



Winter, 2003

Connections

SPICE up your Library Services!

www.sjrlc.org/spice



Introducing, **SPICE** (SJRLC's Premiere Initiative for Continuing Education), a broad offering of highly affordable workshops, trainings, classes and continuing education opportunities available to you and your staff.

What is SPICE?

Just as a spice brings zest to any meal, enhancing the flavor of each ingredient, **SPICE** will enhance the "flavor" and quality of your buffet of library services.

"Ultimately, **SPICE** is a way of responding to the changing continuing education needs of our libraries." said Peter Bromberg, Program

Cntd. next column

Development Coordinator for SJRLC. "The goal of **SPICE** is to offer training opportunities in a way that is responsive and flexible. There will be a wider range of classes and workshops, but also more options for how, when and where a class is taken. We've added distance learning, and a multimedia training library consisting of videos and self-paced CD-ROM tutorials."

SPICE is E-Learning!

Now you can enjoy the convenience of self-paced classes, taken at a time and place of your choosing, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. SJRLC is partnering with *Computer Insight Learning* to bring member libraries a wide variety of web-based classes.

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SJRLC Fall membership meeting wrap-up

Once again, SJRLC held its' annual fall membership meeting at the lovely Marriott Seaview in Absecon. There was a good turnout, as Duncan Smith, creator of *NoveList*, wowed the crowd with his presentation on "World Class Reader's Advisory". Pictures from the meeting and related Reader's Advisory resources are available at:

www.sjrlc.org/fallmeeting2002



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Selected Reader's Advisory Resources

Compiled by C. L. Quillen,
Mount Laurel Library

- **Overbooked:** www.overbooked.org
- **Genrefluent :** www.genrefluent.com
- **BookBrowser** www.bookbrowser.com
- **Book Lists and Bibliographies:** www.waterboro.lib.me.us/bklista.htm
- **"If you like" database:** www.hclib.org/pub/books/iyl
- **FictionDB:** www.fictiondb.com
- **Mystery Writers of America:** www.mysterywriters.org
- **Clueless:** www.clueless.com
- **Reading Group Guide:** www.readinggroupguides.com
- **Romance Writers of America:** www.rwanational.org
- **Romantic Times:** www.romantictimes.com
- **Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America:** www.sfwa.org
- **Western Writers of America:** www.westernwriters.org
- **Children's books in a series** www.monroe.lib.in.us/childrens/serieslist.html
- **Juvenile series and sequels:** www.mcpl.lib.mo.us/readers/series/juv

Want to subscribe to the new RA listserv!
It's easy. Simply, send a request to
bromberg@sjrlc.org



Focus on Fiction

New Reader's Advisory Listserv

SJRLC has set up a new listserv to facilitate the discussion and sharing of reader's advisory issues and ideas.

The new RA listserv is available to all SJRLC members. To subscribe, simply send a request to Peter Bromberg at bromberg@sjrlc.org.

"The creation of this new listserv was in response to the needs of the growing reader's advisory community in South Jersey libraries", said C.L. Quillen, Chair of the SJRLC Reader's Services Committee. "It was a natural outgrowth of the all the reader's services programming that we saw in South Jersey in 2002. It's great to have a forum where we can share and build off each others' ideas."

In 2002, SJRLC began a "Focus on Fiction" programming series that kicked off with "Reader's Advisory: The Complete Spectrum", which brought **Duncan Smith** and **Mary K. Chelton** together for a truly special workshop. In response to member libraries' requests for more RA training, SJRLC started offering "Reader's Advisory on the Web", a class developed and taught by our own local RA guru, **C.L. Quillen**, of Mount Laurel Library.

As interest in readers services continued to grow throughout the year, SJRLC invited librarians to join a new Reader's Services Committee. The Committee's focus is on consciousness-raising for libraries on the current trends in collection development, displays, merchandising, marketing and use of website in offering and promoting reader's services.

It was the Committee's recommendation to bring Duncan Smith back to town for our annual membership meeting. Duncan, the creator of "Novelist", the premier, online reader's advisory tool, gave an informative and moving presentation. His inspiring talk reinforced the importance of librarians and their role in helping readers find books that they meaningfully connect with.

Are you interested in reader's services? Take a look at SJRLC's collection of Reader's Advisory resources, including workshop handouts, useful websites, and relevant listservs, available at:

www.sjrlc.org/RA



Youth Services Update:

Statewide Summer Reading, "Read and Grow @ Your Library": Workshop approaching.

The NJ Statewide Summer Reading 2003 Workshop "Read and Grow @ your library", will be held at the Franklin Township Public Library in Franklinville on March 7th, 9-noon.

The program is sponsored by the New

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Current classes include a suite of the most popular Microsoft applications. Other software applications like DreamWeaver, as well as non-technology classes, will soon be offered.

SPICE is Multimedia!

Part of the SPICE initiative is the new Multimedia Training Library (MTL). This library offers member libraries access to a growing collection of high-quality videotapes and multimedia CD-ROM's. In addition to the popular "FISH" videos, the MTL has CD-ROM classes on software, such as PhotoShop and DreamWeaver, and customer service videos on a variety of topics, such as dealing with conflict, how to hire good people, and more.

SPICE is Responsive!

SPICE will continue the SJRLC tradition of "training to go" and offer customized on-site training on topics that are important to you. SJRLC will continue to schedule classes and workshops at convenient locations across South Jersey on a variety of subjects. Look for new classes in Legal Reference, Cataloging, Customer Service and more. If you have a training need, and would like us to arrange for a customized class at your location, let us know. We can work with you to schedule a workshop that meets your needs.

How do I get started with SPICE?

To learn more about how to take advantage of all that SPICE has to offer, please see:

www.sjrlc.org/spice



SPICE

Multimedia Training Library

SJRLC has developed a new Multimedia Training Library (MTL) that contains training videos and CD-ROMs on a variety of topics. A complete list of items available is at:

www.sjrlc.org/spice

If you would like to borrow an item from the MTL, please call the office at 856-346-1222.

Here is an example of one item in our new collection:

Title: "Dealing with Conflict and Confrontation: How to Keep your cool, stand your ground and reach a positive solution"

Format: 3 videos, leader's guide & workbook

Description: In this three-volume series, Dr. Helga Rhode, internationally respected figure in the areas of conflict, negotiation, assertiveness and communication, demonstrates how to make conflict a healthy part of an organization. Learn how conflict produces change, leads to unity and promotes compromise.

Volume 1: Causes Kinds and Effects of Conflict

(1hr. 13 min.): Conflict is inevitable. In this program, viewers can learn the two primary reasons conflict occurs, when conflict is good, the negative effects of conflict suppression, five classic conflict resolutions strategies, and how to use the "dual concern model" to resolve conflict successfully.

Volume 2: Conflict Resolution Strategies-Your Options

(59 min.): In this lesson, viewers can learn what to do when someone refuses to discuss the issue, the least productive way to deal with conflict, how to deal with contentious tactics, ways to break impasses, when to issue ultimatums and when to give in.

Volume 3: Problem Solving in Action

(1hr. 23 min.): Dr. Rhode presents communication skills for effective problem solving, body language rules, mediation and how to keep conflict from resurfacing.



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Jersey Library Association and the New Jersey State Library for public youth services librarians and all other interested individuals.

The workshop will discuss the many benefits of a statewide summer reading club, including the availability of a standard program plan manual, booklists, Internet resources, publicity samples and custom clipart.

Each library will receive one copy of the manual per building. The manuals for each library system will be given out at the workshop to the designated member of that system.

The manual will also be available online on April 1, 2003 at www.njsummerreading.org

The deadline for registration is February 14, 2003. Registration information and a listing of additional workshops dates are available at: www.sjrlc.org/summerreading2003.htm.

Notable News

Congratulations to **Joan Robbins**, Hammonton High School Media Specialist, who recently received a \$10,000 dollar grant from the Samuel A. Donio Foundation for Education.

The funds will be used to purchase history books for the Samuel A. Donio Memorial Library at the new Hammonton High School.

The Foundation was created in 1999 in honor of Samuel A. Donio, a prominent Hammonton resident, who had a strong commitment to law and education. Donio served as Solicitor for the Hammonton Board of Education for more than 26 years.

The Foundation seeks to continue Donio's educational advocacy by promoting educational projects. For more information, please contact the Foundation at 609-561-1237.



One Book New Jersey

One Book New Jersey (OBNJ) is an exciting program that libraries and our partners across the state will promote in the Spring of 2003. The goal is to bring people together through literature by encouraging residents across the state to read the same book and participate in discussions and other events centered on that book.

OBNJ events will occur all over the state during March and April of 2003, with major events planned for National Library Week, April 6 through 12. Promotional materials, statewide marketing and "how-to-do-it" resource guides will make participation easy for libraries and their partner organizations.

One Book New Jersey got off to an enthusiastic start on Tuesday, January 21, with a press conference at the Plainsboro Public Library in Plainsboro, New Jersey.

The book selected for adult readers in this inaugural year of OBNJ is **Fahrenheit 451** by Ray Bradbury. 2003 marks the fiftieth anniversary of its publication, and the book is still as fresh and intriguing as when it was first published.

The OBNJ also selected titles for younger readers. They are:

Among the Hidden Margaret Peterson Haddix. A wonderful book for young adult readers.

Regarding the Fountain: A Tale, in Letters, of Liars and Leaks by Kate Klise. This book is appropriate for elementary school age readers.

Tacky the Penguin by Helen Lester, a "read-to-me" selection, ideal for very young book lovers.

For more information, resource guides and downloadable logos, please see the OBNJ website at: www.onebooknewjersey.org



Connections is the newsletter of the South Jersey Regional Library Cooperative (SJRLC). SJRLC is a multi-type library membership organization including 560+ academic, institutional, public, school and special libraries in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem counties. SJRLC is part of the New Jersey Library Network. SJRLC services are funded from State tax funds appropriated for the New Jersey Library Network.