

# SENYLRC Matters

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## Invitation to Complete Survey on SENYLRC Services

The Planning Committee of the SENYLRC Board of Trustees invites all library staff in the region to complete a web-based survey about SENYLRC's programs and services.

The link to the survey is: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=72851225556> Access to the survey is also available through SENYLRC's website, <http://www.senylrc.org> (see the linking box in the middle of SENYLRC's homepage.) It should take approximately 20 minutes to complete. If you are unable to complete the survey in one session, you may exit and return later to the point at which you left off. The structure of the survey also allows the responder to skip certain questions if not applicable to his/her library setting.

To show our appreciation for your time and effort to complete the survey, upon completion you will be given the opportunity to register for a raffle for an **iPod Shuffle Digital Music Player**.

This survey, which will be open for 31 days during the month of October, is one of three components of a strategic planning assessment process established by the Board of Trustees. The other two assessment components include nine focus group sessions plus telephone interviews with selected library leaders in the region.

The results of this assessment process will be invaluable to the Board as it develops a new five year strategic plan for the Southeastern N. Y. Library Resources Council. The new strategic plan is scheduled to commence on July 1, 2006.

Denise Harlow, Director of Nonprofit Services, Council of Community Services of New York State, Inc., is assisting the Board and the Planning Committee through this strategic planning initiative. SENYLRC also wishes to acknowledge The Dyson Foundation for awarding SENYLRC a planning grant to facilitate this process through that Foundation's Management Assistance Program.

We hope through this survey, the focus group and the telephone interviews – to receive as much feedback as possible from library staff in all types of libraries and library systems.

Please share this invitation with all colleagues in your library and/or library system. We welcome feedback from librarians and support staff alike.

Thank you.

Barbara Durniak, President, SENYLRC Board of Trustees (Vassar College)

Jeff Katz, Board Member and Chair of the Planning Committee (Bard College)

John Shaloiko, Executive Director, SENYLRC

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## Blogging for Librarians Workshop

By Judy Fischetti

Would you like to learn to use an easy cost-effective PR tool to reach your patrons? Have you heard the term "blogging" or "RSS" and aren't sure what these terms mean? SENYLRC is sponsoring the workshop **Blogging for Librarians: Find and Read Blogs by Others! Create & Publish Your Own!** This introductory, hands-on workshop for librarians and library staff will explore the world of blogging:

- tracing the history and origins of blogging;
- identifying the main components of a blog;
- what content to include;
- how to find and create RSS feeds for aggregated news content;
- where to set up and publish on the web;
- and the pros and cons of creating a blog for your library.

The program will be held on Thursday, November 17, 2005 from 9:30 am – 12:00 pm at Southeastern. Kate Pitcher, Reference and Instruction Librarian in SUNY Geneseo's Milne Library, is the trainer.

Target audience: librarians, library assistants and support staff from all types of libraries.

Workshop fees:

\$30.00 for library staff from SENYLRC members

\$35.00 for library staff from members of member library systems

\$40.00 for library staff from libraries outside the Southeastern region

For additional information and online registration, go to <http://www.senylrc.org/ce/>.

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## Vassar College to Host Conference

Submitted By Barbara Durniak

The Eastern New York Chapter / Association for College and Research Libraries (ENY/ACRL) will hold their **Fall Conference 2005 -- Transitions: New Directions in Librarianship** on Friday, October 21, 2005 from 8:30 am to 3:20 pm at Vassar College. The conference will explore the evolving role of library professionals from many perspectives.

- Frank D'Andraia, Dean and Director of the University Libraries at the University at Albany, presents his view on the library and the librarian's role in the 21st century.
- Barbara Berger Eden and Bill Kara, from Cornell University, will discuss the evolving roles of preservation and technical services librarians.
- Tom Mackey, Assistant Professor in University at Albany's Department of Information Studies, will describe an innovative class for undergraduate and graduate information science students.
- Steve Cohen, creator of "Library Stuff", a weblog dedicated to library stuff, will explore blogging and RSS feeds as they pertain to library work.
- Poster Sessions detailing individual's experiences as evolving library workers.

To register, and for more information, go to [http://www.enyacrl.org/conf\\_Fall05.htm](http://www.enyacrl.org/conf_Fall05.htm).

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## Hudson River Valley Heritage

By Tessa Killian

Southeastern staff upgraded the Hudson River Valley Heritage site <http://www.hrvh.org/> to the new version of CONTENTdm on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. The upgraded version includes new functionality and choices for viewing images that are worth highlighting.

**Advanced Search:** The collections can be searched using ALL words, exact phrases or any words in a standard format that the users will recognize and select or deselect the collection that they want to search.

When viewing a record for a digital object, the thumbnail image can be viewed alongside the whole image; images can be zoomed, panned, cropped and rotated.

When viewing a **compound object** (a document with multiple pages or a postcard that can be viewed independently), there is a way to view the "**Page & Text**" that allows the user to view the next page of the document. This is a great feature for viewing the lengthier documents in the collections.

**Preferences** allows users to customize how they search HRVH as well as how they view the collections.

**My Favorites** is a way for users to save images that they searched into a collection where they can compare images side-by-side or create their own slide show.

HRVH also has a Help section for browsing, searching, and viewing the collections.

The institutions currently participating in HRVH and a few of the places that are prepared to participate in the near future attended CONTENTdm training on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

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## Advertise or Find Library Jobs through SENYLRC

By Jennifer Palmentiero

Do you need to advertise a job opening at your library? Are you looking for a library job in the region? SENYLRC can help! If you are looking for a library job, visit SENYLRC's website: <http://www.senylrc.org/members/employment>.

This Employment Opportunities page is one of the most visited pages on the SENYLRC website. If you need a job opening posted, send the announcement via email to Jen Palmentiero at <jennifer@senylrc.org>. An announcement is posted within 48 hours of arriving in Jen's inbox, and will remain on the list for up to a month. There are currently two management-level positions available at public libraries in our region. For more information on these job openings, click on the link above.

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## IRS Increases Business Mileage Rate until December 31, 2005

By Pam Wolven

The Internal Revenue Service and Treasury Department announced September 9, 2005 that due to the recent gas price increases, the business mileage rate will increase from 40.5 cents per mile to 48.5 cents per mile from September 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005

## Larry Berk Retires from SUNY-Ulster

By Patricia Carroll-Mathes

Larry Berk, Director of Library and Information Services at Ulster County Community College, and two-term member of the SENYLRC Board of Directors, 1993-2003, will retire at the end of September. SUNY-Ulster President Don Katt, Board of Trustees, faculty and staff gathered in the Mountain View Study Room of the Macdonald DeWitt Library to honor Larry's leadership and his many contributions to the college and to the community during his 13 year tenure. Returning to the Hudson Valley from a stint as Library Director at Florida Keys Community College, Larry had previously served as Director at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy where he had received a SUNY Chancellor's Award for Professional Services.

A poet himself, as well as a poetry reviewer for *Choice*, Larry established a renowned Poetry Forum, since 1994 bringing internationally known figures such as Robert Bly, Sharon Olds, Donald Hall, Galway Kinnell, Maxine Kunin, Robert Creeley, Carolyn Forché, Billy Collins and many others to SUNY Ulster for student and community events. He was instrumental in creating the Artist-in-Residence Program, an ongoing program which has brought an established local artist to the campus for an entire semester since 1999. The chosen artist teaches a credit course in their field, and presents a series of events, open to the public, during the semester. The Artist-in-Residence Program, a related Visiting Artist program, and a Library Writers Series, offer students and community members a chance to work with, and learn from, active artists from many different disciplines.

Last spring Larry was recognized as the first recipient of the newly created Krembs Family Innovation Award. He was also recognized for his extraordinary work in creating several series of cultural, intellectual and artistic programs that are unique among New York State's community colleges. These have included the Artist-in-Residence Series, Library Writers Series, the annual Poetry Forum and a Visiting Artists Series. These programs have attracted appreciative audiences to the college and forged lasting relationships between the college and the regional artists' community. Throughout the development of these programs, Larry worked closely with college faculty, ensuring that these programs would

contribute to the development of new degree programs in the fine and performing arts.

From his arrival at UCCC in 1992, Larry championed strategic planning, library teaching, information literacy, and credit bearing instruction. The information literacy program at SUNY Ulster was recognized with an Innovation In Instruction Award by the Instruction Section of the ACRL in 1996 for the development of the Collaborative Information Literacy Project. Under his active leadership, the library developed an online version of its one credit course offered through the SUNY Learning Network, and was also selected to create a SUNY wide web tutorial. The information literacy program has been featured in a number of academic and library publications as well as LOEX and SUNY conferences and is distinguished for its initial and ongoing involvement of faculty members from academic departments as well as librarians as teaching partners in the required general education course.

Larry who brought automation to the library upon his arrival at Ulster, also served as Director of Information Services with responsibility for college-wide networking and services. While on the SENYLRC Board of Trustees, 1993-2003, Larry served a two-year term as President, was an important contributor to the SENYLRC 5 Year Plan, and continued during his 10 year tenure, to be a strong advocate for academic libraries.

Larry leaves a vital legacy in the ongoing programs which this fall will feature three renowned artists: Visiting Artist will be sculptor Gillian Jagger who will give a slide presentation and lecture titled "*Who are the Soldiers?*" Her exhibition, "*Recent Work*," will open in the gallery after the presentation, October 6 and run through November 4, 2005. Artie Traum, award-winning guitarist and songwriter, has been chosen as the Artist-in-Residence. His residency, *The Acoustic Guitar According to Artie Traum*, features three evenings of music by Artie and his special guests. The first took place on Thursday September 29 with Jay Unger and Molly Mason, and is followed by Thursday, Nov. 3, when Artie's guests will be Jesse Winchester and Pat Alger. One of America's most distinguished poets, Billy Collins, will visit the Ulster County Community College Stone Ridge campus on Wednesday, November 9, 2005, as part of the College's Library Writers Series.