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SUNCOAST INFORMATION SPECIALISTS
INFO NEWSLETTER
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EDITOR'S CORNER
by Jackie Jackson

One of the things that I have noticed since assuming the editorship of this newsletter is how much more quickly time seems to pass. Mostly in two-month segments! And the last two months have taken us from Labor Day `end of summer lethargy' to the pre-Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays bustle. Among the changes that have taken place during this time period was our President's move to the Pinellas Public Library Cooperative Answer Center in Clearwater. Please note Harriet's new telephone number and email address, along with a couple of minor changes in those of Casey and Betsy also, in the list of SIS officers.

I'm really pleased to be able to include accounts of some meetings that a few of our members attended recently, and I hope that this information will be of interest to those of you who were not able to participate. I encourage anyone who is planning on going to a meeting to share impressions by sending a paragraph or two for inclusion in the next newsletter, (or call me with your details).

In response to a couple of queries I received about our mention last time of MEDIALIB, here is a fuller description: MEDIALIB, Media Services in Libraries, is a discussion list for those in all libraries, public, academic, special, etc., who provide audiovisual services to their patrons. The list was started by Jerry Notaro, AV Librarian at Poynter Library, USF, in St. Petersburg, in 1994, as a function of the AV Caucus of the Florida Library Association. Membership now numbers 368 members worldwide, and includes, to mention a few, Microsoft, Harvard, Yale, the BBC in the United Kingdom, Rutgers, University of Copenhagen, the US Military, SUNY Buffalo, University of Milan, MIT, the National Institute of of Health, OCLC, University of Zambia, University of Melbourne, Utrecht, National University of Singapore, Universite de Buenos Aires, Universade de Brasilia, University of Toronto, University of British Columbia and major American universities. Also included are large public libraries, library science faculty and graduate students, and private, commercial media providers. Members use the list to discuss issues facing library media services.

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SIS MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE

Just a reminder that dues for the 1995/1996 are due. See the application form for more details.

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DECEMBER MEETING
by Lana Bullian

The next SIS meeting will be held on December 4, 1995, at 11:30 am at All Children's Hospital, in downtown St. Petersburg. Pat Buchan, Medical Librarian at All Children's, will talk about the facility and her work. She will provide an optional tour of the medical library after the meeting. A lunch will be provided for $5.00 per person, payable at the meeting. RSVP by Thursday, November 30, to Pat Buchan at 892-4278.

Directions: Proceed Southbound on I-275 to Exit #9, which is I-175. Follow I-175 approximately 1 1/2 miles to 4th Street South and turn right onto 4th Street South. Follow 4th Street South to 8th Avenue South and turn right. Prepare to immediately turn right again into the first parking lot. You will be behind the Finance Building. Proceed through the parking lot to the next lot which is directly behind the Education/Conference Center for All Children's Hospital. Park anywhere in that lot and enter the Conference Center through a small courtyard. We will meet upstairs in Room 2. The street address for the Education/Conference Center is 701 4th Street South.

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MINUTES FROM OCTOBER MEETING
by Casey Puckett

The October SIS meeting took place during the Annual Meeting of the Florida Chapter of the American Society for Information Science at USF, Tampa campus on October 6. The topic of the meeting was GIS (Geographical Information Systems). The first speaker was Richard C. Daniels of the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center. He delved into various aspects of GIS and answered the "what is it" and "what can it do for me" questions that were in the back of my mind. As an example, he said that insurance companies use GIS to track storms in the hopes of achieving a faster response time to affected policy holders. GIS is used to pinpoint critical global issues. Studies on climate change, ozone depletion, erosion and deforestation have improved dramatically with the help of GIS. The graphic representation of data has more impact than text only reports, and often GIS compiled data is used more effectively for research than data gathered by other means.

The next speaker, Dr. Richard Flamm, of the Florida Marine Research Institute, discussed how using GIS helps in managing Florida's coastal resources. The institute has mapped oil spills, identified shrimp closure zones, and assessed environmental damage caused by power boats. One of their biggest projects has been to track the movement of manatees. An important function of their office is to educate the public. They offer educational literature on various topics and alert the media when there are area problems. Dr. Flamm brought along one of their most popular publications, a booklet entitled _Tampa Bay Boaters' Guide_, (call Dr. Flamm at 896-8626 to obtain any of their publications).

The final speaker was Myke Gluck, FSU School of Library Science. He talked about GIS and libraries, and the dispersal of geospatial information. He handed out a list of geographical Internet sites. Thanks to Greg Carlson, President of ASIS, for an excellent program!

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FLORIDA CHAPTER, ACRL
Annual Fall Workshop held in Orlando October 27, 1995
Organizational Change "Pushmi-Pullyu"
by Deb Henry

This workshop was divided into about 7 "units" dealing with different facets of planned change: forces for change; organizational changes brought about by new technology; overcoming resistance to change; how people respond to change; change as an opportunity for personal growth; how to introduce change; and improving work relationships in a changing organization. Participant discussions were carried out both in small and large groups depending on the issue.

Maureen Sullivan was the workshop facilitator. She is an organizational development consultant with more than 15 years experience as a practicing librarian in both public and university libraries, and she has worked with a variety of library organizations in the U.S., Canada and Australia. She did an excellent job of guiding the workshop participants through the various exercises and keeping the discussions focused.

Ms. Sullivan provided the participants with several informative handouts. Models for constructive and effective planning, and preparing for and implementing change were discussed. One particularly interesting discussion centered on the issue of "honoring resistance". Keeping staff informed of the reasons for change, and involving them in the process of change, can be a significant factor in success and satisfaction with the results.

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Academic Library Association of Ohio
Honey Run, Millersburg, OH, 9/22/95
How to Get Happily Published
by Jackie Jackson

This workshop was held at a country inn, in the Amish area between Cleveland and Columbus. The practical aspects of publishing, for academic librarians, from the perspective of those who have published, as well as editors, were covered. Speakers included Hannelore Rader of Cleveland State Univesity, who is well known in bibliographic instruction circles, and Barbara Wittkopf, editor of Research Strategies. Topics discussed included how to find ideas, copyright, royalties, ALA guidelines, future trends in publishing, electronic journals and professional ethics. We were treated to Amish cooking and enjoyed a cool crisp walk in the woods.

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SIS IS GETTING WIRED
by Betsy King

As of the end of October SIS has 126 members, (including those whose 95/96 dues are still outstanding), and 82 (65%) have email addresses in our records. During the past year we have sent out by email several notices, plus the electronic issues of the SIS INFO newsletter. Right now email is only a supplemental means of communication among our members, but it is the only means we have of contacting members quickly. If you use an email address, but don't think your address is on file (for example, you did not receive the September newsletter by email) please notify Betsy King. You can reach her by voice at (8134) 887-1658 or via internet at kingb@freenet.scri.fsu.edu.

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SIS PAGE ON THE SUNCOAST FREENET

SIS is an information provider for the Suncoast Freenet. Anyone logged onto the SCFN, either as a visitor or as a registered user, can get information about SIS, the name of a contact person, and future meeting details. The SIS page is found by typing "sis" at the "Your Choice:" prompt. It can also be reached by following the submenu tree through "Education and Libraries" (menu=edulib), "libraries" (menu=library), "librarians and Librarianship" (menu=libsci), "library Associations" (menu=libassoc), and "Suncoast Information Specialists (menu=sis). Check us out!

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SIS OFFICERS, 1995-1996

President -- Harriet Thompkins (Pinellas Public Library Cooperative Answer Center, Clearwater) 449-2761 (thompkh@snoopy.tblc.lib.fl.us)
Vice President -- Lana Bullian (Clearwater Public Library, Countryside Branch) 462-6448 (bullial@snoopy.tblc.lib.fl.us)
Secretary -- Casey Puckett (Pasco County Public Library) 861-3020 (caseyp@pasco.lib.fl.us)
Treasurer -- Betsy King (Reflectone) 887-1658 (kingb@freenet.scri.fsu.edu)
Newsletter Editor -- Jackie Jackson (USF-St. Pete) 893-9578 (jackson@bayflash.stpt.usf.edu)

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SIS MEMBERSHIP DUES. Has your membership in SIS expired? The upper right corner of the SIS mailing label (on the newsletter) will show your status. Dues are PAID through the date indicated, i.e. "x9/96" means that membership EXPIRES at the end of Sept 1996.

Your annual dues help pay for the printing and mailing of _INFO_, for the printing and mailing of the annual SIS membership directory, and for various programs sponsored by SIS. Dues are $5.00 per business year, October through September. If you want to remain an SIS member, please keep your dues current.

With your check, please fill out the attached application form. The information provided will be the basis for the _SIS Membership Directory_, to be printed in the Spring of each year. Notify Betsy King of any changes in the future, so that the records will be up-to-date. If you have any questions, call Betsy in Tampa at(813) 887-1658.

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S.I.S MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, OCTOBER 1995 - SEPTEMBER 1996

NAME:_____

DATE:_____ RENEWAL (Y/N):___ STUDENT (Y/N):___

INSTITUTION:_____

LIBRARY/INFO CENTER NAME:_____

INSTITUTION MAILING ADDRESS (include mail stop, street address, P.O. Box if used, etc.):

_____

_____

MEMBER MAILING ADDRESS (if not institution; i.e. home address):

_____

_____

WORK PHONE:_____ OTHER WORK PHONE:_____

FAX NUMBER:_____ HOME PHONE (opt.):_____

PREFERRED E-MAIL ADDRESS_____

Mail $5.00 to: (checks payable to Suncoast Information Specialists)

Suncoast Information Specialists
c/o Betsy King
Reflectone, Inc., Library, MS-19
P.O. Box 15000
Tampa, FL 33684-5000

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