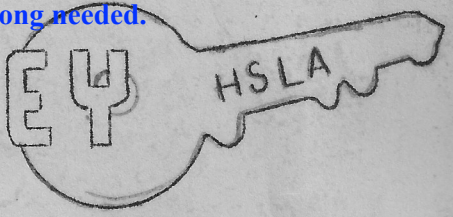


Note: President Cynthia Geiser

• "It is the First Birthday, Oriental fashion, of an organization we have long needed."

THE GOLDEN KEY



VOL. I, NO. 1

HAWAII SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 1960

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*   "One gift the Faries gave to ME:
*   (Three, they commonly bestowed of yore)
*           The love of BOOKS,
*           The GOLDEN KEY,
*   That opens the Enchanted Door."
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*                               --- Andrew Lang
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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Today is an important day! It is the First Birthday, Oriental fashion, of an organization we have long needed.

This progeny is the offspring of the union of school librarians functioning under the direction of the Department of Public Instruction and the Library Science Curriculum sponsored by the University of Hawaii. There is certain to be at every first birthday, someone with a "satiabile curiosity" who insists on examining the FAMILY TREE and reviewing the LIFE HISTORIES of the parents. Surely there are few parent organizations who have worked together for over thirty years, through a Depression, through a World War, and well into the period of the Population Bomb and can, with confidence, invite a group of expert genealogists to prepare a record of achievement (no skeletons in our closets).

We have chosen as GENEALOGISTS - Cynthia Geiser, Gladys Faulkner, Aileen Perlstein, Carolyn Crawford. We hoped to present to you, at our FIRST BIRTHDAY, a record of accomplishments but the research involved in preparing such a report requires much delving into memories, search for evidence, verification of dates, and final agreement on the true worth of many undertakings. Shall we use as a measuring stick of our development the PROBLEMS we have tackled or limit our official record to recognized ACHIEVEMENTS? We shall try to give to you a FAMILY HISTORY which will make you proud to be a member of the CLAN. We are happy that school librarians from parochial and other private schools are joining us.

Any organization is GOOD only in so far as it SERVES and INSPIRES its members. Each of us are members of many organizations. We pay dues; sometimes, though not often, we attend meetings; now and then we glance through their publications. Occasionally we ask ourselves, "WHY" or "WHAT FOR"? There is no place in our lives for another "WHY" or "WHAT FOR".

We are launching a new organization, The HAWAII SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. This Organization should accept the responsibility of keeping its members informed of national and international developments in our field. It should make it possible for us to participate. We are off to a good start with our PILOT PROJECT.

This new organization should help us to develop better working relationships with other professional groups. It should make it possible for us to contribute, more effectively, to projects designed to promote an interest in BOOKS and the desire to READ. As individuals, we did participate in THE BOOK FESTIVALS. This Organization will make it possible for us to be CO-SPONSORS another time.

Every new organization, if it is not to become another "WHY" and "WHAT FOR" must have a definite PURPOSE. We wish to propose a purpose -- IDEAS - UNLIMITED --.

We hope to provide the means of SHARING successful ideas for promoting an interest in books and reading and techniques in library service which will help us to become more effective school librarians.

Here, I must shift from the editorial WE to FIRST PERSON SINGULAR for this is my idea and I must take the responsibility for it. I suggest an INCENTIVE - a Mark of Recognition to be conferred by our peers - THE GOLDEN KEY. Let us keep it simple but make it a Sincere Tribute to those whose IDEAS we have used with success.

It might work like this. A statement would be submitted to THE KEEPER OF THE KEYS. (Should the Vice-President and Program Chairman have the honor of being THE KEEPER OF THE KEYS?) A suggested form for this statement is attached. Please make recommendations for improvement.

Are you willing to attempt a TRIAL RUN on the Suggestion for IDEAS - UNLIMITED? We are giving each of you a copy of a List of Sequels. This was prepared before I knew that I was to be nominated to be your first president. It was my desire to express my appreciation of the cooperation and loyalty that have been so gratifying in my work with school librarians for over thirty years. I thought this "Sequels" an appropriate tool since a number of you have contributed to its development.

Will you USE it? Suggest improvements and additions? And, IF IT WORKS, propose Cecile Tom and Cynthia Geiser for the Award of a GOLDEN KEY?

During the series of Workshops sponsored by the Elementary Librarians of the Department of Public Instruction in the Spring of 1959 each of us, certainly I did, garnered IDEAS for methods of more effective organization, for sources of materials, for better ways of serving the teachers and children with whom we work. Each individual, who gave us an IDEA that we have used with SUCCESS, should be proposed for a GOLDEN KEY.

We at the University in the program for training school librarians depend upon YOU, in service, to help us test and develop methods. The request for a plan for CIRCULATING CLASSROOM LIBRARIES FOR GRADES ONE - THREE came from Elena Barrett. Blaze Souza is putting the material developed to the "TEST". There have been several requests from the mainland for more information on this plan. I could, today, present to THE KEEPER OF THE KEYS a proposal for the award of a GOLDEN KEY to several of you whose IDEAS have made a significant contribution to school library service within the last few years.

Is it your desire to promote as one purpose of this new organization - IDEAS - UNLIMITED?

So - HAPPY BIRTHDAY! May the years ahead be filled with evidence of "SOMETHING ATTEMPTED - SOMETHING DONE. I feel proud and honored to have been chosen to be a God-mother.

Cynthia Geiser

