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## Membership Tea By Carol Hacker

Teachers from across Long Island came to the Adelphi Alumni House on October 11, 2007 to attend the Membership Tea. With sodden raincoats and wet umbrellas, we arrived. Warm tea and coffee, cookies and crackers, cheese and olives were laid out for the taking. Members sat at large round tables, where friends reconnected, and new connections were made. As we waited for the speaker to arrive, heavy rains and lightning surrounded the building. Kathy Conway-Gervais awarded our *Friend of Literacy* Clock to JoAnn Tomasino for her work in supporting literacy in New York State.

We waited, and waited for Dr. Cathy Collins Block, the speaker from Texas to arrive. As the weather continued to worsen we discovered the airports had closed and all flights were redirected. We prepared to leave, only to discover that we could not as Adelphi was the scene of a tornado touch down. Adelphi went into lockdown mode. We were entertained with the computer hook-up provided by Adelphi, as we watched the storm on the Weather Channel as it passed over us. We were able to see first hand when it was safe for us to leave.

Our trips home that night took much longer than usual as flooded cars were stopped dead in the road and streets became streams. At the next meeting, some of us had storm stories to share. As for Dr. Cathy Collins Block, her plane never left the ground in Texas.

