

Vol. 15, No. 4/ SUMMER 1993

## **NLN FEATURE**

## Megafile Quickly Defeated; Limited Access Remains A Long-Term Battle

#### BY GINNY EVERETT

Last year Dialog's proposed megafile of selected stories from Vu/Text newspapers was a hot topic at the SLA conference.

The good news is that news librarians and other online searchers put heat on Dialog and the megafile idea was scrapped.

In response to last year's outcry, Dialog has loaded 15 newspaper files since August 1992. They include:

The Morning Call (Allentown, PA); Anchorage Daily News; The Record (Hackensack, NJ); The Buffalo News; Cincinnati/Kentucky Post; Dayton Daily News; The Fresno Bee; Lexington Herald-Leader; Madison Capital Times/Wisconsin State Journal; The Commercial Appeal (Memphis); The Virginian Pilot/The Ledger-Star

(Norfolk); St. Petersburg *Times*; San Francisco *Examiner*; Seattle *Post-Intelligencer*, and The Wichita *Eagle*.

Some of these newspapers, such as The *Record* and the St. Petersburg *Times*, started earlier on DataTimes than Vu/Text and access to them was not affected by Dialog's move. Dialog did not load early years of several other newspapers, though, and they do not appear on another vendor.

How does this affect searching? Some examples: The Lexington *Herald-Leader*, 1983-1989: lost. The Wichita *Eagle*, 1985-1989: gone. The Akron *Beacon Journal*, 1985-1988: you can't have it.

What's the big deal? Can't these newspapers just go online via DataTimes? Not easily. All are owned by Knight-Ridder, also the owner of Dialog. Even newspapers who can negotiate contracts with other vendors sometimes find that loading back data is not part of the deal. For instance, DataTimes' coverage of The *Commercial Appeal* and the *Rocky Mountain News* starts in 1993.

According to published reports, Mead Data Central plans to add regional newspapers, but so far none of the latest additions to Dialog has appeared on Nexis. If and when they do, there is some question as to what form the files will take. Large newspapers already in Nexis, such as the Los Angeles *Times* and the Chicago *Tribune*, tend to have the same coverage on both databanks. However, other newspapers on Nexis, such as The Arizona *Republic* and The Sacramento *Bee*, appear as selected files with later start dates than Dialog files.

What about the Vu/Text newspapers or news services that didn't make it to Dialog? Service bureaus include The *Capital* (Annapolis, Md.), The Evansville (Ind.) *Courier*, The *News-Sentinel* (Fort Wayne, Ind.), *Post-Tribune* (Gary, Ind.), The Knoxville *News-Sentinel*, Long Beach *Press-Telegram*, the Knight- Ridder Tribune News wire and Scripps Howard News Service.

Evansville, Knoxville and Scripps Howard News will appear on DataTimes later in 1993 or early in 1994. At some sites contracts with other vendors are in negotiation. But again, Knight-Ridder newspapers, such as the *News-Sentinel* in Fort Wayne, *Post-Tribune*, and Long Beach *Press-Telegram*, have limited options.

For a fee, DialSearch, Dialog's in-house information broker, can access these service bureaus. They also can check pre-Dialog years of service bureaus that made it to Dialog. (For example, they can search the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* from 1985-88 although Dialog coverage starts in 1989.) However, as each of the

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Help the Awards Committee identify and honor those who have made outstanding comtributions to our profession.

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Raleigh, N.C., will be under a full-scale nerd alert Oct. 21-24 as the country's top computerassisted journalists gather to share their knowledge. "Computing: The News Frontier," will offer sessions and hands-on training in virtually every aspect of computer use for news gathering and reporting.

## THE ASIDE BAR



MONA HATFIELD

Whew! Another conference issue come and gone.

This year I was equally challenged by the need to unearth my buried desk and unearth worthy articles on the Division's activities at conference.

Right now, NLN looks much better than my desk!

I heard some good things about NLN at conference and decided to share this space with someone who plays a big role in the success of our bulletin.

Gay Nemeti, of the *Miami Herald*, is Business Editor. She has the fun job of convincing advertisers to spend their precious few dollars on us.

Money - and the lack of it - is a major theme running through our

Division news, our industry news and our own libraries. It hasn't been easy money for NLN, but Gay has been relentless in her pursuit of some folks who "should be here" - you may notice that Dialog has broken their two-year hiatus and returned to NLN.

I hope the quality of our bulletin continues to improve and convince more businesses that we are an advertising tool they can't afford to miss.

Thanks to all of you for your positive comments on NLN. And thank you Gay for doing what I consider the harder part of this job.

#### Mona Hatfield Managing Editor

GAY NEMETI

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Elections, Richard Ploch, Washington Post

Employment Clearinghouse, TBA

International Relations, Phyllis Lyons, Freedom Forum

Membership, Kee Malesky, National Public Radio

Nominations, TBA

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Publicity-Public Relations, Elizabeth Whisnant, Complete Information Access, Columbia, S.C.

Small Libraries, Diane Sponsler, The Pantagraph, Bloomington, IL

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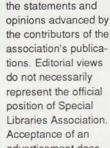
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Copy for bylined columns should be submitted to the column editor. All other copy may be submitted to Mona Hatfield, *The Advocate*, Library, P.O. Box 588, Baton Rouge, LA 70821.

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## New in 1993!

- "Brazen Overtures," GraceAnne DeCandido's editorials on library and literary issues
- Lee Ratzan in "The Internet Cafe"
- "Coda," a closing essay on titles of topical interest.

#### **Lightman retires**



People

By Barbara Hijek

Ben Lightman, Chief Librarian at Time-Warner, announced his retirement after a mere 40 years of service in the library. His "lush & plush" gala retirement party featured elegant dining - shrimp, crab and 2 bars - and was held at the company's exclusive 1271 Club. Lany McDonald sang an ode to the tune of "As Time Goes By" that she composed to honor Ben and his passion for food. Well-wishers included Kathy Foley (Washington Post), M.J. Crowley (Philadelphia Inquirer), Linda Amster (New York Times), Anne Mintz (Forbes), Madeline Cohen (ABC) and Ted Slate (Newsweek). Ben has written a short biography of his "conventional career" - i.e. his career attending SLA Conferences. If anyone desires a copy please contact me (813-893-8847).

## News Division Members Active at SLA Level

Catherine "Kitty" Scott completed her year as SLA President at the annual business meeting in Cincinnati. She mentioned Susan Fifer-Canby's role as Publications Committee chair and the evaluation her committee did on SLA's publications. Richard Geiger headed up the Public Relations committee and submitted a five-year planning and marketing strategy to the Board. Richard also was elected to the Board as a Director. And, as if that's not enough, Donna Scheeder is a candidate for SLA treasurer next year.

## New crew on board

Taking the helm at Time-Warner is Lany McDonald, former Library Director of the Raleigh *News & Observer*.

Lisa LoVullo is the new Library Diretor for the Baltimore Sun. She began work August 9th. Lisa came from the University of Maryland Medical School where she was the Library Outreach Coordinator. Welcome aboard!

Diane Hunter, Library Services Manager at the Atlanta *Journal/Constitution*, has been promoted to Manager of Electronic Services and will be working with the Cox Enterprise 511 service. Beverly Shepard, a former reporter at the paper, was named News Research Services Manager. The Library has begun an Employee of the Month Award program. The first recipient was Lauren Colburn, a 13 year Library veteran. The Library staff votes (democratically, I'm told) and the winner gets a \$50 gift certificate at Macy's.

Shirley Jobe accepted an offer as Budget Director in the Boston *Globe* editorial department effective May 1. She remains active in the Boston Chapter of SLA. Her new phone number is (617)929-3390.

An active search is on for Shirley's replacement. Anyone interested should contact Gina Maniscalco, Assistant to the Editor, Boston

Globe, P.O. Box 2378, Boston, MA 02107-2378.

Still no decision at the Seattle *Times*, although Acting Director Barbara Davis reports that they are working toward a final decision in hiring a Library Director.

#### In memoriam

Laura Williford Passo sent the following news to us in April: Michael R. Passo of Dayton, Ohio, died on January 21, 1993, of a brain tumor. A member of SLA since 1983, Mr. Passo was a participant in the Central Ohio Chapter and a member of the News Division. He was Library Director at the Dayton Daily News since September 1990.

## New Job Opening: FactLine Manager.

Responsible for the development and supervision of The Miami Herald/El Nuevo Herald FactLine public information and research service, including customer sales of information and graphics. Requires advanced research, reporting and editing skills; advanced understanding of IBM-compatible PC systems, including online communications and database applications; demonstrated managerial and budgeting skills. Fluency in English and Spanish preferred. College degree preferred or equivalent five years of news research experience, plus management experience. Must be a self-starter who can identify new markets for information services and develop them with two-person staff; communicates effectively; believes strongly in quality customer services. Send resume and letter to: Bill Whiting, Information Services Editor, The Miami Herald, 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, FL 33132.

## Things got hot in Cincinnati

Fire! Fire! at the Cincinnatian Hotel during the SLA Conference inconvenienced some News Division members. Judy Metcalf (Dallas *Morning News*), Kathy Foley and Margot Williams (Washington *Post*) were all guests that probably wished they had rooms in another hotel. Virginia Everett, Library Director at the Memphis *Commercial Appeal*, recalls strolling back to her room to discover the hotel barricaded by firetrucks. Told that a fire had started on the 8th floor - her floor - Virginia wondered if she had turned off her hot rollers, then had a very guilty lunch...

## A final note

Yours truly will be moving across to the Tampa Bureau of the St. Petersburg *Times*. I've been given the opportunity to develop a newfangled position that I've proposed: an Information Coach. If successful, you can be sure I'll write about it for NLN.



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## Notes From The Chair



BY DONNA SCHEEDER

Thanks to a great team of program planners, the Cincinnati conference had something for everyone. Peggy Garvin, George Schlukbier, John Jansson, Nora Paul, Diane Sponsler, Debra Bade and Margaret Neu planned sessions and events that were well attended and well received according to the evaluation forms that were turned in. Special thanks goes to Jim Hunter for arranging monitors for the events. Kudos also to Teresa Leonard who completed her term as Education Director by putting together a very well received and informative course on "Developing and Marketing Information Products and Services".

Of course the Division continues to enjoy the generous support of Mead Data Central, NewsBank, VuText/Dialog, UMI, DataTimes, The Freedom Forum and Congressional Quarterly.

#### **Committee Members Needed**

Volunteers for this year's committees are needed and welcome. There is a listing of committee chairs on page 2. Please call them directly if you would like to help out on a committee. A Chair is still needed for the Bylaws Committee. Volunteers should contact me.

Elizabeth Whisnant is heading up the Public Relations effort for the News Division this year. She and her committee are formulating a number of exciting plans. See page 8 for details.

The need for a Finance Committee to make recommendations to ensure the continued financial stability of the organization came through loud and clear at the Business meeting. Lu-Ann Farrar, our current treasurer, will join Cathy Jones, Carolyn Hardnett and Kathy Trimble on this committee that will report at next June's meeting. Division members should feel free to contact these committee members to express your ideas and concerns on this issue.

Kee Malesky will continue to direct membership activities. She plans an aggressive recruitment program this year. Our Archives will continue to be directed by M.J. Crowley. The Technology Committee will have new leadership this year. Kathy Foley and Julie Kirsh will co-chair that effort. I know that everyone in the division is grateful to George Schlukbier and John Jansson for the time and energy they put into leading that committee for the last few years. Their efforts to keep us abreast of developments in digital image storage and retrieval have been of particular service to all division members.

New to our list of appointments this year is an International Relations liaison. The International Relations Committee of SLA has asked each division to identify a member who could coordinate activities in this area and who could keep the division informed of association activities as well. Phyllis Lyons of the Freedom Forum has agreed to chair this effort.

I also feel fortunate that Mona Hatfield will continue to serve as editor of News Library News and that Gay Nemeti will continue on as Business Editor. We should all be proud of their work on this truly outstanding division publication.

Long Range Planning also will be a focus of the division this year. Judy Canter is heading up the effort to revise our five year plan.

#### Board meeting includes Division Suite discussion

The Executive Board discussed a number of issues at the two meetings held in Cincinnati. Members expressed concerns shared by division members about the use and availability of the division suite. The suite is seen as an important place for newcomers to the division to meet and get to know other division members. The addition to the program schedule of an off-site Chair's reception has limited that opportunity.

Further, it was felt that newcomers might get more enjoyment from and have more interest in the Awards Banquet if they had additional time to get to know others in the division, including the division leadership. Two remedies were proposed. First, the Chair's reception should be held in the division suite. Second, the suite should be open on Saturday night and should also remain open during the day for those who would like to freshen up between meetings.

The Board also addressed suggestions made to it that advocated changing the Business meeting and the Awards banquet to Tuesday so that more programming could be scheduled on Monday. This also would have the advantage of another evening in the suite before the banquet. The Board agreed to try this approach for the Atlanta conference. Please address your comments on any of this to Mary Kate Leming, next year's conference planner.

Anniversary celebrations were also discussed. The Board decided that the focus for planning should be the 75th anniversary in five years rather than this year's 70th. It was felt that a major effort to celebrate the 70th anniversary could not be mounted in so short a time.

Special congratulations go to Margaret Neu for the delightful Awards Banquet that she put together. The event completely paid for itself and actually made some money for the treasury. Good planning!

Mary Kate Leming has begun the awesome task of planning for the Atlanta conference. I know that she will be calling on many of you for advice and assistance. Based on my experience, I am sure that many of you are ready to pitch in and play a role in shaping the Atlanta conference.

Finally, for me the most fun I had in Cincinnati was presenting Chairman John Cronin with his certificate of appreciation. Not only has John made an excellent leader of the division, he has done so with patience, kindness and understanding. I am sure the Atlanta Awards Banquet will be a delightful fun-filled event under his leadership.



Conference attendees renew old acquaintences and make new friends in Cincinnati.

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## LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD

## It's "- 30 -" for Chair John Cronin



BY JOHN CRONIN

Well, this is my final Chair's Letter.

I just want to thank everyone who has helped me through the past two years; it's been a lot of fun and some hard work, but it's all been worth it. As I've said before, working with the members of the division is always a pleasure. So, before I get too emotional, I'll get to the recap of the annual meeting.

The annual business meeting minutes can be found in this issue of News Library News. If you would like the full report of any committee, please contact me and I'll send you a copy.

## Business Meeting Focused on Finances

This year's annual business meeting discussion centered on the need to keep tighter control over the division's finances/treasury, since negative cash flow has contributed to generating less cash with which to fund division activities.

The members voted to recommend to the Board the establishment of a Finance Committee as permitted in our bylaws to oversee the operation of the Division's treasury. It was suggested the committee include a pastchair and past-treasurer in its composition.

In response to the extensive discussion at the business meeting, Lu-Ann Farrar has included a detail of conference expenses in this issue.

#### Speaking of Money Well Spent...

Barbara Semonche announced that the publication of News Media Libraries: A Management Handbook continues on schedule and that it should be out by the end of the summer. It's being published by Greenwood Press, ISBN 0-313-27946-2, and costs just \$66.00. There's an order form in this bulletin, so buy two copies, one to keep in your library and one to keep at home beside the family Bible! Royalties from the book will go to the News Division's treasury.

Now the "torch", you should excuse the expression, is passed to Donna!

## Do you have an attitude? Good — then I have a job for you!



The Public Relations and Publicity Committee invites you to join us in the effort to enhance our positions and our profession. If you are committed to working hard and accomplishing something, call me, Elizabeth Whisnant, Chair of the committee, at Complete Information Access, (803)771-8331. There's plenty of work to be done this year and your talents will be used. If you don't

want to join the committee, at least send us your suggestions.

As News Library News goes to press, the core PR and Publicity Committee is forming. No, it's not a Bill-Clinton-I-like-everyone-somuch-I-can't-decide phenomenon. Definitely not! It's those pesky time zones that keep us from connecting. At press time the committee includes Ginny Hauswald (Winston-Salem *Journal*), Cary Schneider (Los Angeles *Times*), Patti Graziano (Cleveland *Plain Dealer*), Peggy Itzen (Austin *American Statesman*), Bob Isaacs (Fort Lauderdale *Sun-Sentinel*), and Lynne McCay (Library of Congress). Hopefully, it will include you.

Our agenda for this year is ambitious - and while we know we

can't accomplish everything — we're going to give it the old college try. Some ideas we are knocking around include: exploring ways to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Division in Atlanta (and 75th in 1999!), creating a News Division logo and getting professional quality letterhead, redoing the News Division brochure (I didn't know such a thing existed, much less required an overhaul!), creating a News Division methods and materials clearinghouse, and keeping a high, professional profile. We need all the suggestions we can get on that last item.

On the profile front, all of you who attended conference should have received a letter for your supervisors. If you did not, please contact the Committee Chair immediately!

What the committee is not

going to do this year is talk about our image. We've talked that topic to death and let's face it, if you have to talk about whether you're sexy, you probably aren't.

Join us, communicate with us, and keep us on our toes — we will do the best job if we have your involvement.



## WHO WE ARE

## Student stipend winner a defender of the role of news librarians

Julie Bolding is this year's recipient of the Vormelker-Thomas Student Stipend Award.

Julie is a graduate student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She will complete a master's degree in library and information science this December. She received a bachelor of arts degree in mass communication in 1985.

She is a serious defender of the role of news librarians as evidenced in her response to a March 1993 Quill magazine article by Buck Ryan about his "maestro concept" for the future of newspapers. Her letter takes Ryan to task for his failure to recognize the key role news librarians must play to ensure a quality newspaper.

Julie has worked as a Technical Writer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction Engineering Research Laboratory. She also has been a free-lance writer and government and environment reporter for the *Argus Leader* in Sioux Falls, South Dakota and worked as an intern for The Milwaukee *Journal*.

She is a member of the Society of Professional Journalists, Special Libraries Association and American Library Association.

Her essay was titled "Time to 'Get It': If They Haven't Already, Journalists and Librarians Must Get Acquainted."



Julie Bolding, left, meets with News Division members at the conference in Cincinnati.

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## Rhydwen Continuing Education Program: Developing and Marketing Information Products and Services

Teresa Leonard, outgoing Education Director, organized an interesting and informative CE course on fee-based services in news organizations.

Elizabeth Whisnant, Complete Information Access, Columbia, S.C., was the first speaker. Complete Information Access is a service of the State Record company in Columbia but is not affiliated with the news library. Whisnant addressed the issues involved in making a pitch to management to support fee-based service outside the library. She emphasized the tremendous effect your knowledge of online information can have on management ... information you take for granted overwhelms and impresses when its potential is detailed for the unitiated.

Denise Jones, PiSYS IQ, Raleigh, N.C., spoke on establishing a corporate identity with name, logo and advertising material. She displayed materials that were created by a professional ad company and placed in the newspaper on a regular house ad schedule.

Jones discussed the assistance you need and receive from professional organizations. She joined the Chamber of Commerce as an information store, is active with local public, university and state libraries as they are a great reference point for clients, and joined the Association of Independent Information Professionals. She found their conference very good and her membership quite useful.

The second half of the morning program was devoted to an Idea Mart. Four papers shared their high tech adventures beyond the traditional information store.

Bill Mitchell detailed the resources and ideas involved in the establishment of the Mercury Center at the San Jose *Mercury-News*. In addition to rotating duties among 3 staffers on the copy desk and 2 customer service clerks to handle orders, the *Mercury-News* hired 10 people to work on the Mercury Center.

They have mailed out many copies of their software but haven't yet looked at how many folks would pay for access to the Mercury Center. This is an experiment with a capital E and time will tell how successfully they have anticipated the public's information access wishes for the future.

The Palm Beach *Post* also has jumped into alternative information in a big way. Dan Shorter presented brochures and slides detailing the two-year experiment they have undertaken with the permission of the Florida Public Service Commission.

They have established an elaborate 511 service for public access to their information. The Bell system monitors the 511 calls and does the billing. Those areas not in the 511 service area have access to the Post information services via 900 numbers.

They offer stock services, weather, sports, etc. They have found sponsors on their stock line service that became new advertisers to the paper. They run house ads in specific sections

each day. Corporate sponsorship gains have helped them reduce the number of house ads run.

Whether they can continue and expand or will regroup and try something new remains to be seen.

Carol Perruso, Los

Angeles *Times*, talked about their efforts to get something going in fee-based information services. The times has some of the same business and sports 900 number services as were mentioned in San Jose and Palm Beach.

Additional efforts came at the impetus of the newsroom. They let it be known they welcomed ideas on money-making ventures from anyone. Two staff ideas resulted in consumer brochures created by the graphics staff and printed in their in-house shop. They made a little money on each and are exploring new ways to repackage the information they have at hand.

George Schlukbier talked about the faxing services in place at several of the McClatchy newspapers. Schlukbier detailed the successes of recipe and sports faxes. They don't charge for their faxes, but they sell advertising at the bottom of the pages.

The afternoon session of the CE got into the weightier issues of liability, malpractice, negligence, conflict of interest, confidentiality and copyright.

Teresa Prichard-Schoch, Council for DDA, delivered an excellent, practical discussion of the liabilities incurred by establishing a professional information broker business.

Prichard-Schoch emphasized the need for lia-

bility clauses to protect you in case of litigation. She said the clause can save you from liability but does not protect against gross negligence. She warned against too much "puffery" in advertising. The more you set yourself up as an expert who can do better than others, the more likely target you make for a negligence or liability claim.

She described two types of negligence for information brokers. Parameter negligence means you didn't look where you should and negligence of omission means you used the right sources but didn't find the right answers.

The more you set yourself up as an expert who can do better than others, the more likely target you make for a negligence or liability claim. It also is important as you venture into the world of an information broker that you seriously explore the insurance coverage for your business. Any information broker needs errors and omissions coverage. Your corporate cover-

age may take into account the normal hazards of a news operation, but may not include the errors and omissions coverage. Whether your information store is a part of your existing organization or established as a separate business, proper insurance coverage is vital.

Just as vital, and equally confusing, are the copyright issues you face as an information broker. Laura Gasaway, with the University of North Carolina Law Library, gave a quick rundown of the dos and don'ts in photocopy and electronic delivery of information.

Gasaway noted that any reproduction you deliver should carry a copyright notice on it. A photocopy or electronic delivery of information is acceptable but each request for information should be filled separately. She does not recommend saving research results for duplication to another client.

She also advised against charging for photocopies separately. She said the law allows for cost recovery in reproducing articles without violation of copyright but as soon as direct profit is made from the copies, you cross the line. She suggested including the cost of copies in your research fee or specifying copy charges as cost recovery on your invoice.

## Today's Good Photo Collection The Roadbed For Tomorrow's Digital Image Superhighway

#### BY ELAINE RAINES

The Wednesday afternoon session, "Photos and Graphics From A-Z Without The Panic," was coordinated by Diane Sponsler. Jody Habayeb, The *Journal-Gazette* (Fort Wayne, Ind.), Ron Larson, The Wisconsin *State Journal* (Madison), and Bridget Janus, The Cedar Rapids *Gazette* (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) were the speakers.

Habayeb spoke on managing photos the old fashioned way. She discussed several ideas for maintaining photo collections while waiting for the "electronic photo archive" to arrive.

If tight budgets and small staffs have relegated a smaller portion of your library's time to photos, it is especially important to keep access to the photos current. Consistent organization is the key to managing the collection. That and the realization that you will never be totally caught up.

Ron Larson's photo library awaits the arrival of their new photo archiving system. In the meantime, he is using a system he developed when the Wisconsin *State Journal* and *Capital Times* libraries were combined. At that time, he adapted the best system of the two and used it as a base. He hopes to adapt the best features of this manual system into his new archive.

Key words of advice from Larson were communication and a thorough understanding of your collection. Get on the technology committee and learn as much as possible about the changes that are coming. Also, keep statistics on as many things as possible. They can prove to be invaluable.

Janus is actively involved with the Leaf Desk at her paper. She determines what will be saved for the library. She stressed the importance of saving advance shots and others that may not run. She also pointed out the need to learn everything you can about how photos get into the paper. Get on technology committees.

Reprinted here is a survey Ron Larson distributed at the conference session. Unless you completed a form in Cincinnati, please take a few minutes to fill it out. Surveys are only valuable if the response numbers are significant.

## Photo & Graphics Archiving Survey

- 1. What is the circulation of your newspaper?
- 2. What is the size of your library staff, including yourself?
- 3. What is your library's annual budget, not including salaries?
- 4. Do you index and file negatives in your library? \_\_\_\_\_
- If yes, could you explain the indexing and filing system and how you physically store the negatives?
- 6. Does your library index and file photographs from the networks & movie studios?\_\_\_\_
- 7. If yes, how will you handle the photos when they are no longer mailed and are transmitted through AP Photo Express?

8. Do you loan photos to the public?\_\_\_\_\_ Do you make reprints? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Are your photographers currently using digital technology?

10. Does your library have some version of a digital archive? If yes, please explain.

11. If your photographers are using digital technology and you do not have any means of archiving, how are you handling the images?

12. Do you have a PC or Mac in your library? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Do you serve the public by telephone?\_\_\_\_\_ In person?\_\_\_\_\_

14. What do you charge the public for photocopies?\_\_\_\_\_

Research? \_\_\_\_

Reprints? \_

15. Do you perform online searching?\_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what services do you use?\_\_\_\_\_

Please return the survey to: Ron Larson, Wisconsin State Journal, 1901 Fish Hatchery Road, Madison, WI 53708

## **CD-ROM** information: A fun new toy, an effective new tool

Barbara Ellenbogen, USA Today, described her experience saving money using CD-ROM versions of the major newspapers they search online. They knew they wanted to reduce online time. Flat fee pricing structures help online costs, but even with them, heavy searching can lead to increased costs at contract renewal time.

CD-ROM does not require involved technology. They use an IBM 386 with CD-ROM drive, color monitor and graphics capability.

She cautioned, though, that you are trading some completeness and timeliness when you opt for CD-ROM information. Her library has had instances where they searched the CD product and could not find stories that were subsequently found online.

She offered this general checklist on the purchase of CD-ROM information:

• What is initial subscription price?

• What are costs of and how frequent are updates?

• Is there a discount for already subscribing in another medium?

• What are licensing requirements? single station? networking?

- Memory needed for software?
- Accuracy and timeliness of information

• Indexing ... is it full-text, separate fields, full boolean operators?

• Users support

• Cost effective? save space, save online searching?

• Reporter/editor access as important as money in justifying need.

Pete Basofin, Sacramento *Bee*, offered further analysis on the need for information in a CD-ROM format. He emphasized that CD- ROM information should be integrated with your other resources.

A myriad of products offer CD. Ask yourself, "is this information necessary?" and if it is, "should it be on a CD?"

Saving space and full search capability are two advantages to CD, but aren't always justification in and of themselves.

Basofin used the encyclopedia on CD as an example. While space would be saved, how would your information access be affected? Generally, access is topic oriented and full-text searching is not a plus. Often you will want the graphics, which are lost on CD. So unless you are desperate for that shelf space, CD isn't practical.

## CD-ROM products used by the USA Today Library:

🗆 World Fact Book

U.S. Atlas & World Atlas on cd-rom

Audubon's Mammals

McGraw Hill cd-rom Science & Technical reference set Bureau of Development, Inc. 141 New Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054

□ New York Times

The Washington Post University Microfilms 300 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106 313/761-4700

 Prophone CD (telephone books available on cd-rom)
8 Doaks Lane, Little Harbour, Marblehead, MA 01945 617/631-9200

□ Thomas Register

□ Los Angeles Times Dialog 3460 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, Ca 94304 Magazine Indexes, though, are doubly beneficial on CD. You can certainly recover space and having full search capability is a real plus.

Currency is a third consideration with CD. Evaluate your needs on each topic available before committing to CD.

Finally, completeness. How complete do you need it? How complete did you think it would be? Ask for a 30-day approval on all CD products to test them out.

Basofin closed with analysis of two CD-ROM products. PhoneDisc USA was projected as a huge asset in the people finding business we are all in. It has names, addresses and phone numbers cross- referenced. Unfortunately, it is compiled from marketing lists, not telephone white pages, so it is not as complete as it is billed. It is available with national or geographic breakdowns. The national PhoneDisc can only be searched on names. You must purchase the geographic breakdowns to have the addresses and phone numbers cross-referenced.

The Sacramento Bee also subscribes to California property records. These cost \$125/month and are more than worth it. They are fully searchable and can be dumped to the mainframe or PC in a raw format for various computer-assisted reporting projects. A onetime purchase reaps research benefits many times over.

## Looking to 2000: A Seven Year Countdown

Tuesday afternoon's program was an outgrowth of the Poynter Institute for Media Studies' news library seminar last February.

The group worked as a whole and in small groups to look at news libraries and their relationships to the news organizations they serve. The discussion dealt with those relationships as they now exist and explored the critical issues to continued successful relationships in the future.

The whirlwind of changing technologies, the form and structure of news organizations as we know them, the struggle to cope with change and help our staffs cope with change were all mentioned in the small group discussions.

The final large group discussion attempted to tie the issues together, but ended on a bit of a "where do we go from here?" note.

The Poynter Institute will be involved in another "Libraries 2000" session at the Atlanta conference. If you would like to address some of these issues before then, either through News Library News or more informally, contact Donna Scheeder or Mary Kate Leming.

## Marketing with CD-ROM: A New Spin On Existing Sales Opportunities

You buy music cds. We all do.

You would buy newspapers, encyclopedias, phone books, pictures, graphics and anything you could get your hands on - for the right price. We all would. We are information junkies and the cd is our new habit.

Some of us get a cut of the action from vendors who sell our work to other information junkies, information junkies who can afford them.

But what about the low-budget junkie, the home town fellow who justs wants your stuff .... how do you satisfy his habit?

George Schlukbier, with the Sacramento Bee, a McClatchy newspaper, suggests going into the business for yourself. He gave a presentation on the technology and costs involved in producing CD-ROM for sale.

McClatchy Newspapers got into CD-ROM production two years ago with their Legitech service.

Legitech had only the current and one previous legislative sessions available online because of storage limitations. They had data back to 1985 on tape, though, and wanted a fast, easy marketing medium.

Why CD-ROM?

They store 600-650 mbytes vs 40 mb on a magnetic disk; they're small, 4.75 inch diameter; they're durable with no accidental erasure; they can be accessed randomly (unlike tape, which is read sequentially) and they are inexpensive. The access time on a CD is generally 10 times slower than a floppy, but 10 times the storage capacity keeps it very attractive. The software challenge for CD is increasing the speed of access to rival floppy disk - and that software is coming.

What's involved?

Three steps: data preparation, premastering and mastering/replication.

The pre-master setup for CD cost the Bee \$24,000 2 years ago. As with all new technologies, the cost is coming down and sophistication increasing.

Pre-master software vendors license their search engines to you. You are able to select menus and build screens for your interface. Your familiarity with the data lets you develop a much more effective interface for customers than a third-party might be able to do.

Along with a better interface, you have a better quality control situation, too. It's your own data and the alphabetical listing on the fields allows easy checking on the indexing.

The data preparation is done in two steps. First you develop the appropriate data structure ... how much is tabular, text, audio and image. Then you construct the indexing for each type of data.

Pre-mastering involves laying out the data in industry standard formats for CD-ROM. Once the premastering is complete you send your data to a manufacturer who presses it onto a master. Sacramento uses a read/write CD reader to de-bug the software before going into production.

The cost of mastering is \$1300 for one and then \$2 per disk replication thereafter.

The number of replications you order for each master is dependent on each product's market.

## Awards Banquet Highlights Conference Fun

In true News Division tradition, the Cincinnati conference offered plenty of food and fun for everyone.

UMI's cocktail reception provided a social hour for everyone to greet the honorees Monday evening. Several student members attended, including our Vormelker-Thomas student stipend winner, Julie Bolding.

Margaret Neu emceed the evening's festivities. Julie Kirsh presented the stipend award to Julie Bolding. Yvonne Egertson, Jo Kirks and Kathy Trimble were pre-

sented their Agnes Henebry Roll of Honor awards by Ben Lightman, Judy Canter and Ellie Briscoe, respectively. Margaret Neu and Donna Scheeder conspired to give John Cronin the Ralph Shoemaker Award, complete with his own miter.

Carol Lindsay's gracious acceptance of the



1933 Award Winners, from left: Yvonne Egertson, Julie Bolding, John Cronin, Jo Kirks, Carol Lindsay and Kathy Trimble.

Joseph F. Kwapil Memorial Award, presented by Barbara Semonche, was the culmination of the evening's celebration. Music and dancing followed the dinner.

DataTimes and VuText/Dialog hosted receptions in the division suite Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

In addition to the banquet fun and hospitality suite, vendor- supported activities helped feed and entertain us throughout the week. We started Sunday evening with a river cruise and buffet dinner courtesy of Mead Data Central. Congressional Quarterly offered a little political grist for the mill from speaker Ron Elving along with lunch on Monday. Chris Wells, vice president of The Freedom Forum, announced their successful establishment of some eastern European news

libraries and introduced their library liaison, Phyllis Lyons, at a reception early Tuesday evening. And Wednesday morning's early birds were rewarded with a breakfast hosted by Newsbank.

## Digital Imaging ... worth ten thousand words!

The "perfect" photo archive has eluded all of us as we deal with hard copies from wire and entertainment services, staff shooters, stringers, political campaigns and other sources too innumberable to list.

We have learned hard lessons and with a wealth of historical knowledge have developed systems that control this plethora of photos with maximum benefit to our organizations.

Now ... are we ready to defend our wealth of knowledge, point to the success of our existing system and control the development of a digital archive? or will we find ourselves involved only as an after-thought, fighting to stay afloat as the "photostream" roars past us?

Four speakers shared their digital archiving experiences in the Tuesday morning session on Digital Imaging Technology.

GEORGE SCHLUKBIER outlined the flow of images at the Sacramento *Bee* to give an overview of the issues we all need to consider. Photos, art and graphics come from many sources. Ideally, all of these would flow from origin, to editor, to publication, to archive and back out to editor or artist for a re-edit and new publication. It doesn't always work that way with hard copies. Ditto for digital.

Schlukbier specifically detailed the "working hotel" concept. The working hotel serves as a buffer between the server that receives the live photos sent by the wire services and the permanent archive. It is particularly use-

ful for advance photos, features with no time contraints, and entertainment photos that are no longer being sent hard copy. The working hotel lets you control the flow of "marginal" photos into your archive without compromising the selection your feature and entertainment editors demand of you.

Digital storage of graphics is an issue with a twist for everyone. Many current digitial archive softwares do not allow storage of art and graphics in their original format. This means your archive has a visual representation of the artwork that ran but does not have an editable record for an artist to edit and re-use.

The Bee uses Aldus Fetch for graphics since it does allow storage in the creation format. It answers an immediate need, but is not a longterm archive solution for graphics storage on the scale needed in news organizations.

SUSAN MULVIHILL, from the Spokane Spokesman-Review, was the panel's second speaker. Her paper is a beta site for the AP Leaf Preserver archive. She advised diligence in getting familiar with your photo system. Good relations between the library, photo and systems staffs are critical. The better you understand the flow of photos at your site, the more impact your suggestions on the development of the digital photo system will have.

Spokane has worked with the AP Leaf Preserver since February. Susan listed some of its strengths: - the interface to the Leaf Desk is transparent; - it is built upon the same proprietary software as the Leaf Desk system; - training was quick for photo and library staff



because of the Leaf connection; - searching is quick; - AP programmers have been helpful and responsive; - pictures are not lost, only copies go out of the archive; - no editing of photos is allowed in the archive, a copy must be made out to a workstation before any cropping, etc. can be performed.

She also detailed some bugs of the system:

- Backup is the least sophisticated part of the system:
- everyone has to be off the system, with no access to the archive.
- backup does entire system, no date specification available.
- Default screen of fields can be changed, but those changes are lost and must be redone each time the system is rebooted.
- System needs rebooted 2,3,4 times a week.

 Access slows perceptibly with more than one user. They must do their work on the archive early so they are off the system by the time heavy production use starts.

CHRIS ORR, photo librarian at the San Francisco *Chronice*, spoke about her MacIntosh-based photo archive using 3 AXS softwares: Photo Processor, a compression software that allows storage of an image at 1/10th its size; Online Reader, which reads images in a folder and pulls up thumbnails to the screen so you can view more than just the slugs; News Photo Archive (NPA), the latest from AXS, which is replacing their NewsPhotoAccess product.

Orr described the archive database as low res-

olution images and their text descriptions that reside on the hard drive of the server. Those images are used in all interaction with the archive except final production. The archived format is a compressed, high resolution image stored on optical disk. Those high resolution images are accessed only for final production. Archive software provides access to and a trail between those two parts of the imaging system.

AXS strongly recommends a dedicated PC for the database file server. There is a tremendous impact on response speed if the server is shared with other systems. The *Chronicle* uses a MAC FX with a 1.2 gigabyte

hard drive and 20mb RAM. Orr says AXS advises at least 16 RAM and she feels the more you can get the better, since photos are such memory hogs.

The server's physical location does not matter. The client is the one you use for editing and retrieval on the archive. They have one client, a Quadra 950 with 32mb RAM and 230mb hard drive. The Quadra houses more than their photo archive. Among other things, it has communications software, which plays a role in their archiving process.

Currently, their photo flow is 1/3 AP and 2/3 local photos. The local photos require a lot of text enhancing so they download photo descriptions from their text database. Local photo negatives are scanned in using Photo Shop and the photo staff isn't putting caption

information during the scan, which is why they need the extra text enhancement just described.

They are 1-2 months behind in moving their photos from the working hotel to the datafile. In April 1992 they were keeping 150 photos per month. By April 1993 that had increased to 650/month. Their photo staff dumps an increasing number of photos into the working hotel for processing.

The increased number of photos and being behind 1-2 months indicate the pressure and extra workload being handled by the library staff, but Orr reports there are positive effects as well: - It is being used. - Electronic retrieval has helped the turnaround on reprint orders, saving time for the library and photography staffs. -Promotional department also has a quicker turnaround for their marketing efforts. -Editorial staffs are doing some retrieval on their own.

JIM HUNTER, library director at the Columbus Dispatch, shared his experience of going through 4 imaging archives in the last 18 months. His paper is "photo hungry" and their assistant managing editor for graphics has convinced management to change systems as he saw the need. The library was included only after the photo staff realized the maintenance of the archive was more than they could handle. The library has been a junior partner, on the receiving end of "here it is, now use it" and not liking it. Jim still has a good relationship with his AME, but finds the photo perspective on the digital image phenomenon baffling.

Hunter's knowledge of how a photo gets into the paper is limited, even after several months of closer involvement. The photo staff's concept of the needs and workings of an archive are limited. Their concept of a good working archive starts and ends with the ability to search on the caption.

Hunter's staff has had heavy turnover - he attributes this to people not wanting to work in a state of total chaos. The location of the image workstations in the newsroom leaves his text database editors alone in the library to field all of the reference questions.

He has found AP unresponsive and difficult and believes they should not be in the software and hardware business and also feels their ability to provide support is impossible.

Editor's note: Handouts accompanied this session. If you are interested in more detail, contact Mona Hatfield, 504/388-0327.

## **Digital Image Archive Systems**

The who, what and where of four systems discussed and/or demonstrated in Cincinnati.

#### **AP Leaf Preserver System**

- IBM RISC 6000 anchors the proprietary hardware configuration (AP MacArchive available, too, with 100 mb+ hard disk)
- Software: AIX/UNIX, INFORMIX, AP Leaf Archive
- Contact AP Technology Marketing, (800)453-8883
- Newspaper contacts using system:
- Jim Hunter, Columbus Dispatch

Susan Mulvihill, Spokane Spokesman-Review

#### **Merlin Picture Archive System**

- Offered by T/One, Inc., producers of the Phoenix portable picture transmitter
- 486/66 MHz PC, Windows NT environment
- Software: FoxPro
- Contact T/One, Quincy, MA (617)328-6645; Petaluma, CA (707)778-9282
- Demonstration given in Cincinnati. Scheduled for release in late August or September.

## **PhotoView**

- IBM compatible
- Software: FolioView
- Contact Mead Data Central, Betsy Ashton (800)227-9597 or (513)865-6800, ext. 1819
- Newspaper contacts using system:
- John MacCallum, Halifax Herald Limited Phyllis Collins, Lewiston (ID) Tribune

#### AXS

- Mac-based client/server architecture
- Software: Fourth Dimension
- Contact AXS, Berkeley, CA, (510)540-5232
- Newspaper contact using system:
- Chris Orr, San Francisco Chronicle

A note on AXS. Contrary to many rumors, they are not out of business. They have announced that 1993 marks the end of their development and support of their News Photo Archive software.

They are concentrating their efforts on development and support of PhotoProcessor, their compression software, and Online Reader, which reads the folders to produce thumbnails of the images.

## What The President Meant To Say... (Here's what he really said)

Just how did John F. Kennedy get into the Quayle/Bentsen debate?

And how many ways did Bill Clinton describe not inhaling marijuana? And what did H. Norman Schwarzkopf have to say about pursuing Saddam Hussein?

Straight from the proverbial horse's mouth, you can provide primary material for your reporters and editors.

Donna Scheeder moderated a Monday morning session on "Finding What They Said" that

featured Ellie Briscoe and Margot Williams with some practical tips on the what and where of transcripts for broadcast programs, briefings and services. Also on the panel were two speakers from Burrelles and Journal Graphics with specifics on the services they offer.

Briscoe opened the session with a quick overview of the availability of transcripts from ABC, CBS, CNN, NBC, NPR and PBS. These are audio transcripts, which are full-text searchable, but there is no description of the video so you don't know what was seen. The average turnaround on the major broadcast transcripts is one or two days.

Access to specific segments of broadcasts also are available through several of the vendors. NPR is segmented on all the vendors. You can buy just the segment you want from Burrelles rather than the entire transcript. The other online services just use the "hit" feature for individual segments. Journal Graphics transcripts recently became available on DataTimes.

Searching across programs can be done on via a Nexis group file, a DataTimes network global or broadcast global and Burrelle's allows network or individual file searching. Burrelles and Journal Graphics both offer full text transcript delivery through an 800 search service.

Margot Williams talked in specifics on how searching transcripts has come into its own as a research tool in the last few years. The Defense Department's use of media pools during the Persian Gulf War and the Clarence Thomas hearings got them started. The presidential campaigns of Ross Perot and Bill Clinton used the Internet, CompuServe forums and U.S. News service for primary dissemination of information ... it was imperative the research



staff stay connected.

Williams demonstrated the electronic mail she receives via the CompuServe/Internet hookup the White House uses for its briefings. She also described the real-time transcripts available from the Federal News Service as well as U.S. Newswire's availability via PR Online. She said about 200 papers currently have free access to PR Online - you should check to see if you are one of them.

Williams also touched on the potential of the Internet for information access. She mentioned access through NTIS to over 100 government-sponsored bulletin boards and White House documents.

The Burrelles and Journal Graphics representatives talked about their quality control and their attempts to ensure correct spellings on proper names, etc. They contract out the typing and then have proofreaders on the transcripts. NPR used to proof all of their transcripts before they were available commercially, but they have had staff cuts and no longer provide that safety check.

Transcript research is sometimes frustrating because of the errors in spelling but the benefits of its rich primary material far outweigh the drawbacks.

Editor's note: Margot Williams compiled an excellent handout on transcript availability. If you would like copies, give me a call at 504/388-0327.

## BRINGING YOU THE NEWS: Resources in Radio Libraries and Archives

"BIG CHANGES AT THE NPR LIBRARIES," a presentation by Robert Robinson, Library Manager at National Public Radio in Washington, D.C., included an historical overview of NPR. Because NPR is a non-profit membership organization the libraries may be organized a little differently than libraries at newspapers or other news organizations. Robinson's presentation described the assets and functions of the three libraries (News, Tape, and Performance) within the NPR structure and how their roles and functions have evolved over the past three years. At one point a consultant with no news library experience was hired to recommend personnel and structural changes in the NPR libraries. Some of these recommendations, including moving the News Library out of the News Division, are now being adopted - Robinson talked about the challenges of dealing with this type of restructuring. He also pointed to a number of projects for the future: expanding the transcription project to include other NPR news programs, providing workstation access to all transcripts, making transcripts available on CD-ROM products, a tape preservation program, a Poynter Institute - Kettering Foundation election year product, computer-assisted reporting, and a restructuring of the sound and digital information archives for easy workstation access.

"AN OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH AT MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO," was presented by Teresa Callies, news researcher at Minnesota Public Radio in St. Paul, Minnesota. Callies' work as a researcher for a regional network revolves around creativity, the sharing of story ideas, and providing information about upcoming events. It demands accuracy and a knowledge of potential new contacts and sources of information on the local and regional level in an effort to provide balanced news coverage and tell stories through the creative use of sound. Minnesota Public Radio is a broadcast network of 24 stations throughout Minnesota and its surrounding communities, reaching 96% of the state's residents. With nearly 70,000 members, MPR has the largest membership base of any public radio system in the country. MPR offers two basic program services, the Classical Music Service and the News and Information Service, which produce programs for national distribution.

## LOOKING AHEAD

## **Looking Ahead to Atlanta**

#### BY MARY KATE LEMING

Information Vision is the theme for SLA in Atlanta in 1994. Thanks to all of you who offered ideas and suggestions in Cincinnati, I think I have good idea of the information vision the News Division hopes to pursue next year.

The main issues I heard involved the following:

1) An opportunity to questions our vendors about their plans for the future.

I am scheduling at least one Vendor Forum.

2) Tours.

Both CNN and the Atlanta Journal & Constitution have agreed to let us tour their facilities. I am also hoping to find a sponsor for tours of both the Carter and the King Centers.

3) What's going on with text retrieval?

The vendors will bring us up to date

with the directions they are going, but we will address our own concerns in a program looking at the Next Wave in Text Retrieval.

4) How do we get library and J-Schools more involved?

Possibly, through getting more work published in academic and professional journals. We hope to have a sponsored luncheon discussing this issue.

5) How do we prepare ourselves for the future?

And what skills will be demanded of new hires?

All divisions of SLA are addressing this issue in Atlanta. The News Division will be working with Telecommunications, Education, and Library Management to coordinate a seminar on this important issue.

6) More from News Libraries 2000

Don't worry, Poynter is back on board to continue a discussion of the issues raised in Cincinnati.

7) Managing the new access to everything phenomena.

Good topic, but I need someone to give me some more direction on this. If you are interested, please give me a call as soon as possible.

8) Who owns information?

Another good topic, but I need a volunteer to coordinate a program. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested.

Many of you expressed concerns about scheduling and expenses. As a result, the board

has decided to try the following in Atlanta:

> 1) More time in the suite.

We are planning to have the suite open Saturday - Thursday. We are talking with new and local sponsors for some nights, and have moved the awards banquet to Tuesday night, to make the suite available for networking and hooking up with old friends on Monday night. We will have suite fees again in 1994.

# 85th Annual Conference \* Atlanta

2) News Business

EWS TLIBRARY

GET MUGGED!

Photo by Leslie Brett

News Library News mugs are still for sale! Send \$5 to:

Mona Hatfield, Library, The Advocate, P.O. Box 588, Baton Rouge, LA 70821.

This is a classy operation, \$5 gets you a mug and a gift box!



Special Libraries Association

June 11-16, 1994

Meeting later in the day.

3) More free food.

problems.

SUMMER 1993

## **NEWS DIVISION CALENDAR**

- August 6-7: California Regional News Group, "Let's Talk Shop"
- August 13-15: Association of UK Media Librarians, AUKML annual conference

October 1: NLN deadline for Fall Issue

- October 23-24: IRE Regional Conference, "Computing: The News Frontier", Raleigh, N.C. \$125, for IRE members, registration form included here, page 23.
- November 1-3: Online/CD-ROM '93, Washington Hilton, Washington, D.C., Contact Online Inc., (800)248-8466.
- November 15: NLN Fall Issue to be mailed
- January 23-25: InfoTech '94, Infomart, Dallas, TX, One-day or three-day registration available. Being held in conjunction with SLA Winter meeting. Contact SLA, (202)234-4700.

ble. We will try to make these both informative and gastronomical!

4) More sponsors for seminars and events

As many as we can find! If you have suggestions, please let me know.

We have the business meeting scheduled now for 3-4:30 pm on Monday. This will give

us more overrun time, and allow us to spill back

to the suite to informally solve all the world's

I say this in jest, but in fact, many of us travel

to SLA on tight budgets and find that eating

out gets expensive. In an attempt to address

these concerns, I'm attempting to find sponsors

for as many breakfasts and luncheons as possi-

Once again, I wish to thank you all for your input into the Atlanta planning. If I have neglected any major issues, please let me know as soon as possible.

I think we're going to have informative and fun time in Atlanta in 1994! See you there.

## Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting Monday, June 7, 1993

The Annual Business Meeting was held in Room 221, Cincinnati Convention Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. John Cronin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR: Cronin said that the chairman's report would consist of a summary of the committee reports. He thanked committee chairs and others who contributed to the successes of the past year. He said that overshadowing the year's positive accomplishments is the Division's financial situation, which would be the focus of the meeting.

ARCHIVES: M.J. Crowley asked for feedback on whether to continue putting News Library News in VuText, since VuText is no longer being marketed, and asked whether membership is interested in looking for another vendor after 1996.

AUTOMATION-TECH-NOLOGY: John Jansson reported that the committee has taken on the task of creating a list of photo enhancement terms for use by newspapers, electronic photo archives and wire services. The keywords subcommittee has a working document based on a list created by Knight-Ridder librarians that AP has included in its Leaf Preserver system. Jansson announced that the committee co-chairs would be leaving the committee after conference

BYLAWS: Linda Henderson reported that several bylaws changes were presented to the members hip in 1992; 222 members responded and all amendments passed.

ELECTIONS-NOMINA-**TIONS: Charles Campo** reported that nominees for office were: Mary Kate Leming, Chair-Elect; Lu-Ann Farrar and Jo Reitman, Treasurer; Debra Bade and Jo Cates, Director-Education. Leming and Bade were elected. The voting for treasurer resulted in a tie, but Jo Reitman withdrew her name before conference. Donna Scheeder moved that LuAnn Farrar be elected treasurer by acclamation; Bob Isaacs seconded. The motion carried.

MEMBERSHIP: Kee Malesky thanked Linda Paschal and DataTimes for producing the directory. She reported that membership has remained stable over the past 6 months and currently stands at 749. Malesky presented a breakdown of members and reported that News is the sixth largest division and had the fourth largest increase in membership in the last year.

PUBLICITY-PUBLIC RELATIONS: Nora Paul reported that the SLA portion of the Journalism Forum fell apart last fall and that the bulletin board survey last year got only 23 responses. Paul said that the division might find space on a bulletin board to be established by IRE in the future.

B R O A D C A S T LIBRARIES: Debra Bade reported an effort to get regional seminars started and a program on radio archive libraries for the Cincinnati conference.

SMALL LIBRARIES: Cronin reported for Diane Sponsler that the group has continued its column in News Library News and would be presenting a program at conference on photo and graphics archiving. She suggested a survey of small libraries in each state to determine how the division can better serve their needs.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mary Ann Skinner gave the treasurer's report and an analysis of the Division's financial situation. Balance at beginning of 1993 was \$1,760 and \$1,868 as of June 8, 1993, after SLA allotment. She listed extra expenses in 1992 for the awards dinner, the CE, the winter meeting, suite expenses, News Library News and miscellaneous. Income totaled about \$31,000 including balance at beginning of 1992, and expenses totaled about \$29,500. Skinner pointed out the need to set priorites and

control spending on the suite and awards dinner. She said that the 1993 CE and dinner will show profits and improve cash flow to allow the newsletter to publish. Mary Kate Leming moved that a finance committee be appointed to work with the treasurer, to report to the board at annual meetings and serve co-terminously with the treasurer. Seconded by Donna Scheeder. Discussion concerned the need to maintain quality of the newsletter. which is the only benefit received by the entire membership. It was pointed out that the treasurer does not make decisions on spending, and that the present board had reduced expenses. Suite fees (\$25) have been reinstated. Kathy Foley pointed out that the board has the power to appoint a finance committee under the bylaws and that the motion was unnecessary. The motion as stated was ruled out of order. Jim Scofield moved that the sense of the meeting was that the board should appoint a finance comittee. Seconded by Carolyn Hardnett and carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Barbara Semonche announced the publication in August, 1993 of News Media Libraries: A Management Guide. Royalties will go to the Division.

STUDENT STIPEND: Julie Kirsh announced the 1993 Student Stipend Award winner, Julie Bolding from the University of Illinois.

ACKNOWLEDGE-MENTS: Cronin acknowledged contributions of members, sponsors and program planners.

NEW OFFICERS: Cronin presented gavels to Scheeder, incoming Chair, who introduced new officers and recognized first-time attendees.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Dargan Richards, Secretary

## Call For Awards Nominations

Help the Awards committee identify and honor those who have made outstanding contributions to our profession and/or our division. You may nominate in as few or as many award categories as you wish.

BE SURE TO SEND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTA-TION WITH EACH NAME SUBMITTED AND ATTACH WITH THIS FORM.

#### Joseph F. Kwapil Memorial Award

This award is the highest recognition of the News Division. It is given for major achievement in the field of news librarianship and for outstanding service to the News Division to a member who has actively participated in the division's programs and projects for a continuous period of ten years or more.

Name of nominee

#### Agnes Henebry Roll of Honor Award

This award is given to a member of former member for service to the division and for participation in division programs and projects.

Name of nominee

#### **Certificate of Appreciation and Recognition**

This certificate is given periodically to an individual or institution for outstanding contributions in the field of information science and/or news librarianship.

Name of nominee

Please mail this form with supporting documentation to John Cronin, News Division/SLA Awards Committee, The Boston Herald, One Herald Square, Boston, MA 02106 New members to add to your News Division membership directory and welcome aboard.... why not give one (or more) a call today?!?

Aase Andreasen Politiken Newspapers Info Dept-Polinfo Raadhuspladsen 37 Copenhagen, Denmark 1785 ph: 45/33-118541 fax: 45/33-129981

Sally M. Besten Cincinnati Enquirer Library 312 Elm Street Cincinnati, OH 45202 ph: 513/768-8458 fax: 513/768-8340

Nancy H. Bloomer US News & World Report Photo Library 2400 N Street NW Washington, DC 20037-1196 ph: 202/955-2625 fax: 202/955-2222

Ann D. Bryant Charlotte Observer, Library PO Box 32188 Charlotte, NC 28232-2188 ph: 704/358-5213 fax: 704/358-5172

Theresa Buehler Newsday Inc. Library Manager 235 Pinelawn Road Melville, NY 11747 ph: 516/843-2338 fax: 516/843-2342

Sandra L. Caster WTTG Fox Television Fox Morning News 5151 Wisconsin Ave. NW Washington, DC 20016 ph: 202/244-5151 fax: 202/895-3133

Alexandra Cosgrove CBS News 2020 M Street, NW Washington, DC 20036 ph: 202/457-4468 fax: 202/457-4326

Anita M. Cullinan Terra Communications, Library 400 Park Center Dr., Ste #1 Hollister, CA 95023 ph: 408/637-6900 fax: 408/637-9204

Linda L. Culpepper Detroit News, Library 615 W. Lafayette Detroit, MI 48226 ph: 313/222-2090

Sandra E. Fitzgerald Indianapolis Newspaper Inc. Library 307 N. Pennsylvania Indianapolis, IN 46206 ph: 317/633-9293 Vivian A. Flagg Atlanta Journal Constitution Reference 72 Marietta Street Atlanta, GA 30303 ph: 404/526-5420 fax: 404/526-5840

Claire M. Giglio St. Petersburg Times Graphics Library 490 First Avenue S. St. Petersburg, FL 33701 ph: 813/893-8154 fax: 813/893-8107

Joshua R. Goldbas Rowland Co. Research Services 1675 Broadway New York, NY 10019 ph: 212/527-8923 fax: 212/527-8989

Marjorie Goldsborough New York Times Washington Bureau 1627 | Street NW #700 Washington, DC 20006

Frank Harmon Cincinnati Enquirer, Library 312 Elm Street Cincinnati, OH 45202 ph: 513/768-8463 tax: 513/768-8340

Carlton B. Hayden ABC News, Research Center 47 West 66th Street New York, NY 10023 ph: 212/456-3796 fax: 212/456-2450

Geoffrey A. Haynes Associated Press General Desk 50 Rockefeller Plaza, 4th Fl. New York, NY 10020 ph: 212/621-7520

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Jan Jonckheere Newspaper De Morgen Documentation Brogniezstraat 54 Brussels, Belgium ph: 02/527-0030 fax: 02/520-4192

Charlotte A. Kuenen Bureau of National Affairs Inc. Electronic Media Div. 1231 25th St NW #3-262 Washington, DC 20037 ph: 202/452-4554 fax: 202/452-4062 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Carolyn A. McClendon Orlando Sentinel, Editorial Research 633 N. Orange Avenue Orlando, FL 32801 ph: 407/420-5510 fax: 407/420-5042

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Audrey D. Melkin Henry Holt & Co. Inc. 115 W. 17th St. New York, NY 10011 ph: 212/886-9398 fax: 212/633-0748

Claudette Montagne Societe Radio-Canada, Library 1400 Blvd. Dorchester E. Montreal, PO, Canada H2L 2M2 ph: 514/597-6265 fax: 514/597-6236

Patricia A. Neering Time Warner Inc. 1271 Ave of the Americas, Rm 2634A New York, NY 10020 ph: 212/522-3265

Don Olgain DataTimes Suite 450 14000 Quail Springs Pkwy. Oklahoma City, OK 73134 ph: 800/642-2525

Constance L. Pickett Philadelphia Inquirer, Library 400 N. Broad Box 8263 Philadelphia, PA 17922 ph: 215/854-4669 fax: 215/854-5884

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Laura L. Weston News Sentinel, Library 600 W. Main Street Fort Wayne, IN 46802 ph: 219/461-8468 Irene P. Xanthos Amer. Council of Life Insurance Info Resources Center 1001 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20004 ph: 202/624-2474 fax: 202/624-2319

Raymond J. Zwick Cincinnati Enquirer, Library 312 Elm Street Cincinnati, OH 45202 513/768-8464

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Thomas A. Banks ph: 813/259-7536

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Sharon Bidwell 525 W. Broadway, PO Box 740031 Louisville, KY 40201-7431 fax: 502/582-4290

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Paulette S. Cage Editorial Library, Room 445 Chicago, IL 60611

Catherine A. Carter change name to: Catherine A. Wrav

1331 Kienast Drive Fayetteville, NC 28314 ph: 919/868-3539

Jacquelyn P. Cenacveira ph: 213/237-4641

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Robert H. Jansen ph: 612/673-7398

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Peter McInally ph: 212/745-0200

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Carole T. Morris Library - Newsroom PO Box 1277, 1155 N. State Street fax: 206/647-9260

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Heli Myllys University of Helsinki Agricultural Library PO Box 27 00014 Univ. of Helsinki, Finland

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Lisa A. Olfert 2608-234th Avenue NE Redmond, WA 98053-5412

Nora Paul

Patterson Library Ernest Perez 1119 Satara Ct. NW

Salem, OR 97304-2811 Naomi S. Prall

fax: 212/620-1811 Rebecca G. Quinten fax: 513/832-0835

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Bruce D. Rosenstein Arlington, VA 22229

Jamie B. Russell ph: 212/830-1733

Carolyn Schade 305 Sidney Street West Branch, MI 48661 ph: 313/345-6869

James S. Scofield 6100 Sixth Avenue S. St. Petersburg, FL 33707-2327 ph: 813/345-9452

## Matthew A. Semble

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

ph: 718/275-2309

Penny J. Signorelli now: Penny J. Love News Research Center fax: 714/565-3684

Cynthia R. Smallwood change name: Cynthia Radcliffe-Smallwood Mead Data Central Information Center 9443 Springboro Pike BVI/F4 Miamišburg, OH 45342 ph: 513/865-1192 fax: 513/865-1948

Cecilia Chun Huang Tan [move from Huang]

New Straits Times Press Berhad James A. Van Der Mark

Ottawa, ON, Canada K2C 3M4

Carolyn J. Vance Champaign, IL 61824-0677 fax: 217/351-5374

Sandra L. Vance ph: 217/788-1504

Rose L. Vormelker ph: 216/229-0687

Susan M. Waldstein name change: Susan M. Walker

Alexandra Weld c/o Ernst & Young P.O. Box 251 TD Centre Toronto, Ontario M5K 1J7

Leslie C. White University Microfilm Intl. Newspaper Rights & Permissions fax: 313/761-3221

Sara Wolozin ph: 212/975-2877

Helen Yoon 2299 Piedmont Ave. #702

Here's a list of our newest student members:

Cecilia K. Alexander 2700 Linkside Drive #1 Cincinnati, OH 45245

David W. Bachman 517 Catherine #4 Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Carol A. Balabanow 201 Lorraine Cir Bloomingdale, IL 60108

Anthony L. Barrett 943 Wellington St. London, ON, Canada N6A 3T1

Lisa E. Bendoff 560 Vine Ave. #301 Highland Park, IL 60035

Julie C. Bolding 413 Hessel Blvd Champaign, IL 61820

Marilyn Brda 2006 W. Farragut, 1st Fl. Chicago, IL 60625

NEWS LIBRARY NEWS

Hillary A. Burns W008 Jester Ctr, 101 E 21 St. Austin, TX 78705-5695

Elizabeth A. Caulfield 1822 Hobbiton Rd. Baton Rouge, LA 70810-3420

Carmen E. Chapin 3503 N. 13 Street Arlington, VA 22201

Talia Chung 1450 Plaisance Brossard, PQ, Canada J4W 2W7

Thomas J. Clark 113 Wakefield Street Reading, MA 01867

Diane Descavish 1865 Lake Lila C-1 Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Alison J. Fraser 8 Second Place, Basement Apt Brooklyn, NY 11231

Irene Gashurov 158 17 Powells Cove Blvd

Whitestone, NY 11357 Louise S. Gerhard Rte. 1, Box 37-AB Traphill, NC 28685

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Susan P. Hunter 1325-6 Hollis St. Halifax, NS. Canada B3J 1T8

Cynthia A. James-Catalano 603 Fulton Rd. #A-7 Tallahassee, FL 32312

Elizabeth D. Kenney c/o Hood 3 Euston Street Brookline, MA 02146

Hilary S. Kreitner 24 McKinley Drive New Britain, CT 06053

Lisa M. Love 1514 S. 39 Tacoma, WA 94808

John C. Martinez 240-4 Old Leonardtown College Park, MD 20742

Georgina D. Martorella 186 Linden Rd Mineola NY 11501

Anne A. Masciuch 5205 Cammack Drive Bethesda, MD 20816

Mary C. MacCallum-Fengler 2844 Burney Drive Columbia, SC 29205

Maureen J. McCoy 3575 University St. #207 Montreal, PQ, Canada H3A 1Y1

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Jessie D. Miller 2966 N. Maryland Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53211 Sharon B. Millman 12908 N. Commons Way Potomac, MD 20854

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Barbara J. O'Gorman 3410 Valley Road Bonita, CA 91902-4172

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Rachel E. Rankin One Langdon St. #509 Madison, WI 53703

Andrea P. Sardone 513 Barbee Way Danville, KY 40422

Debra J. Sherline 319 E 25 St., #3A New York, NY 10010

Jerol J. Smith PO Box 18315-NCCU Durham, NC 27707

Susan S. Smith 78232 S. Haven Drive Mooresville, NC 28115

Katrina L. Stierholz 308 N State #1A Champaign, IL 61820

Carol A. Wilbur 5662 S. Krameria Ct. Englewood, CO 80111

Kavonne E. Wynn Smith Hall, Rm 276 404 Kentucky Blvd Columbia, MO 65201

2299 Piedmont Ave. #702

Berkeley, CA 94720

The following are

**Ruthanne Bevier** 

Susan M. Kaufman

**Rita Kay Meyer** 

Margaret Norman

Teresa L. Prince

Lisa E. Zelnick

Karen M. Sherwood

**SUMMER 1993** 

Katja Moos

no longer members

of the News Division:

Carol R. Jones-Simmons

Helen Yoon



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## And the winners are...

Here are the News Division officers installed at the convention in Cincinnati.



Mary Kate Leming, Chair-Elect



Debra Bade, Director-Education



Lu-Ann Farrar, Treasurer

## Nominations... Nominations... Nominations

We're looking for a few good officers. 1994 elections will be held for Chair-elect, Director-Publications and Secretary. Send your suggestions ASAP to Donna Scheeder, and she will pass them on to the nominations committee.

## **Treasurer's Report**

#### SUBMITTED BY LU-ANN FARRAR

Because there was so much discussion at the Division Business meeting in Cincinnati, I am submitting this report with a relatively lengthy explanation. I would like to encourage all members to look at this closely. At the executive board meeting, Donna Scheeder appointed a Finance Committee to make recommendations to the board about the financial condition of the division. The committee is Carolyn Hardnett, Cathy Jones, Kathy Trimble and me. Our charege from the board was this, with my comments in parentheses:

- Develop a budget format (this will be drawn from our previous years' budgets.)

- Establish an income strategy. (This will include expected sources of income, from sponsorships, advertisers, continuing education workshops, conferences, SLA allotment; also fund-raising strategies.)

- Review News Division by-laws for oversight rules.

Inherent in this process is establishing priorities for spending. I think it is most important to hear from all the membership about how you want your money spent. Please feel free to call me, fax me, leave me messages on my phone. Nothing better reflects our membership than how we spend our money.

#### An explanation of the spreadsheet

This is a partial speradsheet and reflects what was deposited from our previous account, the amounts paid this year on our conference and the continuing education workshop. This does not include the expenses/income of the newsletter. Missing from the conference expenses are the suite costs and the conference meeting expenses.

A word of explanation about these: The

expenses of the suite are unclear. Our division suite had two sponsors (Vu/Text and DataTimes who contributed \$600 each, with Vu/Text kicking-in an additional \$1,350.54 for a dinner, food tax and tip), plus we collected from the membership \$2,085.00 in suite fees. One person in the suite also contributed \$412.50 towards offsetting expenses. According to the hotel receipt, the total cost of the suite was \$4,176.70. This paid for six nights occupancy by four people in two rooms, food, and phone calls. Total collected towards the suite (including suite fees and sponsors): \$5048.04. We presently have insufficient funds to pay the suite expenses because we have not received our payment from SLA that was collected for our banquet. Essentially, we paid for the banquet with suite fees, etc., while the CE paid for itself, plus left us with \$1,173.90 profit.

I do not know yet what our return from the banquet will be. SLA deducts the conference expenses first, then forwards the balance to the division.

This report is the beginning of regular reports from the treasury, which I hope will continue beyond my tenure as treasurer. If yo have questions, I will do my best to answer them and I truly welcome any of them.

| SLA News Division Bu                                     | Idget, 1-1-93    | - Current |            |
|--|------------------|-----------|------------|
|  | Deposits         | Expenses  | Net        |
| Deposit from Previous Account                            | 2,305.22         |           | 2,305.22   |
| CONFERENCE   |                  |           |            |
| Student Stipend  |                  | 1,500.00  | (1,500.00) |
| UMI Award  | 1,000.00         |           | 1,000.00   |
| Award Banquet:   |                  |           |            |
| Davis Catering, dinner at 13.50 each                     |                  |           |            |
| dinner wine, gratuity, flowers, podium                   |                  |           |            |
| room charge, trophy and programs                         |                  | 4,495.48  | (4,495.48) |
| Suite Fees   | 2,085.00         |           | 2,085.00   |
| Copies   |                  | 45.00     | (45.00)    |
| VuText Suite Sponsor                                     | 600.00           |           | 600.00     |
| DataTimes Suite Sponsor                                  | 600.00           |           | 600.00     |
| Suite expenses   | To be determined |           |            |
| Kwapil Award   |                  | 500.00    | (500.00)   |
| CONTINUING EDUCATION                                     |                  |           |            |
| Registration   | 3,800.00         |           | 3,800.00   |
| Meals (Westin Hotel, lunch & refreshments)               |                  | 1,325.84  | (1,325.84) |
| Speaker fee, (Dan Shorter, hotel, half of airfare, food) |                  | 415.26    | (415.26)   |
| Speaker fee, (TeresaPritchard-Schoch, Airfare)           |                  | 300.00    | (300.00)   |
| Speaker Fee, Bill Mitchell Airfare, transport)           |                  | 585.00    | (585.00)   |
| TOTALS   | 10,390.22        | 9,166.58  | 1,223.64   |

SUMMER 1993

## THE NEWS FRONTIER

## IRE Regional Conference 'Computing: The News Frontier' set for Oct. 21-24

During the weekend of October 21-24, Raleigh, N.C., will be under a full-scale nerd alert as the country's top computer-assisted journalists gather to share their knowledge. The IRE regional conference, Computing: The News Frontier, will offer sessions and hands-on training in virtually every aspect of computer use for news gathering and reporting.

The conference is being co-sponsored by The News & Observer. Its mission is to go beyond the "gee whiz, isn't this neat" approach of many computer conferences and provide actual training in data loading and analysis, head-to-head comparison of analysis techniques and software applications, and tips, tricks and advice from veteran CAR reporters and researchers.

Topics to be addressed include: Where to find databases, how to get them, and what to do with them once you've got them; gathering information from online government bulletin boards; statistics; mapping; using computers in beat reporting and campaign reporting; finding people through online sources; and use of the Internet. The conference will wrap up Sunday with a general session "60 ideas in 60 minutes."

The registration fee for the conference is \$125, and registration is limited to IRE members. (If you are not already a member, you can join when you register for the conference.) Sessions will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in downtown Raleigh. The Radisson's room rate is \$69 per night; mention IRE when making reservations.

Early response to the conference has been tremendous. A preliminary survey that went to IRE, SLA, and friends brought responses from about 200 news organizations. Hands-on training will be limited to the first 300 registrants, with each able to attend up to four classes. Additional registration may also be limited.

The sense is that this conference will be heavily attended by representatives of some of the country's most influential newsrooms, and those representatives should include members of their libraries and research centers. In an area where turf battles remain, this is an event too important to miss.

Speakers and instructors on the IRE program include:

Scott Anderson, Sun-Sentinel; Dave Armstrong, Boston Herald; Dave Bowermaster, US News & World Report; Tom Boyer, The Virginian- Pilot/Ledger Star; Russ Buettner, Newsday; Ron Campbell, The Orange County Register; Bill Casey, the Washington Post; Wendell Cochran, The American University; Sara Collins, US News & World Report; Kent Cooper, Federal Elections Commission; Tom Curran, Newsday; Rebecca Daugherty, The Reporters' Committee for Freedom of the Press; Dave Davis, The Plain Dealer; Steve Doig, The Miami Herald; Tom Foster, The Post-Standard; Dan Gillmor, Detroit Free Press; Rich Gordon, The Miami Herald; Kathy Barks Hoffman, Lansing State Journal; Brant Houston, The Hartford Courant; Jennifer LeFleur, San Jose Mercury News; George Landau, St. Louis Post-Dispatch; Penny Loeb, US News & World Report; Beth Marchak, The Washington Times; Bruce Maxwell, freelance; Lany McDonald, Time-Warner; Shawn McIntosh, USA Today; Phil Meyer, UNC; Judy Miller, The Miami Herald; Dwight Morris, LA Times; Richard Mullins, National Library on Money and Politics; Judy Nichols, The Arizona Republic; Brad Patten, The Phoenix Gazette; Nora Paul, The Poynter Institute; Barbara Pearson, USA Today; Bob Port, St. Petersburg Times; Jon Schmid, The News & Observer, Andy Scott, IRE; Hugh Stevens, NC Press Association; Pat Stith, The News & Observer; Olive Talley, The Dallas Morning News; and Dan Woods, The News & Observer. people. We will do it on a first-come, first-serve basis. Those who register can choose up to four classes from the following list. Check the four classes you want.

|             | IRE REGIONAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM                                     |
|-------------|---|
| Name/Tit    | e   |
| Organizati  | on  |
| Address     |   |
|             |   |
| Fax         |   |
| The registr | ation process has three key components.                                       |
| PART ON     |   |
|             | In IRE-sponsored event, you will have to join IRE to attend. That fee is \$30 |
|             | ot an IRE member. I wish to join. \$155 enclosed.                             |
| 🗆 I'm a     | n IRE member. \$125 enclosed.   |

PART TWO involves the hands-on training.

We can guarantee hands-on classes for only 300

□ Windows/DOS

□ Spread sheets

□ NineTrack Express I: Downloading a flat file

□ NineTrack Express II: Downloading redefined databases and trailers

Creating a database, counting, indexing, cutting, copying

□ Beginning data analysis

Advanced data analysis

□ Programming

These last four classes will be taught in FoxPro and Paradox.

Indicate whether you want to be taught in 🗆 FoxPro, 🗋 Paradox or 🖾 Does not Matter.

PART THREE. Do you want to come to the conference, even if you apply for hands-on training and do not get it?  $\Box$  Yes  $\Box$  No

If you check yes, make your hotel plans. If you check No, we won't cash your check or expect you.

Make check payable to IRE and mail it to IRE, 100 Neff Hall, School of Journalism, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211.

Book your room at The Radisson Plaza Hotel, Raleigh, N.C., 919/834-9900. Rooms cost \$69 per night, single or double, if you tell the reservations clerk you are attending the IRE conference.

## **NLN FEATURE**

## Megafile Quickly Defeated; Limited Access A Long-Term Battle

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dwindling number of service bureaus converts to an in-house system, DialSearch will lose access to its files. And brokered searches are not economically feasible for many public libraries.

Some service bureaus have arranged for their public libraries and other heavy users to tap into their complete files at Vu/Text for a minimal fee. Again, conversion of service bureaus to in-house systems will end this capability.

That's the case at these newspapers with the in-house Vu/Text Save system: The Atlantic City Press, Greensboro News and Record, Newport Daily Press and Herald, the Roanoke Times and World News and The Deseret News (Salt Lake City). Newspapers with Save installations can offer direct dial-in access to their files, but agreements must be worked out directly with each newspaper.

At some Save newspapers talks are under way with various vendors. Two sites already are on DataTimes. The Greensboro *News and Record* starts in December 1992. Their Vu/Text files from 1990- Nov. 1992 aren't included. The DataTimes files for the Roanoke *Times* and *World News* start in 1993, without their 1990-92 Vu/Text files.

In the meantime, both service bureaus and Save sites are fielding calls from other newspapers and the public. Some papers charge a fee; others don't. Some have staff to handle the extra calls; most don't.

Where will this lead? Will newspaper feebased services handle searches for other members of the media? What if there is no such service, as is usually the case at the newspapers most affected? Will newspaper librarians be able to meet increased demand? What about stealth searches when anonymity is crucial? Will we find a Balkanization of newspaper online services, making agreements necessary with many different newspapers? Will chains develop reciprocal dial-in access to in-house systems? Where does that leave smaller independent newspapers or non-media searchers? Who will be responsible for marketing, billing, fee collecting, contract negotiations and other financial considerations?

If space is crucial to the vendors, will the cutoff date for the earliest files be a moving target? By the year 2000 will some of the files that we now search have vanished? Will databanks use new technology to implement more efficient ways to store data? If so, will they resurrect our lost years?

According to vendors, the demand for older stories is far lower than for current news. In fact, DataTimes is pushing ahead with its Same Day service which includes selected business stories on the day of publication.

Last year we made a difference in a corporate decision at Dialog. It's possible we can influence the course of online media coverage.

If we want to regain access to previously available online material and retain stories that we search now, it's up to news librarians and other regular searchers of newspaper files to make our wishes known.

News Division, SLA c/o Mona Hatfield *The Advocate* Library 525 Lafayette Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802

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