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You've all heard the so-called Chinese curse: “May you live in interesting times.” Well if the 2002 SLA Winter Meeting and its aftermath are any indication, SLA is in the midst of interesting times. Deanna and I had no idea how prescient we were when we decided to postpone the February issue of Peach State Update till March, just so we could include coverage of the winter meeting.

We’ve included three different takes on the meeting: Joanne Tobin gives us an overview of the Leadership Development Conference; Karalyn Kavanaugh discusses strategic planning for the Information Technology Division and conference planning for the 2003 annual meeting in New York City; Marilyn Pahr touches on several issues that became prominent as the meeting progressed: bylaws revision, branding, and redesign of the annual conference. Marilyn gives more details in the column on association news, and all the writers refer us to continued discussion of these issues on the SLA Web site.

So the times are interesting. We are being given the chance to make significant changes in SLA structure and membership. We must continue to determine our own destiny as an organization. I urge you all to learn as much as you can and then speak up. Contact board members, contribute to list discussions, share your ideas with other members of the Georgia Chapter right here in the newsletter. The deadline for the next issue is April 1, so let us hear from you.

But don’t become overwhelmed by deadly serious discussion. As readers of Peach State Update, you can always turn to “Tales of a Mad Librarian” for a different look at “interesting times.” In this issue, Frank Vuotto gives us a photo essay on the Georgia Chapter’s holiday party. Enjoy!

Let’s keep in touch.

Robbie King
Managing Editor
rking@newfields.com
Spring is in the air! We see changes every day. Flowers are blooming, trees are budding out, the grass is greening up. It’s time for rejuvenescence—starting fresh. SLA finds itself in the throes of change as well. Starting with the 2002 Winter Meeting in Chicago and the proposed bylaws changes and continuing to the resignation of Roberta Schaffer as executive director, these past few weeks of organizational changes have sparked numerous discussions on the future of SLA. I urge you to read more about the proposed bylaws changes (see separate article) and become part of the discussion. You will have the opportunity to vote on the changes, so please become familiar with the issues.

Roberta’s resignation does of course impact our May business meeting, but we are fortunate that we had also invited SLA President Hope Tillman. She will attend our meeting and also visit area libraries. Details are forthcoming, but do mark your calendars for a noon business meeting on Monday, May 20th. Please contact me if you would like to help with this event.

Last month we kicked off our 50th anniversary celebration with a nostalgic look back at librarianship, complete with a 1950’s themed potluck. Thank you to Betty McKibben for hosting the meeting at the Home Depot Headquarters Research Center.

Congratulations to Cynthia Hill, SLA president-elect. Check the SLA Web site for more election results. (www.sla.org)

Do check out the Web site for details on the SLA 2002 Annual Conference in Los Angeles. Hope to see many of you there!

Your Chapter President,

Marilyn A. Pahr
Marilyn_Pahr@bus.emory.edu
Finance Committee

Irene McMorland, Director-at-Large
Terry Bennett, Treasurer

Remember New Year’s Day 2001? You may have waited until then to celebrate the millennium. Either way, the chapter could rejoice in its $5,553.82 in the bank. Time flew by and we took in a further $8867.82 in income during the year.

I’m sure you can guess what we did with all those dollars and cents, so there won’t be any suspense in pausing to see how that income was made up. $4,274.05 was the balance carried over in our operating account, while $1,279.77 was held in reserve in the reserve account.

Our base income comes from our valued members. $2,400 was returned as our dues allotment from SLA. Members and their guests paid $3,809 at the door for meetings. This means that most of our operating income came from members, which is right for a non-profit membership organization. Our valued sponsors gave $500 for the member directory and $2,100 in support of our overall programming. Last and also least, our small but industrious reserve account generated $58 in interest income.

Most of our expenditure was for the direct benefit of our valued chapter members during the year. The largest amount was $7,412.04 for meetings. Your handy chapter directory and handbook cost $873 to produce. Production and delivery of the Peach State Update to you all came to $1,900.91. Post office box, Member of the Year award, bank charges, postage and other miscellaneous committee expenses took care of $617.81. In case you haven’t been counting, this paragraph totals $10,803.76.

All of our accounting and reporting is on a cash basis, but it may help to see which expenses reached beyond the current year. $150 was for our new banner that will last for years, or at least until the next name or logo change. $599 bought Adobe InDesign desktop publishing software to make the Peach State Update better, bigger, and capable of displaying a different picture of Frank Vuotto in every column. The largest expense that went beyond the current year, and beyond our chapter, was $1,485 for an association-wide reception, jointly hosted with the South Carolina chapter, at the Winter 2001 meeting in Savannah. With all that, this paragraph totals a mere $2,234, for a grand total of $13,037.76 in expenses for 2001.

And where does that leave us? Well, it leaves us facing 2002 with $70.07 in the operating account. The reserve account has increased to $1,312.81. With no big bills coming in, and no one expecting the unexpected, we are remaining solvent. Is that good enough? In the April issue we’ll look at longer term planning, the role of reserves, and ask how the chapter’s finances compare to our strategic plan.

Any questions? We’d prefer answers, but send either to Terrence_Bennett@bus.emory.edu or Irene McMorland.

For those who prefer just the numbers, here’s our super-summary.

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Membership Committee

Margo Surovik-Bohnert, Chair

Welcome these new members to the Georgia Chapter:
- Heather Barber—Factiva, Atlanta
- Loraine Laurino—Kurt Salmon Assoc. Inc, Atlanta
- Cheryl Pryslopski—Dialog Corp, Atlanta
- Scott Snipes—Paul Hastings Janofsky & Walker, Atlanta

Georgia Chapter membership as of December 2001:
- Associate Members 15
- Sustaining Members 1
- Regular Members 161
- Student Members 10
- TOTAL 187
Awards Committee
Heather Turnbull, Chair

Miriam Drake Wins John Cotton Dana Award
Miriam “Mimi” Drake has been awarded the Special Libraries Association 2002 John Cotton Dana Award. Recognized as one of SLA’s most distinguished awards, it is presented to an individual SLA member in recognition of exceptional services to special librarianship.

Before retiring in January of 2001, Miriam Drake served for 17 years as the dean and director of the Libraries and Information Center at the Georgia Institute of Technology. In addition to being responsible for the operation and management of library and information services, Ms. Drake was Tech’s archivist and records manager.

Miriam is a past president of the Special Libraries Association and an authority on the field of electronic information distribution. She has written numerous journal articles and is a well-known conference speaker. Miriam has also served on various advisory and editorial boards. Last year, the Georgia Chapter of SLA presented Miriam with our Distinguished Member Award.

SLA’s 2002 awards and honors winners will have the unique opportunity to inaugurate the first Annual SLA Awards and Honors Premier at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles on Wednesday, June 13, 2002.

Congratulations, Miriam.

CADENCE GROUP® WORD SEEK PUZZLE
Cadence Group® provides information management and library services to private corporations and the government sector. These services are embedded in the Word Seek puzzle below. Be among the first to fax back your completed puzzle to 404-874-0541 and win a gift certificate to Borders Books. The words may run horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, and might be backwards or forwards. We’re here to help you with your information management needs, www.cadence-group.com, (404) 874-0544. Good luck!

AUTOINDEXING LIBRARY MANAGEMENT
EDMS (short for Electronic Document Mgmt. Services) LIBRARY STAFFING
INDEXING RESEARCH
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TAXONOMY (short for Taxonomy Development)
INTRANET DESIGN KM (short for Knowledge Management)
WEB CONTENT (short for Web Content Management)

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Peach State Update
March 2002

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Chicago warmed up to 50+ degrees for SLA’s Winter Meeting held January 25 – January 29. This architecturally-beautiful city provided a wonderful setting for our meeting and I was disappointed that I did not have enough time to explore all its attractions. The Illinois Chapter Welcome Reception, held at the Chicago Cultural Center, was a gala event. This building, once Chicago’s Main Library, is a neo-classical masterpiece, featuring art-glass domes and glittering mosaic walls. Great food and soft classical music added to the enjoyment of the evening.

Our active Georgia Chapter members were prominent among the crowd. Among those making the scene were Susan Klopper, Division Cabinet chair; Karalyn Kavanaugh, Information Technology Division chair-elect; Tyler Walters, Environment and Resource Management Division chair-elect; Gail Stahl, 2002 Los Angeles National Meeting Planning Committee member; Nancy Simmons, 2002 Chemistry Division Planning chair; Marilyn Shellabarger, SLA Nominating Committee; Marilyn Pahr, Georgia Chapter president; Joanne Tobin, Georgia Chapter president-elect; Allison Evatt, and Robbie King, Georgia Chapter bulletin editor.

Concurrent activities occur during this meeting time. Among other activities, the Board of Directors meets, the Chapter Cabinet (composed of presidents and presidents-elect of each chapter) meets, the Division Cabinet (composed of division chairs and chairs-elect) meets, and there is a two-day Leadership Development Institute (LDI).

As president and president-elect of the Georgia Chapter, Marilyn and I attended the LDI sessions. This year’s SLA Creativity Camp was designed to help SLA leadership with problems they encounter as association officers. There were excellent discussions on such topics as how to attract and retain new members, how to plan and execute programs that will attract members and non-members alike, how to organize effective mentoring programs, and how to raise funds effectively. Networking with all the other chapter members was an integral part of this meeting. Learning about the programs, fund-raising activities, and volunteer recruitment efforts of other chapters generated ideas for our chapter. Other highlights of the LDI included an excellent presentation by Jane Dysart on membership recruitment and a dynamic presentation by Stephen Abram on cross-generational teamwork. LDI participants got to drop in on the Board of Directors meeting and witnessed some animated discussion centered on changes to the SLA by-laws.

For more information and a summary of your SLA Board of Directors meeting discussions and decisions visit the SLA Web site at www.sla.org.
designed to accommodate one-day attendees in from the New York City area. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday will each have a specific theme designed to appeal to a different audience. For instance, Wednesday’s programs will have a global emphasis, calling upon speakers and programs that encompass international ideas and outreach.

The ITE board meetings are always interesting. Being on the cutting edge of technology can be dangerous and sometimes when the time comes to carry through with plans, the technology is already outdated. Take Mosaic, a hot new topic a few years ago. By meeting time, Mosaic had been replaced by numerous other Web browsers.

Back in 2000, ITE held a daylong meeting during SLA Winter Meeting to strategize and envision a plan for future directions of the division. Following a member survey we decided to focus on mentoring, providing a learning community for members, providing services such as benchmarking guidelines, education and training, and technology reviews. We are still developing these activities and programs.

Other important issues and plans were discussed this winter meeting in Chicago. Along with the rest of the members, I’m watching and wondering where the association will go in the future.

Marilyn Pahr, Georgia Chapter president

The 2002 SLA Winter Meeting drew 237 leaders to Chicago, IL, USA, for three days of learning and meetings. The Georgia Chapter was well represented with ten members attending (see picture above).

The weather couldn’t have been better as we had unseasonably warm 60° days. (A few days after we left, the temperature plummeted into the teens and the city got hit with its customary winter snowstorm.)

On Wednesday night, I took advantage of the Dinner Buddies program and dined with fellow librarians. The topic of conversation was the proposed redesign of the Annual Conference. Little did we know then that the topic of bylaws revisions would surpass any other topic over the next few days. (See Association News for details.)

Thursday and Friday were spent attending the Leadership Development Institute (LDI) which provided opportunities to discuss best practices and have round-table discussions. Steven Abrams did a presentation on the demographics of the membership of SLA and guess what? We’re getting older—it’s not just our chapter that’s turning 50! He spoke about the generational differences and how the organization needs to make changes in order to recruit younger members into SLA.

The Illinois Chapter hosted an evening reception at the Chicago Cultural Center, formerly the Chicago Public Library, a landmark structure completed in 1897 as the city’s first permanent main library. It was also one of the libraries where I spent many an hour during my high school years (not in 1897, I’m not that old!).

Next year’s Winter Meeting will be held in New Orleans.

Update on two proposals:

- Redesign of the Annual Conference

  Based on feedback from the town meeting and Division Cabinet, this proposal has been withdrawn. A revised proposal will be presented to the Division Cabinet for consideration at the June meeting.

- Strategic Changes: Branding to Image

  In January, the firm retained to research and deliver a proposed name, logo, and tagline, reported with three scenarios along a continuum, none of which resonated with the purpose of this project. What is proposed is to shift the focus of this project from “branding” to “image”. With the combined efforts of a task force and a new consultant, we will flesh out our image and propose a plan to communicate, market, and exhibit this image. In addition, it is proposed to conduct a town meeting at the Annual Conference to hear our members’ thoughts on the image.
The Sky is NOT the Limit!

September 22-24, 2002
Asheville, North Carolina
Renaissance Asheville Hotel

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT –
http://www.sla.org/conf/conf_sar/index.html

OR
CONTACT: Leon Gyles at (912) 965-3291
or Leon.Gyles@gulfaero.com

Hosted by the Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida & Caribbean Chapters.

If you find that you will not be able to travel to Los Angeles, California to attend this year’s Special Libraries Association Annual Meeting in June, please don’t despair. The South Atlantic Regional Conference (SARC) will be perfect for you. The SARC Committee encourages you to attend this conference in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains this Fall. Please make plans now to attend this extraordinary conference.

The theme of the conference is “The Sky is NOT the Limit” and an excellent program has been designed to focus on this global concept. The overall program is outlined on the next page. If you would like a more detailed description of the topics, please go to our website http://www.sla.org/conf/conf_sar/ and click on Preliminary Program.

There are quite a few fun things to do once you arrive in Asheville, NC. To name just a few, you can join SARC on Monday night for a tour of the Biltmore Estate. This is a guided candlelight tour of the Biltmore House (http://www.biltmore.com) including “George’s Library Den” which is not on the regular tour. This includes dessert and coffee in the Stable Cafe’. The cost for this event will be $75, which includes transportation from the hotel. Some ideas for you to try on your own would be to visit the Southern Highland Craft Guild (http://www.southernhighlandguild.org) featuring local crafts and historical regional information or visit the Thomas Wolfe Memorial (http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/hs/wolfe/wolfe.htm) next door to the hotel!
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ASSOCIATION NEWS
by Marilyn Pahr

Proposed Bylaws Changes
SLA has provided you with a centralized location to review and comment on SLA's proposed bylaws changes. The goal is bylaws that will best support SLA as it moves to become responsive, flexible, and nimble. As the board continues to discuss this issue with the membership, this site will change to factor in your input and the deliberations of the board. You may send an e-mail to SLABylaws@sla.org or participate in the threaded discussion list (www.sla.org/content/SLA/Structure/recbylaws/httpww6596.cfm) to share your thoughts and comments on the proposed changes. To view the supporting documents, click on the Proposed Changes Submitted During 2002 Winter Meeting link (www.sla.org/content/SLA/Structure/recbylaws/index.cfm).

Staff Changes
Roberta Shaffer has resigned her position as executive director. This news was announced via a press release sent to the entire membership in addition to the media. Deputy Executive Director Lynn Smith will serve as interim executive director. Lynn has been with SLA for twelve years and is active in leadership positions in leading association management organizations. The association will continue to move forward with its approved plans and initiatives.

Annual Conference Update
The February issue of Information Outlook contains the preliminary conference program this year. Detailed information, an improved program planner, and conference and housing registration are all available via the SLA Web site.

The SLA 2002 Local Arrangements Committee invites you to subscribe to the sla-la2002 discussion list. They plan to have local chapter members available to answer questions about your upcoming visit to LA. To subscribe, send the message “subscribe sla-la2002 Your Name” to lists@lists.sla.org. Many useful links are available on the committee’s Web site at library.csun.edu/dhelfer/2002/welcome.html.

New Competitive Intelligence Section
One of the new advancements approved at the SLA 2002 Winter Meeting is the creation of a Competitive Intelligence Section of the Library Management Division. Current members of the division may add this section by sending an e-mail to lolita@sla.org. There will be no additional charge. SLA members who are not currently members of the Library Management Division may join it for an additional US $15. Please specify that you would like to join the Competitive Intelligence Section of the Library Management Division. Non-members may select the section and division when they join SLA. A Web form is being developed to simplify the process. Mala Sistla will serve as chair of the new section. (msistla@skcpg.com)

CHAPTER NEWS

So, What’s Keeping You Busy?
Addendum
by Marilyn Pahr

In the November issue, I recognized Georgia Chapter members who hold committee and leadership positions within the SLA organization. Please add this member to that list. And again, if I’ve missed you, or you hold a committee or leadership position in another library organization, please let me know. (Marilyn_Pahr@bus.emory.edu)

Karalyn Kavanaugh
Unit—Information Technology Division
Position—Chair-Elect
“The meeting will now come to order....”

Some of you may remember that while looking through the materials in the archives, we came across a reference to a gavel that was awarded to the chapter in the 1950's. At the September tea we asked whether anyone knew of its whereabouts. Martha Jane Zachert, our 2nd president, had graciously offered to replace it if it wasn't found. You may also recall Frank's making mention of it in one of his columns:

During “story time” (each of the past-presidents related library stories), questions arose as to the whereabouts of a certain gavel. The famed SLA/GA Chapter gavel was passed down for generations until suddenly – it vanished. Well, I have some good news and I have some bad news. The good news is that the official Georgia Chapter gavel, missing for years and presumed lost, has been found! The bad news is that I have been using it to assemble office furniture, test for structural weaknesses on the concrete pillars in front of the Woodruff Library at Emory University, and to hammer iron stakes into the hearts of mannequins (don’t worry—the iron stakes were not damaged).

Well, despite warnings to the contrary about unmarked packages, when I received one last month, addressed to me with no return address, I shook it, heard something rattling and promptly opened it. What was in the box? Not one, but TWO gavels! The missing one and another one we didn’t even know existed. The gavels are inscribed with the names of chapters that had the most new members that year. The first gavel has the dates of 1954, 1955 and 1956. The second, has 1957 and 1971 for the South Atlantic Chapter (we had a brief time period with this name). In each case, our chapter’s name was the last one inscribed and so I guess that’s how chapters got the gavels. I sincerely thank our anonymous sender for returning them to the chapter. I will have them available at the May business meeting.
The Georgia Chapter Holiday Party at Callanwolde

Tales from a Mad Librarian
by Frank Vuotto

ROPES, SCHMOPES:
A pictorial essay documenting my “private tour” of the Callanwolde Mansion

The following collection of photos illustrates a basic rule of life: roped-off rooms, stay out signs, and armed guards patrolling the grounds are useless. Accompanying me on my tour of the above mentioned roped-off rooms were Marilyn Pahr, GA Chapter president, Betty McKibben, Teresa Burk, and Terrence “Lefty” Bennett, GA Chapter treasurer, dues collector, and Mafia hitman.

This is my story:

In between my welcoming guests & bar visits, I find the time to respond to piles of fan mail—I receive about 500 letters each and every day from loyal groupies begging for a signed photo or lock of hair.

Moments after this picture was taken of Terrence “borrowing” the crystal wineglasses from the Music Room, the antique chandelier suspiciously crashed to the floor just missing him. A shaken Bennett admitted, “Well, I have enemies. Many enemies.”

The holiday party takes a somber turn, when I perform my award winning mime version of Hamlet. Crowds of awe-struck Shakespeare aficionados, squeezed into the Guest Bedroom to witness my historic performance, which has been compared to the work of other pretty good actors, such as Laurence Olivier, Derek Jacobi, Mel Gibson, and Kenneth Branagh.

Attempting to jumpstart the party following my Hamlet, I entertained SLA partygoers with classic organ favorites from Nine Inch Nails, White Zombie, Marilyn Manson, and Metallica. Needless to say, I was a H-U-G-E hit.
A Coke and a smile! Betty ignores all reason (and my pleas) and begins to consume plastic popcorn and a 25 year old bottle of Coke displayed in the Game Room.

Teresa Burk, shown here unwrapping gifts in the Sun Porch Room, was disappointed to discover that the beautifully wrapped "gifts" displayed throughout the room were just old boxes filled with dirty rags and soiled newspapers.

On her way to the holiday party, Marilyn—*I drive like a madwoman*—Pahr, ran over a black bear while it was crossing Briarcliff Road. Pahr (shown here modeling her handiwork) is a licensed taxidermist and carries her "tools of death" with her at all times.

After running over the black bear, Pahr (shown here with her Golden Retriever fur) tried to make up the time by "really speeding." Unfortunately, in her attempt to break the laws of physics, she tragically ran over a Golden Retriever that was "negotiating" with a fire hydrant.

Dramatic table settings in the Formal Dining Room set the mood for an all-you-can-eat pizza and beer supper (I was going to say bear supper—see above photo—but that’s too disturbing for even me).

To bring the evening to a close, Betty McKibben suggests a drinking game in the Mansion’s Library. Betty (shown here cursing and berating me while I stop to take a breath while chugging down two 150 year old bottles of French Champagne) won the coin toss.