



President's Letter

Mary Lynn Banish,
mbanish@earthlink.net

This year has seen a variety of changes for the SLA organization. In January, the Chapter and Division Cabinets voted and approved the change in the governance year. This means we will be electing officers for January to December terms instead of June to May. This change needs to take place by 2007. As a result, the current Central Ohio SLA Board will be extending their terms until December 2005 so that our Board members we elected in May will begin in January 2006. During this time, the current CO-SLA Board will be mentoring the new Board members as to their responsibilities in order to achieve a smooth transition. So far, this has been done with our program planning as Joyce Klayman and John Holtzclaw are working on great program ideas for the rest of 2005 and all of 2006. Look for the announcements on the CO-SLA listserv.

Another big change for the organization is the amendment to the SLA bylaws allowing electronic voting. This milestone allows for more of the membership to vote instead of waiting for Chapter Cabinet meetings twice a year. As we go into fall, we are voting on the topic of reorganizing the current dues structure. Hopefully, you have made your vote known to SLA.

As for the Central Ohio Chapter, we have an exciting and new networking opportunity for our chapter. Besides the time allotted in our chapter programs to allow our members the chance to keep updated with everyone and to meet a few students who are able to attend, I will be giving a presentation to

the Kent State University, Columbus Program Foundations class in December. This will allow us the opportunity to showcase the benefits of SLA to potential future members, especially if they stay in the Central Ohio Chapter area. While new members are always welcome, we want to be sure that CO-SLA is meeting our current members' expectations. If you have any comments or suggestions, please let us know.

While the organization is going through some changes, the CO-SLA chapter is having some excitement of its own. This is accomplished not only through our interesting chapter programs and events, but also through some student outreach opportunities. As events are planned, I hope to see many of you in the next couple of months as your schedules permit.

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November has arrived and we are well into our 2005-2006 calendar year. This year we have a new format, and some new features. Take a look at the *Colleague in the Spotlight* column. This month it features Amy Disch. She is new to Columbus, new to the Central Ohio Chapter and has a new job with the Columbus Dispatch. I plan for this column to become a regular feature, so look out—I may soon be knocking on your door.

In addition, I have changed the title heading a tad, by throwing in the SLA trademark in order to give it a little glam.

Finally, I am always open for suggestions. Please contact me with any ideas, stories or news items you would like to see printed in your *CO-SLA Bulletin*

Hello CO-SLA Chapter Members:

We have been asked by WOSU to see if we are available to help during their December Fund Drive. The days and times they have are Sunday December 4 from 8:30pm-11pm; Tuesday December 6 from 7:30pm-11:30 pm and Friday December 9 from 7:30pm-10pm.

Let me know who would be available and when!

Thanks.

Mary Lynn Banish
President, CO-SLA



Reflections on SLA 2005 Toronto, Canada By Joyce Klayman

The annual SLA conference, held June 5-8, 2005 in Toronto Canada, was again a memorable experience. Each year one of the great struggles is in deciding which session to attend since so many of the options are relevant and important. This year one of my favorite sessions was on corporate blogging. Even though no official blogging goes on in my workplace, I am fascinated by the potential of this resource for a library or information center. The presenters each showed examples of their blogs and how they are used within the company. Blogging, we were told, is a commitment with lots of criteria and lots of possibilities. Look at: <http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conferences/05confpresent.cfm> for some excellent Power Points from the conference on this topic.

Another great session was the SLA Contributed Paper Series. These are folks whose research papers were selected for special presentation. CO-SLA member Larry Olszewski presented, *What in the World: Leveraging Corporate Assets for Internal and External Use*. His paper can be found here: <https://www.sla.org/Documents/conf/toronto/Olszewski.doc>.

Keynote speakers were Don Tapscott, President of New Paradigm Learning Corporation, Bill Buxton, Principal Buxton Design and Gary Hamel, London Business School.

Join us next year in Baltimore, Maryland, June 11-14 2006 where Gwen Ifill of the *News Hour* with Jim Lehrer and Walt Mossberg of the *Wall Street Journal* will give Keynote addresses.

Calendar of Events 2005-2006

December

Perkins Observatory

Ohio Wesleyan University

Delaware, OH 43015

Thursday

December 1, 2005 at 6:30 PM

<http://www.perkins-observatory.org>

CO-SLA presents a unique opportunity to truly expand your horizons by presenting speaker, Tom Burns, Director of Ohio Wesleyan's Perkins Observatory, who will explain the timeless mysteries of the night sky.

Depending on the weather, Tom Burns will show the wonders of the night sky through a telescope outdoors. However, if the weather decides not to cooperate, the alternative is a tour of the very large Perkins telescope.

It is advised to dress for temperatures 20 - 30 degrees colder than what the thermometer says when observing, as there is no sun to keep you warm. Coat, gloves, and warm hat are recommended.

Spouses, significant others, and children welcome.

6:15 - 6:30 PM - Registration

6:30 - 7:00 PM - Autumn Snacks and Cider

7:00 - 8:00 PM - Speaker

8:00 - 8:30 PM - Outdoor Observing or
Perkins Telescope Tour

Cost: \$7.00 for members and non members,
free for students and retirees

Coming Up

February

Kent State University, Columbus

Program. A panel discussion with Mary Meredith, student liaison.

March

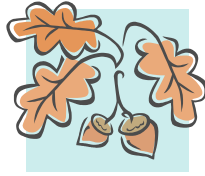
Joint Session with ACS, **American Chemical Society** with **Stuart Weibel** of OCLC on the topic, "*Why your library doesn't do what you want it to do.*"

April

Business Meeting at the **American Motorcycle Association** headquarters, library and museum at Pickerington, OH
<http://www.motorcyclemuseum.org>



Fall Library Tours



Arthur E. Knowlton Architecture Library

By Terry Fogle
Ashland Inc
tfogle@ashland.com

On September 15, 2005, we had the opportunity to tour the Austin E. Knowlton Architecture Library of Ohio State University. Jane McMaster, who is the collection manager/reference librarian, hosted our visit.

The KSA Library houses a unique collection of images and other media which supports OSU's architecture, landscape architecture, and city and regional planning curricula.

The library includes over 15,000 images and multimedia files; original images from KSA students and faculty--works from prehistoric through contemporary periods; parks, gardens, drawings, sculptures, paintings, model buildings; city plans and more. In addition, it houses special collections as well as featured faculty projects and KSA student work.

Jane, who has a B.A. in English and History from Miami University, and an M.L.S., from the University of Michigan, has been with the library since 1988.

Jane was very enthusiastic about her library, and was particularly keen on the KSA furniture collection, which was interspersed throughout the library (see **photo journal**.) It includes chairs representing a plethora of architectural styles dating back to the 1920's. The collection was compiled through private

collections as well as popular manufacturers.

Ohio State Supreme Court Law Library

By Terry Fogle
Ashland Inc.
tfogle@ashland.com

On the afternoon of October 27, 2005, our CO-SLA group gathered at the Supreme Court of Ohio Law Library.

First on our agenda was a lecture by Mark R. Brown, of Capital University, who spoke to us on the United States Patriot Act. Professor Brown is one of the nation's leading scholars in the area of civil rights litigation.

Next, tour guides, Ellen Siebert and Susan Kolk, gave us a tour. Ellen serves as a Law Court Librarian while Susan works as a Library Assistant.

According to our guides, the Law Library maintains 400,000 volumes which are housed on three floors. The library collection begins on the eleventh floor where the core collection is kept. There you find the circulation desk, the gallery area, the rare book room, and the reading room. The reading room houses a great deal of the *Canon of Ohio Law* including the *Ohio Official Reports*, *Ohio Jurisprudence*, *Ohio Monthly Record*, *Ohio Revised Code*, *Ohio Digest* and the most current bound volumes of the Ohio House and Senate bills.

On the twelfth floor, there were government documents, and an audiovisual room. The third floor housed legal treatises.

The collection is organized by the Library of Congress Classification system and is open to the public.

Again, another unique library, from its classical/art deco building, to its murals and fine art works.

Library Photos



KSA Chair Collection at the Austin E. Knowlton Architecture Library



Bird High Back Chair
Harry Bertoia, 1952



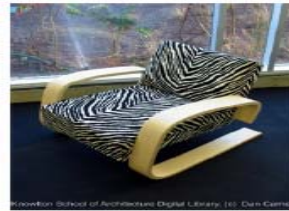
Bubble Chair
Philippe Starck, 2000



Cross Check Chair
Frank Gehry, 1989



Marilyn Sofa
Studio65, 1972



Armchair
Alivar Aalto, 1932

Ohio Supreme Court Law Library



Reading Room

The north wall of this room displays a 7 panel mural, entitled, *Evolution of the Printed Book*, by Leroy Daniel MacMorris

Chair photos belong to the Knowlton School of Architecture Digital Library Collection and were taken by John Cary who very graciously allowed us to reprint them.

Colleague in the Spotlight



Amy Dirsch
TheColumbus Dispatch

What led you to working in Special Libraries?

I have a Bachelor's degree in Communication Arts with an emphasis on film history and my original intention was to work in the area of film preservation and restoration in either a museum or archive setting. The master's program in library and information studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison offered an archives specialization and Madison is also home to the Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research, so that was when I started to seriously consider library school.

In the meantime, I began working at the

Wisconsin Newspaper Association, but library school was always in the back of my mind.

Several years later, I felt more of an urgency to move forward with my plans and began looking for a position in a library. I had worked at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's agricultural library while I was an undergraduate, but other than that, had no real library experience. My plan was to find a library job, work at it for a year or so and then apply to library school. I thought the experience would make for a more attractive library school application.

I was browsing the want ads one afternoon and there was an opening for a library assistant at the *Wisconsin State Journal* and *The Capital Times*. (*The State Journal*, which is Madison's morning newspaper and *The Capital Times*, the afternoon paper, each had their own libraries at one point, but had merged in 1987.) I sent in my resume and about a week after I interviewed, I was offered the job.

I started in March 2000 and began library school in January 2002. I suppose my interest in special librarianship began because I ended up finding a job in a special library, but I quickly grew to love the environment and knew that no matter where I ended up, I wanted to remain working in some type of special library. I received my M.A. in December 2004 and at that point my focus had become to find a position in another news library. Job openings in news libraries are few and far between, so I feel extremely fortunate and am very grateful to the *Columbus Dispatch* and to its library director, Jim Hunter, for giving me this opportunity.

I also want to acknowledge my former boss, Ron Larson, Library Director at the *Wisconsin State Journal* and *The Capital Times*. I couldn't have asked for a better boss or for a better place to work while I was studying to become a librarian. Ron set an example for me of the type of news librarian I wanted to become and I owe him a huge debt of gratitude

for the influence he's had on my career and life. He's a tremendous individual that I'm very proud to have as both a colleague and a friend.

How long have you been working in this field?

I've been working in news libraries for nearly six years, but I'm still a relative "newbie" to the profession, having earned my Master of Arts in Library and Information Studies in December 2004.

What do you like most about your job?

I have a passion for news and current events, which lends itself well to working for a news organization. The fact that the news is constantly changing means that I never know what kinds of reference or research questions I'll get on a particular day and that variety is what keeps things interesting for me.

Also, there is no better place to be when a breaking or notable news event happens than in the newsroom. It's an exciting environment to be a part of.

In a larger context, one of the main things I like about working in a special library is that generally you are serving the needs of a specific group of people. That enables you to build relationships with your patrons and to learn about their interests, which from my experience, makes you better able to anticipate their reference and research needs.

To what professional associations do you belong, and what leadership positions have you held in any of these organizations?

I joined SLA shortly after completing my first semester of library school. My boss at the time was a member and was active in the News Division. I was able to see what he was getting from his membership and I also was anxious to be more connected to the profession in terms of knowing the "main players" in the News Division and making myself aware of the issues that various news libraries were dealing with.

There were SLA, ALA and SAA (Society of American Archivists) student chapters at my library school and I was a bit too enthusiastic and joined all of them. I quickly realized however that time simply wasn't going to allow that and that I needed to align myself with the organization I had the most interest in, which was clearly SLA. Eventually I assumed responsibility for the student chapter's Web site and became its main contact person. The latter involved attending our school's fall new student orientation, where I would talk to any new students interested in special librarianship. I also spoke to the students in the school's sole "special libraries course," Corporate and Specialized Information Services.

I attended my first Wisconsin SLA chapter meeting because the topic that was going to be discussed that evening, alternative uses for your MLS degree, was the focus of a paper I was writing. I went and everyone there was so friendly and welcoming to me. I ended up sitting

across the table from Annette Griswold, a news librarian at the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentine*, and she and I had a great conversation about the archiving practices of our two libraries. It was just a really nice evening that I got so much out of. I always tell students that if you have the time and are able to attend some local or state SLA chapter meetings,-- or for that matter, any type of social gathering of librarians and information professionals to definitely do it. It gives you a new perspective of the trends and issues facing special libraries and the contacts you make can prove invaluable when you need a favor, advice or are looking for a position.

I attended that first meeting in September 2003 and the following February I was asked by the chapter's President if I'd be interested in serving out the last few months of the chapter secretary's term. (The previous Secretary had left the position abruptly.) I then was elected to the position of

President-Elect and Program Chair and served the first part of that term while I was still a student (2004-05). I became chapter President this past June, but had to give that role up when I accepted my new position at the Dispatch.

Recently I was appointed by SLA President Pam Rollo to co-chair the association's New Visions Task Force. Our group is looking at the challenges facing those entering the profession and will offer suggestions for recruiting and retaining people in both the profession and in the association.

What advice would you give to any one considering special librarianship?

Become a member of the Special Libraries Association. If you're a student, yearly dues are only \$35 a year and that includes membership in one chapter and one division at no extra charge.

Take advantage of the opportunity to attend any events held by your

state SLA chapter or any local gatherings of special librarians. In Milwaukee, Wisconsin for example, special librarians who work downtown regularly meet for lunch, which is a great way to get to know your colleagues in an informal setting. And once again, if you're a student, you can often attend these meetings at a reduced cost. (I think it's great that the Central Ohio chapter invites students to their meetings for free!)

Reach out to special librarians on your library school's campus or in your community. The student chapter of SLA at the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison had a formal mentorship program set up between students and area special librarians, but not having such an arrangement shouldn't stop you from getting to know your future colleagues. In my experience, librarians are very generous of their time and are very willing to speak about their jobs, as well as offer advice, to people interested in pursuing a

career in special librarianship.

Volunteer to serve a role in either your state SLA chapter or in an SLA division. In addition to my past involvement with the Wisconsin SLA chapter, I also am on the News Division's Membership Committee and when a new editor was appointed for *News Library News*, the News Division's quarterly newsletter, I contacted her to see if I'd be able to do some writing. I now contribute profiles of various news libraries for each of the newsletter's issues. It's given me a chance not only to serve the division, but to get to know its members and to learn more about the collections and practices of other news libraries.

While in library school, take a variety of courses outside of those that are required, particularly ones dealing with technology-based issues such as Web page and intranet design, digital libraries and networking. The ability to demonstrate proficiency in these areas will give you a definite advantage when job hunting, as well as throughout your career.

What other interesting information would you like to share about yourself?

I also do freelance writing for the *Capital Region Business Journal*, a monthly business publication put out by my former employer, the *Wisconsin State Journal*. In each issue, I review a business-themed book and profile a Web site I think would be of interest to business owners and their employees.

I'm also very interested in all aspects of history, but lately I've been indulging quite a bit in presidential history. In the last few years, I've visited six presidential museums, including that of Rutherford B. Hayes in Fremont, which I traveled to my first weekend after moving to Columbus. Right now, I'm reading *Assassination Vacation*, a book, author Sarah Vowell wrote about her visits to the sites and the other locations that played a part in the assassinations of Presidents Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley. A friend of mine

recommended the book, saying the topic was "right up my alley." She was right.

I'm still very interested in movies and television and probably watch a bit too much of both. Because of that, I often joke that I'm just as able to provide completely useless bits of information as I am useful ones, but I don't necessarily find that to be a bad quality to have.

Things You Should Know

LearningExpress is now in Ohio

Starting on July 1, 2005 LearningExpress Library became available to all Ohio residents through the state's public libraries, K-12 schools, colleges, universities, community colleges and adult education centers. LearningExpress Library provides online, interactive practice tests, career building tools, and writing aids.

This two year pilot project is funded by the State Library of Ohio and the Ohio Public Library Information Network (OPLIN) with an additional Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant to Libraries Connect Ohio. LCO is a collaborative project of the State Library of Ohio OPLIN, OhioLINK and INFOhio.

LearningExpress Library offers students and adults unlimited (24/7) access to targeted skill building, interactive courses in math, reading, and writing as well as hundreds of online interactive practice tests that prepare them for several types of exams including grade school achievement tests, the SAT, GED, U.S. Citizenship, and civil service positions. All practice tests include instant diagnostic score reports that help patrons to target those skill areas that need the most attention. To help students master the SAT and the recently added essay, instant score reports provide immediate feedback on how well they performed in each of five the writing skill areas.

Patrons can enter LearningExpress Library from any

authenticated site: Ohio's public libraries, academics, and schools,

"I am pleased that we can offer this service as a pilot program with libraries across the state. We want to assist Ohio residents in achieving their educational and vocational goals. LearningExpress Library should prove to be helpful in this endeavor," said Jo Budler, State Librarian of Ohio.

About the Bulletin

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Send email to:

Terry Fogle at:
tfogle@ashland.com.

Mail CD's or diskettes to:

Terry Fogle
Ashland Inc.
5200 Blazer Parkway
Dublin Ohio 43017

Editor

Terry Fogle
Ashland Inc.
5200 Blazer Parkway
Dublin, Ohio 43017