

**YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, San Antonio
January 20-25, 2006**

Topic: Resolutions

Background: A resolution for James Cook was developed and is presented here for Board approval.

Action Required: Discussion/Decision

Whereas James Cook served as a devoted and deeply appreciated public servant at the Dayton-Montgomery County Library for nearly three decades, answering his calling as a young adult librarian with passion and patience, and

Whereas James' sense of humor and gentle, easy-going nature made him a joy to work with and a natural mentor to many new librarians, and

Whereas James' friendly, open attitude guaranteed that anyone -- especially young people -- could feel comfortable approaching him with any question or concern, and

Whereas James was a selfless person who gave back to his community through his work as a librarian, and as a deacon at his Methodist church, and

Whereas James had a tremendous singing voice, loved Motown and Diana Ross and was always willing to engage in a lively discussion about music, and

Whereas James' unbelievable knowledge of teen literature and booktalking expertise made him an inspiration, sometimes causing people to wonder how in the world James managed to read every teen book that had ever been published, and

Whereas James dedicated his time and energy to serving professional organizations including as a member of the Newbery Award, Margaret Edwards Award and Printz Award committees, and

Whereas James chaired the YALSA Intellectual Freedom Committee and spoke eloquently and passionately about the rights of young people to access whatever resources they wanted or needed, and

Whereas James may never have realized how many people cared about him or the far-reaching and long-lasting impact he had on library service to young adults and probably wouldn't believe us no matter how many times we told him anyway, and

Whereas James was a an icon in his field, a great friend, valued colleague, and genuinely nice guy whose excellent service inspired the creation of a scholarship in his name for the Kent State University School of Library and Information Science,

Now, therefore, be it further resolved that the Young Adult Library Services Association, its members, officers and staff, gratefully acknowledge James’ professional and personal contributions and say thank-you to a “hall-of-famer” – a man who truly made a difference in the lives of others.