.

Second: as part of the APPR, each local educational agency is required to implement uniform qualitative rating categories to rate all teachers in the classroom teaching service utilizing the following uniform quality rating categories: Highly Effective, Effective, Developing, and Ineffective. Each of these quality rating categories is defined in the revised NYCRR Section 100.2 (o).

Third: the revised NYCRR Section 100.2 (o) requires all school districts and BOCES to provide timely and constructive feedback to the teacher, include in the district professional performance plan a description of how it will provide this feedback to its teachers, how it will include data on student growth for each of their students, classes, and the school as a whole, and to provide feedback and training on how the teacher can use such data to improve instruction.

The process for conducting teacher evaluations is a negotiable item between the employing school district and the teachers’ collective bargaining agent. Each district superintendent, in consultation with teachers, administrators and other school service professionals, is expected to develop formal procedures for the evaluation systems at the district level, with the intent that these enhanced Annual Professional Performance Reviews for teachers are grounded in the newly developed NYSED Teacher Standards and designed to more clearly differentiate the performance of teacher effectiveness employing multiple measures, including student achievement and student growth data. Procedures used to implement the new quality rating categories which include implications on teacher compensation would need to be collectively bargained.

Pedagogy for Librarians continued from page 11

initiative that served eleven librarians. Despite the Deans’ initial hesitation to accept our claims, the conversation soon turned in a more positive manner where possible grant opportunities were suggested and invitations to visit Introduction to Library and Information Science courses were extended. Only time will tell if our beloved MLS programs are hearing our cries for better preparedness of future library instructors.

* SUNYLA WGIL = SUNY Librarians Association Working Group for Information Literacy

change to funds for upgrading and sustaining increased broadband access for 65 public libraries. Over 90% of the state’s public library buildings now have a T-1 connection or higher. More information about New York’s Gates Foundation grants is found at: http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/gates-lib/index.html.

Through NYLA’s participation on the Governor’s office for Technology’s (OFT) Broadband Council, the State Library was able to secure a grant award in 2010 through OFT’s Universal Access Grant Program. This grant project created broadband access in libraries and their communities that were previously on dial-up Internet connections. The communities involved were Osceola, Jordanville, and Clifton Community Library in Cranberry Lake.

The Osceola Library, serving the smallest number of permanent residents (250) in the OFT/State Library grant program, was able to upgrade to broadband access through the efforts of the North Country Library System and a local private Internet provider. The library, located in a re-purposed church building, is the hub for the broadband access connection, which then goes out to the town’s residents. Since receiving their increased access, their number of computers has doubled, as has their monthly patron use. Their library users are finding great benefits using high-speed Internet for everything from email, research, interlibrary loan, to paying their bills online, as well as accessing E-Government services. Osceola Librarian, Leona Chereshnoski, sums it up by saying, “Everything is just so much faster. Patrons, businesses, the whole community benefits. It’s been a wonderful addition to our library and community.”


The State Library was recently awarded a federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) award in the Public Computer Center category as part of Round One funding from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Federal stimulus funding of $9.5 million will be used to create public access computer centers in 30 public libraries and 5 E-mobile computer training units. This project, entitled broadbandexpress@yourlibrary will enable public libraries to extend hours, upgrade connectivity, add more than 800 new public computer workstations, and provide access to 24/7 job search resources in 41 economically distressed upstate New York counties. More than 6 million New York residents will be served through this initiative. More information about the State Library’s BTOP grant program is found at: http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/nybbexpress/index.html.

Members on the Move continued from page 8

Michael Nyerges, currently the director of the Geneva Public Library, the Central Library of the Pioneer Library System, has been appointed the new Executive Director of the Mid-Hudson Library System, effective early January 2011.

Vanessa Paniccia has been hired by Daemen College as a Reference and Instruction Librarian.

Ken Riccardi, a Rice High School librarian in Manhattan, received a $1,157.00 grant from the National Home Library Foundation.

Lee Ricci, previously the William K. Sanford Town Library Young Adult Librarian, has been appointed the new director of The Community Library of Cobleskill.

Linda M. Ryan is the new director of the Palmer School of Library and Information Science at Long Island University.

Judy Schewe became the Adult Services and Reference Librarian at the Wood Library.

Sue Scott, Marlboro Free Library’s Tech Librarian, will be a featured presenter at the Computers in Libraries 2011 conference in Washington, D.C. Ms. Scott’s session is entitled “Teching Up Traditional Library Programs.”

Jill Tarabula is the new Systems and Technical Services Librarian at Clinton Community College.

Ginger Tebo, previously the Children’s Librarian at Flower Memorial Library, is the Library Media Specialist at Clifton-Fine Central School in Star Lake.

Stephanie Wilson, Director of the Schuyler-Steuben-Chemung-Tioga-Allegany School Library System, has been invited to serve as a candidate on the 2011 Ballot for the 2013 Newbery Committee by the American Library Services to Children (ALSC) Nominating Committee.

Bonnie Wright, Children’s Librarian, is retiring from the Ogdensburg Public Library after 17 years of service.
Help send someone to library school. NYLA gives a scholarship to a student at each of the 7 library schools in the state. These seven $1,000 scholarships are funded in part by an annual grant of $3,000 from the Lake Placid Foundation, with the remaining $4,000 funded by NYLA. The Future Librarians Scholarship Fund is established by NYLA to endow these scholarships for the future. NYLA Immediate Past President Kathy Miller has set a goal of $120,000 for this endowment in honor of NYLA’s 120th Anniversary. Lend Melvil Dewey’s Lake Placid Foundation a hand by supporting this new initiative. Leave a legacy, grow our profession, pay it forward.

The kick off of the campaign was the first annual Scholarship Bash at the 2010 annual conference to celebrate the past, present and future of the association and its members. Proceeds from the Bash added to the fund, along with donations and pledges of support by members. (This new yearly event will replace the Vitality Fund Event.) Many members, so far, have contributed at least $120 and a few have contributed $1,200 to commemorate NYLA’s 120 year history. Lapel pins of the 120th anniversary logo are available to all contributors of $120 or more. To date more than $21,500 has been added to the fund this year.

All members are encouraged to respond to the recent mailing by 2011 NYLA President Marcia Eggleston, and make their donation or pledge by year’s end. On line donations can be made by going to www.nyla.org/donations and selecting Scholarship Fund.

It’s the Giving Season!
Donate to NYLA’s Scholarship Fund!
by Scholarship Fund Co-Chairs Carolyn Giambra and Penelope Klein

Farewell luncheon speaker Marilyn Johnson delighted those in attendance with her talk about how important librarians are, even more so in this economic downturn, for all community members. She spoke about how libraries are doing innovative things for their patrons, such as buying cake pans at garage sales to lend out. Another example shows libraries going out of their way to help Marilyn with research for her books.

My theme for this year is New York Libraries Rock. I am asking each of you to send me examples of your great programs, great patrons, or great librarians in your region. Together we can keep libraries in the forefront of every New York citizen’s mind. Please email your stories to me at meggleston60@gmail.com.

If you want me to attend a section meeting or conference, please email me at the above address. Happy Holidays!
After a natural disaster strikes, getting back to normal may seem impossible.

**BEYOND WORDS SCHOOL LIBRARY RELIEF FUND**

Since 2006, the American Association of School Librarians, with funding from the Dollar General Foundation, has given more than $800,000 in grants to over 90 school libraries across the country affected by natural disasters. We’ve also created a website with tools to help with other areas of the recovery process.

**Apply for a Beyond Words Grant:**
[www.ala.org/aasl/disasterrelief](http://www.ala.org/aasl/disasterrelief)
From the President...

Thank you to everyone who made the 2010 NYLA Conference a success. This includes Kathy Miller, NYLA President; Ellen Rubin, Conference Chair; and all the NYLA staff, volunteers, workshop presenters, facilitators, and vendors.

Attendees were greeted by a thought provoking keynote by John Palfrey, Professor of Law and Vice Dean for Library and Information Resources at Harvard Law School. His talk titled “Transforming Libraries for a Digital-Plus Era,” gave us all a lot to think about. His advice is to have wifi available in every library. “It’s not a distraction, it’s interaction.” His students and ours are not multi-tasking he posits, but switch tasking, rapidly changing from one task to the next. We have to provide services to help them do this efficiently. Digital-plus libraries may have print on demand book kiosks, where patrons can request a book be printed just for them. We need to create virtual stacks, combining bibliographies from many libraries to make it easier for patrons to access what they need. Harvard creates circulation stacks that show a circulation heat map, showing patrons what the most popular books in the collection are. Oh, the times they are a changing.

One workshop at the conference was “2020: The Future of Libraries in New York State.” During this workshop, attendees were asked to look into the future and predict what libraries would look like ten years from now. Using a quote from John Kenneth Galbraith, who said “If you don’t know where you’re going, you’re going to end up someplace else,” we were asked to answer the following questions: 1) What services will New Yorkers expect from their academic, public, school and special libraries in 2020?; 2) What strategies will best position library organizations to deliver these services?; and 3) What role will the State play in serving libraries and New Yorkers more effectively? If you have answers to these questions, please send them to Bernard Margolis, State Librarian, Cultural Education Center, Room 10C34, 222 Madison Avenue, Albany, NY 12230 or fax them to 518-486-6880.

A second important workshop had Dr. David Steiner, New York State Commissioner of Education speak to attendees about how libraries are in the middle of a revolution in