

GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Executive Board Meeting
April 20, 2001 - 9:30 a.m.
Chattahoochee Technical College, Marietta, Georgia

The Executive Board of the Georgia Library Association met April 20, 2001 at Chattahoochee Technical College in Marietta, Georgia.

President Eddie McLeod called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Present were Gordon Baker, Charles Beard, Mary Beachum, Michele Behr, Tom Budlong, Susan Cooley, Barbara Durham, Ann Hamilton, Nanette Kicker, Eddie McLeod, Debbie Manget, Susan Morris, Bill Nelson, JoEllen Ostendorf, Nancy Ray, and Mike Seigler.

It was announced that Georgia's next annual Library Legislative Day will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2002, in the same locations as before at the Capital. George Gaumond is the chairman of the planning committee for this event.

Attendance is down for the national ALA Legislative Day in May this year, with fourteen Georgia librarians going to Washington, D.C. Charles Beard commented that the new administration has reduced funding for libraries and the National Library Commission is being zeroed out.

The minutes of the January 25th meeting had been distributed in advance by e-mail so members had already read them. After the correction of the spelling of two names, Gordon Baker made a motion that the minutes be approved and Tom Budlong seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Gordon Baker handed out the Treasurer's report as of April 18, 2001(copy on file with minutes). The two Dean Witter Account CD's came due April 8 and have been renewed as stated in the report. The reported checkbook balance will be increased by a deposit of \$8,015.15, mostly memberships, which was made on April 19. The balance forward reported in January 2001 was incorrect due to bank error but has been corrected by +\$105.00 to read \$31,883.40 in this report.

Gordon commented that the COMO/SELA Conference intake was down by approximately \$3,000 this past year. We need to promote attendance at COMO 2002, which will be held in Athens. Brief discussion took place about the expense that is required to accommodate the hearing impaired at the conference. When the event lasts more than two hours, it is necessary to hire two sign language interpreters. Bill Nelson made a motion that the treasurer's report be accepted, and Tom Budlong seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Barabara Durham passed out an information sheet about the Membership Committee (copy on file with minutes) and asked for general discussion about the types of membership currently offered. Eddie McLeod said that Barbara's committee was assigned to come up with definitions and suggest what GLA might need to do to enhance membership opportunities. The GLA web site has some old information about types of memberships and needs to be updated with definitions, to include Corporate, Organization, and any other types of memberships.

Susan Cooley suggested that a historian or archivist is needed to keep up with the GLA minutes and other documents of the organization year to year. Brief discussion took place about whether this might best be an elected position with a three-year term, like the treasurer, or an appointed position. Eddie McLeod wondered if someone could be found who is interested in this.

Michele Behr gave out the numerical GLA Membership Report (copy on file with minutes). There are 602 total members, of which 99 signed up as Lifetime/Honorary, 14 Student, 79 Parapro-fessional, 14 Retired, 45 Trustee/Friends, 5 Organizational, and 85 New Members. The various GLA Divisions have members as follows: Academic Library 166, Paraprofessional 52, Public Library 157, School Library 56, and Special Libraries 29. Susan Cooley commented that she knew memberships are down because they do not send out as many Georgia Library Quarterly copies as before.

Eddie McLeod asked for discussion about what we can do right now to increase GLA memberships and attendance at the annual conference. Michele Behr mentioned that the committee has sent out mass mailings of membership brochures, 3 to 5 forms going to each library in Georgia. Other ideas from the discussion are briefly summarized here as follows:

When staff are encouraged to join, their response is better.

Could we link up with the new certification requirements?

People used to write personal letters to "types" of libraries to encourage memberships.

Programs should be "task related" and give public librarians "courses" toward the new certification maintenance requirements (10 hours in 2 years).

Regional programs would be good but the state library is doing more now.

How about a greater discount for members to attend COMO?

The younger generation today gathers information in different ways.

Few join for just one year and then quit, maybe only 20% to 30%.

Travel for professional state-paid librarians has not increased for 17 years.

For conference registration, charge first two people from one library full price, then all others from that library can have a discount - i.e., a "van price."

Do a mailing in May, for half-year memberships.

If you sign someone up for membership, you get a discount.

Give formal recognition to those who get others to sign up.

Give a discount at the GLA store at COMO.

Be systematic about planning good programs, especially for paraprofessionals.

Have more programs aimed at public libraries. The academic librarians have the incentive that tenure is based on presentation and publication, but public libraries don't have that motivation for presenting papers or planning programs at conferences.

At the Leadership Conference encourage individuals to make specific plans for the year instead of just focusing on what is each "unit" going to do.

Get lists of topics for training, then get people to do the training needed.

May 18, 2001 will be the deadline for program proposals to the COMO Committee. Reminder notices will be sent out. The proposal forms will be on the web site.

Tom Budlong suggested a "brainstorming" block of time at the Leadership Conference for further ideas. He pointed out that OPLS and SOLINET regularly do workshops and training, and maybe they can cooperate to do more specific events actually at the COMO Conference. He mentioned the possibility of getting LAMA speakers but they are very expensive.

Bill Nelson reported that SELA Leadership is being revitalized with over 100 at the very successful workshop. The Joint SELA/SCLA Conference will be held in Charleston, SC, on October 24-26, 2002. These dates don't conflict with COMO or with ALA, which will be held in Atlanta that year. If you have news for Southeastern Librarian, get it in for publication.

Ralph Russell was not present to give the ALA Councilor report, but Charles Beard spoke for him to mention that the lawsuit against the Children's Internet Protection Act is being pursued by ALA and other entities. Charles will get word out about the opportunity for donations to assist with the legal defense. The request is for \$1,000 donations from those who would like to give.

Susan Cooley gave the GLQ Editor's report. She handed out copies of the Spring 2001 issue to the Executive Board and noted that there are some problems with some pages being repeated and other pages being omitted. Susan reiterated that it is difficult to work successfully with this printer, getting the information into print but with the limitation on funding having to hold the issue to 32 pages. Susan recommends an orientation session for those who work with the publication.

Charles Beard commented that the briefing at Legislative Day 2001 was outstanding, as was the way in which representatives of academic and public libraries worked together to deal with the issues of Senate Bill 214 when it came up without advance notice near the end of the session.

The awards banquet at COMO this next year should be special, since it will include the first Bob Richardson Award given as a tribute to his memory. Eddie McLeod wants this to be an excellent

event. There will be recognition or awards for all those who have served in special ways. Chancellor Stephen Portch has been asked to speak on the theme of "One Voice for a More Educated Georgia;" in his address to us on Legislative Day, he spoke with much the same theme. It was mentioned that the new director of the Office of Public Library Services may be asked to speak also at the awards banquet, or to be our "backup" if Dr. Portch is unable to accept the invitation to speak; or he/she may be the principal speaker at the Public Library Division luncheon. Bill Gordon, president of ALA, is being invited to attend COMO also, so he may be available also for keynote speaking.

Susan Cooley announced that Dave Evans of Kennesaw is the new advertising manager for GLQ.

Susan Morris reported that the Academic Library Division is working on a program for GLA featuring Michael Gorman, a long-time, internationally known name in librarianship; they are looking for sponsorships. She expressed continuing concern about the possible effects of UCITA on our state in the future; after attending the SOLINET presentation on this issue, she feels that the potential impact of UCITA on libraries is "frightening." She also commended Georgia's librarians for working together to defeat SB 214 for this year, although it may come up again in the future.

Debbie Manget said that the Trustees, Friends & Advocates Division is still actively looking for a person to head up the division. They are working with program ideas for COMO, perhaps Cathy Helms, the attorney who has spoken to the public library directors several times. She said it is nice to have a keynote speaker who will also do a conference program.

Eddie McLeod said she hadn't heard from Terri Townsend (New Members Roundtable) or Jacquie Houston (Paraprofessional Division) so had no division reports to give in their absence. Eddie will try to contact them.

Gordon Baker reported for the School Library Media Division that Pam Nutt, media specialist and teacher of the year from the Griffin-Spalding County School System, will present the Inspiration at the School Library Media Luncheon at COMO.

Mary Beachum said the Public Libraries Division feels that education and training of paraprofessionals needs to be emphasized by GLA at COMO and all the time. They need the ideas to "get off the ground" and the structure to make it happen.

Robert Hulshof (Special Libraries and Information Services) was not present to report on his division.

Nanette Kicker reported for the Interest Group Council and Interest Groups. Chairs have been

named for all interest groups. Beth Hedrick of the Technical College Library Council says they have changed their bylaws to reflect the state-wide name change from "Institute" to "College." Shirley Lankford of State University of West Georgia has indicated that they would like to start a new Library Instruction Interest Group. She needs to know how many signatures are required on a petition to move this idea forward. David White of Augusta State has agreed to be vice-chair for the Intellectual Freedom Interest Group, chaired by Karen Gross. Tamara George met with the Collection Development Interest Group last week to discuss programs.

Mike Seigler and Gordon Baker gave committee reports for COMO. The 2000 Conference has made a final distribution of monies and has concluded its report period. The new treasurer for COMO, Ann Grantham, will sign the bank card and receive the books next week. In plans underway for 2001 Conference, some Georgia media specialists have expressed concern about COMO scheduled on Halloween, since they want to be home with their children instead of having to be out of town that night. There is a suggestion to have a "best dressed" for Halloween award to be given out at the exhibitors' reception on Wednesday night. Tom said not many program proposals have been received thus far for COMO 2001. The site selection committee is recommending the Athens Convention Center for COMO 2002, and maybe back to Jekyll Island for COMO 2003.

After breaking for lunch, the Executive Board resumed its meeting. Moving ahead on the agenda to an item of new business, the board's attention was directed to the Resolution on Children's Internet Protection Act (copy on file with minutes), which had been sent out in advance for board members to read.

MOTION: Tom Budlong moved that the GLA Board adopt this document, "A Resolution Supporting the American Library Association Legal Action Against The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act (NCIPA)." The motion was seconded by Barbara Durham. Discussion made clear that the policy emphasizes local control and that information concerning donations to assist with the legal defense is available on the GLA website. The motion passed.

President Eddie McLeod asked the executive board members to review the GLA 2001 Budget, which was given out in draft form (copy on file with minutes). She said the revenue figures are fairly firm with addition of \$3,000 from the Hubbard Scholarship Fund. But several changes or corrections may be needed on the expenditures side. It was agreed that Eddie will send a revised budget to board members through e-mail, after which they are to let Eddie know their vote on the budget.

The GLA sales booth has brought in good revenue according to Tom Budlong. Gordon Baker and Ann Hamilton formed the ALA/GLA/COMO booth committee. The GLA logo done in

needle-work was a popular item and they plan to raffle off the samples. Mugs and T-shirts with the design: "[Heart] GA Libraries" (i.e., "Love GA Libraries") will be considered for the next project, intended especially for GA Library Legislative Day scheduled for February 14, 2002.

In further preparation of the RFP process for GLA's administrative services, Susan Bailey had sent out to board members in advance a report entitled "Administrative Services Provided by Current Association Management Vendor" (copy on file with minutes). Preparing this document along with Susan were Doug Goans for web services and Debbie Meyer for other services. This document was discussed at length, including the following points made:

- Add to contract negotiations to do the bulk mailing for Georgia Library Quarterly.
- If journal "goes electronic," will be worth it to continue publishing/distributing hard copy?
- Need to find out if interested companies have handled accounts similar to ours.
- Need to find out what other library associations are doing for administrative services, who is their vendor, can they recommend, what is their annual cost per membership size.
- May consider more than one vendor -- i.e, have web by one, other services by another.
- Will have to see how the bids come in, then may have to increase revenue to afford service.
- Eddie McLeod and Gordon Baker will get together to audit the report form.
- Ann Hamilton will help draw up list of eligible companies that might be interested.

Date for submission of RFP's was set for June 29, 2001, with the plan to present a report to the GLA Executive Board at their scheduled meeting on July 13, 2001. Implementation is planned for January 2002. Michele said that SOLINET is getting out of administrative management since they have a limited staff and need to focus on their main roles. Lauren Fallon works from home and has been subcontracted to do SELA's management; it is going well. If GLA could identify someone who would do this for us, SOLINET might provide the use of their infrastructure for this type of plan.

JoEllen Ostendorf spoke to the board about the need for a paraprofessional certification program which would include a classification/pay schedule plan for paraprofessional employees in Georgia's libraries. She passed out an outline document entitled, "Establishing Paraprofessional Training for Georgia's Libraries" (copy on file with minutes). JoEllen has studied this matter extensively and feels that we need concerted effort on the part of all our library organizations to work toward this goal.

Eddie McLeod will appoint a Task Force to study this matter and bring back a report to the board on July 13, 2001. She will contact Susan Roberts of OPLS for some suggestions about committee members. Several names were suggested by the board including Mary Beachum, Kathy Brock, Barbara Durham, George Gaumont, Brenda Holmes, Nanette Kicker, JoEllen Ostendorf, and representative paraprofessionals.

The next meeting of the GLA Executive Board will be at Union Grove High School on Friday, July 13, 2001. Gordon Baker will be our host for this meeting.

Charles Beard suggested that the Scholarship Committee's silent auction should be done again, with every district contributing items such as the gift basket that Floyd College did last time. Needlepoint would also be a good item.

At COMO in October 2001, the executive board will meet on Wednesday, October 30, possibly at lunchtime. Then there will be a wrap-up meeting of the executive board with new and outgoing officers on Friday afternoon after the last general session.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy C. Ray
GLA Secretary, 2000-2001