Welcome new members and renewing members and thank you for being a part of ASLS and NYLA.

Recently I attended the annual conference for the SUNY Library Association at SUNY Cortland in upstate New York. This conference allowed librarians and library staff specifically from SUNY institutions to meet, exchange ideas, form new relationships and renew existing ones. The SUNYLA conference reminded me of ASLS and NYLA and the unique opportunities that both ASLS and NYLA have to offer.

As you read through this summer’s newsletter please take note of the ASLS supported awards: the Spirit of Librarianship Award, the ASLS/Ridley’s Book Bindery internship and the ASLS conference scholarship. Also be sure to review our conference program for the annual NYLA Conference “Connect to Your Community, Your Colleagues, Your Career” October 20th – 23rd, 2004 in Rochester. Mark your calendar for the conference and join us for ASLS sponsored conference sessions, visit the ASLS booth and come to the ASLS membership meeting.

When ASLS board members are not working on conference preparations we are heavily involved in library activities within our communities. Please take note of the articles in this newsletter on the CDLC – Capital District Library Council student award reception and the Legislative Committee Report which discusses Lobby Day. ASLS supported these events financially and personally with our active ASLS members!

In looking ahead to the remainder of the year ASLS is presenting a slate of candidates for open ASLS board positions in this newsletter. There have been some notable changes to the ASLS board since last year’s election. Over the winter of 2004 Dave Chatham resigned from the V/P-President-Past President 3-year ASLS position. Dave accepted a position at Presbyterian College in South Carolina. He had been in the VP position and was conference programmer for ASLS sessions for 2004. At the last ASLS board meeting on April 23rd it was determined that Jane Verostek will continue to be ASLS President for 2004 and 2005 and Cara Molyneaux will be ASLS Past President for 2004 and 2005. This spring Sheri Webber resigned from the Treasurer position. Sheri accepted a fellowship at Florida State in Tallahassee to work towards a Ph.D. Elaine Lasda, a current ASLS director has accepted the nomination for the open treasurer position. Thank you to all ASLS board members for their flexibility and teamwork!

The board has a lot of exciting ideas planned for ASLS and there are always opportunities to get involved - please consider becoming an active member and joining our team.

Jane Verostek
ASLS President
Slate of Candidates for 2004 - 2005

The following slate of candidates has been presented to the ASLS Board of Directors by the Nominating Committee, chaired by Past-President Cara Molyneaux. Note: Additional nominees may be added to the slate if the nomination is signed by five members of the Section and filed with the Nominating Committee by no later than July 30, 2004. Nominees presented in this manner must be members of the Section in good standing and must have signified acceptance of the nomination in writing to the Nominating Committee.

Nominees
Vice-Pres/Pres Elect: Kathleen Gundrum, NYLINK

Treasurer: Elaine Lasda, Healthcare Association of NYS; Univ at Albany

Director: Lisabeth Chabot, Ithaca College
Lorie Wies, Union College
N. J. Wolfe, Fashion Institute of Technology

Incumbents for 2005
President: Jane Verostek, SUNY Coll of Environmental Science & Forestry
(appointed by Board to fill vacancy)

Past President: Cara Molyneaux, Union College
(appointed by Board to fill vacancy)

Secretary/Web Liaison: Adina Mullikin, Syracuse University
(appointed by Board to fill vacancy)

Director: Deborah Emerson, Rochester Regional Library Council
(through October 2005)

Watch for the 2004-05 ballot coming to you in your Fall Newsletter!
Welcome to NYLA’s New Executive Director

The ASLS Board had the pleasure of meeting with Michael Borges, NYLA's new Executive Director, at its meeting in April, held at NYLA headquarters in Albany. Michael shared his vision and plans for the organization as he continues to become more involved and familiar with New York's library environment. As part of his outreach efforts, he is contacting New York's seven library schools to see how the library schools and their faculty can work on collaborative efforts with NYLA. Related to this, he requested ASLS's involvement as a sponsor for a meeting NYLA is coordinating to bring together the deans of the library schools, and Commissioner of Education, Richard Mills. ASLS was pleased to support this meeting as a lunch sponsor. We look forward to working more closely with Michael in his new role and look forward to his strong leadership for NYLA!

And Welcome to New ASLS Members

Do you know any of these people? They are new (June - December 2003) ASLS members:

Lisabeth Chabot  Ithaca College
Anne Reilly  Remsen
Louise Charbonneau  Utica
Elizabeth Resseguie  Cadyville
Janet Clarke  Rocky Point
Janina Rogers  Potsdam
Ana Fortoura  College of New Rochelle
ZoeAnn Shafer  Saratoga Springs
Barbara Grimes  SUNY Inst of Technology
Elizabeth Strickland  SUNY New Paltz
Tina Hagar  Horseheads
John Townsend  NYSHEI
Kirsten Kite  Averill Park
Louise Zipp  SUNY Geneseo
David Orenstein  Westchester Comm College

The ASLS Newsletter is published three times a year by the Communications Committee of the Academic and Special Libraries Section of the New York Library Association, Jean Sheviak and Christine Walker, Co-Editors. ADDRESS: ASLS Newsletter c/o Capital District Library Council, 28 Essex Street, Albany, NY 12206; Phone: 518-438-2500 Fax: 518-438-2872; email: jsheviak@cdlc.org or cwalker@cdlc.org.
Leg Committee Report

About 700 people braved the snow on March 16 to attend NYLA Lobby Day in Albany. The group was greeted by several legislators, including Speaker Silver, before moving out to make legislative visits. ASLS was highlighted for contributing to the success of the day as one of the sponsors of refreshments for attendees.

In an effort to keep library issues before the legislature all year, a second “mini lobby day” was held on June 8. Several ASLS members joined Legislative Committee and other section members as well as NYLA Executive Director Michael Borges in meetings with legislators to urge action on library-related legislation. Two bills subsequently passed both houses of the legislature. One establishes dates by which library aid is to be paid, and one creates a “love your library” license plate. Small successes, perhaps, but successes nonetheless!

Student Award Program Encourages Library Careers

At the January meeting, the ASLS Board agreed to give a small monetary donation to support the Capital District Library Council’s Outstanding Student Employee Award. In 2004 the Capital District Library Council initiated a new award for student employees in libraries. The purpose of this award is to reward excellence among young library workers, both to exemplify the high standards sought in library staff and to encourage investigation of librarianship as a career goal. Winners receive a certificate and token prizes, along with the recognition of their supervisors and peers that their work has been exemplary. It will be appropriate for recipients to note this award on resumes and job applications.

To be eligible for the award the student must have completed at least one year of employment. Selection is made in the middle of the spring term. Preference is given to sophomores or juniors. Associates degree candidates would be eligible as sophomores. The recipient could be a senior, but one of the goals of the program is to have the student return to library employment as a recognized role model. Full- and part-time students are eligible.

Criteria:

- Attendance – shows commitment and dedication; time management skills.
- Excellent Patron Services and Colleague interaction – is alert to patron needs; possesses excellent communication skills.
- Responsibility – demonstrates professionalism and high standards of performance.
- Peer Leadership - Sets good example for other student workers; professional demeanor.
- Interest and Initiative – Looks for projects; expresses interest in learning about the library profession.

The 2004 Outstanding Student Employee Award was presented to 16 students at a ceremony held at CDLC on April 21, 2004. Kingsley Greene, Director of Libraries at Sage Colleges, noted in his remarks for the presentation ceremony, “You are here today because your supervisors appreciate your work and hope you will serve as role models for your student coworkers, mentoring them to succeed in their jobs and improving your own work performance.”

It is hoped that this award concept will be shared by other regions across the state in an effort to encourage young library employees to pursue a career in librarianship.
Special Libraries Make a Difference!

Excerpted from the *Collins Correctional Facility Library News* --

The Collins Correctional Facility in Collins, NY has received a generous donation from the Brownstone Book Fund of new children’s books with selections for pre-kindergarten through early readers, including English and Spanish titles as well as some game books. The gift provides materials that encourage parents and children to read together during visits. Collins was fortunate to have an additional donation of children books from the "PREP" Prisoners Reading Program.

Using these gifts, Collins has developed “Words Travel,” a pilot program that allows inmates to record themselves reading a story from a children’s book to their child. Help is available to the inmates to learn about reading to children, and capable inmates are encouraged to participate in a tutoring program for other inmates. The tapes are sent to the child, and the parent at home is encouraged to get the book from their local library so the child can read along with the tape. The program provides inmates with a unique way of communicating with their child, while also encouraging both the inmate’s and the child’s reading habits.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, an estimated 1,498,800 children under 18 have a parent in state or federal prison; 58% of these children are under 10 years old. Sharing books through the “Words Travel” program enables these parents and children to maintain contact by reading “together.”

Comments from inmates reveal the success of the program:

- “Before my incarceration I used to read to my children every chance that I got. It still means a lot to my kids that I’m still playing a positive role in their lives even though I’m incarcerated.”
- “I miss my nieces and this is a positive way to spend time with them and help them learn to read.”
- “It is a great and special program. My daughter is only three years old and the bed time stories that I read to her were so special and unique because she is able to hear my voice everynight and she knows that I care and that I love her very dearly. She has expressed to me that she hears my voice and she recites the stories to me over the phone.”
- “Being that I have not seen them in eight months I feel that it would make them happy to hear my voice. And also show her that reading is good.”

Run by ASLS member Senior Librarian P. D. Upadhyaya, the program is governed by specific rules and eligibility requirements, and includes a contract between the participant and the facility. “Words Travel” has become a reality and success due to the nurturing and vision of Mr. R. Becker, Deputy Superintendent for Programs at Collins.

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**Thank You**

ASLS extends a special thanks to the staff of the Capital District Library Council for their dedicated assistance in copying and distributing the ASLS Newsletter. Reduced costs realized by taking advantage of this opportunity has enabled ASLS to send the newsletter to members via first class mail which is a big improvement over bulk mailing.
ASLS Sponsors Twelve Programs at the NYLA 2004 Conference!

ASLS is sponsoring six programs at the NYLA Annual Conference in Rochester in October. In addition, for the second year six programs are being sponsored by the ASLS/Library Education Track (noted in the Conference Program as ASLS II), coordinated by David Harrelson, Utica College (retired).

Please join us to learn about . . .

**Hidden Treasures of Rochester**
Speakers: Deb Jacobsen, Rochester Museum and Science Center; Christopher Bensch, Strong Museum; and Cynthia Hawk, Landmark Society of Western New York.

**The Online Library @ Empire State College**
Speakers: Suzanne Hayes and Susan McAdam, Empire State College - Center for Learning and Technology

**Let's Digitize Our Special Collections!**
Speakers: Pamela O'Sullivan, Central Library of Rochester and Monroe County and Marianne Buehler, Rochester Institute of Technology Library

**Building Information Literacy Dialogue**
Speakers: Trudi Jacobson and Tom Mackey, University at Albany

**Teaching as Performance**
Speaker: Carla List, Plattsburgh State University of New York

**Glimpsing the Future**
Speaker: Dave Cossey, Union College

. . . and for the Library Education Track . . .

**Youths’ Uses of Internet & Library**
Speakers: Professor George D’Elia and Professor June Abbas, School of Informatics, SUNY at Buffalo

**A Kaleidoscope of LIS Projects & Research**
Speaker: Jana Bradley, Director, Library and Information Science Program, Syracuse University

**Post-Masters Programs in Librarianship**
Speaker: Michael E. D. Koenig, Dean, Palmer School of Library and Information Science, Long Island University

**Expeditions to Virtual Library Environments**
Speakers: Marie Radford, Dean, Professor Tula Giannini, and Professor Linda Z. Cooper, Pratt Institute of Information and Library Science

**Research & Development at Queens GLIS**
Speakers: Marianne Cooper, Director, Professor Colleen Cool, and Professor Claudia Perry, Queens College, CUNY Graduate School of Library & Information Studies

**Information Use in Home Schooling and Public Schools**
Speakers: Professor Deborah Anderson, Professor Carol Doll, and Professor Joette Stefl-Mabry, School of Information Science & Policy, University at Albany
2004 ASLS Awards

Jean Currie, Richard Johnson, Janet Welch, Richard Matzek, Paul Crumlish, Susan Blandy, James Simonis, Ellen M. Mancuso, Carol Lee Anderson, Nancy Heller, Liz Lane, Jean Sheviak, Dave Harralson. Do you recognize these people? Was one of them the person who answered your questions, who was on your committee, who got you to be on a committee? And what do they all have in common? They are the past winners of the ASLS Spirit of Librarianship Award, currently cosponsored by the New York 3R's -- the Reference and Research Resources Councils. This award, given annually since 1991, honors one of our members who typifies the spirit of commitment and contribution to the profession that inspires others to high levels of performance.

Who represents the essence of librarianship to you? Each year, ASLS presents the award to an ASLS section member who clearly exemplifies an exceptional and unique spirit in academic and special libraries. Please nominate that worthy person whom you greatly admire.

To nominate someone, send a one-page nominating letter and include brief biographical information on the nominee, explaining why you believe this person exemplifies the "spirit" of ASLS librarianship. Nominations are due by July 16, 2004. Post or email nominations to Cara Molyneaux, Schaffer Library, Union College, Schenectady, NY 12308; molyneac@union.edu.

NYLA Conference Scholarship

ASLS members may nominate a colleague or themselves for the ASLS Conference Scholarship that pays the NYLA conference registration. Nominees should be a “front-line” librarian and an ASLS member. To nominate someone - or yourself - send a one-page letter, including brief biographical information as well as a statement describing why the nominee is deserving and what they might gain professionally from this award.

Nominate someone immediately! (by July 16, 2004) Send or e-mail nominations to Cara Molyneaux, Schaffer Library, Union College, Schenectady, NY 12308; molyneac@union.edu.

ASLS/Ridley’s Book Bindery Student Internship Grant

Applications are being accepted until July 16, 2004 for the 2004 ASLS/Ridley’s Bindery Student Internship Grant. Since 1992, ASLS has awarded an annual grant of $1,000 to a New York State academic or special library to support a paid internship for one graduate student in library studies. The purpose of the grant is to provide practical work experience for a graduate library student who is interested in pursuing a career in academic or special libraries.

This year the recipient library will be chosen from the Central New York Library Resources Council or Capital District Library Council region. Academic and special libraries in these regions are eligible to apply for the internship grant. Once the award has been made, the library chooses an appropriate intern to complete the project.

Criteria for judging the grant recipient includes:

- Strength of the applicant’s statement of project need, the clarity of project goals, and the presentation of an achievable work plan.
- Evidence of value to the student in preparation for professional work in academic or special libraries.
- Evidence of value to the student through the successful implementation of a project that has the potential for significant impact on the host library’s programs or services.

For application information, contact Cara Molyneaux, Schaffer Library, Union College, Schenectady, NY 12308; molyneac@union.edu.
Coming to a computer near you - the ASLS email list!

The ASLS Board hopes to launch the ASLS email list this summer with the assistance of the NYLA offices and their Online Membership Center called Memberclicks.

ASLS members with a current e-mail on record with NYLA will be included in this email list.

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TO: