

# ***Central Plains Irregular***

Number 35, September 2002

## **ARLIS/CP FALL 2002 MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

This year the fall meeting will be in Kansas City, October 17-19. Accommodations will be at the Quarterage, a boutique hotel in Westport. The business meeting and speakers will be at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. Library space planning will be the topic of a panel discussion with a tour on Friday afternoon of the newly renovated library at the Kansas City Art Institute.

Watch for an advance email notice of the meeting followed by a printed announcement in the mail. For further information about the upcoming meeting, please contact Kay Logan-Peters, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, 402-472-1195 or [kloganpe@unlnotes.unl.edu](mailto:kloganpe@unlnotes.unl.edu).

## **ARLIS/CP SPRING 2002 MEETING**

The Spring 2002 chapter meeting was held in Lindsborg, KS, June 6-8th. Located between Salina and Wichita in the Smoky River Valley, Lindsborg is a farming community with a strong arts tradition and a vibrant cultural heritage from the Swedish immigrants who settled here. At first glance, substitute Norway for Sweden, and one thinks immediately of Garrison Keillor's Lake Wobegon, "the little town that time forgot and the decades cannot improve."

But unlike its fictional counterpart, Lindsborg is a lively, successful tourist destination. The weekend of our meeting, the town was also the site of a large wedding, an arts festival in Salina and a multi-state high school basketball tournament. Most participants stayed at the Swedish Country Inn although some stayed as far away as McPherson. The group gathered for dinner just around the corner at the Swedish Crown Restaurant where we got our first taste of a local specialty: lingonberries.

After dinner we were graciously invited for an after hours visit to Small World Gallery. Jim Richardson, a native Kansan who has traveled the world as a photographer for National Geographic, showed off his recently opened gallery space. Not only did we enjoy Jim's striking images, but our host Ron Michael had some of his recent ceramic pieces on exhibit as well.

Friday was packed with activity. After the business meeting our guest speaker, Saralyn Hardy, shared her thoughts and observations on her recent experience as Director of the Museums and Visual Arts section of the NEA in Washington, D.C. After lunch we had a tour of the Birger Sandzén Memorial Gallery and Studio led by Ron Michael, Curator, and our host for the meeting.

Just a few blocks away but worlds apart stylistically, we visited the Red Barn Studio to view the work of Lester Raymer. That evening, everyone enjoyed an Italian dinner at the Renaissance Café in Assaria, KS. Besides its rather unusual location, (inside a former school gymnasium), the menu featured over 60 different kinds of soda from around the world: cactus flower, peach, pear, Sangria and Grape Nehi, just to name a few.

On Saturday morning part of the group went on a guided folk-art tour of the area with Ron, our host extraordinaire. Some of us stayed to shop on Lindsborg's flower-lined main street and try our luck spotting some wild dalas. We were delighted to catch a glimpse of Salvador Dala but the rare Dalahippus Lindsborgensis eluded us that day. To identify each of Lindsborg's Wild Dala Horses, consult the Official Field Guide at [www.prairiefusiongraphics.com](http://www.prairiefusiongraphics.com) (click on Portfolio/brochures) or to learn more go to [www.lindsborg.org](http://www.lindsborg.org).

## MEMBER NEWS

### Nebraska

**Kathy Corcoran** left Joslyn Art Museum in January 2002 to become Library Director of the Munson-Williams-Proctor Art Institute in Utica, New York. Kathy, who was originally from Buffalo, NY, says she very much enjoys her new job and is happy to be nearer to home. **Christine Jorgensen**, who replaced **Toni Stevenson Reese** as Reference Librarian at Josyln in January 2001, has been promoted to the Head Librarian position. After a hectic six months, Christine reports she has hired a new part-time Library Technician, **John Armstrong**, and is busy taking two classes per semester toward her MLS. She is on track to receive her degree by the end of 2003.

### Oklahoma

The newest chapter member is no stranger to the Central Plains. **Susan Bobo** started last April as Architecture Librarian at Oklahoma State University. Susan graduated from KU with a degree in art history and her MLS is from OU. For many years she worked for arts organizations and libraries in Tulsa, OK. Most recently she was Library Director at a small private college in Orlando, FL.

### Missouri

**Gloria Short** has a happy excuse for missing the spring meeting in Lindsborg. She and her husband were flying back from their dream trip to Italy, May 28-June 7. Their itinerary reads like an art history survey with stops in Pisa, Assisi, Ravenna, Florence, Venice, Pompeii, Rome and Vatican City. The "tour scrapbook" is currently "on loan" at her mother's house in Carthage, MO. Hopefully Gloria will bring it with her to the fall meeting in Kansas City.

**Jane Zander** sends the latest news at the Nelson-Atkins Museum: the new parking garage is almost completed. The grand opening ceremony with new turf and reflecting pool is planned for mid-October. In July, Jane and **Katherine Reed** attended a workshop given by the Bibliographical Center for Research and held at Kansas City Community College. The purpose of the workshop was to review the principles of cataloging audiovisual formats. "The Nelson has lots of videos," Jane writes, and "we would like to get them cataloged BEFORE videos are a total technology of the past." Along that line, the staff have been working hard to standardize cataloging policies and **Cindy Barth**, with her prior experience at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute, has been instrumental in getting this much needed project going. In September, Cindy celebrates her first anniversary as Head Librarian at the Nelson-Atkins Museum.

**Margaret Miller**, formerly on staff at the Nelson, is now a librarian at Longview Community College in Missouri.

After two years on acting status, **Marianne Cavanaugh** has accepted the position of Head Librarian for the Richardson Memorial Library, St. Louis Art Museum. She has been at the library since 1989 and is active in numerous professional library organizations. Most recently, Marianne was co-chair of the hugely successful first joint conference of ARLIS/NA and VRA held in St. Louis last March.

More exciting news from SLAM: the Richardson Memorial Library, together with the libraries at the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Missouri Historical Society, has received a grant from the Mellon Foundation, as part of the new St. Louis Research Libraries Consortium. The first project will be to implement a shared library system using the Innovative Interfaces software. Hopefully, this will be the first of many collaborative projects for the Consortium in the years to come.

## Kansas

In early September, **Lois Crane**, with the help of 10 volunteers, moved the library at the Wichita Art Museum into new, expanded quarters. It took five days, but, Lois writes, "I am no longer squeezed in among boxes, stacks of paper and books. For the first time I have storage space for supplies and ample shelf space for books, at least for now!" The renovation and building expansion at the museum should be completed in early 2003.

As you may have read on ARLIS-L recently, our own **Suzy Frechette**, St. Louis Public Library, has just been nominated to be the next Midwest Regional Representative, ARLIS/NA. If all goes well, Suzy will assume this responsibility from **Ursula Kolmstetter** during the Baltimore meeting for a two-year term.

We close out the Member News with the following letter from **Stephanie Sigala**:

Dear ARLIS-CP'ers:

I will no longer be seeing my Central Plains friends on a regular basis at meetings, so I am saying a fond farewell to all you friends.

After 16 years as head of Richardson Library at the Saint Louis Art Museum, I have now made a new job transition into the Education Department of the Museum. Since I was a college professor before becoming a librarian, I am back talking about art objects in a way that is very rewarding. It is very busy (very!) and there hasn't been time to correspond individually with each of you.

Please come and see me when you are visiting St. Louis. My office is right across the hall from the library. Marianne Cavanaugh is going a great job as the new Head Librarian.

Cheers, Stephanie Sigala  
[athena@slam.org](mailto:athena@slam.org)