### The Southeastern Librarian

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# Message from the President

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## The Southeastern Librarian

Volume 55, Number 4 Winter 2008

### **Message from the President**

Have you talked to your community lately? No matter what type of community you have, sometimes you just have to go to them and ask them what they want, what they need and how we can make it happen. It's something that we're beginning at my library – we're celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday this year at the Anderson County (SC) Library and we want to hear from our community about what we can do to make our library better. So we're asking them through a series of planning meetings – giving them a chance to share their ideas. And we hope to get lots of answers – even the ones we don't want to hear.

Sharing ideas – what SELA does best and we want to continue that. Have you told someone on the SELA board where you want SELA to go next? Have you opened up a topic on the SELA listserv that will get us all talking? I hope you will. SELA is staring a conference year – a chance to share ideas with the folks of Kentucky and all our states, but we don't want to forget to share ideas all year long.

Take some time and send me your ideas of what can make SELA better. What should SELA do next? How can you help SELA? My e-mail address is <a href="mailto:fline@andersonlibrary.org">fline@andersonlibrary.org</a> and I'd love to hear from you. The future of SELA depends on the sharing of ideas, so send me the good, the bad and the ugly – I can take it. And I will take your ideas, thoughts and comments back to the SELA Board, so they can continue to make SELA a vibrant and growing organization.

And talking about sharing ideas, we also need your talents. Kathleen Imhoff is President-Elect and one of her jobs this year will be to put people on committees. She has to find good, quality librarians to lead the committees so she'll be on the lookout. Don't make her look too hard. Let her know that you want to serve SELA and make it and our profession better. It can be a lot of work, but it can also be a fun, learning experience. And you meet the best people. I've met some amazing people through my work with SELA and I wouldn't give that up for the world.

So get involved – share your ideas and thoughts with me and let Kathleen know what you'll do to help SELA in the next two years. You won't believe what a great time you'll have.

Don't forget that the conference will be here before you know it. Keep an eye on our website <a href="http://sela.jsu.edu/">http://sela.jsu.edu/</a> and on the KLA website <a href="http://www.kylibasn.org/conferences620.cfm">http://www.kylibasn.org/conferences620.cfm</a> for updates. You can even reserve your room. I hope to see you in Louisville in October!

Faith

#### **SELA ACTIVITIES:**

## The 2006 – 2008 Southeastern Library Association Officers are:

#### **President**

Faith A. Line Anderson County Library (SC) 864/260-4500 fline@andersonlibrary.org

#### **President-Elect**

Kathleen R. T. Imhoff Lexington (KY) Public Library 859/231-5599 kimhoff@lexpublib.org

#### Secretary

Dr. Gordon N. Baker Clayton State University (GA) 678/466-4325 gordonbaker@clayton.edu

#### **Treasurer**

William (Bill) N. Nelson Augusta State University 706/650-8537 wnelson@aug.edu

#### **Immediate Past President**

Judith A. Gibbons Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives 502/564-8300 judith.gibbons@ky.gov

#### **SELA Mentoring Program**

- Are you interested in developing your skills as a librarian or library associate?
- Are you interested in helping someone to develop their skills as a librarian or library associate?
- Are you interested in learning about SELA and how it functions?