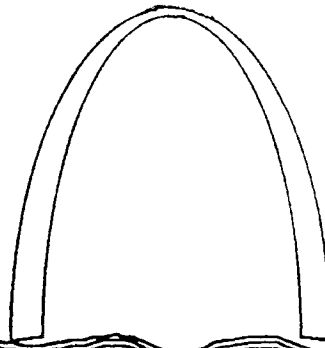


THE
SLATE



SLA

ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN AREA CHAPTER
Special Libraries Association

Volume 63 Number 2

March 2004

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

It's the time of year when I really start looking forward to spring. A few warm days here and there, and I'm ready to ditch the winter coat for good. You know what they say about Missouri weather, if you don't like it, just wait five minutes and it will change.

Changes are also happening in SLA. Earlier this morning, I was on a conference call with Cindy Hill, SLA President, Ethel Salonen, SLA President-Elect, and Janice LaChance, SLA Executive Director. They confirmed that at the Jan. 24, 2004 Board of Director's meeting in Albuquerque, NM, the motion was passed for the Special Libraries Association to do business as ("dba") SLA.

What kind of impact will this have on our chapter? Not much, really. By doing business as SLA, our association will continue to legally and financially operate as the Special Libraries Association. Marketing and communications from the national level will now read "SLA." At midnight (EST) on February 27, 2004, we first saw an enhancement of the current logo, which will use the acronym SLA, and provide members with tagline options.



SLATE OF CANDIDATES
2004-05

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Ann Lauenstein
Secretary
Katrina Stierholz
Director at Large
Karen Chapman
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Susan Baerwald
President
Chris Tighe
Past President
Erin Lanham

Why the change to dba SLA? Association Board members traveling outside of North America have found that potential international members don't find "Special Libraries Association" an appealing brand, although these same potential members find the SLA products / programs of value. So, now we sit back and see if this change will have as great an impact on SLA membership levels as the Missouri weather changes can have on our moods.

This spring, Ethel Salonen, SLA President-Elect, will speak at our annual business meeting. Ethel will share her vision for SLA for the year ahead, and I'm sure she will discuss dba SLA.

Here's to spring! (I'm waiting...)

Erin

Officers

President	Erin Lanham
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Past President	Bryan Young
Treasurer	Anne Lauenstein
Secretary	Katharine Hayes
Director-at-large	Karen Chapman
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Awards	Judy Harris
Business Manager	Valerie Rohrbaugh
Discussion list	Gail Hoef
Diversity	Stephanie Tolson
Employment	Linda Recklein
Government Relations	Barbara Rehkop
Hospitality	Rosie Weiss
Information	Patrick Hendershot
Technology/Webmaster	
Membership	Bryan Young
Professional Dev.	Kristin Schieffer
Programs	Chris Tighe
Public Relations	Mary Anne Walton
SLATE Editor	Maribeth Slebodnik
Strategic Planning	Open

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

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Advertising Rates: (per insertion)
 Full Page \$50.00
 Half Page \$25.00
 Quarter Page \$12.50
 Business Card \$ 7.50 (2" x 3")

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NEW DOCUMENT FOR CHAPTER GOVERNANCE

Attached below you will find the text of the new St. Louis Metro Area Chapter Governing Document.

According to Chapter Chair Dav Robertson, "This document provides the minimum essential requirements for the governance of all SLA Chapters. Chapters may further revise and customize this document, if so desired, by following the formal amendment process outlined by the Association Bylaws: Chapters shall adopt governing documents that shall not be in conflict with the Association bylaws. All proposed changes to governing documents shall

be reviewed by the Association bylaws committee prior to being submitted for a vote of the chapter membership."

This short & sweet document replaces our former set of rules for Chapter governance, and is intended to provide each Chapter with increased flexibility to meet their unique circumstances and needs. Please take a look and talk to your Chapter leadership about adaptations that might be useful for us. This is your Chapter—help shape and improve it!

Off my soapbox,

Maribeth

St. Louis Metro Area Chapter Governing Document

NAME AND MISSION

The name of this unit is the *St Louis Metro Area Chapter, Special Libraries Association*. The mission of this Chapter shall be that of the Special Libraries Association.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Chapter shall be those members of the Association who reside or work within the geographic boundaries of the Chapter, defined within the geographical boundaries of the Chapter, defined as the western boundaries of the Missouri counties of Crawford, Dent, Franklin and Lincoln; the southern boundaries of the Missouri counties of Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Iron, Madison and Reynolds; the Missouri counties of Jefferson, Perry, St. Charles, St. Francois, St. Louis, Ste. Genevieve, Washington and the City of St. Louis; the northern boundary of the Missouri county of Lincoln; and Illinois counties of St. Clair, Madison, Monroe and Jersey, which serve as part of the St. Louis Metropolitan Area, or who elect to affiliate with the Chapter.

The Association's Board of Directors shall define the classes of members.

Chapter membership falling below 25 members for more than one Association year will be reported to the Chapter Cabinet Chair.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The executive board ("board") with a minimum of four members shall have the authority and responsibility to manage the Chapter's property and to regulate and govern its affairs. A majority of board members in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the board.

No member shall serve in the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

Should the office of president become vacant, the president-elect shall assume this position for the remainder of the term. All other board vacancies, including a vacancy in the office of president-elect, occurring before the conclusion of a departing member's term will be filled by majority vote of the remaining members of the board.

OFFICERS

The president, subject to the executive board, shall have general supervision and control over Chapter affairs.

The president-elect shall have duties as specified by Chapter Recommended Practices and the needs of the Chapter.

The secretary shall keep an approved record of all meetings of the Chapter and board and sign legal documents jointly with the president.

The treasurer shall have custody of the Chapter funds.

The Chapter may elect additional officers as specified by the Chapter Recommended Practices, and the needs of the Chapter.

MEETINGS

The Chapter annual business meeting shall be held prior to the Association annual conference. At least one business meeting shall be held during the term of office of each elected board. Adequate notice of meetings shall be provided to the membership.

COMMITTEES

The board may establish committees, which shall be responsible to the board.

The board may authorize funds for committee expenses.

No Chapter member may serve on any one committee for more than six consecutive years.

SUBUNITS

Subunits may be established and disbanded by the Chapter, according to Chapter Recommended Practices.

FUNDS, CONTRACTS AND PROPERTY

Funds for Chapter expenses shall be derived in part or in whole from the Association as an allotted share of the annual dues paid by Chapter members.

Any agreement, contract, or obligation entered into by the Chapter, including the purchase of property such as office machines, filing cabinets, computer equipment, etc., shall have advance approval of the board. Any agreement, contract or obligation must be in compliance with Association liability limits as prescribed in Chapter Recommended Practices.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

A Nominating Committee for each election of members to the board shall be appointed by the board. Nomination of candidates for each office and the election of candidates shall be determined by Chapter Recommended Practices.

DISSOLUTION AND MERGER

The Chapter may petition the Association Board of Directors for dissolution, or for merger with another Chapter, by vote of its membership in accordance with Chapter Recommended Practices.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chapters shall institute suitable mechanisms to facilitate communications with and between its members regarding Chapter activities, affairs, issues, and other matters.

CHAPTER REPRESENTATION AND AFFILIATION

Chapter representatives to joint committees and meetings of other societies having objectives allied to those of the Chapter and of the Association may be appointed by the President.

AMENDMENTS

This governing document may be amended by an affirmative vote of two thirds of the members present at any Chapter meeting. Revisions in, or amendments to, the Chapter governing document shall be reviewed by the Association Bylaws Committee, prior to presentation to the Chapter membership.

Approved by Chapter Cabinet:	June 10, 2003
Approved by Board of Directors:	January 21, 2004
Effective Date:	February 1, 2004

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT REPORT

I recently attended the SLA Leadership Summit in Albuquerque, New Mexico and found that the programs were not only very helpful in terms of working with the Association but they also covered topics that have been useful on the daily professional level.

The first two meetings focused on communication and on creating a positive environment. Ann Rhodes from JetBlue began the meeting with an inspiring presentation on "People Centered Cultures." She emphasized that if you start with finding a way to "yes" with your employee, it will filter down to your customers. Be service oriented and inspire passion. Define your values and then define the concrete behaviors that you expect based on those values. Be specific when you are hiring people about those values and behaviors. Lead by example: take ownership of mistakes, have a sense of humor, take responsibility, demonstrate commitment to your values in your actions, exceed expectations. Resources that she listed include: Good to Great by Jim Collins, The Southwest Airlines Way by Jody Hoffer Gittell, Contented Cows Give Better Milk by Bill Catlette.

The next presentation identified four different communication styles and gave examples of how to work with each.

- 1) Intuitive – big picture people, visionaries who can be overly abstract, theoretical and not see practical details. These are often scientists, planners. To work with them, use models, drawings, schema, plans. They are problem solvers and they don't want to be given answers.
- 2) Thinker – analytical, logical, linear, focused people. They want facts, proof and often seen as unconcerned with people issues. Lawyers, engineers, accountants, and IT people fall into this category. Be logical and detail procedures and steps, give proof and show how you arrived there, use statistics, outlines, bullets.
- 3) Feelers – aware of people, empathetic, sensitive to spoken and unspoken communications and undercurrents. They are good listeners, can bring people together. They often get caught up in internal politics. Often they are in human services or sales. Use images, slogans, be informal and emphasize teamwork and moral building with them.
- 4) Sensor – focused on bottom line, results, driven and will drive others, good at multi-tasking, organized, pragmatic. They set high standards for themselves and others and can go through staff quickly. They want results now, don't focus on the long-term repercussions of decisions and see different opinions or styles as opposition. Entrepreneurs, managers, CEO's are often this type. Use executive summaries, show results first in terms of time and money, hit the high points or they will turn off.

When presenting to groups, identify the communication type for the person who will be the decision maker and pitch to them but repeat your key points geared to each style. For people you work with everyday, analyze their styles so that you can respond to their questions, comments, interruptions.

The remaining meetings focused on funding, programming and running chapter meetings. Taxonomy of a Meeting by Marjorie M.K. Hlava focused on using Robert's Rules. Successful Fundraising by Carol Hoover and Heather Kotula gave

good tips on working with vendors to sponsor meetings and event. They emphasized “See the vendor as your partner.”

It was also a wonderful opportunity to network. We were able to meet Ethel Salonen, the current Association President-Elect, to work on the details of her upcoming visit to the St. Louis Chapter. After hanging out with members of the Toronto Chapter, I’m definitely looking forward to the 2005 annual conference there. We had a preview of the new Association web site and of the new headquarters in Alexandria, VA this Spring.

Chris Tighe

ENDING THE YEAR WITH A BANG!

Ethel Salonen, SLA President-Elect, will be our special guest at the Chapter’s annual business and awards meeting on Tuesday, May 18, 2004.

Ethel is Senior Manager for External Content at Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc. in Cambridge Massachusetts. Her topic will be: “SLA: The Association for Information Professionals, The Year Ahead.” For a bio of Ethel, see <http://www.sla.org/Documents/boarddocs/EthelSalonenBio.htm>

Erin and Chris met Ethel at the Leadership Summit in Albuquerque and describe her as dynamic and sharing a very strong vision of the Association and the profession. Her talk will be a preview of her inaugural speech in Nashville and it will give everyone lots of discuss! Ethel will be here visiting area member libraries on May 17, 18 and 19. It’s an honor for the Chapter to host our future President.

At the May meeting we will also be presenting both the Elizabeth Owens Award and the Leadership award, as well as presenting the new slate of officers for the coming year. The catered meeting will be at the BEAUTIFUL new Emerson Library at Webster University, thanks to Ellen Eliceiri’s sponsorship. Make sure to mark your calendars—it will be a great evening with your colleagues!

The SLA St Louis Chapter has established a new fund – a Member Sponsorship Fund for four unemployed information professionals currently actively seeking work. The Board will evaluate this benefit after one year.

This fund is to assist existing and prospective members to maintain or to establish membership in SLA and to become active in the St Louis chapter. It is a one-time, non-renewable support award for qualified individuals.

The Member Sponsorship Fund will be open to unemployed information professionals with either a MLS/MLIS degree or with three years of experience in the following areas: information specialists, librarians, webmasters, content developers, vendor positions, researchers, and other roles in a library or information center.

**TRIAL
BENEFIT
FOR
CHAPTER
MEMBERS**

Each of the four recipients receives funding for one-year full membership in SLA, which includes financial support for one SLA division. The recipients may choose to join additional SLA division, chapter or caucus affiliations at their own expense. For current SLA members, eligibility is within 60 days of membership expiration. In exchange for receiving the funds, the sponsored member is to participate in the St Louis

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Chapter in one of the following ways:

Attend at least two chapter meetings and write at least two articles for the Slate to report on these two meetings

Participate as a committee member for one year in consultation with the Chapter President

Write at least two articles for the Slate on topics in consultation with the newsletter editor.

The first four qualified applicants will receive the Member Sponsorships Funds. To apply, contact the Membership Chair (Bryan Young) by phone at 314-694-4767 or by email at bryan.s.young@monsanto.com.

Thanks to Jean Coffman, Ann Lauenstein, Linda Recklein and Bryan Young for working to organize this benefit for our members!

New museum & library planned

SLA member Ellen Dickman is working to help restore the U.S. Army Post and Exchange Building at Jefferson Barracks as she begins to collect materials for the library that will eventually be part of the Missouri Civil War Museum.

The Missouri Civil War Museum is a non-profit educational institution dedicated to the memory of all of the men, women, and children who suffered and endured the pain of the American Civil War. This educational facility is dedicated to the bravest soldiers who ever adorned the uniforms of the Blue or the Gray, to the thousands of widows and orphans who were left behind, to the millions of men and women of color who were finally able to find a "new birth of freedom" and to all Americans of today and of tomorrow.

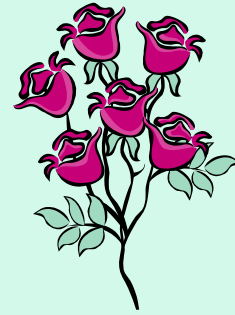
The purpose of the Missouri Civil War Museum is to educate the public about the true aspects and history of the American Civil War and its relevance to the State of Missouri and to obtain, preserve, and display items, artifacts, and documents relating to Missouri and the Civil War in an attempt to correctly interpret this most important and turbulent period in our country's history. The Museum will place an equal emphasis on both the Union and the Confederacy in order to be a place where the North and South can finally meet together, in peace, in honor, and in the Midwest.

Ellen is very excited about this grassroots

project. Most of the work thus far on the project and restoration of the building has been by volunteers and members of the museum. Ellen first noticed the actual building that is being restored when she moved to the Lemay area and took her dog on walks through Jefferson Barracks. She thought that such a beautiful building should not just continue to decay. Beyond the building restoration she sees a true need and educational benefit for this museum. This museum will provide a wonderful opportunity for the people of St. Louis to understand St. Louis' and the entire state of Missouri's involvement in the Civil War.

The museum is slated to open in 2007. Organizers are still looking for corporate sponsorship to complete the restoration and support the museum. Volunteers are sought to help with the restoration, landscaping, marketing and fundraising. Ellen would like to request help from her fellow SLA members for the Museum's library project. Please contact her if you'd like to be involved in this or any aspect of the Museum's development, or if you have questions about the project. Ellen can be reached at the International Library Archives and Museum of Optometry (ILAMO) at 314-991-4100 x117 or ellendickman@hotmail.com. The Missouri Civil War Museum has a web page, including membership information, at <http://www.missouricivilwarmuseum.org>.

Thank you
to our Chapter's volunteers.



Because of you,
the Chapter is able to offer
quality products and services
to its members.

Erin

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

I recently realized that there isn't a student chapter of SLA at Mizzou (duh.) I think that establishing a student chapter would be a great project for our Chapter to take on. We have lots of wonderful contacts and experience to share with the next generation of special librarians. If you think this is a good idea and you'd like to be involved, please contact Chris Tighe or Erin Lanham so we can gauge interest among the membership. Thanks!

Connie Wolf recently retired from the Missouri Botanical Garden Library after almost 20 years as director. Not one to lounge around, Connie has begun a consulting business, LibraryConsultSTL. She is working with libraries on matters of staffing; policies, procedures, and services; writing grant proposals; and special projects. For more information, you may check with her at conniewolf@sbcglobal.net or 314-481-2979.

"Investing in Our World-Class Workforce" is the theme of this year's Career Awareness Fair that will be at the America's Center Hall 3 from 8:00 am to 2:00 p.m. beginning Tuesday, May 4th through Wednesday, May 5th. The St. Louis Public School's Career Education Office will hold its 21st Annual Career Awareness Fair.

The St. Louis Chapter of the SLA needs you to volunteer to work 2-hour periods in the exhibit booth. I hope to have two people assigned to each time slot. The following dates and times are available.

Times	Tues 5/4	Wed 5/5
8A-10A		
10A-12N		
12N-2P		

Please contact Stephanie Tolson at (636) 922-8512 or email stolson@stchas.edu prior to April 16.

At the Leadership Summit in Albuquerque, attendees were given a sneak peek at a potentially exciting new communications tool that the Association has launched. The "Communities of Practice" section of sla.org is in its beginning stages, and provides a discussion forum for the association's chapters and divisions. This is a new tool that we could use in conjunction with the discussion list or possibly to replace it. To check out the Communities of Practice, go to <http://cop.sla.org/COP/>. You need to join an existing "community" in order to view the discussion string. You do not have to be a member of the community (i.e. chapter or division), but you do need to be a member of SLA to join any of the community discussions. There's not much discussion out there right now, but it has definite possibilities as an integral communications tool in the near future.