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COVER: “I'll be glad to tell your mother what you've done!”

COVER:
Celia Childress Halford is an English professor at the Citadel. Reproduced here are her illustrations for the book The Treasure of Pawley's Island (Sandlapper Press).

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Minutes of Executive Board of SCLA
August 5, 1988

In the absence of the secretary and the executive secretary, Jan Sprouse took the minutes of this meeting. Please excuse this amateurish report.

President's Report:
Ms. Krebsbach filmed a segment on SCLA with SCASL, English teachers and teachers of reading on 7-11-88. This segment will be aired on instructional television during the next few months.

The President and First Vice President recommended the Radisson Hotel in Columbia as the site of the 1990 convention. This recommendation was based on the convenience of its location and expense. They also visited the Sheraton which is more remote and more expensive. The motion was approved by the Board. The dates of the Convention are October 17-19, 1990.

Ms. Krebsbach called the White House to urge the President to sign HJR 90.

Committee and Section chairs are urged to begin compiling information to pass on to their successors. It is hoped this will lead to an orderly transfer of information and consistency of action within the committees or sections and SCLA in general.

The SCLA Executive Secretary has resigned. A search committee was formed and the job was advertised. Interviews have been conducted and the committee has suggested that Sharon Jeffcoat be offered the position. The motion was approved by the Board.

It was suggested that SCLA acquire a post office box in Columbia. The motion was approved by the Board.

SELA and ALA representatives were not placed on the Nominating Committee report. An amended report will be mailed out soon.

The President now has a list of materials in the SCLA archives.

The Intellectual Freedom Award which is sponsored by SCLA and SCASL had no nominees this year. The committee requested advice from the Board. The Board agreed that it is not necessary to go to extremes to search for nominees. The Committee will be advised of this opinion.

The Federal Relations Coordinator has suggested that SCLA expand its participation in National Library Legislative Day.

He has suggested an increased contribution, group meetings with the senators, encouraging a large number of librarians from all sections of the association to participate, and asking SCASL to join with us in the effort and to contribute to the cost. The Board discussed these recommendations and agreed to discuss this with representatives of SCASL before proceeding further.

Treasurer's Report:
Report submitted and approved by the Board.

First Vice President's Report:
Plans for the 62nd annual convention are progressing. The program is almost complete except for two speakers and the topics of one or two others. It is hoped that information will be complete by early September so that the convention announcement can go out in the last half of September. The chairmen of local arrangements, hospitality, registration, publicity, and exhibits have all been working on plans. Arrangements with the Myrtle Beach Hilton are complete. Unfortunately, meal functions will cost approximately $1.00 more than last year. Data Research Associates has agreed to underwrite the cost of the Wednesday night reception, and it is hoped that other vendors will help with contributions for other expenses. Photographs and biographical information about speakers are urgently needed so that publicity and flyers can be prepared. As of August 3, twenty-one exhibitors had registered for the conference and had paid fees totalling $3,750. A follow-up contact will be made with vendors in the near future.

Second Vice President/Membership Committee
The major concern of the Membership Committee this summer has been the revision of the Membership brochure. Due to the possibility of changes in the dues structure for the coming year, an insert including the dues information will have to be printed after the convention in November.

Publicity Library Section
The Public Library Section is cancelling preliminary plans for a fall workshop. This decision was made to avoid possible conflicts with conferences and other events of interest to public librarians previously scheduled for late summer or early autumn. Instead of a workshop, the section will concentrate its efforts on printing a revised edition of Standards for SC Public Libraries.

Technical Services Section
The following events have taken place since the last Executive Board meeting:
June 14 — Sent a memorandum to Sanford Beman (Convention speaker for College and University, Technical Services, and Two-Year College Sections) outlining plans and deadlines for the convention.
June 21 — Met at USC Library Processing Center to plan CD-ROM Workshop. At the meeting were Helen Callison, Nancy Washington, Cynthia Yarborough, and Ann Osborne. The workshop is on hold at this time until dates for out-of-town presenters can be arranged.

Government Documents Section
Convention plans have been completed. There are tentative plans for a GODORT Workshop in December at Clemson University.

Trustee Section
The Kick-off Regional Trustee meeting was held in Lancaster on May 12 with several area meetings held subsequently. Most of the meetings focused on the up-coming "Let's Talk About It!" reading and discussion programs. Larry Freeman of the State Library spearheaded the sessions with Frances Ashburn, director of discussion programs sharing information.

The Trustee Section has a Library Services and Construction Act Title I grant to fund a Trustee Section and Friends of the Library joint meeting in the 1988 conference.

The number of Trustee/Friends continues to grow with 74 members as of May 3.
Archives and Special Collection Round Table
The Round Table received its share of the proceeds from the Records Management Workshop. Efforts are underway to identify candidates to serve in the Section during the coming year.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee
The Committee submitted suggested changes (see enclosure) to solve some problems in membership and committee appointments expirations. There is also mention of changes concerning the approval of the dues structure.

The Board discussed the report and suggested that in section III, Membership and Dues, #1, should read, "Type of memberships and dues structure shall be decided by the Executive Board."

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sprouse
Acting Secretary

Unofficial list of members present:
Suzanne Krebsbach, Betty E. Callaham, Helen Ann Rawlinson, Dennis Bruce, Sheila Seaman, Helen L. Callison, Ann B. Osborne, Margaret Bundy, Michael Kohl, Maurine Harris, Janice Sprouse, Neal A. Martin, Katrina P. Strauch, Joseph L. Allen, Roxy Rust, Anne Hare, Tom Lowrimore.

SCLA Long-Range Plan 1988-1990

Introduction
This document makes the assumption of agreement with the ALA long-range plan document and finds its basis in the ideas and directions of the 1986-88 planning document of the SCLA. That plan, the first for the Association, was based on the Association's Statement of Goals.

In January 1988 the SCLA held a planning retreat, the purpose of which was to evaluate the progress made in achieving the goals and strategies set forth in the 1986-88 Long-Range Plan and to query the Association's leadership as to the present concerns and goals of SCLA. A questionnaire was prepared for the meeting and the responses from the questionnaire became the basis for further discussion in the Planning Committee prior to drafting of this document.

Some differences will be noted between this document and the 1986 plan. The earlier plan's emphasis lay in assessing the situation in 1986 - its goals being derived from the SCLA Statement of Goals and Objectives and new ones recognized at the 1986 planning retreat. In that document a conscious effort was made not to propose many specific strategies which might "impose pre-defined restrictions and limitations." In hindsight, this freedom may have been limiting, in that many of the objectives outlined in that document have not been achieved and the lack of definition of problems and strategies seems to have been a contributing factor.

One primary thrust of this new plan is to address the persistent problems of continuity in an association whose officers serve terms of only one year. Strategies for dealing with this issue and others - such as membership, finances, and publications - are considerably more specific and prescriptive than in the 1986 plan. The intent is to suggest strategies which might serve as a minimal basis for action in addressing the most pressing problems of the Association. It should be understood that the suggested strategies are only starting points for minimal action and not ends in themselves. While no particular strategies are suggested for some committees, sections, and roundtables, all groups within the Association are directed within the document to produce short, medium, and long-range plans as a key part of their activities for the next two years.

The numerous goals in the 1986 plan have here been reduced to an expansion of the single goal of providing for quality libraries, librarians, and library service in South Carolina.

A. Objective: To develop and implement standards for each type of library, and promote the implementation of national, regional, state, and SCLA standards.

Strategies:
1. The Committee on Standards should be made a permanent one whose charge should be on-going activity to monitor current levels of library support and practices.
2. The Committee should develop an SCLA document for inclusion in the SCLA Handbook on proposed standards for approval by the Executive Board by spring 1989 - including items such as personnel qualifications and education, salaries, release time for professional activities, collection strength - in all these adopting national standards where appropriate.
3. The committee should have as its primary task promoting high levels for library standards and disseminating information on standards on an on-going basis, especially to institutions and hiring bodies, for the purpose of supporting library directors in raising the levels of library service within the state.
4. The Committee should provide an annual report of its activities to the Executive Board.

B. Objective: To strengthen the SCLA financial and management position and provide for greater continuity within present constituencies and membership.

Strategies:
1. The Executive Board should explore modifying the present dues structure, especially with regard to increasing institutional dues and seeking closer ties with other related professional organizations, such as SCASL. [See Appendix]

2. The Committee on Finance should provide a report on a new dues structure at the first meeting of the Executive Board in the fall of 1988.
3. The Association should plan to eventually hire a part-time and later full-time Executive Director. This should be implemented as follows:
   When total income for the Association reaches $60,000 per year we should be in a position to secure a part-time Executive Director. When total income reaches $75,000-$80,000 per year the position could be expanded to full-time. (These figures imply maintaining the present level of funding for on-going Association programs and events.)

The duties of the Executive Director should be as follows:
- a. Carrying out the directions of the Executive Board in matters affecting the Association as well as routine business of the Association.
- b. Advising the President and Executive Board and overseeing the services of the Executive Secretary.
- c. Membership Development and Retention in cooperation with the Chairman of the Membership Committee.
- d. Convention Planning and oversight with the Vice-President/President Elect.
- e. Assistance for sections in putting on workshops and programs.
- f. Coordinating and assisting communications and publications. (The editor and executive board would remain responsible for content and control, the executive director handling technical matters of printing contracts, advertising revenues, etc.)
- g. Contact with political officials and keeping members informed on legislative matters, in conjunction with Legislative Committee and State Librarian.
- h. Coordinating public relations for the Association with Publicity, National Library Week, Awards Committees.
- i. Representing the library profession at appropriate activities in South Carolina, including service as a speaker for local library.

Daniel Barron
Mary Bostick
Jane B. Dorn
Jane Ferguson
Dianna Lynn Smith

Goal: To promote quality libraries, librarians, and library service in South Carolina.

1988 SCLA Planning Committee
Oakley Coburn, Chairman
Suzanne Krebsbach, Ex-Officio

The numerous goals in the 1986 plan have been reduced to an expansion of the single goal of providing for quality libraries, librarians, and library services within the state. In subordinating all goals to this one, we hope to make a clear statement of our priorities as an Association.
j. Creation of a statewide Friends of the Library organization.
Money should be set aside for the establishment of the Executive Director’s office in addition to building up an income level to pay the salary—that is, we should build up capital prior to hiring.
4. The Board and editor should explore ways to reduce publishing costs of the South Carolina Librarian, especially through desk-top publishing and increased solicitation for advertisements. The publication should have a goal of 50% self-support by 1990.
5. The Association should ensure that convention fees cover costs or generate a surplus.
C. Objective: To strengthen the SCLA financial position by identifying supplementary funding sources to support SCLA activities and endowment.
Strategies:
1. The ad hoc Committee on Finance should be made a permanent standing committee of the Association.
2. The Board should explore using the past president of SCLA for an additional year’s service with membership on the Committee on Finance.
3. The Committee on Finance should pursue links with SCLA members who have experience in grantsmanship, such as personnel of the State Library.
4. The Committee on Finance should have as its goal one grant per year achieved and should provide an annual report of its activities in seeking grants.
D. Objective: To strengthen SCLA membership.
Strategies:
1. The Association should broaden its membership base by pursuing members among related professional organizations.
2. We should explore changing the structure and makeup of the Membership Committee for better continuity of activities.
3. Committee membership should increase in size and composition.
4. The Membership Committee should establish a structure for monitoring and reporting personnel changes for personal contacts and building a network among members to facilitate an increase in membership.
5. The Membership Committee should establish written guidelines and procedures for use by succeeding committee members so that committee activities may proceed without interruption. These guidelines should be on file with the Executive Secretary by the first meeting of the Executive Board in the Fall of 1988. The Executive Secretary should provide copies to all incoming chairs.
6. These guidelines should be presented as a part of the membership committee’s annual report.
E. Objective: To promote greater understanding and support of the principles of intellectual freedom to members of the library profession and the general public.
Strategies:
1. The Intellectual Freedom Committee should re-issue the SCLA Intellectual Freedom Handbook within the 1988-90 period of this plan.
2. The Association should provide for continuing education programs on intellectual freedom, including sessions at the annual convention—these to be offered for library personnel and especially public library trustees.
F. Objective: To monitor state and national legislation affecting libraries and to actively promote those measures which further the advancement of libraries and library science.
Strategies:
1. The Association should explore retaining a lobbyist to work for SCLA interests.
2. The Legislative column in News and Views should be retained with the chair of the Legislative Committee to have responsibility for the column.
3. Legislative Committee activities should be regularly reported in News and Views.
4. The Federal Relations Coordinator should document activities annually in the South Carolina Librarian.
G. Objective: To insure continuity in offices and duties within the Association.
Strategies:
1. As with the Membership Committee strategy D. 5. in this document, all standing committees, sections, and roundtables should establish written guidelines and procedures for use by succeeding members so that on-going activities may proceed without interruption. These guidelines should be on file with the Executive Secretary by the first meeting of the Executive Board in the Fall of 1988. The Executive Secretary should provide copies to all incoming chairs.
2. Copies of any official correspondence, publications, etc. by any section, committee, roundtable, or representative should be sent to the Executive Secretary to create an archive for the Association.
3. A committee structure should be devised which would permit cross membership or representation of key members of committees.
4. The structure should permit ad hoc membership of committee chairmen on other committees where shared interests and concerns lie.
5. The viability and goals of the Continuing Education Committee should be examined. We should explore a structure in which this committee would be constituted of a chair, plus representatives of other standing committees, sections, and roundtables with a representative of Davis College and the State Library to coordinate programs.
6. A member of the Legislative Committee should be represented on the Publicity Committee.
7. Members of the Planning Committee should be represented on other standing committees as relevant business dictates.
8. All committees, sections, and roundtables should develop a series of short, medium, and long-range plans of their activities to submit to the Executive Board. At the first meeting of the presidential year 1988-90, each group should have developed and presented long-range plans to the Executive Board in light of proposals within the current SCLA Planning document.
9. By 1990 this current plan should be evaluated in light of such on-going plans and a new long-range plan for the Association should be developed.

Appendix
Ad hoc committee on SCLA Dues Structure, May 13, 1988
Members present: Suzanne Krebsbach, President SCLA; Helen Ann Rawlinson, Chairman of Membership Committee; Joseph Allen, Chairman of Constitution and By-laws Committee; Dennis Bruce, Chairman of Finance Committee; Oakley Coburn, Chairman of Planning Committee.
As directed at the March business meeting of the SCLA Executive Board, this committee met to consider and prepare an adjusted dues structure. The need for consideration of a new dues structure was suggested in the proposed 1988-90 Long-Range Plan as relevant to the Association’s related problems with low membership and finances. The goal of a revised dues structure would be to have reasonable and attractive dues to hold old members and attract new ones to the Association and at the same time provide the necessary revenues to carry on the work of the Association. We would also like to acknowledge and encourage potential members in related professional organizations.
The Committee proposed a graduated dues schedule similar to ones currently in use in North Carolina and Texas. The dues structure is based on income with special categories for trustees, students, and institutions.

Proposed SCLA Dues Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full individual memberships</th>
<th>Dues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>Dues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40,000+</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30,000+</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000+</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,000+</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than $15,000</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students/first time members (1st two years)

| Retired librarian           | $5   |
| Trustees/Friends           | $15  |

Institutional/Supporting Memberships (Libraries & library-related businesses)

| $100                        |      |
Within this dues structure the Committee proposed the following item:
Benefits to Institutional Members (in addition to support of the Association):
1. An institutional representative may attend three Association-sponsored workshops (excluding annual conferences) each year free of charge. (The Association would reimburse the section sponsoring the event.)

The committee proposes a change in the by-laws to permit the dues structure to be modified as needed by action of the Executive Board.

People

Catherine Townsend, library media specialist at the McCormick Middle School, has been selected for inclusion in the 1988 edition of Who’s Who in American Education.

Education professionals from across the United States who hold positions of leadership at the state or national level, who have outstanding speaking or publishing experience, and who are recognized as authorities by other members of their professions are selected for this distinction. Fewer than 2 percent of the professional educators nationwide are elected for inclusion in Who’s Who in American Education.

Townsend is a member of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology (National), American Library Association, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, and has served as president of AECT of South Carolina, second vice president of the South Carolina Library Association, and as a board member of the South Carolina Association of School Librarians.

She is currently serving as chairman of the Drug Free Schools and Community Committee for McCormick County, and is in the process of completing her research for the Specialist Degree in Library and Information Science at USC. She and her husband, Frank, live on a farm in Greenwood County.

Kenneth E. Toombs, Director of Libraries at the University of South Carolina since September 1967, retired June 30, 1988.

Toombs began his career as a reference assistant at the University of Virginia Library while pursuing the M.A. in history. He served as a research assistant at Rutgers University while he attained the M.L.S. degree. He joined the library staff at Louisiana State University as Special Assistant to the Director of Libraries in 1956. Until 1963 he held progressively more responsible positions in the LSU Library administration, including Head of Circulation, Head of the Social Science Division and Assistant Director of Libraries.

In 1963 Toombs became Director of Libraries at the University of Southwestern Louisiana. During his four years there he planned the renovation and expansion of the USL Library which doubled its size.

Toombs was appointed Director of Libraries at the University of South Carolina in 1967. His 20 years’ service at USC ranks him as one of the senior library directors in the Association of Research Libraries. His accomplishments at USC include membership in ARL and planning the construction of the Thomas Cooper Library, the main research library, which opened in 1976. The USC library became a pioneer in library automation with its monographic acquisitions system installed in 1971. In 1974 it instituted the first light-pen circulation system in the United States. The organizational meeting of the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) was held on the USC campus in March 1973. Toombs and Dr. John H. Gribbin are credited with organizing and developing SOLINET. In 1978 the Southeastern Library Association recognized Toombs and Gribbin for that achievement by presenting them the Rockroth Award, the highest honor bestowed by that Association.

Toombs has held various offices in state, regional and national organizations. He has served as a consultant for over 20 library buildings and will continue his consulting activities in his retirement.

Davy-Jo Ridge, Associate Director of Libraries at the University of South Carolina, retired June 30, 1988.

After attaining the M.Ln. degree from Emory University in 1955, Ridge began her career as a cataloger at the University of Georgia. From 1956 through 1964 she served as Head of the Reference Department of the DeKalb County (GA) Library System. She joined the staff of the University of South Carolina Library in 1965 as Assistant Reference Librarian. Shortly thereafter she was promoted to Head of the Reference Department. From 1973 through 1975 she served as Assistant Director of Libraries for Reference Services. She has served as Associate Director of Libraries since 1975. Although retired she will continue to be associated with the USC Libraries on a part-time basis in the areas of gifts and development.

Matthew R. Marsteller has been appointed Assistant Science Librarian at the University of South Carolina. Marsteller holds the B.S. degree in physics and the M.S.L.S. degree from Clarion University of Pennsylvania. He was previously associated with the library at Clarion University.

Tom Gibson was awarded a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from the College of Charleston’s and the University of South Carolina’s joint master’s program.

Some Random Reamesian Recollections

When you have spent just about all your career either at the feet of a giant or vainly trying to follow in his large footsteps, there are many cherishable recollections. Good recollections, every one of them. And a few of them unique, belonging now to only you.

A few stand way out ahead of the others. Like the trip to Orangeburg to attend a commemorative banquet at Claflin College. We arrived earlier than anticipated and had time to walk through the gardens there and enjoy the roses. I returned to the car ahead of Mr. Reames. Glancing back towards his direction from the car door, I realized he was falling. We did what we could to clean him up, brushing sand from his clothes, wiping as much stain as possible from the shirt, cleansing the wound, and generally trying to salvage the situation. His presence at the banquet was almost mandatory since he was a Claflin trustee, and there was another time when my wardrobe for a change of clothing. We drove over to the campus and began greeting friends. Naturally those closest to him asked what had happened. In his typical way of making the best of any situation while never missing an opportunity to tease, he promptly related how I had not only failed to warn him about the posthole, but had deliberately pushed him in it. These were long-time friends who should have known him well enough to recognize his teasing, but they either went along with the joke, or, even more to my chagrin, actually believed him and thought that I would have really done such a dastardly thing. And this was not the end of it. Mrs. Reames would be told the same story of how he sustained all this damage, even to the point of having to have new lenses for his glasses, and she, too, would enjoy teasing yours truly for treating her husband so callously. While I truly believe all knew better, I sometimes wonder if I will go down in posterity as the ingrate who tripped Mr. Reames that evening.

Another memorable episode involved another road trip. He and I had motored to Charleston for a Francis Marion College basketball play-off game. Arriving early, we checked out an old downtown cemetery, looking for some long-lost ancestors, I believe. We had entered the cemetery through a rear gate off a sidestreet and were searching for an inscription. Realizing that we would never find the grave this way, we were sent to the adjacent parish house to see if there was a cemetery inventory. Imagine my horror reaching the gate to find it padlocked. And
the fence around the graveyard was at least eight feet high. I found Mr. Reames and conveyed our dilemma to him. The only recourse was for me to climb over the gate, complete with spear-like projectiles to discourage such an act, and secure help. Once on the street, after considerable givations and close calls, I located a passersby who told me to relax. He would get us out. I waited outside the fence, with Mr. Reames nonchalantly studying tombstones on the inside. The young man finally came up from behind Mr. Reames and said there was another gate to the cemetery from the other street, and he would lead him out, which he did. The experience safely behind us, we both laughed about how cold it would have been that December night there in a Charleston graveyard we had been unable to get ourselves out of that trap.

A raconteur par excellence, Mr. Reames also loved to tease. Yet his teasing was of such a calibre that one could not always readily tell whether he was teasing or serious. Or he could make a well-directed point through subtle jesting. A master of language, he often used stories to illustrate his point. If you knew the story you got the message. Ruby, in a futile attempt to have the perfect lawn, was constantly transplanting shrubbery. Ruby’s mother’s disgust at her daughter’s inability to be satisfied was quickly realized and her admonition readily applied to your dilemma. The moment readily applied to your dilemma was quickly realized and her message was crystal clear.

And then there were many other colorful expressions, usually deeply rooted in local wit and folk wisdom. Mr. Reames’s father had bequeathed much of this to his son who both enjoyed and generously shared it. Often when some of us would approach him with a very one-sided complaint, we were reminded that what we were experiencing was the age-old phenomenon of the difference between skinning and being skinned.

Not only did he believe completely in the necessity to “bell the cat”, as the old fable goes, but he had no reservation about belling any cat himself (there could be a tome of stories on “cats” he successfully belled). When asked why he showed no fear or compunction about taking on the powers that be, be they other trustees, Columbia politicians, “the system”, or whatever, his standard reply was “Why should I? What can they do to me?” And he meant it. I have seen more than one caustic memo to someone in office who seemed to be misusing power and who was quickly and not always deliberately reminded of his public trust and obligation. And it was always the same, be it one of them or one of us, no matter what Mr. Reames had called your hand on, you always walked away from it realizing that you had just been righted by the strong arm of integrity. You always felt as if you needed and deserved what you had just mercifully gotten, and it was never resented nor vindictive nor more painful than necessary. If he took you aside, you obviously had it coming and were lucky it was he instead of a less loving, less fatherly type who had felt the call to address the situation.

To many of us now mid-career, that is to say middle aged librarians and to other men and women in other important professions, Mr. Reames was a father figure and role model. A gentle, caring leader, a wise and patient friend, a forgiving sort who could tolerate our imperfections and frailties while constantly inspiring us to greater heights. We imagined all the while that we were capable of better things simply because he had unlimited faith in us. He expected a lot, and he usually got it. Who in their right mind would have dared disappoint so great a friend and champion of the human condition?

Who else would have set up a yearly luncheon of distinguished ministers and laymen at South Carolina Methodism’s annual conference and then dared label it “The Clayfoot Luncheon”? Yep. When they made Mitchell Reames, they threw away the mold.

“His stories are not yet finished . . .”, his gravemarker so aptly reminds us. Let us be thankful for those stories. And for him.

—Paul Dove

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**Patron Searching Errors Using DRA**

**by Katherine H. Bielsky, Assistant Cataloger, College of Charleston Library**

**Introduction**

The dramatic increase in online public access catalogs (OPAC’s) in academic libraries has, for the most part, been enthusiastically received by faculty and students alike. However, success in using OPAC’s remains problematical. The College of Charleston’s reference staff believed that patrons were not accessing the online catalog effectively and consequently were not able to retrieve needed materials. To understand rates of success in searching the OPAC and the types of problems encountered, a study of patron searching was performed in the summer of 1988.

The College of Charleston library has been using Data Research Associates’ ATLAS automation package since January, 1987. The library’s OPAC can be searched by author, title, call number, subject, or by a combination of author and title. Also, the aforementioned searches may be done with the addition of either the year of publication or by material designation, i.e., books, serials, sound recordings et cetera. A searcher may truncate his/her search in order to browse through an area of the database. The online catalog’s searching capabilities were greatly improved in late 1987 with the addition of the authority control module, which provided searchers with appropriate Library of Congress subject headings, author and series entries, with cross references.

In an effort to determine the success of patron searching searches were recorded during a three-week period (May 25-June 15, 1988). This period covered the last week of Maymester (the College’s short, intensive three-week term) and the first two weeks of Summer School Session I. The theory was that many of the students using the library at that time would probably have already used the library’s OPAC with authority control. During this study, the nine public terminals in use at that time, were monitored three times a day, Monday through Friday. Since the system has the ability to recall twenty previous searches for each terminal, these searches were accessed and recorded. Great care was taken to note exact spelling and spacing used in each search for further analysis.

**The Data: Overview**

A total of 1,140 searches were recorded, sixty percent of which were subject searches. Almost as many title searches were done (17.6%) as author searches (21.4%). Only fifty call number searches were recorded. Although author/title combination searches, or qualifying a search by adding publication year or material type could be performed, none were recorded. Because it was impossible to determine if a search was truly “successful” without interviewing the patron, search inputs by users resulting in a direct match or a “See” reference were recorded as a successful search. Only those searches that resulted in the message “No Matching Entries” were considered to be unsuccessful.

**Summary of Results**

The results of recording user OPAC searches at the College of Charleston are similar to a number of studies that have been done at other academic libraries. Subject searches were performed more than any other type of search, followed closely by author and title searches. However, unlike other studies, no combination author/title searches were recorded. Call number searches were almost nonexistent and seemed to have been used to check on the location and/or availability of a known item. Many of the subject and author searches were so broad that in many cases the patron either paged through many screens before finding the desired material, or he/she gave up their search. A surprisingly large number of the subject searches resulted in matches. This was probably due to so many of the searches being broad, general topics.

It is not possible to determine if the patron was only interested in the broad topic or if he/she was unfamiliar with the Library of Congress subject headings. However, it is reasonable to assume that many patrons need to
have increased instruction in the use of LC subject headings. The phrase "No Matching Entries" (supplied by the system no matter what the input error), is also deceiving. In many cases, because of the wording of the message, the patron obviously thought that the desired item was not owned by the library, rather than realizing there was a searching error of some sort. Although an in-house brochure explaining search techniques with examples was produced when the library originally brought up its OPAC, the library needs to do more in educating the patron in the use of the online catalog to guard against this reaction.

The Results: Subject

Subject searching was, by far, the most widely used access point. Amazingly, 501 out of the 695 subject searches resulted in a matching entry or in a "See" reference for the correct entry. However, a great majority of the subject searches were very general, e.g., "S = Civil Rights", "S = Africa", "S = Radioactivity", "S = Marriage", "S = Family." Either the patron wanted information on a broad topic: he/she paged through several screens of further subdivisions of that topic; or the search was abandoned. More specific searches based upon a previous broader search were not recorded. Obviously, most patrons do not realize that catalogers try to assign the more specific subject heading whenever possible.

It is clear that without authority control, many of the successful searches would have resulted in no matches. For example, "S = Folk Tales" resulted in zero hits, but under that term the patron is told to "Search for Folk Literature", "Search for Legends" and "Search for Tales.”

Out of the 194 unsuccessful searches, only a very small number were due to the patron not inverting the heading. Thirty searches were missedpell. Many of the other unsuccessful searches were due to the patron's unfamiliarity with the Library of Congress Subject Headings used by the library. In one search, a patron used "S = Faculty Promotions", not a valid LC heading. The search did not then try "S = Faculty", yielding two entries dealing with promotion and tenure.

Also, after "S = Faculty", the term "Faculty (Education)" would have referred the user to the more specific heading "S = Universities and Colleges - Faculty", resulting in four more hits. Similarly, a search for "S = England Before 1500" resulted in no matches. But, if the patron had tried "S = England - History", he/she would have been referred to the correct heading "S = Great Britain - History" and then could have chosen the desired time subdivision.

The Results: Author

During the three-week study period, a total of 244 author searches were recorded. Although most of these resulted in a matching entry in the OPAC, again, many of them were general searches, e.g., "A = Bass", "A = Gross", "A = Twain." Some of these broad searches resulted in several screens of hits, yet no patron then narrowed the search by adding more of the author's name or did a combination author/title search. In many cases patrons either had to page through many screen or abandon their search. Only a small number of searches (seventeen out of fifty-one) were unsuccessful due to not inverting the author's name. This is a much lower rate than what the library staff have observed. The remaining thirty-two unsuccessful searches resulted in no matches because the library's OPAC did not have material by those authors.

The Results: Title

Slightly less than half of the 201 title searches were unsuccessful, and for a number of reasons. Nineteen of the eighty-four failures were due to the inclusion of an initial article in the title search. That is much lower than what library staff has observed occurring among patrons searching the OPAC at other times. What is especially disturbing about these searches is that none of the users next attempted the search without the initial article! Patrons must have assumed that the message "No Matching Entries" meant that their search was correctly carried out and that the library just did not have the needed item. Only a few searches were unsuccessful due to misspellings or incorrect spacing between words. Other title searches were unsuccessful because they should have been carried out as either author or subject searches, e.g., "T = Alumax, Inc.", or "T = Women."

The Results: Call Number

The fifty call number searches were the most straightforward. Almost all of these searches resulted in a direct match, probably because the patron input the entire call number. Users seemed to be verifying either the availability or location of the item. Of the fourteen unsuccessful searches, several were input with a location symbol, such as "Ref" for the main library's reference collection, along with the call number. The other searches were unsuccessful either because of an incorrect character input or because the library had no item with that complete call number. Only six truncated call number searches were recorded, which seems to indicate a desire to browse through a particular section.

Conclusion

As a result of the staff's perception of the patrons' difficulties searching the OPAC, a Catalog Information Desk was implemented at the beginning of the 1988 Fall Semester. After a short training period, professionals and paraprofessionals from all departments staff the desk for two hour intervals from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, and from 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Sunday. In History 101 (a required course) the Reference staff is using one lecture period to introduce students to the OPAC. This introduction includes a written assignment. Hopefully, in this manner more students will be educated in how to successfully search the online catalog. This is especially important since the Library 101 course (Introduction to Bibliography and Research Methods) is not required and the library has been faced with meeting the information needs of an increasing population (over 6,000 students are currently enrolled at the College of Charleston, up 20% from 1987).

A follow-up study which will include a written questionnaire is planned for January 1989. At that time, regular library users will have had six months of training by Catalog Information Desk and Reference staff. More sophisticated searching will be even more desirable then since the library will be implementing keyword and Boolean searching in the near future. Also, with a written questionnaire, other pertinent information can be obtained, e.g., whether the student has had any training in using the OPAC, the type of patrons being served (freshmen, sophomore, graduate student, faculty, et cetera), whether the patron is familiar with Library of Congress subject headings, and if the patron was able to perform a successful search. This type of information will be useful to the library in various ways. For example, promoting the need for more classes on searching techniques to the faculty and administration may be desirable. Brochures and help screens can be enhanced. The usefulness of having a Catalog Information Desk can also be investigated.

So the end result should be that library patrons will become more sophisticated in the techniques they use to access the library's online catalog, resulting in fewer errors and therefore obtaining the information they need. Time will tell.


A Jab at Jobbers
by Peggy Gale, MLS

Ring, ring, ring . . . !

"Mrs. Gale, it's for you." Great, a patron just dropped off a six foot long snake for me to identify and the mayor wants his reference questions answered "to go." He'll pick it up at his convenience - have it ready pronto. But maybe it's Ed McMahon informing me that I've won a million dollars in a sweepstakes offer. Or perhaps it's Vanna White calling me to be a contestant on "Wheel of Fortune"; I thought my mentioning on the application that I'm from her home state would give me special clout with the Myrtle Beach, South Carolina native. It's probably Playboy asking me to pose in a risque pictorial featuring the new hip breed of librarian positioned among Dr. Ruth self-help books. Of course I can't say yes to Playboy, it would cause scandal and ruin my career. I would be shunned forever by my colleagues and embarrass librarians worldwide. (I wonder how much they pay?)

JOBBER

Ms. Gale, this is noise, noise, noise . . . , and I represent noise, noise, noise . . . publishing company. So your last name is Gale; are you related to the owners of the Gale Research Company joke, joke, joke . . . ? (If I was related to the owners of the Gale Research Company fortune would I be a librarian living in Goose Creek, South Carolina? I wonder if there are any openings at libraries located on the French Riviera?) I'm wondering, Mrs. Gale, if you're familiar with our newest publications. *Monaco Books Out of Print?* (No, but I can sense that this interruption is going to be a royal pain.) May I send you this five volume set on a trial basis? There will be no charge for mailing it back to us if you are not fully satisfied with this exciting new set - it's easy to mail back. (Who's going to pack up and carry this five volume set to the post office; are they going to send a burly chauffeur in a limo to pick it up for me?)

LIBRARIAN

Sorry, but I really don't have a lot of calls for out of print books that were published in Monaco. Do you have anything on how to avoid getting caught by a "smokie" while driving a new sleek black Trans Am at 100 miles per hour on the interstate? Or perhaps something on how to "fix" a traffic ticket? Or do you have books on barbecuing anything that moves? I get a lot of questions on frog jumping contests, do you have any books with information that would allow me to help these patrons?

JOBBER

No, Mrs. Gale, not at the present time, but I do have a soon to be out publication, and I'll let you have it at a one time only reduced pre-pub price, called *Guide to Out-of-the-Way Restaurants of Zambia.*

LIBRARIAN

I'm afraid, mister, that people in this county only eat at diners owned by their kinfolk or well-established hamburger chains that allow the town's teenagers to cruise through their parking lots on Saturday night. Perhaps if you have a publication describing sexual deviance at our own Hell Hole Swamp, you may be able to sell it to the local Zippy Mart.

JOBBER

But Mrs. Gale, if you buy now, we'll throw in a free copy of our best-selling Nouvelle Cuisine offering, *Cooking a la Road Kill.* This unique book has five hundred exotic recipes featuring everything from porcupines au gratin to armadillo stew, and we're only offering this bonus for a short time so you need to place your order right away while the supply lasts. Don't miss the opportunity of a lifetime, Mrs. Gale, next year you'll have to pay full price to obtain copies of these fabulous works.

LIBRARIAN (impatient)

(Perhaps my southern good manners are a little too subtle for this guy.) I'm sorry sir, but I don't believe that these particular publications are essential to our collection. (This is southern polite talk for I'm about to slam this phone down so hard that you may never hear again if you don't stop harassing me.)

JOBBER

All right, Mrs. Gale, I can see that you're just not in a buying mood today, but I know that this next book will be just perfect for your patrons. It's called *The Yuppie Guide to a Superior Lifestyle.* All the libraries in your area are ordering it. How many copies can I put you down for?

LIBRARIAN

Look, have you ever been to rural South Carolina? (Have you ever been out of New Jersey?) People here have just discovered Xerox machines and some folks think that the addition of traffic stoplights is to trendy for their tastes. I really don't think that we need to belabor this any longer.

JOBBER

But Mrs. Gale . . .

LIBRARIAN

Listen, I'm in a small town where all the senior high school students go to the library at one time to work on their science projects the day before they're due, and these kids are clamoring for me now, so unless you have something on how to improve plant growth by playing cassettes of the Oak Ridge Boys at excessive volume levels, I really have to get back to work!

JOBBER

O.K., Mrs. Gale, but may I just write down here to call you back in a month or so to see if you've changed your mind?

CLICK!!!
Spotlight:
Medical University of South Carolina Library

Compiled by Jane W. Kabler,
Associate Director of Libraries
and Learning Resource Centers

The Medical University of South Carolina Library supports the curriculum, research, and patient care goals of the Medical University, and provides informational services to students, faculty, and staff from all divisions of the University. The Library also serves as a major medical resource library within South Carolina, and in local, state, and regional consortia and networks.

The Library has a collection of 183,102 volumes, and subscribes to 2,876 current journal and serial titles. Staff include 13 professional librarians, 21 paraprofessional, technical, or clerical support staff, and 3.6 FTE student assistants. Included in these figures and in the following statistics are data for the Library’s Learning Resource Center, and the Waring Historical Library.

Annual Statistics, FY 87-88:
1) Charged Circulations
   a) Check outs/renewals 82,057
   b) Reserves 33,261
   c) Total 115,318
2) Number of primary clientele
   (MUSC) 5,378
   (Note: The online patron file contains 8,390 records)
3) Bibliographic Instruction and Library Use
   Presentations
   a) Tours and orientations
      Number of presentations 28
      Number of persons attending 584
   b) Lectures and classes
      Number of presentations 63
      Number of persons attending 522
   c) Total bibliographic instruction
      Total number of presentations 91
      Total persons attending 1,106
4) Number of reference transactions 26,080
5) Number of database transactions 2,555
6) Interlibrary Loans/Borrowing
   Number of items received from
   CHEC Libraries/Courier 186
   Number of items received from
   other libraries/ILL 2,096
   Total number of items received 2,282
7) Interlibrary Loans/Lending
   Number of requests received from
   CHEC/Courier 528
   Number of requests received from
   libraries/ILL 14,376
   Total number of request received from
   all libraries 14,904
   Number of items provided to
   CHEC/Courier 528
   Number of items provided to
   libraries/ILL 9,803
   Total number of items provided to
   other libraries 10,331

Budget Breakdown
   Personnel 895,321
   Collection Development 629,133
   Other 310,199

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The Library’s automated integrated management system offers online access to a collection of over 183,000 volumes. MiniMEDLINE(TM) provides access to articles in over 300 of the Library’s 2,876 current serial subscriptions. The Library’s Learning Resource Center facilitates the use of audiovisual materials, available in a variety of formats.

The Joseph I. Waring Historical Library is a repository of rare books, manuscripts, and artifacts relating to the history of the health sciences in general, and, more specifically, to the history of medicine in South Carolina. The collection is housed in a Nineteenth Century building where individuals are welcomed for browsing, research, or study. These historical materials do not circulate.

In July, 1984, the Library was awarded a three year project grant from the National Library of Medicine to establish the South Carolina Health Information Network (SCHIN) in cooperation with the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. The network’s goal is to bring needed medical information directly to health professionals and institutions of South Carolina. SCHIN became operational in 1986, and now has thirty member libraries, including both medical schools, the seven AHEC libraries, five state agency libraries, and sixteen hospitals, who contribute their holdings to the network’s databases, located on two minicomputers, one at the University, and the other at the Medical University. The Library Information System (LIS) developed by Georgetown University Medical Center Library serves as the networks’ foundation.

Individual health care practitioners may apply for membership in SCHIN, which offers online access to the medical information resources in the state. SCHIN also offers reduced rates for library services from both medical school libraries. Individuals affiliated with SCHIN member institutions may request services through their institution’s libraries, and are accorded reduced rates for services.

For more information about SCHIN and the Library’s services, please contact the Library’s Systems Office: 792-7672, or the Library’s Reference Department: 792-2372.

Database Resources – Medical University of South Carolina Library

Databases searchable in the Library by patrons include the Library’s online public catalog and miniMEDLINE(TM). The online catalog indexes the MUSC Library’s collection (over 183,000 volumes) and also includes records for books owned by several hospital libraries that are members of the South Carolina Health Information Network (SCHIN). Through SCHIN, the Library has access to the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Library’s database, which includes their collection, and collections of over twenty-five health related institutions in S.C.

*Only individuals who are registered in the Library’s patron file may search miniMEDLINE(TM), a selected subset (approximately 10%) of NLM’s MEDLINE database that provides current references from 318 core biomedical journals available in the Library’s collection.

A member of SOLINET, which provides resource sharing and automated services to more than 480 libraries in the Southeastern U.S., the Library has access to OCLC, a national online network containing bibliographic information on collections from nearly 5,000 libraries representing all kinds of institutions. This database is useful to the Library in locating sources of material not owned by MUSC for MUSC patrons. Several electronic mail methods are also used in the provision of this service: CLASS’s ONTyme, NLM’s DECLINE, and the State Library’s狮子系统. The Library can also access the online catalogs of the Libraries at Clemson University and the College of Charleston.

The Library’s Reference Librarians are trained search analysts who can access several databases to obtain requested information. Databases accessible are the National Library of Medicine’s MEDLARS (e.g. MEDLINE, HEALTH, CHEMLINE, CANCERLIT, etc.), Lockheed’s DIALOG, BRA, and STN’s CAS ONLINE. Lists of available databases and a fee schedule may be obtained in the library.

The Library also owns several “end-user” gateway search packages and can demonstrate these to individuals interested in learning to do their own searches directly from database vendors: Grateful MED, Papercheck, ARES/Colleague, SCI-MATE, PROSEARCH, and Dialog’s Medical Connection. Information on communications software is also available. Also have Aries Knowledge Finder; MEDLINE on CD-ROM for the Macintosh.

In 1982, the Library became the 38th Patent Depository Library. U.S. Patents issued from 1974 to the present are available on
Carolina and the earthy factors involved in that development: things like flooding control, adequate electrical power, air conditioning and highway construction. Dorn: Of the People is not the whole story of either the New South or of Dorn’s life, but it makes for fascinating reading.

—Dianne Gymph
Greenville County Library


The enchantment of the coastal islands is further imbued with a sense of mystery and ritual in this charming tale of adolescent discovery. Elizabeth Lois Duvall, alias E.L., is a thirteen-year-old wrestling with the need for companionship in a world peopled by loving but very adult relatives. Her closest cousin has even abandoned her, having moved into the world of more grown-up concerns, namely boys, in the year since they last met. Depiction of South Carolina’s low-country culture of 1893 is obviously well-researched, and E.L.’s dealing with it leads to the discovery of much more than material treasures.

Loyalty, however, is no casual read. The breadth of this study, culminating over twenty years of research, is quite obvious throughout and the organization is evidence of an author in command of his subject. S.C. Loyalists, however, is no casual read. The large amount of information and the tight weave of the narration calls for close attention, but the rewards are ample.

—Steve Richardson


At first glance South Carolina’s Low Country – A Past Preserved appears to be a “nice” coffee table book which would make a thoughtful birthday gift for a special friend. After exploring the text one finds more meat than was perhaps expected.

—Penny Forrester
Ed. Note: Celia Halford’s illustrations grace the cover of this issue of SCL.
Louie hesitated. "Now," he said, "y' ain't gonna like this that I'm gonna tell yuh, but here it is."