Resolution Honoring Edward Gailon Holley (1927-2010)

Whereas, Edward Gailon Holley was graduated with a B.A. in English with highest honors from David Lipscomb College in 1949 and earned a master’s degree in library science from the George Peabody School for Teachers in 1951;

Whereas, He earned a Ph.D. in Library Science from the University of Illinois in 1961;

Whereas, His dissertation on American librarian and bibliographer Charles Evans, published in 1963 by the University of Illinois Press as Charles Evans: American Bibliographer, won the ALA Scarecrow Press Award;

Whereas, Holley served his country from 1953 to 1956 in the United States Navy;

Whereas, He directed the libraries of the University of Houston from 1962 until 1971, fostering diversity among the staff and overseeing the construction of a major addition to the library;

Whereas, Holley actively served the Texas Library Association, the Association for College and Research Libraries, and the American Library Association over a period of many years;

Whereas, He led ALA as president in 1974 and 1975, during which time he played a key role in stabilizing the organization’s finances;

Whereas, As dean of the School of Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill between 1972 and 1985 he strengthened the faculty, expanded the master’s program to two years, and instituted a Ph.D. program; and
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Whereas, He actively pursued the study of library history, mentored a generation of library historians, and took a leadership role in the Library History Round Table; and

Whereas, Edward Gailon Holley’s life reflected his belief in the dignity of every human being and his desire to work “for the good of the order”; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Library History Round Table (LHRT) of the American Library Association (ALA):

(1) Salutes the life and legacy of our educator, historian, and champion, Edward Gailon Holley.

(2) Extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Edward Gailon Holley on the loss of their beloved one.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association

Keith Michael Fiels
ALA Executive Director and Secretary of the ALA Council
Tuesday, January 11, 2011
In San Diego, California