



Synapse

Alabama Health Libraries Association, Inc.

PROF COLLECTION BIOMEDICAL LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

Vol. 11, No. 3

Fall, 1991

ALHeLA HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

ALHeLA's annual meeting was held at Lake Guntersville State Park September 26 and 27 with a total of 37 registrants. The weather was great, and the park was a beautiful setting for the meeting.

The theme of the convention was "People Making a Difference." On Thursday, September 26, a continuing education course entitled "Meeting the Information Needs of Rural Physicians" was presented. Speakers included Dr. Cheryl Dee from the Watson Clinic Medical Library in Lakeland, Florida, and Lisa LoVullo from the Southeastern/Atlantic Regional Medical Library Service in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Dee has conducted research in the area of information needs of rural physicians. Her comments were interesting and enlightening to the



members. Ms. LoVullo gave an overview of the Regional Medical Library and its services. Al Fox from the Health Development Corporation in Tuscaloosa and Jane Ellis and Debra Jarrett from the Center for Community Health Development in Montgomery discussed rural health needs in Alabama and their relevance to health information needs. Beth Laughlin and Lisa Russell told of their experiences with the two GRATEFUL MED training grants that were awarded in Alabama. Special thanks go to Joy Harriman and Judy Burnham who planned and coordinated the program.

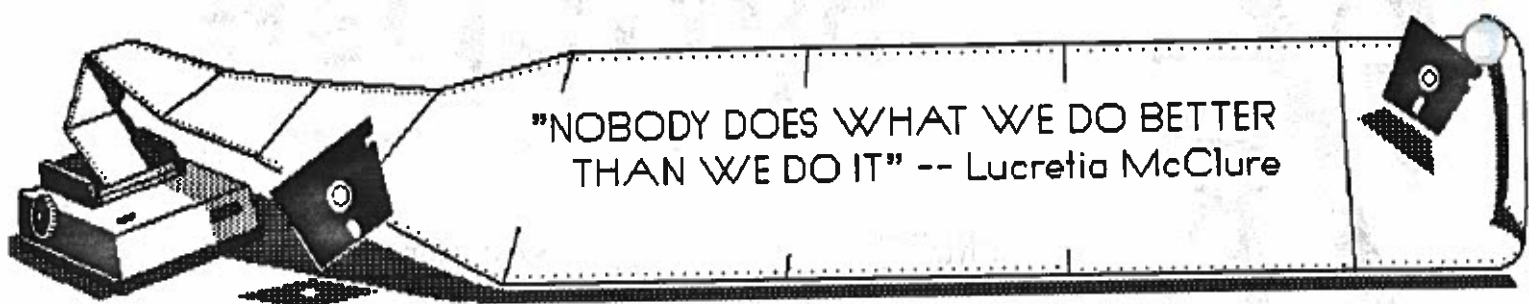
Thursday evening, members enjoyed a delicious banquet

followed by a silent auction. The tenth anniversary of ALHeLA's first meeting (April of 1981) was celebrated with a cake and balloons. Many past presidents of the association were at the banquet and were recognized.

On Friday morning, the keynote address was delivered by a very distinguished member of the medical library profession, Lucretia McClure. She is the immediate past president of the Medical Library Association, and her speech was entitled "On Being a Medical Librarian."

Following the keynote address, Maureen Battistella moderated a panel discussion. Beth Laughlin, Geneva Bush, Dot Mixon, and Kathy Feters were the panelists. They described their various library roles and missions in the dissemination of medical information in Alabama.

A planning session and the annual business meeting



cont. from p. 1

were held in the afternoon. We are grateful to the participants, our sponsors, and all those who helped make the meeting a success.

LUCRETIA McCLURE DELIVERS KEYNOTE ADDRESS

What a pleasure it was to have Lucretia McClure join us for the ALHeLA annual meeting in September! She is the immediate past president of the Medical Library Association and a very distinguished member of the medical library profession. Ms. McClure said that she was pleased to come to Alabama, especially since she lived in Decatur many years ago, and this was her first return visit. We were delighted to have the pleasure of her company at the banquet on Thursday night, and her keynote address was a fine example of her excellent speaking and writing ability.

Her speech, entitled "On

Being a Medical Librarian", focused on the professionalism of medical librarianship. She said that she believed that there was "joy to be found in the practice of librarianship", and our concern for the client calls us to use all the science, the art and the humanness that we have.

A profession has a special body of knowledge and special skills acquired through education and training. Indeed, medical librarians know the literature of librarianship as well as the literature of medicine. We are expected to know how literature is organized and arranged so that we may locate information quickly and efficiently. Not only must we find information, but we must be able to evaluate it as well. We must be able to teach our patrons how to evaluate, how to formulate search strategies, and how to access the many sources available to them. "We must never underestimate the depth of our knowledge", she said.

Another mark of our professionalism is that the librarian must be able to make decisions for the patron. As the information explosion continues, it is more and more essential that librarians serve as quality filters. It is also important for us to instruct patrons in other forms of quality filters, such as publication in peer reviewed journals, citation analysis, and inclusion in indexes such as Index Medicus and Current Contents. Ms. McClure reminded us that we are the experts in the field of literature. We know the publishers, the journals, the indexes, the databases, and the books. And we have the opportunity and the obligation to communicate this information to our users. "NOBODY DOES WHAT WE DO BETTER THAN WE DO IT", she emphasized.

Professionalism also demands that we have ethical and professional codes and standards. Medical librarians respect the standard of confidentiality with our patrons and colleagues. We have guidelines to the

copyright law and should take a strong position concerning that law. However, we must not give up our right to fair use. The policies of our institutions also must be respected.

The fourth component of a profession is that of professional associations. Participation in state, regional, and national organizations makes a statement. One voice may not be heard, but in a group many voices can make a difference. Organizations provide opportunities for continuing education courses and the exchange of ideas among colleagues. They also serve as advocates and provide criteria for certification.

Ms. McClure stated that the library is an arm of education and should be in academic reporting relationships rather than in computer centers. We, as librarians, select the best books and journals, know many facts, can critique information, and know search strategies. We are the most creative and flexible database in the library. We need to make known what we do, both to our patrons and to our deans and administrators. We have the tools and the ability, and we can prove it through our actions, our high quality and our productivity. We are people who are making a difference.

THANKS TO BARBARA
DOUGHTY FOR PROVIDING THE
ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS!!



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by
Barbara Doughty

When I agreed to be the Vice-President/President-Elect last year, I did not know that the title of President would come so soon! Barbara Shearer's move to Pennsylvania came as a surprise (and a shock!) in July. We were all sorry to lose Barbara and appreciate her leadership and contributions to ALHeLA. We missed having her at the annual meeting at Lake Guntersville in September. Since she was not at the meeting to receive a plaque and the thanks of the association, they were presented at the banquet and mailed to her later. Our good wishes go with her, and we hope that she will be visiting with us in the future.

Through the hard work and support of the Executive Committee, the Committee Chairs, and the membership, we have had a successful year. My thanks to all of the 1991 officers and committee chairs who have worked so diligently. I am especially grateful to everyone who helped with the annual meeting. I had some very positive feedback concerning the continuing education program, the speakers, and the Lake Guntersville setting.

The Continuing Education Committee, chaired by Joy Harriman, has been very active this year. Judy Burnham and Tamera Lee have worked with Joy to provide several CE opportunities to our members.

The Membership Committee, chaired by Pat Rodgers, has designed a new ALHeLA brochure. Other committees have been busy carrying out the business of the association. We welcome Beth Laughlin as the new editor of Synapse and express thanks to Paula Davis for her contributions as previous editor.

Now it is time to say welcome to the new

1992 officers. Joy Harriman from Mobile Infirmary Medical Center is Vice-President/President Elect. Tamera Lee of the Veterinary Medical Library at Auburn, is the Secretary, and Lisa Russell from the Health Sciences Library at the University of Alabama will continue as Treasurer. Members-at-Large are Judy Burnham, University of South Alabama in Mobile, Kathy Feters, Bryce Hospital in Tuscaloosa, and Sondra Pfeiffer, Lister Hill Library in Birmingham. I look forward to working with the members of the new Executive Committee and the membership of the association during 1992.

MINUTES - September 27, 1991

The business meeting of the Alabama Health Libraries Association, Inc. was held September 27, 1991 at 1:00 at Lake Gunterville, AL. Barbara Doughty, President, called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Kathy Feters and seconded by Lynn Fortney that the minutes of the 1990 Business Meeting be accepted as distributed. The motion passed.

Lisa Russell gave the Treasurer's Report. She reported that the Association made \$200 on the Silent Auction.

Nancy Clemmons gave the report of the Nominations Committee. As there were no nominations from the floor, the slate was accepted as presented. The following officers were elected:

Joy Harriman: President - Elect
Tamera Lee - Secretary
Lisa Russell - Treasurer
Judy Burnham - Member-at-Large
Kathy Feters - Member-at-Large
Sondra Pfeiffer - Member-at-Large

Ms. Doughty expressed her appreciation to the Nominations Committee: Nancy

Clemmons, Maureen Battistella and Lynn Fortney.

Ms. Burnham noted that the Directory Committee felt that a definition needed to be established for a "health science library" before the next edition of the Directory was compiled. A definition by the American Hospital Association was presented. The Survey of Health Science Libraries in Hospitals, 1989, uses the following definition for a library: "an entity that provides all of the following: (1) An organized collection of printed or other library materials, or a combination thereof. (2) A staff trained to provide and interpret such materials as required to meet the informational...or education needs of a clientele. (3) An established schedule in which services of the staff are available to clientele. (4) The physical facilities necessary to support such a collection, staff, and schedule." After discussion, the members determined that it was beneficial to list all respondents to the survey in the Directory. It was suggested that the survey for the new Directory ask questions regarding classification scheme used and other quality filters to determine the extent of the library. The AHA definition will be included in the Directory but not on the survey form. A suggestion was made that the list of past presidents, meeting sites and charter members be included in the next Directory.

Ms Doughty expressed her appreciation to the Continuing Education committee for the excellent program given on Thursday, September 26.

The report of the Exchange Committee was given in Synapse (Vol. 11, Issue 1-2, Summer, 1991).

Prior to the Annual Meeting, the membership of ALHeLA included 19 personal memberships and 26 institutional members for a total of 45 members. Kathy Feters suggested that membership

information be forwarded to the University of Alabama Graduate School of Library Service. A.J. Wright suggested that ALHeLA waive the registration fee for a library science graduate student from the University of Alabama. It was suggested that Synapse be mailed to librarians at large sites that are not members of ALHeLA, and that a copy of Synapse and a membership form be sent with the Directory survey.

Beth Laughlin will continue to serve as editor of Synapse. It will be published three times a year.

OLD BUSINESS

Sondra Pfeiffer has served as the representative to the ALF Convention Committee. ALF will meet in Birmingham April 27-May 1 at the Civic Center Complex in Birmingham. A room has been reserved for ALHeLA to hold a program and/or business meeting on April 28, 1:00 to 3:00. Lynn Fortney volunteered to present a program on marketing. Ms. Pfeiffer and Ms. Fortney will coordinate the program. Members will meet for lunch before the program. Lisa Russell noted that ALF needs to be notified if ALHeLA is going to continue to participate and that someone needs to be elected to serve on the Board.

In 1989, the Executive Committee recommended that the Achievement Award be presented at the Annual Meeting. However, no criteria was set for the selection of the recipient. After discussion, it was decided that the Executive Committee would develop the criteria for selection. There will be a call for nominations each year, but the award will not necessarily be given every year. Nominations will include the reason for the nomination and will be submitted to the Executive Committee. The procedure will be included in The Handbook section of the Directory.

A.J. Wright is organizing the Archives. Members should send appropriate documents and items such as photographs to him. After he has organized the archives, they will be stored at Tuscaloosa. The complete set of the Executive Committee minutes and copies of Synapse will be bound and passed from Vice-President to Vice-President. Lisa Russell suggested that minutes before and after incorporation be kept separate.

NEW BUSINESS

Committees will be restructured so that they will rotate with alternating terms on the committees. A chair and two members will serve on each committee. Barbara Doughty will ask the Committees to retain the same membership as last year. If that is not possible, she will ask a member of the Committee to chair for the coming year.

Lisa Russell reported on the recommendation to create a Bookkeeper position that will be a permanent position with the Treasurer continuing to make the official report. Discussion was held on creating two positions: Bookkeeper and Secretary/Treasurer. The membership decided that the Treasurer would be elected to a four-year term to provide continuity for the checking account, etc. Ms. Russell will retain the position until December 1993. A Bookkeeper position will not be created at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Judy Burnham, 1991 Secretary



LIBRARY UPDATES

UNION LIST UPDATE

The 1991 union list update for health sciences libraries participating in the Alabama Union List of Serials was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Alabama Health Libraries Association in Guntersville.

The mechanism for contributing holdings to the SERHOLD database was reviewed, beginning with contributing holdings to the state union list database maintained on OCLC by the Alabama Public Library Service (APLS). The newest health sciences libraries participating in the union list are: Medical Center East (Birmingham) and Lister Hill Library at UAB. Medical Center East (35206A) and Brookwood Medical Center (35209A) are the newest libraries to begin using DOCLINE.

The importance of annual updating of serials holdings in the union list was stressed in order to maintain the integrity of the SERHOLD database and maximize DOCLINE routing. As of early October, several

Alabama health sciences libraries had not updated their serials holdings within the last three years and are in danger of being dropped from the database according to the provision of union listing established by RMLS and APLS and agreed to by the participating libraries. These libraries are: US Army Aeromedical Research Library, Baptist Medical Center Princeton, Baptist Medical Center in Montgomery, Mobile Infirmary, Humana Hospital in Montgomery, St. Vincent's Hospital, and Brookwood Medical Center.

Holdings changes must be submitted to APLS by August 1992 to make the next SERHOLD tape update. Please use the AULS reporting form included in this issue or annotate your library holdings list which you received with the 1991 microfiche copy of the Alabama Union List of Serials. Holdings changes should be sent to Robert Avant, Union List Editor, APLS, 6030 Monticello Dr., Montgomery, AL 36130. Robert can be reached at 800-392-5671. Questions may also be directed to

Maureen Battistella,
Alabama SERHOLD Data
Coordinator, at 783-3078.

ALICAT EXPANDS TO INCLUDE SERIALS

The union list of books held by participating Alabama libraries is called ALICAT, which stands for Alabama Library and Information Catalog. ALICAT includes the holdings of the major libraries in Alabama, including the general and health sciences collections of the University of Alabama, UAB, University of South Alabama, the Birmingham Public Libraries, as well as the collections of many other libraries. This union list of books has been published for a number of years by APLS in microfiche format and has been available for purchase from that agency.

Beginning in 1992, ALICAT will be available on CD-ROM as well as microfiche. The advantage of CD-ROM will be improved access, allowing the user to locate materials by author, title, and subject. The new

ALICAT on CD-ROM will be issued in four disks and will cost \$175.00 at this writing.

The CD-ROM ALICAT will also include serial holdings for all libraries participating in the Alabama Union List of Serials, including participating health sciences libraries. The microfiche version of AULS will continue to be published.

For more information about CD-ROM ALICAT, contact Ruth Evans, State Database Coordinator, APLS, 205-277-7330.

DIALOG SEARCHING TUTORIAL AVAILABLE

Curious about DIALOG but not sure that you want to spend the money? Find out more by borrowing a computer-assisted-tutorial on DIALOG databases and search features. The five disk tutorial teaches you how to:

- *logon and logoff the DIALOG system
- *plan and conduct productive searches on DIALOG
- *use DIALOG'S basic commands effectively
- *employ DIALOG database documentation

The after hours version of DIALOG, called Knowledge Index, provides access to a wide variety of commonly used databases at a flat rate of \$24.00 per hour. Some of the databases available on Knowledge Index are: ABI/INFORM, International Pharmaceutical Index, Nursing & Allied Health, PSYCINFO, ERIC, Books in Print, Religion Index, Government Printing Office Reference File, and many others.

To obtain a complete DIALOG/Knowledge Index information and application packet, call 800-334-2564. To borrow the DIALOG computer (IBM) assisted tutorial (which is

copyrighted and may not be copied or retained on your hard drive), call Maureen Battistella, Baptist Princeton, at 783-3078 (voice) or 783-7076 (fax).

THANKS TO MAUREEN BATTISTELLA FOR THE UNION LIST, ALICAT and DIALOG REPORTS!!

MLA CE AWARDS AVAILABLE

MLA provides modest support for continuing education activities by its members. The purpose of these awards is to provide members with the opportunity to increase their competence in the theoretical, administrative, and/or technical aspects of health sciences librarianship. Awards range from \$100 to \$500 and more than one award may be granted in a year. The CE Award Jury (3 MLA members) evaluates all applications and makes recommendation on funding of the award(s). The awards are granted twice a year. Applications must be submitted to the CE Jury chair by October 1 or February 1 each year on the MLA CONTINUING EDUCATION APPLICATION FORM, which can be obtain from MLA headquarters (312-419-9094). The Jury chair this year is:

Mary Fran Prottzman
Medical Library
US Army Aeromedical Center
Bldg. 301
Ft. Rucker, AL 36362-5000
Phone 205-255-7350

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ASSOCIATION & MEMBERSHIP NEWS

FROM PAT McGEE,
SOUTHEAST
ALABAMA MEDICAL
CENTER:

We've just added SilverPlatter MEDLINE on compact disc to our list of services. Is there another hospital out there that has SilverPlatter too? If so, please contact me at 205-793-8102. I would enjoy sharing experiences!



CONGRATULATIONS TO JUDY BURNHAM!

Effective December 1, 1991, Judy Burnham assumed the duties of the UMC Site Coordinator at the University of South Alabama. As Site Coordinator, she is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Medical Center Library.

NEW CATEGORY OF MEMBERSHIP

At the August meeting of the Executive Committee, a new institutional category of membership was approved, with the dues set at \$25.00 a year. The By-Laws stated that the members should then vote on the formation of the category. Ballots were sent out and those returning their ballots approved the category.

By the way, it is time to renew your membership for 1992. A renewal notice is included in this issue of Synapse. Please use this form to renew and help the Association avoid additional mailing costs in the the form of reminders later on.

One of the main goals of the Membership Committee for 1991 was to design a new brochure for use in recruiting new members and advertising the Association. The new brochures are at the printers and will be available soon. If you would like to have a few to take to meetings or to encourage you colleagues to join, please contact :

PAT RODGERS, Chair
(205)460-6888

**ALABAMA UNION LIST OF SERIALS (AULS)
PERIODICALS REPORTING FORM**

Today's Date _____

Name of Library _____ Library OCLC Symbol _____

Title & Subtitle _____

OCLC # (optional) _____

Please complete appropriate sections below

1. _____ WE ARE CHANGING OUR HOLDINGS OF THE ABOVE TITLE.
CURRENT LIBRARY HOLDINGS (VOLS & YRS) _____

MICROFORM HOLDINGS (FORMAT, VOLS, YRS) _____

2. _____ WE ARE ADDING THE ABOVE TITLE TO OUR COLLECTION.
LIBRARY'S HOLDINGS (VOLS & YRS) _____

MICROFORM HOLDINGS (FORMAT, VOLS, YRS) _____

ISSN# (IF KNOWN) _____

3. _____ THE ABOVE TITLE HAS CHANGED BEGINNING WITH: VOLUME _____ DATE _____

NEW TITLE & SUBTITLE _____

PUBLISHER & PLACE OF PUBLICATION _____

ISSN# (IF KNOWN) _____

NEW TITLE HOLDINGS (VOLS & YRS) _____

MICROFORM HOLDINGS (FORMAT, VOLS, YRS) _____

4. _____ WE ARE DROPPING OUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE ABOVE TITLE.
WE ARE KEEPING PART OR ALL OF THE BACKFILE IN:
PAPER COPY (VOLS & YRS) _____

MICROFORM (FORMAT, VOLS, YRS) _____

_____ WE ARE DISCARDING THE ENTIRE BACKFILE.

5. _____ THE ABOVE TITLE HAS _____ CEASED PUBN _____ SUSPENDED PUBN WITH:
VOL _____ DATE _____

_____ WE ARE KEEPING PART OR ALL OF THE BACKFILE IN:

PAPER COPY (VOL & YRS) _____

MICROFORM (FORMAT, VOLS, YRS) _____

_____ WE ARE DISCARDING THE ENTIRE BACKFILE.

**RETURN TO: ALABAMA UNION LIST OF SERIALS
ALABAMA PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE
6030 MONTICELLO DRIVE
MONTGOMERY, AL 36130**

Calculation of the area of a circle

$$A = \pi r^2$$

Example 1

If the radius of a circle is 5 cm, find its area.

$$A = \pi r^2 = \pi (5)^2 = 25\pi \text{ cm}^2$$

Example 2

The area of a circle is 100π cm². Find its radius.

$$100\pi = \pi r^2 \implies r^2 = 100 \implies r = 10 \text{ cm}$$

Area of a sector

$$A = \frac{\theta}{360} \pi r^2$$

Alabama Health Libraries Association, Inc.
1992 Membership Renewal Application

Name _____
(For Institutional Memberships, please list person or department
to whom Synapse should be addressed)

Library _____

Institution _____

Street _____

City/St/Zip _____

Phone _____

Amount enclosed:
_____ Institutional \$25.00
_____ Individual \$15.00

1992 Membership Year

Make checks payable to **Alabama Health Libraries Association, Inc.**

Mail to: Alabama Health Libraries Association, Inc.
University of Alabama
Health Science Library
P. O. Box 870378
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0378



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 Catalog Librarian
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