

Summer 2007

## Message from the President

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### Recommended Citation

Line, Faith (2007) "Message from the President," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 55 : Iss. 2 , Article 2.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol55/iss2/2>

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## *The Southeastern Librarian*

*Volume 55, Number 2 Summer 2007*

### **Message from the President**

I don't know about you, but this summer has been a real challenge – a new job, a new home and dealing with the heat. While I've been dealing with the personal stuff, your Membership and Mentoring Committee, led by Hal Mendelsohn, has been hard at work on setting up a Mentoring program. The concept for this program came up at a Leadership Conference and Hal and his committee has taken the concept and run with it. And in the process has developed a wonderful program.

The Mentoring Program was developed to provide new and future librarians with an understanding of what librarianship is all about. It also provides a method of introducing the association to new members. Mentors are current members of the association who agree to help new members learn about the different aspects of SELA and how it functions. Those being mentored will be new members of our profession and organization.

As their Mission Statement states: The SELA Mentoring Program is an invitation for librarians, at all levels, to learn, to develop, and to meet their individual potential with assistance from experienced professionals. The Program is designed to help librarians succeed, to empower them to make decisions, to enhance self-awareness, and to promote a sense of belonging. And isn't this what we all want?

We now have a powerful tool for our members and organization; we just need members to take part. If you're interested in learning more – either to serve as a mentor or to be mentored, please let us know. You can contact Hal at [hmendels@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:hmendels@mail.ucf.edu). He can give you information, answer your questions and give you an opportunity to really give back to your profession. We'll also have more information about the program on the SELA website.

As it says in the Mentoring program document:

Your involvement is necessary.

Your guidance is appreciated.

Your experience is critical.

Your support is helpful.

Come get involved and everyone wins.

Faith Line  
President  
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PS: Don't forget that the SELA joint conference with the Kentucky Library Association will also be the **National Diversity in Libraries Conference**. Plan to be in Louisville, Kentucky from October 1-4, 2008. You won't want to miss this great event!

## **NEW SELA LOGO**

As you have noticed, the SELA Board has approved a new logo. Gina Garber and David Johnson (Austin Peay State University) were the designers. The Board would also like to thank Peggy McAllister, AnnaMarie Cornett and Kathleen Imhoff from Lexington (Ky.) Public Library for their submissions.

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*The Southeastern Librarian* (ISSN 0038-3686) is the official quarterly publication of the Southeastern Library Association, Inc. A subscription to the journal is included with the membership fee. The subscription rate is \$35.00, which includes institutional membership. Please send notice of change of address to SELA Administrative Services, P.O. Box 950, Rex, GA 30273 Ph: 770-961-3520, Fax: 770-961-3712, or email: [bobfox@mail.clayton.edu](mailto:bobfox@mail.clayton.edu). Send editorial comments and/or submissions to: Perry Bratcher, Editor SELn; 503A Stealy Library, Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, KY 41099 email [bratcher@nku.edu](mailto:bratcher@nku.edu). Phone 859-572-6309. Membership and general information about the Southeastern Library Association may be found at <http://www.jsu.edu/depart/library/sela>