

THE ARLIS/New York News

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

Vol. 8 No. 2

Spring 1987

Greetings,

Enclosed with this newsletter are two inserts that require your immediate attention, so please don't delay and send them back. Regarding one of the inserts, Virginia Kerr wrote a brief note about the Avery Index demonstration in November. (See the miscellany page.)

Errata:

The last issue should have been Vol. 8 No. 1, and the lavender issue should read Vol. 7 No. 4.

Sorry for the omission and the confusion.

Linda Swieszkowski can now be reached at the Municipal Art Society ;

Information Exchange ; 457 Madison Ave. ; NYC 10022 ; 212-980-1297.

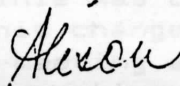
We wish Linda the best in her new and hopefully exciting position.

If anyone has ideas for articles, columns, etc. or has any copy for the newsletter, please let me know. Once again, my address is 40 Prospect

Park W, 2F ; Brooklyn, NY 11215 ; 718-499-7275.

I look forward to seeing everyone at Knoedler's.

Cheers,



ARLIS/NY CHAPTER MEETING

27 May, 1987

M. Knoedler & Co. Library
19 E. 70th St.
NYC 10021

Nancy Little, Librarian

- 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Refreshments
- 5:30 - 5:50 p.m. ARLIS/NY Meeting
- 5:50 - 6:45 p.m. Program: Nancy Little will speak on the history of Knoedler's and will give us a tour of the library
- 6:45 - 7:00 p.m. Clean up

The Professional Concerns Committee (PCC) of ARLIS/NY sponsored an open forum in Washington, to ascertain if there is general interest in professional issues. The event was well attended, lively discussion was had, suggestions were made and we hope to carry this interest to Dallas. The PCC met following the D.C. meeting with the support and encouragement of ARLIS/NY.

ARLIS/New York

Spring Business Meeting March 25, 1987

The Spring meeting of ARLIS/New York was held at Cooper Union, in the Peter Cooper Suite. The evening consisted of a business meeting, a panel discussion on degrees beyond the M.L.S. and a tour of the Cooper Union Library.

The evening began with refreshments. Ross Day and Linda Swieszkowski scoured the East Village and brought a delightful mixture of cookies, bread and cheese along with the requisite wine and soda. Linda Swieszkowski called the meeting to order at 6:40, calling people in from the terraces surrounding the Suite.

Linda thanked Elizabeth Vadja and Debbie Barlow for their gracious use of the facility for the meeting and Daniel Starr for being a wonderful chair during the past year. A review of the present executive board was presented and if in attendance they were introduced. Missing members were Ted Goodman, Virginia Kerr and Celine Palatsky, members present were: Linda Swieszkowski, chair; Ross Day, vice-chair; Adina Lerner, secretary; Matthew Hogan, chair, Professional Concerns Committee; Deobrah Kempe, chair, Membership Committee and Alison Pinsler, newsletter editor.

The proposal for the by-law revisions was put to the membership present by the chair. Suzanna Simor raised an issue concerning a slight modification in Article 4, section E under number 4, sentence C. She asked that "upon request" be added at the end of the sentence in reference to a member being allowed to see the books. This was discussed by the membership. Ross Day said that this change could be easily made, at the next executive board meeting and then presented to the membership at the following meeting. The by-law revisions were passed by an overwhelming margin in a show of hands.

A walking tour of Hoboken sponsored by the ARLIS/New Jersey chapter is planned for Saturday May 2, 1987. The plans remain to be finalized but tentatively we will meet at 10am at the Hoboken Public library and proceed on a three house walking tour to see historical buildings and art galleries, culminating in lunch at a local restaurant, ending at approximately 2pm. Virginia Vogel will lead the tour.

Ted Goodman was formally thanked for the list that he prepared of past locations of ARLIS/NY meetings which was published in the latest ARLIS/NY Newsletter. Daniel Starr announced Ted's promotion to editor-in-chief of the Avery Index.

Paula Baxter, Eastern Regional representative, spoke to the membership about the executive board concerns. They would like to have the 1990 ARLIS/NA meeting in NYC, in order to "link-up" with CAA. We discussed the pros and cons of this matter and a lively discussion took place. Members reminisced on the misery of planning and executing the 1986 ARLIS/NA meeting. When queried on their receptiveness for hosting the 1990 conference in NYC, the membership present was split. Those who felt they would like to host the conference cautioned that the executive board be advised to consider hiring a conference planner.

Paula asked for volunteers to form a small committee to work with Bowker on a project to include the information from the ARLIS/NA Art Libraries and Visual Resource Collections in North America in the next edition of their American Art Directory. She asked anyone interested in the project to contact her.

Linda introduced Katherin Deiss, the moderator for the Professional Concerns Committee program on "Additional Formal Education: Beyond the B.A. and M.L.S." The participants on the panel were: Katharine Martinez, PhD, American Studies; Evelyn Samuels, PhD, Arts Administration, who also presented for Doralyann Pines, PhD, Art History; Suzanna Simon, candidate for PhD in Art History; and Sydney Keaveney, PhD, Library and Information Science.

Nine questions were presented to each person on the panel and the responses were both personal and lively. The questions were:

- Why did you pursue an additional degree?
- How long did/has it taken?
- Were you employed at the time and if so what percent did the employer support you?
- Were you always employed during the program?
- What was the most satisfying part of the program?
- What was the least satisfying aspect?
- Is the degree relevant to your present job?
- Why did you decide to pursue the degree?
- How did you come to a career in Art Libraries?

The meeting concluded with a tour of the Cooper Union Library by Elizabeth Vadja and the Cooper Union Library Staff.

Adina Lerner
Secretary

The Professional Concerns Committee (PCC) of ARLIS/NY sponsored an open forum, in Washington, to ascertain if there is general interest in professional issues.

The event was well attended, lively discussion was had, suggestions were made and we hope to carry this interest to Dallas. The PCC met following the D.C. conference and with the support and encouragement of ARLIS/NA, the Executive Board are proposing the following:

1. A proposal to the editors of Art Doc and Update for an annual or a biannual column for a clearinghouse on professional concerns.
2. A suggestion by Caroline Backlund about 'mentor counseling' will be formalized and, with luck, will begin in Dallas.
3. Hopefully sponsor a panel in Dallas dealing with the future of art librarians.

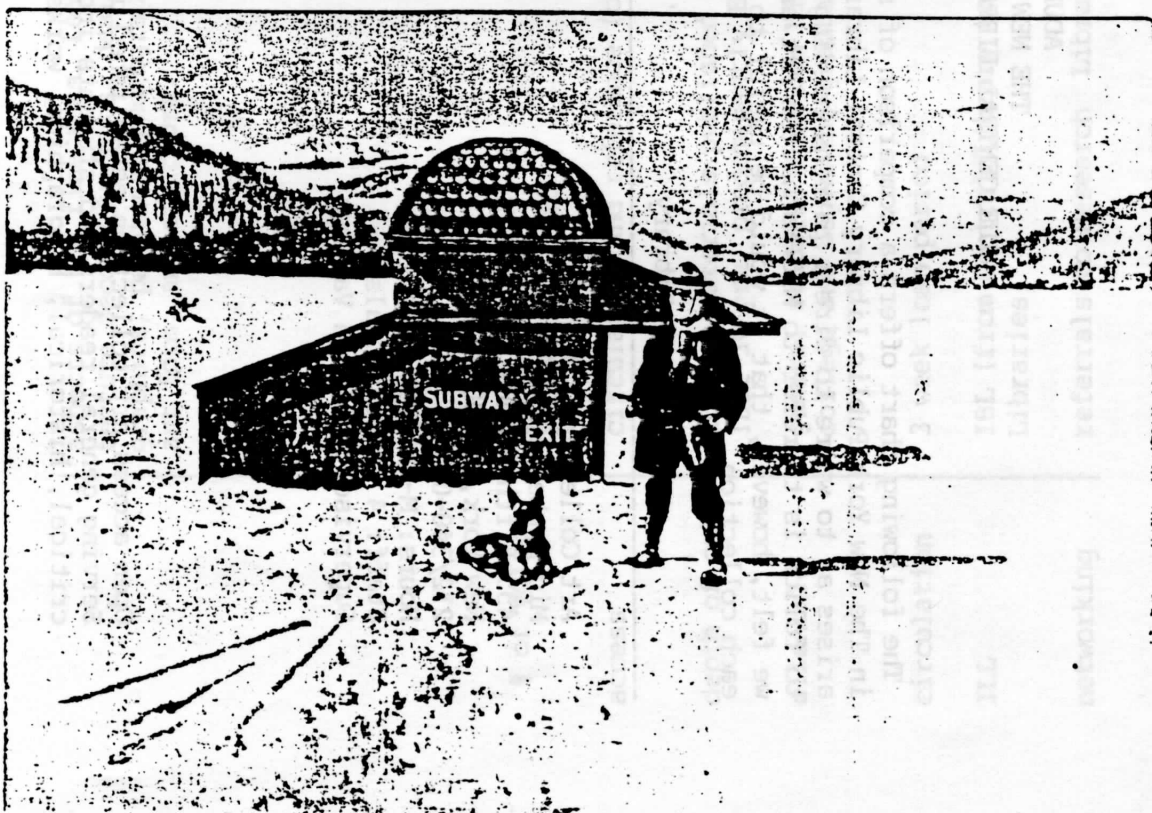
The PCC's continuing search for a definition of 'professional concerns' that reflect the needs of the ARLIS/NY and the ARLIS/NA membership and to program events require immediate attention from the membership. We would like to know what types of professional activities should be organized, provide support for the local membership and play a leadership role at the national level.

Please send any ideas to me at 27 Walloon St. ; Staten Island, NY 10303 ; 718-273-6245.

The current members of the PCC are; Matthew Hogan (Chair), Kathryn J. Deiss, Donya Schimansky and Linda Swieszkowski.

For the Committee,

Matthew Hogan



ADULT ART SOURCES IN
THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY:
THE CENTRAL LIBRARY AND THE RESEARCH LIBRARIES

The following chart offers a comparison of services and holdings related to the subject of art held in The New York Public Library Central Library and the Research Libraries. The question frequently arises as to where to direct patrons needing information on an art subject. While the best procedure to follow is to refer to Mid-Manhattan Art and let the Art collection Staff make further referrals, we felt, however, that it would be useful to be apprised of the services and holdings available in each collection.

Central Library

Art Collection 3rd Floor
Mid-Manhattan Library
455 Fifth Avenue (at 40th St.)
New York, NY 10016
212/340-0871
Hours: M-Th 9-9; F-Sa 10-6
Staff: 4 professionals
Supervisor: Stephen Van Dyk

Research Libraries

New York Public Library
Art, Prints & Photographs Division
Rm 313
42nd & Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10016
212/930-0834
Hours: M, W, F, Sa: 10-5:45; Tu 10-8:45
closed Thursday, some art materials
can be requested through Rm 315 when
Rm 313 is closed.
Staff: 5 professionals
Chief: Robert Rainwater
First Assistant: Anthony Cardillo

Open access art collection established in 1979.
Serving general readers and students including
critical, historical, biographical works on all

Closed stack art collection established
in 1911. Serving general readers and
scholars comprehensively, featuring:

Central Library

Research Libraries

aspects of the fine arts, featuring: architecture, decorative arts, design, drawing, graphics, painting, photography as an art form, and sculpture.

architectural design and history of the arts of all countries from prehistoric time to the present; books on graphic artists and catalogs of their works; books, original fine prints of the past six centuries with special emphasis on scholarly works in art history, ceramics, costumes, design, folk arts, glass, interior decoration, jewelry and furniture, Oriental art, post-Columbian American art, reference books and periodicals on painting, sculpture, silversmithing and textiles.

of Vols.

Books: 29,000
Periodicals: 198

Books: Approx. 125,000-150,000 (not including the Print Room holdings)

access

circulating and reference (open stack)

Closed stack (small selection of popular resources available)

depth of col.

current materials published within the last 30 yrs. predominantly English lang.

archival -- European languages and some Cyrillic and oriental

clientele

general readers, advanced high school, college and beginning graduate students

General readers, college and graduate students, researchers, art & antique dealers

circulation

3 week loan period

no circulation

ILL

IBL (from Central Library to Branch Libraries)

RLG -- limited lending to RLG members

networking

referrals to Research Library and other

referrals to MMART and other special

policy	special libraries in the City Metro courtesy card can be issued but first Research Library holdings are checked	libraries in the city using Metro courtesy card: RLIN search available through room 315
computerized database searching	available to public free of charge (limited to 25 citations) Dialog, Infotrack (MMGR & MWSCI)	available to public for a fee -- unlimited citations: Dialog, BRS, Questel.
telephone inquiry	ready reference: basic biographical terms, auction prices on-shelf check for circ materials before noon each day	ready reference: same as MMART but no auction prices quoted over phone
letter inquiry		letters answered for inquiries outside 50 mile radius of New York City
photocopying	photocopiers available on floor for patron use. Patrons may photograph materials with staff permission	art materials are taken to photocopy service; restrictions on photocopying of some materials; can place orders for photostats, photographs and slides; patrons may photograph materials (no flash allowed)
periodicals	current issues and microform to be requested at periodicals desk; bound volumes on open shelves.	Room 108 current Room 315 back issues
periodical indexes	Art Index, Artbibliographies Modern, RILA, Avery (1st ed.), Architectural Periodicals Index, Architectural Index	everything MMART has except Arch. I. and in addition Repertoire d'art et d'archeologie, Ryerson, Avery 2nd ed. plus supplements

Central Library

Research Librarics

slides	none	none
prints/posters	reproductions in branches (check BLS holdings)	original prints in Print Room
microform series	Historic American Building Survey: NY, NJ, MA, CT; 19th & 20th Century Art Exhibition Catalogs	none
sale catalogs	none	some
library catalogs	Archives of American Art	NYPL, Avery, Metropolitan Mus., MOMA, Fogg, etc.
auction catalogs	only Sotheby's & Christies Review of Season.	individual sale catalogs for Sotheby's and Christies
exhibition catalogs	major national exhibits and NYC institutions; microform series	foreign exhibits and national institutions (comprehensive)
in-house indexes	vertical file on artists, subjects and museums	Inside file: subject file to illustrations and hard to find information Architectural file: inhouse index to periodicals published from 1900-1930 (emphasis on architects and buildings of NYC) Pamphlet box: materials (emphenera) related to museums, art organizations, galleries, etc. for New York City Scrapbook collections: approx. 150 dealing with various subjects and some artists

Picture Collection - 3rd floor
 Mid-Manhattan Library
 same address as above
 212/340-0878
 Hours: M,W,F 12-6; Tu 12-8; Th 10-6
 Sa 1-5
 Staff: 7 professionals
 Supervisor: Mildred Wright

clipping files

arranged by subject, e.g. flowers;
 artists are subjects

access

circulation and reference

reference only

Popular Library - 1st Floor
 Mid-Manhattan Library
 same address as above
 212/340-0837

Hours: same as MMART
 Staff: 4 professionals
 Supervisor: Katherine Brown

crafts

beginning materials for hobbyists

craft materials for practitioners

Business Department - 4th Floor
 Mid-Manhattan Library
 same address as above
 212/340-0884

Hours: same as MMART
 Staff: 5 professionals
 Supervisor: Donald Alexis

Art Division and see also
 Science and Technology Division
 Rm 120
 Hours: M,W-Sa 10-5:45; Tu 10-8:45

Research Libraries

Central Library

<p>commercial art</p>	<p>graphic art: typography, layout, logos; fashion merchandising</p>	<p>Art Division and see also Science and Technology Division same as above</p>
<p>technical</p>	<p>Science Department same address as above 212/340-0883 Hours: same as MMART Staff: 6 professionals Supervisor: Natalie Rubenstein buildings/carpentry, drafting, dressmaking</p> <p>History Department - 5th floor Mid-Manhattan Library same address as above 212/340-0887 Hours: same as MMART Staff: 10 professionals Supervisor: Stephen Kline</p> <p>archaeology, costume history</p>	<p>Art Division and see also General Research and Humanities Div., Rm 315 Hours: M-W 10-8:45; Th-Sa 10-5:45 Jewish Division Rm 84 Hours: M,W,F 10-5:45; Tu 10-8:45, closed Th; Sa 1-5:45 Oriental Division Rm 219 Hours: M,W,F,Sa 10-5:45; Tu 10-8:45 closed Th</p> <p>archaeology, costume history</p>

Research Libraries

Central Library

Donnell Library
 Adult Lending Library
 20 W. 53rd Street
 212/621-0681
 Hours: M,Tu,Th 9:30-6; S 10-5:30, Su 1-5
 Staff: 9 professionals
 Supervisor: James Peters

Materials for hobbyists (see also BLS)

crafts

film and video on art and artists, techniques

film & video

circulating; film viewing booths in library

access

craft materials for practitioners
 Art Division and see also
 Science and Technology Division
 125th St, 2nd floor, 212/675-1045
 VLF Division and see 9120

craft materials for practitioners

Art Division and see also
 Science and Technology Division
 125th St, 2nd floor, 212/675-1045
 VLF Division and see 9120

craft materials for practitioners

Research Libraries

Central Library

Research Libraries

General Library and Museum of the
Performing Arts at Lincoln Center
111 Amsterdam Avenue
New York, NY 10023
212/870-1630
Hours: M,Th: 10-8, Tu: 10-7, W,F: 12-6
Sat: 10-6

Performing Arts Research Center
111 Amsterdam Avenue
New York, NY 10023

Hours: M,Th 10-7:45;Tu,W,F 12-5:45;
Sa 10-5:45

Drama Library
Staff: 4 Professionals
Hours:same as above
Supervisor: Lawrence Cioppa
212/870-1627

Billy Rose Theatre Collection
Address: same as above
Hours: same as above
212/870-1639
Supervisor: Dorothy Swerdlow

Books on theater costume and fashion
history, masks, theater make-up, period
furniture, set design, theater
architecture and animation.
Clipping file on design and theater.

Same as Drama Library, but has a
research oriented collection. Has
performance videos and original set
and costume designs. Many non-book
materials.

Schamberg Center for Research in Black
Culture
515 Lenox Avenue
New York, NY 10037
212/862-4000
Hours: M-W: 12-8; Th-Sa: 10-6

Extensive collections of materials on
Black Art and Artists thruout the world

MISCELLANY

ANOTHER BYLAWS REVISION MOTION

PURSUANT TO a motion made by ARLIS/New York member Suzanna Simor at the Spring business meeting of the chapter, March 25, 1987, and approved for consideration by the Executive Board at its meeting April 21, 1987, the following amendment to the bylaws will be offered for approval at the upcoming chapter meeting (*addition in italics*):

ART. IV, PARA. E, SECT. 4, PT. c:

Shall exhibit the books and accounts to any member of the society *upon request.*

The Museum of Modern Art

The Library
212 708-9430/9433

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The ARLIS/NA compiled Directory of Art Libraries and Visual Resources Collections is now fairly out-of-date. For several years, the ARLIS/NA Executive Board has been working on updating the directory via a number of publishing options. Recently, a dialogue was established with Jacques Cattell/Bowker to provide this information within the American Art Directory. The Executive Board has asked me to enquire whether any New York City ARLIS Chapter members would be interested in serving as a group liaison with Bowker. Much groundwork has been done in the past; the Executive Board feels that they would like some help from New York-based individuals in acting as official ARLIS/NA contacts with Cattell/Bowker. If anyone is interested in becoming one of this liaison group, please contact me at (a.m.) (212) 708-9434 or (p.m.) 708-9433.

Paula A. Baxter
Eastern Regional Representative

At the ARLIS/NY-sponsored demonstration of the Online Avery Index in November 1986, a questionnaire indicated a strong interest in further sessions on bibliographic databases. If the ARLIS/NY membership gives an accurate indication, there is increasing activity in database searching in art libraries. But we are still finding our way compared with our colleagues in the sciences and social sciences. In order to compare notes on search strategies, policies, and database evaluation, Virginia Kerr of the Avery Library at Columbia University and Kathryn Deiss of the Watson Library at the Metropolitan Museum are convening an informal discussion group on Tuesday, June 9, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., at the Watson Library. Come prepared with your questions and comments, but don't expect basic training in searching (we defer to the vendors on that one). See the enclosed announcement and response form.

- V. Kerr