



# Synapse

ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION



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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN by Beth Laughlin

When I accepted the office of President-Elect for ALHeLA, I had no idea that in 1990 I would be moving to a new position at Baptist Medical Center Montclair! This has definitely been one of the busiest years in your life! I want to thank the members of the executive committee and committee chairs and members for all their work. They are the ones that keep the association strong!

Mark your calendars for our annual meeting in Gulf Shores, November 8-9. See Barbara Shearer's article in this issue for more information.

A reminder: The second White House Conference on Library and Information Services (WHCLIS II) has been scheduled for July 9-13, 1991 in Washington, DC. The Alabama Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services is to be held February 26-28, 1991. Simultaneous meetings in each of the seven congressional districts of Alabama will be held on January 26, 1991, where delegates will be selected to attend the Alabama Governor's Conference. Twelve Delegates will be selected to attend the White House Conference from the Governor's Conference. Those interested in serving on a district planning committee should contact one of their district coordinators (see following article) or Fred Neighbors, Alabama Public Library Service, 6030 Monticello Drive, Montgomery, Alabama, 36130.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our annual meeting in Gulf Shores in November!

**It's Coming!**  
(reprinted from APLSauce  
July 13, 1990)

Plans are well under way for the Alabama Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services. In all seven congressional districts, honorary

chairpersons and coordinators have been named and soon will begin work on the January 1991 district conferences.

Planning subcommittees are also at work on conference agendas, public relations materials and conference packet materials.

Following are the names of the chairperson and coordinator for each district:

**District 1:** Chair, Carlos Parkman; Coordinator, James A. Damico.

**District 2:** Chair, Richard Amberg; Coordinator, Gillis Doughtie.

**District 3:** Chair, Nettie Whitley; Coordinator, Martha Philippoff.

**District 4:** Chair, Sue Glidewell; Coordinator, Rebecca Buckner.

**District 5:** Chair, Gary Pledger; Coordinators, Sybil Bullock and Donna Schremser.

**District 6:** Chairs, Herman Moore and Geraldine Bell; Coordinator, George Stewart.

**District 7:** Chair, Butch Ellis; Coordinators, Nancy Sims Donahoo and Barbara Roberts.

## ALHeLA, Inc. Receives Federal Tax Exempt Status by Lisa Rains Russell ALHeLA 1990 Treasurer

In a letter dated June 5, 1990, we were informed by the IRS that ALHeLA is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. Because ALHeLA, Inc. is a newly created organization, this is an advance ruling based on information about ALHeLA's operation from 1986-1989. The advance ruling period ends December 31, 1993. Within 90 days after that date we will have to submit the information of our operations during the advance period. Then, we will have a final determination! As long as our gross receipts total less

than \$25,000 we are not required to file any kind of income tax return between now and 1993.

I will be glad to send a copy of the determination letter on request. My telephone number is 348-1360.

Needless to say, I am relieved that this is behind us!

#### **USA Biomedical Library Faculty Members Receive Certification**

Four members of the Biomedical Library Faculty at the University of South Alabama have been certified by the academy of Health information Professionals. Pat Rodgers, Acting Director, has been certified as a Distinguished Member. Barbara Shearer, Public Services Coordinator at the UMC location, Geneva Bush, Information Services Librarian at the Campus location and Sister Mary Giles Peresich, Catalog Librarian, have been certified as Senior Members.

#### **The American Hospital Association Is Interested In Your Past**

by Mary R. McCarl,  
JCMS/UAB Health Sciences Archives, Birmingham

The American Hospital Association is looking for hospital histories to add to the collection in its Center of Hospital and Healthcare Administrative History.

The Center has the following histories of Alabama hospitals:

Birmingham: Baptist Medical Centers, The First Fifty (1972), Lloyd Noland Hospital, The Legacy (1986), University of Alabama, History (1974); Huntsville: Medicine Bags and Bumpy Roads (1985); Tuscaloosa: Partlow State School and Hospital, The Alabama State Hospitals and the Partlow State School (1964); Gadsden: Baptist Memorial Hospital, Yesterday and Today (1981).

If your hospital has ever compiled a history, please send it to AHA in Chicago. The address is: American Hospital Association, 840 North Lake Shore Drive Chicago, IL 60611 (312)280-6263

If you have extra copies, please send one to me at the Archives. I will be glad to take informal histories as well as published ones. I am trying to set up a vertical file of information on health care all over the state. I am also looking for hospital annual

reports, press releases, and any material on health care in Alabama.

My own historical research concerns the impact of the New Deal on Alabama medicine. Please let me know if you have papers and photographs from the 1930s and 1940s.

Please call me at (205) 933-8601, and many thanks to all of you who have put me on your mailing lists and sent me material.

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

**ALHeLA Represented at Chapter Council Luncheon  
by Lisa Russell, 1990 Treasurer**

The Chapter Council of MLA invited presidents of state health library associations to attend a luncheon/sharing session during the MLA Annual Meeting in Detroit on May 22, 1990. Since she was unable to attend MLA, Beth asked me to serve as ALHeLA's representative.

The luncheon was held in a large banquet room and there were other types of discussion groups going on at the same time. Even the state groups were divided into two tables. At my table were representatives from Georgia, Tennessee, Virginia, Rhode Island, Vermont/New Hampshire, and Oklahoma. Each state representative shared a little bit about the history, organization and evolution of their state group. I have briefly outlined some of the information about each group. I really enjoyed this session. The only problem was that there was not enough time. It was gratifying to hear that we are already over some of the problems discussed and a relief to hear that others have gone through a stage similar to where we are now.

Virginia is in the earliest stage of development of a statewide group, although there have been several strong regional groups for many years. The regional groups united into a Council of Health Science Libraries just two years ago and had their first annual meeting this year. Virginia has applied to SEA/RML for a \$180,000 networking grant. SEA/RML is using Virginia's, North Carolina's and Puerto Rico's networking proposal in their funding requests to NLM.

The Rhode Island group is a consortium of mainly hospital libraries. They are in their 13th edition of a union list, have five meetings per year with one CE program/supper. There are 36 members. Officers are elected. Dues are \$15. They host the North Atlantic Regional Chapter Meeting on a rotating basis with other New England state groups.

The Georgia group has about 55 members both academic and hospital librarians. Their dues are \$5.00. They have an annual meeting and have met in conjunction with the Florida Health Libraries Association. They have developed an ILL workshop with syllabus and handouts which they are willing to share with other state groups.

The Oklahoma group's composition and evolution seemed to more closely parallel Alabama than any of the other groups. Like Alabama, Oklahoma is a predominantly rural state. The Oklahoma group was the oldest organization, having

been formed in the 1970's. The leadership is hospital librarian dominated due to the philosophy of the academic regional library. Academic librarians assist and advise but do not "run" things. The group meets in conjunction with the Oklahoma Hospital Association but does not have to pay dues to OHA.

The core leadership of the Vermont/New Hampshire group is academic librarians but the 60 members also include hospital librarians. They have two meetings per year and dues are \$20.00.

The Tennessee Health Sciences Library Association (THESLA) is anchored by hospital librarians and the evolution has been guided and encouraged by the Tennessee Hospital Association's Librarian, Judith Hodges. THESLA has co-hosted a Southern Chapter meeting and may co-host MLA in the near future.

**Czechoslovakian and Romanian Nurses Need Our  
Help**

The nursing leadership in both Czechoslovakia and Romania have issued an urgent appeal for help in increasing library holdings in their respective countries. Apparently during the Communist regime few resources were allocated to nursing scholarship. Thus there are virtually no library holdings. They are requesting old (or new duplications) periodicals, books, and audiovisual software.

The Alabama State Nurses' Association has been designated as a collection agency for these holdings until shipping. They are asking for your help in donating any library materials. The shipping date will be in mid October 1990.

Please send any items to the ASNA office at 360 North Hull Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36197.

Thanks for your help in developing a nursing library for Czechoslovakian and Romanian nurses.

**1990 ALHeLA Directory**

The 1990 edition of the ALHeLA Directory is currently being prepared. The directory will list health science libraries in the State of Alabama and the services provided by each. Additionally, it will include the revised By-Laws of ALHeLA, Inc. Editors are Barbara Shearer, USA, Judy Burnham, USA, and Joy Harriman, Mobile Infirmary Medical Center. Copies



of the directory will be provided to all members of ALHeLA. A donation is being requested to help defray expenses. Additional copies will be available for purchase.

#### **ALHeLA Heads For the Gulf Coast**

ALHeLA will hold its annual meeting at the Gulf Shore State Park Resort in Gulf Shores, Alabama on November 8-9, 1990. The theme of the meeting is "The Role of Computers in Medical Libraries." On Thursday, Jacqueline van de Kamp from the National Library of Medicine will conduct a CE course "TOXNET Made Simple". Ms. van de Kamp will also provide an update on NLM search services. A banquet and business meeting will be held on Thursday evening.

On Friday morning, Jack Smith, Reference Librarian at UAB will give a presentation on "The Expanding Role of Computers in Medical Libraries." He will also serve as a moderator for a panel discussion that will follow covering such areas as computer searching, Grateful Med utilization, OPACs and technical service aspects. In the afternoon, Lisa Russell will moderate a panel that will discuss various health science databases available on CD-ROM, including MEDLINE, CINAHL, Sport, ERIC, and PsycLit. Vendors of CD-ROM products will provide an exhibit of their products, including SilverPlatter, CD-Plus, Cambridge Scientific, and EBSCO. Barbara Shearer, Public Services Coordinator, Medical Center Location of the Biomedical Library, University of South Alabama, is in charge of the details. Registration packets will be mailed in mid-September. Please do not hesitate to call Ms. Shearer for further information at (205) 471-7855.

#### **Southern Chapter of MLA in Atlanta**

"Arrivals and Departures: Making Connections for the 90's" is the theme for the Southern Chapter Annual meeting November 2-6, 1990 in Atlanta, Georgia at the Omni Hotel at CNN Center. Co-sponsoring the event are the Health Sciences Center Library of Emory University and the Atlanta Health Science Libraries Consortium.

Four full-day and three half-day continuing education courses will be taught on Saturday, November 3 and Tuesday, November 6. Afternoon tours of the Emory University Medical Library, the American Cancer Society Library, and the Center for Disease Control Information Center also will be conducted on Saturday.

On Sunday morning, Nancy Norton from Marfin Marietta Energy Systems will present the keynote address on "Information Empowerment," how to increase our "position power, knowledge power, and personal power" in the 90's. Other topics for Sunday and Monday sessions include "Information Connections," "Journals: Whose Business Is It Anyway?" and "I Published and Didn't Perish." Also on Monday, Chapter members will present papers in the areas of Technical Services, Public Services, Hospital Libraries, and Library Management.

To celebrate the Chapter's 40th Anniversary, a Sunday evening cocktail party and banquet will be held at the Georgia Railroad Depot. The "Witt's End Players" a renown Atlanta musical comedy group will entertain.

Of course, there will be ample time for sharing with old and new friends, visiting the exhibits, and exploring Underground Atlanta. Plan to join your colleagues and friends in November for this exciting professional event. For further information or to receive a registration packet, contact Sandra Franklin, Health Sciences Center Library, Emory University, 1462 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30322, (404) 727-5820.

The following CE courses will be offered on Saturday, November 3, or Tuesday, November 6. For more information, contact Marilyn Barry, Health Sciences Library, Dekalb Medical Center, 2701 North Decatur Road, Decatur, GA 30033, (404) 297-5638.

#### **LEADERSHIP SKILLS DEVELOPMENT: THE QUALITY SERVICE CONNECTION**

Date: Saturday, Nov.3, 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Instructor: Carl Joiner, Ph.D.

Fee: \$55 SC/MLA members; \$65 non-members

#### **MEDLINE ON CD/ROM: SELECTION AND MANAGEMENT**

Date: Saturday, Nov.3, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Valerie Rankow

Fee: \$75 SC/MLA members; \$85 non-members

#### **CE 312 - DEVELOPMENT AND ASSESSMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY COLLECTIONS**

Date: Saturday, Nov.3, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Instructor: Daniel T. Richards

Fee: \$100 SC/MLA members; \$125 non-members

**SOLINET: EPIC FOR EXPERIENCED SEARCHERS**

Date: Tuesday, Nov. 6, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
Location: SOLINET Headquarters, Atlanta  
Instructor: Susan Abercrombie  
Fee: \$40 SC/MLA members; \$50 non-members (Fee includes transportation from Omni Hotel to SOLINET)

**CE 310 - DRUG AND PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION RESOURCES**

Date: Tuesday, Nov. 6, 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.  
Instructor: Bonnie Snow  
Fee: \$100 SC/MLA members; \$125 non-members

**SLA: MAINSTREAMING THE SPECIAL LIBRARY**

Date: Tuesday, Nov. 6, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Instructor: Alice Sizer Warner  
Fee: \$125 SC/MLA or SLA member; \$150 non-members

**BRS REGIONAL REVIEW**

Date: Tuesday, Nov. 6, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Fee: \$50 member or non-member

**Have You Renewed Your ALHeLA Membership?**

This is a list of all current personal and institutional members of ALHeLA. Is your membership up-to-date? Remember membership has its privileges!

**1990 Personal Members**

Virginia Algermissen  
E. Ann Biggs-Williams  
Judy Burnham  
Kathy Dexter  
Mary Ann Donnell  
Barbara Parr Doughty  
Robyn A. Dudley  
Nancy A. Farnum  
Ruth E. Fenske  
Kay L. Fowler  
Billie Jean Gramka  
Jay Harris  
Atha Louise Henley  
Beth Laughlin  
Lee McCann  
Mary R. McCarl  
Sondra Pfeiffer Myers  
Sister Mary Giles Peresich  
Lisa Rains Russell  
Bob Schremser  
Barbara Shearer  
Martha Verchot

**1990 Institutional Members**

Alabama Public Library Service Baptist Medical Center/Montclair Baptist Medical Center/Princeton Baptist Memorial Hospital - Gadsden  
Carraway Methodist Medical Center  
Coosa Valley Medical Center  
Holy Name of Jesus Medical Center  
Humana Hospital - Montgomery  
J.L. Bedsole Library, Mobile College  
Jackson Hospital - Montgomery  
Majors Scientific Books, Inc.  
Medical Center East  
Southern Research Institute  
St. Vincent's Hospital  
Providence Hospital  
Troy State University/School of Nursing Library  
UAB - Department of Anesthesia  
University of Alabama - Huntsville University of Alabama - Tuscaloosa  
University of South Alabama - Biomedical library  
US Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory

To join ALHeLA contact Bobby H. Powell, Carraway Methodist Medical Center, (205) 226-6265.

**Free Booklet (from SEA Currents July/August 1990)**

NLM has recently revised its very popular publication **HEALTH HOTLINES**. This booklet lists approximately 300 organizations with toll-free numbers from DIRLINE (NLM'S Directory of Information Resources OnLine). The listing is also indexed by subject. To request a free copy of **HEALTH HOTLINES** contact Evelyn Peyton in the SE/A RMLS office. Call 800/638-6093.

**Change In Phone Number**

As of September 1990 Baptist Memorial Hospital in Gadsden will have the following phone numbers:  
Medical Library - (205)494-4128  
FAX Number - (205)494-4493  
Main Hospital # - (205)494-4000

**Journals For The Asking**

The following duplicates are available from Baptist Memorial Hospital in Gadsden:

**Hospital Pharmacy** / vol.20(3,5,6,7) 1985  
**American Journal of Hospital Pharmacy** / vol.39(1) 1982, vol.40(1) 1983, vol.41(3,4,5,8,9,10,11,12) 1984,

vol.42(2,3,6,7,8,9,10,11,12) 1985, vol.43(3,4,8,11) 1986,  
vol.44(1,2,5,10) 1987, vol.45(4,9,10) 1988.

Send your requests to:

Medical Library  
Baptist Memorial Hospital  
1007 Goodyear Avenue  
Gadsden, AL 35999.

Reimbursement of postage is the only fee.

#### **Executive Council Meets**

Baptist Medical Center Montclair was the location of the August 17th meeting of ALHeLA's Executive Council. Topics discussed were the upcoming White House Conference and ALHeLA's annual meeting. (Please see articles in this issue of Synapse). Attending the meeting were: Beth Laughlin, President; Lisa Rains Russell, Treasurer; Lee McCann, Secretary; Bobby Powell, Membership Committee; Paula Davis, Synapse editor; A.J. Wright, Past President; Jay Harris, Member-at-large.

#### **Have You Seen.....**

"Medical Data Bases: Amazing Potential Hidden in a Maze of Complex Commands," by Tim Brightbill. HealthWeek, 27 August 1990; 4(16): pp.27-29,32-33,35. Knowledge that could be at users' fingertips often stays on the shelf because of ease-of-use and cost concerns.