



# staff news

## December Peer to Peer Dialog This Week

Please join us for the next Peer to Peer Library Dialog on Wednesday, December 5, at 12:30 p.m., in the 1916 Room, ES Bird Library. Discussion will focus on "Library Policy and Access to Information During Wartime." Syracuse University Librarian Peter Graham will facilitate the discussion.

The following materials are available at the Reserve Desk, second floor of ES Bird Library, under LBR 100: Peer-to-Peer Discussion Group. Electronic versions of the first two articles may be obtained through Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe:

- Lichtblau, Eric. "Response to Terror; Rising Fears That What We Do Know Can Hurt Us." *Los Angeles Times*. 11/18/01, Part A; Part 1, p. 1
- "Cheating History." *New York Times*. 11/15/01. Section A, p. 30
- American Library Association Washington Office: <http://www.ala.org/washoff>. Click on *October 2: Library Community Statement on Proposed Anti-Terrorism Measures* (pdf file)
- Presidential Records Act Executive Order - <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2001/11/2001101-12.html>

As always, no homework is required! Please bring a brown bag lunch, and join us for a lively debate!

Wendy Bousfield, Reference Department

## In Brief

... news about our staff



**Dorcas MacDonald** informs us that the Onondaga Civic Symphony Orchestra will present their annual holiday concert on Monday, December 17, 2001 at 8:00 pm in the auditorium of Wellwood Middle School, Fayetteville, NY. The concert is under the direction of Erik Kibelsbeck and will feature works of Wagner, Tchaikovski, Vaughn Williams and Anderson. The suggested donation at the door is \$5.00; students are free. Come get in the festive spirit and enjoy a variety of holiday treats! For further information about the orchestra, visit their website at <http://community.syracuse.com/cc/onsymph>.

**John Olson**, Maps/GIS Librarian, attended the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual New York GIS Conference on October 29 and 30, 2001, in Albany, New York. The conference was attended by more than 470 individuals from 13 states and 3 Canadian provinces. Topics included Copyrights and Government Data, GIS Challenges in New York City, Wireless GIS, and Interactive Mapping.

## From the



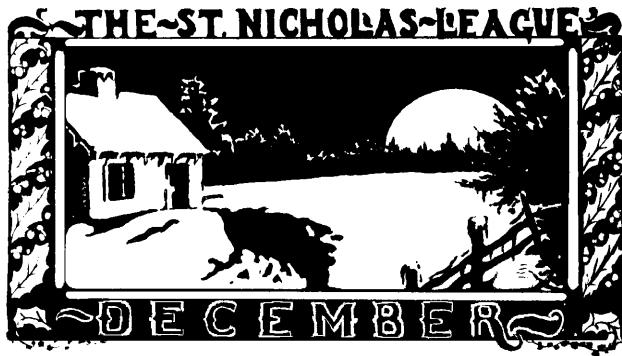
Every now and then, the skills of our Library staff are publicly recognized in the acknowledgements of published books and journals. We encourage staff members to send copies of such acknowledgements, with citations, to *Staff News*. Let's initiate this kind of recognition with the following very generous acknowledgement by Isabelle Hyman, whom many of you know has been working for almost a decade with our Special Collections staff on her just-published book:

To David H. Stam, former director of the Syracuse University Library, and the staff at the library and at the Department of Special Collections, especially Kathleen Manwaring, Mark F. Weimer, Carolyn A. Davis, Barbara Ann Opar, Peter Verheyen, David Boda, and their assistants. The help given at Syracuse University Library to researchers and visiting scholars is celebrated among those who use its resources. It was my good fortune there to become the "charge" of Kathleen Manwaring, archives and manuscripts supervisor, whom I think of as chief angel in research heaven and who must be singled out for her exceptional assistance and for her professional and personal hospitality.

Isabel Hyman, *Marcel Breuer, Architect: the Career and the Buildings* (New York: Harry Abrams, 2001).

Peter Graham, University Librarian





## BOOK OF THE MONTH

Charles Dickens. *A Christmas Carol* (1843), *The Chimes* (1844), *The Cricket on the Hearth* (1845), *The Battle of Life* (1846), *The Haunted Man* (1848).

Although Dickens wrote his five Christmas books out of a need for money, they quickly came to have special meaning for him. *A Christmas Carol*, in particular, seemed to him “a perfect little whole,” and established his place with his public as the “apostle of Christmas.” He felt a real need to fulfill this role, and thus, after the failure of the last two books, he began his popular magazine *Household Words* to bring joy to Christmas firesides. For eighteen years he produced Christmas stories that harkened back to the wonder and meaning he had so vividly set forth in the famous *A Christmas Carol*. Today, over 150 years later, Dickens still reigns as the “apostle of Christmas,” and his works still bring that special sense of holiday spirit.

**SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY**  
Department of Special Collections

*Staff News* is a bi-weekly publication of the Syracuse University Library. All contributions are subject to administrative approval.

Editor: Terry Belzak

Editorial Assistant: Edward Gokey

Telephone: x5533; [tabelzak@library.syr.edu](mailto:tabelzak@library.syr.edu).

## Join the Holiday Fun

On behalf of the “special events” planning committee at SUL, Cynthia Needham of the Reference Department sent a brief memo to all staff regarding plans for decorating ES Bird Library for the traditional holidays that are celebrated during this time of year.

Anyone who might be interested is asked to consider donating an ornament to decorate a large tree that will be displayed near the soft-seating area, just opposite the Circulation Desk on the first floor of ES Bird Library. In addition, if you wish to bring in an item that recognizes a tradition you celebrate during the winter months, Kwanza or Hanukkah for example, bring ornaments and traditional items to ES Bird Library, Reference Department, and leave them with the Office Supervisor, Donna Sullivan. The decorating committee will do its best to incorporate these items into the decorative scheme for the main lobby of the Library.

Finally, the SUL Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, December 20 from 11:45 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., and will be held in the 1916 Room of ES Bird Library. We thought a little entertainment might be nice this year. If anyone is interested in singing or playing an instrument for the party, we are formulating a choral group for this special occasion. A 45-minute rehearsal is planned at 10:00 a.m. in the 1916 Room on the morning of the party. Bring some of your favorite songs for the season and we will decide what we can perform together without embarrassing ourselves too badly! Happy Holidays!

*Cynthia Needham, Reference Department*

---

## Dickens with a Twist

Appleseed Productions will present the classic Dickens Christmas tale *A Christmas Carol*, with a small twist. My good friend Joanne Simiele and my niece Lisa Coombs are both in the show and asked me to spread the word.

As the show opens, the players discover that cast members are missing and volunteers must be solicited from the audience to go on with the performance. It is strictly volunteer, so no one will be pressured. You simply walk up to the stage and take the costume.

I went to a dress rehearsal and practiced with them as a volunteer. I played a role that not many women can claim, since only women volunteers showed up. I was Bob Cratchet (Tiny Tim’s dad) for the evening. I had a great time and I know firsthand that it’s a great show. Hope you find time to fit it into your holiday schedule.

The show will be held on December 7, 8, 14 and 15 at 8:00 p.m. and December 9 at 2:00 p.m. Appleseed Productions is located off S. Salina St., four blocks north of the Salina St. (Rt. 11) and Seneca Tpk (Rte. 173) intersection, in the Atonement Lutheran Church. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. Call 492-9766 for reservations or e-mail [AppleseedProd@bigfoot.com](mailto:AppleseedProd@bigfoot.com).

*Jan Coombs, Preservation Department*