

THE MEDIUM

NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS CHAPTER

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Milan R. Hughston, Editor
Amon Carter Museum
Fort Worth

ARLIS/NA IS NOT COMING TO DALLAS IN 1985, BUT....

ARLIS/NA is going to follow its tradition of meeting with College Art Association in 1985 in Los Angeles rather than come to Dallas despite much discussion among the Board and regional representatives to change the established pattern of meeting every two out of three years with CAA. The present schedule calls for a separate meeting in 1984 (ARLIS in Cleveland and CAA in Toronto) and joint meetings in 1985 (Los Angeles) and 1986 (New York). Aside from the question of breaking tradition (this was not a matter of by-laws but convention), I understand the proposal also raised questions among ARLIS officials regarding the maturity of the Association as a professional organization (it is 11 years old); its relationship with CAA; the exhibitors as an economic factor and the whole business of organizing and presenting a conference (a subject which will be dealt with directly in a report on the Philadelphia meeting by its chair, Eileen Markson). The interest in an ARLIS meeting in Dallas has not diminished but increased after this initial suggestion presented by the past Chairman, Caroline Backlund, of coming in 1985. Talk has already begun about Dallas in 1987, the next scheduled "apart" meeting. When, not if, we are approached again, ARLIS/NA's request will be more formal, more concrete as to its wishes and needs. I believe all the Texans who discussed ARLIS in Dallas with other members or the Board representatives extend the same general welcome for whenever ARLIS wants to come.

Donna E. Rhein

LIBRARY IN THE MENIL COLLECTION?

The plans for a new museum in Houston for the Menil Collection were described in the September 1981 issue of THE MEDIUM. The planning process for the museum is still underway, with a projected opening date of 1985. Upon inquiry we learned that a library will be included in the new building, and the book collection is now being cataloged. The collection presently consists of approximately 6,000 volumes, but Mary Jane Victor, of the Menil Foundation, estimates that it should reach 10,000 volumes by the time of the move. The collection strengths are in the areas of 20th century European and American art, particularly Surrealism and Cubism, the art of Africa and Oceania, Cycladic art, drawings from the Renaissance through the 19th century, prints, and photography. The library will not be open to the public, but it will be available to art librarians through interlibrary loan and telephone inquiries.

Margaret Culbertson

NETWORK FOR TEXAS ARCHIVES ESTABLISHED

The Texas Historical Records Advisory Board recently approved the establishment of a Texas Archival Network to promote cooperation and information sharing among institutions that hold materials related to Texas history and art and to make technical services available to members at a reduced cost. One major goal would be the compilation of a Texas Union Catalogue that would indicate the scope and nature of Texas material held by institutions.

The THRAB sponsored a workshop on September 9, 1982, to explore the possibility of establishing a state archival network. At that meeting Larry Hackman, archivist of the state of New York, explained that recent federal budget cuts in the National Historic Publications and Records Commission left no funds for programs to collect and publish information on institutional collections. With the remaining budget monies the NHPRC funded surveys to determine whether states could establish organizations to continue the work. Texas was one of the states that conducted a survey, and it was determined that there was a need for an information sharing network among Texas institutions.

As a result of the NHPRC survey and the THRAB workshop the THRAB executive board met in Austin in December, 1982, and voted to establish the Texas Archival Network. Resolutions signed by representatives of groups attending the THRAB workshop were submitted to the board and indicated that the organization had a broad base of support within the state. The new Texas Archival Network board is currently seeking grant funding and additional institutional support. Interested institutions may indicate their desire to affiliate with the network or obtain more information

by sending a letter to State Archivist David Gracy at the Texas State Library, 1201 Brazos, Austin, Texas 78711.

Carol Roark
Assistant Curator, Department of Photographs
Amon Carter Museum

MINUTES OF THE FALL 1982 MEETING, DALLAS

The annual meeting of ARLIS/TEXAS took place in the Dallas Public Library on October 16, 1982, with Chairman Nancy Schuller presiding and 19 members present. The minutes of the 1981 meeting were approved as printed in THE MEDIUM. The Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Margaret Culbertson, editor of the newsletter, requested that members continue to send notices of the publication of exhibition catalogues, with complete bibliographic information. Do, also, send lists of other local publications which would be of interest, and available, to other institutions.

The Nominating Committee submitted the following slate:

Chairman	Margaret Culbertson
Vice-Chairman	Milan R. Hughston
Secretary-Treasurer	Charlotte Olin

A motion was made and seconded that nominations cease, and that the slate be elected by acclamation. The motion carried.

Houston was selected as the site for the 1983 meeting.

Nancy Schuller announced the formation of a new Visual Resources Association, of which she is serving as temporary Vice-Chairman. The formal organizational meeting will be held in Philadelphia in February 1983, between the ARLIS/NA and CAA meetings.

Donna Rhein reported that ARLIS/NA had wanted to explore the possibility of meeting the Dallas area at some future time. This is still merely a possibility, but an invitation was extended.

Erika Esau and her husband George Boeck have been appointed co-editors of the ARLIS/NA newsletter, ART DOCUMENTATION.

Lois Jones spoke of the need/advisability of a chapter project as a means of holding the membership together and encouraging communication. The Union List of Art Periodicals, which was started some years back, has proved to be quite valuable for interlibrary cooperation and loans. Milan Hughston, Jane Holahan, and Bill Haddaway volunteered to coordinate an update of the list in North Texas, and Margaret Culbertson will be chairman of the South Texas group, which will include Austin. A proposal to

include our list in the TEXAS UNION LIST was dismissed because of the high cost and the fact that few (if any) museums are included in it.

The Texas Chapter submits the following recommendation to the ARLIS/NA Board:

ARLIS/TEXAS regrets deeply the demise of the NATIONAL ARTS GUIDE and wished to suggest that ARLIS/NA investigate the possibility of locating a publisher willing to revive this guide.

The incoming Chairman thanked Nancy, on behalf of the chapter, for her loyalty and work for ARLIS/TEXAS. The meeting adjourned.

Charlotte Olin
Secretary-Treasurer

Following the meeting, the group toured the new Dallas Public Library, with particular emphasis on the art and special collection areas. A staff member of the DPL gave a demonstration of on-line searching of the ARTBibliographies Modern data base. During luncheon, a most interesting slide program was given by two architects who had worked on the DPL and the University of Texas Fine Arts Building, telling of problems and solutions.

The afternoon tour of the under-construction Dallas Museum of Art was led by Donna Rhein, librarian, and Larry Francell, museum coordinator. The major walls are in place, defining areas, and the guides gave a vivid preview of what promises to be a vital and exciting addition to the city.

The Chapter is grateful to Jane Holahan of the Dallas Public Library, who was in charge of arrangements, and to her associates, for an excellent and informative session.

ARLIS/NA IN PHILADELPHIA
or,
THE FROZEN NORTH

Those of us who managed to get to Philadelphia 24 hours after a record snowfall proved that librarians will do anything to get to a conference. The entire meeting went very smoothly, given the adverse conditions, and all that ARLIS members had to contend with was the melting snow. No tales of broken bones on ice have yet reached my ears.

Texas was well-represented at the annual conference: Linda Hardberger, Linda Shearhouse, Margaret Culbertson, Nancy Wynne, Milan

Hughston, Mary Lampe, Erika Esau, George Boeck, Charlotte Olin, Heather Goebel, Donna Rhein, Carole Cable, Jane Holahan, and Lois Jones were among those attending.

Details of the meeting and sessions will be covered in ART DOCUMENTATION, so I will not go into them here. The biggest news of concern to the Texas group was the Board's decision not to hold the national conference in Dallas in 1985. Donna Rhein has explained that situation elsewhere in this issue.

The informal events at the conference gave the Texas members a chance to visit with each other. The reception in the Philadelphia Museum of Art's cavernous main hall was enlivened by a surprise appearance of a group of marching Mummers, which are a cross between the Longhorn Band and the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders. Ars Libri hosted an elegant cocktail party with enough food and drink to insure a decidedly non-formal evening. All in all, the conference was its usual nice mix of efficient daytime meetings and activities with relaxed evenings in the pleasant setting of Philadelphia.

Milan R. Hughston

Editor's note: You may notice that this issue of the newsletter does not contain a listing of upcoming exhibitions around the state. As the new editor of THE MEDIUM I would appreciate your cooperation in sending me announcements from your respective institutions. Since this information does not appear in this issue, I hope to do a separate mailing this summer which would keep us up-to-date on the art scene in Texas. Please let me hear from you.

VISUAL RESOURCES ASSOCIATION HAS FIRST MEETING

The newly organized Visual Resources Association met in Philadelphia, February 16-19, in conjunction with the College Art Association's annual meeting. This meeting consisted of four days packed with tours, a business meeting, formal papers/presentations, and a special dinner. Tours included visits to the Tyler School of Art in Elkins Park, Moore College of Art, the Barnes Foundation, and Princeton University. Moore College of Art also hosted a number of small meetings for Visual Resources Association members interested in computer applications in visual resource collections, the INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN (the official newsletter for the Visual Resources Association), and the guides publications.

The business meeting, held in the Franklin Plaza Hotel, was the first to be conducted for the new organization, although visual resource curators have been meeting as an informal group at CAA meetings for a dozen years or more. Christine Sundt (provisional president) announced the incorporation of the Association, read its purpose (see INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC DOCUMEN-

TATION OF THE VISUAL ARTS 10, no. 1: 5) and defined membership in the organization. The main business was the discussion of methods for ratification of the constitution and by-laws and the election of officers. They are: President, Christine Sundt (University of Wisconsin); Vice-President/Program Chair, Suzanne Babineau-Simenaour (Institute of Fine Arts, NYU); Secretary, Helen F. McGinnis (Moore College of Art); and Treasurer, Nancy S. Schuller (University of Texas).

A full day of formal sessions was held at the Federal Reserve Bank auditorium in Philadelphia. Three papers/demonstrations focused on "The Artist, the Scholar, and the Computer." Speakers were: Timothy Quigley (Elvehjem Museum of Art, University of Wisconsin-Madison); Jonathan Block (Parkland College, Champaign, Illinois); and Suzanne Babineau-Simenaour (Institute of Fine Arts, NYU). The afternoon sessions were grouped under the general subjects of "Visual Resources Methods--Considered and Reconsidered." Speakers were Patrick Young (University of Michigan); Nancy Schuller (University of Texas); and Maryly Snow (University of California-Berkeley).

Two additional presentations were made in connection with the visit to Princeton University. Bryan Sammartino and Dr. Robert Nowak of Ilford, Inc., presented "Ilford's Cibachrome HR Recording Film FT 245." "The Polaroid Instant 35mm Slide Films" was presented and demonstrated by Betsy Fitzgerald and Cal Pratt of Polaroid Corporation.

Nancy S. Schuller

Note: During its meeting at the ARLIS/NA annual conference in Philadelphia, the Executive Board endorsed the Visual Resources SIG request that ARLIS/NA formally invite the new Visual Resources Association to hold meetings with ARLIS/NA in Cleveland in 1984.

NEW ARCHITECTURE LIBRARY AT UT/ARLINGTON

The University of Texas at Arlington Library, with the cooperation of the School of Architecture and Environmental Design, formed the first branch library on the UTA campus in fall 1982. For several years the SAED maintained a media center, which housed a core collection of "professional tools" for the students of architecture: AIA publications, textbooks, plans, diagrams, and basic construction manuals, while the main library retained the majority of architectural reference materials, monographs, and handbooks. Merging the collections has provided greater resources for both students and faculty. The library, located in a new facility in the Fine Arts Building, contains approximately 8,000 volumes covering architecture, design, theory, criticism, history, landscape, city planning, and all areas related to architecture and environmental design. Members of the pro-

fession, librarians, students, and others interested are encouraged to use the facility.

HOURS: Monday-Thursday	8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Note: Jane Anne Carlin, who prepared this piece and was librarian of the SAED, has recently married and moved to England. Her new address is 4A Boundary Close, Hensington Road, Woodstock, Oxford, England. Even though she was a member of the Texas chapter for only a short time, we will miss her participation in ARLIS/TEXAS.

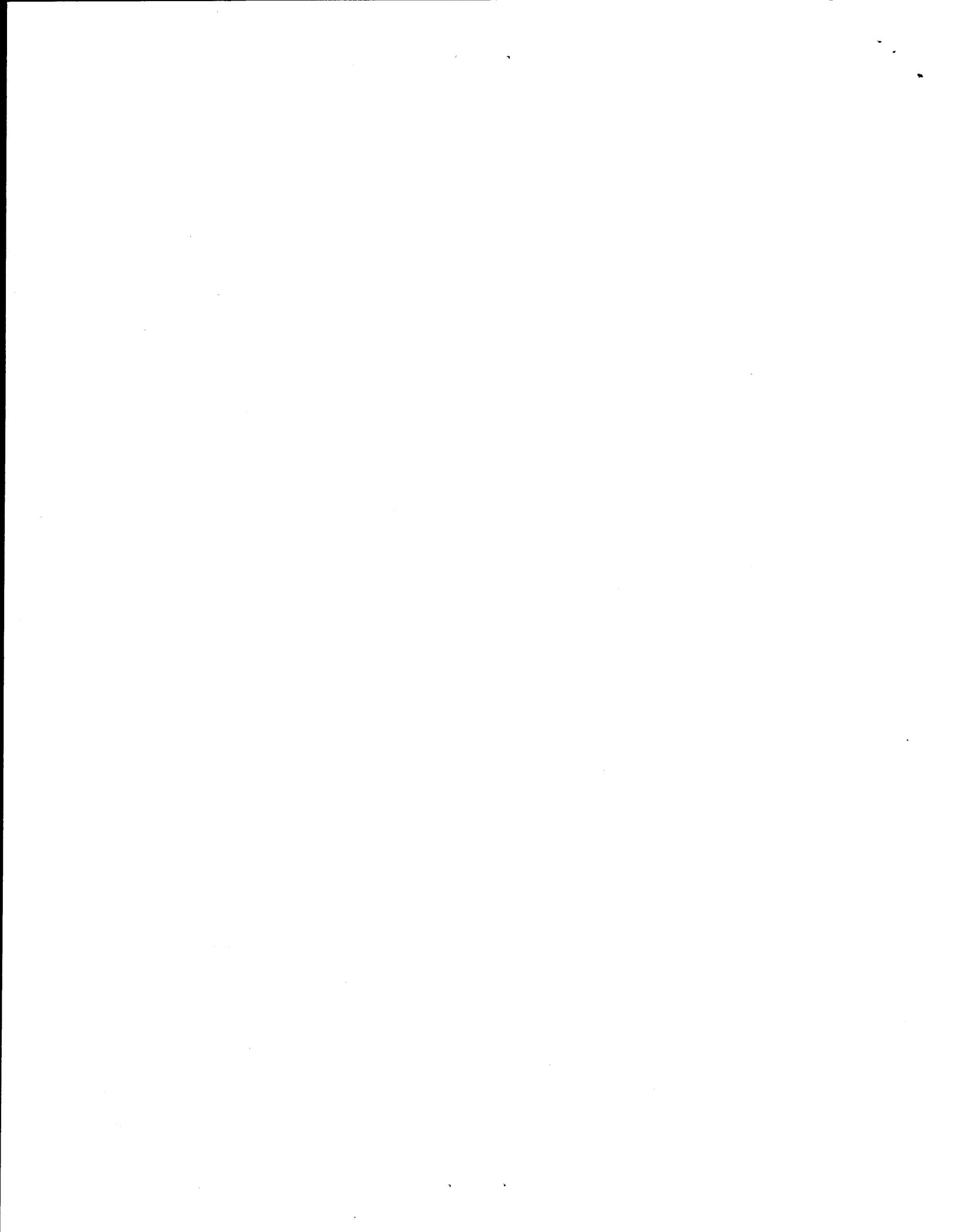
FALL PROGRAM PLANS:
MAKE YOUR DESIRES KNOWN

The fall meeting of the Texas Chapter has been scheduled for October 15, 1983, at the University of Houston Libraries. We would like to make this meeting an exciting one, and we need your help in determining which program topics will be relevant to your needs or of interest to you. Please read through the list of suggested topics on the survey form that follows and check off all of those that would be of interest to you. If you have a particular interest in one of the topics, emphasize that topic with double-checks or underlining, but also indicate if other topics would be of interest. If you strongly object to any of the topics, scratch it out. If you are aware of interesting developments in any of the topics or if you would be willing to contribute part of the program, please note that on the survey sheet. Also make a note of any additional suggestions that you have. Please return the survey to Margaret Culbertson before May 30.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THE FALL MEETING

The University of Houston Hotel, operated by the UH Hilton School of Hotel and Restaurant Management, is located on the Central Campus, right across the street from the Library. I have reserved a small group of rooms for ARLIS members for Friday night, October 14, 1983. Single rooms cost \$30/night, and doubles cost \$38. There is no other competition in the area, and this hotel is almost always full, so if you think that you may need a hotel room, please send the attached form along with your preferences on program topics. You do not have to commit yourself until August or early September, but I do need a realistic idea of numbers so that I can adjust the group reservations while it is still possible. If you know that you will want a reservation, indicate that on the form. Your name will be registered, and you will be guaranteed a room.

Margaret Culbertson



FALL PROGRAM PREFERENCES

_____ MAJOR MICRO SETS - Panel discussion with librarians discussing specific sets in their collections, actual use, successes and failures. Reviewing sources available might also be discussed.

_____ SMALL COMPUTERS IN ART, ARCHITECTURE, AND SLIDE LIBRARIES - Reports on various projects using small computers for word-processing, cataloging of specialized collections, fund-accounting, etc.

_____ ONLINE DATABASE SEARCHING IN ART AND ARCHITECTURE - Presentations on new databases available and their capabilities, as well as a discussion on when a computer search can perform previously impossible feats and when it is a waste of money.

_____ NEW REFERENCE BOOKS - Discussion of new reference books that have proved to be particularly useful in the past few years.

_____ SLIDE LECTURE ON HOUSTON ARCHITECTURE

_____ SPEAKER FROM THE MENIL FOUNDATION ON THE NEW MUSEUM

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO MARGARET CULBERTSON, REFERENCE DEPT., UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LIBRARIES,
4800 CALHOUN, HOUSTON, TX 77004, BEFORE MAY 30, 1983.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

_____ Please reserve a hotel room in my name for October 14, 1983.

_____ I will probably want to reserve a hotel room for October 14.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO MARGARET CULBERTSON, REFERENCE DEPT., UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LIBRARIES,
4800 CALHOUN, HOUSTON, TX 77004, BEFORE MAY 30, 1983.

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