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## An Introduction to Quoth the Raven...Baltimore

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## An Introduction to... "Quoth the Raven... Baltimore," the Maryland Chapter of SLA's Online Guide to Getting Around Charm City by Christina K. Pikas

Whether the 2006 SLA Annual Conference will be your first trip to Baltimore or your 101<sup>st</sup> the Maryland Chapter has resources to help you have a productive and enjoyable visit to our home. We will be offering a guide in a printable, portable format for you to find out about transportation, restaurants, bookstores, and so forth. We will announce when it is available for download on our Baltimore 2006 web page, <http://www.sla.org/chapter/cmd/balt06.htm>.

Additionally, we have an ongoing blog, *Quoth the Raven... Baltimore* (<http://sla-maryland.blogspot.com/>) to provide more targeted advice and to allow conference attendees to ask questions of our local specialists.

Some previous host chapters have used existing e-mail discussion lists as forums for visitors to ask questions about the host city, and we see our blog functioning in much the same fashion. We have compiled questions posed to our individual members and posted short answers to the blog. Visitors do not need to sign up or know someone to ask a question. You may add a comment on an existing post or send an e-mail to [SLA.Maryland@gmail.com](mailto:SLA.Maryland@gmail.com).

You can also search the blog or browse the archives to see if your question has been answered. If you just want to keep up to date on all of the fabulous information in the blog, you can either sign up for e-mail updates via FeedBlitz (see the left hand column of the blog for a link), add the site to your customized MyYahoo or MyMSN page, or subscribe to the RSS feed.

Besides posts on local yarn shops, landmarks, history, dance clubs, and local transportation, we have interspersed some posts on Baltimore trivia to whet your appetite for all things Baltimore. See, for example, a recent post with a picture of a famous Baltimore logo (<http://sla-maryland.blogspot.com/2006/03/baltimore-trivia-who-is-this-guy-and.html>). We asked people to guess what it was and where it can be found.

If you like maps, you'll also like our Wayfaring.com map (<http://www.wayfaring.com/maps/show/874>) on which we have marked many of the hotels, restaurants, tourist sites, and other places mentioned on the blog. You can see the

street map view, an aerial view, or a hybrid view. Also try searching by tag. We are always thinking up and trying out new ways to help you plan your visit, so please let us know what we can do to help.

For more information on Baltimore, see the article "See you in Baltimore" by Edna Paulson and Mary Woodfill in the April 2006 issue of *Information Outlook* (available to SLA members online at: <http://www.sla.org/ebrary/index.cfm?docID=10118118&page=21>)

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