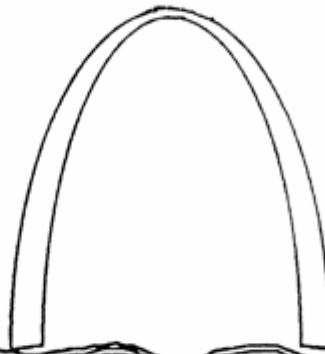

THE
SLATE



SLA

St. Louis Metro Area Chapter
Special Libraries Association

Volume 64 Number 1

March 2005

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,

I always had vague fantasies about spending my 50th birthday on a whirlwind trip, celebrating with a large group of friends. I certainly never thought that I'd be spending it attending SLA's Leadership Summit, but I suppose that a three-day trip to Tampa in late January with a large group of like-minded people going out to the Tampa Aquarium for the big reception met my criteria. I even gave myself a birthday present by bidding on and winning the silent auction for a gift basket of bath treats. The money from the silent auction went to support the SLA Professional Development Campaign.

The biggest news, for me, at the Leadership Summit was the announcement of the change in the SLA governing year. The Association will be changing the terms of office for all positions to run from January to January rather than from June to June. Each Chapter is allowed to decide how they will adjust their terms of office as long as we are all on the same schedule by 2007. Our Executive Board has decided to extend our terms of office for an additional six months. We will be voting on this proposal at our April meeting. I will be asking the Advisory Board members if they can continue for the additional period, or if they would prefer to step down at the end of their year.

I want to urge everyone to attend the SLA Annual Meeting this June in Toronto and to attend the business sessions while you're there. There will be continuing discussions on restructuring membership dues and more information to be unveiled on the new SLA Online University, where you can take continuing education classes, or even get a degree, all from your office. While the exchange rate for Canada is not as good as it once was, you still get more for your dollar up there. Toronto is a wonderful city. The lakefront is packed with things to do and the conference will be right downtown near the CN Tower and the ballpark. Plan on going for the conference, the shopping and the great ethnic restaurants.

Next year the Leadership Summit will be in Houston. You may not want to go if it falls on your birthday, but the speakers and training sessions have been excellent. So, when Nominating Committee calls this fall, let that be another reason to say "Yes" to serving on the Board.

Chris Tighe, President

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Announcement from Kim Parks

My paper "Revisiting Manzanar: A History of Japanese-American Internment Camps as Presented in Selected Federal Government Documents 1941-2002" has been published in the Journal of Government Information 30 (2004).

My research topic was inspired by the 2002 Read MOre choice "Farewell to Manzanar" and the post-9/11 political climate. Many of the documents I examined are part of the St. Louis Public Library's depository collection. Barb Rehkop and Cindy Rosser provided real help in finding what I needed. My work e-mail, should you have any questions, is kparks@slpl.lib.mo.us <<mailto:kparks@slpl.lib.mo.us>> .

In early days, I tried not to give librarians any trouble, which was where I made my primary mistake. Librarians like to be given trouble; they exist for it, they are geared to it. For the location of a mislaid volume, an uncatalogued item, your good librarian has a ferret's nose. Give her a scent and she jumps the leash, her eye bright with battle. (1959).

Catherine Drinker Bowen (1897-1973), Adventures of a Biographer.

Chapter Program Preview

***An Evening with Jerry Miller,
Director of the Competitive Intelligence Center at Simmons College.***

Thursday, April 7, 2005.

Washington University, Olin Library, Room 142.

Listen as Jerry Miller shares his knowledge of the resources available for competitive intelligence gained through his experiences with the Competitive Intelligence Center and in his new role as Division Chair of the new CI Division of SLA.

Honoring Our Long-Term Members.

May 10, 2005 at Zinnia restaurant.

If anyone has comments or concerns on programming (restaurants, speakers, the annual awards banquet, etc.) please feel free to contact me at

Marianne.Cavanaugh@slam.org

Recent Chapter Events

December 1, 2004

Annual ***Holiday Happening*** at Anheuser-Busch.

Attendance: 36 members and guests.

January 14, 2005

Happy hour at the Boathouse in Forest Park.

Attendance: 20 members.

February 2, 2005

Program meeting at the St. Louis Psychoanalytic Association

Program: A Tour of the St. Louis Psychoanalytic Institute's Library with a Talk about Grants for Special Libraries

Presented by: Sheila Heckman and Connie Wolf.

Attendance: 19 members and guests.

February 10, 2005

Executive Board meeting at Olin Library, Washington University.

Attendance: 9 board members.

February 24, 2005

Executive Board Conference Call.

Attendance: 7 board members.

March 8, 2005

Program meeting at Bevo Mill.

Program: ***The Tipping Point***, based on Malcolm Gladwell's book.

Presented by: Priscilla Stultz and Bridget MacMillan.

Attendance: 42 members and guests.

New Year, New Space

by Blythe Cermak

The first glimpse of HOK Architects' new space on the seventh floor of Metropolitan Square can come as a bit of a surprise to even a design-oriented visitor. As the elevator doors open, one sees the concrete floors and not a traditional elevator lobby and is reminded the firm moved into this space barely three months ago, around Christmas 2004. However, an impression of being unfinished dissolves immediately upon stepping out of the elevator and being greeted by signage welcoming you to HOK and a dynamic acrylic panel bearing the images of founders George Hellmuth, George Kassabaum and Gyo Obata and a mission statement that helps define the spirit that continues to make this illustrious 50-year-old firm cutting-edge.

A tour of the floor tends to elicit the words "very cool." A broad open plan sweeps to windows wrapping around a community center that includes the library and a kitchen/café area. Exposed ceilings give added height. Skylights contribute to the sense of light pouring in or being just about to break through. Although there is some austerity to the design, the effect of the space is not cold or forbidding. HOK's intention for this space is to achieve a Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) certification, and for those of us who associate "green" and recycling with a certain coziness, this is a lesson in how principles of sustainability and conservation can collaborate with a strikingly modern aesthetic.

However, the word "cozy" reminds one that the library here is markedly different from the space Research Librarian Susan Baerwald recently occupied on the sixth floor of this same building. It is smaller. However, the most marked change is the open-ness of this library. Although the previous library was also centrally located, it was almost completely enclosed. Susan's new library and its stylish, lounge-like reading area are open on all sides to the office space surrounding it, and its adjacency to the kitchen puts it squarely among highly visible destinations.

"I like it," is Susan's response to a query about the space and its open feel. She continues, "I think about the job differently, and the visibility and openness encourage me to stay more current, more relevant." Susan also mentions that the open plan of the office makes the library "more a part of things." Many of the design decisions for this office were based on the hope for spontaneous conversations and enriched communication, and the library benefits from that. The proximity to the kitchen is also an advantage and Susan is very aware of wanting the library's materials and space to catch her colleagues' eyes.

Moving a library, even just one floor up, is never easy, and in Susan's case there was the added variable of downsizing. The hoped-for LEED certification played a large part in how weeding was handled. Imaginative recycling of weeded materials was encouraged and Susan dedicated significant time to

finding new homes for those materials she could not take with her or send to HOK storage facilities. Beneficiaries of this determination included schools, the Carondelet YMCA Book Sale and a forensic engineering firm in Chicago. When asked how this weeding affected the active HOK Library collection, Susan suggested that perhaps some depth was lost with the release of older materials but that the library has not cut back on the breadth of subscriptions and resources it offers.

Even in what appears to be well-received space such as this library, there are unforeseen adjustments among the serendipitous advantages. In Susan's case, it was discovered that the seventh floor did not have the same weight-bearing capabilities as the lower floor from which she had moved. She has to stay conscious of keeping books distributed along her shelving units. Also, the space has fewer flat workspaces than previous HOK libraries, and there is less tendency to keep long-term research projects set up for users. Interestingly, library functions like check-out are still done in a traditional manner and are not automated.

Ultimately, though, one senses that this new library and its central, open location are resulting in a renewed appreciation of its resources and a desire to increasingly weave library activities into the routine of the office. Susan is creating an internal website for the library that will work with the firm-wide network structure. HOK's goal of communication and involvement seem to have been achieved with this library, and Susan must have summed it best with what she said previously: "I like it."

NEW MEMBERS (Nov. 2004-Feb. 2005)

By Susan von Schrader

Please welcome the following new members. We're glad to have you as part of the St. Louis Metro Area Chapter!

Gayle Camarda	(Information Services, St. Louis Public Library)
Leann Genovese	(Library Services, Blackwell Sanders Peper Martin)
Theodore Hennessy	(Marketing, Missionary Association)
Doug Holland	(Library, Missouri Botanical Garden)
Assako Holyoke	(Health Sciences Center Library, St. Louis University)
Catherine Tierney	

Wanted: Chapter Archivist

Must be interested in preserving the St. Louis Metro Area Chapter's 60+ years of history. Must enjoy discovering gems from the past, such as pictures from the 1964 Annual Conference held here in St. Louis. If interested, please contact Chris Tighe (Chris_Tighe@lb7.uscourts.gov).

An American Librarian in Hungary

By Dallas Long

I am a recipient of the generous SLA benefit of sponsored membership to unemployed librarians. Local chapter members may not be familiar with my face and name because I spent much of the past year living and working in Eastern Europe before returning to St. Louis last June. Having been awarded a Fulbright fellowship to Hungary for the 2003-2004 academic year, I taught Business Reference and Digital Libraries, among other classes, to library students at Berzsenyi College, the premier library school in Eastern Europe.

I hoped to fulfill a lifelong desire to spend a year in Europe, as well as explore the opportunity to teach LIS. A colleague at the University of Illinois with connections to academic libraries in Eastern Europe wrote introductory letters on my behalf. I received excited responses from Warsaw University in Poland and Berzsenyi College in Hungary, but neither institution had the funds to support me for a year as a visiting faculty member. I decided to apply for a Fulbright fellowship. I was amazed when the first full grant for LIS to an Eastern European country was awarded to me. I was placed with Berzsenyi College in Hungary. "Why Hungary?" an Italian friend asked me. "It is the Kansas of Europe, and the people are always so sad and angry there." "Oh great," I thought.

Armed with a travel guide and baffling language tapes, I resigned my position with Sirsi Corporation and flew with two bulging suitcases to Budapest, completely unsure of what I should expect from my new life and career. In August 2003, I joined 16 Fulbright fellows for a weeklong orientation. My colleagues included mathematicians, historians, anthropologists, dramatists, archaeologists, linguists, law pundits, and even an aeronautical engineer – and were they surprised to find a corporate librarian in their midst! I heard "so what is it exactly that you do?" so many times that week. I loved the museums, street side cafes, and nightlife in Budapest, but I learned with dismay that I would be the only Fulbrighter assigned to Szombathely, a city of 50,000 about three hours outside of Budapest.

My first impression of Szombathely was a grim one: the college was still ringed by barbed wire from its days as a Soviet detention center, the neighborhoods were unending rows of concrete block housing, and many neighborhoods remained little more than rubble after 70% of the city was destroyed by Allied bombing in WWII. Many gypsy people survived in homes built from rubble. My home was also a shock – the college wasn't able to secure a flat for me and instead put me up in the residence hall! There, electricity worked on a good day, the telephones almost not at all, I had no kitchen, and shared the one washing machine with 300 residents! I learned to wash my clothes by hand in the creek behind the residence hall, along with most of the students.

Few people understood English and I got by as well as I could with German, making fast friends with a few girls who were studying to be English teachers. Actually, few people spoke anything but Hungarian – a language that is more

closely related to Japanese rather than European languages – and I struggled with the most basic Hungarian words. *Goodbye* is an unwieldy *Viszontalatasra!*

Immediately I discovered that I was quite the curiosity in town. When I visited shops and restaurants, people greeted me with “You’re the American!” However, I learned *not* to smile at clerks and shop assistants, as smiling violates their personal space and makes you no friends. Once, I insulted a waiter by leaving the tip on the table instead of handing it to him – a major faux pas in Hungarian society. I was invited not to dine there again! I soon discovered that I was one of perhaps only a dozen foreigners living in this city of 50,000 people. The college had visiting faculty members from Italy, Finland, and Iraq. A few of the students were from Transylvania, and a family of Chinese immigrants managed the Chinese restaurant.

The night before the first day of classes, a shadowy shape flew past my head and startled me awake. Two huge bats had flown through the window and were desperately trying to find a way out. I flung myself out of bed and found the night watchman, who knocked the bats down with a broom and tossed them outside. “Those are vampire bats,” he explained, noting their large size. “They only drink the blood of farm animals, don’t they?” I asked nervously. He laughed. “Oh yes, but only because people scream.” Not a good way to relax the night before the very first class I would ever teach!

More to come soon.



Marianne Cavanaugh and Marcia Stoklosa representing the Chapter at the Tampa Leadership Meeting in January.

Internet Librarian
Monterey, California, Nov. 15–17, 2004

By Erin Lanham

Back in November, I attended my first Internet Librarian conference in lovely Monterey, California. This was my first time to attend this conference and I found it very beneficial. Most of the programs I attended taught me something new, so I was impressed with the content. The programs covered technologies that can and probably will affect the ways librarians and laymen search for information in the future. I'll outline a few of the items that I found most interesting.

Ebrary

I attended an e-book update. Since I work in an academic library, I've seen both resistance to and preferences for e-books. In my library, we subscribe to a pre-selected set of e-books from NetLibrary. Ebrary is implementing non-linear lending options, where multiple students can access a book for a certain number of days (handy for reserves), and short term loans, where one can add a book to the collection on a short term basis. In this case, the library would essentially borrow the book from Ebrary for a student or customer.

What's New with Internet Searching

A search engine from France, **Exalead beta**, has some really exciting and new search features. This innovative search engine allows for spelling suggestions, approximate and phonetic searches, automatic word stemming, and the ability to sort results by relevance, source or date. My favorite feature is the ability to limit searches based on language, country, or document format! They're working on a proximity feature for the future. You can try it out yourself at <http://www.exalead.com>.

A few newer search engines are clustering results. Clustering is a great way to quickly learn about the subtopics around an unfamiliar subject. Your result list is displayed as normal on the right side of the screen, and the subtopics, or clusters, are listed on the left side of the screen. Try out **Clusty** (<http://www.clusty.com>), or **Accumo** (<http://www.accumo.com>), to see clustering in action.

A third nifty search innovation can be found at **Yahoo! Shopping** (<http://www.shopping.yahoo.com/smartsort>). At this site, weighting the importance of product features affects the order of your results. Think of the possibilities for weighting search terms when we search library databases or the Internet!

Google and Firefox

One program mentioned Google's new desktop searching technology, which would allow a user to search for and find personal files on their PC; classifying and placing files in folders would no longer (theoretically) be critical to finding your documents. This technology is similar to their Gmail application.

Mozilla's Firefox browser (<http://www.mozilla.org>) received many accolades. I have it at home and do recommend it. Some of the benefits include the automatic download of files to your desktop for fast downloading and file retrieval, and tabbed browsing, which allows you to have more than one page open in a single window. Let's not forget that it's not IE! At the moment, this means that the viruses written to target IE will not affect Firefox. My husband downloaded it on our home computer and he said it's easy to download and I find it easy to use.

From the quaint downtown scene, offering multiple ethnic restaurants within walking distance, to the excellent quality programs, I enjoyed and recommend Internet Librarian.

Libraries where our members work



Washington University's Olin Library

WHAT IS LEADERSHIP?

by Judy Harris

SLA's annual Leadership Summit was held January 26-29, 2005 in Tampa, Florida. We had excellent representation from the Legal Division: Jill Gray, Chair-Elect; Bob Sullivan, Chair-Elect-Elect; Lori Hedstrom, Secretary; and myself were all in attendance.

Just what exactly is the Leadership Summit? In this article, I will highlight the events of the conference, in the hopes that given this information, perhaps others will want to assume a leadership role or attend one of these conferences in the future.

The Leadership Summit is a 2½ day "institute." This year, 243 members of SLA's chapter and division boards were in attendance. During this intensive program, attendees hear from a variety of speakers on various aspects of developing leadership skills. The Summit opened with a keynote presentation from Gary Heil entitled "For the Love of the Game: The Art of Leading An Inspired Team." Mr. Heil is an internationally-recognized expert on leadership, service quality, and change management. According to his website (www.garyheil.com), as a popular and highly-regarded speaker represented by the Washington's Speaker Bureau, most of Gary's insights concerning service strategies and organizational improvement have grown out of more than 20 years of consulting and speaking to private and public sector organizations throughout the world. He is also founder of the Center for Innovative Leadership (www.cfil.com). This dynamic and fascinating speaker gave the audience insight into what makes a great leader. He made the point that it is not enough to talk about great leaders. Indeed, when asked "who is a great leader?" we may say that Abraham Lincoln was a great leader. But how many of us actually implement his style of leadership? What is important, Heil says, is what it takes to make you an effective leader. One quality all great leaders have is optimism. He stressed that we can choose to be optimistic. He also stated that as leaders, we should "learn to love weird" – we need people around us whose way of thinking is different from ours. The bottom line, he stated, was that good leaders need to think about and develop the following in order to succeed: goals, courage and attitude.

The SLA Executive Board opened the next hour for discussion of what was on the minds of the constituency. I was extremely encouraged to hear that the Board is very interested in an open dialogue with its members, and they want as much input as possible regarding the strategic plans of the association. I was delighted to hear that there is a genuine interest in making SLA the most useful association it can be to its members.

The midday luncheon provided another forum to continue the learning process. Candidates for the SLA Board gave five-minute talks on their visions for SLA.

This was very helpful for the audience to get a better idea of what each candidate was all about. Most of all, it brought home the notion of how important it is to listen to and read about all candidates and, most important, to vote in this process. As Pam Rollo, Chair-Elect stated, this summit is a "town hall" experience. It is critical for each of us to listen, think and make an informed decision as to who will lead us into the future of our association. We have a duty to contribute to the shape of that future by voting for the people that most closely match the goals we see for SLA.

The Thursday afternoon sessions focused on leadership tailored to experience. The group was divided into three levels: leadership for beginners, leadership at mid-career, and the experienced leader. These breakout sessions allowed participants to discuss effective leadership styles in a smaller group context among a group of peers. Our group, the beginners, was led by Bill Fisher, and we mainly focused our discussion on what motivates leaders. Interestingly, money was not a top motivator. Among the factors that do motivate are the work itself and the opportunity for achievement. This was a very thought-provoking session which encouraged us all to come to terms with our own management styles.

A late afternoon session provided some very practical leadership tips from several presenters: Sharon DiMattia discussed "Your Role As An SLA Leader." She stressed that there were several effective ways to be a good leader and one of the most important is networking. She also mentioned the importance of authoring articles, continuing with professional development and getting younger volunteers to become active in your association, as it enhances skills in a low risk environment. Terri Brooks's topic was "Your Role as Mentor." Terri had four speakers from various chapters and divisions discuss their "best practices" for mentoring volunteers into leadership roles. Finally, Linda Broussard gave the audience some practical tips for communicating with SLA headquarters.

The Thursday night welcome reception was a delightful experience. The Florida/Caribbean Chapter hosted the reception at the Florida Aquarium, which included a silent auction to support their professional development campaign. The Aquarium was beautiful, and it was really fun to have the entire place to ourselves to "be at one" with the animals of the sea.

Friday morning started with a fascinating look at the newest tool scheduled to be offered this summer: SLA Online University. This University will have more than 230 courses that SLA members and others can take to earn CE credits, an MLS, an MBA, advanced credits and more. It features partnerships with schools such as Drexel University, Syracuse University, and WISE University, a consortium of colleges and universities. SLA has hired Learn.com to assist with this program and they will offer courses in a variety of subjects having to do with Word, Excel, Act, Goldmine, FrontPage etc. SLA members will pay reduced fees to take these courses, seminars, and online programs. In addition,

SLA members will be able to offer these courses to other members of their companies, who may or may not work in the information centers, for a price somewhat higher than the SLA discounted rate. It appears to be the first effort of its kind offered anywhere, and it promises to be an invaluable tool for all information professionals.

The afternoon sessions were conducted by Leadership Outfitters (www.leadershipoutfitters.com). First was a general session on the "Leadership Adventure." Then we split into two groups; our session was entitled "Envisioning the Future: Where Are We Going?" We broke into smaller groups and were to think about what five characteristics come to mind when we think of leadership. Our group came up with: Passion, Communication, Vision, Optimism, and being a good listener. We were then given a number of magazine pages and had to put those words and pictures into a collage that represented our vision for SLA. It was very interesting to hear the perspectives of each team and see their "vision." The other concurrent session was entitled "Running and Participating in Effective Meetings." Two more concurrent sessions followed: "Working Together: The Team Approach" and "The Creativity Challenge." These were also both "hands-on" sessions which provided practical tips for those in leadership positions. The summit ended with a closing session led again by Leadership Outfitters and then a wonderful Leadership Reception topped off the event.

There are many great reasons to attend the Leadership Summit, and I highly recommend the experience. If you have any interest in getting involved in a leadership role on any level, this is an invaluable conference. It is yet another example of the commitment SLA has demonstrated to making this organization relevant and even indispensable to all of its members.

Libraries where our members work



Emerson Library at Webster University

Tampa Leadership Summit Report

by Marianne Cavanaugh, President-Elect/Programs

Well, it is time to come clean and admit it: I have never attended an SLA conference before. Oh, I've been active in the St. Louis Metro Area Chapter for years, but always attended ALA or ARLIS/NA (the Art Libraries Society of North America) annual conferences. Tampa's Leadership Summit was my first initiation into the culture of SLA, which – let me tell you – is very different from either ALA or ARLIS/NA.

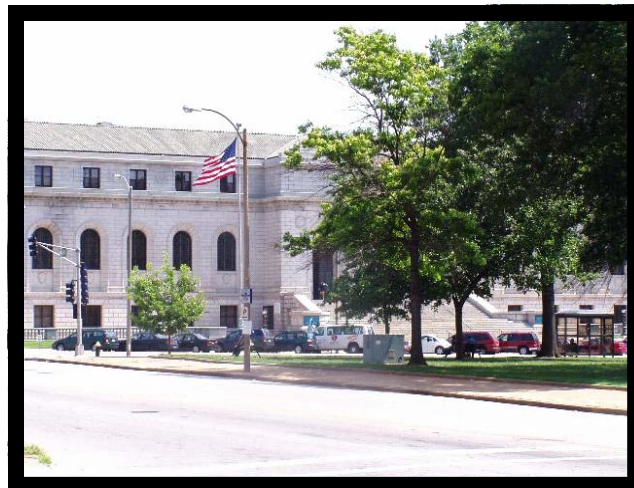
Where ALA is a great monster of a conference, with many small conferences going on within it, and ARLIS/NA is more like a private club, I found the Leadership Summit a combination of a pep rally and a private club.

The pep rally began with the keynote speaker, Gary Heil. He spoke about inspired leadership. He was funny, interesting and enthusiastic, if not very realistic from a middle management viewpoint, (unless you work for inspired leaders yourself — show of hands?). The private club sessions followed, with SLA board presentations, Chapter Cabinet business, what SLA has been doing as an organization and how to work with HQ type of information – and, of course, lunch with the candidates running for office. Not being totally up-to-speed on the business at hand, I vowed to return home and read all those working documents. And I will, before Toronto ... I will have to if I expect to represent you, the chapter.

The very best session for me was a discussion group for librarians who have been managers for a long time, (over hmnnn years). Here were other managers like me, stuck in the middle of the corporate structure, discussing budgets, hiring, training and how to manage. It provided something I have not found at ALA or ARLIS/NA conferences and made me look forward to the conference in Toronto.

Libraries where our members work

**St.
Louis
Public
Library**



What are the names of the New York City Public Library Lions?

By Joy Weese Moll

According to Kevin Carbery, using admittedly anecdotal evidence while writing for *The Commonsense* online magazine, "St. Louis is the trivia night capital of America." At www.trivianights.net, one could choose from at least half a dozen Trivia Nights in the St. Louis area on any given Saturday night in the fall and winter. How can St. Louis librarians use our information expertise in conjunction with these fun community events? One way is to write the questions, as Chris Tighe, SLA chapter president, and Joe Katrosh, The SLATE newsletter editor, recently did.

At a Trivia Night, teams of (usually) eight people compete to answer the most trivia questions. A common format for the game is to play ten rounds of ten questions each. Each round will consist of questions in a different category. Trivia Nights are usually fund raisers — each player or table pays to play. For the players, the questions are the inspiration for a hundred delightful conversations, a motivation to think and learn, and a shared experience that builds community.

The St. Louis Ki Society held its first annual Trivia Night on February 26, 2005, to support its WellChild Ki-Aikido program. Joe and Chris (here's a little known bit of trivia: they met through a mutual interest in martial arts, not libraries!) agreed to serve on a four-member Trivia Night committee. The other two members handled logistics while Joe and Chris worked on the questions.

Joe and Chris found that working as a team was an effective method since they each brought different approaches to the process. Chris said, "I like brainstorming and coming up with categories. I can end up with 30 categories and not settle on 10. Joe is better at focusing, editing and evaluating the questions."

They used a variety of resources for researching questions, including print reference materials and trivia books. The internet was useful for initial ideas and for checking that there was wide agreement on any fact asserted by an answer. To guarantee a smoothly-run Trivia Night, every question and answer must be verified using a variety of sources. Joe and Chris worked to verify that not only was the answer correct but that it was the only correct answer, with no controversy attached to its accuracy.

Trivia Nights attract a diverse audience in all age groups. Joe said that, "Some people come just for fun, so for that crowd you need questions that are entertaining and clever and not very hard. Some come to compete and are experienced trivia players, and for that crowd you need a few questions in each category that are truly challenging." To stimulate conversation, a challenging question should be written in such a way that it is possible to figure out the answer, or at least have a debate over the possibilities.

Here are some other suggestions Joe and Chris had for anyone writing questions for a Trivia Night:

- Allow plenty of time — six months is not too long!
- Read the questions aloud and to friends who will not be attending the event.
- Follow Joe's advice and avoid repeating "the same old categories that everyone uses (Movies, TV, Sports, St. Louis, American Presidents) unless you give them some kind of new twist."


As a reward for all this effort, question writers provide the core activity for a fun and educational evening while raising money for a good cause. The conversations triggered by the questions can go on long past that day, as evidenced by these thoughts of Dennis Eliceiri, SLA member, after he attended the St. Louis Ki Society's Trivia Night, who continues to:

ponder whether Astor and Lenox would have been acceptable answers for the names of the New City Public Library Lions as they were first named after the founders of the New York Public Library John Jacob Astor and James Lenox, until Mayor LaGuardia re-named them Patience and Fortitude during the Great Depression. The Trivia Night also reopened the decades- long debate of who sings "Tutti Frutti" better, Little Richard or Pat Boone.

Besides writing the questions, what are some other ways for special librarians to utilize the synergy between our profession and the Trivia Night phenomenon?

- Offer a Friday warm-up round by email for company trivia buffs, supplying the answers late in the day.
- Form a company trivia team to attend several events a year in the St. Louis area.
- Host a Monday morning quarterback coffee break where trivia buffs can compare notes and satisfy curiosities brought up by Trivia Night questions.

Perhaps, the St. Louis SLA chapter could run a Trivia Night of its own!



Information is the oxygen of the modern age. It seeps through the walls topped by barbed wire, it wafts across the electrified borders.

Ronald Reagan