Who Knew? MLD Year 2001-2002 in Review

By Sharon Lenius, MLD Chair, National Guard Bureau Library

When the newly elected MLD Officers and Committee Chair Persons departed the highly successful San Antonio Conference in June 2001, the most pressing problems were: Finalizing the Military Librarian Workshop Program for Colorado Springs in late October and finding someone reliable to serve as our "on the ground representative" in Los Angeles for the 2002 SLA Conference.

We had a successful Board Transition Meeting in August 2001 at the Andrews Air Force Base Library. By that time, Joyce Hardy, an MLD Member from Aerospace Corp in Los Angeles was supporting plans for the SLA 2002 Conference. We had originally spoken after MLW in Monterey. She visited many locations to find meeting space for the MLD Board Meeting and a suitable restaurant for our Dine Around. Things were looking very good.

Char Moss of the Air Academy Libraries had located Pat Wagner, almost in her own back yard. (Pat Wagner is from the Denver area.) Several MLD members attended her presentation in San Antonio and were very impressed with the amount of management.

Gretchen Schlag — the Next Librarian of the Navy

Recently Ms. Gretchen A. Schlag was selected as the new Librarian of the Navy. Through the Navy’s Office of the Chief Information Officer, she will lead the development of central library management and coordinate policy, procedures, and standards for improvement for all DON libraries. She will also design a forum for information sharing on library-related issues throughout the Department, which includes over 500 special, academic, general, and shipboard libraries. Ms. Schlag will represent these libraries’ issues and concerns to Federal government and professional organizations.

Ms Schlag comes to this position with over 23 years of Federal service, starting as the Base and Technical Librarian at Indian Head Naval Ordnance Station in 1981. She then joined the staff of the Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC) at Ft. Belvoir and held a wide variety of responsibilities related to information management proc-
## Executive Board Members of the Military Librarians Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OFFICE</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>VOTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MLD Chair</td>
<td>Sharon A. Lenius</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Sharon.Lenius@ngbcio.ngb.army.mil">Sharon.Lenius@ngbcio.ngb.army.mil</a></td>
<td>2001-2002</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair-Elect</td>
<td>Suzanne Ryder</td>
<td><a href="mailto:suzanner@library.nrl.navy.mil">suzanner@library.nrl.navy.mil</a></td>
<td>2001-2002</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Joyce Hardy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Brenda.J.Hardy@aero.org">Brenda.J.Hardy@aero.org</a></td>
<td>2000-2002</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Claudia C. Tavares</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tavaresc@dugway-emh3.army.mil">tavaresc@dugway-emh3.army.mil</a></td>
<td>2000-2002</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Ann M. Cashin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cashin@eodpoe2.navsea.navy.mil">cashin@eodpoe2.navsea.navy.mil</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Tanny Franco</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tfranco@dtic.mil">tfranco@dtic.mil</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Past Chair</td>
<td>Tracy A. Lanfried</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Tlandfri@arl.army.mil">Tlandfri@arl.army.mil</a></td>
<td>2001-2002</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force MLW Rep</td>
<td>Carol A. Emery</td>
<td><a href="mailto:carol.emery@langley.af.mil">carol.emery@langley.af.mil</a></td>
<td>2000-2003</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army MLW Rep</td>
<td>Lorna Dodt</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ldodt@hqamc.army.mil">ldodt@hqamc.army.mil</a></td>
<td>2000-2002</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy/Marine MLW Rep</td>
<td>Sandy M. Bradley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Bradleysc@navair.navy.mil">Bradleysc@navair.navy.mil</a></td>
<td>2001-2002</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DoD MLW Rep</td>
<td>Candace S. Parker</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cparker@dtic.mil">cparker@dtic.mil</a></td>
<td>2000-2003</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Committees of the Military Librarians Division

### Archivist Committee Co-Chairs
- Joan Phillips: joan.phillips@maxwell.af.mil

### Bylaws Committee Chair
- Irene Cordova (2000-2001): icordova@bellhelicopter.textron.com

### Discussion List Moderator
- Tanny Franco: tfranco@dtic.mil

### MLW 2002 Host
- Carol Ramkey: ramkeyce@mcu.usmc.mil

### MLW 2003 Host
- Sarah Mikel: mikels@ndu.edu

### Membership Committee
- Connie Wiley: cwiley@dtic.mil

### Publications Committee
- Lynne Tobin, Editor: tobinl@nima.mil
- Pat Alderman, Webmaster (MLD): aldermanp@ndu.edu

### Strategic Planning Committee Chair
- Tracy Landfried: tlandfri@arl.army.mil

### Resources
- Wendy Sayles Hill: whill@dtic.mil

### Vacant, DoD Rep

### Vacant, Other

### Nominating Committee Chair
- Tracy Landfried: tlandfri@arl.army.mil

### Air Force Rep
- Faye Couture: faye.couture@pope.af.mil

### Army Rep
- Kathleen Heincer: Heincki@hqda.army.mil

### Corps Rep
- Janice Pepper: pepperje@tecom.usmc.mil

### Vacant, DoD Rep

### Vacant, Other

### Vacant, DoD Rep

### Vacant, Other

### Nominating Committee Chair
- Tracy Landfried: tlandfri@arl.army.mil
Notes from the Chair: “Thanks!”
by Sharon Lenius, National Guard Bureau

So many volunteers have supported the Military Libraries Division of Special Libraries Association this year it is difficult to even begin to list them. Other MLD Board Members have their lists too. Two people you won't find on any Board Position or Committee Position this past year are the host of the cancelled MLW, Dr Ed (Great Scott!) Scott and his MLW Program Chair, Char Moss. Thank you for your planning and preparation for the Workshop. It was a great effort.

First and foremost, the Executive Board or Cabinet of MLD made up of the voting Board Members have been most helpful to step forward when the Division needed their skills. Suzanne Ryder who served as Chair Elect this year is a voice of sanity in that whirl of communication we all see everyday. When she asks, "What will this really mean to MLD?" One just has to listen! And that's the end of that wild hair scheme! Our Immediate Past Chair, Tracy Landfried is another calm person who, in another life, must have been an analyst! She is THE SOURCE for the MLD Bylaws along with B. J. Fox and Irene Cordova. B. J. has retired and Irene will be working very closely with the Texas Chapter next year. (What does that tell you about Bylaws?)

When Vakare Valitis had to retire, Joyce Hardy, our "advance person" for the SLA Conference in Los Angeles, accepted the interim appointment by the MLD Board. Thank you, Vakare, for your work last year. And, as Joyce Hardy says, "Well you are coming to Los Angeles and I will be taking notes at one Board Meeting before my term is up!" A big thank you to Claudia Tavares who has been keeping the MLD monies straight, with the bank located in New Jersey. She issued refund checks in a timely manner when the MLW 2001 was cancelled. She added all the money in, and then had to subtract it all out again. We won’t go there again!

Two Directors-at-Large worked especially hard this year: Ann Cashin and I worked to develop programs for the Los Angeles Conference this coming June. There are 2 million details she is or already has taken care of.....all with a twist of humor. Tanny Franco is already working on the 2003 SLA Conference with Suzanne Ryder and the MLW 2002 in Richmond with host Carol Ramkey.

The Service Representatives, Lorna Doct - Army, Carol Emery - Air Force, Candy Parker - DOD, and two Navy Representatives, Ruth Corn (who accepted a position in the private sector last year) and Sandy Bradley (voted as Interim Representative by the MLD Board at a meeting in Chicago, IL.) These people are the ones who can respond with a particular service point of view on the MLD Board issues and know, and are well known and respected by, the librarians of that particular service. Another "go to" group!

Then we come to the MLD Committee Chairs; Archives Co-Chairs Jim and Pat Fogler have done a superb job this year. Using new media (our first CD-ROM) for archiving and preserving our historic past. After all we are coming up on 50 years! Believe it!!!

Addie Ross made a very smooth transition into the Awards Chair position.....and she has retained it even though no longer a Military Librarian. She works for the Dept of the Interior in California. Both Addie and our Web Mistress, Pat Alderman worked to provide the electronic copy and later the electronic submission capability for the Awards Nomination Form. They were very successful this year.

Membership Chair, Connie Wiley constantly checks and corrects, adds and deletes (unfortunately) members information. Her work and coordination with SLA HQ Membership makes for up to date information about our members.

Both Jim Dorsey, MLW Webmaster and Candy Parker, MLW Registration Administrator worked to get the information about MLD to you. You can be proud of their good work.

The Publications Chair and Editor of the MILITARY LIBRARIAN, Lynne Tobin put up with the Procrastinator of the Western World, when it comes to the written word for my articles. Let's not forget she does the ML and wins Federal Librarian of the Year! Special thank you's to the ML Layout Editors, Teri Newsome and Pat Alderman. A great team, turning out professional publications!

I mentioned Tanny Franco as a Director-at-Large. She is doing a great job with that position, however she is also serving as the MLD Discussion List Moderator. In that function she sends out the SLA-DMIL packed with information about the happenings with MLD, the Job Market, and SLA doings. All this and putting up with severe server problems from the SLA end. Also migrated the Discussion List from the DTIC Server to the SLA Server. Head aches!

Sharon, MLD salutes you for your leadership during this past tumultuous year. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
more of this kind of person! Always a cautious optimist....we need the best sponsor display --- 18 vendors MLD Resource Managers had lined up B.J. Fox and Wendy Hill, our MLD Facilitator for Colorado Springs in October 2001.

B.J. Fox and Wendy Hill, our MLD Resource Managers had lined up the best sponsor display --- 18 vendors were exhibiting. The sponsors were excited about the Colorado Springs location and the hotel facilities. Several “first time” exhibitors were planning displays. Our friends in the vendor community wanted to be there to meet the military librarians and join in the Workshop atmosphere of learning.

We were cruising right along; Jim Dorsey of DTIC had designed great MLW 2001 Home Pages loaded with information and a great graphic located by Jane Butler. Lots of interesting opportunities were listed as well as travel specifics and hotel information. Candy Parker of DTIC designed an Access Database for Registration. We were ready for MLW 2001!

Then the Attack on America occurred on September 11, 2001. As I watched the smoke rise from the Pentagon in the Crystal City offices of the National Guard Bureau, my heart chilled at the tremendous loss of life from the World Trade Center, the plane crash in Pennsylvania and the Pentagon tragedy. Change is all I could think about. "Our days, our lives will never be the same."

Information concerning the Attack on America poured in through all the media sources. The Military Services responded. Most travel was cancelled after airplanes were flying again, funding for any training dried up in many communities. As expected, our special tour to the Cheyenne Mountain Facility was cancelled. Security was the watchword, especially at the MLW Host, Air Force Academy and Libraries, which imposed severe access restrictions. No one knew the length of these new rules and emergency regulations. President Bush declared that we were at war. Our world had turned upside down. As military librarians, that meant we needed to be at our jobs researching, reporting, and refining information from all sources for our organizations.

It was at the point of the Air Force Academy restriction on access that we compared those MLD members who had registered against others registered; surveyed the various MLD Service Representatives on command and organization travel restrictions and fund cuts and made the decision to cancel MLW 2001. The hotel would not honor the disaster clause after the airlines were flying again. The MLD Board considered all sorts of alternatives: rescheduling sometime in 2002, a video conference, various other venues...all rejected because there was no time when "things would be normal again."

So we moved on and focused on planning MLW 2002 and the SLA Conference in Los Angeles. We think the programs and activities in Los Angeles will be exciting, beginning with:

Continuing Education (CE) Course #220 Secrets of the Deep Web with instructor Greta Marlatt of the Dudley Knox Library at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, June 8, 2002

MLD Board Meeting, Sunday, June 9, 3-6 p.m. at LAPL

Networking Breakfast, Monday, June 10, 7:30-8:45 a.m.

Access to the Unexpected: Why Futurists Can't Predict the Future, And How You Can, Monday, June 10, 2002, 1:30-3:00 p.m

Networking Breakfast, Tuesday, June 11, 7:30-8:45 a.m.

Don't Resist, Persist, Tuesday, June 11, 2001, 09:30-11:00a.m

DMIL Military Librarians Awards and Business Luncheon, Tuesday, June 11, 2002, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Members Only. See Ann Cashin or Sharon Lenius for your ticket.

Military Librarians No-Host Dinner and a Mini Tour by Bus following dinner, Wednesday, June 12, 2002, 6:00 p.m-10:00 p.m. El Cholo Restaurant, located in the Old Pueblo of Los Angeles. This bus will be leaving from the Figueroa Hotel.

MLD is co-sponsoring a few other events. Consult your programs for the particulars.

(Who Knew?, Continued from page 1)

(Thanks, Continued from page 3)

Always a cautious optimist....we need more of this kind of person!

Another Committee Chair who successfully helped raise funds for MLW and the SLA Conference in Los Angeles, Wendy Hill our Resources Chair. She consulted with other Divisions and Chapters about fund-raising. She was able to develop as list of prospective sponsors for MLW events and has even greater plans for next year.

To all those who supported MLD in 2001-2002 .... THANK YOU. We did it together!
ess, including content analysis, descriptive cataloging, program management, and information standards. She represented DTIC on national and international information standards and interoperability committees. More recently, her work has been in the areas of knowledge management and its relationship to eBusiness processes. She joined the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) in 2001 as their eBusiness Program Manager in the Office of the CIO and laid the foundation for a successful transition of some of their business practices. Over the span of her career, Ms. Schlag participated in activities that promoted information science practices in a library environment that is becoming more virtual. She believes that remaining grounded in traditional library services, while seizing the opportunities of technology, will offer continued improvement and relevance to a web-enabled world.

Ms. Schlag received her B.A. in American Studies from the College of St. Rose, Albany, NY, followed by a 3 year tour of duty with the U.S. Army. In 1978, she completed her Masters in Library Science with the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and in 1980 earned an MA in American Studies there. In 2000, she was awarded the CIO Certificate by the National Defense University, and she will be awarded an MS in IRM from Syracuse University in August 2002.

Are you no longer receiving postings on the MLD list? Have you missed issues of the Military Librarian? If you can answer yes to these questions, there could be a very good reason you are not receiving them—we have lost you!

Military librarians tend to be very mobile. In the rush and excitement of taking a new position or changing addresses, the updating of MLD member records is sometimes forgotten. Changes made to SLA's Who's Who Online are not immediately forwarded to the MLD Membership Chair. Without that notification, MLD is unable to locate its members.

If you have taken a new job or have moved, please use the Membership Update form at: www.sla.org/division/dmil/corrections.html. This forwards your new contact information to the Membership Chair. She will send email address changes to the MLD list moderator. Don’t forget to also update your Who's Who Online record at: http://www.sla.org/content/memberonly/index.cfm.

These steps will insure you are kept up to date on all MLD news and list postings.

Why Join MLD & SLA?

What are the benefits of supporting the Special Libraries Association? What can I gain personally by membership in the Association?

There are many reasons to join, not the least of which is membership in a vibrant association whose foremost concern is the interests of the information professional. Special Libraries Association, or SLA, is the special librarian's premier organization, providing its members with many networking and development opportunities. It represents special librarians, educates the public regarding the role that information professionals play, and promotes the value of the profession to the world at large.

The Military Librarians Division (MLD) is one of the most active in SLA. In addition to sponsoring the annual Military Librarians Workshop, a well-known, respected meeting of those interested in Defense information, MLD provides numerous avenues for networking and development at each SLA Annual Conference. Several activities at every conference allow members the chance to meet others in the same field, to gain from each others' experience and to just enjoy the Conference.

No matter where they are, SLA members always have a support network because they belong to a huge international club....

“SLA Members always have a support network because they belong to a large international club....”

(Wall Street Journal photo by Diane Schnurrpusch)

(l-r) Gretchen Schlag, Ann Cashin, and Janet Scheitl spoke at a Knowledge Management Program at the US Naval Heritage Center, in Washington, DC sponsored by the Military Librarians Group of DC/SLA
When I mention to friends that I am the “Director-at-Large of the Military Librarians Division of the Special Libraries Association,” I describe it as an honor similar to winning French fries at McDonalds.

I inadvertently walked into a board meeting, thinking it was a general meeting, Tom Rohmiller, the nominations chair, got a hungry gleam in his eyes (I believe he actually shouted, “new blood!”), and Jane Butler, the Director-at-Large at the time, made it look easy. Six months later, I was voted into the lofty position that I now hold. It had been described to me as “a glorified gopher.” Hey, I like glory as much as the next person, but what does the Director-at-Large actually do?

Well, the bylaws say: “The directors-at-large shall be planners and points of contact for Division programs at the Annual Conference and shall perform other duties as the chair, chair-elect, and/or the Board may assign.” Of course, the division’s procedural manual has 16 separate responsibilities, including: “Makes signs announcing Division suite location and times, as well as other special meetings and posts them in the hotel, on the message boards, and in the Conference Update, as appropriate.” So when you see that “Sponsored by,” sign at the Annual Conference in LA this summer, think of me!

In some ways, it’s more (and less) than that. The director is the “idea bouncer,” or is that “idea bouncee”? The director is the ticket printer/distributor and sometimes taker (psst—if you need a ticket to the MLD Awards and Business Luncheon on Tuesday, June 11 at the conference, shoot me an email at cashin@eodpoe2.navsea.navy.mil!). The director is involved with a fair amount of the conference planning—gathering session descriptions, speaker bios, finalizing titles, and entering all that stuff in the SLA online database. I think finalizing titles is one of the trickiest of all the director’s responsibilities. Think about it—the title has to describe content, be clever, catchy, and it doesn’t hurt to have it start with a letter that’s in the first half of the alphabet.

When all is said and done, the director’s real job is to be that spare brain for the chair to pick, the spare hands that a chair needs, and the spare feet that can be handy in a crisis! Once you’ve done all that thinking, typing and running, you’ll find that you learn an awful lot about the way the division, the association, and the conference work. It’s really a great way to see the inner workings of the organization. No, this isn’t a sales pitch... though if you are interested in contributing your talents to the organization, I strongly encourage you to drop in on a board meeting sometime. You never know where you might end up. So, um... you want fries with that?

2002 DTIC Annual Users Meeting and Training Conference—A Review
by Richard Sours, Reference Officer, NIMA

The DTIC 2002 Annual Users Meeting and Training Conference was held 15-18 April at the Doubletree Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia. The conference was entitled From Information Delivery to Knowledge Management.

Mr. Lee S. Strickland, Senior Intelligence Officer, Central Intelligence Agency, currently a visiting professor at the University of Maryland, conducted a session entitled Information Delivery to Knowledge Management.

How this war requires the use of new strategies, new tools and new focus. The central issues in our response to terrorism are using, sharing, acquiring, and analyzing information.

One very helpful session was Searching DTIC Databases (WED - Web Enabled DROLS). This half-day session covered the content and methods of searching Web Enabled DROLS. There was a special emphasis given to the Technical Reports collection. The session focused on developing effective search techniques. Practical hands-on experience was gained on WED using online exercises.

Another excellent session was entitled The Warrior Knowledge Network (WKN): Building the Self-Aware, Adaptive Leaders of the Future; Transforming the Army into a Learning and Knowledge Sharing Organization. This was conducted by Rick Morris, Ph. D., Chief Information Officer, Office of the Army. Insights were provided into the transformation of today’s soldier into the knowledge warrior of Joint Vision 2020.
Military Librarian’s Division
Nominees for the Board, 2002
To Be Elected at the Business Luncheon Wed June 12

Chair Elect: 2002-2005
Chair elect: 1 July 2002-30 June 2003
Chair: 1 July 2003-30 June 2004
Past Chair: 1 June 2004-30 June 2005
Patricia Alderman
Electronic Resources Librarian
National Defense University Library
300 5th Avenue, Bldg 62
Washington, DC 20319
PHONE: 1-202-685-2384/DSN 325
FAX: 1-202-685-3733
EMAIL: aldermanp@ndu.edu

Secretary: 2002-2004
1 July 2002-30 June 2004
Diane Schnurrpusch
Technical Information Specialist, Cataloging Branch
Defense Technical Information Center
8625 John J. Kingman Rd, Ste 0944
Ft Belvoir, VA 22060-6218
PHONE: 1-703-802-2/DSN 477
FAX: 1-703-767-9244
EMAIL: dschnurr@dtic.mil

Treasurer: 2002-2004
1 Jul 2002-30 June 2004
Claudia C. Tavares
Lead Information Analyst
Batelle Dugway Operations
West Desert Technical Information Center
Dugway Proving Ground
CSTE-DTC-DF-WD-IC-L
Dugway, UT 84022-0456
PHONE: 1-435-831-8180/DSN: 789
FAX: 1-435-831-818
EMAIL: tavaresc@dugway.dpg.army.mil

Director at large: 2002-2004
1 July 2002–30 June 2004
Carolyn Eaton
Head Librarian
Central Library (7.2.5)
NAWCAD
22269 Cedar Point Road B407
Patuxent River, MD 20670-1120
PHONE: 1-301-324-3643/DSN 342
FAX: 1-301-324-9785
EMAIL: eatonck@navair.navy.mil

MLW Director, Air Force: 2002-2004
1 July 2002-30 June 2004
Carol A. Emery
HQ Command Librarian
HQ Air Combat Command Svpc
Library
220 Sweeney Blvd Ste 313
Langley AFB, VA 23665-2795
PHONE: 1-757-764-4108/DSN: 574
FAX: 1-757-764-3893
EMAIL: carol.emery@langley.af.mil

MLW Director, Army, 2002-2004
1 July 2002-30 June 2004
Bohdan Kohutiak
Director
US Army War College
122 Forbes Ave
Carlisle, PA 17013-5220
PHONE: 1-717-245-5300/DSN: 242
FAX:
EMAIL: kohutiak@carlisle.army.mil

MLW Director, DOD, 2002-2004
1 July 2002-30 June 2004
Carol Jacobson
Supervisor
Defense Technical Information Center
8725 John J. Kingman Rd, Ste 0944
Ft Belvoir, VA 22060-6218
PHONE: 1-703-767-9187/DSN: 427
FAX: 1-703-767-9119
EMAIL: cjacobso@dtic.mil

MLW Director, Navy/Marine Corps, 2002-2004
1 July 2002-30 June 2004
Sandy Bradley
Director Technical Library
Naval Air Warfare Ctr
Weapons Div code 4TL0000D
1 Admin Cir Address
China Lake, CA 93555-6100
PHONE: 1-760-939-1017/DSN 437-1900
FAX: 1-760-939-1017
EMAIL: bradleysc@navair.navy.mil
Ticket, ticket, who’s got the ticket?

SLA Annual Conference attendees have seen it before, that little program note for the business/awards luncheon that says: “Tickets are free, but attendees must get tickets…” what is the deal with that? Why is the lunch ticketed if it’s a free event? Of course, the obvious answer is that tickets limit the number of attendees, which really helps when you’re trying to budget. It also helps us ensure that MLD members are attending the lunch.

And so we reiterate, tickets to Tuesday’s luncheon are free to MLD members, but attendees must get tickets from Sharon Lenius (sharon.lenius@pmorcas.ngb.army.mil) or Ann Cashin (cashin@eodpoe2.navsea.navy.mil). The best way to do this is to email one of us a request for a ticket now, as you’re planning your conference schedule. We’ll hold a ticket for you, and you can pick it up at the Monday or Tuesday Networking Breakfasts. If you don’t reserve a ticket in advance, you can always ask us about it at the breakfasts, and if we have one, we’ll give it to you.

As if one free ticket weren’t enough, we’re trying something new this year. The Military Librarian’s Division is sponsoring a No-Host Dinner and Drive Around on Wednesday night. These free tickets are available for any SLA member on a first-come, first serve basis. This ticket gets you on a bus, which takes you to El Cholo restaurant. You don’t get a free dinner, but you do get a little tour of LA on the way back to the hotel. We’re hoping for a full bus, so please consider this option on Wednesday night! If you get a ticket and then change your plans, try to give it to someone who’ll use it, or get it back to a member of the MLD board. The bus ticket supposes that the person will be dining at El Cholo. Additional people (beyond the bus capacity of 47) may join the group at El Cholo. You simply have to pay your own transportation costs and will not be included in the mini-tour. If you want to join us, let an MLD Officer know so the restaurant can be notified.

Equally important, we’d like to get your feedback. Is the free lunch worth the “ticket trauma”? Does a dine and drive around sound like fun? What can the MLD do to make your conference experience positive and meaningful? For example, this year, we tried to encourage military librarians to stay at the Figueroa. Are you staying there? After the conference, consider if that kind of “bonding” was beneficial. Think it over, and let a member of the board know what you think.