

Trustees and Friends of the Library Section

The Trustees Section was organized in 1946 and had its first recorded meeting on October 24, 1946, in Asheville, with Miss Annie Westall of Asheville as section chair. Rabbi Joseph Rauch of Louisville presided at the next meeting in 1948 in his home city. At that early date a speaker recommended audiovisual services and microfilming.

In Atlanta in 1950, Mrs. Nelson Severinghaus presided, and in 1952 in the same city, Mrs. Hinton Longino chaired a panel discussion which concluded that the value of trustees depended on their interest and willingness to serve, to help with public relations and financial support.

Mr. Aubrey Milam of Atlanta was chair of the 1954 Atlanta meeting and the 1956 meeting on Roanoke, at which time the Section officially became the Trustees and Friends of the Library Section. In 1958 in Louisville, Mr. J. Maynard McGruder of Virginia presided over a discussion on trustees and public relations. The program in 1960 in Asheville presented by Mr. Anthony Lord of that city featured five workshops.

In the Spring of 1962 the Trustees Section studied the structure of trustee organizations in the Southeast, and Mrs. John M. Armistead of Knoxville chaired the biennial meeting for 200 participants. Mr. W. L. Norton of South Carolina presided over the 1964 meeting in Norfolk, and Mr. Jerome Levy of Alabama the 1966 session in Atlanta.

The 1968-70 section chair was Mrs. Norma W. Johnson of Kentucky, and awards authorized by the SELA Board were presented to librarians for meritorious service.

Mrs. Ann Woodward of Atlanta in 1972 stated the modern objectives for the section: increased involvement of trustees and friends; understanding of the role of professional librarians and the responsibilities of trustees; inclusion in SELA's legislative program; promotion of library services in the Southeast; and being an integral part of SELA.

The 1976 Knoxville program was organized by Mrs. Joyce McLeary of Tennessee and focused on the trustee role as advocates for their library's services. In 1978 the Section met with the Southwestern Library Association section in New Orleans under the chairship of Mrs. Ruth Byrd of Florida, and Louisiana's successful efforts to raise state funding were presented.

In 1980 in Birmingham, Kay Vowvaldis of Alabama planned a full day of workshops on trustee education and friends activities. The luncheon speaker explained how the political process can be used by citizen advocates and librarians.

Another day of workshops on ten different topics was carried at Louisville in 1982. Barbara Cooper of Florida presided, and John Berry, editor of Library Journal, was a guest in discussing library governance for Librarians, Trustees, and Friends.

In Biloxi in 1984, SELA and Mississippi Library Association combined their Public Libraries Sections and Trustees and Friends Sections for a presentation on programming for the changing role of public libraries. The speaker was Dr. David Matthews, President, Kettering Foundation.

Larry Pauley of the Ford Thompson Agency presented a program on alternative fundraising strategies at the 1986 Atlanta meeting. At the closing general session, Pat Reynolds, Section Chair, presented an entertaining show entitled "A Literary Look at the History of Costuming." Most of the cast consisted of library trustees and directors.

The purpose of the section is: To promote libraries and library services through continuing education of Trustees and Friends of the Library by means of workshops and the biennial conference.

The goal of the section is: To give regional leadership and inspiration to trustees and friends; to focus public attention on library services, facilities and needs; and to cooperate with, and promote interest in, the Southeastern Library Association.

Constitution

Adopted November 1982

Article I. Name

The name of this section shall be Trustees and Friends of the Library Section of the Southeastern Library Association.

Article II. Object

The object of this section shall be to promote libraries and library services through continuing education of Trustees and Friends of the Library by means of workshops and the biennial conference; to focus public attention on library services, facilities and needs; and to cooperate with, and promote interest in, the Southeastern Library Association.

Article III. Membership

Membership shall be open to trustees, present and past, of any library; members of organized Friends of the Library groups; members of the board of any school or educational institution; members of Library Committees of any club or organization; or any person or institution interested in the objectives of this Section, on payment of the dues provided for in the bylaws of SELA.

Article IV. Officers

Section 1. The officers of this section shall be a Chair, a Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, and a Secretary.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected for two-year terms at the Biennial Conference. The Chair shall serve as representative on the Board of the Southeastern Library Association.

Section 3. Any vacancy in office shall be filled for the unexpired term through appointment by the Board.

Section 4. The Board shall consist of the officers and the chairmen of Standing Committees as appointed by the Chair.

Article V. Meetings

This section shall meet at the time and place of the meeting of the Southeastern Library Association.

Article VI. Quorum

A majority of the members present shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of this Section.

Article VII. Amendments

This constitution may be amended only at an official Southeastern Library Association Biennial Conference by a two-thirds vote of those members present.

Bylaws

Article I. Officers

Section 1. The officers shall perform such duties as usually pertain to their offices.

Section 2. The Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect shall be chair of the Program Committee.

Section 3. A slate of nominees who are paid-up members of the Southeastern Library Association shall be presented at the Biennial Meeting. Nominations from the floor shall be in order. No one shall be nominated without his/her consent, and elections shall be a majority vote.

Article II. Committees

Section 1. The Board shall be empowered to act for the organization in matters consonant with its purpose between biennial conferences.

Section 2. The nominating Committee shall consist of three persons to be appointed by the chair immediately after the Biennial Conference. Insofar as possible, the Nominating Committee will endeavor to secure a new slate of officers immediately after their appointment to the Committee. Their report shall be submitted and published in the official notice of the Biennial Conference.

Section 3. Standing Committees shall be those of nomination, legislation and program. The Legislation Committee will consist of eleven (11) members, representing each state in the Southeastern Library Association. The members shall be appointed by the chair with the approval of the Board. Other committees may be appointed by the Chair as deemed necessary. Committee reports may be made at the Biennial Conference.

Section 4. The Chair shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Article III. Dues

There are no additional dues to join the Trustees and Friends of the Library Section other than payment of the annual dues of the Southeastern Library Association.

Article IV. Amendments

These bylaws may be amended at the Biennial Conference by a majority vote of the members present and voting.

Article V. Parliamentary Authority

The parliamentary guide for the organization shall be Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, at all points not covered by the Constitution and Bylaws. The chair may appoint a parliamentarian to serve during the session of any regular or special meeting.