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NJLA is 125
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In the Beginning: A Recounting of the First NJLA Meeting

By **Terrie McColl**,
Director, New Milford
Public Library

The weather forecast had called for heavy snow over the weekend and Melvil Dewey had sent his regrets, via telegram, because of an ice-skating accident, but that did not stop the meeting at the Union Library Company, which would later become the Trenton Public Library, on Monday, December 29, 1890.

Librarians, trustees, and others interested in libraries were gathered. The purpose of the meeting was to find a way “to instill in the minds of assistants a love of the work in which they are engaged.”¹

B. B. Hutchinson, temporary chairman, welcomed the group of 39, with an address that recognized public libraries as being “among the most valuable and effective agencies,



Artist Bradford Johnson's rendering of Rev. William Prall, the first president of NJLA
(Photo courtesy of the Paterson PL)

hand in hand with the church, the home and the school, in the promotion of the spiritual, mental and even physical welfare of all classes of people... ”²

A committee of three members—Mr. Hill of Newark, Mr. Marshall of Woodbury, and Mr. Stratton of Trenton—was charged with proposing a name, a constitution, and bylaws for the association that was about to be formed.

The committee members happily and proudly stated that the association should be called the New Jersey Library Association (NJLA).

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Message from the PRESIDENT

On the Road

Looking through the archives in celebration of NJLA's 125th anniversary reveals all the distances people traveled to attend the meetings and the annual conference in the late 1800s and makes you better appreciate the efforts of our predecessors to create the New Jersey library ecosystem we work in today.

Pat and I have been driving around the state to recognize libraries that are institutional members, and I can't imagine doing these visits without GPS, nevermind without a car or major highways. What has struck us about our visits are the pride the staff take in their libraries and their work and the rich histories libraries have.

We visited the Oceanic Library in Rumson, which was first started as a memorial gift of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Meeker to honor their son, William Henry Meeker, who died in World War I.

The Meekers wrote to all of the leading authors of the time encouraging them to send books to start this library. Most of the original collection is still available at the library and many of the books are signed by the authors, including Benito Mussolini!

We also visited the New Brunswick Public Library, which has roots back to 1796. The library still contains some of the books from the initial collection, when the Union Library Company was started and a membership cost \$5.

During those early years, the library experienced an expansion, a disbandment, and finally a revival, to become the first free public library in New Jersey. In 1903, the library opened a new building, funded by the famous Carnegie foundation.



One other stop on our tour was the Middletown Public Library, a municipal library since 1920. Librarians there delivered books to the rural areas by Model T truck for many years. As Middletown changed and grew in population, the library evolved to the one it is today, which is an amazing library with an excellent layout, extensive resources, and an enthusiastic and passionate staff.

This year, I will be making a greater effort to not only learn more about NJLA's history, but also about the story of my own library, from its beginnings to the referendum to become a public library to the ups and downs it experienced before I started here. (I am already all-too-familiar with the challenges we have faced since I have been here!).

Looking at the hardships many libraries came through (including two World Wars, multiple economic downturns, political and social shifts, and technological innovations) gives a different perspective on where we are now and who we are.

James Keehler

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Mission Statement of the New Jersey Libraries NEWSletter

The *New Jersey Libraries NEWSletter* is one of the official publications of the New Jersey Library Association and serves as a vehicle for communication of library issues and activities among the members of NJLA.

Editorial Statement of the New Jersey Libraries NEWSletter

The *New Jersey Libraries NEWSletter* shall provide news of NJLA and information about statewide, regional, and local library activities.

News shall be as current as possible within the constraints of the publication schedule and the publication will serve as an archival record of significant and lasting library issues and topics.

The *New Jersey Libraries NEWSletter* shall provide reports from officers, committees, roundtables, sections, and other units of the NJLA.

It shall also publish reports on trends and practices in the library profession and articles on topics of interest to the New Jersey library community. Ephemeral issues and time-sensitive topics will be covered in the Listserv or the association website.

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Letter from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Libraries Make Communities

Several recent events have gotten me thinking about the role of libraries in our communities. Did you happen to see the recent news that Barnes & Noble held a Maker Faire in all its stores in November? Our libraries have been in the forefront of the Maker movement in our state.

Last year's NJ Maker's Day was a huge success with locations in every county of our state (Barnes and Noble doesn't even have a store in every county). There were over 100 locations and the range of community programming associated with this event was tremendous. Next year's event promises to be even bigger. The dates are March 18-19, 2016. Check out the website at www.njmakerday.org. Make sure your library is participating.

So, who is doing more for the maker movement relevant in the lives of the residents of our state? I think the answer is easy—it's our libraries.

I also read that Amazon is going to open a "brick and mortar store." I was really surprised. Amazon, which believes that everything can be delivered directly to your doorstep, is opening a store with (dare I say it) walls.

One article that I read said that they wanted to create "community" with its store. I guess just having random reviews on a website doesn't quite bring people together the way a book club, story hour, or a training class does. And yes, our libraries have for many years offered services remotely through our websites and online databases. You can download anything from an ebook to Flipster or Hoopla from our libraries.

But maybe, just maybe, Amazon realized it was missing something. That something would be the wonderful and talented library staff which brings services to life for a community. No, you really can't get the complete human connection online. Our libraries are first and foremost about community.

New Jersey libraries just completed another successful Snapshot Day. Snapshot Day is a wonderful way to capture (over the course of one day) what our libraries mean to the communities we serve. Again, the pictures and the quotes which were gathered that day are truly inspirational.

Let me just share one which I think would make Amazon jealous. "I come to the library every day because it's a safe place where I can spend time with other people my age." What makes that quote so memorable is that you have no idea who said it. Was it a teenager? A senior citizen? A new mom? We serve them all. (For more, visit: www.facebook.com/njlibrarysnapshot)

We exhibited on behalf of NJLA at the League of Municipalities Conference this year and our theme was Libraries Make Communities. I certainly think it was a fitting theme which captures our role.

As we celebrate NJLA's 125th anniversary, I keep thinking about how things have changed and how they have remained the same. No, we didn't have the Maker movement or online services back then, but we did have a committed group of people who knew that having a library was a vital community asset and they did everything to see that libraries were established everywhere in our state. Maybe you can call that the original "Maker movement."

Pat Tumulty



Note from the EDITOR

Goodbye and Thank You

This issue of the newsletter will be my final one as editor. As some of you already know, I have headed out of the PA/NJ area and have moved back to my hometown of St. Louis.

When I first arrived in New Jersey, I had no idea I would spend nearly a decade living here or that I would develop such a fondness for the Garden State. I will forever miss foldable slices of hand-tossed pizza (is there any better?), strolling along the shore in September (after the Bennies, ahem, the crowds have departed), commuting along those vast, open stretches of 287 (totally kidding, I will never miss that), and, of course, NJLA. You are a unique, talented, and innovative group of librarians and I feel so fortunate to have been a part of this association.

You know, it may not always seem like it when you are stuck in traffic, but New Jersey is a small state. Being in such close proximity to each other provides so many wonderful opportunities for collaboration, for visiting other libraries, for attending professional development programs and conferences. Appreciate your ability to do that with less effort and time than most librarians in the U.S.! I will miss it tremendously.

Thank you to all of the wonderful people I have had the privilege of working with at Bradley Beach PL, Monroe Township PL, and in all of the committees I have served on through NJLA. I've learned so much from all of you and have become a better person and librarian because of you. Best of luck to you all, and stop by if you find yourself in the Midwest!

Megan McCarthy

NJLA at 200

We asked our past presidents about their predictions and hopes for NJLA at 200. This is what they had to say.

"My hope for NJLA is that we are still able to maintain the people connection we have always had between younger and 'more seasoned' librarians, that the technology does not cause us to lose that human focus. The technology allows us to do things we could not have possibly imagined when I first began my library career in 1976, but it is the librarians who provide the soul for its use.

When I am able to attend a conference, I find myself gravitating to small groups of people who are talking to one another around cups of coffee (or better yet, pieces of chocolate) and discussing not only old friends and times, but also what they are excited about that is happening in their own libraries and others across the state.

My hope for NJLA at 200 is that we continue to draw the best and brightest people to use the most cutting-edge technologies to serve our patrons, young and old, computer savvy or not so much, frequent users or newcomers coming through or doors (or portals). Because for me, NJLA will always be that special organization where people came together to serve people in the best way possible to meet their needs and improve the quality of their lives."

- Lynn Randall

"As libraries in New Jersey have grown and strengthened over the last 125 years, so has NJLA.

When NJLA reaches its 200th anniversary, I imagine it to be an organization that continues to link librarians and libraries to each other, but even more broadly than it does now. Librarians representing all types of libraries will be united under one umbrella organization, and NJLA will facilitate the exchange of information, support the continued growth of libraries serving their communities, and broker relationships with groups outside of libraries that represent mutually beneficial partnerships.

As the theme for James Keehbler's presidential year states: All together now!"

- Cindy Czesak

"Optimistic Irene sees a strong professional organization in which the members are highly respected for their contributions to expanding knowledge resources and lifelong learning initiatives. This recognition is universal and sincere."

- Irene Goldberg



"The future of libraries will be determined by general societal trends. Will general hostility to public funding continue? Since I noted the trend in 1996, and since it is still going strong in 2015, this barrier to improved services seems to be a long-term trend.

Where will technology take us? Will we have the funding needed to implement change?

Will we have the resources needed to provide effective mediation to promote effective public access to information?

The future is never set in stone. It evolves from today."

- Edwin Beckerman

"I predict that NJLA will still be the melting pot for librarians to meet, exchange ideas, and form lifelong friendships with colleagues. NJLA will also continue as a powerful advocacy voice for librarians and libraries. The buildings and technologies will change, but people will continue to have many complex information needs in life. The comfortable and welcoming space of a community library (public, school, academic, special) may be more important than ever by the time NJLA turns 200. Long live our NJLA—a vibrant, growing organization!"

- Susan Briant

(Continued on page 5)

NJLA at 200

(Continued from page 4)

"In 2010, as I began my presidency, the recession that had begun in December 2007 had hit New Jersey hard—library services were affected, municipalities were faced with a dire economy, and the relevance of the library was questioned.

Benjamin Franklin said that 'out of adversity comes opportunity.' This motto was adopted by NJLA and the State Library, partners in developing and highlighting the library as an essential institution.

Libraries are essential; always have been, always will be. This is my prediction for the future of libraries and for the association serving New Jersey librarians, our beloved NJLA:

I envision expanding roles in preservation, diversity and community engagement, business and technology, and youth services. This is our mission as a democratic institution: to preserve and animate local history; to foster community involvement and individual dignity; to provide resources for expanding opportunity, enhancing knowledge, and enhancing relevance. Youth services is the foundation of our future.

I believe that to fulfill our mission, to be perceived as essential to the people we serve, it is imperative for us to stay true to our principles, to model the behavior we expect and hope for in others, to be constructive—not destructive—as our method of problem solving.

An institution open to new ideas, to knowledge in all its wondrous forms, to individual differences and collaboration—the library institution is well equipped to evolve, to grow in relevance, to be essential."

- Mary Romance

"As I look at NJLA and the changes from 1890 to 2090 I see the evolution from a group of 30-some libraries joining together to a true statewide leadership organization. In 2090 I think our colleagues will be part of a vibrant, strong, dedicated organization working to envision the libraries of the 22nd century.

I don't know that I would recognize the libraries of 2090 any more than NJLA's founders would recognize the libraries of 2015. But I do know I'd recognize the NJLA of 2090—it will be where the leaders are, where the dedication to core values resides, and where lifelong friends are found. And I hope they have a spectacular celebration of NJLA at 200!"

- Eileen M. Palmer

"At 200, NJLA will continue to be the vibrant, all connecting, diverse and productive organization that it has been for the past 200 years. NJLA will remain a vital organization because of the super, dedicated members that are passionate about libraries and all that they offer to their community.

As time marches on, we all realize that libraries will operate in altered and different ways which are unknown and unimaginable to us today. A strong NJLA with a stellar, hard-working membership will help transition libraries as they transform and reconfigure themselves and strive to remain fiscally sound in order to meet the ever changing needs of their constituents. Through NJLA's continued support and the work of all its members, libraries will always be relevant and welcoming places for everyone."

- April L. Judge

"The past 75 years have brought incredible strides for libraries and librarianship, thanks to the efforts of NJLA. NJLA board meetings are well attended by representatives who appear courtesy of the holo-deck technology developed by Will Wheaton. Membership numbers have zoomed ever since the Member Services has offered a visit from Neil Gaiman with each paid membership. Also, since intellectual freedom is a given, the Intellectual Freedom Committee has disbanded. No one, subpoena or no subpoena, is able to look at a patron's record. Period.

In a remarkable deal brokered by NJLA, libraries took over every Starbucks and Walmart and now there is a library every two blocks in every town and city. They are well-stocked and well-staffed. Drones deliver tree books, and the implants in your brain receive ebooks, audio books, streaming music and videos from the library. (Though people still say they like the smell and feel of the tree books and vinyl records continue to be highly sought after.)

Librarians are held in the highest esteem, as lawyers, doctors, and Wall Street traders once were. There is admiration in people's eyes when you say, 'I'm a librarian!' The brightest and best students vie for positions in the M.L.S. programs (yes, that degree has been restored). Through NJLA's tireless efforts, our pay scale now exceeds the doctors, lawyers, and inside traders (but not that of the poets and philosophers, and rightfully so).

Finally, the term 'Library Director' is no longer a Civil Service title: it has been changed to Library God or Goddess."

- Michele Reutty

BEYOND BOOKS:

A New Logo and Look for NJLA



By **Allen McGinley**,
Branch Manager and Head of Teen
Services, Piscataway Public Library

During the summer of 2015, NJLA began implementing a future-oriented strategic plan with the goal of maintaining NJLA's role in advocating for public policy issues, supporting New Jersey libraries and their staff members, and providing professional development opportunities to librarians.

A major part of this strategic plan has been related to membership. One of the Year One goals was to develop a campaign to attract new members. The group from the strategic plan membership team that volunteered to work on this project was Jill D'Amico, Erica Solomon, Kate Jagers, and myself.

Our first step in developing the campaign was to design a new logo that would show NJLA as an appealing brand to the NJ library community, and also to supply members with the logo in the variety of digital file formats necessary for promotion, and other NJLA activities.

The logo was designed by the New Jersey-based company Blue Tomato Graphics, with input from the membership team. We made a conscious effort to move away from imagery that depicted specific library services like books and computers because we felt that this limits libraries by reinforcing traditional stereotypes.

The new logo illustrates the work that NJLA does by focusing on the variety of services that libraries offer. The membership team agreed that the focus should be on people, which is depicted by the state of New Jersey made up of many different dots that are,

at once, both connected and independent of each other.

After the NJLA Executive Board approved the new logo, the team moved on to design a promotional poster. Our goal was to create a poster that could be delivered to every library in New Jersey, and displayed in a staff area to attract new membership.

Continuing education opportunities are a big part of NJLA's mission, but often the most important role the association plays is advocating for library service on behalf of libraries and all New Jersey residents. We wanted strong, dynamic images that show NJLA in action.

Designing a new logo was about more than selecting different fonts or new colors. The New Jersey Library Association fights for New Jersey residents and their libraries through activities like rallying on the steps of the Orange Public Library and advocating for an increase to per capita state aid for libraries. We wanted the logo—and the accompanying membership campaign—to illustrate the action and determination that we have come to associate with NJLA.

Allen McGinley is Branch Manager and Head of Teen Services at Piscataway Public Library. He holds an M.S.I.S. degree from the State University of New York in Albany. Prior to working in New Jersey, Allen worked in Manhattan at the New York Public Library. His email address is amcginley@piscatawaylibrary.org.

SNAPSHOT DAY 2015

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE NEW JERSEY STATE LIBRARY
AND THE NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A Day in New Jersey Libraries...

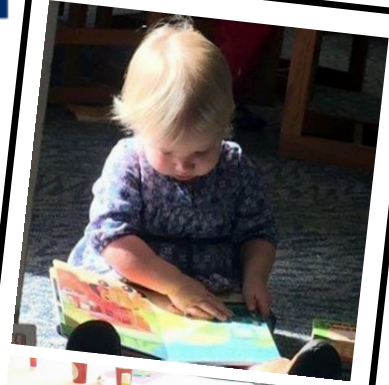
287,000 visitors

37,000 reference
questions

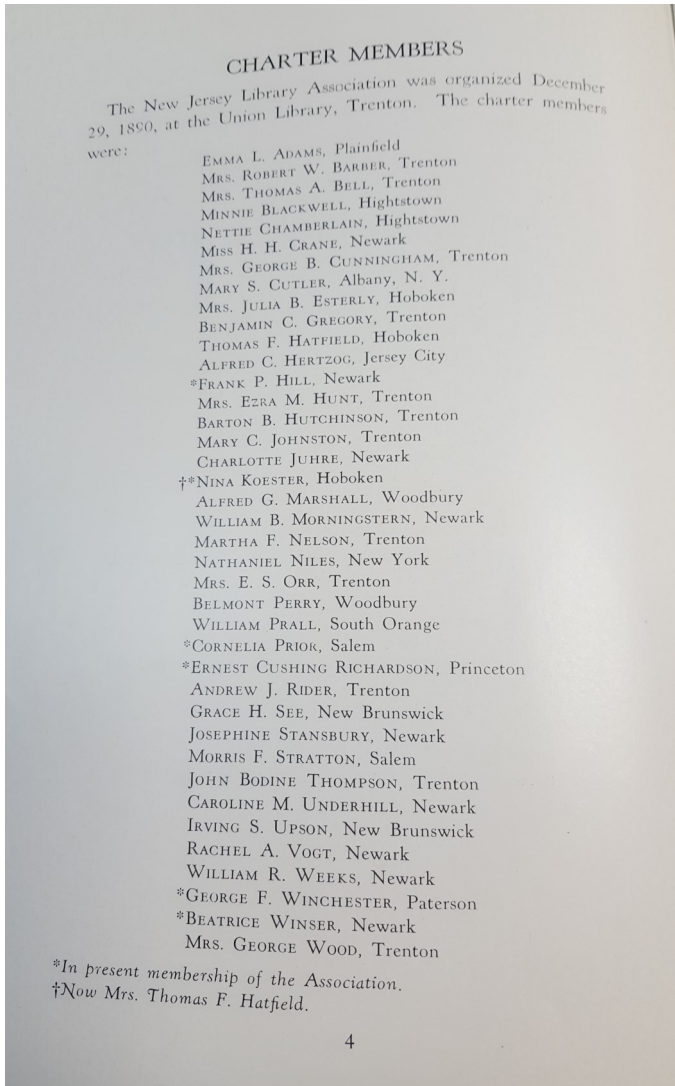
1,300 programs for
all

"[My library] is wonderful!! I am here at least every two weeks. When I retired I said I would read every book in the library. I'm getting there. We have many other things going on here for all ages. May our library always be here."

- West Caldwell PL Patron



In the Beginning: A Recounting of the First NJLA Meeting



A list of the charter members of NJLA

The constitution and bylaws, modeled after those of similar library organizations in New York and Massachusetts, were read and immediately adopted.

The next order of business was to resolve that this meeting on Monday, December 29, 1890, would be the first meeting of the NJLA. And so it began 125 years ago.

Officers, Dues Established

Another committee of three was charged with nominating the permanent officers for the next year.

The committee presented the following unanimously accepted slate of candidates: President, Rev. William Prall of West Orange, who had introduced the State Library Law in 1884 and was a State Assemblyman; Vice Presidents, Frank P. Hill of Newark and Ernest

Richardson of Princeton; Secretary, Martha F. Nelson of Trenton; and Treasurer, George F. Winchester of Paterson.

Membership was opened to any person, organization, or library interested in the objectives of the association, and dues were 50 cents per member.

The meeting continued with President Prall calling on the Vice-Director of the Library School of Albany, New York, Miss Cutter. Miss Cutter was impressed with the mere 20 minutes it took to form NJLA compared with the 4 hours it took in New York.

She echoed the message Melvil Dewey had sent in his absence, stating that "bonding ourselves together and thus helping each other in the work" of libraries was key to the success of the libraries and library organizations.³

Prall, a Key Player in New Jersey Library History

It should be noted here how important the appointment of the former General Assembly member, Rev. William Prall, was as the first President of NJLA. Rev. Prall had very "definite ideas about how libraries were to fit into the general municipal scheme of things," and the legislation that was signed into law on April 1, 1884, clearly reflected his philosophy: "The library was to be established as a separate entity: it was to be tied to the governing body of the municipality and the public school system but to be kept out of politics."³

This law is the same law municipal libraries follow today: a successful referendum to establish a public library, the creation of a public library board of trustees, the mayor and superintendent of schools serving ex-officio, and the minimum 1/3 of a mil property tax support.

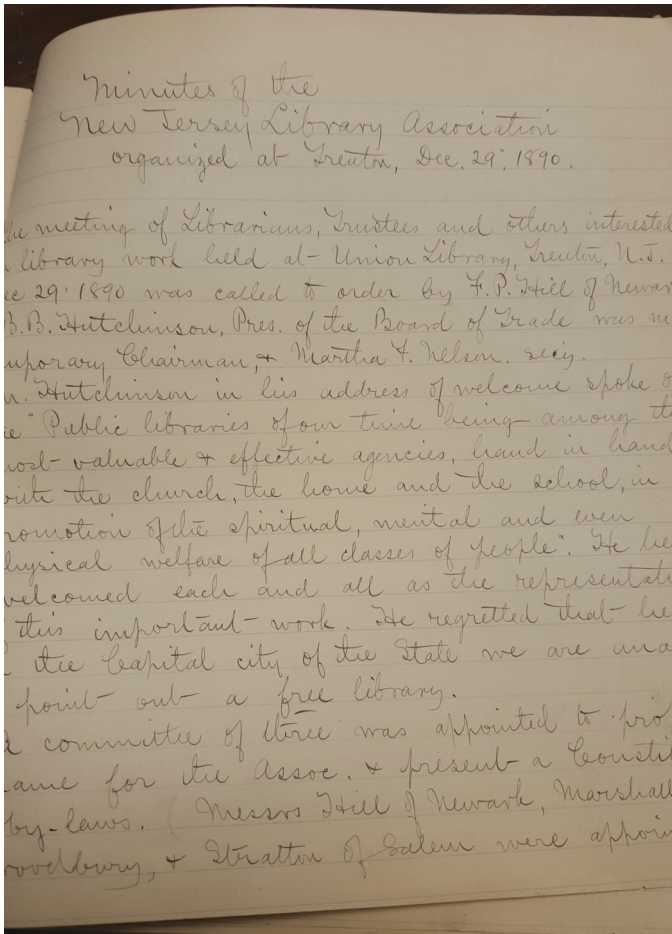
Advocacy for Libraries

From the beginning, New Jersey laws concerning the organization and operation of New Jersey libraries were of paramount importance to the association, especially in rural communities and areas where there was no library service.

(Continued on page 9)



In the Beginning: A Recounting of the First NJLA Meeting



Minutes from the first NJLA meeting, held December 29, 1890

Two more committees of three were quickly set up: one to look up what laws actually applied to village libraries in New Jersey and the other to look up the library laws in other states.

The formation of these two committees and the information they were tasked with finding would result in NJLA working closely with the State Federation of Woman's Clubs. Woman's Clubs at that time were one of the most active groups in support of establishing public libraries.

Together they helped to obtain passage of the Traveling Library Law for rural districts in 1899. Throughout the 1890s, they would also push for a state library commission to promote the development of public libraries.

In 1900, after several failed attempts, the bill was finally enacted, and 145 public libraries were established between 1904 and 1915. This work continues today, with NJLA still at the forefront of advocacy for New Jersey library legislation.

From Handbook to Internet

Before the meeting closed, it was moved that the constitution and bylaws, plus a list of the members and officers, be printed and sent to all libraries in the state. The earliest publication of such a document found in the NJLA archives is from 1905 and is only 12 pages long.⁴ John Cotton Dana is listed as President.

For many years, a *New Jersey Library Association Official Handbook* would be printed. Today there is no longer a printed "official handbook," but rather we have www.NJLA.org, www.njlamembers.org, www.facebook.com/njlibraryassociation, and social media sites maintained by the committees, sections, and roundtables of the association.

From wanting to bring public libraries to the people, advocating for New Jersey libraries and librarians, and communicating by telegram and published booklets to current services, websites, and social media, the grassroots advocacy efforts that started the New Jersey Library Association 125 years ago are still what makes NJLA a vital part of New Jersey libraries today.

Sources:

1. Press release pertaining to Miss Beatrice Winsor, Librarian, Newark, Charter Member (1890) of the Association. 40th Anniversary File, NJLA Archives
2. Minutes of the New Jersey Library Association Organized December 29, 1890
3. *The Trenton Times*, Saturday, December 27, 1890
4. *The New Jersey Library Association: Members, Constitution, Bylaws, and Officers 1905*
5. "Public Libraries" Roger McDonough, *A History of New Jersey Libraries 1750-1996*, p. 1-25
6. "The New Jersey Library Association" Mary Joyce Doyle, *A History of New Jersey Libraries 1750-1996*, p. 217-233

Terrie McColl is the Director at the New Milford Public Library. She served as NJLA president 2014-2015. Her email address is mccoll@newmilford.bccls.org.



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PEOPLE & PLACES

Around the State

Honors, Awards, and Recognition



Pictured are (left to right): Freeholder Peter S. Palmer, SCLSNJ's Brian Morgan, SCLSNJ's Carolann DeMatos, SCLSNJ's Deanna Gray, SCLSNJ's Brian Auger (2015 Spirit of Somerset Award recipient), SCLSNJ's Lynn Hoffman, SCLSNJ's Keith McCoy, Freeholder Deputy Director Patricia L. Walsh, and Freeholder Director Mark Caliguire

In September, **Brian Auger**, County Library Administrator of the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey, was presented with the 2015 Spirit of Somerset Award in the category of Education by the Spirit of Somerset Awards Committee and the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Ronald Becker, Head of Special Collection and University Archives at Alexander Library, Rutgers University, was named the 2015 winner of the Roger McDonough Librarianship Award for his many contributions to the field of archives and history.

Ocean County Library's **Brick Branch** celebrated its 50th anniversary in August.

Five of our colleagues are running for ALA Council next year: **Brett Bonfield**, Director of Collingswood PL; **Jeremy Darrell Darrington**, Politics Librarian at Princeton University; **Mario Gonzales**, Director of Pasaic PL; **Jennifer Rushton Jamison**, School Media Specialist at Atlantic City High School; and **Louis Muñoz**, Reference and Outreach Librarian at Morristown & Morris Township PL.

Maria Crespo, Head of Circulation Services at Roselle PL, was recognized by the Libraries of Union

County Consortium as the 2015 Employee of the Year. Because of the strong advocacy efforts of **Joe DaRold**, retired Director of Plainfield PL, and **Dawn Jenkin**, Director of Clark PL, the Union County Freeholders made non-competitive grants available to all 20 Union County libraries.

Irvington PL celebrated its 100th anniversary in September.

Sharon Karmazin, former Director of East Brunswick PL, was inducted into the Rutgers University Hall of Distinguished Alumni and into the Douglass Society (the highest honor bestowed by the Associate Alumnae of Douglass College).

Libraries and Autism: We're Connected is sponsoring a new grant opportunity that honors the work of its co-founder **Meg Kolaya** for her contributions in promoting inclusion, connecting libraries and the autism community, and bringing awareness of the needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder and their families to the library community.

Rita Oakes, Chief Librarian at Ocean County Library, recently published a collection of short stories titled *Comrades-in-Arms* with Lethe Press. The stories are historical and/or supernatural fiction set during battles ranging from the Napoleonic era to World War II, most of which feature GLBT protagonists.

The **Ocean County Library** celebrated its 90th anniversary throughout the month of August.

West Caldwell PL celebrated its 100th anniversary in October.

Appointments and Elections

Christal Blue is the new Branch Manager of the North Plainfield Branch of the Somerset County Library System.

Jim Davidson was hired as the new Technology Coordinator at MAIN. He worked previously at Morristown & Morris Township PL.

Tina Marie Doody is the new Assistant Director of Plainfield PL.

Christine Forbes has joined the team at Raritan Valley Community College as Outreach Services Librarian.

The new director at Perth Amboy PL is **Eleni Glyksi**.

Laura Leonard is the new Director of Wyckoff PL.

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People & Places Around the State



Joanne Roukens

Margaret Mellett was hired to be the new Director of Wood-Ridge PL.

Kassundra Miller is the new Director of Hillside PL. She was previously Director of Wood-Ridge PL.

Jennifer Podolsky is the new Director of East Brunswick PL.

Laura Poll is the new Archivist at Trenton PL.

Mary Romance is the new Director of the Lee Memorial Library in Allendale.

As of October 15, 2015, **Joanne Roukens** is the Interim Executive Director of LibraryLinkNJ.

Usha Thampi-Lukose has joined the team at Washington PL (Warren County) as its new Director.

Judith Tolchin is the new Director of Monmouth County Library.

Christina Vortia was hired as Teen Librarian at East Orange PL.

Resignations and Retirements



April Judge

Ann DeRenzis, Director of Phillipsburg Free PL, will retire at the end of the year.

April Judge is retiring as Executive Director of Bernardsville PL. She served as NJLA President 2005-2006.

Kathy Schalk-Green retired from Mount Laurel Library on November 1, 2015.

Deaths

Margaret Freathy, retired Director of Pompton Lakes PL, died in September 2015.

Jayne Hess, retired Director of Phillipsburg PL, also died in September 2015.

Compiled by **Richetta Wilson Lobban**, Reference Librarian, East Orange Public Library

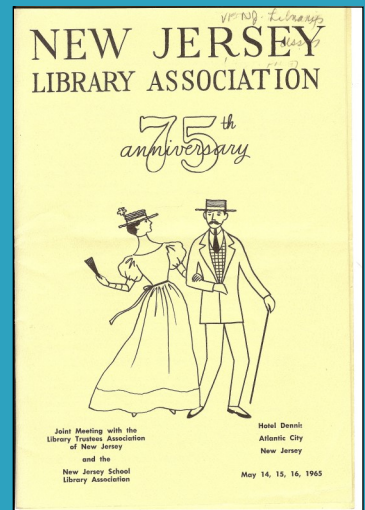
From the Archives

Jersey City Free Public Library

Check it Out

An NJLA 75th anniversary conference program (right) and newspaper article about NJLA's 50th anniversary (below).

Images courtesy of John Beekman, New Jersey Room, Jersey City Free PL.



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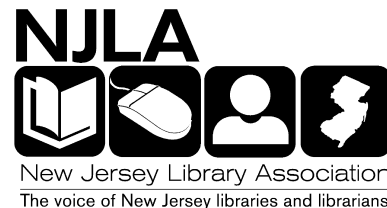
WRITE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Spring 2016 Safety and Security in Libraries

Safety and security are concerns for all librarians, now more than ever. Does your library have a security plan or staff training? Policies you've recently developed? Community partnerships you have fostered with local police or other groups? Have you attended any of the recent mental health or active shooter workshops and can share tips? We want to hear from you!

Submit your proposal by January 4th

Members:
To contribute, just email
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New Jersey Libraries NEWSletter is a publication of the
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