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President's Letter

Sue Ann Chui

Dear WAAC Members,

I hope everyone has had a good transition from summer to fall. This transition also marks wildfire season again, unfortunately. Please stay safe!

As the 45th Annual Meeting in Los Angeles is later than usual this year, November 6-8, I get to write about what you can expect instead of summarizing what transpired. Before I get to those details, I hope most of you who plan to attend have registered for the meeting and made lodging arrangements. Late registration kicks in after October 18th, and the special conference rate at the Hotel Angeleno is good through October 21st.

Since the meeting is like a two-and-a half day general session, we have wide ranging paper topics from Mary Corse to magnets, from wall paintings to a new method of wood identification. You get the picture – there's something for everyone. As several of the submissions grouped quite well together, we organized three panel sessions with shorter talks on the themes of collaboration, libraries, and gels. In all, there will be 26 talks, with an additional keynote address by Melody Kanschat, Executive Director of the Getty Leadership Institute (GLI) at Claremont Graduate University, and a presentation from our major sponsor BELFOR Property Restoration.

This year's meeting has a great group of sponsors: Belfor, Foster + Freeman, Getty Conservation Institute, Gamblin, Golden, Hiromi Paper, Hollinger Metal Edge, SmallCorp, Takiya, TruVue, and University Products. Almost all of them will have a representative in attendance, so you will have a fantastic opportunity to interact directly with some of your favorite vendors as well as be introduced to new ones. Instead of a silent auction this year, there will be door prizes donated by many of our fabulous sponsors. Attendees will also receive discounts at the Getty Museum gift shop and at Hiromi.

As part of the meeting, there will be many optional activities before and after. The pre-conference microfade testing workshop, the first one on the west coast, has proved to be very popular and now is full. This year's Community Partnership Project (formerly known as the Angels Project) is at the June L. Mazer Archives, "the largest major archive on the west coast dedicated to preserving and promoting lesbian and feminist history and culture." If those don't float your boat, there is a tour of the Getty Conservation Institute laboratories. Remember as well, there is the whole city of Los Angeles to dive into, and you can get some ideas from the WAAC guide to LA on the Meetings page of our website.

We will have a two-hour break between the morning and afternoon sessions, so you have time to eat lunch, and sign-up for a tour or explore the Getty Center on your own. You may opt in for one or both tours of the outdoor sculpture collection, one focusing on unpainted sculpture and the other on painted; and there will be tours led by curators of the photography and special exhibitions. At the reception, you won't want to miss the special entertainment we have arranged. If you don't have plans for dinner on Thursday evening, please join us for a Persian feast at Flame International.

After the meeting you can choose from several activities: abook arts workshop, Getty Museum conservation lab tours at the Center; and since the last newsletter, these were added: exterior tour of the Eames House, tours of the Getty Villa

Contents

President's Letter	1
Membership	2
Regional News	3
Solvents and Hansen Space in the MCP, something new and useful	11
<i>by Chris Stavroudis with Juliana Ly and Donna Williams</i>	
The Universal Language of Collections Care	16
<i>by Joanna Hurd and Natalya Swanson</i>	
Jobs	18
Publications	19
AYMHM	19

Due to all manner of circumstances, this issue is coming out very late. My very sincere apologies to all. It will be left to our next President, Tricia O'Regan, to fill you in on the terrific meeting.

The Editor

President's letter, continued

conservation labs, and the UCLA Library Conservation Center. Which one will you choose?

Before I pass the torch to vice president Tricia O'Regan who will succeed me at the end of the annual meeting, I need to say a huge thank you to a wonderful board for making serving WAAC so enjoyable and so rewarding. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve as president. You can see who we are on the leadership page of our beautiful new website managed by web editor Justin Johnson with assistance from webmaster Jennifer McGlinchey Sexton. Since you may not have a digital device right in front of you, in addition to those mentioned above, thanks go to: outgoing members-at-large Trish Brewer, Rowan Geiger, and continuing MAL's Anne Getts, and Jacinta Johnson; *Newsletter* editor Carolyn Tallent; social media liason Christina O'Connell; fulfillments Donna Williams; and *Newsletter* copy editor Wendy Partridge. A special shout-out goes to Susanne Friend, who recently stepped down as mid-year meeting coordinator, for her delicious years of service to the WAAC Board. And finally, I extend tremendous gratitude to my meeting co-planners secretary Michelle Sullivan and treasurer Chris Stavroudis. WAAC wouldn't be here without you, so kudos to you all!

As in my previous letters, I conclude with some proverbial food for thought. Lately I've been asking myself "How can I make the world a better place?" because I believe doing something positive is an antidote to all the negatively that, unfortunately, surrounds us. As conservators I know we all make the world a better place by protecting our shared cultural heritage. Along those lines, you could also ask yourself, "What can I do to make someone's day better?" Small acts of kindness add up and are good not only for the receiver, but the giver as well - a win-win situation. So please, try to make someone's day better today and every day!

With all best wishes,
Sue Ann

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