

THE SLATE

The Newsletter of the St. Louis Metro Area Chapter of SLA
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,

Tempus Fugit is my screen saver banner, and how true it is! My time as President has simply flown. As I look back on this past year, I see how much we have accomplished together, you and your leadership team. Three things in particular spring to my mind.

First, we initiated a chapter blog, which is still in its infancy. It is a new communication tool for us and we still need to discuss how best to implement it. Selecting the categories to include and setting the rules on posting are to be discussed by the new board. Please check the chapter's website for the current incarnation and let me know what you think. (Marianne.Cavanaugh@slam.org)

Also on the website you will find our new Strategic Plan for 2006-2011. This took much discussion and work by the leadership team, ably led by Chris Tighe and her committee. We think it reflects our members' goals for our organization. If you read through it, you will notice that language is not specific. That was intentional. The plan is flexible to allow innovation to flourish. We didn't want to automatically assign goals to specific committees because that might limit member participation. The leadership team realizes that we don't have all the answers, and that you are a smart and savvy group with great ideas. Now, the implementation of the Strategic Plan is part of the duties of the Past President -- that's me. Although I intend to begin working through the Board, don't be surprised if we call on you (that's plural) to take some responsibility. After all, "*Leadership is not something you do to people, it's something you do with them.*" (That quote comes from a great little book called The Leadership Pill, which I just finished reading.) So, when the call comes, please say "yes."

The final thing I would like to point out is that there are more of you to say yes. We have grown to over 100 members! We have become an organization people want to belong to because of you. Thanks to those who plan the meetings, bring the nametags, share their knowledge, advise on career moves, mentor new professionals; with special thanks to those who welcome guests and new members kindly, so they will want to come again, maybe even join.

It has been a privilege to serve you,

Marianne Cavanaugh, President.

St. Louis Metro Area Chapter of SLA

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Strategic Planning	Chris Tighe
Student Relations	Karen Robinson
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The St. Louis Metro Area Chapter of SLA

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

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Editor:

Joe Katrosh
Bryan Cave LLP, 1 Metropolitan Sq
211 N Broadway, Suite 3300
St. Louis, MO 63102
Phone: (314) 259-2191
Fax: (314) 259-2020
Email: jlkatrosh@bryancave.com

Business Manager:

Susan Baerwald
Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum, 1 Metropolitan Sq
211 N Broadway, Suite 700
St. Louis, MO 63102
Phone: (314) 754-4217
Fax: (314) 421-6073
Email: susan.baerwald@hok.com

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Chapter Program Updates
By Geri Short, Incoming Chapter President-Elect.

The Programming Committee, consisting of myself, Renee Gorell, Marianne Cavanaugh, Kathy Hayes, Stephanie Hood and Betsy Richie, will be meeting on January 8th to discuss chapter programming for the year. If anyone has suggestions or comments on programming (topics, speakers, restaurants, etc.), please feel free to contact me at: ags@greensfelder.com

January 19, 2007.

Winter Warm-Up Happy Hour. Come relax and network with your colleagues at this social event. Location is yet to be determined, so watch your e-mail for additional details.

February 26 and 27, 2007.

SLA President Rebecca Vargha will be coming to St. Louis for an official chapter visit. The Programming Committee is setting up her schedule for the two days to include visits to area libraries and a meeting with the board, and she will speak at our chapter program on the 27th. Please watch for the program announcement around mid-January.

Recent Chapter Events
by Rosie Weiss, Chapter President-Elect.

November 14, 2006.

65th Chapter Anniversary/Chapter Business Meeting/Annual Meeting. Margaret Conroy, the new Missouri State Librarian, was our guest speaker and her topic was "State Library Update – Where We Are Headed." The slate of 2007 chapter candidates was announced. This event was held in the Bradshaw Room at the Coronado Hotel, from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. Our sponsors were *The International Language Center/Brunetti Language School* and *Ovid: a WoltersKluwer business*. Approximately 50 members and guests attended.

December 4, 2006.

The eighth annual Holiday Happening took place on Monday, December 4, 2006 at Anheuser-Busch, including a social and networking hour, recognition of the 2006 Chapter chairs, announcement of awards, and introduction of the new 2007 officers. Invitations were also extended to the St. Louis Library Club, St. Louis Public Library, St. Louis County Library, St. Louis Regional Library Network, American Association of Law Libraries, Missouri Association of School Librarians, St. Louis Medical Librarians, and MLNC. Sponsors included *The International Language Center/Brunetti Language School*, *EBSCO*, *Factiva*, *Outsell*, and *Prenax*. *Sorkins* offered a door prize. Approximately 60 members and guests attended.

LIBRARIANS 'SHOULD BE SEXIER'

16.11.06



A shake-up of Britain's libraries has been called for by a senior spin-doctor - including a ban on the word "librarian".

The Westminster council official said libraries should also spice up their reputation by using "good-looking" staff for press and marketing work and by stressing their range of "racy" titles.

The proposals were met with disgust by librarians, who dismissed the idea that they are not glamorous or exciting.

"Librarians come in all shapes and sizes - and that includes the very photogenic," said one library chief, adding that some of his colleagues are "incredibly exciting".

The call for an improvement in the reputation of local libraries came from Westminster head of communications Alex Aiken.

Mr Aiken, a former policy director for the Tories, told a conference of the Public Library Authorities: "The concept of the librarian has to change and perhaps a start would be to abolish the title itself, with its connotations of middle-aged conservatism."

Telling the librarians how to get pro-library articles into the press, he said: "From racy books to photogenic librarians and new services that counter outdated perceptions, media is a powerful tool to shape image."

The Evening Standard, 16th November, 2006

US LIBRARIAN LOSES 'SEXY' LAWSUIT



Ms Goodwin says she plans to remain in her job for the time being

A US librarian who said she was passed over for promotion because of her image and race has lost a lawsuit against her employer Harvard University.

A court ruled Desiree Goodwin, a black 40-year-old with two Masters degrees, had not suffered any discrimination.

Ms Goodwin claimed she was overlooked for 16 promotions and kept in the same job since she was hired in 1994.

She said a superior told her she could not be promoted because she was viewed as a sexily dressed "pretty girl".

According to court documents, she claimed the supervisor told her she was seen as a "joke" because she wore "low-cut blouses" and "tight pants".

A spokesman for Harvard University said the court's verdict supported the university's stance "that racial and gender discrimination were not a factor".

"Employment at Harvard is based on the specific work skills and work history applicants bring to specific jobs," he said.

Ms Goodwin said she was disappointed in the verdict, but proud to have "stood up for herself".

She said she was grateful to her lawyers and believes it is difficult to prove discrimination on the basis of gender or race in a federal court. For the time being, she says, she plans to continue working as an assistant librarian at the university's Graduate School of Design.

bbc.co.uk Tuesday, 5 April, 2005

**St. Louis Metro Area Special Libraries Association Five-Year Strategic Plan
Taking Us to our 70th Anniversary Year
2006-2011**

Vision:

SLA is a global organization for innovative information professionals and their strategic partners.

Values:

Innovation and Continuous Learning
Advocacy, Leadership and Service
Collaboration, Partnering and Networking

Mission:

The Special Libraries Association promotes and strengthens its members through learning, advocacy and networking initiatives.

Implementation:

Per the Chapter's Practices Manual, the Past President will act as the Strategic Planning Chair.

Goals and Objectives:

A. Innovation and Continuous Learning

1. Goal: The Chapter will provide formal and informal continuing education opportunities that will: develop and enhance professional competencies, foster professional and personal growth, acquaint the membership with new technologies, trends and innovations and enhance leadership skills via a wide range of real and virtual programs, of the highest quality and relevance.

Objectives: The Program Committee will foster learning through our Chapter programs. The Chapter will promote and publicize learning opportunities provided by the Association such as the Professional Development programs, Click University, the Annual Conference, the Leadership Summit, and SLA scholarship opportunities. Members will be encouraged to share what new practices they have learned from attending conferences and classes. Chapter programs will acquaint members with the latest technologies, trends and innovations within the profession.

B. Advocacy, Leadership and Service

1. Goal: The Chapter will promote the value of our profession and the Association to our employers, colleagues and the general public.

Objective: We will work to educate the public, our co-workers, employers and institution decision makers as to the important and varied roles information professionals can play in an organization by such strategies as opening up our programs and networking events to guests, publicizing our programs and community outreach efforts to the media, and encouraging members to write for professional, industry and general interest publications.

2. Goal: Keep abreast of library advocacy on state and national government levels.

Objectives: The Government Relations Chair will continue to pass on information about legislation that would affect libraries. Members will be encouraged to lobby and advocate for the profession and to pass on information on any legislation which would affect libraries to the membership.

3. Goal: Develop and foster leadership skills in the Association and profession.

Objectives: We will work to develop leaders who can advocate for our Association, Chapter and profession. We will encourage, support and mentor members who seek and accept leadership positions in the Chapter, in divisions, and in the Association. We will support members who take leadership positions in their professional and personal lives. The Chapter will promote the benefits and value of taking leadership roles. We will encourage participation in the Annual Conference and Leadership Summit. *[Continued next page]*

4. Goal: Explore ways for members to share their experiences and expertise with others.

Objectives: The Chapter will encourage members to share their knowledge by such strategies as asking them to present a program, encouraging members to write for the SLATE or by developing a roster of members willing to serve as a resource, share a special skill or to mentor those seeking career guidance. We will encourage members who have attended conferences or had special training to share what they have learned.

C. Collaboration, Partnering and Networking

1. Goal: The Chapter will continue to provide a wide variety of formal and informal networking opportunities for the members.

Objective: The Chapter will continue to provide networking opportunities through such venues as: formal meetings, happy hours, lunch meetings, and other social settings.

2. Goal: Encourage open communication between members, the Chapter and the Association.

Objectives: The Chapter will explore ways to enhance communication between the Board and our membership, within our membership, and with the Association through various tools such as: surveys, our web site, listservs, blogs, and the SLATE. New avenues of communication technology will be explored as they become available. Communications sent to the Chapter Leadership from the Association will be passed on to members in a timely fashion. Members will be encouraged to attend the Business sessions at Annual Conference.

3. Goal: We will mentor and support those who are new to the profession, to special libraries, to our area or Chapter.

Objectives: The Chapter will continue to offer, publicize and evaluate our mentoring program to students, new librarians and librarians who are new to the St. Louis Metro area.

4. Goals: Develop and maintain relationships with other library organizations in our area.

Objectives: The Chapter will continue to reach out to other library organizations in the area by such strategies as: inviting them to our programs, partnering with them on joint ventures and cross-posting notices of conferences or events held by other groups or by inviting library leaders from other organizations to present a program. We will work to develop better communication with other library organizations.

5. Goal: Increase ties with area library and information technology schools.

Objectives: We will continue to partner with area library and information technology schools by offering programs and services of interest to library students through our Student Relations Ad Hoc Committee, by promoting SLA student awards and scholarships available to students, and by promoting communication with the staff and faculty of area library and information technology programs. We will continue to offer career guidance through our Career Guidance Chair. We will continue our efforts to recruit library students to the Chapter, to mentor them and support any leadership activities which they pursue in the Chapter.

6. Goal: The Chapter will recruit and maintain members.

Objectives: We will explore ways to recruit and maintain members by reaching out to students, to librarians who are new to our area, and to those in related professions. We will continue to explore ways to recruit members from minority populations. We will educate potential members as to the benefits of the association. We will continue to offer the unemployment benefit program to retain members who are between jobs. We will monitor member needs, preferences and level of member satisfaction with the Chapter. We will continue to recognize and celebrate the contributions of our members. We will work to increase participation of members at programs, events and conferences.

7. Goal: The Chapter will increase our ability to work with vendors in strategic alliances.

Objectives: We will continue to work with vendors as sponsors of our programs, as members, as program presenters and as partners who are concerned with the directions of the information profession. We will acknowledge their support of the Chapter. We will seek out new vendor partnerships.

New Chapter Officers

Our new chapter officers for 2007 were also introduced at the Holiday Happening. Please join me in welcoming them, and expressing our gratitude for agreeing to serve and lead the chapter.

President-Elect

Geri Short, *Electronic Services Librarian, Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, PC*

Geri received her MLS from the University of Missouri in December 2005, and has worked at the Greensfelder law library since March 1, 2006. Prior to relocating to St. Louis, she and her husband resided in Columbia, Missouri, where she worked for the University. Geri is a Missouri native and grew up in Ste. Genevieve, the oldest town in Missouri. She was a student member of SLA, and has been involved in SLA for 2 years. She served as the Hospitality Chair of the St. Louis chapter in 2006. Last, but not least, she is a HUGE Cardinals fan, and loves working across the street from the new stadium in downtown St. Louis.

Director - Business Manager

Kathy Hayes, *Technical Librarian, Ameren Corporation*

Kathy earned her MLS at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, 1967. She worked for St. Louis Public Library for 2 1/2 years, then Sverdrup & Parcel (architectural/engineering firm) for 4 1/2 years as a solo librarian. Kathy joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1974 and took early retirement after 20 years in 1994. At the Corps, she managed the technical library and later supervised a staff ranging from 8 to 20 employees, who were responsible for such functions as records and forms management, printing, graphics and video production. Kathy had her own information business from 1996 until 1999, when she joined Ameren Corporation, working in a solo virtual environment. At Ameren, Kathy works directly with a variety of vendors of information products, negotiating site licenses, pricing and terms. She also performs all library functions, except for book selection and cataloging. Kathy has been a member of SLA since 1999, and has served the St. Louis Chapter as PR Chair for three terms, as Secretary for 2003/04, and as a member of the 2006 nominating committee.

Secretary

Barb McKenzie, *Technical Specialist, Husch & Eppenberger, LLC*

Barb is a Technical Specialist in the Environmental and Regulatory Practice Group at Husch & Eppenberger, LLC. Barb heads Husch's Environmental Technical Services Group, which provides comprehensive technical support for toxic tort and environmental litigation. She conducts specialized literature and electronic searches on toxicological, chemical, medical, environmental, health, and safety issues to support their legal teams. She also compiles specialized literature collections, writes reports, and prepares detailed data analyses. Barb previously worked for Solutia/Monsanto for 19 years in their Environment, Safety and Health division. Barb has been an SLA member since 1998. She joined when she was managing the ESH library during the transition when Solutia was spun off from Monsanto. She received a B.S. in Biological Sciences and Environmental Study from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio.

Director - Membership

Patrick Hendershot, *Manager, IRC Library, Mallinckrodt Tyco Healthcare*

Patrick has been employed at the Mallinckrodt Tyco Healthcare IRC Library since July 1995, and was promoted to Manager in 2001. He received his MLS from Indiana University School of Informatics in 1992, with a specialty in chemical information. Patrick has been a member of SLA for 14 years, and member of the St. Louis Chapter since December 1995. He has served as the St. Louis Chapter's Information Technology Chair and Webmaster since 1998, and received the Chapter's Leadership Award in 2004 in recognition of his ability to lead and inspire others in furthering the Chapter's goals and objectives. He is a member of the St. Louis Area Medical Librarians, and also a member of the Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in Souland, where he currently is on the church council.

Chapter Awards

At the Chapter's Eighth Annual Holiday Happening on December 4th, two prestigious awards were announced. The Elizabeth Owens award was presented to Chris Tighe, and the Leadership award went to Bryan Young. The Elizabeth Owens Award recognizes a St. Louis Metro Area Chapter member for distinguished service to the Chapter and the library profession. The Leadership Award recognizes a member whose ability to lead and inspire others has furthered the Chapter's goals and objectives. Please join me in congratulating Chris and Bryan on their awards and thanking them for their service to the Chapter.



Chris Tighe shows off her Elizabeth Owens award.



Chapter members Patrick Hendershot, Margaret Ganyard, Renee Gorell, Katrina Stierholz and others living it up at the 8th Annual Holiday Happening at Anheuser-Busch.

An Interview with Maribeth Slebodnik

by Patrick Hendershot

Recently, I had an opportunity to visit Maribeth Slebodnik in Lafayette, Indiana and tour Purdue University's campus. Many of you interacted with this longtime member of the St. Louis Metro Area SLA Chapter; she was president in 2001-2002 and received the Elizabeth Owens Award in 2004. Our acquaintance goes back to college days at Indiana University where we both completed Master of Library Science degrees. When I moved to St. Louis in 1995 to accept a job at Mallinckrodt, we once again crossed paths as co-workers.

In her career at Mallinckrodt, Maribeth utilized her nursing background to provide research for the critical care and respiratory divisions. Maribeth eventually became the manager of the Mallinckrodt Hazelwood library before moving on to the newly created Danforth Plant Science Center library position, where she combined her scientific background with an interest in botany. After establishing the Danforth library, Maribeth took another challenge and jumped into the world of academia with a science librarian position at Indiana State University. In the autumn of 2006 she moved to Purdue University, accepting a new position with the title of "Biomedical Sciences Information Specialist & Assistant Professor of Library Science."

I have watched my former co-worker and friend work in different types of institutions over the years, and I am fascinated by her progress and success in each special library. I believe we sometimes feel pressure to remain in our current positions without exploring career options. Maribeth, to the contrary, exemplifies one who is not afraid to explore a wide range of interests in several settings. There was obvious excitement in Maribeth as she gave a tour of the campus and explained her position. I believe she is not only inspired, but also able to inspire others through this new career challenge. Her confidence and energy convinced me to interview her for the SLATE and share some of her views on special libraries and careers.

Patrick Hendershot: You have made a transition from corporate to not-for-profit to university in your library career. Can you describe in your words the differences in librarianship among these kinds of organizations?

Maribeth Slebodnik: You know, it's interesting to remember how easy it used to be to make the distinction between different types of libraries, but the distinctions seem to be modifying, at least in my experience. The level of individualized customer service used to differentiate special libraries from academic libraries, but customer service is really emphasized in academic libraries, too. I think it's always been there, but the emphasis has shifted. I would definitely say that it was an advantage to me to start out in a special library at Mallinckrodt. I learned so much about developing relationships with patrons that has served me in good stead in all four libraries that I've worked for.

PH: You have been in three very different organizational library cultures; is there one that is more nurturing or accepting of the library and/or staff?

MS: This may be a sideways answer to your question, but in the academic arena I feel that I am more understood and valued as a peer. In the corporate and non-profit worlds, I always had a bit of a sense that I was a fish out of water, and especially in the corporate library setting, that I constantly needed to prove my worth to the organization (because of course you do!) I remember remarking to someone soon after I started at Purdue that I feel like the library really "gets" me and understands what I can do to contribute to the institution better than any of my other employers, including my first academic position at Indiana State University.

PH: Which type of organizational library do you feel is most technologically advanced?

MS: I think that levels of technology may actually vary more from library to library than from one type of organization to another, and it may all go back to the perpetual divider, money, and to the value that is

placed on technology within each organization. Purdue is probably the most technologically advanced library that I have worked in, at least in some aspects. But Purdue is really known as an institution for its intelligent use of technology, and it does have a huge engineering school, which certainly goes with the territory. And it's very well-funded, with lots of alumni support, so there you go; it goes back to the almighty dollar!

PH: What aspects of these library environments are similar? I'm thinking of aspects that truly unite them as "special libraries." Have any of those similarities surprised you?

MS: I think it's the ubiquitous expectation of excellent customer service. In part, this is because our whole culture is very accustomed to service, but I think it makes sense since our profession is a service. Also, academic libraries used to be less tuned to financial realities, but administrators now have the same bottom-line imperatives that special library directors have always seemed to have. I see this acutely in the scientific arena, where the debates about access and journal prices continue to reverberate and we are always examining our journal collection in light of usage and finances.

PH: What challenges do you face in your career right now that you hadn't anticipated?

MS: At both ISU and Purdue, librarians are tenure-track faculty with expectations for research and publishing that I didn't previously enjoy. I have about five years to publish and present widely and to begin establishing what Purdue considers a "national presence." If I don't meet that expectation, I will have a certain amount of time to find another job and leave Purdue. That gives me the heebie-jeebies, but it is also very motivating and exciting to dig into. I am starting to outline what I want to focus on as I get a better sense of what my job requires and what kinds of research I might engage in. I also have really learned more about undergraduates as a population and I am much more hopeful about the future of the world as a result!

PH: Please describe Purdue University's plan to add librarians to their staff to meet the current and future educational and technological needs. Your position has some unique and very interesting goals; please elaborate on them.

MS: The current President, Martin Jischke, came to Purdue with the goal of moving the university to the "next level" – to the top tier of American research universities. He felt that changes in the faculty mix, including numbers of faculty, would have to be part of that progress. So my position is one of almost three hundred that have been filled or created in the last five years. There was a great need for outreach and information literacy instruction to the biomedical areas, which are expanding rapidly. I currently serve the College of Pharmacy and the School of Nursing, and eventually will expand into the College of Veterinary Medicine and the undergraduate biology curriculum. One of my first projects was to help the Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Engineering (RCHE) with their plan to load documents into the Libraries' document repository called ePubs. RCHE is an interdisciplinary center that is applying engineering principles to healthcare and making some great strides in helping hospitals and other healthcare settings to be more efficient as well as more humane.

PH: Do you feel that your current position allows you, as a librarian, to contribute to the organization in a different way than in previous positions?

MS: One of the biggest pleasures of my first semester here has been to help teach and develop a new undergraduate class called Nursing Informatics. As a result, I feel that I've started making good connections with the students and faculty of the School of Nursing. Nursing was my first career and that has been invaluable. I have taught lots of one-on-one classes and one-off classes but this is my first experience with a full semester credit class, and with a brand new class that is really in development. I always enjoyed teaching in my limited experience, but I absolutely love this level of involvement! Next semester (didn't have time this semester!) I will take a series of teaching workshops with Purdue's Center

for Instructional Excellence as we refine the NI class.

PH: Having gone through this career path, how do you respond to other librarians considering a change in type of library?

MS: I say "Go for it!" Your basic training will serve you well in other arenas. Think about how what you currently do might be rephrased to fit the requirements of a different type of position. Expose yourself to lots of different libraries and librarians (SLA is so great for this!) and ask lots of questions that give you the sense of another milieu and whether it might fit you. It's not supposed to be "the done thing" to move from the corporate library world to the academic, but who made that silly rule?

PH: Do you think it's easier to go from a corporate to a university setting or vice versa?

MS: I have only made a move in one of these directions (corporate to university) and there is definitely an adjustment, but it's not as profound as you might think. The commonalities outweigh the distinctions when you start digging.



PH: Many special librarians experience stress in their daily work. Has your stress level increased or decreased? Do you have any pearls of wisdom on the balance of "work" and "quality of life" after your career moves?

MS: The stress level is tough to quantify. The workload here is tied to the academic schedule, so it waxes and wanes, but it is pretty busy! Slow times are spent working on projects and publications and the schedule is more flexible. At the same time, there is less need to prove my worth here; it is a given that librarians are an essential part of the university community. Since I left St. Louis, my personal stress has been through the roof at times. My father died earlier this year in Michigan after a very long, heartbreaking hospitalization, so I've really had to work to balance my work with my personal life in order

to manage my own stress level. One word of wisdom: commuting is not a good thing. I chose to live about an hour away from my job at ISU to be closer to my family in Indianapolis, so I spent two hours on the road each work day. I will never do that again! It was exhausting and I will forever appreciate the beauty of a short commute (I can ride the bus here!). On the plus side, I am a much better long distance driver and I bought a Prius hybrid car which I just love!

PH: Now that all the dust has settled, do you see yourself staying in this current position for the long term?

MS: Assuming that I achieve tenure, I am not going anywhere for a REALLY LONG time!

PH: The St. Louis Chapter has missed having you in our membership. Can you tell us a little about your new city, your home and, of course, your pets?

MS: Well, I miss St. Louis, of course! The French fries at the Tap Room, the Missouri Botanical Garden, my SLA buddies – I'm waxing rhapsodic, but it is a great place to be for so many reasons. After living for two years in Greencastle, Indiana, a lovely small town, I am in the much bigger town of Lafayette, Indiana, across the Wabash River from Purdue. I moved from a tidy little ranch house to a 1940's bungalow, much more like my house in Rock Hill, Missouri, and much more to my liking. I still have my two Welsh Corgis (Devo, 12 and Ruby, 11) and they are in fabulous shape for being relatively old dogs. And I have three elderly cats – Sophie, Bunny and Seitzer – who love the three levels of our house so they can spread out undisturbed in their own personal warm spots. I live right around the corner from the bus stop – the public bus system is free for Purdue employees – and Lafayette is a typical Big Ten college town with lots to do and lots of nearby natural areas to visit. I'm only a couple of hours from Chicago! Come and visit if you're passing by! You can reach me at Slebodnik@purdue.edu or mbs@netscape.com.

Book Review

by Chris Tighe

Girl's Guide to Witchcraft by Mindy Klasky

Paperback, 432 pages, ISBN 0373896077
Red Dress Ink (October 1, 2006)

A Girl's Guide to Witchcraft is a definitely light reading. I'd be tempted to use the term "Chick Lit" if I didn't hate it so much, but since it is rare to find a novel about a special librarian, I thought it worth a mention. Jane Madison is a librarian at the Peabody Free Library of American History in Washington, D.C. Dumped by her fiancé, she latches on to a handsome history professor doing research as her imaginary boyfriend. When the library board cuts her salary, they offer her the cottage behind the library in compensation. There she finds a hidden trove of books on witchcraft and magic. She uses the books to summon up her familiar, a catlike and flamboyantly gay man named Neko, and a handsome warder named David, whose job it is to protect and guide witches. Emboldened by her new skills, she slowly comes into her own, navigating family problems, researching grants and chatting up potential donors to fund a new cataloging position at the library, then bounces back from disappointments in love, and catalogs the books on witchcraft.

The author is a law librarian with a large D.C. firm.

Millard S. Cohen Executive, food and wine expert, civic leader

[Editor's note: Millard Cohen was also a long-time member of the St. Louis Metro Area Chapter of SLA.]

Millard S. Cohen, president of Nixdorff-Krein Industries and an active figure in St. Louis food-and-wine circles, died Monday, October 23, 2006 at his home in Creve Coeur after an illness. He was 67.

Mr. Cohen was born in Chicago and received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Purdue University and an MBA from the University of Chicago. He moved to St. Louis in 1966 to join Nixdorff-Krein, a business founded by his family in 1854 to make hardware for wagon trains. Nixdorff-Krein produced hardware and metal chains until 1984, when it sold that business and went into the manufacture of sporting equipment.

Mr. Cohen served as president of the St. Louis chapter of Les Amis du Vin and was on the board of governors of the International Wine & Food Society. He participated in the Chaine des Rotisseurs, Commanderie de Bordeaux, James Beard Society and other gourmet organizations.

In 1969, he persuaded U.S. Rep. Thomas B. Curtis of Webster Groves to introduce a bill allowing single adults to make wine at home for their own consumption.

Mr. Cohen ran Grape Expectations, a wine restaurant in Chesterfield Mall, and served as co-editor of past editions of the Zagat Survey of St. Louis Restaurants. He also served on the boards of KWMU radio, Temple Israel and other community organizations.

In 1970, Mr. Cohen married the former Judy Mitchell; she died in 1995.

Survivors include his mother, Myra Littman Cohen of Chicago; a brother, Alden Cohen of Chicago; two daughters, Amy Rose Cohen and Michele Cohen Steinberg, both of St. Louis County; and two grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to 90.7 KWMU Radio or to the Millard S. Cohen Caring Community Fund at Temple Israel.

[This notice appeared at www.stltoday.com on Tuesday, October 24, 2006]



New Members (Sep. 2006-Nov. 2006)

by Kristin Schieffer

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

Vivienne Beckett, Alamo Area Library System.

Michelle Brown.

Lana Delf.

Saskia Farber.

Jan Fordyce, St. Louis Christian College Library.

Joan Miller, University of Missouri – St. Louis.

Kathleen Mullen, St. Mary's Health Center.

Elizabeth Richie, University of Missouri – St. Louis.

Rachel Schaff.

Sue Sirkis, U.S. Courts Library – 8th Circuit.

Sharon Swain, Bruce C. Clarke Library.

St. Louis Metro Area Chapter



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. . . and it's "last call."