



# ASLA NEWSLETTER

August 1978

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The annual ALA conference in Chicago was attended by many ASLA members. It was one of the best conferences I have ever attended which also made it one of the busiest.

As your representative I attended the SWLA meetings as well as the ALA chapter session.

The complex nature of the relationship between ALA and its chapter was the topic of a meeting of the chapter representatives with the ALA Executive Director and President-Elect. Many participants expressed dismay at the lack of concern ALA seems to have for the new chapter representatives and the unclear role the chapters play. The speakers agreed that the responsibility for learning about the inner workings of ALA and for increasing the participation of chapters lay with the chapters and not ALA. Although the audience was not satisfied with the response no better solution was offered.

SWLA Executive Board is proposing additions to the constitution and by-laws to provide for the SWLA Project Council (SLICE) which has never been a part of the constitution and by-laws.

SWLA has budget and cash flow problems which will hopefully be improved with new payment schedules for workshop contracts.

The organization of the SWLA Projects Council and its structure are still a problem which the SWLA Executive Board continues to battle. A proposed new structure has been submitted to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee for consideration. Perhaps a draft will be available for the New Orleans conference in the fall.

- Sharon Womack -

## ASLA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The next ASLA Executive Board meeting will be held September 9th at 10:00 am at the University of Arizona.

## MESLA ELECTS OFFICERS

1978/79 officers of the Maricopa Elementary School Library Association include: Joyce Tessler, President; Eleanor Zoellner, President-Elect; Doris Wetter, Secretary; Jane Cox, Treasures.

## POSTAL SERVICE FOR FILM CASES

reprinted from ALA Washington Newsletter - April 13, 1978

Since the development of Bulk Mail Centers by the Postal Service over the last few years, there have been problems with the shipment of film cases by mail. The straps of the fiber cases tend to become entangled in the machinery and the plastic cases, with the low coefficient of surface friction, slide down the chutes so fast they become damaged or damage other parcels. Film cases were considered non-machineable and were processed by hand. This made delivery time unpredictable and slow.

With the cooperation of ALA and other organizations, the National Audio-Visual Association has been working with the Postal Service to seek a solution to the problem (other than changing film cases to fit the machinery, or imposing a surcharge on film shipments, two solutions proposed by the Postal Service). NAVA recently reached agreement with USPS on a significant first step. The Post Service has agreed to start machining small plastic film cases experimentally. In return USPS is asking two things of film shippers:

1. Launch an informational campaign to film users urging them to securely lock plastic cases when returning them to the sender.
2. Ask all film shippers to permanently affix their return address underneath the removable label on all of their plastic and fiber cases.

To show good faith and enable further negotiations on the film case problem, all libraries which ship films by mail are urged to implement these requests. State library agencies, systems headquarters, and other libraries or agencies which serve as centers for film networks should alert all members to whom they mail films.

## WRITER CONFERENCE IN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN CALIFORNIA

The Society of Children's Book Writers and the UCLA Extension Division will sponsor its 7th annual Writers' Conference in Children's Literature, August 5th to 8th at the Miramar Hotel, Santa Monica, CA. Individual manuscript consultations and editorial critique groups will be led by Sid Fleischman and Myra Cohn Livingston.

For information write: Society of Children's Book Writers, P.O. Box 296, Los Angeles, CA 90066. Conference will feature Jane Yolen, John Rowe Townsend, Tomie de Paula, Joan Lowery Nixon, Ann McGovern, Ann Durrell, Henriette Neatrou.

#### AWARD ANNOUNCED

The 1978 International Reading Association's Children's Book Award will be given to Lois Lowry for her novel A Summer to Die. Award is made to a book published in the preceding year, written by an author "who shows unusual promise in the children's book field". It carries a \$1,000 prize.

#### FILM AVAILABLE FOR LOAN

To Help Them Learn, a 21 minute film produced by the Association for Educational Communications and Technology and the Association of Media Producers, is available for free loan to school districts. The film provides a special look at classrooms where learning, motivation and excitement prevail. Visits to elementary and secondary schools show skilled teachers using films, multimedia kits, audiotapes, instructional television and other media. Classroom teachers, media specialists, and students discuss and demonstrate.

#### ADDED ENTRIES...

Dr. Donald C. Dickinson, Director of the U of A Graduate Library School, has announced his resignation as head of the school, effective upon appointment of a new director. He said that he felt his energies could best be devoted to teaching and research. He will continue at the school as Professor of Library Science and will teach in the areas of administration, bibliography, and reference.

Donald W. Koeppe, is the new librarian at Princeton University. He was the Library head at ASU...Richard W. Griffin, former serials cataloger at U of A Library, is the new serials cataloger at the University of Texas at Austin Library...Joan Myers, has resigned her position as librarian at the Adobe Mountain School in Phoenix...From Holbrook comes news that Tony Serio, has taken leave of absence from his position as librarian at the high school to enter private business.

Maye Keith, is the new director of the Yuma City-County Library. She had been assistant director, a post now assumed by Steve George, formerly the extension librarian...Christy Tyson, Mesa Public Library, was one of the 1978 recipients of the 3M/JMRT professional development grants. The grants provide an expense-paid trip to the ALA conference in Chicago.

AASL has chosen two winners for its 1978 Distinguished Library Service Award for School Administrators. Dr. Nolan Estes of Dallas Independent School District and Dr. Alvin E. Morris of Wichita Public Schools, Unified School District 259 (Kansas) were recognized at the Honors Reception at the ALA Conference...Dr. Paul W. Briggs, former superintendent of the Cleveland Public Schools, will join the teaching staff at ASU. Dr. Briggs was the recipient of the award in 1969 and has long been a strong and vocal advocate for school media programs.

The 1978 Hans Christian Andersen medals will be awarded to Paula Fox for writing and to Svend Otto for illustrations. Medals are awarded every two years by the International Board on Books for Young People. They are given to an author and an illustrator for the body of their work published for children.

A children's literature archive is being organized at the University of Washington. If you have children's books published before 1942 to donate, send bibliographic information to Children's Literature Archive, Gifts & Exchange, University of Washington Library FM-25, Seattle 98195. Do not send books before writing them.

Millicent Selsam, Science writer and editor, is winner of the Children's Book Guild Non-Fiction Award. Award recognizes author's total body of work. Honorable mention went to Jean Fritz and Milton Meltzer.

You may wish to write for catalog of games and simulations for all curriculum areas: Games Central, ABT Publications, 55 Wheeler, Cambridge, MA 02138.

School librarians attending ALA in Chicago included Kathryn Bussuyt, LaVonne Baker, Karen Whitney, Bill Morris, and Mary Choncoff.

## ARIZONA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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