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Synapse Newsletter

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Synapse

Alabama Health Libraries Association

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Synapse

ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION



VOLUME VIII, NO. 4

DECEMBER, 1988

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by

Lisa Raines Russell

President, ALHeLA 1988

The greatest accomplishment for this year was the very successful workshop conducted by ALHeLA for MASA CME Director on February 10, 1988. Maureen Battistella will discuss the meeting in more detail in her report.

In addition to the exposure received at the MASA Meeting, ALHeLA exhibited at the following meetings:

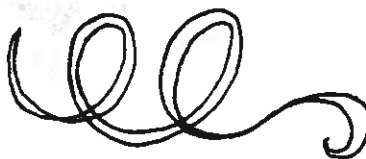
1. MASA Annual Meeting in Montgomery, April 21-22 (in conjunction with the Cancer Information Center and Arthritis Information Center).
2. AlaHA Annual Meeting in Mobile, June 15-17.
3. Alabama Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting in Birmingham, August 5.

The ALHeLA President was invited to participate in a luncheon for affiliated society presidents during the AlaHA Annual Meeting in June and was invited to an informational meeting for affiliated societies in Montgomery on August 30. Although the President was unable to attend either session, the materials distributed were mailed to the President. AlaHA has developed a new public relations brochure with the names of all affiliated societies and the contact person.

Sister Mary Giles Peresich, University of South Alabama Biomedical Library resigned as editor of the ALHeLA Directory upon completion of this year's Directory. Barbara Shearer, also from the University of South Alabama, will assume the duties as new editor.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



January 7-12, 1989

American Library Association Midwinter Meeting, Washington, D.C.

January 27-29, 1989

Special Library Association Winter Educational Conference, San Francisco.

April 9-15, 1989

National Library Week.

April 11-14, 1989

Alabama Library Association Annual Meeting, Wynfrey Hotel at the Galleria, Hoover, AL. Contact: William N. Nelson, P.O. Box 2210, Samford University, Birmingham, AL 35229; 205/870-2846.

May 19-25, 1989

Medical Library Association 89th Annual Meeting, Boston.

June 10-15, 1989

Special Library Association Annual Meeting, New York.

June 24-29, 1989

American Library Association Annual Meeting, Dallas.

May 18-24, 1990

Medical Library Association 90th Annual Meeting, Detroit.

May 31-June 6, 1991

Medical Library Association 91st Annual Meeting, San Francisco

May 15-21, 1992

Medical Library Association 92nd Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

May 14-20, 1993

Medical Library Association 93rd Annual Meeting, Chicago.

Robert Donnell, University of South Alabama, has resigned as editor of the Synapse as of December 30, 1988. Paula Davis, Baptist Memorial Hospital, Gadsden has agreed to take on the job as editor beginning January 1, 1989.

A Long Range Planning Task Force is now in place composed of Lynn Fortney, Chair, Lister Hill Library, Robert Donnell, USA Biomedical Library, Dan Blucker, AUM Library, Maureen Battistella, Baptist Medical Center-Princeton, and Paula Davis, Baptist Memorial Hospital, Gadsden. The charge to the committee will be explained by Fortney.

Executive Committee

Following are brief annual reports submitted by various members of the ALHeLA Executive Committee.

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The 1988 edition of the Directory of Alabama Health Libraries and Handbook of the Alabama Health Libraries Association was distributed to the members attending the October Conference in Birmingham. Copies have been mailed to those members who were unable to attend the conference.

This marks the fifth edition of the publication. Using the same format as previous editions, the 1988 edition additionally boasts a narrative section describing the duties and responsibilities of the Association's officers and committees, as well as other minor improvements.

It has been my privilege to serve the Association as editor of its Directory/Handbook for the 2nd-4th editions of the publication. Now I look forward to seeing future editions of the work published under the editorship of my able successor, Barbara Shearer, University of South Alabama Biomedical Library. Best wishes to you, Barbara. I know you will do a great job.

Mary Giles Peresich, RSM
Editor, Directory/Handbook, 1984-1988

Attended and took minutes at all ALHeLA Executive Council Meetings.

Submitted copies of minutes of Executive Council Meetings to all members.

Submitted abbreviated form of Executive Council Meeting minutes to Synapse editor for publication.

Attended ALHeLA Annual Business Meeting, took minutes, and submitted copy to Lisa Russell, President.

Kept folder of minutes, reports, and notices to be placed in the archives of the association.

Barbara Parr Doughty
ALHeLA Secretary, 1988

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Total membership in the Alabama Health Libraries Association for 1988 was 64. This included 30 personal memberships and 34 institutional memberships.

During the year Bob Donnell sent out 31 non-renewal notices (16 personal and 15 institutional) with very little response.

Membership was partially down from last year due to the fact that several librarians changed to nonmedical jobs and others retired.

Bobby Powell
ALHeLA Archivist

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The collection of archival materials is growing by "leaps and bounds". A large box of material received from Pat Hall significantly increased the volume of material in the archival collection. Much of this material is in original form. However, we only have photostatic copies of some of the most important material.

If you have been an officer in this association, please check and see if you have any original copies of materials and if so, send them to me.

Bobby Powell
ALHeLA Archivist

The primary objective of health science union listing and of the coordinators for 1988 was to investigate and facilitate transfer of ABULS holdings data from the data base maintained at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine to the OCLC-based union list, Alabama Union List of Serials. Towards this end, Battistella attended the SERHOLD Advisory Council meeting at MLA and was in frequent contact with Cathy Clayton, AULS Editor. A set of guidelines for OCLC record selection and holdings statement construction was developed to help AULS data entry. A schedule of the proposed transfer was established and reviewed with NLM, the RMLS, and AULS.

As in previous years, the 1988 ABULS fiche was published and distributed in April 1988. Holdings were tape loaded to SERHOLD later in the year and so were included in the Region 2 fiche and were available in DOCLINE. Thanks to Lisa Rains Russell, a new library was recruited, the Southeast Alabama Medical Center, represented by Pat McGee.

The annual ABULS Participants Meeting was held in conjunction with the 1988 Alabama Health Libraries Association and was reported in the next issue of Synapse.

Maureen S. Battistella
Patricia M. Rodgers
ABULS Coordinators

Activities this year have centered around assisting with the manual used at the ALHeLA and MASA program for Alabama Continuing Medical officers. The manual, Access to Information for Medical Professions, edited by Barbara Doughty, Virginia Vail and myself, with chapters by Jack Smith, Maureen Battistella, Joyce Sims and each of the editors. Covered were chapters on: The Basics of Medical Information, Core National and Regional Library Resources, Database Searching, Micro Compact Disks and Telefacsimile Technology.

After the MASA meeting held in February 1988, we have been trying to find ways to disseminate the information to a broader audience. One target group has been located here at the University of South Alabama. Medical students about to begin a rotation in family practice where they will spend several weeks in rural settings are provided with a manual. This may be an effective way to reach Alabama's future physicians interested in compact disks, database searching, utilizing the regional medical library system, and other topics covered in the manual.

We will continue to explore additional ways to market the manual such as using it for future ALHeLA outreach programs and advertising it at conventions and in newsletters.

Barbara Shearer
Member-at-Large
ALHeLA Executive Council

ANNUAL MEETING

The 1988 annual conference of the Alabama Health Libraries Association was held at the Holiday Inn-Medical Center in Birmingham, October 5-7. More than twenty-five medical librarians, library managers and others attended the meeting, the theme of which was "The Past is Prologue."

On Wednesday, October 5, a pre-conference workshop on "Budgeting, Planning and Forecasting" was conducted by J. Phillip Whatley, Assistant Dean for Administration and Finance of the Special Studies Program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Although the turnout was small, attendees received an excellent introduction to business concepts and terminology in these areas. This workshop was approved for MLA CE credit.

On Thursday morning, October 6, two speakers gave the audience tastes of Alabama's medical history. James A. Pittman, Jr., M.D., Dean of the University of Alabama School of Medicine spoke on "Development of the Health Sciences at UAB," which traced the remarkable growth of the state's largest medical school over the past four decades. Samuel Eichold, M.D., Professor of Medicine Emeritus, University of South Alabama College of Medicine, then delivered a delightful talk on the history of "Yellow Fever in Mobile."

After lunch on Thursday, the historical theme continued. Mary Rhineland McCarl, Director of the Jefferson County Medical Society/UAB Health Science Archives described the work of that organization in trying to preserve non-printed historical materials related to the health sciences in Jefferson County and Alabama. Ms. McCarl also presented a videotape sponsored by the Archives which explores the history of the health sciences in Birmingham. Thursday's activities concluded with a union list participants meeting, a general business meeting and the traditional evening banquet.

On Friday morning the conference continued with two mini-workshops conducted by members of ALHeLA. Marian Royal, Librarian at the UAB Department of Surgery, offered "Current Awareness Services in the Health Science Library," and Mary Claire Cowen, Curator, Reynolds Historical Library, UAB, conducted "History and the Hospital Library." Both mini-workshops were very informative and a practical balance for the previous day's program. The conference concluded with a tour of the Reynolds Historical Library on Friday afternoon.

A. J. Wright
1988 Program Chairman

Directory

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please add this new addition to your copy of the 1988 Directory of Health Science Libraries and Handbook of the Alabama Health Librarian Association:

FORT RUCKER DALE COUNTY

Lyster Army Hospital
Medical Library
Bldg. 301
Ft. Rucker, AL 36362-5000
Electronic Mail User: Yes DIALCOM: M. Prottzman OCLC Code: LY
DOCLINE Code: 36360A
Union Lists Participant: HSC
Institutional C.E.O.: Col. N. Bruce Chase 205-255-7359
Commander
Contact Persons: Mary Fran Prottzman 205-255-7350
Medical Librarian
No. Of Staff: Librarians: 1
Library Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. Mon-Fri
Subject Specialties: Aviation Medicine, Hyperbaric Medicine
Collection Size: Books: 3000 Bound Journals: 2000 Current S
ILL Services: Yes Charges: None Provides: Books Journals
In-house Online Services: Yes, to Affiliates
Charges: None Vendors: MEDLARS, BRS, OCLC
Microcomputer: Zenith (IBM compat) Software: dBaseIII+, Lotus, Word Perfect

Personal Memberships:
Alabama Health Libraries Association
Medical Library Association
Hospital Library Section
Southern Chapter

Also, add to page 77:

Fort Rucker Mary Fran Prottzman
Lyster Army Hospital

FREE FAX TO ABULS AND JCHLA PARTICIPANTS

by

Maureen Battistella

Baptist Medical Center-Princeton in Birmingham now has a fax machine in the library and will fax articles at no charge to reciprocating ABULS and JCHLA participants. In the Birmingham/Jefferson County area or in emergency situations, voice contact at 783-3078 should be made to request the fax; the fax will be sent within two hours. The fax number to call is 783-7076.

All interlibrary loan requests can be faxed if the borrower requests. A \$5.00 per article charge will be made for non-ABULS, non-JCHLA, and non-reciprocating libraries for either faxed or mailed articles.

Baptist Medical Center-Princeton is now a DOCLINE user and checks the system daily for photocopy requests. BMCP's LIBID is 35211A.

Please note that copies of the ALHeLA produced continuing medical education manual, Access to Information for Medical Professionals, mentioned on page 5, are available for \$8.00, including postage and handling, by writing to Barbara Doughty, University of Alabama Health Sciences Library, P. O. Box 6331, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

Happy New Year to all!