

ARLIS NW CHAPTER
ANNUAL REPORT

DECEMBER 1999

Chapter Officers for 2000

The new executive officers will serve from January - December, 2000.

Chair	Cathy Donaldson	Art Institute of Seattle
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Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect	Diana Cooper	University of British Columbia
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Secretary/Treasurer	John Cull	Vancouver Public Library
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Past Chair	Carole Goldsmith	Simon Fraser University
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ARLIS/Canada Rep.	Cheryl Siegel	Vancouver Art Gallery
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Activities

1999 was a banner year for the NW Chapter, as the "little chapter that could" hosted the highly successful ARLIS/NA annual conference in Vancouver, B.C., March 25-31, 1999.

The Vancouver conference marked several "firsts." This was the first conference to be sponsored by the NW Chapter; the first conference to include plenary sessions; and the first time attendees could pay conference fees in Canadian funds, thanks to the efforts of ARLIS/Canada Rep. Marilyn Berger and Conference Co-chair, Cheryl Siegel. It also marked the first fund-raising venture by the NW Chapter. We raised more than \$250 Can, selling "Gardens of the Pacific Northwest" CDROM screensavers at the conference. Thanks to our modest success at fundraising, the NW Chapter was able to donate \$100 towards the ARLIS/NA welcome party at the Year 2000 conference to be held in Pittsburgh next year.

After the intensity of the Vancouver conference, chapter activities were very low-key. Members have communicated mostly by e-mail. In October, the Chapter Chair visited the Banff Centre for the Arts, where she met with the new fine arts librarian, James Rout. James is interested in becoming more involved with ARLIS/NA, and has proposed that we consider hosting a conference in Banff, Alberta. Chapter members attending our annual meeting in November were enthusiastic about the idea of holding a meeting in Banff, although wary of the work involved in hosting another conference.

Meetings

Several members met Friday & Saturday, Nov. 12-13, at the University of Washington in Seattle, for the NW Chapter annual meeting. The business meeting took place on Friday afternoon at the Suzzallo Library. En route to the library, we were treated to a view of the magnificent gothic style Suzzallo Reading Room. The library and reading room will be closed soon for renovations and major seismic upgrading. Prior to the business meeting, Jeanette Mills provided us with a tour of the University of Washington Slide Library. We had hoped to visit the Henry Art Gallery or the School of Architecture slide library as well, but the rest of our afternoon was devoted to a very productive meeting.

Incoming chapter officers were ratified at the business meeting. It was agreed that the new executive would serve on a calendar year basis. Two NW Chapter members were nominated for the new ARLIS/NA executive board - Cheryl Siegel, as Treasurer, and Carole Goldsmith, as ARLIS/Canada rep.

We discussed our chapter bylaws and geographic boundaries. It was agreed that the Chapter Chair should investigate and, if necessary, look at revising the chapter bylaws to reflect the current situation. John Cull reported on the ARLIS/Canada mini-conference held in Ottawa, October 17-18. Four NW Chapter Canadian members attended this meeting, which was the first national meeting since forming as a separate Chapter. The Vancouver conference planning committee received warm applause. It was felt that the success of the Vancouver conference demonstrated the viability of holding conferences in smaller urban centres.

We were pleased that Lorna Corbetta-Noyes, ARLIS/NA Western Regional Rep., was able to attend our meeting. Lorna provided information on the ARLIS/NA strategic plan and other activities. She encouraged us to get more involved with the association at the national or local level, and suggested that we consider hosting a regional conference in a location such as Banff, which might attract interest from other members. Chapter members were also encouraged to attend the next annual conference in Pittsburgh, March 16-22.

Hollis Near volunteered to set up a website for the Chapter, and has since created a prototype webpage. It was agreed that the website would replace the now defunct chapter newsletter. Stan Shiebert volunteered to report on NW Chapter activities for [ARLIS/NA Update](#).

On Saturday, Nov. 13, several members & guests met at the Seattle Art Museum for a guided tour of the fascinating exhibition, *"An American Century of Photography: From Dry-Plate to Digital, the Hallmark Photographic Collection."* We were fortunate to have both a museum curator and a photography instructor from the Art Institute of Seattle leading the tour.

The next annual meeting will take place in Vancouver, B.C.

Submitted by
Carole Goldsmith