**NJLA Young Adult Section Meeting Minutes**

**April 12, 2013**

**South Brunswick Public Library**

**Members in attendance:** Erica Solomon (Piscataway PL), Katie Llera (Sayreville Middle School), Beth Cackowski (East Brunswick PL), Natalie Cheetham (Cedar Grove), Sandi Cronce (Willingboro PL), Rosy Henderson (New Brunswick, Ann-Marie Aymer (Summit PL), Sue Grotyohann (Monroe Twp PL), Carolyn Aversano (Mercer County- West Windsor), Kathleen Gruver (Burlington County), Jen Servello-Apgar (Talking Book & Braille Center), Lanora Melillo (Secaucus PL), Saleena Davidson (South Brunswick PL), Sharon Rawlins (NJ State Library), Samantha Marker (Mount Laurel), Jen Schureman (GCLS), Megan England (Atlantic City Free PL), Emily Crowell (East Orange PL), Sophie Brookover (LibraryLink), Irene Langlois (Maplewood)

**UPDATES FROM AROUND THE STATE**

**Children’s Services Section (CSS)** – No updates

**NJ State Library**, Submitted by Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Specialist, NJ State Library

**1. Ports in a Storm: The Library as Disaster Recovery Center**

Over 125 people attended a very successful Disaster Recovery Summit on Monday, April 8, 2013 sponsored by the New Jersey State Library in partnership with the National Network of Libraries of Medicine - Middle Atlantic Region, LibraryLinkNJ, and New Jersey Library Association.

Presenters included Pat Tumulty, executive director of the NJLA; Renae Barger, executive director for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Middle Atlantic Region; Mary Chute, NJ State Librarian; Cheryl O'Connor, executive director of LibraryLinkNJ; and Michele Stricker, associate director of Library Support Services for the NJ State Library.

The primary goal of this summit was to bring public librarians together with the emergency planning community, first responders, public health workers and community-based and faith-based groups charged with disaster-related responsibilities and to provide a forum for discussing roles libraries and information professionals can play in supporting future disaster preparedness, response and recovery efforts.

**2. The Second Annual 2013 E-Summit: Outlook, Options, Obstacles, was held at the Sheraton Eatontown on May 2.**

Over 150 people attended this successful event, including a number of people from out of state.

Guest speakers included nationally recognized experts:

■Eli Neiburger - Associate Director for IT & Production, Ann Arbor District Library, MI

■James LaRue - Director, Douglas County Libraries, CO

■Mirela Roncevic - Contributing Writer & Editor, No Shelf Required, and Editor of ALA's eContent Quarterly Journal

■Joseph Sanchez - Consultant, Digital Initiatives & eContent

■Andromeda Yelton - Founding Team Member of Unglue.it and 2013 *Library Journal* Mover & Shaker All are nationally recognized experts on eBook topics and trends that affect libraries. The E-Summit was hosted by the New Jersey State Library, LibraryLinkNJ and the New Jersey Library Association.View the Summit highlights via Twitter at #esummitnj2013, or <http://ldb.njstatelib.org/news/2013/mar/20/2013_e_summit_outlook_options_obstacles>

to find copies of the handouts.

**3.** [**Most Social Media Friendly State Libraries for 2013**](http://librarysciencelist.com/most-social-media-friendly-state-libraries-for-2013/) **– NJ State Library is #7!**

According to the American Library Association’s [2013 State of America’s Libraries Report](http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/33759128), libraries have made many changes over the years as technology has evolved, and they continue to embrace new technologies that improve their ability to provide resources to the community, including social media.

To determine which state libraries are doing the best job of managing their social media presence, we gathered usage stats for each of the 50 libraries on the top social media platforms. Points were assigned based on the amount of activity and number of followers and weighted to put more emphasis on the platforms that were used by the most libraries. The maximum possible score was 100, with 28 points possible for Facebook, 22 for Twitter, 21 for Flickr, 20 for YouTube, 5 for LinkedIn, 3 for Pinterest, and 1 for Google Plus.

Check out the full article and the list of where all 50 State Libraries rank on www.librarysciencelist.com.

**4. SAVE THE DATE: Annual Youth Services Forum – Thursday, November 14, 2013**

Want to have a say in what cutting edge topics are covered? Know someone who could present a great program? We are looking for volunteers for the planning committee and suggestions for speakers or program ideas. If you are interested in joining the planning committee or have suggestions, please contact Tamara Richman, Youth Services Librarian, Mary Jacobs Library, a Branch of the Somerset County Library System, (609) 924-7073 x102, [trichman@sclibnj.org](mailto:trichman@sclibnj.org)

The 23rd Annual Youth Services Forum: A Day of Hot Topics and Issues in Library Services to Children and Young Adults, sponsored by The State Library, The New Jersey Library Association and the New Jersey Association of School Librarians will be held on Thursday, November 14, 2013 at the Monroe Public Library (Middlesex County) from 8:45 am – 2:30 pm.

**5. New Marketing Campaign Site - "It's Time...to Rediscovery Your Library!"**

The New Jersey State Library is committed to educating the public about the value of libraries through public awareness campaigns and community outreach. We've created a new marketing portal, which houses all current State Library campaigns in one place and also includes a special section that gives NJ librarians access to valuable resources and tools. Our goal is to help bridge the gap between libraries across the state so we can "speak with one voice" and increase the visibility and repetition of our messages and maximize our communication impact through collaboration.We encourage you to use these campaigns to educate your patrons about the statewide library resources that are available and the opportunities they create for local communities - including job seekers, entrepreneurs and small business owners, and the visually impaired. The site is still somewhat under construction, and we will be making updates and filling in the content over the coming weeks. Please check it out and share your feedback! Visit the site at <http://marketing.njstatelib.org/>

**6. EveryoneOn Campaign to Promote Digital Literacy**

On March 21, 2013, a three-year national public service campaign to promote digital literacy began. The campaign is called *EveryoneOn (*[***www.everyoneon.org***](http://www.everyoneon.org)*)* The key message is to encourage people who are limited or non-Internet users, to learn how to do “one thing better online.”

Public libraries are key to the success of this effort because of our demonstrated commitment to providing free access to the Internet, as well as to improving people’s skills (e.g. using a mouse, applying for jobs online, creating email accounts).

Because campaign details continue to evolve, updates will be sent as they become available. The first call to action is to ask for you to update information about your library in the zip code locator tool to help people looking for digital literacy training or public access computers to see the library as a provider in their area.

*EveryoneOn* is designed to raise awareness of the importance of digital literacy skills – which libraries have embraced for years. This is a great opportunity to promote public libraries as a trusted and valuable provider of free public access technology and training as we strive to build stronger communities.”

**Statewide Summer Reading**, Submitted by Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Specialist, NJ State Library

* The summer reading workshops went well and the handouts are available on the website: <http://njsummerreading.org/>
* Incentives have been sent out to all libraries that submitted statistics.

**NJ State Library Talking Book and Braille Center**, Reported by Jen Apgar

* Planning is underway for the Fall Festival. SAVE THE DATE: October 12th
* Summer Reading will be starting. Everything is done by mail.

**NJLA Executive Board**

* Congratulations to our members who were elected to the NJLA Executive Board. The newly elected Board Members are: Terrie McColl, New Milford Public Library, first vice-president/president-elect; Anne Wodnick, Gloucester County Library, 2nd vice-president; Chris Carbone, South Brunswick Public Library, Secretary; Susan O’Neal, Middletown Public Library, ALA Councilor; Denise O’Shea, Montclair University, ( 3 year term as college representative), Doug Baldwin, Piscataway Public Library, Cindy Czesak, Paterson Public Library, Kate Vasilik, Piscataway Public Library ( all to 3 year terms) and Samantha Marker, Mount Laurel Library ( to fill one year unexpired term). CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

**LibraryLink NJ,** Reported by Sophie Brookover

* Webinar **May 22** – Adventures in Learning: Fun Educational Programs from Preschool to Elementary, with Tamara Richman
* The Spring Membership meeting will be held on June 18th from 2-4:30pm. This is a chance to network with colleagues and be among the first to hear about the Statewide Strategic Plan. Voting reps will be voting on LibraryLinkNJ’s Proposed FY14 Slate of Executive Board Members, Proposed FY14 Budget, and Strategic Plan with Proposed FY14 Initiatives. There will be three locations: Passaic County Community College – Wanaque Academic Center, Rutgers New Brunswick – Alexander Library, and UMDNJ/Stratford – University Doctors’ Pavilion. Please register: <http://librarylinknj.org/content/librarylinknj-spring-membership-meeting-2013>
* LibraryLink offers discounts for ALA webinars to members. There will be a webinar on July 17, 2:30-4pm, by David Lee King. The price will be $15 for LibraryLinkNJ members: http://librarylinknj.org/content/ala-techsource-webinar-facebook

**Member Updates:** <http://njla.pbworks.com/Member-updates>

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**NJLA Conference**

* See you at Revel Casino June 3, 4, & 5!
* Remember that we’re co-sponsoring (with Urban Libraries) a book & toiletry drive for Covenant House of Atlantic City at the Conference.
* Please send Kathleen Gruver links to your flickr sets and youtube videos for our Conference Table: [kgruver@bcls.lib.nj.us](mailto:kgruver@bcls.lib.nj.us)

**Youth Services Forum**

* Emily is working on YA proposals. So far we have the ice breakers program, portable/passive programming, maker spaces, and programming to promote GSTBA. If you have any other ideas or would like to volunteer to be a presenter or panelist, please contact Emily. Chornomaz@gmail.com / echornomaz@camdencountylibrary.org

**ONGOING BUSINESS**

**YA Section Elections**

* Vote for your 2013-2014 YA Section Executive Board- **Voting ends at 5pm on Friday, May 31**. The ballot was emailed to the listserv.

**GSTBA**

* The ballot is finished and posted to the wiki.
* The online ballot and Facebook page are still being worked on.
* FROM EMILY:

The past couple years, the GSTBA process has been getting more difficult as both our group and the amount of material being published for teens grows. It's in the YA Section's best interest to form a committee to review current GSTBA processes and work together to find solutions for improving them. As President, I am empowered to form a committee to attend to this need.

From the bylaws:

Special Committees, which, in the opinion of the Executive Board, seem desirable or necessary, may be appointed for a specific purpose by the President at any time during his/her term of office.

The President of the Section shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

Therefore, I am creating the Garden State Teen Book Award Committee and appointing 2 co-chairs:

Kate Vasilik: kate\_thelibrarian@yahoo.com

Laura Leonard: laura leonard@bccls.org

and the following members:

Katie Bojanek

Kate Llera

Sophie Brookover

Liz Burns

Sharon Rawlins

Michelle Petrasek

Sandy Hall

Katie Nellen

They will meet over the summer and present their proposal or proposal for updates to the GSTBA at the September 2013 meeting.

If you have any suggestions/recommendations for the committee, please message the GSTBA Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/GSTBA>) or the co-chairs.

**OPEN FORUM**

We had an opportunity to discuss challenges, ideas, thoughts, etc.

* We discussed the possibility of hosting meetings in other locations throughout the state. We talked about how libraries in the southern and northern parts of the state have trouble getting to meetings. There was a proposal to form a subcommittee in the South and to send a representative to the main meeting. For now, the meetings will remain at South Brunswick, but the back-up location will be at County Library of the Burlington County Library System: 5 Pioneer Boulevard, Westampton, NJ 08060.
* We also discussed the structure of our meetings. It seems we are very focused on the Garden State Teen Book Awards, which can be intimidating to new members joining us for the first time during voting meetings. In addition, there is a fear that people feel forced to be readers, and therefore, may not consider becoming or remaining involved with the Section. Some possible solutions:
  + Keep voting meetings separate from section meetings
  + Devote portion of meeting for open forums or unconference model- where we can discuss issues, brainstorm, network, and connect with other YA people
  + Spend more time on “Member Updates” and less time on “Updates From Around the State.” These updates can be included in the minutes and briefly touched upon during meetings.
  + Work on marketing to improve perception of the section – show library community we are more than GSTBA and conference
  + Promote Facebook page as a place to share ideas
* We discussed having trips with teens- as liability is a concern. It seems that more librarians will advertise a trip (ex: to Comic-Con), but require teens to provide their own transportation. If libraries want to provide transportation, they may need to partner with schools.
* Jen from Gloucester shared how staff members are afraid to approach teens. Some suggestions:
  + Teach importance of consistency and ensure that all staff know policies
  + Need support of administration
  + Talk to teens to see why they feel it is okay to talk the way they do to staff, see if teens can modify their behavior
  + Tell patrons who complain about teen behavior that it is your job (the library, library staff) to control teens
  + Encourage staff to say hi to teens and learn names
* The TAB Summits are continuing to grow in popularity, as more and more libraries are offering to host the summits. Next year, we hope to have 6 libraries spread out throughout the state. Saleena would like to establish criteria for the TAB summits, to help her decide which libraries will host. Criteria might include parking and meeting room space. In addition, we discussed ways to have more Section involvement in the planning, so it is not just Saleena’s thing. Ideas include:
  + Forming a committee, like GSTBA Committee
  + Having a liaison from the Exec Board to be present at meetings
  + Creating Exec Board Position – Chair & Vice Chair, like President and VP of Section
  + Finding funding so whole cost not on host library

**2013-2014 MEETING SCHEDULE**

The section meets six times per year on Fridays at the South Brunswick Public Library: 110 Kingston Lane, Monmouth Junction, NJ.

**Sept 27, 2013** – coffee & snacks at 9:30, meeting at 10:00

**Nov 8, 2013** – coffee & snacks at 9:30, meeting at 10:00

**Jan 17, 2014** – coffee & snacks at 9:00, meeting at 9:30

GSTBA ballot deliberations for FIC 6-8 after business meeting \*

**Mar 7, 2014** – coffee & snacks at 9:00, meeting at 9:30

GSTBA ballot deliberations for FIC 9-12 after business meeting \*

**April 11, 2014** – coffee & snacks at 9:00, meeting at 9:30

GSTBA ballot deliberations for Non-fiction 6-12 after business meeting

**May 16, 2014** – coffee & snacks at 9:30, meeting at 10:00

Potluck lunch & open house to follow!

*\* In case of snow, the deliberations will be postponed until the following meeting.*

*\* March and April meetings will be Snow Days – that is, if the January meeting is cancelled, it will be made up on March 7; if the March meeting is cancelled, it will be made up on April 11.*

The back-up location for our meetings is the HQ Branch of the Burlington County Library: 5 Pioneer Boulevard, Westampton, NJ. Any changes will be announced as soon as possible on the Young Adult Services Section page of the NJLA wiki.

*Respectfully submitted by Erica Solomon, Young Adult Services Section Secretary*