

McKee

June 8

Zena,

Thoughts on N.C. dinner.

1. I'm delighted non-ALSC members attend. For many, regardless of their years of service, age, or position, the cost of banquets is rapidly reaching the maximum level - particularly if a substitute could be provided that would be equally satisfying - perhaps more.

Sitting at tables for 10 (or 12) means one really only converses with the 2 on each side (4 in all) and the view from the rear of the room must ^{equal} the finest planet - now ~~book~~ ^{is} gallery. Think how many more could attend in the same amount of space, without tables.

2. With all due respect to Mr. P, should there be more time spent on the banquet than the organizational/backlog work with & for the committee? Should


thes, or any executive secretary be a banquet manager?

3. Should AISC - or any children's librarian - earn more praise, gain more respect for working with and/or for children in place of for self gratification? I think so. Better we work on doing our reading of books & then working with the children to encourage them to read.

4. Alternative measures - a program B with a head table or speaker's platform to include the speeches. A Q & P period & at the conclusion a wine & cheese. Needs - to have an attractive room (banquet hall pens tables), good arrangement of chairs, speaker's platform visibly high but not lofty and for wine & cheese - several locations of the tables with w & c. A 7-9 speech & Q & A with w & c to 10³⁰ or 11. An evening "affair" would be nice - would help to maintain the dress-up atmosphere.

(Not so silly, but I like the idea of getting spruced up for this special occasion. At a mid-day affair one would come rushing in wearing that day's outfit.)

When you finish "working over" the dinner, will you take on the announcement? I've been saddened by the lack of attention it gets. Yes, Today & the N.Y. Times announce, but I can remember when bookstores would know & stock. In the last few years I've hit B. Dalton & Walden's at local malls & they have "never heard of it" (the award or titles) or think those titles might be on order. We need to generate more non-library interest (+ I know children's librarians who don't know what books - even weeks later & don't know where to look for the winners!)

Ah well, before Larmona  Quimby (the PEST) decides to climb over the
(over)

backyard fence, I'll sign off.

See you Dallas! (With all our
sails, I'm beginning an ark and
may sail down - at least an engine
won't fall off!).

from Virginia McKee