

YALS MEETING MINUTES
Rodgers Memorial Library
Thursday, August 27, 2009

IN ATTENDANCE: Kirsten Corbett (Hampton), Alex Estabrook, (Merrimac), Amy Friedman (Rodgers Memorial), Ann Hoey (State), Jenn Hosking (Nashua), Lisa Houde (Rye), Nancy Lang (Dunbarton), Kate Norton (Manchester City), Kristen Paradise (Rodgers Memorial), Carol Sanborn (Hampton Falls), Denise Schaaf (Goffstown), Joan Swerdloff (Derry), Sharon Taylor (Weeks), Kathy Watson (Kimball).

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, October 29 from 9:30am to noon. Hosted by Lisa Houde at Rye Public Library. (Awaiting verification.)

Membership in YALS was promoted after NHLA. Invitations were sent to all NH libraries. There are now sixty paid members and \$1,850 in the account. Think about what additional benefits can be added for members.

Discussions are in the works to combine the NHEMA and NHLA organizations. NHEMA is open to the idea, while NHLA has been very successful as a separate entity. Cons: as a joint venture there are only three centers that can host– Nashua, Manchester and Bretton Woods; school librarians meet in the afternoons – not conducive to public librarians. Please send along your comments, pro or con, to Jenn. Feedback is needed.

YALS elections will be held at the October meeting. Though the following members have agreed to positions, feel free to nominate your choice then. President: Lisa Houde (Rye), Vice President: Amy Friedman (Rodgers Memorial), Treasurer: Alex Estabrook (Merrimac), Secretary: Denise Schaaf (Goffstown).

Janet Angus, the Director of Merrimac Public Library, needs YALS representatives for the Spring Conference Program Committee. *Mark your calendars, the conference will be held in Attitash on Tuesday, May 11 and Wednesday, May 12, 2010.* Pending approval from their directors, Kate Norton (Manchester City) has stepped up again this year along with Kathy Watson (Kimball). Let's help them with programming ideas for the conference keeping in mind that guest speakers need to be cheap, or better yet, free! Amy Friedman has offered to speak about popular library programs at the conference. Lisa Houde (Rye) will handle Flume nominations, Amy Inglis (Barrington) will handle the Isinglass. Bobbi Slossar, the Technology Resource Librarian from the State Library, will be asked to speak. Bill Tatro from Laconia was also suggested as a speaker for getting-boys-to-read programs.

Feedback on the spring conference this year was split into both days. Day one didn't offer up a lot of excitement, however day two was wonderful. It was agreed that the "summer reading lady" was boring.

The statewide summer reading program is a go for next year! All libraries that signed up will receive three manuals and a dvd . There will be separate manual for childrens, teens,

and adults. The dvd will include downloadable clipart, forms, posters, etc. All manuals should be ready for Ann Hoey to bring to the Chilis Fall Conference. Manuals not picked up then will be brought to the NHLA conference or shipped on the van. All libraries should be in receipt of the materials by November. Here are the themes: Childrens – *Make a Splash @ Your Library*, Teens – *Make Waves @ Your Library*; Adults – *Water Your Mind*.

Upcoming conferences:

- NELA Sunday, October 18 through Tuesday, October 20
- READS Friday, October 23 in Nashua
“No Money, No Problem. Marketing Your Library on a Shoestring”
- NHLA Thursday, November 5
Fall business meeting, no location as yet
- CHILIS Thursday, October 15 at the Fireside Inn in Lebanon
Anita Silvey, speaker

Pending contract signing, the State Library will be closed an additional six days a year. Rye has closed on Mondays but expanded hours on other days. As of January, Goffstown will close on Monday evenings.

Aside from Derry and Merrimac, who didn't have any youth programming this summer due to a change in staff and Goffstown, who had poor program numbers due to a theater camp, most libraries had successful summer programs. Atkinson, as well as Greenland, noticed an increase in reading. Atkinson had great success with a card scavenger game which Kathy promised to send us the name of. Hudson had a program with a 15-year old magician that produced a record turnout. Exeter, Dunbarton, Manchester City and Nashua all had a great summer! Rye had sixty-four children attend the lego program! Hampton was successful with board games, especially Boggle. Due to demand, Hampton Falls has a read aloud program for grades 5 and 6, *Tween Time Reading*, which is a big hit! Performers/Speakers mentioned were Wayne from Maine (expensive), Merritt Bennett, Ian Jones, and Martha Dana (fabulous).

We all seem to share the “no-show” problem with patrons not attending programs that they have registered for. Dunbarton charges for some programs; Hampton Falls charges a nominal fee for programs with expensive materials (beading); and, after two no-shows, Atkinson puts those patrons on a wait list when they sign up for another program.

Respectfully Submitted,
Denise E. Schaaf
Library Asst., Youth Services
The Goffstown Public Library