

# Florida Libraries

**FIA**  
Florida Library  
Association

**THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE FLORIDA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

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Spring 2000



## Special Conference Issue

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



### Let's Make History!

The 2000 conference will be an historic one. Whether you believe the year 2000 is the last year of the twentieth century or the first year of the twenty-first century, you will want to be a part of this celebration.

Your sections and interest and discussion groups have put together a variety of programs to address your professional development needs. Growth is assured.

I am especially excited because we will have the opportunity to honor our retired colleagues who have blazed the trail for us. These are our heroes and heroines – the people who welcomed us to this profession and guided our growth. This is our chance to say “Thank you”.

The Special and Institutional Libraries Section will honor Prof. Betty Taylor of the University of Florida as she celebrates fifty years of service to Florida libraries!

All of this is in addition to the presence of Robert Wedgeworth and Pat Mora. What an exciting time to be involved in libraries and to be in **Florida!**

– Madison Mosley

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Working on *Florida Libraries* this past year has been a wonderful opportunity to learn about some of the exciting things happening in Florida's libraries and to get to know some of the people involved in these programs. I'm looking forward to serving as editor this year and would like to share some of the plans for the magazine with you.

My vision for *Florida Libraries* is that it be a forum to:

- showcase the innovative and creative library programs in the state
- share ideas and information
- reflect on and debate some of the issues facing the profession
- highlight the creativity and commitment of people in the state's library community

In short, I hope that it will positively reflect the substance, spirit, and professionalism of Florida's diverse libraries.

This issue is the first incorporating changes in format and schedule that were considered and adopted by the FLA Board. The magazine, featuring articles and association information, will now be published biannually with spring and fall issues. Copies will be mailed to FLA members, and the text will be posted on the FLA Web site (<http://www.flalib.org>). In order to

communicate news more quickly and efficiently, news items will be sent to members via e-mail on a monthly basis.

The Spring issue of the magazine will focus primarily on the upcoming FLA conference, along with items of Association business. The fall issue will be devoted primarily to refereed articles centered around a theme.

The theme for this Fall's issue, “Building on the Past, Embracing the Future,” echoes the theme of incoming FLA President Mary Ann Brown. I encourage you to write about a program in your library, share your ideas, discuss an issue facing libraries, or profile someone who's influencing libraries in the state. Letters to the editor and opinion pieces are also welcome. Information on submitting proposals and details about the selection process can be found on page 14 of this issue.

I'm grateful to Lawrence Webster for her guidance and support and to the FLA Board for giving me this opportunity. I look forward to meeting and working with many of you and hope that you'll feel free to contact me with ideas, opinions, or questions. You can reach me by e-mail at [gcolvin@mail.dos.state.fl.us](mailto:gcolvin@mail.dos.state.fl.us).

Hope to see you at the conference!

– Gloria Colvin

# Diversity: Theme of 2000 FLA conference

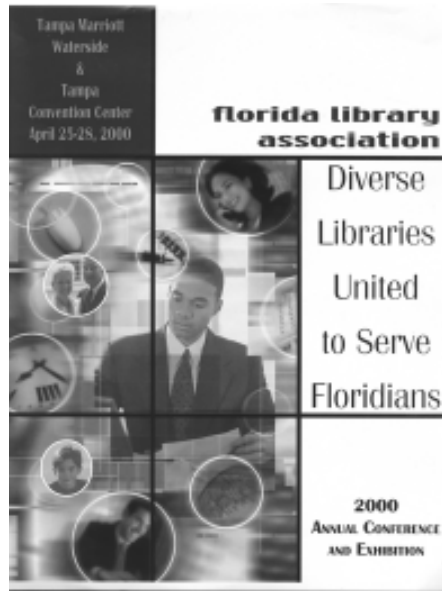
**"D**iverse Libraries United to Serve Floridians" is the theme of this year's FLA Annual Conference and Exhibition to be held April 25-28 at the Tampa Marriott Waterside and the Tampa Convention Center. Highlights include keynote speaker Robert Wedgeworth, informative programs on a wide variety of topics, a tribute to retired Florida librarians, receptions at the Tampa Museum of Art and Florida Aquarium, and *La Vida Loca* scholarship fundraiser at the popular Ybor City club Frankie's Patio. Exhibits featuring the latest publications and technology are certain to be as popular as ever. The Local Arrangements Committee promises that the conference will delight as well as inform, so make plans to attend now!

## A Sampling of Programs You Won't Want to Miss

- **Keynote speech by Robert Wedgeworth**, Wednesday, April 26, 9:45 - 11:30 a.m.

Dr. Wedgeworth, distinguished and articulate leader in the field of library and information science, will deliver the keynote address. Recently retired as University Librarian and Professor of Library Automation at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Dr. Wedgeworth has also served as Executive Director of the American Library Association, Dean of the School of Library Science at Columbia University, and President of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. Along with this wealth of experience in librarianship, he brings with him professional interests in new technology applications in libraries, copyright and intellectual property, and international and comparative librarianship.

- **How to Make Your Dreams Come True: Positive Steps to Great Library Building Planning and Design** (Public Libraries Section & LAMA Interest



Group), Preconference, Tuesday, April 25, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

If you are thinking about a new library in the future or even if you've already started on one, you will want to bring some of your planning team to learn about such topics as *Finding Out What Your Community Wants and Needs*, *Site Selection*, *State Construction Grants*, and all the details of *Architectural Design and Building Construction*. Harvard Jolly Clees Toppe Architects will participate in this program aimed at public library managers, board members, and representatives of governing agencies. A panel of Florida librarians will share the ups and downs of their own construction projects and provide some practical hints and ideas.

- **Diversity Counts! Who's Counting Whom? Census 2000, Your Library and Your Community** (Internet Interest Groups and Government Documents Interest Group) Preconference, April 25, 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Bea Piddock from the Atlanta office of the U.S. Census Bureau will discuss changes from previous censuses, including new classifications for mixed racial or ethnic heritage. Hands-on practice with access tools will be included.

- **Analyzing and Managing Resources: Figuring Out How You Can Use Existing Resources To Do What You**

**Want To Do in Your Library** (Public Libraries Section) Wednesday, April 26, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Sandra Nelson, popular speaker on public library planning and management and author of the newly published book *Managing for Results*, will provide a follow-up to the Public Library Association's long-range planning model. She will share techniques for analyzing what it costs to provide various types of services and for approaching the reallocation of funds, people, equipment, and technology as critical steps in implementing a long-range plan. Everyone involved with library budget development and service planning will enjoy Nelson's positive and lively presentation while getting some real skills to take back to work!

- **Speed's the Thing: Telephone Reference in the Age of the Internet** (Telephone Reference Discussion Group) Thursday, April 27, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Regardless of whether you take calls on the Reference Desk or in a separate department, you'll want to attend this discussion on using the Internet, evaluating the validity of Web sites, and determining when print sources are a better choice. Panelists Elizabeth Nagengast (Head of Reference, Collier County Library System) and Amy Krueger (Head of Telephone Reference for Lee County Library System) will discuss these topics and reveal their top 10 speed sources!

- **Train the Trainer...Recruiting for Diversity Training Workshop** (Minority Librarian Recruitment Committee) Thursday, April 27, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Join the Minority Librarian Recruitment Committee for a roundtable discussion of the partnership efforts by ALA, FLA, and the minority Librarian Recruitment Committee to increase the number of librarians of color in the library profession. The program will follow up on a February workshop on methods for recruiting for diversity conducted by Sandra Rios Balderrama, Diversity Officer for the American Library Association. Facilitators include Mercedes B. Clement (Daytona

**Conference to Honor Retired Librarians. See page 14.**

Beach Community College), Priscilla R. Williams (University of Florida), Naomi Harrison (Rollins College), and Antoinette Caraway (St. Petersburg Junior College). A committee business meeting will follow the discussion.

- **One Potato, Two Potato...Don't Get Counted Out: Census 2000 and Other Government Information for your Library and Your Community** (Internet Interest Group and Government Documents Interest Group) Wednesday, April 26, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Cathy Wes (*St. Petersburg Times*) and Jim Hosler (Tampa Planning Commission) will discuss ways in which their organizations make use of demographic and socioeconomic data. A panel of government documents librarians will discuss ways to educate library staff and patrons about government resources.

- **Certification for Library Support Staff** (Paraprofessional Interest Group), Thursday, April 27, 8:00-10:00 a.m.

Library support staff, as well as librarians, supervisors, and directors, will want to be sure to hear Dorothy Morgan speak about the benefits of certification for libraries. She will describe efforts to certify paraprofessionals in New York and nationally and will analyze the impact they have had. Ms. Morgan is Business Manager of the Liverpool (New York) Public Library, serves as ambassador for New York State Library Assistants' Association, and works as an advocate for establishing certification programs in every state.

- **State University System Overview: Update and Discussion** (State University System Interest Group) Wednesday, April 26, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Librarians at the SUS libraries will want to take advantage of this opportunity to discuss issues of common interest with SUS colleagues. Updates from SUS committees and a brief business meeting will be included.

- **Replaced and Displaced: Renovating Reference in the Electronic Age** (Florida Chapter of the Association of

College and Research Libraries) Wednesday, April 26, 8:00-9:30 a.m.

This discussion will focus on the physical and intellectual issues affecting the delivery of reference services as academic librarians attempt to balance traditional and digital materials. Dr. William Miller, Director of Libraries at Florida Atlantic University, will be the keynote speaker. He'll be followed on the program with presentations on remodeling efforts by Rich George of R. George & Association of Deland and by librarians.

- **Technological Idolatry and the Reference Librarian** (Reference Interest Group) Friday, April 28, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Join the Reference Interest Group in welcoming Evan Ira Farber, national leader and innovator in bibliographic instruction and Librarian Emeritus of Earlham College, for this program on the importance of the human element in reference transactions. Disturbed by the trend of students and others to rely completely on computers for information, Farber will discuss the importance of roving reference and the reference interview and the implications of letting software replace the interaction between librarian and user.

- **Boosting Business: Electronic Resources** (Internet Interest Group and Reference Interest Group) Thursday, April 27, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Representatives from business, academic, and public libraries will discuss ways in which they train patrons and staff to use electronic resources. Presenters include Elizabeth Shirk-Lambert (North Regional/Broward Community College Library), Larisa Brigevich, (Templeton Global Resources Library), and Jeannette Neuschaeffer, (St. Thomas University).

- **Intelligent Agents: The Software Shift From Tool to Collaborator in the Networked World** (Network and Consortia Users Interest Group, Automated Resources Interest Group, Internet Interest Group, and Reference Interest Group) Thursday, April 27, 8:00-10:00 a.m.

In the early nineties librarians were concerned with the Internet and how it would affect public library services. As we enter a new millennium, there is a whole new set of technologies that challenge how libraries provide service in an increasingly electronic environment. Some of these new tools are intelligent agents or 'bots' - software developed for easy and fast finding and retrieving of information in a digital jungle. Join Sam Hastings to explore what these 'bots' are, what they are capable of doing, and most importantly what effect they may have on library services and resource sharing in the future.

- **Special Librarians and the Internet** (Special and Institutional Libraries Committee) Thursday, April 27, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Four experienced librarians working in special libraries will talk about the Internet and its effective use in private law, business, medical, and public libraries. Panelists include Wanda Barrett (Special Library Service, Inc.), Theresa Burress (TECO Energy), Cheryl Dee (USF), and Shirl Kennedy (City of Clearwater).

- **Library Research and Statistics in an Electronic Environment** (Library Research Interest Group) Thursday, April 27, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

This program will touch on a number of diverse topics, including electronic tools available to public libraries for planning and evaluation and a project dealing with Spanish subject headings using LUIS and SUNLINK. There will be an opportunity for the audience to ask questions or share research they are doing using electronic sources and tools. Panel members include Sondra Taylor-Furbee of the State Library of Florida's Research Office, Larry White, Director Levy County Public Library System, and Dr. Elaine Yontz, faculty member at the School of Library and Information Science at the University of South Florida.

- **Reception honoring Betty Taylor** (Special and Institutional Libraries Committee) Thursday, April 27, 2000, 3:30-4:00 p.m.

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**Special Events**

**Free FLA Opening Night Reception for Pre-registrants**

*Tuesday, 7:00-9:00 p.m.*

Indulge your senses in an evening of sensual diversity entitled “Dark, Chocolate, and Art” at the Tampa Museum of Art. Taste the luscious chocolate desserts, see the beautiful art exhibits and gorgeous sunset, smell the night jasmine, hear the soft background music of harpist Bonnie Whitehurst, and touch your registration packet (so you won’t have to stand in line on Wednesday morning at the Convention Center). It’s casual...come as you are, even after a long day of traveling.

**Living “La Vida Loca” In Ybor City**

*Wednesday, 5:30-10:30 p.m.*  
*Transportation Provided*

Come and join the crazy life for a night and raise money for the annual FLA Scholarship Fund. An entertaining night of delicious food, great dance music, historical ambiance, and crazy librarians is sure to be the highlight of your conference week. The \$20 ticket price includes: a full dinner buffet featuring classic Tampa fare – food catered by Frankie’s Patio; a swinging’ dance band – The Midnight Bowlers League; walking history tours of Ybor City; traditional cigar-rolling demonstration; selection of unique items up for bid at a \$1 ticket auction; and other surprises... So come on, let loose, get crazy and join us at a truly memorable Scholarship Event! Come live “La Vida Loca” for one night in Ybor City!

**President’s Reception at the Tampa Aquarium**

*Thursday, 7:00 -10:00 p.m. –*  
*Transportation Provided*

Most of us aren’t able to go deep-sea diving off of Florida’s coast or tramp through thousands of acres of swamps and woods. The Florida Aquarium provides the next best

thing: a tour of our beautiful state’s most interesting fauna and flora set in reproductions of their natural habitats. From freshwater springs and wetlands to the beaches and deep ocean waters, the Aquarium allows you to experience the marvelous diversity of the state’s birds, animals, insects, amphibians, fish, and other creatures. Each display recreates the plants and animals from specific habitats, such as mangrove forests and cypress swamps, the beach, coral reefs, and offshore waters. You’ll see giant sea turtles and giant moray eels, glimmering jellyfish and a rainbow variety of fish, otters and roseate spoonbills, and so much more.

The Florida Aquarium also features unusual creatures from other areas of the world, such as brilliantly hued (and very poisonous) frogs from South America, vampire bats, and the spectacular “Dragons from Down Under,” the Australian Sea Dragon, which looks like a mix of seahorse and seaweed. In addition there are several interactive displays, including a shark-petting pool. The Museum Shop will be open during the President’s Reception.

**New in the Exhibits**

**No-conflict Breaks –**

Visit the exhibits during all open hours and during these no-conflict times each day.

Wednesday	April 26	11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Thursday	April 27	10:00-10:30 a.m. 12:00noon-1:30 p.m. 3:00-3:30 p.m.
Friday	April 28	10:00-10:30 a.m.

**Photo OPS**

Picture yourself on record for the ages with a costumed Gasparilla Krewe member from 11:30 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 26 following the Gala Exhibits Ribbon Cutting – proceeds to go to the Scholarship Fund. Receive an instant print to record the event. Cost: TBA

**Posting Of Prize-winners’ Names**

Bring your business cards! Use them to register at exhibitors’ booths to win fabulous prizes. Drawings will be held daily during the no-conflict breaks. Results will be posted on special display boards near the entrance to the exhibits. You can claim your prizes at the booth of the vendor. It’s easy to win:

1. Register for the conference;
2. Drop your business card in the designated place at the booths or use cards provided by the vendors.
3. Check the winners list and claim your prize!

**ADA Accomodations**

Persons with a disability who will need an accommodation while attending the Conference are encouraged to contact Kevin Cavanaugh at the FLA office (407-647-8839 or kevin@crowsegal.com) to discuss their needs in advance. To make arrangements for van rental, contact Wheelchair Handy Vans at (813) 915-0999. Advance reservations are required. Wheelchair Yellow Cabs are available at the airport, or by calling (813) 253-0121. Reservations are advisable. There are handicapped parking spaces in the Convention Center Parking Garage, but vans must go to the South Regional Parking Garage, also known as the Ice Palace Garage, located on Florida Avenue just north of the Tampa Marriott Waterside. Clearance there is 8’ 2”. There is a disabled drop-off/pick-up point at the circle located at the south end of the Convention Center. For those attending the Tuesday (April 25) evening reception at the Tampa Art Museum, there are handicapped parking spaces located beneath the Museum (close to the river) and an elevator providing access to the upper level. From Ashley Street, turn west on Zack. For assistance with individual arrangements, contact: Susan (McEwan) Vastine, Catalog Librarian University of South Florida, Tampa Campus Library, LIB 122 4202 E. Fowler Avenue Tampa, FL 33620-5400 (813) 974-4339 (work); (813) 935-4329 (home); (813) 974-2296 (fax)

# St. Johns County Offers Universal Access Library Card

## Card is available to all state residents

**I**magine being able to walk into any library in Florida and check out a book. That vision moved one step closer to reality with the recent decision of the St. Johns County Board of Commissioners to extend borrowing privileges at the St. Johns County Public Library to any state resident. Library Director Mary Jane Little is admittedly excited about this pioneering venture. "To the best of our knowledge we are the first library in the state to offer universal access," says Little.

Traditionally most county libraries in Florida limit access to their collections to county residents because most of the library's

funding comes from local sources. Little justifies St. Johns County's departure from this practice with this explanation. "The State Aid to Libraries Program does provide enhancement funding from state general revenue to all countywide free public libraries, and we felt that it was in the spirit of that law to open our doors to everyone in Florida."

The library has the enthusiastic support of local community leaders who are engaged in a number of efforts to promote regional planning and cooperation. "St. Johns County has been involved in several dialogues about regional planning, resource sharing and intergovernmental cooperation," says Jim Bryant, Chairman of the St. Johns County Commission. "In an effort to further the concept of reciprocal borrowing between library systems, we have agreed to open our

doors to library users around the state. We hope to inspire other counties to do the same."

The biggest impact, Little expects, will be requests from surrounding counties. Winter visitors also make up a sizable part of the local population, and they may also apply for cards. Any state resident, though, who agrees to follow the library's rules can apply for and receive a St. Johns County library card entitling them to all of the library's services.

Up until this year St. Johns County had a reciprocal borrowing agreement only with neighboring Putnam County. With the St. Johns' initiative Little hopes that other counties will follow suit and extend their collections and services.

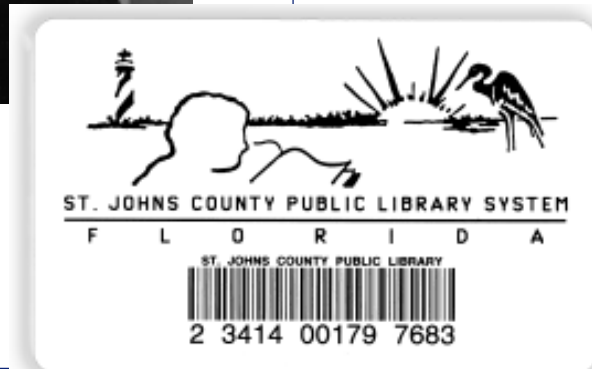
— Gloria Colvin



*Circulation desk at St. John's County Public Library*

**"In order to advance reciprocal borrowing between library systems, we have agreed to open our doors to library users around the state. We hope to inspire other counties to do the same."**

— Jim Bryant



# Both a Borrower and a Lender Be

## Reciprocal Borrowing in Florida's Libraries

By Gloria Colvin

**R**eciprocal borrowing is a growing trend among Florida libraries. In 1998-99 approximately half of the state's library systems reported some sort of agreement with other libraries enabling their users to borrow books from each other's libraries at no charge. A smaller number of public libraries and community colleges have similar agreements in effect, and, as of last year, all community college libraries and universities within the state university system now have reciprocal borrowing arrangements. Other cooperative programs, such as joint-use facilities, account for additional reciprocal borrowing agreements, even though they are not always counted as such. The recent announcement that the St. Johns County Public Library will issue borrowers cards to any resident of the state expands the concept of reciprocal borrowing even farther.

### Advantages over ILL

An outgrowth of Interlibrary Loan, reciprocal borrowing differs in that it is a faster, more direct way for a library user to get material and a less labor-intensive and less-costly alternative for libraries to loan material outside their regular service areas. The statewide delivery system that is part of the Distance Learning Library Initiative (DLLI) has made reciprocal borrowing more feasible since books can be returned to a convenient library and then delivered promptly to the library that owns them.

At the state level there is a good deal of interest in developing reciprocal borrowing agreements because of the access to information they provide for the state's citizens. *The Florida Plan for Interlibrary Cooperation, Resource Sharing, and Network Development*, developed by the Florida Network Planning Task Force, the State Library, and JNR Associates in 1994, has among its goals the development of a "statewide reciprocal borrowing program in which Florida libraries should participate."

One of the goals outlined in *Access for All*, the long-range plan for the Division of Library and Information Services written in 1997, states that by 2002 at least "50% of the population of Florida will be served by libraries which participate in a reciprocal borrowing program."

### Dissenting Voices

Not every library, though, has embraced this concept, and there are several concerns that crop up in discussions about it. Foremost among these is the fear that a library may be overwhelmed by demands from outside users, and that its collection may be unavailable to its primary constituency.

**"The fear that people from other counties will raid the library collection has not proven to be the case."**

- Ann Williams

Directors of libraries who have participated in reciprocal borrowing programs, though, say that in their experience this is simply not the case. "The fear that people from other counties will raid the library collection has not proven to be the case," says Ann Williams, Director of Alachua County Library which has participated in reciprocal borrowing programs for the past fifteen years.

Another objection sometimes heard is that most libraries are operated with local funds and should serve only the population that pays the taxes used to support it. Others, including Mary Jane Little, Director of St. Johns County Library, point to the fact that all county libraries in Florida receive state aid, and that their resources should be available to state residents. In fact, it may save taxpayers money to allow reciprocal borrowing since it's more cost-effective than

loaning books through Interlibrary Loan.

### Issues

Libraries considering such agreements face a number of issues, including gathering the support of their governing bodies, reconciling differences in policies and procedures among participating libraries, and verifying patron status without violating confidentiality laws. Methods of dealing with these issues vary.

Some governing bodies are more open to the concept than others. In areas like St. Johns County where an interest in regional cooperation and planning already exists, officials may be more receptive to the idea of resource sharing. In areas where leaders are protective of their autonomy, it may take time and effort to convince them of the value of cooperative borrowing. When a number of different government agencies are involved a library consortium or network may facilitate the process by pulling it all together. Probably the most difficult situations involve different types of libraries, especially if one is publicly funded and the other a private institution. Broward County Public Library and other libraries in southeast Florida, though, have demonstrated that it can be done successfully.

Most libraries seem to resolve the issues surrounding different policies and procedures by stipulating that borrowers follow the practices of the lending library. This includes issues such as the length of time for which an item may be borrowed, the handling of overdue and lost items, and the hours of service.

Verifying that someone is a library user in good standing with his home library is difficult because Florida law protects the confidentiality of borrower information, prohibiting the creation of a union patron database. In St. Johns County "outside" borrowers are treated as any new resident and issued a St. Johns County library card. A pilot project sponsored by Southwest Florida Library Network (SWFLN) requires a borrower to have a special SWFLN sticker attached to their home library card to indicate that they are a borrower in good standing at that library before they can get a card at another area library.



The following descriptions of several reciprocal borrowing programs in the state illustrate the similarities and differences in the approaches taken by various libraries.

**Alachua County**

Alachua County, one of the first library systems in the state to initiate reciprocal borrowing agreements with neighboring counties, now has agreements with eleven counties (Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Putnam, and Union). Library Director Ann Williams is convinced that in addition to being a popular program “ it has been good for the development of library services in the area.”

Due to its size and location as a regional center, Alachua County has been the primary lender among the counties with which it has agreements. “From our perspective it works great. It’s not a burden on taxpayers in any county, and it’s a great boost for access to information,” says Williams.

In the Alachua County agreements borrowers are responsible for going to the library they wish to use and registering with that system. No courier service is provided because not all participating counties can provide it, so books must be returned to the library from which they were borrowed. The Alachua County Library’s programs, reference services, and computers are available to users from any county. Interlibrary Loan services, though are provided only by the user’s home library.

Ann Williams finds the growth in reciprocal borrowing exciting. “Florida libraries are making great inroads in breaking the barriers to this concept and moving in the right direction,” she believes. Now that St. Johns County has taken the lead in offering statewide access to its library, she thinks that Alachua County’s Board might be amenable to a similar plan.



*Gail Hardy prepares materials for DLLI delivery at the State Library.*

**Tampa Bay Library Consortium**

The Tampa Bay Library Consortium (TBLC) coordinates a reciprocal borrowing program between city and county libraries in Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties. Library card holders in these libraries can get a TBLC sticker affixed to their library card which can then be used at any of the participating libraries. Books can be returned at any of the libraries. In cases of overdue items, each library follows its own procedures and collects its own fines. Libraries vary in their policies regarding what can be borrowed. Some will take reserve requests or bring in books from a branch for an “outside” user. The libraries will process ILL requests only for their local users.

From 1997-1998 to 1998-1999 the number of items borrowed from “outside” users nearly doubled from 73,683 loans to 138,956 loans. The number of people using the service increased from 3,617 to 7,323. TBLC has not publicized the program and attributes the increase primarily to word of mouth referrals from satisfied users and to some publicity by local libraries.

Diane Solomon, Director of TBLC, credits the DLLI delivery system with being a major

factor in making the system work efficiently. Prior to the advent of DLLI each library system had its own driver, and books were returned to the libraries once a week. Libraries can now use the DLLI service which makes deliveries five times each week.

“This [reciprocal borrowing] is something the libraries saw as an extension of their resource-sharing function and wanted to do,” recalls Solomon. “TBLC facilitated the process because it was in a position to span boundaries.” TBLC is now considering expanding its program. With new reciprocal borrowing agreements between Manatee and Sarasota Counties and the creation of the Polk Library Cooperative, it may be possible to extend the reach and resources of this popular program.

**Community College/State University System**

In February 1999 all of Florida’s publicly funded community colleges and all of the universities in the state university system entered into a reciprocal borrowing agreement. Circulation statistics for this first year form a baseline against which the activity of future years can be measured, but anecdotal evidence suggests that the 10,000 items circulated to “outside” borrowers this year represents a sizable increase in activity.

According to Mike Ryan of CCLA, the plan has been very popular with community college faculty working on doctorates who are pleased to have access to the resources of a four-year institution. Additionally, many underclassmen enrolled at the universities find the smaller community college library more comfortable and easier to navigate than the larger, sometimes overwhelming university libraries. Commuter students also like the convenience of using community college libraries where parking is less of a problem than it is on many university campuses.

**SEFLIN**

Students and faculty in southeastern Florida benefit further from a unique reciprocal borrowing plan involving both

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## **The Cafe Group**

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## Reciprocal Borrowing in Florida's Libraries,

continued from page 11.

public and private academic libraries. In the program, sponsored by Southeast Florida Library Network (SEFLIN), sixteen schools allow borrowing by students, faculty, and professional staff of other schools, while six limit cooperative borrowing to faculty.

"I am not aware of any other area with as many cooperative programs as southeast Florida," observes SEFLIN Executive Director Tom Sloan. "Libraries here have created wonderful working relationships."

**"From our perspective it works great. It's not a burden on taxpayers in any county, and it's a great boost for access to information."**

- Ann Williams

Cooperative efforts in this part of the state include a number of shared facilities, as well as reciprocal borrowing. Sloan points to the planned construction of a library by Broward County Public Library and private Nova University and to facilities shared by Broward County Public and community college libraries as evidence of this extraordinary level of cooperation.

The next step, hopes Sloan, will be the creation of a virtual library of southeast Florida. SEFLIN is currently applying for grant funding to create a system that would allow a library user to simultaneously search a number of integrated library systems. "A

virtual catalog," says Sloan "will facilitate resource-sharing in southeast Florida and may grow to encompass more of the state." He points to statewide systems in Georgia, North Carolina, and other states, and credits the State Library for creating opportunities to develop such a system in Florida.

### SWFLN

On the opposite side of the peninsula, the Southwest Florida Library Network (SWFLN) is implementing a pilot reciprocal borrowing project this year. Participating in the pilot are Florida Gulf Coast University, Edison Community College, Charlotte-Glades Library System, DeSoto County Library, Collier County Library System, International College, and Skyline Elementary School. The libraries selected for the pilot represent a variety of types of libraries and were chosen because of their commitment to the concept of reciprocal borrowing.

This is an idea that the libraries have been discussing for a long time according to Barbara Stites-Goodwin, Executive Director of SWFLN. Until recently, though, things never progressed beyond the discussion stage because of various concerns voiced by a number of the libraries. In setting up the program representative of the various libraries wrestled with questions common to reciprocal borrowing programs.

It was decided that people who want to receive borrowing privileges from another library must get a SWFLN sticker affixed to their library card at their home library, indicating that they are a user in good standing at that library. They can then present this card at any of the participating libraries where they will be issued a library card and added to the database of the secondary library. Stickers will be good for a year, and then will need to be updated. Borrowers will be expected to follow the policies and procedures of the library from which they borrow an item, and each library will collect its own fines for lost or overdue material.

In the initial phase of the project books will have to be returned to the lending library. To make it more convenient for people using this service, SWFLN is considering using DLLI delivery service so that books may be

returned to any of the participating libraries. SWFLN assumed the costs of providing DLLI service this year so this option would be easily available. This phase will be implemented in fall 2000.

The availability of the library in schools was an issue to be resolved. The Skyline Elementary School Library agreed to be open to the public both during and after school hours. People wanting to use the library are treated like all campus visitors and must register in the school office and get a security badge before going to the library.

The program is slated to begin operating at the beginning of April. "We're really excited about it and can't wait to get started," said Stites-Goodwin. The SWFLN project is starting off with a number of measures in place to satisfy the reservations of some of the libraries, but Stites-Goodwin is confident that reciprocal borrowing will work smoothly. Other libraries in SWFLN are keeping a close eye on the pilot project, and, if successful, have expressed interest in becoming participants in the program.



*Ronald Atkinson, Corporate Courier, loads DLLI bags for delivery to libraries statewide.*

# FLA Back in the Black

## 1999 – a very good year

**G**reat news from the financial front, FLA members! We had an excellent year in 1999 with a net income of \$16,979.68. You may recall that the Executive Board planned an over expenditure of just over \$2,000. Not only did that not happen, but we under spent the budget and added to our savings. Congratulations to everyone who helped make this a successful programmatic and financial year. Here's the whole story:

1999 Actual Income           \$255,900.33  
(Budgeted Income – \$233,152.00)

1999 Actual Expenses        238,920.65  
(Budgeted Expenses – \$235,227.00)

1999 Final Accounting        \$ 16,979.68

Chart A shows a graph of how FLA has done since 1990 in meeting the bottom line of its annual budget. If a picture is worth a thousand words, this graph is a Ph.D. dissertation on the ups and downs of our financial situation. We seem to have a pattern

of one to two years of saving money followed by two years of going over budget, sometimes quite seriously over budget. This year we broke that pattern by getting back in the black after last year's over expenditure – let's work to make this trend continue!

## 2000 – what's in store for this year?

The Executive Board approved a budget for 2000 that reflects our hopes for lots of new members and another successful conference. Total budgeted revenue is \$260,400 and expenditures are planned to be a total of \$248,003. Those figures project an end-of-year income over expenditures of \$12,397. That money is expected to come from new memberships gained through the "2000 in 2000" membership campaign spearheaded by President Madison Mosley and the Membership Committee.

In the process of developing the 2000 budget, the Board worked with some policy decisions regarding association publications that were made during 1999:

- *Florida Libraries* will be published twice instead of six times a year. One of those

issues will focus on the annual conference, the other will have reviewed articles.

- A new electronic newsletter will be published monthly on the FLA web site with an e-mail announcement. It will also be mailed in print to members who do not have e-mail.
- Overall coordination of these publications will be provided by a coordinating person, paid through a contract with FLA, and each publication will have an editor who will receive a small amount for expenses (total cost – \$4,800)
- The *FLA Membership Directory* will be published in electronic format on the web site.
- Advertising revenue opportunities will be expanded to include banner ads on the web site.

These changes in FLA's publications were made after a lot of discussion, planning and a survey of the membership. We expect the changes to bring two distinct results: first, the new electronic publications will provide a more timely delivery of news and information to members, and second, they will be less expensive to produce than the print versions. Board members will be glad

Chart A: Historical Over/Under Budget

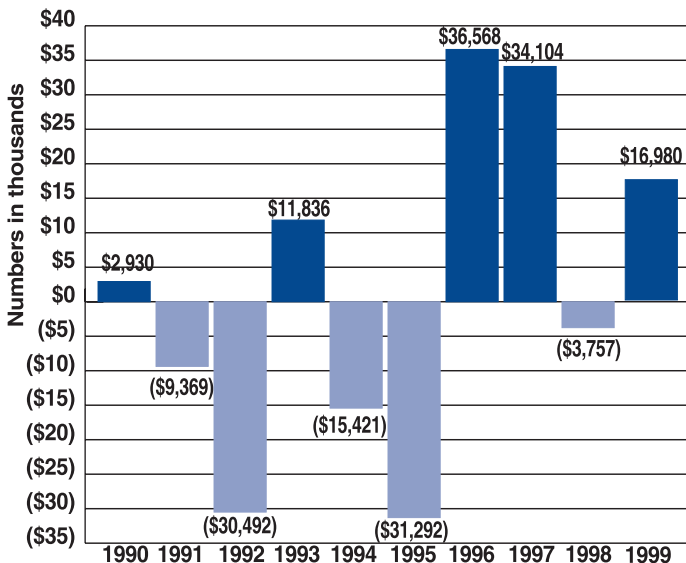
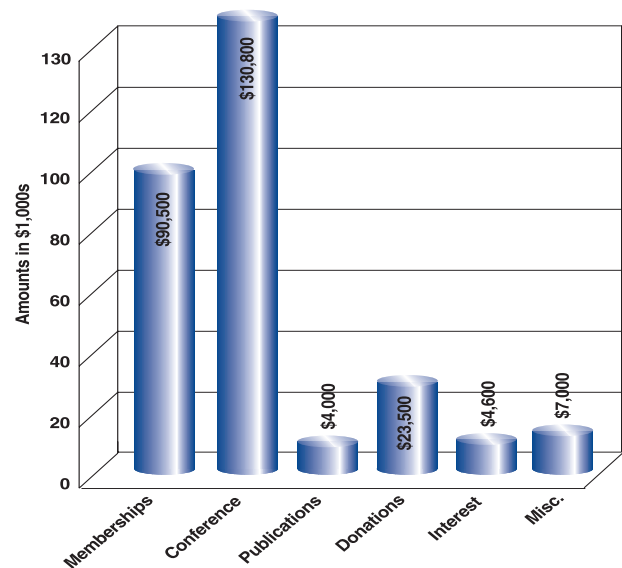


Chart B: Sources of Income



to hear your opinions on how the new approach is working as we move through the year and experience the impact of FLA's new "e-publications."

While publications were a major area of change in the 2000 budget, several other budget categories also have some new expenditures or income:

- The Friends & Trustees Interest Group is using the services of a consultant to develop a statewide F & T database that can be used into the future.
- The Membership Committee will be expending more than usual this year as it works towards President Mosley's goal of significantly increasing membership.
- All those new members will increase our income. The Board established a new category to track new members separately from renewals. By the way, have YOU recruited a new member yet?

Looking in more detail at income side of the 2000 budget (see Chart B), you can see that the total projected revenue from **membership fees** is \$90,500. That is \$15,500 over last year's projected \$75,000. Of that projected increase, \$13,000 is anticipated from

new (not renewing) members so we have a lot of recruiting work to do!

**Conference**, our best source of revenue, is also projected higher this year by about \$15,000. That is based on the Tampa location, usually a big draw, and our actual revenue from last year – higher than projected by \$12,000. We were conservative in our projections last year because of the St. Augustine location. Great work Mary Jane Little and all the St. Johns County folks!

On the expenditures side (Chart C), several categories are increased:

- Legislative/Library Day because the Legislative Advocate contract amount increased due, in part, to new duties related to Library Day.
- FLA Office costs up due to an increase in the contract amount and in the amount projected for supplies, postage, and phone.
- Miscellaneous up because it includes the new contract for the Friends & Trustees database mentioned above.
- Conference (which doesn't include

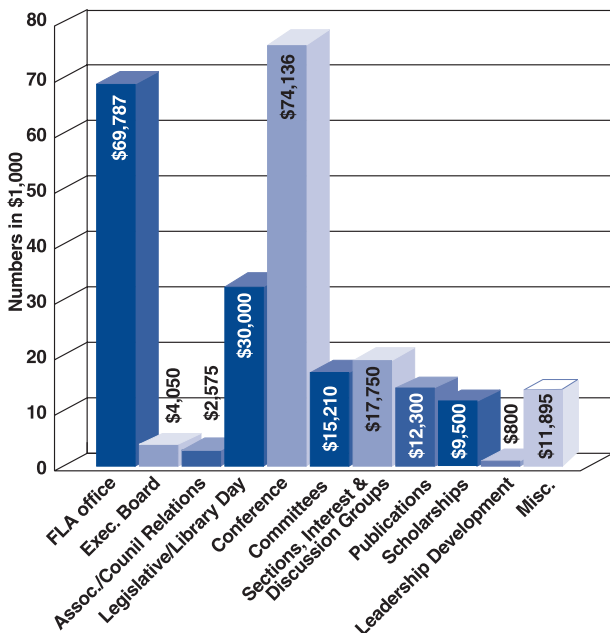
budgets for Sections, Interest and Discussion Groups) costs are up but that should be offset by the increased revenue.

Planned expenses in the Publications category are down this year because of the savings gained by using electronic formats.

All in all, the Board feels good about this year's budget. We continue to move towards our goal of having a nice nest egg in the bank for the lean times while offering members good value in programs and services for their membership fee. If all this financial stuff is your cup of tea and you want to talk about it, e-mail me at [odonnellr@worldnet.att.net](mailto:odonnellr@worldnet.att.net). If not, have a great FLA year, and I will see you in Tampa at the conference.

– Ruth O'Donnell

Chart C: Planned expenses for 2000



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**University Press**

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**3.5" x 4.75"**

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## 2000 in 2000

### Join FLA and support the Library Profession

FLA has set a membership goal of 2000 during the year 2000. The campaign hopes to reach out to people in the library community and to library supporters in an effort to make FLA a larger and stronger voice for Florida's libraries.

New members may join FLA this year at the special introductory rate of \$20.00. Membership forms are available at the FLA Web site (<http://www.flalib.org/library/fla/member.htm>).

### Each One Recruit One

To meet the goal of the 2000 in 2000 campaign each FLA member is encouraged to recruit at least one new member for the organization this year. Members who recruit new members will receive special incentives. For each new member someone recruits she'll receive one "credit." Special incentives will be mailed to recruiters based on their accumulated credits. Gift memberships may also be purchased at the special introductory price.

Become a Millennial Member! It's the right thing to do for Florida's Libraries!

## Governor Bush Proclaims Library Appreciation Month

Governor Jeb Bush signed a proclamation declaring February 2000 as Library Appreciation Month.

The proclamation recognizes the essential role libraries play in Florida's educational system, the contribution they make to improving quality of life for the state's residents, and their value in furthering economic development. It also praises libraries' efforts to make information more accessible through the use of electronic networks that link libraries and their resources.

## WANTED:

### Articles for Fall 2000 Issue of *Florida Libraries*

THEME: "Building on the Past, Embracing the Future"

WHAT: Articles should focus on libraries in Florida and should relate to the theme. Proposals for articles should contain brief description of the subject, an explanation of how it relates to the theme, an approximate length, and the name, phone number, and e-mail address of the author.

WHO: Submission of articles is open to all. Articles will be reviewed and selected by the FLA Publications Committee.

WHEN: Proposals due June 1, 2000  
Articles due July 15, 2000

WHERE: Proposals and articles should be sent via e-mail or mailed on a disk to:  
Gloria Colvin, [gcolvin@mail.dos.state.fl.us](mailto:gcolvin@mail.dos.state.fl.us)  
State Library of Florida  
500 S. Bronough St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

## Scholarship Committee Update

The Scholarship Committee has been working diligently to revise the FLA Scholarship application and the scholarship application information page on the FLA Web site. Both tasks have been completed and are available online (<http://www.flalib.org>). The application deadline has been extended to March 15.

The committee is seeking funds and ideas for promoting future scholarship awards.

— M. Jean Williams Adams, Chair

## FLA needs e-mail addresses

FLA needs e-mail addresses of members in order to send you the monthly news digest. Please e-mail your address to the FLA office at [mjs@crowsegal.com](mailto:mjs@crowsegal.com).

## Special People, Special Honors

We know you're out there: You're our Friends' presidents, our boards of trustees and advisory committees, our most dependable volunteers. Books, reference questions and story times are in your blood.

You're former librarians who are also members of FLA.

Now as the century turns, your professional colleagues would like to honor you for your many years of service.

There's just one catch: You must be present (at the upcoming Florida Library Association Annual Conference at Tampa in April – more specifically, on Friday, April 28 – that is) to "win."

Of course, that part will be easy for you. No serious Florida "librarian" – current or former – would miss a minute of it! We'll be trying out a brand-new conference hotel, welcoming one-time ALA Executive Director/Columbia University dean Robert Wedgeworth as our keynote speaker, learning from well-known experts on every aspect of librarianship, as well as partying at the Tampa Museum of Art, the Florida Aquarium and Frankie's Patio (one of Ybor City's favorite clubs). And, sharing your hour of recognition at the President's Breakfast on the last day of the conference will be popular Hispanic author Pat Mora (*Tomas and the Library Lady, House of Houses*).

R.S.V.P.'s are needed by March 31. Please respond with your name and Address (e-mail address, if available), last library of employment and date of retirement to the Florida Library Association Executive Office, 1133 West Morse Boulevard, Suite 201, Winter Park, FL 32789.

By the way, although librarians from all over the U.S. (and the world!) retire to Florida, only librarians retired from employment in Florida are eligible for this award.

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**Brodart Supplies**

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**7" x 5"**

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**Great Outdoors  
Publishing**

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**7" x 5"**

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**BakerandTaylor**

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**7" x 9"**

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