



# Alabama Association of College & Research Libraries

## NEWSLETTER

Fall 2020

[www.aacrl.org](http://www.aacrl.org)

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### From the President...



It has become a bit of a cliché to say this, but the past six months have been unprecedented. Even so, I must say that I have been quite impressed by how libraries throughout the country have responded. As one person told me, throughout the pandemic, libraries have not changed what we do but simply, how we do it. I think we have also benefitted from the fact that libraries, ever on the cusp of change, had already implemented many policies and services that made the transition to online education much smoother—electronic resources, chat and online reference assistance, embedded

services into our institutions' learning management systems. Because of this forethought, I think many of us were ready to assist faculty, staff, and students in this modality quite quickly. I had a conversation with a colleague recently about whether this pandemic represents a watershed moment or simply a temporary change until we get back to normal. She stated that this has forced a new normal to which we must learn to adapt. I think we are ready for that new normal.

This is not to say that the transition has been easy for everyone, though. Librarianship is known to attract mostly introverted people. But whether you identify as introverted, extroverted, or ambiverted, we have all probably suffered mentally and emotionally from the social isolation of this pandemic. Let us make sure that we help each other and ourselves. Do not forget to take care of yourself.

We must also remember the people who have lost family, friends, and colleagues. COVID-19 was not simply an event that closed the world. It was and is a virus that has infected many people (almost 130,000 people in Alabama at the writing of this) and unfortunately taken the lives of several of those (over 2,000 in Alabama). Let us not forget those people.

If we had only a pandemic to deal with, that would have been enough, but 2020 has been full of bad news. Among the seemingly countless stream of horrible events and news, we have also seen too many stories of horrible violence inflicted upon people of color throughout the country. The Black Lives Matter movement has forced the country to take a look at how people of color are treated in the U.S. and the systemic racism ingrained within our society. The push to remove Civil War memorials has forced the country to examine how people of color contend with constant reminders of a troubling and painful history that continues to make them feel like second-class citizens. Fortunately, the library community and its professional associations have not been silent in all this. The American Library Association's #LibraresRespond has encouraged libraries throughout the country to use social media to offer support and services to those affected, and its statement

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED...**

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/diversity/librariesrespond/black-lives-matter>) was supported by the Association of College and Research Libraries. The Alabama Library Association released its own statement on racism in society and how libraries can respond (<https://www.allanet.org/allastatementonracism>). We at the Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries are in the process of releasing our own statement, but we want to make sure that we can also include useful resources for libraries to use and distribute. We hope to have a complete statement posted soon. Together we can make things better.

Finally, AACRL continues to offer its assistance and services to college and university libraries throughout Alabama, so if there is anything we can do to help you, please do not hesitate to reach out and let us know. You can find contact information on the front page of this newsletter.

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## Treasurer's Report

June 2020

For the last Treasurer's Report the checking account balance was \$3,765.43 and the PayPal account was \$330.79.

The checking account balance as of June 22, 2020 is \$4,131.88 and the PayPal account is \$61.28. We currently have approximately 78 members in good standing.

Megan Bell  
AACRL Treasurer

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## Legislative Update

The Library Stabilization Fund Act has been introduced in Congress. According to the bill it would allow libraries to retain staff and maintain services so that libraries could safely keep their communities connected and informed. The funding act was introduced by Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) and Rep. Andy Levin (D-MI) on July 2 of this year. This legislation calls for \$2 billion in emergency recovery funding for libraries through IMLS. As of September 24, S4181 has been referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions in the Senate. On the House side, H.R.7486 has been referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and also to the Committee on the Budget.

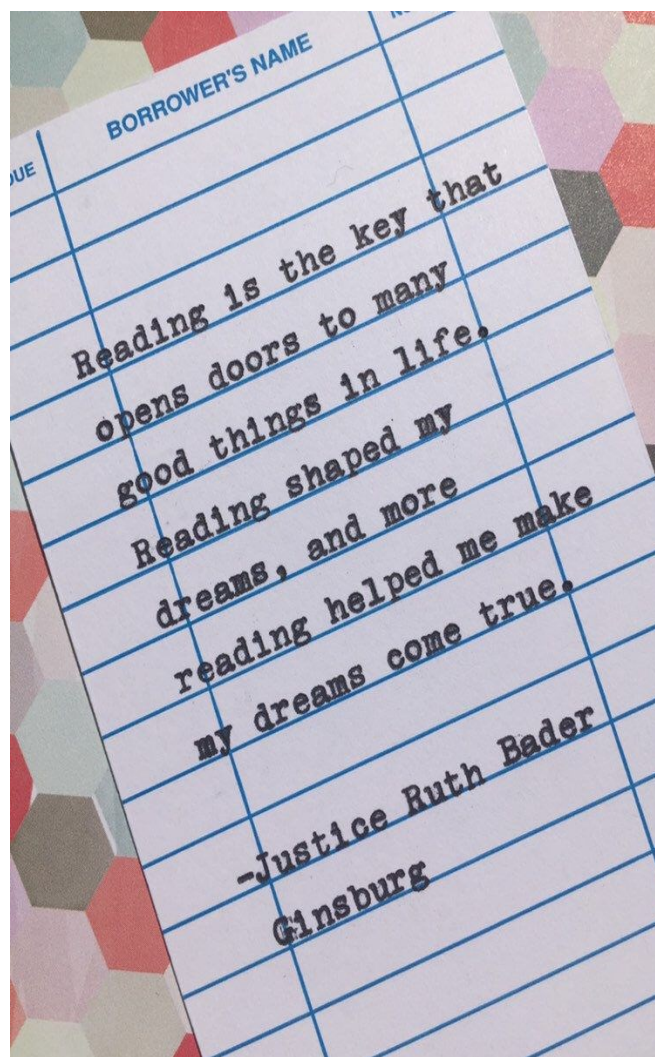
Take time to contact your congressional representatives and ask for support for the Library Stabilization Fund Act.

Some good news:

Due to successful advocacy, libraries secured \$50 million for the IMLS in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. IMLS distributed \$30 million in CARES Act funding through its Grants To States program. State library administrative agencies are responsible for determining how these funds are distributed and used within their state. IMLS is also distributing \$15 million in CARES Act funding through its CARES Act Grants for Museums and Libraries program.

*Eric A. Kidwell*  
AACRL Legislative Liaison

## Quote of Quarter



## Committee Volunteering Opportunities

Do you want to get more involved with AACRL? Consider volunteering for a committee. AACRL has the following committees that can always use your help:

- Awards Committee
- By-laws Committee
- Continuing Education and Training Committee
- Government Relation Committee
- Membership Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Program Committee

You can volunteer for an AACRL committee using this form: <https://forms.gle/yMzpGUDjnK9dGVdF7>

### The Alabama Librarian

Submitted to the AACRL Newsletter  
September 29, 2020

The Alabama Librarian, the peer-reviewed journal published by the Alabama Library Association, has undergone a variety of changes and improvements since its inception in 1949. The ALLA first adopted a rather wide scope for the journal, including news of the Association and its members as well as addresses of conference speakers and general articles. The newly revived journal is managed by an Editor-in-Chief, 6 peer reviewers, and 4 proofreaders, and is meant to serve a different purpose. While it is still an official journal of the Alabama Library Association and its larger aim is still to speak for all librarians in the state, The Alabama Librarian is now a source of peer-reviewed research in the field of librarianship.

#### Call for Articles

The Alabama Librarian is seeking articles relevant to librarianship in Alabama. The Alabama Library Association's peer-reviewed journal publishes scholarly articles biannually in an open access format.

Guidelines for Submissions:

- All manuscripts must be submitted to [thealabamalibrarian@gmail.com](mailto:thealabamalibrarian@gmail.com) as attachment to an email, preferably in MS Word.
- Manuscripts must be written in APA style and include an abstract and keywords.
- Although longer or shorter works may be considered, 2,000- to 5,000-word manuscripts are preferred.
- The name, position, and professional email address of the author should appear in the bottom left-hand corner of a separate title page. The author's name should not appear anywhere else in the document.
- Submissions will undergo a double blind peer review process.
- Photographs and other images relevant to the submission will be accepted for consideration but cannot be returned. Digital images are preferred.
- No other publisher should be simultaneously considering a manuscript submitted to The Alabama Librarian.
- If the manuscript includes analyses of survey results, please acknowledge approval by the appropriate Institutional Review Board either through direct reference in the manuscript or acknowledgement as part of the manuscript submission.
- Upon receipt, manuscripts will be acknowledged by the Editor-in-Chief, who will then assign manuscripts to two reviewers. The reviewers who receive the manuscript will have no direct information on the author or the author's affiliation. Following the review, a decision will be communicated to the writer.
- Upon acceptance, publication can be expected within six months.

## 2021 Annual Convention

The 2021 Annual Convention will be held April 27-30, 2021, at the Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center in Montgomery.

**Interested in joining the Planning Committee?**

**Click here to complete this form!**

Contact Zella'Ques Holmes, 2021 Convention Chair, at [allaconvention@allanet.org](mailto:allaconvention@allanet.org) for more information.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2021 ALLA Convention in Montgomery!

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## Membership News

If you have any membership news, please submit them by email to Elizabeth Bradsher at [Elizabeth.bradsher@cv.edu](mailto:Elizabeth.bradsher@cv.edu).

## Find us on Facebook

Like us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/AlabamaACRL/>



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**CALL  
FOR  
SUBMISSIONS**



The next issue of the AACRL Newsletter will appear in February 2021. With the Fall term behind you, this will be a great place to advertise the wonderful accomplishments from your library and your staff (or you). So, please email news about happenings around your library for inclusion in the next issue of the newsletter.

Please email the information to [elizabeth.bradsher@cv.edu](mailto:elizabeth.bradsher@cv.edu) The deadline for submissions will be **January 29, 2021**.