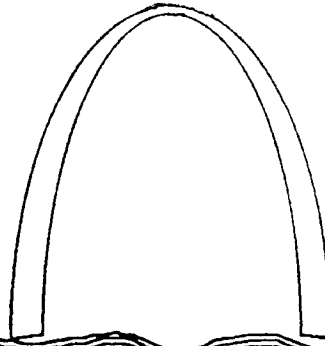


THE
SLATE



SLA

ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN AREA CHAPTER
Special Libraries Association

Volume 62 Number 4

May 2003

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Goodbye and Hello

Is it time to wrap up this Chapter year already? (well...no, we have our Annual Business Meeting on May 13th so there is a bit more work to do...) Still, with the June Annual Conference in New York City rapidly approaching, the "end is in sight". And, what a year it's been! I want to thank our Chapter's Leadership Team (especially our Executive Board) for all of the good work that was accomplished during my watch. I also want to specifically honor the efforts and successes of the following individuals: Erin Lanham for booking a superb calendar of evening and lunchtime meetings for our Chapter members; Ellen Eliceiri for being an outstanding Treasurer for the past couple of Chapter years; Kathy Hayes for running with the opportunity and getting our profession highlighted in the *St. Louis Business Journal* and Maribeth Slebodnik for sliding perfectly into the "big shoes" left by Joel Shedlofsky as our SLATE Editor. And a special "thank you" to anyone who posted a comment on the ARCH, helped out a Chapter colleague or made a small contribution to our profession. I am genuinely delighted to be part of this St. Louis SLA community.

Did every idea penciled down on the back of a cocktail napkin or Post-it note get put into motion this Chapter year? No. But the good ideas are always worth revisiting...and I am confident that the incoming Chapter Leadership Team will be exploding with great ideas after a brief summer incubation period. I am very pleased that my tenure as Past-President is just beginning. I say, "hello" to this new role in the same breath as "good bye" to that of Chapter President!

I've been an active member of the Special Libraries Association for many years (hmmm...do I really want to let that name go?) and will continue to serve the St. Louis Metropolitan Area Chapter with pleasure. I know that you all have gifts to share...and I invite you to stay involved (or become more involved!) during the upcoming Chapter year.

Looking forward to seeing you on May 13th at the final meeting of this Chapter year.

In gratitude,

Bryan S. Young

Officers 2002-2003

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

Committee Chairs

Archives	Maribeth Slebodnik
Awards	Carol Thaxton
Business Manager	Leah Holler
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
Professional	Connie Wolf
Development	
Programs	Erin Lanham
Public Relations	Katharine Hayes
SLATE Editor	Maribeth Slebodnik
Strategic Planning	Karen Chapman

Chapter established 1941
 Web Address: <http://www.sla.org/chapter/cstl>
 Subscription Address: listproc@mail.wustl.edu
 List Address: SLA_ARCH@mail.wustl.edu

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 mslebodnik@danforthcenter.org

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

Business Manager: Leah Holler, Ralston Purina Co., 11716 Summerhaven Dr. St. Louis MO 63146

PH 314-993-3642 Email: lbiser@mindspring.com

Advertising Rates: (per insertion)

Full Page	\$50.00
Half Page	\$25.00
Quarter Page	\$12.50
Business Card	\$ 7.50 (2" x 3")

Special Libraries Association assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by the contributors to the Association's publications. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of the Special Libraries Association. Acceptance of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product by the Special Libraries Association.



Special Libraries Association

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Erin's innovative lunches have been a success! The latest lunch was at Houlihan's on April 1. Watch the Chapter website for a May lunch, and for meetings during the summer. Our annual Chapter business meeting will be on Tuesday, May 13. We'll have informal time to mingle and munch from the hot appetizer buffet from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at Growler's Pub at 3811 South Lindbergh in Sunset Hills. Following the buffet, we will conduct our Chapter business, including the election of new officers and discussion of changes in the Asso-

ciation at the national level. The slate of new officer candidates is as follows:

President-Elect	Chris Tighe
Treasurer	Anne Lauenstein
Secretary	Katharine Hayes
Director at Large	Karen Chapman
Member at Large	Jean Coffman

Don't forget the Annual Meeting in New York from June 7-12. If you haven't registered yet, there is still time! See the SLA Website at <http://www.sla.org/content/Events/e/2003annual/index.cfm>.

Searching the Web Smarter

Patrick Hendershot

During the 2002 SLA Annual Meeting I took a course entitled "Not Just Search Engines: Searching Faster and Smarter on the Web." This useful class taught me several new search tools and made me aware that my Web searching strategies were in a rut. I wanted to take a moment to share some of those search tips with you. There are basically three classes of search tools on the Web: search engines, quick fact look up tools and subject starters. Understanding these three tools will help you navigate the Web successfully.

Part 1: Search Engines:

There are three basic characteristics that must be met in order for a site to be considered a true search engine: It must use a Web "spider" to automatically collect information, it must place that content in a database and it must have a Web template from which the database is searchable. There are only 10 true search engines left ... can you name them? Thankfully our good old friend Greg Notess continues to produce his search engine review and comparisons on the www.searchengineshowdown.com Web page. This is the first place to go for information on Web searching. Many tools really aren't search engines even if they claim to be. Yahoo! is not a search engine because it is a list of Web sites put together by humans, not machines.

Three recommended search engines are **Google** (www.google.com), **WiseNut**

(Continued on page 4)



**C. Berger
Group, Inc.**

*Where people and
information meetSM*

630.653.1115
800.382.4222
Fax: 630.653.1691

www.cberger.com

Bring in the Specialists!

Trust CBG library experts to provide fast, creative solutions to your library management needs. Call us today for:

- Temporary and Contract Personnel
- Direct Hires
- Executive Search
- Project Management
- Consulting Services
- Outsourcing
- Inmagic® Products and Services

**CBG - providing quality services for
information professionals since 1982.**

(Continued from page 3)

(www.WiseNut.com) and **FAST Search** (www.alltheweb.com). All search engines now rank the result set in the order of how many times the page is linked to. This was originally started by Google and quickly replaced the method of showing the page with the most “hits” on it.

Search engines are great for finding quick information such as names, companies or associations. They are also good for finding very specific topics. A lot of the Internet is now commercial in nature so you are forced to wade through a great deal of marketing to find the information you need. A large portion of content on the internet still remains in the “invisible web.” This is the part that is contained in databases and search tools that are able to be collected by search engine software. Subject Starters are a great way to tap into that resource.

Here are a few quick tips for using searching search engines:

- 1: If the answer isn't in the first 10 search results, move on to another tool.
- 2: Use lower case when typing in search terms.
- 3: Putting text inside of quotation marks normally works in all search engines to retrieve exact phrases.
- 4: Try a couple of search engines. Overlap is limited and different ordering of search results may be useful.
- 5: Don't spend more than 20 minutes on search engines, go on to another tool.

Part 2: Quick Fact Look-Up Tools:

The second type of searching tool on the Web are the sources for quick facts, like dictionary definitions, maps, quotations, translations, conversion tools and other reference items. Here are a few examples of good places to start for quick references:

DeskRef (www.refdesk.com/index.html): This site helps locate quick fact finder resources. This expansive site of links is organized by subject and the “Site Map” is a good place to start. From maps to horoscopes to reference tools, this site has it all.

Telephone Directories on the Web Infobel (www.teldir.com) or Phonenumbers.net (www.phonenumbers.net) are both good places to find listings of international phone directories.

Dictionaries One Look (www.onelook.com), Dictionaries on the Web (www.helsinki.fi/~hkantola/dict.html), and YourDictionary.com (www.yourdictionary.com) are all reliable sites for finding listings of dictionaries, offering foreign language dictionaries and translation capabilities.

How Stuff Works (www.howstuffworks.com): Ever wonder how the NFL Draft works or how your ice maker makes ice? This fun, informative site is chock full of straightforward explanations and good illustrations.

Part 3: Subject Starters

How many of you have started out an Internet search using a “subject starter” as opposed to a search engine? A subject starter is a list of hand-picked resources. They are sometimes called catalogs, directories, link lists or jump points. The best ones are organized topically in a way that makes them easily accessible. Use subject starters to find good quality, pre-selected links to resources (including many databases that might not be

(Continued on page 6)

CHALK DUST!

Marcia Fulton reports that she has a new position as the Electronic Services librarian at Thompson Coburn LLP as of 3/31/03. Congratulations, Marcia!

Trish Cervenka has accepted a position as the head of the Law Library at Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI, beginning June 1. She will be missed at the SLU Law School library. Join us for a happy hour after 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 22, at the St. Louis Brewery and Tap Room at 21st and Locust to wish Trish well as she leaves St. Louis!

Celia Giltinan will be demonstrating the services available at the American Association of Orthodontists' library at the association's Annual Meeting and Trade Show on May 2-6 in Honolulu, HI. She will demonstrate the AAO website, PubMed and Medline searching, and the Mosby site hosting the *American Journal of Orthodontics*.

Sadly, Wendi Adams informs us that the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod International Center library will close at the end of June 2003 due to declining institutional revenues.

COMPUTERS IN LIBRARIES 2003

This year I decided to go to some conferences I've never attended before. First on the list was COMPUTERS IN LIBRARIES 2003, held in Washington D.C. from March 11-15. My first year on the job at the Danforth Center was primarily focused on management and start up activities, and it was to catch up with the ongoing advances in technology.

CIL 2003 gave me great information about XML, open source software, rich site summary (RSS) and institutional repositories. I attended a pre-conference workshop on Web management and a post-conference workshop on digital library collections. Both were led by knowledgeable, recognizable experts who were able to impart a

wealth of information in a short time.

I attended a variety of interesting sessions on content management and personalization, Weblogs, network security, and legal issues for electronic resources. I took pages and pages of notes – I'll share a few highlights that I thought were very useful.

The search engine AllTheWeb.com got great reviews from Gary Price, one of the search engine gurus. It indexes the full text of Web documents, while Google stops after 100-120 Kb. Check it out at www.alltheweb.com.

Roy Tennant gave a great keynote address on interoperability and standards. He contends that MARC is no longer the most applicable standard and we need to push for a more workable solution. He wrote a column in *Library Journal* last year entitled, "MARC Must Die!" See his presentation at <http://escholarship.cdlib.org/rtennant/presentations/2003cil/>. As well as the keynote address, you'll find presentations on XML and digital library collections.

CIL 2003 took place at the famous Washington Hilton and Towers, where Ronald Reagan was shot by John Hinckley. It is a great conference venue, close to the hopping area of Dupont Circle, where it's easy to have lunch or dinner with the new colleagues you meet. I stayed across the street at the Churchill Hotel, which was very spacious and international in flavor. The conference was organized by Information Today, Inc., and featured their products but also represented a good mix of other vendors and a sizable vendor exhibit hall. If you're looking for a great technical update, consider CIL!

If you have been contacted by SLA to complete an online salary survey, please remember to send it before May 21!

This information is very helpful to all of us in the Association.

Thanks for taking the time to share with your colleagues. No personal data is included.

<p>From: ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN AREA CHAPTER OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION c/o Library 975 North Warson Rd. St. Louis, MO 63132</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FIRST CLASS</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">In This Issue...</p>	<p>Slate of 2003-04 Chapter officer candidates, upcoming programs!</p>

(Continued from page 4)

indexed by search engines). The number of resources on a subject starter is much smaller than that of a search engine, but the sources are more selective and it's a good way to tap into the hidden Internet. In general a list of topics is given on these sites, but most are also searchable. When using a keyword on a subject starter keep it very general. Here are a few of the best subject starters:

Librarian's Index to the Internet (www.lii.org): Produced by the California State Library this excellent resource is a good place to start and has advanced search capabilities.

BUBL Link 5:115 (www.bubl.ac.uk/link): A British site similar to www.lii.org. Based heavily on the Dewey Classification System, the 5:115 Link offers a subject entry alternative. A comprehensive and well organized site.

About.com (www.about.com): Sites on this source are run by assigned "Guides" who build a comprehensive environment around their specific topics including the best new content, relevant links, how-to's, forums, and answers to just about any question on the topic.

World Wide Web Virtual Library (<http://vlib.org/>): The Virtual Library claims to be the oldest catalog of the Web. It is run by a loose confederation of volunteers, who compile pages of key links for particular areas in which they are expert. Good for scientific topics.

Academic Info (www.academicinfo.net): Good for scientific and engineering topics, this resource has been online since 1998 where it began as a for-profit Internet subject directory. In 2002 Academic Info reorganized as a non-profit organization and today its primary focus is academic with its intended audience high-school level and above.

LookSmart (www.looksmart.com): This site has a few more advertisements on its pages, but still maintains a good listing of reviewed Web sites while being easy to navigate.

Open Directory Project (<http://dmoz.org/>): A site constructed and maintained by a vast global community of volunteer editors.