
Letters To The Editor

The article "The Tar Heel Enclave: Public Library Salaries in North Carolina," in the Spring, 1983 issue was both interesting and informative.

As the authors observe, there are no easy solutions to the problems of low salaries for librarians. Perhaps one solution, not mentioned in the article, would be for library schools to turn out fewer graduates, at least until the current surplus of librarians ceases to exist.

It is common knowledge that library school graduates have experienced difficulty in the job market for the past several years. Most librarians agree this trend is likely to continue throughout the 80's. Logic would seem to dictate that the number of graduates with library science degrees be substantially reduced and, as a corollary step, that ALA impose an immediate moratorium on the accreditation of new library schools. In my judgment, these two steps would be equally as effective as political pressure and extensive public relations in achieving the goal of higher salaries for public and academic librarians in the United States.

Alva W. Stewart, Reference Librarian, N.C. A&T State University, Greensboro.

I received my *North Carolina Libraries* today, and I wanted to write you immediately and tell you that the new format is perfect! I love the size; I love the print! The articles were even better than usual. Was that because of the change in print size? Thank you for making these changes!

Josie Tomlin, Director, Wilson County Public Library, Wilson.

Thanks for the copies of NCL you sent. Am delighted to see our article so attractively printed.

NCL surely is a fine journal (a member of our staff said it's the best state association journal he knows of, and reflects an active library group), and I'm pleased to be represented in it.

Alesandra M. Schmidt, Dickinson College, Boyd Lee Spahr Library, Carlisle, PA.

Editor Regrets Omission

Although David Harrington provided the biographical data for candidates for officers in NCASL to be included in the Spring 1983 NCL, the data did not get included in the copy preparation for that issue. This error and oversight on the part of the editor of NCL is regrettable, and his apology is herewith offered.



A tribute and a fond farewell are extended to *Jonathan Lindsey* as he departs from our state and assumes a new position at Baylor University. He has made an outstanding and lasting contribution to the Association as Editor of *North Carolina Libraries!*

Highlights of the NCLA Spring Workshop on March 18 and 19 were: enthusiastic meetings of committees and the Executive Board, warm hospitality and excellent arrangements at Guilford College, a very special reception by Ruzicka, and tall tales by "Herb" Poole.

Librarians became lobbyists on March 24 in Raleigh during *North Carolina General Assembly-Library Day* and on April 29 in Washington, D.C. during *Legislative Day in Capitol Hill*. Snow in Raleigh did not deter efforts to seek additional funding for State Aid for public libraries. The Washington experience was exciting and was a good example of the team approach as groups from each state contacted their senators and representatives in Congress to discuss library services and the need for adequate funding.

We have heard interesting reports of many special activities across the state during *National Library Week* in April — authors, contests, publicity, plays, radio and TV programs, speeches...

The 1983 Spring Symposium on Collection Management and Development, sponsored by the NCLA Resources and Technical Services and College and University Sections of NCLA was well attended. The 1983 Library-Trustee-Librarian Conference (Trustees Section) is scheduled for June 1 and 2 in Chapel Hill.

Dr. Carol Nemeyer, current President of the American Library Association, spent two days (April 15 and 16) in North Carolina as guest speaker for the School of Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Her theme, "Connections," will be featured also at the 102nd Annual ALA Conference on June 25-30 in Los Angeles. For those librarians who cannot go to California, the next best thing to

being there is to register for the *ALA-TV Teleconference* on June 28 at one of the three sites in North Carolina.

Official ballots for new officers of the Association were mailed in May, and we are looking forward to the results of the election. An excellent slate of officers was presented.

Plans for our NCLA Biennial Conference in Winston-Salem on October 26-28 are moving along on schedule, according to Vice President Leland Park and Robert Burgin, Chairman of Local Arrangements. Mark your calendars!
Mertys W. Bell, President

A Final Word ...

For the past 4½ years editing *North Carolina Libraries* has been one of the most stimulating activities in which I have engaged. The opportunity to work with a group of people whose professional skills, insight, and critical judgment blended into making this journal the best in the country will remain one of my strongest memories of North Carolina. We were delighted in 1981 when we were awarded the H. W. Wilson Periodical Award, but we have even stronger feelings of pride in the current developments with the journal, particularly its format and the general quality of the articles which it is able to publish.

Each member of the editorial board has provided unusual service to the state, but Bob Byrd and Herb Williams must be singled out for particular mention, since they have been associate editors since 1979. Their good judgment individually and collectively has significantly benefited the production of the journal. Also, for the past 2½ years we have had the good fortune to work with Bob Reckenbeil, publisher, Meridional Publications, who has helped us produce quality, economically. Finally, Geraldine Sargent, secretary at the Carlyle Campbell Library, Meredith, has provided unusual

service to the journal, typing copy and facilitating its production in many ways.

North Carolina Libraries is the kind of journal it is because of the involvements of all of the members of the editorial board. It is not the vehicle of the editor, although the editor has had some influence. It is a professional journal for the library professionals of North Carolina, which tries to speak to issues which affect the development of libraries and library services in this state.

Shortly, a major issue on state networking will be even more in our thinking. In all your discussions about technology and networking, please do not forget to celebrate one of the basic components of good networking: strong personal professional relationships.

and Greetings to a New Editor.

With the concurrence of the NCLA Executive Board, Mertys Bell, president of NCLA, has announced the appointment of Robert Burgin as editor of *North Carolina Libraries*. In the months ahead I know that the editorial board will be providing every level of support to the new editor. I know also that the membership of the association will provide its support to him, too.

Jonathan A. Lindsey, editor

Election Results, 1983-85 Biennial Officers

Following is the report of the NCLA Nominating Committee from the recent mail ballot for officers of the Association for the 1983-85 biennium. These officers will assume responsibility following the biennial conference in Winston-Salem.

*Vice-President/
President Elect
Second Vice-
President
Secretary
Treasurer
Director*

Pauline F. Myrick

Mildred Jane Williams
Roberta S. Williams
Eunice P. Drum
Shirley B. McLaughlin
Jerry A. Thrasher

Foreword

This issue of NCL focuses on programming in public libraries in North Carolina, excluding children's programming, which should be featured in a later issue.

John Welch, Public Library Consultant at the North Carolina State Library, presents a survey article to reveal the variety available in public library programming for adults across the state. Patrice Ebert, Head of the Sharon Branch Library in Charlotte, and Laura S. Gorham, formerly with the Durham County Library, zero in on young adult programming in North Carolina.

Patricia Grim, Assistant Director of the Davidson County Public Library, has written a guide to the programming process that should prove useful to the novice as well as to the veteran programmer. David Fergusson, Headquarters Librarian at the Forsyth County Public Library, exhorts librarians who are involved in programming to get themselves a programming policy, with descriptions of a few incidents that illustrate why this is a wise course of action.

Ricki V. Brown, Head of Adult Services at the Cumberland County Public Library, writes explicitly about what is implicit in the other articles—that programming is a good thing for libraries to do. George Viele, Director of the Greensboro Public Library, agreed to play devil's advocate and present a case for public libraries *not* doing programming.

Patsy Hansel, Assistant Director, Cumberland County Public Library.