As I look back on this year, I wonder where the time has gone. It seems like only a few short weeks ago that I began my term as President and now the year is nearly over! It has been a rewarding experience for me and I am grateful for a great group of Board members with which I worked.

I want to say a special thank you to Celia Bakke for her assistance throughout the year. Most new presidents rely on the former president for help and, in this case, I was no exception. Celia's involvement with CLA and with Technical Services concerns has been long term. She is a great role model for me. If you seek a role model, get to know Celia.

John de La Fontaine carried a heavy load as Program Chair. Almost 1,000 people attended Section-sponsored regional programs this year! You rewarded his hard work by electing him President Elect! Under John's leadership, we can look forward to a Section that continues to emphasize continuing education throughout the state.

The enthusiasm and participation of those attending last year's business meeting was inspiring. The Executive Committee chairs felt empowered and planned a year filled with workshops both statewide and at the annual conference. CLA provided a stable foundation from which Section activities were based. The momentum provided by the members was enormous.

In November of 1993, the membership approved the new by-laws for the Section. They allow for the formation of interest groups under the umbrella of the Section. It had been my hope to establish at least one interest group during my tenure. It seems appropriate that the ACTS Section consider a Collection Development Interest Group, a Support Services Interest Group, an Inter-Library Loan Interest Group, Audio Visual Services Interest Group, and perhaps an Access to Non-English Language Materials Interest Group. What do you as members think of this? Let me know at the Business Meeting.

At my suggestion, the Executive Board is considering establishing an ACTS Section fellowship, similar to the Reference Service Press Fellowship. I would like to encourage college seniors, college graduates, or a beginning library school student to prepare for a career in Technical or Access Services. It will be discussed at the Anaheim conference at the Executive Committee meeting. Let me or other Executive Committee members know what you think of this idea.

As many of you recall, when CLA reorganized, the Section inherited from the former Chapter a sizeable treasury. This year, that treasury was used to underwrite the cost of several regional programs. We wanted to encourage attendance and give back to the membership value for its dollar. Although this may no longer be possible and our future programs may have to be self-sufficient, it is the hope of the Section executive board that we spent Section money wisely this year.

This timely issue of Tech Notes has been produced to share with you the highlights of the upcoming 1994 Conference and reports of regional programs presented this year. The lineup of conference programs of interest to this group is impressive. This is a conference not to be missed. The Pre-Conference Institutes focus on Acquisitions, Subject Cataloging, and Reengineering Technical Services. You will receive a post-conference issue of Tech Notes that will summarize all these presentations.

CLA remains the single state-wide organization where you can network with other library professionals in areas of interest to you. CLA is multi-type and has something for everyone no matter what the size of your library. It has much to share and much for you to learn and the annual conference is the best place for this to take place. I know you want to attend the programs, visit the exhibits, and join us at the business meeting for breakfast (Sunday, 8:00 a.m.) to help plan another great year for the Access, Collections, and Technical Services Section. See you in Anaheim!
INCOMING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
Stephanie Beverage

Hello everyone! I wanted to take this opportunity to reintroduce myself to you and to consider the coming year for ACTSS. The Section is in very good shape. Our finances are in good order, and will continue to support all our good programming efforts. The Section Treasury is now entirely in the hands of CLA, but we do have discretionary rights to the money from the old Technical Services Chapter.

The past year saw an impressive lineup of programs on issues of importance for the entire library community. The upcoming CLA conference programs will continue this trend. I want to extend my thanks to the outgoing Executive Board for all their good work. They will be a hard act to follow. But because of their outstanding efforts, the Section is in the position to continue to address the needs of Technical Services staff in California. I personally want to extend special thanks to Celia Bakke, who played such a significant role in the reorganization of the Section, and to Nancy Neal, who has set an incredibly high standard for the office of President.

I am looking forward to another year of excellent programming, that will help everyone enhance their skills and expertise in our ever changing field. I am looking forward to working with the new officers as we continue to move ahead. My job will be much easier because of the excellent foundation laid over the past two years.

But we can's continue to grow and improve without your participation. I want to encourage all section members to actively participate in ACTSS programs and meetings. I want you to know what you want and what to expect from the Section. After all, ACTSS is defined by its members. It is all of us working together.

REPORT ON THE TREASURY  
Stephanie Beverage

The Section bank account has been transferred to CLA, into a separate special account. The Section is drafting spending guidelines for this new account, so that we continue to have control over money from the old Technical Services Chapter. This special account will allow us to maintain some flexibility in our spending and reimbursements. The money from the old chapter will help continue to maintain the high standards of programming that we have set for ourselves. But since all the section money is now handled through CLA, we will have to use CLA procedures for reimbursement.

UPCOMING CLA PROGRAMS  
Stephanie Beverage

This year's conference in Anaheim looks to be one of the best of the past few years. ACTSS has an impressive lineup of programs--mark your calendars, because you won't want to miss any of them. Most of the programs are scheduled for the weekend, starting on Saturday. "The Network that ate the OPAC: Adventures in Interconnectivity" is the first program, on Saturday, at 2 p.m. Come and hear about the variety of networking opportunities available to libraries.

Sunday is the busiest day for the Section, starting with our business meeting at 8 a.m. Do make an effort to come to this open meeting. This is the forum to make your ideas and views known, and the incoming officers want and need your input for the next year. Your participation is crucial. We will be serving a continental breakfast as additional incentive.

Then the day continues with, "Do Knowbots Dream of Electronic Sheep?: Defining Selection in the Electronic Universe," where the speaker will consider the new demands on collection development in the expanding information universe. "Snowbots" is Sunday morning at 10 a.m. "Honey, I Shrunk the Department" follows at noon, and will offer insights into "downsizing", "rightsizing" and "retooling". Then, at 2 p.m., ACTSS has the distinct honor of having ALA candidate Michael Gorman speak on the Future of the Book, and the Book of the Future.

And don't forget the talk table on Monday at 10 a.m. on cross training public and technical services staff. All in all the list of programs is terrific, so mark your calendars now and be sure not to miss any of the meetings.

BREAKFAST BUSINESS MEETING  
Nancy Neal

Is food an attraction for you? The Section hopes to entice you to attend and participate in the annual business meeting by serving up a continental breakfast as well as the news of the Section. The meeting is scheduled for 8:00 a.m. Sunday at the conference hotel. Baker & Taylor is underwriting some of the cost of the breakfast.

The business meeting is an especially good opportunity to meet and thank the officers and committee members for their efforts and throughout the year and volunteer your ideas for the Section for next year.

Bring your appetite, your enthusiasm, and your ideas to the meeting. You will want to attend the conference "Kick Off" with Digby Diel at 9 a.m. Why not get up a little earlier, get a good parking place if you are driving, and break your fast with others in your ilk? We'll help to awaken you.
SUMMARY OF 1994 PROGRAMS
John de La Fontaine

This year’s ACTSS programing started off quite rocky -- quite literally as our first program took place one week after the Northridge earthquake. Despite the shaking and aftershocks, we had 27 attendees at “Do I really need Authority Control,” a program which took place at Chapman University, Orange. The two speakers, Irene Hunt from Palos Verdes Library District and Maggy Horn from U.C. Davis, gave excellent presentations which included the nitty gritty details of a successful project implementing rigorous authority control in a public library as well as practical examples of what happens when we do not have any authority enforcement. This program was repeated in February at the Fairfield Community Library and 37 attendees gave rave reviews.

Our outgoing Section President, Nancy Neel, put in a lot of work coordinating a Cataloging and Database Quality Seminar which we co-sponsored with OCLC Pacific, the Oregon Library Association’s Technical Services Group and the Washington Library Association’s Technical Services Group. The seminar was entitled “Doing it Right the First Time -- Under Pressure” and it took place in May in Portland, San Francisco, and Oceanside. Karen Calthoun from OCLC discussed reports on quality control and on a recent investigation of record editing practices among OCLC members. The seminar was extremely well attended. Kudos to Nancy!

A much discussed trend in today’s workplace, Outsourcing, was the topic for two programs we held in June. The northern session took place at St. Mary’s College and had 40 attendees. 75 attendees came to the southern session at the Scripps Ranch Branch of the San Diego Public Library. Harold Schleifer, Director of Libraries at Cal Poly Pomona, began each session with an introduction to the concept of outsourcing in general focusing in on libraries and his own library’s experience in contracting out its shelving. Maryl Telegdy of the Napa City/County Library covered the area of having materials preprocessed before they reach the library. The major advantage of using a preprocessor is that a book gets on the shelf faster. Disadvantages to using outside processing arise when the item needs to be relabeled.

At the southern session, Richard Watts of the San Bernardino County Library discussed quite frankly his library’s difficulties in their pioneering efforts in preprocessing. Contracted cataloging is the area of primary focus in discussions about library outsourcing. Math Thomas of the Stockton/San Joaquin County Public Library addressed the northern session with reflections on the discussions held at ALA Midwinter regarding trends in cataloging standards. Kit Herlihy of Cal State San Marcos spoke of her experiences as a cataloger being on the receiving end of the Opening Day collection and the accompanying Tech Pro cataloging records. Also in San Diego we had a special guest in the person of Linda Davis, the sales manager for the Electronic Scriptorium. This is a company that does contract cataloging and the vast majority of this work is done by monks, cloaks and all! The advantage of using such a labor force is their devotion to quality. Linda addressed the categories of questions to ask to include when considering contract cataloging. Bob Schatz of the Academic Book Center spoke in San Diego on the impact of outsourcing on book vendors. How is the vendor to function being the gatekeeper for acquiring for libraries? Stephen Pugh of Yankee Book Peddlers was the last speaker at the northern session, literally having just stepped off an airplane from Iowa! Mr. Pugh stressed that a strategic analysis be undertaken and that reasonable candidates for outsourcing are those things which are not too key to the focus of the library.

In the works is a demonstration of the LC Cataloger’s Desktop to be held in both the North and the South.

Many thanks to the Program Committee members, Roy Ortopan, Maryl Telegdy, Judith Sherwood, Marcia Whipple, and Derry Juneja for their support and hard work in making these programs so successful.

EDITOR’S NOTE
Christopher Thomas

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue. If you have any questions, suggestions, or complaints regarding Tech Notes or you would like to submit an article for a future issue, please address your communications to cthomas@pepperdine.edu, or Christopher Thomas, Payson Library, Pepperdine University, 24255 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu, CA., 90263.