

The ATLANTIC INDEXER

Newsletter of the Mid- and South Atlantic Chapter of the American Society of Indexers

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The Atlantic Indexer (formerly The Capital Indexer) is published for and about the Mid- and South Atlantic Chapter of the American Society of Indexers

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Spring Program

WHICH PATH DID YOU FOLLOW? - UNDERSTANDING OUR INDEX DECISION MAKING

WHEN: Saturday, March 29th, 2008 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: BCC (Bethesda-Chevy Chase) Regional Services Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda, MD

It's not too late!

Even if you cannot complete the indexing exercise, YOU CAN STILL PARTICIPATE! Please don't let that stop you from joining us. Let me know if this is an issue for you and we can discuss the options.

This high quality, individualized training experience has never been offered in this area before and it's going to be a fascinating workshop for both experienced and inexperienced indexers. So send either Becky

Hornyak (rhornyak@comcast.net) or Vicki Swope (vswope@keystoneindexing.com) an email today to let us know you want to attend or with any questions.

More details about the workshop can be found on the chapter website under scheduled meetings (msa@msasindexing.org).

Directions From I-495, take the Wisconsin Avenue exit south toward Bethesda. Just past the campus of the National Institutes of Health, on your right, and the Naval Medical Center, on your left, veer right onto Woodmont Road. Follow Woodmont Road for several blocks, moving into the left lane. After you cross Old Georgetown Road, turn left into the parking garage of our building. If you miss the garage entrance, try to make the next left turn onto Edgemoor Lane. There is another garage entrance on Edgemoor Lane. Parking should be free on Saturday, but bring some quarters just in case.

METRO: Fare to the Bethesda Station, on Metro's Red Line, is \$2-/+ one-way from most other Metro stations. Find Metro information at www.wmata.com. The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center is located in a plaza-like setting inside 4805 Edgemoor Lane. Access to the plaza is available through elevators (go to level 2) from the parking garage below the building, stairwells from street level at the northeast and southwest corners of the building, and two pedestrian bridges, one over Old Georgetown Road and the other over Edgemoor Lane, conveniently connecting the B-CC RSC to the Bethesda Station on Metro's Red Line



Elections 2008-2009

It's time to vote again! Please watch your e-mail for an electronic ballot.

Positions up for election are the Vice-Chair/Chair Elect, Treasurer and Secretary. Suzi Kaplan will take her place as Chairperson and Vicki Swope will become the immediate past-chair. Brief biographies about the nominees for Vice-Chair/Chair-elect, Treasurer, and Secretary follow.

Results of this election will be announced in upcoming chapter communications.

2008-2009 Slate of Candidates

For Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Connie Binder

Connie Binder lives in Laurel, Maryland, and has been a freelance indexer since 1998. A member of ASI for many years, it is only recently that she began attending conferences and meetings. She has found the continuing education opportunities and social networking tremendously rewarding. She looks forward to getting other indexers involved in our chapter, and meeting with one another in person. Connie holds a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology from Michigan State University and an MLS in Library and Information Services from the University of Maryland.

For Treasurer: Becky Hornyak

Becky is the current Treasurer. She has been indexing for 11 years, nine of them as a full-time freelancer. She has lived in Virginia almost 6 years, and served on the Nominations Committee for this chapter in 2005. She is from Indiana, where she was active in the Heartland Chapter, serving as secretary, vice-president, and president. She was editor of the ASI book Indexing Specialties: Psychology, and has made presentations at ASI conferences.

For Secretary: Bonnie Hanks

Bonnie is a freelance indexer in Virginia where she lives on a farm with her husband, horses, and dogs. Before indexing Bonnie was a school librarian and, before that, an R.N. Education includes a diploma in Nursing from St. Luke's School of Nursing, an A.B. from Duke University in English Literature, and an M.S. in Information Sciences from the University of Tennessee.

Membership Corner

Welcome to our new members!

Ellen Betts	Lexington, SC		Judith McConville	Sharon, PA
Diane Bicjan	Laurel, MD		April Lindsey	Asheboro, NC
Hope Bludworth	Falls Church, VA		Taylor Fleet	Alexandria, VA
Howard Hosmer	Baltimore, MD		Dasa York	Raleigh, NC

FEBRUARY ROUND TABLE REPORT

-- Suzi Kaplan, MSA Vice-Chair

Takoma Park (MD) Public Library's Children's Librarian, Karen MacPherson, met with our group during the February 29 MSA-ASI round table. In addressing our group, Librarian MacPherson stressed the critical importance of the inclusion of indexes in children's books. Taking us through time, MacPherson demonstrated the improvement of children's book publishing from 1950's era biographies consisting of fictionalized conversations with their subjects and no indexes to today's well-written, well-indexed picture books.

Today's typical book for children includes thirty-two pages with pictures and text. Sadly, although many do, most children's books published today still do not include an index. MacPherson points to 1990's Nonfiction for Young Adults: From Delight to Wisdom* as the most recent scholarly work to call upon the industry to publish nonfiction for children as rigorously researched and written as that for adults.

A more recent attempt to encourage attention to indexes for children's books is the American Library Association's Robert F. Sibert *Informational Book Award*. The *Sibert Award* is designed to draw "attention to fascinating content, but, perhaps more importantly, ... to high standards in the presentation of that content." The Sibert Award was first presented in 2001 for a books published during 2000. MacPherson presented an example of a well-written children's book that might have, but could not, win the award. Diane McWhorter's 2001 Pulitzer Prize winning Carry Me Home: Birmingham, Alabama: the Climactic Battle of the Civil Rights Revolution is an excellent example of a well-researched, well-written and well-indexed work of nonfiction. The children's version of this book, A Dream of Freedom, is also well written by McWhorter; however, it lacks any of the bibliographic references available in the adult text and, in comparison to the original, is very poorly indexed.

Throughout her discussions with our round table group, MacPherson continued to stress the critical importance to Librarians and libraries of indexes in books. MacPherson has too frequently experienced the all common dilemma of Librarians trying to assist patrons – even the youngest ones -- with research, the dilemma of being unable to do so for lack of an index, a good index or bibliographic references.

With the little time that remained, our group worked with Colleen DiPaul's pro bono publico index to the Iraq Study Group Report.

Our host at the Takoma Public Library, local resident Colleen DiPaul, arranged the wonderful meeting space for us and treated the group to a delicious array of breakfast pastries and drinks.

For the next MSA-ASI Round Table, we're searching for a place to meet in the Rockville/Gaithersburg/Germantown area. Information will be forthcoming!

*Nonfiction for Young Adults: From Delight to Wisdom (Oryx Press:1990) Betty Carter & Richard F. Abrahamson

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