

Some submissions have been edited for length. Please refer to the NJLA wiki at <http://njla.pbwiki.com/> for links to all of the groups.

COMMITTEES & SUBCOMMITTEES

Fundraising

Submitted by Heidi Cramer, NJLA President

- In addition to the call for donations to the scholarship fund with the July membership renewal, this year the letter outlined all of the funds that we are trying to grow: scholarship, property fund, endowment, and intellectual freedom.
- The charitable giving brochure (developed by the Investment Committee) is available on the Support Us page on the NJLA website.
- An online donation form is on the new Support NJLA web page. There is also a printable form for donors who wish to mail their donation.
- A regular cycle of large one-day workshops with vendors is being implemented to provide additional revenue for NJLA.
- NJLA's accounts with Amazon and Café Press are being promoted. Most purchases through the Amazon link on the NJLA home page generate 4% of the sales price for the Association.
- My President's Column in the Spring issue of *NJLA Newsletter* was about making contributions to the Association and included quotes from donors to our scholarship fund and intellectual freedom fund.

Investment

From committee minutes

- There was a review of our portfolio as of the November 30 report. It was agreed that, given the volatile state of the economy, our income projections still look good.
- Over \$5000 has been received by NJLA in memory of past president Dorothy Jones, former director of the East Orange PL. The Hinsdale scholarship will be renamed the Hinsdale/Jones Scholarship, with the same requirement that first preference be given to an East Orange applicant.
- At the 2009 conference, we will offer a program on getting ready to retire and we will raffle chocolate again with proceeds benefiting the Intellectual Freedom fund.
- Howard Parker, Financial Advisor - Wealth Management, Smith Barney was selected as the new portfolio manager.

NJLA Store

Submitted by Cheryl McBride, Chair

The NJLA Store has been open for business at the Youth Services Forum on October 15, at the Center for the Book event on October 22, the Delaware Book Festival, and the NJASL conference on November 13 – 15.

The online store is open and recently promoted on the NJLA listserv. Sales this year have been to Illinois, NY, and Alberta, Canada we hope to increase the online offerings soon.

The Store will be at Book Expo in NYC at the end of May and at the Fundraising Fair on June 9.

Member Services

Submitted by Lynn Schott, Chair

The committee chair and vice-chair met with the NJLA executive, office staff and president on August 21 for an orientation session at the office in Trenton. Regular meetings were held in September, October, January, February, and March. At the October meeting, committee members personalized the mailing to approximately 360 people that had not yet renewed.

Statistics: Member Services is proud to report that the number of active memberships has finally broken 1800! From July through December, we welcomed fifty-three (53) new members to the association, including four directors. Since we last reported in the fall, we have welcomed 80 new members to the association. This includes 5 new directors and 16 librarians working at academic institutions. We attribute this, in part, to our on-going "Join Now" promotion which has been featured on the NJLA website since April. Approximately 300 people have made use of our new online membership form for renewals and for first-time membership.

Communications/Events: Member Services made use of the newsletter, blog and wiki in addition to being represented at the Youth Services Forum (10/15), the Seth Godin presentation (10/28), the "ABC's of Reading Groups" program (10/30), the "Show Me the Money" program (10/31), and the NJASL conference (11/13-15).

Recruitment of Academics: Member Services is working with the College and Universities Section to increase membership among academic librarians. To that end, the committee will participate in the VALE (Virtual Academic Library Environment of New Jersey) Users' Conference on January 9, 2009 at Rutgers University. A survey will be conducted to gather data from academic librarians in the state.

Outreach to Students: The committee is continuing its efforts to raise awareness of the association by meeting with library school students. Rowan University was visited. Outreach efforts included participating in Rutgers' Career Day at SCILS on March 6. A number of our NJLA members reviewed student resumes, providing constructive feedback. We also raffled off a free conference registration, which was presented to Richetta Wilson Lobban!

In January, the Committee, along with the College & Universities Section, conducted a survey of NJ academic librarians attending the VALE conference at Rutgers. Attendees were surveyed about their participation in professional associations at the national, state, and local levels. 176 surveys were completed.

This spring we are honoring 13 more members who have been active in the association for 25 years (since 1984)! Congratulations!

Other committee business has been focused on updating our membership forms, and planning a pre-conference workshop and additional conference events.

Personnel Administration

Submitted by Gian Hasija, Chair

Recommended minimum starting salaries for certified professional staff and support staff for 2009 which has been approved by the Executive Board. These salaries are listed at <http://www.njla.org/resources/salaryguide.pdf>

Exploring insurance companies/brokers who may be willing to offer "Liability Protection Insurance for Library Directors."

Conducted two "Myers-Briggs" workshops, one in Parsippany on July 25, 2008, which was attended by 19 persons and the other at Monmouth County Library on August 4, 2008, which was attended by 25 persons.

Efforts continue to create a local celebrity "Read" poster.

Gian Hasija, Chair of this subcommittee, has sent a letter to ALA-APAA Executive Director recommending Patty Anderson and her two committee members in support of nomination for Sirsi-Dynix Annual Award for improving wages and salaries for all library workers.

Publications

Submitted by Maureen Wynkoop and Leah Wagner, Co-Chairs

The major projects for the Publications Subcommittee are the new wiki and the new website design! Training for updating the wiki was offered at the July Leadership Orientation and an IT Section meeting as well as online instructions.

The committee will be considering a photograph and media release form for adoption by the NJLA Executive Board.

Scholarship

from njla.org and wiki

Scholarship information is on the subcommittee's wiki at <http://njla.pbwiki.com/Scholarship>

Scholarship winners are listed in the final conference program and are recognized at the Leadership Luncheon.

Professional Development

Submitted by Julie DuBois, Vice Chair

This year, we would like to focus on assisting NJ librarians to advance professionally and personally by providing opportunities for networking, training, and mentoring.

We would like to develop strong mentor/mentee relationships and skill sets necessary for mentoring

Ideas for additional training include: Customer Service, Diversity in the Workplace, Team Building, Time and Organizational Management, Generational Differences in the Workplace, Professional Portfolios, Effective Communication, Working with local boards, community groups, and friends groups, Planning Staff Development Days

Other thoughts on what this committee can offer as resources: Creating a list of good trainers, highlighting/expanding the service standards, share ideas about adult programming, discussions about professional articles, "green facts" for libraries considering renovation/new building

Conference from Conference Committee meetings

Following the wonderful success of the 2008 conference, the committee has been busy organizing the 2009 event as well as looking ahead to securing the Ocean Place for conferences in 2010 and 2011.

NJLA Sections and Committees submitted conference program proposal forms using a new online form, which has streamlined the process of confirmations and will aid greatly when preparing the printed materials and wiki content. Poster session proposals were submitted in January.

Four preconferences have been scheduled: Services to Tweens, Business Reference, Marketing as a Team Sport, and Library Security. Keynote speakers will be Karen Hyman and Paco Underhill. Will Manley will speak on Monday evening as well as at the Trustee program. ALA President Jim Rettig will speak on a panel about Future Reference Visions.

Exhibitors have committed to sponsorships totaling \$16,000. Sponsors are listed on the wiki page and in the final conference program. We did sell out of exhibit space, although not until one week before the conference.

New Jersey Libraries Rock logo merchandise is available at Café Press with proceeds benefiting NJLA.

Leadership and Education Submitted by Karen Klapperstuck, Chair

The Leadership and Education subcommittee has met a couple of times since the Annual Conference. We have just completed the latest cycle of Emerging Leaders, which has 29 participants. Additional information is on the wiki at <http://njla.pbwiki.com/Leadership+and+Education>

Public Policy Submitted by Eileen Palmer, Chair

Wiki: <http://njla.pbwiki.com/Public+Policy> -- includes committee membership, meeting agendas, minutes and links of interest

- Updated Legislative Priorities
- Conference Programs (report from OCLC on the Awareness to Funding Report)
- Survey on Non-Resident Fees
- Guidelines on Equitable Public Library Services
- Survey on Valuing State and Regional Services
- Four Public Policy Forums were held in January
- Monitoring legislation related to issues of importance to the profession
- Planning for Federal Legislative Day (May 11 -12)
- Working on Introducing CapWiz as an NJLA Advocacy Tool

Intellectual Freedom Submitted by Carol Roehrenbeck, Chair

We were busy educating members this year. We met seven times and presented several workshops on library privacy issues. These were scheduled in locations throughout the State in order to reach out to as many members of NJLA as possible. Workshops were held at the Princeton Public Library and at the Washington Township (Bergen) Library. Local prosecutors spoke at the programs along with IF Subcommittee members Grayson Barber and Carol Roehrenbeck. Two members of the committee, Beth Egan and Grayson Barber, conducted a staff training session on privacy matters for the Gloucester County Public Library System. The subcommittee also submitted the revised NJLA Privacy Guidelines statement to Public Policy because several members thought the existing posted document was confusing. A program on electronic records will be held at the annual conference. There was very high participation

from committee members this year particularly Grayson Barber, Joan Bernstein, Patricia Boyd, Susan Briant, Beth Egan, Juliette Sobon, Joanne Kares, Marguerite Dugas, Eileen Palmer, Gary Schmidt. In addition to subcommittee meetings several members of the committee, particularly Beth Egan, Juliette Sobon and Carol Roehrenbeck attended Public Policy meetings.

Public Relations

Submitted by Jennifer Konopacki, Chair

The Committee is working with Nancy Dowd at the State Library to support the latest Marketing Plan "Solving Life's Problems". Carolyn Wood, Vice Chair will represent the committee on this project.

Worked on a project to order eco-friendly bags for NJ Libraries. Bags will have logo Go Green @ Your Library and the specific libraries info on the other side. The totals for this project came in at 8095 bags sold to 33 different libraries. At least four libraries are reordering bags this spring.

The committee is also working on some other ideas to assist libraries with PR and Marketing ideas for the rest of the year.

- Sponsored Marketing as a Team Sport – NJLA 2009 Pre-Conference and co-sponsored programs at annual NJLA conference with Reference and YA Section.
- Coordinated canvas bag and food bank collection project at the Conference, in collaboration with the State Library
- NJLA PR Resources web page developed – WIKI subcommittee applauded for their efforts
<http://njla.pbwiki.com/Public+Relations>
- Committee working on ways to assist libraries with PR – possibly for September – Library Card Sign-Up Month

Honors and Awards

Submitted by Camille Thompson, Co-Chair

Forms for the Public Relations, Journalism, and other awards were be posted to the NJLA website. The Journalism award criteria have been adjusted to encourage entries from a broad range of media including print, television, and web. The NJLA/NJASL Partnership Award has been renamed in memory of Amy Job.

We are awarding the "Public Relations Award of Merit for Library Promotion" to the two nominees whose PR did not fit in to the previously sanctioned categories. Winners have been selected and notified and their plaques have been ordered.

- The committee is preparing for the awards ceremony and has sent the program and poster to be printed.
- A wrap-up meeting for generating ideas to improve the awards process is planned for June.

SECTIONS

Administration & Management

Submitted by Leslie Kahn, Co-President

In August, 2008, the section conducted a survey of members to learn their interests (particularly around programs) and their inclination (or lack of inclination) to attend meetings. Nineteen people responded, and 4 people said they might be willing to attend meetings, depending on timings of them. Programs in 2009 and 2010 reflect those results.

February 4, 2009, we presented a program at the East Brunswick Public Library. Entitled, "Strengthening the Library Team: Exploring Interpersonal Relationships Among Staff," its speaker was library consultant Bob Kieserman. Dale Spindel, Kennilworth Public Library, was moderator.

For the 2009 NJLA conference, we are offering these programs: "Mail It? It's In the Bag: Books and More, Netflix Style" featuring the Burlington County and Gloucester County Libraries, "One is Silver and the Other Gold: Harmonizing Iconic and Iconoclastic Librarianship" presented by Hannah Kwon, Ph.D. student, Rutgers University, School of Communication, Information, and Library Studies; and also cosponsoring "FRBR and RDA for Real People: A Practical Approach"

Children's Services

Submitted by Ellen Pozzi, President

- participated in a successful Youth Services Forum and the Performers Showcase went on despite all of Mother Nature's best efforts to derail it with a horrible rainy weather.

- Books for Kids is collecting much needed books to be distributed.
- continues to add to our Choice booklists on the wiki, and adding links of interest for children's librarians to the wiki.
- instituted a tour of the children's sections of host libraries before our executive meetings. Anyone is welcome and members have already picked up great new ideas from the libraries we have visited.
- developing a list of children's librarians who are willing to be shadowed, or to have their storytimes observed. This list will be on the wiki, and will also be made available to SCILS students.
- developing a Children's Librarian Training Day that will be offered every other year in the fall for new children's librarians (patterned after the Library Director's Training and to be offered alternately with our Leadership Day every other fall).

College and University

Submitted by Richard Kearney, President

The College and University Section (CUS) was a co-sponsor of the 10th annual VALE Users'/NJLA-CUS/ACRL-NJ Conference on January 9, 2009, held in the Busch Campus Center at Rutgers University in Piscataway. To mark the occasion, this year's theme was "Ten Years of Experience, A Future of Possibilities." The keynote speaker was Marianne I. Gaunt, Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian, Rutgers University, who addressed us on the topic of "VALE: A Ten Year Start into the Future."

The CUS is sponsoring or co-sponsoring twelve programs at the NJLA conference, including programs dealing with such subjects as plagiarism, mental health awareness, college students as Wikipedia authors, information literacy progression standards, open source library system developments, and our popular research and technology innovation forums, among others. We will also host our annual luncheon at the conference, featuring Eileen Fenton, Executive Director of Portico, as our invited speaker and conferring our Distinguished Service Award to honor a colleague for outstanding contributions to the field.

The Section's Research Committee, chaired by Mark Thompson, Assistant Director at Bergen Community College, recently established a new Vice-Chair's position and elected Karen Pifher, Director of the Peapack-Gladstone Branch of the Somerset County Library System, to that office. The Research Committee of the ACRL New Jersey Chapter has reviewed nominations and applications for its annual Research Award to honor the best published research completed by a New Jersey librarian during the past year (2008), with a prize sponsored by Seton Hall University. This year's Research Award goes to co-authors Jia Mi, Electronic Resources/Serials Librarian, and Cathy Weng, Head of Cataloging, both of The College of New Jersey Library for their article, "Revitalizing the Library OPAC: Interface, Searching, and Display Challenges," published in *Information Technology and Libraries*, v. 27, no. 1 (March 2008). The Research Award winners will present during the Research Forum at the Conference.

The Section's User Education Committee, chaired by Eleonora Dubicki, Monmouth University Library, is currently working with the Shared Information Literacy Committee of New Jersey's VALE consortium and the Central Jersey Academic Reference Librarians' organization on the development of Information Literacy progression standards that would enable institutions to assess students in the transition from 2 to 4 year colleges, at different stages (e.g. First Year, Sophomore, etc.). Following a joint meeting in December 2008, the group created a task force that will draft standards.

The Section's Technology Committee, chaired by Mary Mallery, Harry A. Sprague Library, Montclair State University, held its annual Technology Innovation Award competition in March. The award honors a librarian or group of librarians for innovative use and application of technology in a New Jersey academic library. The award was conferred on a five-person team at William Paterson University for the "Cheng Library Information-on-Demand Project," which consists of the implementation of a library application server for the purpose of extracting information from the library's Voyager database and other data sources with new information available to users in a variety of ways, by repackaging the data via custom developed web applications.

History & Preservation

Submitted by Bob Golon, President

On August 1, 2008, the H&P Section held a Board and Membership meeting at the Mount Olive Public Library. Reference and Local History Librarian Wendy Sandford concluded the meeting with a program entitled "Gathering and organizing Family History the Librarian Way." We then proceeded to Centenary College in Hackettstown, where Nancy Madacsi, the Director of the Taylor Memorial Library, took us on a tour of the historic buildings on campus.

On October 8, 2008, the Section held a Board meeting at the Monmouth County Library in Manalapan. In conjunction with Archives Week, Section President Bob Golon held a panel discussion entitled "Sports Archives: When the Cheering Stops," which included Thomas Frusciano, University Archivist at Rutgers, Alan Delozier, University Archivist at Seton Hall, Larry Hogan, noted baseball historian and writer, and David Pinto, Library Director at the Richard Stockton College.

On January 30th, the History and Preservation Section held a joint meeting with the New Jersey Caucus of the Mid Atlantic Regional Archives Conference at the United States Golf Association Museum and Library in Far Hills. USGA Assistant Director David Normoyle conducted a tour of the facility after the business meeting, which included the newly reopened museum, library, and archival collection.

On June 12th, the History and Preservation Section will hold a joint meeting with the Reference Section at the Atlantic City Free Public Library. Archivist Heather Perez and Head of Reference Julie Senack will lead a panel discussion entitled "Taming the Beast: Removing the Fear Factor from Local History Reference." This discussion will explore various options and strategies to help reference librarians and archivists work together to achieve a similar goal - assisting patrons to find answers for local history questions.

Information Technologies

Submitted by Amy Kearns, President

- Partnered with the CJRLC Tech Group and the NJ State Library to present a program and preliminary training on using Digital Storytelling and Video in libraries. Training will be coordinated throughout the year for the state so libraries can participate in the statewide marketing campaign "Solving Life's Problems". This is the major focus for the Section this year.
- Worked with the NJLA Colleges and Universities Tech Section on a digital rights agreement and submitted video of Stephen Bell's keynote from this past summer's Future Tech Symposium.
- Sponsored a review of the new NJLA wiki at an IT Section meeting.
- Held several programs/meetings including on the topics of the Virtual Communication and Assistive Technologies (with Library of the Blind and Handicapped)
- Held the majority of the Executive Board meetings of the IT Section virtually
- Organized conference programs on such topics as video; Twitter; the future patron; Google Analytics; and co-sponsored several with other sections/committees
- Organized the Podcasting Station for the conference and will add-in Vodcasting (video casting) this year; and the Rock Band video game contest

We look forward to continuing to bring 'making IT simple' to the membership.

Reference

Submitted by Lisa Coats, President

- May 28, 2008: Tour of library at TCNJ and business meeting of the membership
- August 8, 2008: Executive Board Meeting at Monmouth University Library to plan for events, meetings and NJLA proposals, and to discuss board positions
- October 23, 2008: Tour of Seton Hall's Walsh Library and business meeting of the membership
- December 16, 2008: Tour of Cherry Hill Public Library; Presentation by Allan Kleiman about reference in Croatia; Business meeting of the membership
- February 9, 2009: Diversity program with INFOLINK speaker and librarian from Ocean County Public Library at the Tom's River library; Business meeting of the membership
- March 30, 2009, Tour of the Methodist Archives at Drew University & Business Meeting/Open Discussion
- April: Sponsoring and co-sponsoring several workshops at the conference, including a preconference on Business Reference.
- June 12, 2009 "Taming the Beast: Removing the Fear Factor from Local History Reference" Panel Presentation/Discussion & Business Meetings for Reference and History & Preservation Sections.

Plans are afoot for an Adult Services Forum in late October or early November 2009. The Reference Section is in the planning stage with the Readers' Advisory Roundtable. Other interested Sections or Roundtables interested in co-sponsoring are encouraged to contact Lisa Coats or David Calvanico.

The THEME will probably center around the idea of "facing new challenges for information services in an environment of change" – economic changes, staffing changes, changes in what we do, how we do it, where we do it – best practices in serving the changing demands (requests) of our customers who vary in gender, race, class, economic status, ethnic background, sexual orientation, age, physical ability, and cultural and religious backgrounds.

Small Libraries

The Small Libraries group is seeking a leader or coordinator to lead the group

Special Populations

Submitted by Ellen Stringer, President

Most of the section's efforts have been directed to developing conference proposals.

Technical Services

Submitted by Rhonda Marker, President

The section has met several times to attend to section business. A popular feature of our meetings is the Topic of the Day discussion. This year's discussions were: Making the 440 Field Obsolete; Quality Control in Your Catalog; and Turnaround Time at Your Library. Our next meeting will be on May 14 at the Livingston Public Library.

In addition to our conference program on RDA (Resource Description and Access) and FRBR (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records), we are planning a late spring workshop on using MarcEdit, a free MARC editing utility.

Urban Libraries

Submitted by Paul Pattwell, President

In summer '08 the section members reviewed and revised the section's By-Laws.

Over the period of two meetings the section members revised the 2005 strategic plan Urban Libraries: Challenges and Strategies for Change. The finalized version will be presented to the State Library.

In October, the section presented a workshop on fundraising presented by Peter Pearson entitled: Give Me Money (That's What I Want): A Workshop For Learning How To Increase Private Funding Revenue To Your Library. The regional library cooperatives co-sponsored this important workshop.

Urban Libraries accepted an invitation from Norma Blake to cosponsor the conference "Safe teens = Safe Streets: New Jersey's First Working Forum on Community Collaboration" to be held on May 14, 2009 at Mercer County Community College Conference Center, West Windsor, New Jersey. The conference is a day long working conference of community agencies, law enforcement, and libraries tasked with identifying community solutions to keep children and teens safe from joining gangs.

At the invitation New Jersey State Library, the Urban Libraries Section is co-sponsoring an IMLS program on diversity scheduled for June 10, 2009 entitled "Recruiting and Mentoring A Diverse Workforce for New Jersey's Libraries". The half day long conference will present a panel of speakers discussing the importance of having greater racial and ethnic representation in libraries.

Young Adult Services

Submitted by Sophie Brookover, President

The Executive Board met over the summer to pare down the mammoth list of potential nominees for the Garden State Book Awards (generated annually by member emerita Bonnie Kunzel -- we are still amazed that she is willing to perform this service for us!) and to generate ideas for Conference 2009 programs;

Member Maureen Smyth has co-authored a book, *Lessons for a Scientific Literature Review*, published by Libraries Unlimited (<http://lu.com/showbook.cfm?isbn=9781591586845>)

Section President Sophie Brookover and section member Liz Burns have co-authored a book, *Pop Goes the Library: Using Pop Culture to Connect With Your Whole Community*, published by Information Today (<http://infotoday.stores.yahoo.net/popgoeslibrary.html>);

In the new year, we will be sharing meeting agendas and minutes on our wiki page, and will be creating sub-pages for conference presentations starting in 2009;

We're partnering with the Children's Services Section to co-sponsor a pre-conference with Teri Lesesne on Services to Tweens at Conference 2009 and we've secured Printz Award winner and honoree John Green to be the featured speaker at the Garden State Book Awards luncheon.

ROUNDTABLES

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered and Intersexed (LGBTI)

Submitted by Enola Romano, Chair

Last spring, after the NJLA conference, the LGBTI Roundtable attended NJ Pride for the first time. We joined the Ocean County Library system, which has been attending the NJ Pride Festivities in Asbury Park for a number of years. It was a wonderful opportunity to get 'out' and mingle with our community of LGBTI patrons. Recently, the LGBTI Roundtable has been busy with preparations for the NJLA conference and for a full day program that we will be co-sponsoring with Infolink's Diversity Committee. Additionally we have submitted a conference proposal for the NJASL conference in November 2009.

Readers' Advisory

Submitted by Heidi Cramer, NJLA President

Readers' Advisory is sponsoring several programs at the conference. The Roundtable is also considering a status change to Section.

Resource Sharing

Submitted by Heidi Cramer, NJLA President

NJLA is looking for a co-chair of this group. Please contact Heidi Cramer, NJLA President, if you are interested.

TASK FORCES

One Book New Jersey

Submitted by Kate Vasilik, Chair

2008: One Book New Jersey took things a bit in a different direction over the past year by adding some new things to the overall agenda of the program, including promoting materials at Café Press (to minimal response), hosting online book discussions, and offering a OBNJ Program Contest.

2009: One of the current task force's primary focuses is to get a stronger word out about the program and to encourage more libraries to become actively involved in promoting the program.

- Publicly recognize those libraries that actively promote OBNJ in their libraries; for example, we are organizing a Poster Session at the NJLA Annual Spring Conference.
- Determine ways to more effectively market the program, including the quality of information on the OBNJ website as well as by providing libraries with better press and publicity materials for customized use. This also involves more effectively using current marketing tools, such as Café Press.
- Determine ways to better market the program to other organizations – besides public libraries – that can participate in OBNJ; also, by encouraging libraries to make connections with other local community organizations and individuals.
- The OBNJ Task Force gratefully acknowledges the support of the New Jersey State Library.

OBNJ recently hosted online book discussions for the adult selection, *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*. Pulitzer Prize winning author Junot Diaz participated in one of the discussions!

National Reading Group Month Task Force

Submitted by April Judge, Chair

In celebration of National Reading Group Month, ABC's of reading groups: authors, books and clubs: *A workshop for librarians who lead reading groups or work with community-based reading groups*, was held on October 30 at Parsippany-Troy Hills Public Library. Co-sponsors were *the New Jersey State Library and the Women's National Book Association*. *The National Reading Group Manual* is available at http://www.njla.org/programs/National_Reading_Group_Manual.pdf

We have met three times since January. They are planning a daylong workshop featuring reading groups, how to start one, how to energize an existing one and much more. The program will be on Saturday, October 3 at The College of NJ from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM. The Task Force is currently looking for speakers to serve on panels or to lead a program. The daylong event will include a keynote speaker, three break out sessions and an author panel as well as book signing session at the close of the day. This program is sponsored by the National Women's Book Association and supported by NJLA and the State Library.

David Lisa of the State Libray's Development Bureau sent out an invitation to attract new members. Currently we've recruited nine new members!!