Ms. Zena Sutherland
The University of Chicago
Bulletin of the Center for
Children's Books
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637

Dear Ms. Sutherland:

A real quickie note relative to alternatives to the
Newbery/Caldecott Banquet:

1. The festive air is a must — and most important to
the awarding of the medals. Perhaps a late hour presentation
(10 p.m.) could be arranged with a cocktail hour following —
paid by those wishing to attend. The later hour would provide
the time for a relaxing dinner beforehand.

2. The acceptance speeches are most important and every
effort should be made to maintain them.

3. A change is most necessary if untold hours are spent
just on the banquet itself. However, time must be spent on
anything that is to be done well, and the banquets have been
done well in the past.

4. If a large number of banquet tickets are sold to
non-ALSC members, perhaps a higher priced ticket should be
charged to non-members. Might this be an incentive for in-
creased ALSC membership?

I'm really not sure I've helped you much. My biggest
concern is that if the ALSC office spends more time on the
banquet that the N/C committee work, than a drastic change is
needed. The N/C public needs to be aware of this to appreciate
the changes, thus helping your task force committee.

Sincerely,

Ellen M. Stepanian
Director of Library Media