

VIEWS

**The Newsletter of the Aural and Graphic Records
Section of the Society of American Archivists.**

Vol. 1, Number 2

August, 1987

FROM THE CHAIR

Sorry to be getting this second issue of our new newsletter to you so late but there were several things that I wanted to make sure you got in time for the annual conference in New York City. I hope this gets to those of you attending the conference before you leave.

I am including as part of this newsletter three letters that we will be discussing as part of our section's annual business meeting. Because of our tour of the NY Public Library's Art, Prints, and Photographs Division we only have a half hour for our business meeting. It would be very helpful if those attending the business meeting could be in our meeting room somewhat before our scheduled 9:00 AM meeting time so that we can begin promptly.

The first letter enclosed is from SAA Council signed by Francis Blouin and concerns our decision at last year's meeting in Chicago to change the name of our section from Aural and Graphic Records to Visual Materials. As you can see from the letter Council is concerned about the elimination of "aural records" from our name and asks that we discuss ways in which SAA can respond to those who collect sound materials. While we have already agreed to change our name, I did not change our name on the top of this newsletter. I will re-submit our request after our discussion at the business meeting.

The second letter is an announcement to subscribers of PICTURESCOPE from its editor Jonathan Heller about the suspension of publication of that important journal and the dissolution of the SLA Picture Division. Mr. Heller called me to ask if our section has any interest in supporting the publication of PICTURESCOPE. I have also been contacted by the officers of the Visual Resources Association to see how our section could help with the publication of their journal, VISUAL RESOURCES.

The third letter from Maureen O'Brien Will to members of the newly formed SAA Roundtable for MARC-VM Interest Group Members is self explanatory. I am including it for the information of those of you who are not now members of the roundtable and may be interested.

Also on the agenda is the election of section officers for next year. If you have nominations, or additional items for the agenda, please call me as soon as possible.

CONFERENCE PLANNING

Here is a selection of programs, meetings, and events of particular interest to members of the Aural and Graphic Records Section:

Wednesday, Sept. 2

1:00 - 2:30 PM CBS News Archives Tour

Thursday, Sept. 3

9:00 - 9:30 AM Aural and Graphic Records Section Business Meeting

9:30 - 9:45 AM Walk from Hyatt Hotel at Grand Central Station to the New York Public Library's Art, Prints, and Photographs Division at 5th Ave. and 42nd St.

9:45 - 11:00 AM Tour of Art, Prints, and Photographs Division at the NYPL conducted by Curator Julia Van Haften.

11:15 AM -12:45 PM MARC VM Users Roundtable

1:45 PM - MARC VM Users travel by subway to Avery Library at Columbia University to view demonstration of AVIADOR.

Friday, Sept. 4

2:30 - 3:30 PM Art and Architecture Thesaurus demonstration (Poster Session)

Saturday, Sept. 5

9:00 - 11:00 AM Art of Persuasion

9:00 - 11:00 AM Establishing a Television Newsfilm Archives

1:00 - 3:00 PM Ephemera: Improving Intellectual Access and Research Potential

1:00 - 3:00 PM Appraisal Strategies for Active Audio-Visual Records

3:30 - 5:30 PM The Archivist and the Visual Artist

Sunday, Sept. 6

9:00 - 11:00 AM Architectural Records

Locations of the above events will be listed in your "pocket program" that you will receive at conference registration. Additional announcements can be made at the Thursday morning business meeting or by contacting me at the following address:

Larry A. Viskochil, Chairman
SAA Aural and Graphic Records Section
Chicago Historical Society
Clark Street at North Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614-6099
Telephone (312) 642-4600 Ext. 20



Bentley Historical Library • The University of Michigan
1150 Beal Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-2113, Telephone: (313) 764-3482

Francis X. Blouin, Jr., Director

July 8, 1987

Larry A. Viskochil
Chicago Historical Society
Clark Street at North Ave.
Chicago, IL 60614

Dear Larry:

On behalf of the Council of the Society of American Archivists, I want to thank you for submitting such a fine report on last year's activities in the aural and graphics section. Your initiative regarding the MARC-VM format is an important and useful one. The newsletter is very informative.

The council spent a good deal of time discussing the name change for the section. In general, we saw the merits and logic of your argument. Certainly the interests of the section are primarily, if not exclusively, with visual materials. However, there was a concern among council members that a change of the name and focus of the section would essentially mean that no group exists to monitor and discuss issues relating to aural records. Are there some members of the section who could form the nucleus of a roundtable on aural records? With copyright questions looming large, with preservation and access questions constantly surfacing, and with new formats appearing, the council thinks some segment of the membership should monitor these developments.

Could you, then please resubmit your request for the change of name, with some thoughts about the matter of aural records? Again, the council is very much predisposed to act favorably on your request. Your own thoughts, and those of the section, regarding aural records would be essential as the council decides how best to deal with aural records.

Again, on behalf of all the council, many thanks to each member of the Aural and Graphic Records Section for the fine work you do.

Sincerely,

Francis X. Blouin, Jr.

FXB:dh

CC: William Joyce
Donn Neal

PICTURESCOPE

THE QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF THE PICTURE DIVISION • SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 50119 • F STREET STATION • TARIFF COMMISSION BLDG. • WASHINGTON, DC 20004

July 1, 1987

Dear Subscriber,

We regret to advise you that PICTURESCOPE has suspended publication. We apologize for past delays in publication that may have given you this idea before, but due to several factors, this is now officially the case.

The primary reason is the recent dissolution of our sponsoring organization, the Special Libraries Association Picture Division. Other ongoing problems were shortage of funds and lack of enough volunteer staff.

We apologize for any inconvenience this action may bring, but we hope that your interest in the profession will continue through other organizations and publications.

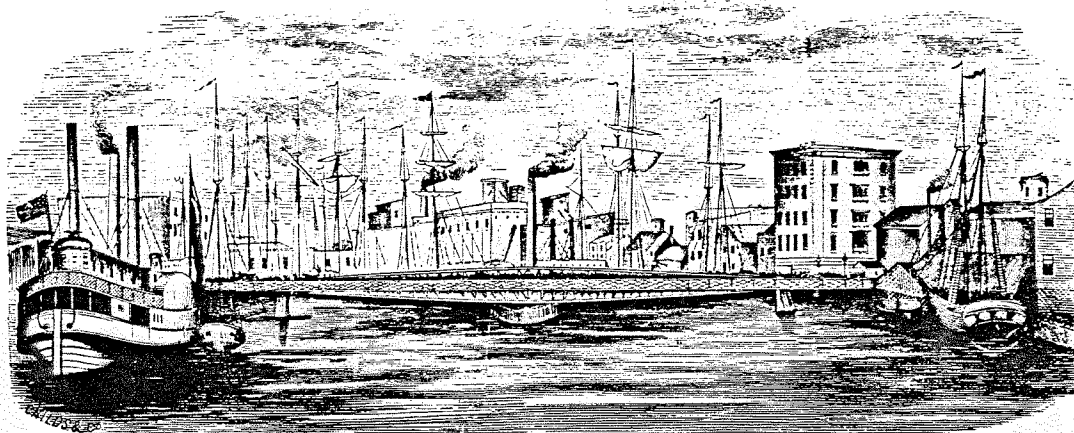
Should anyone have any suggestions about alternatives for the continuation of PICTURESCOPE, we would appreciate hearing them. Our postal address will remain open for a few more months for this and for any other inquiries.

The last issue of PICTURESCOPE is volume 32, number 4. We have a large stock of this and other back issues available for purchase. For bulk amounts there will be a substantial discount. Please write for details.

Thank you for your support in the past.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Heller
Jonathan Heller
Editor (ex)



Founded 1856

CLARK STREET BRIDGE, 1856

(312) 642-44

CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY • *Clark Street at North Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614*

July 24, 1987

TO: MARC VM Interest Group Members
FROM: Maureen O'Brien Will
RE: Recent MARC VM News

The Society of American Archivists will hold its annual conference in New York City on September 2-6. At this time the MARC VM Interest Group will assume its official status as an SAA Roundtable. We will meet on Thursday, September 3, from 11:15 to 12:45. A brief overview of the purpose and goals of the group will be presented, followed by an open discussion of MARC VM related issues. The success of the Roundtable depends on its member's input, so come prepared to share your problems and questions with other VM users. You may want to bring copies of some of your MARC records to pass around.

After the meeting, Angela Giral and Janet Parks of Columbia University have offered to host a demonstration and discussion of the Avery Library's AVIADOR project (Avery Videodisc Index of Architectural Drawings on RLIN). Those interested in traveling together by subway to Columbia should meet in the hotel lobby at 1:45. We will be leaving promptly at 1:45 so a quick lunch is in order.

In December I mentioned that the Chicago Historical Society and Gallaudet University had applied to NHPRC for funds to sponsor a conference and compendium of practice on the MARC VM format. We were recently notified that the grant has been approved and plans for a winter 1988 meeting in Washington, D.C. are now underway. Participation in the conference will be limited to those institutions that have already made a substantial commitment to the use of the MARC formats for archival visual materials. If you are currently producing full MARC records (VM or AMC) and would like to be considered for possible participation in this conference, please contact me by August 14.

I hope many of you will be able to attend SAA this year and I look forward to seeing you in New York City.