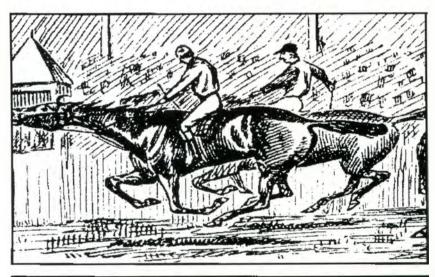
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Summer/Fall/Winter 1996 The butheastern branch ibrarian

Southern Libraries Lexington in Review





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Editor: Theresa Johnson Consulting Editor: Catherine Preuit

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 sections, round tables, or committees.
- 2. News releases, newsletters, clippings, and journals from libraries, state associations, and groups throughout the region may be used as sources of information.
- 3. Manuscripts should be directed to Theresa Johnson, *SELn* Editor, 6132 Arnie's Way, Milton, FL 32570. E-mail: tjohnson@.uwf.edu or Telephone: (904) 474-2168.
- 4. Manuscripts should be submitted in duplicate on plain white paper measuring 8½" x 11." Manuscripts should be 8-10 pages double-spaced, including text and references. Computer disks will be requested on publishing notification. Please contact the Editor for further information.
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President's Message

With this issue of *The Southeastern Librarian*, we close out the 1994-96 Association biennium and open the 1996-98 biennium. There is something pleasant about reflecting on the accomplishments of the past and anticipating the possibilities of the future, which this issue permits.

Certainly, the highlight of the 1994-96 biennium was our joint conference with the Kentucky Library Association in Lexington, Kentucky. Judith Gibbons, Conference Chair, has prepared a review of the conference that appears in this issue. From my own perspective, the conference was loaded with excellent programs and exhibits, was held in a beautiful and comfortable setting, and gave me many opportunities to meet colleagues and friends, both informally and in entertaining group events. All of the exhibitors, participants, planners, local arrangers, and presenters are to be commended for making this event such a success.



At the close of the conference, the SELA Executive Board learned that our Executive Secretary would be leaving. Claudia Medori has been a mainstay of SELA for many years. Association leaders during Claudia's tenure have taken the opportunity to comment on her contributions within later pages of the journal. Personally, I regret that she will not be at Headquarters to provide her able guidance and assistance during my presidency. All who worked with Claudia are aware that she had great dedication and loyalty to SELA. She represented continuity and corporate memory. Claudia will be sorely missed.

With the close of the biennium, we also see the conclusion of Theresa Johnson's term as Editor of *The Southeastern Librarian*. Theresa has done an outstanding job for SELA during her years as Editor. She has brought energy and enthusiasm to her work. She has built important bridges by communicating and working with State Representatives and state newsletter editors. Theresa, thank you for a job well done.

As we look forward to the new biennium, several actions in the last biennium will have bearing on our programs and activities. First, President Joe Forsee appointed an ad hoc committee to study future directions for SELA. The Future Directions Committee met in early summer to chart a recommended course for the Association that would, if successful, enable SELA to refocus and revitalize itself. A full discussion of the Future Directions Committee report and Association activities to date appears in this issue. This means that during the biennium, the Association will be taking steps and moving in new directions to ensure that it remains relevant to its members and is attractive to possible new members. For those of us who have been members of SELA for many years, this is exciting. It means that hopefully many others will continue to enjoy the benefits of an Association that has added meaning and value to our professional lives.

Confirmed also during the last biennium was the conference site for 1998. SELA will meet with the Arkansas Library Association in Little Rock in September 1998. Frances Coleman, our Vice-President/President-Elect, will be the SELA Program Chair for the conference. Frances will be working with a SELA Program Committee and members of the Arkansas Library Association to plan another outstanding conference for our members.

Finally, in the event you have not noticed, the Executive Board recommended and the membership approved after many years a dues increase effective in the 1996-98 biennium. This increase was necessary to stay current with costs associated with operating the Association. If you have not done so, please renew your membership and continue to support SELA and the efforts now ongoing to refocus and revitalize the Association. We need your continued commitment and support and your help in attracting new members to SELA. But, as much as your dues support, the Association leadership needs your ideas and comments on improving your Association. We need your energy to build programs and make them work. Please join in and be a part of creating an Association that has value for you.

Lorraine D. Summers



SELA Officers and State Representatives 1996-1998 Biennium

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Editor's Note

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Editor for the past several years. I have thoroughly enjoyed the chance to get to know many of you and to coordinate the publication of our journal.

The budgets were never especially kind to me. We often never knew if funds were going to be available. Issues were planned that have not yet been printed, but I continue to expect them to appear. While money was short, your generosity was never scarce. I will always be grateful for this opportunity to work with the wonderful people that make SELA possible.

This issue completes the Volume 46 volume year. While an emphasis is placed on a review of the joint Lexington conference, regular features are also included. The article by Kate Ragsdale was targeted for a preconference issue highlighting Southern libraries doing commendable things to improve services. I am pleased that we could include her article in this issue. A special thanks is due to two individuals who provided special assistance with this issue. Lori Ledford, Ralph Russell's secretary, provided the poster session abstracts. As Ralph characterized her, she is "a wonderfully competent" person who could find what he had already packed. Charles Beard "subtly" encouraged several very busy people to express their thanks to Claudia Medori.

SELA continues to grow and change with the times. President Lorraine Summers encourages us to look ahead in her article on page 60. Changes will also be made in how the Association operates. If you have read anything I have written, you know how much we all owe to Claudia Medori and Jo Ann Treadwell for the endless number of hours and energy they contribute to keep the Association going. Claudia has resigned as Executive Secretary, and we would be remiss if we did not take the opportunity publicly to thank her for all she has done. A special tribute to Claudia is included on the next page.

Our appreciation also is extended to Jo Ann for assisting in the transition of the Association's management. I challenge you to take five minutes to send a letter to SELA Headquarters (P.O. Box 987, Tucker, GA 30085-0987) to thank these two extraordinary women for their untold contributions to your organization.

I encourage you to continue your support of your journal and your Association. While it may be an over used saying that "people make the difference," people are the difference in this organization. I have made friends through my association with SELA that I will keep forever. If you have not been involved, recently or ever, become involved! You will quickly meet some of the most talented people who are willing to go way above and beyond the "call of duty."

Thanks again for a wonderful time!

Theresa

Thanks, Claudia

Claudia Medori has served the Southeastern Library Association in a variety of roles for many years. Most recently, she has held the position of Executive Secretary. At the close of the SELA/KLA Conference, Claudia submitted her resignation to the Executive Board.

With expressed regret, the Executive Board accepted her resignation. Past SELA Presidents who worked with Claudia in her role as Executive Secretary were given this chance to comment publicly on her contributions. As you will soon discover (if you do not already know), Claudia is a very special person. SELA was fortunate to have her working with us!

"Claudia Medori assumed her official duties as the Executive Secretary of the Southeastern Library Association during my term as Vice President/President-Elect. Her immediate contributions made the Association's operation ever so much more efficient and my life ever so much easier.

Claudia was a joy to work with because of her seemingly effortless organizational ability and her 'people' skills. Her attention to detail, her problematic perceptiveness, and her knowledge of the ever-changing library profession and players made her quickly indispensable to our leadership as well as to the individual member.

All SELA members past, present, and future owe a great debt of gratitude to Claudia for her dedication, hard work, and creative leadership. This is a debt that we can never repay. I hope these words in some small way do convey how much I personally, and speaking for our membership, appreciate and respect her multifaceted accomplishments."

Charles Beard SELA President 1986-1988 "My term as President of SELA was preceded by the regular two year term as Vice President/President Elect and by a two-year term as Treasurer. That six-year period (like so many in SELA's history) was one of budget problems. It was only at the end of my term that we began to see our head above water on a regular (although temporary) basis. That momentary era of good feelings was brought about by the extremely successful conference at Opryland. Although I was President, the conference and its success were largely due to the efforts of Jim Ward and the Tennessee Library Association.

Adding my two-year term Immediate Past President, I had the opportunity of working closely with Claudia for almost a decade. In all of that period (working through some very difficult situations and with some very demanding people) I never saw her lose her kind spirit, her desire to help, and her willingness to take on almost any project—regardless of the resources and support that the Association could provide. Now, I have seen her mad. frustrated, and discouraged. But, even those times were handled in a manner that I would like to be able to copy.

My mentioning the success of 'my' presidential conference through the work of others does have a point in these comments. Another characteristic of Claudia is that she is not territorial when credit is given. If it was good for the Association, she would do it. If the President, or someone else, got the credit that was okay. Although she was a paid staff member and should have such an attitude, it still was unusual.

In addition to all of these fine professional attributes, Claudia is a great dancer, a reasonably sober dinner partner, a good story teller, and a good listener. I am honored to have her as a colleague and to count her as a friend."

George Stewart SELA President 1988-1990

"I am happy to have this opportunity to say a few words regarding Claudia Medori. To me, the words 'Claudia Medori' and 'SELA' are synonymous. For years, she was the 'glue' that held the Association together in so many ways.

I had the wonderful privilege of working with Claudia in many capacities, including Conference Director. Conference Program Chair, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and as President. In each of those roles I always relied on her for advice, counsel, and assistance, and I was never denied or disappointed. Working with Claudia was always a positive experience. One could rely on her to be dependable, efficient, prompt, thorough, accurate, conscientious, encouraging, understanding, cooperative, and many other adjectives-always in a very pleasant way.

Claudia is fair in her dealings with people, and she consistently had the best interests of SELA at heart in all of her decisions, whether it was her willingness to work in less-than-desirable surroundings or pinching pennies trying to operate within the approved budget.

Claudia is a very beautiful individual in person and in character. She has high standards and was always a good representative of SELA. In looking back on my career of 30+ years in the profession, one happy memory would surely be knowing and working with I am very grateful for Claudia Medori. the enrichment she gave my life and the lives of so many others in SELA as well as throughout the library world. She is so much appreciated and will be greatly missed. My best wishes are extended to her in her plans with family and otherwise."

Jim Ward SELA President 1990-1992

"Trying to separate how I feel about Claudia Medori in her role as Executive Secretary while I was SELA President from how I feel about Claudia Medori, friend for over 20 years, is impossible. Suffice it to say that I would never have agreed to take on the presidency if she had not been there. Nor would I have handled being Conference Chair for the 1986 Conference in Atlanta. Nor would I have taken on the job of Program Chair for the 1992 Conference in New Orleans.

Her endless patience; attention to detail; common sense; good humor; care, concern, and love for SELA; incredible intelligence; ability to run the office on **no** money; cheerful willingness to work for no salary to speak of; and overall ability to put up with me (not to mention all the other SELA presidents!) and remain my friend never ceased to amaze me.

It is a well-known fact among those of us who have worked with, loved, and struggled with SELA through many lean years that the reason that it has survived has a great deal to do with the members wanting it to survive. What may be less well known to the membership at large is how much is due to Claudia (and Jo Anne, please don't forget her). She has had the same affection for the organization and the people in it that we all have had, and that affection has kept us all going.

I have known Claudia for 25 years, through our early days together as very young branch librarians for the Atlanta Public Library, through my marriage and divorce, job changes and moves, through her children (including twins), and the many interests of both her and husband Gene, and her various careers with SELA. Through it all she has remained one of the most interested, alive, thoroughly nice, interesting people I have ever known.

I could not have done what I have done with SELA without her, but what I value is the friend. The friendship remains though she has left SELA. Thanks, Claudia, for all of it—may there be at least 25 more!"

Gail Lazenby SELA President 1992-1994 "There are many people to admire in our chosen field. Some inspire us, some impress us with scholarship or incredible work ability, and others have notable energy. Personally, I have come to prize those who are able to make others always feel they are 'okay,' that they will manage to 'fit in' and to do the job that is needed. These rare individuals always make one feel better when a new challenge is before the group. They have the special talent of making all kinds of different group members feel that 'we will get through this together.'

As a new member, as a committee chair, and as President, I was fortunate enough to have Claudia Medori make me always feel welcome. When I wasn't 'on time' with a form, a report, or whatever; when I had professional and personal problems; Claudia always had a way of helping me 'get on with it' while still feeling better about everything and everyone.

The SELA world was always a little brighter with Claudia in it, and it already seems less so without her in the office routinely. I feel better knowing that Claudia is still very much our colleague, even though she is not as readily present on the other end of the phone, FAX, or Email.

Claudia, thanks for always caring and for always making all of us feel that we belonged and that we were important. You always helped make our lives more pleasant and full. We owe you much. Thank you!

Joe B. Forsee SELA President 1994-1996

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Limestone and Computers: Updating an Old Library Building to Accommodate New Services

By Kate W. Ragsdale

University library buildings and the wide assortment of services provided within these buildings can be daunting to students. Before entering college, students may have used only the school library where more than likely information resources, perhaps in paper format only, were contained in one room. The library catalog may even have been in the traditional card form. librarian, easily distinguishable from fellow students, was there to help. Although librarians find it hard to imagine how a university student can manage to avoid using the library, sometimes until very late in their college career, it is not difficult to understand the confusion associated with searching for information beyond the familiar high school library.

Several years ago librarians at The University of Alabama's Amelia Gayle Gorgas Library, constructed in 1939, began working with an architect to develop a building master plan intended to reassign and redesign space to enhance the level of service for library customers and provide a more efficient work environment for library staff. Objectives for the master plan were as follows:

- Maximize the use of all existing areas within the facility
- ▶ Place "user access spaces" in areas clearly visible to the patron upon entry to the facility

Kate W. Ragsdale is Planning Officer at the University of Alabama Libraries in Tuscaloosa (AL).

- ▶ Clarify organization of circulation and function within the building
- Provide for flexibility of space to allow future changes in usage
- Increase quality and quantity of reader spaces
- Zone functional activities relative to noise/activity level. Place loud/active functions on entry levels and quiet/passive activities on upper levels
- Accommodate users with disabilities
- ▶ Create a more efficient work environment for library staff
- Provide for five to seven years of growth in services

Although funding constraints have hampered implementation of the building master plan precisely as drawn, recent library renovations have been designed in the spirit of the building master plan. The first stage of space redesign has culminated in substantial modification of the building entrance and the construction of a new Gorgas Library information center; during the second phase several departments within the building will be moved to cluster services and provide a more efficient working environment for library staff.

Considerable thought and planning went into modifying the building entrance so that all library patrons may enter with ease. The inner set of what had been double entry doors were removed, a simple modification that allows individuals, even those with an

armload of books, to enter the building without a struggle. Relocating the book security system up several steps from the lobby level to the entry level (where the second set of doors had been situated) leaves the lobby open and uncluttered for patron traffic headed for reference, circulation, and the elevators.

Alterations at the entrance also resulted in improved access to the library building for individuals with disabilities. An old and malfunctioning mechanical chair lift, an alternative to using the stairs between the entry level and the lower lobby level, has been replaced with a ramp just inside the entry doors. No more is it necessary for patrons who cannot negotiate stairs to contend with the antiquated chair lift-a noisy apparatus that worked most of the time—just to enter the building. The entry door closest to the ramp is equipped with a power-assisted door opener that activates when a button nearby is pressed or when pressure is exerted on the door handle or crash bar.

The newly constructed information center, which contains 25 computer workstations for patrons to use in accessing electronic resources, is located in a spacious area to the right of and clearly visible from the first floor entry doors. Directly across the lobby from the information center is the circulation desk. Patrons entering the library, even for the first time, see at a glance two major user access areas. There is no need for directional signs or a building directory to show library patrons where reference and circulation assistance can be found.

In order to provide an uncluttered space for the information center, a number of walls and individual spaces, both offices and cramped listening rooms, were removed. On two walls the magnificent limestone trim of the 1939 building, covered in later renovation, was uncovered, repaired, and cleaned. Limestone window and door frames were reopened to provide new walkthrough spaces from the computer workstation area into the west end of the building, now housing indexes in paper. Library users who may be apprehensive about navigating electronic information resources can look with comfort beyond the computer workstations to the area housing the more familiar paper sources. The feeling is one of openness from the entry all the way to the far end of the building.

For flexibility and ease of rearrangement, the wiring in the information center is in a grid arrangement under the floor. Eighteen electrical boxes make up the grid; each box provides electrical supply and data connections for a cluster of workstations. Equipment and furniture can be arranged and rearranged without fuss to accommodate present and future needs.

The number of electronic resources available to library users has been increasing steadily as the networking infrastructure has developed throughout the library system. Before the construction of the information center, the catalog terminals for patrons, located throughout the Gorgas Library building, provided access to the local catalog, catalogs of other libraries in the state, and a number of databases available through InfoShare. Computers in the information center provide access to a wider array of electronic resources, including networked CD-ROMs. One computer workstation in the information center is equipped with adaptive technologies for access by patrons with visual or learning disabilities; this workstation features enlarged print, voice synthesis, scanning, and Braille print capabilities. Assistance with all resources is always readily available.

Before the information center was constructed, patrons entering the building could see the circulation desk to the left and straight ahead in the lobby a bank of catalog terminals sandwiched between the elevators and the rest rooms. Assistance for patrons using these terminals was available at either the circulation desk or the reference service desk. However, library users might not have realized that assistance was indeed available because the terminals were located at some distance from the circulation desk and completely out of sight of the reference service desk. Reference services and the government documents area were tucked around the corner on the east and west ends of the building, neither visible from the lobby and each with its own service point staffed during certain hours that the building was open.

With the creation of the new information center, services and sources for reference, for government documents ready reference, and for workstations providing electronic resources are all located in one area, clearly visible from the entrance of the building. Assistance is provided from a single service point at all hours the building is open.

The second phase of space redesign in Gorgas Library involves the second and fourth floors of the building. In order to locate more services on the entry levels and provide quieter reader space on the upper floors, a shifting of several functions is taking place. The catalog and the acquisitions departments (both located now on second floor) and collection development (located on the third floor) are being relocated the fourth to floor. Communication between the collection development and the acquisitions departments (once located on different floors) will be more efficient. existing walls on the floor are being

removed to maximize space flexibility and openness and to enhance efficiency of work flow. Offices for department and unit heads are being constructed at the far ends of the floor; cubicles for members of the department will be placed toward the center of the space, leaving open a long windowed wall to let in light for all to enjoy.

The newly rearranged second floor (also an entry level on the quadrangle side of the building) will be shared by three public service units—current periodicals & reserve, microforms, and the music library. The three service points (formerly one for each unit) will be collapsed into one service point, centrally located. Most of the space on the third floor will be available for reader study areas and book stacks; only two non-reader areas (the systems office and the staff lounge) remain on that floor. The entire fourth mezzanine floor will be designated for readers and stacks.

Renovations, either completed or in progress, have addressed eight of the nine original objectives cited in the building master plan. Entering the building on the first floor is easier with only one set of doors; users with disabilities may enter using a new ramp and automatic door. Once inside, users can see immediately where to go for assistance. All of the public services are clustered on the lower two floors, and two of the upper floors are designated as quiet reader areas. Space on three floors has been opened up for more flexible use. Considerable improvement in both design and function has taken place in staff work areas. Six service points, some with limited hours of operation, have been reduced to three service points, all clearly visible in central locations and manned every hour the building is open. Electronic services have been greatly expanded. One computer workstation in the information center is equipped with adaptive technologies. The

level of service has been enhanced while requiring fewer staff resources. To add to enhanced access and services, the first floor has a totally different look—new carpet, tile, and paint—a facelift welcomed by both customers and library staff.

The library's objective to provide for five to seven years of growth in services has not yet been realized and remains for another phase. A remote storage facility for housing little-used library materials is perhaps the most economical approach to freeing up space in the library building for further expansion of collections and services.



SELA in Transition

By Lorraine D. Summers

It is not business as usual for the Southeastern Library Association. As with libraries and other library associations, SELA has not escaped the challenge of change in order to remain vital and viable. Issues are before the Association that must be addressed and resolved in order for the Association to remain viable in the foreseeable future.

For some years, the Southeastern Library Association has been finding it more and more difficult to maintain its program within existing revenues. While the Association has a loyal cadre of members, it has not been replenishing itself at a sufficiently rapid rate. And in light of today's world of library and information services, the Association wanted to challenge itself as to its programmatic vitality.

In the spring of 1996, then President Joe Forsee appointed an ad hoc committee to study future directions for the Southeastern Library Association. The Future Directions Committee reviewed the current situation; considered various alternatives for the Association; and recommended a course for the Association that would, if successful, enable SELA to refocus and revitalize itself. Members of the committee were Charles Beard, Elizabeth Curry, Betty Johnson, Kate Nevins, Lorraine Summers, and James Ward.

Lorraine D. Summers is Assistant State Librarian, State Library of Florida in Tallahassee (FL). The Future Directions Committee began its work by reviewing the traditional roles of the Southeastern Library Association and whether those roles still existed or needed to be played within the Southeast. Further review was made by the committee on what new roles SELA might take on that are needed by its members and others associated with library and information services in the region.

The result of this review was a reaffirmation of the objectives in the Constitution of the Southeastern Library Association, Article II. Objectives, which states:

"The objectives of this Association shall be to promote library and information services in the Southeastern region of the United States through cooperation, research, and the encouragement of staff development."

Given rapid developments with technology and new means of providing library and information services, as well as challenges to libraries in all settings, the elements of cooperation, research, and staff development are as important today as ever. These objectives frame the roles that SELA can play within the region, and all possible current and future benefits and programs envisaged by the Association for members should fit under these objectives.

The Future Directions Committee made a series of interim and long-term recommendations to the SELA Executive Board that would provide the Association an opportunity to stabilize financially and "re-invigorate" itself. The Executive Board accepted these recommendations at its Board

meeting in Lexington, KY on October 26, 1996. The following is a summary of the recommendations that now form the nucleus of the Association's action plan.

▶ Reduce the cost of Association management

SELA will minimize the services necessary to operate the Association and seek to purchase these association management services.

This means that the headquarters office will be closed and SELA will partner with other associations to receive support services.

Secure accurate budget information

More accurate financial management is needed to accommodate better financial decision-making in a membership organization.

Issues of when expenditure needs to occur as related to when income is received and how various sources of income are utilized are important for the leadership in making good decisions for the Association.

SELA has not constructed its financial records to support this usage.

Implement a new dues schedule and increase membership

The Association passed a new dues schedule in 1996 to begin in 1997.

This will assist SELA in overcoming some financial difficulty it has experienced in operating the Association.

In addition, it is necessary to continue to

attract continuing and new members. SELA hopes to begin attracting diverse groups, such as minority librarians and library staff, library school students, trustees/friends, paraprofessionals, and middle managers.

Hold annual meetings of SELA and develop other formats and strategies to provide educational opportunities for members in addition to the biennial conference

SELA needs to have an annual visibility with its members in the area of education and staff development. A biennial conference alone does not provide enough visibility.

Taking meetings and educational/staff development opportunities to all geographic areas of the region would have the benefit of raising the visibility of the Association as well as offer members a tangible benefit.

Some of the suggestions in this area include: 1) packaged preconferences or conference programs at state association meetings; 2) specialized workshops targeted at specific groups (trustees/friends, paraprofessionals, etc.); 3) expansion of the existing leadership meeting to include speakers on leadership and related topics; and 4) cooperation with state and regional organizations to meet specified educational needs.

The biennial conference will continue to be planned toward the close of each biennium.

The Southeastern Librarian should continue to be the official publication of the SELA and should be published quarterly.

SELA will continue to communicate with its members and report on library news, trends and developments in the southeast through *The Southeastern Librarian*.

The journal also represents a significant means for addressing the research objective of the Association. To be truly significant in the area of research, a journal should be juried.

Plans currently include publishing the journal as a research issue twice a year and the other two issues as a newsletter and vehicle for conducting and reporting Association business.

An editorial board will be appointed to manage the journal, including a possible format change.

- Develop a long-term plan for the Association based on the broad areas of cooperation, research, and staff development that emphasizes the following benefit/activity areas:

 - publications
 - professional advancement, including involvement on committees and task forces and mentoring
 - continuing education and staff development
 - promotion of regional identification and culture, including regional authors and publishing as well as awards and recognitions
 - personal networking opportunities

These broad areas can encompass any number of programs and activities.

Specific plans with action steps must be developed and implemented. This will be done utilizing existing committees, sections, and round tables as appropriate to the area of emphasis.

With this plan in hand, the SELA Executive Board, under the direction of its Executive Committee, has begun to implement a transition. To date, activities are underway to secure new Association management services, close the headquarters office, create a budget plan for the new biennium, appoint members to committee assignments, initiate conference planning for the biennial conference, and complete the latest volume of *The Southeastern Librarian*.

This is an important period in the existence of the Southeastern Library Association. We have an opportunity to build on the strengths of the past while embracing the new challenges, needs, and opportunities of the future. SELA has a good leadership core with which to make this transition. We must also rely on each member to make a commitment not just to support the organization, but to actively do something to help it advance its objectives. The SELA leadership will be seeking the support and active assistance of our state and individual members to help with implementing the transition and long-term strategies. Together, we can develop and enjoy the benefits of a strong Southeastern Library Association.

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The Tradition Continues: The 1996 Joint Conference

By Judith Gibbons

"The Winning Ticket: Southern Libraries" was an apt title for the 1996 joint conference for the Kentucky Library Association and the Southeastern Library Association held in Lexington, Kentucky October 23 through October 26. Statistically speaking, a total of 967 paid registrants and 80 exhibitors participated.

Three preconferences were available. "Netporn @ Your Library: Confronting the Seedy Side of Cyberspace" was presented by Mickey Ann Hinojosa from SOLINET. A generous grant from Forest Press funded an overview of "Dewey 21." Gregory New, the Library of Congress, and Dr. Lois Chan, University of Kentucky, were co-presenters. "Waste Not, Want Not" with Ed Klee, librarian and educational trainer, gave participants an opportunity to reexamine library work methods.

Wednesday morning a stalwart group traveled to the village of Pleasant Hill restored to reflect the spirit of the Shaker religious sect. The tour featured a visit to the community library, admission to the buildings, and a bountiful luncheon. A second option was to take a tour of the Lexington-based Book Wholesalers, Inc. This was the perfect opportunity for practicing library staff to see the inner workings of a national book distributor.

The opening General Session was a reunion for SELA President Joe Forsee and veteran broadcaster Al Smith. Forsee set the

tone for the program when he related a humorous tale of teen escapades in the library that featured the youngest daughter of the guest speaker. Smith reminisced about the effects that libraries, library people, and library services had on him during his journalistic career.

The exhibits opened in Heritage Hall with an All Conference Reception featuring a string quartet from Transylvania University. Traffic was heavy in the booths as colleagues examined new vendor services and offerings ranging from computer software to specialized publications.

An eager group of travelers met at 7:00 Thursday morning to embark on a tour of the Keeneland race track. They watched the horses exercise, visited the track library, and enjoyed a hearty breakfast before returning to the conference.

Thursday brought a plethora of programs ranging from activities for a single-type library to comprehensive overviews. Dr. Ralph Russell, Georgia State University, coordinated poster sessions. Although this was their second appearance at an SELA conference, this was their first appearance at a KLA conference. At the same time, SELA members were introduced to the KLA mini-session concept. Carolyn Tassie, Transylvania University, coordinated these programs from KLA sections. The diverse programs ranged from "A Look at the W.T. Young Library at the University of Kentucky" to a Kentucky public library "Legislative Update."

Judith Gibbons is Director of the Woodford County Library in Versailles, KY.

Individuals from both organizations took advantage of the free materials exchange sponsored by the SELA Public Relations Committee. The general membership also took time to peruse the items for the Silent Auction collected by the Friends of Kentucky Public Libraries. Billed as "A Great Deal for a Good Cause," almost \$1,800 was raised for scholarships.

At noon Thursday, the membership gathered for a joint awards luncheon. Spess Neblett from Baker & Taylor entertained at the piano during an excellent luncheon prepared by the chefs at the Hyatt. More information on the SELA awards begins on page 72.

After a hard day at work, it was time to dress down for "Old Kentucky Night" at the Kentucky Horse Park. A bluegrass band, Roy Chapman and Friends, set the tone for the evening at the send off reception in the exhibits area. The evening included walking tours, square dancing, and a bountiful buffet at this Kentucky state park. A small but a hearty cadre continued the evening with the first SELA Roast that toasted three of SELA's "Best Bud's"—Charles Beard, Joe Forsee, and Gene Lanier. Jack Mulkey had the dubious honor of serving as the master of ceremonies for this illustrious event.

The Friends of the Kentucky Public Library brought native Kentuckian, Bob Edwards, back to the Commonwealth Friday to deliver remarks on the state of American libraries. His ruminations ranged from comments on library architecture and design to lamenting the loss of librarians to administrative and fundraising duties. The day also included concentrated programming blocks for trustee and children's service personnel.

Friday evening the "Winning Ticket" was the entree to the All Conference Gala hosted by the Board of Trustees, Director Ron Steensland, and the Staff and Friends of the Lexington Public Library. Elegant refreshments were served throughout the five story structure giving visitors a chance to sample delicacies and browse through the collections.

Saturday offered a varied program selection examining technology, intellectual freedom, innovative services, and advocacy. ALA President Mary Somerville stressed her commitment to children with her "Kids Can't Wait" campaign.

The spirit of cooperation continued into Saturday with a SELA/KLA joint board luncheon. During this luncheon, the conference committee was recognized. Kentucky members included: Judy Ball (Eastern Kentucky University); Cindy Brown, KLA President (Boone County Public Library); Judith Gibbons, Chair (Woodford County Library); Patty Grider (Caverna High School); Sarah Kelley (Bluegrass North Regional Library); Elaine Steinberg, KLA President-Elect (St. Xaviar High School); Janet Stith, KLA Past-President (University of Kentucky Medical Center Library); Linda Stith (Bluegrass South Regional Library); Sally Ann Strickler, KLA SELA State Representative (Western Kentucky University); Carolyn Tassie (Transylvania University); Tom Underwood, KLA Executive Secretary); and Mary Williams (Lexington Public Library). Out of state members included: Joe Forsee, SELA President (Northwest Georgia Regional Library System); Lorraine Summers, SELA President-Elect (State Library of Florida); and Ralph Russell (Georgia State University).

Lexington in Review

October 23-26, 1996 the Kentucky Library Association and Southeastern Library Association held a biennial joint conference in Lexington, Kentucky with more than 1,100 members, guests, speakers, and vendors attending. For those unable to attend this conference, you missed a lot. Since we knew it would not be possible for everyone to attend (somebody has to stay behind to keep the places running), the Editors contacted each SELA section, round table, or committee sponsoring a program and invited them to contribute to this conference wrap-up issue. Thanks to the efforts of 13 SELA reporters, you can read on to see what you might have missed.

As always, different events stand out for everyone. Permit me to share just a few. The gala was simply spectacular—jumbo shrimp, chocolate, and other rich desserts in the basement of the library, talented SELA staff and members dancing to the band, and the chance to see Joe Forsee in a pair of real shoes. Who can forget Jack Mulkey's delight at Keeneland where he won \$11.00—who cared if it cost him \$14.00! The roast where most of the "dirt" was shared in the back corner of the bar among participants, who chose not to make their revelations public—yet. Finally, the unforgettable Awards Luncheon where we were captivated by a wonderful pianist (whose day job is with Baker & Taylor) while dining on filet mignon—no rubber chicken, broccoli, or long-winded speeches.

Read on to see the wide variety of enlightening, entertaining, and educational events that made up SELA/KLA in Lexington. Once you are finished, go ahead and make plans now to join us in Little Rock in 1998. Jack Mulkey will be a wonderful host!

Theresa Johnson

Wednesday, October 23

"Open Discussion Forum on Current Issues in Library Instruction"

Eight librarians attended the second biennial preconference discussion forum sponsored by SELIRT. The agenda was based on a list of suggested topics mailed to the membership earlier in the year.

After introductions, a lively discussion ensued which centered on the impact of technology in libraries overall and on library instruction in particular. Issues surrounding the explosive growth of the World Wide Web dominated the discussion, including coping with technological stress, time

management, BI and the electronic classroom, and the use of the Web in library instruction. Public access to the Web and Internet usage polices were also discussed. Another topic was the revamping of current programs, though many participants determined that technological change was forcing the revamping of programs.

Library instruction for distance learners was also a hot topic. The relative benefits of various multimedia authoring tools were discussed, with application to computer-based library tutorials and interactive tutorials on the Web.

Participants from public libraries, a special library, and academic libraries across the Southeast enjoyed the opportunity to share experiences and challenges and seek solutions to current issues facing library instruction.

Stacey Nickell Paducah (KY) Community College

Thursday, October 24

"Digitization of Preservation Microfilm"

Meg Bellinger, President of OCLC Preservation Resources, was the speaker at this program sponsored by the Preservation Round Table. The most vexing problem is the lack of universal standards for digitization of images. While 300 dpi is acceptable for simple viewing, 600+ dpi is needed for research and preservation.

Equipment also causes problems. Most equipment is proprietary and often comes with a limited use license, restricting the number of users. Hardware is quickly dated and is often obsolete in a few years if not months. Most new equipment is **not** compatible with the older formats thus limiting, if not restricting, the transferability of image databases.

Other problems relate to storage space, file names for the image, and scanners. Digitization of microfilm requires massive amounts of electronic storage space. Interestingly, the life expectancy of microfilm exceeds that of computer storage.

Special care needs to be taken to prevent confusion or mix-up in file names for the image database. If not, poor indexing or deleting an image may occur. Images can be edited or adjusted easily, often without the viewers' knowledge. Consequently, the question of integrity can cause problems. For example, is the image primary or secondary?

Flat bed scanners require books to have spines removed. The use of book cradles to avoid spine damage are seldom used due to the additional cost in "time."

John McPherson State University of West Georgia

"Legal Research for Non-Law Librarians: Tips, Tools and Treasures"

The Special Libraries Section's program was presented by Herb Cihak and Carol Parris of the University of Kentucky Law School Library. The program was intended to be an introduction or refresher on legal reference work for those who are not law librarians but occasionally get legal reference questions. The program was well illustrated with slides and several handouts including an annotated bibliography of "Selected Legal Research Materials for Non-Law Librarians" compiled by Shaun Esposito, also of the UK Law Library.

Other handouts included one on the sources of law (statutes, constitutions, ordinances, rules/regulations, and case law) and another on the basic legal research steps:

1) identify research terms (who is involved, what is involved, when it occurred, where and why it occurred);

2) assess media options (is the information likely to be in a book, on a CD, in a database, or on the net);

3) locate, read, and update secondary sources such as legal encyclopedias or law review articles;

4) formulate issues; and 5) locate, read, and update primary authority sources such as case law and statutes.

The talk included a discussion of what is legal research and what services law librarians can and cannot provide. They do not perform legal research for the public; they cannot answer legal questions; and, when in doubt, they refer clients to an

attorney. Four tips of the trade were provided: 1) customers have a right to know what is in the collection, where materials are located, and how material is utilized; 2) legal research is not something to fear; use a dictionary to decipher legalese or jargon; 3) know your local law librarians; and 4) know when to stop. Also included was a discussion of a legal research problem and how three legal reference tools, a case digest, an annotated code, and an administrative register, were used to resolve the problem.

The program also provided a refresher on the steps to follow in researching legal problems and was very helpful in demystifying an often confusing subject area. Tip number 3, "know your local law librarians," might just be the most useful one of all.

Tom Sutherland Westinghouse Savannah River Site

"Lead, Follow, or Get out of the Way: The Role of Library Cooperatives in the New Environment"

This program, sponsored by the Interstate Cooperation Committee, featured three individuals currently involved in library cooperatives.

Steve Baughman, SOLINET, focused his attention on the Monticello Electronic Library. Specifically, he described the cooperation obtained from partnerships with other state agencies to develop Monticello.

Elizabeth Curry, SEFLIN, discussed the SEFLIN Free-Net. In particular, she noted the level of cooperation needed among other networks in the Miami area with a focus of working in concert to each other's benefit.

Jim Nelson, State Librarian of Kentucky, spoke of the cooperation needed among the various agencies, the legislature, and the governor to establish the Kentucky Library Network.

This was a good opportunity to learn what can be accomplished when libraries work cooperatively with agencies throughout the Southeast. Of particular note were the benefits gained by such cooperation.

Bill McRee Greenville (SC) County Library

"Preservation Resources on the Internet"

Sharla Richards, SOLINET Preservation Services Field Officer, shared a variety of Internet resources with attendees at the Preservation Round Table's program. These resources included mail reflectors, listservs, discussion lists, and web sites dedicated to a broad array of topics concerning conservation issues. A variety of useful handouts accompanied the presentation.

Susan Massey University of Alabama

"It's Access, Access! Cooperatively Held Databases in a Networked Environment"

A number of successful virtual library projects in member states were showcased during this session sponsored by the University and College Libraries Section. Ralph Boe, Director of the Louisiana Online University Information System (LOUIS) and the Louisiana Library Network (LLN), described the evolution of the multi-type cooperative that is providing electronic services for the public universities and colleges and many schools and public libraries in the state of Louisiana.

The first steps were funded through a combination of grants and local funding, with the academic institutions providing links for public libraries and schools. Funding now comes from the state but is supplemented by the participants on a fee schedule based on enrollment figures for the participating 15 academic institutions and the acquisitions budgets of the 66 public libraries. A total of 12 databases are currently delivered over LaNet, the state library backbone. Databases are selected in a multi-step process that involves the participating libraries, users, and technical advisors. Boe enumerated the advantages of working in a consortium environment, the most important of which might be the leverage it provides in negotiating prices and product development.

Three panelists responded to Boe's remarks, enlarging on the theme of access. Carol Pfeiffer, Associate University Librarian at the University of Virginia, described the adventures she has encountered on the road to building the VIVA network for academic libraries in her state. Her advice for listeners was to plan, but plan loosely; buy all the bandwidth you can afford; negotiate, negotiate, negotiate with your vendors; and expect a great variety of expertise and adequacy among your members, necessitating lots of support and training.

Bill Potter, Director of Libraries at the University of Georgia, made a strong case for the importance of developing consortia to share electronic resources and of having large academic institutions provide leadership in their development. He attributed much of the success of the GALILEO project in Georgia to their emphasis on selecting databases with broad appeal. He, too, is convinced that group pricing is an advantage over individual negotiations.

Becky Lockwood Grossman, Director of Library Systems Relations for SilverPlatter Information, outlined the phenomenal growth in virtual library efforts in the last year and a half. This evolution has left vendors and information providers without adequate pricing models. She listed some ways vendors need to adjust to the new market realities, including a better understanding of the complexities of consortia groups, quicker response times for price negotiations, and better pricing models for information providers.

Lee Ketcham University of Montevallo

"Interlibrary Loan: Focused Discussion"

Document delivery in the public library was the focus of a program sponsored by the Interstate Cooperation Committee. Ouick and easy access to the complete text of articles that are not part of a particular library's collection is considered very desirable to many library users. An everincreasing number of document delivery services advertise their ability to provide such materials to libraries and individuals for a fee. In spite of this, interlibrary loan service in the Greenville (SC) County Library has not used these non-traditional suppliers as much as was anticipated. To determine the uniqueness of this experience, an informal survey of public libraries in the Southeast was undertaken.

Questionnaires were sent to interlibrary loan departments of the four largest libraries in each of the 12 Southeastern states. Twenty-two questionnaires were returned by libraries serving populations ranging from 844,000 to 75,509.

All of the libraries except two reported passing on charges for photocopies obtained via ILL to the patron. One reported charging a flat rate and the second did not charge anything. Many libraries reported that they provided other ways of obtaining copies that were not counted as ILL, including CD-ROM databases, online full-text databases, and Internet access.

Only four libraries of the 22 reported using non-traditional suppliers for interlibrary loan. The types of suppliers used included commercial document delivery services (three libraries) and online full-text databases (two libraries). Three libraries reported using UMI for a total of 14 times during the one-year period and one library reported using CARL "maybe once or twice."

One concludes from the results of this survey that public libraries in the Southeast have not found non-traditional suppliers to be convenient sources of nonreturnable items for interlibrary loan purposes. Although much is written about using commercial document delivery and alternative full-text sources in academic and special libraries, public libraries have yet to take full advantage of these services for interlibrary loan.

Several possible reasons for this limited use of non-traditional sources were suggested. The cost of obtaining the copies was considered the most prohibitive factor. Interlibrary loan patrons in public libraries do not wish to pay typical document delivery service charges, and interlibrary loan staff are reluctant to place requests that would result in such charges being assessed.

Gwen Johnson Greenville (SC) County Library

Friday, October 25

"Storytelling at its Best"

Storyteller Lou Ann Homan, a native of Indiana, told the story of "Annie's Attic" to members of the Children and School Libraries Section. This story took the audience into Annie's life, leaving all else behind. Mrs. Homan's plaid pinafore and a burning candle helped bring listeners into the story. Expressing a major truth about the value of storytelling, Mrs. Homan's professional brochure states "Storytelling: A Journey through Yesterday to Prepare for Tomorrow."

Rose Gabbard

"Planning and Budgeting for Staff Development in the Online Environment"

The SELA Library Education Section and the Continuing Education and Staff Development Committee sponsored a program that addressed the critical issues of planning, developing, and budgeting for training staff in the online environment.

The presenters were Donna Mancini, Director of the Nashville and Davidson County Public Library; Sandra Nelson, Assistant State Librarian and Archivist for Planning and Development, State Library of Tennessee; and Judy Card, Director of Staff Development at the Memphis Shelby (TN) County Public Library.

Mancini related some of her experiences with developing staff training modules to allow each person time away from their duty station to attend online training sessions. She reiterated that training was not just a one-time event, but once started would need to continue on a regular basis.

Nelson drew on her own experiences gained from working with libraries in Tennessee to emphasize the planning and budgeting aspects of online training for staff.

Card's talk focused on where to turn for help nationally and regionally. She reminded the audience that the Continuing Library Education Network and Exchange Round Table (CLENERT) of the American Library Association is a valuable source for library staff seeking information on and help with staff training in the online environment. Card also suggested possible sources of grant funding to help with the cost of staff training.

Mary Ann Littlefield Arkansas State Library

"Meet the Author: Paul Brett Johnson"

Mr. Johnson is a children's book author and illustrator who has produced many portraits of coal mining areas (an industry that for many years helped Kentucky grow) and has also created stories for children. His combined efforts in the writing and illustrating of *The Cow Who Wouldn't Come Down* won the Kentucky Blue Grass Award in 1995.

His presentation to the Children and School Libraries Section included a narrated slide presentation that sparked ideas among the audience. One came away with the idea that using technology, English, and/or reading teachers, art teachers, and librarians could put together outstanding programs for their students or users.

Rose Gabbard

"Library Instruction for the New Millennium"

Trish Ridgeway (VA), noted speaker on library instruction issues, was the featured presenter in this jointly sponsored program by the SELA and KLA Library Instruction Round Tables.

Ms. Ridgeway began her presentation by asking the audience about their knowledge and use of active learning (AL). The research literature suggests that AL leads to higher cognitive learning that allows the participant to apply knowledge rather than just memorizing facts. AL also provides more time to process information than traditional teaching styles and more information is transferred to long-term memory, resulting in greater retention of information and skills. Reasons why AL should be incorporated into library instruction include 1) the education reform movement; 2) participants are more involved in the learning processownership; and 3) AL provides variety in teaching styles.

Ms. Ridgeway briefly outlined methods of incorporating AL techniques into instructional programs. Brainstorming (both group and individual), buzz groups, small groups, and group discussion are all ways to involve students actively in the learning process. Practical tips include circulating among participants during group work and summarizing after group reports. A bibliography of materials on AL and library instruction was provided.

Mike Moyer, Information Specialist at the Virtual Library of the Charlotte & Mecklenburg (NC) County Library described his library's efforts at instructing patrons on the Web, including group and individual instruction. Point-of-use instructional aids on E-mail and Netscape

were also shared with the audience. Mr. Moyer fielded several questions from the audience that included printing costs, system security, time limits, and pornography on the Web. Members of the audience shared challenges and success stories in offering Internet access to their patrons.

Stacey Nickell Paducah (KY) Community College

"SOLINET: State of the Network"

During the past year, SOLINET has been actively focusing programs on the growing cooperative networked activities in the Southeast. At the same time, the organization has been strengthening the current programs and services in response to member library needs. Highlights of 1996 include:

- 1. Ongoing commitments to quality OCLC services, with widespread FirstSearch* implementation, extensive training, and a full time OCLC support desk.
- 2. Continued growth of SOLINET's preservation services, including start up of a new NEH funded microfilming project and expansion of the Field Services program of training and consulting.
- 3. Significant expansion of the Continuing Education and Training program, both in terms of topics offered and the number of customized contract sessions with consortia and individual libraries.
- 4. Continued growth of the Group Discount Project to procure discounts for members on a variety of services. In 1995/96, \$250,000 of discounts were obtained by members.

5. Introduction of electronic information projects, including group database licensing, special collections and government information access, and scanning.

Over the next year, SOLINET will continue to grow in the areas of electronic information access and management, new training topics and delivery methods, and digital archiving.

Kate Nevins, Executive Director SOLINET

"A Winning Combination: Paraprofessional and Professional"

The Paraprofessional Round Table's program began with Sue Hayes' (KY) opening remarks about the importance and timeliness of the topic under discussion.

Panelists Carolyn Tate (VA), Glenn Selfe (TN), Nelda Moore (KY), and Paul Porterfield (VA) were asked to give their definitions of what constitutes a professional and a paraprofessional. Paul Porterfield began by providing several dictionary definitions. Professional was most often defined as one having a specific body of knowledge or expertise in a given field of study sometimes culminating in an educational degree or credential. Paraprofessional was usually defined as one who works beside a professional. The distinction between these two terms. however, becomes vague when professional is defined in terms of how one carries out their job duties. All library staff should work in a professional (competent) manner and interact professionally with library users.

The other panelists voiced their opinions on what criteria should be used to determine professionalism. Although no consensus was reached on a precise definition for professional and paraprofessional, there was general agreement that the topic was significant and should continue to be discussed in open forums.

Other issues discussed by the panel and the audience included: 1) the changing nature of library jobs and staff shortages that have required that many paraprofessionals now do what was once considered professional work: 2) most library users do know the difference professional and paraprofessional staff; 3) all library staff need to continue their library training and personal development to be successful in their jobs; and 4) all library staff must work together harmoniously on mutually agreed upon goals in order to provide the most effective library service to our users.

The panel's conclusion was that the two sectors, professional and paraprofessional, usually effectively support one another to serve library patrons.

Paul Porterfield University of Richmond

"What's in a Name? SELA PART"
Support, Education, Leadership,
Advancement, Participation,
Achievement, Responsibility,
and Training

Meralyn Meadows, Stanly (NC) County Public Library, moderator, opened the program by introducing the panelists: Dolores Payne, Ocean (NJ) County Library and Donna Washko, University of Central Arkansas.

Support: Library organizations, state, regional and national, provide support to paraprofessionals. Most administrators encourage active involvement that in turn helps us perform our jobs more effectively.

Education: It is our responsibility to ourselves and to our respective libraries to take advantage of opportunities offered through continuing education, workshops, seminars, conferences, and/or enrolling in classes at a local college or university to enhance our knowledge and skill and perform our jobs in a more professional manner.

Leadership: Support and education are important areas that aid in building our leadership skills. Professional organizations are opening doors for paraprofessionals to use their talents and leadership strengths.

Advancement: We are all responsible for taking advantage of opportunities to enhance our job performance level. As our performance level increases, our supervisors will recognize this and reward the staff member accordingly.

Participation: This is an area that can open doors and provide paths to new opportunities for paraprofessionals. The challenge is there, the responsibility is ours.

Achievement: Opportunities are growing for paraprofessionals. In order to achieve, paraprofessionals need the support of administrators and possess an interest in increasing knowledge through educational opportunities.

Training: One of the most important facets of our jobs is a solid foundation provided by thorough training. This improves service to patrons, aids in fulfilling expectations for improved job performance, and helps achieve library goals and objectives.

The panelists concluded that many opportunities are available in the fast-paced age of technology. It is ultimately our responsibility as paraprofessionals to search

for them. We are members of the team working toward the same goals. We have to promote our need for education, networking, leadership, and advancement opportunities. The support of administrators is necessary. Proper education and support lead directly to increased achievement, leadership opportunities and advancement, and renew and revitalize our interests in our job thus enhancing our job performance.

Paraprofessionals must have the support of administrators; the opportunity for education, leadership, and advancement. Participation leads to achievement as we add more responsibility to enhance our job performance through excellent training programs.

Carolyn Tate University of Richmond

"National Library Services for the Blind & Physically Challenged"

The Reference and Adult Services section program featured Stephen Prine, Head of Network Services at the National Library Services (NLS), a division of The Library of Congress. Mr. Prine provided a history of services to blind and visually impaired patrons in libraries in the United States. He then described the unique services offered by NLS.

NLS is a free national library program that provides Braille and recorded books to those unable to read standard print material because of a visual or physical disability. Established by an act of Congress in 1931 as a program for blind adults, NLS now includes children and persons with physical disabilities. NLS staff members select and produce full-length recorded books, research new audio technologies, and answer reference questions about the program or disability issues. NLS also oversees the

circulation of its materials to users through affiliate local (network) libraries throughout the country, offers a correspondence course in Braille, and maintains a circulating music collection of large print and Braille scores and music instructional material.

NLS titles are those found in most public libraries—bestsellers, popular fiction and magazines, mysteries, and how-to books. Cassette players are also provided on loan to patrons using recorded books. The titles reflect input from patrons, network librarians, and representatives of national associations for the blind. New offerings are listed in Braille and print newsletters sent to network libraries and registered patrons.

Admission to the program is fairly straightforward. Persons submit an application and provide a referral letter from a medical authority certifying that they are unable to use standard print material.

Stephen Prine also discussed electronic access to NLS materials and new adaptive technologies for persons with visual disabilities. Although NLS circulates approximately 22 million copies of titles to about 776,000 library users, many librarians and potential users are not aware of the program or aware that the program is easily available through local network libraries in their states. Stephen Prine's talk amply demonstrated both the range of services historically available from NLS and NLS' developing role in advancing the new technologies.

Jill Mendle
University of Alabama



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SELA Awards

H.W. Wilson Award

Dr. Pamela Palmer, The University of Memphis, received the H.W. Wilson Award for her four-part series, "Librarians as Authors." This award recognizes the best article to appear in the journal during the 1994-1996 biennium.

Outstanding Southeastern Library Program Award

The SELA Outstanding Library
Program Award was presented to the
SEFLIN (Southeast Florida Library
Information Network) Member Libraries
for their SEFLIN Free-Net.

SELA President's Award

The 1996 SELA President's Award, which recognizes an individual outside the library profession who has made a significant contribution to the development or promotion of libraries in the Southeast, was presented to **Jane Norcross**, former trustee of DeKalb (GA) County Public Library System.

Mrs. Norcross' history as a library advocate included holding leadership positions in the DeKalb County Public Library System, The DeKalb-Rockdale-Newton Regional Library, the Georgia Library Association, and the American Library Association's Trustees Association. She also held membership on the State Advisory Committee, reviewing applications for Federal LSCA Title IV funds, and participated in the Governor's Pre-White House Conference on Libraries and the Governor's Conference on Education.

Rothrock Award

The Rothrock Award, the highest honor bestowed by SELA on leaders in the library field, carries with it a monetary award of the interest on the \$10,000 endowment of Mary Utopia Rothrock and honorary membership in the Southeastern Library Association. The recipient of the 1996 award was Dr. Ralph E. Russell.

He has served as chair of the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries, Chair of SELA's University and College Libraries Section, and chair of the LSCA Advisory Council in the State of Georgia. Nationally, he served as President of the OCLC Users Council, followed by a term as a member of the OCLC Board of Trustees. From 1978 to 1981, he served on the SOLINET Board of Directors during a time when regional networks were working to establish an appropriate role for themselves. He is currently a member of ALA Council. In June, he was awarded ACRL's Academic/Research Librarian of the Year Award.

Dr. Russell's colleagues spoke highly of him, especially noting his role as a mentor and supporter for library staff. Dr. Leland Park, Director of the Library of Davidson College, wrote "that as a published scholar whose research has materially benefitted our profession's public; as a servant and leader of fellow professionals; as an effective and inspirational administrator; and as a loyal friend, with uncommon courtesy, decency, and high ethical standards Ralph Russell represents the very best in our profession."

Outstanding Southeastern Author Fiction

Doris Betts, short-story writer, novelist, and University of North Carolina Creative Writing professor, won the 1996 Southeastern Outstanding Author Award for fiction. Betts was presented the award for her *Souls Raised From the Dead*.

Outstanding Southeastern Author Nonfiction

John Egerton, senior correspondent for *The Tennessean* (Nashville), won the 1996 Southeastern Outstanding Author Award for nonfiction. Egerton was presented the award for his *Speak Now Against the Day*.



(Pictured left to right: Carolyn Wilson, past president of the Women's National Book Association; Doris Betts; John Egerton; Ann Egerton; Mary Glenn Hearne, chair of the SELA Author Awards committee.)

SELA Poster Sessions

Abstracts for eleven poster session presentations made during the 1996 SELA/KLA Conference are provided below. For additional information about each session, contact the author at their institution.

1. Building Conference Web Sites: A Virtual Tour of Lexington, KY. Penny Beile and Steven Harris. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA.

Want to find information on the best restaurants and "must see" attractions in a conference city? How about a site that links to local libraries and goes further by providing provides program notes? Web sites constructed for conference attendees offer pertinent, easily accessible information from a desktop. Virtual tours are a practical means of disseminating conference information to a wide audience.

This presentation discusses organization and construction of conference Web sites and features a virtual tour of Lexington, KY, the 1996 SELA/KLA Conference host city. Handouts accompanying the session include a bibliography of electronic Web software and publishing sites and a description of the SELA site from beginning to completion.

2. Cataloging Internet Resources.
Cassandra Gissendanner and Ginny
Matthews. University of South Carolina,
Columbia, SC.

Library users require and expect access to the proliferation of information on the Internet as discussion lists, ftp-accessible documents, World Wide Web home pages, and E-mail messages. OCLC has initiated an experimental 18-month cataloging project that has attracted more than 200 participants from many types of libraries around the world. The bibliographic records for resources catalogued thus far have been added to the OCLC online union catalog and are also available in their own searchable database with hypertext links (the InterCat Catalog) on the World Wide Web at

http://www.oclc.org:6990/

To date, almost 5,000 records have been created and added to the InterCat Catalog.

This presentation features four catalog records from the InterCat Catalog and multiple screens from the actual resources that these records describe. A handout includes a discussion of the reasons for cataloging Internet resources and some problems and progress in this area. A bibliography designed to aid anyone attempting to catalog these resources is also provided.

3. Community Health Resource Center: A Partnership Between Local Health Agencies, Public, and Medical Libraries. Carla Tomlin and Lonnie Wright. Woodford County Library, Versailles, KY.

The county health department, Woodford County Library, and Central Baptist Hospital Library in Versailles, KY have created a council that has the health needs of the community as its focus. The goal has been to create a community health resources center within the confines of the public library.

The first objective was to catalog existing health resources and to inform the public of their existence. This was accomplished by advertising in the local papers and the library newsletter and by hosting educational offerings sponsored by the local health agencies.

The second objective was to continue to evaluate the consumer health collection for readability, currency, and authoritative works. The medical librarian on the council created a bibliography of community health holdings.

The third objective is to find funding for this project. Grants are being written by the library staff for this purpose.

The council is continuing to grow with the addition of Hospice of the Bluegrass and Comprehensive Care. The implications of this continued growth will be that the community will have more access to the consumer resources in health care.

4. Cross-Functional Training: A Staff Exchange Pilot Program at the University of Kentucky Libraries. Valerie Perry and Laura Douglas. University of Kentucky Libraries, Lexington, KY.

In these times of budget cuts and "doing more with less," it has become more important than ever for librarians to maximize their precious resources, including staff. In this spirit, the University of Kentucky Libraries began a cross-functional training pilot project in January 1996. The Staff Exchange Committee consisted of two participants (one from Acquisitions and one from Information Services), their supervisors, and a coordinator.

During this trial period, the participants learned new procedures, acquired

transferable skills, and gained a valuable overview of the library organization. To everyone's surprise, these accomplishments were achieved with very little interruption to staff. The project ran for eight months with the strong support of the administration and direct supervisors and concluded successfully.

This poster session highlights specific aspects of this project, including benefits, implementation, recommendations, and planning.

5. GALILEO - Georgia Library Learning Online: What Is It, Why Is It, and What Is It Good for? Deborah S. Davis. Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA.

State academic libraries in Georgia are now a year into the Galileo Initiative, a state-funded attempt to improve access to materials for patrons at libraries across the state. Galileo includes access to more than 70 databases; full-text articles from magazines and research journals; government documents; the Internet via Galileo directories and Netscape; and the catalogs and home pages of all state colleges, state universities, and their libraries.

The Galileo initiative is also supplying computer equipment and training. To make fast and easy access to materials possible where full-text is not available, the Galileo organization is working with libraries to develop electronic ILL procedures and has given libraries high-speed FAX machines for interlibrary loan departments. A "universal borrowers' card" will soon be given to students at state institutions that will allow check out of materials from any other state college or university.

The advent of Galileo has had a big impact on providing reference services and instruction at Valdosta State University. Over the past year, we have developed handouts, screen shows, and Web pages to educate users about the system, and we have assumed new roles at the reference desk to deal with the high demand and technological problems.

This poster session will use graphics, text, and screen shows to define Galileo and its mission and address how Galileo has changed reference services and patron expectations.

6. Library Involvement with Freshman Orientation: The Challenge of the At-Risk Student. Stacey Nickell. Paducah Community College, Paducah, KY.

Student retention is an issue of concern for all institutions of higher learning, especially the community college. Many two-year colleges have an "open door" policy of student admissions, meaning that some students enter college socially, economically, and academically unprepared for the rigors of higher education. These "at-risk" students face an uncertain college career if they do not feel comfortable with library services, since research is an important element of academic success.

This poster session focuses on library involvement with a course, Orientation to College Life. Developing a syllabus, defining course objectives, and fostering a customer service environment are the chief ideas presented. By taking a proactive role, the library can enhance student retention and increase library visibility within the college community.

7. Library Support for Distance Education in a Networked Learning Environment. Sharon M. Edge and Phil Sager. University of Louisville, Louisville, KY.

The University of Louisville's Ekstrom Library is collaborating with the University's Department of Special Education to provide electronic access to information resources to students enrolled in the distance learning program.

The Library's program of support for distance learning has expanded along with the expansion of the Department of Special Education's distance learning program. As professors and students have migrated to the World Wide Web, library staff have enhanced the information services available to distant students. Instructing students in information literacy skills needed for distance learning has also become an essential component of the University's program of library support for distance education.

This poster session presents the rationale behind library support for distance learning and gives an overview of the types of library support for distance learning. Handouts include a detailed listing of the services currently offered to faculty and students involved in distance learning. A videotape of an interactive teleconference about the University's program of library support for distance education will be featured.

8. The Serials Redesign Project: Bucking Tradition at LSU. Debra L. Currie. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA.

Launched in 1993, the LSU Libraries' Serials Redesign Project has been an innovative response to the dual problem of escalating serials prices and severe budget constraints. Looking to the future, the goal of this comprehensive evaluation and redesign of the Libraries' serials collection has been to provide the flexibility necessary to deal effectively with future economic assaults.

Key components of the project design are: 1) a new survey approach that gives faculty a more active role; 2) the use of electronic document delivery, in the form of CARL UnCover, to facilitate the integration of access and ownership; and 3) the active involvement of subject library liaisons to encourage faculty participation and to train faculty to use CARL UnCover.

This presentation provides background information and the methodology for the Serials Redesign Project. Faculty responses, cancellation data, and document delivery statistics for the first phase of the project, the Sciences, are also examined. Handouts accompanying the session include a sample of the survey form and the accompanying letter, training materials used during the project, and a summary of the results of the project.

9. A Stitch in Time: The Walkertown Community Quilt. Elizabeth Skinner and Gina Reilly. Walkertown Branch Library, Forsyth County Public Library System, Walkertown, NC.

The Friends of the Walkertown Branch Library initiated a special fundraising campaign with "A Stitch in Time: The Walkertown Community Quilt." The Friends and library staff designed and implemented this fundraising project to reflect the interests, talents, and the community spirit of Walkertown while raising the profile of the Friends within the community.

A group of local quilters created a prospective quilt design for the library. Members of the Friends then went out into the community to sell the quilt squares. Squares were to commemorate individuals, families, businesses, and organizations of historic significance in the community. Once most of the squares were sold, local quilters worked to create the quilt. The Friends of the Walkertown Branch Library raised more than \$8,000 in the project.

The quilt was unveiled at the Walkertown Branch Library January 21, 1996. The Walkertown Community Quilt hangs in the library not only as a work of art but as an historical document that has galvanized a community to support their public library.

10. Storytelling Troupe: Introducing Young People to Quality Literature through the Art of Storytelling and Booktalking . . . with Flexibility and Flair. Cristi Cohen and Sue Wright. Orange County Library System, Orlando, FL.

In order to improve childrens' and young adult programming, the Orange County Library System formed a "Storytelling Troupe." This troupe allowed a group of staff to focus their talent in one specialized area, thus reaching even more children with stories and books. With the advent of the "Storytelling Troupe," the Library began testing innovative ways to staff and to present programs including weekly drop-in continuous storytelling days, book talking and storytelling assemblies, and preschool programs at all library locations.

This restructuring of youth programming has been closely evaluated through statistics, patron comments, open forums, and a computer survey.

11. **Teachers-Librarians and Their Work.** Linda Easer. University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY.

Librarianship, particularly teacher-librarianship, is a profession dominated by women (85% of all librarians; in Kentucky, 98.4% of elementary teacher-librarians for the school year 1994-95). However, in 1993, only 3% of the articles published in 14 major professional journals had as their focus women in the profession or women's issues.

This study addresses some of the silences in the literature about the work of women in the profession, especially women who are elementary school teacher-librarians. Through a series of three in-depth interviews, 18 women who work in urban,

suburban, and rural schools in Kentucky are asked to tell about their life history and their experiences as elementary school librarians. Participants are asked to describe: 1) their own understandings of their work; 2) the meaning their work holds for them; and 3) the place of their work in their lives. After all interviews have been completed, round table discussions will be held to discuss themes and issues that have emerged.

Issues that have consistently emerged from data collected thus far are: the impact of Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA); a formal and/or informal cognitive apprenticeship process that relates to the decision to become a teacher-librarian; a desire for a high degree of professional autonomy; and negotiating balance between professional and private lives.

Alabama Library Association Awards Research Grant

The Alabama Library Association's College, University, and Special Libraries (CUS) Division recently awarded their first research grant. The \$250.00 CUS Research Grant marks an innovative way to encourage professional library scholarship.

In 1994, the CUS Research Committee sought ways to encourage research conducted by academic and special librarians in Alabama. Many, if not most, librarians are faced with time and money constraints while engaging in research. The CUS Research Grant, funded via allocations in the CUS Division's annual budget, was devised as a partial solution to this dilemma.

The CUS Research Grant is available to any CUS member employed in an Alabama college, university, or special library and to CUS members attending an ALA-accredited library school. Each year the CUS Research Committee publicizes the grant with an application closing date of December 31. The committee reviews all research proposals and selects the grant winner. A condition of the grant is that the awardee makes a presentation of their completed research at the CUS Research Forum held every April as part of the annual Alabama Library Association convention.

The Alabama Library Association CUS Research Committee hopes this year's award will be the first of many. Other library associations may want to consider this successful method of encouraging library scholarship.

PEOPLE

- ♦ Aftab Ahmed has been named Automation Support Librarian for the Richland (SC) County Public Library in Columbia.
- Larry P. Alford, Senior Associate University Librarian, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Birdie O. Weir, Professor/Director, Alabama A&M University, were recently elected to serve three-year terms on SOLINET's delegation to the OCLC Users Council.
- Marjo Arseneau is the new Interlibrary Loan Librarian in the William Russell Pullen Library at Georgia State University in Atlanta (GA).
- ♦ Iva Ashe, library media clerk at the Joella Good Elementary School in Miami (FL), is the recipient of the first Shirley Crawford Minority Scholarship.
- ♦ The Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) presented its Award for Teaching Excellence for 1996 to Joan Atkinson, University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies.
- Sharilynn Aucoin is the new Director of the Louisiana Center for the Book at the State Library of Louisiana.
- Janis M. Bandelin has been named Director of the James B. Duke Library at Furman University in Greenville (SC).
- ♦ Jennifer Cargill, Dean of Libraries at Louisiana State University; Jerry Thrasher, Director of the Cumberland

- (NC) County Public Library and Information Center; and Paul A. Willis, Director of Libraries at the University of Kentucky; were elected to three-year terms on the SOLINET Board of Directors.
- ♦ Nancy Cooper has joined the staff of the University of South Carolina's libraries as Project Developer.
- ♦ Robin Copp is now Head of the Books Division at the South Caroliniana Library at the University of South Carolina in Columbia (SC).
- ♦ Libbie Crawford has joined SOLINET in Atlanta (GA) as an OCLC Services Coordinator specializing in OCLC resource-sharing services.
- ♦ The new Information Services Librarian at Valdosta State University in Valdosta (GA) is Teria Curry.
- ♦ Brian Cuthrell is the new Electronic Access Archivist at the South Caroliniana Library at the University of South Carolina in Columbia (SC).
- ♦ Mary Deane is now a Systems Librarian for User Interfaces at the Florida Center for Library Automation in Gainesville (FL).
- ◆ Lisa Dick is a new Reference/Catalog Librarian at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond (KY).
- ♦ Dr. Deborah Grimes, Shelton State Community College Library in Tuscaloosa (AL), is the first recipient of the Alabama Library Association's

- College, University, and Special Libraries Division research grant.
- ♦ Janet Hatch has been named the Senior Branch Librarian at the Northeast Regional Branch of the Richland (SC) County Library in Columbia.
- ♦ Bruce Heimburger is now the Technologies Administrator for the Richland (SC) County Public Library in Columbia.
- Isabel Hernandez, Miami-Dade (FL) Community College, was recently selected by her peers for an endowed teaching chair.
- ♦ The new Head of Reference at the duPont Library, University of the South, in Sewannee (TN) is Eloise R. Hitchcock.
- ♦ Chengren Hu is now Head of Automation Services at the Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries in Richmond (VA).
- ◆ Julie V. Hunter has been appointed Interim Director of the Atlanta-Fulton (GA) Public Library System.
- ♦ The new Training Supervisor of OCLC Services at SOLINET in Atlanta (GA) is Cathy Kellum.
- Michele Leber, Assistant Coordinator of Collection Management at the Fairfax (VA) County Public Library, is the winner of the 1996 American Library Association Equality Award.
- ♦ Charlene Loope has accepted a position of Reference librarian at the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library in Columbia (SC).

- ♦ Dianne Luccy is now an Information Services Librarian at the Richland (SC) County Public Library in Columbia.
- ♦ Jimmie Lundgren and Betsy Simpson, University of Florida Libraries, are the winners of the 1996 Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Acquisitions or Technical Services in an Academic or Research Library.
- ♦ Greg Mitchell is now Circulation Section Chief at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond (KY).
- ♦ Mary Ann O'Daniel is a User Services Librarian for Cataloging and Authorities at the Florida Center for Library Automation in Gainesville (FL).
- ♦ The 1996 recipient of the Gale Research Award for Excellence in Business Librarianship is **Ruth A. Pagell**, Director of the Library Center for Business Information at Emory University in Atlanta (GA).
- ♦ Susanna Bartmann Pathak has been appointed Head of Collection Management Services at the Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries in Richmond (VA).
- Merryll S. Penson, Library Director, Columbus College (GA), was recently reelected to a second term as a member of SOLINET's delegation to the OCLC Users Council.
- ♦ Dr. Les Pourciau, Director of Libraries at the University of Memphis (TN), has been appointed to the organizing committee for a conference, "New Missions of Academic Libraries in the 21st Century," to be held in Beijing, China in 1998.

- ♦ Martha Richardson has been appointed Electronic Resources Program Officer for the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) project coordinated by SOLINET.
- The new Executive Director of the Triangle Research Libraries Network in Chapel Hill (NC) is Jordan M. Scepanski.
- ◆ Patricia S. Siegfried, Youth Services Director of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg (NC) County, is the 1996 recipient of the American Library Association Grolier Award.
- ♦ Robert Skinder is a new Science Reference Librarian at the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library in Columbia (SC).
- ♦ Jacki Sligh has been named Manager of the Sandhills Branch of the Richland (SC) County Public Library.
- ♦ Clara W. Swann, Head of the Local History and Genealogy Department of the Chattanooga-Hamilton (TN) County Bicentennial Library, has been appointed to a term on the Tennessee Historical Records Advisory Board.
- ♦ Marsha L. West, Library Media Specialist at David G. Barrow Elementary School in Athens (GA), is winner of the 1996 American Association of School Librarians (AASL) Microcomputer in the Media Center Award.
- ♦ The first Collection Development Coordinator for the Norfolk (VA) Public Library is Catherine L. Williamson.

- ♦ Mark D. Winston has been appointed Assistant University Librarian at Valdosta State University in Valdosta (GA).
- ♦ Barbara A. Wright is now Outreach Services Manager at Tompkins-McCaw Library, Virginia Commonwealth University's Health Science Library in Richmond (VA).
- ♦ Xiaochang (Shaw) Yu is now Systems Librarian, Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries in Richmond (VA).

RETIREMENT

♦ Ralph Russell, who had served as University Librarian at Georgia State University since 1975, retired March 1, 1997.

Russell began his professional career as Branch Reference Librarian at the Queens (NY) Borough Public Library. He has also served as Assistant Circulation Librarian and Assistant Acquisitions Librarian at the University of Southern California; Head Librarian at Florida Junior College; Science Librarian at the University of Georgia; and Director of Library Services at East Carolina University.

Professional activities have included membership on the SOLINET Board of Directors, the OCLC Users' Council and the Board of Trustees, the ACRL Academic Status Committee, and the ALA Council. He has chaired a number of organizations, including the SOLINET Board, the ALA University Libraries Section, and the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries.

Most recently, Russell participated in the planning group and the Steering Committee of the GALILEO project. Recent awards have included the 1991 Florida State University School of Library and Information Studies Distinguished Alumni Award, the 1996 ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year Award; the 1996 SELA Rothrock Award; and the 1996 Georgia Library Association Nix Jones Award.

DEATHS

- ♦ Clara Mae Brown formerly of Gainesville, GA. SELA Honorary Member, 1972.
- ♦ Susan Chockley, Library Assistant III at the Tennessee State Library and Archives, died of cancer January 21, 1997, after a long illness. Susan had served the public cheerfully and knowledgeably since August 1993, when she moved from the State Department of Safety to the State Library and Archives. She is survived by one son, Casey Richardson of Shelbyville, a sister and a brother.

She is also survived by and remembered by all those who knew and worked with her and who witnessed her courage and strong spirit during her illness. She continued to work as long as her strength permitted her to, even when it meant coming to work for short times with her portable oxygen tank. Only a few weeks before her death, she summoned the strength to come to Nashville to see the Amy Grant Christmas Show at the new Nashville Arena, a dream of hers that would not be denied. On the same day, she also brought cookies for her colleagues at the State Library and Archives.

-- Ed Gleaves

- ◆ J. Isaac Copeland, formerly of Chapel Hill, NC. SELA Honorary Member, 1978.
- Nancy Jane Day formerly of Laurens, SC. SELA Honorary Member, 1972.
- ♦ Glenn Miller, former Director of the Orange (FL) County Library System, died June 24, 1996. He guided the Library System enhancing its growth while providing innovations in library service and facilities throughout his 25 years as Director.

His numerous and notable achievements for the Library System include expansion of the Orlando Public Library; unique facilities with multiple meeting rooms and drive-up windows; inventive methods of handling, preserving, and utilizing library materials; and the MAYL service that offers free home delivery of library materials to all service area residents.

He will be greatly missed yet wellremembered as a man who made a difference in our world through his dedication to our community and his commitment to libraries for the people.

♦ Patricia Painter Shepherd, Bibliographer for Social Sciences at Thomas Cooper Library, University of South Carolina in Columbia, died October 24, 1996 after a lengthy illness.

WELCOME TO SELA NEW MEMBERS

(As of December 31, 1996)

Alabama

Cheryl M. Ballard Tuscaloosa

Florida

Carol A. Brice Orlando

Benjamin A. Ostrowsky Tampa

Sharon J. Ricket Orlando

Georgia

Ann W. Blalock Columbus

Myron W. House Carrollton

Carolynn M. Miller Atlanta

John J. O'Shea Augusta

Melvin D. Peters Valdosta

Sandra R. Piver Powder Springs

Kentucky

Mary Susan Eubank Crestwood

Gary L. Flanagan Morehead

Linda C. Graves LaCenter

Alecia D. Marcum Bowling Green

Judith L. Olson Lexington Matthew W. Onion Ashland

Linda P. Orr Lexington

Doris K. Raney Lexington

Carla R. Tomlin Versailles

Veronica Walker Lexington

Louisiana

Janie Branuam Hammond

Nancy F. Gray Monroe

Mary Jane Ledvina Baton Rouge

Mississippi

Glenda G. Bavier Hernando

Nancy F. Fuller University

Edward G. McCormack Long Beach

Stephanie C. Schmitt University

North Carolina

Irene P. Hairston Pfaffown

Willie E. Nelms Greenville

Elizabeth R. Pearson Montreat Brenda G. Spillman Pisgah Forest

South Carolina

Jeffrey D. Berg St. Helena

Janet S. Clayton Sumter

Gwendolyn S. Johnson Greenville

Tennessee

William David Milsaps Loudon

Philip D. Morgan Murfreesboro

Judy A. Owen Cookeville

Dianne Owens Savannah

Sandra W. Pittman Bartlett

Virginia

Constance P. Cresnshaw Newport News

West Virginia

Steve Christo Scott Depot

Lynne A. Edington Charleston

Mary P. Madsen Huntington

Beulah Sayler Huntington

Jennifer N. Sias Institute

BULLETIN BOARD

SOLINET Receives Grant for Leadership Institute

SOLINET has received grants from the Council on Library Resources and the U.S. Department of Education to sponsor a weeklong institute for rural public libraries. The institute will give rural public librarians critical skills to enable them to manage information and communication technologies effectively, foster development and support of community networks, and lead their libraries into the future.

The project manager will be Amy Bernath, SOLINET's Manager of Continuing Education and Training. Representatives from Southeastern state libraries will participate in planning for and evaluating the institute.

The institute will premier in June or July of 1997. Project funds will cover the expenses for two rural public librarians from each of ten Southeastern states to attend. SOLINET plans to repeat the institute in the Southeast on a regular basis after 1977.

For additional information, contact Amy Bernath. Telephone: (800) 999-8558. Email: amy bernath@solinet.net

New Address for SELA Listsery

Beth Hanson, SELA-L List Owner, recently announced a change in the list address for the SELA-L listserv.

Messages to subscribe to SELA-L should be sent to: listserv@listserv.vt.edu

Messages to post to the listserv should be sent to: sela-l@listserv.vt.edu

North Carolina Central University Continuing Education Opportunities

The School of Library and Information Studies, North Carolina Central University, offers a series of educational programs for librarians and support staff. Additional information is available on the Web page:

http://www.nccu.edu/slis

Branch Library Institute

April 3, 1997 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Theme: "The Customer-Driven Library"

The Institute is devoted to major initiatives in the development of community-centered programs and services in public library branches. The conference focuses on confronting challenges while extending access to information and services. Coordinator: Steve Sumerford, Greensboro Public Library

North Carolina Bookmobile Conference

April 4, 1997 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Theme: "At the Crossroads: Taking Library Services to the People"

This conference is designed to map new routes to bookmobile services. Local and national bookmobile advocates will discuss effective strategies that will expand library reach. The objective is to provide strategies to enhance bookmobile services and resources. Coordinator: Janet Hall, Iredell County Public Library.

NEW AND USEFUL

Directory of Associations in Louisiana

The new edition of *Directory of Associations in Louisiana*, compiled by Dolores B. Owen, is now available. The earlier editions have been updated, revised, and expanded to cover more than 1,000 Louisiana-based organizations. Business, education, law, medicine, history, genealogy, athletics, arts and crafts, science and technology, and many other subject areas are covered.

Listings include the address, telephone number, contact person, number of members, and other pertinent facts. Arranged alphabetically by their names, associations are also listed by city and by subject. Appendices list Better Business Bureaus, Chambers of Commerce, and Tourist Information Centers.

The *Directory of Associations in Louisiana* is available from Owen House, 218 Antigua Drive, Lafayette, LA 70503, for \$25.00 plus appropriate sales tax.

The Lecture Library

An audio cassette series, *The Lecture Library*, is now available from the PARENTS RESOURCE NETWORK.

Each 90-minute program features a different speaker lecturing to a live audience addressing a specific topic concerning children. Following each lecture, the speaker provides very specific and practical answers to questions raised by parents.

A free catalog of *The Lecture Library*'s 35 audio programs is available from THE PARENTS RESOURCE NETWORK, P.O. Box 3054, Skokie, IL 60076. Telephone: (847) 675-3555. E-mail: prn@ocular.com

SIRSI's UNICORN Version 8 Available

After a successful beta test program, UNICORN Version 8 is now available. Enhancement ballots from customers, additional standards work, and special development projects came together to provide a balanced list of new features. Virtually every area of UNICORN has new capability.

For the management of reserve items, UNICORN now features many new control mechanisms including the following: libraries may maintain course lists online, supplying every combination of when a taught; the instructor is integrated with the circulation user file; and a calendar is associated with each reserve desk.

Sophisticated authorization techniques, thesauri generation, browsing, cross-reference mapping, and improved tracking information have been added in the Authority Control module. Particular attention was given to displays, indexing, and record validation techniques in the Catalog module.

Search results marked for export to printers, files, or E-mail addresses may now be sorted using the same extensive sorting features available in the catalog. New patron features include the ability to modify a request, cancel a request, and respond to the library reply.

For additional information, visit the Website:

www.sirsi.com

or contact Greg Hathorn. Telephone: (205) 922-9820. E-mail: sales@sirsi.com.

Free Resources to Public Libraries

Thanks to the generosity of publishers, art organizations and foundations, and individual supporters, public libraries around the country have access to art, literature, and cultural studies books and videotapes free of charge through an innovative program, Distribution to Undeserved Communities (DUC). The DUC program combats shrinking library book acquisition budgets by offering libraries the chance to build book collections on contemporary art and cultural issues.

Since 1989, DUC has distributed 16,000 books to more than 500 public libraries in 16 states. Libraries in the program can choose from 40 to 60 books or videos from a list of ten publishers. DUC will accept any book as long as it is current, and publishers now print overstock earmarked for the DUC program. Participating publishers include among others, Sun and Moon, Grand Street, Bay Press, and City Lights.

For additional information, contact Art Resources Transfer Inc. Telephone: (213) 936-3039; E-mail: artpress@wavenet.com

EBSCO Publishing Introduces Middle Search Plus

EBSCO Publishing recently announced the release of the *Middle Search Plus*™ database, created specifically for middle and junior high school libraries.

The database contains full text for over 50 titles, indexing and abstracting for nearly 170 titles, searchable text for 115 pamphlets, and *EBSCO's Encyclopedia of Animals*. The full text of *Collier's Encyclopedia*™ will be added during the first quarter of 1997.

http://www.epnet.com/

Global Web Access Project

The Contact Center Network, a New York-based nonprofit organization, maintains the most comprehensive directory of nonprofit resources on the Internet at

http://www.contact.org

with links to more than 8,500 nonprofit resources in 100 countries and all 50 states.

The newest online initiative, Idealist, allows any nonprofit or community organization to use the Internet to broadcast information about their services, volunteer opportunities, jobs, internships, events, and materials even if they do not have a Website. A searchable directory of public access points in schools, libraries, Internet Cafes, and community computing is being developed.

At Your Service

The American Library Association's Fax-on-Demand service is up and running—24 hours a day, seven days a week. The new service, offered by the ALA's Membership Committee and Communications Department, enables members and the public to obtain key ALA documents from a touch-tone phone. Callers may use the Association's toll-free telephone number to receive documents via fax.

To access the service, dial the ALA's toll free number (800) 545-2433 and press 8. At the prompt, enter the three-digit number of the document(s) desired. Enter your FAX number.

All documents on the ALA Fax-on-Demand system can also be found on ALA's Website:

http://www.ala.org

STATESIDE VIEW

ALABAMA

Brilliant Colors in Birmingham

For the last three years, the Director of Education at the Birmingham Museum of Art has worked with an artist and children of the community to create murals related to a special exhibit at the museum. Avondale Library, a Branch of the Birmingham Public Library System, was chosen for this year's mural location. The exhibit, *Pre-Columbia Ballgame: 3000 Years of Sport and Sacrifice*, provided the artistic inspiration to brighten the otherwise plain, white, and windowless meeting room walls.

Cooke Stirs in Wit with Dinner Speech

Journalist, author, radio and television host Alistair Cooke kept the crowd hungry for more—humorous stories that is—at the dinner presentation to the Friends of the Mobile Public Library's Annual Dinner. Getting to Mobile after missing his flight, befriending a Mobilian, and swapping of tickets could be added to the list of his travel tales. The Gala, known as "Table of Contents," is an annual fund raiser event.

New Directions for AlaLA

The recent resignation of the Alabama Library Association's Executive Director has provided a time of reflection and reevaluation of the purpose and direction for the Association's office. A Task Force on Restructuring to focus on the future needs has been formed. Regional meetings and a general membership retreat have been held to solicit opinions, to discuss possibilities, and to draft concrete recommendations.

Ten Times the Size in Daphne

Kids of all ages are drawn to the unique domed structure that houses the new Daphne Public Library. The building is ten times larger than the former site and is more centrally located between the established town and a recently annexed area. New services are available including community meeting rooms and computerized databases in addition to basics such as a covered entrance drive.

FLORIDA

Rollins College Selects UNICORN

SIRSI Corporation's UNICORN Collection Management System installed recently at The Olin Library. Founded in 1885 by New England Congregationalists, Rollins is the oldest recognized private college in Florida. The college offers 28 majors and a variety of interdisciplinary programs to approximately 1,420 undergraduates. The library houses more than 270,000 volumes; 1,554 periodical subscriptions; 659 serial subscriptions; 66,500 government documents; a number of special collections; and hundreds of compact disks, video disks, and videotapes.

UNICORN was installed on an IBM RISC System/6000Model C10 host computer. The library has selected SIRSI's InfoVIEW graphical client with Z39.50 for Windows that provides URL hyperlinks from within the UNICORN catalog to multimedia resources.

KENTUCKY

Intellectual Freedom Award

KLA recently announced a new KY-SIRS Intellectual Freedom Award that will be awarded for the first time at the KLA 1997 fall conference. The award will give \$500.00 to the award winner and \$500.00 to the library that the recipient names to receive the stipend.

The new Intellectual Freedom Manual debuted at the SELA/KLA joint conference. A copy has been mailed to every KLA member.

KLA Fall Conference

The 1997 Kentucky Library Association Fall Conference will be held in Lexington, October 29 through November 1. This will be a joint meeting with the Kentucky School Media Association.

NORTH CAROLINA

Library of the Future Award Recipient

The Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County is the 1996 recipient of the ALA/Information Today Library of the Future Award.

The award jury was especially impressed with the Virtual Library Learning Lab located within the library. The "virtual library" is a state-of-the-art learning lab that provides free Internet access and more than 80 applications along with hands-on workshops and one-on-one tutoring.

Duke Receives Funds for Improvements

The E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation of Richmond, VA has awarded \$1.5 million to Duke University's Perkins Library. This leadership grant will launch a long-term plan to enhance the library and its collections.

Specifically, the gift will be used to improve the student computer and reading rooms, to provide new work areas for library operations, and to expand stack space.

SOUTH CAROLINA

A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen

A seasoned 11th annual A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen-Celebration of Stories is scheduled for April 25-26, 1997. Beginning with an action-packed Friday morning of storytelling for area fourth graders, the twoday event will continue with an afternoon program featuring Mary Carter Smith. Friday evening, talented author and illustrator Kevin Henkes will be the A(ugusta) Baker Lecturer. Saturday morning's Storytelling for Families will feature Smith and other engaging storytellers.

For additional information contact Judy McClendon, Public Relations Librarian, Richland County Library. Telephone: (803) 929-3440.

Celebration at Winthrop University

This year, Dacus Library at Winthrop University celebrates 100 years as a depository library. The event was marked by a visit from the nation's public printer, Michael DiMario, a presidential appointee. A reception was attended by Dacus Library staff, faculty, students, retirees, and

government document librarians from North and South Carolina. An exhibit of government documents at the library throughout the month of September included Civil War atlases, a sample from the 100 volume set of the *War of the Rebellion*, and cardboard bound publications from the Depression-era WPA.

Homepages Debut

The James A. Rogers Library at Francis Marion University has implemented a new Web version of its online catalog.

http://vax.fmarion.edu/marion

The Web catalog is also available from the library's public access workstations. A new interlibrary loan (ILL) feature, available for FMU students and staff only, allows online interlibrary loan requests.

Abbeville-Greenwood Regional Library patrons can now log onto a new homepage about Greenwood at home or at the library.

http://www/grinet.org

Called GRINet (Greenwood Regional Information Network), the site features information on local government, arts, entertainment, education, and health care.

Richland County Receives Grant

The Richland County Public Library will receive a grant from the Microsoft Corporation as a part of its "Libraries Online!" project to bring public access to the Internet and multimedia personal computers. The Microsoft grant will provide cash, software, technical training, and support to the Richland County Public Library with an estimated value of \$120,000.

"Libraries Online!" will enable library patrons to access the world of information available on the Internet through the World Wide Web. They will also have multimedia PCs at their disposal for word processing, spreadsheets, presentation and graphic design, CD-ROM titles, and other software.

Southeast Asia Project

The South Caroliniana Library at the University of South Carolina in Columbia recently began a special project to collect, preserve, and make available collections of papers that will document South Carolinians and the war in Southeast Asia in the 1960s and 1970s. The library is seeking personal papers of South Carolinians who served in Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and other related areas that document their training in the States, military service, and return to civilian life.

These papers may consist of correspondence, diaries, photographs, and other materials documenting the individual's experiences and perceptions as well as the war's impact on the home front. The library is most interested in receiving donations of original papers but will also accept materials on loan.

The project is co-sponsored by the Committee for the South Carolina Vietnam Memorial 10th Anniversary Observance. This committee and the library will establish an endowment to support the preservation, processing, and study of the papers collected.

For more information, to donate materials to the collection, or to contribute to the endowment, contact Herb Hartsook at The South Caroliniana Annex, 720 College Street, Columbia, SC 29208. Telephone: (803) 777-0577.

TENNESSEE

Children's Librarians Workshop

Public library coordinators of children's programs and the annual Summer Reading Program attended the TLA preconference program Wednesday, March 12. This workshop replaced the annual statewide Children's Librarians Workshop usually held in Jackson, Cookeville, and Dandridge.

Karen Wanamaker, educator and storyteller, lead attendees through the creation of and presenting of new, creative programs for children. A number of vendors displayed books relating to the 1997 theme, "Fantastic Readers—Fantastic Worlds."

Multi-County Regional Library System Under Review

At the request of Secretary of State Riley Darnell, the multi-county regional library directors have developed a process for a full-scale review and evaluation of the Tennessee Multi-County Regional Library System with the intent of generating recommendations for future service priorities, staffing levels, geographic service areas, and funding levels.

The review and evaluation process will be coordinated by the State Library and Archives. The actual evaluation of current regional library services and future library needs and the development recommendations will be conducted by committees of librarians, elected officials, trustees, and library users. Committee appointments to the 12 Regional Review Committees will be made by Secretary of State Darnell from nominations submitted by regional and local libraries, members of the Tennessee Advisory Council, staff from the State Library and Archives, and others.

A complete explanation of the evaluation process and a nomination form have been sent to all public libraries, all regional library trustees, the chairs of all public library boards, the members of the Tennessee Advisory Council on Libraries, members of the Friends of Tennessee Libraries, and the Tennessee Library Association Board.

Historic Records for Public Use

The Public Library of Nashville & Davidson County recently added three new databases in their efforts to digitize historic records for public use. The creation and maintenance of these resources are the work of the Metropolitan Archives and the Nashville Room.

The Marriage File indexes marriages recorded in Nashville from 1864-1905. The file can be searched by bride or groom name and will retrieve a record listing the names, date of marriage, and an exact reference to the marriage book and page number where it is recorded.

The Obituary File contains an index to the obituaries that have appeared in Nashville's daily newspapers from 1978 to the present. The index lists the name, date of death, and a citation to the newspaper in which the obituary appeared.

The Photograph File indexes more than 9,000 photographic negatives in the Metropolitan Photograph Collection, dating from 1950-1987. The photographs depict Nashville buildings, streets, people, and events are indexed by key word in their descriptions.

The databases are available at all library terminals and through the Website:

http://www.nashv.lib.tn.us/

Knox County Residents Rate Library Services

For the second consecutive year, the residents of Knox County have given the Knox County Public Library System (KCPLS) the highest rating of any service provided by the local government. The survey was conducted for Knox County by the Department of Political Science at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, with the consultants noting in their report "the County libraries receive particularly stellar grades."

Of the residents participating in the survey, 61% had been in contact with the Library System, a number higher than any other county agency. Seventy-five percent of the respondents ranked libraries as either "good" or "excellent," the highest rating received by any department.

Ninety-seven percent of those who used the KCPLS were satisfied with the results. When asked about being courteous and helpful, the library staff was given a rating of 98% and 97% in each category. A prompt response was given to the public 97% of the time.

The Library System recently began a building program, the first in more than 30 years, that includes the construction of a new branch, Cedar Bluff; the relocation of two current branches to new facilities, Carter and Farragut; the renovation and expansion of another branch, West Knoxville; and the purchase of land for future relocation and expansion of a branch in the northern section of the county, Halls.

TSLA Begins Implementation of Library Services and Technology Act

With the passage of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) in 1996, the Tennessee State Library and Archives has begun the transition process from the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) by asking Carolyn Daniel, chair of the Tennessee Advisory Council on Libraries, to appoint a long-range planning committee to recommend priorities for future funding. A preliminary state plan for LSTA implementation is due in Washington on April 1, 1997.

VIRGINIA

Address Change

The Virginia Library Association has a new address and telephone number. Effectively immediately, all correspondence should be directed to:

> P.O. Box 8277 Norfolk, VA 23503-0277 Telephone: (757) 583-0041 E-mail: lhahne@leo.vsla.edu

Website

The Virginia Library Association recently unveiled a Website. Information on the site includes Association news, a list of council members and units, and resources for Virginia library personnel and conferences. Users are also able to join online discussion lists about topics of interest to the membership. Four years of the *VLA Newsletter* have been formatted and posted. VLA Job Line will be available soon.

www.vla.org

Library of Virginia Reopens

The Library of Virginia reopened to the public at 9:00 a.m. January 3, 1997 in the new building at 800 East Broad Street in historical downtown Richmond. The six story building has 316,500 square feet plus two levels of underground parking.

As the most technologically advanced library in the Commonwealth, the new Library of Virginia has a fiber optic backbone. Specially designed reading room tables allow patrons to link their computers to the Library's network. As the hub of a statewide library information network, the building is designed to accommodate future improvements in telecommunications, multimedia, and information management systems.

Founded in 1823, the Library of Virginia holds Virginia's official records from 1607 through the present. The archival holdings exceed 83.1 million items including court records, tax lists, executive and legislative manuscripts, personal papers, and maps. The Library houses more than 1.5 million books, serials, bound periodicals, microfilm reels, and state and federal documents.

Conference Information

The VLA Paraprofessional Forum will be held May 19-20, 1997 at the University of Richmond. This year's theme is "Today's Vision—Tomorrow's Reality." For more information, contact Sue McFaden Telephone: (703) 573-1062 or Dianne Moore; Telephone: (804) 799-5195.

The VLA-District of Columbia Joint Conference is scheduled for October 29 - November 1, 1997 in Crystal City, VA. For more information, contact Linda Hahne; Telephone: (757) 583-0041.

VCU Libraries Receive Grant

The Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries recently received a \$20,000 grant sponsored by the Council on Library Resources and Funded by the Andrew W. Melon Foundation. The grant will assist in a study to estimate the economic value that patrons attach to reference desk services in an academic library.

WEST VIRGINIA

Kanawha Public Wins Grant

The Kanawha County Public Library is the 1997 recipient of the \$4,000 Grolier National Library Week Grant, administered by the ALA National Library Week Committee. The grant, sponsored by the Grolier Education Cooperation, is awarded annually to a library or library association for a local or statewide public awareness campaign that supports the theme and goals of National Library Week.

In partnership with the Kanawha County Schools and Read Aloud West Virginia of Kanawha County, the Kanawha County Public Library will use this year's National Library Week theme of "Kids Connect @ the Library" to promote awareness of library resources for school children. The library will offer three, one-week programs in March, April, and May targeted primarily to elementary and junior high school students. Programs will feature ways for kids to "connect" at the library to books, audiovisual and electronic materials, and other information.

CALENDAR

		1997
April 15-18	AL	AlaLA Annual Conference. Birmingham, AL
May 6-9	FL	FLA Annual Conference. Adam's Mark Hotel & Ocean Center. Daytona Beach, FL
May 19-20	VA	VLA Paraprofessional Forum. Richmond, VA
October 1-3	GA	GLA (COMO Annual Conference). Jekyll Island, GA (COMO IX-Joint with GLMA, GAIT & GAMR)
October 4-7	AR	ArkLA Annual Conference. Robinson Convention Center & Double Tree Hotel. Little Rock, AR
October 8-10	NC	NCLA Biennial Conference. Raleigh Civic Center & Radisson Hotel. Raleigh, NC
October 16-18	WV	WVLA Annual Conference. Days Inn. Flatwoods, WV
October 22-24	MS	MLA Annual Conference. Tupelo Convention Center. Tupelo, MS
October 29 - Nov. 1	KY	KLA/KSMA Joint Conference. Hyatt Regency. Lexington, KY
October 29 - Nov. 1	VA	VLA Annual Conference. Crystal City, VA
November 12-14	SC	SCLA Annual Conference. Radisson. Myrtle Beach, SC
		1000
		1998
Sept. 29 - Oct. 3	SELA/ ArkLA	SELA/ArkLA Joint Conference. Little Rock Convention Center and Excelsior Hotel. Little Rock, AR
October 21-23	SC	SCLA Annual Conference. Adams Mark. Columbia, SC
October 21-24	KY	KLA Annual Conference. Galt House. Louisville, KY

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YES! As the emerging superhighway sweeps the nation with electronic information, libraries could be pushed aside.	Name Home Address
But you can help prevent it. Join the American Library Association in our public policy initiative.	City State Zip Code Home Telephone
in our public policy initiative to position the library as the gateway to the information superhighway.	Place of Employment/School Position
Join the ALA and make your voice heard!	Address City State Zip Code
Membership categories (please check) ☐ First-time Member \$48 ☐ Student Member \$24 ☐ International Librarian \$57	Telephone Send mail to: Home Enclosed is my check for \$ Charge my dues of \$ to my
☐ Second Year Regular \$71 ☐ Third + Year Regular \$95 ☐ Non-salaried or Retired Member \$33 ☐ Trustee & Associate Member \$43	□ VISA □ MasterCard □ American Express Card Number Exp. Date
Mail entire ad to: Membership Services American Library Association 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611 Fax to: 312-944-2641	Signature If you are using this form to renew your membership, please enter your ALA Membership Number here

SOUTHEASTERN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

The information in the address box below should be your preferred mailing address. Please return form with dues payment. Make check payable to: Southeastern Library Association. Mail to: SELA, P.O. Box 987, Tucker, GA 30085-0987.

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rpe of Library Annual Dues Schedule Membership Year			

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