

# ARLIS *focus*

Linda Zieper, editor

## From the President

I hope you all are having an enjoyable early winter and are feeling prepared for the holidays. I cannot believe how quickly this year flew by! I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the ARLIS/NE chapter for a wonderful experience in serving as chapter president. We've had a terrific year, and I want to thank the board and chapter members for all of their contributions to making 2007 a successful year. I look forward to continuing my work on the board for another year as past president, and I leave you in good hands with Michael Young as the 2008 president.

My goals for this year included developing and strengthening ARLIS/NE relationships with other arts-related organizations and communities, and I'm pleased that we were able to enjoy another joint meeting with VRA/NE this past spring at RISD. Thank you again to Carol Terry and the staff at RISD for planning and hosting an incredibly interesting day. Rumor has it that VRA/NE would like to hold another joint meeting with us next year, so stay tuned! ARLIS/NE also continues to excel in reaching out to students (many thanks Rachel Resnick and Anne Reid), and I hope that we remain involved with and interesting to our future colleagues. Many students joined us for the Jamaica Plain Open Studios in September, and I've heard many comments about how much members enjoyed the Simmons alum-ARLIS/NE mixer at the ARLIS/NA conference in Atlanta. I'm also pleased that ARLIS/NE was able to have an information table at the Simmons GSLIS Career Panel held in October.

We're thrilled that we had such a wonderful turnout for the fall meeting at Yale Uni-

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versity. I'd like to thank again Michael Young and the staff at Yale (Allen Townsend, Hannah Bennet, and Laura Tatum) for arranging the event and self-guided tours of the Center for British Art, Yale Art Gallery, and Yale Campus, and guided tours of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale Special Collections, and the Reference Library of the Yale Center of British Art. We also enjoyed the talks on the future of scholarly publishing in art history given by Hilary Ballon, professor of art history at Columbia University, and Daniel Lee, web marketing manager at Yale University Press.

Also, please don't forget to send in your membership renewal to Linda Zieper, ARLIS/NE secretary. By now you should have all received the renewal forms. If not, you can access an application on the ARLIS/NE website. I would like to also thank Linda for agreeing to step in and take over as ARLIS/NE secretary for 2008. As you might have heard, the former secretary, Elizabeth Darocha Berenz, is now working in NYC for ARTstor, but she too has been very generous with her time to make sure that the transition of office has run smoothly. I am grateful to them both.

Happy Holidays to you all,

*Brooke Henderson*

## Election Results!

Congratulations to the incoming officers Darin Murphy, who has been elected vice-president/president-elect, and Janis Manzo, who has been elected treasurer.

## Treasurer's Report

As of December 12, 2007

*Current balances:* CDs as of today:

CDs: 1-year CD = \$3774.61; 2-year CD = \$3582.81

Checking account balance = \$2273.43  
*Income since last meeting/report* (Sept. 2007):  
20 memberships = \$400.  
8 student memberships = \$64.  
Gifts to the Freitag award = \$105.  
Gifts to the Seibel scholarship = \$55.  
Income total = \$624.  
*Expenses since last meeting/report:*  
Membership renewal/ballot printing/postage = \$127.72  
*Current total balance* of all three accounts = \$9630.85  
*Robert Garzillo*

### **Freitag Award: Deadline extended!**

The 2008 ARLIS/NE Scholarships and Awards Committee would like to announce a deadline extension for the Wolfgang Freitag Award. The new deadline is January 15, 2008. Please note that this is only for the Wolfgang Freitag Award. We received sufficient applications for the Elmar Seibel Scholarship and Travel Awards before the December 15 deadline so the application process for those awards is now closed. If you have a project in mind that needs funding, please consider applying for the Wolfgang Freitag Award. Details can be found below or at the ARLIS/NE website (<http://www.arlisne.org/freitag.html>).

*DESCRIPTION:* The Wolfgang M. Freitag Professional Development Award, named in honor of the chapter's founding member, was instituted in 1992. Dr. Freitag served as chief librarian of the Harvard College Fine Arts Library at the Fogg Art Museum from 1964 to 1991, and as lecturer and senior lecturer in bibliography and art historiography at Harvard from 1967 to 1991. A charter member of ARLIS/NA, he was elected president of the organization for 1980 and continues to play an active role in the affairs of the Society. Wolfgang Freitag exemplifies the highest standards of the profession and serves as an inspiration to us all.

*PURPOSE:* The original purpose of the Freitag Award was to support travel to the annual ARLIS/NA conference. Since 1995, the scope of the award has been expanded to aid and encourage the professional devel-

opment of chapter members by supporting research and publishing projects, continuing education, or other objectives pertaining to art librarianship, as well as travel to conferences.

*QUALIFICATIONS:* Applicants must be a member of ARLIS/New England for one full year. The applicant cannot have received full funding from other sources for the same project or objective. Award winners will report to the chapter upon completion of the project or objective, either in writing to the president, or at one of the chapter meetings. *AWARD:* Chapter members have generously contributed to the Freitag Award fund over the years and donations are always welcome. Currently, at least one award of \$500 is given each year. *APPLICATION*

*PROCEDURE & DEADLINE:* Applicants should send a letter describing their project and financial need to the Award Committee. The deadline for applications for the 2008 Wolfgang Freitag Professional Development Award has been extended to January 15, 2008. Winners will be notified in January 2008. Please send applications via mail or email to:

Darin Murphy  
Fine Arts Library, Harvard College  
32 Quincy Street  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138 USA  
[murphy@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:murphy@fas.harvard.edu)

(if you choose to send the application via email, please put ARLIS/NE in the subject heading)

### **ARLIS/NE Fall Meeting, Sterling Library, Yale University, September 21, 2007**

Brooke Henderson, the chapter president, convened the meeting at 10:15. She welcomed the students in attendance, apologized for the lack of name tags, and introduced the officers in attendance: Rachel Resnick, public relations officer, and Michael Young, vice president/president-elect. She thanked those who had arranged the meeting: Michael Young, Hannah Bennett, Laura Tatum, and Allen Townsend, who had just recently become head of the art library at Yale. Robert Garzillo, treasurer, and Elizabeth Berenz, secretary, were unable to

attend. Elizabeth has moved to New York, but will continue as secretary through the current year; Linda Zieper will finish her term and was introduced as interim secretary.

*Treasurer's report.* The agenda was distributed and Brooke gave the treasurer's report in his absence. The bank balances are:

CDs as of 9/19/07:

1 year CD = \$3726.76

2 year CD = \$3541.60

Checking account. balance =- \$1877.15

Robert will be happy to provide a fuller account to any member who requests it. Brooke noted that the chapter's financial status is strong so that it is possible to offer meetings at no charge, such as this one. She thanked John Woods, who has for many years contributed the cost of mailing the newsletter.

*Regional representative.* Cate Cooney, the Northeast regional representative was introduced. She reported on the mid-year ARLIS/NA board meeting, which had been held the previous week. It was a good meeting and promises to be an exciting year. Changes will take effect following the Denver conference. The board has accepted the recommendation of the Assessment Task Force to eliminate the role of regional representative and create a position of chapters coordinator to connect with the chapters on issues of common concern, such as liability insurance. Regional representation will be in the form of a geographically diverse board and board members will visit chapters on a regular basis. The Assessment Task force also recommended establishing a technical advisor position. She noted that the society's finances are in good shape and that its investments and development efforts had been effective. The board wants to "grow" certain areas, including higher honoraria for outside speakers at conferences. It will examine the membership dues structure since there has been no change in membership dues for ten years. There had been some discussion of closing or charging for ARLIS-L, but it was decided to keep it free and open. MemberClicks has been acquired

and will soon be implemented to manage membership and directory information.

*Career panels.* Rachel Resnick reported on the career panels held at Simmons, which have become an annual event, linked to the Art Documentation course offered there and sponsored by the student organization, Panopticon. A podcast of the most recent panel is available. Expansion to other New England library schools would be desirable. *Committees.* Brooke announced the composition of the Awards Committee--Darin Murphy and Debbie Aframe—and the Nominating Committee: Rachel Beckwith (chair), Ellen Petraits, Elizabeth Phipps. Please send nominations to either of them by October 15. Self-nominations are welcome. The ballots will be mailed in early November and coordinated with membership renewals.

*Directory discussion.* ARLIS/NA has decided to stop providing a print directory and handbook to the members and instead create an electronic directory using MemberClicks with the possibility of print on demand for those who want a print directory. Brooke opened a discussion of the chapter's print directory. Is it worth the cost of production and postage? Issues include what to include in an online directory and how to control access to it. Names and e-mail addresses are not sufficient; institutional affiliations must be present and searchable. The chapter directory must include the chapter's "affiliates," those who are not members of ARLIS/NA and will not be included in MemberClicks. Some members and affiliates prefer mail sent to their home address and the inclusion of a second address is an important feature. It was suggested that the chapter could produce a directory in PDF format which could be printed by those who wanted a print directory. There should be no gap between the current print directory and a future electronic directory, although it is unlikely that a print edition can be produced this year.

*ARLIS/NA 2010 Annual Meeting.* The chapter will host the 2010 annual meeting, almost certainly in Boston. Research on

possible hotels and dates is ongoing. Local committees will form soon and volunteers are encouraged. An invitation to participate will go out on the chapter listserv soon. Details of conference planning are available as a manual on the ARLIS/NA website. Members are urged to use the chapter listserv (arlis-ne-1@listserv.bc.edu) to post announcements of events and job listings.

*Jamaica Plain Open Studios group tour.*

The chapter invites members, affiliates, and friends to meet at JP Licks at 1 on Sunday, September 30 for a group gallery crawl of the JP Open Studios. This is a social event and very informal!

*Focus news.* Linda Zieper asked everyone to send news, both professional and personal, to her for inclusion in the fall issue of *Focus* by Thanksgiving.

*Announcements.* Brooke reminded attendees, especially student attendees, of the ARLIS/NA internship award, which grants \$2500 to support internships. The application deadline is October 15 and more information is available on the NA website.

Rowena Burke offered flyers describing the miniature painting that had been stolen from her daughter's car in the hope that anyone who might see it would notify her.

Betsy Peck Learned, chair of the ARLIS/NA Distinguished Service Award Committee encouraged attendees to look at the criteria and guidelines on the website and consider submitting a nomination. (No award was presented last year.) The submission deadline is January.

Deb Verhoff introduced herself at the new librarian at the Art Institute of Boston and noted that Printed Matter book fair would be held that weekend.

Allen Townsend introduced himself as the new art librarian at Yale. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 and was followed by presentations by Hilary Ballon of NYU on a electronic platform for journal publication and Daniel Lee of Yale University Press on the press' current digital initiatives.

Respectfully submitted,

*Linda Zieper*

## **From the Members**

**Elizabeth Darocha Berenz** has left her position as visual resources curator at Roger Williams University and, in June, began working at ARTstor as library relations associate. Elizabeth and her husband, Robert Berenz were very excited to be moving to New York.

**Rachel Beckwith** reports that she accepted the position as arts librarian at Hampshire College and began work in October. Besides enjoying being back on a college campus and working with undergraduate art students, she is also happy to be five minutes from a Trader Joe's again!

**Rowena Burke** is pleased to announce that she got the town of Middletown to put up a sign for the Dunlap Wheeler Park memorial park, which is dedicated to her mother, Anne Slater Dunlap, on the Middletown/Newport RI border in September, after working to improve the waterfront pocket park for more than eight years.

**Anne Haas** presented a paper at the Conference on the Book in Madrid in October. Her paper was about why in the digital age we—in art history—are still hooked on the book. She reports that the conference was very good, the people attending it were great and Madrid and its museums were wonderful. After the conference, she went on to Granada and saw the Alhambra.

**Betsy Peck Learned** has two big announcements: she has just been appointed interim dean of libraries at Roger Williams University. The former dean has been moved into the position of interim associate provost. She has also completed her master's degree in art history at the Harvard Extension School and her thesis was awarded the Annamae and Allan R. Crite Prize. The following details are from the Extension School's announcement:

Established by the Harvard Extension School and the Harvard Extension Alumni Association in honor of Annamae Crite, who for more than a half-century faithfully attended Extension courses, and her son, Allan R. Crite, A.B. in Extension Studies '68, who is widely recognized as the dean of African-American artists in the Greater Boston area,

this prize is awarded to Extension School degree recipients who demonstrate “singular dedication to learning and the arts.”

The recipient of the first Crite Prize is Elizabeth Peck Learned, A.L.M. concentrator in history of art and architecture, who graduates with a GPA of 3.76. Her thesis, titled “Ernest Fenollosa’s ‘Final Asian Man’ and the Growth of Nihonga in Meiji Japan,” explores the development and consequences to Japanese art of Fenollosa’s aesthetic philosophy, derived from his early studies of Hegel and Spencer and grounded in the belief that an artist could employ the best of both Eastern and Western artistic techniques toward the creation of an ideal, “syncretic” art. Learned’s thesis director, Yukio Lippit, assistant professor of history of art and architecture at Harvard, praised the study as “a truly original interpretation of Fenollosa’s evolving mindset during the 1880s and ’90s. . . . Learned is able to provide a much more nuanced and textured exposition of his intellectual breadth than previous scholars have. The thesis is so impressive that its author has been invited to join—and hopefully play a central role in—a special study group at Harvard on Fenollosa that aims eventually to exhibit and publish his manuscripts at the Houghton.”

**Janis Manzo** completed her MSLIS at Simmons College in August. She will leave her position as special collections assistant at RISD at the end of December and begin her new position as visual resources curator at the College of the Holy Cross in January 2008.

**Ellie Nacheman** reports: In January 1998, I received a six-month sabbatical from RISD to work on an index/directory of a select group of 19<sup>th</sup>- century born artists active in Rhode Island and where to find their work in publicly accessible Rhode Island collections. The data was compiled, but languished in my computer, not quite finished. I had received a Wolfgang Freitag award that year to apply toward the project, but, it took another six-month sabbatical this past January, to enable me to return to it, update and greatly expand the information, and finally complete the work. In many ways the time delay

was fortunate, as several institutions had developed databases of their own records in the interim, providing me with more accurate access to their holdings.

I’m pleased to announce the forthcoming publication of “Unveiled: a directory and guide to 19th-century born artists active in Rhode Island and where to find their work in publicly accessible Rhode Island collections.” This unique directory includes information for eighty-five artists whose work spans the 19th and 20th centuries. Each entry is comprised of two parts: brief biographical information including place/dates of birth and death; media used; where and with whom they studied and traveled; location of studios; if teachers, where and when they taught; local professional affiliations; key institutions owning their work outside R.I.; institutions owning their work within R.I.; and reference sources where biographical/ bibliographical information may be found. The second component of each entry is an alphabetical listing of Rhode Island institutions owning their work. Under each institution is an itemized listing of the works owned including title/medium/date/accession number if assigned.

So much of this work remains hidden from the public eye. It was one of the prime reasons for starting the project initially, and I was truly amazed by the sheer amount of work found as well as the variety of and number of institutions owning work by these artists. Since this is a self-published work, copies initially are only being distributed to participants as a thank you for their participation, but that covers many of the area public and college libraries, the historical societies, the RISD and Newport Art museums and some miscellaneous sites. Hopefully the directory will prove a useful resource. Ultimately, I’m hoping to see the data mounted online with images linked for widest access. As a first major step however, it’s very exciting to be able to inform the ARLIS membership about this directory.

**Kathy Ritter**, library director of the New Hampshire Institute of Art reports: “This

fall was a very exciting time for the library staff and the institute community. John Teti donated approximately 2000 books on art and photography spanning the 19th through the 21st century. The gift includes rare photographic books such as *The Yosemite Book* and books illustrated by Alvin Langdon Coburn, and a set of *Camera Work* once owned by Steichen. The Institute library was named after benefactor John Teti, now the Teti Library. A library dedication was organized by the Institute Development Office and the chair of the Photography Department. A colleague and my teacher in another lifetime, Grant B. Romer, director of the Advanced Residency Program, George Eastman House, spoke on photography and books. The library hosted its first open house with keynote speaker Martha R. Mahard, former curator of historic photographs in the Fine Arts Library at Harvard University. Martha spoke on the importance of thoughtful discourse in photography and the

need for proper preservation of culturally significant books and photographs. For the past fifteen years Martha has taught courses in preservation management, moving images in libraries and archives, and art documentation at Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Thanks to John A Woods Appraisers for underwriting the cost of mailing this issue of *Focus*.

