

State of the Chapter, DC/SLA 2003-2004

By Susan Fifer Canby, sfiferca@ngs.org

“Many hands make light work,” so the saying goes. With everyone pitching in, DC/SLA had a very vibrant year with recognition, innovations, strategic planning, contributions to our community, and tremendous programming that enticed more than 350 to participate. Thank-you for the opportunity to serve DC/SLA as its President this year, as well as the chance to work with so many of you. The highlights of this year are below. There’s more in the full Annual Report

(<http://www.sla.org/chapter/cdc/documents/2004/DCSLAANNUALREPORT2003-2004.doc>) that recognizes the *many other people* who contributed.

- **Recognition for our members:** Various chapter members received national recognition -- Lyle Minter: Fellow of the Special Libraries Association; Wilda Newman: SLA Hall of Fame; Anne Caputo: Rose L. Vormelker Award; Kenlee Ray: Member Achievement; Donna Scheeder: John Cotton Dana Award; Jill Konieczko: The H.W. Wilson Company Award. Past President, Sue O'Neill Johnson featured some of our distinguished senior members in *Chapter Notes* - Kitty Scott, Mary Feldman, and Roger Haley.
- **Washington Area Library Directory:** This valuable resource was published in cooperation with DCLA and Eileen Deegan’s three-year persistence and leadership.
- **Website Enhanced and Traffic Increased:** Webmaster Cassandra Shieh worked with various chairs to greatly enhance the content on the website by adding new pages, more photos, updating content, tracking the usage through metrics, adding finding aids, and reorganizing the front page. As a result of these efforts, we averaged 3,721 visits per month and 45,153 hits. The number of visits increased by 8% this year and hits increased 49%.
- **Chapter Manual Updated, Webified:** 2nd Vice President Kristina Lively and member Estelle Alexander, with assistance from chairs and the Board, reviewed and revised the DC/SLA Chapter Manual and added to the website to include a Table of Contents page and JavaScript menu to assist in navigating through the Manual. Kristina incorporated an "auto-update" script to the pages that will record when a page last changed. At the recommendation of SLA, Kristina replaced our Bylaws with a new Governing Document.
- **Better Financial Footing:** In the past two years our Chapter has reached a firmer financial footing that is enabling us to do much more with your membership dues. Under Past President Anne Caputo’s leadership and that of *Chapter Notes* editor Cynthia Holt, we reduced *Chapter Notes* expenses by 65% by delivering the newsletter electronically. Kelley Weber secured the ads and managed our listserv. Now we can provide more programming and more outreach with the money saved.
- **Saved Money:** Treasurer Erin Clougherty introduced PayPal as a payment method for programs, reducing our bank expenses by 50% or \$30 a month. She also consolidated savings accounts to earn higher interest, while improving the financial reports to the Board.
- **Generous Vendors:** Director Joan Gervino raised more than \$6,000 from our generous information vendors, Factiva and Lexis-Nexis. These savings and grants enabled us to

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Inside this issue:

State of the Chapter	1-3
Information: The Critical Link Between CI and Information Managers	3
Cataloging/Metadata Survey	5
Spend a Day With a Special Librarian	5
Profile on Roger Haley	6
DC/SLA at the Annual Conference	6
Welcome New Members!	7
DC/SLA Chapter Archives	7

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Kelley Weber, Surface Transportation Board

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Email: weberk@stb.dot.gov

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Monday, May 17th is the deadline for materials which can be included in the **June/July 2004** issue. The issue is distributed approximately three weeks after the deadline. The preferred submission format is a Word document sent via email.

Materials for *Chapter Notes* should be sent to the Editor:

Cynthia Holt

The Gelman Library
George Washington University

2130 H Street NW
Washington, DC 20052

Phone: 202-994-1352

Email: holt@gwu.edu

Event announcements should also be submitted electronically to the:

Listserv Moderator:

Kelley Weber, Surface Transportation Board

Phone: 202-565-1668

Email: weberk@stb.dot.gov

DC/SLA Internet Committee:

Frederik Heller

Phone: 202-383-1157

Email: fheller@realtors.org

Send address changes for *Chapter Notes* to:

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ATTN: Address/Name Changes
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Washington, DC 20009-2508



provide five SLA Virtual Seminars free to you and to offset costs for the New Member Reception and the Annual Banquet.

- **Membership Stable:** DC/SLA membership has remained stable at about 1050 over the past ten years while national SLA has seen a declining membership.
- **Young Professionals and Military Librarians Active:** Part of the chapter's vitality is directly attributable to the Young Professionals, chaired by Elena Howell and Aidan Hoyal. The YPs had another active year of networking, socializing, scrabbling, bowling, and touring together. The Military Librarians hosted a national conference and many successful programs this year.
- **Mentoring Initiative:** Working with Director Alphonse Vinh, the Mentoring Committee, co-chaired by Cassandra Harper and Mykie Howard, attracted 22 participants into the program and also worked with 30 libraries that have agreed to participate in "Spend a Day with a Special Librarian."
- **Community Outreach with Sousa:** The Chapter's community project for 2002-2004 was the Sousa Middle School Library in SE Washington. Under the leadership of Kenlee Rae, activities focused on soliciting funds and book donations and providing technical assistance. Since the Sousa library usually receives from zero to \$500 from the local school budget each year, DC/SLA contributions and donations of more than \$2,000 made a noticeable difference during these years. Kenlee also gathered book donations from many individual libraries, organized volunteers to cull and catalog, and testified before the DC Council. Despite these valiant efforts, in 2004 Sousa lost funding for its librarian and the future of this library appears dim.
- **Consulted with Local Organizations:** Our Chapter supports local organizations by providing free consulting from our most experienced members. Gail Kouril and her committee consulted with four local organizations this year, which resulted in revitalization of their libraries.
- **Supported International Libraries:** Under the direction of Barbie Keiser, the International Relations Committee (IRC) developed International Special Librarians Day (ISDL), held April 22, 2004, with the theme "360 Degrees of Information Literacy: Information Literacy around the World." The Committee collected donations for the purchase of the archival supplies necessary for the restoration of the National Library and Archives of Iraq. It also collected library and related journals, including a windfall from SLA Headquarters, to send to library schools in Zimbabwe and Cuba. With Giselle Foss's encouragement, as a Chapter we "twinned" with a Bulgarian librarian, Toshka Borisova.
- **Diverse Programming Raises Participation by 9%:** Vice President Elect and Program Chair Sheryl Rosenthal worked very effectively with other local organizations, and with support from Hospitality chair Barbara Folsenbee-Moore and Membership Chair Jill Konieczko, to bring you 63 programs. These included 13 business meetings, 21 learning opportunities, 16 networking opportunities, 6 social gatherings, and 7 tours. We did dine-arounds, book clubs, happy hours, library touring, and learning on topics such as "Covering the War in Iraq", Copyright, Taxonomy, "Database Building", and "Competitive Intelligence" meetings. The Joint Spring Workshop addressed the USA Patriot Act and we also sponsored a successful Career Transition Day.

- **Strategic Planning:** Director Joan Gervino surveyed the Chapter and developed a strategic plan to plan for the next few years. Thanks to Sue O’Neill Johnson and her nominating committee, we have an excellent set of new officers.

If you weren’t directly involved this year, think about making it one of your professional goals for 2004-2005 to see how you can participate, because collegiality and sharing are hallmarks of our profession. I will hope to see you at the Annual Banquet, at the Four Points Sheraton on May 18th, where we make the leadership transition, recognize some of our stars while we conclude the business year, and hear from the celebrated Dr. Bernadine Healy, senior writer at *US News & World Report* and the first woman to lead the National Institutes of Health. Thanks again for your support this year. See you at the banquet!

Information: The Critical Link Between CI and Information Managers

Information: The Critical Link Between CI and Information Managers was co-sponsored by the Society of Competitive Intelligence Professionals (SCIP) and DCSLA. The presentation was developed jointly by Barbie Keiser, representing the information management perspective for SLA and Melanie Wing, a competitive intelligence professional at Bank One (Chicago). Due to illness, Ms. Wing was not able to attend the session and Barbie Keiser delivered the talk at Marymount University (Ballston Campus) on Thursday, February 26, 2004

The evening began by defining Competitive Intelligence (a systematic program for gathering, analyzing and making actionable information about competitors’ activities, general business trends, and marketplace dynamics that is used to further your own company’s goals) and the critical role that information management plays in the process. A series of slides outlined the similarities and differences in responsibilities between CI professionals and information managers during the data collection stage, information compilation, and knowledge analysis. The evening ended with a discussion of new roles/responsibilities emerging for information managers within the CI profession and the competencies that are required for success.



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Compiled and edited by volunteers from the District of Columbia Library Association, Law Librarians’ Society of Washington, D.C., and the Special Libraries Association, D.C. Chapter

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Spend a Day With a Special Librarian

Submitted by Mykie Howard, mhowa3@gwu.edu

Visit a special library throughout April and May during DC/SLA's "Spend A Day with a Special Librarian". This program offers library students, recent graduates, those in career transition, and individuals new to the Washington, DC, area a chance to learn more about our diverse profession.

This year we have over 30 libraries participating, so take this unique opportunity to spend part of a day at work with a special librarian. Here is a list of participating libraries:

- Academy for Educational Development (AED)
- American Bar Association
- American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists
- Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
- Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft Library
- Consumer Electronics Association
- Flight Safety Foundation- Jerry Lederer Aviation Safety Library
- George Washington University Medical Center, The Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library
- Georgetown University's Lauinger Library
- Historical Society of Washington D.C. (City Museum)
- Howard University Law Library
- Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)
- Library of Congress Serial and Government Publications, Division
- Library of Congress Congressional Research Service
- McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP
- MITRE Corporation
- The National Academies George E. Brown, Jr. Library
- National Association of Convenience Stores
- National Cancer Institute at Frederick Scientific
- National Defense University Library
- National Geographic Society
- National Imagery and Mapping Agency
- National Public Radio
- National Science Foundation Library
- National Technical Information Service (NTIS)
- U.S. Comptroller of the Treasury
- U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Office of Library Services
- University of Maryland Engineering and Physical, Sciences Library
- Urban Institute Library
- *World & I: The Magazine for Lifelong Learners*
- World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

If you are interested in arranging a visit or having your library participate please contact Mykie Howard (202-994-1321, mhowa3@gwu.edu) or Cassandra Harper (202-566-1735, cassharper@aol.com).

Cataloging/Metadata Survey

Submitted by Suzanne Pilsk, pilsk@si.edu

Are cataloging and/or metadata part of your professional routine? The Committee on Cataloging is conducting a survey of all members in order to receive input for future committee activities and consideration.

It is the first part of a two-step survey by the committee to find out about SLA members' interests in cataloging and metadata before considering specific aspects of cataloging and the impact that technology has had on it in more detail.

Taking less than 5 minutes to complete, responses to the survey will help the Committee tremendously.

The survey can be accessed at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=11867448708>

For more information contact Dorothy McGarry at dmcgarry@library.ucla.edu.

Profile on Roger Haley

Submitted by Sue Johnson, suejohnson@msn.com



Roger Haley, Librarian Emeritus of the U.S. Senate, was one of those unusual librarians who worked his entire career (33 years) in one library, from his graduate student days until his retirement. The library was prestigiously located in the U.S. Capitol, on the third floor of the Senate wing overlooking the Mall. He joined the library in 1964, a few months after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The library's clientele included very visible, well-known people. Senators Carl Hayden and Sam Irvin were accustomed to doing their own research in the library, and author Robert Caro did research there for his award-winning biographies of Lyndon Johnson. The library provided extensive research and documentation for Senator Robert C. Byrd while he was writing his multi-volume *History of the United States Senate*. Senator Edward Kennedy had an office, really a hide-away, immediately next door. When Roger retired in 1997, only four Senators who had been in the Senate at the start of his career were still serving Robert Byrd, Edward Kennedy, Strom Thurmond and Daniel Inouye.

Roger grew up in the District, and became very familiar with Capitol Hill after his father, a printer at the Government Printing Office, took a new job in the House of Representatives. He would often take Roger

to the Capitol as a young boy, and let him wander all through the building. Later Roger graduated from the College at Georgetown University, and entered a doctoral program in Russian Studies there. After completing his course work, he took a position as a reference assistant in the Senate Library (at that time professional library credentials were not required). He discovered he enjoyed library work and after several years he decided to enter library school at the University of Maryland. In 1973, Roger was named to be director, the first to have an MLS degree. While Librarian he gradually professionalized the staff positions and introduced automated services and microforms. The collection, which was started in 1873, consists primarily of legislative materials including the printed text of bills and resolutions, congressional hearings and reports, and the record of the proceedings; books on government, politics, history, and biography were also prominent. The library worked closely with the Library of Congress, especially the Congressional Research Service and the Law Library.

Since he has retired, he has earned a private pilot license, and regularly flies to various destinations in neighboring states. He and his wife Mary also pursue their interests in theater, travel, reading and music.

DC SLA ACTIVITIES:

- Chapter President, 1990/91
- Chair of the 50th anniversary celebration of the Chapter
- Chair of the Awards Committee

Special Friends in the DC Chapter include: Kitty Scott, Charles Missar, Lyle and Nancy Minter, Susan Hill, Mary Feldman, and the late Elizabeth Stone and Cathy Jones.

SLA ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Hall of Fame Award winner
- John Cotton Dana Award winner
- Chair of the Social Science Division in 1984/85
- Candidate for Association President
- Chair of Nominating Committee; Bylaws Committee; and Committee on Committees
- Member of President's Task Force on the Image of the Information Professional
- Planning Committee for Annual Conference in 1997
- Member (current or former) of Library Management Division; Information Technology Division; Legal Division; Museums, Arts and Humanities Division; and Solo Librarians Division

SINGLE LIBRARIANS, PLEASE NOTE! Roger met his wife, Mary at the SLA Boston Conference of 1986!

DC/SLA at the Annual Conference

Three Pillars: Managing Your Library, Archives, and Records – Tuesday, June 8, 3:45-5 p.m.

You started as the librarian and were asked to organize your company's records. Or you began in archives and are now managing the library as well. Come and hear three information managers talk about how they made the transition, how they delegate and structure their work teams, what to expect, and pitfalls to avoid. Reception sponsored by Basch Subscriptions, will follow.

Presented by: Social Sciences Div.; Museums, Arts & Humanities Div.; Retired Members Caucus; Washington, DC, Chapter

Moderator: Iris Anderson, Joint World Bank-IMF Library

Speaker(s): Susan Fifer Canby, National Geographic, Libraries & Information Services; Kevin Manion, Consumers Union, Information Center; Pamela Tripp-Melby, International Monetary Fund, Information Services Division.

Welcome New Members!

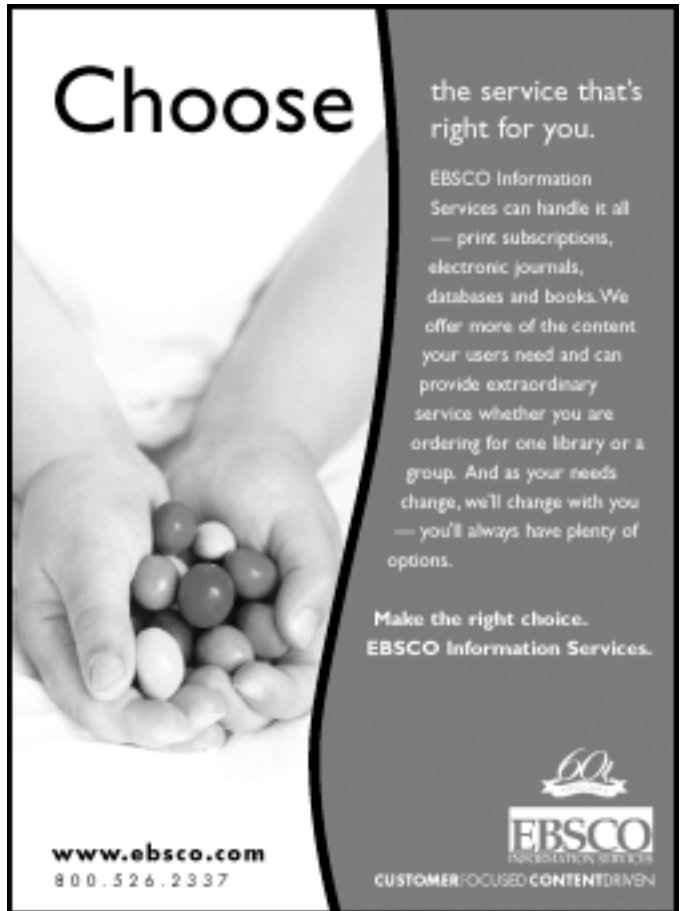
Submitted by Jill Konieczko, jkonieczko@usnews.com

Please welcome the following new members to the Chapter:

Margaret Bartlett
Jean Carrigan
P. Chambliss, Student
Jamie Coniglio, Council on Foundations
Ethelyn Griffin, The Aerospace Corp.
Virginia Heller, Mercer Human Resource Consulting
Joan Marshman, Howrey Simon Arnold & White LLP
Tsai-Hong Miller
Nancy Muir
George Nolfi, Jr.
Tracy Peoples, Wiley Rein & Fielding LLP
Meredith Peterson
Maria Sampang
Marine Schreiber, Inter-American Development Bank
Ursula Scott
Ednaldo Silva, RoyaltyStat LLC

DC/SLA Chapter Archives

We would like to add photographs to our archive collection. It would be great to have pictures of past officers, chapter prize winners, final banquets, etc. If any members have photos of people or events, please contact Judy Grosberg at 301-496-6756 or grosberj@mail.nih.gov.




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