

**Attendance:**

Deanna DiCarlo (UHLS), Rebecca Lubin (APL), Michelle Conte (RCS), Jennifer Ward (APLB), Anne Pitlyk (UHLS), Lynne O'Donnell (COLN), Laurenne Teachout (NASS & STEP), Sarah Clark (APLM), Margaret Lanoue (GUIL), Sue Hoadley (WSTR), Lisa Neuman (APLD), Lois Papp (EGRN), Gordon Noble (BETH), Tracey Pause (VOOR), Meghan Wakeman (APL), Melissa Tacke (CAST)

**Meeting Minutes:****Program Go-around**

- T. Pause – VOOR held an olive oil taste testing with Saratoga Olive Oil where patrons learned about the different types of olive oils and were able to buy discounted bottles from Saratoga Olive Oil.
- M. Lanoue – GUIL sponsored a solar panel fair with a speaker from UAlbany, solar panel vendors, and representatives from community projects. A patron who traveled to Poland & Lithuania doing genealogy research will be giving a presentation in the near future on her experience as part of the ongoing genealogy programming at GUIL.
- L. Neuman – APLD is hosting a Speed Friending event for people in their 20s and 30s.
- S. Clark – APLM has another Reading Music event coming up. A supergroup made up of well-known local musicians will be performing original songs based on the Song of Ice and Fire series by George RR Martin
- L. Teachout – NASS has become a pick up location for Field Goods. There are currently 25 people picking up their produce at the library, which has led to new patrons registering.
- L. Papp – The EGRN farmers' market will be starting up again in June.
- M. Conte – RCSC will be hosting a Beer Bites Potluck. Patrons will bring in their favorite pub food and suggest a beer pairing for it.
- R. Lubin and T. Pause suggested that libraries could partner with Nine Pin Cider and Indian Ladder Farms for similar boozy events.
- M. Lanoue – GUIL hosted an event with Albany Distilling Company that was open to patrons aged 18+. Younger patrons could learn about the history of distilling in the area and anyone 21+ was able to sample some whisky.

**Announcements**

- D. DiCarlo announced that this year's UHLS Adult Program of the Year was awarded to GUIL's Hudson Valley Beer Series
- There are 6 slots left for the Pride Center Training on May 26<sup>th</sup>
- The PLS Spring Break meeting will be on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$50 to NYLA members and there will be a tour of the walkway over the Hudson following the workshops.

## Spotlight on Book Discussions

Jen Ward (APL), Gordon Noble (BETH), and Sarah Clark (APL) shared information and insights about book discussions at their respective libraries, addressing (but not limited to!) the following:

- How they select titles
- Ways to spark discussion (questions, other props)
- Tips for sustaining discussions
- Fiction and Nonfiction--different approaches?
- What has not worked in the past?
- Anything they'd like to try?

### 1. Jennifer Ward (APLB)

- Do not give up. Her first book group at the Bach Branch started in 2010 with 3 attendees over the first 2 months, but six years later this same group is very popular.
- Read the book right before the meeting.
- When it comes to selecting titles, you have to get to know your group. Some patrons will not want to have input, they would rather just be told what to read.
- Literary fiction can be difficult to discuss.
- Memoirs and biographies are always popular.
- Sustaining discussions has never been a problem. People who love to read also love to talk.
- It can be a fun tie-in to bring food that is on theme for the book. For example, when her group was reading "In the Heart of the Sea" a patron brought in hardtack for everyone to try.

### 2. Gordon Noble (BETH)

- The group he leads loves literary fiction. He tries to select diverse topics, but he tends to stay on the literary end of the spectrum.
- For a time there were too many people coming to meetings. It wasn't conducive to discussion. BETH now has two evening meetings and one afternoon meeting. Each group attracts about 10 or 11 people, which is just the right number.
- He suggests reading the ending of a book before you pick it. That way you're guaranteed to give the reader a "good library experience."
- Try showing clips of author interviews or well-done scenes from movie adaptations at your meetings.
- Stay away from books touching on controversial political issues and be ready to steer the conversation away from politics if you need to.
- Select titles that people might not like. This can help make discussions more interesting.
- Stay under 350 pages

### 3. Sarah Clark (APLM)

- APL does a lot of trial and error when it comes to book groups. Recently, many of their groups have had very specific themes.

- When advertising on social media, make sure to tag the author. Some writers are willing to Skype in if they have time.
- Sometimes advertising for book groups isn't necessary. Word of mouth keeps the groups to a manageable number.
- APL has used Goodreads in the past to manage online book discussions, but the level of participation varies.

### Questions and Discussion:

- **Marketing:** L. Teachout asked if libraries advertise their selections ahead of time. G. Noble said that BETH does. J. Ward does not advertise the selection unless she is sure that she can get enough copies on time. L. Papp cannot advertise her selections because her group at EGRN gets 16 patrons. If she advertises the titles, she cannot get enough books for the group.
- **Attendance:** T. Pause asked about attendance at afternoon meetings. G. Noble said the afternoon sessions at BETH are always well attended.
- **Non-Librarian Led Groups:** L. Teachout spoke about groups at NASS and STEP that are not librarian led. They are losing steam. S. Clark suggested letting them die out and starting them up again at a later time.
- **Author/Genre/Favorite Book Discussions:** Some libraries have done meetings based around an author or a genre rather than one specific book, but the general consensus among patrons is that it is less enjoyable than the traditional everyone reads one book format. S. Hoadley shared that when she isn't able to get enough books for everyone, she has a "Choose Your Own Adventure" book club for patrons to just come and discuss any book they like. L. Teachout has had similar meetings.
- **Intergenerational Discussions:** J. Ward has had a teen coming to a group that is otherwise filled with older patrons. It has given her the idea to create an intergenerational book club over the summer.
- **More Tips:**
  - M. Lanoue cautioned against going in to the program room early. Patrons may start discussing the book informally before the start of the meeting.
  - J. Ward and G. Noble recommend finding information on the author before the meeting to use as a lead in to discussion.
  - M. Lanoue sends an email reminder out a week before that includes value added material like interview clips and reviews.
  - G. Noble suggested branching out from standard book club picks, as those titles might not appeal as much to men as they do to women.
  - L. Papp does not let her attendees say "I liked it" or "I didn't like it" unless they have a specific example of what they liked or did not like.
  - J. Ward and G. Noble both make bookmarks with their selections and schedules on them.

### Adult Summer Reading

D. DiCarlo asked how Summer Reading planning was going and what support if any is needed for Adult SRP from DLD or UHLS. The general consensus was that

“Summer Reading in New York Libraries” is focused on youth and family literacy, and that not many programming ideas for “adults: are included in the annual binder. This led to a general discussion about SRP for adults:

- L. Neuman retrieved her annual binder and pointed out that one reason Adult Summer Reading has not garnered much focus is that adults who read outside of the context of family literacy do it year-round, and libraries that offer book discussions for adults also often do so year-round.
- For some, Winter Reading Programs have had more success for adults outside of the context of family literacy. J. Ward said that some of the participants in her Winter Reading Program hadn’t read a book since high school.
- Bingo Cards: R. Lubin and S. Clark talked about APL’s plans for Adult Summer Reading this year. Participants will be invited to fill out a bingo card and entered to win a Kindle for successfully completing the card. M. Tacke used bingo cards last year to great success. She also offered raffle tickets for attending programs. D. DiCarlo asked if anyone would be willing to share their bingo cards with the rest of ASAC. She will send them out with the minutes from the meeting.
- S. Hoadley suggested making a few changes to your regular book club and making that a summer reading event.
- L. Papp has heard from many patrons that they love the Adult Summer Reading Program because they love participating with their kids. She always a finale party with a craft or a game, making it a family event.
- L. Teachout asked how other libraries compile stats for Adult Summer Reading. D. DiCarlo asked about stats for “Summer Reading in New York Libraries” versus the NYS Annual Report, noting a discrepancy in how each categorizes programs just for adults (as “parents/caregivers” and as “adults,” respectively).

### **Old Business**

- The events calendar will be edited to include adult programming starting in the fall. Instructions on how to add your events will be sent out at that time.
- The Adult Literacy Grant was approved. D. DiCarlo is working on a content calendar that member libraries will be able choose from in lieu of the mini-grants of yesteryear. So far trainers include Dr. Tom Denham and Sarah McFadden.
- G. Noble announced that BETH’s subscription to Flipster will begin June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Since July is such a busy month for everyone, the July ASAC meeting will be skipped. D. DiCarlo will send out some content to the mailing list instead.
- The next meeting will be on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am at the Guilderland Public Library.



# Adult Summer Reading Challenge Reading Record

For each box, read a book (print, e-book, or audiobook) and enter the title on the line.

Return this reading record by 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 13 to enter to win our Summer Reading Challenge prize drawings!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete 3 boxes, earn 1 raffle ticket**  
**Complete 6 boxes, earn 3 raffle tickets**  
**Complete all 9 boxes, earn 9 raffle tickets!**

<p>Book You Read as a Child or Teen</p>  <p>Title: _____</p>	<p>Your Choice</p>  <p>Title: _____</p>	<p>"New to You" Author</p>  <p>Title: _____</p>
<p>Your Choice</p>  <p>Title: _____</p>	<p>Mystery, Suspense, or True Crime</p>  <p>Title: _____</p>	<p>Book You Picked for the Cover</p>  <p>Title: _____</p>
<p>Biography, Memoir, or Autobiography</p>  <p>Title: _____</p>	<p>Book That's Been Made into a Movie</p>  <p>Title: _____</p>	<p>Your Choice</p>  <p>Title: _____</p>

**Castleton Public Library, 85 S. Main Street, Castleton, NY 12033**

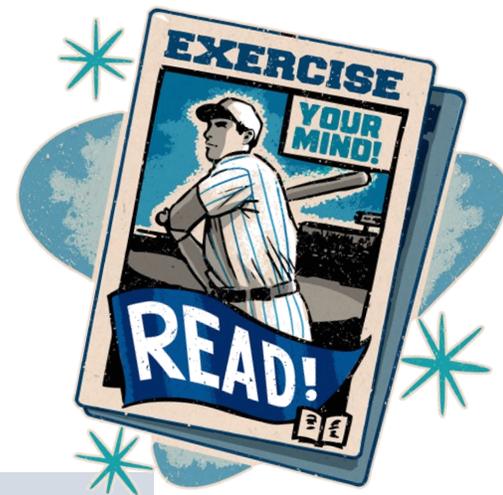
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# 2016 Adult Summer Reading Program

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

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



## Participating is super easy:

Complete at least 5 squares. *You may ask a librarian for help!*

Turn in a completed sheet & be entered to win a Kindle!

Don't have a Library card? Sign up for one!	Find a book written the year you were born	Find out one thing you can do on <b>APL's free mobile app</b> (apl.boopsie.com)	Read a graphic novel	Read a book set in the past
Attend Open Lab Hours at the <b>Albany Made Creative Lab</b>	Read a book with a color in the title	Ask a Librarian for a book recommendation	Take a book <b>somewhere fun</b> & post a pic on our Facebook or Instagram page	Download a book from our <b>eLibrary</b>
Read a murder mystery	Take a <b>selfie with a librarian</b> & post it to our Facebook or Instagram page	What's the best book you read this summer? _____ _____	Read a book with a female heroine	Read a science fiction story
Read a new book (14-day loan)	Read a classic	Read a summer romance	Read the first book of a series	Visit two branches in the same day
Find the <b>APL blog</b> on our website	Read a book that is now a movie	Take a selfie with your <b>Library card</b> & post it to our Facebook or Instagram page	Read a nonfiction book	Take a <b>#bookface</b> selfie & post it to our Facebook or Instagram page

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