
Exalting Learning and Libraries

NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

From the President

Our immediate Past President Leland M. Park in representing the North Carolina Library Association on the occasion of the inauguration of M. Christopher White as the tenth president of Gardner-Webb College on Wednesday, April 8, 1987, presented NCLA greetings for inclusion in their scrapbook. It read, "The twenty-two hundred members of the North Carolina Library Association extend congratulations upon your election and best wishes for an effective tenure of service at this outstanding institution." Leland was a guest for lunch and at the afternoon reception for President and Mrs. White.

It is interesting that the bell used in the inauguration ceremony is a replica of the Liberty Bell. It was first rung in the fall of 1970 to inaugurate the senior college status of Gardner-Webb. The bell is rung to signify the opening and the closing of the academic year and to mark formal academic occasions. Of special historical interest, it is noted that the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in London made the bell and it commemorates the bicentenary of American independence 1776-1976. The bell is to the scale of one-fifth the original Liberty Bell, ordered from the Whitechapel Foundry by the Province of Pennsylvania in 1752, and was cast on the same site. The bell weighs forty-four pounds and stands fifteen inches high.

Neither storms, rain, furniture market, reunions, conflicting meetings, family obligations, illness nor tornado watches dampened the spirit of those attending the NCLA '87 Spring Workshop and Executive Board Meeting at Greensboro College, April 24 and 25, 1987. Those that could make it came with enthusiasm. The result was an extremely successful two days of deliberations, decision making, sharing of ideas, reporting on goals achieved and objectives revised. Over fifty NCLAers enjoyed the usual delicious lunch prepared by Mark Nelson.

Many thanks and deep appreciation go to Susan Squires for being such a gracious hostess. Much of the success of the two days is due to Susan's efficient organization long before we

arrived and her continuous efforts throughout our visit on the Greensboro College Campus.

According to the "ALA Washington Newsletter," 520 library supporters from 43 states and the District of Columbia participated in the 13th Annual Library Legislative Day of organized lobbying on April 7, 1987 during National Library Week. This was an opportunity to document the effect of the present legislation on libraries, to thank our legislators, and encourage continued support.

NCLA Governmental Relations Chair Bill Bridgman and his committee coordinated North Carolina's participation in the National Library Legislative Day. Twenty-one North Carolinians attended. Chairman Bridgman divided the group into two teams to call on our legislators in Washington. He reported, "We think each team made a good case for the continuation of federal support for libraries of all types, and we were pleased with the response we received from the legislators." Twenty-eight students from North Carolina Central University also participated under the leadership of Dean Ben Speller.

Representative Major Owens continues to promote our interests as indicated by the ALA Washington Newsletter, "Representative Major Owens' special order on April 8 during National Library Week prompted a total of 26 House members to make speeches about libraries and library issues." He, along with those who voted "yes" for library issues and particularly those visited on April 7, should receive our thanks.

April 8 was a very special day for the North Carolina Association of School Librarians, because School Library Media Day was celebrated across North Carolina. The theme, TAKE TIME TO READ ... USE YOUR SCHOOL LIBRARY, was evident in balloon launches, read-ins, storybook parades, storytelling festivals, and media fairs. According to NCASL Chair Helen Tugwell, one of the highlights was a video program broadcast through cablevision showing area students giving booktalks.

Congratulations to NCLA Treasurer Nancy Clark Fogarty for an excellent audit report of the

1986 NCLA finances dated December 31, 1986. The auditor's report confirms the Treasurer's 1986 Report presented by Nancy at our last board meeting. "I certainly breathed a sigh of relief when I saw it!" remarked a happy Nancy. Those who have had this responsibility truly understand, as did Eunice Drum in her comment to Nancy, "I know the feeling!" We continue to have the best care of our funds.

In exalting learning and libraries, let's not forget that the librarian is the key that makes the learning by the users and the climate of the library come alive. Yet there must be coordination, collaboration and involvement by a host of people, not just the librarian, or indeed by the North Carolina Library Association. The words of Dr. Ken Newbold, retired Superintendent of Greensboro City Schools, spoken so aptly several years ago during an NCASL Conference in Durham, keep coming to mind. He spoke to librarians, "Here you are meeting with all of the same general interest when you should be at the science conference across town." He has a point! If we intend to exalt our services, then we need to collaborate a great deal with other interest groups in order to build lobbyists for our cause outside of our own group. It is expected that we speak for our cause; however, others speaking for us could have a great impact. All types of libraries must utilize every vehicle to promote the vital role of our programs in achieving excellence. The cooperative sharing of expertise and opportunities promotes a strong, cohesive force for excellence. Let us not be left out of the next *A Nation at Risk* as were the excellent school library programs. The theme of our '87 NCLA Conference, LIBRARIES: SPREAD THE NEWS, speaks well to this point.

Do you know the following living Past Presidents of the North Carolina Library Association? (Please send me any corrections needed on addresses, etc.)

Mr. Hoyt R. Galvin
2259 Vernon Drive
Charlotte, NC 28211
(1941-1943)

Miss Eunice Query
204 Pine St./Box 355
Boone, NC 28607
(1969-1971)

Mrs. Jane Wilson Downs
708 W. Penn. Ave.
Urbana, Illinois 61801
(1951-1953)

Miss Elizabeth Copeland
1302 Sonata St.
Greenville, NC 27834
(1971-1973)

Miss Charlesanna Fox
345 Marmaduke Circle
Asheboro, NC 27203
(1953-1955)

Dr. Gene Lanier
East Carolina University
Dept. of Library Science
Greenville, NC 27834
(1973-1975)

Mrs. Vernelle Palmer
420 Windsor Drive
Salisbury, NC 28144
(1957-1959)

Summer:
223 Orchard Lane
Boone, NC 28607
(1967-1969)

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Arline
8013 Greeley Boulevard
Springfield, VA 22152
(1959-1961)

Mr. Leonard L. Johnson
109 Falkener Drive
Greensboro, NC 27410
(1977-1979)

Mr. Carlton P. West
8 E Wake Forest Apts.
Winston-Salem, NC 27106
(1961-1963)

Mr. H. William O'Shea, Jr.
1333 Diehl St.
Raleigh, NC 27608
(1979-1981)

Mr. Paul S. Ballance
5401 Indiana Ave.
Winston-Salem, NC 27106
(1965-1967)

Mrs. Mertys W. Bell
5608 Scotland Road
Greensboro, NC 27407
(1981-1983)

Mrs. Mildred S. Council
Winter:
P.O. Box 604
Mount Olive, NC 28365

Dr. Leland M. Park
P.O. Box 777
Davidson, NC 28036
(1983-1985)

We hope to see all of these past leaders during our October 27-30, '87 NCLA Conference in Winston-Salem.

Our next NCLA Executive Board Meeting will be held on July 24, 1987 in Pinehurst at the Pine Crest Inn.

Have a wonderful summer!

Pauline F. Myrick, NCLA President

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