

ALHeLA

Synapse

ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

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SEPT-DEC 1989

President's Column
by A.J. Wright

First, on behalf of the entire membership of ALHeLA, I would like to offer congratulations and thanks to Beth Laughlin for a stimulating annual meeting in October. The Association's tradition of professional and personal fellowship continued for another year. Thanks also go to Martha Verchot and Sondra Myers, who worked the registration desk and to Mary Pullen for general assistance. Also to be noted with thanks is a late contribution to the meeting banquet by Ballen Booksellers.

In recent months members of the ALHeLA Executive Council have secured the services of both an accountant and an attorney so that tax-exempt status and non-profit incorporation can be obtained for our organization. See Lisa Russell's article elsewhere in this issue for further explanation and implications of this effort. Hopefully, both projects will be completed in 1990. Also in this issue is information on the Second White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services to be held in Washington, D.C., in July 1991. Opportunities for participation at the congressional district level during 1990 will be available to any interested Alabama librarian, and I urge ALHeLA members to take part in this process so that issues relevant to the concerns of health science librarians and their patrons will be heard. Please contact Fred Neighbors at the Alabama Public Library Service for more information.

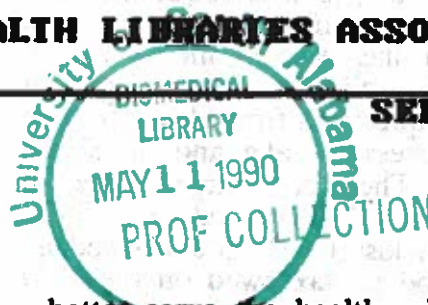
This year has been an exciting one for ALHeLA. I think our organization is undertaking projects that will position it to

better serve the health science information needs of this state for the next decade. It has been a privilege and a learning experience for me to serve as President during 1989. See you in Gulf Shores in 1990!

Update On ALHeLA's Tax Exempt Status
by Lisa Rains Russell

Two important items of business were presented to the membership at the 1989 ALHeLA business Meeting on October 5: 1) proposed Bylaws changes and 2) the re-initiation of applying for ALHeLA's tax exempt status. The proposed bylaws changes were drafted by the 1989 Bylaws Committee chaired by Sister Mary Giles Peresich. During the meeting, it was decided that the proposed changes must be mailed to the membership and a special meeting held in December for a vote on the changes. It was also decided that the proposed changes would not be mailed until the accountant advised if the changes would conflict with the tax-exempt status application process.

I reported to the membership that I had consulted with an accountant in Tuscaloosa about ALHeLA's tax-exempt situation. The accountant was in the process of reviewing the previous communication with the IRS and also reviewing the Bylaws for any necessary changes. On October 13 the accountant informed me by letter that the "Articles of Incorporation" and not the Bylaws was the essential document on which the IRS would judge tax-exempt status. I mailed a copy of the accountant's recommendations and the Bylaws Committee's proposed changes to the membership with a memorandum saying that A.J. would call a membership meeting in December to vote on the changes.



the "Bylaws" were presented to the Executive Committee at the December 8, 1989 Council Meeting. The Executive Committee voted to accept the "Articles of Incorporation" and new "Bylaws" as drafted. The "Articles" were filed on December 14, 1989 and ALHeLA, Inc. was born!

The application to the IRS requesting tax-exempt status was mailed on February 16. The accountant has warned me that it is unlikely that the application will be approved without further questions from the IRS. She expects the process to take another six to eight months. Therefore, she will file an extension for the 1989 tax return. Since ALHeLA had a loss for 1988 and owed no tax, there will be no tax owed on the 1989 extension.

I will keep the membership informed about our application status. Let Beth Laughlin or I know if you have questions or concerns about any of the documents.

Synapse is the official publication of the Alabama Health Libraries Association (ALHeLA). Edited by Paula G. Davis, Baptist Memorial Hospital, Gadsden, Alabama. Material from this publication may be freely reproduced provided credit is given to SYNAPSE and ALHeLA

The User Survey: A Health Services Case Study (from OPL (The One-Person Library) Sept. 1989, Vol.6 (5) pp 5-6)

The Montana Area Health Education Center, which provides educational opportunities for state physicians and other health care professionals, recently turned to a survey to help determine how Montana physicians acquire patient-management information. Although the AHEC is not a library, the survey dealt with doctors' information needs and many of the questions asked are equally appropriate for a survey conducted for a hospital or medical library. Indeed, the questions, with slight alterations, are such that they can provide useful data for virtually any type of library.

Preliminary results of the survey were published and distributed in April 1989. For a copy, write to Marge Levine, Montana Area Health Education Center, 308 Culbertson Hall, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717.

Region 2 CE Courses
by Jan Labeause, SE/A RMLS Education Committee

Currently there are eleven formal CE courses that have been evaluated by the Region 2 office utilizing the evaluation form developed by the Education Committee. These are courses carrying CE credit that were registered through the CE Clearinghouse for Continuing Education. The body identified in parentheses is the originator of the course.

Evaluations by participants and by the local program contacts are available from the RML office (800-638-6093) for the following courses:

CREATING THE FUTURE: BECOMING INNOVATIVE (SC/MLA)
EDITING & PRODUCING A NEWSLETTER (MLA CE 657)
ONLINE MANAGEMENT OF PERSONAL FILES (GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY)
BACK TO THE FUNDAMENTALS: MEDLARS SEARCHING (NLM)
HOSPITAL LIBRARY PRECEPTORSHIP COURSE (SE/A RMLS)

QUALITY ASSURANCE IN THE
HOSPITAL SETTING (SE/A RMLS)
WEST VIRGINIA ONLINE
DEMONSTRATION PROJECT (W VA
CONSULT)
BIOMEDICAL SEARCHING ON BRS
(BRS)
TOXNET: NEW DEVELOPMENTS (NLM)
DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT OF
PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS
(GEORGIA HEALTH SCIENCES
LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION)
RESOURCE SHARING: PRACTICAL &
TECHNICAL ASPECTS FOR THE
FUTURE (SOUTHEASTERN
CONFERENCE OF HOSPITAL
LIBRARIANS)

**New FEDLINK Guide Lists Library Software
(from Library of Congress Information
Bulletin August 28, 1989 Vol.48(35))**

A Catalog of Microcomputer Based Library Software (CMBLS), with a listing of more than 100 software packages that will help libraries automate, has been published by the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC)/Federal library and Information Network (FEDLINK) office.

A reference guide to microcomputer-based library software, CMBLS lists software packages alphabetically under broad headings that are related to library applications. Some of the headings are Acquisitions, Bibliographic, Cataloging, Indexing, Information Retrieval, Interlibrary Loan, Serials Control, and Telecommunications.

Each entry included the name of the product; the name, address, and telephone number of the publisher; the price; and a brief description of the product. Information about the products was gleaned from package labels, advertisements, published reviews, and trade and professional newsletters. Inclusion of a software package in CMBLS does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation.

The catalog was compiled by Bruce Miller, FEDLINK network librarian-microcomputer systems. Mr. Miller is a library software specialist who regularly conducts workshops

at which librarians may test available software.

CMBLS is free and may be ordered by writing to the FEDLINK Library Automation Resource Service (LARS), FLICC, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

In addition to print format, CMBLS is available as a machine-readable ASCII file that may be accessed and downloaded from the Automated Library Information Exchange (ALIX) electronic bulletin Board operated by LARS. The ALIX number is (202) 707-9656 (1200 baud, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity).

White House Conference on Library and Information Services (from Cottonboll (APLS), Sept/Oct. 1989)

The second White House Conference on Library and Information Services (WHCLIS II) has been scheduled for July 9-13, 1991, at the Washington, DC Convention Center. Over the past several months, an 18-member Alabama ad hoc planning committee has been working on recommendations. The committee has recommended to the APLS Executive Board that prior to the national conference, Gov. Guy Hunt be asked to call for the Alabama Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services to be held Feb. 26-28, 1991.

The ad hoc planning committee further recommended that in preparation for the conference, simultaneous meetings be held in each of the seven congressional districts on Jan. 26, 1991, to discuss issues and select delegates to the Alabama Governor's Conference. A keynote speaker of national stature will address the district meetings via satellite.

It has also been recommended that 40 delegates at each of the district meetings be elected to attend the Governor's Conference in Montgomery. Twelve delegates to the White House Conference would then be elected by these state conference delegates at the close of the Governor's Conference.

Federal legislation requires that the delegation be composed of four equal groups consisting of library and information professionals; current, active library and

information supporters; federal, state or local government officials and the general public.

All of the preliminary planning recommendations are being forwarded to Hunt's office for his review and decisions.

Persons interested in serving on a district planning committee, should send their name, address, phone number and legislative district number to Fred D. Neighbors at the Alabama Public Service, 6030 Monticello Drive, Montgomery, AL 36130.

A list of volunteers will be forwarded to appropriate district committee chairs as they are appointed.

Members of the Alabama Ad Hoc WHCLIS II Planning Committee are: Diane Burrow, J. Gordon Coleman, Bettye Fine Collins, Gloria Dennard, Donna Dickey, Bettye Forbus, Nancy Gibbs, Joe Higgins, William J. Hubbard, Mary Maude McCain, Sue Medina, Herman Moore, Jane Bandy Smith, Jim Smith, George Stewart, Tyrone T. Webb, A.J. Wright, Fred D. Neighbors, Bernard R. Malkmus and Geraldine Bell.

ALHeLA Annual Meeting Held In Birmingham

The 1989 annual meeting of the Alabama Health Libraries Association was held October 5-6 at the Mountain Brook Inn in Birmingham, Alabama. The theme for the meeting was "Images & Visions: Creating Our Future". Linda C. Butson, Associate Director for Information and Media Services at the Mountain Area Health Education Center in Asheville, North Carolina, was the keynote speaker. Thursday afternoon Nancy Rogers, General Manager, EBSCO Subscription Services, discussed "Improving the Images of Librarians". Later in the afternoon Virginia Algermissen, Director, Lister Hill Library, UAB, asked "What Business Are We Really In?". A banquet was held Thursday evening. Chris Retan, Executive Director, Aletheia House, Birmingham, conducted a workshop, "Marketing For Librarians" on Friday. Thank you to all those who put so much hard work into making the 1989 annual meeting such a success!

ALHeLA Executive Council Meeting Minutes

The Executive Council met December 8, 1989, at 11:00 a.m. in Room 342 of the AUM Library in Montgomery. In attendance were A.J. Wright, Lisa Russell, Beth Laughlin, Kay Fowler, Joy Harriman, Lee McCann and Barbara Shearer.

Annual Meeting: Beth Laughlin presented a final report on the 1989 Annual Meeting held on October 5-6 at the Mountain Brook Inn in Birmingham. Beth reported that a total of 28 people attended the meeting.

Membership Report: A.J. Wright reported on behalf of Bobby Powell that she had received three renewals to date for 1990.

Synapse: A.J. Wright reported on behalf of Paula Davis that a combined September-December issue would be published in early 1990. It was decided that the Synapse should be published three times per year instead of on a quarterly basis. The recommended publishing schedule is Spring (to be published in March), Summer (to be published in August) and Fall (to be published in December). The Fall issue will be the year-end report and would include the minutes from the annual meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Russell distributed the 1989-90 Treasurer's Report that shows an ending balance of \$1649.60 as of November 30, 1989.

Archives Disposition: Joyce Lamont, the Assistant Dean of Libraries for Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, has inquired about acquiring the ALHeLA archives. A.J. Wright will chair an ad hoc committee to sort and organize ALHeLA materials that will be housed at the University.

ALHeLA Achievement Award: A discussion was held regarding the implementation of the ALHeLA Achievement Award. The first award will be presented at the 1990 Annual Meeting. A procedure needs to be developed for nominations and decisions. This will be one order of business for the 1990 Executive Council to conduct.

Alabama Hospital Association Membership: A.J. Wright raised the issue of cost

effectiveness of ALHeLA being an affiliated member. Joy Harriman will attend the quarterly meetings as the designate of the ALHeLA President for one year. Joy will report back regarding the benefits of belonging to the Association.

Incorporation of Alabama Health Libraries Association: (see Lisa Russell's discussion of our tax exempt status in this issue of Synapse). Beth Laughlin moved and Joy Harriman seconded that ALHeLA be dissolved and immediately reconstituted as a new tax-exempt organization.

Minutes of the first meeting of the sole incorporation of ALHeLA, Inc.: Resolved that the By-Laws of this corporation be approved.

New Business: The new organization accepted the minutes of all previous meetings of the old organization. Business of the new formed organization was then discussed as follows:

1990 Goals: Goals discussed included, 1) a policy and procedures manual for the Association; 2) the Exchange Program (Jay Harris will supply survey result information for publication in the SYNAPSE); 3) ALHeLA needs to plan a midyear continuing education workshop for June and 4) participate in the WHCLIS II.

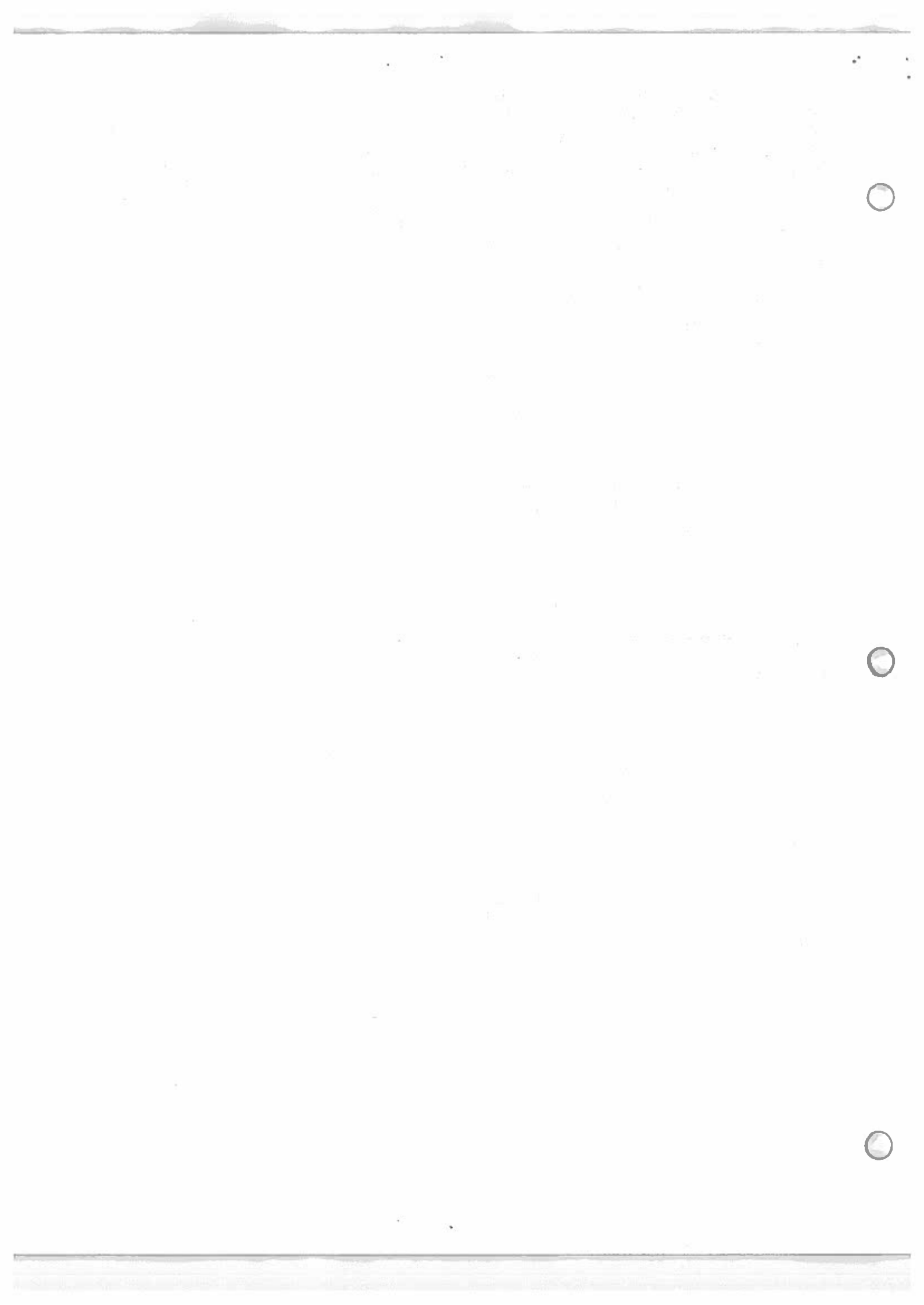
1990 Annual Meeting: Barbara Shearer discussed plans for the 1990 Annual Meeting.

Documentation for Academy of Health Information Professionals: It was decided that ALHeLA will supply official documentation letters to members of committees, chairs of committees and officers for use as documentation by members for the MLA Academy of Health Information Professionals. The matter has been referred to the Membership Committee Chair, Bobby Powell.

Barbara Shearer, 1989 Secretary

Addition To The ALHeLA Handbook

Attached is the amended version of "Part 1. ALHeLA Constitution and Bylaws". This ammended version will replace pages 55 through 59, please add these to the 1988 handbook. They were amended October 16, 1986.



Handbook of the Alabama Health Libraries Association

Part 1. ALHeLA Constitution and Bylaws

(Adopted April 10, 1981)
(Amended October 16, 1986)

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Alabama Health Libraries Association (ALHeLA).

Article II: Purpose

Section 1: Goal

The goal of this Association shall be to improve health care for the people of Alabama by the development of an organization which will increase the total information resources available, strengthen existing health libraries, encourage the formation of new libraries, and through joint effort, utilize more effectively the resources of individual libraries.

Section 2: Objectives

- a. To promote the sharing of information resources.
- b. To upgrade information resources and services provided by health libraries.
- c. To encourage the development of health libraries by making information about the availability of library consultant services more widely known.
- d. To provide workshops and educational programs for health library personnel.
- e. To facilitate communication among health library personnel, especially those in smaller health libraries, by providing a newsletter, publications, and program meetings.

Article III: Membership

Membership shall be open to all persons or institutions interested in the aims of the Association.

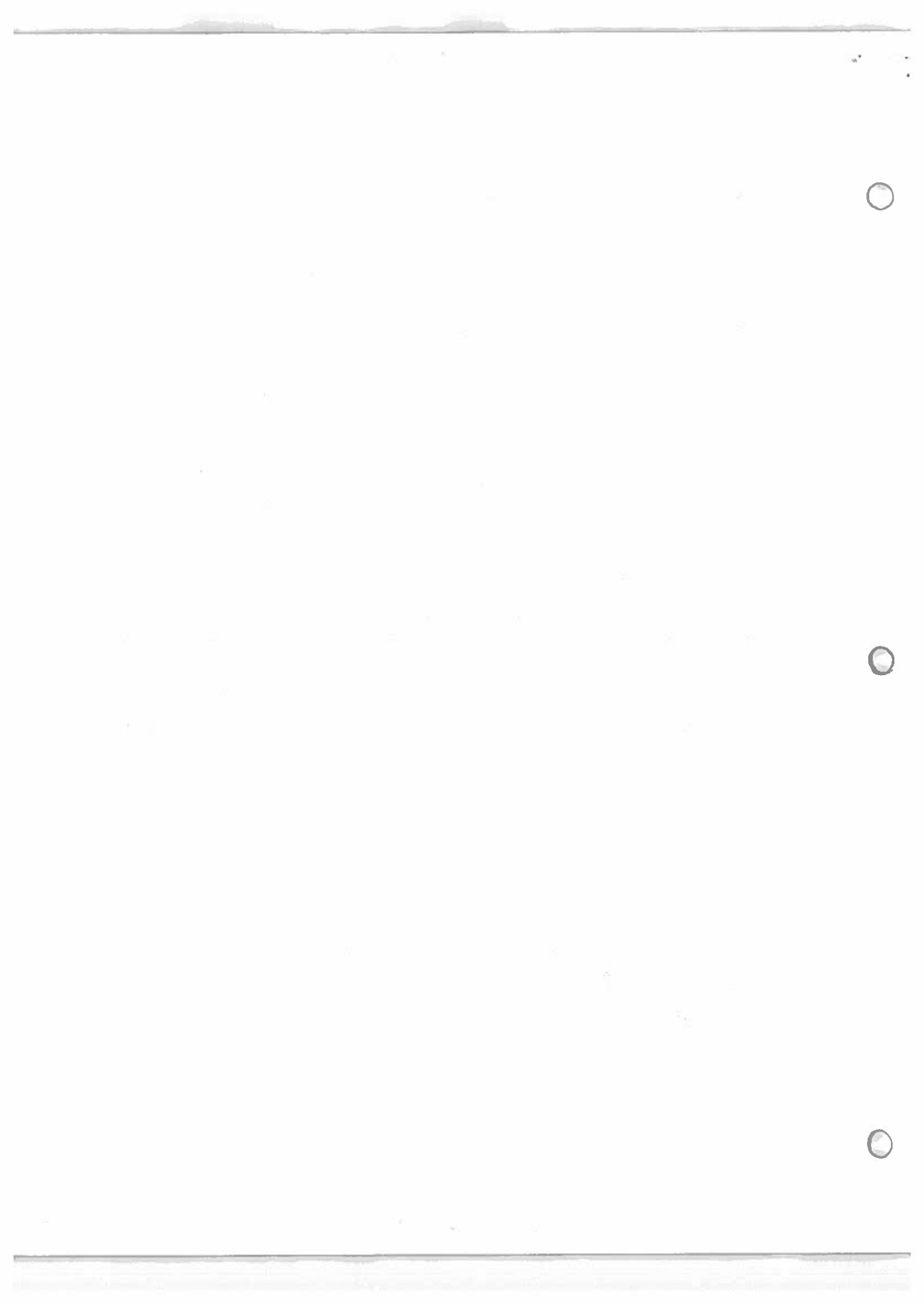
Article IV: Finances

Section 1: Dues

The annual dues shall be assessed to the membership as to be determined by the Executive Committee and approved at a business meeting of the membership. The proceeds of the dues shall be used to support the purposes of the Association. Nonpayment of dues serves as notice of resignation from the membership.

Section 2: Fiscal Year

The fiscal year and the membership year of the Association shall be January 1 through December 31, inclusive.



Section 5: Vacancies

In the event of vacancies occurring in elective offices, the next in line shall perform said duties for the remainder of the year, or if this is not practical, the Executive Committee may appoint a replacement from the membership at large for any vacancy that occurs.

Article VI: Election of Officers

Section 1: Time of Election

Elections shall be held in November. Officers shall take office January 1st and serve for the calendar year, with the exception of the Treasurer who shall serve for two years.

Section 2: Nominating Committee

The out-going President, prior to the last meeting of the calendar year, will appoint and announce to the membership a nominating committee of not fewer than three members. No nominating committee member shall be an elected member of the Executive Committee.

Section 3: Eligibility

All nominees shall be members of the Association in good standing at the time of nomination. No officer shall be eligible to serve in the same capacity for more than two consecutive terms.

Section 4: Submission to the Membership

Following a nominating committee meeting, the committee chairman will submit a slate of officers consisting of Vice President/President Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer (in the odd year), and three members at large, to the Secretary. The Secretary shall report the slate of candidates for each position to be filled at the last meeting of the calendar year. The membership may submit to the Secretary prior to the last meeting of the calendar year additional names of individuals who have indicated a willingness to serve.

Section 5: Election

Elections for officers of the Association shall be conducted by mail ballot of all members of the Association. Each member of the Association shall have one vote.

Article VII: Meetings

Section 1: Meetings

At least one meeting of the entire membership shall be held annually. Other meetings shall be held at such times as deemed desirable by the Executive Committee.

