Summer is here!

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From the Editor

What a wonderful conference! I hope that all of you reading this made it to Florence for the 2006 conference. I decided to use my column to rave about it, just a little bit.

I don’t know how we could have improved on the venue. The Marriott and its setting were beautiful. I registered too late, unfortunately, to stay there and ended up staying in Sheffield.

But that turned out very well, as my short drive to the conference center took me over the Wilson dam, which afforded a spectacular view of the river.

This view became more significant to me when I got home and that is tied to a session that I enjoyed very much—Southern Authors Tell Their Story which was a lunch event on Wednesday, April 26.

I was delighted by the stories the authors told and was moved to buy a number of their novels. One that I read as soon as I got home was My Last Days as Roy Rogers by Pat Cunningham Devoto. It contains the most exciting fishing episode that I have ever read. Knowing that the novel was set in Florence, and the fishing episode on the Tennessee river, the view I had had of the dam and the river made it very real to me.

I also enjoyed the CUS research forum very much. I thought it a marvelous way for the participants to get feedback about their work and for us to find out, at first hand, some of the areas that Alabama librarians are working in.

Finally, I must tell my raffle story. I entered the raffle with no hope of winning anything because I never do. Never. But because I understood that the proceeds were going to the Association, I gladly bought some tickets and promptly forgot about it. I did not go to the drawing nor did it occur to me to check in to see if I had won anything before I left the area.

Imagine my surprise when I returned to work and a message on my voice mail telling me that I had won one of those enormous baskets filled with goodies! As I write this, the basket is still in Florence awaiting pickup and transport to Montgomery by a kindly colleague who has business up that way.

Needless to say, I can’t wait for our next conference. See you there!

Colleen Valente, Editor & Chair, Public Relations Committee

High Fives All Around!
Meet the CUS Board Members

Carla Waddell, Chair-elect

Carla serves as a Reference/Government Documents Librarian at Samford University. She received her M.L.I.S. from the School of Library & Information Studies at the University of Alabama in 2000. In addition to ALLA, Carla is a member of the Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries.

Kim Stevens, Secretary

Kim is Senior Catalog Librarian/Associate Professor at Jacksonville State University’s Houston Cole Library. She obtained her M.S.L.S. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1992. Kim is a member of the Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries and the Southeastern Library Association. She enjoys running, cooking and ringing handbells.

Brooke Becker, Member at Large for Organizations and Bylaws

Brooke is the Reference Librarian for Social and Behavioral Sciences at Sterne Library at UAB. She has an MLIS from the University of Alabama and a BA in History/Political Science from Samford University. Aside from reading, Brooke admits to being addicted to traveling (favorite travel destination, British Isles), music, movies, theater and her two nieces and two nephews.

Jodi Poe, Member at Large for Projects

Jodi (with daughter, Emily) is the Distance Education and Electronic Resources Manager at the Houston Cole Library of Jacksonville State University. She received her MLIS from the University of Alabama, May 2001. She has been at JSU for 15 years as a full time employee—she started as a student worker, moved into a staff position and then into her current position which she has held for 5 years. Jodi and her husband are the parents of Emily who is now 2 years old.

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Library News

Kent Snowden began his job as Director of the Rosa Parks Library at the Troy State Montgomery Library on Nov. 1, 2005. He comes here from the University of Northern Iowa. Kent is not, however, a stranger to Alabama. He received a degree from JSU and a library degree from UA.

Tim Bailey, Systems Librarian at AUM was awarded Tenure in March.

Ursula Joy Smith is the newest staff member at Faulkner’s Jones Law Library, where she previously had a staff position as the Acquisitions Clerk. Joy is now the Technical Services Librarian (Intern) and is working on her MLIS degree at UA.

Lucy Farrow, Government Documents Librarian at AUM, had a rather exciting spring. In March she was granted tenure and on May 20, 2006 she and Mr. Dale Lee were married.

Johnna Childs has resigned her position as Cataloging Librarian at AUM to take a job in the Washington DC metro area.

Lisa Vardaman, Member-at-Large for Planning

Lisa graduated in 2002 from the University of Alabama with an MLIS degree. She has been the Education Reference Librarian at Troy University since 2003. She is currently in the Ph.D program at the University of Alabama.
The CUS Division promotes library services and librarianship among ALLA and constituent association groups.

The mission of the CUS Division is to support its member libraries' needs for ongoing information in four critical areas; information resources, education, leadership and innovative practices.

CUS Division members represent committed library and information professionals and technical staffs at approximately thirty-nine (39) universities and colleges, sixty (60) two-year and technical colleges, and numerous special libraries with interests in business, science, medicine, energy, art, sports, and Alabama Library Association

CUS Division

Useful Links

AVL News
Librarian's Date Book (Conferences)
LibraryThing (New)
ResourceShelf (Information!)

Your ALLA / CUS Division Offi-

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Chair Elect: Carla Waddell—Samford University
Secretary: Kim Stevens—Jacksonville State University
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Member-at-Large for Planning: Lisa Vardaman—Troy University
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