



Newsletter



**LSSIRT President
Karen Turner**

I'd like to introduce myself. I was a work study student in college and really wanted to get a Masters in Library Science. I got married our junior year and when we graduated, my husband joined the USAF and I followed him around the world for 20 years. I have worked in military libraries in Omaha, Nebraska, England and Germany. I also worked in the Stars and Stripes Bookstores in Germany, a B. Dalton Booksellers in Louisiana and a local bookshop in Rogers, Arkansas before coming to the University of Arkansas in 1995. I am now in charge of the Lending Unit for the Interlibrary Loan Department at University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. I have been very active in our state chapter, The Arkansas Library Paraprofessionals, a Division of the Arkansas Library Association. We have two girls, 4 grandchildren and a German son (long story, he was an exchange student who never went home AND we have a good relationship with his parents, so we share him). His wife just had our 4th grandchild, we now have 2 grandsons, and 2 granddaughters. I'm relatively new to the ALA, having only joined in 2007. I asked how to get more involved and was fortunate to have been asked to fill a vacancy at Mid-Winter in Seattle, 2007. Since then the LSSIRT Steering Committee has tried to be more active at both Mid-Winter and Annual conferences.

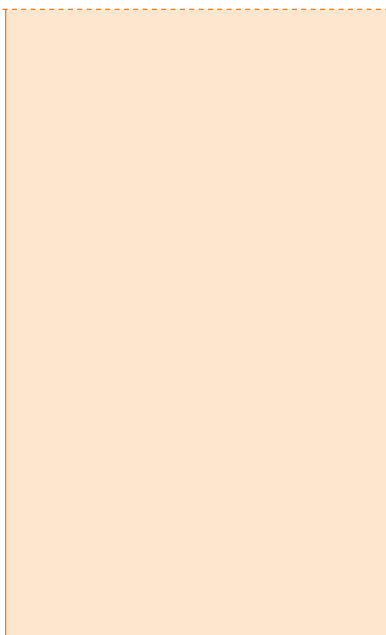
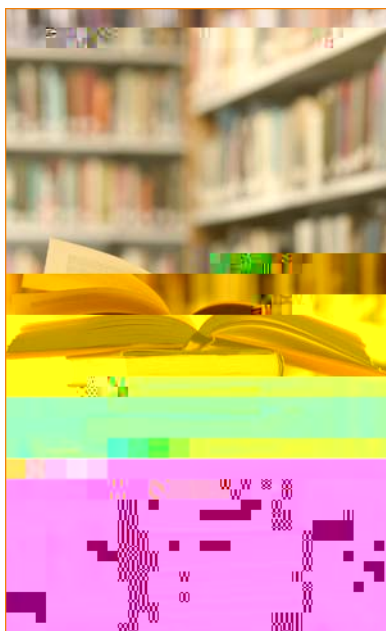
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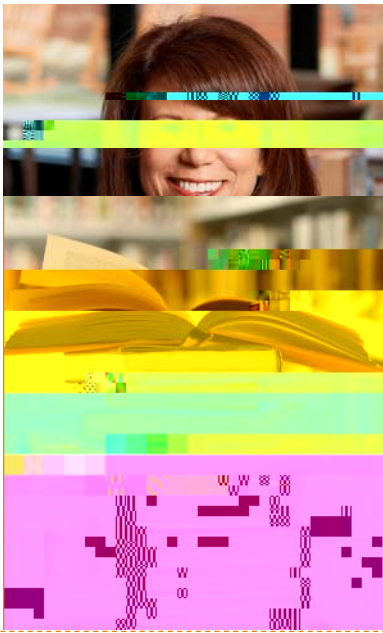
PRESIDENT'S CORNER (CONT.)

Goals for the year started with a "track" in the American Library

LSSC Certification Review Committee: Meeting minutes ALA Midwinter meeting at the Pennsylvania Convention

ALA PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE MAGGIE FARRELL Q & A





“The key to building diversity in any organization is to foster a collaborative and inclusive culture.”

ALA PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE SARI FELDMAN Q & A

1. What are the most important problems facing the organization right now? What would you do about trying to solve them?

Strengthening the ALA’s financial position represents a crucial focus area over the next several years. My experience leading Cuyahoga County Public Library through a cumulative \$20 million reduction in public funding over the past five years gives me a unique perspective on how to best address an evolving funding environment. I have adopted three key strategies for budget alignment within my own organization that I believe to be appropriate for ALA:

1. Reduce expenses by driving efficiency.
2. Identify new revenue opportunities that support organizational goals.
3. Increase fundraising capacity and efforts.

During my tenure as PLA President and at various points throughout my work in ALA, I have travelled internationally to foster global relations and to learn from library professionals around the world. One takeaway from my travels that continues to resonate for me is that American libraries and the ALA are recognized as global leaders in our profession. I see opportunity to strengthen revenue by

developing professional training and consultation services that extend beyond our membership and connect with a global audience. Cultivating collaborations with international library professionals and networks also offers potential for developing revenue streams while further engaging our membership in new and energizing ways. We must recognize that revenue streams of the past based on publications, conferences, and even dues should be evaluated and reconsidered within a global marketplace of education, ideas and information.

2. What will you do to expand and/or enhance the diversity and inclusiveness of all Library workers, especially within the support staff arena?

The key to building diversity in any organization is to foster a collaborative and inclusive culture. Part of creating that kind of culture is effective communication; the other part involves becoming comfortable with and adept at change. The fact of the matter is that we have not done enough across ALA to communicate how the broad changes in libraries affect workforce needs. Support staff roles represent a tremendous opportunity area for library organizations to broaden organizational diversity, bringing individuals with unique

MAGGIE FARRELL Q & A (CONT.)

**For the full Q &
A with ALA
Presidential
Candidates**

LSSIRT STEERING COMMITTEE CANDIDATES

VICE-PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT

MANNING, NINA

Current Position:

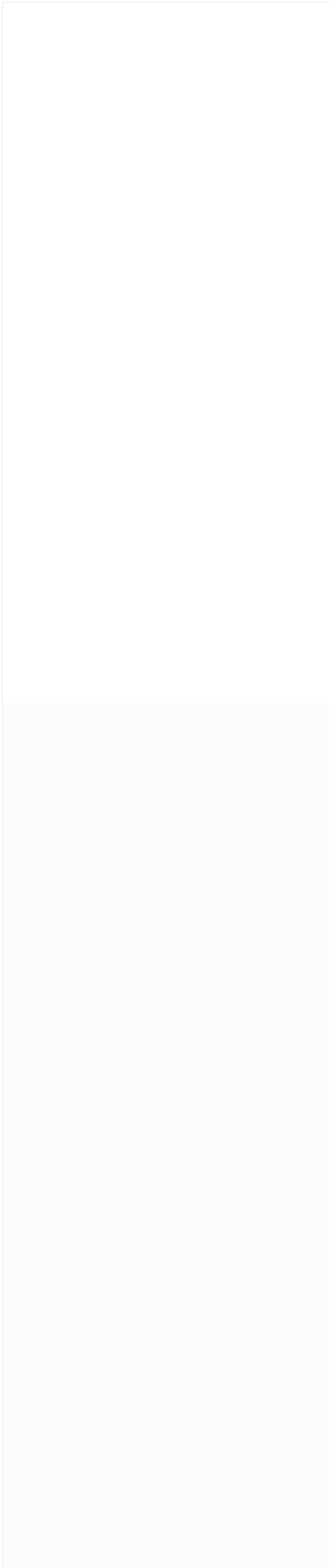
Clerical Supervisor, New York Public Library,
New York, NY

TREASURER

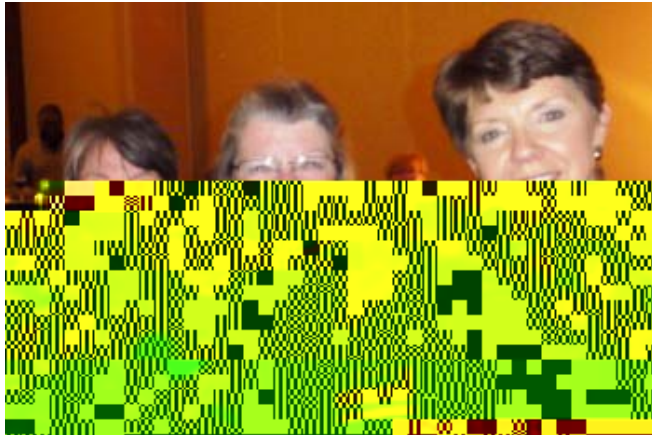


COLT DONATION TO LSSIRT

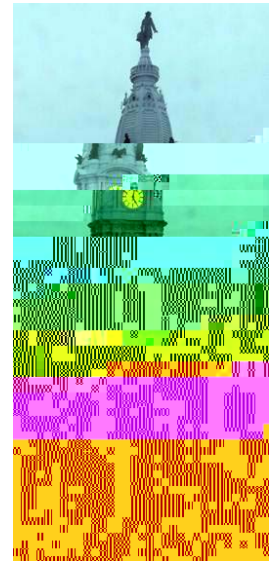
LSSIRT Receives Donation from
the Council on Library/Media



LSSIRT PHOTOS FROM PHILADELPHIA



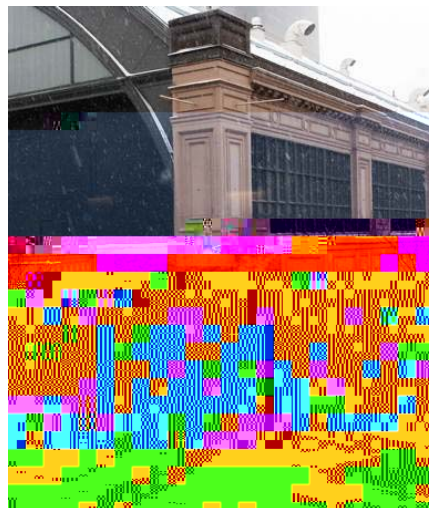
Teri Switzer, Karen Turner and Jennifer Kutzik at the ALA-APA Networking Event in Philadelphia.



Downtown Philadelphia



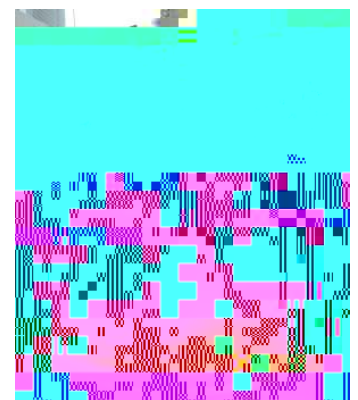
Jared and Ian Lashbrook performing at the ALA-APA Networking event. The only live music event at Midwinter.



Reading Terminal Market



LSSIRT Steering Committee meeting at ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia



The Liberty Bell

ALA LIBRARY SUPPORT
STAFF INTERESTS ROUND
TABLE

ALA Staff Liaison information:

Beatrice Calvin