



The e-Oregonized Librarian

Vol. 5 No. 1 : Summer 2003

Bulletin of the Oregon Chapter
Special Libraries Association

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Presenting the redesigned e-Oregonized Librarian!

During the past year, the Web Redesign Committee's objectives were to a) clarify the purpose/function of the website and newsletter, b) eliminate the redundancies between the two and c) simplify the creation and maintenance of both website and newsletter. The result is a more news-oriented, self-contained bulletin, with a new look to match the website.

Do you have something for the ORSLA bulletin? Send news items to **Shannon Marich** (smarich@stoel.com).

Outgoing President's Letter by Rachel Berrington

Thanks to you all for a wonderful year. The chapter started the year off with a great Kick-Off Breakfast in Wilsonville and ended on another high note. Almost 90 attendees gathered to celebrate our anniversary at the Edgefield Hotel – a chapter record!

The evening of May 24th was a great success. We enjoyed a special night with great food, entertainment and lots of reminiscing. Many of our former chapter presidents attended, as well as members from all over the state. SLA's current president, Cindy Hill, even flew up from California to be with us. Improv troupe On Your Feet got us out of our chairs and up on stage. Who said librarians are shy??

The event also served as our annual business meeting, and Gretchen Leslie of Intel, received our highest honor, the Kathy Greey Memorial Award. Congratulations, Gretchen.

Thanks to the dinner planning team who made it all happen – Cindy Romaine, Linda Absher and Mary Zinn. It really was like planning a wedding, and I appreciate the hard work you all did for this event.

Another group of members worked equally hard this year. The Web Redesign team (Bonnie McCallum and Julie Nakao) and the Web Oversight Committee (LaJean Humphries, Gretchen Leslie, Kathy Hemphill, and Shannon Marich) worked together throughout the year to get the new page design up before the end of May. You may think that the new website magically changed overnight, but it took a lot of time and energy from these folks to make it happen. Thank you!

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I also wish to thank all the chapter officers and team leaders for the 2002-2003 year. We all appreciate your dedication and leadership. It was a pleasure working with you.

One last plug – if you haven't volunteered to be on a team, please think about joining one. We really do have a great group and there's no better way to get more involved.

Have a wonderful summer,
-Rachel

Incoming President's Letter by Linda Absher

Hello Oregon Chapter,

Is there life after 30?

Last year will be a tough act to follow: the 30th Anniversary celebration, increased attendance for our virtual conferences, a new look for our website, an influx of new members (including student members) into the chapter—all of these made for a very dynamic year.

Some of the highlights? We started the year with our Kick-Off Breakfast in September at PGE's Wilsonville Training Center, featuring Cindy Hill, SLA President-Elect as our speaker. We also received raves for our virtual conferences and the student reception at Nike last April. We closed out the year with the anniversary party at McMenamin's Edgefield; we surpassed all expectations in terms of attendance and vendor support.

National SLA also experienced an active year, culminating the appointment of Janice Lachance as Executive Director and the vote during the national conference to retain the current organization name of Special Libraries Association.

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In all it was a great year, but it wouldn't have happened without the sweat and tears of the past and current board members and team leaders: Rachel Berrington, President; Dareth Murray, Treasurer; Kathy Hemphill, Past-President; Samara Wilson, Secretary; Althea Pribyl, Membership/Director; Judy Anderson, Operations; Gretchen Leslie, Promotional/Activities/Consultation; LaJean Humphries, Professional Development; Shannon Marich, Communications; and Linda Lovett, Valley Liaison/Director. I also want to give a special thanks to **Ann Payne** for hosting almost all of our virtual conferences for the past year.

So is there life after 30? There is, if we sustain the momentum and drive to keep the chapter active by providing professional, educational and social activities for the Oregon library community. How can you be a part of this? Participate. We're looking for team leaders and committee members, particularly for the Communications and Operations committees. If you're interested, please contact me at **absherl@pdx.edu**.

Here's to another great year—
Linda

Tribute to Elizabeth Winroth by Susan Seyl

From the first day she appeared at OHS, Elizabeth had a roadmap in mind for her career. She came with a year-long federal employment assistance grant that would allow her to gain experience working in the field in which she was trained. Fresh from Hawaii with a Masters in Library Science in hand, she returned to the Park Blocks, where she had done her undergraduate work at PSU. Once Liz's in-depth knowledge of the state, native attention to detail, and methodical approach to her work was observed, she was given the task of concentrating on the OHS Maps Collection.

Under former OHS Executive Director Thomas Vaughan, Elizabeth was given the opportunity to work with a wonderful map collection and she made the most of it. She worked tirelessly to organize, preserve, and share with others the layers of information found

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in maps. She studied the collections' contents and made acquisitions to expand its strengths. While an appraisal value could possibly be put on the collection, Elizabeth's knowledge of the maps and the information contained therein was of inestimable worth.

Elizabeth could take a map of a single block or of the entire western hemisphere and tell you so much, much more than you may have thought there was to know about a map. What may have seemed a simple geographical question to you became an opportunity for her to enlighten you about how maps are created, organized, and interpreted, and if given the chance, she would try to explain map copyright.

Throughout her career, Elizabeth also worked with the Photographs Collection and knew it well. As a result, she was incredibly effective at applying map and visual information in pursuit of the answer to a question. To her colleagues, she also embodied institutional memory. And she had an amazing memory – like a trap.

During her tenure, Elizabeth contributed in some way to countless books, magazine articles, documentaries, and student papers. Her technical advice was called upon for books ranging from *The Oregon Atlas* to the *Lower Columbia River Estuary Project*. In 1978, she compiled and edited the *Union Guide to Photograph Collections in the Pacific Northwest*, published by the Oregon Historical Society.

Elizabeth was active in the Western Association of Map Librarians, organizing and hosting the organization's October 2001 semi-annual meeting in Portland. She also participated in the Oregon Chapter of the Special Libraries Association and the Downtown Librarians meetings. She served on the Oregon Geographic Names Board for many years, first as Recording Secretary, then as Technical Advisor.

Aside from her many attributes as a colleague, I also remember Liz for the way she could sweep into a room
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and immediately inject her presence. My favorite image is of her entrance into the library on a chilly day, wearing one of her stylish hats and distinctive cloak.

For the annual department Christmas party, you could count on personalized gingerbread people – one for each member of your family, which sometimes included your pets. Her Hallowe'en costumes were clever and carried off with remarkable execution. Her outside interests were many and varied – from art to science fiction. The walls of her apartment, and later her home, looked like the sci fi section at Powell's.

In honor of her legacy, the Oregon Historical Society has established the Elizabeth C. Winroth Fund for Map Acquisitions. Contributions to the fund may be sent to the Oregon Historical Society, 1200 SW Park Avenue, Portland, OR 97205.

Susan Seyl

Friend and colleague at the Oregon Historical Society