**NJLA History and Preservation Section**

**General Meeting**

**April 24, 2025**

**Hybrid – Zoom and Newark Public Library**

**Present in Person:** Juber Ayala,John Beekman, John Beekman, Beth Zak-Cohen, Tom Ankner, Kim Adams, Yesenia Lopez, Katy White (NJLA)

**Present on Zoom:** Jackie Oshman, Fred Pachman, Gary Saretzky, Katrina Zwaaf, Rujul Majmundar, Robert Schriek, Kathlyn Kelly, Bernadette Patino, Danny Klein

Meeting Opened 10:10am

Minutes from January General Meeting: Motion to Approve by Gary S., Second by Katrina. All in favor

**President’s Report**: Juber Ayala

* The Special Collections Cataloging webinar is available on the NJLA Youtube page.
* Some H&P members were able to tour the Middlesex County Archives facility.
* The next meeting will be held during the NJLA Conference in May, but we have not been scheduled for a room or day yet.
* 2025-2026 Executive Board
	+ President: Jacqueline Silver-Morillo
	+ Vice-President: Juber Ayala
	+ Secretary: Jacquelyn Oshman
	+ Members at Large: Gary Saretzky, Vanessa Castaldo, John Beekman, Tom Ankner. Sarah Hull has stepped down from the board.

**Vice President’s Report**: Jacqueline Silver-Morillo (read by Juber)

* The NJLA Conference will be May 28-May 30th at Harrah’s Atlantic City. The theme is Breaking Barriers.
* The Section submitted 4 workshop proposals for the NJLA Conference.
	+ Copyrights – Katrina Zwaaf
	+ Local History Accessibility at Somerset County – Teresa Bayles
	+ Zine Zone with the Young Adult section as co-sponsors – Laura Poll
		- And Let’s Talk Zines
	+ Creation of an Archival Research Club – Jacqueline Silver-Morillo
* Atlantic City Scavenger Hunt at the AC Public Library on Wednesday, May 28th

**NJLA Liaison** Katy White

* IMLS is currently in a state of flux due to DOGE, so funding for the State Library and programs is in peril.
* Contact your local Representatives to show support for Libraries and the two current lawsuits.
* NJLA Conference registration is now open. The tattoo artist will be back along with over 70 exhibitors. The Red Hawk Council will put on a performance on Thursday. The NJLA store will be open again, but will look different now – more local vendors will be selling items.
* The transition to the new website is complete and Memberclicks access will end on Monday, April 28th (you may get an email reminding you to use the new website). E-lists, discussion threads, and all section files can be found on the new site.
* NJLA committee consolidation is now complete and a new committee choice form can be found on the website.
* NJLA approved a contract with [Skilltype](https://www.skilltype.com/) Prefessional Development resource
* The Joseph M. Gasparro Scholarship will be given to two teen volunteers who have a desire to continue in Library Sciences.
* NARCAN statement has been updated and approved.

**Awards Committee**: John Beekman

* John started by mentioning that the State Library will also be having some history programs at NJLA
* The Swartzburg Award winner this year is E. Kim Adams

**Archives Committee**: Sarah Hull (not present)

**Newsletter Committee**: Kathlyn Kelly

* Thank you to everyone who has submitted to the Chronicle!
* The deadline to submit to the Chronicle for Mid-May release was Wednesday, April 23.
* The header has been changed to reflect the new NJLA logo.
* Email to kkelly@sclibnj.com

**Archives & History Committee:** Fred Pachman

* The committee has been active
* Hiring a Project Archivist for up to 1,000 hours
* Poster Session at NJLA titled “What lurks in the NJLA Archive”

**Library Updates:**

Bernadette Patino (Jersey City Free Public Library) – NJ Room will be having an exhibit for Nurse’s Week May 5 – May 10 with a reception on May 6th. This will also celebrate Jersey City Medical Center. On May 3rd, they will be hosting staff from Weird NJ to talk about some Weird topics from New Jersey.

Katrina Zwaaf (Somerset Co) – Recently processed employee newsletters from the Johns Manville Company. Also working on ephemera from North Plainfield.

### Gary Saretzky – Gary started by asking about the Somerset County Digitization Lab (Katrina answered that the lab is for cardholders only, but all library staff in NJ are eligible to get a card). Princeton Preservation Group has four zoom meetings yearly and cost to join is $5 per year. Their most recent topic was Costume and textiles from the Hopewell Museum. The next discussion is on the Wallace House in Somerville (July). They have one in person social yearly at Gary’s house. <http://saretzky.com> [www.princetonpreservation.org](http://www.princetonpreservation.org)

Fred Pachman (Monmouth Medical Center) – They will also be celebrating Nurse’s Week and Hospital Week with a presentation about the history of the Medical Center and a showing of old films shot in the hospital.

Kathlyn Kelly (Somerset Co) – Living History Day will be held May 17th at Manville Public Library. (<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/13377247>)

John Beekman (Jersey City Free Public Library) – Their Digitization grant through Internet Archive has been defunded (NEH)

Tom Ankner (Newark Public Library) – The New Jersey room hosted a book release party on Wednesday for a book detailing the history of the library. On May 15th, an exhibit opens on the 50 Anniversary of Newark landmarks (6pm-8pm). In late June, a presentation will be given celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the appointment of George Washington as head of troops in Newark.

E. Kim Adams (New Brunswick Free Public Library) – An intern has been preparing an exhibit for NJ 250 to debut in late September just before the Maxine Lurie book talk. Rutgers Day is this Saturday, April 26th. New Brunswick will be having a table at Middlesex County History Day at East Jersey Old Towne in Piscataway on Saturday, May 17th. She met with Adriana Cuervo (Head of Special Collections at Rutgers) about utilizing the Preservation Lab – it was agreed that H&P members can use it as long as someone cleans it up (in July a group will meet to clean it). She also offered a room to use for meetings.

Jessica Garasino (volunteer at Rahway Public Library – Follow her on Instagram at the Rahway Room.

Yesenia Lopez (Newark, HRIC) – welcomed their Archival Assistants

Katy White (NJSL) – Newark Public Library joined NJLA as an Enhanced Institutional Digital Member so all of their staff are NJLA members for free.

Juber Ayala (Newark, HRIC) – Construction is still not done in the HRIC. They will be hosting 5-6 new interns over the summer.

Motion to close by Katrina Z. Second by E. Kim Adams and Tom A.

Meeting Adjourned 10:55am.

In Person group members then had lunch provided by Newark Public Library and then took a tour of the building.