



FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Lee Pharis

With the holidays upon us, **I wish each of you safe travels**, whether it be navigating heavier traffic on our local freeways among holiday shoppers and party-goers or leaving the Bay Area to visit family or friends.

As we continue through our Chapter program year, be on the **watch for more Neighborhood Dinners**. Our Chapter had two of them in October – one in San Carlos and one in Monterey during the Internet Librarian conference. Those of you who couldn't make it to Creola New Orleans Bistro missed out on a fabulous dinner and lively discussion. **Nancy Fadis** selected an excellent restaurant at which to host this meeting, and conversation never lagged.

Perhaps someone who went to the Neighborhood Dinner in Monterey will let us know how that dinner went. Were our co-hosts **Abby Bowman and Diana Stickler** able to entice some of our more southern Chapter members to come to dinner? If you don't make the current deadline for this newsletter, your fellow Chapter members are still interested in what went on at the conference and would like to hear from you in following issues – on any session or activity!

Earlier in October **Leslie Fisher** kicked off the tours season with a coordinated road trip to Livermore where we went back to the future. We started with a tour of the Livermore Heritage Guild where our hosts regaled us with stories and anecdotes about the Livermore Valley area and the new plans to build a performing arts complex in town. Their Guild librarian built incredible clippings collection over the years. Then we zoomed through time

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down the road to the new public library where upon entering, one of our colleagues exclaimed "Now this makes me want to be a public librarian again!" The library has instituted some rather progressive programs and we got to see their RFID equipment in action.

After that it was on to the local wineries. At Retzlaff Winery we actually parked between the rows of vines and sat out by the vineyard tasting wine. We had an extraordinarily congenial group who enjoyed the sunshine and everyone's company. After we finished tasting at a couple of other wineries, we all went our own ways, but it had been such a wonderful day that it was a let-down to depart.

Mary-Lynn Bragg arranged for Dr. Alex Pang from the Institute for the Future to speak to us at the Nov. 8th meeting. It was an engaging evening with many questions following the talk.

Coming up - **Pam Rollo, SLA President, will visit our Chapter in March** and speak at the combined San Andreas/San Francisco Chapters meeting which we will host. We don't have a date yet for Pam's visit, but as soon as we do, we will post it on the Chapter's Web site. Be sure to check periodically so that you can get the date on your calendar. You won't want to miss this meeting!

Keep your professional relationships and our Chapter strong by participating in Chapter committees. One committee I'd like to highlight is **Vendor Relations. Simone Yu at the Stanford Graduate School of Business** (simoneyu@gsb.stanford.edu) **chairs this committee.**

As a part of the Vendor Relations committee, you have the chance to interact with our vendor partners, many of whom are SLA members themselves and quite often volunteer their own time to SLA and our Chapter. This committee tries to provide different kinds of opportunities for vendors to be visible among our members and our members occasions to stay aware of resources that could benefit them.

	<p>"Virtual" Freelance Librarian</p>
	<p>If you have ad-hoc Internet research needs or a continuous research project that needs to be done, consider hiring "virtual" freelance librarian, Patricia Wood, MLS. I work independently with clients to fill their research needs. The first project is free, so that you may evaluate my work.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For more details contact: Patricia Wood pwood2@hvc.rr.com</p>

Simone is trying some different approaches this year to provide better contacts for our Chapter members. A couple of her ideas are novel and **I encourage you to join her** – you might learn a new technique you can incorporate at work!

On the international level, **the first SLA electronic vote has taken place.** It was certainly easier than remembering where I'd placed my paper ballot and getting it marked and addressed properly so that I could ensure my vote would be counted. Results of the vote are on the Web in the October 2005 *SLA Connections Special Edition*. Of the members who voted, 91% voted online – quite a success for such a new venture. The amendment to modify the dues structure was approved by more than three-fourths of the members who voted. See (<http://www.sla.org/content/Shop/eneletters/slacommunicate/05connect/101405connect.cfm>)

You probably already know that **growing our membership is important!** It adds diversity and increases our collaborative capabilities. As an SLA member, you know the value of membership for your career, for professional networking, and to advance our profession. Now, SLA is asking us to spread the word among those who have not yet joined and is sweetening the pot to provide us with an incentive to invite others to join. Campaign details are on the Web; go to **2005 SLA Recruit -A-Member Campaign**

(<http://www.sla.org/content/membership/getamember/index.cfm>). To be counted, all new SLA member applications along with membership dues must be received no later than 31 December 2005. And remember to **renew your own membership!**

I look forward to seeing you soon,
LeeSan Andreas Chapter President 2005-2006
lpharis@exponent.com



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Book Review

by Karen Takle Quinn

Cavaleri, Steven A., & Sievert, Sharon with Lee, Lee W. (2005). *Knowledge Leadership: The Art and Science of the Knowledge-Based Organization*. Burlington, MA: Elsevier Butterworth Heinemann (ISBN 0-7506-7840-2)

In the "Forward" George Roth of the Lean Aerospace Initiative at the MIT Sloan School of Management positions this book well when he states, "This book takes the reader on a journey into a new territory." Cavaleri and Sievert bring the philosophy, theory and literature of knowledge management together with experienced leadership styles in order to chart a new way of thinking and course of action.

Cavaleri and Sievert describe the dawning of a new era in which individuals are

"leading" rather than "managing" knowledge. In the past, many knowledge-based initiatives have failed because leaders underestimated the powerful link between knowledge and performance improvement and also because they mistakenly thought that information was the same as knowledge. Cavaleri and Seivert claim that, while information is a necessary precursor to knowledge, it is not sufficient in itself for improving business performance.

The authors define pragmatic knowledge as situation-specific knowledge, developed over time, that helps leaders understand what actually works in practice—and also why it works and under what circumstances. They describe how well-known organizations use the pragmatic knowledge strategies to gain competitive advantages. The authors suggest that pragmatic knowledge is the result of individuals developing a deeper more scientific understanding of how (and why) things work best in practice. The process of creating pragmatic knowledge transforms key lessons for systems

The advertisement features a festive theme with a green pine branch at the top. Below it, several technical books are displayed on a wooden surface. One book is titled "MARKS' STANDARD HANDBOOK FOR MECHANICAL ENGINEERS" by Eugene A. Avallone and Theodore Balmerstein III. Another is "SAX'S DANGEROUS PROPERTIES OF INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS" by Richard J. Lewis. A third book is "ENCYCLOPEDIA BIOPROCESS TECHNOLOGY". A blue search button with the word "Search" is overlaid on the books. A yellow ribbon is tied around one of the books.

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thinking, total quality management, and organization learning into a powerful new business strategy. To help you apply the concepts and tools in this book, Cavaleri and Seivert draw on case examples and a decade of original cross-cultural research about knowledge leadership. They also invite you to use The Knowledge Bias Profile to discover your knowledge-leadership style. The book systematically outlines a user-friendly strategy for becoming a knowledge leader and for building high performing, knowledge-based organizations.

This volume is designed to help managers to examine the links between leadership and the development of knowledge-based initiatives. It offers practical tools for diagnosis and new frameworks for thinking. Leaders are encouraged to use these tools and frameworks in order to chart new pathways to bring together balanced leadership with pragmatic knowledge. The end goal is to build functional, adaptable, sustainable and timely (FAST) organizations.

This is not the first time these authors have collaborated. In Sievert's 1998 book entitled, "*Working From Your Core: Personal and Corporate Wisdom in a World of Change*," another Butterworth-Heinemann publication, she cites and thanks Cavaleri for his contributions.

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The Information Professional's Knowledge Network

Presidential Libraries – Preserving the Period

Politics aside, becoming president of the United States is quite an achievement. A lot of information passes across the desk of this individual and historical decisions are made with each stroke of the executive pen. In the spirit of preserving this information in a nonpartisan manner, the first of eleven Presidential Libraries was established over fifty years ago. These treasure troves of history are acclaimed worldwide, and continue to grow today under the watch of a special group of librarians.

The story is told that during his second term in office, President Franklin D. Roosevelt looked around at the vast quantities of papers and other materials he and his staff had accumulated over the years, and felt that these items rightfully belonged to the American people. He firmly believed that the records of his office should be open and accessible to the public. In the past, many Presidential papers and records had been lost, destroyed, sold for profit, or ruined by poor storage conditions. Some items were passed on to family members, but there was no plan or purpose to collecting and preserving key documents. On the advice of historians, librarians, and scholars President Roosevelt established the first public repository to preserve the evidence of the Presidency for future generations. He raised private funds to build the new facility that today welcomes students, scholars, and visitors to its special collection in Hyde Park, New York.

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In 1955 Congress passed the Presidential Libraries Act (PLA), which established this system of privately built and federally maintained libraries. The amended PLA of 1986 made significant changes to Presidential Libraries, requiring that private endowments be linked to the size of the facility. And in 1995, President Clinton created a mandated review of classified documents older than 25 years so that more materials could be made available through the Freedom of Information Act.

US Presidential Libraries are not typical public libraries. They are more aptly described as archives, museums, and centers for public and educational programs. While they do house the documents and artifacts of a President and his administration, emphasis is placed upon presenting materials to the public for study and discussion without regard for political considerations or affiliations.

Presidential Libraries regularly host conferences, symposia, and public forums that highlight new scholarship about the Presidents and American history. Events have explored military conflict, economics, and civil rights, offering topics related to the President, the administration, and his Library.

Each Library offers programs for students as well as teachers, and highlights the use of primary source documents in learning and teaching history. Participants see things firsthand, rather than reading someone else's descriptions and interpretations. Highlights of these offerings include:

At the Truman Library students and adults can study historical documents from the Truman period and review critical events at the White House Decision Center.

The Ford Museum houses a replica of the Cabinet Room and offers an interactive media experience allowing students to use the West Wing's famous conference room and original documents to role-play through the complex problems that faced the Ford Administration.

The Eisenhower Library hosts a Teaching American History Institute, where Kansas teachers can explore new ways to utilize primary documents of the 1950s.

The Ronald Reagan Library holdings include 50 million pages of presidential documents, over 1.6 million photographs, a half million feet of motion picture film, tens of thousands of audio and video tapes, as well as a new exhibit devoted to Air Force One.

Thanks to the staff at each of the Presidential Libraries, many of the materials are now accessible online. Event schedules, details about the collections, as well as digitized documents can be viewed at the individual Websites. Extensive links and resources for further study have been built around the time period of each Library. These institutions not only illustrate a unique role for librarians and information professionals in preserving history, but are a hallmark of the importance of preserving information in the spirit of democracy. Take a tour and see for yourself, and remember to check the Presidential Libraries the next time you are researching American history!

Herbert Hoover Library in West Branch, Iowa

<http://hoover.archives.gov/index.html>

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library in Hyde Park, New York

<http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu/>

Harry S. Truman Library in Independence, Missouri

<http://www.trumanlibrary.org/>

Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas

<http://www.eisenhower.archives.gov/>

John F. Kennedy Library in Boston, Massachusetts

<http://www.jfklibrary.org/>

Lyndon B. Johnson Library in Austin, Texas

<http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu/>

Nixon Presidential Materials Staff

<http://nixon.archives.gov/index.php>

Gerald R. Ford Library in Ann Arbor, Michigan

<http://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/>

Jimmy Carter Library in Atlanta, Georgia

<http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov/>

Ronald Reagan Library in Simi Valley, California

<http://www.reagan.utexas.edu/>

George Bush Library in College Station, Texas

<http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu/>

William J. Clinton Library just opened in 2005 in Little Rock, Arkansas.

<http://www.clintonlibrary.gov/>

“To bring together the records of the past and to house them in buildings where they will be preserved for the use of men and women in the future, a Nation must believe in three things: It must believe in the past. It must believe in the future. It must, above all, believe in the capacity of its own people so to learn from the past that they can gain in judgment in creating their own future.”

-President Franklin D. Roosevelt, at the dedication of his library on June 30, 1941,

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The FaultLine newsletter is published five (5) times a year:

September/October

November/December

January/February

March/April

May/June

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