

**Arkansas Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
Embassy Suites, Hot Springs, AR
Sunday, Sept. 9, 2007**

Those present were: Ashley Burris, President; Diane Hughes, Past President; Jamie Melson, Secretary/Treasurer; Kristie Boucher, Public Libraries Div. Chair; Bettye Kerns, Intellectual Freedom Comm. Chair; Sarah Ziegenbein, Government Documents Roundtable Chair; Ellen Johnson, ALA Councilor; Lynaire Hartsell, ALPS Div. Chair; Ron Russ, Webmaster; Dwain Gordon, SELA Representative; Barbie James, Constitution Comm. Chair; Ramona Abernathy, AASL Div. Chair; Kay Bland, Conference Comm. Chair; Loretta Edwards, Information Technology Roundtable Chair; Jim Robb, Two Year Colleges Roundtable Chair; Jennifer Davis, Reference Services Div. Chair; Shawn Pierce, Special Libraries Div. Chair; Kathie Buckman, College & University Libraries Div. Chair; Kaye Talley, Awards Comm. Chair; Barbara Martin, Executive Administrator; and Elaine Contant, ALPS treasurer; *and Debbie Hall, Vice-President/President-elect.*

The meeting was opened at 10:05 a.m. by President Ashley Burris. The minutes from the last meeting were handed out to everyone present to read over. With a few corrections, Diane Hughes moved with a second from Jim Robb the accept the minutes as corrected. Motion passed.

President's Report – Ashley Burris

No report except a reminder about the “outside” ArLA accounts for IRS purposes. These need to be reported to ArLA so they can be covered.

SELA Report – Dwain Gordon

No report

ALA Councilor – Ellen Johnson

1. Introduction of ALA's ilovelibraries.org (designed primarily for members of general public)
2. Invitation to visit the ALA/SELA table in the conference exhibits

She and Dwain Gordon will also have SELA and ALA ribbons available at their exhibit table.

Executive Administrator – Barbara Martin

Current balance is \$91,000 in the checking account. She then handed out the financial report.

AASL Division – Ramona Abernathy

Bound to Stay Bound has very generously provided two grants of \$750 each to two Arkansas school librarians. These grants are to send the recipients, which have never attended before, to the 2007 American Association of School Librarians National Conference and Exhibition in Reno, Nevada. The conference is to be held October 25-28, 2007. The two recipients are Eden Buegler from the Fort Smith School District and Donna Stobaugh from the Pottsville School District. The grant check for \$1500 was received by Ramona Abernathy the last week of August. The check will be given to Barbara Martin for deposit.

Ramona Abernathy has contacted Mr. Mike Brady, Bound to Stay Bound representative, on several occasions to express the organization's appreciation and gratitude for the two grants. Both recipients are very excited to be attending the conference for the first time.

ALPS Division – Lynaire Hartsell

We are sponsoring a session at conference and have brought a basket. We also had a resignation from one of the ALPS Executive Council are representatives, Betty Martin.

College & University Division – Kathie Buckman

We are sponsoring 2 sessions and have brought a basket.

Public Library Division – Kristie Boucher

I've submitted a basket on behalf of the Public Libraries Division to be auctioned off at the ArLA conference.

Public Libraries (including Trustees) will have their Business meeting on Monday at 4:30 and will elect new officers.

I will be hosting two Sunrise Seminars at Conference for all interested individuals, regardless of library type.

Public Library Division will go to the Porterhouse on Sunday night for the Dine-Around. I am the "no-host" host for this.

Reference Services Division – Jennifer Davis

Sponsoring 2 sessions and brought a basket.

Resources & Technical Services Division – Myron Flugstad

No report.

Special Libraries Division – Shawn Pierce

Sponsoring a session, Speed Mentoring and Networking, and brought a basket.

Trustees Division – Regina Cortez

No report

Children's Services Roundtable – Sarah McClure

No report

Government Documents Roundtable – Sarah Ziegenbein

Brought a basket, sponsoring two sessions at conference.

New Members Roundtable – Diane Hughes

We will have a New Members session this afternoon at conference. It will be at 12:45 in the Embassy Suites Hotel, Salon A. Board members, if possible, please drop by to be introduced to our new members and to meet them.

The Chocolate Reception, tonight from 8:00 to 9:30 in the Embassy Suites Hotel Foyer, is a meet and greet event for everyone but especially a time to welcome our new members.

According to our records, we have had 64 new members join ArLA this year.

Two Year Colleges Roundtable – Jim Robb

Brought a basket

Awards Committee – Kaye Talley

Recipients have been selected for the following awards: Arkansiana Award (2), Ann Lightsey Children's Librarian Award, Bessie B. Moore Trustee Award, Distinguished Service Award, Frances P. Neal Award, Lorrie Shuff Paraprofessional Award, Retta Patrick Award, and the Suzanne Spurrier Academic Librarian Award

Presentation of the awards will be made at the Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2007.

Conference Committee – Kay Bland

In a month we will be going to the SPA CITY of Hot Springs to showcase the diamonds in our libraries. Please note that the **PRE CONFERENCE HAS BEEN CANCELLED.**

If you arrive in Hot Springs on September 8, you may want to visit the Garvan Gardens.

<http://www.garvangardens.org/> You may also wish to take an onsite tour of the Southern Living Home. See virtual tour at:

http://www.southernliving.com/southern/homes/house_plans/house_plans_article/article/0,28012,1641381,00.html?cid=idea_houses|arkansas|200708

The ARLA Website has a link to the Embassy Suites Hotel right next door to the Hot Springs Convention Center. When you look at the map of the convention center, you should note where Exhibit Hall D is located. Two of the meeting rooms are on the first floor but most are on the second floor. There is an elevator. The Registration Desk will be located at the foot of the stairs early on Monday. For a view of the HSCC, go to

http://www.hotsprings.org/convention_meeting_planner/convention_center/

Be sure to make time for the wonderful, moving photographic exhibit of scenes from the Civil War to the War in Iraq which is on display in the convention center.

http://www.hotsprings.org/media_room/news-detail.asp?news_id=46

This historic exhibit will compliment the Arkansas History Track which has been developed for this conference. The ARLA Conference is scheduled just a few weeks ahead of the 50th Anniversary of the Crisis at Central High. Again, all eyes will be on our state. These sessions are intended to help our members be informed about that activity and about the rich history to be learned about our families and community members. The Association is in the approval process whereby the Arkansas Department of Education will give professional development credit to our members who need it for these and other session of the conference. The County Historical Societies have been invited to participate in this conference. Social Studies teachers could be invited as well.

Staying Connected

The conference hotel and convention facility provide spaces for conversation and networking opportunities. WI-FI is available for connectivity “back home” in both locations for a small fee (less than \$10.00 for 24 hours). So, bring your laptop if you need or want to stay connected.

Constitution Committee – Barbie James

No report except for the voting. The ballot box will be on the registration table.

Executive Committee -- Ashley Burriss

No report

Finance Committee – Jamie Melson

Deferred to Barbara Martin's previous report but reminded everyone that budget requests needed to be turned in.

Intellectual Freedom Committee – Bettye Kerns

Continued to monitor for materials challenges within the state. None have been reported.

Legislative Committee – Dave Burdick

In July it came to my attention that the Governor's office wanted a Librarian to apply to be on the newly created Broadband Advisory Council. At the urging of a few, and the blessing of others, I did apply. In August I was appointed by Governor Beebe to the Council.

Act 604 of the recent Legislative Session allows for the following three things:

The Arkansas Capitol Corporation may form a nonprofit corporation named "Connect Arkansas"; the Creation of the Arkansas Broadband Advisory Council; and to allow "Connect Arkansas" to collect information from service providers about where Broadband Services are available, the type of Broadband, and to map it out so it can be determined where Broadband is not available.

Essentially the council is to "Provide an annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly; and provide a final report to the Governor and the General Assembly through the year ending December 31, 2011." In this advisory capacity, I hope to push for a broadband network which connects Public Libraries, Schools, Colleges and Universities, including true distance educational opportunities.

On the federal level, Senator Pryor decided to hold a "Senate Commerce Committee field hearing." State Librarian Carolyn Ashcraft asked if I would testify at this field hearing, which I did on Tuesday, August 28th, at CALS Main Library. For the first time in History, two FCC commissioners were in Arkansas to hold an informational hearing to find out what Arkansas' needs are as it pertains to Broadband Services. I took this opportunity to inform the commissioners that we have public libraries in Arkansas which get the Internet through dial-up, 56K, DSL

or Cable TV services, and that this is just not adequate. I urged that any solution in bringing Broadband to all Arkansans needs to include Public Libraries, and that we need to consider a fiber optic or long-distance Ethernet Network to bring all of our Public Libraries and learning institutions together.

Membership Committee – Diane Hughes

According to our records, as of September 9th we have 540 ArLA members.

There are some discrepancies with the online membership list and Barbara and I are addressing those. Barbara keeps a separate database of members and that is the accurate list we are using for numbers.

Loretta Edwards also asked everyone that can to please put your email address in the online profile.

Nominating Committee – Debbie Hall

Jerrie Townsend from PCCUA is running for Vice-President/President-Elect.

Publications Committee -- Dominique Hallett

Public Relations Committee – Amanda Moore

No report

Scholarship Committee – Leroy Gattin

No report

Arkansas Libraries

Managing Editor – Dominique Hallett, acting editor

No report

Associate Editor – Britt Murphy

No report

Webmaster – Ron Russ

April Sheppard added information about the Annual Conference to the website including conference schedules, hotel information, forms, and basket information. We will add pictures and other post-conference information when provided. Ron

Russ coauthored an article for Arkansas Libraries regarding the ten-year anniversary of the website (a corresponding webpage was added to commemorate the event).

Archives – Bob Razer

No report

Unfinished Business

None

New Business –

The idea of raising the institutional journal subscription price from \$75 to \$125 was brought to the board. Jim Robb moved, Debbie Hall seconded the increase. Some discussion ensued. Barbara is going to check on an outsource for editing and advertising. This motion has been tabled until the October meeting. Debbie Hall moved and Kristie Boucher seconded to table this issue until October.

Having no further business, Jamie Melson moved and Diane Hughes seconded to adjourn the meeting.