Leadership Update

Officers for 2015:
Shannon Klug, Chair
Bailey Diers, Chair-Elect
Margit Wilson, Secretary/Treasurer
Jessica Shaykett, Past Chair

Incoming 2016 Officers:
Bailey Diers, Chair
Ginny Moran, Chair-Elect
Margit Wilson, Secretary/Treasurer
Shannon Klug, Past Chair

Brief Narrative of Activities
The ARLIS/NA-Twin Cities (ARLIS/NA-TC) Chapter had two professional meetings and two book club gatherings in 2015. We also kick-started a local mentorship program. Our fall meeting was held jointly with VRA Midwest.

1. Our winter book club meeting was held on February 26th. We discussed Sarah Thornton's examination of contemporary artists "33 Artists in 3 Acts" at Midway Contemporary Art Gallery in Minneapolis.

2. The mentorship kick off at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts on March 8, 2015 was a huge success. There were 9 pairs made and 16 attendees. Mentee/mentor pairs met for the first hour to discuss and set goals, followed by a letterpress workshop led by MCBA Director of Artist Programs Anna Boyer. Participants set type and printed text and imagery for thank you cards for the chapter. Mentorship pairs are continuing to meet on their own and can expect bi-monthly check-ins from our mentorship liaison, Jessica Shaykett.

3. The spring meeting took place on Monday, April 27th at Springboard for the Arts in Saint Paul. Agenda items included: approving fall meeting minutes; treasurer's report; ARLIS/NA Conference recap and highlights; a recap of the VRA conference in Denver; discussion of the Book Arts SIG’s Pinterest Project; Margit Wilson’s Twin Cities Artist Book Guide project; recap of the winter book club meeting and call for summer fiction titles; the upcoming SEI; and a possible joint meeting with VRA Midwest in the fall. Following the chapter business meeting, local writer and artist Andy Sturdevant provided the group with an overview of Springboard for the Arts and a tour of their resource center.
4. Our summer book club meeting was held on July 30th. We read “The Office at Night.” in 2014, Coffee House Press and the Walker Art Center co-commissioned a piece of writing inspired by Edward Hopper’s The Office at Night (owned by the Walker). It turned into a novella by Kate Bernheimer and Laird Hunt. “Taking up residence” inside the work, the writers have imagined the lives of its characters: stenographer Marge Quinn and her boss, the sometimes painter Abraham Chelikowsky.

5. We held a joint fall meeting with VRA-Midwest on October 2nd and 3rd. At our chapter meeting, we elected Ginny Moran as the new vice chair. Jessica Shaykett also updated us on the positive progress of the chapter mentor program. Margit Wilson and Kay Streng are planning to create a guide to collections of artists’ books housed within local libraries. We can expect to hear more from them in the near future. The Chapter meeting was followed by a social hour with VRA-Midwest and a Technology Petting Zoo in Anderson Hall. Attendees were also invited to an art opening at the U of MN’s Architecture Library followed by a group dinner. The following day members of VRA-Midwest and ARLIS/NA-TC met to discuss the future of their respective national organizations and their common needs and goals. Members on both sides felt that we have more in common with each other now than we did in the past. The meeting concluded with the recommendation that a task force be reinstated to re-evaluate the possibilities of a merger after the joint Seattle 2016 conference. Following the meeting, we toured the archives and caverns at Andersen Library.

Chapter accomplishments so far this year include the following:

- The chapter donated a "book to art" kit to the ARLIS/NA conference silent auction item. The kit went over well and received several bids (winning bid amount unknown). Thanks sent to Andy Sturdevant for his donation of his book Potluck Supper with Meeting to Follow, Coffee House Press for the donation of The Artist’s Library, and Jessica Pigza for the donation of her book Bibliocraft. The kit also included various art supplies and a canvas bag.
- Shannon Klug and Bailey Diers attended a Professional Associations Fair at Saint Catherine University to promote ARLIS/NA and the Twin Cities chapter.
- The Travel Award Committee awarded Bailey Diers $300 to attend the 2016 joint national conference in Seattle.

Membership Statistics
Total membership: 34 (30 in good standing)  
Full members 19 (18 in good standing), Friends 11 (8 in good standing), Students 3  
New in 2015: 10 (9 in good standing)  
Renewed in 2015: 30 (27 in good standing)

Treasurer's Report  
Balance on January 1, 2015: $674.49  
Income for 2015: + $793.25  
Expenditures for 2015: - $644.39  
Ending balance on Dec. 31, 2015: $525.63
ARLIS/NA Strategic Plan
The ARLIS/NA-TC Chapter is currently focusing on the following goals:

**Goal I-D. Provide opportunities for members to participate in shaping the role of the profession in the changing environment of art information and scholarship.**

Activity: In Fall 2013, the ARLIS/NA-TC Chapter changed the format of its meetings to provide greater professional development for members. By incorporating presentations and/or workshops into the spring and fall meetings, members now have the opportunity to learn about recent scholarship and new technologies in the field, as well as to present on new developments within their own institutions. The winter and summer book club meetings provide an opportunity for members to network outside formal meetings, and to keep abreast of both new art non-fiction (including professional articles) and fiction.

Status: Continual. The Chapter executive committee continues to identify new topics of interest to present at chapter meetings and to encourage members to present and be involved at annual ARLIS/NA conference.

**Goal II-A. Introduce additional mentoring opportunities that increase the possibilities for informal and less structured support and learning experiences for new professionals.**

Activity: A chapter mentorship kick off was held at MN Center for Book Arts on March 8, 2015. Mentee/mentor pairs met for the first hour to discuss and set goals, followed by a letterpress workshop led by MCBA Director of Artist Programs Anna Boyer. Participants set type and printed text and imagery for thank you cards for the chapter.

Status: In progress. Mentorship pairs are continuing to meet on their own and will receive bi-monthly check-ins from our mentorship liaison, Jessica Shaykett.

**Goal III-B. Foster partnerships and affiliations with other professional organizations by identifying opportunities for dialogue and collaboration**

Activity: Joint fall meeting with VRA Midwest.
Status: Completed.

Activity: Cross-promotion of ARLIS/NA-TC Chapter meetings and activities with Metronet, a state funded multitype library network. The American Craft Council hosted a "Wind Down" event sponsored by Metronet, which brought 20 librarians of all types together to learn more about art libraries in the area. Speakers included Jessica Shaykett from American Craft Council, Margit Wilson from Walker Art Center, Janice Lurie from the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Olga Ricalde from Minnesota Center for Book Arts, Katy Vonk from Midway, and Deborah Boudewyns from University of Minnesota.

**Goal IV-C. Increase awareness of the importance of unique and special collections and their significance in supporting the missions of their parent organizations**

Activity: The chapter Secretary/Treasurer (Margit Wilson), along with her mentor (Kay Streng) plan to build a resource for identifying collections of artists’ books in Twin Cities libraries. This will be roughly modeled off the Artists’ Books DC guide managed by Michelle Strizever. A preliminary list has been identified. Requests for participation and information will be sent in the early fall. The guide will be finalized Winter 2016 with the hope of sharing on the Twin Cities’ chapter’s website and promoting Spring 2016.
Goal 5-C. Continually explore ways in which to enhance the Society's virtual presence through its website and other social media

Activity: The chapter website was redesigned in 2011-2012 to better reach members and interested individuals. It now incorporates social media including Facebook, Tumblr, and Flickr, all additional ways for the chapter to reach out and connect with others. Website updates include featured local librarian/libraries and promotion of opportunities for local internships. Chapter leadership implemented online payments via PayPal this year to improve the process of membership renewals.

Status: Continual.

Issues / Requests for the Executive Board

None.

Submit electronically to:

- ARLIS/NA Headquarters: info@arlisna.org