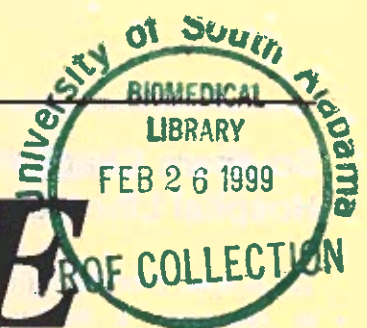


# SYNAPSE



NEWSLETTER OF ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION INC.

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Happy New Year! The Alabama Health Libraries Association started off the year with worthwhile projects to raise our visibility. Five workshops on Allied Health and Nursing Resources on the Web will be conducted for Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL) librarians by ALHeLA. The workshops will be held in Tuscaloosa, Birmingham, Huntsville, Mobile and Montgomery. Our gracious ALHeLA members Judy Burnham, Sally Murray, Martha Verchot, Pat Higginbottom, Lisa Russell, Martha Cook, Nelle Williams, and Lee Taylor volunteered to teach these workshops.

Joan Lukins, President-Elect and Programs Chair is planning this year's annual meeting at Stillwaters Resort, Dadeville. Continuing Education Committee co-chairs, Jay Harris and Susan Deming are planning some great CE courses for the annual meeting. They will work closely to set up the annual meeting. Stay tuned for more information about it.

Steven McCall is taking charge of the Ad Hoc Committee on Recruitment and Training of Medical Librarians to attract excellent people to the medical librarian's field.

We have some new faces on the Executive Committee. Everyone, officer or committee chair, is already hard at work. Thanks to everybody who agreed to serve on the Committee. Please refer to this issue for a list of committee members.

Please contact me or other members of the committee for new ideas, suggestions. Have a prosperous new year!

*Jie Li, ALHeLA President*

## Classes in PubMed and Internet Grateful Med

Looking for some help with PubMed and Internet Grateful Med? There is a good chance you can get into one of the Birmingham, AL classes.

### *Introduction to PubMed and Internet Grateful Med* Birmingham, AL, April 19-20

2-day class designed for individuals who are NEW to searching MEDLINE, users who have never searched before, users with some searching experience but little prior knowledge of the MEDLINE database or the MeSH Vocabulary.

### *Making the Transition: Converting to PubMed and Internet Grateful Med* Birmingham, AL, April 21

One-day class designed for the experienced MEDLARS or MEDLINE searchers. Familiarity with MEDLINE, the MeSH vocabulary and MeSH Tools, and Boolean logic is required.

Register online at:  
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online/request.html>

The register by date for the Birmingham classes is March 26, 1999.

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## Southern Chapter/MLA: Hospital Librarian of the Year Award

The Hospital Librarian of the Year Award was established to recognize a hospital librarian who exemplifies excellence, promotes leadership, and pursues continued high levels of achievement in the field of library science. The award is presented at the Annual Meeting.

### Nomination requirements:

- Nominee must be a member of MLA and SC/MLA
- Nominee must currently be a hospital librarian and must have worked in a hospital library for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the award

Nominations may be made for contributions to hospital librarianship as demonstrated by excellence and achievement in service, advocacy, leadership, publications, presentations, teaching, research, technology, administration, special projects, or any combination of these areas.

### For additional information contact:

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### or check out the web page at:

<http://w3.lhl.uab.edu/lister.scmla/hospawa.htm>

*Submitted by Mary Fran Prottzman*

## Southern Chapter/MLA Scholarship

Need assistance attending the Southern Chapter annual meeting and taking a course? Are you a current Southern Chapter member who works in a hospital library? Then, check out Southern Chapter/MLA's Martha C. Watkins Memorial Scholarship. The Scholarship was established in 1996 to honor Martha Watkins, who was not only a founding member of the Southeastern Conference of Hospital Librarians (SCHL), but also a friend and mentor to a generation of hospital and other health sciences librarians in the South.

The amount awarded will not exceed \$150.00, and can be used to defray any expenses necessary for the fulfillment of the course (tuition, travel, etc).

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### or view the web page :

<http://w3.lhl.uab.edu/lister/scmla/mom.htm>

*Submitted by Mary Fran Prottzman*

## News from Alabama

### University of South Alabama Biomedical Library:

From October 25 - 28, Jie Li attended the International Conference on New Mission of Academic Libraries in the 21st Century in Beijing, China, where she presented a paper. Librarians from 18 countries attended this meeting. Six conference themes were discussed at the meeting: Mission and Purpose of Academic Libraries in the 21st Century, Library Management and Organizational Structure of the Digital Library, Services and Resource Sharing in the Networked Environment, Management of Electronic Information, Libraries and Distance Learning, and Professional Development and Continuing Education. During the meeting, conference attendants also visited the National Library China and the Tsinghua University Library. Jie Li's paper "Distance education in health sciences and libraries services" has been published in the conference proceedings.

Gentry Holbert has joined the library faculty as Information Services/Education Coordinator at the University of South Alabama Biomedical Library. She will be responsible for teaching and coordinating classes on online and computer resources as well as providing assistance in the Reference Department. She comes to Mobile from Washington, D.C. where she was the Manager of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Information Center. Prior to that, she held positions as Electronic Services Librarian at USA's University Library and Head of Reference Services at Southeastern Louisiana University.



Kathy Corner has joined the Circulation Department, at the campus site, as a Library Technical Assistant 1. She formerly worked at the University Library.

Lynda Touart, graphic artist in USA Media Production Services, received Honorable Mention in the Graphics in the Watercolor and Graphic Art Society exhibit, now showing at the downtown gallery of the Mobile Museum of Art.

The USA Biomedical Library held its annual Thanksgiving Food Drive in November to benefit the Bay Area Food Bank. A barrel was placed in the lobby of the campus site and 132 pounds of food was donated.

The USA Biomedical Library, Media Production Services, and the Department of Pathology participated in the Lee National Denim Day on October 9. The Lee Company encourages companies across America to allow their employees to wear jeans in exchange for a \$5 donation to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. This is the largest private funder of research and education dedicated to breast cancer. A display of posters, pamphlets, mammogram x-rays, and a prosthetic breast exam model was set-up at both sites of the library. The campus site of the Biomedical Library and Media Production Services raised \$165.00 and the Medical Center Site along with the Department of Pathology raised \$185.65. Participating employees were given pink ribbon pins to wear in support of this worthwhile cause. To see pictures of the event go to:

[http://www.denimday.com/denimday/stories/univ\\_sa.stm](http://www.denimday.com/denimday/stories/univ_sa.stm)

#### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA BIOMEDICAL LIBRARY RECEIVES SUBCONTRACT

The University of South Alabama Biomedical Library has received a subcontract to exhibit at two upcoming professional meetings. The first exhibit will be at the Alabama Occupational Therapy Association meeting in Orange Beach in March and the next will be at the Alabama Hospital Association meeting in Birmingham in June. Both exhibits will include demonstrations of searching MEDLINE using Internet Grateful Med and PubMed.

*Submitted by Judy F. Burnham*

### National Library of Medicine News

#### SERHOLD:

Next generation SERHOLD is coming! It will be here before you know it; full implementation is planned for July 1999. Like new DOCLINE and DOCUSER, this version of new SERHOLD will make use of the ORACLE database management system with a web interface for viewing, entering, and editing data.

The next generation SERHOLD will also support production of certain union list products. Each library will have the ability to retrieve union lists for consortia of which the library is a member. Some consortia may print and distribute SERHOLD union lists for their members and may charge a nominal fee.

NLM will not offer microfiche products. As a result, the 1998 Region 2 *Union List of Serials* will be the last produced by the NN/LM SE/A office. Because of the searching capabilities of new SERHOLD and the state union lists available, this should not be a problem. The companion product to the Union List of Serials, the *ILL Policy Handbook* is a directory of SE/A SERHOLD participants and provides their ILL prices and policies along with other information. It will produced for one more year.

#### Some new features of the next generation of SERHOLD include:

- ▶ searching the entire SERHOLD file and limiting based on institution, consortia, state or region
- ▶ a new LIBID which will incorporate the SERHOLD 3-letter code
- ▶ ability to view library information from DOCUSER including address, phone number, email addresses, etc.

#### OLDMEDLINE:

On November 14, 1998 OLDMEDLINE went from a two year file to a six year file. Prior to this change, OLDMEDLINE covered citations from the 1964 and 1965 Cumulated Index Medicus (CIM). With this expansion, the file contains 771,287 citations indexed for CIM between 1960 and 1965. OLDMEDLINE is currently Web accessible through Internet Grateful Med (<http://igm.nlm.nih.gov>) and it is also available as an ELHILL file. A detailed article appeared in the November December 1998 NLM Technical Bulletin.

#### Evidence-Based Medicine:

Interested in evidence-based medicine? The NN/LM SE/A office has the videotape *Evidence-based Health Care in Action* available for loan. The tape is from the Medical Library Association's teleconference held on September 16, 1998. Contact Ruth Collins, to request it.

*From NN/LM SE/A Region News*



## Alabama Health Libraries Association 1999 Executive Committee

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**Alabama Health Libraries Association**  
*Executive Committee Meeting - MINUTES*  
January 15, 1999

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 1030am by Jie Li, President.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Members present were Jie Li, President; Joan Lukins, President-Elect; Pat Higginbottom, Past-President; Tracy Powell, Liaison Committee; Jay Harris, Continuing Education Committee; Susan Seay, Member-at-Large; Carolyn Holmes, Membership Committee; Diane Williams, *Synapse*; Sally Murray, Union List Coordinator; Jan Burns, Directory Committee; Robert Avant, Union List Coordinator; Lisa Russell, Treasurer; Marian Morris, Secretary; Beverly Johnson, Liaison Committee; Susan Deming, Continuing Education Committee. Members absent were Bob Schrimsher, Bylaws Committee; Betty Wyman, Directory Committee; and Inez Pinkard, Member-at-Large.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM ANNUAL MEETING:**

The minutes of the August 21, 1998 meeting were approved as written.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Jie Li announced for Judy Burnham that the MASA manual is updated and that the order form is available at The Alliance for CME website. Betty Wyman is program chair for the Alabama Library Association this year and encourages attendance to the conference at Perdido Bay. Betty invited ALHeLA to do a "Health Resources on the Internet" workshop for the conference; Judy Burnham and Sally Murray volunteered to teach it.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Regional Health Sciences Library Association Exchange : Joan Lukins reported on the breakfast roundtable held during SC/MLA. Mostly favorable comments were received on the evaluation sheets, with only a few negative comments regarding time. There were 25 attendees and all would like the exchange to continue.

ALHeLA Student Award : Jie Li reported that no one applied for the scholarship last year. The committee will continue offering the award, with Steven MacCall to assist with publicity.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

ALHeLA/NAAL Workshops on Allied Health and Nursing Resources on the Web : Jie Li reported on this project. Sue Medina from NAAL requested ALHeLA's input and help with the workshops. The workshops are primarily for non-medical librarians. Four workshops will be held in March and one to follow in May, all taught by ALHeLA members. Jie is working on compiling site information and coordinating the overall effort. ALHeLA will assist with transportation costs for instructors if necessary.

MLA/SC and ALHeLA Joint Meeting in Mobile, Fall 2000 : Jie Li reported that Tom Williams is chair of the local planning committee and asked what ALHeLA needs to do to co-sponsor the conference. This will be discussed in detail at the next meeting.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Lisa Rains Russell reported that the ALHeLA treasury is still in good shape with a balance of over \$8,500. The Mobile meeting was slightly profitable; and additional income will be coming from vendor support and donations for the directory.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Bylaws : No report.

Continuing Education : Jay Harris reported that Jett McCann is willing to do a serials management CE course for us, probably four hour course based on his eight hour MLA-approved course and with extra emphasis on electronic journals. Joan suggested that perhaps someone from the CDC could develop a course also. The committee suggested that the honorarium amount be included in negotiations, with perhaps only \$250 for in-state.

Directory : Jan Burns reported that she distributed most of the new directories at the annual meeting. She brought updates for the executive committee. The rest of the directories will be mailed out this weekend. The new directory also includes handbook; Jie pointed out that executive committee member duties are explained here.



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**Liaison** : Tracy Powell reported that she would like input on the CE courses for SC/MLA.

**Membership** : Carolyn Holmes reported that of our 66 members from last year, 31 have renewed (20 individuals, 11 institutional). We also have two members - Nelle Williams from the Health Sciences Library at the University of Alabama and Phenix Regional Medical Center, which brings the total membership to 33 members to date. Carolyn will consider having more brochures printed later this year.

**Synapse** : Diane Williams announced that the schedule will be the same as last year; two weeks after executive meeting is the deadline for submitting items. Diane prefers that items are submitted via email.

**Uzion List Coordinators** : Robert Avant introduced a guest, Ruth Evans from APLS. Robert Avant, Sally Murray, and Diane Williams gave an overview of the AULS and how ALHELA and SERHOLD correlate with the information entered into the OCLC for AULS. NLM is discontinuing tape loads; everyone discussed future ways of keeping this information, including the pros and cons for several options.

#### 1999 ANNUAL MEETING

Joan Lukins announced preliminary plans to have the conference at StillWaters Resort, August 12-13, 1999. The theme will address the millenium. She will report on more specifics at the next meeting. Check out the website at <http://www.stillwaters.com> for more information on the resort.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joan announced that a grant-funded rural healthcare information training (PubMed, IGM) begins on January 26 with a session in Greene county.

Jan Burns advised the committee about the Periodical Database Teleconference on Friday, February 26; UAB may host this teleconference.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1145am.

*Respectfully submitted, Marian Morris, Secretary*

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#### *Synapse*

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