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From the President

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It is my pleasure to serve you as president of GLA for 2010. 2010! Are you kidding, how can it be 2010? Well, it is, and I am looking forward to working with each of you to make our association as strong as it can be. How can we do this? To begin with, I think the best parts of GLA are the members — YOU! Oh, and our journal, our Web site and our conference! Anyway, I wouldn’t be involved if I had not gained so much from the relationships I’ve developed with folks in libraries throughout this state during the last 15 years.

In addition to our face-to-face meetings, let’s use Facebook to facilitate communication; I want to know your ideas for GLA, favorite authors, favorite library places, favorite library activities, etc. So, be sure and become a fan of the Georgia Library Association’s Facebook page and feel free to create group pages for the GLA Runners, GLA Knitters, GLA Storytellers, GLA Artists among us.

We will see that we are all connected to each other and to Georgia — to its past and to its future. How many of us are NOT from Georgia or, even if we are, are not familiar with those who came before us? To get to know where we come from as Georgia librarians and where we are going, I hope you will attend the GLA Mid-Winter Planning Conference, Jan. 29 at Clayton State University in Morrow. Experience a blast from the past on Georgia library history with “Georgia, Queen of Benighted Southern Libraries, 1895-1945,” presented by Georgia native Dr. James V. Carmichael Jr., a professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro’s Department of Library and Information Studies. We’ll be ready to carry the torch in 2010 by planning the year for GLA!

And as some of you know, I like to try to make things fun, so if you are not familiar with “Unshelved” — the library comic strip by Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum, we plan to include it in each issue of GLQ this year. I encourage you to have fun getting to know each other this year, have fun working in and supporting your libraries and have fun with GLA! And of course, the more the merrier, so I encourage each of you to invite a new or renewing member to join us. The membership form and more is on our Web site (http://gla.georgialibraries.org), which recently was revamped thanks to David Baker, Laura Burtle, Laura Choyce and Sarah Steiner.

You may have heard that The New Oxford American Dictionary has chosen unfriend as its 2009 Word of the Year. While “Unshelved” is a fun thing, “unfriend” is not. Please don’t unfriend GLA this year. I’m counting on your support at our Mid-Winter Planning Conference, as well as Georgia Library Day at the Capitol on Feb. 25, at COMO in Athens Oct. 13-15 and throughout 2010!

— Carol Stanley
President
Georgia Library Association

Unshelved by Bill Barnes & Gene Ambaum

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