

## Letter from the President

July 2, 1999

GREETINGS AND WELCOME ALL to the 1999-2000 Program Year for the Oregon Chapter of the Special Libraries Association!

Last year was great! We had something going on just about every month -- different types of programs, times, and locations. And I hope we will continue the monthly programs, letting us all get together to learn and have fun, every month through the end of my tenure as President in June 2000.

But to make that happen, we need EVERYONE in OR SLA to be involved. Participate! In something.

- Tell us what kind of programs and events you want to have, and where and when you want to have them.
- Volunteer to work on a program one month, or take on a longer term project by joining a team.
- Do a consultation.
- Contribute articles and items to the List Newsletter and the Website.
- Host or sponsor an event or videoconference.
- Add your experiences as a special librarian to our member profiles.
- GET INVOLVED!

Your first, and most significant, opportunity to get involved is at the July OR SLA event: our program planning meeting on Saturday, July 10th (10am-2pm) where we will discuss and make decisions about what we are going to do throughout the coming year. More on that later.

First I want to introduce you to the officers and team leaders who will be your major contacts and guides throughout the coming year, and let you know a little about what their tasks and goals are.

**President:** [Terry Chadwick](#) 503/228-4023

My main tasks, after appointing the Team Leaders and chairing the Strategic Planning meeting this month, are to make sure that the Chapter runs smoothly, fill out SLA's required reports, and to represent you at the National SLA and with other organizations and the public. My goals are monthly events, fundraising to allow more members to be involved in SLA activities, and increasing the visibility and reputation of Special Information Professionals.

**President-Elect:** [Gerry Lukos](#) 503/264-2425

Next year's president is going to spend her time becoming familiar with the tasks and goals of our Teams and Board. She is also going to develop a primer and checklist on what goes into putting on the programs we want to hold every month. And she'll fill in wherever needed.

**Past President:** [Gretchen Leslie](#) 503/613-6541

Last year's president, who likes to call herself a lame duck, has no assigned duties -- so far. Do you think you might be able to find something for her to do at the Planning meeting?

**Secretary/Archivist:** [Rosemary Burris](#) 503/292-4776

Rosemary keeps minutes of meetings, makes sure they get posted on our website, and sent to National. She also maintains the history of our Chapter, our archives. So we can put part of this history on our website, Rosemary would like some help in identifying past officers and committee/team leaders. If you've been active in the Chapter leadership in the past, particularly during our early years, give her a call.

**Treasurer:** [Kristi Deshazo](#) 503/264-5922

So you think it's easy to manage OR SLA's money? Try figuring out how to keep track of all of the Association's ever-changing rules! Kristi makes it seem a breeze. And we are looking for a Treasurer-in-training who will learn how to breeze through it, too. If you're interested contact Kristi or Operations Team Leader Bob Weber.

**Director/Membership Team Leader:** [Donna Cohen](#) 503/774-1413

Who are the members of SLA? Who do we want as members of SLA? We talk about increasing membership, and doing more for our members, but what does that mean? Do we want to encourage participation by information professionals and paraprofessionals without library degrees? How about librarians active in other organizations? Who will be the members of OR SLA in the new millennium? Answering these core questions is the main task of this year's Membership Team. If you have opinions and concerns about any of these issues, this is the Team to be on! Since Donna won't be able to attend the July Planning meeting, please send your concerns, interests, and willingness to work on these issues to Gerry Lukos .

**Director/Valley Liaison: [Mary O'Brien](#) 541/754-4731**

More than 25% of OR SLA members who live in Oregon, live and work outside of the Portland Metropolitan area. Mary's task and goal for the year is to find out what these members want to do, and do it. (BTW, if you live outside Portland, don't think you can't volunteer for the regular teams -- most meetings are held virtually, and your participation will ensure activities in your area.)

**Communications Team Leader: [Andrea Drury](#) 503/292-0953**

OR SLA is truly a 21st Century organization. Our newsletter, directory, and major communications are all now done virtually -- by web and email. The Communications Team consists of a Web Manager, Andrea Drury; List Manager, Bonnie McCallum; Newsletter Editor, Linda Absher; Publicity Liaison, Bette Stewart; News Liaison, Ruth Vondracek; and Hard Copy Manager, Jan Hayden. Contact these people with announcements, news, information about great resources, articles and columns, and more.

**Professional Development Team Leader: [LaJean Humphries](#) : 503/222-9981**

Every team is responsible for one program a year. Professional Development oversees all the rest! If you have program ideas and want to see them put into action, let LaJean know. This year we will be forming a Videoconference Committee to coordinate and put on SLA's popular videoconference programs. If you know of or have site suitable for these great professional development programs, tell us. If you are willing to coordinate a program or two, join the committee.

**Promotional Activities/Consultation Referrals Team Leader: [Rachel Berrington](#) 503/685-4712**

This year is about increasing the visibility and reputation of special librarians, particularly those in our chapter. That is the main focus and goal of the Promotional Activities team. Let Rachel know if you are willing to help promote programs, write press releases, develop promotional activities, items, and events, and more. Linda Maddux is the Consultation Coordinator: volunteer to help organizations learn why they need librarians.

**Operations Team Leader: [Bob Weber](#) 503/464-8710**

Although the primary task of the Operations Team is to oversee the management activities of the Treasurer and Secretary, fundraising is another key task. Many of our members aren't fiscally able to participate in local and national professional activities. This year's goal is to develop a fundraising plan, in conjunction with the other teams' activities, and carry it out. If you like money, like making it, and want to help our Chapter make it, join this Team.

**PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING: Saturday, July 10.**

This is our kickoff event for the year. Take four hours out of your weekend to contribute your ideas on what the chapter should be doing for the rest of the year. Meet the OR SLA Board and Team Leaders. Rain or shine, Andrea Drury's home is a very pleasant place to spend a few hours, schmooze with friends, and have a nice lunch.

At this meeting we will be discussing ideas for the programs, events, and other activities that we will be doing in the coming year. The only way we can put on the programs you want is by hearing what they are.

The only way the programs will happen is by your involvement. If you can't attend, please email me or one of the Team Leaders with your suggestions. The results of this meeting will be an Operations calendar that will set out a tentative schedule of events for the coming year.

- **What: Program Planning Meeting**
- **When: Saturday, July 10, from 10am to 2pm**
- **Where: Andrea Drury's house in SW Portland**

RSVP: [Terry Chadwick](#) (Try to RSVP by July 8th to facilitate lunch purchases.)

I hope to see and hear from all of you before or on the 10th of July about what you want to accomplish, learn, and have fun doing in OR SLA this year.

Let's make this transition year into the new millennium the best yet! Have a great Fourth of July! - Terry

## **PS: August OR SLA event: POTLUCK PICNICS!**

Looking for people to coordinate picnics in the Portland, Salem, and South Valley areas. The first meeting is business; let's make the second totally fun. If you are interested, let me know

## **President's Letter July 30, 1999**

Summer's Greetings to one and all! If you are like me, the lazy days of summer are just a dream - unlike the great programs and events scheduled for the coming year at OR SLA.

We had a great Programs Planning Meeting on July 10th. Many of you suggested great ideas for programs, so many that we can't fit them all in, even at one program for every month between September and June. But don't despair if your idea isn't on our calendar, President-elect Gerry Lukos has put together [guidelines](#) so members can put on "Almost Spontaneous Events."

Our programs and events aren't yet set in stone, but they do cover a wide range of topics, times, and locations. The [Operations calendar](#) on the website has the tentative schedule; the [Events calendar](#) will list events once details are firmed. Here are some of the things that you can look forward to:

- Fall breakfast meeting
- Duties & responsibilities of officers in a non-profit organization
- Effective Negotiating Techniques for Licensing Content (a videoconference scheduled for October 14)
- Halloween party
- How to choose what databases to use with various questions while working with limited resources
- Information technology: working with IT staff & surviving without them - Tour of Intel Museum, Students evening
- Revitalizing your life and your career (virtual conference)
- Marketing your library swap & shop
- Developing stylesheets and guidelines for website maintenance and updating
- Small Crawl on the Coast: Issues faced by librarians in solo and small libraries - tour of mid and southern Oregon coast small libraries
- Annual Dinner meeting

And that's just for starters. If several of you want to do something that you don't see here, propose an "Almost Spontaneous Event" and do it. Or help someone else do it. Contact one of our team leaders and be part of putting on one of these events.

I look forward to meeting and talking with you at one or many of these events.

See you in September.

Terry, ORSLA prez

## President's Letter

### October, 1999

Greetings all. We got off to a great start this year! More than 40% of OR SLA members attended one of our two kickoff events. And there is so much else to look forward to in the coming months. Even as SLA headquarters moves slowly but steadily toward becoming a virtual association, we are leading the way, testing and implementing new ways to assist you to be the best librarians you can be. Our website and emailing list are our prime means of communicating with you. We have a chat room available for posted meetings and almost spontaneous discussions, and will soon be implementing a web-based bulletin board for board meetings and other programs.

But in our move to implement all of this new technology, we haven't forgotten how important it is to see each other face-to-face; to talk, learn, and have fun within a common physical setting. That's why we are having at least one physical meeting a month, held at various times on different days, and in both the major population regions of Oregon. For those who can't attend the programs, we plan to make handouts and presentations available on our website. If you don't find at least a few events on our schedule that interest you and are at times you can attend, let our leadership team know and we will do our best to accommodate you. We will help you set up a meeting that addresses your interests - physical, real-time chat, or longer-length bulletin board. Don't be shy. Let us know what you want to do and learn.

On a related note, our budget, which gives us the ability to do all of these programs, depends on your having an active membership status with SLA. We get \$12 for every paid member that we have listed as belonging to the Oregon chapter as of 12/31/99. So when you receive your dues statement, please renew before the end of the year. If you have any question, contact our new Membership team leader, [Althea Pribyl](mailto:Althea.Pribyl). To reach other team leaders please refer to <http://www.sla.org/chapter/cor/about/teams.html>.

Have a great autumn! I look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings.

Terry, ORSLA prez

## President's Letter

### January 2000

Welcome to the year 2000 and to a SLA doing its best to move and change along with you and your profession. I have recently returned from the SLA Midwinter Leadership Development meeting and want to report back to you on some of what your president-elect Gerry Lukos and I heard and learned.

First, let me tell you that the Oregon chapter is quite well and positively known by the association and other SLA chapters. Gerry and I were bombarded with questions about our "virtual chapter" and team structure. At one session, after we thanked association staff Linda Broussard and Maurice Harris for getting us set up with chat and message board programs, Linda told attendees that the Oregon chapter was a guinea pig for services that will be made available to the rest of the chapter as the SLA moves closer to its goal of becoming a "virtual association."

Our team structure, which distributes the work of the chapter -- tasks, programs, and projects -- among many people, makes taking a leadership post or being involved in the chapter less onerous. Our reliance on virtual communications makes it easier to announce, publicize, and put on many programs. And, since our boards and leadership teams do most of our business electronically, we can involve more people with diverse geographic and time availability situations, than a typical SLA chapter operating only through face-to-face meetings can. Other chapters are very interested.

Our recent virtual program, *A Golden Age for Librarians*, was also of great interest to our fellow SLA members, many of whom will be visiting our website to learn more about it in the coming weeks. If you weren't able to attend the chats, I urge you to visit our website, go to the message board <<http://slachat.sla.org:4180/mb/index.html>> and read the transcripts of the chats. You can still participate

and keep the discussions going by adding your comments, suggestions, and resources to on our message board. The four topics are:

1. Careers: from librarians working on intranets to the age-old problem of employers not realizing the worth of librarian skills in jobs outside traditional libraries;
2. Metadata: the use and misuse of metadata, XML, Dublin Core, etc.;
3. Serving Off-site Patrons: ranging from web-based request form to using chat and email for reference;
4. Information Technology: knowledge management and data mining.

Our interaction at the winter meeting was by no means one way. The best thing about the many session and lunches was the ability to talk and share information with people from other chapters. Gerry and I discovered that we share a lot with our fellow members throughout the world. Some activities from other chapter that we may want to consider adapting: One chapter held seven meetings in seven cities over a one week period. One person in each city hosted the meeting and chose a theme. They had potlucks, dinners, and even a champagne brunch. Another chapter takes all of their new members out for a meal to get them acquainted with the chapter leaders, each other, and how the chapter works.

During the many sessions the chapter and division leaders shared our frustrations over the association website, concerns about membership recruitment and retention, and the need to provide programs that meet our diverse needs. Our association leaders responded by telling us that they have been listening to our concerns and are appointing task forces to get member involvement in the website design, to streamline and simplify the association structure, to work at branding the association, to define who our members are and should be, and to see who we should be partnering with. The results of these task forces are due at the June SLA meeting in Philadelphia.

Attending the SLA Leadership meeting reaffirmed why I am a member of this association. It is the opportunity to meet and share information and experiences with marvelous people who are interested in and working on the same things I am. And while reading this newsletter and attending programs is one way to reap that benefit, taking an active role in chapter, division, and association activities puts me in the most direct contact with other SLA members. We are in the process of looking for members of next years Oregon leadership team. I urge you all to consider becoming a board member, team leader, or active team member. If you are interested contact me, or any one of the board and leadership team, and we will forward your name to our nominating committee and team leaders.

Happy New Year!

Terry Chadwick, OR SLA president

## **President's Letter**

### **April 2000**

Dear OR SLA members:

My term as president of the Oregon chapter of SLA is drawing to a close. So, in this letter, I want to look back at what the chapter has accomplished this year and look forward to what we can do next year.

The Oregon chapter has been very busy this year. By the end of May we will have put on fourteen different programs and activities.

1. We began the year in July with a planning meeting where members and leaders got together to brainstorm activities for this year, using ideas suggested through our discussion list.
2. How local librarians are developing and managing intranets was the focus of the Portland kickoff breakfast in Portland in September.

3. The Valley-area librarians met for lunch in September to discuss solo librarian issues, focusing on how to keep up with new technology.
4. The SLA videoconference on "Effective Negotiating Techniques for Licensing Content" was our first October activity.
5. A Halloween party in Portland was the second.
6. The November program was about working on non-profit boards.
7. December's first program focused on information technology, was attended by a number of library students, and included a tour of the Intel museum.
8. The second program was a joint meeting with the Portland Downtown Librarians on the topic of Search Strategies and Resource Choices.
9. In January, coinciding with the Willamette Valley's brief encounter with snow, we held our first totally electronic program that covered four days and four topics that had been suggested in the July planning process.
10. Also in January, the Valley-area librarians met to discuss electronic delivery of library services.
11. "Love your Library" was the title of the marketing your library program held in Lake Oswego in February.
12. A trip to the Oregon Zoo, which used our new "almost spontaneous" meeting process to come together, was our chapter activity for March.
13. "Exploring the Possibilities of Information Portals," another SLA live videoconference, is our April 27th activity in Albany.
14. Last, but not least, our annual dinner and business meeting is being held on May 19th on the Nike campus. We will be treated to a tour of the new Nike library and find out how they went about designing the space.

Those are quite a lot of activities for a small volunteer run chapter to have done in one year. We have covered many of the programs that were suggested during our planning activities in June and July 1999. Major thank yous go to everyone who participated in these activities. We would like to do even better in the future. And that requires every member's active participation.

Looking forward to next year, I would like you all to think about what you want to get out of your membership in SLA. What professional skills do you want to develop? Are networking and career opportunities important to you. Do you want to develop your management and leadership skills? In what programs and activities would you like to participate? How can we best communicate with each other?

Now, I'd like you to think about what you can do to make your answers to those questions a reality.

The Oregon chapter of SLA is a volunteer organization. Anything that needs to get done in the chapter is done by members of the chapter who volunteer their time, facilities, and/or funds in order to make the chapter work for them. We are all busy people, but if we each don't put a little bit of time into the chapter, the things you would like your chapter to do can't get done. OR SLA can not exist without leaders, volunteers, and active members.

We've had a great year and we need your help to make next year even better.

The leadership team will be emailing you a membership survey in the next month to find out what you want from the chapter and how you can help get what you want. We greatly encourage you to take a few minutes to reply to the survey.

We need leaders to step forward now so that the chapter can do all of the things you want us to do next year. We need team leaders, program chairs, and officers to spend a few hours a month making the Oregon Chapter of SLA the best it can be. Check out our website to see the opportunities that are available. OR SLA NEEDS YOU!

Best regards,

Terry, ORSLA prez