From: Peggy Barber, Director
Public Information Office

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Helen Huguenor Lyman, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin – Madison, was presented the Joseph W. Lippincott Award, on June 28, during the Annual Conference of the American Library Association in Dallas.

The prestigious award of $1,000, an engraved medal, and a citation of achievement is presented annually for distinguished service in the profession of librarianship. The award is donated by Joseph W. Lippincott.

Helen Lyman has had a rich and varied career in librarianship and library education since she first became circulation assistant in the Buffalo Public Library in 1932. The following year she was named co-head of the Reader's Bureau, and in 1944, founder and head of the adult education department. She directed the American Library Association's adult education survey, was an adult services librarian with the Chicago Public Library and a consultant in adult services for the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. She was associate professor and director of the reference department at Lockwood Memorial Library, University of New York at Buffalo, and served as a public library specialist at the U. S. Office of Education. In 1966 she joined the faculty of the Library School, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
Ms. Lyman has also been an active researcher, consultant, and most recently, visiting professor at the University of Denver and the State University of New York at Buffalo.


The citation presented to Helen Lyman reads in part:

...As librarian, administrator, author, consultant and teacher, Helen Huguenor Lyman embodies the active pursuit of ideals. Her focus has first and always been the client and user. Her unwavering belief in that focus for library service led from the accomplishments of one dedicated adult services librarian to an expanded role for libraries.... Her vision has taught us how to enable the disenfranchised, the disadvantaged and the disabled adult to claim and to use library resources. More than any single individual in her field, Helen Lyman has been responsible for the library's change from passive to active provider of learning skills.

We pay tribute to a career which is a model of service and accomplishment, and to a person of grace and warmth by presenting the 1979 Joseph W. Lippincott Award to Helen Huguenor Lyman.

Ms. Lyman has been a member of various professional associations and active in ALA as committee member, council member, president of the Adult Services Division (now the Reference and Adult Services Division), and board member of the Office of Library Services for the Disadvantaged.