



Tennessee Valley Chapter Newsletter

Special Libraries Association

Summer 2010

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Tennessee Valley Chapter will be celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2013. Even though it seems light years and miles away, our board is already getting excited about celebrating. We may be a small unit, but when we work together, we can be mighty. Ultimately, our goal is to host a scholarship contest for students, which would allow one lucky participant to attend that year's Annual Conference in San Diego. In the meantime, we would love to sponsor more of our members in attending SLA's biggest event of the year through the new virtual platform, with which our association is experimenting. If you have more ideas about how you want to party, let us know!

Speaking of virtual worlds, we, as a chapter, need a serious revamp. Luckily, HQ is working on migrating SLA-supported sites to a Wordpress system. Also, there is an exciting new map function, which will help new members find us in an easier fashion. Still, what are we going to do with all of this "useless beauty"? Cynthia Manley, our webmistress and the editor of this particular newsletter, would love to get some of our historical timeline and stories on-line. Perhaps the newsletter is outdated and we need a blog. Maybe we need to be more active on Facebook or Twitter. How do you want to communicate, find news and collaborate on projects? We are open to ideas, so please send along your suggestions.

Another project we would also like to initiate is a Resume Review Service. Participants would submit online their C.V.s to an anonymous board of hiring experts, who would then give their honest opinions about format, grammar and style. At first, we will probably direct this more toward our student population, but I hope eventually to open a collaborative community to all of our members. There are many of us professionals who are in the market for a job, including your President. Look out for our beta platform over the winter holidays.

On a more recent note, we had so many good ideas for field trips and get-togethers, we have decided to get together twice this coming Fall. On August 14th, we will gather in Nashville for a field trip to the Cheekwood Botanical Gardens and the Frist Center, both of which are hosting glass exhibits designed by the artist Dale Chihuly. We hope

to also view the former's two collections of art and horticulture, followed by the latter's art library. Thanks to our Director-At-Large Sharon Butcher for this idea.

A month later, on September 11th, we'll gather in Knoxville at the East Tennessee History Center for our Fall Board Meeting. Because the Frank H. McClung Museum shares a building with this establishment, we will be in for further education and entertainment, post-meeting. Thanks to our Vice-President Erin Anderson for finding such a great place to meet. Hopefully, she'll find us an equally grand place for lunch. Look for more details about these events and more on the listserv and our Facebook page. See you next month in Nashville!

Tennessee Valley Chapter President,
Christi Underdown

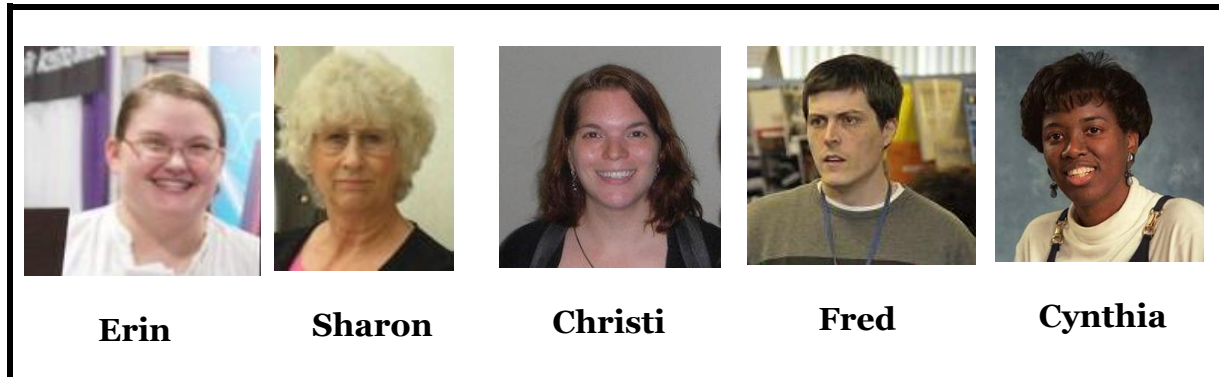
FALL BOARD MEETING

The Chapter Board will have its Fall meeting September 11 in Knoxville at the East Tennessee History Center. The current board consists of:

- **President, Christi Underdown**
is assistant cataloger at the Center for Popular Music at Middle Tennessee State University. She is a 2008 graduate of the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
- **President-Elect, Erin Anderson**
is the Library and Information Program Liaison at the Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
- **Secretary, Barbara Borrelli**
is a long time member of the Association who recently retired as librarian for the United States Smokeless Tobacco Company in Nashville, Tennessee
- **Treasurer, Polly Alexander**
is the Coordinator for Staff Development and a Clinical Librarian, providing medical evidence and critical appraisal services to the Neurology Critical Care Unit at Eskind Library, Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She has recently been accepted as a National Library of Medicine Bioinformatics Research Fellow and is working towards a Masters in Public Health at Vanderbilt University Medical School.
- **Past-President, Fred Rascoe**
is the Team Lead and Systems Librarian at AEDC Technical Library, Arnold Air Force Base. He is a 2004 graduate of the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
- **Membership Chair, Anna Galyon**
is the newest science reference Librarian at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Research Library. She is a 2009 graduate of the School of Information Sciences at the University of

Tennessee, Knoxville. She is very interested in mentoring and encouraging students, especially the UTK Student Chapter of SLA.

- **Chapter Archivist and Director-at-Large, Sharon Butcher**
is a reference librarian at AEDC Technical Library, Arnold Air Force Base.
- **Webmaster, Cynthia Manley**
is the Technical Services Team Leader at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Research Library.



2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REFLECTIONS

This year's conference took place in New Orleans, aka The Big Easy.

Christi Underdown traveled from a flood-recovering Nashville to attend this year's conference. She participated in several community and networking experiences before the conference started. For a complete description of her conference experience, visit the chapter Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=35412872174&ref=nf>)

"In addition to these community work & networking experiences, I began the conference officially with the Leadership Development Institute, which presented an opportunity for groups of unit leaders to brainstorm upon the foundation of the new Alignment Toolkit. Blooming from the Alignment Project, the Toolkit can help promote your value to not only your present administrators, human resources and financial boards, but also within the job search, filling in buzz vocabulary to cover letters and resumes and boosting interview and elevator pitch language.

Continuing the conversation from the last officers' WebEx meeting, a panel representing both chapters and vendors gave their tips for building better mutual relationships with our fellows in the Info-Expo Hall. Some of these included making the specific benefits for both parties clear; promote hard and often; and learning your sponsor's fiscal cycle. Healthy vendor relationships are a two-way street & it takes consistent & personal connection to keep partnerships healthy. I made interesting contacts with a couple of

different exhibitors by attending their free lunches or sharing with them upcoming events and projects from my respective chapter & division, while perusing the Expo. I look forward to building those conversations into collaboration.

From the Alignment Project to using Web 2.0 technologies, the same message dominated- know your audience. What are their needs? Know them better than they know themselves and then use your available tools, which should be extremely current, to meet those needs as easily as possible. Also, don't be afraid of user collaboration and input. Consistent flexibility is the key."

CLICK UNIVERSITY

Click University (ClickU) Webinars give SLA members access to engage in a live interactive Web-based presentation. Some of the webinars are free while others are available for a fee. The Webinars are a great way to learn without leaving the workplace. Webinars are typically held on Wednesday from 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm eastern U.S. time. For more details about scheduled programs and what you need to do to attend a session, see: <http://www.sla.org/content/learn/index.cfm>

TENN-SHARE LEARN & DISCOVER

Tenn-Share Learn & Discover is a learning program modeled after the SLA 23 Things. It is another way to learn about new technologies and become web 2.0 savvy without leaving your office! It is a way to practice using various web 2.0 products such as blogging, tagging, wikis, RSS, podcasts, and more. Visit <http://tennshare.ning.com/> to get started.

If you have anything you would like to add to future Newsbriefs, please contact Cynthia Manley, manleycg@ornl.gov. We want to share member profiles, book reviews, up-coming events etc. with our members!