

**Arkansas Library Association
Executive Board Meeting and Retreat
Mtn. View, AR
Feb. 3, 2006**

President Diane Hughes called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Diane greeted everyone and introduced two guests, Debra Sutterfield, Director of White River Public Library System, and Henry Terrill, Awards Committee Member. Others present were: Diane Hughes, President; Jamie Melson, Secretary/Treasurer; Art Lichtenstein, Past President; Barbara Martin, Executive Administrator; Ellen Johnson, ALA Councilor/SELA Rep.; Connie Zimmer, AASL Div. Chair; Linda Creibaum, College and Univ. Div. Chair; Brenda Van Dusen, ALPS Div. Chair; Lisa Johnson, Public Libraries Div. Chair; Dominique Hallett, Ref. Serv. Div. Chair and Publications Comm. Chair; Loretta Edwards, Information Tech. RT Chair; Virginia Perschbacher, Two-Year Colleges RT Chair; Karen Russ, Gov. Doc. RT Chair; Bob Razer, Archives Comm. Chair; Dwain Gordon, Conf. Comm. Chair; Barbie James, Constitution Comm. Chair; Bettye Kerns, Intellectual Freedom Comm. Chair; Amanda Moore, Public Relations Comm. Chair; Alexis Linoski, Ark. Libraries Journal Editor; Britt Anne Murphy, Ark. Libraries Journal Assoc. Editor; *and Ron Russ, Webmaster.*

Karen Russ moved to approve the minutes as presented in e-mail. Ellen Johnson made a second. Motion passed. It has been discussed among the Executive Committee to present the minutes to the board directly following the board meeting for approval of the minutes in e-mail thus eliminating the approval process at the board meeting. President Diane asked the rest of the board their opinion of this process and everyone liked the idea so it will be done.

President Diane reported that she had 2 requests for the membership listing of the Association. Policy used to be that we would sell the address labels for a one-time use only and most of the vendors understood the policy. There was some discussion. A motion was presented to the board about allowing ArLA members to opt out on having their home addresses published or selling their work addresses but after some discussion the motion was withdrawn. The idea of selling the address labels outside the Association will be looked into by comparing our former fee of \$50 to what the surrounding states might be selling their labels for.

President Diane represented us at ALA Midwinter session. She brought back several door prizes. She roomed with Ellen Johnson and Diane's school paid her way except for her room and meals which ArLA covers. She also read a letter from ALA about a competition between the states to resurrect the @ Your Library campaign. The competition is for a quotable fact from each state. The three top states will receive the free design and printing of 10,000 copies.

Reports:

SELA Representative---Ellen Johnson: The SELA Representative reported on the upcoming joint conference of the Southeastern Library Association and the

Tennessee Library Association. The conference will be held April 5-7, 2006, at the Hilton Memphis in Memphis, Tennessee. She then passed around the schedule of conference events, registration forms for the conference, reservation forms for the hotel, and SELA membership forms. SELA membership runs on the calendar year.

ALA Councilor---Ellen Johnson: I have just returned from the American Library Association meeting held January 20-25 in San Antonio. I will send in a report to Arkansas Libraries . Council passed quite a few resolutions, but I will mention three briefly:

1. A resolution supporting recognition of the essential role of school librarians and media specialists.

2. A strategic plan, "ALA Ahead to 2010" and dues increase (to be voted on by membership this spring). There have been no dues increases in ten years and ALA has not kept up with inflation, so the increase is considered crucial.

3. A resolution that will increase the number of councilors representing roundtables.

She also passed around a copy of Cognotes, the daily newspaper published during conferences. The copy featured the awards announcement for youth authors and illustrators.

Finance & Executive Administrator---Barbara Martin: Barbara announced that she has taken in \$7,000 in dues in January compared to \$548 recorded this time last year. She believes this is due to the invoice/statements that were mailed out. Some members have already paid their 2006 dues that had not paid in 2004 or 2005. As a reminder, no membership cards will be mailed out as in the past. This is another cost-cutting decision made by the Executive Committee.

Barbara handed out the proposed budget for 2006. If there are no changes to the proposed budget, we should see an ending balance of over \$29,000 at the end of this year. The Finance Comm. will go over the proposed budget and bring it back to the board for the entire board to vote on.

Jamie added to Barbara's report that anyone who had asked for a budget request back in November should have found an answer to their request in their e-mail on Wednesday morning, Feb. 1. Basically, except for 2 requests from persons not on a division, roundtable, or committee, all budget requests were approved. If you did not receive the e-mail, let Jamie know and she will get you the numbers.

AASL Division---Connie Zimmer: Ramona Abernathy is continuing to work on the summer conference to be held at Lake DeGray State Park. More information will be given as it becomes available.

ALPS Division---Brenda Van Dusen: ALPS met Jan. 6, 2006 for Leadership Exchange at Torreyson Library, UCA, Conway. New officers for 2006 year: Chair, Brenda Van Dusen, National Park Community College, Hot Springs; Secretary/Treasurer, Lynaire Hartsel, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; Chair-Elect, JoAn Ingersol, Benton Public Library, Benton; Past Chair, Kareen Turner, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

ALPS has been asked to have a column in Arkansas Libraries. We will solicit our members on a volunteer basis to write an article. Our first volunteer is Lynaire Hartsell our Secretary Treasurer. The column will introduce our officers and give information about activities we are planning.

With the redistricting of our regions we have new regional representatives added to our executive council. LaTonya Jones, Craighead County Library, Jonesboro, Region IV, Northeast South; Joyce McCain, Arkansas Tech, Russellville will replace Karen Tablish in Region II, North Central. Mary Hires, University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville, Region I, Northwest. We have openings for Regions III, Northeast, North; VIII, Southwest; and IX, Southwest.

Plans are being discussed to set a date that we will adhere to on a regular basis to hold our annual INFOBITS program, our 1 day workshop which we host in the fall. With the help of Barbara Martin our teaser post cards went out in mid January for our Spring Conference May 17-19, in Little Rock. We plan to have our registration and information brochure on ALPS web page by mid Feb. Conference planning is going well.

College & University Division---Linda Creibaum: no report.

Public Libraries Division---Lisa Johnson: PL Div. recently sent out a possible workshop survey. Have results, if interested.

--Reference Workshop (LDD2 as trial), offered by the Public Library Division then possibly at conference.

--Planning a spring workshop for middle management.

--Also, like to work with Intellectual Freedom Comm. in organizing trustee and staff training on censorship issues including public relations.

--Two workshops for new public library staff.

She also needs the name of the PL Div.'s vice chair.

Reference Services Division---Dominique Hallett: no report.

Resource & Tech. Services Division---Deb Kulczak: no report except that she is still looking for the name of the new Division Vice Chair.

Special Libraries Division---Shawn Pierce: no report.

Trustees Division---Regina Cortez: no report except that she is still waiting on a list of trustees.

Information Technology Roundtable---Loretta Edwards: The IT Roundtable is working with the Publications Committee to develop an online membership directory.

Children's Services Roundtable---Connie Olson: no report

Government Documents Roundtable---Karen Russ: The Round Table has decided that it would like to have the name *Microforms* dropped from its official name. The term has remained in the name in some official ArLA documents but not others. The group very rarely addresses the issue of microforms now that the depository programs are moving away from that format. The official request will go for a vote of the round table membership this Spring and will be turned in to the Constitution committee by June 1, 2006.

Several possible conference programs are being discussed, including inviting the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis to come and present a program on FRASER, their online databases. This would be a program aimed at special and academic libraries, as well as government document collections.

Two-Year Colleges Roundtable---Virginia Perschbacher: no report.

Archives Committee---Bob Razer: If anyone has any records from 2005 that they would like to "get rid of" please send them to Bob for the archives. He will make the decision of what to keep and what not to keep.

Awards Committee---Sandy Olson: no report.

Conference Committee---Dwain Gordon: Diana Lott will be the Conference Publications editor. She will be working on the forms and the program guide.

Our theme is 24/7 or something like that. Donna Daniels and Necia Parker-Gibson will be working with a graphic design instructor at UA with the possibility of making this a class assignment/contest.

Shawna Thorup and Michele Raine are working on a local information sheet.

Juana Young has set up a listserv for the committee members.

Donna Daniels reported that CSA has said they will sponsor a chocolate dessert reception.
Details to be worked out.

After we have the program more complete, we will do a mailing to libraries/librarians in OK, KS, and MO. Librarians who work in those states will be able to register for the conference at the member rate if they are members of their state association.

The Blair Library has reserved their meeting rooms for us, so we might have some sessions over there.

Barbara Martin and I will be making a trip to NW Ark to check out the hotel and the meeting rooms.

We will be inviting Charlaine Harris. Alan Ball (creator of Six Feet Under) will produce a series for HBO on her "Southern Vampires" paperback series.

We will have the "technology expo" again, but we will spread it out to Monday and possibly Tuesday. I want to have sessions other than the technology events on Sunday. Also we might change the name of that to "vendor showcase", which would open it up to more than just the tech companies.

Several people have already suggested some topics and even specific sessions with speakers.

Sessions include-

Intellectual Freedom -with more than one session - Cassandra Barnett, Bettye Kerns
Libraries and the Law - Bettye Kerns, Bettina Brownstein
Encyclopedia of Arkansas – Nathania Sawyer
Net Security - Nima Khamooshi
RFID/self checkout/conveyance systems – Louise Schaper
Starting and sustaining books clubs in the library – Jane Thompson and others
Fundraising for libraries – Bill Mitchell, Louise Schaper
Customer Service – Ellen Bard and Jennifer Chilcoat
Selection and Challenged Material Policies – Margaret Crank Amps
Book Promotion – BookLetters/email book news/using electronic services to promote books
 beyond the best seller list

The program request form has been posted to our website and an invitation sent to the chairs/president of the various divisions/roundtable/committees with a March 31 deadline.

Some topics we want to have covered, but do not yet have sessions for include -

Web Design (consider inviting Aristotle)

The "business" of libraries - (from the view of the accounting office)- panel discussion
 Topic ???

Story times

Programs for older kids

Genealogy

We are working on getting some funding for a special speaker. I asked Keith Curry Lance to pencil us into his calendar. We want him to present his "Power Librarianship: Research-Based Strategies for Leadership, Collaboration, and Technology Integration". The schools people are over the moon about the possibility of having Keith here.

From Keith's email –

* Power Librarianship: Research-Based Strategies for Leadership, Collaboration, and Technology Integration

Based on more than a decade of research about how teacher librarians impact academic achievement, this session introduces school library practitioners to research-based strategies to become stronger leaders, improve their collaboration with classroom teachers, and help them better integrate education, technology, and information literacy with the school's curriculum. Successful examples of those strategies are shared and participants are given opportunities to plan to implement at least one of these strategies in their schools. This pre-conference or double-session event debuted at the 2005 Pittsburgh AASL conference and received high marks in evaluations by paying attendees.

Constitution Committee---Barbie James:

Executive Committee---Diane Hughes: already gave report.

Finance Committee---Jamie Melson: already gave report.

Intellectual Freedom Committee---Betty Kerns: The committee is getting organized. Plans for the year include a new Handbook for ArLA members, Conducting programs on IFC at annual conference and any other conferences or groups that will let us present.

Legislative Committee---Dave Burdick: no report.

Membership Committee---Karen Richardson: Membership is up to 580. A budget of \$350 for mail outs has been approved. Mail out reminders of non-renewals will be sent later this year closer to conference time.

Nominating Committee---Ashley Burris: no report.

Publications Committee---Dominique Hallett: no report.

Public Relations Committee---Amanda Moore: Literacy Festival will be held April 21-23 this year.

Scholarship Committee---Kaye Talley: no report.

Arkansas Libraries Managing Editor---Alexis Linoski: no report except to remind everyone that the deadlines are Jan. 15, April 15, July 15, and Oct. 15.

Arkansas Libraries Associate Editor---Britt Anne Murphy: They have a few new columns while retiring some of the older ones.

Website Webmaster---Ron Russ: Made modifications to the website to reflect

the 2006 leadership. April Sheppard will be coordinating the Conference website, send conference information for that website to her at asheppard@astate.edu. We are in the process of renewing our web-hosted account with JaguarPC and our 3 domains.

We need more information from divisions, committees, and roundtables when it comes to their webpages (this does not apply to those who have independent websites such as ALPS). Please submit the information to me at webmaster@arlib.org so I can update your page. *We will remove links for those units that do not submit updated information within the next two weeks.*

Another issue that was discussed was to allow Ron to create deadlines for the website similar to the way deadlines are created for Arkansas Libraries. The new deadlines read as follows: we request two weeks notice when it comes to adding materials or making alterations to the website.

Unfinished Business: none.

New Business:

1) Bob Razer as the chair of LEAF (Library & Education Aid Fund) made the following proposals:

I recommend that we give \$1500 each to the Mississippi and Louisiana Library Associations for library relief in their states as a result of hurricane damage. Each state association has set up an account for such donations (from their web pages: "The LLA Disaster Relief Fund is now accepting monetary donations to assist school, public, and academic library restoration efforts in southern Louisiana." - "Friends of Mississippi Libraries, working with the Library Commission and MLA, has established a fund for donations to rebuild those MS libraries severely damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.")

>Motion was made by Dominique Hallett and seconded by Linda Creibaum to give \$1,500 to each of these library associations. Motion passed.

I also think we should send a \$500 LEAF check to the American Library Association's Gerald Hodges Fund. Gerald was, for many years, the Chapter Relations Officer for ALA. He started that post at ALA in 1989 during the final years of my tenure as Chapter Councilor. Before that, he was a Chapter Councilor from Iowa. The Chapter Relations Office and the person who heads it is the key liason between the national association and the state associations. The state associations depend on this person to be their advocate at 50 East Huron and Gerald did an excellent job on our behalf. He held this critical position until he moved to his associate executive director position in 2002. The Gerald Hodges Fund will assist ALA in Intellectual Freedom issues, an area of critical concern in

Arkansas libraries.

>Motion was made by Karen Russ and seconded by Art Lichtenstein to make this donation in Gerald's memory. After some discussion in favor of this motion, motion passed.

2) Bettye Kerns presented a request to the board creating an Ann Lightsey award. Ann was a longtime children's librarian with the Jefferson County Library System. Bettye drew up some preliminary eligibility requirements and presented them to the board. Lisa Johnson moved and Brenda Van Dusen seconded that this award be established. President Diane then charged the Awards Comm. to draw up the eligibility requirements using what Bettye presented as a draft.

3) The SELA pre-conference was brought up about the fact that perhaps ArLA needs to send someone to the ALA Regional Advocacy Institute on Wed., Apr. 5, in Memphis. Karen Russ moved that the board consider sending someone to the pre-conference with Ellen Johnson making a second to the motion. During the discussion, Bob Razer volunteered that LEAF would be willing to pay the registration fee for up to 6 people to attend the SELA pre-conference. Motion passed.

4) Barbie James pointed out that there are no real guidelines in the constitution & bylaws or the policy and procedures manual on establishing new awards. President Diane has asked the Awards Committee to write up something for the board to put in the policy & procedures manual.

Having no further business, Art Lichtenstein moved to adjourn. It was seconded by Dominique Hallett. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. with the retreat session to begin at 2:30 p.m.

Addendum

On Saturday morning, Feb. 4, a special executive session was called at 9:00 a.m.

Linda Creibaum moved that we add the acronym ArLA to wherever it is appropriate as our official acronym. Art Lichtenstein seconded the motion. Motion passed.

President Diane charged the Publications and Public Relations Committees to bring back some new logo designs. It was also discussed that since the next board meeting falls on the same Friday as the SELA conference, that perhaps the board meeting needed to be moved. Vote was 4 for Friday, March 31, and 6 for Monday, April 3. After the vote, the board will meet on Monday, April 3, at Laman Library in NLR at 10:00 provided Laman can book us that day.

Karen Russ moved that the board review and update the ArLA Six Year Plan regularly. The update should be completed by July 1 of the year preceding the biennial legislation session, which begins in August, in order to make the legislators aware of the state's library needs before the state budget is written. Linda Creibaum seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Art Lichtenstein moved that it be official ArLA policy that all subdivisions/components of ArLA indicate the ArLA affiliation on all documents. Karen Russ seconded the motion. Motion passed. President Diane also asked that Dominique Hallett as Publications Chair, look into getting a weekly online newsletter started, something similar to what ALA has begun with the e-mail newsletters each week.

Art Lichtenstein made the motion to allow Barbara to spend \$200 to join the Arkansas State Chamber for 2006. This is to be re-evaluated before joining again in 2007. Brenda Van Dusen seconded. Motion passed.

Brenda Van Dusen moved, Karen Russ seconded to adjourn the special called meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m. with a wish for everyone to have a safe trip home.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Melson
Secretary/Treasurer