Annual Report 2008
ARLIS/NA Northern California Chapter

Submitted by:

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2008 OFFICERS
Ann Armstrong, Chair
Lisa Velarde, Vice Chair/Chair Elect
Kay Teel, Secretary/Treasurer

2009 OFFICERS
Lisa Velarde, Chair
Anna Fishaut, Vice Chair/Chair Elect
Louisa Roberts, Secretary/Treasurer

2008 MEMBERSHIP
The Northern California chapter had 48 members in 2008, including 7 students, 7 retirees, and 2 business affiliates. We believe that 28 of our 48 members were also members of ARLIS/NA.

2008 TREASURY REPORT
Our account balance at year end (12/31/08) was $1845.25. Major expenditures in 2008 included a $100 donation to ARLIS/NA for the Welcome Party at the Denver conference, $66.12 for the Membership Directory printing and mailing, a $50 donation to the Prelinger Library in San Francisco who hosted a tour in early spring.

CHAPTER MEETINGS
The Northern California chapter held two meetings this year.

SPRING MEETING
Date: Friday, June 13, 2008
Location: Anne Bremer Memorial Library, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA.
Host: Jeff Gunderson, Librarian
The spring meeting was attended by 33 people, with attendees from all over the Bay Area, ranging from Sonoma in the north to Stanford in the south, Berkeley in the east and San Francisco in the west.

The following items were addressed:

**Secretary/Treasurer’s Report**
Kay Teel gave the Secretary/Treasurer’s report which included approval of minutes from the previous meeting, updates on the membership renewal drive and the printed membership directory, and chapter finances. A joint membership directory with the Visual Resources Association was proposed.

**Reports from the ARLIS/NA Conference**
Reports from the 2008 ARLIS/NA annual conference in Denver were given by attendees Lisa Velarde and Barbara Rominski.

Lisa Velarde described the Chapter Leaders meeting and the Memberclicks database, urging everyone to update their personal profiles, including their chapter affiliation and mentioned that ARLIS/NA website had undergone changes. She reported that the ARLIS/NA mentoring program was planning on extending the program into the chapters and addressed the topic of joint meetings with other ARLIS/NA chapters, particularly a meeting with the Southern California chapter that might also serve as a regional meeting with the Mountain West Chapter. A brief discussion of joint meetings, possible venues, and interested potential attendees ensued.

Barbara Rominski, chapter member and ARLIS/NA Communications & Publications Liaison, informed us about the restructured ARLIS/NA executive board and the dissolution of Round Tables to be replaced by Special Interest Groups. She outlined the dues increases for the Society and clarified the different mentoring programs that ARLIS/NA presently has and proposes to have. She also outlined the Artists’ Files Working Group and the database they hope to have online soon.

An open discussion followed with the announcement that conference proceedings would be online.

**Announcements**
Chapter member Karen Kessel of Sonoma State University, announced her bibliographic guide to Native American Art. Peter Blank, Librarian of the Art and Architecture Library at Stanford University introduced the new Assistant Art Librarian, Anna Fishaut. A call for a Vice Chair/Chair elect for 2009 was issued.

**Retiring Chapter Member**
Andrea Segall of the Berkeley Public Library announced her retirement and that her position was open (former Chair and Chapter member Dayna Holz
attained the position). She outlined how useful the ARLIS/NA Northern California chapter had been in her career.

The meeting was followed by a tour of the San Francisco Art Institute led by Jeff Gunderson which highlighted a Diego Rivera mural. He gave a slide lecture on the history of the Institution. Chapter member Mary Marsh then presented a special project she had worked on concerning the art on the City College campus. After a Mediterranean lunch, intrepid members walked up the hill to Coit Tower to see the famous WPA-funded murals.

**FALL MEETING**
Date: Friday, November 7, 2008
Location: Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA

The following items were discussed:

**Secretary/Treasurer’s Report**
The minutes from the spring meeting were passed and Kay Teel presented her report, announcing that four new members had joined the Chapter since June. She reminded members that dues had not been increased and outlined the Chapter’s finances.

**“California Connecting to Collections Project”**
Kay Teel described this IMLS initiative which seeks to bring together institutions in each state to examine the preservation of their cultural heritage collections. She has agreed to be our liaison with this project.

**Chapter Budget**
Contributions to the annual ARLIS/NA conference and other expected expenditures were discussed. A contribution of $150 to the ARLIS/NA Conference Welcome Party was approved; $200 was set aside for the Ann Gilbert Travel Award which may be used to help a Chapter officer attend the conference.

**Regional Meeting**
Barbara Rominski, chapter member and ARLIS/NA Communications & Publications Liaison, reintroduced the possibility of hosting a regional meeting with ARLIS/NA Southern California and ARLIS/NA Mountain West Chapter. A discussion followed on logistics, funding, and probable number of attendees. Lisa Velarde volunteered to coordinate a liaison committee to communicate with the other Chapters.

**ARLIS/NA Executive Board Update**
Barbara Rominski announced that the dues increases had passed. She mentioned that the Board is keen on publicizing the benefits of membership, including that *Art Documentation* is now juried. She discussed the move of the Society’s Archives to the University of Illinois and the slate of candidates for the 2009/2010 Executive Board.
**Officer Elections**
Anna Fishaut was unanimously elected Vice Chair/Chair Elect for 2009-2010; Louisa Roberts will be Secretary/Treasurer for 2009-2010.

**Chapter Website**
Lisa Velarde announced that the website could no longer be hosted at the Academy of Art University. (It is now available at: http://arlisnanc.blogspot.com/)

The day began with 17 members taking part in a walking tour of Art Deco architecture in downtown Oakland given by Matthew Prutsman, Circulation Manager of the Environmental Design Library at UC Berkeley. The business meeting, attended by ca. 30 members took place in the cafeteria of the Oakland Museum of California and was followed by a brief tour of the museum’s art library by curator Phil Linhares. After lunch, curator Hanna Regev gave a tour of the exhibition “Banned and Recovered: Artists’ responses to Censorship”, on view at the nearby African American Museum & Library at Oakland. In the evening, some members attended Oakland’s Art Murmur event.

In addition to the formal meetings, two informal gatherings took place:

**Date:** Wednesday, March 8, 2008  
**Location:** Prelinger Library, San Francisco, CA

The Chapter’s year began with a social gathering in early spring at this independent library which houses unique and hart-to-find materials, including many objects in the public domain. Founders Rick and Megan Prelinger introduced the collection and allowed visitors to browse the stacks of books, periodicals, propaganda, ephemera and government publications.

**Date:** Thursday, August 7, 2008  
**Location:** Contemporary Jewish Museum, San Francisco, CA

17 Chapter members met in the museum’s Shenson Education Center to partake in a docent-led architecture tour of the new Daniel Libeskind-designed Contemporary Jewish Museum. Following the tour, many Chapter members took in the exhibitions, “The Art of William Steig” and “In the Beginning: Artists Respond to Genesis.” (The museum does not have a library).