

N·L·N

News Library News

Bulletin of the News Division of Special Libraries Association

Summer 1990 ☺ Vol. XII No. 4

THE ELECTRONIC DARKROOM — Ready Or Not, It's Here

By Mary Ann Skinner

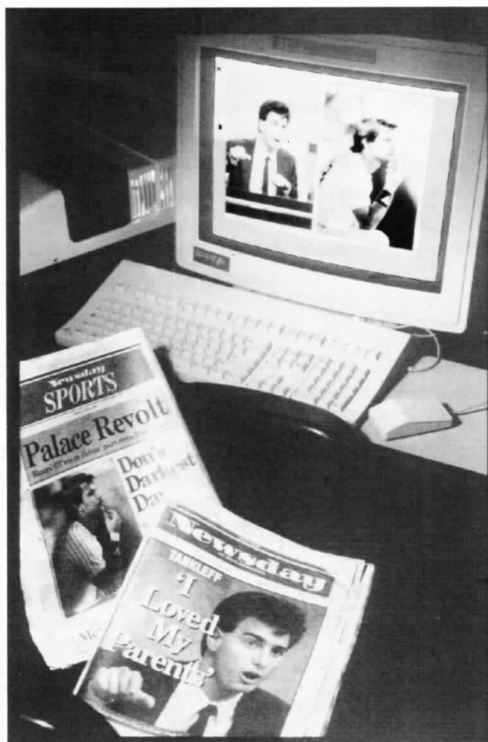
Picture your photo library of the future. No paper photos to file, cross reference or index. Only electronic images.

Photo editors, artists and news editors — trained by you — will be able to sit down at a computer terminal in the home office or at a remote location and access pictures electronically from a database that you maintain. The library technician's role will be expanded to include scanning images into the system and spending time at terminals indexing and classifying these electronic photos.

Despite the obvious benefits, the headlong rush to electronic imagery still has some major glitches. The current lack of any proven archiving system is a real stumbling block. News managements must recognize that a workable storage system is an integral part of this new technology. But, when that obstacle is overcome, even the smallest publication will eventually install an electronic photo library.

Since cost and quality are major advantages, most news organizations are aggressively pursuing electronic picture desk technology. It eliminates film

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Role in the Age of the Electronic Darkroom and How the Electronic Darkroom Will Change the Transmission of Wire Photos hosted representatives from news libraries, and photo and editorial departments, as well as Bob Caspe, designer of AP's electronic picture system. It would be an understatement to say there were widely divergent views on the value and hazards of the electronic darkroom.

The concept of the electronic darkroom is very attractive to newsrooms. Wire photo images can be sent into a capture device that allows the photos to be enhanced, color-corrected, cropped, and sent directly into the pre-press systems. Additionally, scanning devices can be used to create images directly from negatives, prints, transparencies, slides or still video cameras and can be handled through the same system.

Using these systems, the paper print of a photo is no longer needed. These systems are being praised for decreasing photo production time, and savings realized in processing and supply costs. But the new technology also presents a major problem that both news organizations and news libraries must address.

The problem is STORAGE! Currently there is no way to adequately store photos in an electronic format. Although some news organizations are experimenting with computer storage, there simply is not a system that will handle the volume of photos, or quality needed in a news library. With scanned images from negatives, slides, and so forth, libraries will have to develop methods of identifying, storing and retrieving formats not previously handled.

These problems are not insurmountable.

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OUR APPROPRIATE RESPONSE: Stay Wired!

By Linda James

When I was interviewing for my current position, I asked about the lack of photo storage space — I knew the previous librarian and had often heard about the library's space problems. The newsroom systems director said, "Don't worry. Within three years all photos will be stored electronically, so that won't be a problem."

Well, it's been 3½ years and photos are not yet being stored electronically... but we do have a problem.

Two programs at this year's SLA conference examined the new technology of the electronic darkroom. *The Library's*

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Copy for bylined columns should be submitted to the column editor. All other copy may be submitted to **Elizabeth Whisnant**, *Newsday*, Inc., Library, 235 Pinelawn Road, Melville, NY 11747.

News Library News acknowledges the contributions of its staff's employers.

THE ASIDE BAR

By Elizabeth Whisnant

Welcome to the brave new world of *News Library News*! I hope you find in these pages the information and resources necessary for navigating the complex world of news librarianship.

I come to the editorship of *NLN* with these goals:

- To deliver division news promptly
- To provide practical and applicable information
- To include new names and faces
- To involve broadcast, magazine and small library librarians
- To encourage *NLN* participation from our Canadian members
- To seize opportunities to take us out of the library and into the newsroom

How will this be accomplished? Most obviously, *NLN* has been redesigned. Former features have been renamed or removed and new features and columns are presented.

Each issue of *NLN* will center on a problem

or concern in our industry. The primary news articles will address the topic and strive to give information you can utilize. CONNECTIONS, a sidebar of contacts or pertinent information will accompany each lead story.

COMMON GROUND is the reponse from the newsroom to questions of library service. In this issue Fred Wilson of *The Morning Call* gives a photo editor's perspective on the role of the electronic photo library.

You will meet new names and faces in WHO WE ARE, a feature focusing on the behind the scenes people who make our libraries successful. I am wrestling with ideas to make *NLN* more responsive to the interests of those not in management and welcome your suggestions.

BLN, SLN, and STP complete the redesign of *NLN* — what acronym jargon! Maybe I have a future in government service. BROADCAST LIBRARY NEWS and SMALL LIBRARY NEWS are forums for the special concerns of these members. STOP THE PRESSES is a snappy overview of new or overlooked resources. Our goal is to provide information to all types and sizes of news libraries, so you big guys that already have these products can speed read past the parts you know.

PEOPLE is the 1990's version of Personal Glimpses. It's been redefined based on

your suggestions, but relies on you for its readability and interest. Call Mona Hatfield and tell her your successes and achievements — we can't read minds, we don't do mysteries.

This is an issue of firsts. Besides changes in layout and editorial content, *NLN* has become part of the new photo technology. All darkroom and conference-related photos in this issue were electronically scanned and printed. Additionally, this will be the first issue available full-text on Vu/Text.

Lany McDonald claims she doesn't work very hard, she simply surrounds herself with people who do. That's certainly the case with *NLN*. Though my emotions during production of the first issue have ranged from blind hysteria to imbecilic calm I was confident that I had the good sense to assemble the best possible *NLN* staff and contributors. Every improvement and victory is theirs and no thanks is adequate.

Most new endeavors succeed by calling in some favors and collecting a long suffering support group. I could redefine infinity with thank you's, but know that I must limit my list to those who saw me at my most unbearable. Thank you Charlie Campo, Mary Ann Skinner, Dave Fluhrer, Jeff Vorzimmer, Paul Schreiber, Dan Neville, Bob Newman, Dargan Richards, Teresa Leonard, Deborah Jessop, Steve, Elsa, and the entire staff of the Diamond Wok Chinese Take-Out. ☺

WE NEED YOU in the News Division Membership directory!

In order to make this year's directory as complete as possible, please complete this form and return by October 1 to Teresa Leonard, The News and Observer Library, 215 S. McDowell Street, Raleigh, NC 27602.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

DARKROOM

Continued from Page 1

transportation expenses (such as messengers), photo lab budgets (there are no labs), as well as the occupational hazards commonly attached to photo processing chemicals.

Instead, the picture desk will receive electronic transmissions of photos from three main sources: the wire services, staff and freelance photographers, and the images that will be scanned in-house. It will also be easier to transfer images from a television screen.

Photo editors and artists can crop, size and color-correct the selected images and then output them to the AutoKon, SCITEX, or to other front-end pagination systems. The photo is electronically inserted into a layout without the need for a continuous tone or photographic print.

Competition is also a factor. Because of rapid transmission times over long distances with no loss of resolution, photos of late-breaking news or sports events can make it into the next day's paper without missing important deadlines. Where it used to take most of a day to get a photo shot and into the paper, the picture desk can reduce that time to as little as one hour.

By all accounts, there are currently no perfectly functioning electronic photo desks, although most news organizations will be choosing among systems offered by The Associated Press, Reuters, Crosfield, Color Group/Nikon and others.

Newspaper libraries — and librarians — are in for major changes, and they are already playing an important role in trying to resolve the archiving issue.

Ideally, a workable archiving system will store high resolution, compressed digital images that can be easily and quickly retrieved.

Until one is forthcoming, libraries will have to get reproduceable prints — either traditional darkroom prints or those from thermal dye transfer printers, such as

CONNECTIONS

This is a list of image databases. Where possible, a vendor contact as well as a library using the system is included. This is far from complete and as of publication no one is storing images that can be published as is; the images are for reference.

AMIS-PHOTOTRACK. David Reich (201) 587-0161. The Time Inc. Picture Library is using the database management portion of this program with the idea that image storage will follow at some point. The contact at Time is Beth Zarcone (212) 522-3690.

C-QUEST ESP (PICTURE CATALOGING AND RETRIEVAL SOFTWARE PROGRAM FOR STILLS AND VIDEO). Contact Clif Nickerson at Image Concepts (508) 481-6882. This isn't currently used at any news library.

EDIKON (A division of Kodak). Contact Donna Caito (716) 271-2959. This system is not at a newspaper, but it is one of the best looking, easiest to use systems that I've seen.

INSTANT IMAGE SYSTEM. Elliot Packer (201) 753-6950. *The National Sports Daily* is using this video disk system. They have no paper files. Donald Norkett (212) 767-7370.

MARS INC. SYSTEM. *The Washington Times* will have this Bethesda company's system up in January 1991. Contact Todd Lindsay (202) 636-3092. This system is installed at a European paper.

VIDEO DISK IMAGING SEARCH SYSTEM. This is *National Geographic's* own image database. Contact Maura Mulvihill (202) 857-7493. The user interface search system was developed by Online Computer Systems (301) 922-0420. The entry module was designed by *National Geographic's* computer department and the video disk technology was developed by Stokes Slide Service.

This is a partial list of electronic picture desk vendors and the newspapers using them. Each system is at many more sites than listed. None are fully functional as of publication.

AP ELECTRONIC PICTURE SYSTEM. Contact Hal Buell (212) 621-7837. Now at *The National Sports Daily*.

COLOR GROUP/NIKON. Contact Steve Schaffran (415) 237-5577. This system is being tested at *Newsday*, *The New York Daily News* and *The New York Times*.

CROSFIELD NEWSLINE. Contact Jeff Rapson (201) 447-5800. This is UPI's choice of picture desk. Now at *The Los Angeles Times* and *Windsor Star*.

LEAF PICTURE DESK. Contact Hal Buell at the Associated Press (212) 621-7837. One of the AP choices. Now at *USA TODAY* and *The National Sports Daily*.

NDCPHOTO MANAGEMENT WORKSTATION. Contact Frank Roche at National Digital Corp. (703) 573-5100.

REUTERS NEWS PICTURE TERMINAL. Contact Mitch Koppelman (202) 898-8400. Now at *Newsday*.

SINCLAIR K200 PIPS. Contact George Sinclair (201) 376 1272.

— Compiled by Mary Ann Skinner

Nikon or Kodak, attached to a picture workstation.

High resolution prints are necessary even if negatives are available. If an editor wants to use a black-and-white of a scanned color image in the paper, it can take close to a half hour to print. At *Newsday*, as at many newspapers, this presents a problem close to deadline.

Three key issues in electronic photo archiving are resolution, compression and scan time.


The required resolution for newspaper images printed on uncoated stock is about 85 lines per screen. To achieve that quality, the resolution of the original photo must be twice that, or about 170 lines per screen.

Compression allows for a greater number of images to be stored in photo files. For example, color photos at the 170-lines-per-screen resolution are about seven megabytes in size. But, with 20-to-1 compression, they can each be reduced to about 359,000 bytes with no significant loss of information or resolution.

Compression examines different elements of a picture, such as brightness, hue and saturation, and stores the minimum amount of information required to bring back the reproduceable image. When information is decompressed, or reassembled, the eye is fooled into seeing the photo the original way. Enough detail must be kept during compression to accommodate the largest size of the image that will ever be used in the paper.

Storage needs are significant. At *Newsday*, for example, 45,000 to 50,000 pictures appear in the paper each year, and another 5,000 to 7,000 unused pictures are archived as well. While staff art can be compressed down to low-resolution files, wire and handout art must be stored at high resolution, since hard copies can't easily be retrieved.

Scanning time and technique are also important. It takes 15 minutes to scan a color photo and five minutes for a black-

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RESPONSE

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Technology is rapidly developing and new methods of storage can certainly be developed, but careful planning and caution by news librarians is needed to ensure that we are not suddenly without photos.

Some thoughts on how we can address the problems:

1. **LEARN ABOUT ELECTRONIC DARKROOMS.** News librarians should become familiar with the technology of the electronic darkroom through articles in the professional literature. The AP has also devoted the May 28, 1990 issue of AP Log to "AP's Electronic Picture Systems: Technology for the 21st Century."

2. **DETERMINE YOUR NEWS ORGANIZATION'S PLANS.** Talk to your Photo Department, systems people, and

management to determine what specific plans and timetables are in place for your organization. Hint — try not to show your emotions when they say, "But why is the library interested in that?"

3. **BECOME INVOLVED.** Determine if a committee exists to look at or implement the new technology. Become a member of the committee. If there isn't a committee, establish one. Let your concerns become known.

4. **DON'T TURN OFF THE MACHINES! DON'T STOP PRINTING PHOTOS!** Until a procedure is developed to adequately handle formats other than print, **DO NOT TURN OFF THE WIRE MACHINES OR STOP PRINTING PHOTOS!**

Photos should continue to be handled as previously until an archiving system that handles various formats is in place.

5. **DEVELOP A PLAN.** Until an archival electronic storage system is devel-

oped, prints must be made from either the wire machines, traditional printing methods, or from printers attached to the electronic darkroom systems. In order to turn off the wire printers, an AP terminal and printer will be needed in the library. If scanners are to be used, a system must be developed for handling all images scanned.

Without prints, a system is needed to ensure all negatives, slides and transparencies are kept, organized and retrievable. (It would be nice to say this already exists, but I know few librarians whose organizations have such perfect systems. Dare we mention missing negatives? What happens when that missing negative was your only image?)

6. **WAIT FOR THE PERFECT COMPUTER STORAGE SYSTEM.** Okay, maybe not the perfect system, but at minimum, one that guarantees the photos taken or received today will exist and be retrievable in the future. As news librarians, we can't accept anything less. ■

ELECTRONIC DARKROOM CRASH COURSE

There are hundreds of articles available on electronic darkroom technology. This is a basic and eclectic bibliography.

Adams, Jeff and Kurt Foss. "Generating Better Images With Electronic Darkrooms," *NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER*, May 1990, pp. 45-46.

"AP's Electronic Picture System," *AP LOG*. Associated Press, May 28, 1990.

"Boccardi Tells Members: AP's Leaf Darkroom On Track: Options OK," *NEWSPAPERS & TECHNOLOGY*, June 1990, p. 3.

"Electronic Darkrooms: Positives and Negatives," *ASNE* 1989. Proceedings of the 1989 Convention of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, pp. 257-272. ASNE, P.O. Box 17004, Washington, D.C.

"For Basic Service, AP to Replace Laser Photo Machines With Electronic Picture Desks," *NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER*, March 1990, pp. 10-12.

Foss, Kurt. "Digital 90 Conference: Editors Call For Digital Standards," *NEWSPAPERS & TECHNOLOGY*, April 1990, p. 3.

ERS & TECHNOLOGY, April 1990, p. 3.

Foss, Kurt and Jeff Adams. "Coming Online With AP's PhotoStream," *NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER*, June 1990, pp. 39-42.

Garneau, George. "Big Gains for Little Leaf in Four Years," *EDITOR & PUBLISHER*, February 24, 1990, pp. 1p+.

Garneau, George. "Vendors, Users React: Comment on AP Picture Desk Announcement," *EDITOR & PUBLISHER*, February 24, 1990, pp. 46p-47p.

Martin, Teresa A. "Digital Darkroom Isn't Magic: Debate Continues Over Standards, Integration," *NEWSPAPERS & TECHNOLOGY*, May 1990, pp. 18-19.

Martin, Teresa A. "Everyone Plays Digital Game: Digital Delivery Future Here Today," *NEWSPAPERS & TECHNOLOGY*, May 1990.

"PC-based Electronic Darkroom: Associated Press Enters Joint Venture With Leaf Systems," *EDITOR & PUBLISHER*, October 7, 1989, p. 8.

Peters, Greg. "Mesmerized by the New Technology," *NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER*, March 1990, pp. 44+.

Rosenberg, Jim. "Digital 90 Draws a Record Crowd: Photo Conference Tracks News Photography's Electronic Evolution," *EDITOR & PUBLISHER*, February 24, 1990, pp. 6p+.

Rosenberg, Jim. "Electronic Darkrooms: Wire Services Show Off the Latest Developments," *EDITOR & PUBLISHER*, September 24, 1988, pp. 30,32.

Rosenberg, Jim. "Electronic Photo Libraries: Archiving Systems Electronically Capture, Store, and Retrieve Images," *EDITOR & PUBLISHER*, February 24, 1990, pp. 34p-38p+.

Rosenberg, Jim. "Electronic Photo Processing — A Crowded Field," *EDITOR & PUBLISHER*, September 24, 1988, pp. 33-35.

"UPI Picks Crosfield To Make Picture Desk," *NEWSPAPERS & TECHNOLOGY*, July 1990, p. 3.

— Compiled By Linda James

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NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

By Lany McDonald

CONFERENCE KUDOS

After working on the Pittsburgh conference program for a year, it's hard to believe it's in the past. But before I move on to other business, many kudos are in order.

The bright red signs, buttons, and programs featuring the Pittsburgh skyline were the handiwork of Teresa Leonard. Richard Ploch had the huge responsibility for the complicated AV set-ups, and he tabulated all the evaluations.

Linda DiSante hosted a field trip to the Beaver County Times. Bill Van Niekerken and Mike Passo kept the suite staffed and supplied, and Sharon Bidwell welcomed first time attendees. Angelika Kane welcomed members to the Post Gazette library for Sunday's opening event.

M.J. Crowley, Bob Jansen, Kathy Foley, Harris Worchel, Mary Ann Skinner, Deborah Jessop, Ben Lightman, Ellie Briscoe, Jan Summers and Sharon Reeves were the wizards behind the

program and speaker arrangements. And what an outstanding line-up of speakers!

"With rapid and costly technological changes affecting our profession, we need to join forces and share our expertise."

There was a purposeful mix of non-librarian guest speakers and member speakers this year. The idea was that we could learn from them and they from us. With rapid and costly technological changes affecting our profession, we need to join forces and share our expertise. This need was most apparent in the Tuesday sessions on electronic darkroom developments.

DIGITAL PHOTO TASK FORCE

As a result of these Tuesday sessions, George Schlukbier, chairman of the automation/technology committee, was asked to form a task force to make re-

commendations for digital photo archiving standards.

Task force members, in addition to George, are Linda Amster, Kathy Foley, Linda James, Bob Jansen, John Jansson, Sonja Lindegger, Nora Paul, and Cecily Surace. They welcome input from all of you with expertise in this area.

Since the conference, George has attended ANPA and made contact with people involved in electronic photo systems. He urges everyone interested in this subject to call Steve Graham of AP at (212) 621-1983 and request a copy of the publication, "IPTC/ANPA Information Interchange Model." It presents international transmission standards for wire service photos. As George says, "It won't hurt to show Mr. Graham the keen interest of news librarians."

For additional reading, ask for THE COLE PAPERS, vol. 1, no. 2, "Pretty Pictures" from The Cole Group — (415) 673-2424 (or ask your systems manager for it).

Featured next issue in NLN Notes: Membership committee chaired by Teresa Leonard. ☛

DARKROOM

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-and-white picture. Since *Newsday* plans to scan all images, allocation of library staff time is a major consideration in scanning handout art, and all other art not fed through the photo department.

Scanning technique must be thoroughly professional, since the quality of the scanned image can't be enhanced after the fact. The only way to get higher quality is to re-scan the original image.

Newsday's photo archiving program will include a picture desk terminal in the library. Since librarians will continue to sort through wire and staff overage to make selections and prints, it isn't practical to share a workstation with the

photo department. As a result, the library will have access to the database to make selections and prints. We will also have our own flatbed scanner to archive handout art that never goes through photo. Old photos will be entered into the electronic archive and then discarded.

However, given the time it takes to scan, we don't plan on archiving the entire collection.

With a good database (and the desirability of building in a thesaurus), our indexing and retrieval of photos should be easier. Retrieval will be much more precise, since we'll be able to indicate

whether each image is vertical or horizontal, full face, contains odd features, or has other distinguishing features. We may even bar code negatives for circulation control, a decision which should reduce logging time and loss.

Despite these massive changes, one thing will remain the same — the important role that news libraries play in managing photos and other art. While the control of photographic hard copies will be lost, it will be more than made up by our enhanced ability to organize and retrieve. ☛

A CALL TO ACTION *PhotoStream Shuns Librarians*

The Associated Press's advisory committee on PhotoStream and electronic picture systems has been named and no news librarian is on the committee. *Newspapers & Technology* (July 1990) quotes Hal Buell, assistant to the president for PhotoStream as saying, "They [the committee] represent the departments or sections of a newspaper that will be most involved with the new technology."

NLN asked Buell why there aren't any librarians on the committee and he responded that that was a good point.

The News Division is calling on all members to make a point with the AP by doing the following:

- Write to Buell and request that at least one librarian be named to the committee

immediately. Send a carbon to Louis D. Boccardi, President and General Manager, AP. Address: 50 Rockefeller Plaza, Fifth Floor, New York, NY 10020.

- Check the list of committee members named below and if you know someone, urge him or her to push for librarian involvement on the committee.

- Talk to your management and urge them to ask AP for librarian involvement and input.

Committee members include: Merle Becker, Thomson Newspapers; Mark Bushell, *The New York Times*; Charles Carol, *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*; Randy Cochran, Scripps Howard Newspapers; Michael Evans, *The Journal and Con-*

stitution; Stanley Farrar, *The Seattle Times*; Scott Harmsen, *Kalamazoo Gazette*; Barbara Henry, *Democrat and Chronicle* (Rochester, NY); Larry Hoffman, Ottaway Newspapers, Inc.; Michael Jones, Knight-Ridder, Inc.; Bob Lynn, *The Virginian-Pilot* and *The Ledger-Star*; Kurt Mutschler, *The Times-Picayune*; Bill Rinehard, retired ANPA vice president; Barry Rothfield, Westchester Rockland Newspapers, Inc.; Gary Schell, *The Milwaukee Journal*; Stephen Seidl, *The Times Record* (Brunswick, ME); Larry Smith, *Daily Town Talk* (Alexandria, LA); Greg Steward, *Tampa Tribune*; Larry Strutton, *The Baltimore Sun*; George Sweers, *St. Petersburg Times*; Tom Tondée, *The Inland Valley Daily Bulletin* (Ontario CA); and Paul Willis, *News/Sun Sentinel* (Fort Lauderdale, FL). ☛

NEWS DIVISION RESPONDS TO PHOTOSTREAM

News Division Chair, Lany McDonald sent the following letter to LOUIS BOC-CARDI, President and General Manager of The Associated Press; WILLIAM KEATING, Chairman of the Board; and FRANK DANIELS, JR., incoming Chairman of the AP. The letter is in response to The Associated Press's failure to name a librarian to the PhotoStream committee.

July 9, 1990

On behalf of the News Division of Special Libraries Association, an organization of 650 news librarians primarily from U.S. and Canadian newspapers, I express our great disappointment that no newspaper librarian has been named to the PhotoStream committee. Mr. Buell's statement in the current issue of *Newspapers & Technology* that committee members "represent the departments... that will be most involved with the new technology" reveals an unfortunate lack of awareness of news librarians' involvement in the process.

News librarians work daily with wire photos. Their work in selecting, organizing, and retrieving wire photos saves their companies thousands of dollars and provides a ready-to-use storehouse of photos. The percentage of photos pulled from library files in daily newspapers any given day frequently runs as high as 30 to 40%. Because of the cost-savings this represents, we urge that the PhotoStream committee address archiving/retrieval needs now.

Many members of our organization have experience designing photo indexes and full-text news databases. We have learned that electronic retrieval systems must be carefully planned and controlled from the beginning. Just being able to store something electronically does not mean one can find it. Without standardized slug conventions, consistent formatting of fields, controlled terms, and very careful editing, retrieving those photos will be a haphazard affair.

With cooperation in the planning stage, AP newspapers could save themselves

thousands of man-hours in the future. Therefore, I urge you to add news librarians to the PhotoStream committee so that we may help plan for efficient digital photo storage and retrieval.

I recommend AP consider appointing the following people:

George Schlukbier (News Div. technology chairman),
Sacramento Bee
Kathy Foley, *Washington Post*
Bob Jansen, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*

I am sure you will find them knowledgeable and cooperative. Members of our organization pride ourselves in being responsible participants in the journalism profession.

Sincerely,
Lany W. McDonald
Chairman News Division/
Special Libraries Association

cc: Frank Daniels Jr.

COMMON GROUND

By Fred Wilson

THE LIBRARY'S ROLE IN ELECTRONIC PHOTO TECHNOLOGY

The development of electronic photography technology has progressed steadily over the last decade. The last two years have seen an acceleration in products offered with practical newspaper applications. Newspapers today publish daily products utilizing electronic picture desks and still video cameras. The January announcement by AP of their plans to bring on-line the PhotoStream digital photo transmission network and to offer an electronic picture desk to current Laserphoto subscribers brings the possibility of electronic photography to most newspapers.

DECISIONS

For individual newspapers, the AP announcement has applied a finite deadline to make some very important technological decisions.

Newspapers will have to decide whether to take the AP Leaf Picture Desk, purchase the technology from another vendor, or take from AP a high-speed, hard-copy receiver similar to the current LaserPhoto receivers. Unfortunately, archiving and database management systems for photos have not been developed at the same rate as the electronic picture desk technology. Archiving systems are being developed, but newspapers will likely be forced to make decisions about the purchase of an electronic picture desk without knowing what the long-term electronic archiving solution will be. For the short-term, it seems that hard copy files and indexes remain the best solutions.

PREPARATIONS

The technology to archive and track electronic images will be developed; the question is, when? There is plenty that librarians and other newsroom professionals should do NOW to prepare their

newspapers for electronic photography, including:

Teamwork — The introduction of electronic picture desks will radically change how newsrooms produce their products. Naturally, the potential exists for departments to feel that their "turf" is threatened. Work as a team and settle the control issues early.

Inter-departmental cooperation and coordination will be more important than ever before if newspapers are to use this new technology to solve existing problems rather than create new ones.

"To prepare your library for the future, it will help to analyze your operation as it functions today."

Education — The science of electronic imaging will continue to change rapidly, so one of the big challenges will be staying abreast of developments in the field. Newspaper trade journals regularly carry related articles. The PHOTOGRAPHY IN NEWSPAPERS issue of Editor & Publisher (February 24, 1990) has excellent resource material covering many aspects of electronic photography. Seminars on electronic imaging (the Digital 90 conference, for example) are also excellent resources. Newsroom budgets for staff training in electronic photography issues should include enough money to send to seminars key representatives from departments OUTSIDE of the photo department who are involved in newspaper photography.

Evaluation — While staying abreast of

developments in the electronic imaging field, you should also be working to evaluate what your archiving needs are now and how they might change in the future with the addition of electronic photography. Trying to anticipate your library's needs to support a new technology is difficult. Libraries will be faced with archiving digital wire photos received via electronic darkroom, staff produced photos made with conventional processes, staff produced photos scanned into the electronic darkroom for output and staff produced still video images.

To prepare the library for the future, it will help to analyze your operation as it functions today. Study your current hard-copy photography archiving system. Can newsroom people walk into your library and in reasonable time find the photos they need? If things are not working the way they should, you have time to find solutions.

Developing flow charts that track the route of photographs through the news operation and into your library can be helpful. The charts will help vendors visualize your process and tailor their products to fit your specific needs. The charts might also make clear where some changes in responsibilities might streamline your operation.

Responsibility Changes? — Electronic imaging might bring to the library the responsibility for managing an archiving database on published images that exist in negative or transparency form, but from which no hard-copy print was ever made. Negative filing and database management is often a function performed by the photo department, but with electronic photography may become added responsibilities of the library.

Fred Wilson is Photo Editor at The Morning Call, Allentown, PA.

Previously he was with the Charlotte Observer.

WHO WE ARE...



Vital Statistics

Name: Kathy Drewke

Position: Photo Librarian

Company: *Contra Costa Times*, Walnut Creek, CA

Special Talents: A Nicely Twisted Sense of Humor

One of the reporters at the *Contra Costa Times* calls Kathy Drewke the "Newsweek Queen." *Newsweek* is one of the fifteen magazines Kathy reads monthly to keep abreast of trends, politics and current affairs and she can often remember in which issue a story appeared without benefit of an index. When it's not *Newsweek*, it's MTV to check on who's who in the revolving door of rock music.

As photo librarian, Kathy handles from four hundred to eight hundred pieces of art a day. After selecting and indexing from this avalanche, she retrieves art for stories, is designing a color slide database, maintains an online index to birth announcements and answers reference questions.

One of the unusual projects with which Kathy assists is fact-checking and retrieving art for the "Informed Reader" column. The column, written at fourth grade reading level, is part of the paper's literacy campaign and the library staff checks for accuracy before publication. The paper won a Scripps Howard Foundation journalism award for the column in 1989.

Can this woman be hired? 🐼



BROADCAST LIBRARY NEWS

By Debra K. Bade

WELCOME TO BLN

BLN is launched today as a forum for broadcast librarians to share ideas and professional skills with colleagues. Broadcast librarians are a vital, growing segment within the News Division, and as editor of this column, I hope the vitality and creativity its members share will be evident here and will service to empower us as individuals and as a group.

As for any news librarian, getting at information in reference books and through various database resources as quickly as possible to provide background research or answer spur of the moment information requests is critical. We share these activities with newspaper and magazine librarians. Work with audio or moving images is an additional

facet of our research activities.

Demands for images and textual information are handled differently by broadcast corporations — some have created separate libraries: one to perform informational research, and one to focus on archiving a film or video collection. Others, as is the case at CNN, combine both facets in one library environment, and librarians may deal with pulling together visuals for upcoming packages one day and combing DataTimes and Vu/Text for information the next.

The myriad ways of dealing with life in a broadcast library and the stories of common problems and successes I heard at the annual conference in Pittsburgh support the fact that there is a wealth of knowledge in the field of broadcast librarianship, but very little documentation or opportunity to share that knowledge. One option that might enhance com

munication is the formation of a Special Interest Group for broadcast librarians in the News Division to address some of the features and problems unique to broadcast libraries at future conferences and seminars.

Topics that may appear in this column are: indexing and retrieval of moving images or audio, storage of different formats, special reference services broadcast librarians can provide, developing library services at a local level in television and radio, and developing channels of support for professionals working in broadcast libraries. Please send your thoughts and suggestions to me at: CNN Library, One CNN Center, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA 30348.

Debra Bade is currently Reference/Special Projects Librarian at Cable News Network Library in Atlanta and has worked at the Minneapolis Star Tribune.

SMALL LIBRARY NEWS

By Elyse Eisner

KEEP IN TOUCH

You're the only news librarian in your state, or maybe there's another one, but he or she is 250 miles away. You went to a conference once, but your boss says you can't go anymore. How do you stay in touch with your profession?

Kathleen Kimble, librarian at the [Missoula, MT] *Missoulian*, says, "I pretty much work in a vacuum." She consults with other librarians in the Lee Enterprises chain because her library is automating with the Stouffer Gold system and she wants to know what to expect. Kathleen has been the *Missoulian's* only librarian for eight years. She attended SLA's annual conference several years ago but didn't find it especially helpful. "Conferences aren't geared toward outfits like mine," she says. "I really don't miss talking to other folks."

Carole Keith of the Reno [Nevada] *Gazette-Journal*, on the other hand, does miss talking to other folks. "We wonder what kinds of things other librarians are doing," she says. The *Gazette-Journal* library is a clipping library, and Carole and her staff are too busy treading water to figure out better ways to swim.

Carole would like to go to a conference to find out how other librarians justify staff increases and what kinds of jobs they do. "If I had time to become more actively involved, it [being isolated] would bother me more." In the meantime, Carole sometimes talks with librarians at *USA Today* and reads *News Library News*.

Pat Loos (Lincoln [Nebraska] *Journal-Star*) and Elaine Allen (Grand Forks [North Dakota] *Herald*) have both attended SLA conferences and found them

very helpful, especially for making contacts. Both said they are more likely to call someone they know than someone they've never met. Pat feels that so many news libraries are online that people tend to forget about those of us who aren't. "I think if you'd never gone to conference you'd really feel lost," Pat says. "I think we should send *News Library News* to all the news libraries we can come up with."

Elaine also depends on *News Library News*. She was recently transferred from the library to the position of Newsroom Research Director, in which she feels even more isolated because her new position removes her from the clipping library. To keep in touch, Elaine makes annual visits to Minneapolis and occasional phone calls to her friends in the News Division. ■

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STOP THE PRESSES!

By Teresa Leonard

NewsView, a new PC-based library system developed at the Lewiston Tribune in Idaho, has gone a step beyond to link images to its full-text database. NewsView operates with Microsoft Windows.



The full text display contains icons to select a view of the full page or the photographs accompanying the story. The NewsView software provides a link to whatever software is holding the graphics file and calls it to the screen. Costs start at \$5995.



UMI has come out with two new CD-ROM products that link full text to images also. **Business Periodicals Ondisc** offers about three hundred titles full text, which are indexed by ABI/INFORM.

General Periodicals Ondisc, indexed by Periodicals Abstracts, covers about 150 titles full text. An annual subscription fee of \$10,000 to \$20,000 includes specialized hardware, support, and maintenance. Both full-text databases are cover-to-cover, so the image of each page of the journal is available, whether or not it is indexed.



The hot new item at the SLA exhibits was **Burrelle's Broadcast Database**, offering transcriptions of newscasts and news programming from the three major

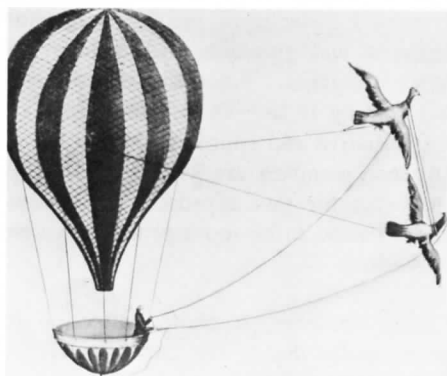
networks. The database includes news documentaries and presidential news conferences. The addition of public broadcasting programs is promised. The system uses BRS/Search software. Files are currently small (retrospective to November 89 at best) and charges are complex, with a \$30 monthly fee, \$20 per hour telecommunications fee, and document charge of \$4.50 per screen for the first two screens and \$1 for each screen after that.



Good news for Nexis subscribers longing for Lexis! **Enhanced Nexis** gives you access to Lexis files without an increased subscription fee. You pay standard search fees plus a \$3 surcharge on each search, then use the LEXSEE function to call up cases by citation at \$4 a pop.



Another CD-ROM product, **Aviation Compendium**, provides official FAA information on aircraft, pilots, mechanics, airports, and aviation services. For \$395 (more if you want quarterly or monthly updates), **Aviation Compendium** provides information on commercial, business, and private aviation, including aircraft owner, number of seats, when it was built, cruising speed, repair and maintenance record, and problems with similar aircraft. They even had our company's hot air balloon.



Information on pilots includes name and address, certificates, ratings, and date of

last medical exam. A spokesman from the FAA's public affairs office said this sounded like a good idea.



BOOKS... remember books? Two that deliver big for very little investment are The National Beta Club's **College Facts Chart** and **Starguide**. The **COLLEGE FACTS CHART** lists colleges, universities, and technical schools by state with an index by name. For each entry, there is an address, phone number, president's name, date founded, affiliation, level of school, whether it's coed, session plan, degrees offered, enrollment, number of faculty, and costs broken down by tuition and fees and by room and board. Whew! All this for \$5.



For less than \$10, **STARGUIDE** lists addresses (no phone numbers) for famous people. They are arranged by type of fame: movie stars, TV stars, musicians, politicians, sports figures. A name index provides access to celebrities from George Bush to the California Raisins.

Interested? Call Teresa Leonard at (919) 829-4866 for more information and contact people.

PITTSBURGH PACKS A PUNCH!

By Paula Stevens

The theme of the 1990 SLA annual conference was "The Information Professional: An Unparalleled Resource." In keeping with that theme, our News Division information professionals planned an unparalleled program covering a variety of current topics, with every session drawing large crowds of conference attendees.

I began the conference week with a continuing education course entitled **INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES TO BOOST PRODUCTIVITY**. The course taught how to use technology to work smarter, and the instructors encouraged us to look at tasks in new ways and not be content with "the way we've always done it."

"I know I need to be more proactive as an individual."

Monday's first session, **GETTING AT GOVERNMENT DATA**, was a great conference opener, and certainly fit into my mind-set on new technologies. Many newspapers are getting involved in obtaining and analyzing government data tapes, and news librarians are learning to look beyond the standard commercial online vendors. Finding information in new and/or different online services was demonstrated in Wednesday's **INEXPENSIVE NEWS ON NON-NEWS DATABASES**. These two presentations gave me several new information sources to consider for my library.

BRAVING THE NEWS WORLD, gave attendees a glimpse of future challenges confronting the news industry in technology, advertising, media format, and readership trends.

Present and future photo technology and the inherent challenges for news librarians was the focus on Tuesday, with a day devoted to photographs and other



Sharon Ostman speaks at the CE. Sharing the speaker's table are (left to right): Bill Pierce, Bob Isaacs, and Joe McHugh. Photo: Keith Srakocic



Mabel Wilson, Jeanette Brown, and Tom Banks mix it up at the LeMont as Ben Lightman works the tables. Photo: Teresa Leonard

images. This was the conference highlight for many of us. There is an urgent need for the industry to develop archival systems for electronic images, both photographs and graphics, with input from news librarians. Since the vendors are not coming to us, we will have to take the initiative and approach them. News Division members are willing to develop strategies for this approach, but I also know I need to be more proactive as an individual.

Like housework, a photo collection is never really done. The panel on **DEVELOPING PHOTO LIBRARY COLLECTIONS** provided me with practical suggestions on how to manage my photo overload.

Government data, electronic storage and manipulation of photographs, news trends for the future — what better topics to lead us into the final session, **ETHICS AND THE NEWS?** Insights on the production of television news and ethics in online searching and information provision raised several questions. For example, who is responsible for double-checking all of the data we receive and retrieve?

Traditionally, this has been the job of the reporter, but does new technology and the wealth of information available shift that responsibility to the librarian?

Continued on Page 16

THE WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN

By Phyllis Brown

During one of the News Division's sessions on Wednesday, June 13, one of the speakers made reference to the 13th, pointing out that the Vista International did not have a thirteenth floor. Not being a superstitious person, I wasn't alarmed by the comment. After all, everyone knows the 13th is just like any other day. Little did I know what was about to happen at my home newspaper [Johnson City Press] and that the 13th would be a day to remember!

The sessions had been enlightening and I was looking forward to sharing all the insights gained from my attendance when I returned to work. Annette Morrison [Tennessean] and I were sharing a room. As we turned in Wednesday night we were looking forward to sleeping a little late and then making Thursday morning's CE course.

So much for sleeping late! At about 6:30, Thursday morning, the phone

rang; neither Annette nor I was anxious to answer. But, on the other end of the line my husband's voice was startling me awake. "I thought you might like to know the roof of the Press fell in last night," he said. Note the date: June 13 — though not a Friday!

The news sounded dreadful at the onset, but I was soon to learn the destruction was in the warehouse section of an old building recently purchased by the Press. The paper was using the additional space for housing newsprint and inserts. At certain hours of the day the building is a beehive of activity, but when the roof gave up the ghost and collapsed an employee had just left the area; there was no one inside.

However, an article in the Press indicated the sprinkling system had been activated in the building. Being a librarian responsible for a clip collection, I had grown concerned to an alarming proportion by mid-morning. I stayed for the CE course, which had become

personally timely with discussions of load bearing walls and the best possible arrangement of the news library facility. Somehow, all of this seemed more important than my initial concept of what was to be discussed.

After a few such topics, I had an overwhelming urge to call home and just ask that dreadful question: "How bad is the water damage?"

The switchboard operator assured me that all was well. Except for classified and some offices, there had been no water damage in the main building, and even those sections were near recovery.

Since the experience I have given a lot of thought to the sprinkler system and what could happen if it was to activate in the library facility. Although all is normal at present and the damage was not extensive in our section, those clips sure have my attention! ☺

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MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, JUNE 10, 1990

The meeting of the board of the News Division of the Special Libraries Association was called to order by Chair Sharon Ostmann at 11:40 a.m. in the Division suite of the Vista International in Pittsburgh on June 10, 1990. Attending the meeting were Margaret Neu, M.J. Crowley, Judy Canter, Sharon Reeves, Kee Malesky, Richard Geiger, John Cronin, Lany McDonald, Sharon Ostmann and Elaine Raines.

Ostmann thanked the board for their efforts during the past year. The minutes of the last board meeting in New York were read. McDonald moved they be approved as read. Geiger seconded.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cronin gave the treasurer's report. He said the final accounting from the New York conference was very good. McDonald said Pittsburgh may be expensive because of the increased audio-visual costs, but vendor participation will help offset this. McDonald asked if suite fees for students and retirees could be waived. Cronin said that has been the policy.

EDUCATION REPORT

Reeves gave the Education Committee report. There were no regional seminars. Registration for the CE course was lower than last year. The need for a Sunday CE was discussed.

PUBLICATIONS REPORT

Canter, for the Publications Committee said the directory has been published. Malesky said News Library News costs

had been reduced to \$1500 per issue. Mail delivery continues to be a problem for some members. Ostmann expressed her appreciation to Canter and Malesky for their work.

BANQUET COMMITTEE

Geiger reported on the Awards Banquet to be held at the LeMont. Directions would be given at the business meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

M.J. Crowley discussed the Division Archives. Vu/Text is creating an on-line database called Newspaper Library Archives (NLA). This will be an index to articles in NLN and ANPA transcripts of division speeches. It can be accessed through Vu/Text for no charge, but you must contact Vu/Text first to get access to the database.

Ostmann reported DataTimes has completed publication of the News Division Directory and had offered to publish future editions. McDonald pointed out the delay in publication was caused in part by the annual switching from Vu/Text to DataTimes. It was recommended that we stay with DataTimes for future issues, since Vu/Text will be handling the archives. This will improve accuracy and allow for listings to be expanded. McDonald said DataTimes will provide enough extra directories to mail to new members, along with the conference program and a letter of welcome. Teresa Leonard will be the new Membership Chair. There was no objection to DataTimes being the publisher of the Direc-

tory. Ostmann read a letter she had written to DataTimes, Vu/Text and S.I.I. In it she asked for clarification of their policies of evaluating library staff at newspapers where they were making installations. The letter had been prompted by a concern that vendors were making recommendations regarding the qualifications of specific librarians to go on-line. The only response she had was from DataTimes. They stated their policy was to work with the staff in place and not to evaluate their qualifications. It was decided that follow up letters should be written to the remaining two vendors. Ostmann thanked Raines for her work as Secretary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lou Thomas will be receiving the John Cotton Dana Award at the Conference Banquet on Wednesday.

McDonald displayed the signs for the meeting rooms, along with the buttons and conference programs. Ostmann congratulated McDonald and her committee for planning an excellent program. Membership is up 11%.

McDonald discussed her efforts at getting increased publicity for the Division. She also said there would be taping of most of the programs. Nora Paul is in charge of publicity in the coming year. Cronin made a motion to adjourn. Geiger seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:55.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Y. Raines, Secretary

PITTSBURGH

Continued from Page 14

All of the division programs stressed ways we can utilize technology and improve our skills to be ever more effective partners with the newsroom — something to which we all aspire.

Believe it or not, between all these sessions I had a chance to visit the exhibits! Some items that caught my eye included

Burrelle's full text database of network news shows, the Information Prospector (a biographical research service), the U.S. Supreme Court decision database, and the plethora of CD-ROM products now available at reasonable cost and with more frequent updates.

Though there's no room to mention names, I offer my sincere thanks to all the planners, panelists and vendors for a TERRIFIC conference.

And thank you to Elizabeth Whisnant for the opportunity to make my first contribution to *News Library News*. She caught me on my way to the bar in the hospitality suite, and I knew I would never get that drink unless I quickly consented to write this piece!

I don't know about your experience, but nothing I learned at the conference this year was covered in library school. Thank heaven for the News Division! 🍷

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, JUNE 11, 1990

The Annual Business Meeting of the News Division of the Special Libraries Association was called to order by Chair Sharon Ostmann at 10:50 on June 11, 1990 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Ostmann introduced Ruth Seidman, the SLA proctor to the meeting.

Seidman is the president-elect of SLA. Past chairs, new members, first time attendees and student members were recognized.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Ostmann thanked all the committee chairs and division members who had helped her during her chairmanship. She reported that vendor involvement had increased with more suite participation and sponsored events. Ostmann congratulated McDonald and her committee on planning an excellent program and increasing vendor involvement. The room signs and News Division buttons were provided by the committee.

Barbara Newcombe is currently in the United Kingdom to study small news libraries. Ostmann thanked all division members for their support.

MINUTES OF THE NEW YORK MEETING

The minutes of the annual meeting in New York City were approved as published on a motion by Bob Isaacs. It was seconded by Carolyn Hardnett. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John Cronin gave the Treasurer's Report. As of May 31, 1990 the checking account had \$13,307.04 and the certificate \$8,552.96, for a total of \$21,860.00. It was expected the Pittsburgh Conference would cost between \$8,000 and \$8,500.

CONFERENCE REPORT (PITTSBURGH)

McDonald thanked Angelika Kane for her work as the Pittsburgh hostess. Linda DiSante has offered to conduct a tour of her library on Thursday. Special thanks were extended to Teresa Leonard, Richard Ploch, Sharon Bidwell, Michael

Marler, Michael Passo, Bill Van Niek-erken and John Cronin. The Raleigh News and Observer published the program schedule. McDonald also thanked all her program planners and sponsors for their hard work and support.

Ostmann introduced Parliamentarian Donna Scheeder.

CONFERENCE REPORT (SAN ANTONIO)

Margaret Neu reported on the progress of the San Antonio conference. Several programs are already taking shape including technology, information gate-keeping and company archives. She encouraged everyone to plan on attending.

EDUCATION REPORT

Sharon Reeves reported there had been no regional seminars. The continuing education seminar was being held on Thursday. She asked anyone interested in serving on the Education Committee to let her know.

PUBLICATIONS REPORT

Judy Canter reported that News Library News was the main publication for the past year. Editor Kee Malesky reported NLN now has an ISSN number. She thanked all those who helped her get NLN published. Ostmann recognized Malesky's efforts and presented her with a pen set in appreciation.

ARCHIVES REPORT

M.J. Crowley reported that work on the Archives was progressing. Vu/Text will put the index on Vu/Text as News Library Archives (NLA).

It can be added to your access by contacting Vu/Text. An index to conference proceedings 1966-1988 is already available. The bulletin and NLN indexes are being added.

MEMBERSHIP

Joe McHugh reported there are 667 News Division members. This is up from 613 last year.

SMALL LIBRARIES INTEREST GROUP

Elyse Eisner reported on the two programs of the Small Libraries Interest Group.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Jim Hunter said there had been an item in E & P and they would be working to get coverage of this year's conference.

COMMITTEE ON JOB TITLES & DESCRIPTIONS

Barbara Semonche reported on the progress on revising the job description in the upcoming Dictionary of Occupational Titles. If you have any questions or comments on the proposed changes, which appeared in NLN, please contact her by September 3. The revision would be for the 1992 edition.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Richard Geiger reported on the upcoming banquet at the LeMont. This year's winners are: Shoemaker Award of Merit, Sharon Ostmann; Henebry Roll of Honor, Barbara Semonche and Joseph DiMarino; Kwopil Memorial Award, Joseph O. Mehr. He thanked his committee members.


STUDENT STIPEND AWARD

Teresa Leonard thanked her committee members and University Microfilms for their support in this award. She announced the winner, Susan Hill from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jim Scofield introduced a motion that "The Awards Committee be expanded to include all past division chairs, to give it a better historical perspective." Joe Mehr seconded the motion. In the discussion that followed it was pointed out by Lou Thomas that this was already in the guidelines for membership of the committee.

Crowley indicated she had been looking for such information in the archives. McDonald stated she had plans to review

Continued on Next Page 

MINUTES, JUNE 11

Continued from Previous Page

the various committees and their procedures in the coming year. She proposed setting up models and guidelines for future committees.

Scofield accepted a friendly amendment that "The next year's Awards Committee be expanded to include three past News Division chairs, to give it a better historical perspective." The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lou Thomas will be receiving the John Cotton Dana Award from SLA at the banquet on Wednesday. Lou thanked the division and said she was receiving the award on behalf of the division.

Barbara Semonche was named the 1992 San Francisco Conference Planner. Chester M. Lewis, a division member

and past president of SLA passed away. Bob Isaacs announced that Roy King and Mark Hanan also passed away.

Donna Scheeder announced the Washington, D.C. news interest group was very active and she thanked her committee.

RESOLUTIONS

Geiger presented a musical rendition of the resolutions.

INSTALLATION

Ostmann thanked Canter and Raines for their work on the board. The new board members were introduced: Charlie Campo, Director of Publications; Julie Kirsh, Secretary; Margaret Neu, Chair-elect, and Lany McDonald, Chair.

REMARKS BY THE INCOMING CHAIR

McDonald addressed her goals for the division in the coming year. She hopes

to increase membership with increased publicity — Nora Paul would be heading the Public Relations/Publicity Chair.

Homer Martin would chair an ad hoc committee to look into vendor relationships.

Teresa Leonard would chair the Membership Committee and work to keep the directory and membership list current. DataTimes would be the publisher of upcoming directories.

The composition and procedures for the Awards Committee, as well as all other committees will be investigated.

Donna Scheeder made a motion to adjourn. Paula Stevens seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:10.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Y. Raines, Secretary

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Division members searching for readable, understandable information on newspaper technology have found a mother lode. *Newspapers & Technology* is a monthly publication concentrating on the technological business of producing a newspaper.

The color tabloid, which began publication in February 1989, covers a wide range of technology concerns. A perusal of the June 1990 issue finds details of the technology exhibits at ANPA, including the Tribune Company's NewsView electronic library (see Stop the Presses in this issue); and articles on AP's PhotoStream and the newspaper of 2010.

The paper is FREE to anyone involved in newspaper technology. To start a subscription mail the subscription card to:

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(26) My budget for technology/equipment in 1990 is from \$0 to \$50,000 (07); / \$50,001 to \$100,000 (08); / \$100,001 to \$250,000 (09); / \$250,001 to \$500,000 (10); / \$500,001 to \$1,000,000 (11); / over \$1,000,000 (12).
(32) ☐ Yes. ☐ No. My company owns and/or operates its own production and printing facility.

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Business category (24)

- 01 Newspaper Chain/Holding Company
02 Daily Newspaper, Over 100,000 Circ
03 Daily Newspaper, 50,001 - 100,000 Circ
04 Daily Newspaper, 25,001 - 50,000 Circ
05 Daily Newspaper, Less than 25,000 Circ
06 Non-Daily Paid Circulation Newspaper
07 Non-Daily Newspaper, Free Distribution
08 Shopper/College/Religious Newspaper
09 Trade Newspaper

- 10 Newspaper Equip. Manufacturer/Vendor
11 Graphic Arts and Other Printing Services
13 Trade Association/Guild/Union
14 Other _____
(please specify)

Department/Function (22)

- 01 General/Corporate Management
02 Finance/Administration

- 03 Display Advertising
04 Classified Advertising
05 Circulation/Distribution
06 Editorial
07 Photography
08 Production/Printing
09 Pre-Press
13 Technology/Systems
12 Other _____
(please specify)

6/90

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, JUNE 13, 1990

The Executive Board Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Lany McDonald in the Division suite at the Vista International Hotel.

Present: Lany McDonald, Margaret Neu, Charles Campo, Julie Kirsh, Sharon Ostmann, John Cronin, Sharon Reeves, M.J. Crowley, George Schlukbier, Kathy Foley, Teresa Leonard, Carolyn Hardnett, Elyse Eisner, Donna Scheeder, Linda DiSante, and Elaine Raines.

In her opening remarks, Lany McDonald asked that committee chairs select members for their committees by the end of June. She also requested that they submit their goals and deadline estimates for the upcoming year. She thanked the committee chairs and expressed her belief in the strength of committees working together.

OLD BUSINESS

Sharon Ostmann reported that she would reissue the letter from the News Division requesting the policy of database vendors on evaluating the performance or qualifications of the library staff for their clients.

BYLAWS

Donna Scheeder asked that relevant issues be brought to her attention. She is willing to consider all different points of view.

TREASURER

John Cronin recommended that a finance committee be formed. He reported that balance of income at end of conference was \$8000.

He made a motion recommending the purchase of a certificate of deposit for one year in January 1991. The motion was seconded by Sharon Reeves and passed unanimously by board members.

PUBLICATIONS

Charles Campo reported on the redesign of *News Library News*, change of advertising rates, and establishment of back page advertising at a premium rate. All copy for the next *NLN* will be given to the printer by Elizabeth Whisnant by July 2, 1990.

He discussed the need for a quick polling response system to contact division members on various issues. He also suggested upgrading the class of delivery for *NLN* mailing.

A motion to organize a telephone network system was made by Charles Campo, seconded by Margaret Neu and carried unanimously.

AWARDS

Sharon Ostmann reported that her committee members had not yet been named. Discussion with Teresa Leonard on the Student Award was forthcoming. Lany McDonald asked that guidelines for awards procedures be submitted to the board next year for approval.

EDUCATION

Sharon Reeves presented a CE course idea for the San Antonio conference which would update attendees on automated library system developments. She reported the need for another session on electronic darkroom developments.

SAN ANTONIO CONFERENCE

Margaret Neu reported that the time slot for the next Awards Banquet was under discussion.

After mention was made of the various conflicts with SLA meetings and events, Lany McDonald offered to contact SLA and get their input. Neu outlined other program possibilities such as the electronic darkroom, vendor user groups, source and census updates and management/personnel issues. She reported that the CE course would be held on Thursday.

AUTOMATION/TECHNOLOGY

George Schlukbier reported on the establishment of a task force to gather information and develop archiving standards for digital photo transmission systems. Margaret Neu seconded and it carried unanimously.

MEMBERSHIP

Teresa Leonard reported that the Membership Directory would be published by

DataTimes. She emphasized the importance of personal contact with new members and proposed that a regional contact person from the division be recruited as a liaison for a new member.

PUBLICITY

Nora Paul suggested that the News Division slide presentation be changed to video. She offered to look at expenses. She said that there was a need for news librarians to create their own publicity by speaking on panels.

NOMINATIONS

Carolyn Hardnett commented on why News Division candidates lost in the past SLA executive election. She asked for suggestions regarding nominations.

ELECTIONS

Linda DiSante requested last year's report and indicated that Angelika Kane will be a member of the Elections Committee.

ARCHIVES

M.J. Crowley reported that Vu/Text has agreed to provide a News Library Archives database at no charge for either storage or searching for division members. Crowley talked about the possibility of revising the old archival guidelines and said that she will be looking at storing *NLN* in full text format.

SMALL NEWS LIBRARY INTEREST GROUP

Elyse Eisner reported that 13 people attended the Small Library Interest Group at Pittsburgh. She recommended that more time be allotted for the group at future conferences. She said that she will be writing a guidelines report for next year.

In her closing remarks, Lany McDonald said that she will inquire about the activity of the News Library Employment Clearinghouse.

Sharon Reeves moved to adjourn the meeting and Margaret Neu seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Kirsh, Secretary

REPORT ON NLA *Vu/Text Establishes Archive Database*

By M.J. Crowley

THE GOOD NEWS IS — Vu/Text has agreed to provide data storage and free searching for an online index to the News Division Archives.

If you want to access the archives database (NLA) and are currently a Vu/Text subscriber, please call Vu/Text and arrange to have the NLA database added to your user profile. (If you are not a subscriber, call your nearest news librarian friend who is.)

The type-written index to the ANPA transcripts has been scanned and entered into the database. These entries are an index by title (subject) and author of speeches given at SLA Conferences between 1961 to 1988. Microfiche copies of the speeches are available at the ANPA library in Reston, Virginia. Duplicate copies of fiche will be made and deposited in the News Division Archives located at Philadelphia Newspapers. Photocopies may be made from this fiche.

The database also contains a document which lists the archives file headings. This document serves as a guideline to searching the headings or names for each group of files. Field 5 (@5 in Vu/Text) which is the HEADLINE FIELD for newspapers is the FILE HEADING FIELD for the archives.

EXAMPLE:

If you want to retrieve the listing of ANPA Transcripts for 1988:

ENTER: @5 ANPA / transcripts and 1988

Remember that full-text is not available. Currently the database is an index only. You will have to contact Yvonne at ANPA for a photocopies of the articles.

The following are current field (segment) notations for the database:

Field 1 (@1) DATE — this is an update date indicating when the file was last updated in Vu/Text

Field 3 (@3) SOURCE — indicates the location of the documents indexed in the file

Field 4 (@4) NOTE — provides additional information relating to the document

Field 5 (@5) FILE HEADING — name of the file appears in this field

Field 7 (@7) TEXT — contains the index information

Obviously, having an online listing of our holdings opens a new world and presents us with capabilities which were previously unavailable.

We will attempt a full text retrieval of *News Library News* with this issue and will examine procedures and costs for updating and back-loading of *News Library News*.

An archive committee consisting of Lois Doncevic, Carolyn Hardnett

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LOU THOMAS HONORED

Lou Thomas, a leader in the field of news librarianship, has been presented the John Cotton Dana Award, one of SLA's highest honors.



Thomas, retired State-Times and Morning Advocate librarian, received the award at an honors ceremony and dinner in Pittsburgh to the cheers of news division members.

During her thirty-one years at the newspapers, Thomas supervised the library's evolution from a clipping collection to an automated research center of distinction.

Thomas's work for the advancement of the News Division was tireless. She served on the executive board, was Division Chair, and co-ordinated the fledgling pre-conference seminar. Her many activities included development of the division audio-visual presentation and co-authoring GUIDELINES FOR NEWSPAPER LIBRARIES.

NLN interviewed Thomas from her home in Baton Rouge. She said that she

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PEOPLE

By Mona Hatfield

"J-Students in the Library"

Bonnie Ross, of The Syracuse Newspapers, participates in a terrific four-year, full scholarship program offered by her papers. The library has one Newhouse School of Journalism student full-time the summer before his/her sophomore year and part-time during the school year. Bonnie and her staff use the summer for concentrated training, preparing the student to work independently when part-time hours begin in the fall. Three benefits result: training procedures are being refined and streamlined, the library gets extra help without extra budget pressures and the student learns first-hand the value of the news library.

"Some Peruse, Others Publish"

Hats off to Anne Mintz, Information Services Director at Forbes, Inc., for receiving the second annual Online Champion of the Year award presented by Dun's Marketing. Anne has also seen publication of her latest editing effort, "Information Ethics; Concerns for Librarianship and the Information Industry" — a product of the 27th annual symposium of the graduate alumni and faculty of the Rutgers School of Communication, Information and Library Studies.

Barbara Newcombe authored "Paper Trails: A Guide to Public Records in California" which was published under the auspices of the [California] Center for Investigative Reporting with assistance from the California Newspaper Publishers Association. "Paper Trails" indexes nearly one thousand public records and offers a simple means for tracking information kept by cities, counties and the state of California. Copies may be ordered from CIR, 530 Howard St., 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105-3007. Phone (415)543-1200.

Access to government information is a continuing concern of Barbara's. She has an idea for taking Nora Paul's government database guide as a model which News Division members can use toward creating a publication covering access in all 50 states. Those interested in seeing Nora's database may contact her at *The Miami Herald* for sample copies of her data.

"On the Road"

Bridget Janus, news librarian at *The Cedar Rapids [Iowa] Gazette*, recently returned to her *alma mater*, the University of Iowa, to join a panel addressing library science students on "Customer Service in the Library." She also spoke on "Computer-assisted Journalism" to the

Mauck/Stoufer Professional Improvement Workshop for young Iowa reporters.

"Passings"

Chester M. Lewis, former Chief Librarian and Historian Emeritus of *The New York Times*, died in April. He served as chairman of the SLA Newspaper Division, 1952/53 and as SLA President, 1955/56. Mr. Lewis received the 1965 Jack K. Burness Memorial Award for distinguished librarianship, was selected to the SLA Hall of Fame in 1978 and received the 1981 Joseph F. Kwopil Award from the News Division.

Roy T. King, retired chief librarian of *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, died in May. Mr. King served as chief librarian at *The Post-Dispatch* from 1943-1974. He was considered a pioneer in newspaper library in-house filming projects. He was chairman of the Newspaper Division in 1966/67 and received the Roll of Honor Award in 1980.

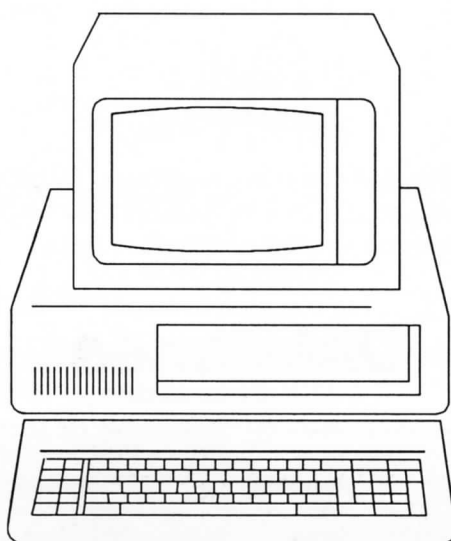
Contributions to PEOPLE are welcome. Send them to Mona Hatfield, Library Director, *State-Times and Morning Advocate*, P.O. Box 588, Baton Rouge, LA, 70821. Phone (504)388-0327 Fax (504)388-0371. 🐾

REPORT ON NLA

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and me will meet in early September to review the current list of archive items. We will revise and update this list and provide a recommendation for the division as to items and formats of those items in light of the online capabilities. Anyone interested in providing comments, thoughts or information for the committee to consider, should do so during the month of August. Send written comments to: M.J. Crowley, Library, 400 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19101 or phone me at (215) 854-4665.

THE BAD NEWS IS — there is none. 🐾



LOU THOMAS

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accepts the award on behalf of the News Division and that she believes the award was in honor of news librarianship, rather than personal recognition.

Asked about the challenges facing news librarians today, Thomas replied that she hopes news libraries will remain the hub and anchor of the newsroom. She stressed the importance of librarians being information providers, rather than technical operators. 🐾

A NIGHT OF STARS

The News Division's thirteenth annual awards presentation and dinner was held June 11 at Pittsburgh's elegant LeMont Restaurant.

Award recipients representing the division's best in dedication and professionalism were toasted by the membership while fireworks flared over the twinkling cityscape.

Who will ever forget **Barbara Semonche's** letter to Agnes Henebry, the look on **Joe Di Marino's** face when M. J. Crowley proxied for Christie Brinkley, or Homer Martin's eloquent and heartfelt introduction of **Joe Mehr**?

Although the awards presentations were light-hearted, the achievements and contributions of the recipients are legendary. The division has grown and prospered under their influence and the tribute was genuine. 🍷



Award winners (left to right), Barbara Semonche, (Henebry); Joe Di Marino, (Henebry); Sharon Ostmann, (Shoemaker); Joe Mehr, (Kwapil); Susan Hill, (Vormelker-Thomas)
Photo: Keith Srakocic

PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE TAPES AVAILABLE

Many division members have called to ask about purchasing the session tapes. You asked for it, you got it!

Tapes of Monday's sessions, "Getting at Government Data" and "Braving the News World" are available **ONLY** from National Audio Video Transcripts. Phone (303) 292-2952 to order. To order tapes of any of the following conference sessions, please put desired number of tapes beside the corresponding tape number.

- _____ 1. Annual Business Meeting
- _____ 2. Library and the Electronic Darkroom
- _____ 3. Electronic Darkroom and Transmission of Wire Photos
- _____ 4. Developing Photo Library Collections
- _____ 5. Access to Broadcast Images and Computer Graphics
- _____ 6. Inexpensive News on Non-News Databases
- _____ 7. Ethics and the News

Each tape costs \$5.00 And payment must accompany your order. Please make check payable to News Division, SLA.
Total number of tapes: _____ @ \$5.00 = _____ enclosed.

Send your order and check to:

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