

# KENTUCKY CHAPTER BULLETIN

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## President's Message

—Submitted by *Larry Besant*

### Heffalumps: Or Getting Juice out of SLA Winter Meetings

Many, many winter meetings ago in SLAland, the story was that whenever the moon was blue, and the Chapter Cabinet and the Division Cabinet had one of their ever-so-rare joint meetings, one might see a heffalump lumping along on its way to wherever magical, mythical, creatures such as Heffalumps go. But as Winnie-the-Pooh and Piglet found out, catching heffalumps isn't a just a matter of fetching the honey pot and digging a pit.

Some cynics question whether the high points of SLA midwinters are worth all the fuss. Those are the grumps who think that the main purpose of the national SLA winter meeting is really to set up for a fat curriculum of paid continuing education courses which earn a ton of money for SLA. Not me (especially if the midwinter is in sunny Ft. Lauderdale and it is cold and not sunny at home)! A key function of the winter meeting is training and enculturating the new Chapter and Division officers. But, in my opinion, observing the SLA board in action is as important to leadership development as the official DACOLT (Division and Chapter Officers Leadership Training) sessions. The information presented at the winter meeting will, for the most part, be communicated with a vengeance in our new national publication, INFORMATION OUTLOOK, in our chapter bulletins, and on our web pages and lists. What comes through personally are ones own impressions of style and quality, inklings of organisational problems and opportunities, and networking with colleagues on a national basis. Here are a few of my "personals" from the 1997 winter meeting.

We are currently blessed with an SLA Board of Directors who all seem to "get it" and are working together for the good of the cause. The slate of national candidates is unusually strong and can only result in continuing a change- and results-minded Board.

You all should have received your national [sic] ballots in the mail. JUST DO IT! VOTE. It is disheartening to learn that SLA elections merit only about the same poor "voter turnout" as US Presidential elections. One rather innovative suggestion at the meeting was that we could announce the percentages of Chapter and Division memberships voting in our SLA general elections and acknowledge the units with the highest turnouts by an annual award.

SLA just did dodge a bullet (but not some fines) from the IRS audit of 1991 and the "Association Unit Compliance" for financial reporting is serious business for the Association and all its units. Would that the "dues/non dues" income ratio were a problem for the Kentucky Chapter instead of SLA HQ. Which reminds me---we need suggestions for vendor Chapter bulletin advertisers or meeting sponsors. Please send your ideas to Maggie Johnson (for ads) or to Judy Wulf (for program sponsors). We're not broke, but the Chapter could stand to be a little more comfortable financially (we didn't hire the band for the

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### **Advertising Rates**

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### **About the Bulletin**

*Special Libraries Association assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by contributors to the Association's publications. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of SLA. Acceptance of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of any product by Special Libraries Association. (M094(e)-1/76; Agen-Doc B76-01). The chapter bulletin is published four times a year.*

### **Publication Deadlines**

Deadline for submitting articles is one month prior to publication of the issue. Please submit articles for the Summer issue of the Bulletin by *June 15, 1997*.

Electronic format is preferred. Send e-mail to Gracie Hale:  
 ghale@ukcc.uky.edu

Newletters are mailed one month after article submission date.

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spring meeting).

An informal Q & A session by Ex Director David Bender has become a regular post-banquet feature of the winter meeting. Some Q's and some A's are way better than others, of course. But, overall the exercise is good for all and all for good. A still small caveat would be the wish for equally informal participation by other attending senior SLA staff members.

The SLA Board hosted a panel of library school deans discussing "Competencies for Special Librarians of the 21st Century." Frankly, I was a little disappointed---not so much in the dean's presentations, they were first rate, although a bit self-serving--but I had hoped for a more spirited discussion from the Board and the audience of Chapter and Division officers. Kentucky Chapter members can tear and compare the SLA and MLA professional competencies statements during the panel discussion at our spring meeting. Look at the full version of the competencies document on the SLA web page and lets talk about it at Natural Bridge State Park on April 24th. See you there. Heffalumps welcome.



## Member News

—Submitted By Gracie Hale

Members of the FAN division of SLA will find Pat Wilson's name on the ballot for Chair-Elect. Along with Toni Powell, Pat will be presenting a paper entitled "Information competency: it's not just bibliographic instruction anymore" at the USAIN (United States Agricultural Informa-

tion Network) conference in Tuscon, AZ on April 5th.

Deb Hatfield presented a talk to UK Libraries ACTS (Assembly of Clerical and Technical Staff) on "The Lexmark - UK Libraries Contract" on March 31st. Deb is also presenting at the Fee for Service Conference in Toronto on April 24, 1997. Her topic there is "Opportunities for outsourcing". Deb also recently starred in the Studio Players' production of "Night Watch", a lively mystery/comedy presented in Lexington.

Mary Vass reports that she has heard from James Manasco, who seems to be doing well in Colorado. James plans to be back in Kentucky around Derby time and is looking forward to seeing old friends.



## Focus Group Discussions

—Submitted By Silvia Piggott

Hello all:

I have held several focus group discussions on the Competencies for 21st century document as well as the Name Change for the association.

I am providing those who participated with a summary which you will find below. Mary Dickerson, Joanne Marshall and Barbara Spiegleman are also on the distribution list as they have an interest in the reaction to the Competencies document.

We are planning on having a monograph written around the competencies document and the Chair of that committee - Barbara Spiegleman - expects to have it ready

in the very near future.

Thanks to Chapter members who participated.

Regards,  
 Sylvia Piggott  
 President, SLA

## \*\* SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS WITH 4 CHAPTER FOCUS GROUPS\*\*

As I visit Chapters, I generally ask for an assembly of 5-10 members who are willing to discuss the competencies document; the name change for the Association, and the general performance of the Association.

Below are the results of these discussions:

### COMPETENCIES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

All think the document is good general document on the topic.

All appreciate having the practical examples appended to each competency.

All greatly appreciate receiving the glossy Executive Summary and are using it.

Audience:

The document should be customized for different audiences. The document as it stands is targeted at librarians - preaching to the converted.

Human Resources departments should be a target audience (for the document) - general belief that HR departments do not know what librarians do and they are the ones that grade librarians' ranks and

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salaries as well as hire them.

Senior management could benefit from knowing the competencies of librarians, especially competencies that are required for Knowledge Management (KM). KM is usually linked to HR or the IT department and librarians are generally left out of the picture of play a minor role.

Library schools should use it (the document) as a guide in curriculum development.

Special Request:

The European Chapter would like to get a supply for distribution to European educators, etc.

Some questions:

Will the document be kept interactive - changed as necessary? The answer is "yes" via the SLA Web; new edition from time to time.

How will SLA get educators to create programs which reflect the identified competencies necessary for 'special librarians'? Can we lobby for 'Special Librarian' track as part of library school curriculum?

Other comments:

CEOs are not hiring librarians, other librarians do the hiring. Research committee should collect courses taught in library schools which support the competencies and publish them.

Is there any ranking of library schools in terms of those with strong curriculum for 'special librarians'?

Create a section on SLA Web which provides information on the kind of jobs special librarians are

engaged in. Ask the question, "wouldn't you like to be employed in these jobs?" then append a list of library schools offering strong programs. This would contribute to SLA's PR as well as provide some 'free' publicity for library schools.

The document as a Public Relations piece:

Strong recommendation to turn the document into a publicity story and get it placed in a business journal.

Warning:

Beware of competencies-based profession - it means anyone can be a librarian, not necessarily those who graduate from accredited library schools.

NAME CHANGE:

Approximately 80% of the participants from 4 Chapters were strongly in favor of a name change for the Association.

Many favor a name with the words "information, international, or professional".

The name should be short and be more inclusive than the current name.

Most want to leave the "L-word" librarian/libraries out of the title.

There is strong desire to reconcile the name of the Association with the competencies document.

GENERALITIES:

SLA says it is international, but it is American.

The European Chapter feels that a European agent is necessary to facilitate distributions of SLA materials and other communication to their membership.

European Chapter feels that its submissions to the "SpecialList" are never published.

Europeans don't benefit from affinity programs.

GENERAL PERFORMANCE OF THE ASSOCIATION:

The participants feel that the Association is strong and is generally moving in the right direction.

All like the new logo.

All are looking forward to "Information Outlook".



Joint Spring Conference at Natural Bridge

—Submitted By Judy Wulf

If you weren't able to register in March for the Spring Conference at Natural Bridge State Park, it's not too late. An exciting and useful program is planned for the Joint Conference of SLA/KY and KLA/Special Libraries Section and the Kentucky AHEC Library Consortium at Natural Bridge State Park on April 23-25.

The keynote workshop will be presented by Abigail Hubbard, Ph.D., of the School of Business, University of Houston. Her presentation, "Power and Influence: Tactics for Success," will be aimed at developing the skills and insights necessary to work within

the organization so that proposals are heard, understood, and supported.

The workshop will be complemented by sessions on library education and continuing education, marketing electronic library services, web site design, production and evaluation. In conjunction with the conference, the Kentucky AHEC Library Consortium will sponsor continuing education classes on serial acquisitions decisions and telecommunications and the Internet. The CE classes will be held Wednesday, April 23.

A dress code mandating the wearing of attendee's most comfortable clothing will be strictly enforced. A reception, luncheon, banquet, networking opportunities and the April delights of Natural Bridge State Park will round out the conference for a relaxing change from the work-place.

To register, or for more information, contact:

Jane Bottoms  
502-852-5771  
jrbott01@ulkyvm.louisville.edu  
Fax 502-852-5300

Single day registrations are available. Call Natural Bridge State Park, 800-325-1710 for information about accommodations. Natural Bridge State Park is on the Mountain Parkway, about 52 miles southeast of Lexington, near Slade. Take the Mountain Parkway, exit at Slade, take Highway 11 south to the park.

## Joint Meeting with C/ EKOUG

--Submitted by Judy Wulff

May 30 is the date for the annual joint meeting with C/EKOUG. Nancy Garman, editor-in-chief of ONLINE and DATABASE, the two premier journals for those who work with information online, will present "Now That Everyone Is Online, Where Does That Leave You?" Don't miss this opportunity.

The meeting will take place at the Harley Hotel in Lexington on Friday, May 30. Ms. Garman's presentation will begin at 10:30 with time for discussion and questions. A deli-style buffet lunch will follow.

To register for the meeting, send your name, institution, phone number and/or e-mail address and check for \$25.00 to:

Jane Bottoms  
331 Wooldridge Ave.  
Pewee Valley, KY 40056

Deadline for registration is May 13. Checks should be made out to SLA/KY. (Cost for student members of SLA/KY is \$17.00).

C/EKOUG members should come at 10:00 for their annual meeting and election of officers. SLA/KY members should plan to stay after lunch for a brief business meeting.

The Harley Hotel is at 2143 N. Broadway in Lexington. Travelers on I-75 can take Exit 113 and go north about a block. The hotel is on the left.

For more information, contact Judy Wulff (502-852-8533 or jlwulf01@ulkyvm.louisville.edu) or Jane Bottoms (502-852-5771 or jrbott01@ulkyvm.louisville.edu).

## Chapter Web Page

- Submitted by Joe Miller

The board appointed Joe Miller, Cindi Trainor, and Alice Marksberry to form the chapter Web Page Committee. The committee has met and is in the process of creating chapter web pages that will be mounted on the SLA server. Some prototype pages and designs are being created to show to the membership for feedback and input. Watch for announcements on the chapter listserv about the web project. If you have suggestions, comments, or other ideas, send them to one of the committee members:

Joe - jbmill00@pop.uky.edu  
Cindi - cindi@pop.uky.edu  
Alice -alice@alpha.caer.uky.edu

## Chapter Officer Nominations

As we go to press, a slate of potential officers is being put together by the Chapter Nominating Committee. This year's members are: Laura Whayne, William DeBord, and Christie Robinson. Please communicate any suggestions for chapter officer nominations to them.

## Cindi Trainor Joins Bulletin Editors

-Submitted By Joe Miller

Cindi Trainor has joined Gracie Hale and myself as bulletin editors. Thanks Cindi!

## Library Laws of Kentucky

--Submitted by *Ebba Jo Sexton*

The KY/SLA publication, "Library Laws of Kentucky, effective January 1, 1995," will be available for sale at the Spring Conference at Natural Bridge, April 23-25. The publication is a concise, 78 page pamphlet containing the statutes and Kentucky Administrative Regulations governing libraries. There will be a display in the rear of the Activities Center during the meeting. If space permits, the publication will also be on display at the registration desk.

The price of the publication has been lowered to \$10.00 per copy (cash, check or carry).

Mail requests will still be filled for \$16.00 per copy. Check should be made payable to SLA/Kentucky Chapter. For those who prefer to have a copy mailed to them, please contact:

Ebba Jo Sexton  
Rm. 130, Law Library  
University of Kentucky  
Lexington, KY 40506  
ebbajo@pop.uky.edu

The Kentucky Chapter was granted a loan from the national SLA board for publication expenses (for Library Laws). Currently, about \$1200 worth of copies of the publication have been sold. The balance of the loan (\$1500.00) is due in December, 1997. All members of the Kentucky Chapter of SLA are urged to purchase a copy of "Library Laws" for their personal use, and another copy for their libraries' reference desks.

## The Future for Librarians Videoconference

--Submitted by *Gracie Hale*

The Future for Librarians: Positioning Yourself for Success, a satellite videoconference sponsored by AALL, MLA, SLA, and LEXIS-NEXIS was presented on March 31 at the VA Medical Center in Lexington. The program was made available locally by the Kentucky Library Association Special Libraries Section, the Bluegrass Medical Librarians and the VA Medical Center.

Panelists, and their topics, for the videoconference included:

Joanne G. Marshall, of the Faculty of Information Sciences at the University of Toronto, spoke on the competencies needed for special librarians to function in the 21st century. Marshall detailed the competencies unique to the field of special librarianship. These included in-depth knowledge of both print and electronic information sources in specialized subject areas, along with the ability to design and manage information services to meet strategic information needs within those subject areas and the parent organization.

Marshall outlined three areas where special librarians provide unique services to their users and organizations. These areas are: "content" - the librarian's knowledge of information resources; "technology" - the knowledge of information technology and how to use it for maximum efficiency; and "people" - the special librarian's knowledge of

the information needs of their specific clientele and the environment in which they (both the client and the librarian) operate.

Marshall also noted that though others in the organization may know more about any one of these three areas, it is the special librarian who brings them together in a unique way.

Mark Estes, librarian for the Denver law firm of Holme, Roberts & Owen, was the second presenter. Estes' topic was "New Roles of the Librarian". Estes sees the future role of librarians as being focused in three different areas: information navigator, information problem solver, and knowledge manager. Estes analyzed each of these future roles.

The information navigator was presented as being a pioneer, a guide, a mapper and an organizer. The information navigator explores new sources, interprets needs, directs the user to appropriate tools, teaches and trains, and builds ways of understanding or presenting information and information resources.

The information problem solver was presented by Estes as a role in which the librarian will create an awareness (in the clientele and the parent organization) that a given problem may have been faced in the past, and thus, the wheel need not be reinvented. The information problem solver also applies information techniques to build solutions to information needs. Estes also sees this role as being the "ultimate recycler". The problem solver will analyze, compare and contrast information sources, use and reuse information, evaluate and collect information for the client.

The third presenter was Bernie

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Todd-Smith of the Werner Medical Library at Rochester General Hospital in Rochester, New York. Her portion of the conference focused on the need for librarians to work within the organization.

Todd-Smith focused on positioning as the theme of her presentation. Positioning library specific services and positioning the librarian through direct reporting relationships were the two major focuses.

As examples of positioning library specific services, Todd-Smith drew on examples from the health care field. These included consumer health information/wellness services and contract information services. Todd-Smith stated that libraries in the health services field are finding that it may be a strategic move to provide wellness information for patients. Such a service adds to the library's value within the parent organization. Contract information services may be offered, at cost, to other institutions - increasing the size and skills of library staff. The library's image with the parent organization would thus be improved.

Todd-Smith recommended that librarians look at their reporting relationships with parent organizations in an effort to determine who is the best organization partner for the library. As an example, she cited instances where libraries are now reporting to information technology sectors of their parent organizations and the benefits such an arrangement might have for the library and the librarian.

Todd-Smith also commented on how, in the future, a shift in focus from knowledge-based information (the Library) to knowledge management (the librarian) will need to take

### SLA/KY Chapter Treasurer's Report 3/5/97

- Submitted By Alice Marksberry

SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE (1/31/97) \$ 423.33

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE (1/31/97) \$2153.55

Deposits

Registration 11/96 Conference	\$1045.00
Spring Joint SLA/KLA Conference	\$ 665.41
Transfer from Savings Account 12/96	\$1000.00
<b>Total for Deposits</b>	<b>\$2710.41</b>

Expenses

Expenses for 11/96 Conference	\$ 204.48
Spindletop Hall, 11/96 Conference	\$ 724.55
Pam Jenkins honorarium	\$ 100.00
Refreshments-SLA Pres Reception-LIS	\$ 106.75
Kinkos--Awards Letter Mailings	\$ 57.02
SLA National--1/2 of LOAN payment	\$1500.00
<b>Total for Expenses</b>	<b>\$2692.80</b>

Balance for Checking Account (as of 3-5-97) \$2171.16

Student Chapter subaccount \$ 132.00

GRAND TOTAL (checking and savings accounts) \$2735.49

SLA LOAN FOR DIRECTORIES	\$3000.00
Payment to Banks Baldwin	\$2925.00 (\$75.00 balance)
Deposits of Ky Laws sales to date	\$1191.60 (79 sales as of 3-5-97)
Balance (available for repayment)	\$1266.60 (\$1191.60 sales + \$75.00 balance)

PAID 1/2 of LOAN BALANCE (12/96) \$1500.00

place. She used the growing trend toward Intranets as an example where librarians could use existing skills in a new environment. Librarians would bring to Intranets their organizational, communication, and quality filtering skills.

The final presenter was Toby Pearlstein, manager of information services for Bain & Company of Boston. Bain & Company is a global consulting firm with client work done by case teams.

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Pearlstein's presentation related a case study on information services undertaken for Bain & Company. Through this study the information services personnel determined how their services could best meet the needs of the company and in turn the company's clients.

The case study determined that one way to better meet needs was to have one information professional assigned to work with individual case teams. Each professional might be assigned to more than one team, but would have in-depth involvement with those teams from beginning to end. Such an arrangement gave the information service providers a greater level of involvement on both the team and corporate level, adding value to their own services and to the company as a whole.

Each section of the videoconference included time for questions and answers. Participants from around the country phoned, faxed or e-mailed questions to the panelists. A general wrap-around discussion session for local participants was conducted following the end of the videoconference.

