

**Arkansas Library Association Board Meeting
Oct. 2, 2005**

Those present were: Art Lichtenstein, President; Diane Hughes, Vice-President/President -Elect; Loretta Edwards, Past President; Jamie Melson, Secretart/Treasurer; Kevin Barron, Intellectual Freedom Comm. Chair; Phyllis Burkett, Public Libraries Div. Chair; Marilyn Schulte, ALA Councilor; Ellen Johnson, SELA Councilor; Kaye Talley, Scholarship Comm. Chair; Dave Burdick, Legislative Comm. Chair; Dominique Hallett, Reference Services Div. Vice-Chair; Laura Downing, Reference Services Div. Chair; Linda Creibaum, College & Universities Div. Vice-Chair; Kareen Turner, ALPS Div. Chair; Sandy Olson, Awards Comm. Chair; Necia Parker-Gibson, Managing Ed. Ark. Libraries; Karen Richardson, Membership Comm. Chair; Donna Daniels, College & University Div. Chair.

President Art Lichtenstein call the meeting to order at 10:10. Kareen Turner moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting with a second by Diane Hughes. Motion passed.

Reports:

President's Report: Art reported on the letter that ArLA received concerning back taxes owed to the IRS for the years 2003 and 2004. Penn Tax & Accounting in Bryant was used to put together a package to send to the IRS in answer to the letter. Art authorized payment to Penn in the amount of \$700 for their emergency services. Discussion was held on why Coleman Management did not take care of this and would we be recouping any of the \$700 fee we incurred because of this problem. Deadline to file a response was Sept. 19, 2005. The package was ready, signed, and sent on Sept. 21, 2005. We have yet to hear from IRA now.

By Dec. 2, 2005, any component of ArLA that needs money to operate in 2006 will need to turn in a budget request with justification for the expenses. All budget requests will then be reviewed by the finance committee chaired by Jamie Melson and turned back to those components by the Feb. 2006 board meeting. Some discussion was held.

Phyllis Burkett moved that we have 2 days in November 2005 set aside for all components to meet on one of the 2 days for training and discuss and write up a budget request and long range planning to be presented at the Dec. 2, 2005 Leadership Exchange. Marilyn Schulte seconded. After much discussion was held, Phyllis withdrew her motion. Jamie Melson then made a motion that all components get their budget requests and long range planning to Jamie by Nov. 30 so the Finance Comm. can review the requests and be turned back to those components at the Dec. 2, 2005 meeting. A second was made by Kareen Turner. Motion passed.

Art reminded everyone on behalf of Bob Razer, archivist, for outgoing chairs to turn in 2005 materials to the archives or whatever is not needed by the 2006 chairperson.

Art explained the ALA Councilor registration of Marilyn Schulte and the volunteering by Ellen Johnson to fill in the rest of Marilyn's term which consists of the year 2006 at which time ArLA will hold its regular election at the fall conference for a new ALA Councilor. Art again thanked Marilyn for her 5 years of service on the board as ALA Councilor.

SELA Councilor--Ellen Johnson: Most of the current focus in SELA is on preparation for the joint conference with the Tennessee Library Association. The conference will be held April 5-7, 2006, at the East Memphis Hilton in Memphis, TN. More information is forthcoming. Flyers will be available at the registration desk at this conference. Membership in SELA is based on the calendar year. She then passed around flyers about SELA adn the upcoming conference.

ALA Councilor--Marilyn Schulte: ALA has set up a secure site for anyone wanting to help rebuild libraries in the Gulf Region. Contributions are tax deductible and go to: <https://secure.ga3.org/03/alakatrina>. For a list of organizations that have established book and computer donations go to: <http://www.ala.org/ala/cro/katrina/katrinafinancialdonation.htm>. Keep in mind that any book donations must be new or in good condition. Computers need to be at least Windows 2000 or later, complete with monitor, keyboard, mouse, and updated browsers. Shipping costs are the responsibility of the donor.

SirsiDynix will provide free ASP hosting for those libraries that have good backups and are working with other libraries to see what assistance they can offer. Ebsco, ProQuest, and IBM are offering services to affected libraries, CQ Press will replace books for all their customers affected by the hurricanes. The list goes on and on. For more information and updates, go to <http://www.ala.org/ala/cro/katrina/katrina.htm#help>.

At this time, all we know is that there will be a 2006 Annual conference. ALA Executive Board and Conference Services want to hold it in New Orleans if at all possible, as a show of support and an influx of money to the city. However, as it may not be possible, Conference Services is contacting other cities for possible sites. A decision will be made by December 1st when early registration begins.

Once again, I would like to thank the Board and ArLA members for allowing me to serve as ALA Chapter Councilor for the past 5 years. It has been a rewarding and enlightening experience.

AASL Division--Jill Heard: AASL is sponsoring 2 concurrent sessions. We have donated a basket to the Basket Auction. We will be electing the 2005-2006 chair-elect at the AASL business meeting on Monday morning. We are anticipating a good turnout of Library Media Specialists at the conference.

College & University Division--Donna Daniels: We are sponsoring 2 sessions at the annual conference.

ALPS/Paraprofessional Division--Kareen Turner: We met on Sept. 9, 2005 at the Saline County Public Library in Benton, with lunch provided by the host library and with special thanks to Julie Hart, Library Director. I introduced Barbara Martin, from Benton, our new ArLA Executive Administrator, to the group and Linda Cunningham, our new regional representative for Region IV, taking Brenda Van Dusen's place on the council. We are in the process of finalizing the plans for an INFO-BITS session to be held at the Garland County Public Library in Hot Springs, AR. Donna Rusher will be "host" of the event. Sandy Olson will be making the brochure and printing them out. Tentative dates are Oct. 19, Nov. 1st, 2nd, or 9th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., depending on Dr. David Briscoe's schedule. I have asked that our grant request from the Arkansas State Library be split between the annual Spring Conference and the Info-Bits sessions to help defray the costs for both. Our annual business meeting will be Oct. 2 at 4:45 where we will be voting on new by-laws, a new map of regional representation and new officers for 2006. We adjourned for lunch.

We met after lunch with the conference committee and have finalized the menu. Our Annual Spring Conference will be May 17-19, 2006, at the Holiday Inn Select in Little Rock.

We have also donated a basket to the basket auction.

Public Libraries Division--Phyllis Burkett: no report.

Reference Services Division--Laura Downing: The Reference Services Division has been busy getting two programs ready for the conference. We also have a very unique basket for the silent auction.

Resource & Technical Services Division--Mary Walker: no report.

Special Libraries Division--Betsey Martin: no report.

Trustees Division--Donna McDonald: no report.

Information Technology Roundtable--Lynn Calhoun: no report.

Children's Services Roundtable--Ruth Hyatt: With all due respect to any who favor the current federal administration, unlike many public servants I know how to admit when I have dropped the ball. Even after all my ranting about the lack of meetings, programs, and opportunities for Children's and YA workers at the ArLA Conference I did not even begin to make my plans for this years conference offerings until my Summer Reading programs were well under way.

The submissions deadline was in June. I missed it by several weeks.

I would be there in person to give this report but as I am not responsible for any sessions at the conference, I will be going to Oktoberfest with my family to eat real black forest cake and ride amusement rides until I throw up.

I do realize that there is supposed to be a Children's Roundtable business meeting at this conference but the attendance of this meeting has always been abysmal. I have had much better luck contacting people by email and snail mail and intend to conduct the meeting this way this year. We have a dozen confirmed Roundtable "members" and that number will increase as we develop our methods of sharing information and programs with each other.

Elvis has NOT left the building. He just got caught with his jumpsuit around his ankles.

Awards Committee--Sandy Olson: Finalized awards to be given at the Awards Banquet. Made arrangements for plaques and checks; designed brochure/program; notified recipients; made arrangements for guests of recipients' meals.

Conference Committee--Renee LeBeau-Ford: We are having a conference. We will have one person responsible for all the computer hook-ups and projectors and such. Her name is _____ . Renee commended Barbara and Dwain on all their hard work.

Constitution Committee--Barbie James: Revisions have been made to bring the constitution and bylaws up-to-date with changes that had been voted on at various times.

More revisions will need to be made since we have changed our management firm. We will work with Barbara to complete the updating process.

Intellectual Freedom Committee--Kevin Barron: Watching the school library book challenge in Fayetteville.

Legislative Committee Report--Dave Burdick: 2005 was a good year legislatively. One of our main goals for the 2005 legislative session was to restore State Funding for the Public Libraries. The committee worked closely with the Advocates for Arkansas Public Libraries group, who hired Martha Perry to monitor Library related issues, and to work closely with the legislature to support good issues, and oppose bad issues. The results show that Public Library funding, although not up to the \$4.9 million we had 5 years ago, rose to \$3 million for this year, and \$4 million for next year. Libraries also scored big with the acquiring general improvement funds, although much of this is currently held up in the courts. We also stopped a few issues, such as another attempt to abolish the MLS requirement for Public Library Directors. We also saw some positive changes which allow Public Libraries easier access to the dedicated funds held by the city or county governments.

The Legislative Committee recognized the needs of other Libraries, especially those in Higher Education, and K-12 Education. College and Universities were under the budget knife too, but came out of the legislative session fairly well. Public Schools wanted, and needed, more money, but at least they did not see any cuts. For both of these organizations, it was more of a status quo situation by the end of the session.

On the national level, Libraries scored a big victory in knocking a large hole into the anti-privacy issues of the Patriot Act in the federal courts. The House and Senate have been working on the Patriot Act re-authorization, and Libraries have been working closely on this issue to make positive changes to secure the privacy of our users.

Libraries also saw another increase in national funding, which is against the trend of many organizations which have seen cuts in their funding.

If you would like to be a part of this, please contact the Legislative Chair, Dave Burdick at the Pine Bluff/Jefferson County Library System. 870-534-4802 or dburdick@pbjc-lib.state.ar.us

Membership Committee--Karen Richardson: A postcard was sent to non-renewing members reminding them that conference was coming and they needed to renew to get the discounted rate.

A basket has been provided for the silent auction. Current membership is 511 with 21 being new to the organization.

Nominating Committee--Diane Hughes: We are conducting the election for 2006 President-Elect. Ashley Burris is Director of the Lawrence County Library in Walnut Ridge. Space on the ballot is available for write-in candidates. I am still seeking a Publications Chair, Journal Editor, and Conference Chair. If any other positions need to be filled, please let me know.

2006 ArLA Conference will be in Fayetteville at the Radisson Hotel next Oct. 7-10. Please thank the Exhibitors for being here and encourage them to participate next year.

Scholarship Committee--Kaye Talley: A scholarship will be handed out at the Awards Banquet.

Arkansas Libraries--Necia Parker-Gibson: Next deadline is Oct. 15

Unfinished Business: none

New Business: none

Kareen Turner moved to adjourn the meeting with a second from Donna Daniels. Meeting adjourned at 11:20.