Welcome to Your Newsletter

Welcome to the fourth edition of our GLS Alumni News. (The eagle-eyed among you will note that we have eliminated the volume number on this edition and, because of the randomly periodic nature of this little publication, will refer to each simply by issue number.) We again have representatives from every decade of GLS alumni going back to the 1940’s and again have correspondence from all over the globe. We urge all GLS alums to keep sending us news as your life changes and your achievements grow. But we also realize that to keep our dialogue going, we have to stimulate discussion. So we’re going to give you two assignments for our next issue and hope you will respond with your ideas and stories. You can do one or both--no extra credit!

Assignment #1: Hank Hassell (AM’80) wrote that the reference collection at his university library was abolished and he “despair[s] over the future of my library in particular and librarianship in general.” I visited a new medical university library two years ago and was told that the library had no reference staff. Now that The World Is Flat, how do you perceive the future of reference services in libraries and corporate information centers? Please send us your thoughts and/or experiences.

Assignment #2: Don’t like this issue’s topic? Give us another library issue on which our alums could express our opinions in following issues.

erichalvorson@earthlink.net

GLS Alumna/Author Awarded Honorary Table

Marilyn Kaye (PhD’83) was profiled last winter in the Emory University alumni magazine. A graduate of Emory with a BA in English and an MA in Library Science, Marilyn went on to Chicago for her doctorate from GLS. Marilyn has now retired from her position as Assistant Professor of Children’s Literature at St. John’s University in New York and is living in Paris. Throughout her career, she divided her time between New York and Paris, and since 1984, has authored over 120 juvenile fiction novels. Youth services librarians will most likely recognize the Camp Sunnyside Friends, Three of a Kind and Replica series. These days, she can probably be found beneath a plaque that reads “Marilyn’s Table,” writing on her laptop at her favorite spot at Hall 1900 Café on the rue Rambuteau.

Bulletin Board

- Judi Nadler has created a Library Student Resource Group to engage students with key people in library administration. One member, Sem Sutter, the assistant director for the humanities and social sciences for the Library, is also a GLS graduate. An article about the group was published in the Chicago Chronicle: http://chronicle.uchicago.edu/070315/library.shtml

- The Library received a $617,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation to uncover hidden resources in Chicago. The project, “Uncovering New Chicago Archives Project” (UNCAP), will involve students and faculty. http://chronicle.uchicago.edu/061019/library-archives.shtml
Would you like to respond to Elizabeth or get in touch with another classmate? Go to www.alumni.uchicago.edu and register to have access to the password protected Alumni Directory.

News from the 1940s

Elizabeth Kientzle Schaefer (AM’49) now lives in Shoreview, MN. “Since graduation I’ve enjoyed three years in the DePaul University Libraries, followed by five years at John Crerar Library, and 18 years in the library of the elementary school my four daughters attended. During that time, I also served on the Elmwood Park and Suburban Library System Boards and taught part-time in what was then Rosary College Library Science Dept. My salaried career ended after serving nine years as a part-time reference librarian at the Schiller Park and Elmwood Park Libraries. However, libraries are in my blood, and I’m now volunteering as organizer and caretaker in libraries in my church and retirement home. In 2000, I moved to the Twin Cities where three of my daughters and their families live, but I still enjoy an annual pilgrimage to lifelong friends in the western suburbs of Chicago. It would be great to hear from GLS classmates and alums from the late 40’s.”

Alex Poinsett (AM’54) is a self-employed author living in Chicago. He recently signed a contract for the University of Michigan to publish his fifth book, tentatively entitled Black Problems: A 50-Year Glimpse. The book is slated for publication in the spring of 2007. It sums up Alex’s 50-plus years as a journalist/author covering race-conflict stories around the world. “My GLS training undergirded most of my author/journalist career.”

Word has reached us that Lewis C. Branscomb (PhD’54) passed away in the fall of 2005 and David A. Kronick (PhD’56) died on February 12, 2006 in San Antonio, TX.

Frances E. Howard (AM’56) writes from Evanston: “I was among those in the first class to graduate from the library school at U of C. It fulfilled for me a desire at age 6 and with my first library card to be a “library lady” with all those books. Before that, I’d received a B.A. from Northwestern University, taught in a parochial school, librarian in the Chicago Public Library and finally was “library lady” teacher/librarian until my retirement at John Marshall High School in Chicago. I, too, knew Leon Carnovski, Lowell Martin, Frances Henne, Lester Asheim and others who made my life the better. My days at the University were enlightening and wonderful. I enjoyed the newsletter and look forward to receiving the next one.”

Robert Baumruk (AM’56) has retired after years of service at the Chicago Public Library and lives in Berwyn, IL.

From Oneonta, NY, Richard D. Johnson (AM’57) writes: “Your newsletter is great! Keep it up. Wonderful to get a report on Barbara Widem—haven’t seen her since ’57. Does she have an address/email or otherwise? I’d love to write her about Noah.”

Barbara Widem (AM’57) replies: We have just changed our email; it is now widems@verizon.net. We are enjoying the warm weather of winter in Maryland and getting messages from Chicago library friends. Hope to see a lot of people...after global warming...when the U.S. ALA meets in our area this coming June. Best wishes to all.”

News from the 1950s

Genevieve N. Schiffmann (AM’53) is retired and lives in Bethesda, MD.

Evangeline Mistaras (AM’53) is retired and lives in Chicago.

Ira J. Peskind (AM’53) is also retired and also lives in Chicago.

Mary Kay Eakin (AM’54) is living in Waterloo, IA.
News from the 1960’s

Richard F. Collins (AM’60) is retired from Indiana State University in Terre Haute and now lives in Pineville, NC. He writes:

"Dear Judith Nadler:
Thank you for the GLS Alumni News and chance to respond. I regretted that GLS was discontinued. I knew few students as I lived at home and commuted to the campus as several of us older people did. We studied at the Newberry Library near my home and through the main public library. I worked part time at the Municipal Reference Library in the City Hall with Joseph Benson and Joyce Malden. I have not been in touch with them for many years. I was a librarian at Gustavus Adolphus in Minnesota until 1967 but did not enjoy the Minnesota climate. I was at Indiana State University from May 1967 to June 1984, when I retired officially. I worked half time in 1985 and retired again. I was in circulation much of the time and went into interlibrary loan and reference. I enjoyed the contact with faculty and helping students with their research. Everything has changed with automation."

Ruth Ann Pfeifer (AM’61) worked for 35 years in various cataloguing departments, five of them in the U of C library, then on the 2nd floor of Harper where her boss was Helen Pitts. “We became friends and she followed me to the Library of Congress where both of us were Section Heads in the Processing Department until she and her husband moved to Phoenix. During my travels in Arizona and Utah, I visited her every summer until her death in 1999. After 16 years at the Library of Congress, I decided to leave the library world and turn to gardening. I am now a volunteer at the National Cathedral Greenhouse, where my special interests are cacti and succulents."

Mary L. Thornblom (AM’62) is retired and lives in Jacksonville, FL.

George Hanson (AM’63) is living in Port Townsend, WA.

Eileen (Riodan) Libby (AM’64) is SSA/Harper Librarian with the University of Chicago Library and lives in Hyde Park.

Isabel (Mrs. Robert) McCaul (AM’64) lives in Keene, NH.

Andrew J. Johnson (AM’66) has retired from his position as professor at Lamar University and is living in Beaumont, TX.

Fred Schlipf (AM’66, PhD’73) is Director of the Urbana (IL) Free Library.

Elizabeth McElroy (AM’67) is retired and living in Washington, DC.

Ivan L. Kaldor (PhD’67) is retired and living in Weaverville, NC.

Carolyn Green Weaver (AM’68) writes from Bellevue, WA: “After 35 years as an academic health services librarian at the John Crerar Library, the University of Nebraska Medical Center Library, and the University of Washington Health Services Library, I made a career change in 2000 to full-time freelance book and journal indexing. (I also moonlighted as an indexer for the last nine years of my library career.) While I sometimes miss the intellectual stimulation of working in libraries, I love being my own boss and discovered long ago that many of my information management skills are directly exportable to my second career. I’ve been active in the American Society of Indexers (ASI) since the early ‘90s, and am currently serving as President-Elect of ASI. Coincidentally, I also served on the ASI Wilson Award committee (in a blind judging) that recognized Janet Russell’s exemplary index for the AACR2 rules—and learned only from her note in the [GLS Alumni News, v.1, n.2] that we are both GLS alums!”

J. Robert Adams (AM’68) is retired and living in Middle Haddam, CT.

Marjorie Hsu Li (AM’68) is Supervising Librarian at the Oakland (CA) Public Library.
News from the 70's

Richard D. Smith (PhD’70) writes: “Kathryn Weintraub commented in the December 2006 Issue that interest might exist amongst GLS Alumni on improving library collection preservation practices. The King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and Wei T’o Associates (of which Richard is President) agreed last week to cooperate in trying to organize an international effort for improving the technology of preserving archive, library, and museum collections on paper. We have ideas on applicable preservation treatments and technologies, but I need guidance on treatment goals that scholarly libraries want. For example, how long should a library preservation treatment preserve books, documents, or works of art in a readable condition? Alternatively, if a book can be preserved for 1,000 years, what guidelines are appropriate for discarding books in permanent collections that have no readers?” Richard asks for alumni suggestions. You may contact him at weito@weito.com.

Dorothy Fisher Weed (AM’70) is self-employed and working as a consultant in information management in Annapolis, MD.

Edwin Kerman (AM’71) is Head Librarian at the Dublin School in Dublin, NH, [the home of Yankee Magazine and The Old Farmer’s Almanac].

Sandra J. Gnippe (AM’72) is retired and lives right here in Hyde Park, Chicago, USA.

Mary (Henry) Brunsdale (AM’73) is Reference Librarian at the Minnesota State University’s Moorhead Library in Moorhead, MN.

One of my classmates, John Coyne (AM’73), is retired and living in Evanston, IL.

Margaret “Peggy” Johnson (AM’73) is Associate University Librarian at the Wilson Library of the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, MN.

Marilyn L. Spence (AM’73) resides in Sagamore Hills, Ohio.

Shirley K. Baker (AM’74), Dean of University Libraries and Vice Chancellor for Information Technology at Washington University says: “I’m inspired to write by reading the stories of my classmates (Roger Fenton, Charlene Baldwin, John Dean) and more recent colleagues (Jim Michalko, Brad Baker) whose U of C alum status escaped my notice until now. I graduated in ’74 with a degree from GLS and another master’s in South Asian Languages & Civilizations. There were two other joint-degree program graduates. The first, Tina Lesnik, worked for a time with South Asian materials but moved on to other positions and was tragically killed in an accident a decade ago. The last one, Bob Emmett, worked briefly as a librarian before morphing into an engineer for Hughes. He retired half a dozen years ago and lives outside LA, sails and travels with his wife Kris (they married in Chicago’s City Hall). I’ve never had a position drawing on my area studies background - experience in management and technology shaped my career. I’ve worked at Northwestern, Johns Hopkins, and MIT. I’ve been here at Washington University in St. Louis since 1989 (!) and have built two new subject libraries and oversaw a gut rehab of our main library. I spent ten years of my professional life working internationally (with my friend and colleague Mary Jackson) to improve interlibrary loan and spent another few years creating MOBIUS, an INNReach-based consortium for Missouri libraries. These activities led to numerous board and committee responsibilities - with the Association of Research Libraries, OCLC and its networks, and most recently with Jim Michalko’s OCLC/RLG Program Council. My book and paper conservator husband (one of John Dean’s protégés) and I have two children. Our son Nick is a webmaster/librarian at Williams College.
News from the 70's cont’d

and daughter India is in the UK getting a master’s degree in Indian colonial history. Like Charlene Baldwin, my husband and I were Peace Corps volunteers (in India, obviously). We were been back for a summer in 1972 and went again as a family with University colleagues in 2001 - a great adventure. Looking forward to more newsletters.”

Laura K. Graff (AM’74) is Coordinating Field Librarian for the Los Angeles Unified School District and lives in Chatsworth, CA.

Margaret Harrison Cory (AM’74) is retired and living in Menlo Park, CA.

Madelynne Billings Johnson (AM’74) spent twelve years as a media specialist in Seattle, WA. She now lives near Tampa, FL and is currently Children’s Librarian at her hometown Temple Terrace Public Library. “just a five-minute drive along the golf course ☺. I’ve been here eight years and still love the job, but not the summer heat, humidity and hurricanes.”

Linda L. Knowles (AM’74) is retired and living in “Music City,” Nashville, TN.

Kathleen de la Peña McCook (AM’74) is Distinguished University Professor in the School of Library & Information Sciences at the University of South Florida in Tampa, FL, where she is teaching a new course, “Human Rights and Librarianship.” She has served on the editorial boards of Progressive Librarian and Library Quarterly, as well as on ALA’s Notable Books Council, 2002-2006. She is currently on the negotiating team for her union, the United Faculty of Florida.

Marguerite S. “Peggy” Strand (AM’74) is a partner/attorney at Best Best & Krieger LLP in San Diego CA.

Julie (Virgo) Noolan (PhD’74) is President of The Carroll Group. “Since 1990, I have been working as an organization development and change consultant. My work takes me all over the world—assessing organizations for the World Bank, facilitating employee involvement in making change happen, executive coaching and so on. I am completing a book on conflict management, have just had a chapter published in a book by Jossey-Bass/Wiley on organizational assessment, and have been teaching in the MS in Organizational Development Program at American University in Washington, DC. I live in the Vail Valley in Colorado with my husband and three cats.”

Jean Arndt Bloom (AM’75) lives in Washington, DC.

Victor Dyer (AM’75) is the Library Director of the Ipswich Public Library in Ipswich, MA.

Judith A. Gaskell (AM’75) is librarian at the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington, DC.

Nancy R. (Loebe) Hessler (AM’75) announces that she is retiring August 4th. She lives in Downers Grove, IL.

Bruce M. Manzer (PhD’75) writes from Bahrain on the Persian Gulf, where he has lived for 22 years, working several jobs, including that of university librarian. “I retired in 2004 after seven years as chief researcher with the government team preparing its case before the World Court in a long-standing boundary dispute with neighboring Qatar. As I write, it’s 115° outside.”

Karen Laurie Diener Neblock (AM’75) is Medical Librarian at Underwood-Memorial Hospital in Underwood, NJ.

James A. Overbeck (AM’75) is Acting Manager of the Georgia Local and Family History division of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library in Atlanta, GA.
News from the 1970s cont’d

Carlos E. Rodriguez (AM’75) is Finance Analyst with Thomson Financial in New York.

Roslyn Beitler (AM’76) worked as a children’s Librarian in the Annapolis (MD) Public Library and ended her career as an elementary school librarian in Arlington, VA. An intervening career for 12 years was as a Program Manager for Children and Family Activities with the Smithsonian Associates where she presented children’s book authors and illustrators and commissioned illustrators to design posters for the program. She is actively involved in international children’s literature and has been a U.S. juror for a competition and exhibition of original art for children’s books in Bratislava. She has participated in Congresses abroad and is currently a member of the Batchelder Award Committee of ALSC to honor publishers for books in translation. Roslyn lives in Washington, DC.

Deborah Dennis (AM’76) is Director of the Moorestown (NJ) Public Library.

Jan E.V.W. Hanson (AM’76) is the Youth Services Librarian at the Longview (WA) Public Library.

Ralph Orlik (AM’76) is an ITS/Computer Specialist with the Library of Congress is Washington, DC.

Amy Goedecke Gavalis (AM’77) is Children’s Librarian at the Lincoln (MA) Public Library.

Kristin Lindlan (AM’77) is Head of the Serials Cataloging Section at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Rosemary Lopiano (AM’77) lives in Gary, IN.

Robb Murray (AM’77) writes that his musical comedy collaboration, “Macho Motors,” (GLS Alumni News, #3) may now be seen on YouTube at machomotors.notlong.com.

Joyce Saricks (AM’77) retired from the Downers Grove (IL) Public Library two years ago after almost 27 years as a reference librarian, Head of Technical Services and Head of Readers’ Advisory. “Now I travel doing workshops, write a column and review audio books for Booklist magazine, write and edit readalikes for NoveList, and frequently teach Readers’ Advisory at Dominican. We’re empty nesters (except we have the kids’ cats), so Chris and I travel when we can. I’ve also written two books on Readers’ Advisory. I read whenever I can—it’s great to have a job that requires that! And I’m addicted to audio books.”

Susan Chang (AM’79) is Library Director at DeVry University in Addison, IL.

Mariana Tax Choldin (PhD’79) has been living in Chicago’s South Loop since retiring in 2002 from the University of Illinois at Urbana. “I occupy myself with several projects centered on libraries and with my four granddaughters, all under the age of 2½! I spend a day a week at Regenstein Library, going through my files for return to the UIUC archives and doing some research and writing. It’s a joy to be back in my native city, and back in my old neighborhood—Hyde Park—where I grew up and had so many pleasant years as a student. My husband, Harvey, and I enjoy Library Society events, and will watch with pleasure as the new [Regenstein addition project] develops.”

News from the 1980s

Robert H. “Hank” Hassell (AM’80) writes from Flagstaff, AZ, where he has been at the Northern Arizona University Cline Library for the past 26 years. “For most of those years, I was a reference librarian, but once my library stopped buying books, stopped binding periodicals, and trashed the reference collection (It’s all online, don’t you know!), I quit public service in disgust and am now splitting my time between cataloging (I’ll make you proud yet, Ms. Weintraub!) and special collections. I love what I do, but despair over the
News from the 1980s cont’d

Dorothy “Dodie” Ownes (AM’86) writes from Golden, CO, that she has been doing freelance marketing and public relations work for the past three years, working for companies as diverse as EBSCO, Blackwell’s, MouseGlobal and Serials Solutions. “I have a couple of articles coming out in Library Journal, one in August on electronic resource management systems and another in October on business audio books. I also write “Remarkable Reads” for School Library Journal and still find time to enjoy life in the Rockies with my husband Mike and 11-year-old son Paul.”

Vaswati Rani Sinha (AM’86), living in Allenstown, PA, writes: “After 20 years, I just retired from the profession to embark on a career change. I spent the last leg of my time as a librarian as the manager for Acquisitions and Serials at Lafayette College, where I met and married Karl Seiler, professor of mechanical engineering. We have two sons: Adim Albert Kumar Seiler (b. 1999) and Felix Nikhil Kumar Seiler (b. 2002). I am working on the prerequisites to apply to a Physician Assistant training program. If all works out, I will earn my credentials in the summer of 2009. If you remember me, please contact me at either (610) 530-0225 or via email at sinha@fast.net. ”

Suzanne Arist (AM’87) is Adult & Youth Services Librarian at the Wilmette (IL) Public Library. She recently received an Outstanding Team Achievement Award from the Special Libraries Association Illinois Chapter for her committee work writing for the [Chapter] blog and has signed a contract with Library Journal to review books on librarianship and art. “I would love to hear from anyone who went to school with me.”

Maria Lina Collazo (AM’87) is Librarian at the Medical Sciences Campus of the University of Puerto Rico in San Juan, PR.

future of my library in particular and librarianship in general.”

Sharon E. Wsol (AM’81) is Library Director at the Orland Park (IL) Public Library.

Claire Yoshida (AM’81) is a Product Specialist with TLC/CARL, a Denver-based provider of library management systems and professional services. Claire lives in Los Altos, CA.

Patricia B. Pond (PhD’82) is retired and lives in Beaverton, OR.

John W. Thompson (AM’82) is Library Systems Administrator at Waynesburg College’s Eberly Library in Waynesburg, PA.

David Yuro (AM’82) is Vice President-Content for FactSet Research Systems in Tuscaloosa, AL.

Joan Axelroth (AM’84) is President of Axelroth & Associates in Silver Spring, MD.

Amy Sanders (AM’84) writes: “It is wonderful to see GLS raising its head from the ashes! I am working for PepsiCo in the IT department - now how did a nice librarian end up in an IT department?! I am hoping to get back to my "roots" when I get to retire (not for several years since kids will be heading to college soon) and work in a school library. I am in touch with Beth Kraig, Suzanne Klinger, Susan Schmidt Wardzala and Karen Kalusza. Thanks.”

Charlie (Jane) Kalogeros-Chatan (AM’86) is Library Director of the Los Alamos County Library System in Los Alamos, NM.

William S. “Bill” Mulherin (AM’86) is retired and living in Philadelphia, PA.

Remember: If you want to find a former classmate or colleague, go to www.alumni.uchicago.edu and register to have access to the password protected Alumni Directory.
**News from the 1980s cont’d**

**Leone McDermott** (AM’87) is Library Chairperson at Harry S Truman College in Chicago.

**Anne Riceman** (AM’87) lives in Madison, WI.

Congratulations to **Deborah L. Gillespie** (AM’88). In 2006, Deborah celebrated 10 years as Curator of the Chicago Jazz Archive at the University of Chicago.

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**News from the 1990’s**

**Arlene Hansen Bansal** (AM’90) retired in 1995 as Director, Arizona Department of Library Archives and Public Record, aka the State Library. Arlene is living in Phoenix and says: “Retirement is now my favorite occupation!”

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**Brunch with Books**

Celebrate the growing Klowden Family Library of alumni and faculty publications in Alumni House. A light brunch and a talk by Professor Martin Marty will introduce the collection, newly reorganized by members of the Graduate Library School.

Alumni Weekend
June 3, 2007
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
$10

**Look for more information in the mail!**

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**Bulletin Board**

- The Library and the new addition were featured in the University’s annual report: [http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/whatsnew/library.ar.feature.pdf](http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/whatsnew/library.ar.feature.pdf)
- The current exhibition in Special Collections is “The Meaning of Dictionaries.” Here is a link to the description: [http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/curex.html#b](http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/curex.html#b)

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**Catching up with...**

**Peggy Sullivan**

Catching up with Peggy Sullivan (PhD’72) is not so much of a problem as keeping up with her, as you will see.

“I was in southern Africa on a Grand Circle tour from 25 days in November-December. A good trip, one of several I enjoyed this year – Copenhagen in May-June, primarily to see Wagner’s Ring Cycle in the new opera house there; Tunisia in December-January, and numerous trips for both business and pleasure within the U.S. I do plan to stay home more [this year, although] I am off to Costa Rica with the Northern Illinois Travel Society [early in 2007].

“Would you believe? I recently spent a few hours shelving books as a Friend-volunteer at my local branch library. Remembering how pages used to hate to shelve those thin children’s books when I was a children’s librarian, I chose a truckload of them, and it did take ages!

“Most of my volunteer work is stuff I can do from home – crocheting and knitting for the Stroger (Cook County) Hospital, for example. I try not to be on more than three boards or councils at a time, and presently am on the Board of Visitors for the College of Communications at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and was elected treasurer of the Chicago Literary Club. That’s a group that meets almost weekly through the year, and the program is always a member giving a paper. I’m on the program to give a paper there in April.

“Cheers!”