

NOT FINISHED YET

Arkansas Library Association Executive Board Meeting Minutes Embassy Suites Hot Springs, AR October 25, 2009

Those present were: Jerrie Townsend, President; Connie Zimmer, Vice-President; Jamie Melson, Sec./Treas.; Debbie Hall, Past President/New Members RT Chair/Membership Comm. Chair; Barbara Martin, Exec. Administrator; Ellen Johnson, ALA Councilor; Dwain Gordon, SELA Rep./Conf. Comm. Chair; Jana Dixon, AASL Div. Chair; Kim Hillison, ALPS Div. Chair; Jim Robb, College & Univ. Div. Chair/Constitution Comm. Chair; Sarah Ernst, Public Libraries/Trustees Div. Chair; Kathy Davis, Ref. & Instruc. Services Div. Chair; Jessie Burchfield, Special Libraries Div. Chair; Laura Speer, Children's RT Chair; Frances Hager, Gov. Doc. RT Chair; Eileen Burg, Two Year Colleges RT Chair; Barbie James, Awards Comm. Chair; Karen Russ, Centennial Planning Comm. Chair; Devonna Pendergrass, Intellectual Freedom Comm. Chair; Donna McDonald, Legislative Comm. Chair; Virginia Perschbacher, Public Relations Comm. Chair; Kathie Buckman, Publications Comm. Chair; Michael Strickland, Scholarship Comm. Chair; Ron Russ, Webmaster; and one visitor, Shawn Pierce.

Meeting was opened at 10:10 a.m. by President Jerrie Townsend. Karen Russ moved with a second from Barbie James to approve the minutes from the Aug. 7, 2009 meeting. Motion passed. A roll call sheet was passed around.

Jerrie Townsend encouraged the board members to visit with the vendors and exhibitors and visit with the conference attendees in the sessions.

Reports:

ALA Councilor, Ellen Johnson:

Information items:

1. On a financial note, ALA's treasurer, Ron Hersberger, recently shared the good news that ALA's endowment has improved by \$6.7 million. We haven't returned to our all time high of \$31+ million in 2007, but the current gain is considered a nice recovery.
2. ALA is gearing up for Midwinter in Boston this January. This will be the first conference during which Council sessions will end on Tuesday along with the rest of the conference (rather than on Wednesday).

3. Conference attendees are invited to visit the ALA/SELA table in the exhibits. Two baskets have also been provided for you to bid on at the annual LEAF silent auction.

Action item:

1. To be considered: passage of a resolution on the 2009 reauthorization of the USA Patriot Act (addressing Section 215 and Section 205).

The Vermont Library Association has led off with a resolution, and other state library associations have begun following with resolutions modeled on the one from Vermont.

For your consideration prior to our meeting I have attached:

1. Explanatory comments by the California Library Association upon passage of a resolution (based on the one from Vermont)
2. The resolution by the Vermont Library Association

Among various possible board actions: passing our own resolution, simply endorsing the Vermont resolution, no action, or other suggestions.

After much discussion, the following resolution was adopted by using the already existing Vermont resolution with a motion made by Eileen Burg and a second made by Sarah Ernst by substituting Arkansas in place of Vermont and sending the resolution to only the State Librarian and our Washington Senate and Congressional delegates:

Resolution on the 2009 Reauthorization of the USA Patriot Act

Whereas, the Arkansas Library Association is committed to encouraging free and open inquiry by preserving the privacy rights of library users, library employees, and persons living in the United States; and

Whereas, the Arkansas Library Association opposes governmental actions that suppress or chill free and open inquiry and has called for the USA PATRIOT Act to be amended to restore fundamental constitutional rights and safeguards that protect the civil liberties of library users, library employees, and U.S. persons; and

Whereas, Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act allows the FBI to secretly request and obtain library records for large numbers of individuals without reason to believe they are involved in illegal activity; and

Whereas, Section 505 of the USA PATRIOT Act permits the FBI to obtain records from libraries by using National Security Letters (NSL) without prior judicial oversight; and

Whereas, Section 215 automatically requires and Section 505 permits the FBI to impose a nondisclosure or “gag” order on the recipients, thereby prohibiting the reporting of abuse of government authority and abrogating the recipients’ First Amendment rights; and

Whereas, FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on March 25, 2009, that the FBI had used Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act 223 times between 2004 and 2007¹, and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) of the Department of Justice reported in March 2008 that the FBI had made 192,499 National Security Letter requests from 2003 through 2006²; and

Whereas, the OIG reported in March 2008 that “the FISA Court twice refused to authorize Section 215 orders based on concerns that the investigation was premised on protected First Amendment activity, and the FBI subsequently issued NSLs to obtain information” without reviewing the underlying investigation to be sure it did not violate the statute’s First Amendment caveat³; and

Whereas, members of Congress have introduced legislation to restore privacy rights and address the concerns of the Arkansas Library Association such as: The Freedom to Read Protection Act (H.R. 1157 in the 108th Congress) and the National Security Letters Reform Act (S. 2088 in the 110th Congress and H.R. 1800); now therefore be it

Resolved that the Arkansas Library Association:

1. Opposes initiatives on the part of the United States government to constrain the free expression of ideas or to inhibit the use of libraries;
2. Urges Congress to repeal the USA PATRIOT Act’s expanded National Security Letter Section 505 and Section 215 authorities that allow the FBI to demand information about people who are not targets of an investigation and to reinstate standards limiting the use of these authorities to obtain information only about terrorism suspects and agents of foreign powers.
3. Urges Congress to allow nondisclosure or “gag” orders of limited scope and duration only when necessary to protect national security and only upon the authority of a court, and ensure that targets of such orders have a meaningful right to challenge them before a fair and neutral arbiter.
4. Urges Congress to intensify its oversight of the use of the USA PATRIOT Act as well as other government surveillance and investigations that limit the privacy rights of library users, library employees, and U.S. persons; and
5. Communicates this resolution to Arkansas’ Congressional Delegation and the Arkansas State Librarian; and

6. Urges its members, Arkansas librarians, Arkansas library trustees, and all library advocates to ask Congress to restore crucial safeguards protecting civil liberties.

Adopted by The Arkansas Library Association Executive Board, October 25, 2009

SELA Representative, Dwain Gordon: I attended the Georgia Council of Media Organizations (GA COMO) XXI 2009 Conference in Columbus, Georgia, October 7-9, and the Southeastern Library Association board meeting. I visited with some vendors (mostly library schools) to recruit them for the ArLA/SELA conference and also as presenters for the conference.

I sent announcements to the ArLA and SELA list serves inviting volunteers for the Conference Committee. A SELA Conference Committee has been established.

Arrangements have been made to have a reception at the Clinton Library on Monday, Sept. 27, 2010.

Connie Zimmer has contacted CALS and requested that they host a reception on the Main Library campus on Sunday, Sept. 26, 2010. CALS has agreed to hosting the event, which will probably take place in the Arkansas Studies Institute.

Executive Administrator, Barbara Martin: Barbara handed out the financial reports as well as the auditor's official report which cost the Association \$3,500 for a full audit. The checking account balance stands at \$129,514 and we have \$52,920.31 net income.

AASL Division, Jana Dixon:

The Steering Committee for the Arkansas Teen Book Award has written a formal request asking for the committee to be sheltered under ArLA for donation purposes. This has been discussed before but has not been in writing and no conclusion was determined. ArLA Board was concerned as to whether it would affect the non-profit status.

The 2009 AASL Summer Conference was held July 26 and 27 at the Ozark Folk Center State Park in Mountain View, AR. We had approximately 170 registered for the conference. The theme was "Celebrate Arkansas in the Ozarks". The entire conference was centered around Arkansas History; in particular the history of the Ozarks. Attendees were able to attend sessions by Arkansas authors, Ozark Folk Center State Park interpreters, living histories and educators from across the state. While in Mountain View those in attendance got to enjoy traditional Ozark foods as well as the lifestyle of the Ozarks.

Jerrie appointed a committee to look into AASL's request for housing funds under the ArLA umbrella. They will report back to the Board by the December meeting. The committee consists of Jerrie Townsend, Jana Dixon, Barbara Martin, Jim Robb, and Laura Speer.

ALPS Division, Kim Hillison: InfoBits is November 5 at Alma Library, 9:00. Topics include Travelers Database updates, Social Security eServices, and Customer Service. So far 22 people have pre-registered, and since all are ArLA members there is no charge.

Elections are being held at ALPS Business meeting @ 5:00. We will show up at our room at 4:30 but we have people who will be showing up for the election and Dine Around. We want everyone's vote to count.

Nominees are :

Chair-Elect : Melanie Allen

Treasurer : Brenda Van Dusen

Secretary : Anna Edwards

Kara Propes will move to Chair in January at our meeting at UCA Torreyson Library on January 8th, and I, Kim Hillison, will move to past chair. Lynaire Hartsell, and Elaine Contant, and Melanie Allen will move on to other activities or positions.

College & University Division, Jim Robb: no report

Public Libraries/Trustees Division, Sarah Ernst: no report

Reference & Instruction Services Division, Kathy Davis: no report

Resource & Technical Services Division, Michael Klossner: no report

Special Libraries Division, Jessie Burchfield: The division started out the year with a lot of energy and ideas. Diane Hughes and Michael Strickland had done good work on writing a description of the division and compiling a list of potential members. We received permission to budget for a mailing and planned to have a division meeting in the Spring.

The date chosen for a planned Spring division meeting conflicted with that of another division, and the planning was postponed. Due to personal illness and staffing issues at her library, Chair Jessie Burchfield was unable to devote adequate time to pursuing the meeting and the spring got away from us without a meeting being held.

In early October, Chair Jessie Burchfield e-mailed all the special librarians in the state (from the list compiled by Diane and Michael). They were reminded of the meeting and asked to give input about what they would like from the division and from ArLA. There were few responses, but Rod Miller from the Arkansas Supreme Court Library expressed an interest in becoming involved with division activities.

We are sponsoring two "Specially" themed baskets for the LEAF auction:

Treat Yourself Special – a free haircut, a bath set, floating candles, chocolates, and a heart-shaped pillow

Special Devotions – Scripture themed items -- a perpetual calendar, bread plate, scripture scroll (Prayer of Jabez) and two devotional books

Michael Strickland of the Arkansas State Library has agreed to run for chair.

Children’s Services RT, Laura Speer: We’ve sent out a question through the Facebook group about possibly having a pre-conference meeting and possibly holding a Roundtable program during the next year. Laura encouraged anyone that’s interested in this group to please attend the business meeting on Monday.

Government Documents RT, Frances Hager: Brought 2 baskets for the basket auction.

Information Technology RT, Dominique Hallett: no report

New Members RT, Debbie Hall: As of right now, we have 78 new members. A New Members orientation session will be at 1:00 following the Board meeting in room 203. All Board members are invited to drop in and introduce themselves.

Two-Year Colleges RT, Eileen Burg: **Goals for 2010 (see annual report) and ongoing projects.**

Awards Comm., Barbie James: Nominations were made for all awards except the Intellectual Freedom Award. Awards will be presented at the noon luncheon today. Those include:

Arkansiana Awards:

Nonfiction	Elizabeth Jacoway-Turn Away Thy Son
Fiction	Phil McMath-Lost Kingdoms
Juvenile	Sharon Draper- Fire From the Rock
Ann Lightsey Children’s Award	Kay Taylor
Bessie B. Moore Trustee Award	Donna McDonald
Distinguished Service	Kaye Talley
Lorrie Shuff Paraprofessional Award	Donna Rusher
Retta Patrick Award	Sue Ellen Bristow
Suzanne Spurrier Award	Necia Parker Gibson
Frances P. Neal Award	Peggy Walters

Centennial Planning Comm., Karen Russ: The American Library Association has been contacted about sending a representative, hopefully the 2011 President, to our

centennial conference to be held Sept. 24-27, 2011. No response has been received yet.

Work continues on the creation a list of organizations and vendors to contact for possible financial support in 2011. Recommendations and contacts are welcome. Please share the information with Linda Creibaum (lcreibaum@astate.edu) .

All other projects in progress are still being worked on, including gathering photos for the 2011 library calendar and a list of past officers.

The Publications Committee will outline the details of a joint project involving *Arkansas Libraries*.

Conference Comm., Dwain Gordon:

A Trustees pre-conference was held on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009
7 Trustees attended along with 8 library staff
248 have registered for the ArLA 2009 conference
About 42 vendors will have booths in the exhibit hall
72 sessions are scheduled with 9 being author events

Constitution Committee, Jim Robb: no report

Finance Committee, Jamie Melson: I would like to amend the original vote taken in 2005 to make what is now in the manual legal and take LEAF out of the picture since ArLA is now financially sound. The original vote was taken during the time that ArLA was broke and states: Bob has offered to help these awards with funds from the LEAF (PAC/non-PAC group). Phyllis Burkett moved to increase the Arkansiana awards to \$1,000 for adult non-fiction, \$500 for adult fiction, and \$500 for a juvenile book. Kareen Turner seconded the motion. This motion was amended by Phyllis to include the help of funds from the LEAF fund. Jamie moved with a second from Dwain Gordon to update the manual regarding the financial awards for the Arkansiana awards. Motion passed.

Intellectual Freedom Comm., Devona Pendergrass: Received an email from Michael Mounce from the SELA Intellectual Freedom Comm. about hosting a joint session at the 2010 joint conference with the ArLA Intellectual Freedom Committee. He has also been in contact with Dwain Gordon about a session. Dwain and Devona will share information they've received from Michael concerning this. Other than this, there were no challenges this time for her to report on.

Legislative Comm., Donna McDonald: no report

Membership Comm., Debbie Hall: Latest report shows 537 members.

Nominating Comm., Connie Zimmer: We have a ballot with Shawn Pierce for Vice-President/President-elect and Ronald Russ for ALA Councilor. Ballots are in everyone's

registration packets with the polls closing at 5:00 on Monday afternoon. Shawn Pierce and Ron Russ were introduced as the candidates.

Public Relations Comm., Virginia Perschbacher: We have a ballot for the ArLA license plate design. It consists of 4 designs that the members will vote on while here at the conference. Ballot box will close at 5:00 as well for this item.

Publications Comm., Kathie Buckman: We are still looking for a volunteer to replace outgoing Managing Editor Dominique Hallett. We have talked about this before, but I wanted to bring it up again. What about a stipend for this position? Maybe \$1,000 per year?

We have spoken in a few past meetings about our upcoming Centennial Year. It has been suggested to have a special Centennial Issue of the Journal, or reprint the first issue, etc. It will be an additional issue, therefore having 5 issues that year. We talked about selling inexpensive, small ads to help offset the cost of the extra issue. But, just in case we don't sell enough, would like to make a motion to add this extra cost to the budget for 2011.

I have found reporters for most sessions for the Conference Report.

Not really related to Publications, but I would like to make a suggestion. What about having a very inexpensive "student" category for next year's conference? Maybe \$10? \$20? This would encourage library students to attend conference at an affordable rate.

Scholarship Comm., Michael Strickland: The Scholarship Committee met on September 18, 2009 and considered 8 excellent applicants for the 2009 ArLA Scholarship. Angela Hand was selected as the 2009 recipient.

Managing Editor, Dominique Hallett: no report

Associate Editor, Britt Ann Murphy: Deadline for the journal is October 31 but conference reports will be due by November 10.

Webmaster, Ron Russ: April posted and updated the ArLA Conference Website. You can now find a listing of programs, schedules, hotel information, etc. at <http://www.arlib.org/2009conference.htm>. I also posted a link in the 2009 ArLA Conference entry to the ArLA Conference Website.

As people vote for officers in their divisions, please let me know who will be representing you for 2010. This way, I'll be able to add those people when the time comes. You can email me at rsruss@asub.edu.

Archives, Bob Razer: No real update but progress is being made on the unprocessed backlog of papers and archivists tend to favor library types all things being equal so I'

hopeful ALA's archives might be "given the treatment" in the coming year. I have alerted the manuscripts processors that a big anniversary is on the horizon for ALA, so they might show favor on us. Mainly the word remains for outgoing Board members – "give your files to Bob." Short messages work best.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m. with a motion made by Karen Russ and a second made by Ellen Johnson.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Melson, Secretary