

NETnews

St. Louis Regional Library Network

December 1990/ January 1991

Vol. 3 No. 3

NETWORK COUNCIL

President:

Maggie Huxhold
(Large Academic)
St. Louis Community College
Florissant Valley-Library
3400 Pershall Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63135
595-4513

Treasurer:

Laurence R. Walton
(Special Corporate)
Pet, Inc. Info Center
PO Box 392
St. Louis, MO 63102
622-6134

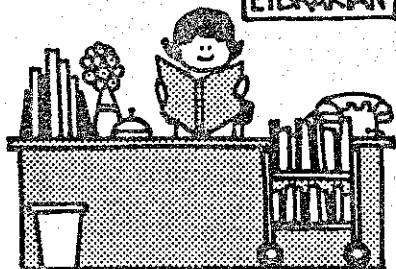
Secretary:

Linda Hulbert
(Large Health)
St. Louis University
Medical Center Library
1402 S. Grand
St. Louis, MO 63104
577-8603

NETWORK CONTACT

Bernyce Christiansen
SLRLN
9425 Big Bend
St. Louis, MO 63119
965-1305

LIBRARIAN



St. Louis Public Library's "SLIC" New Service Rings the Bell *

from ACCESS, St. Louis Public Library, November/December '90

You've heard of "Mr. Clean," but have you met "Mr. SLIC"? He's a 27-year-old library technician who at six feet looks more like a fullback than the creator of a special new department at the St. Louis Public Library. It's called St. Louis Information Center - SLIC for short.

A sharp-witted English literature major now commuting once a week to the University of Missouri at Columbia for a graduate library degree, "Mr. SLIC" is Matt Nojonen (pronounced No-ya-nin). Blessed with the kind of personality that even Dale Carnegie might envy, Nojonen was hired in 1988 to organize a resource center that could provide quick, accurate information about St. Louis' political, economic and social milieu.

From his niche behind the massive oak circulation desk at the Library's downtown headquarters, Nojonen began his task methodically calling every number listed in the Municipal Directory, the city government phone book. His mission was simple: to persuade all city offices to add SLIC to their mailing lists, so that he could build an up-to-date data base that would, via a computer index (SLIC-DEX), instantly yield a subject listing of all the materials accumulated.

Unfortunately, many whom he rang up were not so clear about Nojonen's objective as he was. At least, not at first. Some city offices had to be coaxed. But Nojonen can be as persuasive as a politician running for office, and as determined as Ralph Nader. Sometimes he played a waiting game. "My record was ten holds and seven transfers in a single office, he admits cheerfully. But eventually publications began to flow smoothly into Nojonen's cubicle. Currently, his information bank includes 65 subject entries, ranging from "Abuse and Abuse Services" through "Water". Nojonen became so captivated by the latter topic that he created a handy bookmark called "the Word on Water". It's chock-full of facts about water, including the news that the city of St. Louis pumps 440 million gallons a day, more than enough to fill 1,120 Olympic-size swimming pools.

This free bookmark and other SLIC "briefs" are available at Central Library and the neighborhood branches. Take home "St. Louis by the Numbers", for example to learn how many police officers the city has, how many vehicles, and a variety of other statistical facts of interest to marketing directors, salespeople, management consultants and the rest of us who are curious about our hometown.

(Continued on page 2)

COUNCIL

continued from page 1

REPRESENTATIVES:

Marty Knorr
(Small Academic)
Harris Stowe Library
3026 Laclede Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63103
533-3366, ext. 425

George Durnell
(Large Public)
St. Louis County
Headquarters
1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO. 63131
994-3300

Marian Junge
(Public School)
Webster Groves Jr. High Library
630 So. Elm Ave.
Webster Groves, MO 63119
961-8474

Hugh Bergman
(Private School)
CBC Library
6501 Clayton
St. Louis, MO 63117
721-1200

Carol Iglauer
(Small Health)
Deaconess Hospital
Drusch Professional Library
6150 Oakland Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63139
768-3137

Fred Moore
(Small Public)
Ferguson Municipal Public Library
108 Church St.
Ferguson, MO 63135
521-4820

Jill Gordon
(Special Not-for-Profit)
St. Louis Zoological Gardens
Library
Forest Park
St. Louis, MO 63110
781-0900

Currently, Nojonen is preparing two more publications. One will tell you all you ever wanted to know about St. Louis' seven sister cities. The other is monthly "Current Awareness Services Report" for St. Louis Library branch managers.

While doing his homework for the latter project, he has been visiting the fourteen branch managers to determine how SLIC can better serve their specific needs. Barr Branch, for example, wants crime statistics for the area surrounding its location at 1701 S. Jefferson. Carondelet seeks to expand its already rich historical neighborhood holdings.

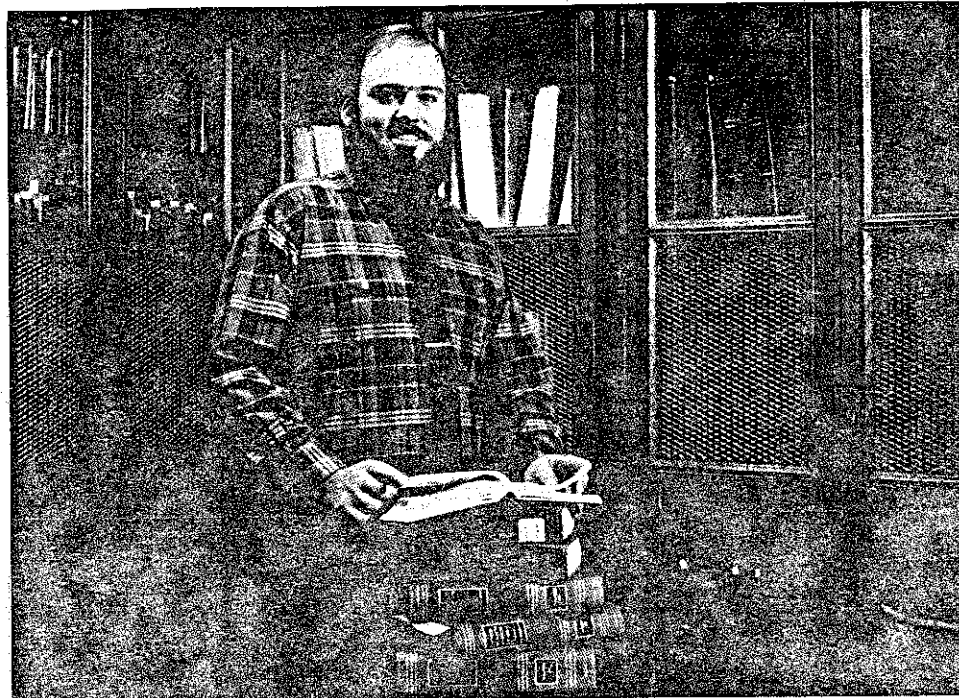
To accommodate Carondelet, Nojonen will photocopy references to this well-known community from thirty St. Louis periodicals that he regularly peruses and summarize them in a special report to the Library's manager in this neighborhood.

Nojonen also writes and edits a reference tool called "Ballot Book", which he turns to often in fielding numerous telephone questions daily. It zeroes in on election and voting information, and is updated regularly.

Nojonen is also tapping myriad other sources around town, including social organizations and regional planning groups, as he continues to expand his data base.

Last August, the St. Louis Public Library became an official depository for all City Hall publications, as a result of the passage of City Ordinance 62042. These new documents and papers will flesh out the Central Library's government holdings, which include U.S. publications from as early as the 1700s and Missouri state publications since the 1800s.

Put SLIC's telephone number (241-2288, ext. 375) in your Rolodex so that when you need current information on St. Louis, you can get the answer from the Library's expert: Matt Nojonen.



Matt Nojonen

Maplewood Public Library trades food for fines

During the week of December 17-22, 1990, the Maplewood Public Library accepted donations of food instead of money from patrons returning overdue materials. Over 150 canned and boxed goods were received during the food drive. The food was displayed in the library, and later delivered to the Maple Heights Service organization, a local food pantry.

Library Director, Terrence Donnelly, reported that the food drive was well-received by the community, and that many of those donating food had no overdue items, but simply came to the library to drop off a donation. He added that, to his knowledge, this was the first "Food for Fines" drive held in the St. Louis area.

St. Louis Technical Services Librarians' Group

presents

Training in an Automated Environment

Friday, January 18

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
at

Parkway Library Media Studio
12657 Fee Fee

Speakers:

Ellen Cummins, UHSL
Bill Wibbing, Washington U
Kathy Nystrom, St. Louis Public
Linda Terhune, Washington U
Susan Singleton, MLNC

R.S.V.P. - Ann Riley, 576-9496

FREE

35 mm microfilm

New York Times -

Jan. 1966 - June 1973

call Mary Heinbokel,
946-6294

St. Charles City County Public
Library, Linnemann Branch

A Collector's Bookshop

Generous Library Discounts

60,000 inexpensively priced older books in the shop

with 25% discount on purchases over \$100.00

2,500 titles mint condition primarily scholarly in the warehouse

discount 75% to 95% minimum purchase \$300.00
by appointment only

6275 Delmar (314) 721-6127
University City, MO 63130

INFO-PASS UPDATE

Revision:

St. Louis College of Pharmacy
OA: Suraya Coorey

Deaconess Hospital Library
Drusch Professional Library
OA: Lori Siegel

NETnews is published nine/ten times a year by the St. Louis Regional Library Network to report on Network activities, meetings, and items of interest to the membership and wider library community.

News, reviews and comments are welcome. Send information to Bernyce Christiansen, 9425 Big Bend Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63119. You may call Bernyce at the SLRLN office, (314) 965-1305.

A copy of NETnews is sent to each member. Nonmember subscriptions are \$30/year.

Acceptance of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product or service by the St. Louis Regional Library Network.



St. Louis Regional Library Network
c/o Ursuline Academy Library
341 S. Sappington Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63122

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
St. Louis, MO
Permit No. 4361

Bernyce Christiansen
Ursuline Academy Library
341 S. Sappington Rd.
St. Louis, Mo 63122