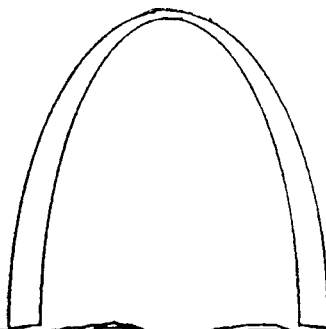


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THE  
SLATE



SLA

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ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN AREA CHAPTER  
Special Libraries Association

Volume 62 Number 1

December 2002

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NOT YOUR USUAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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This month, let's try something just a little different. Most of you know our President and President-Elect, Bryan and Erin, but how well do you really know them? Ask yourself that question as you read their submissions below....

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**Meet the President - BRYAN YOUNG!**

**Organization:** Monsanto Knowledge Resources

**Education:** Ball State University, B.S.; Purdue University, M.S. and Indiana University, M.L.S.

**Years in librarianship:** (sigh) 17 years.

**Why I became a librarian:** While working on a Masters (Microbiology) at Indiana, I bumped into Herbert White (then Dean of IU's School of Library and Information Sciences) during midterms. Herb was very passionate about the "future" of libraries (I recall he discussed Arpanet, microcomputers, and other topics with vigor). He invited me to look into a future in special libraries and information centers. I took him up on his invitation and never looked back...I've worked for United Technologies, Johnson and Johnson and Kraft Foods as an information professional.

**If I weren't a librarian, I'd be:** a "jazz" drummer.

**Before I die:** I want to hike a "long portion" of the Appalachian Trail.

**I've always wanted to know why:** Men wear backwards baseball caps (excluding, of course, baseball catchers)

**Favorite bumper sticker:** "Kill the BeeGees".

**Pet:** A three pound teacup poodle/Yorkie mix named Tasmarelda (it's a girl...) after the cartoon character.

**Favorite tourist attraction:** Acadia National Park.

**Favorite movies:** Ground Hog's Day, Blade Runner (Director's cut) and Almost Famous.

**People would be surprised to know:** That accordions are the most exciting instruments in pop music!

**Meet the President-Elect - ERIN LANHAM!**

**Organization:** Solutia Inc.

**Education:** Drury College, B.S. (1995) and University of Missouri at Columbia, M.L.S. (1999)

**Years in librarianship:** Five

**Why I became a librarian:** I graduated from college with a major in Psychology. I fell into a job shortly after graduation as a secretary in the City of Kirkwood's Building Commissioner's Office. I decided that neither being a "middle man" nor a building inspector was for me. I thought back to jobs I'd enjoyed in the past, and the one that stood out was my three year stint as a student worker in Drury's library. So, I pursued the MLS.

**If I weren't a librarian:** I might still be a secretary at Kirkwood!

**Favorite bumper sticker:** "Visualize Whirled Peas"

**Pet:** A Husky/German Shepherd named Dudley.

**Favorite tourist attraction:** I'd love to go back to England someday.

**Favorite movie:** "A Christmas Story." It's timeless.

**People would be surprised to know:** I have "Queen" and "Aerosmith" CDs in my car right now. Also that my husband and I spent one week on a 65' live aboard sailboat and went scuba diving in the Bahamas last summer. (There was a crew - we weren't manning the boat!)

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## Officers

President Bryan Young  
 President-elect Erin Lanham  
 Past President Maribeth Slebodnik  
 Treasurer Ellen Eliceiri  
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 Director-at-large Chris Tighe  
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List Address: [SLA\\_ARCH@mail.wustl.edu](mailto:SLA_ARCH@mail.wustl.edu)

## Mark Your (2003) Calendar

During the first week of each month, February through May, Erin is organizing lunch at various restaurants around town. Dates and locations will be communicated via the chapter's discussion list as well as posted on our web site.

Those who came to Zia's in November enjoyed tasty food and good conversation. It was a great opportunity to get out and chat with chapter members we might not normally have a chance to talk with. Even if you can't make the lunches, I hope to see you at the evening meetings.

In February, an evening meeting will be organized around "Marketing Your Special Library: Creating Desire for Your Services" from SLA's 2002 Virtual Seminar Series. For more about the seminar, see its Website at <http://www.sla.org/content/Events/distance/virtsem2002/dec02virtsem.cfm>

The SLATE is published quarterly by the St. Louis Metropolitan Area Chapter of the Special Libraries Association.

**Editor:** Maribeth Slebodnik, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, 975 North Warson Road, St. Louis, MO 63132 P (314) 587-1081 F (314) 587-1982 [mslebodnik@danforthcenter.org](mailto:mslebodnik@danforthcenter.org)

Submissions may be made to the editor by paper copy or email. Email is preferred!!

**Business Manager:** Leah Holler, Ralston Purina Co., 11716 Summerhaven Dr., St. Louis MO 63146. Phone: 314-993-3642 Email: [lbiser@mindspring.com](mailto:lbiser@mindspring.com).

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## CONGRATULATIONS!!

Suzy Frechette (Fine Arts Dept., St. Louis Public Library) has been elected Midwest Regional Representative to the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA).

This is a voting position on the ARLIS/NA Executive Board. The Midwest Region comprises four regional chapters, encompassing states from Nebraska to Western Pennsylvania and Minnesota to Arkansas. Her two-year term will begin during the March 2003 annual conference in Baltimore.



Special Libraries Association

## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Career Awareness Fair

It's that time of year again. Time to bone up on your sales pitch. Time to act and look professional. Time to put your best foot forward to convince others of your value. Donate 2 hours of your day to work in the SLA booth at the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the St. Louis Public Schools Career Fair.

The Career Awareness Fair provides eight graders with a chance to invest in their futures, to explore and understand a variety of career options; and to meet people who perform these jobs on a daily basis. Businesspersons, in turn, help the entire community invest in its future as they share tools, vehicles, equipment, products, and expertise with curious and inquisitive city and county eight graders. Last year, over 1200 businesspersons demonstrated their jobs.

When: Tuesday, March 18, 2003 &  
Wednesday, March 19, 2003  
Where: America's Center, 801 N. 11<sup>th</sup>  
Street, St. Louis, MO 63101  
Times: 7:45 a.m. -9:45 a.m.  
9:45 a.m. -11:45 a.m.  
11:45 a.m. -1:45 p.m.



For more information, please contact: Stephanie D. Tolson, (636) 922-8512, [stolson@stchas.edu](mailto:stolson@stchas.edu) no later than January 31, 2003. *Editor's note: If you don't call Stephanie, she WILL call you! So sign yourself up and prepare to have a good time!!*

### ***St. Louis Business Journal*** **Features St. Louis SLA Members**

Chapter Public Relations Chair Katharine Hayes worked diligently with *St. Louis Business Journal* writer Rick Desloge to highlight local librarians after reading an article about special librarians in Cincinnati featuring one of the contributors to the BUSLIB-L discussion list.

Katharine contacted the BUSLIB-L contributor, Ted Baldwin in Cincinnati, for pointers on persuading our local press to write a similar article. Then, in Katharine's words:

A couple weeks passed and I had actually kind of forgotten about it, when upon arriving at work one morning, I had two email messages from a writer, Rick Desloge, from the *Business Journal*. ... That

was a Thursday and he wanted to interview me that day as well as have me provide him with names of other librarians in the area he could also interview. He said he planned to have a rough draft by the next day for publication the next week!

Quick, quick, quick, I sent out emails to the "brain trust" of the local chapter seeking names and ideas. I got some calls, made some calls, and ... got Rick names of some local luminaries.

For the results of Desloge's interview, see <http://stlouis.bizjournals.com/stlouis/stories/2002/11/25/focus3.html>.

Chapter members inter-

viewed include Sally Crowley and our past and current Presidents Larry Walton and Bryan Young! The article gives a balanced presentation of preparation and responsibilities of corporate librarians and ably refutes some classic stereotypes.

Katharine was impressed by the writer's sensitivity to confidentiality concerns voiced by the librarians. Larry said the article was forwarded to his corporate headquarters by their PR department. Bryan has been contacted by people who want to know more about being a librarian. Great work, guys, and thank you so much, Katharine, for your patience and persistence!



## ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN AREA CHAPTER SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

The St. Louis Metropolitan Area Chapter of the Special Libraries Association seeks your nominations for the following awards. These awards will be presented at the Chapter's annual business meeting which will be held next in May 2003.

The **Elizabeth Owens Award** honors a member for distinguished service to the chapter and library profession. The criteria for receiving this award are as follows:

1. This award is conferred upon a member once during his or her SLA membership.
2. Award is limited to one member per year.
3. The award is not necessarily presented each year.
4. Nominee must be a dues paying member for at least 5 years.
5. Nominee has maintained SLA membership for 10 years or more.

The **Leadership Award** recognizes a member whose ability to lead and inspire others has furthered the Chapter's goals and objectives.

1. This award is conferred upon a member once during his or her SLA membership.
2. Award is limited to one member per year.
3. The award is not necessarily presented each year.
4. Nominee must be a dues paying member of the St. Louis Metropolitan Area Chapter.
5. Nominee has maintained SLA membership for at least 5 years or more.
6. Nominee must have served as an officer or chairperson of the Chapter's various committees.

This form on the facing page is provided for you to complete and submit to the Awards Committee. Feel free to submit extra pages if necessary. Please read the criteria for nominations. Nominations must be submitted to Carol Thaxton by December 31, 2002 at the latest. Please contact Carol if you'd like any assistance with an award candidate's "vital statistics"!



# CHAPTER AWARD NOMINATION FORM

St. Louis Metropolitan Area Chapter  
of the Special Libraries Association

Name of nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated for:

\_\_\_\_\_ Elizabeth Owens Award

\_\_\_\_\_ Leadership Award

Nominee has been a member of the chapter since: 19\_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter Achievements:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Offices/committee assignments held:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Special contributions to the Chapter:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Submit completed form to:  
(deadline 12/31/02)

Carol Thaxton  
119 Forestwood Drive  
Ferguson, MO 63135  
[thaxtoncj@aol.com](mailto:thaxtoncj@aol.com)

# CHANGING HATS

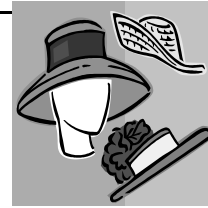
by Stephanie Tolson

After many fond years (14) working for St. Louis Community College I decided to put my name in the hat for the vacant position of Dean for Learning Resources at St. Charles Community College located in St. Peters. Some of you know that I have been preparing for moving up in the ranks of community college administration by pursuing a PhD at Saint Louis University.

When the position was advertised I thought I should not try for it because most dean positions require that the candidate has the degree completed. I am a risk taker, so I forged ahead anyway. The process was enjoyable and I knew after the ½ interview that it would be a good fit. I negotiated my departure from St. Louis Community College on October 4<sup>th</sup> and my arrival at St. Charles Community College on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

I have no intentions of changing my residence nor my affiliation with the chapter. I just have a little farther to commute each day, but it's all worth it. I have been here at St. Charles for approximately a month and I am enjoying it.

What am I doing? Well as Dean I have the library, media and distance learning office reporting to me. St. Charles is not a part of the St. Louis Community College district (some make this mistake). It serves the entire St.



Charles County and a few other counties. My immediate focus will be helping the College develop a Distance Learning Plan (strategic planning) for its various online, telecourse and interactive television distance courses. I am a part of the administration at St. Charles, but I will work closely with faculty also.

Oh yes, this is in addition to my SLA Board responsibility ... Soon I will begin recruiting volunteers for our annual Career Fair event that will occur March 18, 2002.

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## GSLLC MEETING

The Greater Saint Louis Library Club has arranged a presentation by Patton Chiles, artistic director of the Historyonics Theater, on Thursday, January 16, 2003. Ms. Chiles will discuss the theater's mission and give a tour of its home in the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park.

A box supper will be available for a small cost, but you may attend without charge if you don't wish to eat. The event will begin around 5:00 p. m. in the Missouri Historical Museum expansion area. For more information, call GSLLC president Skip Bergman at 314-351-2511.

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From:  
ST. LOUIS  
METROPOLITAN  
AREA CHAPTER OF  
THE SPECIAL  
LIBRARIES  
ASSOCIATION  
502 County Hills Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63119

FIRST CLASS