From the Chair
By Paula Gabbard

I must admit, it’s a tough act to follow Joy Kestenbaum as chair. Under Joy’s leadership last year we enjoyed remarkable tours and venues for our meetings. Thanks to the generosity of Greta Earnest and her colleagues, we met at the Bard Graduate Center in early 2001; later in the year Annie Van Assche hosted us at the Japan Society; Roger Diederen led us through the Dahesh Museum last fall; Carol Rusk and her colleagues were gracious hosts at the Whitney Museum for the holiday party; and last summer, we toured the extraordinary Planting Fields Arboretum and Coe Hall in Oyster Bay, New York. We must also thank Joy for following up on Faith Pleasanton’s invitation to ARLIS/NY to visit the Neue Galerie on Feb. 7 (see page 5). Needless to say, I will be consulting Joy in the future to exploit her skills and contacts to find more innovative and exciting venues for our organization.

I would like to thank those members who stepped down from the board in December 2001 for all of their work in keeping this organization thriving: Tom McNulty from New York University (Member-at-Large/Membership), Jenny Tobias from the Museum of Modern Art (Treasurer), and Clayton Kirking now at the New York Public Library (Past Chair). I also want to thank our two Newsletter editors Alexandra de Luise from Queens College and James Mitchell from the American Folk Art Museum for their extraordinary work in producing the last and now this current newsletter. This is no simple task, and they have managed it beautifully. Thanks also to Jim Viskochil for taking over the ARLIS/NY web site. He has great plans for this site, and we are all looking forward to his cyber-transformations. (Also, see Jim Viskochil’s article about the site on p. 2) Finally, congratulations to our newly elected board members: Heather Topcik from the Bard Graduate Center (Member-at-Large/Membership), Caitlin Kilgallen from the School of Visual Arts (Treasurer), and Deborah Kempe from the Frick Art Reference Library (Vice-Chair). They have already proven themselves to be capable, reasonable, and accommodating—a great combination!

Inside
Celene Palatsky Travel Award p. 3
Holiday Party at Whitney Museum p. 4
Meeting at Neue Galerie p. 5
Member News p. 7

continued on p.3
New York Technical Services Librarians Annual Reception

ARLIS/NY is helping to sponsor the annual spring reception of the New York Technical Services Librarians (NYTSL), being held on Friday, March 15, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Trustees Room of the New York Public Library (Fifth Avenue at 42nd Street). The reception is an opportunity for librarians, archivists, and information professionals to meet informally, as well as providing an opportunity to attract new members and raise the visibility of the organization.

If you have any questions about the reception or NYTSL, contact their President, Patrick F. Callahan (Director of the Library, Purchase College, SUNY) at (914) 251-6436, Patrick.callahan@purchase.edu.

Treasurer's Report
By Caitlin Kilgallen

Balance on hand (Feb.19, 2002): $ 909.62

ARLIS/NY Website Update
By James M. Viskochil

The ARLIS/NY Chapter Website is currently undergoing some major changes. A skeletal version is now available at http://www.geocities.com/arlisny. This Geocities account serves as a temporary solution until a more appropriate home can be found. We chose a commercial site in an attempt to eliminate some of the challenges associated with institutional web hosting. On February 2, 2002, members of the ARLIS/NY Board met to determine the next course of development for the site. The site will be revamped to include more dynamic, timely information important to ARLIS/NY members. This will include a construction alert area where news about building projects can be posted. In addition to this, the News Page will include meeting announcements and other member submitted information. We will also make available membership renewal forms and other such documents in Portable Document Format (PDF) for easy downloading and printing. The most current issue of the ARLIS/NY newsletter will be available as a PDF file as well as an archive of past issues. We hope to have the final version available by the end of February when an official announcement will be made on the ARLIS listserv. Please send your comments and questions to arlisny@yahoo.com.
From the Chair, continued

Our future plans for ARLIS/NY events are still incubating, while many of us are preparing to attend the first ever joint conference of ARLIS/NA and the Visual Resources Association, to be held March 20-26, 2002 in St. Louis. Somehow, in addition, Deborah Kempe will squeeze in time to represent ARLIS at the New York Technical Services Librarians Spring Reception on March 15 at the New York Public Library.

You will by now have received by mail your renewal notices sent by Heather Topcik, our new board member in charge of membership. If you want to fuss at someone about the draconian warning that you will be removed from the ARLIS/NY membership lists unless you pay right away, fuss at me. We really need to find out who is a willing, paying member, and who is not. If you have misplaced your renewal notice, you can make a copy of the form from our web site, fill it out, and mail it to Heather Topcik with a check. Her address:

Heather Topcik, ARLIS/NY Membership
Bard Graduate Center for the Decorative Arts
38 W. 86th St.
New York, NY 10024

Or simply call me (Paula Gabbard) at (212) 854-6745, give me your name and address, and I will mail you a renewal form. Frankly, because our funds are low, we can not continue to support those members who do not contribute to our meager budget. We would more than welcome contributions over and above the standard membership fee from any good souls with disposable income.

We are still on the docket to host the 2004 ARLIS/NA Conference in New York City, and Ted Goodman has solicited RFPs from the handful of hotels that have the proper accommodations for our national organization. Stay tuned for future updates.

Rebecca L. Kranz Wins Celine Palatsky Travel Award

The ARLIS/NY Travel Award Committee–Paula Gabbard and Joy Kestenbaum–announces that Rebecca Kranz has been selected to receive the 2002 Celine Palatsky Travel Award. Ms. Kranz is completing her joint M.S. in Art History and Library Science at Pratt Institute while working part-time at the Art and Architecture Collection in the New York Public Library’s Humanities and Social Sciences Library. This $500 award will help Rebecca Kranz fund her first trip to the Art Libraries Society of North America Conference, this year being held jointly with the Visual Resources Association on March 20–26, 2002, in St. Louis. ARLIS/NY congratulates Ms. Kranz on her honor.
Whitney Museum of American Art Rolls Out the Red Carpet
By Alexandra de Luise

The Whitney Museum of American Art was the site of the Holiday Party on Friday, December 7th, 2001. ARLIS/ NY member and former chair (1998) Carol Rusk, Librarian of the Whitney's Francis Mulhall Achilles Library, arranged a beautiful evening that combined wonderful exhibits, good food and drink, and pleasant conversation. It was a perfect way to begin the holiday season and to end a difficult year on an upbeat note.

The evening began with 25 members touring the Jacob Lawrence exhibit, entitled "Over the Line: The Art and Life of Jacob Lawrence." Our knowledgeable tour guide was Elise Pustilnik, of the museum's External Affairs/Membership Department. She led us through what was the highlight of the Lawrence retrospective, the paintings from "The Migration of the Negro" series, marking the exodus of Afro-Americans from the South to the North. Moved by the quiet truthfulness and brilliancy of this artist, the atmosphere soon changed to light conviviality when we were escorted at 6pm to the Museum's annex to the party attended by 60 members. Members contributed a favorite dish or sweet. Maxwell L. Anderson, Director of the museum, generously provided wines, sodas, and beautifully decorated baskets of hors d'oeuvres.

Raina Lampkins-Fielder, Acting Associate Director/Helena Rubinstein Chair of Education, warmly greeted us. During the business portion of the event, ARLIS/ NY Chair Joy Kestenbaum introduced Jim Viskochil, the new Webmaster, and thanked the outgoing board members, Jenny Tobias (Treasurer), Tom McNulty (Member-at-Large) and Clayton Kirking (Past Chair). Newly elected officers Debbie Kempe, Vice-Chair/Chair Elect, Caitlin Kilgallen, Treasurer, and Heather Topcik, Member-at-Large, were also introduced. Ted Goodman, ARLIS/NA President, told members that the ARLIS/NA conference to be held in New York in 2004 is scheduled to proceed. Carol Rusk introduced the library staff in attendance: Sarah Kanafani, Assistant Archivist, and Kraig Swartz, Library Assistant. Paula Gabbard, incoming ARLIS/ NY Chair, thanked Joy Kestenbaum for the terrific job she did as Chair and gave members a preview of events to come.

The party concluded at 7:30pm, after which time several members and guests stayed on to shop in the gift shop and bookstore, or to view the other exhibits going on that evening, including: Into the Light: the Projected Image in American Art, 1964–1977; Alex Katz: Small Paintings; Charles Burchfield: Works on Paper; H.C. Westermann Prints; Sharon Harper: Photographs from the Floating World; Arturo Herrera; and Highlights from the Permanent Collection. Each guest received a "discount coupon" to the Whitney bookstore for that evening—a fun touch to a marvelous evening.
ARLIS/NY Visits the Neue Galerie Feb. 7, 2002
By Paula Gabbard

Thanks to Faith Pleasanton, on Thursday, Feb. 7, ARLIS/NY members were fortunate to be invited by the Neue Galerie New York to an exclusive evening at the city’s newest cultural institution. Devoted to early twentieth-century German and Austrian art and design, the Neue Galerie was founded by two passionate collectors: Serge Sabarsky, a Viennese born New York gallery owner whose site at 987 Madison Avenue for German and Austrian Expressionist art was world renowned, and one of his major collectors, Ronald S. Lauder, chairman of Estée Lauder International, Clinique Laboratories incorporated, and several major philanthropic organizations.

Between 6:00–7:00 we toured the second and third floors of the gallery where the inaugural exhibition New Worlds: German and Austrian Art, 1890-1940 was held. This exhibition featured a selection of the museum’s collection of works by Klimt, Kokoschka, Schiele, Beckmann, Kandinsky, Kirchner, Klee and others as well as decorative arts works by the Wiener Werkstätte and the Bauhaus. The central room on the second floor devoted to Austrian artists, was filled with powerful and sometimes disturbing portrait paintings.

A smaller room to the east had a splendid collection of drawings by Klimt, Schiele, and others. The third floor was divided into the four modernist German groups: Die Brücke, the Blaue Reiter, Dada and Neue Sachlichkeit, and finally the Bauhaus, with an additional tiny room filled with fascinating photographs of the artists. At 6:30, assistant curator of the Neue Galerie Janis Staggs Flinchum strolled through the gallery floors answering member’s questions about the exhibition.

At 7:00, we were invited into Café Sabarsky and served generous quantities of excellent Austrian wine and delightful amuses bouche created by Kurt Gutenbrunner, master chef and owner of the celebrated Austrian restaurant in the West Village, Wallsé. Inspired by those Viennese cafés where artists and intellectuals could enjoy one another’s company at leisure, the café’s designers successfully combined its Carrière & Hastings paneling with superb Hoffmann and Loos details.

We all felt honored to be the first private party held at Neue Galerie. It was an evening we will not forget.
Outgoing New York Chapter Board Members

At the Chapter Officers' Meeting held January 9 at Avery Library, the 2002 Board said good-bye and *muy, muy gracias* to the three departing officers.

From l. to r.: ex-Treasurer Jenny Tobias; ex-Past-Chair Clayton Kirking; ex-Member at Large for Membership Tom McNulty. (Paintings by Florine Stettheimer in the background.)

2002 Chapter Board Members

From l. to r.: Treasurer Caitlin Kilgallen; Member at Large for Membership Heather Topcik; Chair Paula Gabbard; Secretary Elizabeth Broman; Past Chair Joy Kestenbaum. (Not present: Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Deborah Kempe and Member at Large for Advertising Leslie Preston.)

Photos by James Mitchell
Member News

Elizabeth Broman has been awarded the 2002 Worldwide Books Publication Award for her article “Egyptian Revival Funerary Art in Green-Wood Cemetery” in Markers, The Annual Journal of the Association for Gravestone Studies, vol. XVIII. Elizabeth will be honored during the Convocation at the ARLIS/NA Conference in St. Louis.

Clayton Kirking has accepted the position of Chief, Art Information Resources at New York Public Library. In his new position at NYPL, Clayton will oversee staff, collection development, and public services in the Art & Architecture Collection. His responsibilities will include a special emphasis on access to art resources in a networked environment and the creation of an Art & Architecture component of the Wallach Digital Gallery.

Local Members Serving as 2002 ARLIS/NA Committee Chairs

Several familiar faces from NY will be serving this year as the heads of various national committees:

Paula Gabbard: Gerd Muehsam Award
Leslie Preston: Membership
Elizabeth O'Keefe: Cataloging Advisory
James Mitchell: Public Policy, co-chair with Barbara Rockenbach

And of course Daniel Starr who has been Vice-President/President Elect will become President of ARLIS/NA, while Ted Goodman officially begins his term as Past-President.
News From the Field

Have you paid your 2002 chapter dues yet?


ARLIS/New York News
Heather Topcik, ARLIS/NY Membership Coordinator
Bard Graduate Center Library
38 West 86th Street
New York, NY 10024

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