

The Military Librarian

The Newsletter of the Military Librarians Division of the Special Libraries Association

Volume 47, I Winter 2002

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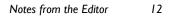
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Army Librarians Win FLICC Awards—3rd Year In A Row — NDU Library Wins for 2001

by M. Ann Parham, Army Librarian, HQDA, Pentagon, Washington, DC

or the third year in a row, **Army librarians and libraries** have been recognized for excellence! This year, the National Defense University Library, directed by Ms. Sarah Mikel, has won the 2001 Federal Library of the Year award. The Library of Congress' Federal Library and Information Center established the awards to honor outstanding federal libraries, librarians, and library technicians. Military librarians, Ms. Joan Buntzen, Librarian of the Navy; Ms. Jerri Knihnicki, Director of the **US Army Transportation School**



National Defense University Library—Federal Library of the Year for 2001

Library; and Ms. Sherrie Floyd, Director of the US Army Vicenza Community Library, were recognized by the Federal Librarian of the Year award in 1998, 1999, and 2000, respectively.

See Awards, page 4

Federal Librarian of the Year: Lynne Tobin, Editor of *The Military Librarian*



ur own, Lynne Tobin, editor of *The Military Librarian*, is the Federal Librarian of the Year, 2001 FLICC award. As the Chief of Reference at the Bethesda Research Center of the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA), Mrs. Tobin was recognized for her active and innovative leadership in expanding a small reference

collection into a full-fledged branch of the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) Research Center. She directed the retrospective conversion of Legacy textual materials and loaded them into NIMA's new Voyager ILS. Mrs. Tobin's efforts improved access via employees' workstations to texts

See Federal Librarian of the Year, page 3

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Executive Board Members and Committees of the MLD					
OFFICE	NAME	EMAIL	TERM	VOTE	
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From the Chair:

Bylaws: Changes Ahead for SLA

he President of SLA, Hope Tillman, has sent a message for all of us to share. Please go to the SLA website (www.sla.org) and look at the section on "proposed bylaws changes." This was the dominant topic at the SLA Winter Meeting in Chicago. While normally you may not get involved with bylaws of an association, these proposed changes are quite substantial, would effect elec-

tions, and the way the Board manages the Association. Your comments are highly valued.

As a result of a recent Online Chat session (which most, if not all the Military Librarians Division Member could not join) on bylaws the ongoing Discussion Thread may be accessed to learn the concerns and

opinions of the SLA leadership and members. To visit the threaded discussion list about the bylaws, go to SLA's home page www.sla.org, click the "read more" on the item named "Share your thoughts and comments on the proposed Bylaws changes", then click on the first item "Proposed Bylaws Threaded Discussion List" which began, rather appropriately on February 12, 2002.. I hope that all will take the chance to follow this discussion and contribute to it as well.

Thank you, Sharon Lenius, MLD Chair □

Federal Librarian of the Year

(continued from page 1)

and maps that are currently cataloged following MARC standards and given Library of Congress call numbers. The bibliographic instruction program and training materials she initiated are now recognized by the NIMA College.

The Federal Librarian of the Year Award will be shared with Pamela Dawes, Director, Haskell Library, Haskell Indian Nations University, Lawrence, Kansas. □

Notice From SLA President, Hope Tillman

There is now a section on proposed bylaws changes on the SLA web site, which you can point to from the top of the SLA front page.

There you will find - the current bylaws - the proposals first presented at the Winter Meeting - comments from me - comments from Executive Director Roberta Shaffer - and a link to the Discussion on SLA's Proposed Bylaws Changes to be facilitated by Eugenie Prime at the Winter Meeting.

We heard from the leadership in

future, the Board is listening.

Proposed Bylaws
Threaded
Discussion List

attendance that they had not had enough time to consider the proposals under discussion. The Board's vote in Chicago reflected our listening to the membership that they wanted more time for input. As we seek to move forward and position our association for the

Please speak up!

Hope N. Tillman
President
Special Libraries Association
Director, Libraries
Babson College
Babson Park MA 02457
781-239-4259 / tillman@babson.edu

Revised Bylaws Completed!!!!!!

Colleagues,

At long last Tracy Landfried and Irene Cordova's task of getting the revised Bylaws approved is completed. They have passed through the hoop, loops, wickets and everything else you can think of before making their way back to Tracy and Irene. We will be getting them up on the web soon.

Thank you, Tracy and Irene. A job very well done!! And a special thanks to all reviewers and others who had input to this mammoth undertaking that is now complete. On to revisions! Just kidding, I didn't mean it! We will be looking at the Procedures Manual that is included with the bylaws, but is not a part of them.

Sharon Lenius, MLD Chair



The Information Literacy Toolkit

By Sandy Bradley Navy/Marine MLW Director

Information Literacy (IL) is a set of information and knowledge age skills that enable individuals to recognize what information is needed when, and how to locate, evaluate, use, and effectively communicate it.

IL initiates, sustains, and extends lifelong learning that, in turn, enhances the individual's effectiveness in the workplace. IL skills are critical to dealing with the daily barrage of information (infoglut), and the increasingly broad array of technologies and tools to search, organize and analyze results, and communicate and integrate them for decision-making. It is currently estimated the average person spends 150 hours per year looking for information. Fluency in IL skills will increase effectiveness and productivity of workers in this search activity and also in the use of information technologies and tools.

Librarians in all sectors have been increasingly aware of the criticality of IL as they acquire and organize costly electronic resources for remote access by their clientele. The Consortium of Naval Libraries (CNL) established its Online Literacy Working Group in 1999 to share techniques and materials on publicizing electronic resources to virtual library users and instructing them in their use. The current DON CIO IL initiative builds on the CNL work with a broader effort to engender more comprehensive IL skills. It leverages national efforts, such as the Association of College & Research Libraries, Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education, January 2000, and the American Association of School Libraries, Information Literacy Standards for Student Learning, 1998. It also leverages CNL knowledge of highly relevant information resources and the decision support needs of the department, usage of resources, and satisfaction with those resources and search tools.

Current Status

The IL Toolkit was initiated in July 2000, a draft plan of action and milestones were developed and formalized in October 2000. The IL Toolkit version 1.0 was launched in April 2001. The first IL product included: an IL tutorial with anecdotes, instructional materials and links to highly relevant information resources, an IL self-

assessment tool, a navigation tool set, FAQs, a glossary, and other components including Knowing and Virtual Communications. Delivery was both by CD-ROM and the DONCIO Website. It was quickly updated to version 1.1 with the addition of a search engine.

GSA added this product to their FirstGov portal. Version 2.0 includes many additions and updates. Increasing information literacy skills will enable Naval personnel, and now other users, to fully exploit the technological advantages of the new millennium. The web version is found at the url listed below. CD ROM versions will be available at the DTIC annual conference in April 2002, or by request from Sandy Bradley.

http://www.don-imit.navy.mil/iltoolkit/

MLD Librarians involved in the Information Literacy Toolkit and its revisions include:
Sandy Bradley, Joan Buntzen, Vicky Crone, Carolyn Eaton, Jean Hort, Greta Marlatt, Marie O'Mara, Carole Ramkey, Dr. Maxine Reneker, Laurie Stackpole, Lizabeth Stroup, and Kathy Wright. □

Awards (continued from page 1)

The awards, having quickly gained prestige in the four short years they have been awarded, were announced on the Reuters wire service. In announcing the award, the Library of Congress stated that the NDU Library was recognized for its high level of customer service, the development of outstanding collections in support of the university's mission, and extraordinary reference services.

In 2001, the library began offering distance learning students digital library access, digitized the personal papers of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and increased the library's visibility through exhibits, high profile tours and lectures, and excellent onsite and remote services. The Deputy Librarian of Congress, Mr. Donald L. Scott, will present the award at the Library of Congress on March 19, 2002.

Thanks to all of the NDU staff for being a model of excellence and for continuing the winning Army tradition!

M. Ann Parham
Army Librarian
HQDA, ODCSPER
ATTN: DAPE-ZXI-LM
300 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-0300

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Laurie Stackpole Awarded Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award

Laboratory's (NRL's) Chief Librarian, is the recipient of a Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award for her significant contributions to the naval library community and the users it serves.

Ms. Stackpole directs the Ruth H. Hooker Research Library, a specialized scientific and technical information resource serving NRL and the Office of Naval Research (ONR). In this capacity, she plans, develops and implements a broad program of information services, giving oversight to and participating in the design and development of systems that provide NRL and ONR researchers with around-the-clock access to scientific and technical information.

Under Ms. Stackpole's leadership, the library provides a full range of functions including the identification, selection, acquisition, indexing, and delivery of print and digital materials to meet NRL and ONR information needs.



The FLICC 2001 Award Winners!!

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☆Federal Library Technician of the Year

Leslie Yeakley, Library Technician
DTIC Technical Library
Honorable Mention:

Patricia E. Tellman, Library Technician Base Library Naval Air Station

♣ Federal Librarian of the Year (tie)

Pamela Dawes, Director Haskell Library Haskell Indian Nations University

Lynne C. Tobin, Chief, Reference Library, National Imagery & Mapping Agency

☆Federal Library/Information Center of the Year

National Defense University Library Sarah A. Mikel, Library Director



Calling for Nominations:

MLD Distinguished Service Award

M LD Distinguished Service Award deadline for nominations is Wednesday, 1 May 2002.

This award recognizes a MLD member for outstanding and sustained contributions to MLD. The award consists of a certificate of achievement and/ or a presentation gift. Nominees must be members of the Military Librarians Division. Nominations submitted to the Awards Committee must be accompanied by a written statement of contributions, not to exceed 250 words. Visit the MLD web page (http://www.sla.org/division/dmil/nominationscall.html) for the online form and more information. You can mail or fax your nominations to our Awards Chair:

Ms. Addie Ross
Technical Information Specialist
US Fish & Wildlife Service
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura Fish & Wildlife Office
Ventura, CA 93003

Phone: 1-805-644-1766 FAX: 1-805-644-3958

Addie has been caught up in the recent internet problems of the Interior Department and is suffering without email. Please be sure that you FAX or mail the information to her. \square

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SLA Winter Meeting Report,

by Tracy Landfried, Past Chair, MLD

he winter meeting is always interesting. It is a smaller venue than the annual conference, and all meetings are held in one hotel—this year the site was the Downtown Chicago Marriott. You can meet Association leadership at every level: chapter, caucus, and division leaders; Association Board members and Board officer candidates; and Headquarters (HQ) staff. Throughout the week you work with all of the above in the Leadership Development Institute, Chapter and Division Cabinets, and unit board meetings.

Military Librarians Division (also called DMIL by SLA HQ) had a board meeting Wednesday, 23 January 2002. Chair Sharon Lenius explained the cancellation of Military Librarians Workshop (MLW) 2002 and lessons learned from that painful action. Lenius and Director Ann Cashin reviewed the program for SLA 2002 in Los Angeles (8-13 June 2002.) Director Tanny Franco described MLW 2002. Lenius described plans for MLW 2003 and MLW 2004 and announced hosts for MLW 2005 (Navy-NRL) and MLW 2006 (Air Force-Air University- 50th anniversary.)

Division Chair-elects are program planners for SLA 2003 in New York City. MLD Chair-elect Suzanne Ryder and Franco met with other division planners to begin the planning process for SLA 2003 annual conference. Planning continued with Lenius and Cashin for SLA 2002 in Los Angeles. The winter meeting eighteen months out is the first opportunity the division planners have to meet and get to know one another. It is a hectic process, with only a few deadlines to keep you on track. The process has been automated to some extent and that saves much paperwork for us – I suspect the same cannot be said for SLA HQ staff involved in conference planning. I remember Alicia Cronin carrying around notebooks that seemed too big for her in San Antonio.

SLA Board of Directors candidates spoke at a luncheon, instead of the 7:30 a.m. time slot they have had in the past. At winter meeting, it is easy to meet the candidates and voice your concerns one-on-one. Director candidate Wei Wei gave the shortest and most succinct campaign speech in my memory. You can look Wei and other candidates up on the SLA website; their biographies and questions/answers should be available. You will find the information in the January 2002 issue of Information Outlook, both paper and in the members only section online.

[Cast your vote when you receive your ballot – follow all the rules in casting your vote so it does count.

- *Vote early
- *Mark your ballot in pencil or black or blue ink only
- *Return your ballot only in the pre-addressed envelope provided
- *Type or print your name and address only in the return address space on the pre-addressed envelope
- *Read the instructions carefully for each office before casting your vote from SLA website

Ballots are due to Langan Associates by 8 Mar 2002.]

The Leadership Development Institute (LDI) part of SLA Winter Meeting is a 2-day training event that introduces new leaders (Chapter Presidents-elect, Division Chairs-elect, Caucus conveners) to the Association. We learn necessary skills for running our units: budget and finance, membership recruitment, program planning,

See Leadership Dev. Institute, page 11



FUTURE MILITARY LIBRARIANS WORKSHOPS

2002

Marine Corps University Library, Richmond, VA, / Dec 2 - 6, 2002 (Omni Hotel, James Center, Richmond)

2003

National Defense University, Washington, DC, / Dec 8-11, 2003 Hotel, TBD

2004

Department of Defense, (In conjunction with the Libraries of Ft Jackson, SC & Shaw AFB, SC) Columbia, SC / Dec 6-10, 2004

2005

Naval Research Laboratory Library, Washington, DC Area, / Dec 5-8, 2005

2006

Air University Libraries, Maxwell AFB, AL MLW'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY, Dec 4-7, 2006

Gear Up For LA — SLA 2002 Annual Conference

here will be many interesting programs and events surrounding the Special Libraries Association (SLA) Annual Conference in Los Angeles, California scheduled for June 8-13, 2002. The Program Planning Committee for Los Angeles has worked to make this an informative and informal conference representing the more laid back life style of the colorful region. The Military Librarians Division (MLD) Board and especially the Lead Planner, Ann Cashin, have brought together some activities and seminars that will be useful to military librarians and the membership of SLA.

This year MLD will be sponsoring a Continuing Education Course on Saturday afternoon from 1-5 pm at the LA Convention Center. Greta Marlatt, Reference Team Leader at the Naval Postgraduate School Library in Monterey, CA will help course attendees with "Secrets of the Deep: Mining Government Information from the Deep Web." See your conference planning guide or the MLD Web Page for more information. Cost: \$199 SLA Members, \$249 Non-Members. Well worth the training dollars and your time and effort!

There are so many great events scheduled for SLA 2002 that MLD has decided to forgo its usual Reception in favor of TWO NETWORKING BREAKFASTS (Monday and Tuesday mornings) and a special NO-HOST DINE AROUND scheduled for Wednesday evening, June 12th. Joyce Hardy, MLD Secretary and member of the Southern California Host Chapter, has made arrangements for FREE bus transportation, sponsored by SIRSI Corp. Joyce had the difficult mission of taste-testing cuisine in the Los Angeles area; she agrees with BON APPETIT that El Cholo, our destination restaurant, is a great place for regional Mexican food.

Kickoff events for SLA in LA begin on Sunday, June 9th at the LA Convention Center with the gala opening of the Exhibits from 4-6 PM. This will be followed by a Celebration at the restored Los Angeles Public Library from 6:30-10 PM. Buses will be available to transport attendees to the LAPL. In fact, buses will be a fact of life if you book at most of the conference hotels, except the Figueroa Hotel, located only three blocks from the beautiful grounds of the LA Convention Center. URLs to the Figueroa site are provided by the MLD Web Mistress, Pat Alderman. The LA Planning Committee

described the Figueroa Hotel as Mexico meets Morocco ...with enthusiasm. And they said, this might not be for everyone. However if this is you, you might want to consider picking up the phone and calling the 800 number, 1-800 421-9092. Try for the government rate of \$99 per night. Don't miss out!

http://www.figueroahotel.com/

http://www.hotelguide.net/los angeles/data/h100143.htm

Further information about specific MLD events and programs can be found in the Military Librarians Division Home Page:

http://www.sla.org/division/dmil/index.html

MILITARY LIBRARIANS DIVISION Programs & Events for SLA Annual Conference Jun 8-13, 2002, Los Angeles, CA

SATURDAY, June 8th

1:00-5:00 pm

SECRETS OF THE DEEP: MINING GOVERNMENT INFORMATION FROM THE DEEP WEB

Finding information from the world's largest printing entity has always been a challenge but with so much now residing in the "deep" or "invisible" web it is even more of a challenge. This class will provide on overview of what the "deep" or "invisible" web is and explore more specifically how to access it and discover what is in the many government databases. Special emphasis will be on the publicly available military websites and databases. This workshop will cover specialized search engines, directories and gateways to help the searcher become more familiar with the best access points for finding the "gold" in the free government databases. The focus will include specialized search tools such as: Google, Uncle Sam, Firstgov, Searchmil.com, Searchgov.com, the Army's Center for Lessons Learned Military Domains Search Engine, Air War College Gateway to Internet Resources, Air War College Military Quick Portal, GPO Access and more. Course attendees will receive a CD ROM with essential course content.

Instructor: Greta Marlatt,

Naval Postgraduate School Library, Monterey, CA

Co-Sponsored By: IEEE

Location: LA Convention Center, Room - TBA

SUNDAY, June 9th

3:00-6:00 pm

DMIL Military Librarians DIVISION BOARD MEETING The board members of the DMIL Division will have a business meeting.

Observers welcome, seating is limited.

Location: Los Angeles Public Library, Room - TBA

See Monday, page 8

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MONDAY, June 10th (continued from page 7)

7:00-8:30 am

DMIL Military Librarians NETWORKING BREAKFAST Catch up with your colleagues over breakfast. Also a good chance to pick up bus tickets for the no-host dinner on Wednesday!

Sponsored By: PTFS

Location: LA Convention Center, Room - TBA

1:30-3:00 pm

ACCESS TO THE UNEXPECTED: Why Futurists Can't Predict the Future, And How You Can

Long-term predictions of financial, scientific and cultural trends have less than 5% accuracy. Why does the average person have a higher success rate—often close to 85% - and what can you do to improve yours? Learn the critical thinking mistakes to avoid - the ones that professional futurists make - and what key questions to ask in order to improve your information center or library. Crucial information for strategic planning.

Presenter: Pat Wagner,

Library Management Consultant & Humorist/Writer

Sponsored By:

Location: LA Convention Center, Room - TBA

1:30-3:00 pm

BIOTERRORISM: Information and Resources for Uncertain

Bioterrorism and its possible consequences have become an unfortunate reality after the September 11 attacks on the United States. Learn about the possible threats and how we can be prepared and educated to respond appropriately.

Sponsored By: DMIL- Co Sponsor

Location: LA Convention Center, Room - TBA

TUESDAY, June 11th

7:00-8:30 am

DMIL Military Librarians NETWORKING BREAKFAST Still want to touch bases with a Military Librarian? Here's your chance!

Sponsored By:

Location: LA Convention Center, Room - TBA

9:30-11:00 am

DON'T RESIST, PERSIST! Persistent Identifiers in an Electronic World

What are persistent identifiers, and how do they aid researchers in accessing long-term internet content? Join panelists from DTIC, the International DOI Foundation, and OCLC in a discussion of PURLs-- Persistent URLs.

Sponsored By: LexisNexis

Location: LA Convention Center, Room - TBA

11:30-1:00

DMIL Military Librarians AWARDS AND BUSINESS LUNCHEON: Celebrate Military Librarians!

See Military Librarians, page 10



16 TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE

by Douglas Hasty *

- 1. Make your airline, hotel, and car rental reservations as much in advance as possible -- six month's time is not a bad idea. This is a good way to be assured of hotel rooms and possibly lower airfares.
- 2. Use credit cards for payments on major purchases or travel expenses. These charges can be disputed later if you need to do so.
- **3.** Pay registration fees in advance (if offered), since advance bookings are usually cheaper.
- **4.** Photocopy all registration paperwork and receipts, and take these copies with you to the conference. You may need them at the registration desk if there are questions about your registration status. Observe the same caution for your hotel and car rental reservations -- if you have printed receipts showing promised hotel and car rates, you can avoid being charged higher rates.
- 5. Pack with the host city's weather in mind, but dress comfortably (if conference dress codes do not prevail).
- **6.** Always wear good shoes -- you won't be thinking about your feet unless they hurt, and then it is too late.
- 7. Read the conference program from start to finish. Good programs will have loads of valuable local and conference information that will make your stay easier.
- **8.** As you read the conference program, highlight or circle meetings you would like to attend. This is a good way to plan your conference days. Copy this information onto one sheet of paper, and carry it with you in a pocket for quick reference. Don't forget to include meeting locations and/or room numbers.
- **9.** Be patient and flexible during the conference with planned events -- both yours and the conference's. Be ready for any time of change, cancellation, or lost booking at any point during your stay.
- **10.** Don't be late for conference events, programs, and meetings if you can help it.
- 11. Be a mentor to a first-time attendee or a new professional. Your rewards will be respect, loyalty, and satisfaction for a good deed done.
- 12. Network, network, network. Strike up conversations with people whom you have never met. This is a good way to meet a friend, a lunch or dinner partner (especially nice if you are alone), or a future professional contact.
- 13. Meet the vendors, and thank them for coming to the conference. Remember that many conference costs are supplemented by vendors, sometimes heavily, therefore reducing your conference registration costs
- 14. While at vendor displays, take only the freebies you can use. Leave some for other attendees.

See Tips, page 10

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Tending the Garden of Knowledge: An Inside Look at Communities of Practice

by Tanny Franco and Diane Schnurrpusch

The Special Libraries Association (SLA) piqued our curiosity and sparked our interest by combining technology with a current management topic. Enter with us into the world of the virtual seminar. Think of a teleconference with the familiar speakerphone, and add a computer keyboard linked to an overhead projected screen to magnify the computer's monitor. Participants attend sessions in their local areas where they are logged onto the Internet. The conference is punctuated occasionally by interactive opportunities. For example, the audience is intermittently asked to respond to polling questions by pointing and clicking to statements that reflect their answer. They also have the chance to submit questions for the speaker at different junctures in the session using the speakerphone.

On September 26, 2001, SLA members, including the National Guard Bureau Information Center, the US Army Corps of Engineers, Humphreys Center Library, and the HQ Army Material Command Library, participated in one of these virtual seminars with Etienne Wenger, Ph.D., as he discussed

"communities of practice" – a knowledge management concept he pioneered. Jeff De Cagna, Managing Director, Strategic Learning and Development for SLA, was the moderator for the seminar.

Dr. Wenger defined a community of practice as "a group of people who share an interest in a domain of knowledge." He distinguished "teams" from "communities" by noting that teams are known for their tasks. Teams often dissolve once their tasks are completed. Communities are bound together by shared learning.

Wenger, author of the book <u>Communities of Practice:</u> <u>Learning, Meaning and Identity</u>, elaborated further on how communities of practice work. Noting that communities of practice have been around since ancient times, he described them as groups that develop within and across business units and projects, as well as at the boundaries of organizations, and sometimes extending across distinct organizations. Members help each other

solve problems, share information, and create "shared artifacts." CENDI (Commerce, Energy, NASA, NLM, Defense & Interior (National Biological Service) is a good example of a community of practice. CENDI has been the focal point for its members as well as other federal organizations on discussions of national and international scientific and technical information (STI) policy and practice. CENDI members work to support improving the application of information and information technology.

Dr. Wenger focused on three issues during the seminar:
1) How today's organizations are benefiting from the work of communities of practice, 2) The main challenges facing organizations as they nurture the development of practice communities, and (3) The role information professionals play in supporting communities of practice. He stressed the unique position of information professionals to identify communities of practice. By determining common kinds of questions or documents requested, librarians can help people connect to form

communities. Librarians are in a position to connect different communities, and create buffers between these communities and outsiders. As information providers librarians can help communities create knowledge bases and become involved in support teams that develop communities of practice in an organization as a means to manage knowledge.

...librarians can help communities create knowledge bases

Wenger offered the following advice for organizations. Communities should start where they are most effective in an organization rather than aligning themselves with an official organizational structure. They need sponsorship from senior management, including adequate time and money. In regard to information technology, organizations should be aware that community development is not a technical process, but a social and cognitive process. Technology should not replace people, but should support people. Instead of designing expert systems, we should design systems for experts.

By using the teleconference speakerphone the audience was able to question Dr. Wenger. Someone asked him, "How do you keep communities of practice from becoming elitist groups"? Wenger's answer was to have communities interact with each other and also with the outside world. Responding to a question posed about layoffs, he said that during the time of layoffs it is

See Communities, page 10

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Communities (continued from previous page)

important to make sure that communities survive. He added librarians are in a position to help communities survive by capturing knowledge in a useable form and by acting as advocates for the continuing communities.

After the seminar was over our group had a chance to comment on what we thought was the most important aspect of Dr. Wenger's Communities of Practice theory. We saw ourselves as information professionals acting as the brokers to connect these communities. We are in a position within our organizations to identify the members of potential communities. We are in the position to serve as a "Help Desk" and to assist in developing a knowledge base for the communities.

If you are interested in an overview of Dr. Wenger's concept you might want to read Jeff De Cagna's interview with Dr. Wenger. The July 2001 issue of <u>Information Outlook Magazine</u>, beginning on page 7, discusses many of the issues covered in the virtual seminar. □

Military Librarians (continued from page 8)

Military Librarians hold their annual business meeting, then get to the serious business of recognizing outstanding librarians. See Ann Cashin or Sharon Lenius for reservations and further information.

Sponsored By: ISI

Location: LA Convention Center, Room - TBA

WEDNESDAY, Jun 12th

6:00-10:00

Military Librarians No-Host Dinner: And a Mini Tour by bus following dinner. Dining destination: El Cholo, located in the Old Pueblo of Los Angeles. El Cholo is described by BON APPETIT as a landmark destination for loyalists hungry for perfect renditions of nachos, Margaritas and green corn tamales. TICKETS are free, and will be available while they last at the MLD networking breakfasts.

Sponsored By: SIRSI Corp.

Location: Bus will leave and return to the Figueroa Hotel

THURSDAY, June 13th

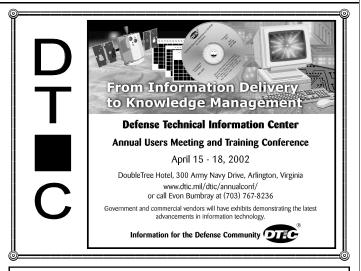
9:00-4:00

Tour to Catalina Island: A day of fun in the sun... Relax and spend the day at beautiful Catalina Island before

heading home and applying all you've learned at the conference. Whether you like sand in your shoes, shopping around, or just soaking up the sun, Catalina Island is a favorite relaxation destination for Los Angelenos, both famous & unknown. Sponsored By: DMIL-Co Sponsor

Location: Buses will leave from the LA Convention Center,

Cost: \$85 per person. □



See Naval Research Laboratory, page 10

Naval Research Laboratory (continued from page 5)

The award citation reads:

"For meritorious achievement and service to the United States Navy and the Naval Research Laboratory for her pioneering work in developing and applying digital library technologies and her leadership in advancing digital information services in the sciences across the Department of the Navy. As a nationally recognized innovator, Ms. Stackpole has been an inspiration and example for naval librarians, generously sharing her vision for the future and her knowledge of the digital information environment. Ms. Stackpole is especially commended for her role as a founding member of the Consortium of Naval Libraries, in helping to develop an electronic licensing program that has saved \$5 million over the past three years and provided critical information resources at the desktops of 90,000 users. This award recognizes Ms. Stackpole for her professionalism, technical expertise, knowledge and dedication and thanks and commends her for her support and contributions. Ms. Stackpole is considered a national leader in library and information services for the future. Her pioneering work in developing and applying digital library technologies in the complex naval environment has been an invaluable resource to the naval community. Due to Ms. Stackpole's vision and leadership, librarians throughout the Navy are positioned to cooperatively advance digital information services in the sciences across the Department of the Navy, both in a state-

Tips (continued from page 8)

- 15. Enjoy the conference city by touring as if you were a tourist (actually, you are). Get a tour book.
- 16. Above all else, enjoy your time! Conferences are serious work to be enjoyed with a fun attitude and a sense of humor!
- * Visit Florida International University web site of Douglas Hasty, Library Conference Planner for more tips and planning tools at http://www.fiu.edu/~hastyd/lcp.html. □

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Leadership Dev. Institute (continued from page 6)

time management, etc. Some of these skills are transferable to career or other volunteer activities. The LDI roundtable discussions are popular. You work with an Association leader or SLA staffers who are expert in an area of interest.

A favorite pastime at winter meeting is Board watching. You can pick up useful information on future Association actions by watching the SLA Board of Directors in session. It was in this type of meeting several years ago that we learned of the Unit Compliance form that all officers must sign and return to HQ. [It allows SLA to cover you with their liability insurance.]

This year, I learned startling and pleasing news. For several years, we have been operating under the strict New York Not-for-Profit Corporation laws. These laws have impacted both our work on the MLD board and our ability to recruit new leaders and board members. SLA attorney Jeffrey Tenenbaum told us that while the Association had to follow those laws, its subunits did not. Hoorah!!! This session alone made my trip worthwhile. Of course, this means yet another change in Division Bylaws! But it will be the last. We must stay in line with SLA Bylaws but it should be easier to accomplish work and meetings under operating guidelines in the Division Procedures Manual. Having spent the last two years revising MLD Bylaws (last adopted Nov 2001), I will be happy to see the last of them. It will require a vote of division membership. I hope you will vote "Yes" to the change when asked. Much more on this later.

As Past Chair, I am looking for candidates for all soon-to-be-vacant Board positions: Chair-elect (a three-year commitment, whose conference will be in Nashville, June 2004); Secretary (a two-year term); Director-at-large (a two-year term, for Nashville conference planning); and most Service Director positions (two-year terms. If you are a senior service librarian in Army, DOD, or Air Force – do I have a job for you!). These positions must have nominees soon. Please contact me.

Board members should try to attend the MLW and annual conference. Chairs and Chairs-elect should attend all meetings in their first two years. If your organization will support you – or you love to travel (the Division will provide some support if your organization will not!) – think about it. If you want the division to survive and thrive, get involved (again!). The conferences are:

- Richmond, VA Dec 2002 MLW

- New Orleans, LA Jan 2003 SLA winter meeting
- New York City, NY June 2003 SLA annual conf
- Washington DC area Dec 2003 MLW
- Albuquerque, NM Jan 2004 SLA winter meeting
- Nashville, TN June 2004 SLA annual conference
- Columbia, SC Dec 2004 MLW

If the MLD Board can meet and act via teleconference, email, fax, or phone, this will open Division leadership to individuals who might not have considered it before. In this time of uncertain travel, uncertain budgets, additional travel restrictions, and additional work at your agency or company, if you can attend at least one meeting a year (and have a Division officer or past Officer represent you at the others), will you consider nomination for office?

Division Cabinet was exciting as program planners (division leaders) trashed the proposed program planning council. The SLA Board of Directors voted to rethink the process and get more input from Division Cabinet members. The current process is chaotic and unwieldy – and a lot of program planners want it that way.

A Joint Cabinet, the first in years, followed Division Cabinet. Bylaws simplification was on the agenda. I believe SLA desperately needs simplified bylaws. "Bylaws" is a legal term in every state, as is "partnership". There are definite drawbacks to using these terms, especially if they are unnecessary. The points I (and many others) disagreed with will probably be revised before I see the document again. Look for dues structure with a cap and/or input from membership. Look at the structure of the Board: how it is elected and how officers are chosen.

Check the SLA website (www.sla.org) periodically for bylaws news and documents. Make your constructive comments known to SLA leadership. Several weeks before the Los Angeles conference, you should receive new SLA Bylaws for review and a vote. You should get documents that describe the new and old bylaws, the reasons for the changes needed, and the benefits of voting for the changes. Please vote for simplified Bylaws if you can.

Another winter meeting has ended. I enjoyed Chicago as much as I had dreaded going there. The weather was See Chicago, page 12

Chicago (continued from page 11)

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Notes From the Editor

here were several newsletters lost in the mail shutdowns experienced at various military bases and government agencies. There were also problems with email over the last few months. And MLD has remaining budget issues from the cancellation of our last Workshop. At the same time, we have been able to post the last two issues of the newsletter on our MLD web page http://www.sla.org/division/dmil. The newsletter costs approximately \$.80 per letter plus \$.55 postage. and we normally print around 300 issues, more when a conference is coming up where we want to have newsletters to give away. I round this off to about \$400 per quarter as an expense to our Division. We have traditionally not accepted advertising and use only those promotional ads that provide information on MLD or SLA organizations and conferences.

Bearing all of this in mind, how many of you would be willing to see only the Web Page version and print out your own newsletter, how many would want both the Web version and print, and how many can only receive print?

Please email or snail mail your answers and comments to me at tobinly@aol.com or to Sharon Lenius at LeniusSA@pmorcas-arng.ngb.army.mil

We are aware that some of you can only receive the printed newsletter, and you are probably the people we most need to hear from. I am not even considering sending the newsletter as an email attachment as there are too many firewall and file size issues.

Thanks for your help!

Lynne Tobin
Newsletter editor □

fair all week and it got to 60 degrees Fahrenheit on Saturday. It is always nice to renew acquaintance with colleagues near and far. Division work and networking opportunities are big reasons for attending the SLA Winter Meeting. There is a lot to do, but we have the time to accomplish it without the numerous distractions of the annual conference.

Hope to see you in Los Angeles, June 8-13, 2002. □