

June 13, 1979

TO: Zena Sutherland

FROM: Linda D. Crowe, System Development Officer
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As you know the Newcott-Caldebery was established because of the pomp, expense, and purpose of the N/C dinner.

We felt the less expensive, less formal atmosphere of a lunch with the proceeds going to community projects for children was much more in keeping with goal of service to children.

Perhaps ALSC could think along these lines and establish a "fun" event in a less expensive setting- church instead of hotel- and identify local projects in the conference city where a donation would be appropriate.

I think you will then begin to attract younger members and other people concerned with children's services and projects. I hope you will devise something, because I miss the Newcott-Caldebery. It got to be too much work for too few people.

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UP FOR DISCUSSION

From ALSC board member Zena Sutherland, some thoughts: Over the years, there have been many changes in the procedures used in choosing and announcing the Newbery and Caldecott Awards, and most of the changes have been made for the purpose of broadening participation or increasing efficiency.

In response to some of the comments made by Lillian Gerhardt in her "President's Message" in *TON*, some of the members of ALSC's Board of Directors have proposed an examination of possible alternatives to the Newbery/Caldecott banquet. Some of the facets discussed at the ALSC board meeting in Washington, D.C., were:

1. The cost of the banquet. According to Mary Jane Anderson, ALSC executive secretary, a large number of banquet tickets are sold to non-ALSC members. Can our younger members not afford to buy tickets?
2. The amount of time given by the office, far more to the banquet than to the N/C committee work. This emerged in a study done by the Secretariat Services Study Task Force.
3. The amount of time given by ALSC members who work on the banquet. Could that time perhaps be better spent on projects directly related to library services for children?
4. The space available at a banquet. Would more members be able to see and hear the winners if there were an alternative arrangement?

One of the alternatives discussed was a presentation program that would include all components of the banquet save for the food and its cost, which would enable more members to attend at a minimal cost. It was pointed out at the meeting that there had not always been a banquet. Are we ready to try something new?

Send your comments or questions to the *ALSC Newsletter* they will be forwarded to the task force that will soon be appointed by President Gerhardt to study the pros and cons.

June 5

Dear Linda -

Would you care to add your ideas or reactions to those we've received? The task force is hoping for broad feedback on which to report in Dallas. Even a postcard -

happily,
Zena Sutherland