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# Libraries . . . Spread the News

NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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## From the President

The January NCLA Executive Board meeting at the South Central Regional Education Center in Carthage, with regional consultant Nelda Caddell as host, was one of our most impressive yet. The board authorized a new section—Library Administration and Management—and heard reports from both our new round tables—Special Collections and Paraprofessionals. The rest of the section and round table and committee reports were full of news of upcoming events and conference plans. President-elect Barbara Baker assured us that the biennial conference in Charlotte October 10-13, "Designing for the Nineties," will be the best ever.

It was a meeting that demonstrated the substance of what NCLA as an organization is doing, which made me proud of us as a group. I was even more pleased that we had representatives from so many other library groups at the meeting: Gorda Singletary, president, Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries; Ed Sheary, president, North Carolina Public Library Directors Association; Edward T. Waller, president, North Carolina Chapter of the Special Libraries Association; Carol Lewis, from the Department of Public Instruction; and Jane Williams, director, Division of State Library.

Jane has been a faithful guest at NCLA executive board meetings, and her departure from her position and from the North Carolina library world will leave a void. Under her too-brief leadership, the State Library moved briskly into new areas, in a two-year era of change that I would bet is unmatched in the history of the State Library. However, what I personally have appreciated most about Jane is her thoughtful consideration of any library issue brought to her. She is one of our best and our brightest, and she will be missed.

Two other individuals at the January meeting who perform in often unsung positions deserve special note: Doris Anne Bradley and Rebecca Taylor. Doris Anne, from UNCC, is our parliamentarian. Parliamentarians tend to be invisible until you need one; but when you need one,

nobody else will do. We have absolute confidence in Doris Anne's rulings. If she says we are on the right track, we are (and thank heavens, usually she rules in the affirmative). Her other assignment is chair of the Constitution, Codes and Handbook Committee. By the end of the biennium, that committee will have completely revised the Handbook, which will ensure that NCLA stays on course procedurally. Thank you, Doris Anne.

Rebecca Taylor, New Hanover County Public Library, is chair of the Finance Committee, another hard-working group. I contend that nobody has been busier with NCLA duties this biennium (except, of course, Treasurer Nancy Fogarty, whose work for NCLA should entitle her to library sainthood), and no one has done a huge job more efficiently or as well. Beyond their day-to-day chores of developing a budget and spending guidelines, the Finance Committee has had to organize NCLA's special project grants program, doing everything from developing the goals of the program to writing detailed budget and financial reporting forms. Rebecca's leadership has made the process run deceptively smoothly, because she works the kinks out before they become stumbling blocks. Thank you, Rebecca.

These individuals represent the contributions being made daily by others throughout NCLA with the ultimate goal of providing the best possible library service in every type of library in North Carolina. Thank you—everybody.

*Patsy J. Hansel, President*

