

**NEEMA Board Minutes**  
**Saturday, September 29, 2007**  
**Face-to-Face Meeting • Londonderry, NH**  
Final 11-07

**Present:**

Susan Ballard, Chris Barlow, Teri Caouette, Gerri Fegan, Carol Gordon, Nancy Grant, Marilyn Joyce, Irene Kwidzinski, Harriet LaPointe, Kathy Lowe, Doug Maitland, Carolyn Markuson, Sarah Morenon, Sylvia Norton, Katrina Palazzolo, Ann Perham, Jenifer Smolnik

**Absent:**

Charlie White, Susan Eblen, Merlyn Miller, Alexis Baker, Sandy Kelly, Janet Roche, Jacquelyn Lamoureux, Diane Beaman, Jean Fournier

**Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Jen Smolnik at 10:12 a.m.

**Secretary's Report:**

Motion to approve the minutes from 5-5-07 (Doug/Carolyn). Passed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Balance \$21,202.47 as of today.  
No outstanding issues from Leadership.

**State Reports:**

**Connecticut-CASL** reported by Chris Barlow, CASL rep to NEEMA

The most pressing issue for CASL (CEEMA) right now is a leadership crisis. Last year, it was voted on by the Board to add the position of VP-elect to the Board. The person in this role would serve for one year under the VP, then become VP then President.

This way the person taking that role would not have the responsibilities of VP and then president immediately, but have the time to learn the role for a year while working under the VP. This position was to take effect with this school year.

To date we have not had anyone who is interested in this position. As a result, there is no line of succession after David Bilmes, CASL's current VP, becomes president next year. David has already indicated he has concerns about taking over the president's position without someone to take over for him after a year.

In addition, several long-time Board members have also said they will be leaving the Board after our joint conference with CECA on October 23.

Our first joint conference with CECA, Connecticut's statewide computer educators' organization, will be held on Tuesday, October 23 at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford. This will be the first New England regional conference for computer using educators.

The conference is titled: Preparing Students for the Conceptual Age: A Regional Conference For 21st Century Learners. Keynote speakers will be Forensic Scientist Dr. Henry Lee and author and educator Will Richardson. Also presentations by Kathy Schrock, Robin

Brenner, webmaster of No Flying No Tights Graphic Novel web site, and Gary Price, librarian and the Director of Online Information Resources at Ask.com.

There will be a pre-conference the day before on October 22. This will be targeted especially to administrators, teachers and Information Technology professionals.

**CASL would also like feedback on what does NEEMA think about professional development by state organizations (see below).**

In the past, CASL (CEEMA) had put on two or three workshops during the year, usually in the spring. But Janet Roche (CASL President) is thinking that our fall conference and NEEMA Conference in the spring should be sufficient instead of the spring workshops (and especially considering we don't have a VP Intern who would be assisting the VP, whose responsibility it is to put on these workshops).

**Response to CASL's question above:**

Who else would do professional development specifically aimed at Library Media Specialists if our organizations didn't? Carol stated that CISSL is struggling with the research-to-practice part of their mission. Ross and Carol have contracted through Scholastic (Evan St. Lifer) to help with this. Scholastic has paid Carol and Ross to develop PowerPoints and Scholastic will disseminate them. People would be paid and trained to be professional developers with these materials with the pilot group on the East Coast. The next step is video. CISSL recently did a live professional development program with NJASL on reading – but they can't do that for everyone. This is where the PowerPoints and video come in. Keep this in mind and look for the talent within your organizations who might be good professional developers who could be trained to use the PowerPoints.

**Massachusetts-MSLA** submitted by Sandy Kelly, MSLA President

Members of MSLA were very busy throughout the spring and summer legislatively, preparing to promote their House Bill 564, now before the Education Committee. H564 asks to clarify for school districts the ability to designate Chapter 70 funds toward school library certified staffing and resources by inserting the words "school libraries" into the Ed Reform Ch70 law in Massachusetts. A group including myself, Donna Guerin, Past President, Maureen Ambrosino representing the Central Region Library System and a parent gave testimony before the committee at the MA State House that was favorably received. The Committee also had received over 100 additional pieces of testimony as a result of our listserv requests to contact legislators. We continue to request our members and others contact representatives as we try to get this important piece of legislation through the Committee (It is important to note that MSLA is not asking for money for school libraries, but is instead asking to clarify language so that libraries are listed in the law so that administrators realize that school libraries are something you should fund).

This past June at least 8 members attended the ALA conference in DC. We were present on Capitol Hill when Senator Jack Reed announced the Strengthening Kids' Interest in Learning and Libraries Act. The SKILLS Act reauthorizes and strengthens the Improving Literacy through School Libraries program of the No Child Left Behind Act. This legislation will help ensure that more schools have highly qualified librarians and the resources they need to help students harness new technologies to find information. In addition it asks that a school librarian be present in all schools by the year 2010. After the press conference we visited our Senators' offices to ask their support. MSLA also continues to request members contact their reps in support of the SKILLS Act.

MSLA has approved a formal Joint Statement with MassCUE, the Massachusetts Computer Using Educators, called *School Library and Technology Services for Schools in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts*. This documents the similarities and differences in our vision and goals and delineates the roles we play in our schools. It will be formally released at our annual conference in November. **(Kathy will send out a copy of the statement even though it has not been officially unveiled).**

Kathy Lowe and I visited with aides in the office of Dr. Dana Mohler-Faria, our Governor's new Special Advisor on Education, to offer our assistance with the Governor's transition teams working to implement the new initiatives of the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills. On Sept 25<sup>th</sup> Kathy and I returned to participate with P21's Charles Fadel to help review and identify the

particular P21 skills that Massachusetts will integrate into curricula and Frameworks. We were disappointed to learn we were not included in the Governor's Readiness Project but continue to try to remain visible. We are also hoping to have representation on the new committee being formed that will revise the state's English Language Arts Frameworks. (Note: AASL pays money to be a partner in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills).

All are encouraged to come to our annual conference, School Libraries in a 2.0 World, to be held at the Sturbridge Host Hotel on Sunday and Monday November 11-12. This promises to be an exciting conference with speakers including Charles Fadel of Cisco Systems and the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, Meredith Farkus, author of the Information Wants to Be Free blog, Allison Zmuda who was a very motivating speaker at the AASL conference in Providence last year, Brian Kenney, editor of School Library Journal, and Sarah Kelly Johns, [to talk about new standards that will just have been unveiled in Reno](#), President of AASL. Chris Harris will be our Monday keynote speaker. Complete program information is on the MSLA web site at [www.maschoolibraries.org](http://www.maschoolibraries.org). MSLA offers a complimentary conference registration to the presidents of each of the New England states, the NEEMA president, and the Region 1 director. Please contact Kathy Lowe if you plan to attend

## **New Hampshire-NHEMA** submitted by Alexis Baker, NHEMA rep to NEEMA

NHEMA has considered web conferencing software to enable board members who are not able to travel to the meetings to still participate. Members endorsed the web-conferencing software idea. There are several positions, such as vice president, that have not been filled. There is ongoing search for individuals to fill open positions.

Dot Grazier is the new liaison specialist to the NH Council of Teacher's of English and other similar organizations dedicated to literacy and reading. This is a new position. It was suggested that in this role Dot might investigate joint workshops, conferences, and or speakers. Liaison positions come under ad hoc committees.

New Hampshire has been focusing on their spring conference as the school librarians and public librarians have decided to part ways. The 2008 New Hampshire Educational Media Association conference will be held May 13-14 at the Radisson in Nashua –off Route 3-Exit 1- formerly the Sheraton Tara. The theme of this year's conference is Collaborate for Literacy @ Your Library. While the theme has been chosen, the specifics are still being worked out. We are still looking for authors to be our luncheon speaker. There are two we are considering and in discussion with. These names will be released upon agreement.

Since this year our conference has a collaboration theme, LMS's are encouraged to attend with reading specialists and teachers in an attempt to make the conference more meaningful and effective on all levels.

The NH conference does fall on the same days this year as the Vermont conference, an unfortunate coincidence, and we hope this does not cause vendor conflicts or other problems. We will attempt to collaborate with the Vermont Conference Committee to make sure both conferences go as smoothly and positively as possible.

NHEMA members have been contacted via legislative alerts sent via email and personally early last week about the SKILLS act. Members were encouraged to use the electronic tools to communicate with their federal legislators and to submit directly to ALA in Washington, DC. We do not know yet how many members responded, however, we hope participation was sizable enough to be helpful.

## **Vermont-VSLA** submitted by Merlyn Miller, VSLA rep to NEEMA

- With Vermont officially changing its name from VEMA to VSLA last May, we have a new website at <http://VSLA.info> and we are currently running a Logo contest.
- VSLA's president for 2007-2008 is Jean Fournier, Librarian at St. Johnsbury Academy in St. Johnsbury, Vermont and she has set three goals for the VSLA board this year:
  - 1) To keep an active liaison with the Dept of Ed and the Dept of Libraries for addressing professional development and licensing procedures for school librarians

- 2) Expansion of creative use of technology including asking for more offerings of technology programming at the state conference level
  - 3) Self promotion of VSLA to increase membership and involvement
- The VSLA Fall Conference is Thursday, October 18 in St. Johnsbury, VT at St. Johnsbury Academy from 9:30am – 3:45pm. The conference theme is “**The Power of Story in a Technological Age**” and Laura Simms (storyteller, writer, activist) is the keynote speaker. Complete conference information and registration can be found at <http://VSLA.info>.
  - This is the third year for the Green Mountain Book Award sponsored by VSLA, VLA and the Vermont DOL. The GMBA is a reader's choice award for students in grades 9-12 designed to introduce to high school students some excellent books for their pleasure reading. The master list for 2007-2008 includes:
    - Akbar - *Come Back to Afghanistan*
    - Almond - *Candyfreak*
    - Dessen - *The Truth about Forever*
    - Foer - *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*
    - Gaiman - *Anansi Boys*
    - Green - *Looking for Alaska*
    - Oppel - *Airborn*
    - Otsuka - *When the Emperor was Divine*
    - Rosoff - *How I Live Now*
    - Simmons - *Finding Lubchenko*
    - Vaughan - *Runaways*, vol. 1
    - Walls - *Glass Castle*
    - Whitcomb - *A Certain Slant of Light*
    - Yang - *American Born Chinese*
    - Zusak - *I am the Messenger*

## **Rhode Island-RIEMA** reported by Sarah Morenon, RIEMA rep to NEEMA

The Annual Dinner will be held on October 4 and will feature presentation of the Linda Aldrich Leadership Award and entertainment by local storyteller Marc Joel Levitt. The Annual Conference is scheduled for Monday, April 28, 2008 and we are looking forward to hosting Sara Kelly Johns, AASL President, at the conference.

Professional Development offerings start Saturday, September 29, with a podcasting workshop with Clint Kennedy. Clint presented at our 2007 conference and many members wanted a more hands-on follow-up session. Workshops on our new Statewide Curriculum and its implications for library media specialists are being planned. OLIS (Office of Library and Information Services – a state of RI dept) presents many PD options also.

Because of the work of the Karla Henry Commission on Libraries and librarians, throughout the state bills presented in both Houses to allow for the **funding of statewide databases** through OLIS were amended (RIGL 29-6-9) so that funding would be provided through state and federal funding. Resource-sharing was defined as was the Library of Rhode Island Network (LORI). While a successful trial was held in the spring no funding was attached to the bill this year.

## **Maine-MASL** reported by Nancy Grant, MASL rep to NEEMA

1. In place of a Fall conference, we are holding a MASL workshop, Nov 10, 2007 at Hermon High School from 8-4. The theme is “Collaborating to meet standards: Teacher/Librarian partnerships K-12. The workshop features Toni Buzzeo, MA, MLIS, Maine writer and SLMS.

2. Maine DOE produced the pamphlet entitled “Universal literacy elements for deeper and more powerful content learning”. The document was edited by MASL librarians and includes the phrase “Coordinate efforts with school library media specialists.” Here is link to the document online: <http://www.literacyforme.org/LitResources.html>

3. Regionalization progressing – schools have turned in who they want to partner with, DOE is processing requests. We are working to maintain SLMS in new regions.
4. Maine has 3 NBPT certified SLMS, with two more going for National Board Certification this year.
5. Maine's High School Teachers all get MacBooks, including SLMS. MASL is talking about workshops in multiple locations for the High School SLMS focused on the MLTI project.
6. Maine has become an official P21 state, but movement is slow.
7. The front page of Portland Press Herald features an article on banned books that includes quotes from Library Media Specialists, Nancy Grant and Teri Caouette.  
<http://pressherald.maintoday.com/story.php?id=137116>

**AASL** reported by Marilyn Joyce, AASL Director and submitted by Irene Kwidzinski, (outgoing) AASL Director

1. Marilyn reported that our concerns sailed through Affiliate Assembly this year.
2. There is a Task force on Reading who will create a toolkit of reading strategies for Library Media Specialists.
3. Our advocacy concern might be attached to a Task Force. One of the plans is to get professional groups to come up with other statements about libraries, like PTA.
4. New England is taking a major role in AASL – Irene is the new Chair of AASL Affiliate Assembly, Sylvia is AASL representative to ALA Council, and Susan Ballard is the Chair of the Task Force on the Standards and Guidelines Implementation. Carolyn stated that school library media specialists are underrepresented on ALA Council despite the strides that have been made. Because of this, watch for Nancy Zimmerman's name at ALA elections. Target school librarians on ALA elections.

Carolyn commented that we should continue to insist that AASL count NEEMA (the only regional affiliate nationwide) in the rotation of AASL officer visits. NEEMA Leadership never gets visited by an AASL officer.

---

The AASL board began its first meeting on Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, with a four-hour strategic planning workshop to explore how the organization can enhance its value to prospective members in order to significantly increase membership.

There were several issues to discuss. For instance, almost 70% of AASL members are 45-64 years old, 46.8% of the pre-Vision Summit respondents were non-members of AASL, and more than 50% of the AASL e-Academy participants were also non-members. There was even a discussion on LM\_Net on the value of ALA/AASL membership. These were definite challenges.

The board came up with many questions and ideas. How can we address that “elusive member value?” How can we provide valuable information that anticipates our members’ needs? Each of us has more demands on our time. How can AASL be recognized as the authority in our field when the Internet is increasingly becoming the preferred source of information? Some of the possibilities discussed were short-term volunteering; member-only portal; direct communication at the time of need; constant, consistent gathering of data; legislation; webinars and podcasts; and a website that is easier to navigate. But if we build it, will they come? More discussion on these strategies is needed and the new Board will act on this issue.

## AASL Long-Range Goals

AASL's long-range goal continues to be making the profession viable in the future. All of their efforts fall under three main categories: advocacy, professionalism and alliances.

The goal of **advocacy** is being accomplished by the following:

1. This winter AASL conducted the first of its annual surveys to collect longitudinal data on school library media programs. The purpose of the survey is to collect relevant national data on hours, staff, collections, technology, usage and expenditures that members can use in advocacy messages. Nearly 5,000 survey responses were received. Initial baseline results will be presented at the national conference in Reno.
2. Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) and Thad Cochran (R-MS) held a press conference on June 26<sup>th</sup> to introduce the Strengthening Kids' Interest in Learning and Libraries (SKILLS) Act. Check out the details at [http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslissues/SKILLS\\_Act.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslissues/SKILLS_Act.cfm) and ask your legislators to support it.
3. ALA highlights school library funding problems nationwide at <http://www.ala.org/ala/news/libraryfunding/schoollibraryfunding.htm> . Perhaps you have a story to add.

The goal of **professionalism** is being addressed in several ways:

1. The official launch of the learning standards will occur at the national conference in Reno. Check out the second draft of the learning standards to get a good idea of what to expect [http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslproftools/learningstandards/AASL\\_Learning-Standards-DRAFT2.pdf](http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslproftools/learningstandards/AASL_Learning-Standards-DRAFT2.pdf) .
2. The 2008 fall forum will focus on assessment of the new learning standards. There is also a recommendation to offer the institute twice in one year in different locations to accommodate more attendees.
3. The Association has restructured committees in order to make AASL a more efficient, productive professional organization that welcomes member involvement. Check out committee and task force descriptions, responsibilities and an online volunteer form at <http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aboutaasl/aaslgovernance/aaslcommittees/committees.cfm> . ***Congratulations go to Susan Ballard who will be the chair of the Standards and Guidelines Implementation Task Force.***
4. The Board will assess the AASL blog established by Alice Yucht and volunteers. They want to create an official guiding document for its continuing development and evaluation. Participate in the blog by going to <http://blogs.ala.org/aasl.php> . It's a great way to keep in touch and discuss issues.
5. The 2007-2008 Emerging Leader Program enables new librarians to get on the fast track to ALA and professional leadership. Check it out at [http://wikis.ala.org/emergingleaders/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://wikis.ala.org/emergingleaders/index.php/Main_Page) .

The goal of **alliances** is being addressed by the following:

1. Co-sponsoring an ALA '08 program with REFORMA and the Children's and Young Adult Services Committee on "The Bilingual Mind: How Children Acquire and Use Language."
2. A joint project between AASL and YALSA "Gurus & Greenhorns: Mentoring the Next Generation of School and Youth Services Librarians." Contact Jennifer Habley [jhabley@ala.org](mailto:jhabley@ala.org) for more information.
3. Continued participation in the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup>C Skills <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/index.php> . A concept paper on strengthening 21<sup>st</sup> century skills-and K-12 results-with technology will come out in the fall.
4. A collaborative project with the International Reading Association and others "Making Every Moment Count: Maximizing Quality Instructional Time." Check it out at [http://www.reading.org/downloads/resources/MEMC\\_070620.pdf](http://www.reading.org/downloads/resources/MEMC_070620.pdf) .

### **AASL in Reno**

Will I see you in Reno October 25-28<sup>th</sup>? The 13<sup>th</sup> national conference "The Future Begins @your library" will have lots of programs, tours, exhibitors and networking possibilities just for school librarians. Check it out at <http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/reno2007.cfm>.

### **For Your 2007 – 2008 Calendar**

January 11-16, 2008 Midwinter Meeting, Philadelphia, PA  
(Info online starting Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>)  
June 26- July 2, 2008 ALA Annual Conference, Anaheim, CA  
(Affiliate assembly Fri., 6/27 and Sunday 6/29)

### **In Conclusion**

This is my last report as your director. Marilyn Joyce (ME) will be your new director and Ann Perham (MA) will be your new director-elect to the AASL board. Along with your state delegates to the Affiliate Assembly, they will be your voice at the national level.

It has been a privilege to represent this region on the AASL board. I have had a wonderful learning experience. Thank you for the opportunity.

I will continue my involvement at the national level. I was voted Chair-Elect of the Affiliate Assembly on June 24<sup>th</sup>. So, I'll be at the Affiliate Assembly for the next 2 years and will welcome any suggestions on how to make that experience the best it can be. I want to thank the Region 1 delegates for their support and encouragement, especially Janet Roche who enthusiastically gathered the necessary signatures for the nomination petition.

I'll see you in Reno for AASL, at the CECA/CEMA joint conference in Hartford on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, in Philadelphia for mid-winter in January and the NEEMA conference in March.

***Remember student achievement is the bottom line.***

***Our "profession is about working with teachers to serve and teach students in order to prepare students for the future." (AASL blog 07/08/07 The Disposable Librarian)***

## **AECT** report submitted by Charlie White

I will be attending AECT conference (Oct 23-26), and although there are not any New England Presentations scheduled for Anaheim (no surprise based on budget restrictions), I would say that any of you who are AECT members can review any and all of the meetings sessions on the web site (Anaheim personal planner page). All school media and research sessions are linked to the presenter url and there are over 700 sessions. In addition the International Student Media Festival will have an additional 700 awards recognized ([www.ismf.net](http://www.ismf.net)) with Apple and Disney workshop presenters in the Thursday program.

AECT also has Board action related to Second Life and the university participants in the AECT programs related to teacher education.

On a separate item, the China and Tibet Education Forum trip which I hosted through the Beijing Ministry of Education was great. We were joined by the deans of the normal universities throughout China and we had continuing discussions from our meetings in Dallas last October and look forward to their delegation in Anaheim. I look forward to another opportunity next August to return during the 2008 Olympics. [www.ieea-usa.org](http://www.ieea-usa.org)

# Old Business:

## NEEMA Credit Card

This has to link back to our checking account. So we have to do this from our checking account and we will need a signature. Doug is going to look into it. And Susan and Merlyn will put a signature on it – Doug too. Our checking account is at Sovereign Bank. There was some concern about the size of the bank that hosts our credit card and that it be a bank that is well-represented throughout New England. Susan has a comparison sheet with business credit cards that she gave to Doug. A credit card would be useful for Leadership and Web Hosting.

## Membership report submitted by Merlyn Miller, Membership Chair

Memberships just lapsed August 31, 2007. As we begin the new school year, we are off to a good start and currently have 28 members who have already renewed their memberships.

Please remind members to renew.

- 11 members from MA
- 10 members from VT
- 3 members from NH
- 2 members from CT
- 1 member from ME
- 1 member from RI

I updated the membership form to include a birthday cake and the words “Celebrating our 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2008!” Doug sent me a copy from “NESLA – A History of the New England School Library Association” to verify our birthday. The article states “On May 18, 1918, at Simmons College, the first formal meeting of the New England Library Association was held.”

The new membership form is on our web page as well as the current list of members (last name, first initial).

### Questions/Discussion:

- What is the best way to get membership info and forms to the CT & MA upcoming conferences? **(Katrina will print out membership forms and bring them & MA will try to put copies of the form in Conference binders).**
- Can we get the links to our affiliates working off from the NEEMA site?
- May I spend the money to do a membership reminder mailing to all 2006-2007 members? **Yes – no motion is required. Members felt that a physical mailing, in addition to an email reminder and a listserv reminder, should be done at the end of the summer to remind members to renew. In addition, another idea is to send a renewal to honorary members to see if they’d like to make a donation. In addition, when we finally figure out PayPal or another online payment solution, like Google Checkout <http://bizsolutions.google.com/services/index.html>**
- **If there is someone at the board meeting from RI, the NEEMA link on their association’s webpage is an old one that no longer works ([www.angelfire.com/ne/neema](http://www.angelfire.com/ne/neema))**
- **CT’s webpage is under construction but hopefully there will be a NEEMA link when it is completed.**
- I could not locate a NEEMA link on Maine’s webpage but perhaps I just missed it?
- I e-mailed NH’s web contact, Diane Beaman, and attached an updated NEEMA membership form for their webpage.
- Once we have an updated NEEMA board list, I will contact the state association presidents with a reminder about joint memberships. **Okay**
- May we include a membership form or link info in the first NEEMA Views issue? **Sure, Susan Ballard will be putting out a Fall Views.**
- Please let me know if there are other things you would like me to do to help increase membership. **(See notes above).**

FOSL No report

## **New Business:**

### **Leadership '08**

Keynote is Dr. Henry Jenkins. A contract has been sent. Leadership is April 4, 2008. In terms of a donation for his speaking fee, we are donating \$1000. We don't have an abstract of his speaking topic yet, but we will. **We should forward his speaking information as soon as possible – and we should be right up front with the conference capacity (200 people) and spell out that the conference is “first come first served.”** We will also make sure that we use both sides of the Moakley.

**We can also order Jenkins' books and sell them** at the conference and have him sign, and as long as we co-sponsor with a 501c3 (MSLA) then we can take checks. We have also called Anthony's Pier IV. Anthony's will likely be open. But **Susan would also like to tell Anthony's how many we expect for dinner** – Carolyn anticipated 50 because of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary. **Susan will call the Seaport for a block of rooms.** Carol said that they will tell us how many rooms we got last year so we can figure out how many rooms to reserve at the Seaport.

Are we going to do exhibitors? **Carolyn said that the exhibitors loved it because there were so few exhibitors.** Pam has moved from Scholastic to Weekly Reader. **Also invite SLJ to send a writer. We could ask the governor of Mass and special education advisor. Also invite AASL president. And invite John Clayton (NH) to do an article.**

As you know, Londonderry's Superintendent, Nathan S. Greenburg, to be SLJ Administrator of the Year (in addition to AASL Superintendent/Program of the Year) and he will be on the cover of next month's SLJ. The school district gets \$5000 for the award. **Also open an invitation to Londonderry's Superintendent to Leadership.**

### **Hall of Fame**

The Committee of Doug, Harriet, Audrey Friend, Rolf Eriksson, and Carolyn met over the summer.

---

#### **Here is their TO DO list:**

1. Using the Archives, a list of past presidents for the last 90 years will be compiled (1918 to the present).
2. Nomination form and information about the Hall of Fame Award will be written and distributed to the NEEMA Board as well as each state board.
3. Nomination form and information sheet will be sent to NEEMA VIEWS and every state newsletter editor.
4. The recipients of Hall of Fame Award will be recognized at the Annual Conference to be held on April 4, 2008 at the John J. Moakley Courthouse in Boston, MA.
5. A special dinner will be held at Anthony's Pier IV Restaurant.
6. An invitation will be sent to the current AASL President.
7. A donation to the Room To Read Foundation will be made in the amount of “to be determined” in recognition of the recipients of the Hall of Fame Award.
8. The committee will meet in January/February 2008 to review the nominations and select the recipients of the HF Award.
9. A program brochure including the names of the past-presidents and the recipients of the Hall of Fame Award will be designed and distributed at the Annual Conference.
10. A Birthday Cake will be purchased for celebrating NEEMA's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. **(Ask Sebastian's to make the cake).**

11. Brodart and other vendors will be contacted to underwrite the cost of the Award. (The Brodart rep's name is Bill Decker).
- 

**Draft of the New England Educational Media Association Hall of Fame Award Application**

This year the NEW England Educational Media Association turns 90 years old. At the March 2007 Annual Meeting, a motion was made to create a Hall of Fame Award to recognize the many members of NEEMA—library practitioners, supervisors, officers, committee chairs and members, vendors and administrators – who have through their hard work given so much of their time and their heart to the library profession through their membership in NEEMA.

This award will recognize those living and deceased who have contributed to the library media profession over the last 90 years as a member of NEEMA. We are asking the Boards of each state, as well as NEEMA to make this Hall of Fame Award an agenda item. Take out your old NEEMA VIEWS and review the names of members from your state who made a contribution to NEEMA. Nominations made by individuals or submitted by a State Board.

All nominations need to be submitted to Harriet LaPointe, P.O. Box 287, Bristol, RI 02809 by January \_\_\_\_\_ 2008. The Hall of Fame Awards will be given out at the Annual Meeting on April 4, 2008. During the dinner at Anthony's Pier IV, recipients of the award will gather to share a special birthday cake and to be recognized by NEEMA.

*Criteria: A member of NEEMA who has made a significant contribution to NEEMA on either the state, regional, or national level.*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Living \_\_\_\_\_ Deceased State Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEEMA:

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make copies of this form and nominate as many people as are deserving of this award. One nomination per page.

---

**Put article in SLJ and AASL regarding our 90<sup>th</sup> birthday (get a press release out).**

Originally, NEEMA was New England School Library Association (NESLA). Harriet has the archives. **Talk of inviting recipients at the dinner for a reduced rate** – that is where the Brodart money would go to. The cost of this award would be the donation, the brochure, the dinner – again, we'd use the vendor money to offset the cost of the dinner. The dinner would be free to the recipients of the award. Ask Sebastian's to make a cake – a symbolic cake. This award is reserved for school library leaders in New England. Evidently, the word NEEMA in Swahili means "well-being, support, and generosity."

## **AASL Re-affiliation**

Jen found something that said we should check to re-affiliate in early 2007. And we have to have a minimum of 20 members in common with AASL to do this. However, nothing has been received in the mail. Marilyn said that she checked in the summer that we are “on the list” as being up-to-date with our affiliation. We need to send to AASL a new list of officers. **Have Ann do this because she is Director-Elect. This has to be sent to Jen Hadley.**

## **Turning over of Gavel**

Jenifer turned over the gavel to NEEMA President, Susan Ballard. Susan Ballard thanked Jenifer for her energy and fortitude during her tenure as NEEMA President. Susan presented Jenifer with a “small” signed piece of southwestern Pueblo art-storyteller that speaks of NEEMA and school librarians as dreamkeepers and storytellers.

## **NEEMA is “young” 90!**

**Suggestion that we should get the “good word out” and Susan would like to form an ad hoc committee spearheaded by Carolyn Markuson, since she has the archives.** The archives are spotty since roughly 1982, so Carolyn’s winter project will be filling in the archives. **Carolyn urged members to not send anything to her yet, but she will figure out what we are missing then we should deposit them at Simmons College.**

**And then Carol suggested that once we collect everything that we generate an electronic archive on the web site. Carol said that she would help with the scanning.**

## **NEEMA Views**

**Susan will get a VIEWS issue out prior to Reno**, but she said that she has a “shrewd and cunning plan.” She showed us a blog-like site from a Londonderry schoolboard member that is in beta – a participatory newspaper. The “shrewd and cunning” part is that it includes ads – revenue. So we’d go to an online product that can be put into an RSS feed when there is a “call to arms”

**Susan proposes that we transition to that in this year because it will help the states as a model.** The state reports would go here. There would be sections.

It was agreed that there would still be a need for an occasional paper issue. **Susan will come up with a publication plan for this site.**

**Idea: Have state newsletter editors get together to talk about how they publish their newsletters.**

## **Web Page Placement Advocacy**

**Carol will spearhead this adhoc Committee to help school libraries become strategic about their web page. Katrina and Sarah will also be on this committee.** This committee will create suggestions for school library web pages to help library media specialists to strategically create web pages that will be found and used! Does your web page pass muster?

Carol says that the trend for our web pages should be knowledge construction centered. How do we convey this in our web pages?

## **21<sup>st</sup> Century Partnership**

Janet Roche has asked that NEEMA try to help all New England States join as partners in P21 – Maine, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. NEEMA should promote awareness of the movement even though it is a political issue/rather than an education issue.

**How should we position ourselves in P21? Jen and Kathy and Sylvia will be an ad hoc committee who will look at this question.**

## **Name change**

Carolyn checked about available domains – sometime back in May. We did not appoint anyone to make the Constitutional change. Susan Ballard asked Irene to stay on the Board as Constitution Chair until a suitable replacement can be found.

## **News**

Sylvia gave us a SKILLS Act Update. Is still ongoing. It is a changing entity. It is critical that we still get the word out. We need to get the parents to contact. Senator Gray (NH) is concerned that it is too burdensome for schools to have a state-certified LMS in each school. The best way is to **pick up the phone and call your senators because they ignore snail mail and email.** In some cases the State Commissioner does not have the power to mandate. We are looking for the federal level to include school libraries. Information is on AASL web site. This issue is not pro or against NCLB. This is a turning point. The goal is to get school library name in the federal documents. Sylvia says this is most turning point we'd ever been at. It is you and your parents and administrator – your representatives. **Look to your representatives on the education committee. Contact them!**

Kozol is on a hunger strike have NCLB to be revoked and be amended.

## **Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn at 1:20 (Kathy/Carolyn).

## **Proposed Meeting Dates**

(Dates might change?????)

- Saturday, November 17, 2007 ..... Virtual Meeting @ 9:00 a.m.
  - Everyone dials the number below at 9:00 – and you'll be connected through Foonz 712-432-5555
- Saturday, February 9, 2008..... Virtual meeting @ 9:00 a.m.
  - Everyone dials the number below at 9:00 – and you'll be connected through Foonz 712-432-5555
- Leadership Conference will be April 4, 2008
- Saturday, May 10, 2008..... Face-to-Face in Londonderry@10 a.m.

## **State Conferences/Events:**

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| • Connecticut   | Oct. 23, 2007 (Joint with CECA) Hartford, CT |
| • Maine         | November 10, 2007 Hermon, ME                 |
| • Mass.         | November 11 & 12, 2007 Sturbridge, MA        |
| • New Hampshire | May 13 & 14, 2008 Nashua, NH                 |
| • Rhode Island  | April 28, 2008 Warwick, RI                   |
| • Vermont       | October 18, 2007 St. Johnsbury, VT           |
| • AASL          | October 24-28, 2007 Reno, NV                 |
| • AECT          | Oct. 23-27, 2007 Anaheim, CA                 |
| • ALA           | January 11-16, 2008 Philadelphia, PA         |
| • NELA          | October 14-16, 2007 Sturbridge, MA           |

Respectfully submitted,

Katrina Palazzolo

