NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

SECTION AND ROUND TABLE BIENNIAL REPORTS

Editor's Note: Space constraints have forced the editing of some reports. Unabridged versions will be housed in the NCLA Archives.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

I will begin this report by saying THANK YOU to members of the Archives Committee. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

This has been an exciting two years. The committee began its term with a study of the NCLA Retention schedule and a visit from Mr. James Sorrell, an archivist at the State Archives. Mr. Sorrell instructed the committee on the best ways to preserve the various types of materials it receives. Armed with preservation information and the retention schedule, the committee plunged forward.

When the committee began work in 1998, there existed a backlog of materials dating back to the early 1980s. The Archives Committee worked diligently to reduce this backlog and as of September 1999, materials yet to be processed now date in the '90s. It is hoped that in another two years all processing will be brought current. In order to accomplish this, the committee recommends continuing a monthly work schedule. Although much has been accomplished, there is still much work to be done.

The NCLA Archives will probably be relocated in the year 2000. Currently, file cabinets and some boxes have been moved into the NCLA Administrative Assistant's area, in the basement of the State Library of North Carolina. Other NCLA Archive materials remain on carts, for lack of shelving space. At present, however, it is uncertain if these materials will remain in the basement at the State Library or if they will be moved to another location.

The committee would like to remind you to review the retention schedule regarding the disposition of records. Please remember to label photographs and newspaper articles. Also separate any newspaper articles and photographs from regular archival correspondence. Send your *predecessor's* records to the following address:

Carrie Nichols Carlyle Campbell Library Meredith College 3800 Hillsborough St. Raleigh, NC 27607

The records created during your term should be passed to your successor.

— Carrie Nichols

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SECTION

The Children's Services Section has had a very productive couple of years, full of fun, feasting and fellowship. In the course of the two years, Margaret Miles had to step down as membership chair, and Hannah Owen stepped into the position, Frances Lampley unexpectedly had to take over as chair of NCLPA, and so Sue Mellott took over as the liaison to CSS for her, and Trilby Meeks had to resign as CSS Director due to a change in job status.

One of our aims for the biennium has been toward reaching a better understanding of our CSS finances, to be achieved by depending on the NCLA Treasurer to be more accurate and regular with providing section financial reports back to the CSS Secretary/ Treasurer. In this, we have been pleased to note major improvements in the accounting practices of NCLA, and the responsiveness of Diane Kester to our requests for reports, and clarification of those reports. Unfortunately, we were told at the beginning of the biennium that we could have monthly financial updates mailed to our Treasurer, and this did not occur, but it was, perhaps, too much to expect. We will hope that the next years will see continued improvements in financial accountability.

The Children's Services Section has been presenting a mini-conference/retreat on Youth Services issues in the NCLA conference off-years, and the pattern was happily continued this biennium. In October1998, we used our favorite retreat location — the Brown Summit Conference Center — as the site for "Reading Renaissance: Rediscover the Book." The retreat was very well attended, and extremely well received, with relaxation as well as reading issues the order of the day. Jim Rosinia spoke on the topic of "Young Adult Ages and Stages," Ron Jones and a cadre of YA specialists discussed YA booktalk programs, Susan Land facilitated a mock Newbery Award meeting, Denise Palas covered "Preschool Emergent Literacy," and Dr. Dudley Shearborn brought the participants to laughter and tears as she demonstrated "Leading Book discussions with Youth," and provided the finest finale that a conference ever had.

Mel Burton and Beth Hutchison were the Guest Editors of the Children's Services, Winter 1998, issue of *North Carolina Libraries*. Well-written articles covered youth services topics from Smart Start to storytelling approaches to the Hispanic Community; from the "Image" of YS librarians to library kids in Cyberspace. A future edition of interest to children's librarians, suggested by Mel Burton, will be on the topic of Storytelling.

An area of ongoing concern for CSS during the biennium has been management, communication, and procedures for the North Carolina Children's Book Award, which is co-sponsored by NCASL. While we recognize that most of the effort in the development and voting phases of this annual event falls upon the school librarians, we would like to feel more connected to the process as was intended when the NCCBA was first instituted, almost 10 years ago. CSS has asked Jenny Barrett to continue serving as the co-chair for the NCCBA, and has created this as a standing committee appointment to the CSS board. We hope that with increased efforts a better understanding of the past, present, and future of the award can be reached in the new biennium.

Finally, we are happy to be presenting the CSS Author Breakfast again at the 1999 Biennial Conference in Winston-Salem, co-sponsored by NCLPA. This year's guest speaker is Johanna Hurwitz, author of over 50 children's books, most recently *Llama in the Library* and *The Just Desserts Club*. Ron Jones will be presenting a program called "Mother Goose Asks Why?" concerning this National Family Literacy Program, and Irania Patterson will round out the CSS sponsored workshops with her expert presentation about "Serving Spanish-Speaking Patrons" in the library. It will be a wonderful end to a fascinating two years.

— Susan Adams

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SECTION

The College and University Section presented a non-conference year workshop entitled "Fulfilling the Promise of the Millennium, Purposes, Perspectives, Possibilities," keynoted by Benjamin Speller. The program for the Biennial Conference was "Copyright in the Digital Age" with Laura Gassaway.

The section spent a great deal of time exploring the possibilities of merging with the Community and Junior College Section. Changes were proposed to the bylaws to allow the Community and Junior College section to join the College and University Section as an interest group as well as members.

Changes in leadership occurred as Clarence Toomer (UNCP) resigned as chair. Vice-Chair, Shirley Gregory (Barton) took over as Chair and Bobby Wynn was elected Vice- Chair. A new slate of officers for the 1999-2001 biennium was presented to the fall conference to include:

Chairman: Bobby Wynn, Director of Libraries, Fayetteville State University

Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Jim Carmichael, UNCG, Professor of Library and Information Studies

Secretary/Treasurer: Peggy Markham, NC A&T, Collection Development Librarian

Director: Robert Dalton, Humanities and Reference Librarian, UNC Davis Library

Director: Rodney Lippard, Technical Services Librarian, Catawba College Library

Past Chair: Shirley Gregory, Library Director, Barton College

Clarence Toomer

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The role of the Continuing Education Committee, guiding principles, and strategies for effective and cost-efficient continuing programming for library and information personnel are the results of both face-to-face committee meeting and electronic interaction. This report represents the consensus of the committee members, NCLA Executive Board, and major CE providers in the state. The chair acknowledges, with appreciation, the time and effort during the last one and a half years all who made this report possible.

The Role of the Continuing Education Committee

The Continuing Education Committee provides advice to the North Carolina Library Association's executive board, sections, round tables, and committees on policies and procedures for continuing education and professional development of members. "Development of Libraries and Library Personnel for a Multidimensional Global Society" is the theme for six major contextual and functional categories for continuing education activities. These categories are: strategic issues and trends; reframing through effective management and analysis; concepts, principles, and developments in organization of information; information services and collection development; and research expertise. Guiding Principles and Strategies

As proactive responses to issues relating to resource development, duplication of effort, and communications, the following principles and strategies will guide the initial stage in building a statewide planning and implementation network of CE providers:

Principles

- NCLA will take a collaborative statewide approach in providing an administrative and technological infrastructure for delivery of continuing education.
- Continuing education offerings will be developed based on need assessments, feedback on CE activities/experiences, and shared information.
- Where the need for multiple CE offerings are shown to exist, providers will be encouraged to offer programs in competition with each other. However, enrollment in these activities will be monitored to ensure that all programs continue to be needed. .
- Inter-organizational programs will be developed in instances where multiple sections/round tables wish to offer CE activities on the same topic(s), and the need is not great enough to justify mounting more than one program. For shared programs, common pricing for the activity will be the rule.
- In functional and operational areas that are critical to effective statewide information access, certifications of completion programs will be developed as an accountability mechanism for competencies gained through CE.

Strategies

- A Web-based and printed needs assessment form will be used for program planning and evaluations, feedback on CE activities/experiences, and sharing of information.
- A Web-based and printed statewide listing of CE activities and events will be developed and distributed. The Web-based listing will be placed on the NCLA, State Library of North Carolina, and the University of North Carolina Web pages.
- A statewide member/customer database will be designed and developed for communication and financial management purposes.
- A speaker's list will be developed and maintained in print and electronic formats.

An implementation plan is now under development that includes seeking resources and volunteers to implement the strategies in a timely manner.

— by Benjamin F. Speller Jr.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The NCLA Development Committee was established in 1998. Its first actions created the Endowment for the North Carolina Library Association, and initially funded it with a \$10,000 gift from NCLA. The initial intent of the endowment is to raise a principal sufficient to generate enough income to cover the cost of one issue per year of North Carolina Libraries.

The committee negotiated an agreement with the North Carolina Community Foundation (NCCF) to manage the endowment. Gifts to the endowment become the property of NCCF; NCCF returns five percent of the fund value annually, charges a one percent fee, and reinvests the remaining portion. NCCF reports regularly to the NCLA treasurer on the fund's progress.

The Endowment for the North Carolina Library Association also appears in all NCCF publicity, enabling donors outside NCLA to learn about the fund and contribute.

To promote the endowment within NCLA, the committee created and published an endowment brochure. The print run was 3,000; the brochure is being distributed in biennial conference registration packets. The Development Committee wishes to thank Al Jones and the Conference Committee for paying printing costs and distributing the brochures.

Donors can give to the endowment in many ways. Contributions of money and stocks can be made through NCLA or directly to NCCF. Donations of real estate, bequests, etc., can be made with the advice of NCCF. Gifts can be given by individual, organizational, or corporate donors, and can be given in memory or honor of a person or group.

In the event a gift is given as a memorial or in honor of a person or group, NCLA will acknowledge the gift as well as notify the person being honored or the family of the person being memorialized.

The Development Committee continues to seek sources of corporate and non-profit donations to the endowment.

The chair recommends that the committee have only one charge in the coming biennium: to raise money for the endowment.

- Ross A. Holt

DOCUMENTS SECTION

During the 1997-1999 Biennium the Documents Section continued its tradition of excellent programming and continuing education opportunities. The Documents Section Chair-Elect serves as the program chair with responsibilities for organizing the Spring and Fall workshops. Nancy Kolenbrander served in this capacity in 1998, and Mary Horton did so for 1999.

In the spring of 1998, the Section presented "The Old North State: State, County, and Local Information in North Carolina." Drawing on the expertise of librarians and state officials, the workshop was well attended. In the fall, the Section presented "Web vs. CD-ROM: Access to Electronic Information." In addition to presentations, the day included small group discussions to promote exchange of practices and coping mechanisms.

The Section's Spring workshop for 1999 was "Technical and Medical Literature on the Web." Presenters were North Carolina librarians Jean Porter on patents, Sandra Lovely on NTIS and DOE Information Bridge, and Clarissa C. Fisher on Pub Med and Grateful Med. The Fall workshop "Government Statistical Information on the Web: International, National, and State" is scheduled for September 22 from 3:30 – 4:45 p.m. North Carolina documents librarians Mary Ellen Spencer, Catherine Shreve, and Mary Horton will present Web resources.

The need to return \$5 for each workshop attendee to NCLA, as well as the requirement to assure an adequate price difference between NCLA members and non-members, required an increase in workshop fees. The Section is committed to continuing quality programming at recoverable costs.

The year 1998 saw the initial transition of our newsletter "The Docket" from a full print publication to a print/electronic publication. The publication is now available at http://metalab.unc.edu/reference/docs/ncladocs/pub.html. Marilyn Schuster and Mike Van Fossen have worked hard at making the publication as accessible and useful in electronic format as it is in print.

In 1998, members of the Documents Section lobbied hard for the passage of S.2288, "The Wendell H. Ford Government Publications Reform Act of 1998." While the act did not pass, responses from Washington

indicated that the message was getting through.

On September 21, 1999, the Documents Section presented a resolution to the NCLA Executive Board regarding Session Law 1999-237. This law directs selected state agencies to review their printing and publication requirements and develop a plan to reduce the cost of printing, publishing, and distributing agency information and materials by using computer technology and the Internet. The Documents Section has several concerns: 1) The Act does not provide for permanent archiving and retention of documents, 2) Certain essential publications should be published in paper format for ease of use and for historical purposes, 3) The Act does not provide for indexing and distribution of state agency publication in compliance with NCGS125-11.5 through 125-11.13. A copy of the resolution is attached to this report.

> — Ann E. Miller and Nancy Kolenbrander



Another libearian on his way to a conference presentation.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

During the 1997/1999 biennium, the Finance Committee addressed several issues aimed at keeping the North Carolina Library Association fiscally sound. With the largest percentage of the Assocition's revenue generated from membership dues, the Committee approached the issue of a declining membership from several angles. For the years 1999 and 2000, the Committee presented a budget more reflective of the impact of a declining membership base, steering away from attempts to balance the budget by inflating income from this and other sources. In each year, the budget developed called for the use, if necessary, of conference funds or reserves in order to balance expenses against income, with a clear warning that such means of balancing the Association's budget were only a short-term solution to projected financial shortfalls. And, for both FY 1999 and FY 2000, the Committee proposed the reinstatement of funding for Project Grants in an effort to provide funding for workshops and training important to the membership. In addition, the Committee endorsed two proposals aimed at making it financially more inviting to begin or continue membership.

Those proposals were: to increase the number of years full-time library science students could qualify for student membership; and, to implement the use of MasterCard and VISA for the payment of dues.

The Committee would like to commend the Association's Treasurer, Diane D. Kester for her efforts in streamlining and clarifying the budget presentation; in consolidating Association funds and, by doing so, improving the return on those funds; and, for dealing with a variety of other financial issues, including the return of state sales taxes to the Association. As Chair of the Committee, I would like to thank the Committee members for their hard work and valuable insight.

Catherine L. Wilkinson

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INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM COMMITTEE

Workshops, Programs, Lectures, and Related Activities

- Publicized NCLA Intellectual Freedom Committee members, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and listservs in various publications so NCLA members could contact them easily
- Presented 1997 NCLA/SIRS Intellectual Freedom Award to Susan Cannady, Grimsley High School Media Center, Greensboro, NC; IFC has chosen recipient for the 1999 award and will present it at the second general session of the 1999 biennial conference, September 23, 1999
- Co-sponsored Judith F. Krug as general session speaker at 1997 conference
- Maintained contact with IFC members online
- Investigated NC Senate Bill 452, regulating adult businesses
- Maintained close contact with ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom and Judith F. Krug and staff
- Wrote letters to the editor and op-ed pieces for state newspapers
- Investigated NC House Bill 1587 regarding mandated computer filters
- Gave advice and samples to multiple libraries on wording of Acceptable/Internet Use Policies
- Sent IFC budget proposal to NCLA Finance Committee
- Gave advice and samples to multiple libraries on selection policies
- Encouraged members to subscribe to NCLA-L and ALA/Office for Intellectual Freedom listservs
- Referred hundreds of librarians to documents posted on the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom Web pages
- Referred many librarians to Intellectual Freedom Manual and Newsletter on Intellectual Freedom
- Forwarded multiple documents/articles/samples by e-mail and regular mail to NCLA members
- Maintained chronological notebooks on challenges in NC
- Encouraged members to adopt written selection policies and Internet use policies
- Encouraged members to ensure privacy of library records
- Contacted US Congressmen and Congresswomen many times concerning legislation affecting access to information (copyright, technology, computers, Internet filters, e-rates, Internet Use Policies, online privacy)
- Informed membership on how to get addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses for our legislators at both the state and national levels
- Referred members and law officials to NC Confidentiality of Library Records law
- Reviewed AAUP report on academic freedom and computers and the ACLU white paper, Fahrenheit 451.2: Is Cyberspace Burning? How Rating and Blocking Proposals May Torch Free Speech on the Internet
- Referred members to ALA Statement on Professional Ethics
- Monitored proposed legislation in the NC General Assembly affecting librarians and access to information and maintained contact with sources working with General Assembly
- Lobbied against "Parental Rights and Child Protection" bill in NC General Assembly
- Lobbied against NC Senate Bill 907 which would put filters on all public computers; requested and received legal analysis of bill from ALA attorneys; distributed information to Senate Information Technology Committee who was considering bill; encouraged members to contact their senators
- Participated in Banned Books Week and Read Across America programs
- Investigated the announcement that State Information Processing Services (SIPS) would be offering a filtered option for Internet access; had multiple conversations and e-mails with James Broadwell, Director of State Communications, and staff; kept State Library of North Carolina and State Department of Public Instruction informed
- Briefed several county attorneys on First Amendment rights and access to information issues
- Monitored legislation from many states dealing with computer filters, e-rates, etc.
- Followed up on NC House Bill 834 and interpretations dealing with sex/ health education materials when a media director directed all school media specialists in the administrative unit to pull all materials identified in the bill and send them to central office for parental review

- Sent multiple bills, resolutions, etc. to ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom for review by attorneys
- Encouraged NCLA Executive Board to endorse ALA Ann K. Symons' statement, "Libraries: An American Value"
- Identified Web sites with information on library computer filters
- IFC Chair made presentations on intellectual freedom in Albuquerque, NM; Jekyll Island, GA; Greenville, NC; Yadkinville, NC; New Bern, NC; Morganton, NC; Orono, ME
- IFC Chair participated in retreat dealing with goals, objectives, and action plans for NCLA (Intellectual Freedom was identified as Goal 2)
- Had "Statement on Internet Access and Filters" approved by NCLA Executive Board

Intellectual Freedom Incidents Investigated/Handled/Referred: Responded to requests from: Albemarle, Asheville, Belhaven, Boone, Bunn, Burlington, Cameron, Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Dunn, Durham, Elkin, Fayetteville, Franklinton, Gastonia, Goldsboro, Greensboro, Greenville, High Point, Lillington, Louisburg, North Wilkesboro, Plymouth, Raleigh, Salisbury, Spring Lake, Stokes, Swansboro, Washington,

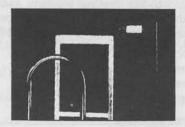
Titles/Activities Giving Problems in NC:

Wilson, Winston-Salem

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn; Babysitter Three; The Best Christmas Pageant Ever; Bones in the Cliff; Bridge to Terabithia; The Cat Who Went to Heaven; The Catcher in the Rye; Crazy Lady; Daddy's Roommate; A Day No Pigs Would Die; Disclosure; For Better or Worse; Forever; Health education textbooks; Heather Has Two Mommies; History Laid Bare – Love, Sex and Perversity from the Ancient Etruscans to Warren G. Harding; Hot, Sexy and Safer, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings; It's Perfectly Normal; Knowing; Lights Out, A Long Hard Road Out of Hell; Mademoiselle (magazine); Michelangelo Paintings-Sculpture-Architecture; Monster Soup and Other Spooky Poems; Playboy (magazine); The Prince of Tides; The Red Pony; Rolling Harvey Down the Hill; Rolling Stone (magazine); Selection of television programs on sets in ECU Student Union; Set the Twilight Reeling (CD); Seventeen (magazine); Teenage viewing of videos; An Underground Education; We All Fall Down; What Is A Girl? What Is A Boy?; YM (magazine)

— Gene Lanier

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2000 LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Planning Committee has been hard at work preparing for the 1999 NCLA Conference. We are going to have a booth at the conference to coincide with our contest. We will offer three prizes (a rocking chair and \$100) to the three best entries. The contest is to complete the sentence, "When I imagine the future of North Carolina Libraries" The contest is being judged by Dave Fergusson, Gwen Jackson, and Al Jones.

We are also going to have a camera operator at the conference to videotape NCLA members discussing NCLA, leadership, and the future of libraries. We plan on putting together a tape that can be used by NCLA for promotional purposes and by the Institute for fundraising.

Over the next year, we will be planning the 2000 Institute, finalizing details, and preparing for the future.

George H. Taylor Jr.

LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT SECTION

LAMS has had a productive biennium, ending the period with the creation of two Special Interest Groups, which we hope will meet real needs within the state, and provide inspiration and support for librarians. One of these is the Personnel and Staff Development Officers SIG, formed by Deborah Lambert and Louvenia Summerville, and the other is the Circulation Librarians SIG, started by Robert James.

LAMS tackled the membership issue early in the biennium with a letter writing campaign to heads of libraries, encouraging them to join, take an active role, and encourage members of their staff to participate in LAMS.

LAMS has given financial support to the Leadership Institute, and has provided some of the mentors in that program.

LAMS has also supported future librarians in the SPECTRUM scholars program with letters of congratulations and invitations to participate.

Two major themes have marked the LAMS program offerings in the biennium: assessment and mentoring. We have collaborated with the Resources and Technical Services Section of NCLA on an Assessment Workshop which was offered at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill to 76 librarians. We had three speakers and breakout sessions to address the why, how, and impact on staff of assessment. We are offering as a LAMS preconference to the NCLA biennial conference another workshop on Assessment, offered by our own member and former chair, Dr. Robert Burgin.

Our interest in mentoring resulted in a joint program with the New Members Round Table of NCLA. We jointly developed a brochure, evaluated feedback, and matched about 20 pairs of mentors and mentees. Additional would-be-mentors volunteered, and may be used next year. A program about mentoring, featuring Barbara Moran, and a reception for participants in this program are being offered by LAMS with input from the NMRT at the 1999 NCLA Biennial Conference. Our next challenge will be to develop continuing leadership in this effort.

Although the NCLA LAMS Board is smaller than the boards of several sections, we found it relatively difficult to have face-to-face meetings regularly. As a result, we have experimented with a conference call meeting and with e-mail exchanges as substitutes for face-to-face meetings.

We end the biennium with stable membership and finances, some new programs, and many opportunities for continued action.

- Rhoda Channing

LITERACY COMMITTEE

The work of the committee was guided by three main goals:

Preparation of the Position Statement for dissemination;

Establishment of a formal relationship with the North Carolina Literacy Center;

Presentation of a program at NCLA-1999. (Response to this agenda follows.)

Distribution of the Position Statement is still in progress.

At the July 1999 meeting of the Executive Board, a motion was passed to establish a formal relationship with the North Carolina Literacy Center which includes an ex-officio committee appointment of a staff member from the Center. A second motion was passed to send to the Constitution, Codes, and Handbook Committee a request to change the status of the Literacy Committee to a standing committee.

A program entitled "Ideas, Initiatives, and Innovations: A Showcase of Best Practices" is planned for the conference. It will feature committee members and guest speakers.

Under new leadership, it is recommended that in addition to the new agenda, the current actions (items) be continually monitored and completed: the dissemination of the Position Statement, and the committee status change from "ad hoc" to "standing."

— Pauletta Brown Bracy

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee was charged by the Executive Board to develop strategies for recruiting, retaining, and rewarding membership in NCLA. These strategies were given priority and have been implemented:

- Acceptance of credit cards for payment of dues and a secure Web site to allow members to join online.
- Renewal notices will be mailed by November 15 of each year.
- Send a personal reminder to lapsed members citing the benefits of membership.
 (2,900 postcards were mailed).
- The purchase of 2 table-top displays, suitable for travel, to be used for recruiting, etc. (The displays have recently been purchased and will be ready for use in the 1999 – 2001 biennium.)

Other strategies receiving priority and requiring action by the upcoming Executive Board are as follows:

- Identify an NCLA recruiter at institutions/school systems.
- Consider a rolling membership for payment of dues as opposed to a calendar renewal.
- At the conference, recognize consecutive years of membership. Those receiving recognition can select prizes from a small catalog.

In addition, the Committee participated in the 1998 and 1999 Career Fair at UNC-Chapel Hill. Brochures and applications were distributed, as well as personal conversations on the benefits of membership, to approximately 25 students.

Nominations for the Association Awards were solicited for presentation for the 1999 Biennial Conference. As a result, the Life Membership Award recipients are Doris Anne Bradley, Elsie Brumback, Dr. Gene Lanier, Gwen Jackson, and Carol Southerland. The Honorary Membership Award was presented to L.B. (Rick) Beasley of Conover, NC.

- Peggy Quinn

NC ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

The last two years have been extremely productive ones for NCASL. We have had excellent representation at state and national conferences as well as strong committee work.

In January of 1998, we had representatives at Mid-Winter New Orleans. The Think Tank, composed of media people from across the state, met several times in Greensboro, Raleigh, and Charlotte to talk about issues affecting school librarians. Several regions also sponsored meetings to discuss the role of library/media specialists. A request was made to the state Superintendent to look at the need for library supervisors in each district.

A Web site was initiated by Laura Williams, Telecommunication chairman. It has been attached to an e-group site. The address is http://www.egroups.com/

The NCASL conference in Winston-Salem on September 17-19, 1998 was very well attended. Our book award winners were present.

The NCLA Board added a representative on the Board for every 350 members in a division. The first position was filled by the chair and then the chairelect, and if necessary, the past chair.

An innovative Summer Conference in 1997 was held in three sites across the state and was an outstanding success. Karen Perry did an excellent job in organizing and arranging for the record turnouts.

A major disappointment was the fact that NC LIVE was not given to school libraries. This was a decision made at the state level based on funding.

The Interlibrary Cooperation meetings were held to talk about the changing roles of public, private, university, and school libraries. These meetings culminated in a paper stating the goals of libraries across North Carolina.

The Executive Board of NCASL proposed to the NCLA Board the need to look at the role that NCASL plays in the NCLA organization. The culmination of that exchange was the creation of a Commission on School Libraries, Below is the purpose:

We propose that an NCLA Commission on School Librarians be organized and charged with the following:

 Identify issues vital to school librarians and school librarianship throughout North Carolina

- Identify remedies and resolutions to those key issues that are creative, innovative and appropriate for assuring that school librarianship remains strong and able to meet the needs of students throughout North Carolina's schools

- Create an action plan that remedies and resolves key issues for school librarians with clearly established timelines and lines of responsibility

The Commission will include a chair, agreed upon by the President of NCLA and the Chair of NCASL, who has a background in both public and school libraries and/or who would be acceptable to both groups, and ten members, five of whom shall be appointed by NCASL, and five of whom shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of NCASL. The Commission will seek broad-based input from the library community. The work of the Commission will begin no later than November 1, 1999, and be completed by October 31, 2000. We are committed to making every effort to ensure that NCLA meets the needs of school librarians.

NCASL will make every effort to see that the Commission is successful in addressing the needs of both organizations.

Melinda Ratchford

NC LIBRARY PARAPROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

The North Carolina Library Paraprofessional Association has had a very interesting biennium. During the course of this term, we lost a regional director due to death and also had our chair resign. We had one other director who had to deal with the illness of her parents and another who was unable to attend meetings due to a back injury. Suffice it to say that we were not very well organized during this time. We were unable to provide workshops during the last biennium due to all these problems.

At this time, we also have not been able to obtain a full slate of officers for the upcoming term. Letters were sent to all members along with nomination forms and later, ballots. Everyone was given the opportunity to send in write-ins and none were received. If you are a paraprofessional or have paraprofessionals in your library who are not members, I ask you to please encourage them to join and to become active in the organization. The next biennium will be better!!

Also, please note that I have changed jobs and at present do not have an e-mail address. Please note that all correspondence, etc. will need to be sent to Frances Lampley, Project Enlightenment, 501 S. Boylan Ave., Raleigh, NC 27603; phone: (919) 664-7780. Thank you.

- Frances Lampley

NEW MEMBERS ROUND TABLE

We will be co-sponsoring the "Careers I and II" program with the Recruitment and Placement Committee at the biennial conference. We will also conduct a brief business meeting at which The Young Librarian Award (a young librarian who is making outstanding contributions to the library profession) will be presented to Rodney Lippard, Acquisitions Librarian and Systems Manager at Corriher-Linn-Black Library at Catawba College.

Along with LAMS, we participated in the development of a mentoring program within NCLA in which new librarians can be matched with more experienced librarians. The first group has been paired, and most of them will meet at a reception at NCLA. A brochure describing the program was designed and left with the administrative assistant.

A planned summer program on grantwriting and fundraising in libraries was postponed, but we anticipate the new board picking it up in the spring.

Tracy Babiasz

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WHOLESALERS

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Non-Conference-Year Event Committee

The Committee met at the Forsyth County Public Library. We went on the assumption that the purpose of a Non-Conference-Year Event is to give the members more for their membership dues and build NCLA's strength.

After preliminary discussion, we focused on three main ideas: Off-Year Mini-Conferences, Leisure/Social Retreat, and a Technology Mini-Conference.

The Executive Board favored the concept of a Technology Mini-Conference.

They were also in favor of piggybacking onto NCASL's conference, if possible, to increase interest in both.

A Technology Mini-Conference would be aimed at all types of library employees. Presentations would be made by experts in specific areas. These would feature vendor exhibits and include vendor presentations, which would increase as the miniconference's reputation grew.

Tracks for different types of librarians or types of subject matter are recommended. Sessions could be scheduled so that one could jump tracks for appealing programs.

One track we recommend could deal with Library Services to the Disabled in an increasingly electronic environment. Two major areas should be covered: the physical devices that can make it possible for the visually and

physically impaired to use electronic materials, and designs of Web sites (and NC LIVE database interfaces) that permit them to be accessible to the blind. There is a need for training in the use of assistive technologies and working with children with handicaps.

Specific, hands-on training could be offered, but we do not see a focus on the specific in-depth training of the MUGLNC camps.

Where: Central location

When: Possibly a pre-conference to NCASL's conference. Make more attractive for school librarians and would get all types of librarians together.

Length: One to two days

Costs: Could serve as fund raiser, vendor's support may be available

Who should attend: All NCLA members Who should plan: NCLA Directors could be given responsibility for managing this mini-conference. A committee could work closely with Technology and Trends Round Table.

— David Fergusson

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The following provides a summary of the work of the office of the President of NCLA as reported at each Executive Board Meeting.

January 23, 1998 – Planning Retreat at Public Library of Charlotte Mecklenburg County. Participants developed objectives for NCLA for the biennium. The planning session entitled Transitions was by Lea Wells.

January 24, 1998 – Standing Committee Chairs were introduced, and dates for meetings for the Biennium announced. NCLA Development Committee Chair Ross Holt explained the purpose of the new Ad Hoc Committee. Board members reviewed goals and objectives as developed in the planning retreat on the day before.

April 18, 1999 – Liz Hamilton agreed to chair the Ad Hoc NCLA Administrative Of fice and Personnel Advisory Committee that will address issues associated with moving the NCLA office, the development of a policies and procedures manual for the NCLA Administrative office, some other issues including bringing telecommunications technology to the office, and the membership database.

July 17, 1998 - Vision statement for NCLA approved by Board. Board agrees to fund the

purchase of a 4-panel display unit for NC LIVE.

October 16, 1998 - Marcus Trathen, an attorney with Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard has been nominated to amend the Lawyers for Libraries: Training Institute II sponsored by ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom and the American Bar Association Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities. Dr. Gene Lanier, chair of the NCLA Intellectual Freedom Committee, has been nominated for the ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom and the Freedom to Read Foundation 30th Anniversary Honor Roll. Dave Fergusson will chair an ad hoc committee to plan a nonconference year event for NCLA. Dr. Ben Speller will chair an ad hoc committee on continuing education.



President Beverley Gass is seen here handing over presidential responsibilities to incoming president, Plummer Alson Jones Jr.

January 15, 1999 – "Guidelines for Workshop Planners" document reviewed. This document includes information about scheduling, registration fees, and mailings. It is available at the NCLA Web site. A task force to gather information about charter schools and their impact on libraries within the state will be formed. President reports on the work of two State Library of North Carolina Commission Committees. The Interlibrary Cooperation Committee and the Advisory Committee on Library Service to Children and Youth are working to address issues identified by the state's LSTA Plan and include broad representation by librarians from throughout the state. Marcus Trathen, the attorney who attended the Lawyers for Libraries Institute in Chicago in November was introduced to the Board and made comments about things that he had learned at the Institute.

April 16, 1999 – Julie Hersberger will chair a committee to study the impact of charter schools and home schooling on the state's libraries. George Taylor will chair the 2000 NCLA Leadership Institute.

July 30, 1999 – Executive Committee of NCLA has requested that an NCLA Commission on School Librarians be formed to address issues and concerns of school librarians especially in response to the announcement of the intention of some members of the NCASL Executive Board to begin to form another association for school librarians outside of NCLA. The Commission will include members appointed by NCASL and NCLA and will be chaired by a person mutually agreeable to both organizations.

September 21, 1999 – Held on the eve of the NCLA Biennial Conference, this Board meeting is attended by the members of both the 1997-99 Board and the elected members of the incoming 1999–2001 NCLA Board, and other special guests. No business was conducted except that the president reported that the membership for the NCLA Commission on School Librarians is being developed and will in place by November I, 1999. The group celebrated the closing of one biennium and the start of another.

- Beverly Gass

Publications and Marketing Committee

This biennium, the Publications and Marketing Committee has concentrated on three main areas for which three working groups were established: Electronic newsletter, Web site, and Marketing.

Electronic Newsletter:

Responding to a directive from the NCLA Executive Board to establish an electronic newsletter, the committee held a workshop at East Carolina University on August 14, 1998 to plan this publication. Under the leadership of Pam Burton, editor, and Marilyn Schuster and Margaret Foote, assistant editors, the first issue of NCLA E-News was published in February, 1999. Subsequent issues of the publication, a bimonthly, were published in April, June, and August of 1999. The E-News is currently distributed via the organization's listserv, NCLA-L, and is also available on the Web site. Plans are under way to distribute print copies of the newsletter to those without access to e-mail or the Web.

The newsletter has focused on upcoming events, such as workshops and the biennial conference; news from sections, round tables, and committees of NCLA; and other news of interest to the library community. Contributions to the newsletter are welcome and should be sent to Pam Burton at burtonp@mail.ecu.edu.

Web site:

Another directive from the Executive Board challenged the committee to update the organization's Web site. Under the leadership of Peter Bileckyi, and with the special assistance of Diane Kester, this difficult task is ongoing. Much progress has been made: the home page has been completely updated, new links have been established, and a new domain name, NCLAonline.org, has been secured. A major goal for the next biennium is an online membership directory which would be accessible to members from the Web site. This goal should be made easier by the recent migration of the membership database to the ACCESS program.

Marketing:

The working group has been exploring the possibility of a cooperative effort with the State Library of North Carolina, perhaps including a new print newsletter along the lines of the discontinued *Tar Heel Libraries*. Rick Anderson is currently working with the Membership Committee on a new brochure, and a new organizational logo is in the works. Display materials featuring the new logo will probably need to be created in the next biennium.

- Carol P. Freeman

PUBLIC LIBRARY SECTION

The Public Library Section sponsored several programs at the NCLA Conference.

The Young Adult Committee presented "Booktalking with Teens" where several librarians spoke about books of young adult interest. Lise Keppler of Forsyth County, Sarah Hudson of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, and others presented "book talks" to show the audience how to do a book talk, as well as to show the types of books which today's teens find most fulfilling.

The YA Committee also featured James Rosinia from UNCCH who gave a talk called "Helping Them Grow: Positive Interaction with Teens." This was a very informative and practical sharing designed to help library personnel understand the teenagers who many times constitute a good portion of libraries' customer base.

Lanny Parker of the Wake County Public Library gave an "automation report card" on behalf of the Technical Services Committee. Mr. Parker had earlier surveyed public libraries around the State of North Carolina to determine what levels of satisfaction existed in terms of various integrated library automation systems presently in use.

One final program which received rave reviews was "Tea and Celtic Jam" which featured a musical group named "Celtic Jam." Their traditional Irish music, whether the tune was rollicking or sentimental, was always engaging, like the musicians themselves. That Al, Bill, John and Sean share a wealth of experience is evident in their ease with the audience and each other. For more information about the band and bookings, their Web site is http://www.celticjam.com.

As if music, tea and cookies were not enough, a dozen librarians won door prizes donated by Baker and Taylor. Audiovisual Committee members also dispensed collection development brochures recommending the best CDs in various musical genres. "Tea and (Celtic) Jam" was underwritten by a special project grant from NCLA and by the Public Library Section of NCLA.

Steve Sumerford

REFERENCE & ADULT SERVICES SECTION

The goal of the Reference & Adult Services Section is to provide a forum for discussion of reference service in an ever-changing environment, and to sponsor programs that are stimulating, challenging, and relevant to library staff interested in reference and adult services.

RASS sponsored two events for the 1997 NCLA Biennial Conference in Raleigh. Sally Kalin and Katie Clark from Pennsylvania State University presented a program on "Technostress" that was most enlightening. Joel Achenbach, an author and writer from the Washington Post, was the speaker for a luncheon program that all found entertaining. Both events were well attended and evaluations were positive. \$588 was also contributed to the LAMS Preconference.

In discussing ideas for our "off-year" 1998 workshop, NC LIVE kept coming to the forefront. Its impact on both reference and public services had been substantial, and the members felt that librarians had questions about its use and value. Were academic libraries benefiting from NC LIVE any differently than public libraries? What benefits would North Carolina gain from the older, similar projects in Georgia and Virginia?

It was decided to start the workshop, "NC LIVE: Taking It to the Limit," with Tim Bucknell from UNCG, representing the NC LIVE Librarians' Working Group, to discuss where North Carolina currently was and where it was headed in relation to online databases for the library systems. Crit Stuart from Georgia Tech, discussed GALILEO, Georgia's virtual library, and its effect on public service. Afternoon concurrent sessions were selected on various topics to offer as much variety for public and university librarians. Nancy Fogarty from UNCG and Ross Holt from Asheboro Public discussed full-text and collection development issues surrounding the access of NC LIVE. Araby Greene of UNC-Asheville discussed designing Web pages to incorporate NC LIVE resources. Susan Smith from Wake Forest University, Jennifer Pratt from Haywood County Public, and Lisa Sheffield from Transylvania County Public, talked about connectivity issues. Rosemary Arneson of Queens College and Kathleen Wheeless of Forsyth County Public discussed helping users get to the right database for their needs.

There were 110 attendees that rated the workshop very favorably. Most enjoyed the wide variety and a chance to hear what other libraries were doing, as well as the information Crit brought from Georgia. Most wished there had been more time to spend on discussions.

The Executive Committee of RASS invites interested members to attend executive committee meetings and encourages them to become involved in projects and program planning. We wish to develop new leadership and provide opportunities for active participation among our membership. If you are interested in becoming more involved in the Reference & Adult Services Section, please contact RASS Chair Philip Banks, Asheville-Buncombe Library System, 67 Haywood St., Asheville, NC 28801-2834. Telephone: (828) 255-5023; Fax: (828) 255-5213; e-mail: pbanks@ncsl.dcr.state.nc.us

— Carolyn Price

RESOURCES AND TECHNICAL SERVICES SECTION

The major activities of the Resources & Technical Services Section (RTSS) during the past biennium included a workshop in September 1998, and a program and four table talks at the NCLA biennial conference. RTSS co-sponsored with the Library Administrative & Management Section (LAMS) a very successful workshop entitled "Moving Ahead While Honoring the Past: Assessing Our Operations." In the morning, there were three key speakers: Ellen Altman gave an overview of assessment in libraries, Robert Burgin described how we can measure assessment, and Lea Wells talked about staff buy-in. In the afternoon, simultaneous discussion sessions on the speaker topics were held for the 63 attendees. Nine librarians from all types of libraries facilitated those sessions.

At the NCLA biennial conference, RTSS and the Reference & Adult Services Section (RASS) co-sponsored "Managing Electronic Resources," a presentation by John Webb, Assistant Director for Collections and Systems, Washington State University. The four RTSS table talks were organized by the RTSS interest group chairs and addressed issues in Webb's presentation: "New Order for Acquisitions," facilitated by Rick Anderson (UNC-G) and Kim Armstrong (TRLN); "Electronic Resources: Communication and Work Flows," facilitated by Brigitte Blanton, Kathy Shropshire, and Sherrie Antonowicz (all from the Greensboro Public Library); "CD-ROM vs. WEB," facilitated by Suzanne White (Rowan Public Library) and Kim Blanton (ECU); "URLs, PURLs and Metadata," facilitated by Celine Noel (UNC-CH) and Elaine Druesedow (Duke). Three RTSS awards (\$200 and a plaque) were presented during the all-conference breakfast: Best Article in North Carolina Libraries to William L. Spivey, Coordinator of Education and Outreach Services, New York Academy of Medicine Library, for his article, "Documents Home Pages: Questions of Beauty, Practicality and Simplicity," North Carolina Libraries, vol. 55, No. 3 (Fall 1997), pp. 116-119; Significant Contribution Award to Eleanor I. Cook, Serials Specialist, Appalachian State University; Student Recognition Award to Mihoko Hosoi, CIK Processing Specialist/Copy Cataloger, Duke University and graduate student at the University of North Carolina School of Information and Library Science. RTSS and RASS received partial funding from a NCLA Special Projects grant for our joint program and the RTSS table talks.

The RTSS board has had very productive meetings and has been responsible for some other projects during the biennium. \$250 was contributed to the NCLA Leadership Institute, which was held during the fall of 1998. The RTSS Web page http://www.unc.edu/~ldsmith/rtss/ncla99.htm was redesigned and has been maintained by Lisa Smith. The membership committee, chaired by Margaret Foote, conducted a survey of RTSS members in August and will be producing a revised and updated directory during fall 1999. The board participated in the planning of the Fall 1999 issue of North Carolina Libraries, "Life and Limb," edited by Page Life, the RTSS North Carolina Libraries editorial board member.

The incoming board, which is being chaired by Teresa McManus, was elected at the RTSS business meeting held prior to the major program at the conference. Feedback from the conference program and table talks will provide topics and issues for workshops, etc. during the upcoming biennium.

Virginia Gilbert

Thank You to NCLA Contributing Members:

David S. Ferriero, Duke University

Dr. Benjamin F. Speller Jr., North Carolina Central University

SOLINET

Tom Broadfoot, Broadfoot's Publishing Company

ROUND TABLE FOR ETHNIC MINORITY CONCERNS

This report culminates activities for REMCo for this millennium. As we reflect on the past two years, we note that a number of changes have taken place within the round table.

We had members to assume new and exciting roles:

- Clarence Toomer, archivist, left North Carolina to assume a directorship in Illinois.
- Sheila Johnson, past chair, left Forsyth County
 Public Library to become an Information Specialist with DIALOG Corporation in Cary
- Robert Canida, II, incoming chair, served as Interim Director at Pembroke.
- Gerald Holmes, a director, left UNC-Charlotte to become Assistant Reference Librarian at UNC-Greensboro. Gerald also served on the NCLA Conference Planning Committee and was chair of the REMCo membership committee.
- Cynthia Cobb, past, past chair left Cumberland County to assume a directorship in Florida.
- Lou Sua, a former board member, assumed the role of director of the Chavis Branch of the Greensboro Public Library.

And the list goes on.

Programming/fundraising for REMCo was not successful during this period. An excellent program using technology and its effect on public and technical services was planned as a theme, but did not take place. A combination of conflict programming and poor publicity contributed to it not taking place. We unfortunately lost \$167 for facilities reservations. We do have survey results for future programming initiatives.

We did publish several newsletters and were able to generate some positive feedback on issues and concerns of the section.

We lost membership. We have noticed a trend of membership loss during non-conference years.

We have planned an excellent program for this conference. The American Library Association established a scholarship program for the purpose of recruiting minorities into the field of librarianship. This program is called the Spectrum Initiative. Gerald Holmes will serve as moderator for a panel discussion of two recipients, Jamal Cromity and Tamika Barnes. They will discuss how the award has been of benefit to them and their decision making process for choosing librarianship as a career.

Additionally, a new author, Hilda V. Peacock, will read from her first book, *Happy Umbrellas*. In addition to being an author, Peacock is a storyteller, actress, and singer. She will autograph copies of her book.

Nominations were received for upcoming officers, and voting will take place at the luncheon.

A call went out for nominations for the Roadbuilders' Award. This year we will have only one awardee; Dorothy Huey of International Business Machines. Huey was the first Black librarian in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. She was also the first Black librarian hired by IBM in a southern state.

Robert Canida, II, the incoming chair, is looking forward to a very enlightening and innovative term as chair.

As REMCo ends in this era, we thank all members of the round table, the REMCo Executive Board, the NCLA Executive Board, and all friends for support, well wishes, advice, suggestions, and comments. We end this report by wishing all incoming officers well as they embark on a new millennium.

Barbara Best-Nichols

ROUND TABLE ON SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

As of June, 1999, forty-nine members of NCLA were members of the round table.

Newsletter

Two issues of *North Carolina Special Collections* were published (Fall, 1998, and Summer, 1999). The latter issue contained an important article by Dr. Helen Tibbo, School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: "The Digitization Dilemma: When is it Wise to Digitize?"

Web Site

Tim Daniels, University of North Carolina at Asheville, assumed responsibility for maintaining the round table's Web site. Issues of *North Carolina Special Collections* were mounted on the site.

Programs

In the spring of 1998, the round table sponsored a series of workshops, "Telling Our Stories: A Workshop on Oral History Basics," held at Williamston (April 24), Pinehurst (May 14), and Lenoir (June 5). Free and open to the public, these workshops attracted sixty-two participants from public and academic libraries, historical societies, and other organizations. Presentations were made by oral history professionals based at East Carolina University, the Southern Oral History Program of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the North Carolina Museum of History. The round table's program at the NCLA biennial conference in Winston-Salem, held September 23, 1999, was entitled, "Documenting the African-American Experience: African American Archives in North Carolina." Speakers were Dr. Phyllis Galloway, director, Heritage Hall, Livingstone College; Paul Baker, president, North Carolina African American Archives Group; Teresa Church, manuscripts processing librarian, Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and Dr. Benjamin Speller, dean, School of Library and Information Studies, North Carolina Central University.

- Maurice C. York

ROUND TABLE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN LIBRARIANSHIP

During the biennium the round table sponsored one developmental workshop and one state conference program and published seven issues of *MS Management*.

On May 1, 1998, Dr. Richard E. Rubin, Professor Library Science, Kent State University, presented a workshop to an enthusiastic group of participants. Using a variety of presentation techniques, Dr. Rubin addressed topics related to his theme of "Motivation, Satisfaction, and Commitment in the Library Workplace." They included The Individual's Impact on the Job, Satisfaction and Stress, the Importance and Nature of Attitudes, Factors Affecting Motivation, and Career Status, and Plateauing. The workshop was co-sponsored by the Public Library Section.

The Public Library Section joined with us again during the 1999 biennial conference in co-sponsoring a presentation by Laura Hamilton, a motivational speaker who has worked with RTSWL in previous workshops and presentations. Her topic was "Imagining the Future: women in charge, or Superwoman, the Graduate Course."

Ms Management is an important part of the round table's activities. An Important feature of the newsletter has been the ongoing series of interviews with women in library leadership roles. This biennium *Ms Management* featured Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin, Beverly Gass, Susan Nutter, and Sandy Neerman.

- Marilyn Miller

TECHNOLOGY & TRENDS ROUND TABLE

As Chair, I need to say right off that the people who served on this Executive Board are some of the busiest people I have ever met. The fact that we were able to accomplish anything with the workloads these people carry is nothing short of miraculous. With that said, I want to thank them all for everything they were able to give. Each person contributed something, even if in small ways. And in several instances, in big ways!

This biennium was tough for us for a number of reasons. The prior biennium, led so well by Christina Yu, was going to be a hard act to follow for anyone. During that period, the Round Table built an ample treasury. We were in the right place at the right time, so to speak. Our workshop offerings on Web searching and design were in high demand, and we were able to utilize free, hands-on facilities at Forsyth Technical Community College. Furthermore, the workshop "tax" imposed by NCLA was not yet in effect.

When we met for the first time on April 3, 1998, at Salem College, the whole group was able to make the meeting. In addition, Carol Freeman from the NCLA Publications and Marketing Committee was our guest. This was the first and last time we met in person. All other communication was accomplished via e-mail, and one time we experimented using "Net Meeting," which is an interactive conferencing software.

Figuring out what we needed to offer as workshops was a challenge. Hands-on workshops, we concluded, were not so much in demand anymore, so we decided to focus on trends and technical issues. We also wanted to collaborate with other sections and round tables, repeatedly made that offer, but got no takers. We concluded that the workshop "tax" made collaboration difficult since it reduced both parties' take of the registrations. If we were to raise money to line our coffers in preparation for the Biennial conference, we would have to balance reasonable registrations with what we could keep for ourselves after NCLA took their cut.

We worked hard during fall 1998 designing the brochure, lining up speakers, securing the site, and setting a date for early December. Here's a piece of advice: don't try to hold a workshop in December. We had to reschedule for the spring. The spring date worked out. So on April 22, 1999, we held a successful workshop at Guilford Technical Community College. Suzanne White, Rowan Public Library, and Ron Andrews, Forsyth Public Library, did a great morning session entitled "Technology Nuts and Bolts Boot Camp." In the afternoon, John Ulmschneider, NC State University, and David Stratton, Wake County Public Library, discussed trends in library automation. All speakers got high ratings. The turnout was adequate, although nothing like what we had experienced in the prior biennium. As far as lining the coffers, we made a little money but nothing near what we had been able to bring in before. Fortunately, NCLA reinstated Conference grants so we were able to get some funds to help us defray expenses for our main speaker at the conference.

William Terry of NetPubs International, Fort Collins, CO, will be our featured speaker at the Biennial Conference in Winston-Salem. We also are co-sponsoring a continuing education panel with the Conference's Recruitment and Placement Committee. On Friday we are holding a "free lunch" for our membership along with our business meeting. I personally would have liked to have planned a few more activities for the conference, but the time slots were already well booked, and we could not find anyone else to collaborate with. I hope to see more collaboration at future conferences.

For the Future

It is my personal opinion (and others on the T & T Board may or may not agree with me) that NCLA's workshop "tax" is divisive and not useful. It is a wasteful method of moving money around needlessly. Either NCLA should control all funds, or allow sections and round tables to keep their profits. I encourage debate on this issue, and I hope the NCLA Executive Board will consider abolishing it.

I gained valuable experience in my role as Chair of the Technology and Trends Round Table this biennium. Thank you for allowing me to

- Eleanor I. Cook

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