

ASSOCIATION FOR LIBRARY SERVICE TO CHILDREN  
A DIVISION OF THE  
**AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

50 EAST HURON STREET · CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611 · (312) 944-6780



May 30, 1979

Dear Zena:

Thank you for your nudging note of May 21 to ALSC's directors.

I suppose that I could sneak out on proposing alternatives to the N/C banquet, on the theory that the chair must be neutral. But, since I'm not neutral on this, here goes:

I suggest an evening reception to begin at 7:30 and cease by 9:30 P.M. An all rise march-in to a ballroom capable of seating 2,000--the march-in to involve all of the dignitaries currently strung out across the head table. Introductions and welcome by president of ALSC, winners introduced by N/C chairs, speeches of no more than ½ hour each and platform march-out to ballroom next door where reception line forms, cash coffee and liquor bars are set up, small tables are scattered about and a string-quartet saws madly away in a corner. Speeches to be video-taped live and distributed through Public Service Broadcasting. All funds collected by cash bars to go to ALSC, minus expenses.\*

Such an ALSC occasion could be more gracious and inclusive than a sit-down dinner and retains the touches of pomp that seem so dear to some defenders of the current mode of celebration. (I agree with you that the promise of a national audience would work to improve the winners' speeches.)

\*Don't you think that the contention that, "this is an ALA program administered by ALSC" is flawed as an argument against change and against the idea that ALSC's budget should be enhanced by the N/C celebrations occasional (?) profits? I do.

Sincerely,

*Lillian*

Lillian N. Gerhardt  
President

LNG/ac

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