



Local SLA Members Take Information Journey

Librarians from around the Southeast gathered in Williamsburg, Va. this Fall to participate in the South Atlantic Regional Conference (SARC III). The conference theme was "Experience a Timeless Information Journey: Revolution and Evolution Continue."

About 140 SLA members and guests from across the Southeast region attended SARC III, held September 28-October 1, 2005. SLA President-Elect, NC/SLA's own Rebecca Vargha, opened the conference, and Past SLA President Ethel Salonen spoke about the future of Association.

The keynote speaker was David Seaman, founding director of the Electronic Text Center at the University of Virginia Library, who discussed issues of digitization and their implications for libraries.

In addition, there were more than 40 presenters at the conference. NC/SLA member David Sullivan

highlighted one presentation by Robert V. Williams entitled "Connecting with Your Own Past: Preserving the History of Special Libraries." The presentation underscored the importance of special librarians writing their libraries' histories and preserving them through publication in chapter or division bulletins or on relevant websites.

The conference also gave attendees an opportunity to learn more about the history of Williamsburg with a visit from Thomas Jefferson, portrayed by a colonial Williamsburg actor. He gave an overview of the situation in the colony in September of 1775, when war with England was imminent.

"The re-enactor who portrayed Thomas Jefferson was excellent," said SARC organization committee member Joanne Klein, "He remained completely in character throughout his presentation and answered many questions from the audience with great aplomb and accuracy." >

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President's Message: July 2005

Dear Members,

What an inspiring Spring and Summer 2005 we had in NC SLA-land! First, the election of Rebecca Vargha to the presidency of SLA, a first for a North Carolina Chapter member, was a heady moment. It was followed shortly by the announcement of Association-level awards for THREE of our members, Tamika Barnes McCollough, Lolly



Eliza Robertson

Gasaway, and Dav Robertson. You can see photos on the next page of all these folks receiving their awards in Toronto from SLA President Ethel Salonen.

Closer to home, our Chapter's Award Banquet provided lots of laughs (thanks largely to Erin Knight, our outgoing [in more ways than one], excellent President and Susan Nutter, the speaker of the evening, who wove a thread of nostalgia in her musings on special librarianship in an academic setting.

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Communicates!

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NC/SLA Communicates! is a quarterly bulletin of the North Carolina Special Libraries Association.

<http://www.sla.org/hq/nc/home.cfm>

If you would like to submit an article or announcement for an upcoming issue of Communicates!, please email jklimas@northcarolina.edu

Stay up-to-date on NC/SLA happenings. Join our Chapter's discussion list at:

<http://www.sla.org/chapter/nc/listguide.cfm>

Other organizations have shown greater participation in elections. Will our collective spirit be more or less liberal or conservative than before, more or less willing to make changes to the association's status quo?

* Second is the bylaws change to align the Association's fiscal year and the calendar year. Our chapter decided on 18-month terms for the officers who have just been elected; okay, that was the easy part – but does it mean that the SLA's annual meeting will change to late fall? Will our own chapter banquet's timing change? For sure, life will now be easier for SLA chapter and division treasurers worldwide, who will now file reports annually, rather than semi-annually. All that other stuff is a mystery, but I'm confident NCSLA will weather the storms successfully. Let me know your opinions about any of these changes and their ramifications.

Our great chapter includes the Charlotte Group, which meet irregularly but enthusiastically. One lovely evening in mid-July Jill Kutz pulled together a joint meeting of the NCSLA Charlotte Group and CALLA (Charlotte Area Law Librarians Association) at a downtown restaurant. About 15 people were there, from both groups, including two UNC-G special libraries students. Lee Carnes, who had attended the SLA annual conference, distributed handouts of some of the sessions he'd benefited most from in searching and legal research. Great networking, great fun. >



*Left: Tamika Barnes
McCollough*

*Below: Dav Robertson
& Ethel Solonen*



*Left: Ethel Solonen &
Lolly Gasaway*

Member News & Updates

Connie Childers has been promoted to senior information specialist at the Lorillard Research Library in Greensboro.

Mike Crumpton has been elected vice president/president-elect of the North Carolina Community College Learning Resources Association. The organization's conference next year, to be July 26-28, 2006, at Wake Technical Community College, will be a good networking opportunity for students.

At the CIIT Centers for Health Research, **Erin Knight** has been promoted to manager, information resources and communications.

Roger Magnus became the new demographics information specialist at the State Library of North Carolina in May. He replaces **Michele Hayslett**, who

accepted a position as data services librarian at North Carolina State University's D.H. Hill Library in March.

Jessica Rubis has been promoted to librarian/graphics specialist.

Karin Shank joined the North Carolina Biotechnology Center's Library and Information Services staff on Aug. 16, 2005. She has worked at the Rex Healthcare Library, North Carolina State University Libraries and, prior to attending library school, BASF Plant Sciences, L.L.C.

Rebecca B. Vargha has been promoted from associate librarian to the full rank of librarian at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Recommended Readings

~Blogs~

There is no doubt that blogs are HOT! These resources can help get you started if you want to learn more about this new medium or start a blog of your own.

Are you using the right blogging tool?

<http://www.ojr.org/ojr/stories/050714gardner/>

The basics of blog development, including a handy glossary of blog jargon and a comparison chart of blog software.

Legal Guide for Bloggers

<http://www.eff.org/bloggers/lg/>

Free site offers extensive guidance to help bloggers avoid potential legal pitfalls.



For more Recommended Readings, visit the NCSLA website:

<http://www.sla.org/chapter/cnc/info-share.cfm>

Meet Our Members!

Read about a new NC/SLA member online each month

NC/SLA is proud of its diverse and active membership. Each month we get to know a new member of our chapter. Here are the new profiles added this quarter:

Barb LeBlanc
Debbie Balsamo
Susan Forbes

These are just a few of the intriguing personalities that comprise the NC Special Libraries Association. Archived monthly profiles are also available online at:

<http://www.sla.org/chapter/cnc/profile.cfm>

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else to be the subject of our next profile, contact Teresa Leonard at tleonard@nando.com.

Diversity Tip: Research Body Language and Customs of International Colleagues

When you're dealing with international colleagues, chances are your mind is focused on the language of business: fees, contracts, sales, agreements and so on. But in global business, it can be those things you don't focus on - like how close to stand to someone or when to smile - that can make or break a deal. "Researching body language and business = customs is an important part of [doing business overseas]," says Jeanne Gerritsen, a consultant for the Michigan Small Business Development Center and principal of Farmington, Mich.-based consulting firm Business and Economic Development International. Gerritsen recommends Roger Axtell's book series, including *Do's and Taboos Around the World* and *Do's and Taboos of International Trade* (Wiley, John & Sons Inc.).

Also, check with consulates in the United States; search the Internet; call the U.S. Department of Commerce's Trade Information Center (or visit its website, www.tradeinfo.doc.gov) at (800) USA-TRADE and ask for the country desks for the countries you are planning to visit. Most important, says Gerritsen, "Be yourself, but always be observant and respectful of others." ›

Diversity Committee members wanted

Mike Crumpton would like to recruit members to the Diversity Committee - especially those with an idea or desire for a particular program. If you are interested, please contact him at macrumpton@waketech.edu.

NC/SLA Leadership

President

Eliza Robertson
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Past President

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Chapter Business: NCSLA Board Meeting Minutes

NCSLA Joint Board Meeting
August 11, 2005
National Humanities Center, RTP, NC

In attendance:

Eliza Robertson – Chapter President
Deborah Balsamo – President-Elect
Bonnie Toenniessen – Treasurer
Diane Lamb – Secretary
Erin Knight – Past President
Sperry Krueger – Past Past President
Sandra Chambers – Third year director
Tamika Barnes – Second year director
Betty Jo Hibberd – First year director

Committee Chairs:

Rebecca Vargha – Archivist. NC representative to SARC III, SLA President-elect
Susan Forbes – Career Guidance / Employment
LaTasha Martin – Charlotte Group Liaison
Cindy McCracken – Communications Team
Barb LeBlanc – Discussion List Owner
Mike Crumpton – Diversity
Terry Hill – Membership
David Sullivan – Public Relations
April Errickson – Strategic Planning
Mike Crumpton – Student Relations

12:00: Lunch and introductions

Eliza Robertson – President

- § NC Chapter's 40th anniversary in 2006
- § SLA bylaws changes: (a) Starting 2007, governance year will align with fiscal year (Jan.). Elected officers to hold office for 18 months to facilitate this alignment. (b) Electronic voting by members.
- § Click University (<http://www.sla.org/content/learn/clicku.cfm>)
- § Thanks to Erin for great organization and transition
- § Reminds everyone to sign Leadership Code of Responsibility

Debbie Balsamo – President-Elect

- § Program planning: the first fall meeting will be the SARC III conference in Williamsburg. Others in planning stages.

Susan Forbes -- Career guidance and employment

Bonnie Toenniessen – Treasurer

- § Cash flow report 1/1/2005 through 8/10/2005: overall total -\$64.16
- § 2005 NCSLA Balance Sheet (Jan – Jul) as of 8/10/2005: Total Equity: \$8,167.75
- §

Tamika Barnes – Second year director

- § New job at N.C. A&T
- § Virtual seminars will continue; the next one will be to purchase Blogs replay and make it available to the membership.

Sandra Chambers – Third year director

- § Eliza has asked Sandra and April Errickson, chair of the re-instituted Strategic Planning Committee, to create and administer a member survey based on the one given in 1993. It will cover demographics, meeting preferences, and the impact of new developments in librarianship and information technology on our membership.



NCSLA Board Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Rebecca Vargha – Archivist, SARC III, SLA

- § Archives in order and ready for inspection
- § SARC III has 21 exhibitors, room for more
- § SLA: September 7 Executive Board meeting

Cindy McCracken – Communications Team

- § Reminds everyone to send member news, conference info, employment changes, suggestions for member profiles
- § Eliza commends Cindy for the first (August 2005) issue of *Communicates* and Teresa Leonard on the Web site update.
- § Discussed creating a quarterly Web-based Bulletin compiled from the monthly *Communicates*.
- § Deadline for items to be included in the first-of-the-month *Communicates* is the 3rd week of the previous month

Barb LeBlanc – Discussion List Owner

- § Might be problems with posted messages not seen if SLA's servers are down; contact Barb with these problems
- § Eliza suggests comparing list members with NCSLA membership since many subscribe to the list who aren't NCSLA members.

Sperry Krueger – Past Past President

- § Will be in charge of nominations for next slate of officers
- § Has created database of attendance at past meetings

LaTasha Martin – Charlotte Group Liaison

- § Asks for suggestions on getting groups together
- § Sperry suggests having a Chapter push for twice yearly neighborhood meetings.

Mike Crumpton – Diversity and Student Relations

- § Is considering a Career fair aimed at students, utilizing students
- § Is considering offering Interview practice sessions
- § Will Continue "Buddies" at Chapter meetings

Terry Hill – Membership

- § Plans to work with Mike to encourage student involvement and recruitment
- § Plans to look at list-serv for non members and recruitment

David Sullivan – Public Relations

- § Discusses internal / external advertisement
- § Opportunities include SARC III, NC Library Association, Sep 21-23 Winston-Salem - Chapter table
- § Erin suggests NC SLA poster
- § Betty Jo has draft brochure she will share

Erin Knight

- § Thanks everyone for condolences and plant on the death of her mother.
- § New job responsibilities at CIIT

2:15: Meeting adjourned.

