Dear Zena,

I would like to respond to your suggestion that the Newbery and Caldecott banquet be replaced by an awards evening. I think the banquet has become too expensive to allow younger members to attend, too ritualized and generally tedious. As you see, I most heartily support your idea. It seems to me if a formal awards ceremony were followed by a general reception, the significance of the occasion would be maintained, costs would be reduced, and the opportunity for wider socializing with authors, publishers, or other sources be increased.

I hope you will be able to succeed against the obstruction of entrenched interests at AAS.

Yours sincerely,

Boyd R. Wood