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Synapse Newsletter

Charles M. Baugh Biomedical Library

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7-1994

## **Synapse**

Alabama Health Libraries Association

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# SYNAPSE

## ALABAMA HEALTH LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

Volume 14, number 2; Summer 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. | Birmingham AL 35294-0013. Phone: (205) 934-2230; Fax: (205) 975-8313. Deadline for the next issue is 15 August 1994.

### PRESIDENTIAL NOTES

SONDRA PFEIFFER

The Alabama Health Libraries Association, Inc. took a giant step into the future a few weeks ago by establishing its own LISTSERV. It is the first such Listserv in the nation. This is the brain child of Joe Moudry, ALHeLA's *Synapse* editor. More details and information on how to join the discussion group will follow (page 4).

ALHeLA's President Elect, Judy Burnham, is also looking to the future as she plans this year's annual meeting, which will be in Mobile, September 8th and 9th. Judy is arranging an informative and fun-filled meeting which will include entertainment by the Krewe de Bienville and a banquet at Bellingraph Gardens. Tamara Lee is also busy scheduling a continuing education course, taught by Dr. Carl Joiner, to be held in conjunction with the meeting. Judy and Tamara will have articles giving more details in the next issue of *Synapse*.

ALHeLA also looked back to the past on June 6 as several members travelled to Tuscaloosa to attend a retirement reception honoring Barbara

Doughty (page 3). The reception was hosted by Lisa Russell, Director of The University of Alabama Health Sciences Library, Tuscaloosa, and her staff. Congratulatory remarks were made by Dr. Benjamin Koepke. Lisa Russell then announced the establishment of a scholarship fund in Barbara's name. ALHeLA has contributed \$500 to the scholarship fund in honor of Barbara's outstanding contributions to the organization. We wish Barbara much happiness in her retirement.

**REMINDER:** The Executive Board will meet on July 29 in Montgomery at 10:00 AM in the Alabama Public Library Services' building. Please contact any Board member with suggestions or concerns you would like to have discussed at the meeting.

Many thanks to George Marangoly for hosting the last Executive Board meeting at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Montgomery. The meeting was followed by a tour of the Hospital's Library.

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# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

SUBMITTED BY  
MARY FRAN PROTTSMAN

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The Executive Committee of the Alabama Health Libraries Association met on April 15, 1994, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Montgomery, Alabama. Attending were Judy Burnham, George Marangoly, Jay Harris, Joe Moudry, Kay Hogan, Susan Seay, Mike Perry, Robert Avant, Joy Harriman, Pat McGee, Diane Williams, Tamara Lee, and Mary Fran Prottzman.

The meeting began at 10:30 AM. George Marangoly presented a ten minute excerpt of a VA satellite teleconference in which Chris Jones, Chief, Library Service, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Biloxi, Mississippi, demonstrated the library's role in the 1994 JCAHO standards.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published with the following changes: Lisa Rains is Lisa Russell; and changes to the bylaws must be published five days prior to action by the Executive Committee.

Martha Tillotson presented the Treasurer's Report. As of April 13, 1994, our balance is \$2,620.46. While our tax exempt status prevents us from selling advertisements for the *Directory*, acknowledging donations is permissible.

Judy Burnham presented the report on the 1994 Annual Meeting plan. Potential meeting sites at the Ramada Conference Center, the Radisson Admiral Semmes, and the Holiday Inn-Downtown Historic District and potential speakers were discussed. The program theme is "Leadership Challenges During an Age of Change". Entertainment by Krewe de Bienville and the

banquet at Bellingraph Gardens at \$15.00 per person were reviewed.

### Committee Reports

#### Bylaws/Handbook

Motions to amend the bylaws as published in the minutes of the last meeting were restated and unanimously approved:

1. the immediate past president will serve as chair of the Nominating Committee for the next year;
2. all members of the Executive Council are voting members.

#### Continuing Education

Tammy Lee reviewed suggestions for the CE course at the annual meeting. Various options were discussed including SOLINET's Leadership Skills, ARL's Leadership and Learning, the Snowbird Leadership Institute, and [a presentation by] Carl Joiner, Dean, Business Management, Mercer University.

#### Directory Committee

Mike Perry presented the ALHeLA Directory Committee report, including committee goals for 1994, and requested input on redesign of the questionnaire.

#### Liaison Committee

No report.

#### Membership Committee

Jay Harris presented the Membership Committee Report. Dues for three institutional and nine personal members have been received to date. Mailing labels on future issues of *Synapse* will indicate when it is time to renew.

#### Synapse

Joe Moudry was complimented on the last issue of *Synapse* and was requested to distribute future issues via Internet in addition to the regular mailings. Joy Harriman suggested the dedication of a special issue to library activities through-

out the state which promote the flow of medical information; the issue could be used as an institutional marketing tool. The deadline for the next issue of *Synapse* is May 15.

#### **Union List Coordinator**

Robert Avant reported that they are behind on title cessations from NLM due to a shortage of staffing. Two delinquent medical libraries who were on the verge of being deleted from the Union List have submitted updates.

#### **Special Committee Report: NLM Internet Access Grant**

Joe Moudry reported that it is not feasible to meet the May 15 deadline this year for the grant application but that plans would proceed for next year. In the meantime, he offered to develop a packet of commercial vendors for individual access.

#### **Old Business**

None

#### **New Business**

##### **University of Alabama Library School Scholarship Fund**

The council unanimously approved a motion to contribute \$500.00 to the University of Alabama Library School Scholarship Fund.

#### **Internet Workshop**

Because of the widespread interest in the Internet it was suggested that Joe and Jack Smith present their Internet course as a CE offering on Saturday following our annual meeting. The course will be publicized to individuals as well as school, academic, public, special and medical librarians. Joy Harriman offered to coauthor an article on the Internet with Joe Moudry for publication in a state medical journal.

The next meeting will be held on July 29 at Alabama Public Library Service. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.

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## **UA HEALTH SCIENCES REFERENCE LIBRARIAN RETIRES**

BY MARTHA TILLOTSON

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**B**arbara Parr Doughty, reference librarian at The University of Alabama Health Sciences Library for more than nineteen years, retired June 10. She was also an Associate Professor in the College of Community Health Sciences. Her decision to step down was based on the early retirement plan offered by the University this year. Barbara was an active member of ALHeLA and served as president in 1991-92.

Barbara began her work in the Health Sciences Library in August, 1973 as a graduate assistant. Upon receiving her MLS in December, 1974 she was named reference librarian, the position she has held since that time. She began her career with HSL when it was located in Gorgas Library, the main library of the University, and has seen the Health Sciences Library grow and move into its present location in the Educational Tower of DCH Regional Medical Center. During her tenure at HSL she has trained sixty graduate students in medical librarianship.

Barbara's plans for retirement include gardening, traveling with her husband Julian, and spending lots of time with her three grandchildren, who will be moving to the Tuscaloosa area soon. Anyone who knows Barbara also knows she will be devoting time to her Dalmatian, Dixie. Barbara's friends and colleagues in medical librarianship will miss her reference expertise, calm manner, and delightful sense of humor.

The Barbara Parr Doughty Endowed Scholarship has been established at the University of Alabama School of Library and Information

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Studies. For more information on the scholarship fund, contact Lisa Russell (Internet: LRUSSELL@UA1VM.UA.EDU) or Martha Tillotson (MTILLOTS@UA1VM.UA.EDU) at The University of Alabama Health Sciences Library ([205] 348-1360).

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## ALHeLA INTERNET DISCUSSION GROUP

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**T**he Alabama Health Libraries Association, Inc. (ALHeLA) announces the formation of a Bitnet Discussion Group on 1 May 1994.

The Alabama Health Libraries Association was established to provide better health care for the citizens of Alabama as it is affected by the provision of health science information. These goals are accomplished by:

- the promotion of health sciences information resources and services;
- providing consultant services to developing Alabama health science libraries;
- the promotion of interests of Alabama health science libraries and library personnel;
- strengthening the professional skills of Alabama health information personnel by providing opportunities for continuing education;
- facilitating communication among Alabama health library personnel through a program of publications; and
- convening at an annual conference and business meeting of the members of the Association.

The Bitnet discussion group ALHeLA was established as a medium of communication and mutual exchange of information in the Health Sciences in the state of Alabama. The ALHeLA Group is open to members of ALHeLA, health professionals in the state of Alabama and interested professionals from elsewhere. To subscribe

to the ALHeLA List send E-mail to:  
LISTSERV@UABDPO.DPO.UAB.EDU

Bitnet hosts may use the Bitnet address:  
LISTSERV@UABDPO

The only contents of the E-mail must be: subscribe ALHeLA YourFirstName YourLastName

The List is unmoderated. The Listowner is Joe Moudry, editor of ALHeLA's quarterly newsletter, *Synapse*. He may be reached via Internet at: LHL0032@UABDPO.DPO.UAB.EDU

The above is the announcement that was submitted to the NEWLIST group on Internet. NEWLIST is the formal channel of announcements of newly formed, modified, or deceased discussion groups on Bitnet.

An extra benefit for ALHeLA members who subscribe to the ALHeLA List is the automatic reception of an ASCII (i.e., plain text) edition of *Synapse*. This "edition" is sent before the printed edition goes to press. All ALHeLA members subscribing to the Bitnet List will also receive the regular, printed, edition of *Synapse*, sent by normal mail. As this issue of *Synapse* goes to press, there are thirty-two subscribers to the ALHeLA List. Nine of the subscribers are current members of ALHeLA, and no less than eight are from outside of Alabama (the most remote being in Greece and Australia).

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## SHORT TOPICS

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**I**n April the University of South Alabama Biomedical Library participated in the campus-wide Educational Technology Poster Session Seminar. Participants in the seminar sought to demonstrate how technology is used in instruction on campus. Judy Burnham demonstrated the portable library instruction unit that is used by Nursing & Allied Health Professions. Using

a laptop computer, overhead projector, LCD unit and VCR, the various instructional segments were demonstrated. The software used included *Harvard Graphics*, *Procomm*, and *Grateful Med*. Future plans call for using a CD-ROM player hooked to the laptop to demonstrate in the classroom searching strategies for the CD-ROM systems.

Judy Burnham is serving as supervisor of a research project being conducted by three students in the Department of Physical therapy in the College of Allied Health Professions. The students are examining the publications in the journal *Physical therapy* from 1966 through 1993 using bibliometric analysis. Citations for articles published in the journal and their subject headings were downloaded from the MEDLINE database in chronological subsets. These citations and subject headings were then imported into the *Papyrus* reprint management program. The subject headings were printed out for each subset, with the number of times that subject heading was used. The final result will be reported in the form of a poster session at the College of Allied Health Professions Poster Day in May.

Be watching your mailbox for your ALHeLA *Directory* mailings. A survey and SASE were recently mailed to all of the health information centers in the state. Every two years the Alabama Health Libraries Association puts together a directory of Alabama health information sources. We'd like your contributions listed, too. Please take a few minutes to fill out and return the survey if your institution offers any information services or resources.

This is not a membership directory, although many are listed. Copies are, however, free to ALHeLA members, and cost non-members \$8.00 per copy. That's more than half of the membership fee.

The University of South Alabama Biomedical Library wants to remind all health care professionals in south Alabama that we are your regional resource library. A variety of services, including searches, training, and document delivery, are available. Please call (205) 460-7044 for an information brochure detailing these services.

ALHeLA will be well represented at the Contributed Paper sessions during the 1994 SC/MLA Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida. Five ALHeLA members have received congratulatory letters notifying them of acceptance for presentation of their Contributed Paper abstracts. These ALHeLA members are:

- Spencer Marsh, University of South Alabama, Mobile;
- Martha Tillotson, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa;
- Jack T. Smith, Jr., University of Alabama at Birmingham;
- Joe Moudry, University of Alabama at Birmingham; and
- Sondra Pfeiffer, University of Alabama at Birmingham.

There will be three concurrent sessions of Contributed Papers and Brief Communications on Sunday afternoon, October 23d, from 3:30PM until 5:00PM and on Monday morning, October 24th from 11:00AM until 12:30PM.

For more information on the Annual Meeting of SC/MLA, one may write the address given in the advertisement on the next page.

Also on the next page there is a reminder of the dates for the Annual Meeting of ALHeLA. More complete information will appear in the next issue of *Synapse*, which has a deadline of 15 August. Any material intended for that issue should reach the editor by that date.

Mark Your Calendars

ALHeLA Annual  
Meeting:

8, 9, & 10  
September, 1994

in

Mobile, Alabama

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.

*Synapse*

Newsletter of ALHeLA

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