

**Arkansas Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
Laman Library, NLR, AR
June 2, 2006**

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Dominique Hallett through e-mail with a second by Jamie Melson by e-mail. Enough votes were tallied by e-mail to pass the motion. Minutes were approved as presented.

President Diane Hughes called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Those present were: Diane Hughes, President & Executive Committee Chair; Ashley Burris, President-Elect & Nominating Committee Chair; Jamie Melson, Secretary/Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair; Art Lichtenstein, Past President & New Members Committee Chair; Barbara Martin, Executive Administrator; Ellen Johnson, ALA Councilor & SELA Councilor; Linda Creibaum, College and University Division Chair; Brenda Van Dusen, ALPS (Paraprofessionals) Division Chair; Reference Services Division Chair & Publications Committee Chair; Deb Kulczak, Resources & Technical Services Division Chair; Regina Cortez, Trustees Division Chair; Virginia Perschbacher, Two Year Colleges Roundtable Chair; Bob Razer, Archives; Dwain Gordon, Conference Committee Chair; Bettye Kerns, Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair; Dave Burdick, Legislative Committee Chair; Britt Anne Murphy, Arkansas Libraries Associate Editor; Diane Lott, guest.

President's Report: President Hughes made an account of all her activities as President since April:

- 1) Notified ALA that ArLA would co-sponsor the Advocacy Institute in New Orleans on June 23rd.
- 2) Communicated with the Task Force on the Six-Year Plan/Strategic Plan.
- 3) Sent a letter for support of the Arkansas Library Association for ACRL National Conference.
- 4) Worked in the booth at AR Literacy Festival in Little Rock - April 22nd
- 5) Attended CULD at Harding in Searcy - April 28th
- 6) Attended ALPS Spring meeting At Holiday Inn in Little Rock - May 18th

Reports:

SELA Councilor-----Ellen Johnson: I have had word from the officers and executive director of SELA (Southeastern Library Association) that they are interested in holding a joint conference with ArLA in 2010. [The next SELA joint conference will be with the Kentucky Library Association in 2008. During the alternate years (2007, 2009, etc.), there will be SELA Leadership Conferences.] The last joint conference ArLA had with SELA was in 1998, and it was very successful.

The procedure would be for our board to consider and vote on the matter. If it is decided that we would like to hold the joint conference in 2010, the next step would be for our president, executive director, or SELA representative to issue an invitation to SELA.

ALA Councilor-----Ellen Johnson: The American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference will be held in New Orleans on June 22-28, 2006. The Opening General Session features Madeleine Albright. The ALA/Proquest Library Relief and Scholarship Event will feature Mary Chapin Carpenter. More information is available on ALA's website.

Executive Administrator-----Barbara Martin: Barbara handed out the Profit & Loss statement for the past 2 months. We currently have \$56,501.00 in the checking account. She recommended that we move the money market funds (Morgan Stanley accounts) into a CD in order to make a better return. Art Lichtenstein moved that we authorize Barbara to do some checking into several bank CD rates and come back to the Executive Committee as soon as possible and let the Exec. Comm. make the decision on the move. Linda Creibaum seconded, motion passed.

AASL Division-----Connie Zimmer: The conference committee met at the home of Conference Chair, Ramona Abernathy, in Mt. Ida. Plans were finalized. Registration forms are due by June 15 and several have already sent in their registrations. Kelly Gallagher will be the featured presenter. Committee members are to gather donations from their various communities for the registration bags and door prizes.

ALPS Division-----Brenda Van Dusen: Before reading her report, Brenda presented Pres. Diane Hughes with one of the new "ALPS" binders as a thank you gift for speaking at the ALPS Conference in May.

At our May executive council meeting, I appointed a subcommittee with the task of reviewing our bylaws and to look into setting up a policies and procedures manual for ALPS. ***It was recommended that ALPS look at the Policy & Procedure manual for ArLA first.

ALPS held their annual spring conference using the theme Cruisin' With ALPS: Don't Miss the Boat, May 17-19, 2006 in Little Rock at the Holiday Inn Select on Shackelford Rd. The attendance was excellent with 110 attendees registered. We had great guest speakers and a variety of breakout sessions. We started our event Wednesday evening with an icebreaker and a scavenger hunt looking for items that you would find on a cruise ship. Thursday morning started with a greeting from Diane Hughes, ArLA President. The keynote speaker was Bill Erbes, Assistant Director at Bensenville Public Library in Bensenville, IL. His topic Ethics in the Workplace was very well received by the group. He is an excellent speaker and kept the audience entertained as well as very interested in his topic. He also did a breakout session after lunch with Customer Service the Bensenville Way for his presentation. The room was packed with people sitting on the floor. The Thursday afternoon activity was a tour of the Clinton Library. The day ended with Dinner with the Captain and a fashion show, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Friday was a very busy day starting with the Division Business Meeting, two sets of three breakout sessions followed and we ended our conference with lunch and a presentation by Dr. Wendy Richter, Director of the Arkansas History Commission.

Evaluations turned in rated the conference as good; excellent; well organized, etc. Overall evaluations gave the conference excellent ratings.

ALPS is in the process of finalizing its plans for InfoBits scheduled for Nov. 9, 2006 in Benton at the Bob Herzfeld Memorial Library. This is a one day program that is sponsored by ALPS in the fall to give an opportunity to paraprofessionals who may not have been able to attend the spring conference or the ArLA fall conference. On the program thus far we have scheduled a very popular breakout session from the spring conference, Who Moved my Cheese At Your Library. Publicity for this conference will be out, hopefully, in the next month.

College & University Division-----Linda Creibaum: CULD had our annual Spring Meeting April 28 at Harding University in Searcy. We updated our 6 year plan in accordance with the charge from the ArLA board, had a delightful lunch and tour of the Harding Library, and reports from attendees. We are still looking for panelists for our conference, Librarians on the Firing Line.

Public Libraries Division-----Lisa Johnson: No report.

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

Resource & Technical Services Division-----Deb Kulczak: The Division has submitted its statement for the Arkansas Library Association Six-Year Plan.

RTSD will offer two sessions at the upcoming fall conference, both tentatively scheduled for Sunday afternoon, and the panelists for each have been identified. They are:

"Brave New World: Technical Services in the Age of Google", panelists--Myron Flugstad, Arkansas State University; Tracy Farmer, Arkansas State University; and Jon Goodell, Pulaski Technical College.

"Blood Out of Turnips: Getting the Most Out of Your Acquisitions Budget", panelists--Myron Flugstad, Arkansas State University; Mary Walker, UAFayetteville; Frances Hager, Arkansas Tech. University; and Tracy Farmer, Arkansas State University.

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

Trustees Division-----Regina Cortez: No report.

Information Technology Roundtable-----Loretta Edwards: The IT Roundtable will sponsor a session at the 2006 ArLA Fall Conference called SKYPE: Telecommunications via the Internet with Heather Smith, Curriculum Support Liaison as the presenter.

We are currently investigating a way to develop an online membership directory database that could be updated dynamically via an active server page.

Children's Services Roundtable-----Connie Olson: No report.

Government Documents Roundtable-----Karen Russ: No report.

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

New Members Roundtable-----Art Lichtenstein: No report.

Awards Committee-----Sandy Olson: I am accepting and receiving nominations for the awards. I am going to send a reminder to the Arklib list about nominations soon. I would ask that the board reflect in the minutes the need for nominations for all scholarships. I do not have a description of the newest one yet but plan to get it to Ron sometime next week to be put on the website. Awards information also needs to be given to Alexis for the journal by July 15.

Dominique moved and Brenda seconded that the awards committee reevaluate the nomination process and bring it back to the executive board for consideration and a vote. Some discussion ensued. Motion passed.

Conference Committee-----Dwain Gordon/Louise Schaper: The preliminary conference program has been set. Donna Daniels and I attended SELA in Memphis to look at that conference and to visit vendors. Individual speakers will be notified in June as to their time and room. The vendor invitation has been approved and will go out most likely today, 6/2/06. The registration invitation/form should go out this month also. April Sheppard is posting conference information on the ArLA website. Bob Razer also talked about the basket auction, its location, access to the baskets this year, etc. Dwain handed out a copy of the preliminary schedule to everyone present.

Constitution Committee-----Barbie James: No report.

Executive Committee-----Diane Hughes: Already reported.

Finance Committee-----Jamie Melson/Barbara Martin: Already reported.

Intellectual Freedom Committee-----Bettye Kerns: No report.

Legislative Committee-----Dave Burdick: The 2005 State Legislative Special Session came and went in a flash. The increase in minimum wage will have an affect on some libraries, but this affect will for the most part be of a positive nature. In talking with a few Public Library Directors, I did not find anyone who felt it would be detrimental to their budget or operation. In Pine Bluff, we are planning to use this as a means to provide all staff members an increase in pay of \$1.10 per hour.

Public schools are going to see an increase in funding, and library media specialist are sure to see a raise in their pay along with the school teachers. I have not heard of any negative items coming out of the Special Session

In early May, State Librarian Carolyn Ashcraft, State Library Board Members Sherman Banks and Donna McDonald (Donna is also a Public Library Director), and Pine Bluff/Jefferson County Assistant Director Diana Lott and I journeyed to Washington DC for ALA's Legislative Day activities. On Monday we attended the ALA "Information Day" where we were provided with information on issues they wanted us to address with the legislators. The major issues this year included LSTA funding (one of the few budget areas recommended by the President to increase and not decrease), continued access to Government Documents, E-rate issues, Copyright issues, Net Neutrality and the Communications Opportunity, Promotion, and Enhancement (COPE) Act.

On Tuesday morning we visited the offices of Senator Pryor and Lincoln. Senator Pryor was in a committee meeting dealing with FEMA, and Senator Lincoln was in Arkansas due to a death in her family. After lunch we visited the four Congressional offices. We visited with Congressman Ross, Congressman Snyder, Congressman Berry and Congressman Boozman.

We told each that we appreciated the higher LSTA funding and told them what LSTA funds are used for in Arkansas. We asked for relief in the e-rate filing processes as it pertains to basic phone service, and that many public libraries don't file for e-rate because of the time and complicated process that it entails. We informed them about the Net Neutrality and COPE Act and why we supported each issue. As time allowed, we also talked about Copyright, Government Documents, and the threat to EPA libraies.

To learn more about Net Neutrality and other Federal Issues, visit the ALA advocacy website: www.onlineadvocacy.net.

Membership Committee-----Karen Richardson: No report.

Nominating Committee-----Ashley Burris: I am seeking nominations for hte following elected offices: President-elect, ALA Councilor, SELA Representative, and Secretary-Treasurer.

Publications Committee-----Dominique Hallett: We are looking at putting the membership directory online. After the last meeting, I spoke with Ron and Barbara. Ron will post a .pdf or word file on the website with member names, affiliation, and e-mail address when Barbara extracts it from the membership database. We have selected a new logo for ArLA as per the poll Ron posted. Feel free to use it!

Public Relations Committee-----Amanda Moore: I would like to report that we had great success with the ArLA booth at the Arkansas Literary Festival. I would like to thank those dedicated individuals who worked at the booth and Alexis Linoski who did the scheduling. Also, I would like to thank Alexis and Rod Miller for the months of planning that we put into our ALF booth. For the booth, Alexis created a pamphlet with information about the featured authors, I put together a draft brochure for the Association (this the PR Committee will continue working on), and we gave away stress balls and pens with the ArLA logo. I've asked Britt Murphy to show the stress balls and pens. Please let me know if there are any issues or ideas that we need to address in future PR Committee activities.

Scholarship Committee-----Kaye Talley: We are proposing a change in the criteria for the scholarship so that people who are enrolled in library media programs in the state are eligible for the scholarship. Proposal is as follows:

The Scholarship Committee proposes the following change in the Scholarship Policy.

Old wording: 2. Applicant must have been accepted at an American Library Association accredited program leading to a master's degree in library science.

New wording: 2. Applicant must have been accepted at an American Library Association accredited program leading to a master's degree in library science *or to an NCATE accredited program leading to a master's degree in school library media. For either degree program, the course of study should be completed within three (3) academic years after receipt of the award.*

Dominique moved and Brenda seconded that we accept this proposal. After some discussion, motion passed.

Arkansas Libraries:

Managing Editor-----Alexis Linoski: No report.

Associate Editor-----Britt Anne Murphy: No report.

Archivist-----Bob Razer: No report.

Webmaster-----Ron Russ: Since UAMS is unable to continue ARKLIB-L on their servers, I recommend that we move ARKLIB-L to our servers as is. It will be good publicity for our organization and may attract new members in the future. Plus, it would give us a conduit for official announcements. We have investigated the ARKLIB-L situation once it was brought to our attention by Loretta Edwards. We have also been investigating the possibilities of a blog and we have some software products to work with that comes with our web-hosted account. We have added the diversity statement to the main page as well as the new logo to all of our template-based pages. Thanks to April Sheppard for maintaining the ArLA Website in my absence while I was on vacation.

Unfinished Business: Task force on ArLA strategic (six-year) plan--still working on--although some have been completed. New deadline is the August board meeting.

New Business: ARKLIB listserv--already taken care of.

Scholarship guidelines--already taken care of.

SELA joint conference with ArLA in 2010--SELA has asked us if we would like to joint host the 2010 conference here in Arkansas. It was decided to let Barbara do some research

on the matter from the last joint conference with SELA as far as money commitment, contracts, out and out commitments. Will talk to the 2 states that hosted the last 2 joint conferences as far as what went right, what went wrong, artistic control, commitments, etc.

Art moved and Ashled seconded to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.