

**SIS / Suncoast Information Specialists**  
**Alan Nichter**  
**October 28, 2008**  
**Approved February 26, 2009**

The October meeting and program of the Florida Suncoast Information Specialists meeting was held on the 28th at Picadilly's in Tampa. A total of 16 members and guests were in attendance. The evening began with informal networking and registration at 5:30 pm and dinner at 6:00pm.

Welcome and Introductions: Janine welcomed the guests at 6:30 pm after dinner. Everyone then went around the room and introduced themselves. In addition we had the new vice president, Christa Fowler, tell us about herself, as well as the new Treasurer, Cheryl Wolfe. Christa recently was hired at Jane Bancroft Cook Library at USF Sarasota-Manatee and Cheryl is currently working in the Hillsborough County Library System. A vote was taken for the new slate of officers, all were approved. After the election, President Janine Awai directed that the new treasurer, Cheryl Wolfe, be authorized as an agent to act for SIS in financial transactions and to manage banking accounts, and that Betsy King should remain on the back account as the second signatory.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report: There was no approval of minutes and Betsy read the treasurers report. The SIS treasury, as of Oct 28, 2008, was \$952.14.

Announcements: Janine asked for any announcements from the group. Jessica made an announcement that the rescheduled USF SLIS Alumni Meeting will take place on November 18th from 6:30-7:30 pm in the Ambassadors Room at the Alumni Center on the Tampa Campus at USF. Interested Alumni can RSVP to Tyrone Gray, Alumni Association Manager, at (813) 974-1936 or [tgray@admin.usf.edu](mailto:tgray@admin.usf.edu).

Karen Keene co-authored an article in Academic Medicine entitled "Using observations of clinicians' teaching practices to build a model of clinical instruction." The article can be found on PubMed in Academic Medicine 2008 Aug;83(8):768-74.

New Business: Theresa Burress, U.S. Geological Survey librarian, announced that on Wednesday, November 5, U.S. Geological Survey will hold a public Open House from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Along with the displays, they will have an area set aside for educational materials. They are encouraging educators, community leaders and the general public throughout the bay area to attend. Theresa they gave out free maps of Florida.

Janine mentioned the December meeting and Jessica gave a brief update on the meeting. SIS and CFALL will hold the annual holiday mixer on December 8th, 2008 at the Habana Café in Gulfport. Jessica told the group we were still up in the air about having a buffet or ordering off the Menu. SIS has offered to pay for the dessert for member and possibly discount student meals. An email announcement will follow in the next few weeks.

Program: Janine announced the speaker and Jessica told the group about Alan Nichter, a retired Hillsborough County Librarian. Alan worked as a librarian for 31 years in the Hillsborough county system with a wide variety of jobs, including book talking for young adults, collection development, reader guidance, book discussion groups, and reviews. Alan also took time to provide storytelling at Nursing Homes. He began his presentation by opening with a book talk on Deathwatch, by Rob White. His performance had the entire group's attention. He gave a few tips on book talking. Never book talk a book you haven't read, read the book, like the book and talk about the book, and remember that book talking is a taste, not a meal. It is like watching a movie trailer. You get interested in the medium you are promoting and look for a hook that is interesting to the group. The easiest book talk you can give is on the plot of the book, and the hardest is developing the characters. The next book he presented was Ghost Map, by Steven Johnson. He followed with The Winter Room, by Gary Paulsen and An Unfinished Life, by Mark Spragg. Alan told the group that the hardest thing about book talking is picking out the book. Book talking may also be difficult for non fiction books. He then mentioned that survival stories would be easier and biographies would be tougher. He left the group with 2 valuable notes on book talking. One, you never see a comic with a list of jokes. Two never take notes to a book talk.

The program and meeting concluded at 8:15 pm.

Submitted November 10, 2008

Jessica Zairo