Remembering Papa Lyman

Karen Schmidt Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, karens@uiuc.edu

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2006 Charleston Conference — 26th Annual Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition

Call For Papers, Ideas, Panels, Debates, Diatribes, Speakers, Poster Sessions, Preconferences, etc. ...  

2006 Conference Theme — “Unintended Consequences” 
Wednesday, November 8, 2006 — Preconferences and Vendor Showcase Thursday-Saturday, November 9-11, 2006 — Main Conference Francis Marion Hotel, 387 King Street, Charleston, SC 29403

If you are interested in leading a discussion, acting as a moderator, coordinating a lively lunch, or would like to make sure we discuss a particular topic, please let us know. The Charleston Conference prides itself on creativity, innovation, flexibility, and informality. If there is something you are interested in doing, please try it out on us. We’ll probably love it...

The Conference Directors for the 2006 Charleston Conference include — Beth Bernhardt, Principal Director (UNC-Greensboro) <beth.bernhardt@uncg.edu>, Glenda Alvin <galvin@tnstate.edu>, Chris Ferguson (Furman University) <cris.ferguson@furman.edu>, David Goodman <dgoodyear@jilu.edu>, Chuck Haman <chuhaman@wisc.edu>, Heidi Hoerman <hoerman@se.edu>, Ramune Kubilus (Northwestern Health Sciences Library) <kubilus@northwestern.edu>, Heather Miller (SUNY-Albany) <hmiller@uamail.albany.edu>, Jack Montgomery (Western Kentucky University) <jjack.montgomery@wku.edu>, Audrey Powers (UFS Tampa Library) <rpowers@lib.usf.edu>, John Perry Smith (Total Information Inc.) <jps@totalinfo.com>, Anthony Watsonson (Consultant) <anthony.watkinson@bopenworld.com>, Katina Strauch (College of Charleston) <ksrauch@comcast.net> or www.katina.info/conference. Send ideas by June 30, 2006, to any of the Conference Directors listed above. Or to: Katina Strauch, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409 843-722-3536 (voice) 843-705-7918 (fax) 843-509-2848 (cell) <ksrauch@comcast.net> http://www.katina.info/conference

Rachel K. Schenk Memorial Scholarship

This year the fourth Rachel K. Schenk Memorial Scholarship of $1,200 will be awarded to the person who has demonstrated a true love of books. There are three requirements:

1) The applicant must write an essay of no more than 600 words on “my love of books.”
2) The applicant must be a librarian with a library degree.
3) The applicant must be a first-time attendee to the Charleston Conference for 2006.

Please note: The Rachel K. Schenk Memorial Scholarship was to be given for a total of five years with an award of $1,200 per year. This is the fourth year, so if you don’t get it this year, there is always next year.

Deadline for application is August 20, 2006. For more information, visit http://www.katina.info/conference/scholarship.html or contact <ksrauch@comcast.net>

Remembering Papa Lyman

20 September 2005 — Lyman W. Newlin

Remembrance by Karen Schmidt, Ph.D. (Associate University Librarian for Collections, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1408 W. Gregory Dr., Suite 246E, Urbana, IL 61801; Phone: 217-244-2070; Fax: 217-244-4358) <karen@uiuc.edu>

I have been trying to remember the circumstances under which I met Lyman Newlin, and I cannot. It is sufficient to say that he was part of the fabric of the library acquisitions, publishing and book-selling world. As a young librarian, I knew instinctively that he was an icon, a man full of history that he shared freely and someone who was held in high regard by many. He delighed in telling stories of the early days of book-selling, and as someone who loves and respects our history, I soaked it all up.

At some point, our professional relationship developed into a friendship. Maybe it was because of his roots in Illinois, where I live, or the fact that I was a Niagara Falls girl born and bred, and lived in Lewiston when I was young, where Lyman and his family resided. Maybe it was because, as he delighted to tell me, he liked blondes! “My wife is blonde, you know,” he would always say.

When my son Jacob was born, Lyman became his honorary grandfather. My own father had passed away and my feelings of family and friendship toward Lyman made him an instant choice in a role that he happily accepted. One day, a package arrived at our house, a present for baby Jacob. I had to laugh when I saw that Lyman had sent him a little “Lyman Suit,” with navy trousers, a white shirt, a vest and a tiny bowtie. Every time I see that outfit, I see Lyman and smile. Over the years, Lyman kept me supplied with wild rice, and sent me Canadian goodies that I had grown up with, tea and jams and biscuits. He was the first person I would look for on the exhibit floor at ALA, following the reports of a “Lyman sighting” as he moved through the hall conferring with his many many friends. It wasn’t a good conference until I had caught up with him and given him a hug and an update on my family, and showed him pictures, or sometimes brought the boys with me.

I often wonder what Lyman thought about all the changes that we are facing, the shifts in our universe of libraries and publishing. Whatever may have thought, the fundamental essence of Lyman and what he stood for transcends all of that: his honesty, commitment to ethical behavior, and his respect for others. He was a wonderful mentor to me and many others in the things that matter the most. I am grateful for the gift of traveling with him a distance in this life.

Dear Papa Lyman… Well done, Thou good and faithful servant. With love and respect,
Karen Schmidt & family ✿

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