

From the President

Plummer Alston 'Al' Jones, Jr., President

Milestones in North Carolina Librarianship

North Carolina's libraries and librarians continue to make the news! Read on! In the May 2000 issue of *College and Research Libraries News*, it was announced that North Carolina State University Libraries received a \$4,000 gift from Ford Motor Company to pilot an internship program beginning in the fall of 2000. The libraries will select an NCSU engineering student to learn how information technology is applied to libraries and information systems. If the pilot program is successful, the libraries plan to expand it during the 2001-02 academic year.

The May 2000 issue of *American Libraries* included a three-page spread on the Public Library Association's 8th National Conference in Charlotte, March 28-April 1, 2000. Director Robert Cannon and the staff of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County (PLCMC) got some outstandingly positive PR with regard to expanding their staff of automation support coordinators from 1 to 25. North Carolina author and poet Robert Morgan presented one of over 100 programs available to over 7,500 participants. Be prepared! The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) will hold its national conference in Charlotte, April 8-15, 2003. I think that the word is out that Charlotte is an ideal site for national conferences!

In the May 2000 issue of *ALA News Releases*, the American Library Association (ALA) Committee on Accreditation announced that it has continued the accreditation of several graduate programs leading to the first professional degree in library and information studies. Our own School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) and the Department of Library and Information Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) were among those reaccredited. UNC-CH's program is scheduled for its next review in 2006, UNCG's in 2004.

SOLINET presented the Preservation and Electronic Information Award to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for *Documenting the American South* at the annual meeting in Atlanta on April 28 (*SOLINET Director's Tipsheet*, April-May 2000).

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) announced in the May 2000 issue of *ALA News* that Yolanda Foster Bolden of the Forsyth County Public Library (FCPL) has been appointed to an advisory committee to represent ALA units affected by the Between the Lions outreach campaign, a collaboration between ALSC and WGBH Educational Foundation. She will represent the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS). The FCPL was selected by the Advisory Committee of the ALA OLOS to present a poster session/table talk on diversity issues titled "People Discriminated Against Due to Race, Ethnicity or Language" at the 2000 Diversity Fair at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago.

The Southern Pines Public Library (SPPL)'s Junior Library Leaders Program was recognized for excellence in serving young adults by the ALA Young Adult Services Association (YALSA) as part of a grant project funded by the Margaret A. Edwards Trust with support from Heckman Bindery, Inc. The SPPL was recognized at the YALSA awards luncheon at the ALA Conference in Chicago. ALA President Sarah Ann Long will present SPPL a plaque during Teen Read Week, October 15-21, 2000.

The Cameron Village Regional Library of Wake County has been selected as a site this fall for the second round of "From Rosie to Roosevelt: A Film History of Americans in World War II," a film and discussion series funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to National Video Resources (NVR) in partnership with the ALA Public Programs Office. The new program, "Post War Years, Cold War Fears," picks up the story where "From Rosie to Roosevelt" leaves off.

Two North Carolina public libraries, Sheppard Memorial Library of Greenville and the Forsyth County Public Library System, have been selected to host "The Great Experiment: George Washington and the American Republic," a traveling exhibition organized by the Huntington Library of San Marino, California, and the ALA Public Programs Office. The exhibitions will take place between September 2000 and September 2003. The Sheppard Memorial Library was also selected to host the "Go Figure!" traveling exhibition between September 2000 and December 2001, organized by the ALA Public Programs Office and Minne-

sota Children's Museum. "Go Figure!" is an interactive exhibition that brings the world of math and its everyday uses to children two to seven years old and their parents through children's literature. The project was developed in consultation with the ALA Association for Library Service to Children, with major funding from The National Science Foundation and additional support from Cargill and 3M.

Happy Birthday to *BookHive*! The Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County celebrated on June 1st the first birthday of its most popular Web site, *BookHive*, <www.bookhive.org>, that helps children, parents, and educators find the very best in children's literature. ALA selected it as "one of the best sites for children," an honor only 13 other sites received. Along with *BookHive*, children and other young at heart folks will enjoy PLCMC's award-winning Web site, *StoryPlace*, <www.storyplace.org>, an interactive, bilingual storytelling site for children. This summer ten thousand pre-schoolers in 228 Charlotte-area child care centers, most in at-risk neighborhoods, enjoyed reading 22,000 new children's books, the contribution of the PLCMC. The donation was made possible by a \$228,000 grant from Smart Start of Mecklenburg County.

The Libraries Build Sustainable Communities Project, a partnership between ALA and Global Learning, Inc., is highlighted in a twelve-page insert in the June/July 2000 issue of *American Libraries*. Two North Carolina librarians are on the Libraries Build Sustainable Communities Team. Steve Sumerford, Assistant Director of the Greensboro Public Library, serves as chair, and Judith Davie, Director of Library Media Services for the Guilford County Schools, is a member of the team.

The Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA) awarded Bin Li, a UNC-CH doctoral student, the 2000 Sheila S. Lai Scholarship, which was presented to her at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The Foreign Language Center of the Cumberland County Public Library and Information Center, where Bin Li was a former director, received the Leonard Wertheimer Award "for outstanding work that enhances and promotes multilingual and/or multicultural public library service," which was presented by the Public Library Association at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago.

The Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) award for Best of Show in the category of Internet was presented to the Sandhill Regional Library System of Rockingham at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago.

It is worth noting that the SOLINET Board of Directors and the OCLC Users Council include two North Carolina librarians on their rosters. Rhoda K. Channing (Wake Forest University) is the newly elected Chair of the SOLINET Board of Directors. Larry Alford (UNC-CH), who formerly served on the SOLINET Delegation to the OCLC Users Council, is now President-Elect of the OCLC Users Council and will serve as a member of the OCLC Strategic Directions and Governance Advisory Council. SOLINET gave its Year 2000 Outstanding Library Program Award for Continuing Education and Staff Development to the State Library's Master Trainer Program (MTP). Elaine Christian, who coordinates the MTP for the State Library, attended the awards ceremony at SOLINET's headquarters in Atlanta.

State Librarian Sandy Cooper and State Library Consultant Tracy Casorso were among the winners of the 1999 Frances Keppel Awards presented during the annual Federal State Cooperative Statistics Professional Development Conference March 28, 2000, in San Antonio, Texas. The Keppel Award is given for "submitting prompt, complete, and high-quality public library data."

The Lions International Foundation awarded the local District 31 G Lions Club a grant of \$10,641 to purchase a Braille computer and embosser which will be used at the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) of the State Library. Congratulations to Francine Martin and Gary Ray (LBPH) for putting together a successful grant application!

On May 23, 2000, the North Carolina Public Library Directors and their supporters participated in the annual Public Library Legislative Day activities to seek an increase in the state's Aid to Public Libraries Fund.

The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Advisory Committee members for 2000-2001 are Dale Gaddis (Durham County Public Library), Beverley Gass (Guilford County Technical Community College), Karen Gavigan (Rockingham County Schools), Kate Hickey (Elon College), Beth Mueller (Boone), Willie Nelms (Sheppard Memorial Library, Greenville), Karen Perry (Guilford County Public Schools), Jordan Scepaniski (Chair, Triangle Research Libraries Network), and Patricia Thibodeau (Duke University Medical Center). Thanks for your work on behalf of North Carolina libraries!

3M Library Systems, a leader in library security for nearly 30 years, announced the selection of 70 middle and high schools in the United States to receive a 3M Detection System for their library media centers through the "3M Salute to Schools" Program. North Carolina winners are River Road Middle School of Elizabeth City, Madison Middle School in Marshall, and Monroe Middle School in Monroe.

Keep up the good work you all are doing to bring national recognition to North Carolina libraries and to serve the informational and recreational needs of all North Carolinians!