

THE MEDIUM

NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS CHAPTER

Vol. 3, No.2

August, 1977

Kay Krochman, Editor
Amon Carter Museum Library, Fort Worth, Texas

POSTAL CHARGES FOR THIS ISSUE OF THE MEDIUM WERE PAYED
COURTESY OF THE KIMBELL ART MUSEUM, FORT WORTH, TEXAS

MINUTES OF THE CORPUS CHRISTI MEETING, MAY 14, 1977

The spring 1977 meeting of ARLIS/Texas was held on May 14 at the Art Museum of South Texas. Carole Cable presided. The minutes of the fall 1976 meeting as published in The Medium were approved. The Treasurer's report stated a previous balance of \$47.16. The current balance after deductions for reproduction and mailing of The Medium was \$13.76. Since there are no chapter allotments in the ARLIS/NA 1977 budget and since continued communication within the chapter was considered vital by the assembled chapter members, Ilse Rothrock moved that the costs of reproduction and mailing of The Medium be supported by a subscription fee of \$3.00. The motion was seconded by Nancy Schuller and carried unanimously. In order that the next issue announcing this change be received by all members, Mrs. Rothrock offered that the Kimbell Art Museum would pay the mailing cost. The chapter gratefully accepted the generous offer. It was also decided that in future issues of the newsletter a delegated member of the chapter will submit a profile of his or her library and its resources. It was also suggested that future issues contain lists of any pertinent publications by chapter members or their affiliated institutions and any library exhibitions mounted by members.

Margaret Culbertson's report on the Survey of Texas Architectural Visual Resources was discussed and a call for area chairmen to coordinate the survey in local areas of the state is to appear in the next issue of The Medium, as well as a capsule of the report. The following possible sponsors for the eventual publication of the survey were discussed: ARLIS/NA, the Moody Foundation, Special Libraries Association, the Texas Commission on the Arts and Humanities, and the University of Texas School of Architecture.

Two letters were composed by the attendant ARLIS/Texas members, one to be sent to the ARLIS/NA board and one to the editor of the ARLIS/NA newsletter. The letter to the board, to be drafted by Carole Cable and Nancy Schuller, concerned questions raised by the members regarding the organization's budget. The letter to the editor was written in answer to the editor's request in the newsletter's February issue for an evaluation of the publication's value and function to the membership. This letter is to be drafted by Lois Jones.

Dr. Jones moved that ARLIS/Texas meet only once a year in the fall with local area groups encouraged to gather for spring meetings based on their interest and needs. Joyce Hess seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously. It was also decided that the annual meeting have a formal program supported by a registration fee to cover the cost of local arrangements and program expenses. Dallas was chosen as the site for the fall meeting with Dr. Jones in charge of local arrangements including the selection of a hosting institution and date. The meeting adjourned for lunch.

After lunch Nancy Schuller gave a comparative evaluation of Ektachrome 50 and KPA 35 slide film. This was followed by a presentation by Lois Jones on art exhibition and sales catalogs and published sources providing access to them.

ARLIS/TEXAS LETTER TO ARLIS/NA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Board Members:

The members of the Texas Chapter of ARLIS/NA who met in Corpus Christi on May 14, 1977, discussed a number of problems relating to the current budget as published in the February, 1977 Newsletter and in Nancy John's memo of February 25, which circulated to all chapter chairpersons.

Our main concern is the elimination of the \$1.00 per member allotment granted to chapters. Nancy states in her memo that when the Board "had examined the services and costs which the National [Board] now provides and bears, we came to the conclusion that certain activities were of lesser importance..." You thus eliminated the \$1.00 allotment and established a fund of \$200 for financing chapter projects -- a total savings of \$251.00 from the 1976 budget of \$37,801.26.

The consensus at our meeting was that the members of ARLIS/NA Executive Board should view the support of individual chapters as an essential, primary concern. In the past the Texas Chapter had used the \$1.00 allotment to finance the mailing of the chapter newsletter and announcements of state meetings. At our recent conference the members were forced to approve an annual subscription fee for the chapter newsletter and increase registration fees for the state meetings in order to remain solvent. Considering how little would actually be saved by the elimination of the chapter allotments, the action by the members of the ARLIS/NA Executive Board appears unwise on organizational as well as budgetary grounds.

Another concern that was voiced at our meeting was the rather large amount of cash on hand at the beginning of the fiscal year. Could you give us an explanation for the large carry-over of \$14,869.52? The members of the Texas chapter realize that the organization needs to be solvent, but we do not understand the increase in this cash on hand that amounts to almost \$4,000 between January 1, 1976 and December 31, 1976. Questions were also raised as to why (1) the projected income for 1977 was \$2,300 less than for 1976, (2) the printing and postage costs for 1977 were less than 1976, and (3) special projects, which were not explained either at the general membership meeting in Los Angeles or in the newsletter, were budgeted at \$2,500?

Our chapter would like to suggest that the finances and the budget for the next fiscal year be discussed and debated in an open, well-advertised meeting at the national meeting. Moreover, we would like to propose that the budget printed in the Newsletter be clarified in greater detail for the benefit of those who were unable to attend the national meeting. We suggest that through better communication with local chapters and individual members the Board could more equitably distribute funds.

Sincerely yours,
Carol Cable, Chairperson

REPLY FROM THE ARLIS/NA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Ms. Cable and members of ARLIS/Texas:

The Executive Board has asked me to reply to your letter of 1 June 1977 in regard to ARLIS/NA financial matters.

The elimination of the chapter allotments has caused some consternation in other chapters as well. It should be said that the allotments for 1977 would have been considerably higher than those for 1976. New chapters have been formed and the older ones have increased in size. The Board has however been able to substantially increase its budget for chapter projects. Since greater income is expected from the New York conference, the Board has approved a budget of \$1000. for chapter projects during fiscal 1978. The Board hopes that this increased amount will mean that the Society can help those chapters that need money for such costs as mailing as well as providing seed money for publishing such things as the Guide to New England Art Museum Libraries published by the New England chapter. It is also hoped that these publications will prove to be mostly self-supporting or even produce income for other projects.

The cash-on-hand figure of \$14,869.52 on 31 December 1976 is not a true indication of the cash assets of the Society. It includes the income received during late 1976 (i.e. membership payments and conference registrations) which are now supporting the Society. The Board has recently changed the fiscal year from January-December to October-September in order to more closely reflect the cash flow of the Society.

The projected income for 1977 represents the Board's conservative estimate. The Board is conservative in its estimate of income and quite liberal in its estimate of expenditures, hoping that a balance will be achieved.

Postage costs for 1977 will be less than costs in 1976 since the Society has received non-profit status and can mail the Newsletter at a lower rate. The lower amount for printing reflects the Board's desire to control the growth in size of the Newsletter. We understand the need for the diverse types of information contained in the Newsletter, but feel that budgetary constraints require that its size be controlled. For 1978, we have attempted to key printing expenditures to advertising income.

The \$2500. budgeted for special projects during 1977 will be spent on the Directory of Art Libraries and Visual Resources Collections.

The budget for fiscal 1978 was discussed and approved at the recent mid-year Board meetings, and will be published in the July Newsletter. The budget for fiscal 1979 (October 1978-September 1979) will be presented in preliminary state at the annual business meeting during the 1978 conference in New York. At the 1977 conference, the Board was working on a budget for a fiscal year that had already started. This helped in creating confusion amongst members and meant that general input was difficult.

I hope this letter will answer your questions relating to the financial matters of the Society. Please feel free to contact me or other Board members if you have further questions.

Sincerely,
Sherman Clarke, Treasurer

ARLIS/TEXAS LETTER TO ARLIS/NA NEWSLETTER

Dear Ms. Hoffberg:

The members of the Texas Chapter of ARLIS/NA who met in Corpus Christi on May 14, 1977 discussed their views of the ARLIS/NA Newsletter and wished to convey these opinions to you and the ARLIS/NA Executive Board.

Since the majority of the ARLIS members in Texas do not attend the national conventions, their contact and interest in ARLIS/NA is mainly through the state and local chapters and the information provided in the newsletter. Consequently, the national publication is the lifeline that keeps the chapter members together. For this reason, the convention reports are deemed essential both by members who do not attend the national meetings and by those who were not able to attend a specific conference. However, the photographs reproduced in the conference report were meaningless to the Texas members regardless of whether or not they had attended the Los Angeles convention. In addition, the sentiment was voiced that duplication of information in the newsletter and in the national pre-conference prospectus should be kept to a minimum.

It was the concensus that the two most outstanding features of the newsletter were the important data provided on visual resources and the excellent book-review section of art reference material. The view was voiced that it is especially convenient to have the latter in the centerfold of the newsletter so that the section can be disengaged if necessary. The listing of current exhibition catalogues, of periodical exchanges, and of current art librarian positions were also cited as important features.

Naturally, the debit side reflected the concerns of this particular area. The Texas members expressed interest in having more information on architectural resources and references and additional news from the Middle West ARLIS chapters. Knowing how difficult it is to determine the length of each issue of the newsletter, especially since there is now the important money-making aspect of advertising, the members felt that the publication should be kept within the readable length of about thirty-six pages of text.

The importance of the ARLIS/NA Newsletter to the members of the Texas Chapter cannot be overemphasized. As the one publication that is geared to their profession, the newsletter is an essential link between the various ARLIS members throughout the United States and Canada.

Sincerely yours,
Carole Cable, Chairperson

REPLY FROM THE ARLIS NEWSLETTER

Dear Carole and members of the Texas chapter:

As your regional representative to the ARLIS/NA Executive Board, I would like to respond to some of the concerns raised in your letter of June 1 to Judith Hoffberg.

At the mid-year Board meeting in New Your City last week, we discussed your letter and several others which have been addressed to the Editor or to the Board. As you may imagine, there is a broad range of opinions about what kinds of information should be emphasized in the Newsletter and what might be cut. Rather than attempt to please everyone (which seems to be impossible!), the Board has taken the position that editorial content should remain the responsibility of the Editor. The Board's responsibility is to set the budgetary constraints which may determine the overall length and advertising policies of the Newsletter. We do agree that the Newsletter is our essential channel of communication and that we do not want to reduce the number of issues per year. But we are committed to a balanced budget -- Sherman's letter of June 13 has outlined some of the problems involved.

I will do what I can to encourage the submission of news from the Midwest chapters. I suspect that we in the Midwest have the largest number of librarians who feel geographically isolated and therefore depend heavily on the Newsletter for information and support. I am grateful you have taken the time to discuss this with your chapter and to let us know what your interests are. Please let me know if you have further questions or ideas for the Board.

Sincerely yours,
Christina Huemer, ARLIS/NA Midwest Rep

ANNOUNCEMENT:

As you have read in the minutes of the spring meeting and in Carole Cable's letter to the Executive Board, the chapter is forced to charge a subscription fee of \$3.00 to cover cost of reproduction and mailing of The Medium. It was possible to get this issue to you only through the generosity of the Kimbell Art Museum, and the chapter thanks them most sincerely. We can request no funds from ARLIS/NA until the next fiscal year. So if you wish to receive the next winter and spring issues of The Medium, please send a \$3.00 check to ARLIS/Texas as instructed on the registration form on the last page of this newsletter.

Library Exhibitions:

Deluxe Editions of Derrière le Mirois, an exhibition of the color lithographs from these editions from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin S. Romansky, is currently on display in the library gallery of the Houston Museum of Fine Arts. The exhibition was mounted by Linda Nelson, the museum's librarian, and will be on display until September 4.

Survey of Texas Architectural Visual Resources:

Margaret Culbertson has prepared a survey form, letter of request, and instruction sheet for gathering information on the visual resources documenting Texas architecture, contemporary and historic, held within the state. Her form queries the size, scope, nature, organization, accessibility, restrictions and policies of acquisition, lending and reproduction of these collections. After the forms have been completed and collected, the information would be compiled, indexed by type of building, architect and location, and then published. Pertinent information would also be submitted to the national files of the Committee for the Preservation of Architectural Records.

Area chairmen to coordinate the survey in local areas of the state are needed. The success of the survey depends on the ability of the chapter to identify and contact appropriate collections throughout the state. Please volunteer your help before September 16, 1977. Contact: Ms. Margaret Culbertson, Art and Architecture Librarian/ University of Houston Library/Houston, Texas 77004/713-749-1219.

ARLIS/Texas Library Profiles:

It was suggested at the chapter's spring meeting that future issues of The Medium contain a profile of a library represented by a chapter member. By detaching the profile from each succeeding issue of the newsletter a file of information on the nature and resources of ARLIS/Texas member libraries may be obtained.

KIMBELL ART MUSEUM LIBRARY, FORT WORTH, TEXAS: PROFILE, 1977

Established: 1967

Housed: Kimbell Art Museum, main gallery floor

Address: Will Rogers Road West. Mailing address: P.O. Box 9440, Fort Worth, Texas 76107

Telephone: 817-332-8451

Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. (Staff hours, Monday - Friday, 9:00 A.M. -

Type: Non-circulating art reference library 5:00 P.M.)

Open: by appointment for scholarly use

Staff: 5

Budget (1977): books \$34,000; slides \$3,000; subscriptions \$4,000

Services: interlibrary loan, limited Xeroxing, reference

COLLECTION

Books: 16,000 volumes of scholarly materials covering world art from pre-historic times to Cubism (ca 1910), excepting the art of the Americas but including Pre-Columbian art. Special emphasis on painting and museum collections. Exhibition catalogues included with books. Books on conservation located in the museum's laboratory. Since 1975, special emphasis given to 18th century British, French and Italian painting and graphics. The library covers fairly consistently current scholarly publications in Western languages in the above areas. About one third of book budget used for retrospective buying, but pre-1967 coverage remains spotty. LC Classification; beginning with 1977, cards contributed to the National Union Catalogue.

Periodicals: about 100 art periodicals, museum bulletins, newsletter, etc. received; subscriptions begin in the late 1960's; no attempt to acquire back runs in most cases. Holdings are listed in North Texas Metroplex Union List of Art Periodicals. Subscriptions to major auction sales catalogues in pertinent fields.

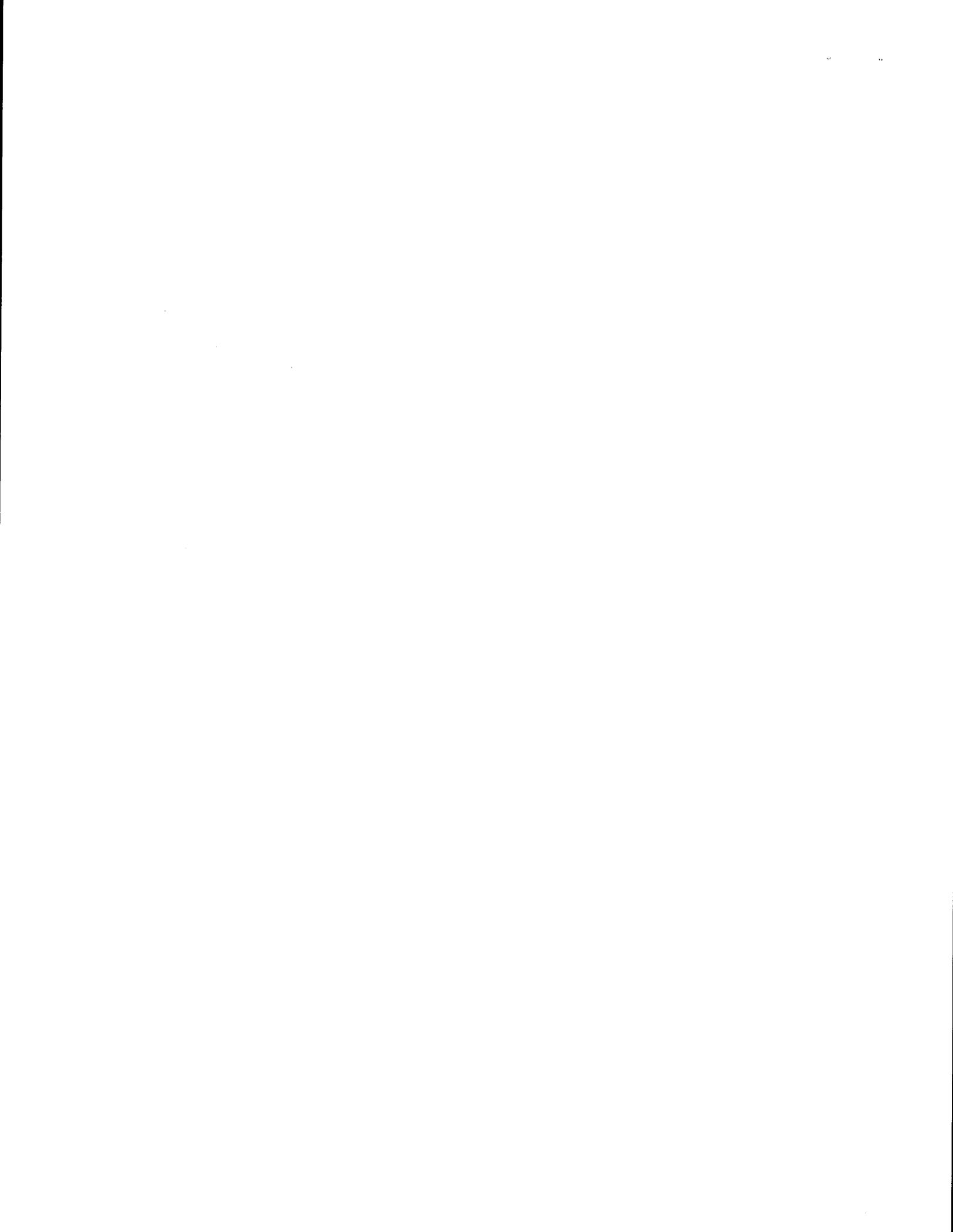
Slides: 26,000 slides on general art history, with emphasis on Kimbell Museum collection, painting, ceramics. Metropolitan Museum classification scheme. Slides circulated for educational purposes at _____ of librarian.

Films: 30 films on art subjects; library expects to acquire several high quality films each year. Films are lent to local educational institutions at discretion of Librarian

Microforms: the library has a few microfilms and plans to acquire them only if material unavailable in other forms. 150 microfiche, acquired since 1976; the library intends to collect out-of-print exhibition catalogues on microfiche as they become available.

Archives: materials published by Kimbell Art Museum, or in connection with its programs.

Ilse S. Rothrock
Librarian



ARLIS/TEXAS CONVENTION IN DALLAS
Collection Development of Art
Research Materials

Saturday, September 24, 1977
Bridwell Theology Library, S.M.U.

Friday, September 23, 1977

8:30 - 9:00 P.M. --- All members interested in ARLIS Texas-size fellowship will meet at the Skyriders Club, main floor of the Hilton Inn, 5600 North Central Expressway.

9:00 P.M. --- Dutch-treat dinner, place to be announced. Dallas Chapter will provide transportation to and from the Hilton Inn.

Saturday, September 24, 1977

9:00 A.M. --- Dallas Chapter will provide transportation from the Hilton Inn to S.M.U.

9:15 - 9:45 --- Coffee and sweetrolls, Bridwell Theology Library, S.M.U.

9:45 - 10:30 --- A tour of Bridwell Theology Library with Decherd Turner, Director.

10:30 - 11:30 --- "Collection Development of Art Research Materials," speech by William C. Bunce, Chief Librarian, Kohler Art Library, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

11:30 - 1:00 --- Discussion of Collection Development/Visual Art Resources Group, Becky Connally, Leader/Non-Visual Art Resources Group, Chester Haddaway, Leader.

1:00 - 2:30 --- Dutch-treat luncheon, place to be announced.

2:30 - 4:00 --- Business Meeting and discussion.

4:00 - 5:00 --- Tour of the Meadows Art Gallery, S.M.U.
Dallas Chapter will provide transportation to the Hilton Inn.

125 Double
4070 NCE

HOST HOTEL: Hilton Inn, 5600 North Central Expressway, Dallas 75206, 214-827-4100

Rates: Single room per night - \$18.50
Double room per night - \$22.50

Free pick up and delivery service to Love Field Airport is provided by a direct telephone whereby persons with reservations at the Hilton Inn may call for free airport transportation.

Reservations call:
Houston 677-9141
Austin 472-4091
San Antonio 223-9191
Other (toll free) 1-800-492-6993

Indicate if you would wish the airport transportation service

SOUTHWEST AIR FLIGHT TO DALLAS

Least expensive fare flights to Dallas Love Field on Friday nights:
Houston 7:00, 7:30, 8:30 P.M.
San Antonio 7:00, 9:00 P.M.
Austin (schedule unavailable until mid-August)
Corpus Christi (no Friday night flights) Saturday 7:40 A.M.

From Dallas Love Field on Saturday night:
Houston 6:30, 8:30 P.M.
San Antonio 5:00, 7:00 P.M.
Corpus Christi 4:30 P.M.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Call or write the Dallas Chapter Planning Committee:
Lois Swan Jones, 3801 Normandy, Dallas 75205
214-528-2732

Chester Haddaway, 4217 Loma Alto, Dallas 75219
214-522-1004

PLEASE DETACH AND MAIL TO LINDA NELSON
SECRETARY/TREASURER OF ARLIS/TEXAS

ARLIS/TEXAS
Linda J. Nelson, Librarian
Museum of Fine Arts Library
P.O. Box 6826
Houston, Texas 77005

_____ Enclosed is a check for \$4.00 made out to
ARLIS/Texas; this pays for a subscription
to the ARLIS/Texas newsletter, The Medium,
and the registration fee for the Dallas
Convention.

_____ Enclosed is a check for \$3.00 made out to
ARLIS/Texas; this pays for a subscription
to the ARLIS/Texas newsletter, The Medium.
I will not be attending the Dallas
Convention.

_____ I will need transportation from the Hilton
Inn to S.M.U. at the Dallas Convention.

NAME

LIBRARY

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

THIRD CLASS

Linda Nelson
Museum of Fine Arts
P.O. Box 6826
Houston, TX 77005