FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here it is the middle of July and it seems that we should be taking things easy and enjoying the leisurely summer months. But as we all know libraries do not close or take vacations for the summer. A number of issues have been moving along during the last few months that I would like to review.

- **The Illinois Obscenity Legislation** - As you probably know the Obscenity Legislation was narrowly defeated in the House last April. Many members wondered why HSLI was not listed as part of the coalition opposing the legislation? HSLI Bylaws prevent us from participating in legislation. HSLI's purpose is to keep its members informed and aware of important issues through the newsletter, meetings and now, our web page.

- **Telecommunication Discounts** - The Federal Communication Commission accepted recommendations in May for discounted rates for telecommunication services, Internet access and inside wiring for libraries and schools. Health science librarians need to closely monitor the requirements to receive these discounts since some of the definitions seem to exclude most special libraries.

- **Illinois Library System Directors' Organization (ILSDO) Conference.** In late May a conference was held by ILSDO to set long-range plans for Illinois library systems. Health science librarians were well represented at this meeting with six HSLI members in attendance. Please see related article later in this issue.

- **HSLI Membership Directory** - In mid-June forms were sent to all 1996-97 members asking to renew their membership (if they had not already done so), and to return the completed directory form in order to be included in the 1997 Directory. Many responses have been received and the updating is in process. Current members who did not return their forms by July 15th will be listed but only their names and addresses will be included.

- **HSLI Annual Meeting** - Each of you should have received a flyer describing our upcoming annual meeting. The Program Committee has been working hard to provide us with a meeting that will be informative, educational and fun. Since this is our first year of having just one meeting I am eagerly looking forward to seeing many Illinois librarians, catching up on the news of the past year and discussing our future goals. I hope that all of you will be able to attend on November 6-7 at the Holiday Inn in Matteson, IL.

  *Rhona Kelley*

CONSORTIA NEWS

**Capital Area Consortium:** CAC now has a Web site. Although we are under construction, please visit at:

http://www.uis.edu/~stump/cac.htm

**West Central Consortium:** Congratulations to Arlis Dittmer of the Blessing Rieman College of
Nursing who has been accepted at the Senior Member level of the Academy of Health Information Professionals of the Medical Library Association. (CAC Newsletter, vol. 13 no 3, June 1997)

**East Central Illinois Consortium:** The news from the East Central Illinois Consortium is CHANGE, or in MeSH terminology, 'life change events'. First we bade farewell to Cynthia Hendrickson, Head of the Library of the Health Sciences, UIC-Urbana. Cynthia left to become Director of Samuel Merritt College in California. Then Janet Gayle of United Samaritans Medical Center Library took a new job as head of reference at the College of St. Francis, Joliet. Of course, Jan is still within harassing range, and we look forward to seeing her at the HSLI meeting in November in Matteson. Finally, Congratulations and Best Wishes to Ed Polletti of the Danville VAMC library who took the BIG step and got married in June.

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**LIBRARY SYSTEMS**

**RPLS:**
Satellite Video Conference to be Down Linked: Rolling Prairie Library System will be a down link site for a Special Library Association and Knight Ridder Information Inc. Sponsored satellite Video conference title "Giving Users What they Really Want/Need". This video conference will be broadcast on Thursday October 6, 1997 between Noon and 3:00 pm. The conference is 90 minutes in length and materials for a wrap-around session will be sent to us. The closest site for individual registration is Chicago. Mark your calendars... As the flyer says; ‘Looking for ways to find out what your users are really saying? Want to find practical tools for assessing user needs? Seeking to understand the management agenda? If so this seminar is for you.’ Also we will be a downlink site for six video conferences from the College of DuPage. The titles and dates are listed below--


Friday, November 21, 1997 "Soaring to Excellence "Customer Care"

**Dancing with Change "Global Dimensions of Local Librarianship"** Friday, Dec. 5, 1997

**Soaring to Excellence "The Internet--Sites for Your Workday: Sites for You"** Friday, January 16, 1998

**Dancing With Change "Developing Leadership for a Change"** Friday, Feb. 6, 1998

**Soaring to Excellence "Vision for Your Library Future or What is That Vision Thing?"** Friday, March 27, 1998.
All of these will begin at 11:00 a.m. And the downlink site is RPLS Headquarters, 345 W. Eldorado, Decatur. any questions or for more details call Bev Obert at (217) 429-2586.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Honorary Membership in ALA Proposed for Oprah Winfrey:** According to unofficial word on the American Library Association council listserv, TV talk show hostess and champion of books and reading, Oprah Winfrey has been proposed for honorary membership in ALA by the Executive Board.
Sentiment seems to be in favor of the award but against the mail ballot and haste under which Council is asked to act.

"She has taken a medium (TV) and a type of show (afternoon talk shows) both of which are all too frequently inimical to what libraries represent, and gotten her viewers to READ," said Councilor Mitch Freedman. "Whatever issues on has regarding the books chosen or any other such matters, the fact that books and reading are being promoted so successfully is worthy of our admiration and approbation." *(Library Hotline, May 26, 1997)*

**COMMITTEE NEWS**

**Nominating Committee:** I regret to announce that no one has volunteered or been nominated for the following positions for the Association of the Health Science Librarians of Illinois. The positions which needed to be filled were as follows: President Elect, Secretary and two consortia positions for the Illinois State Council. I am so saddened being the chair of this committee....it isn't that we haven't advertised for these positions or told the membership to contact the HS Li by-laws for job descriptions of these positions. Is there anyone qualified to fill these positions? If you know of anyone, please contact Nancy Stump, University of Illinois at Springfield, Brookens Library 240, Springfield, IL 62794-9243....ph: 217-786-6208 Fax:217-786-6208 E-Mail: stump.nancy@uis.edu

**CHUCKLE BOARD by Nina Pals**

😊😊😊 The four year old was ready. He

was to be the ring bearer in his Aunt's wedding. He had on a white shirt with a bow tie, black dress slacks and shiny shoes. They gave him the pillow with the ring tied loosely on top. He was told to walk very slowly down the aisle and told where to stand when he got up to the front.

Finally it was his turn. He proudly carried the pillow and started slowly down the aisle. He lowered his head and very quietly growled. Every few steps there was another low growl. He got to the head of the aisle, stood exactly where he had been told to stand and gave one last low growl.

After the ceremony he asked his Uncle how he did. "You did just great! But tell me, what was that noise you were making?"

"I was growling. I was the ring bear."

(Above received through internet correspondence.)

**THIS...AND THAT...**

**SPRINGFIELD LIBRARIAN CHASES AFTER THIEF:** What Springfield Librarian who also is a member of HS Li would chase after a thief? Well you have a choice of the following: Rhona Kelley, Fran Kovach, Jan Perone, Kitty Wrigley, Nancy Stump or Myrtle Smarjesse. Now this is a true story. Librarian was going to a pharmacy in the northern section of Springfield to get a prescription filled. She was so happy to find a parking space just in front of the store. She got out of the car and wham ---- a kid grabs her purse and starts running. Does the librarian say, 'oh, oh, someone help...he took my purse'? NO!!! She takes off running after the kid yelling to him,' your mother will not be pleased......I can identify you" (and a few other choice words which cannot be reported here). Shortly after, the kid drops the purse, takes off his hat and
shirt and begins running again. This Springfield librarian regains her purse, gives the hat and shirt to the police and says, "If I hadn't had my work clothes and work shoes on, I know I could have caught him."

Who is this courageous person? Well yes, there is only one librarian in this group who would have the strength and determination to do this….yes…yes…it was KITTY WRIGLEY, the Super Chaser of Thieves Librarian.

In the May issue of "American Libraries" David Dorman, library consultant from Lincoln Trail Libraries System, summarized the three-day Computers in Libraries '97 Conference with a Tired/Wired list (a la "Wired" magazine). With his permission, I thought you might enjoy his insights on emerging trends and new developments.

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Dear Son,

I am writing this letter real slow cause I know you can't read very fast. We don't live where we did when you left. Your Daddy read in the paper that accidents happen within twenty miles of our house so we moved.

I won't be able to send you our address because the Arkansas family that lived here took the numbers off the house with them so they wouldn't have to change their address.

This place has a washing machine. I put four shirts in the first day, I pulled the chain, and I ain't seen them since.

It only rained twice last week. Three days the first time and four days the second time.

You know the coat you wanted me to send you? Well, Aunt Sue said it would be too heavy to mail with all them heavy buttons on it, so we cut them off and put them in the pockets.

We got a letter from the funeral home. They said if we don't make the last payment on Grandma's funeral bill, up she comes.
Your sister had a baby this morning. I ain't heard whether it's a boy or a girl, so I don't know if you're an aunt or an uncle.

Your Uncle John fell in the whiskey vat. Some man tried to pull him out, but he fought them off so he drowned. We cremated him and he burned for three days.

Three of your friends went off the bridge in a pick-up. One was drivin', and the other two was in the back. The driver got out. He rolled down the window and swam to safety. The other two drowned. They couldn't get the tailgate down.

There's not much news, nothing much has happened.

Love, Mama

(Above received from internet...no citation given.)

The ISLI Newsletter is published quarterly as a service to ISLI members. Please submit articles to Nancy Stump at 109 W. Springfield, Brookings Library, Springfield, IL 62794-9243, FAX (217) 786-6206, e-mail: stump-nancy@uiu.edu. NEXT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 1997. We rely on our members for contributions; please make this newsletter an effective tool for communication!

ILLINOIS STATE COUNCIL

Searching for Community and Common Ground Conference
by Virginia Gale, St. Joseph Medical Center, Joliet

The Illinois Library System Directors' Organization (ILSDO) held an invitational conference May 29-31, 1997, "to help identify new initiatives and strategic pathways for Illinois Library Systems so that they can continue to provide the highest quality of services to...their members.

Over 150 participants attended from all library types. Attendees were equally divided among academic, public, school, and special libraries. We used a large group method called the search process to identify issues of concern to all libraries, as well as issues of concern to specific types of libraries.

We examined the most important issues in our environment, both national and local, which impact our libraries. We used these environmental factors to determine what the most important issues for libraries are, and developed a list of around 40 critical issues. The entire group then "voted" on the issues, with the following receiving the highest number of votes. Please note that this list is not in any order.

-- bibliographic access to holdings of all Illinois libraries
-- cooperative collection development for resource sharing
-- censorship
-- library education / continuing education / certification
-- marketing the library to patrons / potential patrons / administrators
-- role of library systems in providing services
-- group purchasing arrangements
-- school librarian certification & ISBE
-- partnerships
-- state-funded telecommunications infrastructure
-- seamless interface among various information systems
-- funding mechanisms
-- universal / statewide library card
-- system funded / provided education for LTAs
-- role of libraries - current / future
-- educating legislators, administrators, community

Small groups were formed to evaluate the current state of each issue, the desired future state, barriers to achieving the future state, and strategies to overcome barriers and reach the desired future.
Following the general sessions, librarians met in groups by library type to discuss their special needs. Some of the needs identified by special libraries are:

- LSTA participation & equitable access to grand funds
- systems act to encourage membership by library libraries
- support for school and public libraries to assure an educated workforce
- provide services designed for special libraries, e.g., continuing education
- special library representation on system boards and advisory boards

This entire process was designed to enable a broad cross-section of librarians and trustees to make their needs known to ILSDO. A report of this meeting will be presented to ILSDO at their June meeting and to the system employees in September. The goal is to have a 5-year action plan by October. However, meeting proceedings will be available on the ILSDO web site (currently under construction) by mid-summer.

For more information, contact your library system, or one of the health science librarians who attended the conference, as listed below:
- Arlis Dittmer, Blessing-Rieman College of Nursing Library, Quincy
- Virginia Gale, St. Joseph Medical Center, Joliet
- Mary Howrey, Mercy Center Medical Library, Aurora
- Dennis Peterson, Palmer College of Chiropractic, Davenport, IA
- Toni Tucker, BroMenn/Mennonite College of Nursing, Normal
- Mary Vickery, Genesis Medical Center, Davenport, IA
- Michael McCaslin, a consultant with the Illinois State Library, is working on a statewide consumer health Web site and would like input from HSLI members as to what health information and sites should be included. If you have any suggestions, please contact Michael at 312-814-2913, or e-mail him at mmccaslin@library.sos.state.il.us.

A link to the HSLI Web page from the Illinois State Library will be up soon.

DISTANCE EDUCATION
ILLINET/OCLC staff are working on developing a Web site where a user can access training modules that will allow them to work at their own pace. If you have access to a Web site where training modules could be mounted (maybe even the HSLI Web page?) You may find it to be a very convenient method of training your staff. Here are a few tips and suggestions:

1. A training module on a Web site can be as detailed as you want it to be. You may decide to just mount Power Point slides, or you may want to make it a bit more interactive. It may be a simple training module regarding the proper method of searching for information in your library, or a training module on how to search a particular database.

2. If you want some interaction for the user: develop links to sites that contain information on the topic of the training module; create test questions for the user to take, with links to where the correct information can be found. Think of it as online reference or an online help desk.

3. Embed in your program a way to gather statistical information regarding the number of times a question was answered correctly or not. For example, if a test question is answered incorrectly by almost everyone, it would be an indication that either the question isn’t phrased correctly or that particular part of your training module doesn’t explain a concept very well, and needs to be revised. Other distance education methods that may work for you and your staff are CBT’s (Computer-based Training) and video teleconferencing)
State Library and ILLINET/OCLC Services will start training via video teleconferencing this Fall. We’ll also be using the hardware for long distance meetings).
Your hospital/institution may even have an Intranet in place that other departments are using. What’s an Intranet? "When employees can access a wide pool of information on their computers through their company’s web server, that’s an Intranet" (Training & Development, Feb. 1997, by Elliott Masie). If you find yourself explaining procedures over and over again, this may be your salvation!
I received this from a listserv I belong to and thought it may be of interest.
The URL is http: www/newsfile.com

Lynn Bierma

INFOPOWER

HEALTH SCIENCE LIBRARIANS OF ILLINOIS
Annual Meeting
November 6-7,1997
Governor's State University, University Park, IL
Holiday Inn, Matteson, IL

Save these dates for the annual HSLI conference. An interesting conference providing varied learning opportunities, networking and fun awaits you.

SCHEDULE
Thursday - November 6, 1997
Registration, coffee, classes, and lunch at Governor's State University

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - Registration
9:00 a.m. - 12 noon - Classes
12 noon- 1:30 p.m. Lunch
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - Classes

Continuing Education
All Day Class
Prove Your Contribution: Measuring Value in Special Libraries - 8 hours

Morning Classes
Basic Internet - 4 hours
Creating Web Pages - 4 hours
Afternoon Classes
How to Teach the Internet - 4 hours
Selection and Searching on the World Wide Web - 4 hours
Evening Reception and Board Meeting at Holiday Inn, Matteson
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Reception
6:30 p.m. - Board Meeting

Friday, November 7, 1997

All activities at Holiday Inn, Matteson
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - Registration and coffee
9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. - Karen Schmidt, "History of Library Technology"
9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Carolyn Bums, "Technostress" 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - Break 10:45 10:45 a.m. - 11:15 NLM/GMR Update
11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. - State Library Update
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. - 3 Vendor Updates
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Business Meeting and Lunch
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - NLM/GMR DECLINE/SERHOLD CLASS

For additional information contact:
Christina Rudawski (708) 660-2665 or crudawsk@rush.edu OR
Virginia Gale (815) 725-7133 x.3530 or vgale@htls.lib.il.us

Interlibrary Loans
Brookens Library Room 240
U of I - Springfield
Springfield, IL 62794-9243

NEXT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 1997!