

Michigan Chapter, SLA
Chapter Events from 1926 - 2004

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1990-1997 research in progress
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- 03/1926 The first meeting of the Round Table for Special Librarians in Michigan was held at the Scripps Branch of the Detroit Public Library. Twelve librarians attended.
- 1927 A luncheon meeting was held at the Dearborn Inn where it was decided to meet every two months and keep the group very informal.
- 01/1928 General Motors became the first institutional member from Michigan.
- 03/1929 A petition for affiliation with the Special Libraries Association was signed by ten members of the Detroit group.
- 04/1929 The SLA Bulletin carried the first report of our Chapter's activities. The Chapter's first "official meeting" was held in Ann Arbor. Miss Margaret Mann, Associate Professor, University of Michigan Library School was the speaker for the meeting.
- 02/1931 The constitution of the Special Libraries Association of Detroit was accepted.
- 05/1931 The Chapter's annual meeting was held at General Motors Proving Grounds in Milford, Michigan. The Chapter had four institutional, 22 active and 21 associate members.
- 06/1931 "Detroit Day" was held as a post-convention trip for the Special Libraries Association after its annual conference in Cleveland.
- 05/1932 First directory of the Chapter was prepared.
- Also, the Chapter's constitution was amended to change the name from SLA of Detroit to Michigan Chapter of SLA; Offices of Vice President, Treasurer and two Executive Board members were added.
- 11/1932 A special dinner meeting was held at the Statler Hotel honoring Sir Angus Fletcher, Librarian of the British Library of Information and Director of SLA.
- 01/1933 A luncheon meeting was held at the Detroit Institute of Arts including a discussion and viewing of the murals being painted by Diego Rivera.
- 01/1935 The Chapter petitioned the Mayor of Detroit to endorse the budget item providing for Wednesday service in the Detroit Public Library, thereby restoring a six-day library week.
- 11/1935 The first issue of the Bulletin of the Michigan Chapter was edited.
- 05/1937 An invitation was extended to SLA to hold its next annual convention in Detroit. The invitation was rejected.

- 05/1938 The Chapter's constitution was completely revised based on the SLA model.
- 01/1939 A dinner meeting was held at Detroit Edison. It included a tour of the company's new completely air-conditioned building. Seventy-eight members and guests were present.
- 05/1939 A UNION LIST OF SERIALS for 35 libraries in metropolitan Detroit was compiled. The publication was sponsored by the Detroit Public Library and a W.P.A. Project.
- 10/1940 SLA was invited to hold its 1942 convention in Detroit. The invitation was again rejected however war conditions reversed the decision in March 1942.
- 02/1941 The first international meeting was held in Windsor, Ontario at the Windsor Star. H.M. Mordent, Associate Editor of the Star spoke.
- 10/1941 A meeting was held at the Kingsley Inn. It included a visit to the libraries of the Cranbrook Institute of Science.
- 12/1941 A meeting was held at the Old Wayne Club. Chester S. Ricker of McCann-Erickson, Inc. spoke about timing sport races.
- 06/1942 The SLA annual convention was held at the Statler Hotel in Detroit. It was attended by 239 librarians.
- 12/1942 A meeting was held at the Engineering Society's Rackham Building. Herbert M. Place from the U.S. Rubber Company, spoke about rubber.
- 03/1943 A meeting was held at Detroit Edison's Research Lab after a dinner at Old Madrid. H.S. Walker spoke about the library's place in research.
- 01/1944 A meeting was held at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Francis Waring Robinson, the Institute's Curator of European Art, spoke about "Books as Art." Fifty-three librarians attended.
- 04/1944 A meeting was held at the Norton Palmer Hotel in Windsor, Ontario. A panel discussion about the post war library was held.
- 12/1944 A meeting was held at Wayne University Club. A panel discussion about "What Makes Special Libraries Special" was presented.
- 10/1946 A meeting was held at the Women's City Club. Kurtz Myers, from the Detroit Public Library, presented a talk about "An Audio-Visual Division in a Public Library."
- 01/1947 The Michigan Chapter met at the Dearborn Inn as guests of the Ford Motor Company. The meeting included movies at Rotunda and a tour of the Rouge Plant's steel mills.
- 02/1948 W.C. Cisler, Executive Vice-President of Detroit Edison, spoke to the Chapter about "Some European Problems Facing the United States." The meeting was held at Detroit Edison's cafeteria.
- 04/1948 Two meetings were held this month at the Rackham Building. Early in the month, Philip Nusholtz, an attorney, spoke about income taxes. Later that month Dr. H. M. Marker, Parke-Davis Company, spoke about "The Romance of Medicine."

- 11/1948 Francis Keally, a New York architect, spoke to the Michigan Chapter about "The Master Plan of the Detroit Public Library."
- 04/1949 A meeting, held at the Stockholm Restaurant, included color slide presentations about "A Trip to the Rocky Mountains" and "Wild Life in Michigan."
- 11/1949 Ruth H. Hooker, SLA's President, addressed the Michigan Chapter about "What's New in SLA and How it Affects You." The meeting was held at the Dearborn Inn.
- 11/1950 A meeting was held at the L'Aiglon in the Fisher Building. Father William Dehler, University of Detroit, spoke about "Planning a New Library."
- 10/1951 Members of the Michigan Chapter were given a tour of the library and plant of the Plaskon Division of Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company in Toledo, Ohio. Dr. Maurice H. Bigelow spoke to the group about "Modern Plastics and Their Uses."
- 01/1953 A meeting held at the Engineering Society of Detroit included workshops on punch cards, clipping files, and "New Ideas in Library Equipment."
- 03/1953 Fisher's Restaurant was the site of a Chapter meeting where Fred H. McIntire, Chief of the Detroit Office of the FBI, spoke to the group about "You and the FBI."
- 04/1953 Robert A. Dearth, Vice President at Ross Roy, Inc., spoke at the Chapter's meeting held at the Fort Shelby Hotel. His topic was "The Library's Place in Management's Picture."
- 10/1953 The Michigan Chapter met at Dow Chemical Company in Midland, Michigan. The meeting included tours of the Dow Chemical Library, the chemical plant and Midland churches.
- 01/1954 Workshops were held at the Detroit Public Library, including a session about "Cooperation Between the Public Library and Special Libraries."
- 10/1954 Tours for the Chapter were given at Upjohn Company in Kalamazoo, Michigan.
- 01/1955 Michigan Chapter members toured the City-County Building and the Municipal Reference Library.
- 02/1956 A panel discussion was held at the Detroit Public Library about "Selling Your Library to the Administration and to Your Public."
- 11/1956 A workshop about "Mechanical Aids in the Library" was given at the Detroit Public Library.
- 09/1957 Dr. Robert Shaw, professor at Rutgers University Graduate School of Library Science was guest of honor at a meeting jointly sponsored by the library staffs of Detroit Public Library, University of Detroit, Wayne County Library, Wayne State University, and SLA. He spoke on the topic "Scientific Management of Libraries." Dr. Shaw promoted simplification and commented "we must not learn to do efficiently what does not have to be done at all."
- 01/1958 Eighty-three librarians were in attendance for a meeting held at the Detroit Public Library. A panel discussion was held on the topic "Government Documents and their role in the Special Library."

- 11/1959 A Mechanical Retrieval workshop was held. The topic was presented in "elementary terms."
- 01/1961 "New Frontiers in Cataloging" was the subject matter for a meeting held at the Park Shelton Hotel in Detroit. The Dewey and Library of Congress systems were discussed.
- 09/1962 The Chapter participated in the First Governor's Conference on Libraries.
- 04/1965 The Detroit Press Club was the site for the April meeting. Dr. John Diekhoff, professor at the University of Michigan addressed the group on the topic "The Special Librarian as Educator."
- 03/1966 A tour of the offices of Gale Research in the Book Building was given after a dinner held at Stouffer's Restaurant. Ninety members attended.
- 05/1966 The 35th anniversary of the Michigan Chapter was celebrated at the annual meeting, held at Topinka's Country House.
- 03/1967 A Management Night provided an opportunity for members to invite executives from their organizations. Guests included management from Campbell-Ewald, Chrysler, Detroit Edison, Detroit Public Library, Ford Motor Company and General Motors.
- 01/1968 Sister Claudia, librarian at Marygrove College spoke regarding an indexing project for the Catholic Encyclopedia. In order to streamline the project she used automation, something that Britannica had not used previously. A computer "will do exactly what you tell it to do, but don't expect it to do your work for you," commented Sister Claudia in an article in The Detroit News.
- 05/1968 The annual meeting was held at Oakland University. A tour of the "new and rapidly growing" library was included.
- 10/1969 A meeting at the Dearborn Inn featured Florine Oltman, president-elect of the Special Libraries Association. Ms. Oltman's talk was titled "Vision Unlimited." Time was also spent reviewing problems discussed at a national level including a possible name change for SLA or federation with other groups.
- 06/1970 "The Changing Face of Special Libraries" was the theme of the SLA conference held at Cobo Hall in Detroit.
- 02/1971 Ann Arbor's Campus Inn was the site of a meeting featuring a video on "Problems of Procuring Government Documents." SLA's Business/Finance Division produced the video at the 1970 conference.
- 09/1973 "Man & Machine" was the topic of discussion at a meeting held at Burroughs Corporation. "Don't let the computer bully you," the speaker advised the audience, "you are the master and not to be inhibited by it."
- 00/1974 In response to an inquiry regarding the Chapter's hopes to attract the national conference in 1980 or 1981, the Metropolitan Detroit Convention & Visitors Bureau advised that construction on the new Renaissance Center was underway. Completion of the Renaissance Center was expected by April 1977.

- 03/1974 Dr. William Saffody, archivist with Wayne State University, spoke on the topic of Reprography - copy machines, microfilm equipment and cameras at a meeting held at Mario's.
- 10/1975 The Midwest Federation of Library Associations held its convention at Cobo Hall. The Chapter sponsored concurrent sessions on statistics.
- 02/1976 "OCLC as a Reference or Information Tool" was the topic of a panel discussion. The meeting was jointly held by ASIS and SLA.
- 03/1977 A tour of the Michigan State University Library Law Collection was given as part of a meeting held at MSU. The topic "How to Help Patrons with Legal Research Problems" was also discussed.
- 11/1978 Diane Mirvis from the Wayne State University Department of Library Science spoke on "Automation and the Special Library in the 80s: Innovative and Imaginative Uses."
- 11/1979 115 members attended to hear a report on the White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services. The Conference was held November 15-19, 1979 in Washington D.C.
- 3/1980 Tom Harnish of OCLC, Inc. presented "THE SOURCE: An Information Utility for Library and Home." 155 members attended.
- 8/1980 "How to Improve Efficiency and Effectiveness in the Small Library" was the topic of this presentation by Gene Heileman of the Whirlpool Corporation Research and Engineering Information Center, Beatrice Sichel of the Western Michigan University Physical Sciences Library, and Linda Wagenveld of the Herman Miller, Inc. Resource Center.
- 2/1981 Dr. Jack W. Wiley, Director of Personnel Research and Planning, National Bank of Detroit, spoke on "Performance Appraisal: Management by Objectives as a Performance Appraisal Method in Evaluating Libraries."
- 3/1981 "The National Technical Information Service: Current and Future Services" was the topic of this meeting at the DPL Friends Auditorium. Melvin Day, Director, NTIS was the speaker.
- 11/1984 A meeting on "Special Libraries: Trends and Issues" was held at Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor. Dr. David R. Bender, Executive Director SLA was the speaker.
- 1/1985 Dr. Philip Mason of the Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs presented "New Trends in Archival Collecting."
- 11/1985 A joint meeting entitled "Yesterday to Tomorrow: Preservation Planning for the Special Library" was held with the Western Michigan Chapter.
- 11/1986 Gary Fangborner spoke on "Genealogy" at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy.
- 1/1987 103 members attended this program on "Leadership Dynamics" and "Marketing Your Library." The speaker was Kaycee Hale, Executive Director, Resource and Research Center, Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising Library.

- 10/1987 A joint meeting with ASIS was held at the Ann Arbor Marriott. Pauline Smillie, Product Manager, Distributed Databases, Electronic Publishing Division, UMI spoke on "CD ROM Publishing: Comparisons with Film, Online, & Paper."
- 11/1987 Susan Stepek of the Campbell-Ewald Company, Sallie Ellison of the Industrial Technology Institute, and Ann Beaubien of Michigan Information Transfer Source presented a panel discussion on "implementing a fee based information service within a special library of a corporation or educational institution, for use by individuals or companies no in competition with the corporation."
- 2/1988 An informal talk on market research was presented at the Strohaus in Detroit. Raymond Gross, Director of Corporate Planning, The Stroh Brewing Company was the speaker.
- 2/1989 The meeting was held at the Chrysler Information Resources Center. Demonstrations included the Syndey Library System, network message capabilities, OCR scanning, and shared databases.
- 1990 to 1997 *Research in progress*
- 09/1998 Stephen Abram from HIS Canada addressed a joint meeting of the Western/Upper Peninsula and Michigan Chapters held at the Library of Michigan in Lansing. Abrams emphasized that librarians have the skills to take on key roles in content management and knowledge management.
- 09/1999 Chapter members were invited to attend "Our Preferred Future Conference for Michigan Libraries," a two day event jointly sponsored by the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees, the Michigan and Western/Upper Peninsula Chapters, SLA and other Michigan based library organizations.
- 09/2000 Nettie Seabrooks, Chief Operating Officer and Chief of Staff, City of Detroit spoke on "Knowledge Management in Corporate and Government Environments." Ms. Seabrooks, a trained librarian, worked for both the Detroit Public Library and GM prior to moving into the government sector.
- 04/2001 "What I Should Have Learned in Library School: Insights for Information Professionals," part of the SLA Virtual Seminar Series, was presented at Wayne State University.
- 10/2002 Speakers representing both Michigan Chapters of SLA (Judith Field and Paulette Groen from the Michigan Chapter, SLA and Leslie Burke of the Western/Upper Peninsula Chapter, SLA) presented a pre-conference program before the Michigan Library Association's annual conference in Grand Rapids. The topic of the half-day program was "The Power to Perform: How Professional and Personal Competencies Contribute to Personal and Organizational Success."
- 04/2003 Digital copyright issues was the topic discussed by speaker Ruth Dukelow, Associate Director, Michigan Library Consortium. Gale Group of Farmington Hills hosted the meeting.
- 11/2003 The Fall 2003 issue of the Michigan Bulletin was mailed electronically to members for the first time. Moving to an electronic format corresponded with the Association's electronic communication initiative.

05/2004

The Chapter's seventy-fifth anniversary celebration took place in Dearborn with two events. Stephen Abram, Vice President of Innovation, Sirsi Corporation, was speaker for an afternoon audience at Henry Ford Centennial Library on the topic "Survivor Library: Outwit, Outplay, Outlast." At a dinner meeting, held later at the Dearborn Inn, Cynthia Hill, President of SLA, addressed members on the topic "Building on our Past, Creating our Future." A letter of congratulations was received from First Lady Laura Bush.