

**Arkansas Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
Leadership Exchange
Laman Library
Dec. 7, 2007**

Those present were: Ashley Burris, President; Debbie Hall, Vice-President/President-elect; Diane Hughes, Past President; Jamie Melson, Secretary/Treasurer; Jim Robb, Two Year College Roundtable Chair; Britt Anne Murphy, Arkansas Libraries Associate Editor; Kathie Buckman, College and University Division Chair; Kaye Talley, Awards Committee Chair; Dwain Gordon, SELA Representative; Ramona Abernathy, AASL Division Chair; Barbie James, Constitution Committee Chair; Michael Strickland; Erin Waller; Karin Medin; Judy Casey; Jeanna Cook; Karen Russ, Centennial Planning Committee Chair; Jerrie Townsend; Carol Hanan; Bettye Kerns, Intellectual Freedom Committee Chair; Sarah Ziegenbein, Government Documents Roundtable Chair; Kristie Boucher, Public Libraries Division Chair; Kay Bland, Conference Committee Chair; Lynaire Hartsell, ALPS Division Chair; Ron Russ, Webmaster; and Barbara Martin, Executive Administrator.

President Ashley Burris opened the meeting at 10:05. The minutes were handed out and everyone was given time to read through them. Motion to correct was made by Diane Hughes with a second by Jim Robb. Motion passed.

President Burris made some remarks in regards to her term as Association president. "I would like to thank the board for the opportunity to serve you as president this year. It has been a pleasure to work with such a wonderful group of individuals, all dedicated to their libraries. While I don't feel that I've accomplished much over this past year, I do feel that you have. Every position was filled, at one point or another, and everyone did their part so that we had a successful ArLA conference, as well as division conferences, providing continuing education for all our members. Much needed constitution changes were adopted and website upgrades/improvements were made. The opportunity to get to know each of you better and realize the extent to which we are all committed to the same goal has been wonderful. Thank you."

ALA Councilor---Ellen Johnson: Plans are in full swing for ALA's Midwinter Meeting to be held in Philadelphia, PA on January 11-16.

SELA Representative---Dwain Gordon: Southeastern Library Association (SELA) joint conference with the Kentucky Library Association and the Association of Research Libraries National Diversity in Libraries Conference will be held October 1-4, 2008.

Hotel information is:

The Louisville Marriott Downtown
280 West Jefferson

Louisville, Kentucky 40202

Phone 1-502-627-5045

Call the hotel to get the discounted rate. If you try online, it will indicate that all of the rooms are booked.

\$90.00 per night (Kentucky Library Association rate)

Executive Administrator---Barbara Martin: Barbara reported that the conference did well. She then went over the conference expenses, see financial report that was handed out (included in the permanent files). We are carrying over approximately \$70,000 in our checking account into 2008. We are getting a new program for QuickBooks that is for non-profit organizations specifically. The 2008 membership forms will be mailed out in January but you can join online anytime. It would also be very helpful to pay your dues online whether by Paypal or online with check by mail.

AASL Division---Ramona Abernathy: Jana Dixon, chair-elect, has diligently been working on the 2008 summer conference. The theme this year is "Reading Safari". The conference will be held on Sunday, July 27 through Monday, July 28 at the Inn of the Ozarks in Eureka Springs. The conference fee for both days has been set at \$90.00. The conference fee for Monday only will be \$75.00.

On Sunday, there will be sessions and dinner with a guest speaker (TBD). Monday will include sessions and a luncheon with our keynote speaker, Roland Smith. Roland Smith is an author.

Hotel rooms are being held at the Best Western Inn of the Ozarks in Eureka Springs. Information about the conference, along with the registration form, were emailed to Ron Russ earlier this week for placement on the website.

Diane Hughes and Sherry Asbell will be representing ArLA at the Seventy-First Annual Professional Day for the Catholic Schools of Arkansas on Friday, March 7, 2008 in Little Rock. There are about 31 librarians in these schools that we would like to provide information about ArLA. The booth is free.

(AASL's budget request was included with this report and has been placed in the permanent file.)

ALPS Division---Lynaire Hartsell:

Goal for 2008:

Continue increasing our membership

Accomplishments in 2007:

Have increased our membership through the efforts of our 9 Regional Representatives
Held ALPS Conference in May in Little Rock; had about 125 attendees

Revised Division Bylaws; passed revisions at ALPS Business Meeting 9/9/07
Sponsored a session on paraprofessional certification for the ArLA Conference; it was well attended
Provided a basket for the Basket Auction at the ArLA Conference
Held InfoBits mini-conference in Malvern in November, with sessions on networking, leadership, and reference; had about 35 attendees

2008 Officers:

Chair - Lynaire Hartsell (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville)
Past Chair - Brenda Van Dusen (National Park Community College, Hot Springs)
Chair-Elect - Kim Hillison (Garland County Public Library, Hot Springs)
Secretary - Melanie Allen (Crawford County Library System, Van Buren)
Treasurer - Elaine Contant (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville)

Ongoing project:

Work on the ALPS Policies & Procedures Manual

2008 ALPS Conference will be May 12-14 at Mt. Magazine State Park

College & University Libraries Division---Kathie Buckman: no report

Public Libraries Division---Kristie Boucher: Coordinate with AAPL to offer a DISC workshop; look into other “middle management” leadership workshops for assistant directors, circulation management, etc. Would like to budget \$500-\$1,000 for a workshop. Need help with this one. I have contacted two companies that do Myers-Briggs and various other ½ day leadership workshops. Heard back from one company, WAY out of monetary reality for us, around \$5,000. Still waiting as of Dec. 6th to hear back from the other company which is local out of Fayetteville. If anyone knows someone who is cheaper and has done this before, let me know.

Reference Services Division---Ron Russ reporting as Vice Chair: Ron mentioned that they did vote at the fall conference to enlarge their focus to include And Instruction to their name. This will probably be voted on at the next general session vote at the next fall conference. This is to hopefully attract more people to this division.

Resources & Technical Services Division---Myron Flugstad: The Division sponsored a presentation at the fall Arkansas Library Association Conference on:

Fighting Cyberpirates and Winning: Securing EZProxy Using PHP, EML, the Voyager Patron Databases and Active Directory by Tracy Farmer of Arkansas State University-Jonesboro.

In my absence, Linda Creibaum of ASUJ conducted the business meeting at the conference. At the business meeting, Tracy Farmer was elected as chair and Michael Klossner of the Arkansas State Library vice-chair for the coming year. Georgette Wiley

from the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff volunteered to help the division in any way that she could.

Special Libraries Division---Shawn Pierce: no report

Trustees---Regina Cortez: no report

Children's Services Roundtable---Sarah McClure: We'd like to request \$500 so that we could bring in a speaker who'd appeal to a wide variety of children's/youth librarians. We are focusing on someone from the NW Arkansas area and we have several ideas in mind so far. We would like this budget so that we can provide this program for the conference and draw attention to children's and youth services within the ArLA organization.

Government Documents Roundtable---Sarah Ziegenbein: no report

Information Technology Roundtable---Loretta Edwards: no report

New Members Roundtable---Diane Hughes: no report

Two Year Colleges Roundtable---Jim Robb: no report

Awards Committee---Kaye Talley: no report

Conference Committee---Kay Bland: 72 conference surveys were turned in. (A detailed report of those surveys will be in the permanent file. It is 3 ½ pages long.)

Constitution Committee---Barbie James: no report

Executive Committee---Ashley Burris: already reported

Finance Committee---Jamie Melson: financial report already given by Barbara Martin and thanked Barbara for the good work and hard work she has put into it.

Intellectual Freedom Committee---Bettye Kerns: Dealt with report of public library web site which had posted a list of "Cosy, Clean, Christian books". This list including "Christian" books does not follow AmLA's Labeling policy recommendations. I called the Director of the library and the list was taken down.

Had a challenge requesting that CALS remove a Menorah which they had with a display of holiday books. The challenger said that the Menorah was clearly a symbol of a religion and should be removed. The Christmas trees which were in the same area were not challenged as they are accepted as secular decorations as opposed to religious ones. This is being investigated by our staff attorney with the preliminary report that it is okay to display the Menorah. We are in the process of establishing guidelines as to what can

and can't be displayed and the contest that it is appropriate to include religious symbols in displays.

Legislative Committee---Dave Burdick: no report?

Membership Committee---Diane Hughes: According to our records, as of December 3rd, we have 547 ArLA members.

It is almost time to renew our annual memberships. As board members please set an example by paying your membership dues as soon as possible. Remember there are various ways to renew. You can fill out the membership form and send it in with a check. Or, you can renew online on the ArLA Website mailing in your check or by using Paypal. Either way, please log onto the Website and make sure your profile is up-to-date.

Nominating Committee---Debbie Hall: no report

Publications Committee---Dominique Hallett: no report

Public Relations Committee---Amanda Moore: no report --Footnote: Advertising in the journal was discussed, i.e. how to attract advertisers, giving advertisers a break on conference vendor booths, etc.

Scholarship Committee---Leroy Gattin: no report?

Unfinished Business: President Ashley re-introduced the tabled motion of raising the institutional dues. More discussion ensued. Kathie Buckman will check other associations as to what they might charge institutions. Other ideas thrown out for 2008 to consider: possibly contacting an academic journalism department in the state and let them handle the publication of the journal. Another idea is handling advertising a bit differently and getting advertisers. This motion was left tabled.

The resolution of the Arkansas History Project that has been tabled since the August board meeting had taken care of itself.

New Business: Diane Hughes made a motion to move the interest, \$2,042.12, from the checking account in the scholarship account. A second was made by Lynaire Hartsell. Motion passed.

The Arkansas Genealogical Society is sponsoring a roadshow. GODORT would like to have a booth at the Roadshow being held in Little Rock, to promote the use of government documents in genealogical research. The cost is \$5.00 for a booth. Dwain Gordon made a motion and a second was made by Kristie Boucher. Motion passed.

Karen Russ recognized Sarah Ziegenbein for not only receiving the Distinguished Service Award at conference but the award announcement was also forwarded to the

government printing office. A picture of Karen and Ashley presenting the award to Sarah was on the homepage of the GPO for the next 3 weeks.

A sympathy card was sent around for everyone to sign for Sandy Olson in the loss of her son. A thank you card was also sent around that we received from one of the scholarship recipients.

Diane Hughes made a motion to adjourn. A second was made by Debbie Hall. Motion passed. This part of the Executive Board meeting was closed.

President Ashley Burris then handed off her gavel to Debbie Hall, President-elect. Debbie Hall then presented Ashley with her Past President plaque. All outgoing & incoming chairs then introduced themselves.

We broke for lunch which was provided for by the Association.

President Debbie Hall opened her part of the leadership exchange at 12:30. Barbara Martin handed out binder information to the new board members.

President Hall reminded everyone of their legal and fiscal responsibilities to the board especially when contracts are involved with hotels and/or speakers. Barbara should be the handler of **all** contracts. She spoke about the conference in 2008. She asked everyone their feelings about a board retreat for the February meeting. It was generally decided that a retreat would benefit everyone especially brand new board members. Other points that were discussed was a possible location for the 2009 ArLA conference and a location for an Executive Board retreat for the February meeting. DeGray Lake was chosen for the retreat location and Barbara will check to see if it's available and will email everyone.

Debbie also mentioned that the Scholarship Committee will be looking at holding a fundraiser this year. She also talked to everyone about the centennial of the Association coming up in 2011 and that Karen Russ has volunteered to chair the ad hoc committee for the centennial. Karen spoke about needing sponsors and funds for the next 3 years to help pay for this celebration.

President Hall thanked Judy Casey for taking on the responsibility of chairing the 2008 conference committee. Judy asked for everyone's help in putting it together especially in the academia and school library fields and help with vendors.

Debbie Hall also asked everyone to go through their manuals and look at their duties and responsibilities as chairs. It was also discussed about who can vote and who does not. Voting powers will be put on the agenda for the retreat. This would require a constitutional amendment to extend voting privileges to certain committees on the executive board. This has been discussed in years past and we will look in the archives as well as asking Barbie James what she remembers from this previous discussion. The question was asked about holding a leadership workshop as well.

Ron Russ told the new members about some of the features of the ArLA website and asked them to please fill out and return to him the forms that he had previously sent out via email.

Dwain Gordon then spoke to everyone about why the Association and even individuals belong to SELA, the Southeast Library Association. We have already committed to hosting the joint ArLA-SELA conference in 2010 in Little Rock.

Debbie Hall then thanked everyone and dismissed the leadership exchange at 1:30.