

# THE ARLIS/New York News



Art Libraries Society of New York  
a regional chapter of ARLIS/North America

Vol. 6 No.1 1983

## CHAPTER MEETING

The first meeting of ARLIS/New York for 1983 will be on Tuesday, April 12 at the Robert Goldwater Library of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

After refreshments and a brief business session, Mr. Allan Chapman, the Librarian, will speak on the history and operations of the collection, which covers African, Oceanic and Pre-Columbian art. If time permits, we will also be able to see relevant works of art in the new Rockefeller Wing.

Members of ARLIS/New York are asked to pick up a button (free Museum admission) and directions to the library from an ARLIS representative who will be stationed at the main information desk at the 82 St. entrance to the Museum. The meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

make a reservation for the catered luncheon in the museum. Reservations should be made as soon as possible.

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## SATURDAY AT NEWPORT

For those who missed the mailing, ARLIS/New England has invited us to attend an all-day meeting at Newport, Rhode Island on Saturday, April 30, 1983. A tour is planned to the Redwood Library both in the morning and in the afternoon. Tours are also available from the Newport Historical Society, and there will be an afternoon workshop on photographing architecture. Pre-registration is required for the workshop and for the luncheon. For information or to make reservations, contact Hinda F. Sklar, 151 Tremont Street, Apt. 21A, Boston, MA 02111. Those interested are asked to respond by April 15.

## Election News

The results are in! The ARLIS/New York Officers for 1983 are:

CHAIRPERSON.....	Daniel Starr
VICE-CHAIR.....	Francis Bondurant
PAST CHAIR.....	Paula Frosch
SECRETARY.....	Dorothy Franco
TREASURER.....	Celine Palatsky
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE.....	Ingeborg Freitag
	.....Russell Ferguson

Congratulations to all!



## HAARLEM AT NEW BRUNSWICK

ARLIS/New Jersey has invited us to attend their Spring meeting at the newly completed Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers University on April 13, 1983. We will be able to see the exhibition "Haarlem: The Seventeenth Century" and to view the museum's permanent collection. Please call Ferris Olin (201-932-7739) or Elaine Stanis (201-932-7906) for more information or to

# From the Chair

As I write my first "From the Chair" column, I realize that it might be more descriptive to call it a musical chair, what with the rapid turnover in offices this past year. Even when our succession is working normally the changeover is not very smooth: the new Vice-Chairperson must organize the first meeting for February or March after taking office in January. It is also very difficult to arrange meetings in advance. For example, if we receive an offer for a possible Spring joint meeting in the Fall, we don't even know who will be organizing the next year's meetings.


Your Executive Board discussed this problem at our first meeting this year and came up with a few possible solutions:

- (1) change the terms of office;
- (2) change the date of the elections;
- (3) make the Members-at-Large responsible for at least some of the meetings;
- (4) revitalize the Program Committee (there were no volunteers for this committee this year).

We would appreciate any comments or suggestions from you before we proceed with anything that might require another change in our by-laws.

Another problem resurfaced when we went over the proposed budget for this year. We expect to receive \$700 from dues and contributions, but that will barely cover the cost of printing four issues of the newsletter, even with the generous offer of Richard Martin and F.I.T. of picking up our mailing costs. With regret, but also with a hard look at our expenses, we decided to propose a dues increase to \$10.00 per year. This would be the first increase since 1979 and would give us more freedom in planning interesting meetings. I hope that you will feel free to comment on any of these problems and proposals at the next meeting, or by contacting me personally before our next Executive Board meeting, which will be on May 3.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you who volunteered to serve on committees. You will be contacted by your committee chairperson in the near future.

 Daniel Starr  
Chairperson, ARLIS/New York

## THE ARLIS/NEW YORK NEWS

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## Business Wrapping

The annual business meeting of the New York Chapter took place on Thursday, December 16, 1982, at NYU's beautiful new Conservation Center on East 78 Street. Evelyn Samuel, Director of the Stephen Chan Library at NYU's Institute of Fine Arts, played the smiling hostess as members drifted in from the cold and wandered upstairs for some welcome refreshments and socializing before the meeting.

Chairperson Paula Frosch began the meeting with a Treasury report of a \$722 balance as of October 18, as opposed to \$768 at this same time last year. Ms. Frosch attributed the diminished revenues to a slightly decreased membership in 1982, smaller member contributions, and increased expenses for refreshments, postage, and printing of the ARLIS New York News.

Ms. Frosch announced that the Chapter had received a gift of approximately 1000 exhibition catalogs from former Vogue editor Leo Lerman. This gift expands the Archive holdings considerably. Passionate collector that he is, Mr. Lerman has promised to continue to send material to the Archive. (Note: For complete details, see text of Ms. Frosch's letter, following.)

Paula Baxter, speaking for absent Professional Concerns Committee Chairperson Suzanna Simor, brought the membership up to date on the directory and resource file project, details of which have been outlined in recent issues of the ARLIS/New York News. Ms. Baxter said that the proposed questionnaire had been somewhat streamlined and some items reordered. In investigating the feasibility of working with the Queens College (CUNY) Computer Center, some hidden problems were discovered having to

do with ownership of the disk and making a commitment to always work through Queens. The Modern Language Association proposal turned out to be very costly, although admittedly a good value for the money. The Committee's new proposal is for the Chapter to produce the directory and resource file as our own by-product, with members who have word processors or microcomputer equipment volunteering to work on the project. Ms. Baxter stressed that it is important for members to fill out the questionnaire completely and return it. She also asked those present at the meeting to spread the word about the project, and welcomed any members to join the Committee, now consisting of Suzanna Simor (Chair), Paula Baxter, Evelyn Samuel, Donya Schimansky, and Martita Schwarz.

The Nominations and Elections Committee, chaired by Pearl Moeller, announced its slate of candidates for 1983. There were no nominations from the floor.

Ms. Frosch then opened up the meeting for "free discussion" of professional problems or questions. A lively discussion ensued on the topic of the "unattached scholar," the problems involved in meeting his or her needs, and whether or not an institution should ask such people to pay a fee. Another topic was the charging of reproduction rights when someone wants to photograph original material owned by a library. Whether they took active part in the discussion, or just listened to the flow of ideas back and forth, members were in agreement that such discussions are useful and should be a regular part of the meetings.

Evelyn Samuel then gave a brief introduction to the Conservation Center. She explained the building's role as a laboratory in part of a larger teaching program in the conservation, preservation, and restoration of such things as paintings, textiles, and art on paper and stone. There are six floors, each organized and equipped for some particular type of restoration. The Center has its own library of over 7000 volumes on very specialized topics, and its own librarian, Stephanie Carroll. A catalog of holdings was published in 1980, and another is planned for 1985.

Our thanks to Evelyn Samuel for being the evening's hostess, and to outgoing Chairperson Paula Frosch for her hard work all year long.

## A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

The following is the text of the letter Paula Frosch sent to Mr. Leo Lerman:

"On behalf of the New York Chapter of the Art Libraries Society of North America, I wish to thank you for your most generous gift of exhibition catalogs and related materials. The twelve cartons containing approximately one thousand items represent a major contribution to the Research Archives maintained by our Chapter and housed at the Fashion Institute of Technology.

"The research value of your unique contribution is enormous since many of the catalogs have long been out-of-print, are collector's items or occasionally appear in dealers' catalogs at high prices and are therefore unavailable to the student and scholar. Your gift has made possible the expansion of our coverage of activities in the art world, particularly in New York City, to a period covering the last 30-35 years.

"The presentation of this multitude of unique items, so easily lost to research, is a gift not only to ARLIS/New York but to scholars throughout the City. I thank you again for your great generosity and commend you on your insight in preserving these valuable ephemerae."

## News & Notes

DONYA SCHIMANSKY, Museum Librarian at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, has been lecturing lately. On February 8 she gave a lecture on "Yugoslav Folk Costumes," complete with the original costumes, to New York University graduate students.

A month later, Donya spoke to the U.N. Women's Club at the United Nations. She gave a talk and showed slides on "The Metropolitan Museum, Its Collections and Exhibitions," with special emphasis on the current Vatican Exhibition, to an enthusiastic international audience.


CLAIRE PETRIE, formerly librarian in the Art and Architecture Department of the Pratt Institute Library, has been appointed senior librarian at the Adam and Sophie Gimbel Library of the Parsons School of Design.

# Money Matters

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1982: DETAILED STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES

<u>NEWSLETTER PRINTING COSTS</u>		<u>\$210.12</u>
Vol. 5 No. 1	\$ 50.00	
Vol. 5 No. 2	100.48	
Vol. 5 No. 3	59.64	
<u>STATIONERY AND POSTAGE</u>		<u>\$318.64</u>
Mailing newsletter #1	\$ 30.00	
" " #2	30.80	
" " #3	25.00	
Oct. 14 mtg. ann.	30.00	
Gallery mailing	83.28	
LC mailing	30.00	
Ballot mailing	30.00	
Renewal notices	30.00	
Envelopes	23.82	
Ledger	5.74	
<u>REFRESHMENTS</u>		<u>\$238.08</u>
Dec. 17, 1981 mtg.	\$119.54	
Feb. 16, 1982	37.20	
May 11, 1982	48.59	
Oct. 14, 1982	25.08	
Dec. 16, 1982	7.67	
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>		<u>\$161.47</u>
Frames for awards	\$ 20.84	
Citations	25.00	
Security guard 2/16	50.00	
" " 10/14	50.00	
Bank service charge	15.63	
<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</u>		<u>\$928.31</u>

Submitted January 6, 1983 by:

 Celine Palatsky  
Treasurer, ARLIS/New York

# Take Note

## EXHIBITION PUBLICATIONS ACQUISITIONS COMMITTEE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS \*\*\*\*\*

JANIS EKDAHL is chairing the Acquisitions Committee this year. Anyone interested in helping gather the material that will be considered for the annual New York City Gallery and Museum Exhibition Publications Awards should contact Janis at the Museum of Modern Art (212-956-7237) before the Chapter meeting on April 12. She would like to be able to distribute assignments at the meeting. This is a relatively painless task, and a good way to get to know the New York gallery scene while making a worthwhile contribution to ARLIS/New York.

This year will mark the tenth anniversary of the awards.

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## DOCUMENTATION OF MODERN ART

The Museum of Modern Art Library is seeking volunteers for Spring 1983.

They are looking for individuals who are both interested in contemporary art and willing to assist in the routine organization and filing of miscellaneous archival materials.

Volunteers are expected to commit themselves for 3-6 hours per week for the duration of the semester. Hours can be scheduled at the convenience of the individual.

Volunteers are granted temporary staff status, entitling them to a variety of privileges within the museum.

If interested now, or considering it for the Fall, contact Janis Ekdahl, Assistant Director of the Library, Museum of Modern Art, at (212-956-7237).

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## TAKE A TOUR

The Old Merchants House, 29 East 4 Street is a beautifully restored townhouse dating from 1832, and is open to the public on Sunday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. The furnishings of the house remain intact. Tours are given by a volunteer staff.