Florida Library Association  
Business Meeting  
Wednesday, March 24, 2004  
Adam’s Mark Hotel  
Daytona Beach, Florida  

The General Session and Business Meeting of the 81st Annual Conference of the Florida Library Association was called to order by FLA president John Szabo at 2:10 p.m.

Szabo introduced the members at the head table, the Executive Board, and all committee, sections and interest group chairpersons. On behalf of the Association, Szabo thanked Richard Waddell and members of the Local Arrangements committee for their efforts in arranging this year’s conference.

President Szabo asked Secretary Roberts if there was a quorum present; there was not.

Szabo introduced keynote speaker Michael Gorman, candidate for the presidency of the American Library Association. Gorman spoke about the need for unity within ALA and described current issues facing libraries and librarians.

Szabo then introduced Stephanie Race, chair of the Citations and Awards Committee, who would announce the winners of this year’s awards. Race thanked those on her committee and utilized a PowerPoint presentation in making the following presentations:

- **2003 Exhibit Award**: Florida Reading & Vision Technology
- **2004 Betty Davis Miller Youth Services Award**:  
  - LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library Babytime: A Storytime Program for Infants and Caregivers
- **2004 Friends and Trustees Citation Award #1**:  
  - Sharon Sbrissa, Friends of the North Miami Public Library
- **2004 Friends and Trustees Citation Award # II**:  
  - Connie Bass, Friends of the Library of Blake Library, Stuart
- **2004 Corporate Award**:  
  - Comcast Cable for their charitable contribution of complimentary Internet service to the Friends of the Selby Public Library in Sarasota
- **2004 Outstanding Citizen Award**:  
  - Patricia L. Dunford, Friends of the Broward County Public Library
- **2004 Friends and Trustees Certificate Awards**:  
  - **Special Event Award**:  
    - Friends of the Columbia County Public Library Team Spelling Bee, a literacy awareness promotion  
    - Friends of the Library of Flagler County for their “From the Stacks” book festival
  - **Special Project Award**: Friends of the Ocala Public Library for their Mosaic Panels project  
  - **Membership Drive Award**: Friends of the Library, Ponte Vedra Beach
Race noted that there were no submissions for some awards this year, and that there had been no nomination for the Serials Librarian award for three years.

Szabo announced that Herrle Communications, the public relations firm that assisted with the “Save the State Library” campaign, had received the “Golden Image” award from the advertising community for their efforts.

Upon completion of the awards, Szabo moved to the next item on the agenda, the approval of the minutes from the 2003 General Session and Business Meeting. After no corrections or additions were added to the minutes, he announced that the minutes were approved as posted.

Szabo called on Charlie Parker to give the Treasurer’s report. Parker referred the membership to the Financial Comparison handout included in the program packet and asked for questions. He urged members to thank vendors who brought exhibits to the conference despite the scaled-down agenda. The Treasurer’s report will be filed for audit.

Szabo then called on Marta Westall, chair of the Nominating Committee, to announce the results for the recent election of Board members. Westall announced the following FLA members chosen to serve on the Board of Directors:

- Vice President/President Elect: Nancy Pike
- Treasurer: Shannon Bennett-Manross
- Director at Large: Carol Russo
- Director at Large: Barbara Morse
- SELA Representative: Phyllis Ruscella
- Friends & Trustees Section Chair: Barbara Sherwood

Szabo asked for any further unfinished business or any new business; there was none.

Szabo then asked Westall to recognize outgoing Board Members. Westall called forward and presented plaques as tokens of appreciation from FLA to the following Board Members:

- Gemmy Brown, outgoing Chair of Friends and Trustees
- Wendy Breeden, outgoing Director
- Vince Mariner, outgoing Director
- Charlie Parker, outgoing Treasurer
- Lisa Manners, outgoing SELA Representative

Westall then asked the entire 2004-2005 Board to come forward for an installation ceremony. Szabo presented the President’s gavel to incoming President, Derrie Perez.
Perez presented Szabo with a plaque in recognition of his leadership as President during the past year.

Perez introduced 2005 conference chair Shannon Bennett-Manross and local arrangements chair Tricia Egbert and announced that the conferences would be held April 11-15 in Jacksonville. Its theme will be “Common Threads.” She also noted FLA’s developing role as the voice of Florida’s libraries due to changes in the state’s government.

Perez adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Faye Roberts
FLA Secretary