

From the Pen of the Editor

Ralph Scott

The Special Collections Round Table presented an important program at the 2007 North Carolina Library Association Conference in Hickory. The two-part presentation showcased local and national efforts at capturing the oral histories of the remaining World War II veterans. Additional programs are being developed to record the stories of veterans of later wars. Local efforts, started by Kevin Cherry in Salisbury, are now moving forward on a number of fronts. Researchers in New Hanover County have constructed an online audio archive of World War II veterans from their area. The North Carolina State Archive's Sion Harrington, in Raleigh, is spearheading an initiative to assist local North Carolinians with capturing this vital part of our past. The Library of Congress in Washington, working through the Veterans Administration, is also conducting a number of projects to record World War II and later veterans' stories. Now is the time to act to capture this important part of our past. Scores of World War II and later veterans are currently dying without a record of their story. The theme of the 2007 North Carolina Library Association Conference was "Telling Our Story." (The theme was interestingly also suggested by Kevin Cherry.) Let's all get together and work toward capturing the stories of the remaining World War II and later veterans currently living in North Carolina.

On another note, North Carolina librarians are losing a well-respected librarian to the Feds. Kevin Cherry is moving to Washington to head the Library and Museum section of the Library of Congress. *North Carolina Libraries* wishes him well, and he will be missed in his native state. Hopefully we will see him back before too long.

The NCLA Endowment

The North Carolina Library Association Endowment serves the libraries of North Carolina through support for the activities of the North Carolina Library Association. The Endowment provides money for programs, services, and public awareness efforts that cannot be supported by the NCLA operating budget alone.

The Barbara L. Beebe Memorial Fund for Leadership Development within the NCLA Endowment helps to support the NCLA Leadership Institute, developing new leaders for the North Carolina libraries of tomorrow. Barbara Beebe (1967-2006) was a librarian at Methodist College in Fayetteville, NC from 1999-2006, resigning to enter the Ph.D. program in the School of Information & Library Science of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Barbara was an alumna of the NCLA Leadership Institute (2005) and was serving as chair of the Leadership Committee at the time of her death.

At the close of the Biennial Conference in Hickory, we are delighted to report that the Endowment has passed the \$50,000 mark. The growth of the Endowment is due in large part to the faithful giving of our members and friends over time, and to the generosity of our Endowment Dinner sponsors at the 2007 Biennial Conference: WebFeat, Solinet, and EbzB Productions (Serena Ebhardt and David zum Brunnen).

Contributions to the NCLA Endowment are a wonderful way to honor a colleague or remember a friend. To join us in support of the NCLA Endowment, see the Endowment web page at: <http://www.nclaonline.org/endowment/index.html> or contact the NCLA office.

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