

**Arkansas Library Association
Executive Board Meeting
Sunday, Oct. 8, 2006
Radisson Hotel, Fayetteville, AR**

President Diane Hughes called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. She welcomed all present. Those present were: Diane Hughes, President; Jamie Melson, Sec./Treasurer; Art Lichtenstein, Past President; Barbara Martin, Executive Administrator; Ellen Johnson, SELA & ALA Councilor; Ramona Abernathy, AASL; Linda Creibaum, College and University; Brenda Van Dusen, ALPS; Dominique Hallett, Reference Services & Publications; Deb Kulczak, Resources & Technical Services; Loretta Edwards, Information Technology; Virginia Perschbacher, Two-Year Colleges; Karen Russ, Government Documents; Sandy Olson, Awards; Dwain Gordon, Conference; Barbie James, Constitution; Dave Burdick, Legislative; Amanda Moore, Public Relations; Alexis Linoski, Journal Editor; Ron Russ, Website; and Diana Lott, visitor.

The August 4, 2006 minutes were approved via email, by the voting members, on Wednesday, September 13, 2006. Motion was made by Linda Creibaum and seconded by Dominique Hallett.

President's Report: Diane Hughes— August 1--Nominated and completed paperwork for Cassandra Barnett to be the Arkansas Representative at the National AASL Vision Summit in December, 2006.

August 8--Completed the documentation for the Arkansas AASL Affiliation process

August 26--Traveled to Beebe, met with Publications Committee, signed contract with Kier Heyl to be the Website consultant.

September 11 & 12--Traveled to Fayetteville to meet with conference committee and review hotel/conference facilities for the ArLA Conference.

September 6--Wrote a letter of recommendation for Regina Cortez for the ALA Emerging Leaders Program

September 30--Attended the National Book Festival in Washington D.C., and helped Danny Koonce and Jane Thompson work the Arkansas booth in the Pavilion of States.

SELA Councilor: Ellen Johnson---In lieu of my report, I would like to leave SELA to "Old Business" and hear from Barbara Martin about any new information that she may have on the feasibility of a joint conference with SELA in 2010.

ALA Councilor: Ellen Johnson---In keeping today's report short, I'll just mention that the last day for "Early Bird" registration (\$ 125 for personal members) for ALA's Midwinter Meeting in Seattle is October 13. After that, "Advance Registration" (\$ 160 for personal members) goes through December 6.

On-site registration is \$ 185. Early registration may be done by mail, fax, or online. Hotel reservations started October 2, although there have been some glitches. Hopefully all of that is being resolved. The meeting is scheduled for January 19-24, 2007.

Annual Conference will be in Washington, D.C., and is scheduled for June 21-27, 2007.

Executive Administrator: Barbara Martin---Barbara handed out copies of the financial statement along with a memo stating that she had moved the remaining funds with Morgan Stanley into Certificates of Deposit with Bank of the Ozarks. "Final checks were written to the association and put in CDs on September 21, 2006." Those were:

Scholarship Fund.....\$8,401.16
AR Library Association.....\$8,382.49

They were put in 7 month CDs in order for them to mature at the same time as the larger CDs so that they can be combined. The interest rate is %5. This closes our accounts with Morgan Stanley. The majority of the funds were put in CDs earlier this year. Those amounts are:

Scholarship Fund.....\$20,000
AR Library Association Fund.....\$22,200

They are receiving 5.35% interest.

Totals in both accounts are:

Scholarship Fund.....\$28,401.16
AR Library Association.....\$30,582.49

She also quickly went through the profit and loss statement. We are still very much in the black.

Everyone also received in their registration packets new information brochures about the Association. They are very nice and very well done. She was able to order 2,000 for approx. \$800.

AASL Division: Connie Zimmer/Ramona Abernathy--- The AASL Conference was held on July at DeGray Lake State Park. There were 134 registrants for the conference and 7 vendors. Kelly Gallagher from Anaheim, California was the keynote speaker. We offered 11 breakout sessions, along with our keynote speaker addressing the attendees about reading motivation during the luncheon. Many door prizes were donated by various organizations and individuals from across the state. Attendees also brought materials that are part of our LEAF basket for the ArLA annual conference.

Since the last board meeting, mainly through the persistence of Diane Hughes, the Arkansas Association of School Librarians regained their affiliation with the American Association of School Librarians. The current members are unaware of when we lost the affiliation but are glad to have it back.

We have a table at conference to distribute materials about AASL and important issues for school librarians.

College & University Division: Linda Creibaum--- CULD officers have been working on our ArLA conference panel discussion:

Publish or Perish: Librarians on the firing line. We have one basket for the silent auction and may have a second. Britt Murphy and her committee have continued work on their survey on the status of academic librarians and hope to have a meeting at the conference.

ALPS (Paraprofessionals) Division: Brenda Van Dusen--- ALPS Executive Council met Sept. 8, 2006 at National Park Community College. Library Director Mary Farris provided lunch for the Council.

We had only one applicant for the ALPS Scholarship attendance at the ArLA conference. It was awarded to Sandy Olson from UCA.

The results of the ALPS Conference Site Search Committee were the recommendation that we book Mt. Magazine Lodge for 2008 & 2009 conferences. The Executive Council voted and approved their recommendation.

Voting for ALPS officers for 2007 will take place at our business meeting this afternoon at 4:00. I will report the results in my report at the ArLA General Meeting on Tuesday.

ALPS informational brochure has been updated.

ALPS is sponsoring Daniel Page session for the ArLA conference.

ALPS is contributing a basket for the basket auction.

Public Libraries Division: Lisa Johnson--- no report.

Reference Services Division: Dominique Hallett--- I met twice with my vice chair regarding baskets and presentations for conference. Two baskets will be supplied.

Resource & Technical Services Division: Deb Kulczak--- They are sponsoring two sessions and have brought two baskets.

Special Libraries Division: Shawn Pierce--- no report

Trustees Division: Regina Cortez--- no report?

Information Technology Roundtable: Loretta Edwards--- I have not been successful in find someone to serve as Chair of the roundtable for 2007. I contacted Barbara Martin, Executive Administrator for a list of members who had checked the IT Roundtable as an interest group on their 2006 membership form. I also contacted Diane Hughes, President

to see if the Executive Committee might want to appoint a new chair for 2007. Barbara emailed me a list of names and email addresses from the 2006 membership who had marked the IT Roundtable as an interest group. I sent an email to all of these individuals encouraging them to attend the IT Roundtable business meeting at the ArLA fall conference and asked for volunteers to serve as Chair for 2007. If someone does not come forward at the business meeting, I will serve as Chair for a second term.

I had originally planned to get the roundtable involved with the Publications Committee in developing an online database directory for the ArLA membership. The Publications Committee has since pursued hiring someone to develop this directory and revamp the web site.

I would like to see more participation by the members of this group in 2007. I will be contacting some of the members on the list I have to create a technical support call list. The list could be used by the Executive Administrator, Barbara Martin when she has questions concerning hardware or software applications. We could also serve as backup for data entry when the online membership directory is active. I would like to see the IT Roundtable acts as an advisory committee when hardware or software is being purchased for the association.

Children's Services Roundtable: Connie Olson--- no report?

Two-Year Colleges Roundtable: Virginia Perschbacher--- TYCRT members, Debbie Kirby, Jerrie Townsend and Virginia Perschbacher, with Sally Hawks of the Arkansas State Library will present a program at the Arkansas Association of Two Year Colleges' (AATYC) Annual Meeting in Hot Springs, October 16, 2006. Titled "Do you know what's in your library" and with a target audience of administrators and faculty, it will discuss the place of electronic information resources in the 2 year college library especially in terms of selection and acquisition.

A spreadsheet reporting the information on collections, services and budgets collected earlier in the year was e-mailed to the Two Year College Libraries. The mailing produced an additional response. Half of all two year college libraries submitted information.

An e-mail has been sent to all ArLA members working at two year colleges with details on the TYCRT business meeting on Monday, October 9, 2006 at 10:00 in the Ridge Room at conference.

Government Documents Roundtable: Karen Russ--- no report except they brought one large basket.

New Members: Art Lichtenstein--- New member meeting will be held at 1 p.m. today. Art has to leave so Pres. Diane asked Dwain Gordon to act in his place.

Awards Committee: Sandy Olson--- The committee received award nominations, made decisions to award 8 awards. Those include the Lorrie Shuff Paraprofessional of the Year, Frances P. Neal, Retta Patrick, Distinguished Service, Suzanne Spurrier, LaNell Compton, AR Intellectual Freedom, and the new Ann Lightsey Children's Librarian Award. They also put together the program for the Awards luncheon.

Conference Committee: Dwain Gordon/Louise Schaper—As of 10/06/06, we have 303 people registered for the conference, 39 paid vendor booths, and 61 informational or training sessions.

Constitution Committee: Barbie James--- The ArLA policy and procedures manual has been updated by the ArLA secretary and will be going online soon. Updates to the constitution are in the process of being made as well. Some revisions may have to be made in 2007.

Some discussion followed on this topic.

Executive Committee: Diane Hughes--- already gave her report.

Finance Committee: Jamie Melson--- deferred to the very well written and concise reports that Barbara had already handed out.

Intellectual Freedom Committee: Bettye Kerns--- This committee continued planning and development of conference IFC programs. They also provided support for challenged materials.

On Wednesday, September 13th, gubernatorial candidate Mike Beebe held a news conference at the Main Library in Little Rock where he proposed a \$1.7 million boost for state aid to public libraries. This proposal fully restores the state support for public libraries, which was cut to \$500,000 in the state budget crunch of 2001. Over the past five years, the library budget has been restored to the current level of \$4 million annually. Beebe said he wants to increase spending to \$5.7 million, which would be the amount of spending before the 2001 cuts plus regular cost of living increases.

According to the September 14, 2006 Arkansas Democrat Gazette, gubernatorial candidate Asa Hutchinson said he needs time to study library funding. As of the writing of this report, Mr. Hutchinson has still not announced his stand on the restoration of funding for Public Libraries.

Membership Committee: Karen Richardson--- no report except that Barbara said that we now have 533 members.

Nominating Committee: Ashley Burris--- Candidates are as follows: Vice-President/President-Elect—Deborah Fell from the State Library; Secretary/Treasurer—Jamie Melson from CALS; SELA Councilor—Dwain Gordon from the State Library; ALA Councilor—Ellen Johnson from UCA and Sandy Olson from UCA. Ballots are in

each eligible voting members' packets and can be turned in at the conference registration desk until 5 p.m. on Monday afternoon, October 9, 2006. At that time, Ashley and her committee will count the ballots.

Publications Committee: Dominique Hallett--- We hired Kier Heyl to work on the membership portion of the website after meeting with Ron, Diane, and Dominique. Additionally, Kier has met with April Shepard, our assistant web person, since she was not able to attend the other meeting. One basket will be supplied from this committee.

Public Relations: Amanda Moore--- Sponsored an ArLA booth at the Arkansas Literary Festival with freebies with the ArLA logo including pens and a globe stress ball. Created a draft ArLA brochure to be used at the Festival—now in final form in the Executive Administrator's office. The new pens are also included in the conference registration packets.

Scholarship Committee: Kaye Talley--- A scholarship will be awarded to John Boone.

Arkansas Libraries Managing Editor: Alexis Linoski--- Fall issue of the journal is almost ready to go out.

Associate Editor: Britt Anne Murphy--- no report

Website: Ron Russ--- April has updated the ArLA Conference Website to include information about the hotel and as well as some of the featured additional speakers. She also added information about the Dine Around on October 8th. I added news items to the main page as well as making adjustments to the diversity statement (as requested). Kier Heyl and I discussed the members only section of the website. He now has access to a directory in which he could build this database.

Division and Roundtable Chairs: Please get information to me about your new officers for the upcoming year. This way, I could make changes to the website when the time comes.

Archives: Bob Razer--- no report.

Unfinished Business:

Task force on ArLA strategic (six-year) plan—still working on—some are completed, waiting until D/RT/C meetings at conference. Will have ready by January?

SELA Joint Conference with ArLA in 2010—Barbara Martin has talked with the convention bureau in Little Rock and they are researching dates for us as well as hotels, i.e. Peabody, The Doubletree, and possibly another hotel to accommodate that size conference.

New Business:

There was much discussion over paying of membership fees—calendar vs. fiscal, the cutoff date for renewal in order to continue receiving the journal, membership cards for accreditation purposes, and one idea of saving postage by sending out the membership renewal form by e-mail. These ideas and more will be discussed at a later meeting.

A BIG thank you was expressed to the Fayetteville Convention Bureau for all their help in setting up this year's conference. Barbara said that she had sent out over 3,000 letters for this conference.

Art Lichtenstein read a letter from Jennifer Coleman, former ArLA Executive Director. Due to her recent diagnosis, she is becoming an advocate on mental health issues. She wanted everyone to know and understand why her sudden resignation came about almost 2 years ago.

With no other business brought forth, Dominique Hallett moved and Karen Russ seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Melson, Secretary/Treasurer