Memorial Resolution Honoring Jane Howell

Whereas the library community lost a strong, forward-thinking leader and generous and knowledgeable mentor on Monday May 28, 2012, with the death of Jane Howell;

Whereas she was born Aug. 17, 1944, in Birmingham, England, grew up there and earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Leeds in 1965;

Whereas she met her husband, Joe Howell, when he was studying in England during the 1960s; they married in 1968;

Whereas she earned a master’s of library science degree from the University of Denver;

Whereas in 1980 she became an employee of Parmly Billings Library;

Whereas she welcomed every new librarian into the profession, encouraging them to become the best they could be;

Whereas she gave tips and meaningful advice to all in the profession she touched;

Whereas in 1982 she took a part-time job with the Eastern Montana College (EMC) Library in Billings and in 1990 became director of EMC (now known as Montana State University Billings);

Whereas she pioneered numerous collaborative efforts in Montana, including the establishment of OMNI (a group of eastern Montana libraries sharing an online catalog) the first such venture in the state of Montana when few had heard of “cloud” technology;

Whereas she was chair of the Academic and Special Libraries Division of the Montana Library Association (MLA) in 1992;

Whereas she served as MLA President 1993-1994, as Montana Chapter Councilor to the American Library Association (ALA) 1997-2001;

Whereas she served on several ALA committees including the Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award Jury (1999-2000), ALA Chapter Relations Committee (2000-2002) and on the ALA Chapter Relations committee Leadership Development Program (2000-2001);

Whereas she helped establish BAHSIC (Billings Area Health Sciences Information Consortium), a cooperative effort between Montana State University (MSU) Billings and local and regional medical libraries;

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Whereas she and her husband Joe were also staunch advocates for the freedom of speech and diverse programming offered by Yellowstone Public Radio and they both supported student scholarships through the MSU Billings Foundation;

Whereas she also served as president of the Montana Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, and worked collaboratively with the local chapter of the American Association of University Women;

Whereas upon her retirement in 2010 from MSU Billings she was given the title of Administrator Emeritus by the Montana Board of Regents; and

Whereas she was awarded the MLA Lifetime Membership Award in 2010 for having made a contribution of lasting importance to the field of librarianship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members and along with the Montana Library Association (MLA):

1. recognizes the significant contributions of Jane Howell over the course of her distinguished career and mourns her death; and

2. expresses its sincere sympathy to the family of Jane Howell including her husband Dr. Joe Howell, sister Anne Smythe (John); children Christopher Howell (Kelley) and Sarah Howell (Candice Haster)

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association

Keith Michael Fiels
ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council
Tuesday, June 26, 2012
In Anaheim, California
1. TITLE OF RESOLUTION: JANE HOWELL MEMORIAL RESOLUTION
2. ALA UNITSW AND/OR COMMITTEE CONSULTED: NONE
3. ENDORSEMENTS BY ALA UNITS AND/OR COMMITTEES : NONE
4. FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE
5. LIST ALL PARTIES TO WHOM RESOLUTION SHOULD BE SENT:
   Dr. Joe Howell/1024 N. 31st St./Billings, MT  59101
   Anne Smythe/Malvern, Worcs/WR 14 3PA/United Kingdom
   Christopher and Kelley Howell/1536 SE 29th Portland, OR  97214
   Sarah Howell and Candice Haster/1732 South 10th St. W./Missoula, MT  59801
6. IMPACT ON ALA POLICIES AND POSITIONS: NONE
7. INITIATING COMMITTEE OR UNIT: MONTANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
8. MOVER/SECONDER INFORMATION:
   MOVER: Suzanne Goodman, on behalf of the Montana Library Association; Cortona Inn and Suites; 714-971-5000
   SECONDER: Lauren McMullen; Anaheim Hyatt Regency; 714 750 1234  lddtrainer@gmail.com