

Libraries



## From the President

What an exciting time for libraries and library personnel in North Carolina! There is so much going on it's hard to keep up with the activity. Between committee meetings and workshops and the differences that the end of a school year makes to all of us, I'm sure you have been just as busy as I have.

As we continue to design North Carolina libraries for the nineties, many issues seem to be on the table of the Association. Three that come to mind right now are legislative action, literacy and the regional conferences that will precede the Governor's and White House Conferences on Libraries and Information Science.

During National Library Week four groups of North Carolinians visited the offices of our national representatives and senators. In June state legislators were visited to encourage their support for state aid to public libraries. Generally, the elected officials and their aides were supportive of issues raised during the visits. The results of our work will be seen as action is taken by the national and state legislative bodies.

Library employees and friends have been active in support of their beliefs about libraries. Not enough can be said about the importance of continual, personal contacts with elected officials. They want to know the opinions of their constituents. Please make every effort to write or phone your representative or senator when you know he/she may be considering a vote on a bill that affects libraries. If you would like more information about NCLA's activity in this area, contact David Fergusson at Forsyth County Public Library who chairs the Governmental Relations Committee.

On July 27 and 28 NCLA will co-sponsor a literacy conference titled "Putting the Pieces Together" with the North Carolina Literacy Association; the North Carolina Department of Community Colleges; the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Division of State Library; Literacy South; the North Carolina Center for Public Television; and the North Carolina Department of Administration. The theme of the conference will highlight partnerships for literacy education in North Carolina. Five library-based

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# for the 90's

literacy programs will be featured in the sessions of the conference. The keynote address will be delivered on Friday afternoon by Governor James Martin. The banquet speaker on Friday evening will be a representative from Project Literacy U. S. (PLUS). There will be ten (10) different sessions offered twice on Saturday morning to feature some literacy partnerships that work. Vendor exhibits and literacy program displays will also be a part of the conference. I hope that you can be there to lend your support to this issue that is so vital to libraries.

The State Library of North Carolina and Diana Young are leading the efforts to get citizen input for the Governor's and White House Conferences on Library and Information Science. Your input is needed! A series of regional conferences is being planned for the fall of 1990. You should mark your calendar and plan to be at the one that will solicit input from your county. The regional conference sites were listed in a recent issue of *Tarheel Libraries*, but if you need more information you should call the State Library. The library issues that will be taken by our delegates to the White House Conference will be developed from information gathered at the regional conferences and the Governor's Conference. The State Library has planned activities that will allow for input from library personnel and citizens without requiring a lot of travel. Please participate and make sure we give the process the grassroots support that will ensure the advancement of libraries in North Carolina. Watch *Tarheel Libraries* for more information.

Barbara Baker, President



#### Regional Governor's Conferences

**Region 1:** November 2, Macon County Public Library, Franklin, NC.

**Region 2:** September 14, North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC.

**Region 3:** November 16, Elizabeth City State University, Elizabeth City, NC.

**Region 4:** October 26, Brunswick County Technical College, Supply, NC.

**Region 5:** August 3, Davidson College, Davidson, NC.

**Region 6:** October 12, Forsyth County Public Library, Winston-Salem, NC.

**Region 7:** September 21, South Lenoir High School, Kinston, NC.

**Region 8:** November 9, Caldwell County Public Library, Lenoir, NC.

**Region 9:** December 14, Leath Memorial Library, Rockingham, NC.

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