From the President:

Just back from Mid-Winter in sunny San Diego. The weather was great, as well as the location of the convention center overlooking San Diego Bay directly across from Coronado Island. My bird’s-eye view from my hotel on the 18th floor allowed me to watch the decommissioned WWII battleship Midway towed to its new home in the Port of San Diego. The Midway will become a floating museum at the Port. What a wonderful way to commemorate Navy personnel who served on the ship over the years.

The board had two meetings, one on Saturday afternoon and another on Monday morning. Some issues mentioned were FAFLRT nominations for upcoming elections to the 2004-5 board, the upcoming annual meeting in Orlando, and compilation of a manual for incoming FAFLRT officers. During the Monday morning meeting Michael Gorman, who is running for ALA president for 2005, dropped by to discuss his platform. His primary concern is library graduate education standards.

The annual meeting in Orlando will include the membership meeting and breakfast where FAFLRT awards will be presented. The FAFLRT program will be on marketing your library and will feature Outsell Inc. Vice President Leslie Barrett. All the details for the FAFLRT annual meetings and events will be posted on the blog website http://www.faflrt.blogspot.com. Hope to see you in Orlando!!

Margaret Groner
Mary Boone, a Foreign Service Information Resource Officer currently serving as a Senior Advisor at the U.S. Department of State, gave the commencement address at the winter graduation at the School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill in December. A 1973 graduate of the school, she was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award at the commencement ceremony. Congratulations to Mary!

Elaine Cline has been selected to be the new Director of the U.S. Dept. of State Library. She replaces Dan Clemmer who retired in 2002. Elaine is currently an Assistant Director of the District of Columbia Public Library System. She had previously been at the Smithsonian’s Air and Space Museum Library.

Marilyn (Linda) Requena served as Chief Librarian of the Medical Library at the Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii from 1980 to 2003. She retired at the end of 2003. During her tenure at Tripler, she oversaw a major renovation that effectively doubled the space available for the collection and the transition from a completely manual system to the Horizon Integrated Library System. She has maintained active membership in the local library associations and has served in various officer roles. As a retiree, she is looking forward to taking care of her mother, traveling, and visiting friends on the mainland.

Charlotte Johnson Houtchens is the Reference and Social Sciences Librarian at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia. She provides reference service in the college’s Simpson Library, acts as liaison to faculty in business, education, and the social sciences, and offers library instruction in these disciplines. Previously, Charlotte was Reference and Instruction Librarian at American University and was co-chair of the DCLA Reference Interest Group for 2002-2003. Charlotte was our 1999 Adelaide del Frate Conference Sponsorship Award recipient from the University of Kentucky.

Past FLRT President Andrea Gruhl is the co-chair of the Endowment Committee of the United Nations Association-National Capital Area and the proud grandmother of her first grandchild, Jack. She is also completing her term as Immediate President of the District of Columbia Library Association in June.

Congratulations to these Library of Congress staff members. Rosemary Fry Plakas received an honorary doctorate at the May 2003 commencement of Park University in Missouri. Rosemary is the American history specialist in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division. Don Panzera was selected as a University of California at Los Angeles Senior Fellow for 2003. Don is chief of the European and Latin American Acquisitions Division. Among staff honored at an LC length of service ceremony recently were Susan H. Vita (35 years), Janice M. Herd (30 years) and Linda T. Stubbs (30 years). Lyle Minter, Serial and Government Publication Division, will become a fellow of Special Libraries Association (SLA) at the June 2004 annual conference. This honor is bestowed in recognition of his leadership in the field of special librarianship and for his outstanding service to the profession.

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News From the U.S. Government Printing Office
(excerpts from the ALA Update presented at ALA Midwinter in San Diego, January 2004)

Authentication /Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)
GPO is well underway in its efforts to implement Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) technology that will include the use of digital signatures for Congressional and other information made available through GPO Access. This will help ensure the protection of data against unauthorized modification or substitution of information. It will also enable GPO customers to verify the authenticity and integrity of the information they are using from GPO Access, now and in the future. Customers will be able to confirm that information was approved for submission to GPO by the appropriate Federal agency and that it has not been altered since it was signed. Work has recently been completed on a Certificate Policy, PKI Architecture document, and Certification Practices Statement. GPO has procured hardware/software and PKI professional services to assist staff in the Chief Information Officer’s (CIO’s) organization on a PKI implementation. Once this work has been completed and an audit is conducted, GPO will begin to digitally sign GPO Access files. This signing process is expected to begin in April 2004. In conjunction with this, GPO is taking steps to cross-certify its PKI with the U.S. Federal Bridge Certification Authority.

Integrated Library System
The Superintendent of Documents has made a recommendation to the Office of the Chief Information Officer (CIO) regarding the procurement of a new ILS system, and that office will operate the ILS system on behalf of the Superintendent of Documents. The CIO organization is currently taking steps towards the acquisition of the system.

OMB/GPO Agreement
In June 2003, GPO and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) announced a compact that will allow Federal Agencies to select their own commercial printers using standard contracts issued by GPO. GPO will register and qualify printers for participation in the contract and offer twenty-four hour customer and printer support, while the agencies will have authority to address performance issues directly with the printers they select. Payments will be routed through GPO to private printers, with agencies approving them before they are made, and GPO will offer additional printing procurement services on a cost recovery basis.

Under the terms of the agreement, GPO will receive an electronic copy of every publication directly from the printer for dissemination to the public. This contract condition should help eliminate the fugitive document problem and bring many more titles into the FDLP. In addition, GPO will receive two printed copies of these publications, from which GPO can create a new digital copy if future format or other usability issues occur with the original electronic copy. GPO will also have the option to create a version of the file for print-on-demand publishing.

This agreement currently is being tested through a pilot project with the Department of Labor. Since the inception of the compact, there have been 84 offers made through the compact. Twenty-six publications were selected from among the print orders submitted for inclusion in the FDLP. Those not selected were not within the scope of the FDLP.

GPO Sales Program
The GPO Sales Program continues to streamline its operations by reducing overhead, most recently through the ongoing consolidation of its warehouse facility in Laurel, MD. It has begun using print on demand technology to increase the long-term availability of publications and testing the capabilities of a number of vendors. Sales is also engaged in bringing its bibliographic practices more in line with those of the commercial publishing sector by exploring ONIX (Online Information Exchange), the publishing industry’s standard electronic format for sharing product data with wholesale and retail booksellers, other publishers, and anyone else involved in the sale of books. ONIX will enable GPO to have Government publications listed, promoted, and sold by commercial book dealers worldwide.

Opportunities are also being explored to initiate e-commerce consulting services, for the purpose of defining alternative solutions that will enable the U.S. Government Online Bookstore to offer the “next generation” of enhancements aimed at improving customer functionality and order processing. The Superintendent of Documents has provided a list of functionality requirements to the Office of the Chief Information Officer (CIO) and asked that consulting services be procured.

GPO Access Statistical Measures
Since 1994, GPO Access retrievals have exceeded 1.8 billion, and in October of 2003, reached a monthly
Michael Gorman, a candidate for Vice-President/President Elect of ALA visited the Monday meeting of the FAFLRT Board in San Diego. Michael spent about 15 minutes with the Board discussing his platform and answering questions from Board members. He expressed his support for individual representation for the small Round Tables on ALA Council. He also spoke about establishing core values for librarians, an issue being addressed by the FLICC Human Resources Working Group. Finally, in answering a question from a Board member, he expressed his concern about the increase in out-sourcing and discussed ALA’s possible role in addressing this issue.

News From the U.S. Government Printing Office  continued from page 4

high of more than 38 million retrievals.

The average number of monthly retrievals from GPO Access is 33 million, or over 1 million retrievals a day. The average number of monthly retrievals from GPO Access measures over 1.6 terabytes in size and is equivalent to over 808 million typewritten pages.

GPO Access contains over 156,000 electronic titles and points to over 103,000 others for a total of over 259,000 titles.

GPO Access provides use of almost 2,900 databases through more than 100 applications.

Note: The entire Update can be viewed at http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/adnotes/ad011504.html#3

Submitted by
Linda M. Resler
Librarian (Depository Library Inspector)
U.S. Government Printing Office

Candidate Visits
FAFLRT Board

Michael Gorman, a candidate for Vice-President/President Elect of ALA visited the Monday meeting of the FAFLRT Board in San Diego. Michael spent about 15 minutes with the Board discussing his platform and answering questions from Board members. He expressed his support for individual representation for the small Round Tables on ALA Council. He also spoke about establishing core values for librarians, an issue being addressed by the FLICC Human Resources Working Group. Finally, in answering a question from a Board member, he expressed his concern about the increase in out-sourcing and discussed ALA’s possible role in addressing this issue.
The Kindness of Strangers

Some people have all the luck. That’s what they say anyway. To tell you the truth, I sometimes feel that way myself. A lot of good luck comes my way, and I don’t mind that the bad variety doesn’t strike more often.

My lucky streak seems to manifest itself remarkably at ALA, though I can’t say why. How many people could lose a briefcase, a purse, and a cell phone and get them all back? Well, I did!

The first time I went to Atlanta, I decided to take the subway into town from the Airport in order to save the taxpayers a few bucks. This good Do-Bee got off of the train only to glance around at her possessions and realize that her briefcase, in which were her return airplane tickets, was still on the seat that she had just vacated. The train was pulling away. Nothing could be done.

Panic set in. Not the uncomfortable kind, the extreme, frantic kind. On the other side of the track, I could see a phone on which you could call for help. Up the escalator and over I went to use the phone. The man on the other end was quite remarkable. He was handling three “situations” all at once. At another stop, a lady had left her purse on the train. At this stop, about 15 feet away was a group of three people, two women and a man. They all seemed to want to kill each other. They were letting the man on the phone talk sense to them. Then there was me. I could hear all of the other conversations. The man on the other end was a master at what he did.

For me, he contacted the train I had just left. Yes, they found my briefcase. Yes, certainly they could send it back in the other direction. The train coming back agreed to take my briefcase to return it. So, one train handed it off to the other at the next stop, and then that train handed it off back to me upon entering the station … just like that … with all of the contents intact. I called the man on the phone one more time. Was there anything I could do to thank him? He gave me information to write a commendation for him to his supervisor, which I did when I returned.

On the same trip to Atlanta, somehow, I left my purse behind on the shuttle bus. I made more phone calls trying to track down that purse. Again, I was convinced that even if I got it back, it would be minus some of its contents. The dispatcher said that the bus I had been on made only one run that morning and then was taken out of service. There was no record of a purse being found on it.

All day, I felt very uneasy wondering what information about myself I was losing that day and what my credit cards were buying. Towards the end of the day, someone asked had I checked Lost and Found. Well, no. The thought never crossed my mind. When I located Lost and Found, I was shocked and overjoyed to see my purse sitting there waiting. The better news was that nothing was missing and nothing mysterious ever showed up on any of my credit card statements. There was no one to thank.

Now for this trip. It may have been the second day there in San Diego. The shuttle bus driver was Hispanic and he had his radio tuned into a Hispanic station. I had some conversations on my cell phone which I must have left on the seat so I could get at it quickly. Then, the shuttle bus pulled away. The cell phone was not in its normal pocket of my purse, nor was it in my purse, nor in my briefcase, nor in the ALA tote that they had given us.

OK. This is the part where the panic sets in. I was supposed to meet my husband and daughter for lunch. They would be calling the phone, but I wouldn’t be answering. Not only that, but my cell phone had this really cute Mickey Mouse face cover that my husband bought for me. How could it be gone?

After lunch, I went to the bus dispatch desk. No, they had not seen my phone. Then I contacted Lost and Found. No, nothing there matching that description. I was so down. All day long, we tried calling the phone hoping we could talk with whoever had it and arrange to pick it up.

The following morning, I got on the shuttle. The driver looked familiar and he had the radio on. I asked him if I had left my phone on his bus the previous day. He said, "Si, Mickey Mouse." He told me that it was at the bus dispatch desk. After all of the other occupants got off of the bus, I handed the driver a reward for handing in the phone. He was so delighted that he accompanied me to the desk to make sure I got my phone back. On the way, he said, "You got many calls yesterday." Oh, if he only knew!

In conclusion, although I probably have more than my share of good luck, my luck probably isn’t so much in getting my property back as it is in being the recipient of the kindness of strangers. In each of those cases, I could have been robbed blind. In each case, some kind person did the honest thing and returned my belongings. In some cases, a librarian was surely responsible for the kindness, in other cases not. No matter. The kindness of strangers has blessed me and it is that I will remember.

Lucille M. Rosa

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Minutes

Federal and Armed Forces Libraries
Round Table (FAFLRT)
Board Meeting
ALA Midwinter Meeting, 2004
Horton Grand Hotel
San Diego, CA
Saturday, January 10, 2004

Attendees: Mary Boone, Carol Bursik, Margaret Groner, Marie L. Nelson, Fran Perros, Maria Pisa, Linda M. Resler, Reginald M. Scott, Lucille M. Rosa, Jane Sessa

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by FAFLRT President Margaret Groner and the agenda was accepted.

The minutes of the June 21, 2003 Annual Membership Meeting were amended to state in paragraph two (2) that 66 FAFLRT members voted in the Spring 2003 ALA election, and then accepted. The minutes of the June 21, 2003 Board Meeting were accepted as written.

Membership Report, prepared by Joan Taylor and presented by Margaret Groner. According to an email received from Jim Kanis, ALA Headquarters, as of June 11, 2003 FAFLRT has 340 personal, 60 organizational, and 3 corporate members, for a total of 403 members. However, as of the August 2003 Statistics Monthly Report, we have 337 personal, 61 organizational and 2 corporate members, for a total of 400; and the mailing list, as of October 2003, indicates 346 personal and 64 organizational/corporate members, for a total of 410.

Treasurer’s Report and Budget Report. Carol Bursik distributed the “Financial Statement for 2004, Based on Performance Report of November 30, 2003,” dated December 29, 2003. FAFLRT had beginning Net Assets (9/01/03) of $3,271.93, revenues for the Year of $1,243.42, expenses for the year of $1,365.71, for an Ending Net Asset Balance of $3,149.64. Carol also distributed the FY2005 proposed Budget, indicating planned revenues of $16,260 and planned expenses of $16,260. Discussion took place regarding possible changes to the budget, as the dues will increase in FY2005, and other categories may also need changes. Further discussion was tabled until the January 12 Board Meeting.

Newsletter Report. Jane Sessa reported that she would like to produce the next newsletter by early March, before the elections. The deadline for the Spring issue will be January 31, 2004. Jane requested that members provide her with more articles and information about members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives. Lucille Rosa says that much archival material from the files of officers, directors, and committee chairs, is missing. The archival materials being sought include files from FLRT, AFLRT, and the current body FAFLRT. If in doubt, send the file to her. Since very little has been sent from FLRT and AFLRT and absolutely nothing from FAFLRT, we are in danger of losing our own history.

Annual Program. Maria Pisa distributed the “ALA Annual Conference Meeting Space Request Form” that she submitted for FAFLRT’s June 2004 meeting in Orlando. Our Program is titled “What’s In, What’s Spin: Winning Strategies for Marketing Your Library” with speaker Leslie Barrett, Vice President, Outsell, Inc., to be held on Saturday, June 26, 2004 from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. Any changes/suggestions must be given to her by the January 12 Board Meeting. This led to discussion regarding possible meeting time changes for future meetings, as several Board Members reported conflicts with other committees on which they sit. Margaret Groner will send out a message to the membership requesting member input on this issue. She will also contact Pat May to request that the June 26, 2004 Annual Membership Meeting and the Program be scheduled at the same hotel.

Nominating Committee. Margaret Groner reported for Jewel Player and Greta Marlatt. They are soliciting for suggested people to nominate, as no one has come forward as of yet. Completed ballots must be submitted to ALA before January 30.

FAFLRT Web Site. Margaret Groner reported for James King. He has updated the web site and posted the Fall and Winter 2003 newsletters.

ALA Roundtable Coordinating Committee. Margaret Groner attended their January 9 meeting.

She reported that only half of the 15 Round Tables had representatives in attendance. Six of the Round Tables are large enough to have their own councilor, while FAFLRT is one of the smaller ones and shares a councilor. FAFLRT feels that our councilor, Jordan Scepanski, should have more communication with our round table, such as sending us information through our listserv.

Two ALA Presidential candidates spoke at that meeting.

Past President, Mitch Freedman, stated that ALA and its organizations may not endorse a specific candidate in anything that they fund. (We discussed that we could, however, report in our newsletter that a certain candidate attended our Board Meeting, and what that person said.)

continued on page 9
Awards Committee. Maria Pisa, co-chair, reported that they are progressing with the three awards that FAFLRT presents at ALA in June, and solicitation for nominations is needed for the next newsletter. Our Board will then approve these nominations in the spring via email.

Booth Coordinator. No report.

Federal Personnel. Stephanie Jones was not in attendance, and the status of this committee is unknown. Lucille Rosa will contact her to determine future direction for this committee.

Legislation/GODORT. Jane Sessa reported that GODORT wants ALA (and FAFLRT) to endorse their resolution on eleven principles regarding provision of government information. The resolutions were read aloud, and the FAFLRT Board voted to support GODORT’s resolution.

LIAISON REPORTS

ALA Planning and Budget Assembly. Carol Bursik reported that she couldn’t attend this meeting for some time due to conflicts in time with FAFLRT meetings. Their focus has been on “pay banding” and they have done a position paper on the A-76 activity. Jane will post the CEC website in the next newsletter.

Public Employees Round Table. Fran Perros reported that the PSRW is what they are sticking to and what they have time to do. They no longer do awards.

FLICC. Lynn McDonald will provide this report at the Monday Board Meeting.

Education Assembly. A replacement for Lee Porter will be discussed at the Board Meeting on Monday.

Old Business. Maintaining the list of FAFLRT Officers and Committee Chairs that is printed on the back of the newsletter continues to be difficult. Reginald Scott volunteered himself or another ALA staff liaison person to verify and correct this listing on a consistent future basis.

The meeting adjourned at 4:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie L. Nelson
Secretary

PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE!

Please be sure to vote for your 2004 FAFLRT candidates. The candidates are Georgette Harris for Vice-President/President-Elect, Marie L. Nelson for Secretary, Lucille M. Rosa for Military Director-at-Large, and Cynthia Etkin for Federal Director-at-Large. You may also write in a candidate for each position.
Nominations Sought for All FAFLRT Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the FAFLRT Achievement Award, the Distinguished Service Award, and the Adelaide del Frate Conference Sponsorship Award to be presented during the ALA annual conference in Orlando in June 2004. The Achievement Award recognizes an individual for achievement in the promotion of library and information service and the information profession in the Federal community. The Distinguished Service Award recognizes a FAFLRT member for outstanding and sustained contributions to FAFLRT (or its predecessor round tables). The Adelaide del Frate Conference Sponsorship Award is made to a library school student who has an interest in working in a Federal library. The student will receive an award of $1,000 for the conference registration fee, transportation, and other expenses related to attendance at the ALA annual conference in Orlando.

See the FAFLRT website for nomination forms, more information about the awards, and a list of previous awards recipients. You may send nominations to Shirley Loo via email (sloo@crs.loc.gov) or fax (202-252-3370). For questions, please call her at 202-707-6785. You may also contact Maria Pisa via email (mpisa@nal.usda.gov) or at 301-504-5834. Nominations must be received by April 5, 2004.
Lucille M. Rosa, Candidate for Armed Forces Director

An email arrived last week. It was very brief. "Will you consider running for an office for FAFLRT?" I replied that I was willing to run for Armed Forces Director. It's a job that needs doing. In these days of emphasis on "joint-ness" in the services, it will be a great way to keep up with what's going on in the other branches and then get the word out to all of you.

If you vote for me for this position, I will represent all of the Armed Forces Libraries on the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table Board of Directors. I will bring the concerns that you send to me to the Board for their consideration. I will keep you up to date on Library news from all of the services, which I will get from you for inclusion in the "Federal Librarian". I will do everything that I can to keep you informed.

Having been a Librarian at the Naval War College in Newport, RI, for 14+ years and President of the former Armed Forces Libraries Round Table, I have many contacts in the world of Armed Forces Libraries. I can do a great job in this position and ask that you cast your vote for me when you vote this Spring. Thank you.

Lucille M. Rosa
Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table Board: 2003-2004

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