



Bay Net



Bay Area Library and Information Network

Fall 2004

President's Message

By Steven Dunlap

Welcome to another year at BayNet! The BayNet Board has already had its first meeting and we are hard at work on a new set of programs for the coming year.

First, I would like to thank our Board Members, both outgoing and continuing, as well as welcome the new ones. Last year we implemented a major re-design of the BayNet web site. We had a very highly skilled web-weaver, Sarah Holm, who integrated all the board members' suggestions and ideas into a much improved presence on the web for the association. We are pleased to have Robert Bruce as our new Web Weaver. Wess John Murdough (AIM), as President, kept all of our activity focused and well organized. He will continue to assist us as Past-President. I am indebted to last year's Past-President, Richard Geiger (SF Chronicle), for his ability to recall what and who to ask in most every situation. I want to thank outgoing Public Representative David Dodd and welcome Kathy Steel-Sabo (Newark PL) as our new one. I also wish to express my gratitude to Susan Garbarino (UC Berkeley), former At Large Representative and Newsletter Editor, for serving as our new Vice-President/President Elect. Tim DeWolf (Federal Reserve Bank) begins his term as At Large Representative and Clarence Maybee (Mills College) is our new Newsletter Editor. We had the good fortune to have had Cynthia Bennington as our Treasurer. We discovered that the transition to a new Treasurer proved more complicated than ever before due to changes in banking regulations in the aftermath of September 11th. I greatly appreciate Cynthia's patience and assistance in passing her responsibilities to her successor: Cynthia Palmer (Golden Gate University). Our new School liaison, Debbie Abilock (Knowledge Quest), takes over from Karen Guma.

We live in interesting times. Technological and other changes provide us with many interesting topics for events and library tours. We already have scheduled a tour of the King Library, the product of the recent merger of the San Jose State University and the City Public libraries. The Board members are also investigating another program this year on Intellectual Freedom issues and the implementation of RFID technology in libraries. BayNet plans to sponsor some programs jointly with other library organizations. There will be a joint dinner meeting with the Special Libraries Association in January 2005. We also have the good fortune to have our speaker for the Annual Meeting already: Nancy Kranich, past-President of ALA. Her interests include the role of libraries in democracy, the commons, media consolidation, intellectual property and fair use. The Annual Meeting will take place at the World Affairs Council auditorium on Tuesday, May 10, 2005 – mark your calendars now! Kudos go to Vice-President Susan Garbarino for lining up our annual meeting speaker so quickly. The Board is always open to suggestions from the membership, so please feel free to offer suggestions to any Board Member.

BayNet also offers reduced rate registration at library conferences. Please check out the BayNet web site for more information (www.baynetlibs.org). BayNet advertises all our events and selected other programs there. BayNet's web site also lists open positions in member libraries and provides a directory of all members.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone that we no longer use mail-in ballots for our Board Elections. The election will be held by voice vote at the Annual Meeting in May - another great reason to attend.

I look forward to another year with BayNet and hope to see you at one of our programs.

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Mechanics' Institute Library and Chess Room Commemorates its 150th Anniversary: An Invitation to BayNet Librarians

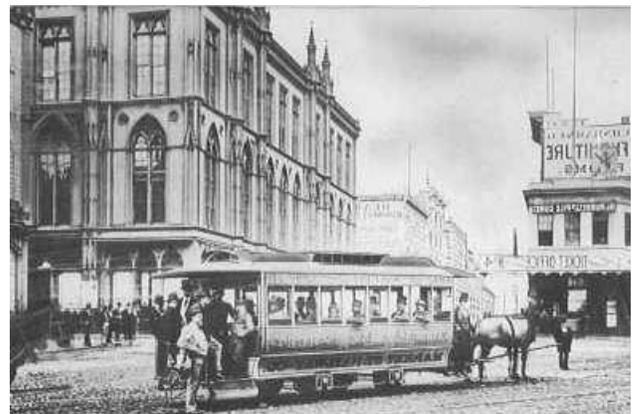
By Inez Shor Cohen

Commemorating its 150th anniversary this year, the Mechanics' Institute Library and Chess Room will host a weekend-long celebration on December 3 and 4, 2004 in its historic building at 57 Post Street. A Friday evening party and exhibit opening for members and friends titled, *After the Gold Rush: A 150-Year Photographic History of San Francisco's Mechanics' Institute*, will be followed by an open house for members and the public on Saturday from 10am to 5pm. The exhibit, consisting of 70 photographs, illustrates the history of the Institute and its contributions to the development of nineteenth and twentieth century San Francisco. Photographers represented in the exhibit include George Robinson Fardon, Eadward Muybridge, Carleton E. Watkins, R.J. Waters, Pirkle Jones, and Ted Orland, among others.

The Mechanics' Institute was founded as a membership organization in 1854 by a group of local mechanics and merchants concerned about the effect of the post-Gold Rush depression on the economic future of San Francisco. To create a center for vocational and technical training, the founders established a library and classes in mechanical drawing, wood working, applied mathematics, and iron works – subjects that would support and train young men in the skills necessary to move California from a gold rush economy to one solidly based on industry and agriculture. From 1857 to 1899, the Institute sponsored thirty-one industrial fairs, exhibiting manufactured goods, scientific apparatus, and agricultural products produced in California. The fairs, typically held for six weeks in the late summer, attracted an average of 500,000 to 600,000 visitors. Intended to support and promote local industry, the fairs were also welcomed as the great social events of the year. While many came to view the more than 1,000 exhibits, many others came to party – to walk, talk, dance, and flirt.

A merger with the San Francisco Mercantile Library in January 1906 brought together the Institute's extensive technical collection with the Mercantile's strength in the humanities, art, literature and rare editions. Four months after the merger, the Mechanics' building and the combined collection burned in the 1906 earthquake and fire. The Library was immediately reestablished with generous donations from libraries across the country and a new building, completed in 1910, reopened with a collection of 40,000 books of general interest. The collection continued to grow and broaden over time, reflecting the needs and tastes of the Institute's members. Today, the subjects of greatest interest to the membership include finance and investment, the social and behavioral sciences, the applied sciences, business management, marketing, art, fiction and literature, history, philosophy, biography and, of course, chess.

In its 150th year, the Mechanics' Institute continues to serve San Francisco and the Bay Area with a state-of-the-art, general-interest library, an internationally-renowned chess club, classes, and literary and performing arts events that support the educational, vocational, and cultural interest of the entire community. We invite all BayNet members to join us as we celebrate our milestone birthday with programs and events throughout 2005. For a schedule of programs, call 393-0100 or consult our website at www.milibrary.org.



Mechanics' Institute Library & Chess Club: 57 Post Street



Tour of the San Jose King Library

Please join us Wednesday evening, October 6, 2004 for a tour of the King Library in San Jose.

In August 2003, University Library at San Jose State merged with the San Jose Public Library. An innovative model serving as the Silicon Valley's 21st century information hub, the King Library won the Gale Publishing/Library Journal Library of the Year award for 2004. Our tour features Dr. Patricia Senn Breivik, the Dean of the Library, who will speak about lifelong learning, its relationship to the information literacy movement and the creation of the award winning King Library.



Breivik has held numerous leadership positions at the state and national levels within both librarianship and higher education. She serves as Chair of the National Forum on Information Literacy, an umbrella group of over 90 national and international organizations concerned with the need for people to be able to access and use information effectively. She is an elected member of the American Association for Higher Education and past President of the Association of College & Research Libraries.

She is a frequent speaker and writer on the topic of information literacy and resource-based learning. She co-authored the book, *Information Literacy Revolution in the Library*, with E. Gordon Gee (now President of Vanderbilt University), which won the 1990 G.K. Hall Library Literature Award. Her 1998 book, *Student Learning in the Information Age*, offers an in-depth examination of resource-based learning as an important paradigm for higher education.

Breivik holds a B.A. from Brooklyn College, an M.L.S. from Pratt Institute, and a D.L.S. from Columbia University.

Appetizers and beverages will be served – including beer and wine.

Date: October 6, 2003 (Wednesday evening)

Time: 6:00 - 6:45 Registration, food and beverages
6:45 - 7:45 Breivik, Presentation & Q&A.
8:00 Tour

Driving directions, parking, and public transportation information are available at: <http://www.sjlibrary.org/about/locations/king/directions.htm>

Please register by sending e-mail to Wess-John Murdough: wmurdough@aimusa.com.

Deadline for registration: October 1, 2004.

There is no charge for this event. However, if you change your mind or for any reason can not attend please contact Wess, even if at the last minute.



Internet Librarian 2004 – Special Rate for BayNet Members

The Internet Librarian 2004 meeting is going to be held in Monterey on November 15-17, 2004. Information about the conference and program can be found at: <http://www.infoday.com/il2004/>. Information Today, Inc. is offering BayNet members a special rate of \$235 for the three-day event, which is 40% savings off the regular price of \$389. BayNet members also qualify for a reduced rate of \$169 on the Internet School Conference, which is being held in Monterey on November 15-16, 2003. The combined discount rate of \$265 is available for both conferences.

In order to qualify for these rates, the registrations for the meeting must be sent through a central point and submitted as a group order. If you want to take up this offer, please print out and complete a copy of the conference registration form located at: http://www.infoday.com/il2004/IL2004_Registration.pdf. Send it with your payment by check payable to Information Today, Inc. or with your credit card information to the following address:

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Golden Gate University Librarians Go to China

By Cynthia Palmer

Two BayNet member librarians, Janice Carter, Head of Information Services, and Christina Calavano, Research Instruction Librarian from Golden Gate University (GGU) recently presented papers at a conference in Beijing, China. Over 200 teachers and librarians from throughout the world, including presenters from the British Library and the Library of Congress, attended the conference.

The Conference, Information Technology in Education: Learning from Different Cultures (ITIE), was sponsored by the Evergreen Education Foundation. The Foundation was founded by a group of Chinese and American professionals and academics to enhance educational opportunities for middle and high school children in rural China. The ITIE 2004 international conference was a gathering of educators, librarians, and leaders from the information technology industry who are interested in the use of information technology in education within various academic disciplines as well as the comparison of teaching practices between western and eastern cultures. The mission of the conference was to promote the exchange of ideas and share practical experience in using information technology in basic and higher education between librarians, teachers, and educators in China, other Asian countries, and the West. It aimed to bring in different cultural perspectives on instructional/curricular design with technological components and pedagogical techniques from different educational traditions.

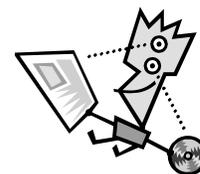
Christina Calavano teamed with Kim Barber, an Instructional Designer in GGU's Cybercampus, to describe the development of the GGU's Online Core Research Skills course. Their presentation was entitled "How Librarians and Instruction Designers Can Collaborate to Create an On-Line Information Literacy Course." The Research Skills Course is an online library tutorial that walks the student through the research process. It was developed to reach the library's regional and cyber students who can't come to San Francisco for a workshop or instructional session. You can view an online demo of the course at: <http://www.ggu.edu/cybercampus/FreeDemo>.

Janice Carter's presentation was titled, "Using Information Technology to Share Educational Resources for Enriching Curricula, Teaching and Learning." She also teamed with GGU faculty member Walt Stevenson for a session on "Enhancing Classroom Teaching: Creating a Technology-enhanced Faculty Development Plan Across Wide Geographic Areas."

Janice emphasized, "One of the highlights of the conference was the opportunity to participate in small discussion groups with Chinese teachers and librarians regarding academic honesty." Christina noted, "Even though many of the librarians and teachers at the conference were from very rural areas of China, many of our challenges are similar. I attended a presentation given by a Chinese librarian and he spoke about ways his library was trying to encourage students to use the library for more than just studying. They were beginning to implement tours for new students and workshops on library resources and services, and that is what I do for GGU."

Christina also recalled, "Even though many of the schools were so rural they didn't have computers or Internet access, this did not discourage the teachers I spoke with. In a group discussion on Internet research, one teacher said even though they don't have computers now, they can use their imagination and hope for the future." Christina's experience in China made her realize that the skill sets librarians in the United States possess are valuable worldwide.

BayNet Newsletter Now Electronic!



Dear BayNet member,

As mentioned in the spring 2004 issue, the BayNet newsletter will henceforth be published electronically, and will be mailed out to the BayNet listserv and posted on the BayNet website. Please contact Rose Falanga at rosef@exo.net if you would like to receive print copies of the newsletter.



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