Info Index

SUNCOAST INFORMATION SPECIALISTS INFO NEWSLETTER VOL. 13 -- NO. 1 JANUARY 1999

EDITOR'S CORNER

Shirl Kennedy, skennedy@reporters.net

Happy New Year! Been ridiculously busy in my new gig with the City of Clearwater. But I'm having a good time. Belated holiday gift for y'all...a few nifty new Web sites to explore.

1. Yahoo! Real Estate -- Home Values (http://realestate.yahoo.com/realestate/homevalues/). Home sales records for AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, IL, MD, MA, MI, MN, NV, NJ, NY, OH, OR, RI, SC, VA, WA, DC, WI.
   Search by Location: Find all homes that sold on a particular street, or find the sales history of a specific address. Example: "Find all the homes that sold on Maple St.", or "Find the previous sales prices of 1234 Maple St."
   Search by Price Range: Find all homes sold within a certain price range in one city. Example: "Find all homes in Oakland, California sold between $200,00 and $210,000."
2. NOAA's National Severe Storms Laboratory (http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/). Lots and lots of stuff here for weather weenies. Check The Weather Room for tutorials, fact sheets, etc.
3. Furby Autopsy (http://www.phobe.com/furby/index.html). What it says. Some people have too much time on their hands.
4. Arts and Letters Daily (http://www.cybereditions.com/aldaily/). They glean high quality material from an amazing range of online publications -- covers "philosophy, aesthetics, literature, language, ideas, criticism, culture, history, music, art, trends, breakthroughs, disputes, gossip..."
5. U.S. News Archives on the Web (http://metalab.unc.edu/slanews/internet/archives.html). Maintained by the SLA News Division -- gives date ranges, fees; provides direct links. Belongs on everyone's bookmark list.

Enjoy!

FEBRUARY 1999 MEETING

If you haven't seen the beautiful, new Stetson University College of Law Library yet, the February SIS luncheon meeting will provide you with the opportunity:

> Feb. 1, 1999, Monday, 11:30am - 1:30pm
> Stetson University College of Law
> 1401 61st Street South
> St. Petersburg, Florida

Directions: Stetson is in southwest St. Pete, between Gulfport & Pasadena. From either I-275 or U.S Hwy 19 take the 22nd Avenue South exit, and go west to 61st Street South.

We will start with lunch and a brief business meeting in the OLD library building. Lunch will cost us each $ 7.00. We will then go into a classroom where Michael Dahn, Librarian and Webmaster, will show us his Stetson website and dispel a few myths on search engines. After his 20 minute presentation, there will be a 30 minute tour of Stetson's NEW library.

RSVP. to Mary Kaye Raddatz, so Madison can plan lunch for us. Call or email Mary Kaye by phone (727-341-3657), fax (727-341-3658) or email (raddatzm@email.spjc.cc.fl.us) by END OF DAY Tuesday, January 26, 1999

MINUTES, SUNCOAST INFORMATION SPECIALISTS, DECEMBER 7, 1998
By Mary Marna Brady, Secretary

St. Petersburg Junior College's new Seminole campus hosted SIS for a multi-faceted day December 7, 1998. Beginning at 9:30 a.m., 36 persons attended an SIS-sponsored workshop led by Richard M. "Rick" Georges, P.A., St. Petersburg.

This was followed at 11:45 by an enjoyable alfresco lunch of sandwiches, fruit, beverages, and dessert served on the covered patio of the Information Commons. Even on the patio, we were aware of the "wired" nature of this campus as we observed the outlets for plugging in laptops at each of the picnic tables.

After the brief business meeting--also held on the patio--we got to see and hear about the exciting concept of a completely electronic library as exemplified in the Information Commons, when Joyce Burkhart, Instructor-in -Charge, showed us her new facility.

  WORKSHOP--"Electronic Tools & Technologies for Information Professionals: a Multimedia Show"

Rick Georges, in the forefront of the effective use of technology by the legal professions, practices law and handles litigation as a sole practitioner. Among other activities, he serves as technological trainer/consultant to his fellows, writes the column "The Future Lawyer," serves on the Florida Courts Technology Commission, and conducts legal technology workshops nationwide.

He amazed SIS members with the demonstration of his portable law office consisting of a laptop computer, a miniature video camera (for teleconferences on the internet), a scanner, and an infrared printer (no wire connecting it to the laptop).

While conducting the presentation, Mr. Georges cited several software products for the legal fields. Among these were 2 legal research services: LOIS (Law Office Information Systems) and Versuslaw. He also highlighted the usefulness of Amicus Attorney for case management and PCLAW/PCLAWJR for time and billing. Many sources for legal research are now updated to within 24 hours of currency. We can anticipate this phenomenon having a worldwide scope in the years ahead with the advent of expanded satellite/remote wireless communications spanning the globe.

Our state of Florida is making strides with technology for its legal proceedings. For example, a uniform numbering system for cases will simplify locating information on the internet. The Florida Supreme

Court currently has live internet broadcasts of oral arguments available, and the archives of these are accessible on the web also. All of Florida's public records concerning an individual are now located at one site on the internet, as volunteer Joyce Burkhart allowed Mr. Georges to demonstrate using her name.

Mr. Georges' web site (http://www.futurelawyer.com) lists his e-mail address and voice mail for those who have questions. The site also links users to many web locations helpful to anyone interested in legal research.

At the close of the presentation, SIS President Trudie Root gave those attending the workshop certificates citing their attendance and participation.

BUSINESS MEETING

President Trudie Root presided at the meeting attended by about 40 persons.

There was a correction to last meeting's minutes: the February meeting at Stetson University College of Law will definitely be on February 1, 1999.

Vice President Mary Kaye Raddatz and Trudie ask that the survey distributed to SIS members be returned by January 4, 1999, so that it can be used for planning future programs.

Trudie has sent our organization's letter commenting on Dialog's new minimum charges to the Dialog CEO.

We heard from those who were in attendance that SLA's workshop held at Disneyworld in Orlando was quite informative.

Representing the Tampa Bay Area Medical Library Association, Gwen Wolff encouraged attendance at this spring's April 14-15 program by the Florida Health Science Library Association to be held at Safety Harbor. The theme will be "Revitalizing the Value of the Informtion Specialist."

Trudie Root handed out samples of a proposed SIS logo for comments.

At the close of the meeting, on behalf of SIS, Trudie presented to Joyce Burkhart a green plant in celebration of the opening of our host site, the new Information Commons, SPJC, Seminole Campus.

TOUR

Assisted by staff member, Paul Sutton, Joyce Burkhart gave an overview of the Seminole Campus and the Information Commons, where each course has some technical component. Staff serving as technical developers work with instructors to create web-based classes.

Distance learning classes and 27 on-line courses are coordinated here. In addition, the campus handles video teleconferencing with Florida State University and Braille typewriting training for Florida and Georgia.

The web site allows the 700 students of this campus to do on-line research from home, and expected spring enrollment here is 1000. The Commons is open 7 days a week for students and staff to use the 125 computer stations.

One of the campus's cutting-edge showpieces was demonstrated by Paul Sutton as he explained how instructors would use a smart board, which replaces a traditional chalkboard. On this flat screen on the classroom's front wall, the instructor's finger directs the cursor, rather than using a mouse. Students who miss the class have access to the notes via the web site, and this board does not have to be erased to produce a new, clean page for the instructor to continue on with the lecture's highlights/notes.

WORKSHOP REPORTS

The following two meeting reports were contributed by our own Joyce Burkhart, who certainly does "get around."

Report on FACRL Fall Workshop, November 6, 1998, Cocoa Beach
Gary Parsons, Florida Atlantic University

Like last year, the fall FACRL workshop was held at the Cocoa Beach Holiday Inn, an excellent place to stay and to hold a meeting of this size. This year's topic was The Electronic Library: A Reality Check, dealt with the myth of the Electronic Library.

The first speaker was renowned library/Internet writer Walt Crawford. His thesis was that the electronic library, which he defined as the use of modern information technologies as a replacement for physical libraries, is dead. He believes that we now have complex libraries that combine and integrate various technologies.

What made professionals embrace the concept of the electronic library? Walt had a few ideas:

1. We wanted relief - from the flood of print items!
2. We believed that it would be effectively free - yes, it would cost, we could do so much do more with this technology that cost would be justified. Growth in memory would help, also.
3. Technology is a religion to individuals of our generation. We are part of the cult of the new.
4. We forgot our professional purpose. Libraries are about focus, organization, perception, etc. They are NOT about mere information!
5. We are all looking for magic bullets.

Now, why did this idea die? Well, because:

1. Technology - these new devices were neither as smooth nor as efficient as we expected.
2. Users - We listened to them. We found out that books not only worked for many patrons, but that they worked much better.
3. Real world economics.

What was his answer? He liked the complex library. This is a library that uses the most appropriate technology for the specific user need. For some users books may be better. For some users - micromaterials. And yes, for some users the Internet may be the best.

The newest, and most high-tech tool may not always be the best. Mr. Crawford also stated his belief that the role of librarians in this mixed environment will be that of organizers and mediators. Someone has to organize all this information, as well as facilitate use, training and access.

He also likes collection development and cataloging as future growth roles - in addition to our current traditional roles,. There is a lot on the Web, but someone has to organize it. That is our traditional best function and we should be doing it. Mr. Crawford noted that his upcoming book is about the libraries and people's sense of place. This concept should continue the theme of this conference quite nicely. The point is that today's academic library must be prepared to use the best technologies possible.

The speakers that followed were our colleagues who discussed attempts made at their institutions to create just the type of high tech operation that Mr. Crawford analyzed.

- *Wendy Helmstetter*, Florida Institute of Technology, presented her library's path to electronics under a new director. They promote electronic research, and Wendy noted that the switch to electronics has engendered a massive leap in requests for instruction.
- *Kathleen Hoeth*, Florida Gulf Coast University, talked about her new library, designed for electronic operation from its very inception.
- *Joyce Burkhart*, St. Petersburg Junior College - Seminole, sent an excellent videotape about her new all-electronic library with no books (although they DO have a contract with the nearby Seminole Community Library).
- *Kathey Chumley*, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, discussed how her institution needs electronics to handle its world-wide distribution/distance learning activities.
- *Monica Metz-Wiseman*, University of South Florida, talked about how her university created virtual access in order to extend, NOT compete with, what is inside the walls at any decent academic library.

It was a very good conference that addressed one of the more important issues facing our profession. The FACRL should continue to focus on such important topics as this.

Report on Internet Librarian '98, November 1-5, 1998, Monterey, California

In early November I was fortunate enough to attend the second annual Internet Librarian '98 conference, sponsored by Information Today, in Monterey, California. Based on my attendance at this three-day event, the following represents present and future trends regarding the use of the Internet, particularly the World Wide Web, as a source for electronic research.

1. Virtual libraries, virtual librarians and virtual library schools. A project manager from United Technologies told how that company has successfully converted all its branch libraries into "one reference librarian with a powerful computer at each site," with print materials maintained only at the central office. Librarians work actively with staff at the branches, learning the latter's areas of information interest and making sure they are kept up to date with the latest in electronic information, as well as answering requests that staff as generated.

   A professor at San Jose State in California described its new online degree program for virtual librarians, of which he said the state of California alone will need 5000 in the next five years. The program is expected to pay for itself by charging double the tuition for the same degree earned in the classroom.

   One of the two full-time professionals from the Florida Distance Learning and Referral Center at USF-Tampa spoke at the same workshop with San Jose State, using their Web site for distance learners as a model of a virtual learning center.

2. Web site creation and maintenance. This is becoming an increasing part of an information professional's job. Several workshops I attended provided tips for their appearance and

functionality. Interestingly, while wysiwyg programs like Microsoft's Front Page and Netscape's Composer received good reviews for simple Web page creation, it was agreed that there is still no substitute for HTML.

A new programming language, XML (extensible markup language) was discussed as a potential replacement for HTML, but the feeling was that its success in achieving same could not be predicted.

3. Metadata - information about information. Probably the most frequently heard word at the conference, with an entire track of workshops on the subject, three examples of the concept at work were
   a. Alexa Internet Corporation - A company that has created an archive of Web page information, including older versions of pages. It claims its collection is already almost as large as the Library of Congress, and that it visits every site on the Web every twelve days. An ad-based service, it is able to offer both a free and a subscription version.
   b. Dublin Core - A project begun in 1995 by OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) and NSCA (National Center for Supercomputing Applications) to organize Web sites by library classification (e.g.,LC, Dewey and National Library of Medicine) and to create what library catalogers refer to as a MARC record for each site, just as one exists for each item in a library collection.
   c. Northern Light - A search engine that actually creates subject headings for each site it locates, and arranges them into virtual folders for future retrieval.

4. Anything Web-based. The Internet is becoming the transmitter of all kinds of data. Some of the last bastions of print delivery are turning to the Web to deliver their products. Examples include Dow Jones, which is moving rapidly toward a Web-only format of its many products and Gale Research, which recently put its extensive collection of literary criticism resources on the Web. While there are still substantial costs involved for these services, the availability of them has increased dramatically from the not so long ago days when they were kept inside library walls.

   With the increase of e-commerce (i.e., businesses operating on the Internet), distance education, and the increasing use of the Web for the distribution of government documents (ex. Starr Report), there is every reason to believe the Internet will become an increasingly familiar part of daily life.

5. Interesting Web stats, facts and quotes:
   a. The Web doubles in size every eight months.
   b. The average number of links per page is 15.
   c. Some search engines now accept money from Web site owners to skew the arrangements of hits in their favor.
   d. The search engine HotBot now re-sorts its hits to include a category for the 10 sites most frequently visited for the subject searched.
   e. The search engine AltaVista has added a new capability for refining searches.
   f. "The Internet provides the final empowerment of the individual." (Charles Schwab)
   g. "Having a Web site is like owning a home - it requires constant maintenance."
   h. "You should spend some time every day on your Web site."
   i. When teaching the use of search engines or databases, teach common principles, techniques and features, not individual engines or databases. Instruct users on how to be alert for changes and
   j. innovations, use the help screens of a particular product, and generally become self-sufficient.

6. New buzzwords:
    a. Metadata - Information about information (see 3 above).
    b. XML - Extensible markup language (see 2 above).
    c. Portals - Term that describes sites like Yahoo, Altavista, Excite, etc., that combine search engines with channels (directories of selected sites by subject), and other features like news, email, customized pages, etc.
    d. Knowledge managers - New job title (suggested several times) for the profession previously known as librarian, information specialist or information professional. The aim is to make the job more relevant to the electronic method of delivering information.

However, on November 26, a strip appeared in the cartoon Dilbert that featured Dogbert the job counselor giving the following advice to a zombie-like employee: "We'll need to disguise the fact that you're a moron. The best way is to become an expert in something called 'knowledge management.'" Perhaps the use of this term should be further investigated before the profession embraces it.

SIS OFFICERS, 1998-1999

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INFO NEWSLETTER
Vol. 13, No. 2, March 1999

EDITOR'S CORNER

Hi y'all:

As I'm writing up this issue of the newsletter, I'm pretty much freshly back from the 1999 Computers in Libraries Conference, held March 7-11 at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA. The conference highlight for me was the 8 inches of snow that cascaded down on the D.C. metro area on Wednesday, March 10. Watching the news reports of treacherous highways, school delays and closings, public transit hang-ups, etc., I was not exactly unhappy to be headed back south the following day. Snow is beautiful…when you don't have to venture out in it to get yourself to work.

The conference itself was jam-packed with knowledgeable speakers and interesting sessions. If I attempt to go into detail here, I'll never get this newsletter out. So just a couple of highlights.

Two presenters were Tampa Bay area locals:

- *John Iliff* wowed a packed house with a talk entitled **Listening to a Different Drummer: Using Open Source Software for Libraries.** John, until recently the systems librarian at Pinellas Park Public Library, described his experiences working with the freely available operating system Linux, the free scripting language Perl, the no-cost Apache Web server, and other GNU-based software (so-called "copy-lefted" programs that are free to use).

- *Helene E. Gold*, Electronic Services Librarian/Assistant Professor, Eckerd College Library, took part in a panel discussion called **Dialog with Expert Web Searchers**. Helene explained the structure and role of search engines in online research, how to use special features of search engines (Boolean operators, truncation, domain restriction, etc.), and the need for careful evaluation of the results.

I was intrigued by a presentation called **Creating Personal Digital Libraries**, delivered by Barry Wheeler, Automation and Information Systems Group, Zimmerman Associates, Inc., and Barbara Rother, Business Information Specialist, Knowledge Centers Library, American Management Systems. Individuals in business, academic, and personal environments have access to large amounts of information, much of it in digital formats. Capturing, storing, organizing, accessing, and utilizing this information is a continuing challenge with computer disks that are full of forgotten, inaccessible files; web sites resources that are difficult to capture or bookmark and then organize into accessible information; books, journals and articles that are arranged in stacks, filed in cabinets and strewn about offices. The presentation described how to create personal digital libraries that provide access and organization to the information individuals need - either by using "digital asset management" software (e.g., English Tracker Pro - (http://www.enfish.com) or by creating a "personal portal" - doable

completely with freeware such as the *PC Magazine* utility Page1, for creating a personal "start" page (http://www.zdnet.com/pcmag/pctech/content/17/20/ut1720.001.html) and the AltaVista Discovery (http://discovery.altavista.com/) that indexes and allows you to search your own hard drive.

Finally, three sessions from the so-called "Web Management Track" proved especially enlightening to me in my role of Web Doyenne in Clearwater: **Standards and Techniques for Evaluating Interface Design** (the importance of interface design for the usefulness of a Web site); **Using Web Site Mapping for Improving Web Design** (insights into the intent and usefulness of Web site "maps"); and **A Comparison of Hot Web Management Tools** (I want, I want, I want).

Information about Computers in Libraries '99 can be found at http://www.infotoday.com/cil99/cil99.htm. Links to presentation slides and handouts are available at http://www.infotoday.com/cil99/presentations.htm.

<div align="center">
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APRIL MEETING INFO

When:
Wednesday, April 7; 6 pm to 8:15 or 8:30 pm

What and Where:
Dinner at Ruby Tuesday, 201 N. Dale Mabry, Tampa, FL 33609
(813-879-2510). Order off menu. (Happy Hour is 4-7 p.m.)

After dinner (at about 7:15 p.m.), we will leave Ruby's and walk next door to Time-Warner, Inc., One N. Dale Mabry, to reconvene in the 2nd floor conference room. Liz Bumgarner will be our host. The speaker will be a representative from Lexis/Nexis. The meeting will conclude with a quick tour of the Time-Warner library.

RSVP to:
Mary Kaye Raddatz at raddatzm@spjc.edu or (727) 341-3657, *by April 5*. Mary Kaye has a copy of the Ruby Tuesday menu to fax to anyone who wishes to PREORDER before the meeting, hastening the delivery of our meals!

Directions and Parking:
For those coming into Tampa on 275…take the *South* Dale Mabry exit. Follow Dale Mabry to Kennedy, go one block and then turn left on Sterling. This will eliminate the need for you to turn around and head back on Dale Mabry to get into Ruby Tuesday's parking lot. You may park at Ruby Tuesday's or in the first floor lot of the office building on the corner of N. Dale Mabry and Kennedy. (Barnes & Noble is on the other side of Ruby Tuesday's.)

MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 1999 MEETING

By Mary Marna Brady, Secretary

SIS's regular February meeting took place at Stetson University College of Law Library and Legal Information Center. Trudie Root, President of SIS, greeted the group and thanked Madison Mosley, Associate Director of the Law Library, for hosting the meeting. Twenty-six persons attended the luncheon meeting; members met and ate in the elegant Lounge adjacent to the old Library. A buffet-style hot lunch of rice, chicken, green beans, salad, fresh bread, desert and drinks was enjoyed by all.

Old Business:

Trudie Root and Mary Kaye Raddatz indicated additions/corrections to the December minutes: The plant was presented to Joyce Burkhart also for her tenure as President last year of SIS and Gwen Wolfe made a presentation regarding SIS on behalf of FHSLA (Florida Health Sciences Library Association). Betsy provided a treasurer's report indicating a healthy balance and stated there are now 86 members.

New Business:

Mary Kaye reported on the survey results: members liked having both daytime and evening meetings and suggested we should vary the day of the week at times. We received numerous suggestions for programs and members most enjoyed a combination of getting together socially with programs and networking. Favorite programs in the last year included the St. Petersburg Junior College's new Seminole Campus, St. Pete Times and Reflectone. From the topics suggested, Mary Kaye stated we have enough expertise within our group to do some programs. All in all members felt the mission should remain the same and there were no comments on a logo. We may use Trudie's logo using Microsoft Word (Autoshapes - Stars and Banners - and SIS using Word Art) when needed for correspondence. Members did not object to having money "sit" in the treasury and favored using funds for educational purposes such as workshops. Overall SIS gets a good rating!

Trudie took pictures that hopefully can be mounted on the web site! [webmaster's note: see http://tblc.org/sis/meetings/990207stetson.htm]

Trudie shared a book she enjoyed for learning more about networking, Power Networking: 55 Secrets for Personal and Professional Success by Sandy and Donna Vilas, and, passed out a handout for rating one's own networking skills. The handout also summarized the main points of the book. Then everyone was given a playing card and asked to network by standing up, moving around the room, and forming groups of five for the best poker hand Chocolates were given to the group with the winning hand of five Aces.

Program:

Michael Dahn, Reference Librarian and Webmaster, gave a presentation on Search Engine Myths in Stetson's new high-tech classroom.

Myth 1. Search engines search the entire Internet. Not true. Search engines merely index a copy of the Internet and search that.

Myth 2. With a single search engine, you can search about one-third of the Web. Not true. You can really only search one-third of the indexable Web as certain file types and sites are not indexed by crawlers or not allowed in. Search engines really search less than 20% of the actual Web. Therefore, go to subject specific search engines such as medical search engines to find more information.

Myth #3. If a search engine has indexed a page, you can then successfully search the whole page. No.

3

Some types of words will not be found: words in an image unless alt tagged, stop words, and words at the end of very long web pages-- as the search engine may stop part way down, words in meta tags like Excite, new words added after the search engine has made a pass, and html comments in Alta Vista.

Myth #4. The content of individual search engines is pretty much the same. If you try different search engines for the same search, you will find that each search is different. There is also a difference between a searchable directory and its results and those of a search engine's.

Myth #5. Because meta search engines like Meta Crawler search many search engines simultaneously, there is no need to ever use individual search engines. Not so. Meta search engines don't offer the advanced capabilities of each of the individual search engines and may occasionally drop searches.

Myth #6. You can search for any discussion group posting with tools like Deja News and Alta Vista. Not necessarily. People can exclude themselves. Newsgroups have little coverage prior to 1995; people can have their postings removed and can send "no archive" with their messages.

Myth #7. Phone numbers or addresses of most U.S. residents are on the Internet. Unfortunately not. The free white page directories are incomplete and out of date. For some databases an individual can also have his or her name removed.

Myth #8. Truncation works the same in all search engines. On the contrary, Hot Bot and Alta Vista only work with a maximum of five characters and must be preceded by at least three characters in Alta Vista and two characters in Hot Bot. And, some search engines do not allow truncation.

Michael also described some of the new services at the Law Library Website. Stetson is subscribing to web services and providing these to students instead of using cd-rom products. They are also archiving the Second District Court of Appeals Florida Case Law which is e-mailed to them and they then make it available for searching on their Web site. Mike stated they are using Microsoft Index Server for searching. They are also creating 3d panoramas of their campus. We watched one picture of Stetson's campus that is now on the web site, using Java applets and a program that will support Java. Students also have access to Nexis Lexis and Westlaw from home or on campus.

Following Mike's presentation, Library staff led members on tours of the new 58,000-square foot Law Library and Information Center with its beautiful atrium and Mediterranean Revival architecture. In addition to housing the Library's collection of 350,000 volumes of statutes, court reports, journals and treatises, the building accommodates many attractive study carrels, group study rooms, conference rooms, and two seminar rooms. With approximately 742 computer network connections throughout the building, students may sit down at almost any table and connect their laptop computers to the campus network and in turn to the Library catalog (http://www.law.stetson.edu/lawlib/) and Internet. Approximately 800 category 5 data cables throughout the building provide the infrastructure for the growth of the use of technology and the seminar rooms are wired for satellite TV reception. Two computer classrooms as well as computer stations on the second and third floors provide the latest instructional technology and compact shelving allows for growth. Members enjoyed seeing the spacious technical services area, staff lounge, and reference room as well. Stetson Library Staff are justifiably proud of their magnificent new Library.

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INFO NEWSLETTER
Vol. 13, No. 3, May 1999

EDITOR'S CORNER

Spring cleaning here at the old PC. Tossing out stale URLs and adding new ones. Here are a hand full of intriguing sites that have crossed my radar screen within the past couple of weeks:

- **Daily Diffs** (http://www.dailydiffs.com/)
  "Daily Diffs monitor changes on tens of thousands of pages, all hand-selected for quality and usefulness. Every day, we publish brand new changes and history for over 4,000 dynamic pages." This service subdivides changes under some useful subject headings, including Computers and Programming , Environment, etc.
- **Euroguide** (http://www.euroguide.org/)
  Kind of like an EU-oriented Yahoo!, Euroguide will help you find your way through the maze of European Information on the Internet.
- **Orientation** (http://eeu.orientation.com/)
  For Europe and beyond, this site carries a collection of links to regional search engines and directories for Asia, Africa, Central & Eastern Europe, Latin American & the Caribbean, the Middle East, and Oceania.
- **Fishsearch** (http://fishsearch.com)
  Fishing is something most people either like or hate. Even if you're not an enthusiast, you've probably got friends, relatives, cowokers or customers who are. Fishsearch provides a searchable subject index about fishing -- fishing tools, fishing trips, taxidermy, etc.
- **Library Juice** (http://libr.org/Juice/)
  Library Juice is a current awareness service for library and information science students, librarians, and other interested people. It includes announcements, many web resources, calls for papers, and news items. Much of the material has a social-responsibilities or intellectual freedom focus.

Enjoy. And e-mail me with resource finds of your own, to share in future issues of the newsletter.

Shirl Kennedy
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UPCOMING MEETING INFO

- *When*: May 18, 1999, 6:00-8:00 pm
- *Where*: Tampa-Hillsborough Public Library, 900 North Ashley Street, downtown Tampa (between

Tyler and Cass Streets, across from the Performing Arts Center.)
- *What*: John Iliff will speak on planning a web site: "Developing a Web Site. Same Old Song, New Instruments to Play It On." This replaces June meeting and will be the annual election meeting.
- *Catered dinner*: Hot food; plan on $ 10-12 per person.
- *RSVP*:
- *Directions/Parking*: Parking is available across the street at the city's Poe Parking Garage.

MEETING MINUTES
April 7, 1999

In a departure from the usual Monday SIS meeting day, 25 persons gathered for dinner on Wednesday, April 7, at Ruby Tuesday's 201 N. Dale Mabry, Tampa. The dinner hour provided opportunities for networking and camaraderie. Afterward, our meeting hostess, Liz Bumgarner of Time Warner, Inc. led us to her company's mezzanine meeting room in the striking glass office building next door. As we arrived, Liz welcomed us with coffee/juice and cookies, an after dinner treat to enjoy during the business meeting.

****Business Meeting**

SIS President Trudie Root called the meeting to order and received approval of the minutes from the last meeting. Trudie reported on the innovation of displaying photos from the last meeting on our web site. For persons who had not had the opportunity to see the pictures, she passed around samples of the photos that had been scanned in to show scenes from the prior meeting at Stetson University's College of Law library.

Our group should be aware of changes in two electronic addresses:

- Tampa Bay Library Consortium (TBLC) -- http://tblc.org
- Trudie's e-mail address -- troot@jwbpinellas.org

We were reminded that information on up-coming meetings and conventions can be posted on our web site and in the newsletter. Also, reports from persons who attend such gatherings are always welcome for publishing these two ways.

Sites and dates for the next two meetings have been set:

- Tuesday, May 18, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Tampa-Hillsborough Public Library, Main Library
- Monday, August 2, luncheon meeting, Raytheon Systems Company, St. Petersburg

The May meeting is the traditional time for the election of next year's officers. Trudie announced the following slate:

- President: Mary Kaye Raddatz of St. Petersbur Junior College (current Vice President, President-elect)
- Vice President: Ray Eydmann of Tampa Electric Company
- Secretary: Cheryl (C D) McLean of Paradyne
- Treasurer: Betsy King of Reflectone, Inc.

C D McLean, the regional contact person for SLA has suggested that SIS might have a social jointly with SLA in August or September and has generously offered her home as the site. The general consesus among SIS members seems to be that this would be a welcome opportunity.

Betsy King asked for volunteers to look at the by-laws in terms of meeting days. Betsy has a collection of other organizations' by-laws. In the past, she noted, there has been some precedent for varying the meeting days. Betsy also pointed out that we might consider voting on officers electronically and having our year coincide with the calendar instead of beginning in October.

Ray Eydmann pointed out that usually, if there are no objections or additional nominations, an organizatin's secretary can cast a single vote for the slate. Joyce Burkhart suggested we continue our same method of approving the slate unless there were objections. None were heard. The business meeting was adjourned for the program and tour.

**Program

The scheduled speaker, Laura Cash, of Lexis/Nexis, was blocked on "Alligator Alley" and unable to come from Miami. Laura sent word that she would send copies of her presentation to anyone who wants one. Let Liz Bumgarner know if you would like one.

Despite Laura's not being able to come, Liz Bumgarner demonstrated her aplomb and ability to rise to the occasion by giving us an insightful program on the development of her company's technical library for data processing services.

The Tampa branch of Time Warner where Liz works deals mainly with the firm's magazine publishing business. Data processing here deals with the publication and subscriptions for such periodicals as *Time*, *Money*,, *Fortune*, *People*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and *Martha Stewart Living*.

Liz has been the organizing genius behind this library, beginning in Chicago, during it's move to Tampa in 1987, and through the present. While still in library school, Liz was faced with ordering, updating, and organizing data processing manuals that had been kept in 3-ring binders. Also, she had to make the information in them easily locatable and accessible. These were manuals whose titles almost always began with "IBM" and were obtained from packing lists.

She also maintains a tape library of vendors' software and must store, retrieve, and weed in-house written software on IBM cartridges. Additionally, department heads look to her to organize section libraries.

During her tenure, she has acquired Dialog and CompuServe on-line services, has gotten book and magazine jobbers, selected IMB's BookManager for on-line documentation, and implemented an integrated on-line catalog and home page.

Liz developed her home page using Microsoft's FrontPage '98 and uses Caspr's LibraryWorld '98 for her on-line catalog. LibraryWorld '98 also keeps her tape library records.

Company programmers locally and internationally will eventually have access to the library catalog on their desks through the intranet and home page.

After her talk, Liz took us up to the 5th floor where we saw first-hand the library's organization and the use of the software she had told us about.

Liz is an inspiration to us all and demonstrates what the right person can accomplish in a "one-person library."

SIS INVITED TO TELEC

On Friday, May 21, TABAMLN will sponsor a 3 hour teleconference on copyright, at Lakeland Regional Medical Ctr. TABAMLN President, Jan Booker, extends an invitation to members of SIS as well. Here are some details:

Copyright Law in the Digital Age, taught by Laura Gassaway

Satellite Teleconference on the Digital Millennium Copyright Act to be shown at sites across the country on Friday, May 21, from 12 noon-3 pm. Co-sponsored by MLA along with the American Association of Law Libraries, American Library Association, Association of Research Libraries, and Special Libraries Association.

For more information on this teleconference, SIS members should contact:

Mary Kaye Raddatz, Librarian
St. Petersburg Jr. College - Health Education Ctr.
7200 66th St. N.
Pinellas Park, FL 33781
727-341-3657
raddatzm@spjc.edu

SIS OFFICERS, 1998-1999

President	Trudie Root: Juvenile Welfare Board, Pinellas County 727/547-5671, troot@jwbpinellas.org
Vice President	Mary Kaye Raddatz, St. Petersburg Junior College, Health Education Center 727/341-3657, raddatzm@mail.spjc.cc.fl.us
Secretary	Mary Marny Brady, 2601 53rd Street N, St., Petersburg, FL 33710 727/323-0078, sfzznsh1@scfn.thpl.lib.fl.us
Treasurer	Betsy King, Reflectone, Inc, Tampa 813/887-1658, kingb@cftnet.com
Newsletter Editor	Shirl Kennedy, City of Clearwater/Clearwater Public Library Sys 727/462-6800 (x254), skennedy@reporters.net
Immediate Past President (87-98)	Joyce Burkhart, St. Petersburg Junior College, Seminole Campus 727/394-8775, burkhartj@spjc.edu

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URL: http://tblc.org/sis/
Listserv: SIS-L@tblc.org

SIS INFO
Vol. 13, No. 4
July 1999

Editor's Corner:

Have any of you guys dipped your big toes into the roiling waters of the online auction world yet? Me neither, but both my brother and my oldest son are hopelessly addicted. In the August issue of *PC World*, a special report called "Sold! How to Win at Web Auctions," offers plenty of advice for both newbies and the addicted alike.

Online auctions basically come in two flavors - "merchant" (which deal mainly in manufacturers' overstocks and refurbished items) and "person-to-person" (which exist as venues to bring individual buyers and sellers together). *PC World* reviewed a number of online auction, and chose Ebay (www.ebay.com) as the top person-to-person site and Onsale (www.onsale.com) as the top merchant site.

Before you place a bid, PC world advises that you take the following steps:

1. Inspect the item. ("Give the item listing a thorough going-over - including the fine print.")
2. Price the product. ("You can't make an intelligent bid unless you know the item's fair market value.")
3. Read the rules. ("Not all rules are obvious to the uninitiated.")
4. Study the seller. ("Buyers and sellers post public comments indicating whether they've had a positive or negative experience with a seller…")

PC World also offers advice on how to avoid auction scams, how to bid by proxy and what exactly happens after you score the winning bid - how you "get the goods." Read the whole special report, with live links at *PC World*'s Web site: h ttp://www.pcworld.com/heres_how/article/0,1400,11503,00.html

And while you're out there on the Net, check out these URLs as well:

- http://w ww.onlineinc.com/onlinemag/OL1999/garman5.html
  Meta Search Engines, *Online*, May 1999
  ("The emergence of meta search engines is a credible antidote to the time-consuming practice of sequential search engine searches. ")

- http://ftp.ccccd.edu/jle onard/wgr.html
  Guerilla Web Reference

(Very eclectic list of links; disorganized. But if you've looked everywhere and still can't find it, try this page.)

- http://www.cis.org/search.html
  Center for Immigration Studies Employer Sanction Database
  ("…includes all employers which have been cited for the knowing hire or continuing employment of illegal aliens. ")

- http://www.pac-info.com/
  Pacific Information Systems: Now over **737** *Searchable* Public Record Databases
  (Awesome!)

August SIS Meeting:

The next meeting is a luncheon meeting on **August 2, 1999, 11:30 am -1:00 pm** at Raytheon in St. Petersburg, Florida. Sue Weiss, the Raytheon Technical Information Center librarian, will be the host.

You can never be too rich, too thin, or have too much bandwidth. Kerry Huelle, an account representative from Road Runner, Time Warner's high speed online access company, will talk about cable modem access to the Internet.

Where:
Raytheon Systems Company
1501 72nd St. North; St. Petersburg, FL
727-302-2182

When: August 2, 1999, 11:30am - 1:00pm or a little later

Meal:
Lunch will be about $ 6.50. Selections are

- non-vegetarian: sandwiches, possible side dish, drinks, cookies
- vegetarian: salad (select dairy or non-dairy salad), drinks, cookies

RSVP:
Mary Kaye Raddatz, raddatzm@spjc.edu, or 727-341-3657 by Monday, July 26th.

When you RSVP, let Mary Kaye know:

1. whether or not you are a U.S. citizen
2. your choice for lunch (see above).

Directions:
Raytheon is south of Tyrone Mall off 22nd Avenue North; turn South on 72nd Street North, across from Azalea Park. North lot is first on left, South Lot is beyond the flag pole on left.

Parking is available in visitor and non-numbered spots in the South and North parking lots. Check the South lot first, since the non-numbered spots in the North lot are a farther walk. Alternate parking would

be on the streets, but not convenient. 15 slots have been requested in South lot (across from Azalea Park off 72nd St N), but this will probably not be enough for everyone. The North lot is at least 10 minutes farther from the meeting location, so it would be best to allow for this extra walk. You will have to park and come in to the closest lobby (Engineering at South lot and Guard's Post in North Lot) to call x2182 for escort to the meeting site.

Minutes

SIS meeting: May 18, 1999

Tampa-Hillsborough County's Main Library was the site for SIS's meeting on May 18, 1999. The May date was chosen in place of the regular June meeting due to a scheduling conflict with SLA in June.

Upon convening in the library's auditorium, our group of 34 enjoyed a catered buffet and had time for catching up on everyone's news. After dinner, since President Trudie Root was attending a meeting in New York City, Vice-President Mary Kaye Raddatz presided over the business meeting. Mary Kaye also introduced our much-anticipated speaker, John Iliff, who spoke on web site development. The meeting ended with an opportunity to
tour the Main Library's computer lab, funded by the Gates Library Foundation's 1997 grant.

** Business Meeting **

After opening the meeting, President Mary Kaye Raddatz asked for any changes to the minutes of the prior meeting. Since no changes were given, the minutes were approved.

Betsy King gave the treasurer's report, indicating that for fiscal year 1998-99, we had 92 paid members. Our treasury balance as of May 18 was $549.99.

This being the meeting for the election of next year's officers, Mary Kaye presented the following slate and asked for other nominations:

- Vice-President/President-Elect -- Ray Eydmann of TECO Energy
- Secretary -- CD McLean of Paradyne
- Treasurer -- Betsy King of Reflectone

Mary Kaye, our current Vice-President, will automatically become President next year. The motion was made and seconded that the slate be accepted.

We elected the new officers with a show of hands.

Mary Kaye announced an upcoming reception the following Thursday at Stetson University College of Law to honor Madison Mosley. We all congratulate Madison on his up-coming term as President of the Florida Library Association. He assumes office July 1, 1999.

Mary Kaye urged members to contribute to our newsletter, especially to send write-ups on workshops/conventions they have attended. Our web site and listserv are under-utilized. Officers get frequent calls for information that is available on these two sources.

Web site: http://tblc.org/sis/

Listserv: SIS-L

- To *post* messages send your message to SIS-L@lists.tblc.org

- To *subscribe*, *unsubscribe*, *change* your email address or other options, or to view *archived postings*, go to http://lists.tblc.org/mailman/listinfo/sis-l

- Records show that 30% of the members who have e-mail have not subscribed to the listserv. Be sure to let Betsy King know if she can drop your paper copy of the newsletter.

- [Editor's addendum: Note that the TBLC list manager software has recently changed, and therefore the subscription directions have also changed -- to a much simpler, web-based system. If you have difficulties subscribing, etc., email the listowner at sis@tblc.org for assistance. All current SIS-L subscribers have been transferred and do not need to do anything.]

** Program **

John Iliff is renowned in the library world for early and continuing interest in making the best use of computers in libraries. Although he has spoken all over the country on technology and libraries, we can claim him as our neighbor, since he was for many years the leader in web page design and reference librarian for Pinellas Park Public Library.

Recently, John has entered the business world and is Internet Research Librarian for Global Employment Solutions, Inc. He works at home out of a virtual office with co-workers in such far-flung places as New Hampshire, Tallahassee, and Orlando. Part of the management is in Tallahassee, and company headquarters is in Colorado. Everyone keeps in touch via AOL Instant Messenger.

In his presentation centered around some of his pet peeves about web page design, John gave us some valuable tips.

1. He dislikes HTML. Browsers will do what they will with the "markup" suggestions of HTML. Sites do not look the same when viewed on different browsers or different browser versions, so do not expect perfection. If you are in the market, a new browser to examine is Mozilla (www.mozilla.org).

2. Monitors have different resolutions. You should settle on a couple of base resolutions and can test them on your computer with Windows options.

3. Do not use a lot of graphics; they are slow in loading and are frequently pointless. One half to one-third of the people looking at your site will not have the same speed as you do on your computer. A 28.8 modem is a good test for a baseline. A good site for testing your web page is netmechanic.com. Here, you can check the speed of loading, check for bad links, and check your HTML.

4. Learn Java Script and insert it into your HTML to help with navigation, etc. The publisher O'Reilly and Associates, Inc. has a good HTML book: *HTML The Definitive Guide*, by Chuck Musciano and Bill Kennedy.

5. Remember that architecture underlies and makes a site work. John recommends another O'Reilly and Associates book, *Information Architeture for the World Wide Web*, written by two librarians, Louis Rosenfeld and Peter Morville.

6. Put yourself in the place of the user. Be consistent with instructions, signage, and commands on the web site. Do not use too much library jargon, e.g., "bibliographic instruction." Test your site and target a baseline user.

7. Ask yourself, "Why do a web site?" and "For whom?" The site should be a team effort so that one person does not claim ownership, with that resulting in a loss of objectivity. In addition to co-workers' input, there should be opportunities for users' feedback and comments. If comments are hostile, give them consideration and do not just become defensive.

8. John feels that libraries in a certain area should divvy up information for their web pages and make sure to offer information that is unique (e.g., Clearwater's inclusion of City Council agendas).

   Pinellas Park had 50,000 - 60,000 hits per month on its site, and 2/3 of them were for its links to the state offices of vital records and offices for unclaimed funds.

   One bit of local information John has little use for. He thinks library layout maps on a web page are pointless. Remember your broad audience on the web and the wide geographic spread.

Development tools John uses for editing include Notepad and UltraEdit. UltraEdit, which is preconfigured for HTML and Java, etc., also does automatic backups. It is shareware which can be downloaded from www.tucows.com.

Remember that web page creation tools, such as Frontpage tend to be couched for particular browsers, and you need to know the underlying code.

John created a site for us to consult that will reinforce his comments and give us additional information. See:

   www.mylibrarian.com

We very much appreciate the opportunity to learn from John's expertise.

<div align="center">

** Tour **

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At the close of our program in the auditorium, Marilyn Sheck and Judy Iglesias of Tampa-Hillsborough's Main Library took us up to the second floor to see the Gates lab.

From the 1997 Gates Library Foundation grant, Tampa-Hillsborough installed 20 terminals at the Main Library, 16 at Ybor City, and 4 at College Hill. Tampa-Hillsborough was the only library in Florida to receive the large grant that year.

The purpose of the grant, established by Bill and Melinda Gates and now called the Gates Library Initiative, is to diminish the "digital divide" among the population. It is intended eventually to be offered world-wide.

The grant does not cover staff. However, at Tampa-Hillsborough, it has covered equipment, staff training, lesson materials, and technical support for the lab. Staff was sent to Technical Resource in Seattle for training. Everything provided has been high quality.

The intention is to proceed from training the staff, to training groups, to training the public. The groups currently being trained are organized classes. Eventually, training will be given to staff from other libraries and organizations.

With the second round of funding (from the Gates Library Initiative through the state of Florida), Tampa-Hillsborough hopes to establish 11 more sites.

We congratulate them on their grant awards and on their work and initiative to obtain these services for our community.

-- Mary Marna Brady, Secretary

SIS OFFICERS, 1998-1999

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Secretary	Mary Marny Brady, 2601 53rd Street N, St., Petersburg, FL 33710 727/323-0078, sfzznsh1@scfn.thpl.lib.fl.u s
Treasurer	Betsy King, Reflectone, Inc, Tampa 813/887-1658, kingb@cftnet.com
Newsletter Editor	Shirl Kennedy, City of Clearwater/Clearwater Public Library Sys 727/462-6800 (x254), skennedy@reporters.net
Immediate Past President (87-98)	Joyce Burkhart, St. Petersburg Junior College, Seminole Campus 727/394-8775, burkhartj@spjc.edu

SIS INFO
Vol. 13, No. 5
September 1999

Editor's Corner

Shirl Kennedy passes the torch.

Shirl Kennedy has been Newsletter Editor, gatherer of information, and diligent searcher of sites of interest for quite some time now. She's finally decided to share the fun, ending her term as Newsletter Editor. All of us in the organization say "Thank you!" to Shirl for her hard work making the Newsletter a success. She's going to be a hard act to follow.

Your new Editor is Nancy Becker. Nancy is a recent graduate from USF's Library and Information Science program. Presently working as an independent contractor, Nancy is teaching Microsoft applications to the staff at Tampa/Hillsborough Public Library and to staff from other county agencies. In September, she will begin working on a project to collect Oral Histories from Hillsborough county residents.

Any questions, suggestions, inclusions, or any other news items or meeting summaries should be sent to Nancy at: nbecker@ij.net.

Some Sites of Interest?

KnowMarketing: The Internet's Marketing Virtual Library

> This site is organized by information areas, which include Academic Interest, Business and Marketing, Database Marketing, and more.
> http://www.knowthis.com/

Allexperts.com is a free question and answer service

> This free question and answer service has pulled together more than 4,000 volunteers (aka experts) to answer questions on over 1,000 topics.
> http://www.allexperts.com/

Hypertext Library Lingo

A glossary of library terminology contains approximately 1,000 definitions, with words in the definitions hyperlinked to more definitions. Maintained by Joan Reitz, librarian at Western Connecticut State University. (*LIIWeek 8/9/99*)
http://www.wcsu.edu/library/library_lingo.html

Executive Cliff Notes

Sites or organizations that provide executive summaries of business books.

- *Executive Book Summaries*, http://www.summary.com (subscription service)
- *The Business Source*, http://www.thebusinesssource.com/ (subscription service)
- *The Business Reader Review*, http://home1.gte.net/bizbooks/ (free, but these are brief reviews, not executive summaries)(*Christine Reusch:ResPool 8/23/99*)

October Meeting

The October meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 6, 1999.

Where: Paradyne Corporation
8550 Ulmerton Road
Largo, FL 33773
Who: CD McLean (Paradyne) and Theresa Burress (TECO) will present the program.
What: "Intranets That Work: Two Case Studies".
When: Arrivals after 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. Meeting after dinner. Dinner costs and menu to be determined.
RSVP: Mary Kaye Raddatz, raddatzm@spjc.edu, or 727-341-3657 by Monday, September 27th.

Directions from Tampa:

- Take I-275 S across Howard Frankland Bridge. Take Exit number 18, LARGO/ULMERTON RD.
- Merge onto FL-688 W (Ulmerton Road). Stay straight to go onto FL-688 W.
- Turn LEFT at light onto TALL PINES DR.

Directions from downtown Clearwater:

- S MISSOURI AVE S becomes SEMINOLE BLVD/US-19 ALT S.
- Turn LEFT onto FL-688 W (Ulmerton Road). Stay on Ulmerton Road.
- Turn RIGHT at light onto TALL PINES DR.

Directions from Countryside area/Courtney Campbell Causeway:

- Take US-19 south to 66th ST N. Stay straight to go onto 66TH ST N.
- Turn RIGHT at light onto FL-688 W (Ulmerton Road).
- Turn LEFT at light onto TALL PINES DR.

Directions from St. Petersburg:

- Take US-19 north to FL-688 W (Ulmerton Road).
- Turn LEFT at light onto FL-688 W (Ulmerton Road). Stay on Ulmerton Road.
- Turn LEFT at light onto TALL PINES DR.

Bylaws

Please review the following suggested changes to our SIS By-laws. They may be viewed on the web at http://tblc.org/sis/bylaws.htm . Proposed deletions are in red bold strikeout and proposed additions are in blue bold italics. Some of the changes being proposed include the number of meetings per year, the official year of the association, the date of elections, committee membership, and ways SIS can correspond with its membership.

We will discuss and vote on the proposed changes at the October meeting - so please plan to attend! In the meantime please direct any comments or suggestions to Mary Kaye Raddatz at raddatzm@mail.spjc.cc.fl.us

Thank you,
Trudie Root, SIS Outgoing President

SIS Minutes, August 2, 1999 (Unapproved)

The meeting was hosted by Raytheon Systems Co. in St. Petersburg, and their Librarian Sue Weiss. Lunch was catered in a nice conference room next door to the Library. Twenty-one people, plus the speaker, attended. Mary Kaye Raddatz, Vice-President, started the meeting at 12:30 PM after we ate. Proposed by-law changes, discussed at the July officers meeting, will be sent out to members soon for a vote at the October meeting. Proposed changes involve such things as moving the official year from Oct.-Sept. to Jan.-Dec.; and allowing electronic voting by the membership. Suggestions for meeting sites, speakers and programs should be directed to Ray Eydmann, at TECO in Tampa. Shirl Kennedy requested help with newsletter input or for someone to take over entirely as newsletter editor.

Kerry Huelle, of Time-Warner, gave a slide presentation on the high-speed cable Internet access service "Roadrunner" for home and business use. Folders of information were distributed to all attendees. There were lots of questions for Kerry. The main advantage to Road Runner is the incredible speed of accessing and downloading. You do not have to subscribe to Time-Warner cable tv in order to get RR - you just pay more per month - but you do have to live in a RR serviceable area. RR is not yet available throughout the nation, much less all of the greater Tampa Bay area. Mary Kaye Raddatz and Shirl Kennedy are current satisfied customers of RR.

Sue Weiss, RSC, gave a brief overview of Raytheon Systems Co. history. The original company began in NJ in 1927 as an aircraft parts supplier. 30 years later it became electronic Communications, Inc, and 49 years later ECI Division of E-Systems. In 1956 the company moved to the current Florida location. During the current decade,

Raytheon Co. purchased E-Systems,Inc. plus portions of Texas Instruments and Hughes Defense. The combined merger of these four groups is now Raytheon Systems Co. The current focus of the St. Petersburg Data Systems location is still defense communications, with much of the manufacturing tasks being moved to the new Largo Manufacturing Center, in the Star Ctr. complex. The St. Petersburg location will continue to perform engineering tasks focused on all aspects of the defense communications business.

The next meeting will be in October, when CD McLean and Theresa Burress will present "Intranets That Work: Two Case Studies".

SIS Officers, 1998-1999

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Treasurer	Betsy King, Reflectone, Inc, Tampa
	813/887-1658, kingb@cftnet.com
Newsletter Editor (appointed)	Nancy Becker, 5125 - 4th Street So., St. Petersburg, FL 33705
	727/867-2005 nbecker@ij.net
Immediate Past President (87-98)	Joyce Burkhart, St. Petersburg Junior College, Seminole Campus
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Suncoast Information Specialists
c/o Tampa Bay Library Consortium
1202 Tech Boulevard, Suite 202
Tampa, FL 33619
Phone: (813) 622-8252
Email: sis@tblc.org
URL: http://tblc.org/sis/
E-list postings: SIS-L@lists.tblc.org
E-list information: http://lists.tblc.org/mailman/listinfo/sis/

SIS INFO
Vol. 13, No. 6
November 1999

Editor's Corner

Dues Due
A reminder to all members: The fiscal year has been extended to the calendar year. Membership dues for the year 2000 are now due. Your membership renewal of $5.00 will extend your membership until January 2001. If you'd like to pay for two years, a payment of $10.00 can be sent to Betsy King, Treasurer.

Year 2000 Directory Update
The SIS Directory for the coming year is being updated. If your directory information has changed, contact Betsy King with the new information as soon as possible, so that it can be included in the new directory.

Future Meetings
If you would like to host a future meeting, or if you have a suggestion for a future program, contact Ray Eydmann, SIS Vice-President, with your ideas.

News to Share
The SIS Newsletter is a great way to share news, conference announcements, achievements, and items of interest with all organization members. Please send your news to the Editor, Nancy Becker, so we can include it in our next newsletter.

Electronic vs. Paper
Don't forget that the Newsletter is available both on the SIS website and via email. If you're able to save a tree and would like to receive your copy electronically rather than by snail mail, contact Betsy King.

Any questions, suggestions, inclusions, or any other news items or meeting summaries should be sent to Nancy at: nbecker@ij.net.

Some Sites of Interest?

- **Safe Shopping** - http://www.safeshopping.org/
  This American Bar Association site shows you how to shop safely online. Sections answer questions about security, privacy, payment, product, terms, delivery, records, complaints, and tips.
  Subjects: shopping | evaluation of internet resources

From LIIWeek – 11/1/99

- **Y2K and Your PC -**
  http://computingcentral.msn.com/guide/year2000/msy2k/introducing/y2khome.asp
  Microsoft's user-friendly site has sections on Exploring Your PC, which explains how Y2K affects
  each of the three parts of a PC; and Taking Action, which tells you what you need to do to ensure
  that all parts of your computers are Y2K ready. Includes links to major computer manufacturers
  and to Microsoft Product Analyzer, "a tool to help assess the readiness of your computer system
  by conducting an inventory of Microsoft software installed on your PC."
  Subjects: y2k
  From LIIWeek – 11/1/99

- **AreaCode-Info.Com** - http://www.areacode-info.com/
  Your Definitive Source For Area Code Data
  From ResPool list – 11/2/99

- **ResPool -** http://members.tripod.com/~rtiess/respool-netguide.htm
  "Pooling new and known reference resources on the Internet"
  This list focuses on reference resources, which include topical web guides, databases, search
  engines, directories, portals, metasites, indices, bibliographies, electronic texts, mailing lists, and
  any other Internet-based sites providing quality information on any given topic.

December Meeting

The December meeting will be held on Thursday, December 2, 1999.

Where: Tampa Bay Library Consortium (TBLC)
1202 Tech Blvd., Suite 202
Tampa, FL 33619
phone 813-622-8252

Who: TBLC Staff

What: The mission, services and focus of the Consortium as well as the Anywhere, Anytime Library
project.

When: 11:30 a.m. Lunch will consist of a variety of sandwiches, chips, soft drinks and coffee. The
cost for lunch will be $6.00. Please bring cash or checks made payable to SIS

RSVP: Ray Eydmann, eydmanr@tblc.org or phone 813-228-1207 by Monday, November 29, 1999.

Directions from St. Petersburg:

- Take I-275 across Tampa Bay to the I-4 junction (aka Malfunction Junction)
- Take I-4 to exit 7 (I-75 South).
- Turn RIGHT onto Martin Luther King Boulevard (SR 574).
- Turn LEFT at first light onto Falkenburg Road.
- Continue through 3 traffic lights at Queen Palm, Broadway, and Columbus.
- After Columbus, turn LEFT onto Windhorst Road into Pinebrooke Business Park.

- Continue for 1 block.
- Turn RIGHT onto Tech Boulevard at the mailboxes.
- Turn RIGHT into the Greenbriar Complex.
- Turn LEFT immediately.
- The corner office is TBLC Headquarters.

Directions from From Tampa via Highway 60:

- Go north on Falkenberg to Windhorst, past HCC and just after a small set of industrial buildings.
- Turn right onto Windhorst.
- Continue for 1 block.
- Turn RIGHT onto Tech Boulevard at the mailboxes.
- Turn RIGHT into the Greenbriar Complex.
- Turn LEFT immediately.
- The corner office is TBLC Headquarters.

Please do not park in the spots directly in front of the consortium; these are shared with other tenants.

October Meeting

The October meeting was held on Wednesday, October 6, 1999 at Paradyne Corp. and hosted by Paradyne's librarian CD McLean. Theresa Burress of TECO energy was co-host of the event.
There were several announcements at the meeting:

- April is when the SIS directory comes out. Everyone should make sure they have their dues paid on time and that Betsy has the correct information for the directory.

- There will be a professional education workshop given by SLA on October 22, 1999 in Punta Gorda. The workshop is on the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) and the International Standard Audiovisual Number (ISAN). More information can be found at the link above. Prices are $45 for SLA members, $75 for nonmembers and $17 for students. This program is bringing in some international speakers and will be a subject on the bleeding edge. Please attend if you can.

- Harriet Thompkins announced that over the summer she has written a book of poems called "The Journey of a Black Woman." She said via an email: "It is the journey of my life through poems. A poem is an expression, a thought, a feeling, and a mood. It is the part of the one who writes. It is an attempt to open the hearts to the one who reads." The cost is $19.95. You can order a copy by calling Harriet at 727-449-2761 or sending an email at thompkh@tblc.org.

- Following the announcements CD and Theresa gave a presentation on Intranets: Two Case Studies. CD's presentation focussed on how a solo librarian creates and maintains an intranet site and how usability testing is crucial to keeping the site relevant. Theresa's talk centered on how a team goes about creating an intranet site and all the problems and joys of working on a team. She emphasized how she uses statistics to cull out dead pages and decide on her site's architecture. The full presentations and the accompanying bibliography will be available after Nov. 6th at www.gnosiweb.com/il99

Minutes of Business Meeting

[SIS Minutes](), October, 1999.

SIS Officers, 1999-2000

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