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## Science-Technology Division

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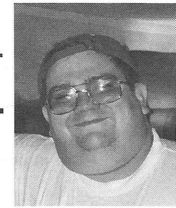
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## Science-Technology Division

## James E. Manasco, Chair



The objectives of the Science-Technology Division shall be to draw together those members of the Special Libraries Association having an interest in the role of library and information science as applied to the recording, retrieval and dissemination of knowledge and information in all areas of science and technology, and to promote and improve the communication, dissemination and use of such knowledge for the benefit of libraries and their users.

As I write this, Easter is just around the bend and we only have a month and a half until Annual Conference. Dear Lord, where did all the time go? It seems like only yesterday we were all in New York just looking ahead to a time in the far future where we would join together in a place called Nashville. It never ceases to amaze me how time flies!

As you'll see elsewhere in the division's section, we have a great program cooked up for you in Nashville! Besides all the professional opportunities at the conference, Nashville itself is a wonderful town. There is much to do and even more to see in the Athens of the South. While rightly known as the home of country music, Nashville boasts a surprisingly diverse musical and cultural scene. The Southern Appalachian Chapter has cooked up a Web site about the area to help you find your way around. Check it out at <http://www.sla.org/chapter/csap/2004Conf/sla-2004-welcome.htm> for the nitty-gritty details.

On a purely selfish note, while you're looking at what the city has to offer, why not click on the Kentucky link? The state line is only minutes away from Nashville and there is a lot that Kentucky has to offer. The most extensive cave system in the world, the Corvette museum, and distilleries galore are all within an easy drive of Nashville. I'd hate for you to come to Nashville and miss out on the glorious pleasures awaiting you in the Promised Land of my birth! Speaking of my birth, Bill Monroe, father of bluegrass music, and I are from the same home county. Yep, though we were born considerable years apart, we both hail from Ohio County, Kentucky. For those fans of the music that really want to get a feel for the origins of the craft, I encourage you to check out my old stomping grounds and visit Mr. Monroe's childhood home on Jerusalem Ridge just outside of Rosine, Kentucky. You can also visit his monument in the Rosine Cemetery. Not far away is the monument for Mr. Monroe's Uncle Pen. You'll most likely pass through my hometown of Beaver Dam on the way to Rosine, if you go. While going through town, take my advice and stop off for a piece of pie and a cherry Coke (or RC) at the Beaver Dam Café. They still make cherry cokes the old-fashioned way, with actual cherry syrup. Yum!

The division is co-sponsoring (with the Engineering Division) a field trip out to Jack Daniels on Thursday. I am really looking forward to that trip and hope to see many of you there! I am a bit torn, however. As a bona fide ambassador for Maker's Mark, I feel

that I must also encourage you to make the just-under-three-hour trip to Loretto, Kentucky, to tour the Maker's Mark distillery, where you can experience the alluring smell of the sour mash, the sublime beauty of the distillery grounds, and the quiet majesty of full bottles of the best Kentucky bourbon in existence being dipped by expert hands into red sealing wax ... ah, I tremble with the thought of it! I'm sure you will, too.

Okay, that's enough of promoting my home state. I do want to give special thanks to Kathy Nordhaus, who has served so ably this year as our program planner for Nashville. She has put together a terrific program and I much admire and appreciate her dedication and enthusiasm.

Since, this is my final chair's column in *Sci-Tech News*, I would also like to extend thanks to the entire elected and advisory board of the division. They have worked hard and well to serve you this year. I do want to single out Darra Combs, our chair-elect, since she has worked diligently with our vendor sponsors to raise the much-needed support necessary to put on the quality programming we will have at Annual. We could not provide the programs we do without the excellent support we receive from our vendors! Please be sure to look for our signs of thanks in the exhibit hall and take the time to talk with and thank them for their support.

Also, I do want to extend another special thank you. Bonnie Osif will be stepping down soon as editor of *Sci-Tech News*. She has served faithfully for many years and her gentle guiding hand will most certainly be terribly missed. The Sci-Tech Board is now working on finding a successor for Bonnie, though we will never be able to replace her. I am personally going to miss her sense of humor and tolerance for yours truly. I thank the norms that she remained at her post through my term in office!

In closing, I do want to extend another thanks, this one to all members of the Sci-Tech Division for allowing me to serve as your chair this past year. It was truly an adventure and I appreciate the support you showed by electing me to this position. I hope I haven't been too much of an embarrassment for you!

While this year has been fun, I look forward to passing the gavel to Darra at the business meeting this summer. I wish her well in her year as chair and in preparing for the Toronto conference. See you in Nashville, y'all!