



Michigan Chapter SLA
75-Year Anniversary
Multifaceted professionals
cutting through information overload



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For Immediate Release

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Survivor Library: Outwit, Outplay, Outlast

Join the Michigan Chapter of the Special Libraries Association **Thursday, May 13** in Dearborn as we celebrate our Diamond 75th Anniversary with a look back and into the future.

Stephen Abram is our keynote speaker. As vice president of innovation for Sirsi, an information technology company, he is in an ideal position to look into the crystal ball and read the fortunes of corporate libraries, business researchers and information professionals. Abram is known for his rapid-fire delivery of new ideas and his vision of unlimited opportunities for librarians. We are looking for inspiration and Abram will deliver with "Survivor Library: Outwit, Outplay, Outlast," at 2:30 p.m. in the **Ford Centennial (Dearborn) Library** auditorium.

Cynthia Hill, President of SLA, and director of Sun Library and Learning Technology at Sun Microsystems, is our special guest for dinner at the **Dearborn Inn**. Under Hill's leadership, her staff facilitates Sun's knowledge management and knowledge sharing initiatives. Her presentation, "Building on our Past, Creating our Future," reflects our membership's commitment to providing quality information and continued professional development.

Registration for our sparkling Diamond celebration is required by **May 6**. Details are online at www.sla.org/chapter/cmi/.

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The Special Libraries Association (SLA) is a nonprofit global organization for information professionals representing more than 12,000 members in 83 countries in the information profession, including corporate, academic and government information specialists.

A group of Detroit business and public librarians created the Detroit Chapter of the Special Libraries Association in 1929. The first members worked for General Motors, the Detroit Public Library, the Detroit News, and Detroit Edison and met monthly with an average attendance of 35. By 1932 there were 66 members and the name was changed to the Michigan Chapter.

In 2004, there are over 350 members in the Michigan Chapter -- information professionals from corporations, universities, research centers, government agencies, medical institutions, legal firms and other organizations. The state's special librarians are also represented by the Michigan - Western/Upper Peninsula Chapter, formed in 1980.

As membership has increased, so too have the challenges faced by our members as we blend new technologies with existing resources to effectively link the information user with the right information at the right time.

Kathy Irwin, President of the Michigan Chapter SLA sums up the changing role of the information professional: "Our members face a wider array of career choices today than ever before. Some work outside of the traditional library setting as web masters, management information consultants and course developers. (But) what has not changed over the past 75 years is the contribution our members make in locating, critically analyzing and presenting information needed for key decision making. By doing so, we add value to the customers and organizations that we serve. We have much to be proud of as we celebrate our Diamond Anniversary."

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