



SYNAPSE

ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

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PRESIDENTIAL NOTES

JUDY F. BURNHAM

The Executive Committee has met and began making exciting plans to enhance medical librarianship in Alabama. I look forward to working with these individuals. A list of the Executive Committee members are listed elsewhere in this issue. Please call me or any of those listed with any ideas for ALHeLA. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sondra Pfeiffer for her leadership during 1994.

Tammy Lee, President-Elect is in charge of the Annual Meeting in the fall, and has already begun to make plans for the meeting which will be held in Auburn. This is definitely a time of change and transitions and this is the planned focus of the meeting. A date will be announced soon, along with information on the speaker. Please contact her with any suggestions. Jay Harris and Susan Seay are working on a continuing education course for that meeting and are exploring a mid-year CE course as well. Please call them with suggested topics.

At the Executive Committee meeting, we dis-

cussed ways that we could raise the visibility of ALHeLA in the state. Suggested ways were to establish liaisons with other health care associations, by mentoring, networking, submission of articles and news items to medical publications, press releases concerning activities of ALHeLA and explore a grant to exhibit at health care professional meetings. If you have other suggestions, please let me know. I think the association has a lot to offer to health care in the state of Alabama, but we do not have a very high profile. You might consider offering Grateful Med courses for the health care professionals in your community. Joy Harriman and I did so last year and about twenty-five people attended. We worked with the county medical society to sponsor the course. ALHeLA will be glad to work with you on this. Just call me for details.

Communication is the key to a successful organization, so please let me know what your needs are, and ALHeLA will try to help meet those needs.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

SUBMITTED BY
MARY FRAN PROTTSMAN

The Executive Committee of the Alabama Health Libraries Association met on January 6, 1995, at the Alabama Public Library Service, Montgomery, AL. Attending were Sondra Pfeiffer, Judy Burnham, George Marangoly, Robert Avant, Tammy Lee, Joe Moudry, Martha Tillotson, Geneva Bush, Jay Harris, Kay Hogan, Diane Whited, Diane Williams and Mary Fran Prottzman.

Judy Burnham, President, called the meeting to order at 10:30AM.

The minutes of the annual business meeting were approved as published, after noting the correct spelling of Jay Harris and Diane Whited.

Martha Tillotson presented the Treasurer's Report. The beginning balance as of September 6, 1994, was \$3585.04 while the ending balance as of January 5, 1995, is \$1369.02.

Judy reported a net cost for the annual meeting of \$900.35. The committee once again commended Judy for an excellent meeting.

Sondra Pfeiffer, Past President, expressed her appreciation for the officers' work during the past year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Judy requested brainstorming for committee actions during the next year.

BYLAWS/HANDBOOK

Judy suggested that the committee compare our bylaws to those of MLA.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Jay presented some ideas for CE courses: QuickDoc, Grants Writing, Alternative Medicine, Consumer Health, ISI products, Writing for Publication, and JCAHO regional update. He will post a message on the ALHeLA list soliciting additional ideas. Other ideas mentioned included veterinary acupuncture and online updates. Judy reminded Jay to apply to MLA well in advance for CE credit. Jay will also pursue the presentation of a midyear CE course to generate funds, utilizing APLS as a centralized location or in conjunction with the Alabama Library Association meeting in April.

DIRECTORY

Kay will note area code changes on the ALHeLA list. Judy enumerated other functions as sending address changes to Joe for publication in *Synapse*, sending directories to new members, and submitting directory purchasing information to library publications, the ALHeLA list, and MEDLIB-L. Judy also suggested compiling a history of ALHeLA for inclusion in the next directory with the archivist serving as historian. Tammy recommended the compilation of an album of photographs from our annual meetings. Jay suggested posting a membership form on the ALHeLA list.

EXCHANGE

Joe will post the exchange list on the ALHeLA listserv.

LIAISON

Functions for the liaison include interfacing with the Alabama Library Association and with Southern Chapter. Joe will offer reciprocal ad shares on the ALHeLA list. Robert will ensure that APLS is receiving a complimentary copy of *Synapse*.

MEMBERSHIP

Diane Whited will continue to contact members about renewals. Judy suggested obtaining mem-

bership lists from MLA and SLA as a source of new members.

SYNAPSE

Joe apologized for the tardiness of the last issue. The deadline for the next issue is Jan 17 and deadlines for subsequent issues will be approximately one week after the meeting of the Executive Committee. Mary Fran will E-mail the minutes to Joe and Judy simultaneously. Judy suggested the inclusion of a box for address changes within each issue of *Synapse*. Lister Hill will continue to absorb the printing costs for *Synapse* during the next year. Papers presented at the October meeting of Southern Chapter by ALHeLA members will be posted on the ALHeLA list.

UNION LIST

Robert encouraged attendance at a series of regional workshops which he will conduct in January and February. The purpose of the workshops is to facilitate AULS usage in terms of interlibrary loan tools and for internal serials control.

1995 MEETING

Tammy proposed inviting Marion Paris, Associate Professor, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, as speaker. An article by Ms Paris was published in the September, 1994, issue of *American libraries* on abandoning the comfort zone. In the article, Ms Paris encourages the rethinking of the provision of consumer health services, a topic which generates widespread interest. Other matters discussed included setting a legal cutoff date for issuing refunds and the need for points of contact for vendor contributions & exhibits.

INTERNET

The application for an NLM grant to provide statewide Internet access, which was tabled last year, was tabled again this year. Joe will provide information in *Synapse* regarding individual commercial access. Mary Fran mentioned the

need for a statewide system to provide information resources to unaffiliated health professionals as well, similar to those found in Mississippi and Georgia.

MASA MANUAL

Judy will contact Martha Verchot about updating the MASA manual, a resource manual for access to information for medical professionals.

NEW BUSINESS

Judy read the minutes of the previous RAC. The NLM has authorized a maximum fee of \$10.00 for interlibrary loans and that information grants are still available. Judy will request information about NLM grants for demonstrating GRATEFUL MED.

The next meeting, scheduled for April 15, was changed to April 7; the July 28 meeting will be held on July 21.

Suggestions to make ALHeLA more visible in the medical community included the submission of articles to medical publications and newspaper releases concerning our activities.

Martha announced two new members: Helvi McCall, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa; and Marion Morris, Baptist Medical Center-Princeton, Birmingham.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55AM.

The next meeting will be held on April 7 at the Alabama Public Library Service.

Dues are now being accepted for the 1995 membership year. Dues are \$15.00 for individual members and \$25.00 for institutions. Memberships run from January through December. Send check or money order, made payable to *Alabama Health Libraries Association*, to Martha Tillotson, ALHeLA Treasurer, whose address may be found on page for of this issue.

ALHELA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 1995

Listed beneath are the Executive Committee members for 1995. Please contact them with any suggestions, questions, or concerns that you may have. The Executive Committee will meet next on 7 April and again on 21 July. Both meetings will be held at the Alabama Public Library Service building in Montgomery, and will begin at 10:00AM.

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Please remember that the new 334 area code came into existence on 1 January for the lower half of Alabama. The old 205 area code should work for the first part of 1995, but you should remember to update your phone books and fax machine listings.

FAREWELL FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

Even though we are well into 1995, the new ALHeLA officers have been duly installed and their programs well underway, I would still like to bring 1994 to an official close with a short Past President's column in this issue of *Synapse*.

Mainly, I would like to thank the officers and committee chairmen who served under me for their hard work and enthusiasm during 1994. A special "thank you" goes to Mike Perry and Jie Li for giving us a new, updated ALHeLA *Directory*; to Joe Moudry for initiating and managing the ALHeLA Listserv; to Jay Harris and Susan Seay for increasing our membership; to Tammy Lee for the outstanding Continuing Education program; to Robert Avant for being the ever-gracious host; to the Alabama Public Library

Service for providing a lovely room for our board meetings; and, of course, to Judy Burnham, who organized and arranged our annual meeting in Mobile last September. Even a very large "thank you!" seems an inadequate expression of appreciation to Judy for providing us with such an enjoyable and educational meeting. However inadequate it may be, Thank You, Judy!

ALHeLA offers a number of opportunities to its members, but two of the most important and rewarding are the opportunity to network with other Alabama health library professionals, and the opportunity to develop and advance professionally. I would like to thank ALHeLA, its members, and officers for providing me with these opportunities, and for the beautiful plaque which was presented to me at the end of my presidency.

I truly enjoyed being your president.

SONDRA PFEIFFER

Synapse

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