

### NHSLMA Stimulates Literacy, May 20 & 21 Keynote Speakers

#### Pam Berger

Pam Berger, an educational technology/library consultant and trainer with more than 20 years of library experience, is Publisher and Editor of *Information Searcher* and author of *Internet for Active Learners*.



She has conducted workshops and seminars and presented in more than 35 states in addition to many countries. Her recent work includes national school and public library development initiatives and university research.

Pam was highly received at NHSLMA's summer institute, *Literacy in the Sun*, and will continue her conversations around what literacy means in the 21st century.

[www.infosearcher.com](http://www.infosearcher.com)

#### Chris Demarest

Chris Demarest is an author and illustrator of more than 100 titles. Recently, he has focused on documenting people in unusual professions.

For a year, he flew with the USCG to research his book *MAYDAY! MAYDAY! A Coast Guard Rescue*. He spent last year flying with DHART, the medical evacuation team out of Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, NH.

His most recent work is a picture/adult book: *ARLINGTON: A History of Our Nation's Cemetery*, scheduled to be published in Fall 2010 by Roaring Brook Press.

[chrisedemarest.blogspot.com](http://chrisedemarest.blogspot.com)



#### Roland Smith

Roland Smith is the author of 25 books. Some of his award-winning titles are: *Zach's Lie*, *Cryptid Hunters*, *Jaguar*, *Sea Otter Rescue* and *The Captain's Dog*. *Elephant Run* was honored with a 2009 ALA Best Books for Young Adults.



Roland is a former research biologist and species coordinator for the endangered red wolf that has been successfully released back into the wild. He was also instrumental in the release of the gray wolf into Yellowstone National Park.

*Independence Hall*, Book One of his new IQ series already has a loyal following awaiting more adventures. *Tentacles*, the sequel to *Cryptid Hunters*, is now available.

[www.rolandsmith.com](http://www.rolandsmith.com)

#### Kathy Mallat

Kathy Mallat is the author and illustrator of several children's picture books including award winners like *Brave Bear* and *Just Ducky*. Kathy says that even as a child she was always compelled to create.



Although she has lived most of her life in Maine, Kathy grew up in Sunapee, New Hampshire and, following a long line of educators in her family, became an art teacher. Although she enjoys spending long, quiet hours in her home studio in Lebanon, Maine, Kathy continues to teach on a part-time basis and enjoys visiting schools to talk to children about her creative process.

[www.kathymallat.com](http://www.kathymallat.com)



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# President's Message



Kathy Lane  
NHSLMA 2009-2010  
Board President

## NHSLMA Governing Board

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Sara Zoë Patterson  
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Dee Whall  
Kristin Whitworth

Welcome 2010! I am very excited to be your president, and find this school year already filled with its share of successes and challenges. Our new Standards for the 21st Century Learner are the gold standard and something for us all to aspire to. We are working hard as an organization to create and sponsor workshops across the state that will explain the new standards and help to make transitions less painful.

NHSLMA is also championing Intellectual Freedom by advising and supporting practitioners who are facing book challenges. Our Intellectual Freedom Chair, Pam Harland, is a wonderful resource, having faced a challenge herself. Pam is Library Media Specialist at Plymouth Regional High School,

and is also our "Ed"ie Award recipient for this year.

The economy has been a particularly severe challenge, wreaking havoc with library budgets. NHSLMA will be working to let districts and administrators know the essential role Library Media Specialists play in each and every school.

Our NHSLMA listserv has been very active and a vital avenue of communication for all of us. I encourage you to join NHSLMA if you are not a member and join our list serv.

Our annual May Conference, *NHSLMA Stimulates Literacy*, is shaping up beautifully. There is information on the NHSLMA web site and throughout this newsletter.

We are in the process of having a new logo created for our

organization so for the time being our web site is still found at [www.nhema.net](http://www.nhema.net). There are also Conference Highlights from our 2009 conference on the web site, so check it out. If you attended you might see yourself there.

Diane Beaman was our delegate to the AASL Conference in Charlotte and her report to the board was brimming with information. In closing, our roles are changing rapidly. The decision made at Cushing Academy in Massachusetts, whether you agree or disagree, is a subject that is worthy of much discussion. Let's keep our minds and lines of communication open in this time of great challenge and opportunity.

## Intellectual Freedom Update

By Pam Harland  
Plymouth Regional High School  
Plymouth, New Hampshire

Has your library had a book challenged? NHSLMA would like to help you in any way we can. We can help you by offering advice, finding professional reviews of challenged materials, writing letters on your behalf, and simply being there when someone is challenging



the First Amendment rights of your users. The first step, however, is to notify us.

If a parent or administrator asks you to remove any material from your library contact someone on the NHSLMA Board.

Before a book is challenged, we can all do two things to protect our materials:

1. Review the process and forms for challenging materials at your school and library.
2. Review your collection development policy.

If you do not have a current collection development policy or official process for challenging materials in place or if you have questions about it, you can contact Pam Harland, Intellectual Freedom Chair. I will share with you the policy and forms that we have used to success-

fully protect our users from book banners.

Contact information: Pam Harland, Librarian at Plymouth Regional High School Library, [pharland@prhs.sau48.org](mailto:pharland@prhs.sau48.org) or 603-536-1444 x2001.

Your membership in NHSLMA entitles you to a discounted membership rate in NESLA, our regional sister organization. Learn more about NESLA and their annual Leadership conference at [neschoolibraries.org](http://neschoolibraries.org).

# NHSLMA Annual Conference

## "NHSLMA Stimulates Literacy"

### May 20 & 21, 2010

### Conference Registration:

(Please print or type)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School/Library: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL: Register a colleague as your guest at NHSLMA member cost. Please include payment and information for your guest with your registration.**

Name of Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Position: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE: Guest must not be a media specialist or library assistant.**

**Sorry No purchase orders will be accepted.**

Please return this form and your check payable to NHSLMA to:  
 Elsie Domingo, 5 Birch Drive, Dover, NH 03820

**By May 1, 2010**

\$155 2-Day NHSLMA Member	\$180 2-Day Non-member Registration
\$85 NHSLMA Member Thursday	\$100 Non-member Registration Thursday
\$85 NHSLMA Member Friday	\$100 Non-member Registration Friday

\$155 2-Day Guest Fee
\$85 Thursday Guest Fee
\$85 Friday Guest Fee

\_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL REGISTRATION**

*Registration includes continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshment breaks.*

*Please describe any special needs, including dietary requirements.*

**NOTE:** If you need confirmation or a receipt, please enclose a **self-addressed stamped envelope** with your registration.

#### **Membership Renewal Information:**

NHSLMA membership Renewals can be made with a separate check made payable to NHSLMA and mailed with this registration. To obtain a form, visit <http://www.nhema.net>.

#### **Registration Deadline is May 1, 2010**

If you have any questions about registration contact Elsie Domingo: [elsie03820@yahoo.com](mailto:elsie03820@yahoo.com)

**This form is for registration only.**

**Room reservations must be made directly with the Radisson.**

### **Lodging**

Radisson Hotel, Nashua, NH

**Room Rates: single/double \$99** plus 9% tax

Reservations may be made by calling the hotel at 1-603-888-9970 and specifying that you are with the ***NH School Library Media Association Conference***. Please indicate any special needs, roommate name(s) and bed type preference. Please note that requests are not guaranteed and are based on hotel availability.

**Registration Deadline is April 25, 2010**

Rate and availability cannot be guaranteed after that date.

# New Hampshire School Library Media Association Membership Application

(Membership year runs from January through December)

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Home Address

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Work Address

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Grades (if school) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Fax No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Send NHSLMA mail to my \_\_\_\_\_ home \_\_\_\_\_ work. \_\_\_\_\_ do not include my name on mailing lists shared with other organizations.

### Type of Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ Professionals \_\_\_\_\_ \$20/one year \_\_\_\_\_ \$35/two years

\_\_\_\_\_ Others \_\_\_\_\_ \$7.50/one year \_\_\_\_\_ \$12/two years

\_\_\_\_\_ New to NH Professional ranks: free first year membership

Make checks payable to NHSLMA and send with form to: Elsie Domingo, NHSLMA, 5 Birch Drive, Dover, NH, 03820

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in volunteering for NHSLMA. Please contact me.

Check the mailing label of this newsletter for your membership status!

## Do you belong to NHSLMA?

Professionals: \$20 for one year or \$35 for two years.

Others: \$7.50 for one year or \$12 for two years.

## It's Official: We Are School Librarians!

by Sharon Silva (James Mastricola Upper Elementary School, Merrimack) and Nancy Keane (Rundlett Middle School, Concord)

Nancy Keane, our New Hampshire affiliate representative to the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), attended the January assembly meeting at the American Library Association's (ALA) Mid-Winter Conference in Boston. Nancy reports that the AASL executive board debated and reflected on what our image should be. After looking at the pros and cons of the different labels given to our profession, AASL has adopted *School Librarian* as the name of choice. The overarching strategic goal of AASL is to achieve universal recognition of school librarians as indispensable educational leaders. AASL will work to advance and promote the new term and will open dialog concerning stakeholders' needs, wants and preferences, the current realities and evolving dynamics of the professional environment; the capacity and strategic position of the association, and the ethical implications relevant to this decision.

Here in New Hampshire we too are aligned to this "brand" as we recently changed our organizational name from NHEMA (New Hampshire Educational Media Association) to NHSLMA (New Hampshire School Library Media Association). Since there was a need to connect to the certifications in place at the New Hampshire Department of Education (that of Library Media Specialist and Media Supervisor) the word "media" was kept in our organizational name. Currently, the Board is working on updating our webpage design, developing a new logo and seeking new ways to advance our image as "indispensable educational leaders."

### Spring Fever Networking -- Permabound

Books will be sponsoring two dinner/networking sessions in April...on the 7<sup>th</sup> in Merrimack and in Plymouth on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Look for more information to be posted on the listserv and at nhema.net!

LET'S TALK!

## RevUP Learning—Highlights from the 14th AASL National Conference

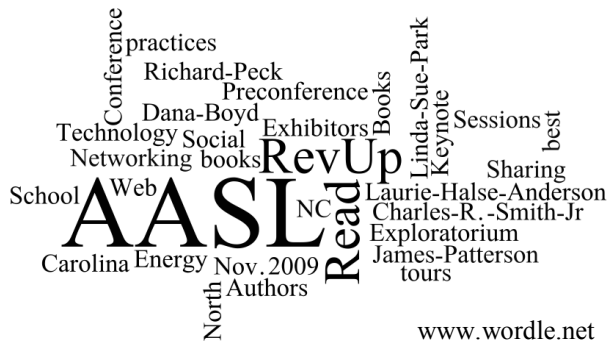
by Diane Beaman  
Moultonborough Academy  
Moultonborough, NH

An early highlight of The AASL 14<sup>th</sup> National Conference and Exhibition – RevUP Learning – was the Exploratorium where more than 75 LMS shared best practices in a science fair–like venue.

One group had gotten a grant to write a school-wide research guide. Another session demonstrated using sticky notes to show students how wikis are constructed. Two LMS explained how they had arranged fiction books by topic or genre rather than traditional author arrangement.

The conference officially opened with keynote speaker, Dana Boyd, an internationally recognized authority on online social networking sites. She gave fresh new perspectives on how American youth are interacting online.

The five author presentations generated a dynamic atmosphere, one that is always present when authors connect with librarians. Laurie Halse-Anderson, who ingeniously expresses the thoughts of teenagers in her historical and contemporary novels,



offered some insight into her own formative years and into her current convictions.

James Patterson spoke about his efforts to write for boys and engage them in reading. I purchased several of his YA books, read one on the plane on the way home, and put them all on display in our library. They have, indeed, been popular with boys.

Charles R. Smith, Jr., a photographer, sports writer, and poet, gave his entire presentation in poetic form using gestures to add expression to his ideas.

Linda Sue Park gave a rich presentation, describing her work as the vegetable part of the meal, in that kids often have to be urged by an adult to pick up one of her books. Once they make the connection, they become strong fans. She made me a fan.

The concurrent sessions addressed a number of hot topics, including using library statistics, online citation makers, Google Earth, web 2.0, and our standards. Unfortunately, the virtual aspect of the conference was lessened by the weak wireless access in the convention center.

RevUP Learning was certainly filled with learning, featuring so much to consider and absorb.



NH L4L at AASL Conference, Charlotte, NC  
L4L and the new *Standards for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learner* will be a major topic at our spring conference...and at our 2010 Summer Institute...(details forthcoming...)

## Creepy Cute

*Creepy Cute Crochet: Zombies, Ninjas, Robots, and More!*

by Christen Haden

One of the most commented upon elements of our December graduation was the crocheted creature peeking from the pocket of a student escort's suit.



The pattern for this, Cthulhu, an H.P. Lovecraft character, came from the book *Creepy Cute Crochet: Zombies, Ninjas, Robots, and More!* by Christen Haden. Other patterns



Cthulhu. Photo by Helen

include Nosferatu, Medusa, and a really adorable Trojan warrior.

Last winter's craze was knitting. This winter our students are crocheting.

*Creepy Cute Crochet* has given them the skills to create their own creatures - many are now moving away from established patterns and going free-style.



Freestyle penguin and photo by Marisol

Reviewed by  
Kristin Whitworth  
Shortridge Academy  
Milton, NH

## In Defense of Cushing

by Ray Palin  
Sunapee Middle High School  
Sunapee, NH

USA Today's recent story about Cushing Academy's radically new library, "School chooses Kindle; are libraries for the history 'books'?", got me thinking about my own little library transformation. I'm happy I did it. Believing in a busy library and a broad vision of services, it was an easy decision.

I began dismantling my school's library in July 2008. In my opinion, the library looked like a warehouse, with lots of shelves, little room, less comfort, and no defined learning spaces. It was basically "a box of books," I had told the committee that interviewed me a couple months earlier. And if a complete library program were to be developed, the box would have to be replaced.

I was fortunate to get the support of my school board when I proposed a complete room redesign. Several shelving units were removed, a few were replaced, reference and browsing sections were created in the middle of the room, and new furniture allowed for the creation of defined spaces (e.g. presentation area, large-group and small-group work areas, a space for reading).

The most controversial addition to the room was a large, flat-screen TV mounted on the wall. "You weeded books for this?", more than one parent asked. I responded by saying that I had weeded because de-selection is part of good library management. But, in truth,

the summer-time weeding project did open up space—space which allowed for the floor space redesign and the beginning of a new library program.

With old and under-used (and never-used) volumes removed from the room, I do recognize that some books have perhaps been missed. Yet, I know that a lot more has been gained.

In new learning spaces within the library, collaboration among students happens all day long, large-group instruction in information skills happens regularly, and at the same time reading and individual work takes place in adjacent spaces. With the addition of eBooks to the reference collection, book sources are now retrievable seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Kindles? We have two.

The transformation of my small library doesn't compare, of course, to that of Cushing Academy. It nonetheless is similar, I think, because it's the result of believing that libraries are meant to connect people with information and that information takes many forms.

While there are now fewer *books* in my library, I argue that there's now more *information*. As students search print or electronic sources, discuss an event seen

on a TV news program, use a library laptop to jointly build a multimedia project, or show one another an interesting magazine article, information is being rapidly gathered and widely shared. In other words, within the library there has developed a dynamic information exchange.

My commitment to this type of library leads me to this judg-



SMHS Library before transformation: Dark, dreary, empty.

ment about Cushing: On a ten scale (\$12,000 coffee machine aside), where zero is total disagreement and ten is full agreement, I say the Academy's bold library transformation is a seven. If you believe what students and staff said about the old place, then unless you're trying to build a warehouse, the change must be viewed positively.

Although I would argue for a more balanced blend of print and digital sources, I'd choose the new busy library over the old quiet warehouse any day. Are some old books being missed? Most likely. Is accessing and taking notes on information sources sometimes now more challenging? No doubt. But is the library merely a box? No way.

*If you're interested in discussing the Learning Commons approach to school libraries, be sure to attend NHSLMA Stimulates Literacy, the NHSLMA Spring 2010 Conference.*

Looking for professional connections... a place to share, learn and discover what your colleagues are doing?

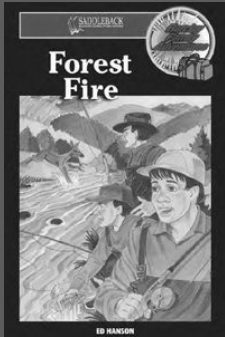
Visit [NHEMA.net](http://NHEMA.net) for instructions on joining the NHSLMA Listserv.



SMHS Library after transformation: vibrant and alive.

# Looking for a Good Read? Check out these Emerging Authors!

## Ed Hanson



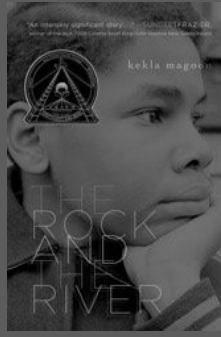
The Barclay Family Adventures number 20 books, all written by Ed Hanson. Each story is high adventure with a good vocabulary and length for reluctant 4th-6th grade readers.

In the story, *Forest Fire*, Paul (the Dad) takes Jim and Aaron (his two sons) on a camping trip. They receive advice from a local man about bears in the area as they approach their camping site. Little do they know that they will meet a bear as well as being almost trapped by a forest fire.

Another adventure, *Disaster in Oceania*, sees the whole family off to Vanuatu, and while on the island of Tanna, they realize that history is about to repeat itself. My students and I found it intriguing to look up these places and the history of volcanic eruptions on Tanna.

*Reviewed by Linda Sherouse  
North Hampton School  
North Hampton, NH*

## Kekla Magoon



No doubt about it...adolescence can be confusing. But throw into the mix Chicago at the height of the Civil Rights movement, and coming of age becomes *really* tough.

Kekla Magoon's award-winning first novel tells the tale of 13-year-old Sam Childs, son of a pacifist civil rights leader and brother to a member of the Black Panthers.

Sam is caught between the rock and the river: will he rage like a river in flood, or will he be the solid, still rock, always wondering what is beyond the bend in the river? Or, can he be both?

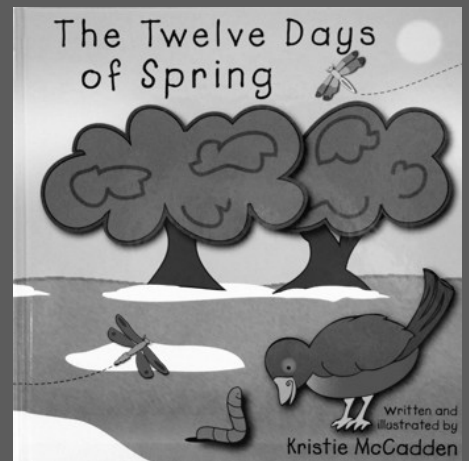
This January, *The Rock and the River* won the *Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent Author Award*. How exciting for Kekla to have won such a prestigious award for her debut novel and how exciting for NHSLMA to have her as part of our spring conference!

*Reviewed by Sharon Silva  
JMUES  
Merrimack, NH*

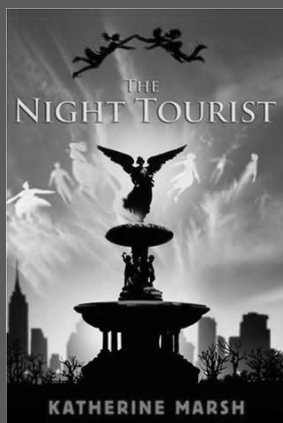
## Kristie McCadden

Kristie McCadden, of Hampton, NH, is the author of *The Twelve Days of Spring*. When Kristie became tired of hearing her daughter sing "The Twelve Days of Christmas" well past the holiday, she decided to write this book. Children love the brightly colored illustrations and the repetitive verses that motivate them to recite the story. There will one day be a "Twelve Days" for each season and every child to enjoy!

*Reviewed by Linda Sherouse  
North Hampton School  
North Hampton, NH*



## Katherine Marsh



Jack Perdu, a ninth-grade Classics prodigy, lives with his widowed father on the Yale Campus.

Jack is a solitary soul who usually has his nose buried in a book. This

leads to an accident which changes his life forever. Following his return home from the hospital, Jack awakens one evening and hears a noise in his Dad's study, a room away. He calls out to his Dad, thinking he has returned earlier than expected, but when he enters the study, he finds the window open and a stranger reclining on the leather couch.

The stranger leaps to his feet, dropping the paper he was examining, and jumps out the open window. Jack rushes to the window, but no one is visible below.

After shutting the cold air out, Jack discovers the paper that the stranger had

been holding. It is a strange, faded map of Manhattan, and in the corner of the map, under the date, 1865, is his mother's name, Anastasia.

The map leads Jack to Grand Central Terminal where he meets Euri, a girl who offers to show him the terminal's hidden places. Eight levels below the station, Jack stumbles upon New York's ghostly underworld. Will this open up an opportunity for Jack to see his mother again? Who is Euri?

*Reviewed by Linda Sherouse  
North Hampton School  
North Hampton, NH*

**There's more! All four of these emerging authors will be presenting at the NHSLMA Spring Conference, NH Stimulates Literacy. Register today!**



New Hampshire  
 School Library Media Association  
 PO Box 418  
 Concord, NH 03302-0418  
[www.nhema.net](http://www.nhema.net)

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## NHSLMA 2010 Conference: NHSLMA Stimulates Literacy



**Thursday, May 20 &  
 Friday, May 21, 2010**  
 Radisson Hotel • Nashua, NH  
*See inside for registration details.*

**Want the full details? Visit**  
[www.nhema.net/conf2010/conference.htm](http://www.nhema.net/conf2010/conference.htm)

www.wordle.net

**New this year:  
 illustrator  
 artwork raffle!**

### Keynote Speakers:

**Pam Berger:** Literacy, Learning, and Libraries:  
 Connecting the Digital Dots

**Chris Demarest:** Life in the Artistic Trenches

**Roland Smith:** Writing Wild/Wild Writer

**& Kathy Mallat:** Coming About

*Turn to page 1 to learn more!*