In the news

As you read this issue in early October, you are well aware of the devastation caused in the Gulf Coast last month as a result of Hurricane Katrina. As we nalized this issue of *C&RL News* during the weeks following the catastrophe, our hearts went out to all of those suffering the after-effects of the storm.

ALA has responded to Hurricane Katrina in a number of ways providing up-to-date library information online (at www.ala.org/katrina), creating a library relief fund, and initiating an adopt-a-library program, among others. The News from the Field column in this issue contains information on ALAs efforts and how you can get involved. We hope that you will support these efforts as much as you can, as an individual or an institution, to help your colleagues in affected areas recover as well and as quickly as possible.

Given our unique position of serving the academic library community, we could not

help but become especially concerned about the fate of academic and research librarians in the region and the collections and library buildings that they have worked so hard to build up. A report on the status of academic libraries affected by Katrina is also provided, along with a listing of Web resources for upto-date information.

In order for ACRL to remain a strong organization, we need the support and participation of our members and a diverse and strong leadership. One of the best ways to get involved with ACRL is to serve on a divisionor section-level committee. The association is currently looking for volunteers to serve on its 2006-07 committees. If you d like to become a more active member, see the article on page 659. The due date for volunteer forms is December 2; appointments will be made following ALA s 2006 Midwinter Meeting,

Stephanie Orphan, Editor-in-chief sorphan@ala.org

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