AlHeLA

Synapse

ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

VOLUME V, NO. 3 SEPTEMBER 1985

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Rebecca Buckner

The Executive Committee of AlHeLA has been working this year with the Executive Committee for AlaSHLiM (Alabama Society of Hospital Library Managers) regarding the possible merger of AlaSHLiM with AlHeLA. At the last Executive Committee meeting on August 2, Willette Vaughn (Alabama Hospital Association) made a formal presentation of this merger. AlaSHLiM has been active for the past three years. Their members generally have full time responsibilities in a postion other than librarian at their institutions, and they serve as the librarian as a responsibility tacked onto their principal job. The group maintained an affiliation with the Alabama Hospital Association, but were not part of AHA's consulting program. They desire to maintain that affiliation as it gives these library managers a desirable access point to their Administrators. AHA affiliates are allowed to participate in the annual AHA convention and to have an exhibit booth at the convention. They view the exhibit as an excellent opportunity for public relations. There are two ways for an organization to affiliate with AHA. (1) $10.00 per member, or (2) $250.00 annual dues for the affiliating organization. Should AlaSHLiM merge with AlHeLA they would desire that for the first year at least we maintain the affiliation with AHA and reevaluate the affiliation annually thereafter. AlaSHLiM also requests that for the first year a member from their organization be appointed to the AlHeLA Executive Committee. The consensus of the AlHeLA Executive Committee seemed to be that the merger was a good idea, beneficial to both groups.

We will vote on the issue at the annual meeting of the association, October 23, 1985, at Gulf Shores. Should the merger take place, the AlaSHLiM treasury, now in excess of $500.00 would be turned over to AlHeLA and the merger would become effective January 1, 1986.

If you have any questions about this merger, please feel free to contact me or any member of the Executive Committee.

SYNAPSE is the official publication of the Alabama Health Libraries Association (AlHeLA). Edited by Robert M. Donnell, Mobile, Alabama.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 30-October 4, 1985
Fifth International Congress of Medical Librarianship - Tokyo, Japan.

October 23, 1985
AlHeLA Annual Fall Conference - Gulf State Park Resort, Gulf Shores, Alabama (see details elsewhere in this issue of Synapse).

October 24, 1985
"Training Trainers" Workshop - Gulf State Park Resort, Gulf Shores, Alabama. Contact: Barbara Shearer, Biomedical Library, University of South Alabama, 205/460-7043.

October 25, 1985
NLM Update 1986 - Gulf State Park Resort, Gulf Shores, Alabama. Instructor: Jackie van de Kamp. Contact: Barbara Shearer, Biomedical Library, University of South Alabama, 205/460-7043.

November 13-16, 1985
Southern Chapter/MLA in joint Annual Meeting with the Mid-Atlantic Chapter/MLA, "Designs for the Eighties" - Winston-Salem, N. C. Nine continuing education classes are being offered. Contact: Deb McMaster, Reference, Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Coy Carpenter Library, Winston-Salem, NC, 27103 or 919/748-2305.

November 15, 1985
Deadline for the December 1985 issue of Synapse.

May 16-22, 1986
Medical Library Association - 86th Annual Meeting - Minneapolis, Minn.

May 15-21, 1987
Medical Library Association - 87th Annual Meeting - Portland, Oregon

ALHELA NEWS

FALL CONFERENCE PLANS

by Joyce Sims

"THE LIBRARIAN AND THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE" has been chosen as the theme of the 1985 Alabama Health Libraries Association's Fall Conference. The Program Committee has planned an interesting and varied Fall Conference. It should enable all hard-working librarians (and aren't all librarians hard working?) to make better use of their efforts by employing current management practices. The schedule for the conference which will be held Wednesday, October 23 is as follows:

Registration	2:00-2:30 p.m.	
Productivity in the Knowledge Worker Environment	2:30-3:20 p.m. Speaker:	Mr. William H. Washington, Jr., Manager, Productivity, McDonnell Douglas Technical Services, Huntsville, Alabama.
Quality Circles/ Participative Management	3:20-4:00 p.m. Speakers:	Ms. Lynn Fortney and Mr. Richard Fredericksen, Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, UAB, Birmingham, Alabama.
Workshop: Applications in your Library	4:00-5:00 p.m. Speakers:	Conference Participants
Regional Update	5:00-5:30 p.m. Speakers:	Ms. Karen Hackelman & Ms. Marian Brennan
Banquet/Annual Meeting	7:30 p.m.	

Registration forms and a map of Gulf Shores is included in this issue of Synapse. Please use the registration forms and if you know of anyone who does not receive Synapse, please photocopy the form and send it to them. Register NOW--join us for an informative afternoon and a delectable evening!

If you are planning on attending the conference, please make reservations at the Gulf State Park Resort, P. O. Box 437, Gulf Shores, AL. 36542 SOON! Rooms not reserved by September 23 will be made available to the general public. One night's deposit is required. Single $38 + 6% tax; Double $42 + 6% tax.

Nominating Committee

The following individuals have accepted the job of selecting a slate of officers for the coming year:

A. J. Wright, Chairman
Anesthesiology School, UAB
Telephone: 1-934-6500

Mary Ann Donnell
Providence Hospital, Mobile
Telephone: 1-438-7869

Lisa Rains Russell
Health Sciences Library, UA
Telephone: 1-349-1770

This slate will be presented to the membership at the Convention, October 23 and ballots will be mailed in early November. If you have any suggestions for the officers or you are willing to serve on the Executive Committee, please contact someone on the Nominating Committee.

The officers for this year are:

Rebecca Buckner, President
Baptist Memorial Hospital, Gadsden

Joyce Sims, Vice-President/President-Elect
St. Vincent's Hospital, Birmingham

Sister Mary Giles Peresich, Secretary/Treasurer
Biomedical Library, University of South Alabama, Mobile

Ina Sims, Member-at-Large
Baptist Medical Center-Montclair, Birmingham

Judy Wilson, Member-at-Large
Arab Hospital, Arab

Nancy Clemmons, Immediate Past President
Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, UAB, Birmingham

Microcomputers

by Jack T. Smith, Jr.

On August 2, 1985, twenty-one members of AlHeLA met at the Alabama Public Library Service headquarters in Montgomery for an all day seminar on microcomputers and software. Led by Jack Smith, Reference Librarian at the Lister Hill Library, UAB, the participants were taken on a journey through the jargon associated with microcomputers. The mysteries of "bit" versus "byte" as well as the innocent "nibble" were discussed and "debugged". Next came a brief session on the analysis and decision-making process involved in deciding whether to computerize or not to computerize a task, job, or any individual component of an operation.

Following lunch, software for the microcomputer was examined. This part of the seminar did not deal with any one particular software package, but rather dealt with how to evaluate software. How to determine from an ad in a magazine if the software advertised is worth investigating; how to evaluate the producer's material; what to look for at a demonstration of the software; how to deal with sales people; and basic qualities that all software should have were only some of the areas covered. Also, specific recommendations and suggestions were given about software packages dealing with word processing, computer searching and communications, spreadsheets and database management.

Additionally, those attendees who are members of the Medical Library Association are eligible to receive 5.4 CE credits for their participation in the seminar.

* *

BASICS OF SEARCHING MEDLINE FOR THE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL

by Maureen Battistella

On May 17, 1985 Lister Hill Library's Reference Unit offered its first MEDLINE training class to UAB health professionals. MEDLINE is a computerized bibliographic database containing citations to articles published in 3000 health science journals.

The one-day course was developed at the National Library of Medicine to teach physicians, dentists, nurses, and other health professionals to construct and perform their own literature searches from home or office computers. The course includes a 200 page manual and practice time on a computer terminal. Additional sessions will be organized on a continuing basis in response to user interest. Each class will be limited to ten participants.

Attendance at this seminar fulfills the training requirement for obtaining an access code to search the National Library of Medicine databases.

Please call Nancy Clemmons at 205/934-2230 or write to Ms. Clemmons at Lister Hill Library, UAB, Birmingham, AL. 35294 for more details on the next training session(s).

SHOULD AlHeLA PURCHASE A COMPUTER SOFTWARE PROGRAM?

by Mary Giles Peresich, R.S.M.

This is a question that will be put before the membership at our annual meeting, October 23, 1985, at Gulf Shores. The specific use for this program would be the compilation and annual updating of our Directory of Alabama Health Science Libraries.

The publication of the first edition (1983) was completely a manual operation. Our second edition (1984) was created using the Volkswriter program on an IBM PC. This was an improvement over the manual system, but it was still flawed as the Volkswriter program did not have an indexing capability. This year our 1985 edition will be produced using the WordStar 2000+ program. Last year and again this year, the Directory is being edited by Mary Giles Peresich, R.S.M., U.S.A. Biomedical Library, using the computer facilities of that institution.

There would be no need to purchase the WordStar 2000+ program if we can arrange to have the editorship rotate among institutions which have both IBM PC and the WordStar program. However, if we have the program, the editorship could be rotated among those institutions which do have an IBM PC. Judging from the responses we received from registrants at our recent Workshop on Microcomputers in Libraries, a good many of our institutions do have an IBM PC, so half the problem is licked!

At our meeting we will be querying you to find out:

> How many of our institutions have an IBM PC that a member of the library staff would be permitted to use for the purpose of editing the Directory?
>
> How many of those institutions have the WordStar 2000+ software program?
>
> Should AlHeLA purchase the WordStar 2000+ program?

BIG APPLE

M. L. A. CONFERENCE '85

by Mary Giles Peresich, R.S.M.

More than 1,850 medical librarians gathered in New York City for the 85th annual conference of the Medical Library Association the last week of May, 1985. I was fortunate enough to be one of those attendees. Taking as its theme "New Ventures, New Roles" the conference featured a wide range of speakers dealing in one way or another with the central theme.

One point that was particularly evident in the presentations, at least to me, is that the new technologies, specifically computers, are forcing us to review, if not outright to revise, the way we have traditionally thought about library services. Accustomed as we are to considering publishing as a way of getting information into the public record, today's storage of such information in computers raises the question of where is the public record and who owns it. That was a point made by the keynote speaker, Arnold Relman, M.D., editor, New England Journal of Medicine. Dr. Relman sees medical libraries in our future but most will be small, containing only a basic core of printed literature. Such libraries will be connected via computers with one of the few large libraries which have the special function of storing everything, that is they will be the public record of all information. Computers will be the glue to hold it all together--large libraries helping small libraries--in the view of Dr. Relman.

Another challenging speaker was Leland Kaiser, Associate Professor of Health Administration, University of Colorado, and president of his own consulting firm, Kaiser & Associates, Boulder, Colorado. "The ultimate limitation for the library is you!" "Re-conceive the role of the library." "Libraries should generate revenue." "Don't ask your CEO who you are. Tell him who you are. Educate the decision makers." "Librarians must organize information, then advertise it and sell it." "The future hospital will have no support departments. Libraries must become revenue-producing departments." As you can see, Kaiser had a lot of provocative thoughts to share.

Viewing the exhibits was another outstanding highlight of the '85 conference. Of course, they all offered an array of freebies. Computers and databases were being demonstrated at a number of the booths. Those drew the largest crowds.

"New Ventures, New Roles, New York '85". The M.L.A. conference in the Big Apple was definitely a week that I will remember for a long time to come. Make plans now to attend the national conference next year in Minneapolis. You'll love it!

SC/MLA

Lyn Dennison, SC/MLA Publicity Committee Liaison, submitted the following outline of the exciting program scheculed for November in Winston-Salem, N.C. The opportunities look very good; this is one you won't want to miss.

MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER AND SOUTHERN CHAPTER OF THE MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

1985 JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

WINSTON-SALEM, NC NOVEMBER 12-16, 1985

The program planned for the 1985 meeting, DESIGNS FOR THE EIGHTIES, provides a wide variety of topics of current importance and interest to health science librarians, regardless of the size and type of their institutions.

Keynote address: "The Changing Role of Government in Funding in Health Care and Medical Education" by Dr. Richard Janeway.

General Session I: "The Balance between Social Responsibility and Economic Performance"

General Session II: "Technology in the Eighties: The Micro Comes of Age"

Poster Session: "Microcomputers in Libraries"

Special Interest Group Sessions:

1. Federal Librarians SIG: "Automation and Networking in Federal Libraries"
2. Audiovisual SIG: "Facing the Challenge of New Technology: The Media Librarian's Role"
3. Education SIG: "The Role of the Librarian in the Information Age"

Luncheons: Online luncheon: "Electronic Document Delivery"
Hospital Librarian luncheon: "The Hospital Librarian's Role in Transition"

Continuing Education Courses:

MLA CE 246: Basic Budgeting for Health Sciences Libraries
MLA CE 310: Drug & Pharmaceutical Information Resources
MLA CE 327: Mental Health Information Resources
MLA CE 456: Advanced Skills for Online Searching
MLA CE 520: Descriptive Cataloging in Health Sciences Libraries
SLA CE 204: One-Person Library
SLA CE 228: Managing in a Changing Environment
SE/A RML: Preparing to Teach Basic Library Skills
SE/A RML: Teaching Health Professionals to Search Online Databases

1985 Annual NLM Online Services Update
Drug, Pharmaceutical and Toxicology Searching on EMBASE
Georgetown University's "Personal Computers for Librarians"
CLASS: Beginning and Advanced Use of ONTYME

For registration materials, contact Deb McMaster, Reference, Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Coy Carpenter Library, Winston-Salem, NC 27103

Serials "Info"

NEW TITLES

NLM Aging and Long-Term Care
1N1, Jan/Feb 1985-
American Hospital Association

OCLC Caduceus: A Museum Quarterly for the Health Sciences (0882-6447)
MSS 1, March 1985-
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
First issue lacks volume and issue number.

NLM Canadian Journal of Cardiology
1N1, Jan 1985-

NLM Contemporary Issues in Fetal and Neonatal Medicine
1, 1985-
Blackwell

NLM Critical Care Clinics (0749-0704)
1, Mar 1985-
W. B. Saunders

OCLC Diagnostic Cytopathology (8755-1039)
MSS 1, 1985-
Igaku-Shoin

OCLC Emergency Care Quarterly (8755-8467)
MSS 1N1, (Apr.), 1985-
Aspen Systems Corp.

NLM Hospice Journal (0742-969X)
1N1, Spring 1985-
Haworth Press

OCLC Hospital Ethics (8756-8519)
NLM 1, 1985-
American Hospital Association

OCLC International Journal of Health Planning & Management (0749-6753)
NLM 1N1, 1986-
John Wiley

OCLC Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography : JDMS (8756-4793)
MSS 1N1, (Jan/Feb), 1985-
J. B. Lippincott

OCLC Journal of Nursing Staff Development : JNSD (0882-0627)
MSS 1N1, May 1985-
Lippincott

NEW TITLES (Continued)

MSS Journal of Rural Health
1, 1985-
Center for Rural Studies

NLM Pediatric Neurology
1N1, Jan/Feb 1985-
Professional Publications
Preceded by an updated issue called Preview issue.

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TITLE CHANGES

NLM European Journal of Surgical Oncology (0748-7983)
11N1, Mar 1985-
Academic
Continues: Clinical Oncology (1, March 1975-10N4, Dec. 1984)

NLM Genitourinary Medicine (0266-4348)
61N1, Feb. 1985-
British Medical Association
Continues: British Journal of Veneral Diseases (1, 1925-60, 1984)

OCLC Journal of Medical Humanities and Bioethics (0882-7632)
NLM 6N1, Spring/Summer 1985-
Human Sciences Press
Continues: Journal of Bioethics (4N1/2, Spring/Summer 1983-
5N2, Fall/Winter 1984)

OCLC Journal of Neurological & Orthopaedic Medicine & Surgery (0271-1575)
NLM 6N1, Apr 1985-
Continues: Journal of Neurological and Orthopaedic Surgery

MSS=Majors Scientific Subscriptions Newsletter.

Subscription Study

The following study is provided by Joe K. Weed, Vice-President, Director of Marketing at EBSCO Subscription Services.

SELECTED STATISTICS USING TITLES COVERED BY THE ABRIDGED INDEX MEDICUS

This study was based on prices of 113 journals covered by the ABRIDGED INDEX MEDICUS during the period from 1981-1985. (Some titles covered by AIM were excluded because of incomplete pricing data for the full period).

The prices used were the least expensive, annual retail subscription rates available to non-membership institutions in the U.S. Rates were those current in February of each year to insure accurate, current-year data.

The title breakdown, geographically, is as follows:

TOTAL SAMPLE----------113 TITLES (100%)
U. S. PUBLISHED----------100 TITLES (88.5%)
NON-U. S. PUBLISHED-(12 BRITISH, 1 CANADIAN)---------- 13 TITLES (11.5%)

PRICE COMPARISON OF THE TOTAL SAMPLE (113 TITLES), BY YEAR

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Total Subscription Price (all 113 titles)	$5,862.84	$6,436.50	$7,015.09	$7,496.69	$8,139.00
Average Price Per Title	51.88	56.96	62.08	66.34	72.03
Average Annual Percentage Increase	18.0%	9.8%	9.0%	6.9%	8.6%

During the period 1981-1985 the total price increase for all titles was $2,276.16, or 38.8%. The average annual percentage increase was 9.7%.

PRICE COMPARISON OF ALL U. S. PUBLISHED TITLES (100), BY YEAR

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Total Subscription Price (all 100 U. S. titles)	$4,597.45	$5,152.95	$5,571.95	$6,071.20	$6,667.50
Average Price Per Title	45.97	51.53	55.72	60.71	66.68
Average Annual Percentage Increase	14.7%	12.1%	8.1%	9.0%	9.8%

During the period 1981-1985 the total price increase for all U. S. published titles was $2,070.05 or 45.0%. The average annual percentage increase was 11.3%.

PRICE COMPARISON OF ALL NON-U.S. PUBLISHED TITLES (13), BY YEAR

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Total Subscription Price (all 13 non-U.S. titles)	$1,265.39	$1,283.55	$1,443.14	$1,425.49	$1,471.50
Average Price Per Title	97.30	98.70	111.00	109.65	113.19
Average Annual Percentage Increase	29.7%	1.4%	12.5%	(1.2%)	3.2%

During the period 1981-1985 the total price increase for all non-U.S. published titles was $206.11 or 16.3%. The average annual percentage increase was 4.1%.

PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL COST OF ALL 113 TITLES BY U.S. AND NON-U.S. TITLES, BY YEAR

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
U. S. Titles	78.4%	80.1%	79.4%	81.0%	81.9%
Non-U. S. Titles	21.6%	19.9%	20.6%	19.0%	18.1%

During the period 1981-1985 the total price increase was attributed 90.9% to U. S. titles, and 9.1% to non-U. S. titles.

courtesy of

EBSCO SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES

ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

REGISTRATION FORM

FALL CONFERENCE - OCTOBER 23, 1985

NAME _____

INSTITUTION _____

ADDRESS _____

_____
City State Zip

TELEPHONE _____

PLEASE CHECK _____ AlHeLA Member _____ NON-Member

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

2:00-2:30 p.m.	Registration
2:30-3:20 p.m.	Productivity in Knowledge Worker Environment
3:20-4:00 p.m.	Quality Circles/Participative Management
4:00-5:00 p.m.	Applications in your Library
5:00-5:30 p.m.	Regional Update
7:30-	Banquet/Annual Meeting

Registration Fee: Members: $25.00 Non-Members: $35.00

(Registration fee includes the cost of the Banquet)

Menu: Fresh Fruit Supreme
Tossed Salad/House Dressing
Roasted Round of Choice Beef/Aujus
Honey Glazed Carrots
Parsley New Potatoes
Chocolate Mousse

DEADLINE: September 30, 1985

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Alabama Health Libraries Association

MAIL TO: Joyce Sims, Librarian
St. Vincent's Hospital
P. O. Box 915
Birmingham, AL. 35201
Phone: 1-205-939-7830

For the conference workshop we need to know the following:

Have you had any experience with productivity monitoring? _____
Have you ever used quality cirles/participative management? _____
I have no idea what you are talking about!!! _____

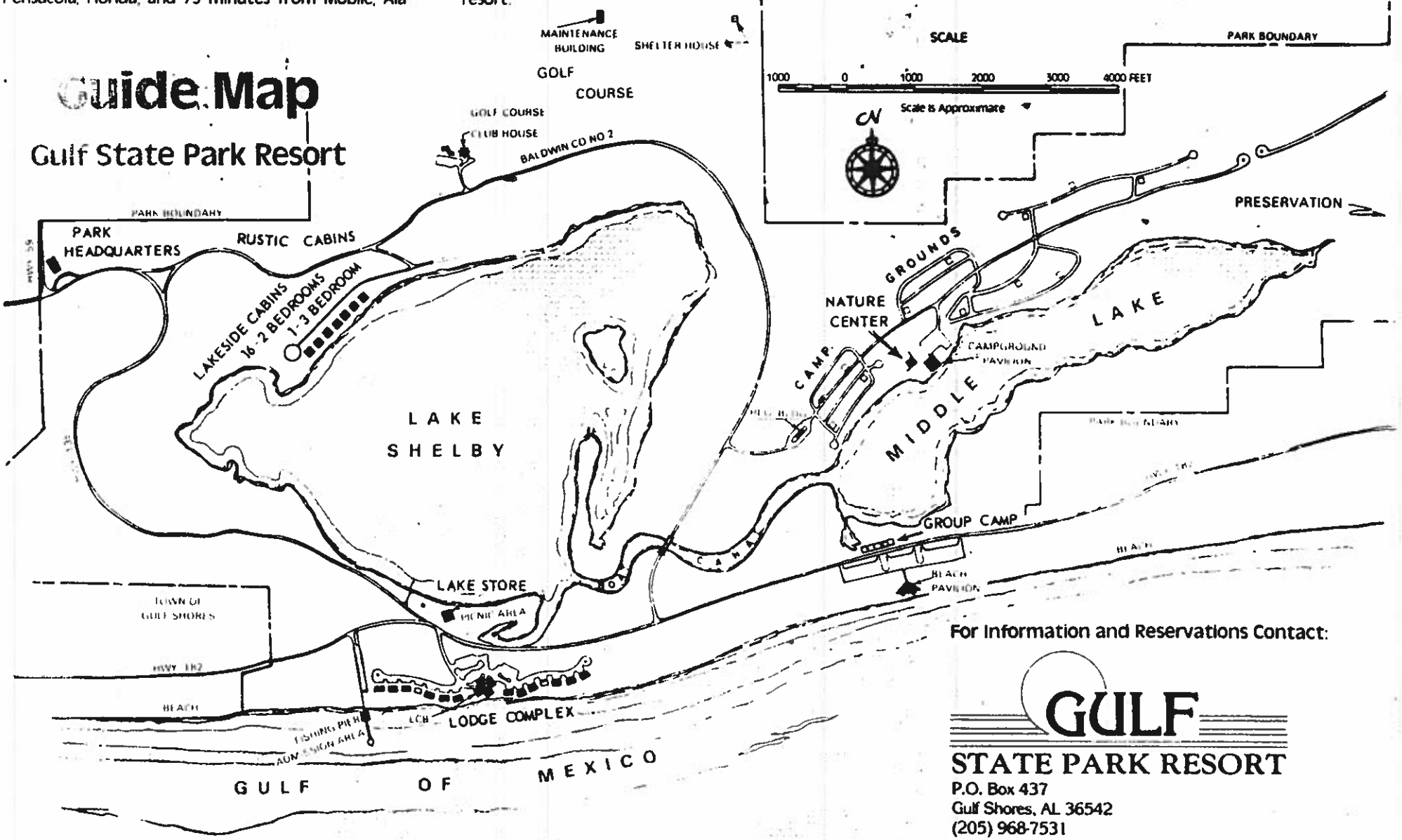
GULF Location and Transportation Information

Gulf State Park Resort is located one mile east of Gulf Shores, Alabama, on Highway 182 East. Other main arteries leading into the resort area are U.S. Highways 59 and 98. The resort is located 35 minutes from Pensacola, Florida, and 75 minutes from Mobile, Alabama. The closest commercial airport is Pensacola, Florida. Jack Edwards Airport in Gulf Shores offers 24-hour service for private and charter planes. Taxi, rental car, and limo service information is available at the resort.

Access to Alabama State Parks and State Park programs is available without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, or sex.

Guide Map

Gulf State Park Resort



For Information and Reservations Contact:

GULF STATE PARK RESORT

P.O. Box 437
Gulf Shores, AL 36542
(205) 968-7531

Operated by
ARA Services