



Synapse

ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

VOLUME VII, NO. 4

DECEMBER 1987

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by

Maureen Battistella

The Alabama Health Libraries Association is effective because its Executive Council and committee members and membership produce throughout the year to accomplish the projects and goals of the Association. It can be so difficult to find those extra hours in the week when you feel like you just can't fit in another thing, but your contributions are both necessary and so very appreciated.

Thanks to all members of the Executive Committee: Joyce Sims, Lisa Rains Russell, Pat Hall, Marylss Giles, Dan Blucker, and Amy Nichols. Thanks also to chairs and members of standing and ad hoc committees. All of you have given a lot of time and energy to the Alabama Health Libraries Association. I would also like to recognize the directors and staffs of the UAB and USA medical libraries for their constancy and stablization this past year and every year.

Welcome Lisa Rains Russell, A. J. Wright, Barbara Doughty, Grace Manning. Welsome back Dan Blucker, Marylss Giles. Have a great year!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 9-14, 1988
American Library Association Mid-Winter Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

January 27-29, 1988
Special Library Association Winter Meeting, Williamsburg, VA.

February 4-5, 1988
User Education: Earlham College-Eckerd College Bibliographic Instruction Workshop. Contact: Larry Hardesty, Director, Eckerd College Library, St. Petersburg, FL. 33661.

February 15, 1988
Deadline for March issue of SYNAPSE.

March 16-18, 1988
Second Joint Meeting, Florida & Georgia Health Sciences Library Associations, Jacksonville, Florida. Contact: Bettye Stilley at (904)777-7583.

April 12-15, 1988
Alabama Library Association Annual Meeting, Montgomery, AL.
Contact: Thomas A. Souter, 103 Hunter St., Troy, AL 36080.

April 17-23, 1988
National Library Week.

May 15, 1988
Deadline for June issue of SYNAPSE.

May 20-26, 1988
Medical Library Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

June 11-16, 1988
Special Libraries Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

July 9-14, 1988
American Library Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

November 2-5, 1988
Southern Chapter/MLA Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, FL.

May 19-25, 1989
Medical Library Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

by

Lisa Rains Russell

I will begin by thanking Maureen Battistella for the excellent leadership she has provided to the Executive Committee and membership in the last year. I hope I have picked up some of her organizational skills! Of course, Maureen will still serve on the Executive Committee this year and she is busy coordinating plans for the MASA workshop in February. For more information on the workshop see Maureen's article in this issue. Thanks also to Pat Hall who has served on the Executive Committee for the past two years as Secretary/Treasurer and Secretary. I am sure that Pat will continue to make a strong contribution to the association.

Brief biographical sketches of the 1988 Executive Committee are included in this issue. Barbara Doughty has agreed to coordinate membership information along with her duties as Secretary. I will announce other committee appointments at a later date.

A. J. Wright already has some excellent ideas for the Annual Meeting next year as well as at least two other programs during the year. He will be calling on several of you to help coordinate these programs.

Maureen reported last issue on the ALHeLA, Cancer Information Center and Arthritis Information Center exhibit at the Alabama Association of Home Health Agencies. ALHeLA exhibited in the same arrangement at the annual meeting of the Alabama State Nurse's Association in Tuscaloosa on October 22. The exhibit was up only the one day, with a ribbon cutting at 9 a.m. The concentrated exhibit time when nothing else was going on, resulted in swarms of meeting attendees viewing the exhibits. The Cancer Center provided a three panel display for the exhibit and ALHeLA was given the middle panel. The Executive Committee has decided to continue the arrangement with the Cancer and Arthritis Centers at key meetings this year. Dan Blucker is gathering information on meeting times and places and will report to us at the next Executive Council meeting.

All in all, I think the 1988 Executive Committee is off to a great start!

1987 ALHeLA OFFICERS

Maureen Battistella, President
Pat Hall, Secretary
Daniel Blucker, Member-at-Large
Robert Veenstra, Member-at-Large

Lisa Rains Russell, Vice President
Marlyss Giles, Treasurer
Amy Nichols, Member-at-Large

1988 ALHeLA OFFICERS

Lisa Rains Russell, President
A. J. Wright, President-Elect
Barbara Doughty, Secretary
Daniel Blucker, Member-at-Large

Marlyss Giles, Treasurer
Barbara Shearer, Member-at-Large
Grace Manning, Member-at-Large
Maureen Battistella, Immediate-Past President

Alabama Health Libraries Association
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, June 12, 1987

The second regular business meeting of the 1987 Executive Committee was held on Friday, June 12, 1987, in a split session convening at 12:00 noon at the University Inn, Birmingham, and adjourning at 1:00 p.m. to be reconvened at the home of Maureen Battistella, Birmingham, at 7:00 p.m.

Committee members and chairmen present were Maureen Battistella, Pat Hall, Marlyss Giles, Lisa Rains Russell, Robert Veenstra, Daniel Blucker, Amy Nichols, Barbara Doughty, Nancy Clemmons, Bobby Powell, Rebecca Buckner and Joyce Sims. A number of members also attended the evening session.

The thrust of the meeting centered around the reports from the Chairmen of the Serials Exchange and the Program.

Serials Exchange:

Rebecca Buckner announced her resignation which she tendered also in writing. The committee regretfully accepted. Battistella extended proper acknowledgment of the caliber and extent of Buckner's service to the organization.

Program Chairman, Lisa Rains Russell, presented the groundwork for the fall conference and opened for committee and membership participation in detailing and brainstorming deminisions for enhancing the conference.

Decisions were made as follows;

They were contingent upon Russell's ability to acquire facilities as designated:

Dates -- September 9 - 11, 1987;

Place -- Capstone Sheraton Inn, Tuscaloosa, Alabama;

Theme -- Managing the Medical Library in an era of change;

Keynote Speaker -- Judith Messerle;

Pre-Conference Workshop -- Communication Approach Workshop;

Banquet Menu -- Prime rib with select vegetables;

Parallel Sessions

- 1.) ABULS Meeting
- 2.) Management Film Festival;

Searching workshop on specialized databases;

Telefacsimile demonstrations;

Panel Disussion.

It was decided to market outside the state by mailing packets to out-of-state organizations listed by the Liaison Committee.

Members present were recruited to work on acquiring materials for the registration packets.

Dinner was served. The business session was adjourned shortly after 9:00 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Pat Hall

PAT HALL, SECRETARY

June 16, 1987

DATE

A BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

YOUR PRESIDENT ELECT

Lisa Rains Russell is Assistant Professor and Chief Medical Librarian of the Health Sciences Library at the University of Alabama. Ms. Russell received her MLS degree from the University of Alabama in 1979 and BS in School Librarianship in 1977 also from the University. She received certification as a medical librarian by the Medical Library Association in 1982 and recently received recertification to 1992. Ms. Russell has held positions as a Librarian/Research Assistant in the Department of Health Services Administration at UAB, and as Director of the Medical Library at Southeast Alabama Medical Center in Dothan. For the past two years, Ms. Russell has served on the ALHeLA Executive Committee. Throughout her career, Ms. Russell has been active in library associations at the local, state and national level in the Jefferson County Hospital Librarians Association, the Health Sciences Librarians Roundtable of the Alabama Library Association, the College, University, and School Division of ALaLA, the Tuscaloosa Health Libraries Association, and the Medical Library Association. In May of 1984, Ms. Russell participated in a Project Hope educational program in Xian, People's Republic of China with Xian Medical College. The program was to advise the Chinese on implementing a hospital administration curriculum. Ms. Russell's responsibility was to evaluate the library resources in terms of supporting the curriculum. In the past two years, Ms. Russell has worked with Southeastern/Atlantic Regional Medical Library Program in developing a health science library consortium in West Alabama. She presented a referred paper on the SE/A RML statewide efforts in consortium development at the Southern Chapter/MLA annual meeting in Nashville, November 5, 1986.

Ms. Russell resides in Tuscaloosa with her husband James and her pet dog, Chummy. Keeping up with Chummy has been her major hobby for the past 1½ years! Her other hobbies and interests include travel, Alabama football, reading, and counted cross-stitch needlepoint.

MASA CME PROGRAM

Dr. George Oetting, Director of Continuing Medical Education for the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, has asked the Alabama Health Libraries Association to develop a four hour program on medical information management theories and practices for state continuing medical education directors. Comments and recommendations from the ALHeLA membership as to design, content and format are needed.

The invitation was brainstormed at the ALHeLA annual meeting in Tuscaloosa. Approximately thirty librarians shared perceptions of the expertise and needs of medical educators and practitioners in their facilities. All types and sizes of medical facilities were represented: academic medical centers, community hospitals, teaching hospitals, and specialized care centers. The facilities represented were distributed throughout the state in rural, suburban and urban communities.

Consensus was reached on a number of important issues; issues which have served as the basis for developing the program.

1. The value of information to the clinician and the volume of available information are increasing geometrically; specialized training can facilitate learning and aid the development of quality filters to selectively process information.
2. The resident and the practitioner will have distinctly different information needs as well as opportunities for obtaining medical information; both needs and skill levels should be addressed in the CME program on medical information.
3. Theory, practice, and demonstration should be utilized in the CME program on medical information; lecture, problem-oriented research sessions, and demonstrations of available technologies are to be used.
4. An information packet will be prepared and distributed; a product which should be available to residents and practitioners coming in contact with CME directors. This will be especially important in settings where the services of a trained librarian or library manager are not immediately available.

The program will be held on February 10, 1988 in Montgomery. All ALHeLA librarians are invited to attend at no cost; a box lunch will be served. Preregistration is required. Call Maureen Battistella, 783-3078, for more information.

OPTICAL DISK TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

Optical Disk Technology will be the focus of a 1988 preconference at the annual meeting of the Alabama Library Association. The program will be held on Wednesday, April 12, 1988 at the AUM Library in Montgomery, Alabama.

Optical disk technology is a contemporary high density data storage medium for digital information. The disk itself looks like an audio compact disk and is commonly used in libraries as a means of storing indexing and abstracting files such as MEDLINE, ERIC, and INFOTRAC. The increasing popularity of CD-ROM (Compact Disk-Read Only Memory) is bringing down the per disk cost, making the technology affordable even for small- to mid-sized libraries.

James E. Rush will be the keynote speaker, addressing the nature and application of optical disk technology in libraries. Rush is an internationally known consultant on information processing and management, and is president of James E. Rush Associates, Inc. Nancy Eaton, University of Vermont (Burlington) will be the luncheon speaker, and will focus on planning issues relating to optical disk technologies.

In the afternoon, up to fourteen optical disk vendors will demonstrate a wide range of products for online public catalogs, reference databases and technical services applications.

The preconference is co-sponsored by the Alabama Library Association Technical Services Round Table, the College and University Section, and the Collection Development Round Table, as well as the AUM Library.

Telephone Robert Avant, Alabama Public Library Service, 277-7330, for additional information. Preregistration packets will be mailed in January 1988.

PREPRINTED BINDERY SLIPS SAVE TIME & INCREASE ACCURACY

Most library binders today can provide a multi-part, preprinted bindery slip for each title the library has in its collection. Each bindery slip contains the preferred spelling and formatting of the spine title, a space for the volume, part, and/or year, the color of the cover, and the color of spine lettering. The slips also have the library's name already printed on them. The binder can replace the preprinted bindery slips as they are used by the library or on a set annual schedule.

There are a number of advantages to using preprinted bindery slips in both small and large library settings. Because the slips are preprinted, transcription errors are greatly reduced as there is no need to write out the spine title on each form. The only part of the form that must be completed by the librarian are the spaces for the volume, part, and year of that particular piece. Again, because of the preprinting, very little information has to be written onto the form, a significant time savings.

The multi-part bindery form can be put to several uses. Two parts can be included in the volume to track processing at the bindery. A third part can be filed in the library to serve as a checkout card for the volume which is at the bindery. Library binders can generally also provide a printout of the information they maintain on your bindery specifications for each of the title in your collection.

To find out more about preprinted bindery slips, ask your binder. If you would like to talk with a library which is successfully using preprinted bindery slips, contact Kristina Iljin, Lister Hill Library, 934-2460.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS AND ON THE MOVE

MARY CLAIRE BRITT, History of Medicine Librarian at Lister Hill, married Jeffrey Cowan of Birmingham, on November 21, 1987! Best wishes!

GENEVA BUSH, formerly USA Baldwin County Branch librarian, has joined the staff of the USA Biomedical Library as Information Services Librarian.

VIRGINIA VAIL, formerly with the West Florida Regional Medical Center Library, Pensacola, has joined the staff of the USA Biomedical Library as Information Services Librarian.

DAN BLUCKER, Head of Reference Services at AUM Library, has been named to the MLA International Cooperation Committee for 1988. See his article elsewhere in this issue of Synapse regarding the Cunningham Fellowship program. Blucker co-authored an article entitled "Interlibrary Cooperation in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: the Holder-of-Record System", in the October 1987 issue of Bulletin of the Medical Library Association.

MAUREEN BATTISTELLA, Baptists Princeton, organized and facilitated a sharing session on Online Serial Control Systems at the Southern Chapter/MLA meeting in Tampa, October 15, 1987.

LISA RAINS RUSSELL, UA Health Sciences Library, has been asked to work on the MLA Local Arrangements Committee preparing for the 1988 annual meeting of the Association to be held in New Orleans.

Two Birmingham hospitals are getting new and renovated quarters: St. Vincent's Hospital, JOYCE SIMS, Librarian, and Brookwood Medical Center, LUCY MOOR, Librarian.

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