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# Aerospace Division

Mala Sistla

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# AEROSPACE DIVISION

The objectives of the Aerospace Division are to encourage the free exchange of ideas and information between libraries and librarians who are directly concerned with aerospace technology and related sciences; and to maintain a dialog with NASA and other governmental agencies upon whom we rely as sources of technical data and bibliographic sources.

## FROM THE CHAIR

MALA SISTLA



Hi! Welcome to another year of very tight and reduced budgets for those of us in the aerospace industry. Bearing in mind the economic conditions and

the future of the profession, we have selected programs for the SLA's annual conference (in June) that should prove very useful and handy if you or friends are considering alternate careers.

Also, remember in my last column that I tried to give y'all a flavor of what the division is trying to accomplish. We will continue to try and disseminate as much information as possible via *Sci-Tech News*. This is so you can be cognizant of the division's activities. You can then use this information to participate fully in board meetings.

I've been working on a brochure for the division these last three months and with that came a need for a logo and a combination vision, mission and goals statement. Well!! All I needed for the written statement was the impetus to get started ... and I got it from an article

that appeared in the *Wall Street Journal* (on January 7, 1994) on visioning. The mission statement, though, is becoming a mission of its own. Give me ideas for putting a statement together, though. For now, based on a solution provided by the article I mentioned, I have designed a working, one-line purpose and explanation.

### Purpose

**"Provide networking, consistently high-quality service, and value-added information to members."**

What does this mean for the division? Specifically, it means a partnership of people with the highest of ethics and professionalism, exchanging ideas, research, and services of unsurpassed quality and excellence through continuous improvement, to achieve total member satisfaction.

This is a working vision, mission, goals statement. That's what must be implemented and reiterated to attain the goals set by the division. I hope to bring a preliminary copy of the brochure to the winter meeting in Dallas to get a consensus on it from current and past board members.

Let me ask, in closing, that you please send any job opening announcements, or any other information you

want to announce, to M.K. Pearson, the networking chair. She will put it on the *aero.listserve*.

Since this is the penultimate issue of the year, let me remind you, too, to send comments or questions you want answered or published in *Sci-Tech News* to me via fax, phone, Internet, or mail at:

Fax: (404) 494-0145  
Tel: (404) 494-0700  
Internet: [msistla@lasc.lockheed.com](mailto:msistla@lasc.lockheed.com)

Lockheed Aeronautical Systems  
Dept. 96-61, Zone 0235, B-2  
86 S. Cobb Drive  
Marietta, GA 30063-0235

#### NOMINEES FOR 1994

Rosalind Cheslock and Dorothy Gannon are the nominees for chair-elect in 1994. Eileen Dorschner, Peri Switzer, and Thomas Tipsword are the nominees for secretary.

These are the recommendations of the Nominating Committee, chaired by Audrey Bryant of Lockheed in Palo Alto, CA. Seconds, comments, recommendations, etc., can be made to Audrey at:

Technical Information Center  
Lockheed Missiles & Space Co.  
3251 Hanover Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1187  
or (415) 424-2815

The addresses and numbers of the nominees are:

Rosalind Cheslock  
Martin Marietta Laboratories  
Technical Information Services  
1450 S. Rolling Road  
Baltimore, MD 21227  
(410) 247-0700

Dorothy Gannon  
Create, Inc.  
Technical Library  
Etna Road  
Hanover, NH 03755  
(603) 643-3800

Eileen Dorschner  
Massachusetts Institute of  
Technology  
Aeronautics and Astronautics  
Library 33-316  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
(617) 253-5666

Peri Switzer  
Wright Research and Development  
Center  
Technical Library  
Area B, BLDG 22  
Wright Patterson AFB, OH  
(513) 255-5251

Thomas Tipsword  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical  
University  
Hunt Memorial Library  
Systems/Technology Services  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
(904) 226-6601

#### CHANGE OF FORTUNES ... AND ADDRESS

Marlene Heroux, the division's secretary, no longer works for Rolls-Royce, Inc. Please send material for her to:

1148 Briarcliff Road, #2  
Atlanta, GA 30306

**TO INDEX OR NOT TO INDEX...**

NASA apparently will stop collecting and indexing "open" aerospace industry literature if the industry's information users and providers don't object heavily.

In a note many of you probably have seen already on NASA RECON or Internet, NASA stated that "top management has directed" the Scientific and Technical Information Program "to stop acquiring, abstracting, and indexing aerospace open literature, i.e. journals, books, and conference proceedings, at least for six months."

The rest of the note read:

"This decision means that RECON, SCAN, UPDATES, and NASA Continuing Bibliographies will contain 65 percent fewer citations. In addition, the Aerospace Database on DIALOG will no longer be supported through RECON's open literature." NOVA also will not be produced, the statement said.

"The STI Program," the announcement continued, "has requested that the decision be revisited because of the severe impact it will have on the timely dissemination of aerospace information, and on STI Program customers." NASA management, however, "will not reconsider the decision unless the STI Program can demonstrate a severe negative customer impact." A "lack of customer response" might result in the dissolution of open aerospace literature acquisition and indexing not only for the short-term but also for the future.

The note concluded by requesting STI Program users to provide it "with this decision's negative impact" both on

programs and customers of the users, "as soon as possible." Responses were to be sent to Jim Erwin either by fax or Internet, at:

(703) 416-4636

or

comments@sti.nasa.gov

**Ed. note: See Sci-Tech Division's Section (p. 45) for more comments on this matter.**

#### **TRIMMED ... AND BALANCED TREASURER'S REPORT**

Statements of account show that the Aerospace Division has a total of \$17,940.85 at the end of the year. One check, for expenses in Cincinnati, remained open, but adjusting even for that, the division has \$16,281.85 available.

The funds are in the accounts listed below:

Checking	\$5,686.85
Savings	8,581.55
George Mandel	3,672.45

#### **RENO-VATIONS**

Six papers presenting the ideas and findings of a number of authors on the uses, processing, distribution, and need of information within the aerospace industry were presented early in January at the 32nd Aerospace Sciences Meeting and Exhibit in Reno, Nevada. Mike Yuen of DIALOG presided over the session which showcased the papers.

The papers and their authors were:

"Meeting Challenges of the Information Age: An Approach by the NASA

Langley Technical Library" / by M. Ambur, S. Adkins, and G. Rongaglia (AIAA Paper 94-0837)

"An Analysis of the Technical Communications Practices Reported by Russian and U.S. Aerospace Engineers and Scientists" / by T. Pinelli, R. Barclay, M. Flammia, and J. Kennedy (AIAA Paper 94-0838)

"Technical Uncertainty as a Correlate of Information Use by U.S. Aerospace Engineers and Scientists" / by T. Pinelli, N. Glassman, L. Affelder, R. Barclay, and J. Kennedy (AIAA Paper 94-0839)

"Computer Mediated Communication (CMC) and the Communication of Technical Information in Aerospace" / by D. Murphy (AIAA Paper 94-0840)

"The Role of Computer Networks in Aerospace Engineering" / by A. Bishop (AIAA Paper 94-0841)

"Developing Scientific Literacy Through Aerospace Education" / by L. Freeman, K. Whitaker, D. Sunal, L. Ewing, and D. Hedgepath (AIAA Paper 94-0842)

#### **MONEY'S AVAILABLE, BY GEORGE!**

New guidelines and award criteria have been written and approved for the division's George Mandel Memorial Award. This is an award, established by the division but sponsored by The Faxon Company, to provide financial support to qualified division members who need help to participate in an SLA annual conference or winter meeting.

The Faxon Company will provide the division \$500.00 which it will award to the best qualified candidate. To be eligible for the award, candidates must be division members who have been

members for three consecutive years and who are still members on January 1 of the year the award is given.

Additionally, candidates must have made at least one of the following contributions to the profession:

- published an article in library literature during the previous year or present year
- been a speaker, panel member (but not a moderator) or presenter of a paper at an SLA annual conference
- have participated actively in or significantly contributed to division activities
- made significant contributions to the profession through place of employment or publications
- received an award for outstanding service from their employer in the aerospace industry

Applicants will be evaluated by a committee to include the chair-elect of the division, the secretary, the past chair of the division, and two volunteers who attend the annual business meeting. Applicants also are to be notified of their status in regards to the award by February of the year in which the award is given.

Applicants can nominate themselves or others in the division.

#### **STRAIGHT AERO**

**By Don Welch**

Ever get mail from The Netherlands? Kuwait? Portugal? Alaska?

I think it's exciting getting mail from places like these - places beyond the sphere of business as usual. A stack of mail is even a lot like a Christmas

tree with packages under it, to me. I see each letter and mailer as a bauble or package with unimaginable surprises or news for me and only me.

That's why I like to get materials on ILL. Since I ask for them through one of the PLs nearby, I don't know who it will be that's going to answer a request I made (and I made 162, in 1993, through the PL in Fort Worth). As a consequence, I frequently find myself adding to a list (I keep mentally) of libraries that have responded to ILLs I've placed.

There's more to this infatuation with the mail than I've told you, though. I don't know if I'm the only librarian like this or not, but I sometimes I wonder if I'm ... unusual, maybe. That's because I like to see where something has been before it's gotten to me. I mean, I actually peel labels off the flats and mailers that librarians have reused or recycled by sending them to me. I like to see who has used them before they were used to send me something. Is that weird or is that ... okay?

I probably should take this opportunity to thank librarians like you, yes, you, for feeding my curiosity/fetish. If you, and you know who you are, didn't reuse those book mailers and boxes then I wouldn't have ILLs coming to me with 42 labels on them. You've seen the ones I mean, haven't you? They weigh as much as any book that you could put in them ... or would dare to put in them.

I'll bet somewhere there's probably a book bag that's been to every library in the United States ... and Canada. If not, I'll bet there's one that's been to every library in, oh, Rhode Island ... or

through every library at MIT. Get the picture?

Personally, I know of some interesting sojourns by mailers. Here, from my personal files, are some of the travels I've saved for curiosity's sake.

One mailer started its journey in Stuart, Florida, in the Martin County Library System. It was sent first to the Pasco County Library System in Hudson, Florida, and then was used to send something to the Largo Library in Largo, Florida. From there it went to Greensboro, North Carolina, and the F.D. Buford Library at the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. It was used then to send me something at Bell Helicopter Textron.

The first mailer I ever actually stripped of labels was one that left the University of Oklahoma first, went to the Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, next, and then came to me, in Fort Worth. I kept it because it was from my library science alma mater - the U of Oklahoma. I was hooked then on sleuthing among the labels.

Universities figure heavily in the travels many of the mailers I get make. The University of Texas at Arlington is nearby, and it, in particular, is frequently a respondent of mine. It subsequently sends me mailers that have everywhere.

One from UT Arlington originally came from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. It went first to the U of Oklahoma and then was forwarded to the Jesse H. Jones Library at Baylor University in Waco, Texas; Texas Lutheran College in Sequin, Texas; and then to UT Arlington ... before coming to me.

Another from UT Arlington actually started at UTA, went to the Ennis, Texas, Public Library; back to UTA, out to the University of Texas at Brownsville; back to UTA; and then to me ... and back to UTA. No telling where it is now.

The University of Central Florida (in Orlando, Florida, where I served in the U.S. Navy) sent the University of Houston an ILL, and the U of H subsequently sent the mailer to the Abell Library at Austin College in Sherman, Texas. Austin College then sent it to Baylor University, and Baylor sent it to Bell Helicopter ... the first non-academic destination.

Since I request materials through Fort Worth Public on the North Texas Library System, I periodically get loans from FWPL, too. The one that's intrigued me most is the one that originated at Stephen F. Austin State University (in Texas), went to the Burkburnett, Texas, Public Library, and then to Fort Worth Public. Fort Worth Public then promptly sent it to the Dick Conner Correctional Center library in Hominy, Oklahoma. Whatever that was was returned to Fort Worth Public and then the mailer was sent to Oklahoma again - this time to the Metropolitan Library System in Oklahoma City. The mailer was returned again and Fort Worth Public sent it to me with an ILL in it. Whew!

One that's a favorite of mine is one that started at the California University of Pennsylvania, in California, Pennsylvania. It loaned something to the Wilson College library in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, which sent something to the Harvey Andruss Library at

Bloomsburg University in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania. Bloomsburg U then loaned, or returned, something to Lehigh University (in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania), and Lehigh sent something to Lamar University, a fair sized institution in Beaumont, Texas, on the East Texas coast. Lamar then loaned Bell Helicopter a book.

Oh, let me tell you, too, that you can also find interesting things in some of the materials you get on ILL. One book, which came in a mailer used first by the Douglas Library of Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, came with the business and financials section of an Arabic newspaper. It was interesting, too, that the mailer came, respectively, from the University of Nebraska University Libraries and the Oklahoma State University library before coming to me ... somewhat like a migrating bird heading south.

Another thing I've received in an ILL is old ILL paperwork. One example of this is a book I borrowed this year from the NASM Branch Library of the Smithsonian Institution. It was a 1948 edition of *Theory of Propellers*, and it was needed sorely by my patron. Inside of it, though, was the top copy of an ALA ILL request ... from the NASA Langley Research Center library to the Institution. Since it was an old request, from August of 1981, I have wondered now and again about the number of uses or users the book had had since 1981.

Of course the biggest thrill I've had, ever, is getting an ILL from the Library of Congress. I think I've gotten three. LC, however, never reuses mailers - to that I can attest (though my sample is small). Still, I always get chills when I

get something from the library of American libraries.

Getting something from LC is better than a Christmas package.

### **STRAIGHT AERO JET TRAIL**

Annually, I have given you a report on the winners and losers of the American Libraries Association election of at-large councilors. The intent of the report was to let you know how many of the 25 new councilors were special librarians, school librarians, publishers, or whatever. The news never was good for special libraries and librarians. It won't be this year either.

Of 82 individuals running for one of the at-large positions, none was a librarian in a special library. Some were heads of reference or acquisitions for subject collections but none of these was related even remotely to aerospace or aeronautical interests.

For the second of three years, public librarians (and this includes county, regional, state and federal librarians) fared well. Thirteen of 32 were selected councilors at large. Academic library librarians fared the next best; they placed six of 31 on the council.

School librarians did well again on a percentage basis, having two of three candidates win seats on the council. That gives them nine winners in three years against 15 candidates.

The only category doing better on a percentage basis is for people representing publishers. One has run in each of the last three years and each has won. The publishing winner this year was Marvin Scilken, the publisher and editor of *The U\*N\*A\*B\*A\*S\*H\*E\*D Librarian*.

**Note:** Please see the excellent history of the Aerospace Division, prepared by Scott Bracket, on page 11, with an accompanying bibliography by Betty Tyson on page 20.

### **AEROSPACE LIBRARIANS! ENGINEERING LIBRARIANS!**

Members of the Aerospace and Engineering divisions take note!

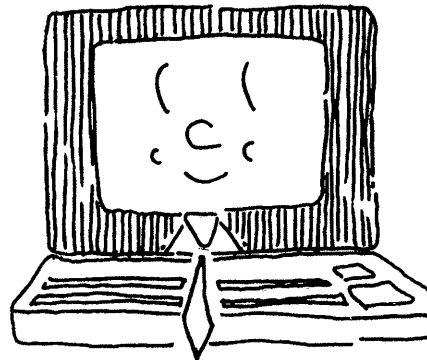
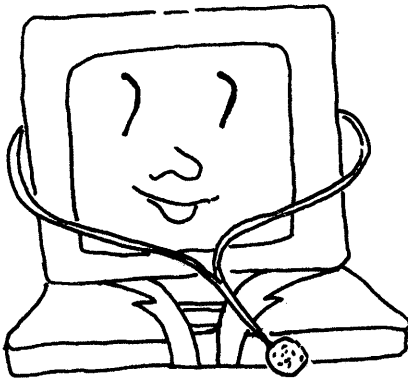
Your division luncheons in Atlanta have been scheduled so as not to conflict with the luncheons of the other division. You can attend both divisions' luncheons if you like.



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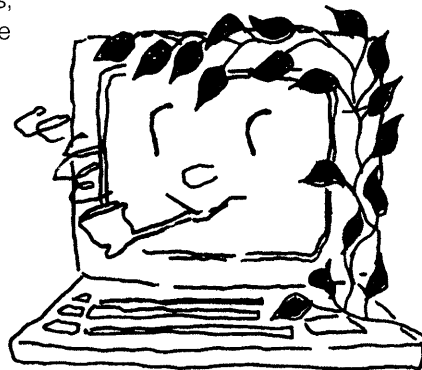


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