

Volume 72, #2
September, 1999

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	
Are We There, Yet?	1
Editor's Note	2
From the Assistant Editor	2
Martha Schweitzer, Pres.-Elect	3
Libraries and Librarians, Past, Present, and Future	4
Message from the Past-Past-President	6
Promotion for Lucy Lettis	6
Can Corporate Librarians Change the Perception of Their Associates and Clients? ...	7
Your Association needs You	8
RUN, AGNES, RUN... ..	8
Holiday Party	8
Do You Know a Leader? How About a Dynamic Information Entrepreneur?	9
Instructions for Joining the SLA New York List	9
Call for Nominations SLA 2001 Elections	10
Job Hotline: Your Source for Finding a Job	10
Global 2000 Conference	11
Members on the Move	11
Awards and Honors	12
Reporting Committees and Groups Information Alliance Report	13
New York Chapter Calendar 1999-2000	14

ADVERTISERS

MLC NY	3
Pro Libra	6
NKR Associates	8
Inmagic	9
Wontawk	11
HighWire	13

President's Message

Are We There, Yet?

By Sandra Kitt, Chapter President

Welcome to the 21st Century...almost.

Actually, we're not even close. Despite popular and current hype the next century and millennium doesn't actually start until the year 2001. Anyone who's ever seen the Kubrick film will tell you that. But 2000 is an even number and sounds better. It's big, and smacks of the future. The year 2000 is a great indoctrination for what is to come, and now is the time to be making plans.

The New York Chapter of SLA is 84 years young. This time frame maps a history that is not just about change (which is inevitable) but also growth. As a professional organization we have continually risen to the occasion, and the challenges of a fast-paced society. As information specialists we are the official depository of the nation's political and cultural history. But dealing with the past is always easy. We're getting better at anticipating the needs of the future which is no longer linear.

Cyberspace is here to stay. Now that we've accepted that (and some of us had to come kicking and screaming along the way) we realize we have a great opportunity to contribute to inevitable virtuality at work and in business, and to take control of developments and the roles we will play.

This is about survival of the fittest.

As the new President of The New York Chapter I am merely the conduit, if you will, between where we are and where we're headed. SLA headquarters is the guiding force. I'm nominally the leader, but I am still and foremost, one of you. I'm hoping you will all remember that as we roll into the year 2000 armed with enthusiasm and innovative ideas.

Talk to me, by any means available, about what the Chapter can and should be doing to be more affective on your behalf. The Executive Board and Advisory Council are made up of your colleagues who are wasting no time in organizing programs for the coming year. Our holiday party could be a blow out celebration. After all, it's not every year that we actually transcend from one century into the next! The year 2000 can be a spectacular new beginning for all of us.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

ChapterNews is published four times a year:
March, June, September and December

Deadlines for submitting materials:

Fall issueAugust 10
Winter issue.....November 10
Spring issue.....February 10
Summer issue.....May 10

Submit all material via e-mail or on floppy disc to:

Maureen Mason Cuschieri, Lexis-Nexis
125 Park Avenue, 23rd Floor, NY, NY 10017
Telephone: (212) 309-7804. Fax: (212) 309-7835.
E-mail: maureen.mason@lexis-nexis.com

ADVERTISING inquiries should be addressed to:

Laura Kapnick, CBS NEWS
524 West 57th Street
New York, NY 10019-2985
Telephone: (212) 975-2917 or
E-mail: laurak@cbsnews.com.

BACK ISSUES may be obtained from

Leslie Slocum, British Information Services,
845 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022.
Telephone: (212) 745-0258. Fax: (212) 758-5395.
E-mail: Leslie.Slocum@newyork.mail.fco.gov.uk.

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 Special Libraries Association. Acceptance of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product by Special Libraries Association.

CHAPTERNEWS STAFF

Editor Maureen Mason Cuschieri
Advertising Manager Laura Kapnick

Editor's Note

I am delighted to have Chris Lowden on board to assist in editing ChapterNews. I will be taking full advantage of his help by turning over the reigns of the December issue to Chris while I am out on maternity leave. Looks like we'll both be busy! In order to make the December issue easy on Chris, I will rely on all of you to continue to provide content in a timely fashion. Remember, the due date for submissions for December is November 10th. Please send all submissions to Chris at the address below. Let's make Chris's first solo issue a soaring success!

From the Assistant Editor...

I'm delighted to be helping out with putting together your *ChapterNews*. As a recently-turned-solo business librarian, I rely on information and ideas from peers outside my own organization, and helping out with our newsletter seems like a great way to help make this happen. The job was not at all hard to come by (for a change) — all I had to do was express interest to the right person, in this case Sandra Kitt, and voila! I've always thought I'd make a good reporter or editor, so now I get to see if I'm right! I have some ideas for future stories and have heard some of your ideas, too. I'm looking forward to working with Maureen to make *ChapterNews* useful and fun to read!

Christopher Lowden

Director of Research
Goodrich & Sherwood Associates, Inc.
521 Fifth Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10175
email: nyrsch@goodrichsherwood.com
212-697-4131

Martha Schweitzer

President-Elect

The past twenty years have brought about remarkable changes to our profession. For example, remember back to 1979. The New York Times had a separate Information Bank. DOW JONES and DIALOG were available on a Texas Instruments terminal using an acoustic coupler and shiny paper at 300 baud. LEXIS came to us via the UBIQ, and NEXIS was about to be born offering four publications. As a recent library school graduate, I was using these tools in my first job as a law librarian, and I thought they were magic. Today, I am impatient if I have to wait two seconds to find the information I need off the Internet.

As the Millennium approaches, it is fitting to look back over the changes in the delivery of information services, to examine the lessons we have learned along the way, and to look ahead to the shape of changes to come in the next century. The Fall Chapter Program draws together four leaders who have witnessed the transformation from different viewpoints: Lany McDonald, Director of the Time Inc. Research Center; Pat Molholt, Associate Dean for Scholarly Resources and Assistant VP for Health Sciences at Columbia University; Melinda Scott, VP and Director of the Business Information Center at Chase Manhattan Bank on a panel with Guy St. Clair, President, SMR International and author of the recently published book, *Change Management in*

Action, as facilitator. These speakers come to us with exceptional depth of experience, wisdom, and liveliness. The program promises to give us all a chance to reminisce, learn and look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead of us.

The venue is the Chase Manhattan Bank Auditorium, on the 2nd floor of the offices at 270 Park Avenue. The opening reception begins at 5:30 p.m.. We will have music from times past, compliments of Mike Gruenberg. Our special thanks go to Dow Jones Reuters Business Interactive LLC for sponsoring this event. The program is called "The Last 20, The Next 20", and I hope you will be able to join us.

The planning for the Holiday Party is underway for us to celebrate on December 2nd in a charming place, similar to the setting we had last year. On February 24th, 2000, we will be holding a Town Hall with Susan DiMattia, current SLA President. I will have more details on these events in the next issue of the *Chapter News*.

As President-Elect, I am keeper of the Chapter Calendar as well as Chair of the newly reconstituted Program Committee. Throughout the year, I will be meeting with the Group Chairs as they plan their events. There are many interesting programs in the works, all of which will appear on the Calendar when the details become available. The ever evolving Calendar will be posted on the discussion list when changes are made. If you have ideas for programs you would like to see, please call me (516) 944-9738 or email me at ConnectDot@hotmail.com. I am looking forward to working with all of you this year.

Try our magic...

see how fast we can make articles appear

Say you receive a request for an article on survival rates for four forms of cancer in the USA and it's in the July 1990 issue of *American Journal of Public Health*. Chances are it's on our shelves and we can have a copy of it delivered to you immediately.

The magic is in our on-site collection of medical serials — over 17,000 titles and 350,000 items spanning more than 100 years — and in our friendly, personal response to all requests.

Our goal is simple: to help you respond to your patrons — quickly and efficiently in a variety of formats. And your first journal article is free! Try our magic.



The Medical Library
Center of New York



Phone: (212) 427-1630 • Fax: (212) 876-6697
email: mlcny5@metgate.metro.org or
mlcny7@metgate.metro.org
DOCLINE code: MLC • OCLC code: VVZ

Special Information...Special Delivery...Since 1959

“ Libraries and Librarians: Past, Present, and Future”

By Leigh Hallingby, Librarian,
Open Society Institute/Soros Foundations

Report on a Two-week Seminar at Oxford University

During the last two weeks of May 1999, I had the great pleasure, thanks to the generous sponsorship of my employer, the Open Society Institute/Soros Foundations, of being one of 18 librarians and library students (17 American and 1 Hungarian) at a seminar held annually at Oxford University about an hour outside of London. The program is co-sponsored by Oxford's Department of Continuing Education as well as its Bodleian Library and by the University of North Carolina School of Information and Library Science. One can take the course for credit or not. During the two weeks, we each had our own comfortable and commodious room and bath a few steps away from the classroom building at the end of a quiet, quaint block. All accommodations, meals (which were excellent), and tuition were covered in the fee, and only air and ground transportation have to be paid in addition. Significant others can pay a somewhat reduced fee to come along and enjoy the local area, which holds no end of attractions.

The two weeks are a well-distributed balance of lectures, always with plenty of time for questions and answers, and tours. The sites of the tours in Oxford include the university itself, the Bodleian and two of the individual college libraries, Rhodes (as in Scholars) House, Oxford University Press, and Blackwell's. One day is spent in London visiting the new British Library and the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine.

The program begins on a Sunday with a walking tour of the great medieval city, where teaching began in the 11th century, not long after the last time that a new millennium was celebrated. Consisting of about 40 independent colleges spread all over town, Oxford has about 17,000 students and another 3,000 staff. One of the old colleges is more exquisite than the next. It is amazing how you can be walking through town and all of a sudden happen upon the entrance of, for instance, Balliol or Jesus or my favorite (because it was founded in 1379!) New College. You look inside, and there is an enchanting/enchanted, cloistered world of a quadrangle, chapel, library, iridescent green lawn, and flower garden. And as if this were not enough, the town is dotted with 900 buildings of architectural and/or historical interest. So just to spend two weeks in such a magnificent place is a treat in and of

itself, but that is only the beginning, as the academic content of the seminars is splendid too. Five major themes emerged for me, which I will discuss in an order ranging from the most general to the most specific.

Intellectual Content

First, the major surprise for me of the intellectual content of the seminar was the extent to which it was necessary to understand the British system of education, government, and taxation in order to understand the libraries there. For instance, Oxford is a public university, not a private one like a peer U.S. institution such as Harvard. If Oxford were private, it could not accept government money, the source traditionally of the vast majority of its funds. Because of government support of university education in England, the tuition is relatively low, and even wealthy families who could afford much more, pay what by US standards, are small sums to give their children a college education. The “Thatcher revolution” plus the undertaking of huge projects such as microfilming or digitizing special collections, have brought about the necessity to raise private funds. Because there are no tax laws in the UK to encourage wealthy people to give away some of their financial resources, a lot of funds are raised in the US, and names of large American foundations come up frequently. So the seminar, in addition to being a window into librarianship in England, also gave a glimpse into the very different system under which a country closely allied to the U.S. functions.

Change

The second theme is change. This is a particularly fascinating time to study the library system at Oxford due to the advent in the 1980s and 1990s of four gargantuan changes:

- The attempt to make one integrated system out of a Byzantine complex of 100 libraries, including the ones in the Bodleian, plus the traditionally-independent college, departmental, and faculty libraries at the University. For the first time ever there is a Director of University Library Services, and he spoke to us about the challenges of implementing his mandate for change.
- The need to begin private fundraising by library administrators who previously did not even have the word development in their job description. And they have to raise money in a country where, for reasons mentioned above, personal philanthropy does not traditionally hold nearly the place that it does in the US. There was a fascinating talk by Bodley's Librarian Emeritus on how he had to completely revamp his job so that he spent half his time on development, which he had to learn from scratch.

- The arrival of the library automation revolution in a system which had already been functioning without it for 400 years in centuries-old buildings which previously did not even have outlets in the walls. The Bodleian's Head of Technical Services held us spellbound with his story of creating a unified, online catalog now used by 87 of the university's 100 libraries.
- The advent of digitization which makes it possible for the Oxford Library to share with the world over the Internet virtual reproductions of some of the treasures of its collections such as medieval manuscripts and broadside ballads. The project director for the digitization of Celtic manuscripts spoke of the irony that this effort to make these delicate materials accessible to anyone also increases demand to see the originals, which threatens their preservation.

Bodleian Library

A third theme that ran through the seminar is the overwhelming size and labor intensity of the Bodleian Library. This includes the size (6.5 million items) of the collection, the shelf space needed to store it (more than one new mile of shelving per year), and the human resources to manage it. The Bodleian is a national deposit library, which means that it has a mandate to collect every book published in the UK, amounting to almost 2,000 per month. Since I have spent the majority of my 20-year library career in the libraries of small nonprofit organizations, I found my mind boggled by the idea of the Bodleian cataloging and shelving every three months as many total items as my current library has in its catalogs. Accumulating this rapidly-growing quantity of material sets off ramifications of Malthusian proportions in terms of storage alone. Between the fact that the library acquires almost everything published in the UK and that it checks out nothing, the readers are virtually guaranteed of finding everything that they need there. But since there are few open stacks, almost every item that every reader wants has to be "fetched" from the depths of the Bodleian by a library staff member. And since there is only one self-service photocopy machine in the entire Bodleian, almost all the photocopying also has to be done by library staff members. And to add one more factor to the equation, the library does not employ student assistants who do so much of the "grunt work" in US academic libraries - a fact that is as surprising to me as the fact that Oxford is a public University.

Special collections

Special collections are a fourth theme that is represented in the program, as the myriad of them are a major reason that the Bodleian is such a great library. For instance, there is a wonderful lecture on the Opie Collection of 20,000 children's books, many dating from the 1700's,

and another on the Bodleian collection of broadside ballads, which are inexpensive prints of songs sold starting in the 16th century. These talks raised stimulating issues of making these materials available for microfilming, digitization, reproductions, and exhibition, and of course, for use by library patrons. All these activities cause wear and tear on the fragile originals at the same time that they expose these wonderful tidbits of social history to the academic community and the public at large. It was obvious that the different speakers who addressed us and showed us materials from these collections hold sharply differing views along the access vs. preservation continuum.

Individual Treasures

Finally, there is the theme of individual treasures and the pure enjoyment of gorgeous and fascinating old items, which were pulled out for us on a number of occasions at the Bodleian, Rhodes House, and the Wellcome Institute. We saw illuminated medieval manuscripts, Chinese books printed from wooden blocks, ancient hand-printed and illustrated Burmese and Thai medical treatises, and the many incarnations of Cecil Rhodes' will. How the Oxford course made me regret that I, a lover of art and museums, was so very job market-oriented in library school that I never even took one course on rare books and manuscripts.

The lecturers do not all come from Oxford, as the seminar has as its mission to expose the participants to all kinds of librarianship in the UK. Thus there were guest lecturers from the University of Manchester on academic librarianship throughout the UK; from the British Library on its relations with other national and international libraries; and from the Oxfordshire County Librarian on the public library sector.

I highly recommend the "Libraries and Librarians: Past, Present, and Future" seminar for any library professional or student as a great way to expand your horizons beyond whatever corner of the library field you inhabit. As if the enlightening and stimulating content of the seminar were not enough, the Oxford faculty, Wilma Minty and Bill Clennell, who are responsible for the seminar are highly delightful and accommodating people, and they see that the red carpet is rolled out for the group everywhere that they go.

For further information, feel free to contact me at lhallingby@sorsony.org or log onto the UNC Web site at: http://ils.unc.edu/ils/continuing_ed/oxford/1999.html.

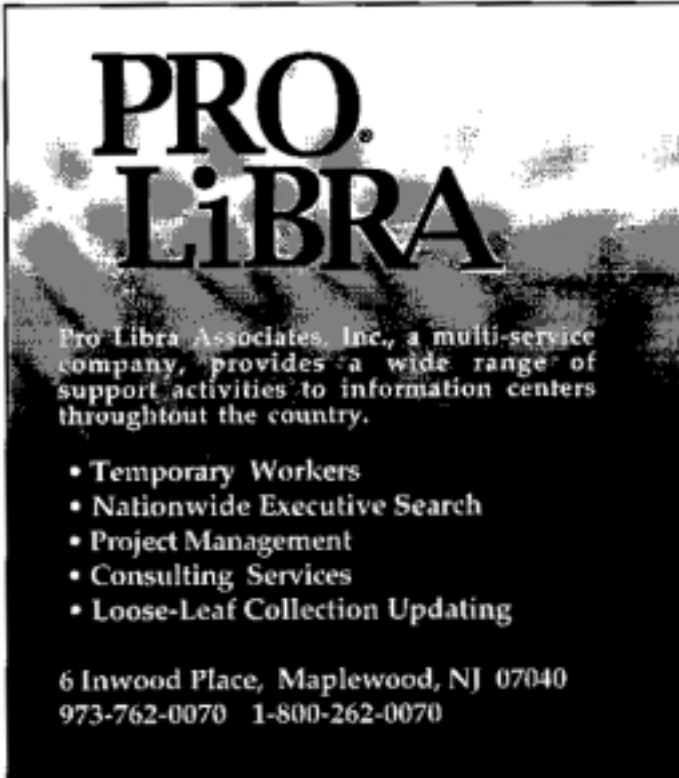
Message from the Past-Past-President

Sometimes life takes a funny turn, like say when a person ends up being the Nominating Committee Chair for the association and for the chapter all in the same year!! Now some people might think that this is the result of poor planning, but since I am that person, I would prefer to think that it is the result of YEARS of hard planning, deep thought and dozens of Hillary Rodham Clinton type "listening" tours (are you all buying into this option?).

It didn't take much thought on my part to figure my way out of this situation. I decided to call on all of you for help. While I am putting together a Nominating committee to help me, I would like you to think of people whom you would like to have in leadership positions for the chapter for the 2000-2001 term. The slate for the SLA NY election (I have another piece in this newsletter for the SLA association nominations), needs to have a President-elect, Secretary, Director of Awards and a Director of Finance. What, you say — can't think of anyone? Well, what would make a more fitting conversation piece or small talk at the chapter cocktail parties, the midtown and downtown luncheons, the networking before the group meetings and the walks to and from the meetings. As the comedian, Michael Myers, in his role as the Saturday Night Live! character, Linda Richman, would say, "Discuss among yourselves"! And then call, fax, e-mail, snail mail your ideas by January 15, 2000 to:

Lois Weinstein, MLS

*The Medical Library Center of New York
5 East 102nd Street, 7th floor
New York, NY 10029
Phone: 212-427-1630
Fax: 212-860-3496
E-mail: mlcny@metgate.metro.org*



**PRO.
LiBRA**

Pro-Libra Associates, Inc., a multi-service company, provides a wide range of support activities to information centers throughout the country.

- Temporary Workers
- Nationwide Executive Search
- Project Management
- Consulting Services
- Loose-Leaf Collection Updating

6 Inwood Place, Maplewood, NJ 07040
973-762-0070 1-800-262-0070

Precedent Setting Promotion for Lucy Lettis

Congratulations are due to former Chapter President Lucy Lettis. Recently promoted to a Principal at Arthur Andersen, where she is Director of Business Information Services, Lucy is the only information professional to rise to that level in the firm's entire 86 year history! Arthur Andersen was founded in 1913.

Lucy is now juggling a round of interviews and profiles as the news of her position becomes known. However, the New York Chapter would like to be the first to congratulate Lucy on this significant achievement, which is a breakthrough accomplishment for the information community as a whole.

Lucy is also currently running for a position on the executive level at SLA. More information on her service history with the association in the next issue of the bulletin.

Can Corporate Librarians Change the Perception of Their Associates and Clients?

By Heather Martin

It is the accumulation of many messages that shape our clients' and associates' views of the library. Whether knowingly or inadvertently, we sometimes send the wrong messages. To get the right message across, information professionals need to formulate an effective communication program. Planned communication along with useful products and services can shape client perception, raising visibility and reinforcing awareness of the library.

Focusing on communication forces us to think and to be proactive. It helps us to think about the big picture rather than to react to a particular problem. As professionals we should be able to articulate a vision of the future. We must be able to speak coherently about the future of our information center. These goals and objectives must include the physical space, the collection and how "the library" will interact with the parent organization. For example, in an informal meeting I was able to present my vision to Roger Friedman, the President and CEO here at Lebharr-Friedman Inc. As a result of that meeting he suggested that I send him a copy of the memo that I had sent to my immediate supervisor. He then routed my memo to my supervisor with a note saying "I think this is worth following up." This meeting with Mr. Friedman started the process that resulted in the renovation of the physical space that housed the information center. This was the first redesign since the early sixties. My ability to talk coherently about my plans resulted in the remodeling of the physical environment.

Renovating the physical space brought the library to the attention of our associates. Now that we had the clientele's attention, how could we stay in their minds? It's been a challenge. The emergence of information providers outside the library has resulted in a more sophisticated clientele. They have greater expectations, as well as the ability to acquire information in less time. So, less is more: focus on what your clientele wants most.

To ascertain what would be really useful to the LF associates, a user survey* was implemented. This is helpful to both parties; your clients see what options are available and you, the information professional, will have tangible data to aid in the decision-making process. The user survey here at Lebharr-Friedman Inc. resulted in a memo from the president calling it "a benchmark for all our departments," and a slew of surveys from other departments followed.

Using the results of the survey we improved the collection of books, magazines and electronic databases. With these improvements the profile of the library rose tremendously. How do we progress from here? Now is not the time to

rest on your laurels. Remain focused on the issue. The issue is all about getting and keeping your clientele's attention. Constant communication is essential. We use tools such as flyers and company-wide electronic messages to alert associates to new products and remind them of existing ones. The Information Center also publishes a quarterly newsletter, @ *Your Service*. The newsletter highlights how individual associates use our products and services and the benefits accrued. We are currently working on what will be our preeminent communication device — an intranet page. It will include the library's goals and objectives, and will list products and services such as the OPAC, LF's electronic archives, and links to relevant Web sites.

These and other innovations have resulted in the Information Center making an impact on the way research, magazine and book ordering is done company-wide. Results of research queries can be seen on a regular basis in the company's various publications. Also, Human Resources now makes the "library tour" a part of the new associate orientation process.

As corporate information providers, we know that the roles and responsibilities of each information center vary. The ultimate responsibility is to understand your company's business. Only by understanding the organization's goals and objectives will you be able to be responsive to your client and provide them with products and services that will make the business successful and profitable. If the information center is able to deliver accurate and timely data to its users constantly, user impressions and expectations will change for the better. I am sure.

* *Copy of User Surveys was obtained from the Special Libraries Association.*

Your Association Needs You

By Leslie Slocum

I'm a librarian, so it's natural that the first thing I do when I start to write an article is research. A good quote on volunteering what was I sought; a good quote was not to be found!

So here's my own quote:

" TRY IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT!"

The New York SLA Chapter is one of the largest chapters in the Association and, yet, we still find ourselves in the sad position of being bereft of volunteers. Several Divisions are floundering for lack of people willing to take the lead, and Board positions are often difficult to fill. With so many members, we can and should do better.

When I took on my first library job in New York, my Director insisted that I not only join SLA but also become active in the Chapter. I didn't understand his insistence at the time and made the usual noises: too busy, too much work, don't know anyone, not another meeting! I admit it: he was right, I was absolutely wrong.

Yes, we all still have too much work, not enough time and far too many meetings. But the advantages of working with colleagues on Chapter activities far outweigh the negatives. The opportunities for meeting people, working on worthwhile projects, networking and simply having fun are unlimited. The time you need to devote to Chapter work is definitely less than you'd imagine. The benefits of volunteering are immeasurable.

So what are you waiting for?

Try it, I promise you'll like it!

Holiday Party

It might seem early, but before we know it the end of the year will be upon us, so here is a preview of the Holiday Party. Following the success of last year's new venue, we will again have a new location this year. Our new President-elect, Martha Schweitzer, has been hard at work securing the venue for this year, Tuscan Grill. In order to secure a more accurate head count this year, we will be requiring payment at the time of your reservation. Look for more details to follow.

RUN, AGNES, RUN...

Agnes Mattis is another New York Chapter member with an outstanding record of service, who is also running for SLA office. Director of Information Services at Skadden, Agnes has been active since first serving as Chair of the Membership Committee of the Chapter. She says she enjoyed being on the Advisory Council and found working with her peers to be informative and stimulating.

Agnes has distinguished herself by also serving two consecutive years as President of the New York Chapter, and winning the Service Award two years later for her exemplary work. In May of this year Agnes once again finished two years of service as treasurer of the Chapter, and will try to parlay her experience into running for Treasurer of the Association.

Those of us who know and have worked with Agnes in the Chapter believe that SLA headquarters would be acquiring a dependable and enthusiastic new Treasurer. She hopes the Chapter will continue to support her as she seeks election in the spring of 2000.

More coverage on Agnes in the next issue.

NKR Associates

Consultants to libraries, offices, archives.

Get to know Davida Scharf and Richard Steele.

They're hands-on information professionals helping clients in the NY area with projects, large and small.

- Workflow & Systems
- Database Design & Development
- Records & Archival Management
- Intra/Internet Publishing
- Cataloging & Indexing
- Freelance Research

Authorized Inmagic Dealer

201-947-8039 fax: 201-947-2586

dscharf@NKRassociates.com

www.NKRassociates.com

Call for Nominations: SLA 2001 Election

The Nominating Committee for SLA's 2001 election needs your help in locating 10 worthy candidates, ready and willing to lead the Association through the beginning of the 21st Century. We are five committee members, but between us we cannot possibly know every potentially worthy candidate in an association of SLA's size. That's why you are so important to the process!

Please let us know which of your colleagues are ready and willing to serve in any one of the following capacities: President-Elect, Chapter Cabinet Chair-Elect, Division Cabinet Chair-Elect or Director (we need a total of four candidates for Director). The slate will contain the names of two candidates for each position except Director which will have four candidates as two Directors are elected each year. For more information on the nominating process and position descriptions please go to the SLA web site at: <http://www.sla.org/assoc/board/index.html>

Think about what qualities and experiences make this person ideal for the position you are nominating them for. What are their views on our profession and how would they represent us? What positions has the person filled that indicate he or she would be suitable for this position? What did they accomplish; did they fulfill their obligations with flair, enthusiasm and on time? Do they have ideas and the know-how to implement them? Has the person ever served on a board or a committee for another organization besides SLA – it's all valuable experience. Go ahead – nominate yourself if you believe that you match the criteria for success in one of these positions.

Please include with your nominations the nominee's name, affiliation, address, phone number and the position for which you are nominating her or him. Please also include any of the following information to which you have access: prior positions this person has held at the Chapter, Division or Association level; the length of SLA service and answers to any of the questions posed above! If you are not sure about the SLA positions held, do not be concerned - it is all in a database at headquarters.

It will help the committee if you can also tell us in what capacity you have served alongside this person or know this person and thus can personally speak to her or his effectiveness.

Send your nominations by Monday, December 6, 1999 to:

Lois Weinstein

Executive Director

*The Medical Library Center of New York
5 East 102nd Street - 7th floor
New York, NY 10029
Tel: 212-427-1630 Fax: 212-860-3496
E-mail: mlcny@metgate.metro.org*

*Or phone/e-mail any member of the committee
(also by December 6)*

*Margaret Hentz
317-337-3517
mhentz@dowagro.com*

*Dee Magnoni
503-725-4124
magnoni@lib.pdx.edu*

*Sylvia James
011-44-1444-452871
5385418@mcimail.co*

*Betty Eddison
781-938-4442
ebeddison@aol.com*

Job Hotline: Your Source for Finding a Job

*By Shauna Bryson, Employment Committee
Co-Chair, New York Chapter*

The JOBLINE is a 24-hour telephone (212-439-7290) service listing library/information job openings. Every week 2,700 individuals dial this number to listen to new openings and listings from the previous two weeks. This service is free to job seekers.

The JOBLINE welcomes ads from any employer needing to fill library/information positions. Each ad costs \$100 and runs three weeks. This is an economical way to reach thousands of qualified individuals. To place an ad, please fax it in 18-point type to 201-217-1504, Monday-Thursday, 9am-5pm EST. Fax the billing instructions on a separate page and include the company name, billing address, contact name and contact telephone number.

Employers are responsible for reporting errors in the recorded ad by Wednesday of the first week running. Errors should be reported by fax to 201-217-1504.

Global 2000 Conference

As you may have heard SLA is presenting a conference in October of next year that's being billed as "GLOBAL 2000: THE INFORMATION AGE-CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES". The purpose of the conference is to support and encourage interaction and networking among all participants which will hopefully be a very international group of professionals, to acquire knowledge about information services and to gain insights into other people and places. Some of the issues to be covered will be Copyright infringement, the role of the Internet in information distribution, rising journal costs, etc.

Of particular interest to the association is encouraging professionals from Third-world nations and finding ways to support their attendance, as they might not otherwise be able to attend. To this end SLA has asked its members on an individual basis, and as Divisions, to aid in a special fund that will finally be allotted on a merit basis to information professionals applying from other countries. The New York Chapter has already committed to sponsoring two such recipients, and sharing the cost of a third with the New Jersey Chapter.

The application process is to be closed by the end of this year, with the selection of the award recipients beginning in January of 2000.

The conference will take place from October 16-19, 2000, in Brighton, England. I'm pleased to announce that the Chair of the Brighton Steering Committee includes our own Lucy Lettis, former President of the New York Chapter. There will be more details in the months to come.

Members on the Move

Donna Slawsky Leon has accepted a new position as Director of Content for BuyerWeb, a start up e-commerce company which acts as intermediary between buyers and sellers on the Web <<http://www.buyerweb.com>>

Donna held the position of Director of the Information Center/Archives at HarperCollins Publishers for eleven years before making this exciting move. Elizabeth FitzGerald and Amy Autrey, both SLA members, have been hired to join the Content Development team at BuyerWeb.

Donna can be reached at donnas@buyerweb.com

WONTAWK

Has the edge in staffing services!

WONTAWK the leading resource for...

Professional Placements:

Librarians and Assistants

- Short and Long-Term Assignments
- Regular Long-Term
- Full-time Positions
- Part-time Positions
- Career Moves

Contact **WONTAWK** for *FREE* information about our library placement services!

Massachusetts
304 Newbury Street, #314
Boston, MA 02115
Phone: 617-867-9209
Fax: 617-437-9317

New York
25 West 43 Street, Suite 812
New York, NY 10036
Phone: 212-869-3348
Fax: 212-997-1127

Washington, D.C.
1429 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: 202-237-0454
Fax: 202-237-6941

Wontawk@msn.com

Sarah L. Warner, M.L.I.S.

Awards and Honors

Alison Fraser, Director of Awards

Do you know of a special librarian whose contributions to our profession deserve to be acknowledged and celebrated? We need your help to make sure this happens. Each year the Special Libraries Association seeks to recognize the efforts of its members with both national and local chapter level awards. The Awards Committee of the New York Chapter is seeking nominations for qualified Chapter members.

1999 National Awards and Honors

National award recipients will be announced at the Special Libraries Association's Winter Meeting, to be held January 23-25 in St. Louis, Missouri. The awards will be presented at this year's annual conference, to be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 10-15. Award nominations must be postmarked or received no later than December 10, 1999. More information and nomination forms are available on the SLA website <http://www.sla.org>.

Dow Jones Leadership Award - 21st Century Competencies in Action:

Presented annually to an individual member(s) who exemplifies leadership as a special librarian through examples of personal and professional competencies. Cash award — \$2000.

Fellow of the Special Libraries Association:

Bestowed to an individual member(s) in recognition of his/her leadership in the field of special librarianship and for his/her outstanding contributions and expected future service to the Association.

Hall of Fame:

Granted to a member(s) of the Association at or near the end of an active professional career for an extended and sustained period of distinguished service to the Association in all spheres. Prolonged distinguished service of a chapter or division which has contributed to the Association as a whole may receive special consideration.

Honorary Member: Nominated at Winter Meeting, this individual is elected to this honor by the Association members at the Annual Conference. Candidate shall not belong to the Special Libraries Association, and there may be no more than 15 Honorary Members concurrently.

Innovations in Technology Award:

Granted to an individual member(s) for innovative use and application of technology in a special library setting. Cash award — \$1000.

H.W. Wilson Company Award:

Awarded to the author(s) of an outstanding article published in Information Outlook during the publication year. This award is sponsored by the H.W. Wilson Company. Cash award—\$500.

President's Award:

Awarded to an individual member(s) for a notable or important contribution during the past Association year. The contribution must have enhanced the Association or furthered its goals and objectives.

John Cotton Dana:

Conferred upon an individual member(s) in recognition of exceptional service to special librarianship

Professional Award:

Given to an individual or group, who may or may not hold membership in the Association, in recognition of a specific major achievement in, or a specific contribution to, the field of librarianship or information science, which advances the Association's stated objectives.

Rose L. Vormelker Award:

Given to an individual member(s) in recognition of exceptional services to the profession of special librarianship in the area of mentoring students and/or practicing professionals in the field.

New York Chapter Awards

New York Chapter awards are presented on behalf of the Chapter at the Annual Chapter Business Meeting in the Spring. Nominations should be sent to Alison Fraser, Director of Awards, who presents them to the Awards Committee.

Distinguished Service Award:

Presented annually to members who have made an outstanding contribution, either specific or general, to the New York Chapter or its groups.

Donna Conti Scholarships:

Two \$1,500 cash awards, presented annually to students pursuing an MLS at a school within the Chapter area. Calls for essays will go out starting in January 2000.

For more information on SLA awards, please contact the Director of Awards, New York Chapter:

Alison Fraser

A.T. Kearney 153 East 53rd Street
New York, NY 10022

Phone: 212-350-8907, Fax: 212-350-3350

E-mail: alison.fraser@atkearney.com

Reporting Committees and Groups

Information Alliance Report for the June 18, 1999 Meeting

By Lois Weinstein

Attendees:

P. Tomasulo – Incoming Chair, NY/NJ MLA Chapter
K. O'Rourke – Outgoing Chair, NY/NJ MLA Chapter
S. Novak – Past President, Archivists Roundtable
K. Conahan, – President, CUNY Library Association
Jana Volavka – NJ ASIS
T. X. Zhang – ACRL/NY
D. Hiebing – Executive Director, METRO
L. Weinstein – Past Past-President, SLA NY Chapter

The meeting was led by Lois Weinstein who apologized for the problems with her electronic mail. The e-mail messages about the meeting apparently were not received by the Information Alliance members. Steps are being taken to correct this.

Topics:

The discussion centered on topics that the Information Alliance might undertake as a group. Mentioned were:

1. Recruitment into the profession.
2. Taking out an ad in the New York Times to promote the profession.
3. Getting an article placed in a business journal by developing a relationship with a reporter.
4. Mobilizing the public to get them to make calls to legislators on specific issues.
5. Sharing program ideas.
6. Creating a higher profile for what we do.
7. Sponsoring a breakfast for reporters centered on an issue that affects our profession—such as the government giving away bandwidth.
8. Collecting stories that reflect, in real life terms, just how our profession has changed peoples' lives, business profits, governmental decisions etc. A collection of these stories could be published in a pamphlet or a brochure and used as a marketing or promotional

piece describing the value of special librarians, information professionals and archivists, etc. An example of such a process was given by Lois Weinstein who recently had Richard Stone, President and Founder of the Storywork Institute, as a guest lecturer for her company. The booklet created by the employees and clients of Nighttime Peds in Utah has been extremely successful in describing the values and objectives of the company to new and potential clients.

The group present unanimously selected the last suggestion as one that crossed organizational boundaries and was not that difficult to accomplish. Funding for this project would have to be provided for by all member organizations, but should only be needed to publish the booklet/pamphlet etc.

At the next meeting in the Fall I will review what I learned about the process of story collection and the group will complete a plan to promote the writing, editing and collection of these stories



New York Chapter Calendar 1999-2000

1999

September 8th

Outreach Committee Meeting

6:30 p.m.

University Club Library, 4th floor

One West 54th Street, NYC 10019

Contact: Suzan Lee

Tel: 212-648-7994

September 14th

Executive Board Meeting

Contact: Sandra Kitt

Tel: 212-769-5215

September 16th

Banking & Finance Fall Cocktail Party

Contact: Charles Finnerty

Tel: 914-781-5011

or

Martin Cullen

Tel: 212-526-3667

September 29th

Midtown Luncheon

Contact: Thomas Pellizzi

Tel: 212-644-9471

or

Susan Gormley

Tel: 212-512-4646

October 7th

Downtown Luncheon

Contact: Kristie Malkasian

Tel: 212-227-1133

or

Michelle Moriya

Tel: 212-667-1802

October 14th

Chapter Program The Last 20, The Next 20

A panel discussion on changes in the delivery of information services the past 20 years, lessons learned and a vision of the next century.

Speakers: Pat Molholt, Lany McDonald, speaker tbd;

Speaker and Facilitator: Guy St. Clair

5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Chase Bank Auditorium

270 Park Avenue

Contact: Martha Schweitzer

Tel: 516-944-9738

October 20th

Executive Board and Advisory Council Meeting

Contact: Sandra Kit

Tel: 212-769-5215

November 4th

Banking & Finance Group Fall Meeting

Partnering With Your Vendors

A Panel Discussion

Contact: Charles Finnerty

Tel: 914-781-5011

or

Martin Cullen

Tel: 212-526-3667

November 9th

Outreach Committee Meeting

Contact: Suzan Lee

Tel: 212-648-7994

November 10th

Midtown Luncheon

Contact: Thomas Pellizzi

Tel: 212-644-9471

or

Susan Gormley

Tel: 212-512-4646

November 17th

Executive Board Meeting

Contact: Sandra Kitt

Tel: 212-769-5215

November 18th

Insurance Group

Knowledge Mapping Workshop

Contact: David Kisacky

Tel: 212-615-0780

November 20th

Outreach Committee

Professional/Student Mixer

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Contact: Suzan Lee

Tel: 212-648-7994

December 2nd*Christmas Party**Contact: Martha Schweitzer**Tel: 516-944-9738***December 7th***Downtown Luncheon**Contact: Kristie Malkasian**Tel: 212-227-1133**or**Michelle Moriya**Tel: 212-667-1802***December 14th***Executive Board and Advisory Council Meeting**Contact: Sandra Kitt**Tel: 212-769-5215*

2000**January 12th***Midtown Luncheon**Contact: Tom Pellizzi**Tel: 212-644-9471**or**Susan Gormley**Tel: 212-512-4646***January 19th***Executive Board Meeting**Contact: Sandra Kitt**Tel: 212-769-5215***January 26th***Downtown Luncheon**Contact: Kristie Malkasian**Tel: 212-227-1133**or**Michelle Moriya**Tel: 212-667-1802***February 8th***Outreach Committee Meeting**Contact: Suzan Lee**Tel: 212-648-7994***February 17th***Executive Board and Advisory Council Meeting**Contact: Sandra Kitt**Tel: 212-769-5215***February 24th***Town Hall Chapter Meeting with Susan DiMattia**Contact: Martha Schweitzer**Tel: 516-944-9738***March 15th***Downtown Luncheon**Contact: Kristie Malkasian**Tel: 212-227-1133**or**Michelle Moriya**Tel: 212-667-1802***March 22nd***Executive Board Meeting**Contact: Sandra Kitt**Tel: 212-769-5215***April 6th***Banking & Finance Group Creating Managers,**Cohesive Organization Policies, Interns, etc.**Half day workshop as prelude to Career Day**Contact: Charles Finnerty**Tel: 914-781-5011**or**Martin Cullen**Tel: 212-526-3667***April 8th***Career Day**Contact: Jamie Russell**Tel: 212-512-4803**or**Ann Gibson**Tel: 212-878-9325***April 18th***Outreach Committee Meeting**Contact: Suzan Lee**Tel: 212-648-7994***April 20th***Executive Board and Advisory Council Meeting**Contact: Sandra Kitt**Tel: 212-769-5215***May 11th***Banking & Finance Intranet Sighting III**Contact: Charles Finnerty**Tel: 914-781-5011**or**Martin Cullen**Tel: 212-526-3667***May 16th***Insurance Business Meeting Luncheon**Contact: David Kisacky**Tel: 212-615-0780***May 19th***Executive Board Meeting**Contact: Sandra Kitt**Tel: 212-769-5215*