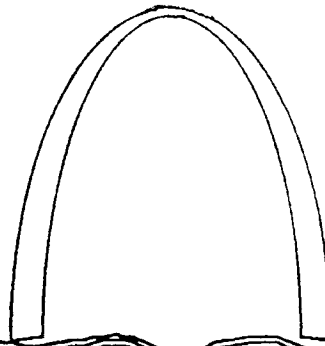

THE SLATE



SLA

ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN AREA CHAPTER Special Libraries Association

Volume 62 Number 2

March 2003

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Winter Meeting in New Orleans: Hey Pocky Way!

As I write this little review of January's Winter Meeting in New Orleans, I'm more than a little distracted by the fact that today is Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday). I've just downloaded a copy of the front page of the *Times-Picayune* that assures me that everyone in the French Quarter is having a wonderful time. New Orleans has been called "America's Venice"...a beautiful city sliding (slowly) into the ocean....

But, back to business. Erin Lanham, Stephanie Tolson and I had an exciting and enriching time in the Crescent City. The temperatures were unexpectedly "brisk" by New Orleans standards (20s and 30s degrees Fahrenheit with a strong, cold northern wind). The shivering, thin-blooded New Orleans natives made me feel colder as I walked across the Quarter to the meeting hotel.

During the Leadership Summit, the big topic was the changing of the Association's name. Steve Abram and the Branding Task Force provided compelling evidence that the keywords "Special" and "Library" no longer serve our Association as language that creates a "picture" of the contemporary information professional exemplified by our Association's membership.

According to the Branding Task Force's report, two names will come forward for a vote at the Annual Business Meeting in June: "SLA" or "Information Professionals International". If a vote to change our Association's name doesn't



Bryan Young, Erin Lanham and the Prince of Love in New Orleans this January. Note that Erin is receiving special digital transmissions from the Prince of Love! If she asks you to serve as an officer, you will not be able to resist...

pass in New York City, we will continue to be known as the "Special Libraries Association".

As a member of SLA, you do not have to be registered at the June Annual Conference to attend the Annual Business Meeting and vote: you can attend the Association's Annual Business Meeting and vote (on anything requiring a vote) without registering. The Association staff will be working with the Association's Tellers and Bylaws Committee members to work out procedures for non-conference attendees or one-day attendees for days other than Wednesday to attend the Annual Business Meeting and vote.

Changes in SLA Bylaws have done away with the requirement that Divisions and Chapters have their own bylaws. This means that our St. Louis Metropolitan Area Chapter will need to revisit our current bylaws and make sure they have the flexibility that will serve our local

Chapter. The Association is drafting a set of model guidelines and policies that we will use and/or modify to fit our Chapter's needs.

As you might suspect, membership recruitment and retention was heavily discussed at the Winter Meeting. Here are a couple of awareness pieces for you to consider: (1) You do not have to be a full-time student to apply for an SLA Scholarship and, (2) If you are returning to library school (for an advanced certificate or PhD.) after having been employed as a professional librarian,

(Continued on page 5)

St. Louis Metropolitan Area Chapter of the Special Libraries Association

Established: 1941

Web Address: <http://www.sla.org/chapter/cstl>

Subscription Address: listproc@mail.wustl.edu

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President	Bryan Young
President-elect	Erin Lanham
Past President	Maribeth Slebodnik
Treasurer	Ellen Eliceiri
Secretary	Marcia Stoklosa
Director-at-large	Chris Tighe
Member-at-large	Doug Holland

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Awards	Carol Thaxton
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Discussion list	Gail Hoef
Diversity	Stephanie Tolson
Employment	Linda Recklein
Government Relations	Barbara Rehkop
Hospitality	Rosie Weiss
Information	Patrick Hendershot
Technology/Webmaster	
Membership	Margaret Ganyard
Programs	Erin Lanham
Public Relations	Katharine Hayes
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~~< PROGRAM NOTES >~~

Erin Lanham

The Dutch treat lunches are a success! We typically have 6 - 10 attendees and discuss association issues or just chat about whatever is on our minds. The next lunch is scheduled for Tuesday, April 1, 2003 (no foolin'!) at Houlihan's in Union Station. A lunch schedule has been added to the St. Louis chapter web site, <http://www.sla.org/chapter/cstl/>, under "Events."

On Wednesday, April 9, 2003, join the chapter and Buzzy Basch, Basch Subscriptions,



Special Libraries Association

Inc., for a program on "Serials Chaos!" The meeting will be held in a private party room at CJ Muggs in Clayton. Invitations will be mailed soon.

In May, plan on a dinner meeting followed by the annual business meeting and an opportunity to discuss the Association's proposed changes. The biggest proposed change is our name, SLA or Information Professionals International, and will be up for a vote of the membership at the annual conference.



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THANKS, C. BERGER GROUP!

Iowa's New Beginning

by Stephanie Tolson

Directly above Missouri on the map is the state of Iowa. I had the fond pleasure of traveling to Des Moines to participate in the first chapter meeting of the Iowa Chapter on February 7, 2003. To my surprise Iowa seemed much like Missouri, just a little colder.

These information specialists in Iowa have worked diligently over the last couple of years to organize themselves into a chapter of the Special Libraries Association. Prior the creation of the chapter, those who held membership either belonged to the Illinois, Omaha, or Minnesota chapters. I can't blame the Iowans for wanting to start their own unit (this would cut down on the lengthy travel to a chapter meetings in one of the neighboring states).

I became quite familiar with several of the chapter members because of my role as Chapter Cabinet Chair. They made sure they met and gathered as much information as possible from the cabinet chair and SLA liaison, Linda Broussard, during annual and winter meetings. This group of determined Iowans stuck to their guns, held many planning meetings, and listened to good advice.

On February 7, 2003, I was pleased to be one of the honored guests at their kick-off luncheon. Chapter President Sue Lerdal, from the Drake University Law Library received the Chapter's charter from the Board of Directors of SLA. To my surprise I found that one of the Iowa members, Shari Stelling from the State Historical Society of Iowa, was none other than a former member of the St. Louis Chapter (some of you may remember her during the



Marietta Sargeant, Iowa Chapter, Stephanie Tolson, and Gavin Jerome (program speaker)

90s from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Library).

February 7 is a day that they will long remember in the Iowa Chapter and one that I will have fond memories of, too. This small chapter with modest funds has members with big hearts. They had a vision, they persevered, and now they are the newest SLA Chapter. See what can be done when you put a few good people with a common goal together! There is a lot of hard work that still needs to be done, but I'm sure these information professionals are in it for the long haul.



Sue Lerdal, Iowa Chapter President, proudly displays the framed chapter charter.

CHALK DUST!

Dear Members,

For each issue of the SLATE I receive many announcements from Chapter members. Rather than scattering them throughout the newsletter, I'd like to gather them together so you can find them easily. The title Chalk Dust is what Bryan might rightfully call a brain blurt! (You know, slate, chalkboard, chalk dust...) Feel free to suggest another title!

Maribeth (aka the Queen of Exclamation Points...!)

St. Louis Research Libraries Consortium Update

The St. Louis Research Libraries Consortium (SLRLC), which includes the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Missouri Historical Society, and the Saint Louis Art Museum, has begun implementation of the Innovative Interfaces library system.

The SLRLC was founded to collaborate on projects that provide enhanced access, control, and preservation for library and archival collections at all three institutions. The Innovative Interfaces project is the first project taken up by the SLRLC. Future shared projects, including cooperative digitization projects, are being considered after installation of the Innovative system, which will be completed by late Autumn 2003.

Publications

Chapter member Marsha Fulton has been writing regularly for *Searcher*. In her January 2003 *Searcher* column entitled "Web Wise Ways", she reviewed BioOne, a full-text resource of significant bioscience research journals from smaller societies. The February 2003 issue of *Searcher* carried a feature article she wrote on "Market Research Aggregators." It's a review of ECNext, MarketResearch.com and MindBranch. Go, Marsha!

Special Libraries Class in UM summer session

The University of Missouri School of Information Science & Learning Technologies (<http://www.coe.missouri.edu/~sislt/>) will offer its Special Libraries course in Summer 2003. Please pass the word on to anyone you think might be interested.

Please let Connie know if you would like to host the Special Libraries class on a Monday or Wednesday evening June 2 through July 28. Past generosity of St. Louis Special Librarians greatly enhanced students' understanding of special libraries. The classes are informal and often a lot of fun. They usually benefit the hosts as well as the students!

For additional information, email Connie at connie.wolf@mobot.org, or call 314-577-5156. Or contact Lynne Pye at PyeL@missouri.edu.

President's Message—Hey, Pocky Way!

(Continued from page 1)

you can qualify for the SLA Student Membership Rate.

According to 2003 data shared at the Winter Meeting, the Association has 10,338 Full members (formerly called "Associate" or "Active" members), 1156 Student members, 430 Retired, 68 45-Years Retired, 50 Life, 100 Organizational, 15 Honorary, and 2 Virtual members.

Other discussion points at the Winter Meeting included the Association's investigation of synchronizing the Association's Program Year and its fiscal year. Currently, the Association program year is from July to June and the fiscal year is January to December. The Association will carefully study the ramifications of such a change prior to making any decisions on this important topic.

My last point to share is that we were introduced to the current candidates for SLA office at the Winter Meeting. All of them are worth your consideration...and I'm sure that you've already mailed in your ballot to the Association prior to receiving this issue of the SLATE.

Certainly, more details are available on my summary points at the SLA WWW site. I'm also sure that the April *Information Outlook* will have plenty of background on these (and other) topics to fill you in prior to our June Annual Conference in New York City.

I am very hopeful that the right kinds of changes are happening to ensure that our Association remains viable well into the new century. My want is that you will all remain aware of these changes by attending our St. Louis Metropolitan Chapter meetings, reviewing information on the Association's WWW site and providing your input in a clear manner to your Association and to your St. Louis Leadership Team. Some links are provided below for your review.

Yes, New Orleans is an "adult portion". In the words of the immortal New Orleans Mardi Gras Indians, "Hey, Pocky Way...see you next Mardi Gras day!" Nice to know that St. Louis has a fine Fat Tuesday, too!

Branding and the Special Libraries Association

<http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/assocbrand/index.cfm>

2003 Winter Meeting - Leadership Summit Presentations and Notes

<http://www.sla.org/content/leadership/resource/ldi/LeadershipSummit2003.cfm>

Bryan S. Young, President
Saint Louis Metropolitan Area Chapter
Special Libraries Association (for now, anyway.)

**St. Louis Metropolitan Area Chapter
Special Libraries Association
Leadership Team Meeting
Saturday, September 21, 2002
Residence of Chapter President Bryan Young**

Present

Ellen Eliceiri	Treasurer
Margaret Ganyard	Membership
Katharine Hayes	Public Relations
Doug Holland	Member at Large
Linda Recklein	Employment
Barbara Rehkop	Government Relations
Marcia Stoklosa	Secretary
Chris Tighe	Director at Large, Awards
Rosie Weiss	Hospitality
Connie Wolf	Professional Development
Bryan Young	President

Agenda

Call to Order

Introductions/Contact Information Verification

Treasurer's Report

Overview of Executive Board meeting, August 24, 2002

Roles and Responsibilities

Chapter Procedures

Brainstorming – Membership

Brainstorming – Chapter Virtual Tools

Round Robin

Adjourn

Call to Order

Bryan Young, President, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. The agenda was reviewed.

Introductions/Contact Information Verification

Leadership Team members introduced themselves while Bryan distributed directory listings and the SLA Unit Officer Acknowledgement form. He asked everyone to verify the directory information and to fill out and sign the SLA form. He would fax them to SLA Headquarters.

Treasurer's Report

Ellen Eliceiri, Treasurer, presented the latest financial information. All accounts are balanced. While

the Chapter is solvent, Chapter events are not always a "break even" situation. There was discussion on member/non-member pricing for Chapter events. Bryan reiterated that the Chapter would continue to charge one price for members and non-members.

It was also noted that the Quicken software sent to Ellen by SLA Headquarters was not the most recent version and had compatibility problems. Since Quicken is needed to send the annual report to Headquarters, Ellen purchased a current version of Quicken. She will be reimbursed for this expense.

Overview of Executive Board Meeting, August 24, 2002

Everyone took a few minutes to look over the minutes of the Executive Board meeting, held August 24, 2002. Bryan explained his proposal for a more formal Technology Team and what would be accomplished. Chris Tighe, Director at Large, agreed to act as Team Leader.

Reporting for Erin Lanham, President-elect/Programs, Bryan announced that the annual holiday networking meeting was scheduled for December 12. Once again, Anheuser-Busch agreed to provide the location. Erin was working with Leah Holler, Business Manager, on vendor support. A discussion of the pros and cons of vendor support followed.

Roles, Responsibilities and Chapter Procedures

From the Chapter Procedures Manual, Bryan provided everyone with a copy of the responsibilities for each Leadership Team position. Although the Manual was updated several years ago, Bryan asked everyone to review their responsibilities throughout the year and suggest any changes as needed. In the annual report sent to Headquarters in April, he would like to include any changes in the current position descriptions and responsibilities, as well as anything that was done differently from previous years. It was suggested that the Procedures Manual be added to the Chapter's Web site.

Bryan recommended the SLA leadership resources (www.sla.org/content/leadership/resource) as a guide. He plans to send out notices for any reports required by SLA. Anyone with questions regarding any leadership roles and responsibilities should contact Bryan.

Everyone also received check request forms and was reminded by Ellen to include a legible receipt and description of the service or items for reimburse-

(Continued from page 6 Oct. Meeting)
ment.

Brainstorming – Membership

To begin brainstorming on membership, Bryan gave everyone a copy of the Chapter and Association membership trends over the last 10 years. This was from a membership report he received at the annual meeting in Los Angeles. After a peak in 1993 of 164, Chapter membership has been declining to the current level of 103. The Association membership has also declined. Linda Recklein, Employment, noted that the Chapter lost 61 members in the last nine years, most due to attrition, retirement or corporate changes. Ellen remarked that the cost of membership can be a major factor for many people.

Bryan posed the questions how much should the Chapter grow, what types of people do we want to attract and invite to become members? Increasing membership is part of the Chapter's Strategic Plan and mandate. What should we do to accomplish this and how should we do it? Is it effective to invite students to Chapter meetings? Would a mentoring program be worthwhile?

Barbara Rehkop, Government Relations, thought a good approach would be to answer the question of what is it in the profession that would attract someone. In particular, what are students looking for in a profession?

Connie Wolf, Professional Development, felt that outreach to new members was crucial. Good meetings were also a necessity. As a way to attract students, she asked for volunteers to speak to her special libraries class. While most of the students in the class were at the end of the MLS program, it would still be an excellent opportunity to promote membership.

There was more discussion on attracting students in other outreach programs, promoting the value of membership to library directors and interacting with other professional associations. Suggestions were made to post a calendar on the Chapter Web site and include a membership form in the SLATE. Also suggested were surveying former members on why they did not renew their membership and why current members do not attend Chapter meetings.

In summary, several Leadership Team members would participate in Connie's class and Bryan and Katharine Hayes, Public Relations, would develop press release-type of announcements for upcoming meetings. These announcements would be sent to

other professional organizations and library school discussion lists.

Brainstorming – Chapter Virtual Tools

Bryan reported the Technology Team was scheduled to meet the following week and already had good ideas on ways to use the SLATE, Web site and discussion list. In particular, the Team would be working in the top 10 "virtualization" requests from the Brain Blurts meeting last October: SLATE, database reviews, trouble-shooting discussion list, online calendar of events, sending the SLATE via e-mail, an 800-phone number for the Chapter, mentoring information, job announcements, meeting information and database of experts. Chris and Patrick Hendershot, Webmaster, have additional ideas. Doug Holland, Member at Large, suggested automatically adding all members to the Chapter discussion list.

Round Robin

Bryan offered everyone an opportunity to add anything that still needed to be voiced and added to the minutes. He thanked everyone for attending and serving on the Leadership Team. Barbara asked if anyone knew the name of the librarian at Boeing. Linda said it was Maria Falconer (sp?). Rosie Weiss, Hospitality, said she was looking forward to meeting everyone. Ellen thanked her for greeting everyone personally at the Bevo Mill. Linda said she was happy for the opportunity to serve and was looking forward to the coming year. Chris suggested McMurphy's as a possible meeting venue. Connie was also glad for the opportunity to serve. She believes she can accomplish much for the Chapter. Serving on the Leadership Team complements her work with the special libraries class. Doug added his thanks for the opportunity to be part of the Leadership Team. Katharine continued the thanks and added that she would like to put together a public relations plan encompassing what had been discussed. She was still working on getting an article in the *St. Louis Business Journal*. Katharine also noted the passing of Richard Dille, retired librarian at SIUE.

No date was set for the next meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Stoklosa
Chapter Secretary

**St. Louis Metropolitan Chapter
Special Libraries Association
Chapter Meeting
December 12, 2002
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Anheuser-Busch**

The Fourth Annual Holiday Happening was held at Anheuser-Busch. After a networking social hour and dinner, the business meeting was called to order by Chapter President Bryan Young at 7:17 p.m. Bryan welcomed everyone and, continuing an idea begun by Past President Maribeth Slobodnik, donned a red presidential chapeau. Once the laughter and applause subsided, Bryan thanked everyone for attending and spoke of plans and ideas for the chapter this year. Bryan then asked for any leadership reports.

Committee Reports

Programs

Erin Lanham, President-elect/Programs Chair, also welcomed everyone to the meeting. She pointed out the listings of the evening's corporate sponsors and asked the members to thank them. Erin then introduced the corporate sponsors' representatives in attendance and what each funded:

Prenax -- (pasta station)
FIS Mergent -- (seafood platter)
LexisNexis -- Christina Ritchie, Gordon Middleton, Mark Roberts (dessert)
Dialog -- Neal Rhutasel (financial support)
CAS -- Beth Heinz (financial support)
Basch Subscriptions -- (financial support)
Anheuser-Busch -- (location)

Erin also thanked members Ann Lauenstein and Leah Holler for their help in making the meeting a success.

Association news

Stephanie Tolson, Diversity Chair/SLA Chapter Cabinet Chair, thanked the chapter members for their participation in the vote to change the Association bylaws. She reminded everyone that SLA is an international organization, that we must look forward and embrace other information professionals and new ways to deliver information. At the Winter Meeting in New Orleans, Stephanie said the Board will be looking at other ways to simplify the governance of the Association.

Treasurer's Report

Ellen Eliceiri, Treasurer, reported that the Chap-

ter's latest financial statement was available on all of the tables. Although she had not received all of the invoices for the year, the Chapter was financially sound.

SLATE

Maribeth Slobodnik reminded everyone of the SLATE deadline the next day. She asked everyone to send her any news of interest to the membership.

Professional Development

Connie Wolf, Professional Development Chair, spoke of the video conference on the Patriot Act that was held on December 11 at Washington University. She felt the conference had been very interesting and well done. Connie invited the Chapter members to send her ideas for future programs. She also thanked Ann Lauenstein for hosting the evening's meeting.

Public Relations

Katharine Hayes, Public Relations Chair, reported on the recent article in the *St. Louis Business Journal* on corporate librarians. Chapter members Bryan Young, Sally Beck, Sally Crowley and Larry Walton were interviewed and featured in the article. Katharine related to the members that a similar article in a Cincinnati paper gave her the idea. She sent the link to the Cincinnati article to the *St. Louis Business Journal*, promoting the number of special libraries in the St. Louis area. The paper responded favorably to her suggestion and a reporter contacted her shortly thereafter. Katharine quickly polled some Leadership Team members to provide a representative list of interviewees. Once the writer contacted her, everything moved very quickly and the story appeared in the November 22-28, 2002 issue of the *St. Louis Business Journal*, with a photograph of Bryan.

Bryan thanked Katharine for her quick work.

Awards Committee

Carol Thaxton, Chair, reminded everyone that the deadline for nominations for Chapter awards was fast approaching. Anyone with names, questions or wanting to volunteer for the Committee should contact Carol.

Other Announcements

Bryan briefly reported on the work being done by Chris Tighe and the Technology Team. They had met and were developing the processes to handle the Chapter's electronic resources. Bryan called

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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

In This Issue...

Annual Meeting Futurist Programs

Submitted by Katherine Bertolucci,
SLA Information Futurists Caucus Convener:

Dr. Kenneth Thibodeau, one of the major players in electronic records preservation, will speak at SLA's 2003 Conference in New York City during the Future Directions track on Tuesday, June 10 at 3:30 pm. Ken Thibodeau is a key player in the development of effective new methods for preserving electronic records through generations of information technology.

Digital preservation is becoming an important topic for SLA. The September 2002 Information Outlook featured an article on the digital preservation efforts at the Library of Congress, "Digital Preservation Looks Forward," by Amy Friedlander of the Council on Library and Information Resources. Stewart Brand will again address SLA in New York City, this time as keynote for Tuesday's Future Directions track at 9:30 am. In an interview for the February 2003 Information Outlook, Brand stated that one of his themes will be digital preservation. Dr. Kenneth Thibodeau follows in the afternoon with a program about the exciting preservation projects at NARA/ERA. Plan to join the Information Futurists for two more great conference events. Get an early start on the

Future Directions track by attending the always lively KINF business and networking meeting on Monday at 5:30 pm. You'll also enjoy a program on wearable and mobile technology with members of the MIT Media Laboratory. KINF is co-sponsoring this program with the Information Technology Division at 1:30 during Tuesday's Future Directions track.

Holiday Meeting Report

(Continued from page 8)

attention to the work done by Rosie Weiss, Hospitality Committee Chair, for the evening's event. He thanked her for her efforts. Bryan, and everyone in attendance, thanked the Anheuser-Busch staff for their excellent service, with rousing applause and cheers. Stephanie reminded everyone of the annual Career Fair, to be held March 18 and 19. She asked members to contribute two hours of their time in the SLA booth.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Stoklosa
Chapter Secretary