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Synapse Newsletter

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1994

## Synapse

Alabama Health Libraries Association

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# SYNAPSE

ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

Volume 14, number 1; Spring 1994. *Synapse* (ISSN 0892-5283) is the official publication of the Alabama Health Libraries Association, Inc. (ALHeLA). Edited by Joe Moudry | Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences | 1700 University Blvd. | UAB Station | Birmingham AL 35294-0013. Phone: (205) 934-2230; Fax: (205) 975-8313. Deadline for the next issue is 15 May 1994.

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## PRESIDENTIAL NOTES

SONDRA PFEIFFER

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Several months have passed since the last issue of *Synapse*; however, this is not an indication of inactivity on the part of the officers and membership of ALHeLA. Rather, there has been so much activity that it has been difficult to find enough time to record it.

First, during October 9-12 the thirteenth annual meeting of the Alabama Health Libraries Association, Inc. was held at the Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. This year the annual meeting was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association. ALHeLA co-hosted the Southern Chapter meeting with the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences of the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

As co-host of the meeting ALHeLA sponsored and arranged the Sunday luncheon, which was held in the Wynfrey Hotel on October 10. David King, Assistant Professor at the College of Library and Information Science, University of Kentucky, and a member of the Medical Library Association's Task Force on Ethics, gave a talk

on the code of ethics. There were approximately one hundred luncheon attendees, including twenty eight ALHeLA members.

ALHeLA also contributed to the Southern Chapter meeting as an exhibitor. Martha Tillotson designed, arranged, and coordinated the staffing of the ALHeLA booth, which attractively displayed membership application forms and brochures explaining the benefits of membership in our organization. Several drawings were held during the exhibition for prizes contributed by ALHeLA and displayed at the ALHeLA booth. ALHeLA also sponsored a meeting break.

Next came the election of the 1994 Executive Committee members and the appointment of the committee chairs. A comprehensive list of these assignments may be found on page two.

Then on February 2, in Montgomery, the new board members and committee chairs held their first meeting of the new year. Minutes of the meeting also follow this column (on page four).

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Following the meeting, Robert Avant, of Montgomery, made this a very special event by inviting the meeting's attendees to his home for a delicious luncheon.

And now President Elect, Judy Burnham, is already busy planning this year's annual meeting and the committee chairs have begun work on committee assignments.

Thanks to everyone, ALHeLA is, indeed, very active and moving along on schedule.

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## ALHeLA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 1994

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Listed here are the Executive Committee members for 1994. Please contact them with any questions, suggestions, or concerns that you may have. The Executive Committee will meet next on April 15 and again on July 29. Both meetings will be held in Montgomery, and will begin at 10:00 AM.

### **President**

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# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

SUBMITTED BY  
MARY FRAN PROTTSMAN

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**T**he Executive Committee of the Alabama Health Libraries Association met on February 2, 1994, at the Alabama Public Library Service, Montgomery, Alabama. Attending were Sondra Pfeiffer (Chair), Judy Burnham, George Marangoly, Jay Harris, Joe Moudry, Kay Hogan, Susan Seay, Mike Perry, Robert Avant, and Mary Fran Prottzman.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM. The minutes of the October 11, 1993, meeting were approved as distributed. Ms Pfeiffer gave the Treasurer's report in Ms Tillotson's absence, and indicated that Ms Rains met with the accountant yesterday for the final report on our non-profit status.

**Union List:** Mr Avant complemented the group on accurate updating input and asked if there were questions. There were none.

**Annual Meeting:** Ms Pfeiffer submitted a report on the 1993 annual meeting. Of 204 meeting attendees, thirty one were ALHeLA members. Approximately 100 persons attended the ALHeLA luncheon. Ms Pfeiffer read David King's letter expressing his appreciation for the opportunity to attend the meeting as a speaker

at the ALHeLA luncheon.

**Membership:** Ms Prottzman turned over membership brochures and application forms to the new co-chairs, noting that each needed to be updated and reprinted. We currently have fifty two members. Mr Harris announced a target of 100 members for 1994.

**Synapse:** Mr Moudry indicated that the deadline for *Synapse* submissions is February 15. Ms Pfeiffer will review the minutes before their publication in *Synapse*.

**Directory:** Ms Burnham indicated that *Directory* updates should be submitted to Mr Perry before the ALHeLA annual meeting, since the directories are distributed at the annual meeting. E-mail address and contact persons for interlibrary loans will be included in the next issue of the *Directory*. The Board of Directors needs to be updated to reflect the current composition (Ms Rains), as do the Bylaws (Ms Fetters).

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OLD BUSINESS  
None

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## NEW BUSINESS

**Annual Meeting:** Ms Burnham is investigating Gulf Shores and Mobile as potential meeting sites. A tentative date of September was set, with continuing education on Thursday and meetings on Friday and Saturday. Theme: Leadership. Ms Prottzman suggested offering MLA CE course 301, *Information Needs of Health Professionals*, by Cheryl Dee and Jane Lambremont, or one on needs assessment.

**Other:** Ms Burnham suggested that the Membership Committee notify Mr Perry of new members so that he can furnish them with a copy of the *Directory*. Mr Harris will investigate upcoming meetings at which to distribute ALHeLA membership brochures: Alabama Library Association and Medical Records Association.

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Ms Pfeiffer reported that we have received an order for a subscription to *Synapse* for the Alabama Public Library Service. In the future we will provide a complimentary subscription to the Alabama Public Library Service in appreciation of the use of their facilities for our Executive Committee meetings.

The Chair of the Directory Committee will submit address changes for publication in *Synapse*. Future issues of *Synapse* will include a box in which members can indicate address changes.

Ms Burnham noted that changes of the Bylaws must be approved by the ALHeLA Executive Committee before they can be included in the new *Directory*. The following changes were approved:

1. the immediate past president will serve as chair of the nominating committee for the next year;
2. all members of the Executive Committee will be voting members.

After discussion initiated by Kay Hogan, Ms Prottzman moved to establish a Task Force to pursue a National Library of Medicine grant to fund Internet access for nonacademic health science libraries in the state. Ms Burnham seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The Task Force is composed of Kay Hogan and Joe Moudry, co-chairs, Mike Perry, Joy Harriman, Pat McGee, & Mary Fran Prottzman. Joe Moudry will include a needs assessment in *Synapse*.

Ms Burnham offered copies of downsizing guidelines provided by the Massachusetts Health Science Library Network (MAHSLIN).

Mr Marangoly invited attendance at a VA Satellite conference on February 21 dealing with JCAHO. Ms Prottzman announced the formation of an MLA Journal Club by Army health

science librarians via video-conference.

The next meeting will be held on April 15, beginning at 10:00 AM, at the VA Medical Center, Montgomery AL, with the following meeting tentatively scheduled for July 29. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

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## SOUTHERN CHAPTER/ MLA~ALHELA MEETING RAFFLE WINNERS

BY JAY HARRIS

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**T**he Annual meeting of The Alabama Health Libraries Association was held in Birmingham on October 9-12, 1993, at the Wynfrey Hotel. This year the meeting was held in conjunction with the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Southern Chapter/Medical Library Association. The exhibits hall was a beehive of activity throughout the meeting as all of the breaks and receptions were held in the area. On Monday, October 11, 1993, several attendees won raffle prizes offered by various exhibitors. The following people won prizes which were offered at the ALHeLA Booth:

• **Nedra Cook**, Ft. Saunders Regional Medical Center (Knoxville, TN), was awarded a copy of the *Southern Living Cookbook*;

• **Cecelia Delbridge**, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, won a book entitled *Chocolate Fantasies*;

• **Lyn Denison**, Medical College of Georgia, received a huge jar of thin mints (we're talking 500 count!);

• **Jo Dilbeck**, Saint Joseph's Hospital of Atlanta, was the recipient of a stunning ficus tree;

• **Lisa Eichholtz**, Medical University of South Carolina, won a gift certificate to Foodmax;

• **George Prince**, Crawford Long

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Hospital of Emory University, won a luxurious Chinese evergreen; and

• **Donna Trainor**, Medical College of Georgia, won a beautiful violet and candy jar;

In addition to these lucky winners, other attendees were also winners of prizes awarded by various exhibitors:

• **Virginia Ferrell**, Medical Center East, won a two foot tall Halloween witch courtesy of Linda Moran of Ballen Booksellers International, Inc.;

• **Thomas W. Hill**, Upper Savannah AHEC, received a 1994 edition of the *Physicians GenRx*, courtesy of Deana Smith of Login Brothers Book Company, Inc.;

• **Jocelyn Rankin**, Mercer University, was awarded a beautiful necklace created in a librarian's motif. The necklace was donated by Al McClendon from Majors Scientific Books;

The Local Arrangements Committee raffled off three "Birmingham Baskets" (gift boxes with edible goodies from Birmingham businesses). The winners of the Baskets were:

• **Bettye Duncan**, Forrest General Hospital (Hattisburg MS);

• **Ardis Haaland**, University of Mississippi Medical Center; and

• **Kay Terrell**, Roper Hospital (Charleston SC).

Congratulations to all of the prize winners.

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## SEND: SOUTHEASTERN NETWORK ON DOCLINE

BY SUSAN SEAY

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**A**s you probably have heard, hospital-based librarians in the Southeast have developed a DOCLINE-based recip-

rocal interlibrary loan (ILL) network. Called SEND (Southeastern Network on DOCLINE), the basic premise is to establish reciprocal ILL agreements among libraries of similar size, as measured by the number of paid journal subscriptions. This stratified approach to collections and ILL maximizes the likelihood of net lending/borrowing. Even among libraries of similar size, there will be unique titles which may be provided to the network. Those libraries in reciprocal agreements could load up cells 2 and 3 or more (cell 1 being reserved for local consortia members) in order to increase the probability of a no-charge loan. The overall objective is to circumvent the larger academic institutions which charge for all requests. Reciprocal lending also frees the library from creating and paying multiple, small sum invoices.

After two years of success, SEND is considering expanding. If there is enough interest, either more libraries will be added to the network, or a second reciprocal borrowing network will be established. If you are interested in participating and increasing your chances of no-charge loans, or just want more information, you may contact either Pat McGee ([205] 793-8102) or Susan Seay ([205] 918-2131).

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## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE ALHELA ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

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**T**he purpose of the Alabama Health Libraries Association Award is to honor an individual for outstanding service to ALHeLA or to the health science library profession.

The criteria for nomination for the Award are that the candidate has made significant contributions to ALHeLA, or to the profession of

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health science librarianship, through service, leadership, or research.

The Bylaws state that "Requests for nominations shall be published in *Synapse*. Letters of nomination should be sent to the president and should be received by June 30 of the year the award is to be presented.... The Executive Committee members are excluded from nomination for the award during [their] term."

The Award shall be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Alabama Health Libraries Association.

Only one person has received the Award to date. Mr Robert Donnell, director of the University of South Alabama Biomedical Library, received the Award in 1990 for his many contributions to health science librarianship in Alabama.

Please send any nominations for the ALHeLA Achievement Award to Sondra Pfeiffer as soon as possible.

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## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

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J. Wright, librarian for the Department of Anesthesia, University of Alabama at Birmingham's School of Medicine, will present a paper entitled "Humphrey Davy's Bristol Coterie and Nitrous Oxide; or, Meditations on Celebrity and Human Experimentation" as a part of the 1993-1994 Reynolds Historical Lecture Series. The paper will be read in the Reynolds Historical Library on April 21 at 4:30PM.

Internet is a very popular topic in the popular press. The 'Net is growing at a fantastic rate as more people discover its many uses. One of the major problems in the midst of this exciting development is trying to find an economical method of connecting to the Internet.

As mentioned in the minutes of the last Executive Committee Meeting, a task force was formed to explore the possibility of obtaining funding from a grant to provide Internet access to health science libraries in the state. The minutes also said that this issue of *Synapse* would include a needs survey to provide data for use by the task force in pursuing grant funds.

- Do you currently have Internet access?
- Do you want Internet access and don't know how to obtain it?
- Would you require money from outside your normal funding routes to have access to Internet?

Please send answers to these, and any other questions or issues (e.g., Internet training, resource sharing) that you think should be brought to the attention of the task force should be sent to the editorial address of *Synapse*.

From Martha Tillotson: A big "thank you" is in order for all ALHeLA members who helped with our booth at the Southern Chapter meeting in Birmingham. The following members came through with flying colors to make our booth an attractive and successful addition to the exhibits:

- Jay Harris: arrangements and membership ribbons;
- Joy Harriman: balloons;
- Mary Fran Pottsman: door prizes;
- Sondra Pfeiffer: door prizes;
- Mike Perry: directories;
- Judy Burnham: door prizes;
- Pat McGee, Beth Laughlin, C.J. Bryant: candy (lots of it!).

Members who volunteered their time to work in the booth included many members of ALHeLA. Although we did not gain any new members or sell many directories, the ALHeLA booth provided an opportunity for our Association as co-host of the conference to welcome Southern Chapter members to Birmingham.



# SOUTHERN CHAPTER/MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING, ORLANDO, FLORIDA

The 1994 Southern Chapter Meeting, October 22-25, will be hosted by the University of South Florida and the Tampa Bay Medical Library Association.

The Hilton at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida will serve as the convention hotel. This outstanding location provides easy access to many outstanding attractions. All of the excitement of Disney World, Epcot Center, Sea World, Adventure Island, Wet & Wild, Universal Studio, MGM Studios, and excellent outlet shopping malls are just a short distance away.

Mark your calendar for the Annual Meeting and be sure to take a few days off to visit several of the fabulous attractions in the Disney area.

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#### *Synapse*

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