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From the President

James Cooper

West Georgia Regional Library, cooperj@wgrl.net

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From the PRESIDENT

What an honor it has been for me to serve as GLA President this year! Georgia Library Association is full of hard-working, energetic, and talented people who are totally dedicated to our profession.

This year, GLA once again took the lead with our annual Library Day in Atlanta. As Legislative Day Chairman Chris Huff stated in the fortune cookies that were distributed at this event, "Libraries Bring Good Fortune to All Georgians." This is a message that we must continue to promote — especially in times of economic hardship!

As always, GLA has sponsored several awards and scholarships this year, including the ALA Emerging Leader, the Hubbard Scholarship, the Beard Scholarship and five GLA Paraprofessional Grants for outstanding paraprofessionals to attend the COMO Conference. Additionally, this year GLA presents the McJenkin-Rheay Award, the Bob Richardson Memorial Award, the Library Support Services Award and the Charles Beard Library Advocacy Award in recognition of individuals who have made outstanding contributions in librarianship.

GLA has made contributions in support of Read Across America, the Georgia Student Media Festival and the Georgia Peach Award. Our organization also passed a resolution for an honorary membership for the late Judith

F. Krug, who served as director of the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom and of the Freedom to Read Foundation for many years.

Many thanks to Susan Cooley, David Baker and the entire editorial board of *GLQ* for once again producing an outstanding journal for the Georgia Library Association. We all can be proud of the professional quality of this publication, and we appreciate their dedication!

At the beginning of this year, I wrote that GLA is all about connections. We have adopted this idea as the theme for COMO XXI: "**CONNECT – COMMUNICATE – COLLABORATE!**" This year has given me great opportunities to meet new people in our profession, and I hope you also have been able to expand your connections throughout the state and beyond. I know we can expect great things for Georgia Library Association as Carol Stanley, our president-elect, begins her new leadership role next year!

Thank you all for an exciting and productive 2009! ►►

— **James P. Cooper**
President
Georgia Library Association