

# Connections

Autumn 2006

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW VP- LIZ BAILEY



I am pleased to be able to join the officers of ENYSLMA as your new Vice President this year. I have a deep appreciation for the grassroots work that goes into organizations like this one, providing professional development and networking opportunities for school librarians in our area.

I come to the ENYSMA board with six years of K-12 experience at Schenectady Christian School in Scotia, as well as a relatively recent M.S.I.S. degree from SUNYA. I have just begun a new appointment at Okte Elementary School in the Shenendehowa district, and am also doing some library advocacy work at small private schools in the Capital District. Working for an independent private school certainly increased my awareness of the importance of organizations such as ENYSLMA, whose mission includes bringing librarians together to share ideas and information.

Cathy Casler and I have been working together to plan two upcoming events that will refresh you professionally and, hopefully, personally. See the reservation form in this newsletter to get all the details regarding our fall program on October 25, 2006. Marge Rizzo has graciously invited us to tour the brand new library at O'Rourke Middle School in Burnt Hills. We will also hear from Maggie McCabe and Donna Smyth, who both attended the SLMS retreat this summer. It is always great to get new ideas from exemplary facilities, as well as to catch up on conferences that we are not able to attend ourselves. Also, save the date of Saturday, March 10 for a brunch at Longfellow's and to hear from independent bookstore owner and former children's librarian Janet Hutchison about some newly published books.

We are fortunate to have such a rich well of professional support in our area! As we start out a new school year, I would encourage all of us to renew our commitment for growing professionally and also for reaching out to those who are new in our profession. I look forward to being a part of the ENYSLMA planning team by finding new ways of increasing our knowledge, enjoyable activities to bring us together, and raising awareness of the need for us to advocate for our profession. The children we are with every day deserve our very best.

Liz Bailey  
ENYSLMA VP

**HEAR YE, HEAR YE THE BUDGET IS  
COMING!**

**JOIN US FOR OUR FALL PROGRAM ON  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25 AS THE  
05-06 FINAL & PROPOSED 06-07 BUDGETS  
WILL BE PRESENTED. COME AND MEET THE  
NOMINATED BOARD OFFICERS FOR THE  
UPCOMING YEAR. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

## SLMS 2009?

Melissa Bergin

ENYSLMA is considering hosting the SLMS 2009 conference in the Albany area. If we take this on we will need help with jobs such as program selection, promotional materials, registration, vendors coordination and facility coordination. We will need committee chairs and committee members with many different skills. If you have ever attended a conference and thought it might be fun to get involved, or thought you could do it better, this is your opportunity. Planning a conference is a great way to get a broader perspective on the current career field as well as to network with your colleagues. There will be a meeting on November 2 at 7pm (place still TBA) to see if there is sufficient interest to pursue hosting this event. If you are interested, please contact Melissa Bergin (mcb@missabears.com or 518-461-9530) even if you cannot make the meeting. (Information about the meeting will be posted on the website as soon as it is available).



# ENYSLMA FALL PROGRAM

*Join us for an evening of camaraderie, including a tour of the new library at Burnt Hills Middle School!*

**Wednesday, October 25, 2006**  
**O'Rourke Middle School**  
**Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake**  
**5-7p.m.**

**Pizza and Soda**

**Cost: \$6.00 for members \$8.00 for nonmembers**



**Evening to include:**

Tour of new state-of-the-art facilities at The Robert S. Speck Library Media Center at the O'Rourke Middle School Library with Marge Rizzo.

Discussion of SLMS Summer Retreat  
by Maggie McCabe and Donna Smyth



General Meeting



Directions to O'Rourke Middle School, 173 Lakehill Rd., Burnt Hills, NY: *See [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com) for detailed directions*

**Registration due by Friday, October 13th**

Please send your reservation response and check made payable to ENYSLMA to Donna Smyth, 4 Homer Ave., Queensbury, NY 12804 by **Friday, October 13th**.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions: please call Cathy Casler at 668-9554 or e-mail [cathycasler@yahoo.com](mailto:cathycasler@yahoo.com)



# SLMS SUMMER RETREAT

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

by Donna Smyth

It is hard to believe that this was the 15th year that SLMS has presented a summer program and it is still going strong! If you have never taken the opportunity to attend, keep the first weekend in August (Sun-Tue) in the back of your mind as it is well worth attending. There are even several scholarships offered each year that often are not taken advantage of by NYS librarians.

This year's continuing education program Libraries Foster a Sense of Wonder topic **"Information Fluency: An Inquiry-Based Collaborative Curriculum"** based on a NYC School Library System project was presented by Barbara Stripling & Pam Berger.

The Information Fluency Continuum document provided us with useful information and a means that further fosters the positive relationship between the school library program and increased student achievement. In a nutshell, there are three standards that are the instructional foundation of a library program in regards to the skills and strategies that are necessary for students to become independent readers and learners in grades K-12:

- Standard 1: Using Inquiry to Build Understanding
- Standard 2: Pursuing Personal and Aesthetic Growth
- Standard 3: Demonstrating Social Responsibility

Join us at our fall program for a more in-depth look at the Information Fluency Curriculum, find out more about a new take on Bloom's Taxonomy called REACTS Taxonomy, and sharing time with our version of the World Café.

If you cannot attend or would like more information about the happenings at the Leadership Retreat go to NYLA: [http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page\\_id=1157](http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=1157).

A LOT HAS BEEN HAPPENING WITH SLMS SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER!

Maggie McCabe,  
SLMS Region IV Coordinator

On August 7-8 at the SLMS Carol A. Kearney Leadership Retreat, Barbara Stripling, NYC School Library System director, along with consulting partner, Pam Berger, presented "Libraries Foster a Sense of Wonder" to 95 participants. This presentation was centered on the "Information Fluency Continuum" developed for New York City Public School System. A pdf of the continuum can be found at:

<http://www.nycednet.edu/Offices/TeachLearn/OfficeCurriculumProfessionalDevelopment/SchoolLibrarySystem/ProgramPlanning/default.>>

The primary focus of the overall workshop was on creating a culture of inquiry in the school library media program. Handouts and the PowerPoint shown are available by going to:

[http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page\\_id=52](http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=52).

*A few SLMS Board notes:* The Unified Conference Task force of NYLA decided not to proceed with a combined NYLA/SLMS annual conference for 2009. SLMS membership is presently at 877. Please check out the upcoming SLMS Gram for more information on what is going on throughout the state and within the NYLA organization.

**DON'T BE A BUMP  
ON A LOG!**

**BECOME A MEMBER OF  
ENYSLMA TODAY. FOR THOSE  
OF YOU THAT ARE ALREADY  
MEMBERS ENCOURAGE YOUR  
FELLOW LIBRARIANS TO JOIN.  
NOT MANY ORGANIZATIONS ARE  
STILL AT \$10 FOR DUES!**



## Have you paid your dues?

Check your newsletter mailing label for your membership expiration date. Membership in ENYSLMA runs from Sept-Aug. Memberships must be paid before December 31 in order to continue as an active member (staying on the listserv & receiving future mailings).

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**Please take time to visit the new and improved NYLA SLMS web site.**

Syracuse University has been awarded an IMLS grant to do an *impact study & survey of school library programs in NYS*. NYS will finally have a State study to add to the growing research on the impact of school library media programs on student achievement. Every librarian and principal in public schools in NYS will be surveyed. 48 (exemplary and non exemplary) schools will be selected for more in-depth analysis. Two schools (one exemplary and one non exemplary) will be selected for case studies on library services to students with special needs. Ross Todd will be serving as a consultant on the project.

A DVD and discussion guide, "*Your School's Team Deserves a Star Player*," has been developed by Colorado school librarians. This is available to out of state librarians for a fee of \$5.00.

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/LibDev/SchoolLib/StarPlayerDVDOrderForm.htm>

J. Stott  
475 Watervliet Shaker Road  
Latham, NY 12110  
Library