

**Arkansas Library Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
Laman Public Library  
August 3, 2007**

Those present were: Ashley Burris, President; Diane Hughes, Past President; Barbara Martin, Executive Administrator; Myron Flugstad, Resource & Technical Division Chair; Ron Russ, Webmaster; Jennifer Davis, Reference Services Division; Dwain Gordon, SELA Councilor; Kristie Boucher, Public Libraries Division Chair; Ramona Abernathy, AASL Division Chair; Barbie James, Constitution Committee Chair; Sarah Ziegenbein, Government Documents Roundtable Chair; Bob Razer, Archives Committee; Kay Bland, Conference Committee; Jim Robb, Two-Year Colleges Roundtable Chair; Lynaire Hartsell, Kaye Talley, Awards Committee Chair, Kathie Buckman, College & University Division Chair; Ellen Johnson, ALA Councilor; Debbie Hall, Vice-President/President-Elect.

The meeting was opened by President Ashley Burris.

A roll sheet was passed around and minutes were discussed to have the addendum removed. A motion to accept the minutes came from Diane Hughes and a second by Ellen Johnson. Motion Passed.

President Ashley Burris gave her report. The Executive Committee discussed the possibility of having a procedure manual for conference planning to be available for all divisions, roundtables, and committees. Barbara Martin has years of experience in planning conferences and this experience is being underutilized. In 2008 auditing practices and IRS filing rules will change. ArLA is now registered with the Attorney General's Office. Any division, roundtable, or committee that has an account other than with the ArLA office, needs to report this to Barbara Martin. The Association is liable for any and all funds and they have to be accounted for in any audit and/or filings. Please report any accounts to Barbara Martin.

**SELA Councilor** Dwain Gordon: SELA is exploring the possibility of co-hosting a conference each year rather than every other year Letters of invitation have been sent to the following states to determine if there is an interest in doing joint conferences in 2009, 2011.

Alabama (Spring Meetings), Florida (Spring Meetings), Louisiana (Spring Meetings), Mississippi (Fall Meetings), Tennessee (Spring Meetings), Virginia (Fall Meetings)

The following joint conferences are currently scheduled: 2008 Louisville, KY; 2010 Little Rock, AR; 2012 Jekyll Island, GA

The SELA joint conference with the Kentucky Library Association will also be the *National Diversity in Libraries Conference*. Plan to be in Louisville, Kentucky from October 1-4, 2008.

The Southeastern Librarian invites articles for publication. The journal is a juried publication. Submissions should be directed to: Perry Bratcher, SELn Editor, 503A Steely Library, Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, KY 41099. Phone: (859) 572-6309. Fax: (859) 572-6181. E-mail: [bratcher@nku.edu](mailto:bratcher@nku.edu).

More information is located on the SELA website, <http://sela.jsu.edu>

**ALA Councilor** Ellen Johnson: Washington, D.C. attracted the largest number of participants ever to attend an American Library Association conference. Over 28,000 registrants, guests, and exhibitors converged on our nation's capitol during June 21-27.

D.C.'s landmarks glistened in the sunlight as librarians arrived from across the country and world, ready to take full advantage of the multitude of offerings at the conference and in the surrounding environs. Truly, there was something for everyone.

#### ARKANSANS IN D.C.

Emerging Leaders – Arkansas had two librarians in the Emerging Leaders Class of 2007: Regina Cortez and Jenine Lillian. After a year of activities and involvement, the class presented a variety of impressive projects in a poster session on Friday afternoon in the convention center. Our congratulations to this first class of Emerging Leaders, with special commendations to our two class members from Arkansas.

Arkansas out on the town in D.C. – There was a large contingent of conference goers from Arkansas this year. Nine of us met on Monday night at Legal Sea Foods for a great time visiting, exchanging experiences and enjoying good food. If you are planning to attend Midwinter and/or the Annual Conference 2008, watch for a notice on the Arkansas Library Association's listserv, and plan to join us!

#### CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Opening General Session with keynote address by former Senator Bill Bradley

Day on the Hill [displays, bookmobiles, visits with congressional representatives, introduction of the bipartisan "Strengthening Kids' Interest in Learning and Libraries (SKILLS) Act," and more as librarians in red "Support Libraries" t-shirts swarmed the Hill]

Library and community service projects carried out with the theme, "Libraries Build Communities"

Empowerment 2007: the ALA Conference Within a Conference for Library Support Staff

ALA/ProQuest CSA Scholarship Bash featuring Mark Russell and the Capitol Steps

World premiere of library documentary "The Hollywood Librarian: a Look at Librarians Through Film" (complete with red carpet and cheering fans)

ALA President's Program featuring Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., speaking on "A Contract with Our Future"

*American Libraries* presentation of Julie Andrews as part of AL's centennial celebration.

Auditorium Speaker Series featuring session with Ken Burns, Khaled Hosseini, David Baldacci, Nancy Pearl, Anthony Romero, Judy Blume, Marian Wright Edelman, Irshad Manji, Armistead Maupin

ALA Award reception and Ceremony

Newberry/Caldecott/Wilder Banquet

Third Annual Book Cart Drill Team Championship

Closing Session featuring Garrison Keillor

AND SO MUCH MORE!

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Resolutions adopted by Council included the following:

Fully funding the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program

Reaffirming commitment to vital Government Printing Office and Federal Depository Library Program services and collections, and calling for full funding of appropriations

Calling for full funding of the National Library Service to convert talking books to digital formats

Supporting the SKILLS Act to amend the No Child Left Behind Act, now in the reauthorization process, to include school library media specialists as "Highly qualified," to require school districts to employ SLMS, and to use federal funds to recruit and train SLMS

Condemning the use of National Security Letters to obtain Library records and calling for related legislative reforms

Adopting "Principles for Digital Content": values, intellectual property rights, sustainable collections, collaboration, advocacy, international scope, continuous learning, preservation, and standards

Encouraging libraries engaging in digitization projects to adopt Section 508 regulators to ensure that their products are accessible to persons using screen-readers or other assistive technologies

Note: All of the resolutions passed by Council at the 2007 Annual Conference are posted on ALA's website

Upcoming ALA meetings: Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia (January 11-16, 2008), Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA (June 26-July 2, 2008)

Once again I found my time at ALA to be invigorating and rewarding, and extend my sincere thanks to the Arkansas Library Association for the opportunity to represent our state chapter on Council

Ellen introduced information concerning the National Security Letters as adopted by ALA to be supported by ArLA. Ellen made a motion to endorse seconded by Kathie Buckman. Motion passed.

Ellen also introduced information about the SKILLS Act. Motion to endorse (support) by Diane Hughes and seconded by Dwain Gordon. Motion passed.

**Executive Administrator**, Barbara Martin: The financial report was handed out with a balance of \$72,828.93. Dwain questioned the membership numbers and it was concluded that dues paid in December 2006 were not carried over into the current calendar year. With over \$72,000, ArLA is not in any financial distress.

**AASL Division**, Ramona Abernathy: The AASL summer conference was held on July 29-30, 2007 at Mt. Magazine State Park and Lodge. The accommodations at the Lodge were very nice with breathtaking views of the area. There were 145 registered for the conference. With onsite registration, the number in attendance was 142.

Our keynote speaker on Sunday night was Dr. Donny Lee from Harding University. In addition to being the keynote speaker, he also presented a session on school law and a session on empowering parents.

Nancy Polette was the keynote speaker for Monday's luncheon. She presented a session earlier in the day. The morning session focused on unique ways to share the joys of the reading experience, along with showcasing several forms of reader's theatre. Ms. Polette's keynote focused on four unique thinking processes that determine reading preferences.

Both keynotes were very informative and quite humorous.

Jeanna Cook, conference chair, is to be commended on a job well done.

**ALPS Division**, Lynaire Hartsell: The ALPS Council met July 7, 2007 at Barton Library in El Dorado. Lacking a quorum, those present discussed a number of items. Subsequent to that meeting, the Council voted by e-mail to make "Survivor: ALPS" the theme of the 2008 Conference. Sheryl Robinson and Karen Turner will be conference co-chairs.

The ALPS Procedures Manual committee met on July 28. Lynaire Hartsell and Betty Martin have been asked to join the committee.

JoAn Ingersoll has resigned as ALPS Chair. Lynaire Hartsell, Chair-Elect, has succeeded her.

Upcoming events: Friday, 9/7, 10:30 a.m. – ALPS Council meeting, Bryant Public Library; Sunday, 9/9, 5:00 p.m. – ALPS Division meeting, ArLA Conference, location TBA; Sunday 9/9, time and location TBA – tentative conference committee meeting; Monday, 9/10, 8:30 a.m. – Program sponsored by ALPS at ArLA Conference "Arkansas Gems: Library Support Staff," Melissa Huffman, presenter; Friday, 11/2, 10:30 a.m. – ALPS Council meeting, Baxter County Library, Mountain Home; Friday 11/16, 9:00 a.m. – InfoBits, Ouachita Technical College, Malvern.

**College and University Division:** No Report

**Public Libraries Division:** Item on the ballot for merging the Trustees Divisions and the Public Library Division.

**Reference Services Division:** No Report

**Resource and Technical Services Division:** No Report

**Special Libraries Division:** No Report

**Children's Services Roundtable:** No Report  
**Government Documents Roundtable:** No Report

**Information Technology Roundtable**, Loretta Edwards, Chair: I have added another contact for the ArLA Technical Support Call List. I was able to help Barbara Martin in this capacity in July when her hard drive crashed. Made a recommendation for purchasing Adobe Professional and sent her the software CD for FileMaker Pro to help in the recovery process.

The roundtable will not be sponsoring a session at conference this year due to a scheduling conflict with the presenter for the session. We will be providing equipment and technical support for the conference as needed. I will be bringing a projector and laptop for sessions that can use this equipment. Please have whoever is coordinating the technology needs for the conference, contact me with information about what session this equipment is needed for and if I need to attend the session for support.

**New Members Roundtable**, Diane Hughes, Chair: We will have a New Members session at fall conference. Board members, if possible, please drop by to be introduced to our new members and to meet them.

**Two-Year Colleges:** No Report  
**Archives Committee:** No Report

**Awards Committee**, Kaye Talley, Chair: The following awards do not yet have nominations: Bessie B. Moore, Rhett Patrick, Ann Lightsey. A call for nominations will be put on the ArLA Listserv.

**Conference Committee**, Kay Bland, Chair: Pre-Conference has been cancelled. The Exhibit Hall is very large with room for 96 ten by ten exhibit booths. The committee thinks there will be room for the exhibits, the tables needed for the basket auction, and areas for socializing. A section will be draped for 35 to sit theatre style for exhibitor's meeting and other activities.

**Constitution Committee:** No Report  
**Executive Committee:** Report already given  
**Finance Committee:** Report already given  
**Intellectual Freedom:** No Report  
**Legislative Committee:** No Report

**Membership Committee:** We currently have 550 ArLA members

**Nominating Committee:** No Report  
**Publications Committee:** No Report  
**Scholarship Committee:** No Report

**Arkansas Libraries:** The Spring/Summer issue is in the mail

**WebMaster**, Ron Russ: April Sheppard has the new ArLA Conference Website up and running. I put a link on the ArLA home page that goes directly to the site. There is also a link on the main page to the history of the website (with pictures). There will also be an article on that topic in the upcoming *Arkansas Libraries* (written by Amanda Moore and yours truly). The constitution proposal for the membership vote at conference has been placed on the membership page and on the News page. April wrote the "Webmaster's Corner" for the upcoming issue of *Arkansas Libraries*.

Job ads for the Jobline have been hot and heavy during the summer months. Feel free to send them to me or you can post them yourselves by logging in to the website and filling out the form.

### **New Business**

Karen Russ brought to the attention of Debbie Hall that 2011 is the centennial of ArLA and that planning for a celebration should soon get started. Karen volunteered to chair a committee for this purpose. Debbie Hall made a motion for a special committee to be formed, seconded by Diane Hughes. Motion passed.

Bob Razer introduced for the board's consideration a "Resolution on Arkansas History Instruction". There is a concern of historians across Arkansas about how Arkansas History is to be taught in public schools. Discussion ensued Governor Beebe scheduled meetings with Arkansas historians and would decide about the instruction of Arkansas history the week after the ArLA Board meeting. Several comments during discussion were to the effect of some of the wording in the Resolution. Ramona Abernathy mentioned that the Classroom Teachers Association should be involved. Several people mentioned that they did not know what the frameworks for teaching Arkansas History looked like and Diane Hughes mentioned that the frameworks could be viewed on the Arkansas Department of Education website. It was decided to not go on record at this time but to move the issue to the September meeting.

Kay Bland mentioned that teachers needed to get professional development credit for conference attendance from the Arkansas Department of Education. Ashley Burris, President, will sign a form for conference to be certified as a professional development forum.

Diane Hughes motioned that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Kathie Boucher. Meeting was adjourned.