

July 2, 1984

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Bette - Had meant to share Ginny Mc Kee's ideas which you earlier.
Phyllis

Now I would like to put in my two cents worth about the Batchelder Committee. I served as Chair one year--when Amy Kellman was president, and I did go to Pittsburgh for the award at my own expense. I do not feel that the chair should be paid, but that I suppose goes back to NJLA where we will not pay NJLA members who are speakers--or they would all ask to be speakers and be paid. You do it for the Association--not to be paid. But to the larger issue. When to give the Award. I gather from the glances around the room when it was suggested that the Award be given at N/C, that

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Phyllis Van Orden

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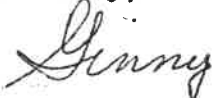
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See you the end of July.

Sincerely,



Virginia McKee
Children/Young Adult Consultant

VMcK:mb



Alabama Public Library Service

The State Library Agency

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plus pages 2-4 to Betty P

July 2, 1984

Phyllis Van Orden
Associate Dean, Professor
The School of Library and
Information Studies
The Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida 32306

Dear Phyllis:

First, I think that everything went well, from the "somber" opening board dinner to the last board meeting. Newbery/Caldecott was WONDERFUL! Everyone enjoyed themselves, although a few said that they had trouble hearing every word.

Some additional thoughts on the membership meeting. I do not have my notes in front of me, so I will do my best to remember it all. In the small group number six--there was considerable concern about the visibility of the association. That certainly seemed to be everyone's concern so I guess we "got a message" from the whole. One person indicated that she wanted to feel that she could come away from a conference with ideas to take home (concrete) and she said that she would leave Dallas with those ideas. She also indicated that the conference was a place to be kept up-to-date. I asked about question #33 that is in group E. It reads, "ALSC should identify ways to involve members who cannot attend conferences," and I brought it up because it is a way I think we could attract more members. The others in the group did feel that this would be valuable and indicated that regional or with-other meetings could help. (Aside: I would like to see a way for ALSC to "cosponsor" a program with the children's section of a state organization at their conference or just as a meeting, but see this topic later.) There was strong feeling that we need to be visible inside and OUTside the profession and one person was happy to see item number 7 about programs at other conferences. Our "negative" if you can call it that would be research. One person was very strong about her belief that ALSC should not do the research and did not quite see the need for research. Several people tried to indicate that without research we don't know what and why and if, but I am uncertain that she totally saw our side. We did get general agreement that the Association could act as a clearing house and that the Library Schools should do the research.

LRP
visibility

Phyllis Van Orden

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Sincerely,



Virginia McKee
Children/Young Adult Consultant

VMcK:mb

Northern Illinois University 
DeKalb, Illinois 60115-2854

College of Professional Studies
Office of the Dean
815 753 1891

October 30, 1984

Dr. Phyllis Van Orden
Past President, ALSC
School of Library & Information Studies
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306

Dear Phyllis Van Orden:

Thank you for your letter of October 16 and the invitation to serve as a member of the Task Force to study the options for presenting the Batchelder Award. I am only sorry that the scope of the task force charge is so narrow. I believe that what is also needed is a critical review of selection practices which have resulted in several minor books and ones that are close to being picture books receiving this award which was intended to recognize high quality in translations and to encourage true internationalism in children's literature. At least that was my understanding and I have the impression that it was also Mildred Batchelder's at the time the award was established!

I am not sure that I will be attending the ALA Midwinter meeting although I have some commitments associated with ALA and ALISE and some publishing stuff that might make it desirable for me to go. At the present time, however, I do not have reservations and will need to know if and when the task force is meeting before I make that decision. If it is essential that I be in Washington during Midwinter for a meeting I suppose I can, but I do need to know the options on that. Since Bette Peltola lives as near as she does perhaps I could get together with her before or after Midwinter if that should be a possibility.

Perhaps my letter raises questions about my accepting the appointment. If so, and you wish to appoint someone else in my place, do feel free to do so.

Best wishes on all your activities and good luck on this one!

Sincerely,

Peggy Sullivan

Peggy Sullivan
Dean

lp

cc Ann Carlson Weeks

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November 15, 1984

Peggy Sullivan, Dean
Northern Illinois University
College of Professional Studies
DeKalb, IL 60115-2854

Dear Peggy,

I always appreciate your thoughtful comments. Indeed, they are the reason I'd say please help us!

First, your questions about the Batchelder Award selection practices need to be raised. I don't have the wording of the charge here but think it would be appropriate to raise them in the Task Force's deliberation. The basic question to me is what is the purpose of the award and are we honoring that purpose?

Second, if Bette Peltola is willing, I foresee no reason why you, Bette, and Liz Huntoon couldn't get together in the Chicago area. The other member is Ginny McKee who could be brought up to date by correspondence.

I'll use a copy of this letter to alert Bette that I'm encouraging this approach.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Van Orden

PVO:eg

cc A. Weeks
M. Bush
B. Peltola

*P.S. Heard via Ann
that Bette and Liz are
making plans that
involve you and a visit
to Mildred!*