



stand up for libraries

NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

From the President

Executive Board: The first meeting of the new executive board was held January 20, meeting in the State Library in Raleigh. It seemed most appropriate that our first meeting was in Raleigh and at the State Library, since our ties historically, politically, and economically have been linked there in such substantive ways. We were grateful that Mrs. Sara Hodgkins, secretary of Cultural Resources, joined us for part of the meeting, indicating her support of libraries and our association. You will see the minutes of the meeting and the reports of the sections elsewhere in this issue. Do read them, for they show what an active and alive association NCLA really is. The spirit of the new board is a fine one: enthusiastic, cooperative, and full of good ideas. We're off to an exciting start.

Awards: Two awards recently have honored some of our own. The North Carolina Association of School Librarians (Dr. Judie Davie, chairman) received the 1984 Grolier Foundation Award, which includes a \$1,000 prize. The award is for an unusual contribution to the stimulation and guidance of reading by children and young people. Also, Dr. Gene D. Lanier, chairman of the Intellectual Freedom Committee and professor of Library Science at East Carolina University, has won the 1984 John Phillip Immroth Memorial Award. This award honors intellectual freedom fighters who have made notable contributions to intellectual freedom and have demonstrated remarkable courage. The citation and a check for \$500 will be presented at ALA in Dallas, June 24. NCLA salutes the recipients of both awards.

Legislative Day: April 10 is the day librarians from all over the country descend on Washington, D.C., to spread the library gospel to our legislators. Louise Boone and the Governmental Relations Committee are once again organizing a delegation from the Tar Heel State. Democracy in action is certainly the best way to describe this particular day, and the results in recent years have been truly remarkable. Education is our game, whether it be with patrons or legislators.

NCLA Is Big Time: Recent charts supplied by the ALA headquarters report on the membership size of state library associations. According to this report, NCLA is the sixth largest state library association in the United States. (Those ahead of us are Illinois, California, New York, Oklahoma, and Tennessee).

Politicians: The season is theirs, no doubt about it. And the time is ours; there is no doubt about that either. NCLA's Governmental Relations Committee and other library groups in the state are preparing to question the candidates regarding their ideas for bettering library service in North Carolina. Whenever you have the opportunity to "meet the candidates," you do the same thing. Let them know that librarians care about library services . . . and what *they* think about the same thing.

NCLA Future: A special committee, the NCLA Futures Committee, has been appointed. Chaired by Arabelle S. Fedora of Winston-Salem, the committee is charged with looking carefully at all aspects of our association, making suggestions for changes and improvements and guidance as we head into the last part of this century. You will be hearing about the committee. Please let the committee hear from you, too. Address: Ms. Arabelle S. Fedora, c/o Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools, P. O. Box 2513, Winston-Salem, NC 27103.

Governor's Commission: NCLA was invited to appoint members to the Advisory Council on the Governor's Commission on Education for Economic Development. Mertys Bell, immediate past president, and Pauline Myrick, president-elect, are our representatives. The role of libraries in education and in economic development in our state is a solid one, and we appreciate the opportunity to have these two outstanding library leaders represent us. At the public hearing in Greensboro in February, Dr. Judie Davie also presented a statement on behalf of NCLA. The final report is to be issued April 5. Be on the lookout for it. This could have a major impact on us all.

Leland M. Park, President



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