

# Southern Adirondack Library System Annual Meeting

May 17, 2010  
At the Christ the King Spiritual Life Center,  
Greenwich, New York

## Minutes

The 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southern Adirondack Library System was held on Monday, May 17, 2010 at the Christ the King Spiritual Life Center, Greenwich, New York, and brought to order at 7:15 p.m. with President Arnie Elman presiding.

Dr. Elman welcomed all those present and asked SALS Board members present to stand and be recognized as they were introduced:

Julia Helms, representing Hamilton County  
Judy Hoover, representing Washington County and Easton Library  
Bob Jeffords, representing Washington County  
Deborah Jones, representing Hamilton County  
Paul Mays, representing Washington County  
Joyce Smith, representing Warren County,

Dr. Elman represents Saratoga County and Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library.

SALS trustees not present were:

Cheryl Gold, representing Saratoga County and Saratoga Springs Public Library  
Jim Mosher, representing Saratoga County  
Dale Nemer, representing Warren County  
Sandi Payne, representing Warren County  
Jerry Pepper, representing Hamilton County

Dr. Elman announced that SALS 2009 Treasurer's Report, SALS 2009 Highlights, Facts and Figures, and a Continuing Education Workshops, Events, and Programs Calendar is available for the taking, as well as the Central Library Report. This information is on the table by your name tags, and will also be available on SALS website: [www.sals.edu](http://www.sals.edu).

Dr. Elman welcomed member library trustees, Directors, and staff. SALS staff present were asked to stand and be recognized:

Laura Baker, JA Applications Analyst  
Nancy Bowen, Secretary/Receptionist  
Sara Dallas, Director  
Jennifer Ferriss, Bibliographic Database Specialist

Mary Hanley, JA Automation Support Representative  
Michele Largeteau, JA Project Manager  
Jill Martz, Administration & Finance Manager  
Jill Ryder, General Services Librarian

And guests, John Romano, Mayor, Village of Ballston Spa.

Bob Jeffords, from the Library Services Committee, was asked to present the 2009 Library Program of the Year Awards. Mr. Jeffords briefly reviewed the winning programs and commended all entrants for their creativity and community involvement. The Library Services Committee chose:

**Crandall Public Library**---“*The Reduced Shakespeare Company*---*Even Further Reduced*” was a dramatic production by the Crandall Public Library teen group. The teens produced a highly creative fully staged production of a farce which summarized all of Shakespeare’s work. This project helped teens develop research skills, an in-depth knowledge of Shakespeare, team-building, professional theater skills, develop a greater sense of community involvement and an increased awareness of the new Teen Center and the library services available. New community partnerships were forged, the teen population in the community was cast in a more positive light, and relationships between library staff and teens were formed and improved.

**Galway Public Library**---“*Story Sculptures*” was a series of drawing, writing, and painting workshops inspired by local history. Youths under the age of 18 were encouraged to work together in a series of library workshops and public events to create 26 free-standing wood sculptures to answer “Who visits and drinks from the Galway Cast Iron Watering Trough?” Youths listened to local historians Tom Cwialka and Ray Davis discuss the trough’s history, illustrated their ideas, transferred their drawings to plywood, and painted their sculptures. At an “artists’ reception,” the youths were available to share their art and experiences, and enhanced the overall community pride. Local artist Benno Kollegger also assisted the youths in the project.

Joyce Smith, Chair of the Personnel Committee, was asked to present the 2009 Library Trustee of the Year Awards. Mrs. Smith spoke briefly of the accomplishments of the entrants and stated that the Personnel Committee chose to honor:

**Sandra Debus**---Round Lake Library

Sandra Debus was selected for her many accomplishments including the establishment of the Malta Branch in the expanded Malta Community Center. Throughout the year, she was part of a search committee for a new Director, managed renovations to the original library in Round Lake, negotiated an agreement between the Women’s Round Lake Improvement Society and the Malta Town Board for the operation of the branch, arranged storage of donated items, and helped move and process the opening day collection. She also maintained the day-to-day oversight of library operations in Round Lake until the new Director was hired in April 2009. Sandra instituted many new

programs at the library, formed work groups to clean and paint Clark House (Round Lake Library), and worked as part of the cleanup team.

**Michael Marchese**---Waterford Public Library

Michael Marchese was selected for demonstrating that no job is unworthy if it furthers the library's mission, and his efforts to get sustainable funding for the Waterford Public Library. Serving as a trustee for ten years, Michael helped hire a new Director, was the library's liaison to the Heritage Day Committee that developed an event that annually celebrates Waterford's history, helped negotiate a 60% increase in Town support for the library, secured a \$50,000 Capital Grant that enabled the library to do interior and exterior work on the building, and worked to create and pass library budgets each year. To many people, he is the "face" of the Waterford Public Library, and we would be hard pressed to find a better ambassador.

Mrs. Smith then presented Staff Awards to Jennifer Ferriss, Bibliographic Database Specialist, for 10 years of service, and to Jill Martz, Administration & Finance Manager, for her 25 years of service. Also receiving awards, but not present were: Sharon Shyne, Cataloging & Technical Services, 10 years; Josina Warnow, Cataloging & Technical Services, 10 years; and Susan DeBonis, Cataloging & Technical Services, 10 years of service.

The Election of Trustees was announced. Mrs. Smith, Chair of the Trustee Nominating Committee, noted that there were vacancies in Hamilton (2), Saratoga, Warren, and Washington Counties. An April 26<sup>th</sup> "Notice of Annual Business Meeting" informed every member library trustee of the Trustee Nominating Committee's choice of candidates. The Trustee Nominating Committee offers the names of the following candidates, who have agreed to serve if elected, and whose terms will expire May, 2015:

- Hamilton County:
  - Deborah M. Jones for a five-year term
  - Karen McComb for a five-year term
- Saratoga County: Jim Mosher for a second five-year term
- Warren County: John Plantier for a five-year term
- Washington County: Judy Hoover for a second five-year term

Brief biographical information about these nominees was provided in the April 26<sup>th</sup> notice.

Mrs. Smith asked if there were nominations from the floor. Hearing none, she instructed the secretary to cast one ballot each for the persons nominated by the Trustee Nominating Committee who are hereby elected by acclamation by the trustees of the member libraries of the Southern Adirondack Library System.

Dr. Elman thanked Mrs. Smith for her participation and presentations, and noted that Mrs. Smith had served on SALS Board for 11 years. In honor of her outstanding service, Dr. Elman presented the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Jeffords, that the trustees, membership, and staff of the Southern Adirondack Library System pause to recognize and applaud Mrs. Smith's

commitment, integrity, vision and hard work; and be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution of appreciation be presented to Joyce Smith along with our best wishes for a happy retirement. Motion carried. (Copy of Resolution attached to the Official Minutes)

Mrs. Dallas was introduced, and thanked the SALS staff and Board of Trustees for a successful year based upon the yearly evaluations. She reported that the future financial picture is unknown and asked everyone to continue to contact their local assembly and senate members to pass a budget. Please spread the word and tell the legislators how important system services are to each local library and the local community.

In 2006, the SALS Plan of Service for 2007—2011 was developed. The four major services are: Automation/Computer/Polaris, Delivery and Interlibrary Loan among the membership, Acquisitions, Cataloging and Processing, and Continuing Education/Consulting. SALS will be working with Sandra Nelson to develop the SALS Plan of Service for 2012—2016. This is more important than ever because of the dire financial picture.

SALS will need to amend Free Direct Access (90.3), and a committee has already begun the task. Free Direct Access means allowing access to your library's materials to people who reside in Hamilton, Warren, Washington, and Saratoga Counties.

She thanked all of the library trustees, staff and library advocates on their efforts to provide the best possible library services to the people who live in their communities. It has been a pleasure working with everyone this year.

Dr. Elman introduced Bob Warren and his ensemble who will perform a song/cycle about Susan B. Anthony entitled "Only the Message Mattered."

Everyone was thanked for coming, and reminded to return their name tags on the way out. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Bowen  
Recording Secretary