

# The Southeastern Librarian

**Homage to Miss Fiske: A Fictitious  
Character From an Old Classic in  
Library Literature Reaches the Age  
of Retirement**

Lee Finks

**CD ROM: What's It All About?**

Olivia Opello

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Perspective**

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## President's Page

As I begin my fourth letter to each of you, both the Southeastern Library Association and the Christmas holidays are moving along at a "breakneck" speed. I have recently visited my tenth different state library association annual or biennial meeting (in the past two years), and I am very pleased to report that the health of librarianship in the Southeast is just great!!! The variety of excellent programs, the ever-increasing spirit of cooperation among types of libraries and librarians, the evolving roles of leadership being accepted by each state library organization and the technological progress made by our libraries without sacrificing our patron's traditional library needs should assure us all that the Southeast's library development continues to easily surpass the rest of the nation. I certainly want to thank all of you who have extended so much kindness and so many courtesies to me during my visits with the state library associations and remind all you Tennessee librarians how much I am looking forward to meeting with you in April of 1988.



The Norfolk 1988 biennial conference program continues to develop very nicely, and our second "first choice" author, Clyde Edgerton (who wrote *Raney* and *Walking Across Egypt*) has just accepted our invitation to speak on Saturday, October 29, 1988. Most SELA sections, roundtables and committee chairs are still finalizing program speakers and details with their counterparts in the Virginia Library Association, but programs and/or pre-conferences on the following topics are being planned: the art of storytelling, staff performance appraisal, literacy, the impact of integrated systems on library organizations, shared systems, library public relations for all, U.S. government documents, library cooperation, censorship/intellectual freedom and "achieving excellence." Ideas and suggestions from members for additional programming at the Norfolk Conference are still very much welcomed!

I have finally contacted all the section, roundtable and committee chairs in SELA and am pleased to provide you with the following "State of the Association" update. The new SELA handbook is being compiled on schedule and should be completed by the Norfolk meeting. The Handbook Committee and I would very much appreciate any suggestions you could offer as to what vendors/companies might help the association defray the printing costs of this publication. The SELA Public Relations Committee recently held a two-day meeting in Nashville, Tennessee and agreed upon several ideas to further promote the upcoming Norfolk conference. The committee had 2500 wooden nickles printed and distributed to each state's SELA representative and respective member of the Public Relations Committee (Virginia also received about 200+ extra nickles). Since these nickles entitle each "holder" to all kinds of good things, be sure you secure a wooden nickle that says "SELA take me to Norfolk, Virginia October 25-29, 1988" from the appropriate person(s) in your state so you'll be eligible for all the prizes! Besides having a program, the Public Relations Committee will also have a "PR Swap and Shop" during the Conference and a photography session with each of the convention "celebs" so that any SELA member who wishes to may have his/her photo made with an author.

The Intellectual Freedom Committee is currently acting as a clearinghouse for information provided and procedures followed by the appropriate library association in any state within SELA that has had a censorship case involving library materials. Please keep this committee up-to-date on any censorship concerns in your state and feel free to contact its chair, Martha Merrill, if you wish to know how other states are handling this serious problem(s) of materials being "questioned."

As all groups within SELA and VLA continue to finalize program plans and projects I'll pass the information along to you. In the meantime my sincerest wish is that each of you have had a holiday season filled with joy and peace and that this memo "finds you and yours" enjoying a most prosperous 1988!!!

Charles Beard

## Editor's Musings

Well, at last I seem to have become reasonably settled in my new role as a public librarian. Most of the staff has learned my name, I have successfully located and memorized the two basic entrances to the building, and hopefully I've mastered the art of managing our burglar alarm system. By contrast the academic world seems meek, mild and even bland. Instead of having to deal with spoiled professorial types, unimaginative administrators who should have either stayed in the classroom or heeded the advice in *The Peter Principle*, and students whose ambitions far exceed their abilities, public libraries give you the chance to come in contact with real people with real problems and real information needs. Perhaps I exaggerate a bit, but aging editors have that prerogative. What I'm trying to get across is that, at least for now, I certainly don't miss the academic world.



Don't misunderstand — life's not always a bed of roses on this side of the fence. I've found out that as a Director of a medium-sized public library, a different set of challenges (and rewards) awaits. For instance:

1. If the air conditioning system goes bad, the academic librarian calls the Plant Op folks and tells them to get it fixed pronto. The public librarian calls the local electrician, hopes that he comes before winter, and prays that the bill doesn't exceed the amount budgeted for repairs.
2. Even in Swainsboro, which is not exactly a Mecca for liberal types, our library could take *Playboy* without fear of a public demonstration. The public librarian could be so foolish, but it might bring a quick end to his/her contract. [I'm sure the intellectual freedom folks will take exception, but you've got to admit that the academics are a bit more insulated. Anyway, somebody once said something about discretion and valor.]
3. Budget time in the Pine Barrens was usually an exercise in futility. Presidents and Deans usually make up their minds light years ahead of time how much they will dole out to the library. A few dollars came our way as long as Plant Op didn't need a new lawn mower or sabre saw or the Business Office didn't need a new Ouija board for financial planning. As a public librarian, I've found that the buck stops on my desk and the business officer works for me. If I can convince the local funding agencies that the public has a right to know, we can make progress. The burden is mine, but at least I feel that I have a better chance to make a difference.
4. Finally, I've found that I am much busier as a public librarian than I was in my academic days, even considering that I am now managing a larger operation. There are no breaks between quarters or extended vacations at Christmas. We put in our hours seven days a week, meeting the public and generally toiling in the trenches. There is very little time for deep contemplation or consideration of the great issues facing mankind. But maybe that's not so bad. After all, the academics haven't solved all of the problems, either.

But the redeeming grace of the whole move is a chance to come home. We Southerners (at least those of us who are natives) have an abiding sense of place and never seem to be able to shake off the remembrance of things past. You grow up and can't wait to shake off the provincialism of home and conquer the big world across the river. At least in my case, I was never able to get the red clay out of my system and finally realized that I would never be happy away from my roots. For the first time in 18 years we haven't had to "come home for Christmas" — because we're already there. And really I can't think of a better Christmas present for me and my family. It also helps to keep aging editors from getting too grumpy and hard to live with, which will hopefully be a blessing to you all!

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James Dorsey

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# Homage to Miss Fiske

## A Fictitious Character From an Old Classic in Library Literature Reaches the Age of Retirement

Lee Finks

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*The opening of the university was ten days off when Marcia Fiske, refreshed by two months of mountain climbing after a hard year's grind in library school, started her professional career as a reference assistant in the university library.*

So begins the story of a very special librarian, remembered and cherished by those of us who came to know her in the early pages of Margaret Hutchins' *Introduction to Reference Work*.<sup>1</sup> She was created by Miss Hutchins over 40 years ago to show library school students that "there is more to reference work than meets the eye."

Her tale concentrates on those first few weeks and months of Marcia Fiske's professional career, and is a familiar one to several generations of American librarians, especially those who have been in reference work. In a progression remarkably similar to my own initiation, Marcia finds herself excited and a bit awed by the smoothly running, highly professional department she joins. She gradually settles in and realizes her own talents and skills are up to the challenges of real life reference work.

As she is gradually shown the ropes, her first chore is to read the shelves of the reference collection, her second to weed the vertical file, her third to check bibliographies against the catalog. Her first reference question is "Where is the Britannica?" and her first hard one the "lawful age" referred to in a deposition of March, 1770. Soon she is posted out near the card catalog, where she helps any confused faculty or student to make the best use of it.

It is here that our heroine, thus far winning our affection with her intelligence, competence, modesty and charm, suddenly sweeps us into a romance. We feel, along with Marcia, a tingle as John Roberts, a tall, young graduate student in economics, appears one day, standing before the catalog with a look of puzzlement and frustration on his face.

"Can I help you?" she offered somewhat timidly as he stood flipping over card after card in a vain search. Their eyes met and a spark was lit that flickers throughout the short tale and bursts into flames as the story ends. The footloose John, having completed his Master's and left

on a yearlong odyssey, discovers from a friend at another university that a newly arrived "Miss Fiske" has transformed the old library that they used to scorn into the perfect support for serious scholars. John's decision as to whether to return to his alma mater is sealed as he reads his friend's letter.

"She's friendly and she's intelligent. She doesn't jump away the minute you ask her where the books on political science are. She stops and talks with you and the first thing you know you've told her you want to find out who it was of the old classic writers that claimed a democracy was as despotic as a tyranny, and then, by George, if she doesn't look in just one or two books and bring you the very passage from Aristotle! It's like magic, the way she handles books."

Ah yes, who could resist? Certainly not John Roberts. And so it happened (or at least in my imagination) that Marcia Fiske went on to marry this appealing and sensible young man, and continued in a career that might parallel many of our own, those of us, at least, who have remained in the orbit of traditional librarianship.

She remained a reference librarian the entire time, never choosing to move into the rarified world of library management, except on a few occasions when she was pressed into emergency duty as "acting director" when no one better suited was there to handle the paper work and decisions. She served her time on committees and held a number of responsible positions in local and state professional organizations, and even had a half dozen or so articles published, over the years. But most of all she was "Miss Fiske," as she remained professionally, the magician with books, the ideal reference librarian.

Her private life had its ups and downs, as is true for most of us. I imagine one terrible tragedy, the death of her husband John after only a few years of marriage, and the struggles that followed as she raised their two children alone. After they grew up, she stayed in the same town, doing some volunteer work in her church, writing some poetry, playing bridge and seeing movies with her friends, visiting with her grandchildren and generally enjoying a contented and peaceful life.

Her retirement from librarianship this year finds her not at any professional pinnacle, covered with glory, but very satisfied with her modest contributions and thankful at having been involved in such unflinching

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*Dr. Finks is Associate Professor, North Carolina Central University*

interesting and challenging work. It is the occasion of her retirement that prompts me to devise an interview with her, thinking that the readers of *The Southeastern Librarian* would like to imagine, along with me, what this symbol of the traditional, committed professional librarian might have to say.

**Question:** Thank you for your time, Miss Fiske. I wanted to interview you because of your reputation as an excellent, indeed an ideal reference librarian. I wonder if you would identify some of the personal qualities or traits that have served you well in your work?

**Answer:** Yes, certainly. I'd be happy to, although I am rather surprised at this attention. I'm certainly not the only librarian with a reputation for being good at her work, or at his work.

The first trait I would identify is probably not unexpected. It is my love for books. I have always loved them, at least since college, both as something to hold in my lap and pour my attention into, and also as separate little contributions to the world of the mind, that great exchange of ideas and expressions that we're involved in here in library work. If it sounds like I idealize and romanticize books, it's true, I do; and I think deserve it. They carry an incredible potential for any and every person in the world.

Of course, that's why I came into librarianship in the first place. I found so much peace and satisfaction at one level, right along with intellectual excitement and inspiration at another level, in the quiet, comfortable world of my college library, that it became my favorite environment. And to think of working in one as a career just seemed a relief, compared with other possibilities. I've always felt I made a good choice — that I had, in a sense, met my destiny. (She laughs.) At any rate, I'm so glad I haven't spent the last forty years feeling maybe I should have been a brain surgeon or a politician!

**Question:** So first is your love of books. Are you going to tell me that the second is your love of people?

**Answer:** Well, I hope I'm not becoming predictable already. But you're right, in fact. Even though some people are amused by and even scornful of the loving-books-loving-people cliché, I couldn't possibly leave it out. If I didn't like people, and have a fondness for their company and an interest in their ideas, I guess I would have hated my work. Whenever someone approached my desk, my reaction was always — or almost always anyway — "Oh good, here comes somebody!"

And if I tried to put my basic approach to people into a principle, it would be something on the order of "You can't judge a book by its cover." I firmly believe that you can't judge people by their looks, or status, or even their charm. I'm willing to think that the people I meet, no matter what first impression they give, are probably just as decent and worthy of respect as I hope I am.

Fortunately I haven't run into very many murderers or crooks in my time, or I might feel differently. The people who use libraries, bless them, tend to be good-hearted people . . . or so it seems to me.

**Question:** Well, I think generally along the same lines, although I've encountered some unpleasant characters in my time, and a fair share of "crazies" too. Does your liking for people help you relate better as a librarian? That is, as someone who is negotiating with them as a professional?

**Answer:** Well, I'd certainly never describe it that way, but obviously that would make a big difference. Or I think so anyway. (She pauses.) Actually I've always been a bit mystified about how I was able to relate to library users so well. I think it's because I could identify with them as people who knew what they wanted, but didn't know all the tricks and peculiarities of a library — in a relative state of innocence, so to speak. I would always approach them believing that together we could figure out the proper path to just what they wanted.

Whatever it is, it works. I really have a certain amount of trouble relating to people in many other situations, like parties, but when I'm helping people in a library, it's easy. It seems to me that I am merely understanding them and taking them seriously, and they appreciate me and respect me because I am. I hear them, I nod, I smile, I respond with questions or suggestions, and we find we are relating on a different and more meaningful level. It all seems so simple and natural to me, but maybe it's not.

**Question:** Well, let's hope it is. Are there other traits that have served you well?

**Answer:** Yes, here's another one, and again it's pretty obvious, I guess. I am of those people who has within them an urge to be useful and to help other people. It's something I was born with, I guess, that my parents and my church reinforced. I just feel better about myself if I've done something helpful for someone and made their lives a little easier. Since I work at a desk in a library, it is a very easy thing for me to satisfy this urge, simply by showing them through our maze of catalog entries and classification numbers, or introducing them to our reference tools.

Since I never got rich or famous working in a library, I guess it's good I got some psychological satisfaction. Right?

**Question:** I would certainly agree. Is there another personal trait that you would add to the list?

**Answer:** Yes, and this is the last one, and maybe the most important. I have a strong sense of order, and I don't just mean a compulsive desire to see things neat and tidy, though I have some of that, too. My mind is always seeking categories and classifications, further breakdowns or larger views, and it has a knack for seeing

patterns in and routes through our organization of books and ideas.

I've always known I'd love to be a cataloger if I weren't a reference librarian, because I see so clearly what we're trying to do to make our collections usable. But I also see the problems involved in making our schemes and devices as workable as we'd like to . . . and the problems are terribly difficult to solve. But I'd still like to be a part of the effort. Maybe I'll do volunteer work as a cataloger now that I've retired!

**Question:** Would you say something about the skills or specialized knowledge a librarian needs? I mean, it's not all intuitive, is it?

**Answer:** Oh no, we have a huge number of techniques and tools that anyone who wants to work in a library must know how to use. Card catalogs, indexes, files, circulation systems, well, you know what I'm talking about here . . . obviously we have to make all of these work for us, and continue to polish them and improve them.

And then we mustn't forget our resources, the multitude of books, magazines, records, and so on that we've picked out as worthy of a place in a library. Sometimes it seems hopeless to try to stay knowledgeable about such an overabundance, but I knew I had to keep trying. I was always poking around in the new books, and trying to keep up with all the reviews. It's imperative that we know our books.

**Question:** And other materials?

**Answer:** Well, yes, of course, except it's mainly books we're talking about . . . some records, some films or tapes, but mainly books . . . at least so far.

**Question:** Alright, let's move on. What about your professional values? Do you have a set of guiding principles or mottoes?

**Answer:** Oh, if I could make a motto for libraries, I would put "truth and beauty" in it. There is so much dishonesty in the world today, all the trivia and pretense, and so much ugliness and meanness, too, that I fear truth and beauty might soon be obliterated. We need to stay attuned to them, to search them out and give them our protection. I think we should try to be something like intellectual and cultural ecologists, concerned with the future as well as today.

**Question:** That's a nice idea. Anything else in the way of principles?

**Answer:** Well, I have certain ideals about libraries and what they ought to strive to be. I really do believe that the gift we can give to society and to any member of it is a precious gift. And there are so many people who could profit from it who don't even know what's on the inside of a book, except schoolwork. Maybe what the average person needs most is money for gas, or a decent job, but we can't supply such things. What we can share is a slice

of the "good life," the life of the mind and spirit. Let's put it out there, somehow, for those who recognize its value.

**Question:** That's very good too. Keep going.

**Answer:** Well, I rarely have the chance to get up on a soap box like this. (She smiles and clears her throat.) I think that we here in America are so lucky to have the freedom we do, and so lucky to be a part of a democracy. If we happened to be picked up and set down in a library on a different side of the world, we could just as well forget about our precious intellectual freedom. We need to remember that and continue to be firmly committed to freedom of thought and political freedom. That matters a lot to me.

**Question:** Anything else?

**Answer:** I would like to say a word about our professionalism, if I may. We need to take advantage of the professionalism we are graced with. I'd really like to see all you younger librarians working to improve yourselves, and thinking up ways to improve your libraries.

And we also need to claim the autonomy we're entitled to and use it! Providing good library service demands a lot of intelligent judgment and we mustn't let ourselves get so tied up in routines and procedures that we can't use it. Each one of us should feel like we're our own boss, too, and then we ought to be highly demanding of ourselves.

**Question:** By the way, just for the record, what do you mean when you use the word "professional"?

**Answer:** Not as much as the sociologists mean, that's for certain. All I mean is being competent at doing our jobs, and committed to the ideals we normally share, like service, and intellectual freedom, and outreach, and some of the other ideas we've been talking about. That's all I mean.

**Question:** I'm sure you know that you are open to some criticism here. Some of your views might be called elitist and others seem rather naive — or perhaps romantic is a better word. And I can imagine any number of conflicts between the various values you are suggesting to us.

**Answer:** (Getting somewhat huffy.) Well, I'm sorry if you're disappointed in them. I never said they were perfectly consistent or that anybody else had to adopt them.

And so what if they're not consistent? Life isn't consistent either, and values will always be colliding with . . . conflicting with each other. If I had to worry about perfect consistency or perfect knowledge or perfect virtue, I'd never get anything done at all. Listen to me, young man, the sooner you learn to trust your own instincts and use your common sense when you're faced with decisions, the better off you'll be. One of the curses of our age is this concern with covering all the



possibilities, with being completely practical and accountable. Just strive to be a good librarian and let the chips fall where they may!

**Question:** Has anyone ever accused you of being defensive?

**Answer:** (She laughs.) No, not as much, although I think maybe you just have. Well, perhaps I am defensive, but I think it's appropriate. I do feel threatened by some things in our society, and bureaucratic thinking is definitely one of them.

**Question:** Would you say some more about the things you see threatening traditional librarianship?

**Answer:** Certainly. There are only a few, and bureaucracy is at the top of the list. The government and the experts have got us in their sights and there's nothing they would like to do more than take every loose idea and little detail of our work and tie them all up into an efficiently managed and properly constrained package. I've seen it creeping in more and more, in library administration and professional organizations, but especially in school librarianship; and I'm amazed that intelligent people are willing to accept this kind of red tape and double talk.

**Question:** What else?

**Answer:** The other thing I fear is the loss of faith in our ideals. Narcissism and nihilism are both rampant in our society and they both scorn the notion of commitment to anything beyond ourselves. The whole tone of our culture, especially as reflected by the mass media, undermines people's willingness to sacrifice themselves. Having money, good looks, or fun . . . that's all you'd think matters. I know I seem hopelessly old-fashioned, but it irks me to bits. And librarians are so underpaid and underappreciated that I'm afraid we might sell out our ideals somewhere down the line just to keep from feeling like "suckers." (She sighs.)

**Question:** What about technology? Do you have fears about librarianship selling out to the computer-industrial-complex?

**Answer:** No, that doesn't bother me so much. We have computers in our library, even in my department, and they're terrific. Sometimes you see people who are obviously a little ga-ga over the computer and who talk so technically they might as well be speaking Greek, but most librarians I know realize the computers are only tools, that they're expensive and temperamental, and that they don't deserve any special deference. I just hope we don't get too dependent on them. Someday it may cost so much to tend our computers that we can't afford to buy any books!

**Question:** I know I need to end this soon. Let me ask you one last question, Miss Fiske, and it's rather personal. Would you tell us where in your long life you were most happy?

**Answer:** Ahh. (She smiles.) Well, we were never sure of the exact spot, but it was somewhere along the Mediterranean. My husband John and I were on our

honeymoon, and we had taken a moonlight ride in a horsedrawn carriage. It was like a scene out of "The Red Shoes." I was so completely happy, so utterly confident that my fate was sealed by the love of this wonderful man, that I was experiencing something very much like ecstasy. I remarked on it to John, who called up to the driver to inquire where we were, so that I could someday answer just such a question as this. But he didn't know. Mmmm. (She looks off.) We were very young and, as I recall it, very much in love.

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1. Margaret Hutchins, *Introduction to Reference Work* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1944). The story of Marcia Fiske recounted in the first seven paragraphs of this article is taken from pages 1-8 of the Hutchins book. The remainder of the story, along with the interview, is purely my own fabrication.

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# CD ROM: What's It All About?

Olivia Opello

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Much has been written which suggests that optical technology is a new papyrus — a revolutionary media of such magnitude that its impact on the way information is stored and retrieved equals and possibly surpasses the advances that the early development of paper gave mankind more than 5,000 years ago. Clearly, librarians are feeling the influence of this easy-to-use technology which is assailing the market place with a proliferation of laser discs and CD ROMs offering both new data bases (InfoTrac) and old data systems in a new package (ERIC). Optical technology is a dynamite product in search of applications and as they are identified and developed, the market is expected to soar. The worldwide market for optical disc drives is projected to top \$2 billion by 1991, up 81% from the 1985 market of \$57 million.<sup>1</sup>

What are CD ROMS all about? Let's begin by listing some common terms which are frequently used to describe various kinds of optical technology. Optical technology is a generic term used interchangeably with other phrases such as optical media, optical discs, video discs, compact disc technology, CD ROMs or laser discs. Current literature uses two spellings for these products: disc and disk. The *Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times* as well as Online, Inc., publications opt for the latter spelling because, as Jeffrey Pemberton, *Online* editor explains, "It is my personal opinion that the use of a c in the spelling is the work of advertising copywriters trying to make their product look artificially different. I also feel that the world only needs one spelling for a round flat object."<sup>2</sup>

Optical disc technology is created when a laser is used to store information on a disc and another laser is used to read this same material from the disc. Usually, optical technology is categorized by three types: read-only; write-once, read-many; and, erasable.

An example of read-only is the CD ROM (compact disc read only memory). The data stored on a CD Rom can be read any number of times but it cannot be modified in any way. You cannot change, delete, or add to it. If you purchase ERIC data files or the Grolier's Electronic Encyclopedia on CD ROM, the limitation of not being able to modify the disc probably suits you just fine because, obviously, you do not want your patrons altering information stored on it. Yet it does have the

limitation that if you want to update or change the data on the disc, you cannot. Nearly all optical technology on the market today falls in this category.

Write-once, read-many or WORM, is also referred to as DRAW (direct read after write). This kind of laser disc enables the librarian to write on the disc until it is filled and then read from the disc any number of times. Once the disc has been written on, however, the data cannot be erased or changed. Good candidates for WORM storage are files that need to be kept, unaltered. WORM technology continues to be perfected and comprises a much smaller sector of the market. One WORM system available currently is CL-MedLine from CLSI which offers the last 3 years of the MedLine file. CL-MedLine enables libraries to mesh their journal holdings with other information on the disc so library patrons can know quickly if the citation found in CD-MedLine is available in their local library. Until many more applications are developed which require WORM, this technology will continue to evolve.

The third category of optical technology is erasable or CDI (compact disc interactive). With a CDI you will be able to interact any number of times with your compact disc as you write, erase, and delete information. CDIs should be technically feasible in 1987 but applications will not be refined enough to market these discs commercially for at least a couple of years. Consequently, they are not yet practical for the personal computer environment. A great application here might be an on-line catalog. This is the compact disc of the future.

Now that we have a general picture of optical technology, let's zero in on the CD ROM. What is this shiny, jewel-like silver disc that mirrors your face through streaks of blue and green, red and gold. How has it evolved?

Research began on optical discs in the late 1960s at Philips Laboratories in the Netherlands. By 1973 the first prototype optical disc system was developed. This was followed in 1978 by LaserVision, the first commercially-available optical video disc system released in the United States by Magnavox, a subsidiary of Philips. LaserVision contains pictures and sound recorded on a disc. It is possible to freeze pictures and replay segments, characteristics which make it useful for educational applications as well as entertainment.

By 1980 a world-wide standard existed for CD ROM hardware because the two major manufacturers, Philips and Sony, agreed to certain protocols. A standard for

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software for the CD ROM has been written recently by the High Sierra Group (an ad hoc group of several businessmen interested in CD ROM products) which submitted its draft to the International Standards Organization for acceptance. Official adoption of software standards is expected during 1987.<sup>3</sup>

In 1983 Philips Laboratories marketed the audio compact disc which caught on like wild fire. Music aficionados rushed to buy musical compact discs and players, even though the players were selling for nearly \$1000. Since then, the cost of some players has dropped to \$100. There are nearly 10,000 audio compact discs available now providing the music lover with symphonies from Bach to Vivaldi. The compact audio disc has become a landmark in business and is considered to be one of the most successful products of all time. Because of the phenomenal success of the audio compact disc and the successful marketing of disc players, manufacturers are developing the CD ROM quickly. CD ROMs hit the library market during the 1985 annual conference of the American Library Association and now librarians are scrambling to fit optical technology into their work environment.

What is it about this new technology that makes it so different and exciting? It's the capacity to store huge amounts of data in a small space and the ability to retrieve the information easily and quickly. A 4.7" CD ROM will store around 250,000 printed pages or 1,500 floppy disks. It takes about 1-3 seconds to retrieve information whether it is text, graphics, drawings, or photographs. Such a large amount of information can be archived and retrieved so quickly because of the method in which it is stored on the compact disc. Information is embedded by a laser in small pits which spiral around the disc, 16,000 tracks per inch, in a circular design much like that on phonograph records. In between each one of these pits are flat surfaces called lands (see illustration 1). If you took this spiral winding around the disc and stretched it out in a straight line, its length would be nearly 3 miles. The total number of pits on a CD ROM disc is almost 2 billion.<sup>4</sup> Using a laser process, optical discs can store more than 10 times the information that can be stored on magnetic media.

After the data is placed on the disc, a different laser can hunt for it and read it back. The reading laser skims over the spiral and, as it passes over pits, only a little light is reflected back directly. For the most part, the light from the pits is diffused. On the other hand, when the laser passes over lands much light is reflected back. This sequence of reflected and diffused light represents the information stored on the disc.

As of now there is no easy, inexpensive way we can make CD ROMs in the library. Until only a few years ago, if you wanted a CD ROM made, it was necessary to

contract with a company in Japan or Europe. However, now there are half a dozen or so laboratories around this country which will make CD ROMs for you. This process begins with a magnetic tape which holds the information you want "ROMed." You can prepare the magnetic tape yourself or send it to a laboratory that specializes in tape preparation. Information is laid out on tape according to specifications established and required by the laboratory that actually creates the CD ROM.

When the laboratory receives your magnetic tape, it begins the mastering process; that is, converting the information from magnetic tape to CD ROM. The laboratory creates a master CD ROM which is glass. This work must be done in a clean room since any spec of dust or other foreign particle adhering to the CD ROM will cause a variance in light reflection and thus alter the information read. After the glass master is finished any number of metal or plastic copies can be made for distribution. As copies are completed they are sealed with a plastic coating to protect them from becoming contaminated. This coating plus the fact that the reading laser never touches the disc makes CD ROMs almost indestructible. Laboratory tests indicate that the life of a CD ROM may vary between 10-40 years. The glass master disc is called the mother disc; the copies are daughters. At this point in the manufacturing process, the daughters are available for distribution to you, the user.

There are two costs involved in mastering a disc: the first is for data preparation; the second, for cutting the actual master. Currently, it may cost as much as \$15,000 to load a magnetic tape according to the specifications of the CD ROM manufacturing company and about \$4500 to cut the master.<sup>6</sup> However, developers in the industry speculate that during 1987, mastering costs will drop as low as "what it costs to print a book."<sup>7</sup>

What kind of equipment do you need to use the various CD ROMs now on the market? Basically, you need a microcomputer set-up. A monitor, a central processing unit (CPU), a keyboard and a printer. In addition, you need a CD ROM reader. This can be a separate unit which sets along side the computer terminal (see illustration 2) or it can be a part of the CPU unit (see illustration 3). If it is a part of the unit, it may take the place of a floppy disc drive which means that if you opt for this kind of equipment, you will want a computer with a hard disk. Finally, you will need an interface control board and whatever software is required to access the CD ROM you have. If you already have microcomputer systems and your systems are compatible with the CD ROMs you want to buy, your costs in getting involved will be greatly diminished.



**A typical CD ROM setup.**  
(Courtesy of SONY Corporation of America)

What is available at the marketplace and what does it cost? A great variety of CD ROMs are available, of which a sampling follows. (Please note that all product information is current as of mid-April 1987. It was gathered directly from the product manufacturer/distributor.)

One product of considerable interest is WILSONDISC. Twelve data bases are currently available, each as a separate compact disc updated quarterly. If you want more recent information, you can utilize WILSONLINE for the cost of telecommunications for those data bases which you have purchased on CD ROM. These discs require an IBM or IBM compatible system. Prices may change frequently (usually downward) so for the most current information, call 1-800-622-4002.

<b>WILSONDISC Data Bases</b>	<b>Annual Rate</b>
Applied Science and Technology Index, Oct. 1983+	\$1,495.00
Art Index, Sept. 1984+	\$1,495.00
Biography Index, July 1984+	\$1,095.00
Business Periodicals Index, June 1982+	\$1,495.00
Cumulative Book Index, Jan. 1982+	\$1,295.00
Education Index, Dec. 1983+	\$1,295.00
General Science Index, May 1984+	\$1,295.00
Humanities Index, Feb. 1984+	\$1,295.00
Index to Legal Periodicals, Aug. 1981+	\$1,495.00
Library Literature, Dec. 1984+	\$1,095.00
Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature, Jan. 1983+	\$1,095.00
Social Sciences Index, April 1983+	\$1,295.00

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ERIC, the Education Resources Information Center data base, is currently available from three distributors: Silver Platter, DIALOG, and OCLC.

**Silver Platter**

Requires IBM or IBM compatible equipment. Updated quarterly or annually. For information, call 1-800-343-0064.

ERIC on 3 discs for \$900.00 (1966-1975; 1976-1980; 1981-1987). Thereafter, \$650.00 quarterly; \$390.00 annually.

**DIALOG**

Requires IBM or IBM compatible equipment. Updated quarterly. For information, call 1-800-334-2564.

ERIC from 1981-present, \$750.00 which includes updates.

ERIC on 3 discs for \$1,450.00 (1966-present) which includes updates.

**OCLC**

Requires IBM or IBM compatible equipment. Option of quarterly or annual updates. For information, call 1-800-848-5787.

ERIC, 1983-present. \$299.00 for OCLC members; \$349.00 for non-members. Thereafter, quarterly subscription is \$600.00 for members; \$675.00 for non-members. Annual subscription is \$300.00 for members; \$350.00 for non-members.

CJJE (Current Index to Journals in Education), 1969-1981 is \$300.00 for members; \$350.00 for non-members.

RIE (Resources in Education), 1977-1981 is \$300.00 for members; \$350.00 for non-members.

Education Materials in Libraries, annual subscription rate, \$300.00 for members; \$350.00 for non-members.

In addition to these individual products, OCLC also has two package deals which include equipment.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Information Handling Service**

Personnet. Requires IBM or IBM compatible equipment. Updated annually. Offers a wide range of information referenced daily in federal personnel offices, employee relations/labor relations offices, General Counsel offices, law libraries and Equal Employment Opportunity offices. This product provides the *full text* of the Federal Personnel Manual. Merit Systems Protection Board, Federal Labor Relations Authority, Federal Service Impasses Panel, Administrative Law Judge, Comptroller General Civilian Personnel case decisions, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Federal Sector cases. For information about Personnet or CLSI CD-MedLine (mentioned previously), call 1-800-241-7824.

Personnet. \$4,000.00 annually.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Dissertation Abstracts**

Dissertation Abstracts requires IBM-XT or compatible computer. Updated annually. For information, call 1-800-233-6901.

Current Edition, 1984-1986. \$995.00, special until 7/31/87; if purchased now, the next two editions are guaranteed at \$995.00.

Archival Edition, 1861-1984. \$4,995.00, special until 7/31/87. Thereafter, \$5,495.00.

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### Ulrich's Plus

*Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory, Irregular Serials and Annuals, and Bowker's International Serials Database Update.* Quarterly updates. For information, call 1-800-323-3288.

Ulrich's Plus. \$395.00 annually.

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### Grolier's Electronic Encyclopedia

Requires IBM or IBM compatible equipment. For information, call 1-800-858-8858. The entire 20-volume set of *Academic American Encyclopedia* is on one disc along with a comprehensive index.

Grolier's: \$199.95

\* \* \* \* \*

### Microsoft

Bookshelf. IBM or IBM compatible equipment. Updated annually. Contains ten heavily used reference tools including *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, *Roget's Thesaurus*, the *World Almanac*, *U.S. Zip Code Directory*, *American Heritage Dictionary*, *Chicago Manual of Style*, *Houghton-Mifflin Spelling Verifier and Corrector and Usage Alert*, and *Business Information Sources*.

Bookshelf: \$295.00

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### NewsBank Inc.

NewsBank Electronic Index. IBM or IBM compatible equipment. Updated monthly. For information, call 1-800-223-4739.

NewsBank Electronic Index: \$3,580.00

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In addition to the products listed above, many others are available and many, many more are being developed. Some others that are on the market range from Psychological Abstracts (American Psychological Association, 1-800-336-4980) to Compact Disclosure (Disclosure, 1-800-638-8076); from McGraw-Hill Science and Technical Reference Set (McGraw-Hill, 1-212-512-2000) to Sociological Abstracts (Sociological Abstracts,

1-619-565-6603) to Info Trac II (Information Access Co., 1-800-227-8431).

Now that you know what's available should you take the plunge? Perhaps. Few of the CD ROMs you can purchase offer new Data bases — what most are offering are old, familiar products in a new package. What about the cost? Can it be justified? Especially if it is at the expense of the collection development budget? Of course, only you can provide the answer, but it is interesting to note that computer representatives are suggesting that in the next 1-3 years, the cost of an entire minicomputer system will drop to between \$1,000-\$2,000. Also, as more companies offer identical CD ROM products, competition will drive the prices of CD ROMs down as well. If you wait, you will not miss out on anything. In fact, most likely you will have a greater choice when you do buy. CD ROMs, WORMs, and CDIs represent the future in information.

### References

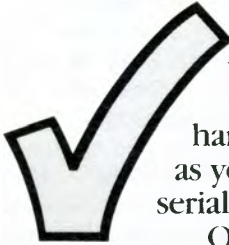
- (1) *Infosystems*, March 1987, p. 49.
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Although there are many articles written about optical technology, especially in computer journals, the number of books and journals devoted exclusively to CD ROMs is limited. Of special interest are:

- CD ROM Review, The Magazine of Compact-Disc Storage*, CW Communications/Peterborough, P.O. Box 921, Farmingdale, NY 11737-9621.
- CD ROM, The New Papyrus*, edited by Steve Lambert and Suzanne Ropiequet. Redmond, WA, Microsoft Press, 1986.
- Essential Guide to CD-ROM*, edited by Judith Paris Roth. Westport, CT, Meckler Publishing, 1985.
- CD ROM: Revolution Maker*. The COINT Reports, volume 6, number 5, 22 p. Available from Info Digest, P.O. Box 165, Morton Grove, IL 60053.

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# Out of Print Acquisitions: A Dual Perspective

Boyd Childress and Barbara Nelson

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## Introduction

The identification and acquisition of books from out of print (OP) and rare book catalogs present unique opportunities and problems for bibliographers and acquisition librarians in academic research libraries. This paper presents the arguments for and against OP acquisitions from the perspectives of two librarians actively involved in such activity. It is necessary to understand that the OP book market is an active field and, if dealer catalogs are any measure, an attractive business for some entrepreneurs. Any large academic library receives easily a dozen or more such catalogs a week. The catalogs themselves present an interesting study — they include general book selections, loosely arranged subject area titles, (American literature, European history, etc.), very specific subject catalogs (Civil War history, aviation history, architecture books), and special format interests (autographed volumes, publishers' inventories, etc.). They are also printed in various formats, such as attractively printed lists, mimeographed pages stapled together, flimsy printer paper catalogs, and large-sized paper folded for convenient mailing. Their selections range from inexpensive pamphlets or reprints (\$5 or less) to rare and valuable items (often costing \$1000 or more). The majority of catalogs, however, offers titles at reasonable rates between \$35 and \$50. The dealers offer their books as a single collection, smaller more select groupings of titles, but more commonly as individual purchases. The catalogs give purchase options of cash only, payment on terms, money, and some dealers even offer to trade with customers. With this as a thesis, the following two positions are presented in order to provide different perspectives. A summary will attempt a concept of compatibility between the subject bibliographer and acquisitions librarian and hopefully provide some practitioners with viable avenues to achieve successful OP buying.

A close review of the literature for the past five years reveals that very little has been written on the OP market as a source for library acquisitions. The most significant publication is Robinson and Farudi's *Buy Books Where-Sell Books Where; a Directory of OP Book*

*Sellers and Their Author — Subject Specialities* (Morgantown, W. Va., 1986). In addition to this useful guide, there are a few important articles — two in *Library Acquisitions, Practice and Theory* and one each in *Collection Building* and *Collection Management*. One of these is a wise reminder on reserving OP selections with dealers. The most important contribution to library literature is Kilton's "Out-of-print Procurement in Academic Libraries: Current Methods and Sources," *Collection Management* (5:113-34, Fall/Winter 1983). Kilton used a survey and concluded that OP acquisitions was on the decline due to an increase in the availability of reprographic editions, declining budgets, and small staffs, yet librarians still have OP needs. Kilton contends that "knowledge of efficient and cost-effective methods to suit individual o.p. need is a necessity on the part of libraries." Kilton's survey points out that many bibliographers have separate desiderata files and list their OP wants with dealers. The only theme common to the sparsity of literature on OP is advice to use the *AB Bookman's Weekly*. The rest of the citations from *Library Literature* include a handful of brief notices from *AB Bookman's Weekly* and *Publishers' Weekly*. This important aspect of library acquisition programs is obviously not reported in the available literature.

## The Bibliographers' View

The OP book market offers an imposing dilemma for the subject bibliographer. On the positive side, libraries can greatly benefit by selecting and purchasing titles from dealer catalogs and other sources of OP books like *AB Bookman's Weekly*. Gaps in collections can be corrected and existing strong subject areas can be strengthened. This strengthening of subject collections is often an overlooked use of OP buying but one that should be identified and discussed in greater depth. OP buying is also an outlet to enhance special collections since so many catalogs advertise rare and special subject related books. The use of OP buying can also build special collections, another little recognized characteristic.

The motivation for OP bibliographic work is often generated by the traits mentioned above but also by "want" lists and title specific searching. Most of the larger dealers provide OP searching for libraries and this service benefits all OP needs. Patron requests create the need for OP buying but more often than not interlibrary

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Mr. Childress is Social Sciences Reference Librarian and Ms. Nelson is Order Librarian, Auburn University Libraries.

loan provides access to such titles. Interestingly enough, the analysis of interlibrary loan requests and records offers a unique selection tool for the bibliographer. Libraries attempting to complete their holdings by specific authors or in specific series also utilize the OP market for meaningful acquisitions. With the virtual flood of dealer catalogs filling the mail routes, the bibliographer is generally able to find necessary, useful, and interesting selections for reasonable prices.

From a negative viewpoint, OP selection presents a lengthy, tedious, and not very cost effective library activity. The contradiction of a time consuming search through OP catalogs and the need to respond rapidly often keeps bibliographers from becoming directly involved in checking for possible purchases. All too often even an immediate reaction to catalogs by bibliographers results in orders being returned marked "sold." While dealer reliability is generally not a major concern, some librarians report horror stories of OP acquisition experiences. For example, one acquisitions librarian reports purchasing what they believed were over \$1000 worth of Faulkner signed first editions only to discover upon receipt the volumes were neither signed nor first editions. Upon inquiry, the dealer could no longer be reached by mail or telephone.

The condition of the specific volume is usually noted in the catalog, but dealers usually offer a returns policy. Verification work and the accuracy of dealer catalog information present problems for the bibliographer, although these pale in comparison to the accuracy demanded of acquisitions personnel. Bibliographers ask themselves if such titles truly exist and, if so, are they worthy purchases. Dealer catalogs which include such problems usually find the closest waste can. Unfortunately catalogs like these may well include attractive titles.

The sheer number of dealer catalogs presents another major problem. While some libraries are able to employ bibliographers for the OP market only, this is not the case in most academic libraries. The sheer volume of bibliographic verification is enough to discourage even the most dogged bibliographer, and decisions concerning which catalogs to search are difficult. Bibliographers will generally emphasize their subject background or subject areas which require strengthening. Since many catalogs are primarily history or historical collections in subject areas, bibliographers with history expertise tend to be the most active in OP acquisitions. The same is true for those with a background in literature. This generally results in bibliographers checking catalogs of certain dealers they know and ignoring or even discarding a good many catalogs.

To provide some perspective of the volume of

catalogs which create this situation, listed below are dealers whose catalogs regularly arrive at at least one research library: Zubal, Hamill and Barker, J. Parmer, Cohasco, Robert G. Hayman, Hill's Books, Bookworm and Silverfish, the Military History Bookshop, Dabney, Roy Young, Book Castle, Shamansky, and Cather. And remember, this is only a representative list and is not intended to be comprehensive! The question which should be obvious by now is if OP searching is worth the time spent on it?

With so many problems, it seems somewhat irresponsible not to offer some potential solution. As a bibliographer with primary responsibilities for the subject of history, I feel that OP searching and acquisitions is well worth the time involved. The significance of such additions to the overall library collection are difficult to express in terms of quality, but since OP purchases are determined by the buyer and not the seller, the only one to blame if excessive prices are paid is yourself. Bibliographers need to identify collection gaps and areas of desired strength and devote their time and efforts accordingly. Another realistic solution is to have a bibliographer whose sole responsibility is OP buying.

With the advent of the computer to library processes, it is feasible that another solution is more realistic than any other. This involves entering the necessary bibliographic data online and matching this OP "want list" with a similar database created by dealers. Not only does this eliminate the avalanche of catalogs but it also provides for much more efficient bibliographic searching. A pipe dream you ask? Perhaps it is too much to ask of dealers but since all are in business to provide a service for profit, this would easily enable dealers to disseminate their listings of available titles to those bibliographers who are serious about OP buying. The economics of the initial monetary outlay would have to be developed among dealers and leadership would need to be located. Seemingly the cost would be worth the investment.

One specific example of such a database is Alfred Jaeger's online file of serial issues available through the W. F. Faxon LINX database. One example of an OP database is Collectables Network.

#### **The Acquisitions View**

Although few librarians in acquisitions or cataloging would deny the benefits to the collection of buying OP books, most view the process with a resigned sigh or even with audible groans. The work involved in ordering and processing OP materials is especially time-consuming in technical services. In acquisitions, unless personnel are hired solely to handle this material, ordering of new books must be put aside in order to process request for titles from dealers' catalogs. These have to be handled promptly since the earlier the phone call to the dealer,



the more items will still be available. A few exasperating dealers only do business by mail, but most list a telephone number in their catalogs.

Even though the phone call to reserve the desired items from the dealer can be made early in the process, verification of the bibliographic information must be done eventually. Most libraries have access to a national bibliographic utility, such as OCLC and RLIN, and a fairly high percentage of OP titles can be verified this way. However, many of the records for older material may not reflect the particular edition being offered, so the printed bibliographic sources, such as the *National Union Catalog*, must be searched for cataloging copy for that specific edition. If none is located, original cataloging is required. Even if copy is located, modifications have to be made to bring it up to AACR II standards. All of this manual bibliographic and cataloging work is time-consuming. In some libraries, some of the bibliographic work is part of the pre-order process. In an integrated online system in which the intent is to minimize the number of times a bibliographic record is handled, it takes special care in the ordering process to choose the correct record to enter into the database.

This can be made especially difficult by those dealers who give incomplete or inaccurate information in their catalogs. Often the assumption is made that the bibliographer knows his or her own collection and the subject well enough that there is no need for the dealer to provide clear bibliographic information. This seems to be especially true of art and architecture OP dealers. They often use only the artist's or architect's name with no mention of editor and the titles given tend to be incomplete and misleading. Lack of publishers and dates in these catalogs can cause great frustration for acquisitions personnel. Pressure needs to be placed on OP dealers to do accurate, informative citations, including authors' first and last names, complete title, publisher and copyright (not printing) date. Of course, for those libraries whose acquisitions procedures are not bound closely to an automated cataloging system or who are not concerned about duplication, these verification problems can wait the arrival of the book in the cataloging department.

One irritating problem in the acquisitions process comes when, after calling to reserve titles listed in a given catalog, the dealer sends only a partial shipment with no report on the other items. Sometimes this can be discovered when the first books are received, but especially in an automated acquisitions environment this may not be noticed until later. Then it is necessary to write to the dealer and inquire about the other items promised to be held for the library. A dealer may indicate that the item is now sold; he may or may not say that the title will be searched on the market and offered

later. Although it would have been better to have been told this initially, the offer to search for another copy can be worthwhile especially if the dealer specializes in a specific subject. Receiving no response at all to the claims is exasperating; finally the only alternative is to write to the dealer to cancel the order.

When an order is placed in an integrated, automated system, care must be taken when the book arrives to ascertain that the item received actually matches the record. If it does not, someone must stop and either load a new record, update the original one, or add a note to the catalogers that there is a problem.

Even if the majority of bibliographic verification is done in acquisitions, there is still much time-consuming work to be done by cataloging personnel. Existing records often need modification and original cataloging is often necessary for other titles. Sometimes special notes are needed, such as missing pages, autographs, and unique physical features. If the book is in poor condition, a decision must be made regarding the suitability of rebinding, repair or other preservation techniques. All of this again takes time away from the handling of new materials, so the decision to buy from dealer catalogs needs to be carefully weighed against the time it takes to process these books.

Care also needs to be taken in the decision to search for specific titles which publishers have reported being OP. In this case, some verification has already taken place, although there is no way to know which edition of a title will be offered to the library.

There are primarily two ways to handle this type of search. One is to send a mixed subject list of titles to a source such as *Library Bookseller*, a serial publication which reproduces lists in the same manner in which they are sent by the requesting library. Dealers then respond by writing to the library and offering individual titles which they have in stock. A study of three lists sent by Auburn University Libraries to *Library Bookseller* from October 1985 to March 1986 reveals that 263 titles listed, offers were made by dealers for 51 (19.5%). Unfortunately some of these offers are for titles not actually in stock but which the dealer thinks can be located. This can cause further confusion. A second procedure is to send a list of titles on a specific topic to a dealer who specializes in that subject. It is also possible to write to foreign vendors who offer OP service, such as B. H. Blackwell's (England) and Otto Harrassowitz (West Germany).

### Conclusion

From the two viewpoints several conclusions are apparent. Although these are not opposing views, the one common thread between bibliographer and acquisitions librarian is the time factor involved in OP buying. While positive aspects are mentioned, both views stress

that OP buying activities demand sacrifices in certain other library activities. Administrative decisions have to be made as to how important OP acquisitions are to the overall library acquisitions program. Nevertheless, most bibliographers seem to feel the sacrifice is worth their effort, and technical personnel generally concurs despite the labor intensive effort involved.

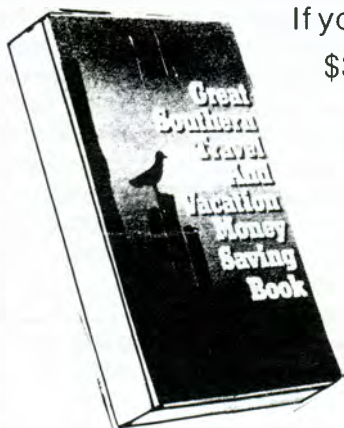
This brief paper is not a how-to guide on OP buying. Instead, the library philosophy of OP selection and acquisitions are presented and practical considerations discussed. If the views presented here generate either discussion of the situation between librarians and dealers or possible solutions for both groups, the review will have accomplished our purpose.

#### CALENDAR OF STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEETINGS — 1988

Date	State	Meeting
January 9-14, 1988	ALA	ALA Midwinter; San Antonio, Texas
March 16-18, 1988	LA	Louisiana Library Association Annual Convention. Lake Charles, LA
April 12-15, 1988	AL	Alabama Library Association Annual Convention. Governors House. Montgomery, AL. Contact: Thomas Souter (205) 566-9934
April 21-23, 1988	TN	Tennessee Library Association Annual Convention. Stouffer Hotel, Nashville, TN.
April 27-30, 1988	PLA	Public Library Association National Conference. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
May 3-7, 1988	FL	Florida Library Association Annual Convention. Doral Hotel on the Beach, Miami Beach, FL
July 9-14, 1988	ALA	ALA Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA
October 12-14, 1988	KY	Kentucky Library Association Annual Convention Executive Inn-Riverfront. Owensboro, KY. Contact: Theresa Wiley
October 13-15, 1988	WV	West Virginia Library Association Convention. Huntington: Radisson Hotel and Conference Center
November 9-11, 1988	SC	South Carolina Library Association Annual Convention. Myrtle Beach Hilton. Myrtle Beach, SC

#### CALENDAR OF STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEETINGS — 1989

Date	State	Meeting
October 11-13, 1989	KY	KLA Annual Conference. Ramada Inn, Hurtsbourne Lane, Louisville, KY
October 10-13, 1989	NC	NCLA Biennial Conference. Charlotte, Radisson
October 25-29, 1989	GA	GLA Biennial Conference, Jekyll Island



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Midwestern Division, 501 S. Gladiolus Street, Moline, IL 60954 (815) 472-2444  
 Western Division, 380 Edison Way, Reno, NV 89564 (702) 786-6700

## Travel Applications Sought

The Association for Library Service to Children is accepting applications for four 1988 conference travel awards made possible by an annual gift from the Putnam & Grosset Group. The four awards of \$400 each will be given to four librarians who work directly with children in elementary schools, middle schools, or public libraries to enable them to attend the American Library Association's Annual Conference in New Orleans, July 9-14, 1988. Applicants must be members of ALSC with one to ten years of experience as a librarian working directly with children and may not have attended a previous ALA Annual Conference.

For application forms, write to Putnam & Grosset Award Application, Association for Library Service to Children, ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. Application deadline is March 1, 1988.

## Omissions and Errors Insurance

The American Library Association has named Albert H. Wohlers & Company of Park Ridge, Ill., as the administrator of a liability insurance program for member libraries. The Association Professional Liability Insurance Plan (APLI) was selected after an extensive search for a new carrier following the cancellation of the previous policy with Hartford Insurance Company.

APLI was developed to meet the liability insurance needs as well as the budgets of nonprofit organizations. The insurance covers the library, its staff and trustees as well as volunteers acting on the library's behalf. The policy provides coverage for payment of court settlements, out-of-court settlements, legal fees, injunctive relief actions and more up to \$1,000,000. Premiums are based on the library's budget and range between \$1,800 and \$3,200, including a \$2,500 deductible. Participants must be organization members of ALA.

Members presently insured by ALA's Errors and Omissions plan are now being contacted by Wohlers, and an information package will be sent to all ALA organization members.

For additional information on APLI, write Albert H. Wohlers & Co., 1500 Higgins Rd., Park Ridge, IL 60078-5750 or call 1-800-323-2106 (Illinois residents 1-312-698-2221).

## BT Travel Grants

The American Library Association's Young Adult Services Division (YASD) has announced that applications are now being taken for the YASD/Baker & Taylor conference grants. The two grants of \$750 each are awarded to librarians who work directly with young adults in either a public library or a school library and

will enable them to attend the 1988 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, July 1-14, 1988.

The YASD/Baker & Taylor conference grants are made possible by the support of the Baker & Taylor Company and are administered by a committee of ALA's Young Adult Services Division.

Requirements for application are: the individual must be a YASD member, preferably for two or more years; the individual must have between one and ten years experience working with teenagers; and the individual must not have attended any previous ALA conference. Completed applications and supporting statements should be sent to: YASD/Baker & Taylor Conference Grants Committee, YASD Office, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

The deadline for applications is March 1, 1988.

## Archives Institute

Designed for *beginning* archivists, librarians, and manuscript curators, the 22nd annual Archives Institute will offer general instruction in basic concepts and practices of archival administration and management of traditional and modern documentary materials. The two week program will focus on an integrated archives/records management approach to records keeping and will feature lectures and demonstrations, a supervised practicum, and field trips to local archives. Topics will include records appraisal, arrangement and description of official and private papers, control systems, micrographics, conservation, legal issues, and reference service.

The Institute program is coordinated by Dr. Martin Elzy, Assistant Director of the Carter Presidential Library. Local agencies cooperating in the 1988 Institute program include: Atlanta Historical Society, Atlanta University Center, Emory University, Georgia State University, and Martin Luther King, Jr., Library and Archives.

Tuition is \$350. Enrollment is limited and the deadline for receipt of application and resume is Monday, March 28th. Participants needing housing should so note on their application and information will be provided.

## PLA Conference

Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and author Barbara Tuchman, Fred Rogers, Emmy-award-winning producer and host of "Mr. Rogers Neighborhood," and international futurist Robert Theobald are among the speakers scheduled for the Public Library Association third national conference in Pittsburgh, to take place April 27-30, 1988.

## BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESS

Brown, Steven Ford, editor. *Contemporary Literature In Birmingham; An Anthology*. CIP, 1983

(0-918644-27-5) Paper \$7.00 (0-918644-28-3) Hardback \$12.00

An original collection (none previously published) of poems and short stories by contemporary Birmingham authors. Foreword by John S. Coley, Emeritus Professor of English, University of Alabama in Birmingham.

Yates, Robert. *Secret Proceedings And Debates of the Convention Assembled at Philadelphia, in the Year 1787, for the Purpose of Forming the Constitution of the United States of America*. Introduction by John Charles Armor. 1987.

(0-942301-01-3) Paper \$17.00 (0-942301-00-5) Hardback \$37.50

Robert Yates, delegate from New York, kept a detailed account of the proceedings. Yates, an Anti-Federalist, became a leading opponent to the adoption of the Constitution without a Bill of Rights. The original 1821 work is reprinted, supplemented by new introduction and index, as well as by an analytical index to the Constitution.

Tyler, Elizabeth Ann. *Research In Black History: A Guide To Resources In The Birmingham Public Library*. Revised by Don M. Veasey. Photographs, CIP. October, 1987.

(0-9423301-06-4) Paper \$6.00

This revised bibliography provides a guide to materials relating to Black history found in the Southern History Collection, as well as in the Archives and other departments of the central library.

Featherston, John C. *Battle of the Crater; Address by Capt. John C. Featherston, Late Captain in Alabama Brigade of Gen. Mahone's Division, C.S.A.* ("Eyewitness Accounts of the Civil War" Series Number 1) New Introduction and Index, CIP. November, 1987.

(0-942301-02-1) Paper \$10.00

A reprint of the 1906 account by the Confederate commander whose forces held the fortifications at the Battle of Petersburg. Included is detailed account of the construction of the Union mine and bomb which were expected to topple Petersburg, and end the War.

Curry, William L. *Raid of the Confederate Cavalry Through Central Tennessee In October 1863, Commanded by General Joseph Wheeler*. ("Eyewitness Accounts of the Civil War" Series Number 2) New Introduction and Index, CIP. December, 1987.

(0-942301-03-X) Paper \$10.00

A reprint of the 1908 account by the Union commander who pursued Wheeler through north Alabama and central Tennessee.

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**Birmingham Public Library Press  
2100 Park Place  
Birmingham, AL 35203**

Individuals, please include payment for total amount of order plus \$2.00 shipping charge. Libraries and institutions will be billed upon request.

## BULLETIN BOARD

The theme of the conference is "Public Libraries: Bridges to the 21st Century." The program is designed to provide insight into trends and to stimulate participants as they look toward the expansion and improvement of library services in the future. The conference will open with a series of pre-conferences on the Public Library Development Plan and public library building design, Sager reported.

Information may be obtained from the Public Library Association, a division of the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

### **New RASD Section Established**

The American Library Association Reference and Adult Services Division Board of Directors has approved establishment of a Business Reference and Services Section (BRASS).

The new section responds to the need for an enlarged program aimed at helping librarians increase their knowledge and skills in answering business inquiries and selecting and using business reference sources, according to Gerald Gill, chair, RASD Business Reference Services Discussion Group. Gill presented the proposal for this section with more than 300 signatures on the supporting petition.

For further information on how to become involved in BRASS, contact: Joanne Kosanke, BRASS Steering Committee, Oshkosh Public Library, 106 Washington Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54901; 414/236-5214.

### **National Library Week**

The theme for the 1988 National Library Week focus will be "The Card With a Charge . . . Use Your Library." The theme will appear on full-color posters and bookmarks and is the message in public service ads for print, radio and TV that will be available for local media use. Additional information on NLW can be obtained from the ALA office.

### **Special Friends Getaway**

Celebrate National Library Week, April 17-23, 1988, with Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) in Washington, D.C., participate in Library Legislative Day and receive discounts on airfare and room rates. There's even an optional side trip to Philadelphia at the end of the week.

During National Library Week, FOLUSA is offering a special discounted airfare, 5 percent off the lowest available fare, when booked on their designated carrier, as well as a special discount room rate at the Capitol Holiday Inn, located one block from the Smithsonian, the Metro and the Mall.

Washington, D.C., ground arrangements are \$327 per person for double occupancy, and \$515 for single

occupancy. (Please add \$25 tax-deductible contribution to FOLUSA.) Train fare to Philadelphia is \$38, and one night at the Hershey Hotel is \$95 plus tax.

For additional information and reservations, call TV Travel Group Department, 1-800-826-9282, or call or write Sandy Dolnick (414/961-2095) for additional information. More information about Washington and Philadelphia sightseeing opportunities will be sent on request.

### **Friend's Awards**

Friends of Libraries U.S.A. announces its 1988 awards competition is open for state and local Friends of the Library organizations, with the deadline set for April 1, 1988. The annual competition offers national recognition to the winners in four categories: state Friends organization, large public library Friends, small public library Friends and academic library Friends. Each category's award is a \$500 cash prize from Baker & Taylor book jobbers.

The winner of the 1987 State Friends Award is the Mississippi Libraries, of the Academic Friends Award it is the Augustana Library Associates of Augustana College, South Dakota. The Large Public Library Friends Award went to the Friends of the Lancaster County (Pa.) Library, and the Small Public Library Friends Award to the Silverton (Ore.) Friends of the Library.

The 1988 winners will be honored at FOLUSA's awards luncheon during its meeting in New Orleans on June 9, 1988, to be held in conjunction with the American Library Association's Annual Conference.

Nominations in the category of academic library friends should be sent to Robert Runyon, University of Nebraska at Omaha Library, Omaha, NE 68187-0237. Those in the category of small public library friends should go to Janet Clark, 381 Rolling Meadows Rd., Madison, MS 39110, while those for both large public libraries' and state friends organizations should be sent to Elaine Estes, director of the Public Library of Des Moines, 100 Locust St., Des Moines, IA 50308-1791.

### **LAMA Call for Papers**

Ann H. Eastman, president of the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA), seeks papers for recognition at the LAMA President's Program in New Orleans, on July 10, 1988. Papers should address the importance of effective communication in leadership to tie in with the "Language of Leadership" theme of the program.

A one-page description of potential papers should be submitted by November 15, 1987, to Ann H. Eastman, 5010 Newman Library, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061. A short list of papers will be compiled by early

## BULLETIN BOARD

December. Completed papers should be submitted by March 1, 1988. The authors of the papers selected will be notified by March 15, 1988.

For more information, see the September 1987 issue of *Library Administration and Management*.

### ACRL Dates

The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), a division of the American Library Association, has announced dates for its next two national conferences. They are: April 5-8, 1989, in Cincinnati, Ohio, and April 1-4, 1992, in Phoenix, Ariz.

### ALA Pre-conference Planned

The Bibliographic Instruction Section of ACRL is planning a one-day ALA pre-conference in New Orleans next summer. The pre-conference will be held on July 8 prior to the 1988 ALA Annual Conference, July 9-14. The theme will focus on the future of bibliographic instruction in the electronic age. Preliminary plans include a morning session with two renowned key-note speakers, followed by a luncheon, and small group sessions in the afternoon. Topics proposed for the afternoon include burnout, teaching end-user searching, online catalog instruction, evaluating instruction librarians, effective use of media, graphics and other topics related to the electronic age theme. Further details will be released following ALA Midwinter. Chair of the ACRL BIS Pre-Conference Planning Committee is Jane Kleiner, Louisiana State University.

### ALA GODORT WANTS YOU!

Don't just sit there — get involved in GODORT today! Volunteer to run for one of the offices open by contacting a Nominating Committee Member. Eager candidates are needed for all the positions listed in the front of the September issue of *Documents to the People* (list is also available from the following Committee member). Whatever you're interested in — federal, state, local, foreign or international documents — there's a place for you to meet others with similar interests. If you have not already been contacted by a Nominating Committee Member and want to be a candidate for an office, please contact the following Committee member immediately.

Jim Veatch  
Nashville Tech Library  
120 White Bridge Rd.  
Nashville, TN 37209  
(615) 383-1334

### NATIONAL JOBLINES

ARIZONA: Job Hotline: 602/278-1327  
ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES: Jobline: 312/944-6795  
BRITISH COLUMBIA Library Association Jobline: 604/263-0014.  
CALIFORNIA Library Association Jobline: 916/443-1222 or 213/629-5627  
CALIFORNIA Media and Library Educators Association Job Hotline: 415/697-8832  
CALIFORNIA, SAN ANDREAS - SAN FRANCISCO BAY Special Libraries Association: 408/378-8854  
CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER Special Libraries Association: 818/795-2145  
CANADIAN Association of Special Libraries and Information Services: 613/237-3688  
COLORADO State Library Jobline: 303/866-6741  
CONNECTICUT Library Association Jobline: 203/727-9675  
D.C., METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON Library Jobline: 202/223-2272  
DELAWARE Library Association Jobline: 800/282-8696  
DREXEL UNIVERSITY Jobline: 215/895-1672  
FLORIDA State Library Jobline: 904/488-5232  
ILLINOIS Library Jobline: 312/828-0930  
MARYLAND Library Association Jobline: 301/685-5760  
MIDWEST Library Job Hotline: 317/926-8770  
MISSOURI Library Association Jobline: 314/442-6590  
MOUNTAIN PLAINS Library Association Jobline: 605/677-5757  
NEBRASKA Job Hotline: 402/471-2045  
NEW ENGLAND Library Jobline: 617/738-3148  
NEW JERSEY Library Association Jobline: 609/695-2121  
NEW YORK Library Association Jobline: 212/227-8483  
NEW YORK Chapter, Special Libraries Association Hotline: 212/214-4226  
NORTH CAROLINA State Library Jobline: 919/733-6410. NC INFORMATION NETWORK ELECTRONIC MAIL BULLETIN BOARD: "NCJOBS". To list a position, call 919/733-2570, NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES ONLY.  
OKLAHOMA Department of Libraries Jobline: 405/521-4202  
OREGON Library/Media Jobline: 503/585-2232  
PACIFIC NORTHWEST Library Association Jobline: 202/543-2890  
PENNSYLVANIA Cooperative Job Hotline: 717/234-4646  
PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION Jobline: 312/664-5627  
SOUTH CAROLINA, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA Jobline: 803/777-8443  
SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION, 202/234-3632  
TEXAS State Library Jobline: 512/463-5470  
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION Library Network: 202/233-2820  
VIRGINIA Library Jobline: 804/370-7267  
WEST VIRGINIA employment listings: call the Pennsylvania Cooperative Job Hotline: 717/234-4646



**Books-by-Mail**

This fall Wheeler Basin Regional Library's Books-by-Mail program expanded its efforts to reach those people who were not served by a local library branch. Approximately 13,000 catalogs were mailed on selected rural routes in Lawrence, Limestone, and Morgan counties. These catalogs explained how the Books-by-Mail program works, who is eligible, and how to receive books through the mail. They contain an annotated listing of 800 books to choose from, organized in categories including best sellers, popular, westerns, romance, suspense, humor, hobbies, cookbooks, children's and young adults.

**NAL Officers**

The Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL) announces the election of officers and members of its Executive Council for 1987-1988.

Dr. Jerry Stephens, director of the Mervyn Sterne Library at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, has been elected chairman.

Mrs. Annie G. King, director of libraries at Tuskegee University has been elected vice-chairman.

Members elected to serve on the Executive Council include: Mr. James Damico, University of South Alabama; Dr. William Highfill, Auburn University; Dr. Charles Osburn, University of Alabama; Dr. Delmus Williams, University of Alabama in Huntsville; and Dr. Elizabeth French, Alabama Commission on Higher Education.

The Network of Alabama Academic Library is a consortium of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education and the state's seventeen academic institutions that offer graduate education. Dr. Sue O. Medina is director of the Network.



**CLSI Installation**

CLSI, Inc. announced a support unit contract had been signed with the Tampa Bay Library Consortium (TBLC) in Tampa, Florida. The consortium currently has 54 multi-type member libraries from a seven-county

area. The Support Unit Agreement places responsibility for and title to the central site hardware configuration with CLSI and TBLC libraries' automation expenditures are for terminals, peripherals and the support unit fee.

The first two institutions participating in the automation project are Tarpon Springs Public Library and the Merl Kelce Library at the University of Tampa. These libraries are obtaining bibliographic records from Brodart and OCLC, respectively and plan to download the records to their CLSI LIBS 100 System. Other TBLC member libraries plan to enter their bibliographic records even before formally joining the automation system to facilitate interlibrary loan activities and resource-sharing. These libraries are obtaining their records from the CD-ROM BiblioFile product as well as from bibliographic utilities.

**Serials List Available**

The SEFLIN Serials Union List, which contains the detailed periodical holdings of Broward Community College, Broward County Library, Florida Atlantic University, Florida International University, Miami-Dade Public Library, Miami-Dade Community College and the University of Miami, is available on microfiche. The cost is \$50 per copy. The set includes author-title in one series and subject in another. There are 50 fiche which come in a microfiche binder complete with instructions.

Copies can be obtained by sending a \$50 check made out to the Broward County Board of County Commissioners. Orders should be sent to: Kathleen Imhoff, SEFLIN Project Coordinator, Broward County Library, 100 South Andrews Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301.



**Rapid Transit Celebration**

The Nation's First Rapid Transit Library completed its first year of successful service on July 29. The Avondale Station Branch of the DeKalb Public Library System in Decatur, GA has made local officials and librarians very proud. The branch made history in 1986 when it became the very first commuter library in the country. Funded by matching DeKalb County and Federal LSCA Title II Grants totaling \$105,000, the satellite library is an outstanding example of cooperation between the DeKalb County Government and the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA).



Below, DeKalb Public Library Director Barbara Loar (3rd from right) is flanked by MARTA officials and DeKalb commissioner as she celebrates an extremely successful new library concept. Joining Ms. Loar are (l-r) Fred Goodman, Donna Mancini, Bob Brennan, Ken Gregor and Brince Manning III.



### Health Sciences Joint Meeting

The Georgia Health Sciences Library Association and the Florida Health Sciences Library Association will hold a joint meeting in Jacksonville, Florida, March 16-18, 1988. Anyone interested in registration and program information should contact: Ms. Bettye Stillely, Medical Library, Naval Hospital, Jacksonville, Florida 32214, or phone Ms. Stillely at (904) 777-7583.

### Joint Conference Planned

The Georgia Council of Media Organizations (GaCOMO) presents: "Cooperative Ventures." March 17-20, 1988, Jekyll Island, Georgia. Contact: Grodon Baker, Executive Director, GLMD, P.O. Box 793, Rex, Georgia 30273, 404-961-9824.

This will be the first ever conference sponsored by the Georgia Library/Media Department, Georgia Library Association, Georgia Association for Instructional Technology and Georgia Association of Media Representatives. We are very proud of our "cooperative effort" to present the finest conference of the year.

### UGA Newspaper Project

The National Endowment for the Humanities has given the University of Georgia libraries a \$417,441 grant to catalog and microfilm newspapers in Georgia.

The United States Newspaper Program grant is for a three-year period and includes \$50,000 in matching funds. The project is part of a coordinated national effort to identify, preserve and make available to researchers a significant portion of the newspapers published in the United States since the 17th century.

The new grant provides for microfilming of newspapers identified last year. "More than 2.5 million newspaper pages will be filmed during this project, thus preserving an important historical resource for future generations," said Barry B. Baker, assistant director for technical services in the university libraries and project director.

The newspaper program is an effort to build a national data base of bibliographic and holdings information for newspapers published in the United States. The project is sponsored cooperatively by NEH, the Library of Congress, the Online Computer Library Network and program participants.

The grant will be administered by the libraries' Georgia Newspaper Project. Started in 1953, the project preserves Georgia's newspapers on microfilm. By 1986, 635 titles had been microfilmed on more than 8,500 reels for the project.

### AU Accreditation

The American Library Association's Committee on Accreditation has announced that the graduate programs in library education at Atlanta University and the University of Southern Mississippi will continue their accreditation.

### Safety Day Observance

In conjunction with their ongoing program to serve battered women and their children, the Women's Resource Center of DeKalb County conducted a "Safety Day" observance on October 17, 1987, at the Maud Burrus Library in Decatur. The Resource Center also presented three books to the DeKalb Library relating to the battered woman problem — *Something Is Wrong at My House*, *Getting Free*, and *Response*. Pictured below at the book presentation are: Commissioner Sherry Schulman; Julie Hunter, Administrative Librarian; Sherry Sinclair; Patti Madison; and Martha Glynn, Outreach Librarian.





**Handicapped Toy Library**

The Louisville Free Public Library, with Seven Counties Services has received a \$19,000 grant from the Kentucky Development Disabilities Planning Council to set up a lending library of switches and adapted toys for severely handicapped children. These switches give children who cannot operate a toy in the ordinary manner, access to the toys. For instance, adapted toys and switches allow a child to lay his hand on a pressure plate and turn on a tape player or blow through a tube and run an electric car. This not only allows the child to engage in play, but helps him develop an understanding of cause and effect movement that can give him more control over his environment.

The toy library is scheduled to open in February, 1988, and will be housed on the second floor of the south building in the main library. Items will be checked out through the library's circulation system. Anyone interested in working with handicapped children on this project, contact Karen James, 561-8620.

**Water Damages State Library**

At approximately ten p.m. on Sunday, July 5th, a ceiling water main ruptured in the book stack area at the Department for Libraries and Archives, causing damage to over 3,000 volumes. Before discovery, water spewed in all directions, damaging materials in the immediate vicinity and saturating the carpet in most of the stack area. More than a dozen staff members, including members of the Public Records Disaster Response Team worked until dawn, moving and sorting through affected books. Tables and fans were set up in the lobby to accommodate the least damaged volumes. Soaked materials were packed in boxes between layers of waxed paper for temporary storage in the freezer of the nearest Kroger store.



**Xavier Gets Mellon Grant**

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, working with the Southern Education Foundation of Atlanta, Georgia, has just awarded Xavier University of Louisiana a grant of

\$112,500 for library collection development. The grant, which will be awarded over a period of three years, is intended to improve the library's holdings in the humanities.

Said Robert Skinner, University Librarian for Xavier: "The Mellon Foundation and SEF have given us a golden opportunity to not only substantially improve the collection, but also to offer a considerably expanded set of services to the faculty and students here."

The Xavier Library currently holds about 100,000 volumes. The Mellon grant should enable the library to increase its holdings by from three to five thousand volumes over the next three years.

**Celebrating the Constitution**

As part of the celebration of the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, "In Search of Fundamental Law: Louisiana's Constitutions," a public forum focusing on the constitutional history of Louisiana and the concept of constitutionalism in the state was held at the Louisiana State Library in Baton Rouge and at the Old United States Mint in New Orleans on October 23 and 24, 1987. Funded by a grant from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, and directed by Harriet C. Callahan, Louisiana State Library, and Edward F. Haas, Louisiana State Museum, the seminar combines a series of lectures on the Louisiana Constitutions from 1812 to 1974 with an interpretive exhibit.

Distinguished historians and scholars participating in the seminar were: Warren Billings, professor of history at the University of New Orleans, and historian of the Supreme Court of Louisiana; Judith Kelleher Schafer, Murphy Institute, Tulane University; Wayne M. Everard, archivist, Louisiana Division, New Orleans Public Library; Kathryn Page, research historian, University of New Orleans, Charles Vincent, professor and head of the History Department, Southern University; Ronald M. Labbe, professor and head of the Political Science Department, University of Southwestern Louisiana; Michael L. Lanza, history professor, University of New Orleans; Marie Windell, archivist, University of New Orleans; Matthew J. Schott, professor of history, University of Southwestern Louisiana; and Mark Carleton, professor of history, Louisiana State University.

The interpretive exhibit consists of photographs which explore Louisiana's constitutional heritage through documents, artifacts, and artwork. It will travel to libraries throughout Louisiana during 1988.

**New Orleans to Host Exhibit**

The New Orleans Public Library will host a major traveling exhibit, "Are we to be a nation? The making of the Federal Constitution," December 8, 1987

through January 16, 1988. The exhibit, organized by the New York Public Library and the American Library Association and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, will travel to thirty public libraries in major cities throughout the United States. The exhibit is funded locally by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.



### Literacy Program

Leaders from industry, government, labor and community groups in Jackson County met on the Jackson County Campus of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College on June 23, 1987, to participate in the first national video teleconference on adult literacy and its impact on the workplace. "The American Seminar: Literacy, Your Community and Its Workforce" was the largest educational video teleconference in history, attracting more than 150,000 participants. The Jackson County group was one of 1,000 similar groups across the country joined by satellite for the conference which originated live from the BizNet Studio of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington, D.C.

### Colliders Spur Library Funds

In an effort to improve its chances to secure the proposed \$4.4 billion Super Collider facility, the Mississippi legislature appropriated nearly \$16 million to be spent on the state's university libraries. Another \$5 million went to upgrade community college libraries.



### Kessler and UNC Lead in Research

The School of Library Science at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill has been cited as the single most active center for graduate level research on government publications in the United States. The School attained this position in 1981/82, and has maintained the premier position to the present time. The School at Chapel Hill has been sponsoring government information research since 1956 when it accepted its first thesis on government publications. This ranking is reported in John Richardson, Jr.'s newly published *Government Information: Education and Research, 1928-1986* and is based on research output, level of

government studied and research methodology.

Richardson's book also reports the status of individual faculty advisors who supervise graduate work in government publications. The most influential advisor, Ridley R. Kessler, is an adjunct instructor in the School of Library Science and is the Federal Documents Librarian in Davis Library, at UNC-Chapel Hill. Kessler's students have completed research primarily at the federal level of government, secondarily at the state level, and additionally at the local levels. Kessler's advisees at the School of Library Science were reported as having the broadest orientation when it comes to functional activity.

Richardson states that "perhaps North Carolina attracts intellectually curious students who do not feel bound by the view that only the federal level of government or cataloging of government functions are worthy of study. In summary, North Carolina is one of the schools to watch in the field of government information."



**Ridley R. Kessler**

### Library Funding

The Central Assembly approved an additional \$500,000 for each year of the biennium (1987/88 and 1988/89) for the Aid to Public Libraries Fund. The total available to public libraries is \$11,289,462 per year, an increase of 4.6 percent above FY 1987.

### Network Expands

As of mid-June, North Carolina state agencies have begun using the latest computer technology in an effort to make it easier for more companies to share in the more than \$800 million in purchasing and contracting done by the State of North Carolina each year. The North Carolina Purchasing Directory, which lists state government contracts open for public bid, has been made

available on the North Carolina Information Network. A cooperative effort of the State Library and the Purchase and Contract division of the Department of Administration, it is believed that this computerized version of the directory will increase access to information needed to do business with state government.

The State Library has added a new, important electronic bulletin board service. The board, "NCDATA" contains the most up-to-date statistics collected by the NC State Data Center of the Office of Budget and Management.

### **ECU Workshop Held**

"Building Community Involvement in the Library," the first of four workshops offered by East Carolina University's Department of Library and Information Studies, was held on October 3, 1987. Ms. Jean Berg, Director of Volunteer Services for Arlington County, Virginia who is nationally known for her work in this area, directed the workshop. Ms. Berg presented a five-part model for volunteer program development which included planning, program design, program implementation, program operation, and evaluation. She emphasized the need for libraries to consider volunteer staff in the same way they considered paid staff.



### **Library History Project**

The University of South Carolina's College of Library and Information Science has received \$8,000 to fund the third and final year of a project emphasizing the state's library heritage. The South Carolina Committee for the Humanities grant will enable Dr. Robert V. Williams, project director and USC associate professor, to prepare a major conference on South Carolina library history and document the experiences of black librarians in the state. Titled "South Carolina's Library Heritage," the project includes articles, interviews and an exhibit, all focusing on the preservation and promotion of the state's library heritage.

Williams has updated a bibliography of South Carolina's library history, inventoried manuscript and archival resources and written articles on library history.

### **Media Demonstration Project**

The South Carolina State Library has selected the School District of Oconee County and the Lexington

County School District V to participate in a School Library Media Center Demonstration Project during 1987-89. The purpose of the two year project is to encourage interlibrary cooperation and resource sharing at the local level and to test the feasibility of school library access to the South Carolina Library Network. LSCA, Title III grants will be made to three library media centers in each district to assist in the conversion of library records to machine readable format in order that library circulation and public access catalog functions may be automated. As part of the project, each district will develop a plan for resource sharing at the local level and then be given on-line access to the State Library's database for reference and interlibrary loan purposes.

### **Charleston Area Libraries Receive Funds**

The Charleston Higher Education Commission has funded a consultancy and training workshop to help five Charleston area academic libraries establish the basis for formal cooperation in collection development and management. On July 29, Jeffrey Gardner from the Office of Management Studies, a division of the Association of Research Libraries, met with library directors of The Baptist College of Charleston, the College of Charleston, The Citadel, the Medical University of South Carolina, and Trident Technical College to clarify the libraries' goals and finalize plans for additional training.

### **Military Standards Microfilm**

The Small Business Development Center of South Carolina (SBDC) has presented a complete microfilm collection of military specifications and standards to the South Carolina State Library as part of a joint effort to assist South Carolina small businesses in competing for federal contracts. The cooperative venture is part of SBDC's Procurement Technical Assistance Program (PTAP) which is funded by a grant from the U.S. Defense Logistics Agency.

### **APLA Meeting**

On August 14, twenty-four county and regional library directors attended the quarterly meeting of the Association of Public Library Administrators (APLA) of South Carolina. The meeting, held in Charleston, was a part of the annual convention of the South Carolina Association of Counties. David Moltke-Hansen of the South Carolina Historical Society spoke to the group on the subject of "Public Libraries and Archives." His talk was followed by reports from the State Library, a discussion of South Carolina Public Library Standards, and a report on the status of the "Let's Talk About It" Project application for an NEH grant.

## **Clemson Libraries' Textile Project Grant**

Michael Kohl, head of the Special Collections Unit of the Clemson University Libraries, and Bryan McKown, project archivist, have been locating and obtaining mill records from several upstate companies under a new program funded by a grant from the Serrine Foundation. The project centers on the textile industry. Personnel files, company store records, production reports, and correspondence shed light on the many cultural changes that occurred throughout the state over the past century. As new buildings are constructed and mills change ownerships, many records are lost or destroyed. Through the project, an effort will be made to preserve some of these records before they disappear.



## **Union List Grant**

The Memphis State University Libraries have been awarded a \$121,000 grant to develop the first phase of a Tennessee Union List of Serials. The list will provide access to an estimated 64,000 periodical titles. This access will facilitate resource sharing among libraries and will provide improved access to periodicals literature for a broad segment of the state of Tennessee.

## **Library Fire**

A fire in the Blaine Library (Grainger County) totally destroyed its contents in December. The library was closed at the time. The fire is believed to be of electrical origin.

Firefighters fought heat so intense it melted a typewriter in the library. Everything in the library not burned was ruined by water. The only things saved were a collection of dolls which were on display in the library. A decision on replacement of the library must await determination by the insurance company on how much it will pay for the loss.

Most of the books in the Blaine Library were on loan from the Nolichucky Regional Library, but many belonged to the county library system as did all equipment and furnishings in the building.

## **Peabody Library Celebrates 60 Years of Service**

The Department of Library and Information Science at Vanderbilt's George Peabody College for Teachers celebrated 60 years of service recently and presented Distinguished Alumni Awards to graduates of the Peabody Library School. The awards were presented by Edwin Gleaves, who was chairman of the Library Science

and Information Science Department for 20 years. He recently began his duties as State Librarian and Archivist.

The celebrations also marked the closing of the Library School next year. "We decided to go out on a high note," said Gleaves. "I believe that the tone of the activities and the enthusiasm of the 250 people who attended over that weekend (May 29-30) testify to the high regard in which the school is held."

## **Award-Winning Brochure**

A brochure prepared by the Memphis/Shelby County Public Library won first place in the category of National Library Week promotion in competition sponsored by the public relations section of the Library Administration and Management Association. It listed books recommended by managers and directors of local tourist attractions and featured photos of readers at Graceland, Handy Park, and the Zoo.



## **Literacy Grants**

The Virginia Literacy Foundation has notified private and community groups throughout the state about grant funds available. The foundation, which was founded this year by First Lady Jeannie Baliles, is offering small grants to local literacy groups. Although public libraries may not apply directly for grants, they can cooperate with local organizations in developing grant proposals.

## **PR Award**

In a national competition, the Library Public Relations Council chose as the best for the year the program announcement "America's Coming of Age: Stylistic Novels of the Twenties," a cooperative effort of the Charles P. Jones Memorial Library, Clifton Forge Public Library, and Dabney S. Lancaster Community College.

## **Conversion News**

During the past fiscal year the catalogs of five public libraries, containing a total of almost 320,600 titles, were converted to machine-readable format and their locations were added to the statewide union data base. There were no matching records in the data base for 2,860 of those titles, so they received original cataloging. As part of the LSCA Title I grants, the participating libraries also received a total of 118 COM catalogs and 99 microfiche readers.

The first supplement to the ninth edition of *CAVALIR* has been published, and 278 copies have been distributed. The supplement contains 312,930 titles, which includes cataloging via OCLC through the end of February and cataloging via TCC through the end of March 1987.

### Norfolk Constitution Program

The Norfolk Public Library and the Virginia Beach Public Library systems recently completed a successful series entitled "The Supreme Court, the Bill of Rights and the Law." The joint effort meant that audiences were drawn from various areas of Southern Tidewater Virginia. Three Sunday afternoon programs were held in Norfolk and two in Virginia Beach.

The Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy funded the speakers and supplied casebooks of famous Supreme Court decisions concerning the Bill of Rights. Segments included "Free Speech," "The Public's Right to Know," "Racial Discrimination and Preference" and "Age, Gender and Economic Status."

Mary Mayer-Hennelly, the Community Services and Programming Coordinator for the Norfolk Public Library, noted that students, educators, senior citizens and members of civic organizations were among the diverse audience attracted to the successful lecture/discussion program.

### PR Award

A consortia of school and public libraries in Richmond, Henrico and Chesterfield, Virginia has received the prestigious 1987 John Cotton Dana Special Public Relations Award for their cooperative effort to promote reading among reluctant 10-15 year olds. This year-long campaign, entitled "Libraries Launch a Community of Readers," included a Bookmark Contest, a Young Adult Literature Conference, advertising on public transportation, two Reading Celebrations featuring YA authors, and the production of an innovative videocassette, "Take a Look at a Book." This 16-minute cassette uses a music video format and "teasers" to imaginatively dramatize ten books of mystery and suspense which motivate the viewer to read the novels portrayed.

"Take a Look at a Book" is available in VHS of ¾" format by sending a blank tape and a self-addressed mailer plus \$10.00 for VHS or \$18.00 for ¾" to cover dubbing, shipping and handling to Media Services, Richmond Public Schools, 301 North Ninth Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.



### Planning Project Initiated

The Fall project of the Cabell County Public Library will be to implement the initial phase of "Planning and Role

Setting for Public Libraries," a program developed under the auspices of PLA to assist public libraries in the areas of planning, measurement, and evaluation. While this program is not a revision of the planning process, it certainly has roots in that process. There are a number of steps in the program ranging from defining the plan to the writing of goals and objectives (which almost everyone has dreaded since the beginning of recorded history).

### Video Programs

For the past three years the Morgantown Public Library has administered a statewide traveling video circuit. Between eight and twelve member libraries received 20 videocassette titles approximately every six weeks. For the most part the circuit has been a success for the libraries. Each title often circulated 10-12 times during their six week stay at a library. Regretfully, this will be the last year to the circuit. When the 160 or more titles complete their year-long travels, they return to the shelves of the Morgantown Public Library.

### Sign Language Program

The Morgantown Public Library recently incorporated sign language into its summer reading program. Staff members took a signing course at West Virginia University and presented several programs in sign language during their summer program. One of the programs was a skit based on the children's book *The Farmer's Hat*. If anyone is interested in presenting a similar program, the library will be happy to lend a copy of their material.

### New Promotional Display

At the 1987 March Leadership Conference, SELA Membership Committee, chaired by Ellen Hellard, conceived the idea of a Membership Display which would circulate to all state conventions. Committee member Donna Mancini volunteered the help of DeKalb Library System's Art Director, Betty Ballenger (pictured below), to design something to promote both Association membership and the Norfolk Conference. Working with Donna and Headquarters, Betty designed two very attractive folding display boards and companion bookmarks. The displays have been used at all of the fall conventions and a Metropolitan Atlanta Library Association meeting, and will be shipped for use at the spring conferences and next fall's meetings. Be sure to look for the display at your state's convention and steer people in its direction.



### Storytelling Program

St. John's University, Division of Library and Information Science, presents its Annual Congress for Librarians on February 15, 1988. Entitled "Tales to Tell: Storytelling in Libraries," the Congress will feature noted storytellers Heather Forest, Laura Simms, Carol Birch and David Holt. For more information, contact Marilyn Kaye, Congress Coordinator or Philip Clark, Acting Director, Division of Library and Information, St. John's University, Jamaica, NY 11439. Phone 718-990-6200.

### English Library Seminar/Tour

An annual seminar entitled "English Libraries and Librarianship" will be held at Oxford University, England, May 22-June 4, 1988. It is conducted by the University of Oklahoma in cooperation with Oxford's Bodleian Library. The session allows librarians from all over the United States to have meaningful discussions with distinguished seminar directors and resource persons from the British library community. Students will meet in intensive lecture sessions and tour many famous libraries such as the Bodleian, Bristol University Library and the British Library in London. Information about the seminar is available by writing: CLS-Library, 1700 Asp Avenue, Suite 226, Norman, OK 73037, or by telephoning (405) 325-1061.

### Administrator Development Program

The College of Library and Information Services, University of Maryland, is planning the twenty-second annual Library Administrators Development Program, to be held May 1-13, 1988. Dr. John Rizzo, Professor of Management at Western Michigan University, will serve

as the Director. As in the past twenty-one summers, participants will include senior administrative personnel of large library systems — public, research, academic, special, governmental, and school — from North America and abroad. The faculty is made up of well-known scholars, educators, management consultants, and lecturers drawn from universities, governmental offices, and consulting fields.

Those interested in further information are invited to address inquiries to Marcia Hayleck, Administrative Assistant, University of Maryland, Library Administrators Development Program, College of Library and Information Services, College Park, Maryland 20742-4345. The telephone number is (301) 454-6080.

### Off-Campus Conference

The OFF-campus Library Services Conference sponsored by the Central Michigan University Libraries and the Institute for Personal and Career Development will be held in Charleston, South Carolina, October 20-21, 1988. Librarians, educators, administrators, and practitioners involved with adult learning in academic, corporate, governmental, or military settings are invited to submit proposals for presentation. Proposals are sought on topics concerned with the provision of library services to students distant from their central campus or headquarters training sites including interlibrary cooperation, program administration and evaluation, accreditation, licensure, distance delivery methods and technology, and student and faculty support services. For more information and mailing list inclusion contact Maryhelen Garrett, at Park Library 315, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859, (800) 248-9271.

## SPOTLIGHT ON PR — SELA 1988

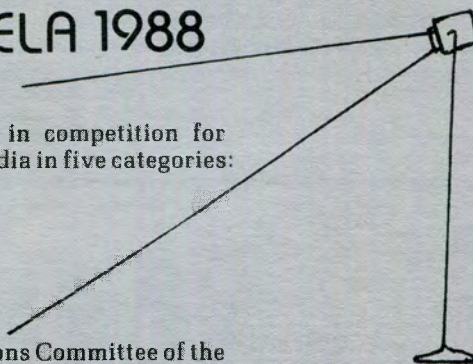
Members of SELA are invited to participate in competition for awards which will be presented for 1987-88 print media in five categories:

- Annual Reports
- Newsletters
- Fliers/brochures
- Calendars of Events
- Bookmarks/bibliographies

This competition is sponsored by the Public Relations Committee of the Southeastern Library Association. Send five copies of each entry to Judy McClendon, Richland County Public Library, 1400 Sumter Street, Columbia, South Carolina, 29201.

Entries must be received by June 1, 1988.

Winners will be announced at the 1988 Biennium in Norfolk.



### New Personnel Book

Dr. Robert S. Alvarez, former SELA Treasurer and Director of the Nashville Public Library, has published a book entitled, *Library Boss: Thoughts on Library Personnel*. It is available for \$19.95 (plus \$1.00 for shipping) from: Administrator's Digest Press, P.O. Box 993, So. San Francisco 94080.

### New T.I.P. Kits

The ALA Office for Library Personnel Resources has issued two new T.I.P. Kits.

*T.I.P. Kit #8: Hiring Library Staff* is a guide to the hiring process. T.I.P. Kit #8 features "Hiring: A Common Sense Approach" by Jeanne Isacco and Catherine Smith and includes material on employment references, job dimensions and interviewing.

*T.I.P. Kit #9: Pay Equity: Issues and Strategies* replaces T.I.P. Kit #2 on pay equity, which was published in 1982. T.I.P. Kit #9 includes articles on the role of job evaluation, union action, pay equity legislation, administrative remedies and litigation. Rounding out the packet are descriptions of library pay equity cases, a pay equity strategy checklist, a selected bibliography and resources available from the National Committee on Pay Equity and other groups.

The kits are \$10 each and available prepaid from ALA/OLPR, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

### New Sin Guide

A new brochure available from the American Library Association's (ALA) Committee on Professional Ethics asks "Could These Situations Be Unethical?"

The 27 situations listed, from "using patron records for political purposes" to "not providing full service because the request is a homework assignment," were developed by the Committee on Professional Ethics to stimulate discussion and controversy about questions of ethics.

The "Ethics Sin List" brochure, which also contains

the ALA Code of Ethics, can be obtained by sending \$.25 and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Office for Intellectual Freedom, ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

Bulk prices available on request.

### New Research Text Published

A new textbook aimed at basic library research courses throughout the United States has been written by Dianne Catlett, Donald Collins, and Bobbie Collins (East Carolina University). The book, *Libraries and Research: A Practical Approach*, published by Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., of Dubuque, Iowa, is designed for use in undergraduate college courses in basic library research and for high school programs that prepare students for college work. The authors discuss the parts of a typical college library, classification schemes, and the library catalog (card and online forms). Emphasis is on the materials of research available to students in two and four year college libraries, including books, periodicals, newspapers, government publications, and manuscripts.

### Archival Publication

The Society of North Carolina Archivists announces the publication of *Archival and Manuscript Repositories in North Carolina: A Directory*. The 109 page directory identifies and describes 125 repositories in North Carolina with archival or manuscript holdings. The cost is \$10.00 (ppd) to SNCA members and \$12.00 (ppd) to non-members. Order from the Society: P.O. Box 20448, Raleigh, NC 27619.

### ALA Awards

A complete description of the awards program of the American Library Association is available in a new brochure entitled, "Opportunities and Honors." It can be ordered free from the ALA Public Information Office with a 9" x 12" SASE.





## WITH LIBRARIANS

**Penny E. Albright**, Director, Kershaw County Library (SC) has been named secretary of the Small and Medium Sized Libraries Section of the American Library Association. □ **Mary Ann Alexander** retired from the post of county librarian in Green County (TN). □ **Mary Amanda Axford**, Athens, AL, has been awarded a fellowship by the Graduate School of Library Service, University of Alabama. The award comes from a grant by USOE for studies in collection development and management. □ **Lynn Baker** is the new Cataloger at Mississippi College. □ **Steven Baker**, reference librarian, has been appointed director of the Avert Learning Center, North Greenville College, Tigerville, SC □ **Rebecca Ballentine**, Librarian at the Institute of Government, UNC-Chapel Hill (NC), spent three weeks in China as part of a People Citizen Ambassador Program sponsored by the Ministry of Justice of the People's Republic of China. □ **Cynthia Barnes** has been appointed head of the Sargeant Memorial Room (local history) at the Norfolk (VA) Public Library. □ **Cecelia Bell**, Assistant Director at the Universities Center Library in Jackson from 1982-1987, is now the Medical Librarian at the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, Jackson. □ **Lois Bellamy** has been appointed Automation Coordinator for the UT Memphis Health Science Center Library. Ms. Bellamy was formerly Librarian of the Stollerman Library, the clinical branch of the UT Memphis Health Science Center Library. □ **Karen Berryman**, formerly of St. Johns Community College, has been named Director of the Kinchafoonee Regional Library, Dawson. □ **Gunar M. Birzenieks** has joined the staff of University Library Services, Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond as Cataloguing Librarian. □ **Bernice Black** retired as Librarian at the USAE Waterways Experiment Station (MS). □ **Doris Boyer** retired as Library Director of Mississippi Delta Junior College. □ **Scott Breivold**, recent graduate of the University of Wisconsin, has now joined the Audiovisual Department, Cumberland County Public Library and Information Center, Fayetteville, N.C. □ **Lorraine Briggs** has been appointed Director of Andrews Public Library at the Nantahala Regional Library System, Murphy (NC). □ **Thomas F. Budlong**, Atlanta-Fulton Public Library, has been elected Treasurer of ALA's Intellectual Freedom Round Table. □ **Nelda Burroughs** has been appointed Librarian of the Stollerman Library, the clinical branch of the UT Memphis Health Science Center Library. Ms. Burroughs was formerly Reference Librarian of the UT Memphis Health Science Center Library. □ **Patty Bustamante** has been named Supervisor of the John Hughes Cooper Branch of the Richland County Public Library (SC). □ SC State Library Director **Betty E. Callahan** selected as the outstanding library educator by the South Carolina Library Association. □ **Mary Ann Camp**, Director of Library Services at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center (SC), has been appointed to the Southeastern/Atlantic Regional Medical Library Services Regional Advisory Council Education Committee. □ **Margaret Cannon** has been appointed Librarian of the Barnwell County Library (SC). □ **Mildred Carey** has retired after 19 years with the Pamlico County (NC) Library. □ **Sherry J. Carrillo** has been appointed Assistant Director for Reader Services, Florida International University Libraries, Miami. Before assuming this position, Ms. Carrillo was head of the reference department and prior to that, head of circulation at FIU's University Park Campus. □ **Gayle R. Christian**, Georgia State University, has been elected Assistant Coordinator/Coordinator Elect, State and Local Documents Task Force of ALA's Government Documents Round Table. □ **J. Glenn Clayton** has been promoted to Assistant Library Director for Public Services, James B. Duke Library, Furman University (SC). □ **Cherie S. Colbert** has been named Information, Interlibrary Loan and Teaching Services Librarian at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. □ **J. Gordon Coleman, Jr.**, has been named Coordinator of the new



**Dr. Edward Holley**



**Barbara Loar**

Ph.D. program at the University of Alabama's Graduate School of Library Services. □ **Lydia Conkin** has been named Library Services Coordinator of the Aiken-Bamberg-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library (SC). □ **Ellen Cooper** has been appointed Serials/Acquisition Librarian of the UT Memphis Health Science Center Library. Ms. Cooper was formerly Library Director of the Memorial Medical Center, Savannah, Georgia. □ **Joan Crouze** has been appointed Director of the Nashville Public Library, Nashville (NC). □ **Paula Daving**, formerly at the Moffatt Library in Washingtonville, NY, has been appointed Director of the Dillon County Library, Latta, SC □ **Alexis Dean** named Youth Services Librarian, Okfenokee Regional Library in Waycross, GA. □ **Gloria Denard** named Library Supervisor for the Jefferson County Schools (AL). □ **Everett J. Dennis** (BA, The University of the South; MA, The American University; MSLS, The Catholic University of America) has been appointed Director of Library Services at Armstrong State College. He was formerly Director of Library and Media Services at Newberry College, Newberry, South Carolina. □ **Mitzi Jarrett Derrick** has been appointed librarian of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC □ **Margaret Dickson**, head of Knox County (TN) Public Library's Children's Room, was recipient of the KAAAYC. □ **Dorothy Dismuke** retired as the head of reference services of the Oak Ridge Public Library (TN). □ **Anne K. Donato** retired as Curator of the Waring Historical Library, Medical University of South Carolina Library after nearly twenty years of service. □ **Jane Dorn** has been named Automation Coordinator at the Richland County Public Library (SC). □ **Judith A. Drescher**, Memphis/Shelby County Library Director, became one of the Memphis Rotary Club's first two female members. □ **John Kenneth Duke**, Head of Bibliographic Services for University Library Services of Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, received the Esther J. Piercy Award from the American Library Association for contributions to library technical services by a librarian with no more than ten years professional experience. □ **Ruth Edwards**, Librarian, Lexington Intermediate School, was chosen Teacher of the Year by her fellow teachers. □ **Margaret Ehrhardt**, library media consultant, retired from the South Carolina State Department of Education, Columbia, SC □ **Anne Marie Elkins** has been appointed Director of the Braswell Memorial Public Library (NC). □ **Guin Elliott** retired after 11 years as Calhoun County (WV) librarian. □ **Charlotte B. Ford** named Government Documents Librarian for the North Miami Campus of Florida International University. □ **W. Richard Fritz** retired after 40 years as librarian of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC □ **Laura Gasaway**, Director of the Law Library, UNC-Chapel Hill, received the John Cotton Dana Award at the SLA Annual Conference in Anaheim in June. □ **Mary Evelyn Gibert** has resigned as head of the Reference Department at the Georgia Tech Library to accept a position in the library of the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta. □ **Rebecca D. Goldston**, librarian at Conn Elementary School (NC), received the Wake County PTA Council Outstanding Teacher Award. □ **Kathy A. Grenga** has been appointed

Curator for the South Carolina Baptist Historical Collection and Assistant Public Services Librarian, James B. Duke Library, Furman University. □ **Mary Francis Griffin**, library media consultant, retired from the South Carolina State Department of Education, Columbia, SC □ **Elaine Griner** named Technical Services/Serials Control Librarian, Brenau College, Gainesville (GA). □ **Gwo-hwa Nancy Sun** named Cataloger/Systems Coordinator at the North Miami Library of Florida International University. □ **John Harr** appointed Head of Collection Management for University Library Services at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. □ **Patricia Hammond** has been promoted to the position of Branch Librarian at the Summerville Branch of the Dorchester County Library, Summerville, SC. □ **Jamie Hanson** has been appointed Director of Bladen County Public Library (NC). □ **Patricia Harris**, Assistant Director for Public Library Development, Virginia State Library and Archives, appointed State Librarian of North Dakota. □ **Carl Heffington**, Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Library, was recently nominated for President of the Small and Medium Size Library Division of ALA. Along with J. Sara Paulk, he also represented his library at ALA this past summer. □ **Kathleen Heim**, of LSU's School of Library and Information Science, has been named the 1987 recipient of ALA's Equality Award. The award consists of a certificate and a cash award of \$500 and honors the year's outstanding contribution toward promoting equality between men and women in the profession. □ **Bruce Heimburger**, Director, Abbeville-Greenwood Regional Library, attended the Advanced Management Workshop for Library Administrators through Library Service and Construction Act Career Education grants from the South Carolina State Library. □ **Jean Hofacket** is Coordinator of Special Services, Memphis Shelby County Public Library and Information Center (TN). □ **Edward G. Holley**, Professor and former Dean, School of Library Science, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has received the American Library Association's Joseph W. Lippincott Award for 1987. Given annually since 1937, the Lippincott Award is presented to "a librarian for distinguished service in the profession of librarianship." □ **Glenda Hughes** has resigned as map cataloger at the Georgia Tech Library to become the map librarian at the Georgia State University Library. □ **Leslie Hughes** is the new Library Director at Clarke College in Newton (MS). □ **Margie Hunter** has been appointed Adult Services Coordinator for the Berkeley County Library, Moncks Corner, S.C. □ **Jeanne Isacco**, Durham County Library (NC), has been chosen as the CIS/GDORT/ALA Documents to the People Award recipient from the ALA Government Documents Round Table. □ **Bill Johnson** has been named Assistant Director of Chatham-Effingham-Liberty Regional Library. Bill has been Coordinator of Extension Services at CEL for six years. Previous to that, he was Director of the Hart County system, and served as bookmobile librarian at Uncle Remus Regional Library. □ **Scott Johnson** is the new Library Director at Meridan Junior College (MS). □ **Connie Jones** has been appointed Director of the Dorchester County Library (SC). □ **Harriet Kavar** named Director of the Franklin County (NC) Library. □ **Betty Kelly** has been promoted to Assistant Library Director for Technical Services, James B. Duke Library, Furman University (SC). □ **Gayle Keresev**, media coordinator for East Arcadia School in Riegelwood, N.C., has been selected for the 1987 Intellectual Freedom Award, sponsored by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and donated by Social Issues Resources Series, Inc. (SIRS). □ **Eric A. Kidwell** is Director of Huntingdon College Library (ALA). □ **Kerstin Kilgo** named as Juvenile Outreach Librarian, DeKalb Public Library (GA). □ **Lois Kilkka** has been appointed Director of the Scotland County Public Library, Laurinburg (NC). □ **Jackie Sue Kinder** has joined the Reference Department at Thomas Cooper Library at the University



Barbara Moran



Carol M. Tobin

of South Carolina as Assistant Reference Librarian. □ **Bill Langston** has resigned as Director of the Darlington County Library and will be assuming the duties of Director of Coker College Library (SC). □ **Dr. Gene Lanier**, East Carolina University, edited the fall issue of *North Carolina Libraries*, which dealt with the issue of intellectual freedom. □ **June Lester**, formerly Associate Professor in the Division of Library and Information Management, Emory University, has accepted appointment as American Library Association (ALA) accreditation officer. □ **Catherine Lewis**, who has served as Director of Horry County Library (SC) since 1960, has retired. □ **Rosalyn Lewis**, Librarian at the United Methodist Publishing House in Nashville, Tenn., has been elected president of the American Theological Library Association. □ **Robert Lipscomb**, formerly Library Director at Clay County Public Library (FL), named Director of the Central Florida Regional Library, Ocala. □ **Barbara Loar**, DeKalb Public Library (GA) was presented a special award for her support of libraries by the White House Conference on Library and Information Services Task Force. She also received the Nix-Jones Award from the Georgia Library Association for outstanding contributions to library service in Georgia. □ **Dale Luchsinger** has been named Head Librarian at Athens Tech. □ **Howard F. McGinn**, Assistant State Librarian, delivered the keynote address at the 2nd annual membership meeting of the Kentucky Library Network, Inc., in Louisville. □ **Gert McIntosh** has retired as Librarian of the Hudson Library (NC) after nine years of service. □ **Jessica McPhail** has been appointed Director of Northwestern Regional Library (NC). □ **Jean A. Major**, formerly Coordinator of Regional Library Service Systems and Continuing Education, Colorado State Library, is now Director of Libraries, University of Mississippi, University. □ **Rhonda Martin** named Library Assistant, Brenau College, Gainesville (GA). □ After 17 years, **Ruth Metcalfe** retired as librarian of Ridgeway Branch of the Fairfield County Library, Winnsboro, S.C. □ **Eric Moon**, Sarasota Florida, received an honorary membership in ALA at the San Francisco conference in June. □ **Charles Moore** has joined the staff of the Georgetown County Library as Adult Services Librarian. □ **Barbara B. Moran**, Assistant Professor, School of Library Science, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has been appointed Assistant Dean of the School of Library Science, effective July 1, 1987. □ **P. Grady Morein**, university librarian at the University of Evansville (Ind.) has been named director of libraries at the University of West Florida. □ **Pamela D. Morgan** appointed Serials Librarian, Old Dominion University (VA). □ **Phillip Morgan** has been named the new Library Director at East Mississippi Junior College. □ **Valerie Morgan**, formerly Children's Librarian at Ohio County Public Library, Wheeling, W.V., has been appointed Children's Librarian at the Chester County Library, Chester, S.C. □ **Patricia Muller**, Young Adult Services Librarian, Arlington County (VA) Library, received a Baker and Taylor YASD conference grant to attend ALA in San Francisco. □ **Steven Murden** appointed Assistant Head of Acquisitions for University Library Services at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. □ **Betty Y. Newsom**

has been named Curator of the Waring Historical Library, Medical University of South Carolina. □ **Beverly Browning Nobile** has been named Library Director of Mississippi Delta Junior College. □ **Richard Nollan** has been appointed Reference Librarian of the Stollerman Library, the clinical branch of the UT Memphis Health Science Center Library. Mr. Nollan was formerly Curator of the Archive of Scientific Philosophy in the Twentieth Century, University of Pittsburgh. □ **Susan K. Nutter** has been appointed Director of Libraries of N.C. State University. □ **Ellen O'Conner** has been appointed Director of the Franklin County Public Library, Louisburg (NC). □ **Gregory Parham**, an employee of the Memphis Public Library, received a \$3,000 Louise Giles Minority Scholarship from ALA at the San Francisco conference. □ **Dr. Leland Park**, Davidson College, has been appointed to the North Carolina State Library Commission. □ **Randy Penninger** has been named Archival Administration Fellow in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections at the LSU Libraries, Louisiana State University. Mr. Penninger holds a BA and an MA in History from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and a Certificate in Archival Administration from Emory University. He is presently Manuscripts Curator in the Special Collections Department of the Atkins Library of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. □ **Doug Perry**, Asheville-Buncombe Public Library, has been elected President of the Western NC Library Association. □ **Pamela Pritchett** named Library/Media Consultant with the SC Department of Education. □ **Mark Pumphrey**, Institutional Library Consultant at the South Carolina State Library, has been appointed to ALA's Association of Specialized and Cooperative Libraries Association (ASCLA) Organization and By-Laws Committee for 1987-89. He was also recently appointed chairman of the American Correctional Association's Committee on Institution Libraries. □ **Sandra Lee Pynn** was the recipient of a 1987-1988 Frederic G. Melcher scholarship presented by the Association for Library Service to Children of ALA. □ **Dr. James Ramer** has resigned after 16 years as Dean of the Graduate School of Library Service at the University of Alabama. □ **Lena Reid** retired as Head Librarian of the Humboldt Public Library (TN). □ **Betsy Ristroph** has been named Acting Director of the Aiken-Bamberg-Edgefield Regional Library (SC). □ **Swynette Roberts**, formerly Assistant Children's Librarian, has been promoted to Children's Librarian at Florence County Library, Florence, S.C. □ **Steve Roehling**, recently at the Chatham-Ellington-Liberty Regional Library, Savannah, Ga., has been named reference librarian at Charleston County Library, Charleston, S.C. □ **Dr. Fred Roper**, USC College of Library and Information Science, has been elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Medical Library Association. □ **John B. Ross** has been appointed head of the Systems Department at the Georgia Tech Library. □ **Janell Rudolph**, Bibliographic Instruction Librarian at Memphis State University (TN), received the James E. Ward Library Instruction Award. □ **Frederick Gale Ruffner**, Gale Research Chairman and past President of the Florida Friends, recently received an honorary membership in ALA. □ **Lou Helen Sanders**, Reference/Humanities Librarian at Jackson State University (MS), has been elected Liaison to Affiliates for the American Library Association's GODORT. □ After 30 years as librarian and director, **Edith Sawyer** retired from the Avert Learning Center, North Greenville College, Tigerville, S.C. □ **Dr. Edward A. Scott**, Director of James B. Duke Library at Furman University (SC), has been elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Piedmont Library Association and Membership Chairman of the Southern Baptist Library Association. □ **Karen S. Seibert**, Asst. Director of the Davis Library, UNC-Chapel Hill (NC), has been appointed Vice-Chair, Chair-Elect of the University Libraries Section of ACRL. □ **Julie Seig** is Assistant Library Director at Central Florida Regional Library, Ocala. □ **David Seif**, Head of Public Services at North Carolina A&T University, has been elected Chair of the Biological Services Division of SLA. □ **Ruth Setzer** recently retired after nearly 56 years (that's no typo!) with the Burke County (NC) Public Library. □ **Althea M. Silvera** has joined the library staff of Florida International University, University Park Campus, Miami, Florida as University Archivist and Head of Special Collections. □ **Lillian Smalley**, Technical Services Library Assistant at the Richland County Public Library (SC), is the

1987 recipient of the Margaret H. "Peg" Beard Continuing Education Grant. □ **Brian Smith** has been named Reference Librarian at the Nancy Carson Branch of the Aiken-Bamberg-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library (SC). □ **Kitty Smith** has been appointed Chief, Lib. Dev. Section of the State Library (NC). □ **Nellie Ford Smith** retired as Associate Librarian at Mississippi College. □ **Rachel Smith** has assumed the position of Associate Librarian at Mississippi



Dr. Bill Summers

College. □ **Jean V. Smolka** has joined the staff as Reference Librarian at the Medical University of South Carolina Library. □ **Geraldine K. Solomon**, school/library media specialist, Wakefield Forest Elementary School, Fairfax, VA, received a \$400 grant from Putnam and Grosset to attend ALA in San Francisco in June. □ **Janet Sprouse**, a recent graduate of the University of South Carolina, has been appointed Adult Services Librarian at the Florence County Library, Florence, S.C. □ **Alma D. Steading**, who has served at Furman since July 1970, retired as Assistant Library Director for Technical Services at the James B. Duke Library, Furman University (SC). □ Congratulations are in store for **Dr. Bill Summers**, Dean of FSU's Library School, for his recent election as ALA President-Elect. The Sunbelt strikes again! □ **Jennifer Timmerman**, student at UNC-Chapel Hill has now joined the Children's Department, Cumberland County Public Library and Information Center, Fayetteville, N.C. □ **Carol M. Tobin**, formerly a reference librarian at the Firestone Library at Princeton University, appointed Head of Reference, Thomas Cooper Library, University of South Carolina. □ **Dr. Philip Turner** has been named Acting Dean of the Graduate School of Library Service at the University of Alabama. □ **Mary Underwood** has been named Executive Secretary of the Kentucky Library Association. □ **Dr. Lois Upham** appointed Assistant Professor in the University of South Carolina College of Library and Information Science. □ **Nell Van Hook** has retired after 18 years of service as Children's Librarian at Florence County Library, Florence, S.C. □ **Amy Vanmeter** has joined the staff of Bethany College (WV) as reference librarian. □ **Anne Vaught** has been named Acting Director of the Horry County Library (SC). □ **Michael Walker** has joined the staff of University Library Services, at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond as Reference Librarian. □ **Robert Ward** has been appointed Director of the Rockingham County Public Library (NC). □ **Sigrid N. Wells** appointed Reference Librarian, Social Science, Old Dominion University (VA). □ **Joel West**, Rock Hill (SC), received the 1987 Library Service Award for School Administrators from the SC Association of School Librarians. □ **Perry White** of Sanford, NC, has been elected Vice-President for Development of Friends of Libraries, USA. □ **Erma Whittington** resigned as librarian of Washington County Library to become head of fiction and AV at Mesa County Library in Grand Junction, CO. □ **Anne Wilgus** has been appointed Director of the NC Wesleyan College Library, Rocky Mount. □ **Ann Williams**, formerly assistant director for the Alachua County library district, Gainesville, Fla., is now director for the system. □ **Chester F. Wright, III** (MS, FSU, 1986) has joined the library staff at Floyd College in Rome, Georgia, as Assistant Librarian for Technical Services. □ **Cynthia Cox Yarborough**, Presbyterian College (SC), has been appointed head of Technical Services. □ **Louise Young** retired as Librarian of the Ware Shoals Branch of the Abbeville-Greenwood Regional Library after 26 years of service.

## DEATHS

**Clara Bennett**, head librarian at Dobyns-Bennett High School in Kingsport (TN), passed away in May. □ **James R. DeJarnatt**, former Regional Librarian for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in Atlanta, died November 16, 1987, after a long illness. □ **Allen Kelton**, an assistant professor and a librarian at the University of Alabama, passed away in early May. □ **William C. Myers**, retired librarian in Weirton (WV), passed away in May. □ **J. Mitchell Reames**, retired Director of the James A. Rogers Library, Francis Marion College (SC), died on August 28, 1987.

The publications of state associations in the Southeast contain articles on a wide variety of topics of interest to librarians. As space permits, *The Southeastern Librarian* will include listings of the major articles and features of the journals in our ten-state coverage. Hopefully this listing will be useful to our readers. If it is, please let your editor know. (J.D.)

**THE GEORGIA LIBRARIAN**

Volume 24 Number 3, August 1987  
 In Progress: Automation in Georgia's School Library Media Centers, by Rosalind Miller, pp. 65-68

**KENTUCKY LIBRARIES**

Volume 51 Number 3, Summer (July) 1987  
 Brags and Baggage, by Mary M. Wright, pp. 4-6  
 Glue, Scissors, and Tape: Book Repair Hints, by Kathryn Oliver, pp. 7-8  
 The Voice of Too Many Systems, by Connie Foster, p. 10

**MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES**

Volume 51 Number 3, Fall 1987  
 Civil War Personal Name Inquiries, by T. P. Williams, pp. 62-64  
 Fund Raising For Academic Libraries, by Sherri Sam, p. 65  
 Alternative Funding For Public Libraries, by Joy M. Greiner, pp. 66-71

**NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES**

Volume 45 Numbers 2, 3, Summer/Fall 1987  
 Educating North Carolina Librarians and Information Professionals, by Benjamin F. Speller, Jr., pp. 55-57  
 The Organization of Information Curricula, by Jerry D. Saye, pp. 58-63  
 Management Teaching: Its Theory and Practice, by Sheryl Anspaugh and John Lubans, Jr. pp. 64-66  
 Getting Our Ducks in a Row: Research and North Carolina's Libraries, by Kenneth D. Shearer, pp. 67-69  
 Library Education in a Telecommunications Environment: A North Carolina Perspective by Benjamin F. Speller, Jr., pp. 70-72  
 Library Education for Children's Services in North Carolina, by Marilyn L. Miller and Pauletta B. Bracy, pp. 73-75  
 How Should We Train Adult Services Professionals for Public Library Work?, by Sharon L. Baker, pp. 76-78

Educating Librarians about Service to Special Groups, by Keith C. Wright, pp. 79-82

The Limits of Library School, by Duncan Smith, pp. 83-86

Online Searching with a Microcomputer, by Donna Flake, pp. 87-93

Intellectual Freedom — That Neglected Topic, by Gene D. Lanier, pp. 115-117

Intellectual Freedom in the 1980s, by Judith F. Krug, pp. 118-120

Humanism vs. Its Detractors, by F. David Sanders, pp. 121-128

Intellectual Freedom and Technology: Deja Vu?, by C. James Schmidt, pp. 129-132

An Author Looks at Censorship, by Lee Bennett Hopkins, pp. 133-136

Intellectual Freedom Policies and Current School Practices, by Frances M. McDonald, pp. 137-143

Interpreting the Library Bill of Rights for Elementary and Secondary Schools, by Gerald S. Hodges, pp. 144-147

New Network Connects Businesses with State Library, by Paul Gilster, pp. 148-149

The Effect of Face-Font Book Display in a Public Library, by Sarah P. Long, pp. 150-153

**TENNESSEE LIBRARIAN**

Volume 39 Number 2, 3, Spring/Summer 1987  
 New Central Library at the University of Tennessee, by Marcia J. Myers, pp. 14-16  
 Librarian-Researcher Cooperation with a Liaison Program, by Allen E. Ekkebus, pp. 17-19  
 When CIEC Meets the Public Library, Children Win, by Lynda C. Hunt, pp. 20-21  
 A Practical Guide to the Planning and Administration of an End User Search Service, by Miriam Deutch, pp. 13-20  
 Popular Reading of 1886, by William C. Robinson, pp. 21-30  
 Year of the Reader Videos, by Cathy Evans, pp. 31-32

**WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARIES**

Volume 40 Number 3, Fall 1987  
 Statement before the subcommittee on Science, Research, and Technology on Federal Information Resources Policy, July 14, 1987, by Harold B. Shill, pp. 8-29



# PR Notes



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## Library Displays

Mona Garvey

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First of all, let me define my terms. I consider "displays" a catch-all term for all visuals "on display" in a library. That includes 6' x 8' bulletin boards (used for seasonal stuff more often than posting of bulletins); graphics, which are visual designs ranging from directional logos to cartoons; and signs and sign systems. Please note that my definitions are esoteric and subject to periodic adjustments.

I admit that most library public relations experts consider displays in libraries a relatively minor matter. I concur with my peers; I too find other aspects of public relations more interesting, pertinent, and challenging. However, whenever I present programs I'm asked to include demonstrations of display techniques; and, after 19 years and 3 printings, *Library Displays* continues to outsell all H. W. Wilson's general public relations titles (my own included). Carol Bryan of "The Library Imagination Paper" recently asked subscribers what they wanted covered in her PR quarterly; holiday graphics was the top choice.

So what is the ongoing big deal with librarians and displays? I think there are two main factors. One is that displays are on display for all to see. The really important, professional areas which one is trained to handle . . . operation, collection, organization, services, etc. . . are not readily visible to patrons. What may be visible are a faded Christmas bulletin board still up in March; a clutter of badly executed, Scotch-taped-up notices; and tattered directional signs. All in all, an unprofessional visual image.

Factor 2 is that most people tend to be graphically ignorant, and the librarians with no display training may be unaware of display needs and effective solutions. As a result, many eschew any type of displays in their

libraries; however, some directional and instructional signs are essential to good operation, and no displays at all may be worse than ones which are poorly done.

Conclusion: library displays may be a minor factor in library operation but are often a major aggravation. Your library might be the best run in the SELA area and still look bad visually. On the other hand, it might be only a so-so operation and look terrific. So who said life was fair?

Some librarians consider displays the bane of their professional existence (second only to obnoxious patrons). I became a librarian because of displays and because I viewed it as a ripe field for my particular skills. Said skills were developed in order to (1) protect me from bodily injury, and (2) cover up my sequence of abysmal ignorance. A too-long-to-explain series of events landed me as director of an arts/crafts/photography center on an Army base in La Rochelle, France. My fine arts background included minimal crafts and no woodworking whatsoever. I had viewed some of the dangerous equipment from afar but had never even seen a wood lathe.

My first artistic endeavor on my new job was a how-to display directly over the potentially lethal wood lathe (info and drawings adapted from a crafts book). Then I simply "read" the display to any GIs who wished to use the lathe; they in turn "read" it to their even less-informed buddies who might be interested in and/or impressed with their newly acquired knowledge. The Special Services Officer read it to the inspecting Post Commander, who read it to visiting generals. I made similar how-to displays all around my center; the photography instructor photographed everything; and we won "best crafts center" awards. I was even asked to share my award-winning techniques with my fellow crafts instructors.

There is a moral of sorts: presumptions of expertise may depend less on competence than perception thereof. Every crafts instructor in Europe was probably more competent than I, but I put my expertise, such as it was, on display. People automatically assumed that I was expert at all techniques and procedures on display; the displays also made newcomers semi-instant experts, and

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*Mona Garvey is an Atlanta based public relations consultant who has presented programs in 4 countries and more than 30 states. She is author/illustrator of Library Displays and Library Public Relations. Her company, La Programme, markets display materials for libraries.*

*To collect information for an in-progress display book, she is interested in developing a prototype display program for a state or region. Any interested libraries can contact her at: 251 Peachtree Way N.E./Atlanta, Ga. 30305/404-233-2637. © 1987 Mona Garvey.*

they were more comfortable asking me for help. After five years of reading my own displays I even learned to do some of the stuff myself. (I don't mess with wood lathes, but I did build an inclosed porch last month.)

The same display techniques worked when I graduated from Atlanta University and was hired by Brooklyn Public Library as adult services librarian. I couldn't remember the plethora of symbols used in the card catalog so I put an explanatory display on the top; then I just read the information to patrons needing help. I then put up floor plans, directional signs, cross-references, and condensed Dewey schedules wherever I tended to mess up or get lost. The displays worked out very well for me, the rest of the staff, and the patrons.

I was also a relatively inept school librarian for three years, and, once again, I went the display route. I had floor plans and explanations on top of the catalog; most-sought subject headings and call numbers on the stack ends; Dewey schedules posted at the start of each division (a mounted, laminated photocopy of the 600s where the numbers began); arrangement explanations with cross-references ("Biographies are arranged alphabetically by the last name of the person they are about; check 920s for collected bios").

My most self-serving and effective aids were a series of one page "cheat sheets" on all mass assignment topics. The Civil War sheet, for example, included: subject headings and call numbers; reminders to check individual and collected biographies, pamphlet files, encyclopedias, historical atlases, and AVs; notes on arrangement and location of materials; and cautions . . . like not to look in the catalog for "Civil War" (because I had tried that once; fortunately the tracings for a book entitled "The Civil War" rerouted me to "U.S. HISTORY-CIVIL WAR").

The following year when the Civil War seekers descended, I slipped my cheat sheet into my nifty typewriter display and "read" them the information. My assistant used the sheet to provide expert help, and kids and teachers referred to it and helped themselves. The display made me look good (everyone assumed I knew all that stuff); it provided specific aid and library usage information; and it produced maximum utilization of our limited collection.

Later in my transient, checkered career I spent four years as public relations librarian for 20 libraries in a 12 county area of Georgia; community size ranged from about 20 (Senoia) to over 200,000 in Columbus. In addition to all other public relations functions, I did most of the displays for most of the libraries most of the time . . . because that was the task most staff members most wanted to unload. And that's when I came to hate National Library Week, seasons, and holidays, (You handmake 20 large color-on Santas and see how you feel.)

As itinerant sign maker I also learned more about the anomalies of library operation than I cared to know. The smallest libraries had no catalogs. I therefore made simplified, annotated floor plans, large condensed

Dewey schedules which were covered with plastic to forestall patron "write-ins" (if nothing else was available I used Saran wrap), and posted explanatory information wherever possible. This information was needed not only by patrons but by the untrained, largely volunteer staffs, many of whom declined training rather than expose their lack of knowledge. We kept my library degree under wraps so I could provide some non-threatening training along with the signage . . . I told them my difficulties in using libraries and they told me theirs. Then I made signs and notices to cover those gaps.

The libraries with card catalogs had different sets of usage problems. The basic problem is that for years we have falsely advertised that all materials are in there, and, with card catalogs, that there is always a call number. And then we don't do that . . . and neglect to tell our patrons. All three of my systems (I was a shared employee) had some materials not entered . . . "because everyone knows those books are in the science fiction/mystery/light love/whatever section." I didn't know that. One system had at least 12 coded categories of books in separate locations, with no codes or locations explained to patrons. That same system, as all too many do, put no call numbers on cards for regular fiction on the premise that "everyone knows how to find them." Then why were so many patrons wandering the stacks looking for c1969 or 300p?

Providing explanatory displays for catalogs isn't easy because it's necessary to not only explain what is in the catalog but what is not. The display for the last mentioned system ended with the postscript admonition: "If there is no number on the card, it is fiction and is shelved alphabetically by the author's last name." Computer catalogs presumably solve many of these problems but create a few of their own: provide usage information.

I also did the displays for about 50 bulletin boards, 30 book display units (those ubiquitous, two sided monsters with long, skinny cork boards), and 7 large, window display areas. The first thing I did was cover most of the boards with either natural or brightly colored burlap. Burlap is cheap, the color is very slow to fade, and the rough texture prevents pin hole and staple acne. (I can never comprehend why libraries continue to cover display areas with 8" x 10" construction paper which begins to fade even before the whole surface is covered. STOP DOING THAT!)

I then made a whole bunch of circulating, multiuse cartoon figures; display set-ups (such as easel-backed typewriters and computer displays into which copy was inserted); and reusable captions and graphics for seasons, holidays, and library weeks (they come around every year . . . just like clockwork). That, however, is an area of displays which requires too many illustrations for this format; so I'm skipping that. I will note, however, that five years after I left the job a library in Talbotton was still using my last window display, which by then was so faded it was practically invisible. I'm

much happier to hear that my floor plans and directional aids are still being used in the Hamilton library after ten years.

This is not a how-to article, but I want to indicate a few possibilities lest some claim exemption due to lack of skills or unavailability of materials. Art skills are helpful but not required. Materials needed for in-house displays are readily available: rubber cement, marking pens, press-on and stick-on letters, poster board, foamcore (rigid, paper coated foam board), Coroplast (plastic corrugated board), styrene (semi-rigid plastic), double adhesive foam tape, sets of adhesive Velcro dots (for things you want to switch around easily), burlap, fiberboard, and a utility knife to cut the stock. A \$50 outlay can get you started.

Note: there are some things you don't need and should never use: construction paper and cellophane tape.

Use large stick-on letters for operating hours and area and stack signs; styrene mounting is best, foamcore and Coroplast are second choice, and poster board third. Numbered stack units (large, plastic stick-ons with a backing piece) are very useful . . . especially if keyed to a floor plan. And here's a hot tip for executing signs and captions: do your lettering, of whatever type, on a longer-than-needed strip of stock; then cut the end off and the copy is automatically centered.

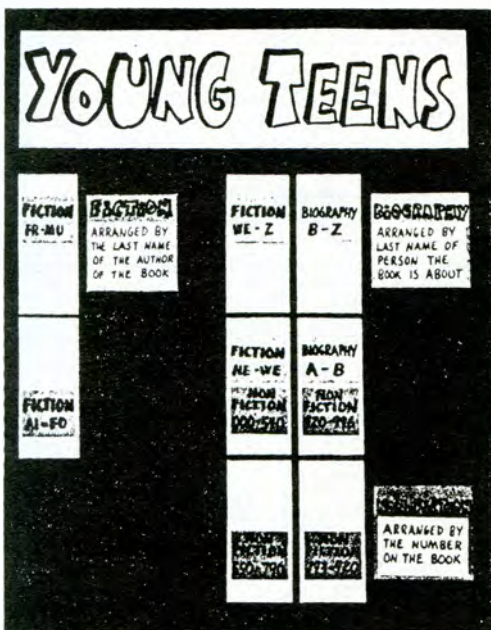
There are also sign companies and display equipment

companies which supply retail stores. That's the top of the line and many materials are better and less costly than those available from library supply companies. The best way to find out who they are and what they offer is to locate an issue of "Visual Merchandising and Store Design" and check out the advertisers.

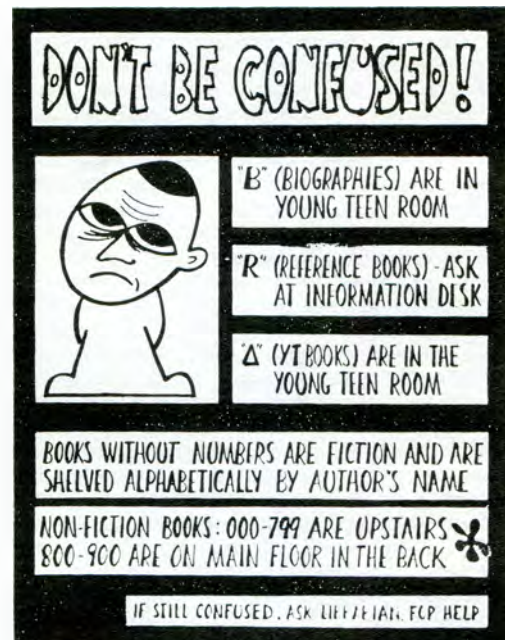
Display execution is easier than deciding what is needed; where it is needed, that can be difficult. Libraries of all types are complicated operations and even the most sophisticated patrons are unaware of the array of materials, services, and equipment available . . . and patrons cannot ask for services or resources of which they are unaware. Directional aids and explanatory information can create awareness, make it easier for patrons to seek assistance, and easier for the staff to provide it.

One of the basic tenets of public relations is to tailor the message to fit the audience. For that reason I've placed a higher priority on professional and operational merits of displays and less on how-to aspects and the bulletin board boondoggle. I'm also hoping to convert, or at least modify the opinions of, some of the anti-displayers, especially in academic and special libraries. We all have a professional responsibility to make our libraries as accessible as possible, both physically and operationally. Judicious use of displays is not only helpful in that endeavor . . . it is often essential.

#### DISPLAY EXAMPLES



Poster board area plan.  
(Source: *Library Displays*)



An 18" x 24" piece of black poster board with a cartoon and handlettered strips of white poster board rubber cemented in place. This was taped to a bookend and propped atop the card catalog.  
(Source: *Library Displays*)

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# Mary Utopia Rothrock Award

Nancy Washington

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## Introduction

The Southeastern Library Association's Rothrock Award Committee for the 1986-88 biennium is seeking nominations for the award which Mary Utopia Rothrock endowed to honor librarians who have made "exceptional contributions to library development in the Southeast."

A decade has passed since the first Rothrock Award was presented and in that interim many new librarians have entered the profession who did not know Mary Rothrock and may be unaware of her many accomplishments. For this reason the Committee wishes to provide information about the professional contributions both of Mary Rothrock and of the librarians who have been recipients of the award. It is the hope of the Committee that many SELA members will choose to nominate for the 1986-88 award librarians from among their colleagues whose accomplishments measure up to those of the previous honorees and of Mary Rothrock herself.

## Mary Utopia Rothrock

Mary Utopia Rothrock worked primarily in her home state of Tennessee, but her influence was felt in the Southeast and throughout the country. She completed bachelor's and master's degrees in science at Vanderbilt before going to the New York State Library School at Albany for her library education in 1912. Library positions in Memphis and Knoxville led to her appointment as Supervisor of Libraries for the Tennessee Valley Authority in 1933. Charged with the TVA's mission to provide for the "economic and social well-being" of the people of the Tennessee Valley, Miss Rothrock set out to achieve this goal in very creative ways. Economic and social well-being would certainly be promoted, she reasoned, by increased opportunities for learning, especially for adults. To this end she sent books in trucks to remote work sites, utilized existing school library buildings to house public library materials and contracted with public libraries in larger towns in Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina and Kentucky to administer programs in surrounding villages and hamlets. This contract system marked the beginning of the concept of regional library systems which are now in existence across the country. The American Library Association recognized her "rare vision and intelligence shown in organizing regional library service" by awarding her the prized Lippincott Award for 1935-36. In the mid-thirties Miss Rothrock was one of the first to comprehend the value of "visual methods" in the furtherance of adult and occupational education and she pioneered in the use of what we now call audio-visual materials in the libraries of the TVA system.

The establishment of linkages between libraries in several towns and states led Mary Rothrock into helping establish cooperative organizations such as the Tennessee Valley Library Council and the Southeastern Library Association. She served as the first president of SELA and later assisted in implementing the recommendations of the study *Libraries in the Southeast* prepared by SELA and TVA in 1949. In 1947-48 she culminated many years of service to the American Library Association by serving as its president.

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*Ms. Washington is Assistant Director, Library Processing Center, University of South Carolina.*

Mary Rothrock's final professional position was as Knox County Librarian from 1949 to 1955 but she also made tremendous contributions to the field of Tennessee history both before and after her retirement. She was one of the founders of the East Tennessee Historical Society and served it as president, executive board member and editor of some of its publications. She wrote an elementary school textbook, *Discovering Tennessee* which was adopted for use in the state's seventh grade history classes and at the time of her death in 1976 at age 86 she was working with a committee to write a history of Knoxville. She was a member of the Tennessee Historical Commission for many years and was named Knox County's first County Historian in 1966.

The University of Chattanooga presented Mary Rothrock the degree of Doctor of Letters in 1948; the East Tennessee Library Association established the Rothrock Lecture Series in her honor in 1971; and the American Association for State and Local History recognized her achievements in the preservation of state and local history with an award in 1975. In early 1976 the American Library Association elected her to honorary membership citing her contributions in the areas of regional library systems, rural libraries, library legislation, and historical scholarship. The citation characterizes her as "a dynamic and stalwart pioneer in the development of library service" and "a woman for all seasons."

It is certainly fitting that the Rothrock Award provided for by this "woman for all seasons" should have been presented to quite a diverse group of librarians during the last decade.

## Mary Edna Anders

The first award in 1976 went to Mary Edna Anders, a native of Northport, Alabama whose education included bachelor's and master's degrees in history from the University of Alabama and the University of North Carolina respectively as well as bachelor's and doctor's degrees in library science from the University of North Carolina and Columbia University. Mary Anders' career included positions in school and academic libraries in Alabama as well as library education faculty posts at Florida State University, the University of North Carolina, the University of Alabama, and Emory University. She later served as a principal researcher for the Industrial Development Division of the Georgia Institute of Technology.

## John Gribbin and Kenneth Toombs

While the Rothrock Award has most often been presented to one individual in recognition of a lifetime of professional service, the presentation of the 1978 award deviated from this pattern. In that year the Rothrock Award honored two librarians, John Gribbin and Kenneth Toombs specifically for their contributions to the development of the Southeastern Library Network.

John Gribbin left his native South Carolina to receive an A.B. from the University of North Carolina, an M.L.S. from the University of California at Berkeley and a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. His professional career included posts at academic libraries in Missouri, Texas and North Carolina and at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington. In 1966 he became Library Director at Tulane University and from 1977-1982 was Director of Libraries at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Dr. Gribbin's publications in professional



journals have been numerous and he edited *The Southeastern Librarian* in 1964-66. In 1982 he retired to Gainesville, Florida where he is engaged in consulting work and book appraisal.

Kenneth Toombs, a native of Colonial Heights, Virginia received B.S., M.A. and M.L.S. degrees from Tennessee Polytechnic Institute, the University of Virginia and Rutgers University respectively. He was on the library faculty at Louisiana State University before becoming Director of Libraries and professor of Library Science at the University of Southwestern Louisiana in 1963. From 1967 to the present Mr. Toombs has been Director of Libraries at the University of South Carolina. He was instrumental in the inauguration of library services to the regional campuses of the university system in the 1960's and 1970's. A long-time interest and expertise in library architecture led to his appointment to the American Institute of Architects/American Library Association Award Jury in 1987.

When these two dedicated and experienced librarians set their minds to investigating the feasibility of establishing a computer network in the Southeastern United States, they mapped out and implemented all of the steps necessary to achieve this momentous goal. They elicited the support and sponsorship of a strong library organization, the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries. They obtained a study grant from Tulane University to crystallize the concept of SOLINET. They secured a much larger grant from the Mellon Foundation to establish the new organization. They were instrumental in drafting a Constitution and By-Laws and in taking care of such legalities as incorporation, tax exempt status and qualifying to do business in the state of Georgia. Dr. Gribbin served as Chairman of the SOLINET Board of Directors from 1972-73 and Mr. Toombs filled that position in 1974-75. Dr. Gribbin now is preparing a history of SOLINET which will be published under the auspices of the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries.

#### **Frances Neel Cheney**

The 1980 Rothrock Award winner was Washington, D.C. native, Frances Neel Cheney. Her accomplishments spanned a variety of activities including teaching, writing and professional service. She was educated at Vanderbilt, Columbia and Marquette Universities receiving in turn the B.A., M.L.S. and Doctor of Literature degrees. Beginning her career at Vanderbilt in 1928 Frances Cheney served in various positions until her appointment to the Library of Congress, first as Assistant to the Chair of Poetry in 1943 and then as a Bibliographer in 1944. She returned to Vanderbilt as Head of Reference of the Joint University Libraries in 1945 and in 1946 was appointed to the faculty of the Peabody Library School. Here she shared her knowledge and experience with hundreds of library students until her retirement in 1975.

Frances Cheney's contributions to the library profession were not limited to teaching however. Besides the hundreds of library school students who thought of her textbook *Fundamental Reference Sources* as their bible, librarians all across the country depended for thirty years on her "Current Reference Books" column in the *Wilson Library Bulletin* to keep them informed about new publications. Dr. Cheney also contributed numerous articles and reviews to the national professional journals and edited the *Tennessee Librarian* for several years.

Professional organizations benefited greatly from the willingness of Dr. Cheney to serve in demanding executive positions. From time to time she headed six major library organizations including the Tennessee Library Association, the

Southeastern Library Association, the Association of American Library Schools and Beta Phi Mu, as well as the American Library Association Reference Services Division, Library Education Division, University and College Libraries Section and Subscription Books Committee.

#### **Virginia Lacy Jones**

Virginia Lacy Jones, the 1982 Rothrock Award recipient was born in Cincinnati and was educated at Hampton Institute (B.S.), University of Illinois (B.L.S.) and University of Chicago (Ph.D.). She held academic library positions at Louisville Municipal College and Atlanta University, joined the faculty of Atlanta University's new School of Library Service in 1941 and became its Dean four years later. In this position she exerted tremendous influence over the education and philosophy of the students of the University and also provided counsel and support to her colleagues at other institutions for library education.

Dean Jones' participation in professional organizations reflected her willingness to practice what she preached to her students. She served on both the Executive Board and Council of the American Library Association and as president of the Association of American Library Schools. In 1967 she received the singular honor of being appointed by President Lyndon Johnson to the national Advisory Committee on Library Research and Training Projects. Contributions to library literature and speeches on library topics were made frequently by Dean Jones and her many awards included Honorary American Library Association membership, the Melvil Dewey Award, the Lippincott Award and honorary doctorates from the University of Michigan and Bishop College in Dallas, Texas.

#### **Martha Jane Zachert**

Martha Jane Zachert, a native of York, Pennsylvania received the Rothrock Award in 1984. She began her educational career with a B.A. from Lebanon Valley College in 1941 and proceeded to earn an M.L.S. from Emory University in 1953 and a D.L.S. from Columbia in 1968. Her professional career included library posts at Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, Wood Research Institute in Atlanta, the DeKalb (Georgia) County School System, and the Southern College of Pharmacy at Mercer University where she also was on the faculty as professor of pharmaceutical history. Dr. Zachert held teaching posts at Georgia State College and Emory University before joining the faculty of the Library School at Florida State University in 1963. She later taught at the College of Librarianship at the University of South Carolina, was a visiting fellow at the British Library and served as a consultant to the Southern Regional Library of Medicine and the National Library of Medicine.

Martha Jane Zachert's literary activities included the authoring of many articles in professional journals as well as editing assignments for the *Journal of Library History* and *Journal of Library Administration*. Dr. Zachert was elected to the Hall of Fame of the Special Libraries Association in 1977 and of the Southeastern Library Association in 1985.

#### **Ruth Waldrop**

The most recent Rothrock Award was presented in 1986 to Ruth Waldrop a native Texan who completed a B.S. at Livingston College before coming to the University of Alabama for her Master's in Education in 1970. Her career has been dedicated to school librarianship, first as a high school librarian and then as a supervisor of librarians both for the Jefferson County Board of Education and the Alabama State Department of Education. In 1969 Ruth Waldrop became

Chairman of the Department of School Librarianship at the University of Alabama, a post she held until her retirement from the University in 1978. From then until 1986 Ruth Waldrop served as Executive Secretary of the Alabama Library Association. She devotedly served professional organizations such as the Alabama Library Association, the Children and School Librarians Division of SELA and the American Library Association Council in executive positions.

Her publications include bibliographies about Alabama authors and about literature for elementary and high school students as well as children's book *Santa Grouse Up in Mother Goose Land* published in 1986.

## PROFILE

Frances E. Kaiser

"Never worked and never will." So did the toymaker in the old children's tale portray his enjoyment of his chosen field. So, too, could Frances Kaiser describe her career. She retires from the Georgia Tech Library staff on September 30, 1987, after 37 years. She likes what she does so much that she plans to continue the fun by becoming an adjunct professor in Tech's School of Information and Computer Science.

Frances, a graduate of Agnes Scott College and the Emory University Division of Librarianship, came to the Tech Library straight out of library school in 1950. She was first a reference librarian, then took charge of interlibrary loan in 1955. Encouraged by long-term Director of Libraries Dorothy Crosland, who recognized an unmet need in the Southeast, she began the Tech tradition of service to business and industry. Non-academic libraries were frequently ignored by academic libraries in those days, and providing loans and photocopies, literature searches and reference service to them was a welcome breakthrough. Her reputation for personalized service spread — she became a stalwart in the Special Libraries Association, and, ironically, left interlibrary loan in order to complete a bestselling book on translators and translations published by SLA.

She returned to reference work, not knowing at the time that she was further preparing herself for what became the capstone of her career. In 1971, at the request of Graham Roberts, then Director of Libraries, she assumed the responsibility for library instruction. She has subsequently developed two ultra-sophisticated sources in the literature of science and technology. These courses utilize the most advanced teaching techniques and computer technology. Their purpose is to give Tech graduates an appreciation of the importance of information and to prepare them for its use throughout their careers. She has succeeded so well that she was presented one of Tech's Outstanding Teacher awards in 1983, the first time a librarian has ever been so recognized.

Frances has many friends and colleagues who will miss the enthusiasm, energy, wisdom and wit that she has brought to the profession of librarianship. Fortunately for those of us who are at Tech, she will be just down the hill in the School of Information and Computer Science, never working, yet accomplishing more than most could ever hope to do.

## SELA PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE AT REDUCED PRICE

Anders, Mary Edna, *Libraries and Library Service In The Southeast-A Report Of The Southeastern States Cooperative Library Survey, 1972-74*. The University of Alabama Press, 1976. \$5 (Originally, \$10)

Marshall, John David, *The Southern Books Competition at Twenty-Five: A Silver Anniversary Tribute*. Howick House, 1980. \$5 (Originally, \$15)

Tucker, Ellis Eugene, Ed., *The Southeastern Library Association, Its History and Its Honorary Members, 1920-1980*. Southeastern Library Association, 1980. \$1 (Originally, \$5)

Ward, James E., Albright, Jane A., Phillips, Kathleen, *Southeastern Bibliographic Instruction Directory: Academic Libraries*. Southeastern Library Association, 1978. \$1.25 (Originally, \$10)

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# North Carolina Library Association Biennial Conference

## October 28-30, 1987

Jerry A. Thrasher  
North Carolina Representative, SELA Board

The conference theme for the North Carolina Library Association Biennial Conference in Winston-Salem, North Carolina on October 28-30, 1987, was "Libraries . . . Spread the News!" It was the biggest and the best conference held in anyone's memory! Over 1,700 people were registered for the conference with a total of 137 exhibit booths sold.

The conference had numerous special speakers throughout the conference. At the opening session Maya Angelou captivated the audience with her address, poetry and singing. Dr. Hubert S. White, Dean of the School of Library Science, Indiana University, was the featured speaker at the Round Table on the Status of Women session. Dr. White is a consultant and lecturer, author of books and articles, and has a regular column ("White Papers") in *Library Journal*. At the second general session, Calvin Trillian, syndicated columnist ("Uncivil Liberties") gave a humorous presentation of his dry wit.

The Phillips Ogilvie Memorial Lecture was given by ALA President-Elect F. William Summers at the concluding general session. Dr. Summers is Dean and Professor at the School of Library and Information Science at Florida State University.

Special events at the conference included the president's all conference reception at the Forsyth County Public Library which was entitled "Spooks and Spurs." Library Director William H. Roberts III, coordinated a fun packed event, which included a haunted house tour full of witches, goblins, spider webs and a brutal murder committed by, yes, you guessed it, the librarian. In addition to the spook house, there was a dance band, beer kegs at strategic locations and a special fish house punch, concocted by the library director. It was truly a fantastic event.

The new officers installed at the end of the conference include:

President — Ms. Patsy J. Hansel, Cumberland County Public Library, Fayetteville, North Carolina

First Vice President/President Elect — Ms. Barbara A. Baker, Durham Technical College, Durham, North Carolina

Second Vice President — Mr. Ray A. Frankle, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina

Treasurer — Mrs. Nancy Clark Fogarty, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, North Carolina

Secretary — Ms. Gloria Miller, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Charlotte, North Carolina

Directors — Ms. Janet L. Freedman, Meredith College, Raleigh, North Carolina and Mr. Howard F. McGinn, Division of State Library, Raleigh, North Carolina

Continuing on in their current positions are ALA Counselor, Dr. Keith Wright, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, North Carolina and Mr. Jerry Thrasher, Director, Cumberland County Public Library, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

SELA President Charles Beard attended the entire conference and helped staff the SELA membership booth with Rebecca Ballentine and succeeded in adding a score of new SELA members!

The next NCLA conference is scheduled for Charlotte, North Carolina in October, 1989.

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# The FBI and Intellectual Freedom

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The Intellectual Freedom Committee of the American Library Association (ALA) has issued an advisory alerting librarians to the "unwarranted government intrusions upon personal privacy" that threaten "the First Amendment right to receive information" which are the result of an ongoing "library awareness" program undertaken by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

In a statement released October 1 (attached), the Intellectual Freedom Committee detailed the information it has on the program and the Committee's response to the FBI's approaches to libraries.

## Intellectual Freedom Committee Advisory Statement

In June, 1987, the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee received a copy of a letter from Paula Kaufman, Director of Academic Information Services Group for Columbia University, which recounted the details of a visit to the Math/Science Library at Columbia by two FBI agents who requested information from a clerk about the use of that Library by foreigners. During the course of a conversation with one of the agents, Ms. Kaufman was told the FBI was doing a general "library awareness" program in New York City and that the FBI was asking librarians to be alert to use of their libraries by persons from countries "hostile to the U.S., such as the Soviet Union" and to provide the FBI with information about those activities.

The letter from Ms. Kaufman was discussed extensively by the Intellectual Freedom Committee during the ALA's Annual Conference in San Francisco. One outcome of the discussion was a letter to John Otto, Acting Director of the FBI, requesting information on this program. Milt Ahlerich, Acting Assistant Director, responded to that letter, saying that the Bureau does, indeed, have a program in their New York Office to contact staff members of New York libraries "to alert them to this potential danger" — i.e., the "possibility of members of hostile countries or their agents attempting to gain access to information that could be potentially harmful to our national security" — and to "request assistance."

On September 18, 1987, the *New York Times* published a story on the front page about the incident at Columbia University and others (copy attached). In response to the *New York Times* article, an official spokesman for the FBI read Anne Heanue (ALA Washington Office) the following "press response." Note that the statement was read — according to the FBI, it is not available from the Bureau in writing.

"The FBI is responsible for countering the intelligence gathering efforts of hostile foreign intelligence services. The damage being done to our country by such foreign intelligence services is substantial. The FBI's foreign counterintelligence investigative efforts encompass a variety of approaches, all of which are within U.S. Attorney General guidelines and United States laws.

"The FBI has documented instances, for more than a decade, of hostile intelligence officers who have exploited libraries by stealing proprietary, sensitive, and other information and attempting to identify and recruit American and foreign students in American libraries. The FBI therefore, in an effort to thwart this activity is endeavoring, on a limited basis, to educate knowledgeable individuals in specialized libraries to this hostile intelligence threat.

"The FBI has historically depended upon the American public's assistance in carrying out its investigative responsibilities. The FBI has absolutely no interest in interfering with the American public's academic freedoms or First Amendment rights."

The Intellectual Freedom Committee of the American Library Association vigorously protests, on behalf of the more than forty-five thousand personal and institutional members of the Association, this attempted infringement of the right to receive information protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the further attempted violation of the privacy rights of all library patrons.

Since 1984, the current Administration has been attempting to limit access to information in commercial databases that bears on sensitive government data. Since 1986, this Administration has been attempting to convince electronic publishers to monitor the people using their systems and limit access to the information in those publishers' databases. Also since 1986, the current Administration has been trying to convince academic libraries to do the same — and to disclose users' names and the subject of their searches to the FBI.

In the Bureau's approaches to libraries, the focus has been on the use of publicly available information by foreign national students. The ostensible reasons put forward by the FBI are "counterintelligence" and "anti-terrorism." Libraries are not, however, extensions of the "long arm of the law" or of the gaze of Big Brother. It is our role to make available and provide access to a diversity of information, not to monitor what use a patron makes of publicly available information. The essence of the principle of intellectual freedom is the unhindered right to impart and to receive information of every and whatever sort and to have protected the privacy of the seeking and use of such information.

The American Library Association has had a "Policy on Confidentiality of Library Records" since 1970. This formal policy was adopted at that time in response to attempts by U.S. Treasury agents to examine circulation records in a

number of cities. The "Introduction" to the policy reads equally well in the present context:

... the efforts of the federal government to convert library circulation records into "suspect lists" constitute an unconscionable and unconstitutional invasion of the right of privacy of library patrons and, if permitted to continue, will do irreparable damage to the educational and social value of the libraries of this country.

Since 1970, thirty-six states have enacted "Confidentiality of Library Records" statutes (list attached). These statutes have been interpreted by the Intellectual Freedom Committee to encompass database search records.

The Bureau has not asked for information on specific individuals known to be engaged in terrorist activities, nor has it offered any information that links database searches to such activities. The Intellectual Freedom Committee believes that agents of the FBI have been sent out on generalized "fishing expeditions."

The U.S. Supreme Court has, on numerous occasions, held unconstitutional such generalized inquiries where they impinge upon the constitutional rights of individuals.

It is well established that foreign nationals residing in the United States enjoy the same First Amendment protections as do citizens of the United States. Just as aliens in this country are equally protected by the First Amendment, they are also protected, as 'persons,' by the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Such generalized inquiries into database searches and "library use" also chill the First Amendment freedoms of all library and database users. The right to be free from unwarranted government intrusions upon personal privacy is of particular significance when such state action threatens the First Amendment right to receive information.

What's to be done? The Intellectual Freedom Committee, before it decides on further action, must know the extent of this program. It is essential that librarians check with the circulation clerks and other public services staff at their libraries to determine: (a) if the FBI has visited; b) what information was requested; c) whether information was given and, if so, what it was?

It is urgent that librarians check their institution's policies on confidentiality of library records and make clear to public services personnel the procedures for handling requests for such information. These steps are of particular importance in public institutions in states with confidentiality statutes.

In addition, librarians may wish to join Joseph Murphy, Chancellor of City University of New York, in calling for the Senate and House intelligence committees to conduct a "thorough investigation of this apparent violation of academic freedom by the FBI." The Committee encourages librarians to write to their Senators and Representatives, or to Senator Paul Simon (Chair, Senate Subcommittee on the Constitution) and Representative Don Edwards (Chair, House Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights), concerning this FBI program.

Finally, librarians are urged to contact the Office for Intellectual Freedom with any and all information on this, or similar, approaches by federal agents, and on any institutional actions taken. The Office is collecting the information and coordinating the IFC's response and needs to hear from librarians — by phone or by letter.

Such infringements of the First Amendment can be effectively combatted only if the information is available — and that information can only come from librarians.

## Letter to the Editor

September 29, 1987

Dear Sir:

A recent story from the New York Times news service prompts me to offer the following comments on practices in our profession. The story reports that the FBI asked librarians in New York to "watch for and report on library users who might be diplomats of hostile powers recruiting intelligence agents" (particularly from among college students) "or gathering information potentially harmful to the United States security."

Unfortunately instead of seizing this opportunity for patriotic service, library officials piously protested "intrusions into the privacy and academic freedom of library users." These officials demonstrate the same twisted logic that inspires some librarians to defend the privacy of circulation records while simultaneously condemning Federal security regulations and charges for publications as restricting the public's right of access to information.

Agents of hostile powers are not bona fide patrons who deserve "privacy and academic freedom." Rather they are active enemies of freedom, intelligent inquiry, and the right to read. The implied policy of equal and open access for all is not in fact practiced. Public libraries limit service to residents of their sponsoring governments, academic and school libraries serve students and faculty and limit or restrict service to others, and special libraries serve their organizations.

In this bicentennial year of the Constitution, it is unfortunate that some members of my profession are unable or unwilling to distinguish between friends and foes of freedom.

Yours truly,

Tom Sutherland

SELA member

1427 Anthony Rd.

Augusta, Georgia 30904



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