

From the Editor

Plummer Alston "Al" Jones, Jr.,

Love's Labor Reconsidered

“What’s happened to *North Carolina Libraries*?” The simple answer is that *North Carolina Libraries* has been undergoing a physical transformation from print to electronic. The more complex answer is that the NCL Editorial Board has been involved in a process of introspection/reconsidering NCL’s mission and discussing how NCL could be more efficiently and less expensively produced.

We reached consensus to publish *North Carolina Libraries* on the World Wide Web. We are no longer depending on the help of guest editors to identify authors to address a chosen theme for each issue. From now on, each issue of NCL will include articles on several topics rather than on one selected topic.

North Carolina Libraries is one of three publications for the NCLA membership. *Tar Heel Libraries*, a print newsletter of NCLA and the State Library of North Carolina, edited by State Library consultants, Frannie Ashburn and Kevin Cherry, and NCLA’s electronic newsletter, *E-News*, edited by Marilyn Schuster of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, together keep NCLA members aware of current library events in North Carolina and inform us of the many accomplishments of NCLA members.

The *North Carolina Libraries* Editorial Board is composed of experienced volunteer editors who represent a cross-section of the North Carolina Library Association — academic, public, school, and special librarians, as well as library educators. Associate Editors are Joline Ezzell of Duke University, and Mike Van Fossen of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Assistant Editors are Paula Hinton and Page Life, both from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Diane Kester of East Carolina University; and Joan Sherif of the Northwest Regional Library System. Terry Brandsma of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, our Web publishing consultant, will work with graphic designer, Pat Weathersbee of Books, etc. in Winterville, to get *North Carolina Libraries* on the Web.

We are continuing special columns that have been very popular over the years, including “North Carolina Books,” edited by Dorothy Hodder of New Hanover County Public Library, “Lagniappe: North Caroliniana,” edited by Suzanne Wise of Appalachian State University, and “Wired to the World,” edited by Ralph Lee Scott of East Carolina University. Michael Cotter, now retired from East Carolina University, has agreed to continue to serve as Indexer and will compile the annual index.

North Carolina Libraries will continue to be indexed by H. W. Wilson Company. Manuscripts will be refereed by at least two editors. The electronic version of *North Carolina Libraries* will be available at <<http://www.nclaonline.org/NCL>>. The North Carolina Library Association will maintain an archive of all electronic issues.

We are considering producing an annual print cumulation of *North Carolina Libraries* issues for those who prefer a print record. Please let us know what you think of this idea and of the new electronic version.