

Exalting Learning and Libraries

NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

From The Editor

North Carolina Libraries invites your comments. Yes, the Editorial Board of *North Carolina Libraries* is requesting and encouraging your response to articles appearing in this journal or to specific concerns of North Carolina librarians. In order to make this possible, we will inaugurate with the Summer 1987 issue a column entitled *Over to You*. This will be a letter-to-the-editor type format. Please address and sign with your name and position all correspondence to: Frances

B. Bradburn, Editor, *North Carolina Libraries*, 2431 Crabtree Boulevard, Raleigh, N.C. 27604. We reserve the right to edit all letters for length and clarity. Whenever time permits, persons most closely related to the issue under discussion will be given an opportunity to respond to points made in the letter. Deadline dates will be the copy deadlines for the journal: February 10, May 10, August 10, and November 10.

We hope that you will participate in and enjoy this new forum for ideas and concerns.
Frances B. Bradburn, Editor

From the President

Our forty-seventh biennium of the North Carolina Library Association is rapidly moving towards the close of the two years, 1985-1987. So many fine things continue happening to exalt learning and libraries and many exciting activities are being planned in the sections and committees to see that it happens.

Governmental Relations Chair Bill Bridgman and his committee are busy planning for the thirteenth National Legislative Day in Washington on April 7 as well as for frequent contacts with our representatives in Raleigh. With many new members in our national and local legislative representation, it becomes evident that we must provide them with objective facts, timely information and creative ideas needed for making intelligent decisions. These and all members must be informed of the positive effects of federal legislation at the grassroots levels. They need to know the impact of the legislation on what happens to the users. Is there documented evidence available of the positive impact on the users and their learning? The people who create and fund library programs are concerned that what they do is making a difference for the folks and voters back home. We must tell them about what is happening. Keep in touch with your section chair and/or Bill Bridgman. Share pertinent information and the good news with them very soon.

According to Archives Chair Maury York, the committee has completed an inventory of the NCLA records housed at the State Library. They are now in the process of deciding how these records should be weeded, organized and stored in the recently purchased acid-free folders and document cases. It is their plan to turn over the records now in the State Library to State Archives in 1987. They will then be free to perfect a retention-disposition schedule for current records.

From the Intellectual Freedom Chair Gene Lanier and committee comes the news that, while committee members could cite a few encouraging efforts in dealing with controversies, they agreed that the bulk of the activity during the previous months has been in favor of restricted access and limited individual choice. During the December 5 committee meeting a longtime friend of intellectual freedom and of libraries in particular, Representative George Miller shared his thoughts with them about the 1987 climate in Raleigh. He indicated that there would probably be little direct action on the First Amendment issues during the coming session but warned that those groups recently concerned with the obscenity legislation might well turn their attention to the public schools. Be prepared to deal with challenges should the need arise.

In another legislative matter, the Documents Section is asking for a collaborative effort to "Put the Public Into State Publications." Following up

on its belief that, in the words of Justice Hugo Black, "The effective functioning of a free government like ours depends largely on the force of an informed public opinion," the North Carolina Documents Depository Chair Pat Langelier and her committee have put together a plan urging legislative support of a bill that will improve the flow of information from state agencies to the citizens of North Carolina. Our NCLA, the American Library Association and other public interest groups have expressed their support. For the bill to pass your support is necessary. Write your Senator and Representative, voice your concern and explain how you believe the bill will affect you. For more information read Marjorie W. Lindsey's article published in *Popular Government* (Fall 1986) entitled, "State Documents: Proposed Statewide Depository System."

Plans are well underway for the NCLA fall conference in Winston-Salem. Patsy Hansel, President Elect and Chair of the Conference is hard at work with her committee and promises us that this one will be the best ever. Sections are firming up their plans for meetings and exhibitors are being contacted. General session speakers will soon be announced. Of special interest to all is a session sponsored by the Round Table on Ethnic Minority Affairs, the Public Library Section and the Round Table on the Status of Women in Librarianship. You will not want to miss this session nor the speaker, Maya Angelou, one of the foremost contemporary black authors. She is best known for her autobiographical best-seller, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

Make your plans now to attend the entire Biennial Conference, October 28-30, 1987, Winston-Salem. If you need help to pay fees and expenses for speakers for programs at the October '87 Conference, LSCA Continuing Education Grants will be available for sections, committees or roundtables of NCLA. Contact Jean Welch or Audrey Pines at the State Library, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27611 (919/733-2570) if you have questions. The deadline for grant applications is April 30.

Our January 23 NCLA Executive Board Meeting became the February 6 meeting due to the abundant snow along I-85 and West. As your section chairs reported, it became evident that your representatives are giving careful, diligent and serious thought to the Futures Committee Report. There is concern that everyone should have an opportunity for input if desired. We urge you to speak through your section chair or directly to the NCLA President. It is obvious that we must find answers to many questions that surfaced

during our deliberations. We want you to have plenty of thinking time before any final decisions are made. This is your organization and you need to decide its future. Please give it your best thoughts.

Deliberations will continue at the Spring Workshop, April 24-25 at Greensboro College. The Executive Board will hold its business meeting on April 24, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and a called meeting to discuss your input and to clarify the recommendations will begin the next morning, April 25. Six of your elected officers will lead the discussion of each recommendation. They are: (1) Establishment of Association Goals, Dr. Ben Speller; (2) Employment of a Management Firm, Nancy Clark Fogarty; (3) Structure of NCLA, Jerry Thrasher; (4) Establishment of Publications Committee, Ariel Stephens; (5) Changes in Dues, Dr. Rose Simon; and (6) Change to Annual Elections and Annual Conferences, Dr. Kieth Wright.

The day of April 25 will also be an important time for committees to meet and make plans for the October conference and other activities during the next several months. Sections and the Executive Board must find time to work towards the wrap-up of the biennium.

More information and details for the Spring Workshop will follow.

I look forward to seeing you April 24-25 at Greensboro College. Our hostess is Susan Squires.

Pauline F. Myrick, President

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