A Message from the ASLS President

Regan Brumagen, ASLS President

The annual New York Library Association Conference is quickly approaching. Our section programmer, Blake Carver, has been finalizing details for a varied and interesting slate of programs. We are offering programs on managing personnel, e-readers, the 2010 Census, library instruction, managing electronic resources, technology and reference services, women’s history resources at the Library of Congress, emerging tech trends, low-cost programming and services, and embedded librarians. In addition to the ASLS slate, a number of other sections are featuring presentations highly relevant to academic and special libraries. You will find presentations on library construction projects, migrating your digital collections to new platforms, the single service desk model, the hyper-linked library, and many other 21st century issues. To find a list of conference programs, visit NYLA’s conference page under News and Events at http://www.nyla.org/.

In a time of budget uncertainty for many of us, it is more critical than ever to stay aware of professional trends and to increase collaborative efforts between libraries. NYLA’s conference offers the opportunity to foster collaboration, engage with colleagues and share ideas and solutions to the difficult issues we face.

Join your fellow ASLS members at the annual section reception, co-sponsored with SMART and RASS on Thursday from 6- p.m., just before the NYLA Scholarship Bash. Eat, drink, and mingle with your colleagues! If you are interested in getting involved with ASLS, this is a good time to come and find out more about what we do and how you can help shape our work.

As always, please contact ASLS with any suggestions and ideas for future conference topics. We’re interested in your opinions and in your involvement!

ASLS Programs at the 2010 Annual Conference

ASLS is sponsoring these great programs of interest to librarians from academic and special libraries.

Thursday, November 4, 2010

How to Be the Bad Guy without Being Bad – Co-sponsored with LAMS. How to hold effective performance improvement discussions and build personal responsibility for performance, shifting it from the manager to the employee. Speaker: Mary Chimato, North Carolina State University.

Going Where the Patrons Are: Embedded Librarians. Find ways to offer comparable instruction to all students regardless of their physical location. Speaker: Nicki Lerczak, Genesee Community College.

E-Readers: What Libraries Need to Know. View a selection of e-readers and learn about the opportunities and challenges they present for libraries. Speaker: Mike Shontz, Overdrive, Inc.

Friday, November 5, 2010

Creative Programming for the Frugal Librarian. As state and local economies suffer, librarians can be too quick to dismiss innovative programming ideas in their libraries. Contrary to the assumptions of campus administration, many creative programs can be initiated and run with little or no expense. Learn how to transform your library from "the building with all the books" to a more lively space for engaged learners. Speaker: Lisa Forrest, Buffalo State College.
Inside Saratoga Springs

Health, History and Horses
Entrances to the city announce its motto as the city of “Health, History, Horses.” To get a taste of the real Saratoga Springs, experience one of these highlights:

- **“Health”** is for the natural mineral springs that have always drawn visitors to the area, from the Native Americans who discovered the springs, to the early settlers and eventually the elite and the fashionable who came to Saratoga from the mid-1800s for the health-giving waters (and, truth be told, for the gambling). Sample the waters, if you are adventurous, to taste the different “flavors.” Springs are scattered throughout the city, and are easily accessible in Congress Park (south on Broadway) or High Rock Park (down the hill behind City Center). Better yet, immerse yourself in a sparkling mineral bath ($30 with scented oils) at the Roosevelt Baths spa in SPA State Park (car or taxi). Open 9-7, call for reservation (800-452-7275, ext. 4).

- **“History”** abounds in this area, from early colonial settlers and the pivotal Battle of Saratoga, to the more recent history of Saratoga Springs as a summer resort destination. If you have a few hours, visit the Saratoga Battlefield, site of the 1777 American victory over the British that turned the tide of the Revolutionary War. The Battlefield is within the Saratoga National Historical Park, about 15 miles southeast of the Saratoga in the Town of Schuylerville, along the Hudson River. Within Saratoga Springs, stop by the Saratoga Room of the Saratoga Springs Public Library to see its local history collection (panoramic photos, books, postcard collection, stereoscopic views) (49 Henry Street), or visit one of the local museums, such as the National Museum of Racing (191 Union Ave. across from race-track, open 10-4, Sun. 12-4), the Saratoga Springs History Museum in Canfield Casino in Congress Park (open 10-4), or the National Museum of Dance (99 South Broadway in SPA State Park, open 10-4).

- **“Horses”** of course stands for thoroughbred horse racing at the historic Saratoga Racetrack. While the flat track is closed for the season, gambling fans can get an entirely different experience at the “Racino” (Saratoga Gaming and Raceway), which features live harness racing, slot machines and simulcast wagering (car or taxi to 342 Jefferson Street). Another option is to visit the Museum of Racing (191 Union Ave.).

Walks
Looking for a scenic walk? For an in-town walk to the park, head left out of the City Center convention site onto Broadway (the main street in town) and walk through the center of town, passing shops and restaurants. In about a half mile, you will reach Congress Park. There are paved trails throughout the park, where you can taste the mineral springs (one spring is housed in a pavilion near the Broadway entrance), and enjoy the many sculptures (especially the iconic “Spit and Spat” gargoyle fountains on the Spring Street side of the Park). If you are interested in seeing some of the city’s “great ladies” historic mansions, turn right from City Center onto Broadway and walk through the exclusive residential neighborhood of North Broadway. About a half mile into your walk, you will reach Skidmore College. Walk around the Skidmore College campus, or you can extend your walk by entering the serene Skidmore North Woods. The trailhead entrance is at the end of North Broadway, where the pavement turns to a dirt path. One piece of advice: Bring sturdy shoes if it is wet, because the trails turn to mud in heavy rains.

Where to Eat
Since the last NYLA convention, a few new restaurants have opened in the city, plus there are many old standbys. Here are some suggestions within walking distance of City Center:

**Breakfast:** For a full breakfast, try Beverly’s (47 Phila Street) (Eggs Benedict and German pancakes) or the Country Café (25 Church St.) (traditional breakfasts). If you want just a pastry and espresso, Mrs. London’s Bakery and Café (464 Broadway) has exquisite pastries, either for breakfast or for dessert. If you need a latte or cappuccino to start the morning, stop by one of the many gourmet coffee shops, such as Uncommon Grounds (402 Broadway) (a local favorite), Saratoga Coffee Traders (447 Broadway) (fair trade, organic) or Virgil’s House (86 Henry Street) (board games, puzzles, cards – but no cell phone or laptop use).

**Lunch or Dinner:** There are too many restaurants to mention, but here are some favorites:
- Beekman Street Bistro (62 Beekman Street, within a mile of City Center, in the arts district) – menu focused on local farms and products, dinner only
- Brindisi’s (390 Broadway) – steaks, chicken, fish, Italian dishes
- Cantina (430 Broadway) – Mexican flavors
- Chianti II Ristorante (18 Division Street, 2 ½ blocks off Broadway near Borders) – upscale Northern Italian, dinner only
- Circus Café (392 Broadway) – casual dining with circus theme, including cotton candy dessert

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Stop by the ASLS Booth

We hope to see you at the ASLS section booth at the 2010 conference in Saratoga. In keeping with the conference theme, “The Library: Your Story Starts Here”, we are featuring stories from our member libraries. We need more stories and pictures – wouldn’t you like to see your library represented here?

We have found some interesting factoids from some of our member libraries. For example, did you know that the University at Albany’s first library was in one room of a former train depot on State Street? Or that the University’s first private donation was a bequest of $300 to purchase library books?

We have also found some interesting pictures of some of our member libraries. Academic libraries in the 1940’s looked substantially different from the libraries of today! It’s not too late to share a story or a picture from your library. If you have an interesting fact about your library, please send it to Deby Emerson by email at <demerson@rrlc.org>.

Once again, Corning Museum of Glass has generously donated a glass pumpkin for our section raffle. The booth committee is also seeking other items to be given away as door prizes, so if you would like to donate something (or would like to persuade a friend or colleague to donate something), we would be very grateful.

Stop by our booth, which will be in the Pavilion between the Saratoga Hilton and the conference center, to catch up with your ASLS colleagues and friends. Booth hours are the same as the exhibit hours – Thursday, November 4, 10:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Friday, November 5, 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. See you there!
Providing Support for Electronic Resources. Troubleshooting technical problems, plus additional information that covers how to provide access to electronic resources. **Speaker:** Karin Wikoff, Ithaca College Library.

**LILAC Innovative Program for Instruction Librarians** – Co-sponsored with BIRT. Discover the Library Instruction Leadership Academy, a Rochester-area K-16 project for new instruction librarians. **Speakers:** Michelle Costello, SUNY Geneseo, LILAC Project Manager; Kim Davies Hoffman, SUNY Geneseo, LILAC Final Project; Barbara Alvarez, University of Rochester; Logan Rath, SUNY Brockport; Jennifer Little, SUNY Brockport; Beth Kettel, University of Rochester

**Census 2010 and Beyond!** Sponsors: GIRT, ASLS, SED/NYSL Hot news about the Census Bureau: including American Community Survey, the new monthly nationwide survey! **Speakers:** Bob Scardamalia, Director, Center for Research and Information Analysis, NYS Empire State Development; Rocco Ferraro, Executive Director, Capital District Regional Planning Commission.

**Saturday, November 6, 2010**

**Implementing New Technologies for Reference Services.** Strategies for the planning, marketing, and assessment of new technologies for reference services. **Speakers:** Margaret Smith, Physical Sciences Librarian, New York University; Alexa Pearce, Research Associate, New York University.

**Women’s History Resources at the Library of Congress.** Learn about the extensive women’s history collection at the LOC with lots of fun examples. **Speaker:** Sheridan Harvey, Women's Studies, Humanities & Social Sciences Division, Library of Congress.

**Emerging Tech Trends for Librarians.** Co-sponsored with SMART. A panel discusses what technologies are hot now and what to expect in the future. **Speakers:** Blake Carver, New York Power Authority Edward Corrado, Binghamton University Libraries; Ken Fujiuchi, Buffalo State College.

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**Also at NYLA**

In addition to the great programming that the Academic and Special Libraries Section (ASLS) is sponsoring, there are several workshops that should be of interest to staff of academic and special libraries.

**Thursday, November 4, 2010**

As more and more scrutiny is being paid to not-for-profits, it is important that libraries have employment and personnel policies in order. Hear Jerry Nichols, Palmer Institute for Public Library and Organization Management talk about sensitive administrative issues such as disciplining employees, staff evaluations, sexual tension, and ways to make effective decisions. Sponsored by LAMS, “I STILL Don’t Want to Talk About It” is a session that is important for all types of libraries. Program slot #1: 9:15 am to 10:30 am.

Many academic and special libraries are digitizing their collections and making them freely accessible via the Web. How do you prepare your library if you are suddenly asked to migrate your collections to a new platform? Are you prepared? Join Bob Dowd, New York State Library as he discussed this issue in the SMART sponsored program “Digital Images: Moving and Shaking.” Program slot #1: 9:15 am to 10:30 am.

Many academic libraries across New York State are participating in Ask Us 24/7 virtual reference service. If your library does (or even if you want to learn more about the service), this is your chance to hear Jaclyn McKewan from the Western New York Library Resources Council discuss tips and tricks to maximize the cooperative reference experience. Program slot #2: 1:45 pm to 3:00 pm.

Libraries, particularly academic libraries, are exploring the information commons model and all of its facets. Hear speakers from Monroe Community College, SUNY Geneseo, and SUNY Brockport discuss the pros and cons of implementing a single service desk model. Sponsored by GIRT, “Exploring the Single Service Desk Model” is sure to be an informative session. Program slot #3: 3:15 pm to 4:30 pm.
**Spotlight on The New York State Historical Association Research Library**

Organized in 1899 by a group of history enthusiasts, the New York State Historical Association (NYSHA) stated five objectives in its “Articles of Incorporation”. The first objective was to promote and encourage historical research, and the third was to gather books, manuscripts, pictures and relics relating to the early history of the state. As a result of those two objectives, a small library resided in homes of Association officers until 1926, when NYSHA moved into Headquarters House of the Association, located in Ticonderoga, NY. In 1939, the Association officially moved its headquarters to **Cooperstown, NY**. By 1942, the library had grown to 5,000 books after getting its first librarian in 1941. The current building was constructed in 1968, next to the Fenimore Art Museum, to house the growing NYSHA library collection.

Today, the NYSHA Library information commons is the research center serving NYSHA members and staff; the Fenimore Art Museum staff; The Farmers’ Museum staff; the students, faculty and staff of the premier program in history museum studies, Cooperstown Graduate Program (CGP); local historians; genealogists; and international scholars. It is a private, non-circulating library.

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**Friday, November 5, 2010**

Web 2.0, Library 2.0, 3.0….we’ve all heard it, read about it, and implemented it in our libraries. What’s next? Attend LAMS sponsored “21 Ideas for 21st Century Libraries” with Kimberly Bolan Cullin (Kimberly Bolan and Associates LLC) and Rob Cullin (Evanced Solutions). Learn about 21 examples related to Library 2.0, technology, facilities, customer service and more. Program slot #4: 10:30 am to 11:45am.

Meet David M. Steiner, Commissioner, New York State Education Department and President of the University of the State of New York as he discusses the critical part that libraries play within his comprehensive agenda for education reform. Program slot #4: 10:30 am to 11:45 am.

SMART is sponsoring the 2010 Rudi Weiss Lecture with speaker Liz Liddy, Dean of iSchool at Syracuse University who will be presenting on natural language processing and creating software with human like language understanding capabilities. Program Slot #5: 2:30 pm to 3:45 pm.

For reference librarians, the annual RASS-sponsored “Best of Reference” is a program that includes panelists showcasing the best print and online reference sources of the year. Program slot #4: 2:30 pm to 3:45 pm.

If you haven’t seen Michael Stephens in person, now is your chance to be both entertained and informed. Learn about emerging trends that are changing libraries in “The Hyperlinked Library” sponsored by PLS and LAMS. Program slot #5 and #6: 2:30 pm to 5:15 pm.

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**Saturday, October 17, 2010**

Do you twitter? Are you on Facebook? Learn the etiquette of “professional” vs. “personal” when using social media with Ken Fujiuchi, Buffalo State College, William E.J. Doane, University at Albany and Denise Garofalo, Mount Saint Mary College. Sponsored by NMRT. Program slot #7: 8:00 am to 9:15 am.

What’s the next technology that will take our libraries by storm? Panelists, Blake Carver, New York Power Authority; Edward Corrado, Binghamton University; and Ken Fujiuchi, Buffalo State College discuss what technologies are hot now and what to expect in the future. Sponsored by SMART and ASLS. Program slot #9: 11:00 am to 12:15 pm.

Whew! NYLA’s 2010 conference program is packed with great programs and interesting speakers. Don’t forget to check out the special events as well. There are library school reunions, vitality fund event, inaugural dinner, and various section luncheons. Librarians from academic and special libraries are sure to be inspired to try something different, whether it’s a new service, a new program, or a new way of approaching a project.
(Inside Saratoga Continued from Page 2)

◊ Forno Toscano Bistro (541 Broadway, across street from City Center) - rustic Italian cuisine in beautifully decorated setting, dinner only
◊ Gotchya's Trattoria (68 Beekman Street, within mile of City Center, in arts district) – pasta house, dinner only
◊ Hattie’s (45 Phila Street, 2 blocks off Broadway) – a Saratoga institution, with southern fried chicken, jambalaya, candied yams, soul food, dinner only
◊ Jacob & Anthony’s (38 High Rock Ave., next to new Hampton Inn) – brand new, polished dark wood, steak & seafood
◊ Karavali (47 Caroline Street, 3 blocks off Broadway) – Specialties from 6 regions of India
◊ Maestros (371 Broadway) – American bistro, where they pass a bowl of homemade chocolate at the end of the meal
◊ Max London’s (466 Broadway) – modern décor, some small plate offerings, changing menu
◊ Nunzio’s Pizza (119 Clinton St.) – takeout or delivery, offers gluten-free pizza (order in advance, 518-584-3840)
◊ Olde Bryan Inn (123 Maple Ave., one third mile behind City Center) - old pub atmosphere, traditional menu
◊ Pacific Grill (63 Putnam Street, 1½ blocks off Broadway) - new downtown location across from public library, Chinese, Japanese, sushi, Thai
◊ Phila Fusion (54 Phila Street, 2 blocks off Broadway) – opened this summer (my new favorite!) next door to its sister, Sushi Thai, featuring contemporary fusions of flavors from China, Japan, Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam, delivers
◊ Ravenous (21 Phila Street, ½ block off Broadway) - savory and sweet crepes and Belgian pommes frites
◊ Scallions (44 Lake Ave., 3 blocks off Broadway) - whimsically painted décor, homemade soups, some vegetarian entrées
◊ Springwater Inn (139 Union Avenue, near racetrack, 1 mile from City Center) – fireplaces, historic setting, reliably good, some small plates, dinner only
◊ Sushi Thai (44-46 Phila Street, 1½ blocks off Broadway) - Japanese and Thai, great service and presentation, delivers
◊ Wheatfields (440 Broadway) – handmade pasta, offers gluten-free menu

Ice Cream
A number of new ice cream shops opened this summer to join old favorites. On Broadway, look for Eugenio’s Café Gelato in its new location (458 Broadway), Plumb Dandy Frozen Yogurt with self-serve and bubble teas (419 Broadway), Johnny’s Gourmet Italian Ices with vegan and sugar-free options (382 Broadway), Cold Stone Creamery with “smush-ins” (325 Broadway), and Ben & Jerry’s (34 Phila Street), one block off Broadway.

Free Internet Access
Looking for free Wi-Fi access while you sip your coffee?
◊ Saratoga Springs Public Library (49 Henry Street) – including its Higher Grounds Café. No laptop? Sign up for a temporary library card for free computer use.
◊ Uncommon Grounds coffee shop (402 Broadway)
◊ Saratoga Coffee Traders (447 Broadway)
◊ Borders café (395 Broadway)
◊ Starbucks (351 Broadway)

Activities
If you have a couple of hours to spare, there are many things to see and do around town:
◊ Lyrical Ballad Bookstore (7 Phila Street), an antiquarian and used bookstore, specializing in thoroughbred racing, illustrated children's books, dance, art, old prints
◊ Crafts: Saratoga Beads (80 Henry St.), a bead shop with a work table, or Creative Sparks (42 Phila St.) a paint-your-own pottery and mosaics studio that will ship pieces after they are kiln fired
◊ Cigar shops: James and Sons Tobacconists (360 Broadway) or Smokin’ Sam’s Cigar Shop (5 Caroline Street)
◊ Galleries: Walk down Broadway to Flores Studio (468 Broadway) or Symmetry Gallery (handblown glass) (348 Broadway), or visit the galleries in the Beekman Street arts district, including Mimosa (70c Beekman)
◊ Rent bicycles at Blue Sky Bicycles (71 Church St.)
◊ Saratoga Film Forum (320 Broadway) – showing Farewell (Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 pm), a French film based on a true story about a KGB mole
◊ Live music can be found at various locations around town. For listings, check the event calendars published on Thursdays by Metroland (free weekly newspaper - copies around town), the What’s Happening section of the Saratogian or the Preview section of the Times Union newspaper, or just walk around Broadway, Caroline, Phila and Putnam Streets and listen to what’s playing in the restaurants and bars downtown. If you are looking for a rock alternative, try Caffé Lena (47 Phila Street), the oldest continuously running coffeehouse in America, or the Parting Glass (40-42 Lake Ave.), an Irish pub with a game room and Irish music on weekends.
◊ Farmers’ Market from 9-1 on Saturdays (Division St. Elem.School, 220 Division St.)

Chris Alexander,
Reference Librarian
Skidmore College
NYLA Legislative Committee Report

I had hoped that I would have positive news to report from the legislative front, but that is not the case. The Legislature has not yet returned to Albany to consider Article VII, which, among other things, authorizes the expenditure of much of the funding for libraries and library systems in New York State. The result? Many library programs will receive no funding until the situation is resolved. For academic and special libraries that means no coordinated collection development funding, no hospital library services funding, no regional automation funding, no conservation/preservation funding, and no way of knowing when, if ever, the funding will come. In addition, the Division of the Budget has implemented a contingency fund that will result in an 1.1% additional across the board cut to most local government assistance payments, including those going to libraries. $833,334 in library funds will be placed in a “lock box” and distributed to library programs only if the State ends its fiscal year in the black.

The upcoming election provides us the opportunity to consider how our elected representatives are doing in the library legislation arena. As of this writing, the New Yorkers for Better Libraries Political Action Committee is completing work on their 2010 New Yorkers for Better Libraries Voter’s Guide. This report card grades legislators on all of their library-related votes, not just those related to the budget. By the time you read this, the 2010 voters guide should be available on the PAC website at http://nylibs-pac.net. Rumor has it that they have given only one “A.” You might want to check to see if that grade went to one of YOUR representatives!

Save the date: NYLA’s 2011 Lobby Day will be held Tuesday, March 2, 2010 in Albany. Plan to come to make your voice heard to the people who represent you in the State Legislature!

Jean Sheviak
ASLS Legislative Committee Representative

Career Connections
After the Interview

The interview has come and gone, and now it’s time to let the Search Committee know that you appreciate their time and consideration. You’ve been handed business cards (or hopefully remembered to request them) because you’ve met many people during the process. Even though technology has changed, the rule of sending a handwritten thank you note has not. What people don’t always realize is that a thank you note is much more than just a thank you note. This little communiqué says much about you and your interest in the position. The thank you note is one more chance to put your name in front of those making the hiring decisions. You can and should use it to express your interest (or disinterest) in working for the organization.

For example, a bare-bones reply that would suffice to say thanks might read:

Dear Search Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to interview for the reference librarian position with Smith & Jones Library. Sincerely, Marian T. Librarian.

Sure it says what you need it to with regard to proper etiquette. But does it let the search committee know how much you want and deserve this job? Maybe you’ve realized it isn’t a good fit for you. How do you say this so you both can move on? Adding one statement to your obligatory message can change everything. Here are three statements to consider adding to the above, wording in your own tone, that can convey your feelings to the search committee.

If you are certain you would like to work for this organization you could continue by saying, “It was a pleasure to meet with you to discuss how my qualifications can satisfy the needs of your organization.”

If you don’t want the position, you could add to your note by saying, “It was a pleasure to meet you, and I wish you well in your search for a candidate who best meets your needs.”

If you aren’t sure you want the position, you could add on by saying, “It was a pleasure to meet with you, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.”

Regardless of how you feel about the position, be sure to close your note properly, such as with “Sincerely” and sign your full name.
Mid-Career Strategies
A Job and a Half: Managing Additional Job Duties

Common reasons additional duties can be added to your workload include the library wanting to provide a new service to patrons, changes in technology or vendor products, restructuring among staff/departments, and downsizing. These new responsibilities can be an opportunity for professional growth but also leave you feeling overwhelmed, at times like you have a job and a half. When you find yourself in this situation, it can be extremely beneficial to take the time (even though you may not think you have it) to figure out a game plan.

Realize that something must go. Assuming that your day was already quite full, it makes sense that adding to your workload will mean some other task will not get done. What that means will vary by the situation, but just internalizing this fact can help relieve some stress and put you in the right frame of mind to be proactive.

Keep open communication with your boss throughout. Meet with your boss to get a clear understanding your new responsibilities, including how much time she thinks you will need to devote to these duties during and after training. Make note of any suggestions she makes on how she’d like you to proceed. Then work on the proactive steps below and share the results with your boss. Update your official job description to reflect changes to your duties.

Be proactive in your approach, and come up with a plan.
♦ Complete an inventory of your “old” job responsibilities, spelling out the tasks you perform. Be sure you leave nothing out – include things from your job description as well as other tasks you do now and at other times of the year. Indicate whether a task requires your attention daily, weekly, monthly, yearly, etc. Next, rank your tasks by their importance – think primarily of the benefits each task provides to your users when ranking.
♦ Learn as much as you can about the workflow of your new duties. Will they require some of your time each day? Each week? Are there months of the year that this responsibility will take considerable more time? Since this is new to you, resist the urge to look for ways to change what has been done until you gain more experience.
♦ Next, look at what your new duties will require in relation to your old responsibilities. Look for potential conflicts in your schedule and for possible solutions. Will letting go of any non-essential tasks you currently do ease up potential conflicts with your new schedule? Could some of the old responsibilities you have be altered to make time for your new duties (for example, putting out a newsletter 2 times a year instead of 4)?
♦ Also think about ways to manage your time that will accommodate mastering your new duties while still getting your other work done. Could you devote two afternoons a week to your new duties, for example? Or perhaps 2 hours a day dedicated to your new duties would work better? Remember that you will need more time for your new responsibilities while you are still learning. However, if you find that you consistently need more time than you allotted for your new duties, talk with your boss again and proactively look for additional solutions.

Find a mentor. Mentors are not just for new librarians, but can also be helpful to mid-career librarians who take on new duties. NYLA’s NMRT Roundtable has a resource list of experienced librarians who are willing to answer questions and be mentors: http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=214. Look for additional sources of information, training, and support through listservs and professional organizations, including the NY3Rs, ACRL and its regional sections, SLA and its regional chapter, NYLA, and ALA.

Take care of yourself. Change of any kind usually results in stress. One of the best things you can do for yourself in stressful situations is to keep doing those daily routines that promote your health and sanity – a daily walk, a healthy snack, lunch with a friend, etc. These should not be let go! They are the respite you need during this hectic time.

(Career Connections, Continued from Page 7)

Be sure to take business cards so you have names and addresses with proper spelling. If it’s a large search committee, address the note to the committee chair by name and committee members (Dear Ms. Bookman and Search Committee:). If you are only interviewed by two or three people, each person should get his/her own note. Never send a thank you via email or text message. This is inappropriate for something as significant as a job interview. Keep in mind that if you are invited to second and third round interviews, you should continue to send thank you notes throughout the process. In this economy, you need to show how appreciative you are of their consideration. One last thing-send it promptly, within a day or two of the interview. Waiting too long can be too late!
The onsite collection includes 92,000 books, periodicals, maps, manuscripts, microforms, and various special collections. These collections support research into 19th century New York State, particularly Otsego and the eight surrounding counties, in the areas of agricultural and social history; American folk art; native North American art; North American material culture; and museum studies. In addition to manuscript account books, diaries, journals and letters; special collections include NYS postcards, trade catalogs, ephemera, broadsides, pamphlets, maps, photographs and a local architectural file.

A sampling of two NYSHA special collections- the Smith and Telfer Photographic Collection, and front covers of items from the Murder Pamphlet Collection- have been digitized and are available at http://toolsofhistory.org, a collaborative venture led by South Central Regional Library Council (SCRLC) with images contributed by area institutions.

Pathfinder, the NYSHA Library online catalog, is available at http://pathfinder.nysha.org/search~S2 and about ½ of NYSHA holdings have records in WorldCat. ILL is provided to students and staff; and CGP students, faculty and staff have access to e-materials through a NYSHA partnership with the State University College at Oneonta.

The library front door is open to the general public from 10am-5pm, M-F; 1-5pm Saturday; closed on Sundays. Three librarians and 2.66 FTE support staff are available for reference and tech services during open hours. CGP students, faculty and staff have 24/7 access to the library.

We welcome your visitation and questions. Find out more about NYSHA Library, museums and CGP at http://library.nysha.org/entry_list.asp.

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