



March 2003

AACRL Newsletter

## Alabama Association of College & Research Libraries

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### *From the President ...*

Your AACRL officers have been hard at work planning for meaningful "Best Practices" programs and a very different dinner and program at the Alabama Library Association Conference coming up in April. The Best Practices programs are all being co-sponsored by the College, University and Special Libraries Division of ALLA. Work to arrange times on the conference program was done by Kim Weatherford, AACRL Secretary and CUS chair-elect. Della Darby has included information about the four varied programs with presenters' names and times in the article below.

Our dinner and program this year, arranged by Vice-President/President-Elect Patty Pilkerton is going to be very special. We will be dining on board the Cotton Blossom Riverboat and we will be hearing from Dr. Michael V. R. Thomason, Director of University Archives at the University of South Alabama, for an evening that promises to be both unique and

entertaining. Details on registering for the dinner are included and are to be returned to Treasurer Mary Alice Fields. Please plan to attend and visit with your colleagues from around the state.

Immediate Past-President Jean Thomason has recruited an outstanding slate of vice president/president-elect and treasurer candidates for your selection to serve the next officer terms, so read all about them and then please be sure to vote.

This issue also highlights the USA Patriot ACT Teleconference hosted by the University of Alabama and information on our legislative day attendee. In addition I have summarized portions of the ACRL Leadership Council meeting I attended as the chapter representative at ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia. I am looking forward to seeing each of you in Mobile for worthwhile meetings and an enjoyable evening on the water.

— *Marcia Boosinger*

### AACRL/CUS Best Practices at ALLA

Please plan to attend the AACRL/CUS Best Practices programs at ALLA in Mobile. The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, April 2

- 3:00-4:00 **Sterling J. Coleman, Jr.**, Digital Resources Librarian; Auburn University  
"The Importance of Establishing Best Practices For Metadata In Digital Projects"  
4:00-5:00 **Jean Liddell**, Reference Librarian; Auburn University  
"Plagiarism: A Comprehensive Definition"

Thursday, April 3

- 1:00-2:00 **Robert H. Schrimsher**, Pharmacy Librarian, McWhorter School of Pharmacy, Samford University  
"Helpful Hints for Every Librarian's Nightmare: Publishing an Article"  
2:00-3:00 **Jean Thomason**, Director, University Library, Samford University  
"Faculty Evaluation of Library Orientation"

## Annual Dinner Meeting and Program

This year's Annual Dinner/ Business Meeting will be in Mobile on Wednesday April 2, 2003, and promises to be a little bit *different*. Instead of a stuffy restaurant with a view of the parking lot, we will sail on the **Cotton Blossom Riverboat** and see the Port City in true Southern Hospitality - Riverboat Style.

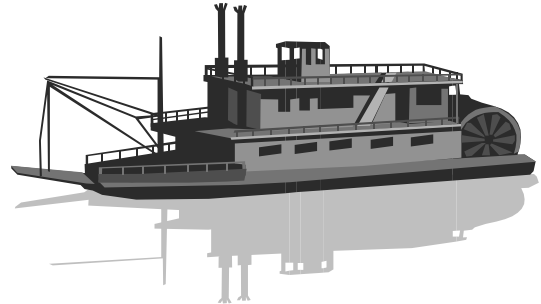
The **Cotton Blossom** is docked at the Mobile Convention Center so we have just a short walk to begin our journey. This fully restored stern-wheeler is climate controlled and provides interior/exterior seating with excellent views – and a cash bar. It is listed on the *National Register of Historic Places*, is U.S. Coast Guard inspected, and has licensed Captains. Can you say that about any other restaurant you have eaten in lately ???

Boarding will begin at 6:30 PM and we embark at 7:00PM for a two hour scenic cruise up the Mobile River and back into history.

We will enjoy a seated dinner with full service on white linen tablecloths.

Menu will include:

Sweet Glazed Fruit Salad  
 Stuffed Chicken Breast with Honey Pecan Dressing  
 Seafood Fettuccini  
 Stir Fried Vegetables  
 Bacon Wrapped Corn on the Cob  
 And your choice of French Silk Pie or Key Lime Torte  
 Homemade dinner rolls, iced tea, and coffee



After a short (very brief) Business Meeting our guest speaker Dr. Michael V. R. Thomason, Director of University Archives at USA, will share his perspective on Mobile's heritage as a port city, and the diversity and distinction of its people.

Make plans to join us in Mobile for the 2003 AACRL Annual Dinner/Business Meeting and Program on Wednesday, April 2, 2003. Boarding begins at 6:30pm – dinner cruise from 7:00-9:00PM. Cost of the meal is \$35.00 per person. Reservations will be due by April 1, 2003.

Dinner reservation form is also available on the AACRL website: <http://www.samford.edu/groups/aacrl/aacrl.htm>

Information on the **Cotton Blossom Riverboat** is available at <http://www.mobilesteamboat.com>

– Patty A. Pilkerton  
 Vice President/President Elect

### Introducing Dr. Michael Thomason

Michael V. R. Thomason, a native of Florida, has been 'visiting' in Mobile for thirty-three years while teaching history at the University of South Alabama. He has a **B.A.** (1964), and an **M.A.** (1966) from Sewanee, and a **Ph.D.** (1968) from Duke. In 1978 he began the University of South Alabama Archives, which has since grown as a research institution best known locally for its historic photograph collection.

He has authored, coauthored, or edited several books on Mobile and Alabama, the most recent being Mobile: The History of Alabama's First City, published in 2001 by the University of Alabama Press on the occasion of Mobile's Tri-centennial. He is also Managing Editor of the *Gulf South Historical Review*, which has been published by the University semiannually for the past eighteen years. It carries scholarly articles on the history of the Gulf states, and book reviews.

Though not natives of Mobile, he and his wife have two daughters who were born there, and thus are welcome to remain indefinitely in Alabama's oldest city. He will talk about Mobile from the perspective of its heritage as a port city, home to a diverse population, who exhibit a fierce loyalty to the old town and its distinctive ways.

### Tasks for Liaisons

All AACRL liaisons will soon be getting some of the chapter's new membership brochures as well as information about the annual dinner and program to distribute to librarians at their institutions who are not members of AACRL. Please give these materials to prospective members and remind them that for very little dues they can attend programs and workshops expressly for academic and special librarians, receive the excellent newsletter, and network with their professional colleagues from around the state. Let's see how many new members we can have attending dinner on the Cotton Blossom this year!

Thanks, Marcia Boosinger

## AACRL Candidate Biographical Information

### Vice-President/President Elect

#### Deborah J. Grimes

Director of Library Services, Shelton State Community College, 1979 –

#### Education:

Ph.D., Library Management, University of Alabama; Ed.S., Librarianship, University of Alabama; M.L.S., University of Alabama; B.A., English and psychology, University of Montevallo

Professional Memberships/Activities: American Library Association: Task Force on Recruitment/Image Enhancement, 1991-1996; Committee on Appointments and Nominations, 1991-1992

Alabama Library Association: President, 1993-1994, Executive Council, 1992-94; CUS Convention Program Planning Committee, 1991-1992

Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries: Member at Large, 2001

Alabama Junior College Library Association: Chair, Network Planning Committee, 1988-1992

#### Jeannette Barnes Lessels

Access Services Librarian, Auburn University at Montgomery, 2002–

Education: M.L.I.S., University of Alabama; B.A. English, University of West Florida, Pensacola

Professional Memberships/Activities: American Library Association; Reference and User Services Association; New Members Round Table; Association of College and Research Libraries; Alabama Library Association; Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries

Network of Alabama Academic Libraries: Resource Sharing Committee

Read the candidates' complete curriculum vitae on the AACRL website: <http://www.samford.edu/groups/aacrl/aacrl.htm>

### Treasurer

#### Kate W. Ragsdale

Planning Officer, University of Alabama Libraries, 1986–

#### Education:

M.L.S., University of Alabama; B.A., Sweet Briar College

Professional Memberships/Activities: American Library Association: Academic Librarians Assisting the Disabled Discussion Group, 1991-1999; H.W. Wilson Staff Development Grant Jury, 2000; Reference and Adult Services Division

Library Administration and Management Association: Program Committee, 1999–; Leadership Development Committee, 1998-1999; Orientation Committee, 1996-1998; Membership Committee, 1991-1995

Southeastern Library Association: Membership Committee, 1991-1992, 1995-1997

Alabama Library Association: Exhibits Chair, Convention Committee, 1990-1991; CUS Chair, 1992-1993

#### Brenda G. Turner

Director of Libraries, Faulkner University, 1993–

Education: M.S.L.S., Indiana University; B.S., Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Rio Grande; Doctoral student, Florida State University

Professional Memberships/Activities: American Library Association; Association of College and Research Libraries; Library Administration and Management

Alabama Library Association: Chair, Public Relations, 1998-2000; Centennial Committee, 1999-2001; CUS Publications Committee, 1999-2001; CUS Public Relations, 1997-1999; Chair, Public Relations, Convention Planning Committee, 1995

AACRL: Secretary and Newsletter Editor, 1995-1997

Christian College Librarians: President Elect, 2000-2002

## Patriot Act Teleconference

On December 11, 2002 the University of Alabama Libraries, in cooperation with the UA School of Library and Information Studies, hosted a satellite-downlink teleconference, *Safeguarding Our Patrons' Privacy: What Every Librarian Needs to Know about the USA Patriot Act & Related Anti-Terrorism Measures*. The teleconference was sponsored by the American Library Association, the American Association of Law Libraries, the Association of Research Libraries, the Medical Library Association, and the Special Libraries Association.

Presenters Thomas M. Susman, Gary Strong, Tracy Mitrano, and James Neal covered the basics of the USA Patriot Act and its implications for libraries. Additional discussion centered around the need for institutional and library procedures for handling information requests, Constitutional issues, library values, and legislative realities.

Copies of the videotape and manual are available from the Association of Research Libraries for \$35.

Order copies from:  
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— Mary Alice Fields



## Report from ACRL Chapters Council

I attended the ACRL Leadership Council at ALA Midwinter which included all the ACRL officers and section and committee chairs as well as many chapter presidents. The 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 programs and activities were highlighted by President Helen Spaulding and President-Elect Tyrone Cannon. President Spaulding mentioned the ACRL@ Your Library Task Force which will have a tool kit for marketing your library available at the ACRL conference in Charlotte in April. She mentioned that her president's program in Toronto will be "New Realities, New Relationships Across Borders." President Elect Cannon's presidential theme will be "Partnerships and Connections: The Learning Community as Knowledge Builders." He and the ACRL board will be undertaking a revision of the strategic plan as well. The group heard from Larry Hardesty, chair of the 11<sup>th</sup> ACRL Conference in

Charlotte, encouraging all to register and attend. Ken Marks, Chair of the ACRL@Your Library Task Force, gave a preview of their Charlotte conference program which will discuss the marketing toolkit that includes items such as a status inventory, customer needs worksheet and a products, services, and benefits map.

The main speaker for the meeting was James Honan, a faculty member in the ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute, whose topic was "Leading in Difficult Economic Times: Strategies for Success." His recommendations included that you first must articulate and rearticulate the value or purpose of the library, differentiating what you accomplish from what you do. Be clear and comfortable about communicating the library's outcomes and be persistent in telling your story. Second, know your finances cold and link your plans to the budget always; be financially literate. Third, think like

a good trustee; think zoom out and look at things from the perspective of someone who has to think about the entire institution and see if what you are proposing works in that context. "Get off the dance floor and go up in the balcony." He mentioned that difficult economic times are great ones in which to seek partners and allies who are in the same situations. Lastly, he reminded the audience not to forget the impact of budgetary problems on morale within a unit. He recommended acknowledging challenges and promoting team building by clearly stating what is being done, what needs to be done, and how to do it with existing resources. In closing, he admonished the group to play, not watch. There is a dimension of risk in playing, but a greater risk in not doing anything.

— Marcia Boosinger

## News From the Membership: ALLA Association Awards

**Sherida H. Downer**, Auburn University Libraries, has been selected to receive the *Distinguished Service Award*, which is presented in recognition of leadership in a specific and noteworthy project that has resulted in a significant contribution towards the development of library service within Alabama.

Ms. Downer's leadership and contributions at the local, state, regional, and national levels are well known and documented. In her various positions as department head, assistant dean, and interim dean, Ms. Downer has provided the necessary and appropriate leadership to keep the services provided by the Libraries on the cutting edge. Many innovations, particularly in the arena of technology, have been implemented. Her commitment to providing access to all library users and to digitization of resources have supported such projects as Alabama Moments and a large Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) National Leadership Grant to the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries to implement *The Cornerstone Project: Building the Foundation for Sharing Unique Treasures*.

**Jerry W. Stephens**, Ph.D., Mervyn H. Sterne Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham, will receive the *Eminent Librarian Award*, which is presented to a librarian or an individual in a related field who has been in Alabama for a minimum of ten (10) years and who, during this time, has made an exceptional and enduring contribution toward the development of library service within Alabama.

Dr. Stephens continues to be a loyal and contributing member of the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL) and to the profession. Most significantly, the breadth of Jerry's understanding of technology has advanced the use of technology in Alabama's libraries. Under his guidance, Alabama librarians have not berated changes swirling around them, but have planned for the systematic adoption of appropriate technology. As a result of, and in spite of Alabama's relative poverty, Alabama leads the nation in offering significant new information content to its citizens. His commitment to librarianship has been unwavering.

**Rickey D. Best**, Auburn University at Montgomery Library, will receive the *Humanitarian Award*, which is presented to a person or an organization who has made a substantial contribution toward the development or improvement of a library or libraries within Alabama.

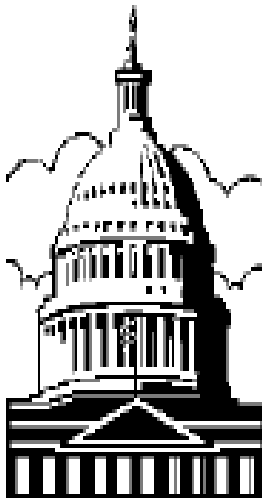
Over the years, Mr. Best consistently has served on many of the committees of the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL), especially the Resource Sharing and Budget committees. In this capacity, he has helped forge new policies and developed strategies to implement new programs and their funding, but, until now, he has never been "out front" to receive the accolades he richly deserves. Under his leadership of the Resource Sharing Committee, NAAL members were early adopters of ARIEL software to facilitate electronic transmission of documents. Also under his leadership, NAAL was one of the earliest groups to begin discussions about using the new "virtual reference" software for a statewide program. His dedication and service to the Auburn University at Montgomery Library is exceptional.

The awards will be presented during the ALLA President's Reception on Thursday, April 3, 2003, 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., at the Oakleigh House Museum during the 2003 annual conference of the Association in Mobile.

## Legislative News

### National Library Legislative Day

AACRL is pleased to announce that we will sponsor **Suzanne J. Peterson**, Collection Management Librarian at Samford University, to attend the 2003 National Library Legislative Day, to be held May 12 & 13 in Washington, D.C. For several years AACRL has been encouraging more librarians from academic and research institutions to attend Legislative Day. We're pleased Suzanne has expressed an interest in representing our chapter and look forward to her article about her experience in a forthcoming issue of the newsletter. To find out more about Legislative Day, you can go to the web page of the Washington Office of ALA at <http://www.ala.org/washoff/legislativeday.html>



### Current Legislative Issues

ALA's Washington Office is an excellent source for keeping up-to-date about legislative issues affecting the library community. Currently on its web page you will find information about:

**E-Government:** President Bush signed the E-Government Act of 2002 in December. As the federal government looks at moving away from print to more electronic information dissemination, the library community needs to be vigilant that important information doesn't disappear.

**Eldred v. Ashcroft:** The 7-2 decision last month by the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the extension of the copyright that Congress enacted in 1998 (the Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act). That decision now allows for copyright protection for works 70 years after the death of the creator, 95 years for corporations owning copyrights on works. The Court (or at least 7 of the Justices) did not find the extension unconstitutional.

**LSTA Reauthorization:** ALA is asking librarians to contact their representatives to ask for co-sponsorship of the Museum and Library Services Act of 2003 (H.R. 13). The ALA Washington Office web page can provide more information including suggestions for contacting your Representative.

**Homeland Security:** ALA is con-

cerned that the recently passed Homeland Security Bill "undermines openness and accountability in government ... prevent(ing) public access to information regarding the functioning of the Homeland Security Department and all 'critical infrastructure' industries." There is a bill for which ALA is asking librarians to advocate, the Daschle-Lieberman amendment, "which would strip out damaging provisions in the bill."

**TIA -Total Information Awareness:** TIA would be an information gathering system through the New Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). What alarms ALA about this program is that it would allow the gathering of information on the citizenry such as bank and medical records, telephone records and information on education and travel. Civil Liberties organizations are also concerned about privacy and the implications of this type of indiscriminate information gathering.

**GPO:** The Bush Administration is favoring going to outside contractors for the printing of government information from the Executive Branch as well as other federal offices and agencies. There is concern by the library community that this could endanger public access to government information.

— Eric A. Kidwell  
Legislative Liaison

## Member News, cont.

**Beth Ashmore** joined Samford University Library as Reference Librarian in January. Ms. Ashmore is a 2001 graduate of the Library and Information Science program at the University of Illinois and earned a B.A. in English from Loyola University. She served as the Instruction Services and Distance Education Librarian at Mississippi State University.

## Welcome to New AACRL Members

**Luke Griffin**, Government Documents and Electronic Resources Librarian, Jacksonville State University

**Mangala Krishnamurthy**, Reference Librarian, University of Alabama

**Jeannette Barnes Lessels**, Access Services Librarian, Auburn University at Montgomery

**Doris McDaniel**, Access Services Librarian, University of North Alabama

**Lori Northrup**, Reference Librarian, Samford University

**Lisa Yuro**, Reference Librarian, University of Alabama

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