

THE LONE STAR LIBRARIAN

A quarterly publication of the **Texas Chapter, Special Libraries Association**
ISSN 0739-4950



Special Libraries Association

Chapter Beginning the Process to Phase out the Print Version of *The Lone Star Librarian* Carolyn Grimes, Texas Chapter President

During the August 3rd Texas Chapter Leadership Workshop, the Executive Board and Advisory Council discussed the costs and benefits of continuing a print version of the *Lone Star Librarian*. An examination of the Chapter's proposed 2001-2002 budget led us to ask ourselves whether the \$4,000 budgeted for the print newsletter could be better spent funding other member activities.

Justifications for the move to an electronic newsletter were numerous. Last year's membership survey revealed that Texas Chapter members have access to the Internet and email and that members are open to receiving an electronic version of the newsletter. Other professional associations, including the Dallas Association of Law Librarians, have successfully moved to a completely electronic version of their newsletter. Current and archived issues of the *LSL* are already posted on the Chapter website at <http://www.txsla.org/lsl/index.htm> and access is easy. Imbedded hyperlinks provide an additional value in an electronic newsletter; and vendor advertising can continue electronically. With anticipated changes in the Texas economy already evident, we could better benefit our membership by providing funding for local and "virtual" programs and for grants for members to attend state and national professional education programs.

After reviewing the benefits of moving to an electronic newsletter, a personal preference to receive the print newsletter at work or home, doesn't justify the production and distribution expenses and manpower required. Therefore, the Chapter's Executive Board and Advisory Council voted unanimously to begin the process of phasing out the print version of the

newsletter. This notice, in both print and email format, serves as a guide to the first totally electronic version of the *Lone Star Librarian*, on the Texas Chapter website at <http://www.txsla.org>.

As Chapter members will be notified via email of the availability of all future electronic issues of the *Lone Star Librarian*, it is imperative that SLA's records reflect each member's correct email address. If you did not receive an email notice about the Fall 2001 newsletter, please verify that your email address in SLA's member database is correct. You can easily update this information at <http://www.sla.org/content/memberonly/index.cfm>.

While we believe that this is a forward move for the Texas Chapter, we encourage your feedback. Please submit your comments and suggestions to the Chapter's discussion list. Instructions on joining the discussion list may be found at <http://www.txsla.org/list.htm>. You can also send comments to me at cgrimes2@austin.rr.com or (512) 436-1325, or to other Chapter Executive Board and Advisory Council members.

Table of Contents

President's Message—September 11th	2
UCITA Update	5
Member News	7
Index to Advertisers	10
Executive Board & Advisory Council	11

President's Message - Carolyn Grimes, Texas Chapter President

It has been almost 40 years since Bob Dylan wrote of the changes facing his generation. However, 2001 is bringing us some significant changes.

Our successful economy is quickly moving into recession, and each week brings new reports of poor corporate earnings, lower stock prices, reduced 401(k) values, and layoffs. We all know of friends, neighbors, professional colleagues, and family members who recently lost jobs. The abundant professional opportunities of yesterday are disappearing. Friends respond to "How are you" with "I still have a job," and we congratulate each other on this achievement. Some people are waiting for the proverbial "other shoe to drop," and it may be a matter of "when" not "if." *The Times They are A-Changin'*.

But September 11th brought us the unthinkable. Our wonderfully safe existence came to an abrupt halt as terrorists flew passenger planes into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. My first professional job was 8 blocks from "ground zero" in New York, and I've been in those buildings countless times.

One of my friends heard the crash and saw the

buildings collapse. Another friend's sister escaped the tragedy because she was out of town on business. We work in high-rise office buildings, in large government buildings, and on expansive corporate and academic campuses, and we shouldn't fear that our libraries, computers, offices, and colleagues might be reduced to rubble. How could this happen? Certainly not in the United States! But it happened that Tuesday morning. At press time, our national leaders appear to be planning retaliation and war seems eminent. How can SLA and Texas Chapter help our membership during this time of great upheaval, anxiety, and uncertainty? Actually, more than you might think.

September 11th

SLA set up a September 11th Disaster Help and Information Exchange accessible from the homepage or from

<http://www.sla.org/content/Help/webcomm/s/sept11help/index.cfm>

Job Assistance

For those looking for help finding new professional opportunities, SLA and Texas Chapter have jobs assistance and postings sites at: <http://sla.jobcontrolcenter.com/ccn/sla/> and <http://www.txsla.org/jobs.htm>.

The Lone Star Librarian, a quarterly newsletter [ISSN 0739-4950], is the official publication of the Texas Chapter of the Special Libraries Association.

The contents or articles and editorials are not to be considered as being or representing the official position of the Texas Chapter. The Special Libraries Association assumes no responsibility for statements and opinions advanced by the contributors to the Association's publications. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of the SLA. Acceptance of advertising does not imply endorsement of the product by the Chapter or the Association.

Address inquiries to: *Texas Chapter, Special Libraries Association, c/o 1307 White Lake Drive, Irving, TX 75060*. Address manuscripts, comments, notices, etc. to the Publications Committee. Inquiries for advertising rates and advertising orders should be addressed to the Advertising Manager or Editor. Texas Chapter SLA members automatically receive subscriptions to the Lone Star Librarian. Portions of the Lone Star Librarian are on the web at URL <http://www.txsla.org>.

Address other subscription inquiries and non-member changes of address to the Editor. Members should send all changes of address to the Special Libraries Association, Membership Dept., 1700 18th Street NW, Washington, DC 20009. ☆☆☆

You can also contact Texas Chapter Employment Chair Sylvia Phillips (syltxsla@hotmail.com) for assistance.

Talk to your Texas Chapter Colleagues

Texas Chapter offers members a discussion list. While originally intended as a professional discussion forum, this may be a good time to expand discussion topics to national and international issues. Information of how to join the Chapter's discussion list may be found at <http://www.txsla.org/list.htm>.

Continuing Education and State Programs

Planning for the Chapter's Spring 2002 meeting in Austin has already begun, and we are working with UT's Graduate School of Library and Information Science to position our meeting adjacent to relevant Continuing Education classes. The entire focus of the meeting will be on "change" and all that this means.

While ideas are already flowing, contact Program Chair Sasha Gilbert (sasha.gilbert@ey.com), if you would like to recommend programs or speakers.

Local Events and Programs

Locally, professional forums allow us to network and discuss our professional and personal interests and concerns. Austin, DFW, Houston, and San Antonio have active and well-funded Area Planning Groups.

I encourage you to recommend and participate in local meetings. Bob Loftin

(bob.loftin@sematech.org), Louis Tong, (louis@louistong.com), and David Liserio, (david.liserio@usaa.com), are all continuing to chair local programs in Austin, Houston, and San Antonio, respectively, and they want to provide the type of local programming that you want. At this time we need ideas and volunteers to help organize events and programs for DFW, so contact me (cgrimes2@austin.rr.com), if you want to get involved.


Most Importantly

Finally, some of the best things that you can during this time are:

- Wave your flag, pray for our country, and get active politically.
- Make a difference in your community.
- Show your friends and family how much they mean to you.
- Live every day to the fullest.

Sending you all my best wishes.
Carolyn Grimes, Texas Chapter President

What you miss is often more important than what you find.



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UCITA Update by Ross Burns, Holt Rinehart Winston

The year 2001 was to have been a make or break year for the proposed Uniform Computer Information Transaction Act (UCITA). Mainly the year has broken on widespread and well-organized opposition to UCITA.

On August 3, the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL) agreed to cease any further legislative efforts until after their annual meeting this November. This respite was granted for two reasons. First, the American Bar Association's Tort and Insurance Practice Section (TIPS) was prepared to pass a resolution at ABA's annual meeting on August 6-8 to demand review and revision of UCITA. Instead the ABA will now create a task force to examine UCITA in detail examining both its weaknesses and strengths.

Second, members of NCCUSL have a number of revisions and amendments to offer at their November meeting. The examinations and revisions have come about due to the general hue and cry raised by many organizations including the library community.

The extensive concerns about UCITA mentioned in my article last September have led to its being tabled in every state legislature where it has been introduced so far this year.

In Virginia, one of only two states where UCITA has become law, the legislature passed a number of

amendments and revisions before UCITA was put into effect in July. These amendments and revisions addressed some of the problems, but are not considered cohesive enough to be a model for the future.

In Texas, UCITA was introduced into both houses of the legislature and was quickly sent to committee and stayed there. The Senate bill (S.B. 709) was introduced by John J. Carona of Dallas on February 15 and was sent immediately to the Business and Commerce committee. It will probably spawn an interim study committee to examine UCITA and prepare it for consideration in the next session.

Sources of current information on the progress of UCITA include the American Library Association's ALAWON newsletter, available online at <http://www.ala.org/washoff/alawon> to which anyone can subscribe; 4CITE has been renamed AFFECT - Americans for Fair Electronic Commerce Transactions but its URL is still <http://www.4cite.org>.


There are also articles appearing in many online news resources including InfoWorld and CNN. Continue to keep yourself informed and watch for the results of the November meeting of NCCUSL. While 2001 has been a bad year for UCITA, this legislation promises to return to state legislatures in the coming years.



Dialog's First Quantum2 Event Held in Texas, by Ann Griffith, 2nd Vice-President

Dialog's first ever Quantum2 event was held on August 8th with a healthy turnout of 31 people at the lovely 3M facility in Austin. The event was arranged by Heidi Porth, the Austin area Student Liaison, hosted by 3M, and included a tour of the 3M library led by Erica Mittag. Dialog's Patricia Currie (patricia_currie@dialog.com) introduced the new Quantum2.

The program offers professional development and networking opportunities and is available at no cost to information professionals worldwide. Quantum2 builds on the original Quantum program developed in 1993. The website at <http://quantum.dialog.com/> provides further program information. Ms. Currie presented a company case study followed by a group exercise that highlighted information professionals' abilities to create value-added research and analysis and discussed methods for producing more rigorous results and promoting them.



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Area Planning Group and Member News

Houston: On September 13th, members met at the Houston Chronicle Library. Afterwards they attended Mission Burritos for a Dutch-treat dinner and networking.

Austin, Dallas/Ft.Worth, and Houston sponsored the SLA Strategic Learning and Development Center's videoconference, *Tending the Garden of Knowledge: An Inside Look at Communities of Practice* on September 26th at various locations.

Olga Wise will be speaking to the Texas Library Association Region 12 Group's meeting on October 13th. Her topic will be: "Solo Librarians - The Best!"

LEXIS-NEXIS Account Representative, Jennifer Small Evert had a boy, Alexander, on August 7th -- 8 lbs 2 oz. Everyone is doing fine. Jennifer says that she is just getting adjusted to life with very little sleep.

☆☆ Texas Star Award ☆☆

Please consider submitting a nomination for the Texas Star Award, which is a recognition mechanism for members who have been of great service to the Chapter over the years. Any member may nominate a candidate for the award.

The criteria for the award appears on the website at <http://www.txsla.org>. The award will be presented to the winner at the annual business meeting next spring.

Please email nominations, as described on that page, to Dell Johnson dellj@texas.net by **Nov 1, 2001**.



JOIN the TEXAS DISCUSSION LIST !!

The time is right to join your fellow information professionals
Online at the Texas SLA Discussion List!

With budgets LOW and mailing costs HIGH
Electronic Delivery
Will keep Texas Special Librarians
TOGETHER

Join by sending an E-mail to: lists@lists.sla.org
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Message: **SUBSCRIBE SLA-CTX YOUR NAME**
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That's It!

In return you'll receive an E-mail confirmation and welcome note with instructions on how to unsubscribe, how to change your password, how to change discussion list attributes, how to receive a digest, and various rules to observe.

NOTICE:

You'll have to keep your delete key ready - -

Since the list is NOT moderated, an occasional unwanted note will come your way.

More information about the discussion list: <http://www.txsla.org/list.htm>



SLA Diversity Leadership by Irene Cordova, Bell Helicopter

STARTING OUT ON THE RIGHT FOOT: Was the title of a pamphlet that was given to me while sitting on a couch outside of an ongoing meeting at the Special Libraries Association Conference in Seattle, WA. At the time I observed that most of those going in this room were African Americans, some were Hispanics and others were Asians. I got curious and started to get up and stretched my neck trying to see what was going on inside when a very nice friendly African American librarian touched my shoulder and said: “Yes you are Hispanic, you belong in this meeting here with us, let us go in, this is the diversity caucus meeting.” Reluctantly I went inside. I didn’t know any one, as it was my first year attending the SLA conference. This group was friendly and seemed happy, I felt welcome as if I belonged with them. I can tell you that I made many friendships there, which still remain to this day.

I was so enthusiastic at this meeting because the goals and objectives of these librarians were also mine: to be part of the SLA organization and to become involved in its leadership. This group would help me in these two areas so I went back home to Texas full of enthusiasm. I called my Texas SLA Chapter and finding the Diversity Liaison position open, I immediately volunteered to fill it.

The reason I mentioned this personal story is that I have found that volunteering with SLA has been a very rewarding experience. I’ve had the opportunity to grow in both my personal and professional life. As a minority person I find that minorities work very hard but few times get the opportunities to be leaders. Based on my experience I can guarantee that anyone working as a volunteer in any of the Chapters will not only grow and develop personally and professionally but sooner or later will have the chance to assume a leadership position.

As the Texas SLA Chapter diversity liaison, I get the opportunity to talk to groups of college students as well as librarians about what SLA membership has to offer. Furthermore, in the Fall, information goes out regarding the various \$1,000 awards available to those SLA members who are part of a diversity group and who would like to get more involved in their professional association leadership training. **To apply for these awards one must fill out an application,** follow the instructions and send it to SLA. Last year there were several stipends but only four were awarded because there weren’t enough applicants. **I am asking every librarian who reads this article to please pass on this information. We need more Texans librarians to participate in the SLA Leadership training.**

Applications and instructions are available in the SLA website, but if anybody has any questions please call me or send me an email at icordova@bellhelicopter.textron.com. My phone number is (817) 280-6726.

**Special Libraries Association Texas Chapter Summer Planning Meeting
August 3, 2001
Tivoli Systems, Inc., Austin, TX
Minutes - Recorded by Louis Tong, Texas Chapter Secretary**

Attendance:

Carolyn Grimes, Sasha Gilbert, Ann Griffith, Ernestine Chipman, Louis Tong, Rob Ruliffson, Dell Johnson, Mary Sue Rose, Ross Burns, Sylvia Phillips, David Liserio, Heidi Porth, Tanya White, Olga Wise

Meeting called to order at 10:41 A.M. by Carolyn Grimes. Introduction of meeting attendees.

Approval of Winter 2001 Executive Board meeting minutes

*Motion by Dell Johnson; Minutes from Winter 2001 Executive board accepted as published in *Lone Star Librarian*; Seconded by Sasha Gilbert; Motion passed unanimously

Financial report 2000-1 by Rob Ruliffson

*Chapter in good financial shape

*Question on "pool fund" – investment fund at SLA HQ

*Carolyn Grimes passed donation check of \$200 from **Corporate Book Resources** to Rob Ruliffson, for their support of this planning meeting.

*Motion by Dell Johnson: To include thank you note in the next newsletter, provide donor with a subscription and a personal letter from chapter president; Seconded by Ann Griffith; Motion passed unanimously

San Antonio meeting report

*Denise Chochrek was not able to be present.

*Carolyn Grimes reported the encouraging signs of student involvement.

*Heidi Porth commented the need of more local reference resources at the Chapter booth.

Old business: None

Chapter Procedures

*Board Procedure Manual – most of the procedures are available online at the chapter web site.

*New board members need to be familiarized with their respective roles and responsibilities.

*Dell Johnson announced that the new procedures will be posted by the end of August. Members may review and comment until mid-September.

*Changes need to go through Dell Johnson instead of Marie Bloechle.

New position – Discussion List Moderator (Mary Sue Rose)

*Discussions on the low subscription and utilization rates of the list by Chapter members and assorted list problems

*Discussions on chapter website advertising which is allowed as the site is not hosted by SLA HQ

*Action items: Membership chair to send out subscription information to new members; Mary Sue Rose to rewrite webpage to further promote discussion list

Strategic Plan

*Reviewed previous strategic plan (96-01) on Chapter website

*Director-At-Large holds the responsibility of updating the strategic plan

*Update to plan published in the Winter 00 issue of the *Lone Star Librarian* based on membership survey

*New plan (2001-6) will be based on the previous past plan with new objectives and provisions to track achievements

2001-02 Meetings

Program topic ideas:

Rita Vine – search strategies

Metadata, cataloging and indexing

Changes and opportunities
 Information resources and topics
 Library values
 Information audits
 Marketing library services

Competitive intelligence
 KM communities – SLA web cast Etienne Wenger (Sept. 26)
 Designing and operating virtual libraries
 Annual technology program

Other existing programs and meetings: Aug 8 – Austin, 3M, value added research; Sept 13 – Houston, copyright issues; Sept 26 – SLA webcast, multiple locations.

Discussion and decision to focus on Sept 26 SLA webcast instead of a Fall meeting due to the lack of planning time

Suggestions: **Spring meeting in Austin at the Wildflower Center, around the first week of April, topic will be “Change is Good”** : Thursday half day CE course, and Friday full-day meetings. Will reach out to other librarians and students.

Discussions on local planning group pages on chapter web site, suggestion to allow LPG to update their pages
 Student pages need content such as scholarship information, etc.

Budget

Proposal to phase out print copy of newsletter – Discussion Points

*Olga Wise suggested a transition year of sending post cards announcing the publishing of the newsletter on the website in order to train the users

*E-mail mailing list of all members is available from SLA HQ

*Cover story of the next issue will announce this phase-out.

*2nd Vice-Presidents can do more if the newsletter is going electronic.

*Complex issues regarding the renewal of bulk mail permit

*Vendor ads can be published in the e-newsletter or on Chapter website.

*Vendors are also encouraged to sponsor meetings.

*Motion by Dell Johnson: Proceed to begin the process of phasing out print version of the newsletter pending membership feedback with the Fall 01 issue.

*Seconded by Heidi Porth.

*Motion passed unanimously.

Other Discussion Items:

*Member scholarship renamed to “member stipend” for attending meetings etc. LPGs will make recommendations to board for candidates.

*Added \$500 in expenses for San Antonio LPG.

*Increased expenses of other LPGs to \$1000 to allow creative programs.

*Newsletter expenses are adjusted down to reflect the phase out of print edition.

*There may be more charges coming from the SLA annual meeting in San Antonio.

*Increased expected income from LPGs to maintain a one-year reserve of funds

*Motion by Sasha Gilbert: to accept 2001-02 budget as amended.

*Seconded by Dell Johnson.

*Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

*Dell Johnson: Texas Star Award – to recognize individuals who have made special contributions to the Chapter.
 Nomination information to be published in the next newsletter

Meeting adjourned at 4:06 pm


Index to Advertisers

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 OPAMP Technical Books, Inc.....12
 TDI Inc.....6

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<i>Advertising Space</i>	<i>One insertion</i>	<i>Contract (Four issues)</i>
Full page (7" X 10")	\$120	\$430
Half page (vert. 3 1/2 X 10")	70	240
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Quarter page (3 1/2" X 4")	40	140

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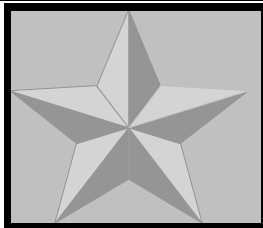
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☆☆☆ **UPCOMING EVENTS** ☆☆☆

November 6-8, 2001—Internet Librarian 2001, Pasadena Conference & Exhibition Center, Pasadena, California. For more information, see www.infoday.com or call 609-654-6266.

November 12-13, 2001—E-Content 2001: The Content Expo, Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara, California. For more information or to register, check www.econtent2001.com.

December 5, 2001—Tempered Radicals: Change Agency in the 21st Century Organization, SLA Virtual Seminar Series, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. EST. For more information, e-mail learning@sla.org, call the Strategic Learning Hotline at 1-202-939-3627, or check www.sla.org.

January 25-29, 2002—SLA Mid-Winter Conference, Chicago, “Innovating Information Services”. See www.sla.org for more information.

June 8-13, 2002 – SLA Annual Conference, Los Angeles, “Putting Knowledge to Work”. For more information and updates, go to www.sla.org.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

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