From the President

1983 Conference: We “Stood Up For Libraries” in record numbers! The near final report is that around 1,500 librarians and friends of libraries gathered at the Biennial Conference in Winston-Salem for the three-day meeting. The enthusiasm was contagious, and the excellent programs were ones which seemed to fascinate, educate, illuminate, and/or entertain us all. Conferences do not “just happen.” Countless numbers of our members worked long hours and days so that it would be such a grand affair. The Conference Committee, Local Arrangements Committee, Exhibits Committee, standing committees, and sections of the association tried hard to make their parts on the program good ones — and they succeeded. Special thanks go to Robert Burgin and all of the staff of the Forsyth County Public Library for being our hosts during the conference and at the reception. They are tops! And to all who attended, thanks for making this the best conference ever.

Next Conference: Friday afternoon, at the close of this conference, the first meeting was held to begin the planning for the 1985 conference which will be held in Raleigh, October 1-5. Pauline Myrick, vice-president/president-elect, is in charge of this one. Give her your suggestions, your encouragement, and your time to make this an even better conference than in 1983.

Executive Board Meeting: The first meeting of the new executive board was held on Friday night following the close of the conference. You have elected an outstanding group of leaders for the biennium, and they are all looking forward to working for your association. In every issue of this journal, you will find the names and addresses of the members of the board. Communicate with them about your concerns and suggestions for NCLA. Our board meetings for 1984 have already been set: January 20, State Library, Raleigh; April 13-14, Spring Workshop, Greensboro College Library; July 20, High Point Public Library; and October 12, Richard H. Thornton Library, Oxford. Members wanting to have items brought before the board should make note of those dates so that we can assist you in any way possible.

Committees: Section leadership changes at the end of the biennial conference. Committee membership and leadership changes at the Spring Workshop following the conference. A large number of our members responded to the request indicating interest in belonging to committees, which is a very positive sign. Notice of these appointments will go out around the first of the year so that there will be ample time for planning prior to the organizational meeting at the Spring Workshop.

Special Thanks: For the past two years NCLA has had at its helm a very organized, enthusiastic, tenacious, and gracious lady, Mrs. Merty W. Bell. Never has a president approached her work with more enthusiasm for her job in the association and with more genuine love of people. We are indebted to her and send special thanks.

Leland M. Park, President
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