

THE MEDIUM

NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS CHAPTER

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING, AUSTIN, OCTOBER 20, 1979

The annual chapter meeting of ARLIS/TEXAS was held in the new Fine Arts Library and Administration Building of the University of Texas at Austin, on Saturday, October 20, 1979. Fourteen members and guests were present. Ms. Nancy McAdams, Assistant Director for Facilities and Planning of the University's General Libraries gave a short welcoming talk and described the planning and building of the still to be completed Fine Arts Complex. Following this introduction, those present toured the Fine Arts Library and the Art Department's Slide and Photograph Collection with Carole Cable, Joyce Hess, and Nancy Schuller.

The business meeting was called to order by the President, Kay Krochman. The minutes of the 1978 meeting were accepted as published in The Medium.

The 1980 meeting had been tentatively set for San Antonio, but there was no active member present from that city. After some discussion, Linda Nelson extended an invitation to hold the meeting in the Houston Museum of Fine Arts. The new Archives of American Art in Houston would be an interesting topic. A motion was made and seconded to change the meeting to Houston, to be held next October. The motion carried.

New members attending the meeting were introduced, and changes in positions announced. Donna Rhein has become the Librarian at the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts and will prepare a profile of that library for a future issue of The Medium. Milan Hugston is the new Assistant Librarian at the Amon Carter Museum in Ft. Worth, and Heather Goebel, new to Texas, has taken the position of Director of Extension Services, Sterling Municipal Library, Baytown. Karen Watson, Slide Curator at UT Dallas, and Sara Miller, Art Dept. Slide Curator at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, attended as guests.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$129.94, but this includes fees collected for the luncheon following the meeting. A motion was made and seconded that the chapter apply to ARLIS/NA for a grant to cover the expenses of publishing the chapter newsletter, The Medium. Motion carried.

The chapter's 1978 application for a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to compile a survey of Texas Architectural Visual Resources was rejected. Various other funding agencies were suggested, including private foundations. The President will contact Margaret Culberson, who has served as project chairman and written the earlier grant proposal, to see if she would consider submitting the proposal again to other agencies. The submission to any agency will be left to her discretion.

Nancy Schuller asked all members to send her news items for <u>The Medium</u> -- new positions, newcomers to the area, special events, publications, etc.

ARLIS/NA annual meeting is scheduled for January 26 - 30, 1980, in New Orleans, La. Lois Jones has issued a call for papers on the study of iconography to be presented at the joint session of ARLIS/CAA on January 30.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Charlotte Olin, Chapter Secretary.

DESIDERATE FOR VISUAL ARTS RESOURCES

During the luncheon at the October 20 meeting, a new chapter project developed from a discussion of wanted, but very expensive items. Members are asked to compile individually a list of desiderata costing in excess of \$500.00 which are currently not held in any Texas/S.W. collections. Examples of this type of publication are:

The Marburger Index
The Princeton Index to Christian Art
The Victoria & Albert Museum Collections on microfiche
The Index of American Design on microfiche
The Southeby Park Bernet Index
Christie's Pictorial Archive on microfiche

Please send your "shopping list" to Nancy Schuller, as well as a notice of purchase of such items by any library in the ARLIS/TEXAS area. At the 1980 meeting, a committee will be organized to determine where these tools are located and to publish a list for presentation to appropriate funding bodies.

FROM THE CHAIR: KAY KROCHMAN

As I am about to step down from this chair, I find that I am also making my final bow as a librarian. I have resigned my position as Head of the Fine Arts Division

at the Dallas Public Library and am going to chase my own rainbow. I will be working part-time in a needlpoint shop and will be designing and teaching needlework on the side. So, from now on, I will be on the other side of the desk in art libraries. Fortunately this change of career comes at the end of my chairmanship and I will hand the reins to Nancy Schuller at the Fall meeting in Houston on October 4. ARLIS/NA has introduced me to many wonderful friends and colleagues, and it has been my special pleasure to work for the Texas Chapter. I will plan to attend the Fall meeting and look forward to seeing many of you there. But it is unlikely that I will renew my membership in ARLIS/NA since I will no longer be a member of the profession.

Realizing that under the circumstances the following remarks will sound like a "cop-out", I shall nevertheless profer the following suggestion. I recommend that at the 1980 Fall Meeting, the membership of ARLIS/TEXAS re-consider the issue of charging chapter membership dues. Please think about the following points:

- 1.) Other organizations similar to ARLIS/NA levy separate national and state chapter dues. Both the Music Library Association and the Theater Library Association do this.
- 2.) One day the Executive Board is going to stop granting us money for The Medium. Some funding mechanism is going to have to magically spring forth to take over, or ARLIS/TEXAS dries up.
- 3.) It would be both more dignified and organized if ARLIS/TEXAS made this decision on its own than be forced into it by a decision by headquarters.
- 4.) There really is no chance that chapter allotments will again be issued by ARLIS/NA. This is, I believe, a lost cause and holding out is eventually going to present a problem for the chapter as described above.
- 5.) The "big" issue now is whether there can be chapter members who are not national members. If you want to take a stand on this, then the Texas Chapter must have a dues policy as do the other chapters.

I hope I will see many of you in Houston on October 4 to say farewell until chance throws me in your midst again.

GRANT FROM ARLIS/NA

According to Charlotte Olin, Chapter Secretary, we have now received \$60.00 from ARLIS/NA. This sum covers last year's grant as well as that requested at our 1979 meeting. These funds are used to help with the production and mailing of our newsletter.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FALL 1980 TEXAS CHAPTER MEETING

As indicated in the minutes from the 1979 annual meeting, the 1980 annual meeting will take place in Houston, Texas. The meeting will be on Saturday, October 4 in the Special Collections room at the University of Houston Library. Margaret Culbertson will be in charge of local arrangements. Kay Krochman has written to Caroline Backland and to Wanda Dole inviting them to attend the meeting.

LIBRARY PROFILE, 1980: THE DALLAS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS LIBRARY

Established: 1938

Address: Fair Park, Dallas, TX 75226

Telephone: 214 - 421 - 3187

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 10 - Noon, 1:00 - 4:45; Friday

afternoons, by Appointment

Type: Non-circulating art reference library

Open: To the general public for reference use

Staff: 1 professional

Services: Reference, interlibrary loan, photocopying

COLLECTION:

Books: 15,500 volumes (books, exhibition catalogs, etc.) with

concentrations in precolumbian, african and modern.

Dewey classification.

Periodicals: 50 subscriptions to magazines and newsletters and Southeby's,

Christie's and Phillip's auction catalogs.

Vertical Files: Artists File and Museum File

For further information contact Donna E. Rhein, Librarian

ARLIS/TEXAS CHAPTER MEMBERS' PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Carole Cable, Fine Arts Librarian and Architecture Bibliographer at the Unviersity of Texas, Austin, has been on leave of absence since just before Christmas. Carole and her daughter Amory have accompanied her husband, U.T. English Professor Tom Cable to Montpellier, France, where he is teaching at Universite Paul Valéry. Carole returns to her duties at U.T., August 1.

As you read in the "From the Chair", Kay Krochman is leaving her position as Fine Arts Librarian at the Dallas Public Library as well as the library field this month. She will be working part-time in a Dallas needlework shop and designing and teaching on her own.

Nancy Schuller will be team-teaching the Fifth Annual Workshop in Basic Training for Art Slide Curators with Nancy DeLaurier at the University of Missouri at Kansas City, June 15 - 21. This course is a one-week intensive workshop covering all aspects of managing art slide collections. The course is designed for those beginning in a position as slide curator in an educational institution, museum, etc.

OTHER NEWS TEXAS CONFERENCE OF ART HISTORIANS

The second meeting of the Texas Conference of Art Historians was held at the University of Texas at Austin, April 11-12. The organizational chairpersons were Professors Richard Brettell and Jeffrey Chipps Smith of the U.T. Dept. of Art.

The program consisted of two general sessions: Ancient to the Renaissance, moderated by J.C.Smith, and The Eighteenth to the Twentieth Centuries, moderated by Linda Henderson. The other session of invited papers was entitled: Interiors, Environments and Assemblages: The Art History of Aggregate Forms, and was moderated by Rick Brettell. Of particular interest to art librarians was a session moderated by Nancy Schuller on the Resources for the Study of the Visual Arts at the University of Texas. Speakers for this session were: Roy Flukinger, Acting Curator of the Photography Collection, Eric McCready, Director, University Art Museum, Laura Gutierrez-Witt, Librarian, Benson Latin American Collection, and Maria Wells, Curator, Italian Collection, HRC.

A reception and dinner was held at the Santa Rita Room on the U.T. Campus with an address by Profession Carlton Lake, Acting Director of the HRC. He is a former art critic for the Christian Science Monitor and gave a fascinating commentary on a lengthy interview he had with the sculptor Alberto Giacometti. At the close of the sessions on Saturday, an informal dinner was held on the grounds of Laguna Gloria Art Museum.

Plans are for the next conference to be held in the Dallas-Ft.Worth area. Hopefully ARLIS/TEXAS members from that area can stay alert to such plans

and pursue another session on study for visual resources in the arts.

DALLAS LIBRARY MAKES PLANS AND TAKES FIRST STEP TOWARDS NEW MUSEUM LIBRARY

The Dallas Museum of Fine Arts is preparing to build a new building. The library in it will be approximately 4,604 square feet and is designed to hold 50,000 volumes. The Dallas Museum Library took on its present form under the firm hand of Fred Mitcham, Librarian here from 1965 - 1979. The collection was developed in a systematic and steady manner to provide resource material in specific areas where the art collections were expanding as well as to reflect contemporary art history scholarship. Now, as then, the library's research facilities continue to show the limitations of a one-person operation. Areas of major concern are museum publications, the exchange program and periodical resources, all of which need established procedures for collection management. Additional staff and funds will eventually make this possible.

The next three years, before the new museum is ready to be occupied, will be busy ones for the library. Several housekeeping chores will take precedence over collection building. Among the needed tasks are binding back issues of periodicals (and perhaps some attempt will be made to fill in runs); an inventory of the cataloged collection, and a thorough review of the vertical file material and uncataloged gift items. There are also areas in the collection which need to be recataloged into an expanded classification system.

The first step in the library's program for the new museum was to have its plans and those of the architect's, Edward Larrabee Barns Associates, reviewed by Library Consultant Jack Parry Brown, Librarian at the Cleveland Museum of Fine Art. This was done in February. Though many of the structural details were decided before Brown's report, his analysis of the space in relation to the library's stated objectives will be extremely valuable to the librarian and the Museum administration as we prepare for the new building.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON

Two Houston Museum of Fine Arts Library exhibitions that will be of interest to ARLIS/TEXAS members are: Selections from Verve, April 29-June 29 and Early 20th Century Art Periodicals, July 7 - August 31. All of the periodicals are from the library's collection. For further information, contact Linda Nelson, Librarian.

FINE ARYS LIBRARY, U.T. AUSTIN

Joyce Hess reports that around August 1, the Music Library will join the Art and Drama Libraries in the new Fine Arts Building on campus. This will effectively double the holdings of the current library as well as its activities.