



Mid-South Information: Bulletin of the Mid-South Chapter

Winter 2007

Volume 29, Number 2

SLA Membership Meeting January 25, 2007

The Mid-South Chapter of SLA will have its membership meeting on Thursday, January 25, 2007, from 11:30-1:30 at the Brushmark Restaurant in the Brooks Art Museum in Overton Park, Memphis, TN.

Prospective members will be guests of the Chapter. Forward the names of any prospects to Membership Chair, Pam Walker. RSVP Pam as well, by January 17 (pwalker@crichton.edu).

Watch your emails for further information about the meeting.



Minutes of the Mid-South Chapter Meeting November 16, 2006

The Mid-South Chapter of SLA met on November 16 at 11:30 a.m. at Buckman Laboratories, 1256 N. McLean. Members in attendance were Christina Barnes, Kay Cunningham, Maureen Fitzer, Donna Foster, Cheryl Lamb, Rosemary Nelms, Octavia Perryman, Jan Smith and Pam Walker.

After lunch, Jan called the meeting to order and welcomed Donna Foster from Schering Plough who is new to the Mid-South Chapter and Bettina Ong-Halleron and Rhonda Kerley from Buckman.

Jan began a discussion of local chapter membership by listing some of the benefits of SLA membership and reminded members to check sla.org for training opportunities and the "recruit a member" campaign.

Pam reported that we presently have 24 members. A discussion developed about the difficulties of recruiting members over such a wide geographic area and it was noted that because of SLA dues increases, medical and academic librarians, for example, might cut back on the number of organizations that they joined. Pam asked for input on the e-mail survey that was suggested at the last meeting which would go to former members. Cheryl recommended that we use multiple choice questions for the survey; for example, "From the following list, please choose the reason(s) that you have not renewed your SLA membership." Reasons could include location of meetings, cost of dues, meeting times, workplace demands, relevance to professional growth.

Jan reported that she had made some changes to the Mid-South Chapter web site at <http://midsouthsla.org> to reflect changes in the officers, but other changes and additions also needed to be made. It was suggested that we might want to include profiles of members or their libraries on the site.

Rosemary gave the Treasurer's Report, noting that we now have \$2,503.73 in the Treasury.

Locations for the membership meeting on January 25 were discussed and it was decided that we would meet at the Brushmark Restaurant at Brooks Museum of Art.

Kay announced that *TennShare* is planning a *Datafest* for librarians to meet vendors in the spring, and that this might be an opportunity to recruit new members.

Donna suggested that our local chapter might want to create a brochure with a list of some of the past meeting sites and educational programs so

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

that a prospective member would have evidence that the company should pay for a membership. She also mentioned videoconferencing as a possible solution to geographic difficulties.

For the April 26 joint meeting with MALC, Maureen and Cheryl suggested an Elvis theme in connection with the 30th anniversary with La Vonne Gaw or Angie Marchese doing a presentation on the Graceland archives. It was decided to go with this plan, with Greg Johnson, Blues Curator, Archives and Special Collections at the University of Mississippi, as an alternate speaker if the Graceland program isn't workable.

After the Business meeting, Maureen Fitzer showed us how she and other Library staff developed the Buckman wiki using free Wikimedia software. The wiki which is accessible to all in the company and to which all can contribute, is designed to promote knowledge with simple explanations of terms and concepts. Maureen's presentation prompted her audience to think about how the wiki concept might be adapted to their own situations.

After thanking the Buckman Knowledge Center staff for their hospitality and for the interesting program, Jan adjourned the meeting.

--Respectfully submitted,

**Rosemary Nelms, Commercial Appeal News
Library, Secretary/Treasurer**



Minutes of the Mid-South Chapter Meeting September 28, 2006

The Mid-South Chapter of SLA met on September 28 at 11:30 a.m. in the Conference Room at Crichton College, 255 North Highland. Members in attendance were Maureen Fitzer, Cheryl Lamb, Rosemary Nelms, Octavia Perryman, Jan Smith and Pam Walker.

After lunch, Jan called the meeting to order and the minutes of the August Executive Board meeting were approved.

In reporting on membership, Pam noted that our chapter has lost 13 members since January 2006. We now have 24 members. Pam suggested sending out a brief e-mail survey to those members who haven't renewed so that we could become more aware of the reasons why members might drop out. Pam noted that at least two members (Martha Hurst and Katherine Johns) had retired, but it might be helpful to try to find out why others had not renewed. The group agreed that the survey was a good idea, and members were asked to submit possible questions to Pam. Pam also explained that when a Chapter falls below 25 members, it has to report its provisional status.

Rosemary gave the Treasurer's Report, noting that we now have \$2,503.03 in the Treasury.

Jan pointed out that some changes (like a new list of officers) need to be made to the Mid-South Chapter Web site, and Kay said that she would check with Laura Blalock.

(Continued on Page 3)



Mid-South Information is the official bulletin of the Mid-South Chapter of the Special Libraries Association. It is published four times a year in the Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer. The deadline for submitting material for the next issue is January 5, 2007. Please send information to be included to the editor:

Kay Cunningham, Editor
Mid-South Information
University of Memphis
McWherter Library
Reference Department
Memphis, TN 38152
901-678-4345
email: lkcnnggh@memphis.edu

Special Libraries Association assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by the contributors to the Association's publications. Acceptance of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product by the Special Libraries Association.

(Continued from Page 2)

Plans for future meetings were discussed. The Buckman library staff volunteered to host the November 16 meeting and present the program as well – an introduction to their new portal and wiki. It was decided to hold the January 25 membership meeting at The Brushmark in the Brooks Museum of Art, and Pam will check on booking our space there. We're responsible for the speaker for the Joint Meeting with MALC and it was decided to ask Greg Johnson, Blues Curator, Archives and Special Collections at the University of Mississippi, if he would be available.

Maureen had some suggestions for our Charity project this year – perhaps large print books for seniors (although finding and buying children's books is easier) or maybe a cash donation to buy books for a Katrina-damaged library.

Jan shared some news from the national office of SLA, and then introduced our speaker, La Vonne Gaw of Elvis Presley Enterprises who explained her work with Graceland's archives. The collection includes 1,000 volumes, 2,000 videos, 45,000 photos, and over a million documents. There are also innumerable physical artifacts that must be cataloged and preserved. La Vonne shared a video which showed some of the work in the archives. She also showed a video of some of the coverage that Elvis has received this year in the media.

--Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Nelms, Commercial Appeal News Library, Secretary/Treasurer

Coming Events

ASIDIC Meeting

The Spring 2007 ASIDIC meeting will be held March 11-13 in Orlando, Florida.

ASIDIC (the Association of Information and Dissemination Centers) includes representatives of all components of the information chain, from electronic database publishers to online vendors to corporate librarians to professional researchers and other users of information services.

Here is an outline of the technical program.

Getting it Right: Building Content Services that Succeed in Transforming Markets

Publishers are facing a world that blends content and technology services together with contributions from individuals and institutions into powerful new contexts that are changing how their markets use and pay for their products and services. These changes are forcing content companies to change their ideas of how to make money in publishing faster than ever before:

- Where will the major publishing houses make more money - from technology integration, user communities, media channels or licensing?
- Are content technology companies becoming more powerful agents for creating publishing value than publishers themselves?
- Are users empowered to create, collect, organize and distribute content in individual and collaborative environments creating the most valuable content and context of all time?
- Are media companies that are trying to create more value for their audiences through enhanced data and community services becoming major competitors to enterprise-oriented publishers and content services companies?
- What's the most effective electronic content packaging for balancing control and user-driven distribution?
- How are value-add products and services creating a whole new definition for what it means to be a publisher today?

Join the leaders in the publishing industry who wrestle with these issues and collaborate with them on insights that will drive your business plans forward and your business relationships into profitable new directions.

All SLA members are very welcome to attend this meeting. Please note that ASIDIC offers a 20% discount on registration fees for groups of 3 or more attendees from a single organization.

Please check the ASIDIC Web site for details on the program, local arrangements, and registration: <http://www.asidic.org/>

**-- Donald T. Hawkins, ASIDIC Secretariat
P.O. Box 3212, Maple Glen, PA 19002-8212
Phone/fax: (215)-654-9129
email: asidic@verizon.net**

Chapter Member News

Octavia Perryman, past Chapter president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, was married to Michael Ashby on October 21, 2006 at Carahills Estate, in Eads, Tennessee.

Good luck and best wishes to Octavia and Michael.





Rethinking Information Work: A Career Guide for Librarians and Other Information Professionals

Kim Dority, independent information professional focusing on information strategy, research, and online content development and a member of the Rocky Mountain SLA chapter, has developed and taught a course for the University of Denver MLIS program called “Alternative Career Paths for Library Science Students.”

She’s recently written a book based on that course content. The book, *Rethinking Information Work: A Career Guide for Librarians and Other Information Professionals*, explores the three major career library and information science (LIS) career paths (traditional, nontraditional, and independent), helps readers identify which paths might best fit their circumstances and personalities, and then coaches them on the strategies that will enable them to build a resilient and rewarding LIS career. The book was recently mentioned by SLA’s executive director, Janice Lachance, in the October Connections “Janice’s List.”

Rethinking Information Work: A Career Guide for Librarians and Other Information Professionals / Kim Dority; Libraries Unlimited, 2006. 236 p. ISBN 1-59158-180-X.

Table of Contents:

Chapter 1: Rethinking Information Work
 Chapter 2: Self-Knowledge: Your Career Starting Point
 Chapter 3: The Traditional Path
 Chapter 4: The Nontraditional Path
 Chapter 5: The Independent Path
 Chapter 6: Creating Your Professional Portfolio
 Chapter 7: Growing Your Career
 Chapter 8: Thriving on Change
 Chapter 9: Creating Your Career Map
 Chapter 10: Improvising Your Career

Back-of-the-Book Description:

“Create the rewarding, engaging, and resilient information career you dreamed of in grad school with this practical yet inspiring step-by-step guide. Today, information work offers you an unprecedented number of career options. Whether

you are a student working towards a career in librarianship, a mid-careerist considering the next professional step, or a seasoned information professional looking for new directions; if you’re looking for work in the field, this guide can help you sort through the options. Leading you through a process of planning the information career of your choice, it shows you how to determine what type of work would be most fulfilling to you, explores what types of work are available to those with an LIS-based skill set, and helps you create an action plan for accomplishing your career goals and reaching your professional potential.

The author discusses the entire spectrum of information work, revealing a wealth of possibilities you may have never considered. These range from work within traditional, facilities-based librarianship, working in library-related but not necessarily library-based jobs, and working in non-library related positions that utilize the traditional skill sets of the LIS degree, such as research, information organization, training and development, business development, non-profit work, and so on.

Designed as a text, this book can also be used as a self-directed guide. The author takes readers step-by-step through a fascinating process of career exploration and action. Taking into account the inevitable shifting priorities that occur throughout one’s career, she emphasizes tools for lifelong career resiliency, rather than a rigid commitment to a single career goal. Thus, this is a book you will turn to again and again throughout your career. With numerous tables, worksheets, lists, and extensive bibliographies of recommended resources for further study, both print and on the web, you have everything you need to begin this exciting journey.”

For further information, contact:

--Kim Dority
G. K. Dority & Associates, Inc.
kimdority@gkdority.com
303-660-131



Area Positions

◆TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
ANGELO & JENNETTE VOLPE LIBRARY AND
MEDIA CENTER:
DISTANCE LEARNING & REFERENCE LIBRARIAN

Faculty Rank: Assistant Professor
Account No.: 2-40006
Position No.: 421070

POSITION: Entry level position which: (1) develops distance library services to off-campus and Web-based programs,(2) provides general reference desk service, general library instruction, and searching of electronic and hardcopy resources, (3) coordinates the library information literacy program and develops Web-based library instruction modules, and (4) acts as liaison to the social science departments, develops reference collections, information literacy programs, and specialized services in these areas. Reference desk duty includes nights and weekends.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Required: Master's degree from a program accredited by the American Library Association. Ability to provide services required by the position. Proficient communication skills. Interpersonal skills necessary to work collegially and cooperatively with the University community and Library faculty and staff. Experience or courses in reference service, including electronic and hardcopy resources, and in an integrated library system.

Preferred: Applicable library experience and degree in the social sciences; coursework or experience in the evaluation of library services or collections; teaching experience; working knowledge of Web-based instructional software, such as WebCT, and working knowledge of online communication tools, such as instant messaging.

APPOINTMENT:

Position is full-time, permanent, and tenure track, with faculty status and rank. Librarians are expected to meet tenure and promotion requirements of the Library faculty. Conditions are: 12-month contract, 24 days annual leave, 13 University holidays, 12 sick days, health/life insurance package with 80 percent paid by the University, retirement program choice of either TIAA-CREF, VALIC, ING, or State system. (Both are entirely paid by the University; annual rate

is approximately 10 percent of salary). Better than average funding and support for professional development. Salary is \$40,000.

UNIVERSITY:

Tennessee Technological University is a state-supported institution within the State University and Community College System of Tennessee. Tech has an enrollment of over 9,700 students and 370 faculty. The Library has 12 library faculty and 17 support staff. The Library has implemented the use of Innovative's Millenium library automation system.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

The position is now open and screening of applicants will begin February 15, 2007. Position will remain open until filled. Applicants must submit: letter of application, resume, transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate degrees (unofficial copies of transcripts are acceptable for initial application.), name, address, and phone number of three professional references, and completed University Faculty Application forms. The application and consent forms will be sent to all who send a letter of application. Incomplete application dossiers cannot be considered. Mail to: Search Committee for Distance Learning and Reference Librarian, Angelo & Jennette Volpe Library and Media Center, Box 5066, Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, TN 38505.

An AA/EEO Employer.

◆BELMONT UNIVERSITY LILA D. BUNCH
LIBRARY:
REFERENCE LIBRARIAN

Lila D. Bunch Library of Belmont University is seeking applications for a 12 month non-tenured faculty rank position in the library's general reference unit beginning June 2007. Job responsibilities include providing general reference service (including night and Saturday rotations); teaching information literacy classes; developing and managing the library's special collections; providing assistance when needed with interlibrary loans, and performing other duties as assigned. An ALA accredited Masters Degree is required. Preference will be given to candidates with the following: reference experience in an academic library; knowledge of current trends in academic reference

(Continued on Page 7)

(Continued from Page 6)

service; experience with teaching information literacy in a college/university; effective group presentation skills; a working knowledge of computer technology and applications, experience with an integrated library system and commercial library databases; and strong interpersonal, oral, and writing skills. A second Master's degree in a subject field is desirable.

For additional information about the position and to complete the online application, please see the Faculty position listings at <http://www.belmont.edu/hr/Employment/index.html>. While completing the application, applicants will be prompted to submit a Cover Letter, Curriculum Vita, teaching philosophy (bibliographic instruction), and a list of three references, including current supervisor, and their contact information. Each applicant is also asked to respond in writing to Belmont's mission, vision, and values statements, articulating how the applicant's knowledge, experience and beliefs have prepared him/her to function in support of these statements. Screening of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

A comprehensive, coeducational university located in Nashville, TN, Belmont is a student-centered, teaching university focusing on academic excellence. The university is dedicated to providing students from diverse backgrounds an academically challenging education in a Christian community of learning and service.

Belmont is an EOE/AA employer under all applicable civil rights laws. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

◆UNION UNIVERSITY EMMA WATERS SUMMAR LIBRARY:
CIRCULATION SUPERVISOR (EVENING)

Union University seeks an individual with strong interpersonal skills to supervise a busy customer service desk during late evening hours in its library. This is a part-time 9-month staff position serving from September through May.

Minimum required qualifications: The successful candidate must possess a bachelor's degree with the skills needed to supervise student assistants effectively; be proficient in basic library research methods and standard productivity software.

Other preferred qualifications: Having some experience working in a library and/or coursework in library science would be a significant plus.

Union University is an institution of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Successful candidates must be professing Christians who are active members of a local Christian church and enthusiastically support Union University's Identity, Mission, and Core Values.

To Apply: Interested individuals should submit a completed application, resume and letter of interest to John Carbonell, Director of Human Resources, Union University, 1050 Union University Drive, Jackson TN 38305 or via e-mail to jcarbone@uu.edu or by fax at 731-661-5177.

◆MARYVILLE COLLEGE LAMAR MEMORIAL LIBRARY:
ADJUNCT REFERENCE LIBRARIAN

Maryville College invites applications for the position of Adjunct Reference Librarian in the Lamar Memorial Library. The hours for this position are primarily evenings and weekends. This position is part-time (30 hours per week) with contracts for Fall Semester, January Term, and Spring Semester issued independently, and does not include benefits.

Minimum Education and Experience: Requires an MLS or MIS degree from an ALA accredited library and/or information science program.

Responsibilities include: Staffing the reference desk 30 hours per week including Sundays (1 pm to 10 pm), Saturdays (1 pm to 5 pm), three evenings (5 pm or 6 pm to 10 pm), and one morning/afternoon shift to be determined, providing high quality reference assistance by instructing and advising the College's community on the use of various print and electronic library resources, including Internet based resources, assisting with Interlibrary loans, assisting with circulation, computer troubleshooting, and student supervision when needed, developing online and print research and instructional guides, participating in collection development activities, participating in Library planning and staff meetings, opportunity to participate in other library activities based on personal interests.

Qualifications: MLS or MIS degree from an ALA

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued from Page 7)

accredited library and/or information science program, excellent oral and written communication skills, ability to work effectively with people of diverse backgrounds and skills, strong service orientation, energetic, outgoing, and curious personality, experience in online searching of commercial databases, practical knowledge of Internet use for information access and delivery, experience using Microsoft Office software, experience in developing and creating web pages and/or using computer multimedia tools.

To apply: Send letter of interest, resume, and contact names and numbers of three professional references to Angela Quick, Library Director, Maryville College, 502 East Lamar Alexander Parkway, Maryville, TN 37804, by January 12, 2007.

Maryville College is an EOE.

New Member Benefit:

SLA Partners with NewsGator to Deliver Free Customized RSS Feeds to Info Pros

Alexandria, Virginia, USA, 23 October 2006 - The Special Libraries Association (SLA) announced today that it has partnered with *NewsGator* to launch an online service that delivers RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feeds to the desktops of thousands of information professionals. This exclusive service is free only to members of SLA, and is available at www.sla.org as part of the SLA News Connections.

"Access to online content is nothing new to our community," said Janice R. Lachance, Chief Executive Officer of SLA. "Access to real-time RSS feeds, however, is new to the business world, and we saw this as an opportunity to expose our members to a practical solution through their SLA experience. We are thrilled that *NewsGator* has delivered this wonderful service for SLA and the global community of information professionals."

SLA News Connections now includes access to open Web content driven by *NewsGator's* reader. Members of SLA can access the content through the "Resources" tab on the SLA home page. *NewsGator* is also offering free educational Webinars and a special SLA member discount on their solutions for businesses. More information is available in the News Connections area of the SLA Web site.

"RSS is ideal for information professionals because it enables them to find, read and disseminate information much more efficiently than with traditional delivery formats," said J.B. Holston, President and CEO of *NewsGator Technologies*. "The SLA's branded reader not only helps them increase the value of the information they provide, but also exposes their members to new technologies that reduce information overload and improve communication and collaboration within their own organizations."

Questions about SLA News Connections may be directed to Carolyn Sosnowski, Information Specialist at SLA, on +1.703.647.4914 or csosnowski@sla.org.

For more information about *NewsGator Technologies* or any of its products and services, call +1.877.669.6437

About SLA

The Special Libraries Association (SLA) is a nonprofit global organization for innovative information professionals and their strategic partners. SLA serves more than 11,000 members in 75 countries in the information profession, including corporate, academic, and government information specialists. SLA promotes and strengthens its members through learning, advocacy, and networking initiatives. For more information, visit us on the Web at <http://www.sla.org>

About NewsGator

NewsGator Technologies is the world's leading RSS platform company. Headquartered in Denver, Colorado, *NewsGator* develops and markets RSS aggregation solutions for individual end users, enterprises, and online content providers. Using *NewsGator* products and solutions, businesses and consumers can subscribe to news, information, podcasts, and other relevant content more efficiently and effectively than with traditional channels. With *NewsGator*, users have access to RSS information via the Web, Microsoft Outlook, mobile devices, and both Windows- and Mac-based desktop clients. All *NewsGator* products synchronize seamlessly, enabling users to read their RSS feeds anywhere, anytime, with any device. For more information, visit <http://www.newsgator.com>

Contact: Cara Battaglini
(703) 647-4917
cara@sla.org

Members of the Executive Board**President**

Jan Smith
The Commercial Appeal
News Library
495 Union Ave.
Memphis, TN 38103
smithjan@commercialappeal.com
Tel: 901-529-2878

Vice President/President-Elect

Maureen Fitzer
Buckman Laboratories International
Knowledge Resources Center
1256 N. McLean Blvd.
Memphis, TN 38108
mlfitzer@buckman.com
Tel: 901-272-8378

Past President

Kay Cunningham
University of Memphis
McWherter Library
Reference Department
Memphis, TN 38152
lkcnnngh@memphis.edu
Tel: 901-678-4345

Secretary/Treasurer

Rosemary Nelms
The Commercial Appeal
News Library
495 Union Ave.
Memphis, TN 38103
nelms@commercialappeal.com
Tel: 901-529-2362

Archivist

Kay Cunningham
University of Memphis
McWherter Library
Reference Department
Memphis, TN 38152
lkcnnngh@memphis.edu
Tel: 901-678-4345

Bulletin Editor

Kay Cunningham
University of Memphis
McWherter Library
Reference Department
Memphis, TN 38152
lkcnnngh@memphis.edu
Tel: 901-678-4345

Consultant

Christina Barnes
Memphis/Shelby County Public Library and
Information Center
Science and Business Department
3030 Poplar
Memphis, TN 38111-3527
barnesc@memphislib.tn.us
barnescm@bellsouth.net
Tel: 901-415-2734

Employment

Rosemary Nelms
The Commercial Appeal
News Library
495 Union Ave.
Memphis, TN 38103
nelms@commercialappeal.com
Tel: 901-529-2362

Membership

Pam Walker
Crichton College
255 North Highland
Memphis, TN 38111
pwalker@crichton.edu
Tel: 901-320-9770

Public Relations

Maureen Fitzer
Buckman Laboratories International
Knowledge Resources Center
1256 N. McLean Blvd.
Memphis, TN 38108
mlfitzer@buckman.com
Tel: 901-272-8378

Next Meeting

When: Thursday, January 25, 2007
11:30a-1:30p

Where: The Brushmark, Brooks Museum of Art, Overton Park, Memphis, TN

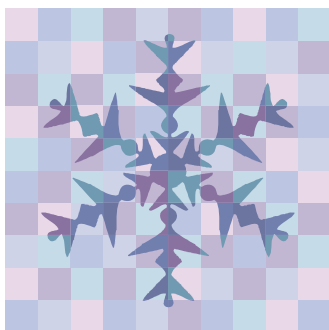
Lunch will be provided

RSVP by Wednesday, January 17 to:

Pam Walker

e-mail: pwalker@crichton.edu

telephone: **901-320-9770**



Mid-South Chapter 2006-2007 Meeting Schedule*	
September 28 Business Meeting	Crichton College Memphis, TN
November 16	Buckman Labs Memphis, TN
January 25 Membership Meeting	The Brushmark, Brooks Museum of Art Memphis, TN
March 22	TBA
April 26 Joint Meeting	Memphis Public Library Memphis, TN
May Charitable Meeting	TBA
*All Dates and Places subject to change.	

Mid-South Information: Bulletin of the Mid-South Chapter, SLA

Kay Cunningham, Editor
University of Memphis
McWherter Library
Reference Department
Memphis, TN 38152