

ARLIS *focus*

Linda Zieper, editor

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From the President

ARLIS/NE members came together for a joint spring meeting with the Visual Resources Association of New England (VRA/NE) on May 22 at the Phillips Library/Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA. Members were treated to a great breakfast reception and time for mingling with the VRA members in the Assembly Room of the Phillips Library. Then Megan Battey, slide curator at Middlebury College and current VRA/NE chair, welcomed everyone and reminded us of the schedule for the day; people chose to attend the VRA/NE business meeting, the ARLIS/NE business meeting, or both meetings. Everyone signed up for a tour of the Phillips Library. The minutes of the ARLIS/NE meeting are included in this newsletter, so if you missed it, you can read over them and see what we discussed in detail. It was nice to hear from several different ARLIS/NE members with topics that they wished to add to our agenda. I encourage members to use this forum to bring up current topics that are of interest to art librarians—start writing down your ideas now for the fall meeting and pass them along to ARLIS/NE board members at any time.

After the business meetings, many people chose to join in an informal discussion with VRA and ARLIS members. Megan Battey and I got the conversation started by talking about the blurring lines between some responsibilities of visual resources professionals and art librarians. The topic quickly turned to ARTstor and where the lines are drawn between visual resources professionals and art librarians in terms of instruction and advocacy of this still relatively new image database. It was a lively

discussion and one that continued over lunch at Rockafella's restaurant for many members for whom the 45 minutes of joint discussion with our New England visual resources colleagues was just not enough! After lunch, many members then strolled over to the Peabody Essex Museum for the afternoon. We had so many members who appreciated the opportunity to get together with our colleagues that we are tentatively planning to come together again with VRA/NE in the spring of 2007 at RISD's new library.

Rachel Beckwith

ARLIS/NE Spring Meeting

Joint Meeting with VRA/NE
Peabody Essex Museum Library
Salem, Massachusetts
May 22, 2006

Welcome: Megan Battey, of Middlebury College and chair of VRA/NE, welcomed the group and thanked Kathy Flynn of PEM, Marci Hahn, Melody Ennis, Brooke Henderson, and Rachel Beckwith for their work in organizing the meeting. Rachel Beckwith then welcomed the group and thanked Brooke Henderson and Anne Reid for their work organizing the meeting.

Introducing new officers: Rachel Beckwith introduced the new officers, Brooke Henderson (vice President/president elect) and Robert Garzillo (treasurer, not in attendance), and introduced the returning officers: Kathy Ritter (past president, not in attendance), Linda Zieper (newsletter editor), Anne Reid (secretary), Christina Jedniziak (webmaster), and Rachel Resnik (listserv manager).

Treasurer's report: Rachel Beckwith presented the treasurer's report on behalf of Robert Garzillo. The checking account balance as of 4/30/06: \$1,732.96. The two-year CD balance as of 5/16/06: \$4,826.94. The one-year CD balance as of 5/16/06: \$3,489.15. ARLIS/NE contributed \$300 towards the welcome party at Banff.

Secretary's Report: *2006 Membership:* Anne Reid reported one hundred current members for 2006. The one hundred members includes eighty-one renewals from 2005, two life members, and sixteen new members, eleven of whom joined after attending the March ARLIS/NE careers panel at Simmons. *ARLIS/NE and ARLIS/NA Membership:* ARLIS/NA provided ARLIS/NE with a list of New England NA members. Of those eighty-five NA members, fifty-three ARLIS/NE members. ARLIS/NE members in attendance were asked to encourage their colleagues to join the chapter.

Focus: Linda Zieper asked that news be sent to her (lzieper@umassd.edu) by June 10 for the spring issue of Focus.

Bylaw change ballot: Ballots were distributed for the changes to the bylaws (changing chair and vice-chair to president and vice-president and the addition of a public relations officer). Ballots were also mailed on May 22 to members.

Simmons Career Panel Report: Anne Reid organized an ARLIS/NE careers panel on March 22 at Simmons College in conjunction with Amy Lucker's Art Documentation class. Anne thanked Rachel Resnik and Brooke Henderson for helping with the planning, and thanked GSLIS student Darin Murphy for helping at the panel. Approximately forty students attended the panel, including students in Amy's class, other Simmons GSLIS students, and outside guests. Eleven of those who attended joined ARLIS/NE. Anne asked those who attended the panel who were at the meeting to stand to be recognized and encouraged members to reach out to these up and coming art librarians.

The panelists included: Deborah Barlow Smedstad, head librarian, William

Morris Hunt Memorial Library, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Laura Haxer, public services librarian, Morton R. Godine Library, Massachusetts College of Art; Richard McElroy, acquisitions and serials librarian, Morton R. Godine Library, Massachusetts College of Art; Katharine Ritter, director, New Hampshire Institute of Art Library; and Alix Reiskind, visual resources librarian, Frances Loeb Library of the, Harvard Graduate School of the Design.

A second career panel is being planned for the GSLIS at Mount Holyoke campus in conjunction with Martha Mahard's Art Documentation course during the summer 2006.

New England SACO funnel: Angela Sidman of Clark Art Institute reported that Clark is participating in the New England SACO funnel. Penny Baker at Clark is the liaison with the Library of Congress; anyone who would like to contribute subject headings should send them to her.

Auction catalogs, commercial gallery publications, and related materials: Alison Dickey of the Currier talked about the possible collaborative storage solutions, retention policies and cooperative projects for auction catalogs, commercial gallery publications, and related materials in New England art libraries. Debby Aframe, John Teahan, Bob Garzillo, and Georgia Barnhill met to discuss earlier this year. There is discussion of doing a survey to determine what materials are held by which institutions, possibly eventually leading to a union list.

ARLIS/NA conference report: Brooke Henderson reported that the annual conference at Banff, Alberta Canada, May 5-9, was a great conference, with 488 participants and vendors. Of the attendees in the room, approximately twelve attended the Banff conference.

ARLIS/NA chapter affiliation agreement: Ann Whiteside reported on the affiliation agreement. Work on the agreement, developed for the legal protection of ARLIS national and chapters, started two years ago. According to the agreement, all chapter members must be members of ARLIS/NA. Chapter leaders discussed the agreement

during a breakout session at Banff. Affiliation agreement packets will be sent by June to chapters and should be signed and returned by the end of June. Ann stressed that this is a final, legal document that must be signed by chapters. Members in attendance raised concerns about losing members due to the ARLIS/NA membership requirement. The question of "subscriber" status was raised. Ann said that NA would help chapters with membership, including the possibility, for example, of funneling chapter memberships through NA membership. **Awards:** Rachel Beckwith reported the award winners: Christina Jedniziak, Freitag award; Janis Manzo, the Siebel award; and Rachel Resnik, the travel award. There was a small applicant pool this year. Rachel encouraged students and all members to apply.

Treasurer's Report

Since Feb. 2006 expense totals: \$2159.40 for the following:

Executive Board Meeting:	23.19
Freitag, Seibel, & Travel awards:	1300
ARLIS/NE website fees:	110.35
Donation for the	
ARLIS/NA Conference:	300
Postage & printing:	424.86
Revenue from membership fees and gifts:	609

Current checking account balance:	1732.96
One year CD:	3489.15
Two year CD:	4826.94

Combined total of the accounts: \$10,049.05
Robert Garzillo

ARLIS/NE Careers Panel at Simmons March 22, 2006.

As part of the chapter's effort to reach out to library science students, ARLIS/NE presented an art librarianship careers panel in the Trustman Art Gallery at Simmons College to approximately forty GSLIS students and art library paraprofessionals. The panel was organized in conjunction with the GSLIS course, Art Documentation, taught

by Amy Lucker, adjunct faculty member at Simmons and head of technical services and slides and digital imaging, Fine Arts Library Harvard University.

The panelists included: Deborah Barlow Smedstad, head librarian, William Morris Hunt Memorial Library, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Laura Haxer, public services librarian, Morton R. Godine Library, Massachusetts College of Art; Richard McElroy, acquisitions and serials librarian, Morton R. Godine Library, Massachusetts College of Art; Katharine Ritter, director, New Hampshire Institute of Art Library; and Alix Reiskind, visual resources librarian, Frances Loeb Library of the, Harvard Graduate School of the Design.

Panelists shared their career paths, what their jobs entail, and general career advice with the audience. A reception following the panelists' presentations and a Q&A period gave attendees to talk one-on-one with the panelists. Both panelists and attendees enjoyed the event.

A second career panel is being planned for the Simmons GSLIS at Mount Holyoke campus in conjunction with Martha Mahard's Art Documentation course to be taught during the summer 2006.

ARLIS/NE Executive Board Meeting

January 20, 2006
Northampton Public Library

In attendance: Rachel Beckwith, Robert Garzillo, Brooke Henderson, Susanne Javorski, Christina Jedziniak, Anne Reid, Rachel Resnik, Kathy Ritter, Linda Zieper
Call to order: Rachel Beckwith convened the meeting at the Northampton Public Library. The new board members, Brooke Henderson and Robert Garzillo were welcomed.

Introduction of New Officers: Rachel Beckwith is now president, taking over the position from Kathy Ritter. Brooke Henderson, new to the board, is now the vice-president/president-elect. Robert Garzillo, also new to the board, is taking over the position of treasurer from Susanne Javorski. Christina Jedziniak, Rachel Resnik, Linda

Zieper, and Anne Reid continue in their respective roles as webmaster, listserv manager, newsletter editor, and secretary.

Annual Calendar / Responsibilities of Each Officer: Rachel Beckwith distributed the ARLIS/NE Annual Calendar for review. The calendar outlines officers' responsibilities, but new officers can ask their predecessor or Rachel Beckwith any additional questions about position responsibilities. Carol Fabian, the ARLIS/NA regional rep, reminds the group to look the *Chapter Success Book* on the ARLIS/NA web site. Kathy Ritter noted that there are some discrepancies between the ARLIS/NA and ARLIS/NE calendar of events in detailing officer responsibilities and recommended the board decide upon which calendar to follow.

Treasurer's Report: Susanne Javorski distributed three reports: the year end balances, the year to date, and the Seibel and Freitag donations. As of January 17, 2006, the balance of the checking account was \$2,894.10; the one year CD \$3,226.98; and the two year CD \$4,776.87. Since July 2005, the Seibel Scholarship Award has received \$80.00 in donations and the Freitag Award has received \$207.00 in donations. The treasurer's files were transferred to the new treasurer, Robert Garzillo. The checking account will be closed so that one can be reopened for the new treasurer, but CDs will remain with the South Adams Savings Bank in South Hadley. The question again of if ARLIS/NE had too much money and that dues should not have been raised arose. Kathy suggested spending more money on speakers for programming.

Rachel Beckwith reminded the board that the deadline for the Freitag, Seibel, and Travel awards has been extended to January 31. The board was encouraged to send out reminders about the travel award in their respective institutions.

Secretary's Report: Anne distributed a membership report. To date, sixty-six members have renewed and there are two new members. A reminder e-mail was sent out to those members who have not yet re-

newed earlier in the week. Brooke and Anne will coordinate a second mailing.

Bylaw Change Ballot: Rachel Beckwith reported that the bylaw change notification was mailed with the membership renewal mailing in November. Ballots will be mailed in the spring, perhaps with the spring meeting notification. Ballots will be returned to Brooke, as vice president/president-elect. If approved, nominations will be sought in the fall for next year's elections.

Spring Meeting: The proposed date for the joint meeting the VRA at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem is May 19. As for the program, the only item so far is the Peabody Essex will show what they are doing with their digital collections, but the VRA is open to our programming ideas for the meeting. Brooke suggested a forum for a dialogue between the VRA and ARLIS/NE.

Chapter Meeting in Banff: Rachel Beckwith raised the question of whether to have a chapter meeting at the annual ARLIS/NA meeting in Banff. Because few board members plan to attend and a small turnout is expected for Banff in general, the decision was made to hold a very casual and informal meeting, perhaps at the hotel bar. The opportunity to use the meeting as a reach out to ARLIS/NA members in New England who are not ARLIS/NE members was raised. Rachel Beckwith will ask Cameron Caswell about a list she compiled last year; Anne will check the secretary files for the list. Rachel Beckwith reminded the board that they should be members or ARLIS/NA as well.

Awards: There have been three applications for the Seibel, two applications for the travel, and no applications for the Freitag award. Rachel Beckwith again asked board members to encourage their colleagues to apply for the awards. Board officers are not eligible for the Freitag award, but are eligible for the Travel Award. Since they are not officers, the listserv manager and webmaster are eligible for all the awards.

New Business: Rachel Beckwith asked for any new business. Anne offered to coordinate an ARLIS/NE sponsored career panel at

Simmons GSLIS, as part of the board's effort to reach out to students. The board agreed to this.

Ars Libri Event: Approximately twenty ARLIS/NE members and guests gathered at Ars Libri in Boston's South End on December 2. Ars Libri staff spoke about their collections, as well as the exhibitions they currently had on display. They also discussed collection development services they can offer to libraries that render them more useful than a typical online bookdealer.

The talk was followed by a wine and cheese reception. The group of attendees included GSLIS students who had joined ARLIS/NE Brooke Henderson, Rachel Resnik, and Anne Reid at Simmons earlier that afternoon to talk about the art library profession. After the Ars Libri event, a smaller group attended the SOWA gallery hop.

Website: Christina Jedziniak updated the board on the new web site design. She asked for feedback on the color and asked board members if they would like their job titles added to the online listing. Board members agreed it would be helpful for employment information to be listed on the site. Christina would like to update the ARLIS/NE meeting location history page since it currently ends at 1997. Linda suggested looking at past issues of *Focus*; Anne will check the membership database.

Submitted by Anne Reid, Secretary

From the Members

Kathe Chipman, who began her art library career as a library assistant at the Fogg Art Library in 1966 and retired from Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library in 1999 has just announced her second, final retirement. For the past three years she worked from Maine for *The Burlington Magazine*, first as compiler of the 1993-2002 Index

(published in 2004) and then as editor of *The Burlington Magazine 100-Year Index Online* (forthcoming, ca.2010). In April she completed development work, systems review, and initial indexing for the project and trained her successor, conveniently based near the publisher's office in London.

She joined the national organization in its second year and has fond memories of colleagues and events from the first decade, including New England's own Wolfgang Freitag and those she knew while at the Clark Art Institute in the late 1970s. She has turned her attention now from professional writing to creative writing and sends best wishes to all, including those members who were at Simmons in 1968-1970.

Christina Jedziniak started a new job as the assistant slide librarian for the Art and Art History Department of Wesleyan University in September 2006. She is also pleased to announce that she has completed her Master of Science in Library and Information Science, which she received from Simmons College this May. She thanks the chapter for awarding her the Freitag Professional Development Award, which will allow her to take the Simmons GSLIS course in Art Documentation this summer.

Debra Kruse won the Rhode Island State Council for the Arts painting fellowship which includes an award of \$5000, some of which she spent on a web site that features her recent paintings:

<http://www.debrakruse.artonalimb.com>

Thanks to John A Woods Appraisers for underwriting the cost of mailing this issue of <i>Focus</i> .
