



Vol. 20, No. 2, Winter 1996

ISSN 0229-2645

# NEWS *letter* NOUV *elles*

ASSOCIATION DES BIBLIOTECHNICIENS DE L'ONTARIO

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NEWSLETTER/NOUVELLES is published three times per year, Fall, Winter and Spring, and is available with membership in the Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des Bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario. Editorial views or contributors opinions do not necessarily reflect the official policies and opinions of the OALT/ABO.

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## From the Editor

On behalf of the OALT/ABO Executive I extend a Happy New Year to all our members. This year the OALT/ABO Executive has undertaken to bring the association forward through initiating new directions as part of an ongoing need to serve the membership. Because of these initiatives, I call upon each and everyone of you to set aside some time to actively engage yourself in the newly formed committees of the OALT/ABO, as well as contribute whatever possible to *Newsletter/Nouvelles*.

This issue of *Newsletter/Nouvelles* is being dedicated to the Internet. As the buzz word for our profession, as well as its penetration into mainstream society, the Internet will play a significant role for library technicians. The responses I received via the Internet for this issue of *Newsletter/Nouvelles* were a pleasant and delightful addition. These included both the Letters to the Editor by Steven Bergson, as well as our President's Message by Susan Bourdeau. Not only does it save time, but it also saves money for postage and most importantly it gives you, as a contributor, your say directly from your computer to mine.

The Internet feature articles in *Newsletter/Nouvelles* deal directly with our profession

and give a worthwhile perspective of what library technicians can look forward to in accessing the 'Net'.

Also included in this issue are numerous sites on the Internet, which deal directly with cataloguing, electronic journals and accessible catalogues. Angela Carito-Walmsley has surfed the 'Net' and has revealed some library related Internet sites that alone can make our work as library technicians easier and more productive. As a follow-up to Angela's work, I would like to extend to our membership an open invitation to send me, via the Internet, any sites they have visited that they think might be useful to our members. Hopefully, with enough interest, an Internet column can be set-up devoted to this topic.

A member profile of Jean Desislets, past member from the Ottawa region is included in this issue. She was a woman with an impeccable record and a person who will be long remembered for her many contributions.

As well, there is a bilingual form to be filled out by the membership and mailed back for the OALT/ABO Presidential Award. Mail it to Susan Bourdeau.

Brahm Gilman, Editor

## Information to Contributors

The editor welcomes any articles or news items of interest to the Library Technicians of Ontario. Contributions can be sent by post, fax, or e-mail. Please include your full name, telephone number, and regional affiliation. French translation of official executive business is provided. Otherwise, publication will be in the language of submission.

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## President's Message

As stated to you in my previous note, it is time to begin our introspective review on who we are and where we are going. The role of the Library Technician has radically changed in the past years. We are no longer filing/typing cataloguing cards or re-shelving books, we now participate in programming, publicity, instructing, supervising and in some cases managing a library with staff. Our Association has to keep up with this new image and our activities must reflect the changes our membership are faced with.

In order to proceed with this goal, at the last Board Meeting, some ideas were presented and items for discussion returned to the Regions for feedback from the general membership. The suggestion that retained the most positive reaction is to organize a brainstorming session weekend during which specific main issues would be identified prior to the meeting, and the attendees would discuss and provide solutions and/or options to be developed at the Provincial level. The specifics for the brainstorming session have not been defined since we are awaiting regional feedback and reaction to the suggestion. This approach was used at the inception of the Association and we must continue this scheme to address our concerns in order to maintain the basics and integrity of the Association - the upside down pyramid of power.

*As you can see, your input is crucial to the evolution of the project and I hope that you will voice your interest and suggestions to your regional Director and hopefully in person at the brainstorming session.*

*Susan Bourdeau*

Tel que mentionné dans ma dernière colonne, le temps est venu pour notre revue introspective sur qui on est et où on s'en va. Le rôle du bibliothécaire a changé au cours des dernières années. Nous ne faisons plus seulement du classement et dactylographie de fiches ou de la mise en rayon, maintenant on participe dans la programmation, la publicité, la formation, la supervision du personnel et dans certains cas, la gestion d'une bibliothèque avec employés. Notre Association doit assumer un rôle pro-actif face à la nouvelle image du bibliothécaire et nos activités doivent refléter les changements que subissent nos membres.

Pour réaliser cet objectif, lors de la dernière réunion du comité de direction, quelques idées ont été présentées et certains points pour discussion ont été remis aux Régions pour le feedback des membres. L'idée qui a retenu l'attention de tous est d'organiser une fin de semaine, une session de remue ménage (brainstorming) pendant laquelle des sujets spécifiques seront identifiés au préalable, et les participants discuteront des thèmes et présenteront des solutions ou des options qui seront développer au niveau provincial. Cette approche fut utilisée lors de la création de l'Association, et nous devrions continuer ce genre de consultation pour régler quelques problèmes et de s'assurer de l'intégrité de notre Association - le principe de la pyramide renversée.

*Comme vous pouvez le constater votre participation est cruciale pour l'évolution du projet. J'espère que vous exprimerez votre intérêt et vos idées à votre directeur, et que vous ayez la chance de participer à la session de remue ménage*

*Susan Bourdeau*

## 1995 OALT/ABO Executive Committee

### **Susan Bourdeau, President**

Susan is a graduate from Algonquin College and is employed by the National Library of Canada in the Collection Management Division. She is part of a team which oversees the newspaper collection held by the library. She also works with the Canadian Government document collection and the Foreign and International document collections. Susan is long time member of OALT/ABO and has held several positions on the Ottawa regional executive board. (*Ottawa*)

### **Penni Lee, Vice-President**

Penni Lee is a graduate of Seneca College, and is the Sr. Library Technician at the Ministry of Finance, Library Services - Oshawa. Penni has been Secretary of OALT/ABO for two years, and is now ready to take on the duties of Vice-President. (*TALTA*)

### **Margaret Bushell, Secretary**

Following her graduation from Fanshawe College in 1973 Marg joined the staff at Huron County Library in Goderich. After working at HCL headquarters in Interloan and Children's Services for four years, she became Supervisor of the Goderich Branch Library and is presently enjoying her work in this position. Marg has been an OALT/ABO member since 1973 and held various regional executive positions and was Newsletter/Nouvelles editor in 1982-84. (*Lohania*)

### **Siobhain Doyle, Treasurer**

Siobhain received a Library Technician Diploma from Seneca College in 1984. She has worked at University of Toronto's Scarborough Campus and is presently with Aird & Berlis, a law firm in Toronto. As well as being involved in her church's activities, Siobhain collects antiques and does cross stitch in her spare time. (*TALTA*)

### **Mary Grace Stewart, Public Relations Co-ordinator**

Mary is a graduate of Sheridan College. She is currently working as a Library Technician at the Canadian Standards Association Information Centre in Rexdale. Her responsibilities include cataloguing, serials and reference work. Mary has been an active member of various committees in the Swansea Village Co-op, where she currently resides. Her interests include cross-stitch, reading, movies, and cats! (*Halton-Peel*)

## Letters to the Editor

### **Hi Brahm!**

How 'bout a column in OALT Newsletter called "On the 'Net" for those with limited or no internet access. The only place I have seen similar columns (outside of internet/computer mags) are the *Toronto Star's Fast Forward* section, the *Toronto Sun's Connect* section and *eye weekly's eye.net* column. These three are general and unpredictable in content.

OALT, however can focus on the library scene in the world of cyberspace, particularly the Canadian issues (if there are Canadian library issues discussed on the internet). An interesting item I found on the newsgroup soc.libraries.talk pertains to the pro-family, anti-library conference held recently in the U.S. I can send you e-mail literature on that, if you're interested.

Keep up the good work! Sincerely, Steven M. Bergson, Electronic Resources Co-ordinator, Albert J. Latner Jewish Public Library of Toronto



## Conference '96

**Cranberry Resort  
Collingwood, Ontario  
May 10 - May 12, 1996  
10 mai - 12 mai 1996**

OALT/ABO's 1996 mini-conference hosted by Huronia Regional Branch will offer you the opportunity to:

- experience professional development: attend two three-hour workshop sessions
- relax on the beautiful shores of Georgian Bay
- see old friends and make new ones
- explore the future of library technicians and librarians into the next century with Canada's "Faith Popcorn", Joan A Pajunen at the pre-conference session

### Sampling of Workshop topics

- Travel safe: Strategies for business travellers
- MARC cataloguing refresher
- Puppetry
- Sexual harassment in the workplace
- Tour of the Collingwood Public Library
- Visit to the Sheffield Park Black History & Cultural Museum
- Internet Access
- Time Management

### OALT/ABO Business Meeting

The annual business meeting will be held on Saturday May 9th.



## Conference '96

## Member Profile • Jean Desislets

### JEAN DESISLETS (1952-1990)

*written by Pat Graham*

I'm sure all of you in the regions have a friend like Jean - we here in Ottawa cherish the memory of Jean Desislets, who passed away in July '90.

She was a 1974 graduate of Algonquin College, and from the beginning, the one you could turn to, if you needed something done. You know the type - the quiet efficient person who always completes the task and of course, it's always done extremely well. She was our regional president at one point, having played many other roles within the region. She received our Regional Award in 1986. She was a professional in the very best sense of the word.

When Jean graduated, she began work at Transport Canada and from all reports, continued to be the kind and generous person she had always been to us. Jean enjoyed traveling a great deal, gallivanting all over the place whenever she could. Her love of photography kicked in, and she had the proof of those wonderful trips.

I was never told exactly just what precipitated all those giggles and

guffaws when certain trips and outings were mentioned.

She was a doting godmother to her friend Colleen's youngsters and spoiled them whenever she had the chance. Jean was especially close to her Mom - they were good friends, as well as mother and daughter... and what can one say about brothers? Her brother John, and Jean were typical of all brothers and sisters - they liked each other some times and loathed each other the rest of the time. But he was there for her when it counted...

Because Jean was such a firm believer in technicians and the OALT/ABO, the Ottawa Regional Branch established a fund in her name - for the advancement and encouragement of technicians. We have used it in various ways but always with Jean Desislets in mind - a good and kind friend and a first-class Library Technician.

We would invite anyone who wishes to donate to the fund to do so - it would help other technicians - and honour our classmate Jean Desislets.



### OALT/ABO Lohania Regional Branch Award Winners

Lohania Regional Branch was pleased to present 2 awards for the LOHANIA Regional Branch Award. This award recognizes the high standards maintained while completing the Library and Information Technician Program at Fanshawe College and Mohawk College. The recipients of this award were from Fanshawe College Crystel Cowen, and from Mohawk College Julia Hooff.

As part of this award each recipient will receive a complimentary 1 year membership in OALT/ABO. Congratulations to both winners. (Unfortunately, there is no picture available for recipient Julia Hooff.)



## Internet Feature - Search Tool of the Future? Librarians

by Gary Chapman, reprinted from *The Los Angeles Times*,  
August 17, 1995, with permission

In the 1957 movie "Desk Set," Katharine Hepburn played a research librarian for a fictional television network and Spencer Tracy played a computer systems engineer who sets up a room-sized computer that the librarians fear will eliminate their jobs. A telephone call comes asking whether the King of the Watusis owns an automobile. The question is fed into the computer, and out comes a lengthy movie review of "King Solomon's Mines."

This sounds like what happens today using the search techniques available on the World Wide Web. "The state of information retrieval on the Internet is equivalent to what librarians were doing in the 1950s," says Christine Borgman, chairwoman of the Department of Library and Information Science at UCLA. "The on-line world is chaotic."

And librarians may yet play a big part in sorting it all out. Too often regarded as shy spinsters in boring, low-paying jobs, librarians are an untapped source of innovation and expertise in an age when everyone talks about information overload but nobody ever does anything about it.

Certainly, computer scientists don't seem to be making a whole lot of progress in helping us find information needles in digital haystacks—and some say they never will. At a recent conference called "Society and the Future of Computing," sponsored by Los Alamos National Laboratory, Phil Agre, a computer scientist at UC San Diego, provocatively announced that "computer science is dead."

Agre went on to explain that while progress in operating systems and processor speeds can be expected to continue, these technologies are no longer the bottlenecks of the computer revolution. What's needed today is a better understanding of how to organize and present information, and how people use that information once they have it.

The focus of research should shift, said Agre, to social scientists, psychologists and librarians to people instead of machines. Computer scientists, he noted, tend to think of what's in a computer as data rather than information. They need the help of librarians, who have been organizing information since the Egyptian dynasties.

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*What's needed today is a better understanding of  
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and how people use that information once they have it.*

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"What bothers me most," says Borgman, "is that computer people seem to think that if you have access to the Web, you don't need libraries. But what's on the Web now is just a fraction of what's in an average-sized research library." And what's on the Web is a mess. There is nothing even approaching the information-organization systems librarians have developed, such as the Machine Readable Cataloguing system, called "Mark," that allows libraries to share data and documents worldwide without confusion.

One key problem with the information available on the Internet is that standards of classification are almost always added to electronic documents after the fact, instead of being built in from the start. Librarians use standards that are universal, and the material they shelve, or put on-line, uses codes that are the same everywhere—the Dewey Decimal System, ISBN numbers and classifications from the Library of Congress.

The anarchic Internet contains no such standards, and thus search mechanisms are forced to look for keywords in unstructured data, typically producing the equivalent of the "King Solomon's Mines" movie review.

As a solution, computer scientists are keen on developing "agents," software sleuths that will search the Net for whatever a user is looking for and retrieve it: Apple

Computer has dubbed its experimental Net searcher "Cyberdog." But these agents, most of what are still quite primitive, will be far more effective if the information on the Net is rationally organized. Librarians are already working on how to link the Web's standard coding language, HTML, to structured systems of information retrieval.

One reason librarians are largely neglected as a rich source of information expertise undoubtedly lies in our common stereotypes of librarians and our attitudes about libraries. While the Internet is widely touted as the greatest invention since fire and cyberspace is hyped as the next frontier, libraries are struggling. Society seems to have turned its attention away from public libraries, once admired by Andrew Carnegie as the foundation of democracy, and toward the technology of the Internet and the Web.

Librarians are thus seen as old-school people chained to declining institutions, in contrast to the go-go world of on-line services.

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*Web user can't tell the  
difference, looking at a  
search query result, between  
a "vanity page" and  
something truly valuable.*

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Borgman believes that librarians will nonetheless become increasingly important in the information economy. Right now, a Web user can't tell the difference, looking at a search query result, between a "vanity page" and something truly valuable.

This is the role librarians have always served, says Borgman: identifying, selecting, cataloguing, and preserving a culture's treasured ideas. The job is getting more complicated, but what librarians have accomplished in 5,000 years we often take for granted. Like the ditzy heroine in the new movie "Party Girl," we may all have to discover the toys of the Dewey Decimal System.

In "Desk Set," the happy ending is that Spencer Tracy's big computer, Emerac, is saved from folly by the librarians. Let's hope we have the same experience.

OALT/ABO PRESIDENTIAL AWARD

1995

Please complete the following information as fully as possible.

Name of Candidate:

Address of Candidate:

Phone number of Candidate:

Membership status of Candidate:

Regional Branch:

Number of years as a member of OALT/ABO:

List contributions to OALT/ABO at the Regional Branch level (e.g. executive positions held, committee affiliations, etc.)

List contributions to OALT/ABO at the Provincial level (e.g. executive positions held, committee affiliations, conference work, etc.)

List other contributions to OALT/ABO (e.g. workshops presented, publications written, panel discussions):

List other contributions to the field of Library Technology (e.g. community service, publications, seminars, projects at work/school worthy of note):

Additional comments (add separate page if required):

This Candidate is nominated by:

Name:

Name:

Regional Branch:

Regional Branch:

Phone Number:

Phone Number:

Mail completed form to: Susan Bourdeau  
128 Gladecrest Court  
Nepean, ON K2H 9J7

Prix de la Présidente de l'OALT/ABO

1995

Veillez fournir les renseignements suivants en donnant autant de détails que possible.

Nom du(de la) candidat(e):

Adresse du(de la) candidat(e):

Numéro de téléphone du(de la) candidat(e):

État de membre du(de la) candidat(e):

Succursale régionale:

Le(la) candidat(e) est membre depuis combien d'années?:

Dresser la liste des contributions à l'OALT/ABO au niveau de la succursale régionale (c.-à-d. postes que la personne a occupé au conseil de direction, participation aux comités, etc.)

Dresser la liste des contributions à l'OALT/ABO au niveau provincial (c.-à-d. postes que la personne a occupé au conseil de direction, participation aux comités, etc.)

Dresser la liste des autres contributions à l'OALT/ABO (c.-à-d. atelier(s) que la personne a présenté(s), article(s) qu'elle a rédigé(s), tables rondes qu'elle a organisée(s):

Dresser la liste des autres contributions au domaine de la bibliothéconomie (c.-à-d. service à la communauté, publications, colloques, projet(s) au travail/à l'école digne(s) de mention.

Commentaires supplémentaires (ajouter un feuille séparée au besoin):

Le(la) candidat(e) es proposé(e) par:

Nom:

Nom:

Succursale régionale:

Succursale régionale:

Numéro de téléphone:

Numéro de téléphone:

Une fois remplie, veuillez faire parvenir la formule à: Susan Bourdeau  
128 Gladecrest Court  
Nepean, ON K2H 9J7

## Internet Feature - Librarians of the Future

by Martin P. Waterman, reprinted from *The Computer Paper*, November 1995 Vol. 6 No. 11, with permission

When I first heard the word "cybrarian" I had an image in my mind of some futuristic public employee that was half bookworm and half RoboCop. Cybrarians are, of course, librarians, but instead of being surrounded by books, they nestled into a computer workstation. There they are connected to the Internet and search the four corners of the globe in order to harvest information from thousands of universities, the World Wide Web, from newsgroups, governments, businesses, organizations, professionals and, of course, other libraries such as the Library of Congress.

Just as there are many facets of the 'Net,' there is more than one type of cybrarian. There is the traditional, institutional librarian who has made the leap to the Internet. The other type of cybrarian is more of a freelance librarian: a cybrarian for hire. A third type of cybrarian that has evolved is the corporate cybrarian. Many large businesses have always had corporate researchers to find market and other information. However, with the birth and unprecedented growth of the Information Highway, many businesses have found a need for their own in-house or part-time cybrarian, if for no other reason than to monitor their competition.

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*No matter the reason that information is needed, more and more organizations are finding they need someone to handle this task. This is usually because most managers, who need the information the most, do not have the time to surf and build an inventory of useful sites and find the information that they need.*

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I caught up with Lorna Peers, a real live cybrarian at the DISCscribe site which is located in Fredericton, New Brunswick. The site has dozens of interesting aspects, including Child Find Canada, as well as things of particular interest to people in New Brunswick.

Lorna holds a Masters degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Western Ontario. She can be reached at <http://www.discrim.ca>. You can also telephone her at 1-506-455-3108 or 1-800-567-6288. If you visit her WWW home page, you will see her photo and see that cybrarians are not chrome plated info hunters from the future.

**I spoke (via e-mail, of course) with Lorna Peers.**

**Martin Waterman:** What is your primary function as a Cybrarian?

**Lorna Peers:** My primary function is to locate information for clients of members of the company using the Internet or commercial online databases. I think your term information bounty hunter is quite accurate.

This includes

- Individual requests from businesses and individuals.
- Locating competitive information for use by the company.
- Background research and online promotion of clients who are on our Web server.

**MW:** What percentage of your work do you find deals with online promotion?

**LP:** At the design stage, I typically do some research to see what similar sites may exist and where they are located in directories or indices. Once the site is ready, we write a brief press release or promo and post it in the appropriate newsgroups, mailing lists, search engines (i.e. Lycos, etc.), subject directories, and What's New pages. Online promotion is very important to Web sites. Regardless of the site's value, it is of little use if it cannot be easily located.

**MW:** What areas of the Internet do you find you use the most to find information for your clients?

**LP:** I would have to say that I use the Web most often, primarily because of the Web design we do for clients. For more general requests, I use the Web (usually first, as it is the fastest

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*I like the fact that the Internet is constantly changing & evolving.*

*Who wouldn't love to surf the net all day (and get paid)?*

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growing portion of the Internet), gopher (less so, I often find the information out-of-date or reach dead ends), as well as newsgroups and mailing lists. On occasion, I may come across a Web site with a contact name and send a request by e-mail to see if he or she can supply more information. Other sources include library catalogs and periodical databases.

**MW:** Is there such a thing as a common question you receive?

**LP:** Not really, we've done some consulting for national organizations that want to get their offices on the Internet so I'm often updating my list of Canadian ISPs (Internet Service providers).

**MW:** What is the biggest information request you have received?

**LP:** One client wanted a fairly comprehensive list of Canadian companies that design and host Web pages, with contact and pricing information. Finding the companies wasn't difficult but locating their list of services and pricing information (when available) took a while. (Do you realize that some companies didn't have contact information on their pages? Not very useful for the client who didn't have Web access!)

**MW:** Do you find that your customers are preoccupied with the status of their competitors' presence on the Internet?

**LP:** No. Not as much as they should be. Some businesses still see barriers to the Internet (e.g., cost of hardware, cost of access, learning curve) despite the fact that their competitor may already have a presence online. This spring we held two free seminars on using the Internet for local businesses. I think once they have the opportunity to see the capabilities for themselves, they may realize its potential.

**MW:** What is the primary type of research you conduct and for what type of companies?

**LP:** In terms of individual requests, many companies request a synopsis of "what's .. *Cybrarian continues on page 7 ..*



## Internet Feature - Cataloguing and the Internet

by Angela Carito-Walmsley, reprinted from  
*In Touch With TALTA... Spring 1995, with permission*

### Cataloguing and the Internet

This column explores some of the resources available on the Internet for library technicians involved in cataloguing and technical services work.

### Cataloguing Internet Resources

There are several good cataloguing tools on the Internet. As more and more publications become available only on the Internet, the need arises to locate these items in local online catalogues.

OCLC recently published, *Cataloguing Internet Resources : A Manual and Practical Guide*, by Nancy B. Olson, editor. Prepared in conjunction with the OCLC Internet Cataloging Project, this manual provides, "a convenient single source of information by combining a discussion of cataloguing rules, appropriate MARC fields, and illustrative examples."

*Cataloguing Internet Resources : A Manual and Practical Guide* is available from OCLC in electronic form via anonymous File Transfer Protocol.

FTP://ftp.rsch.oclc.org/pub/internet\_cataloging\_project/Manual.txt

You may also contact OCLC Project Manager, Erik Jul by email at [jul@oclc.org](mailto:jul@oclc.org)

### Library Accessible Catalogues

Internet accessible catalogues are another wonderful resource on the Internet. Thousands of library catalogues are accessible on the net. By far the most popular ones are **The National Library of Canada** and the **Library of Congress**.

The National Library of Canada's gopher offers a wealth of government information and Canadian resources. It can be accessed via Telnet to: [gopher.ncl-bnc.ca](telnet://gopher.ncl-bnc.ca)

The Library of Congress offers two good sites, MARVEL and LOCIS. Cataloguing guides and government information can be found on MARVEL. Telnet to: [marvel.loc.gov](telnet://marvel.loc.gov) (login as *marvel*)

LOCIS is the Library of Congress Information System. Over 26 million records are available by Telnet to: [locis.loc.gov](telnet://locis.loc.gov)

### Electronic Conferences

For those with only email access, electronic conferences are very popular. These forums provide subscribing members the chance to discuss issues of interest to the group via email. To subscribe to an electronic conference list, you send a **subscribe** message to a listserv address.

Messages to the discussion group should be sent to the conference address. For example, to join **AUTOCAT**, Library Cataloging and Authorities Discussion Group, you would send the following email message to [listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu](mailto:listserv@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu)

**subscribe AUTOCAT Your-first-name Your-last-name**

To address the group and participate in discussions, you send your mail to [autocat@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu](mailto:autocat@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu)

Another electronic forum to try is **SLA-TECH**, Technical Services in Special Libraries and Information Centers. The subscribe address is [listserv@ukcc.uky.edu](mailto:listserv@ukcc.uky.edu) The discussion group address is [sla-tech@ukcc.uky.edu](mailto:sla-tech@ukcc.uky.edu)

### Electronic Journals

Many journals are now only available on the Internet. You subscribe to electronic journals in the same way you do to forums. Journal issues are then delivered to your email address.

The Library of Congress published *LC Cataloging Newslines (LCCN)* quarterly. To get on the mailing list send the **subscribe LCCN Your-first-name Your-last-name** message to [listproc@loc.gov](mailto:listproc@loc.gov)

OCLC also has a mailing list for press releases and cataloguing news. **OCLC-NEWS** can be subscribed to at [atlistproc@oclc.org](mailto:atlistproc@oclc.org)

The Association for Library Collections and Technical Services publishes *ALCTS Network News*, an informative newsletter about technical services issues. Subscribe to **ALCTS** at [listserv@uicvm.uic.edu](mailto:listserv@uicvm.uic.edu)

An excellent document, *Library-Oriented Lists and Electronic Serials* list various email conferences and electronic journals of interest to library and information professionals. To obtain a copy, contact Steve Bonario, System Librarian, University of Houston. His email address is [sbonario@uh.edu](mailto:sbonario@uh.edu)

*Happy surfing! Angela Carito-Walmsley*  
Email: [acaritox@colybrand.com](mailto:acaritox@colybrand.com)

## Conference '96

**Cranberry Resort**  
Collingwood, Ontario  
May 10 - May 12, 1996  
10 mai - 12 mai 1996



**Cranberry Resort is a full service, all-season resort on the shores of Georgian Bay, with Blue Mountain as your backdrop. The full package includes all meals, including the Saturday evening banquet.**

**Registration:** A full registration package will be available in early January. OALT/ABO members *automatically* receive this package. Full conference (Friday noon - Sunday Breakfast) the cost for members is \$330 - \$390. There is a special discount price on the full conference package for student members - \$300-\$360. For non-members the full conference package is \$390-\$450. Partial and day packages will be available. The pre-conference speaker is \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members.

**For information contact: Jane Scheibler, R.R. #1 Orangeville, Ontario L9W 2Y8, or call (519) 941-4720 (home), or at the Orangeville Public Library at (519) 941-0610 (work) or fax to (519) 941-4698.**



## .. Future Cybrarian? ..

.. *Cybrarian continued from page 5.*

out there" that may be related to their type of business. In many cases these businesses don't yet have Internet access of their own, so the results may help justify the decision to purchase access. I would estimate that many of these companies are small businesses.

**MW:** What does a Cybrarian typically charge?

**LP:** My rates range from \$65 to \$100 (Canadian) plus applicable taxes per hour for searching and formatting results. The rate depends on the volume of work and the urgency of the information. Additional charges may occur for reprints, and with some commercial services, there are extra charges that may be required.

**MW:** Could you categorize for us the types of businesses that you find most often require the use of a Cybrarian and for what purposes?

**LP:** I've done a number of searches for government departments, where they required information for presentations, or for decision-making purposes (e.g., whether or not to proceed with a particular program). I've done research for insurance companies, telephone companies, manufacturing, public utilities, hotels, nonprofit organizations. The businesses, individuals and organizations that have purchased our Web services, range from the Chamber of Commerce to music groups. They like the fact that I can put together a list of links to other sites with related information, as well as the promotion of their site.

**MW:** What do you like and dislike about being a Cybrarian as opposed to a conventional librarian in a book-filled environment?

**LP:** I like the fact that the Internet is constantly changing and evolving. It's all I can do to keep up on all the new sites, software, etc. Navigating the Internet can be a challenge, since there is no absolute list of its resources, but the tools and indices have improved significantly. I can't say I dislike anything. Who wouldn't love to surf the net all day (and get paid)? I'm also adjusting to being (for the most part) a telecommuter and working from home. I missed the daily interaction with co-workers at first, but there are lots of benefits. Also, since most of the communication and transfer of my results is done electronically, I rarely meet my clients face-to-face.

## Around The Regions

*(Editor's Note: This column is intended to inform OALT/ABO members of what is going on in other regions. Since the publication schedule of the newsletter is only three times per year, often dates of events have passed.)*

### ■ Halton-Peel

**Jan. 20, 1996 - Super Saturday** - a day of workshops to be held at the Holiday Inn. It is sponsored by the Sheridan Alumni. Cost is \$15.00 for H-P members and Alumni and \$30.00 for non-members.

**Feb. 29, 1996 - Annual General Meeting** - for all to attend.

*Regional Director: Donna Martin  
(905) 791-2400 (w), (905) 846-9228 (h)*

### ■ Huronia

**May 10 -12, 1996 - OALT/ABO's 1996 mini-conference;** will offer the opportunity to experience professional development: attend two three-hour workshop sessions; relax on the beautiful shores of Georgian Bay; see old friends and make new ones; explore the future of library technicians and libraries into the century with Canada's "Faith Popcorn", Joan A. Pajunen at the pre-conference session.

*Regional Director: Christina Carmichael  
(519) 376-6623 (w), (519) 794-4464(h)*

### ■ Lohania

**TBA** - workshops and events to be mailed out to members.

*Regional Director: Pat Brinkhof  
(519)421-3607(h)*

### ■ Ottawa

**TBA** - workshops and events to be announced at a later date.

*Regional President: Ann Censner  
(613) 995-7369 (w), (613) 230-3192 (h)*

### ■ Sudbury

**Jan 21, 1996 - Sunday Brunch, Christmas Dinner and New Year's Rendezvous** - annual get together to reminisce and plan out strategy for the new year.

**TBA - Winter Workshop** - Tour of INCO Neutrino Lab.

*Regional Director: Brenda Vaillancourt  
(705) 673-5661 ext. 207 (w), (705) 671-9928 (h)*

### ■ Thunder Bay

**TBA** - workshops and events to be announced at a later date.

*Regional Director: Jill Otto  
(807) 344-3585 (w), (807) 622-1781 (h)*

### ■ TALTA

**Jan. 23, 1996 - Technological Change and its Impact on Libraries** - from 6:30 - 8pm, John Jackson, Senior technician at the Ontario Cancer Institute will be discussing its implications for technicians at the Metro Reference Library Elizabeth Beeton Auditorium. Light refreshments will be served. Members free, non-members \$7.00.

*Regional Director: Donna Ladouceur  
(416) 393-7192 (w), (416) 920-6873 (h)*



### *OALT/ABO Halton-Peel Regional Branch "Super Saturday"*

*Marian Hughes, author of paperback fiction "Initiation" (left) with Alyson Henry, vice-president of OALT/ABO Halton-Peel Regional Branch, at the "Super Saturday" lunch, Ramada Inn, Oakville, Ontario.*

*Photo at right: Bob Hulcoop of Carr McLean with Ola White, Co-Publicity, Planning and Membership Officer of OALT/ABO Halton-Peel Regional Branch at "Super Saturday" on January 20, 1996, at the Ramada Inn, Oakville, Ontario. Bob had demonstrated a book repair workshop, presented by the Sheridan College Alumni Association and OALT/ABO Halton-Peel Regional Branch.*

## Professional Development

The following are being offered by Continuing Education, Faculty of Library and Information Science, University of Toronto, 140 St. George Street, Toronto, M5S 1A1. 1995-96.

For information, contact Marcia Chen, (416) 978-7111, Fax: (416) 971-1399.

### Internet Basics: Focus on Medicine and Health

Saturday, February 10, 1996,  
9am to 4pm

This workshop will provide a hands-on introduction to basic functions of the Internet with a focus on Internet sources for medical, health and related information. The workshop introduces participants to the primary Internet applications (electronic mail, discussion lists, file transfers, and telnet.). This workshop is intended for anyone in the health and related professions who requires basic instruction in Internet applications.

### Internet Basics: Focus on Law

Saturday, February 17, 1996,  
9am to 4pm

The workshop will provide a hands-on introduction to basic functions of the Internet with a focus on Internet sources for legal and related information. Navigating tools such as Netscape and Lynx will be covered, as well as sources of legal information currently available on the Internet. This workshop is intended for anyone in the legal and related professions who requires basic instruction in Internet applications.

### Getting Connected to the Internet

Thursday, March 28, 1996,  
6:30pm to 8:30pm  
(Registration at 6:15pm, Foyer)

If you want to learn more about Internet connections, but are confused about the equipment you need to buy; debating which service provider to choose; needing to know how much it all costs, this lecture will cover minimum equipment requirements for Internet use, software options for both Macintosh and Windows environments, and consumer guidelines on how to select the best Internet service provider to meet your personal needs.

Niagara College is offering through the School of Technology, Media & Design, a Post-Diploma Program in Library Computer Network Operations.

Technology is rapidly re-inventing the library, from the patron and the staff perspective, as the traditional library moves from a print-based storehouse to an electronic information retrieval system. These advanced technologies are making new demands on library workers. The increasing complexity of information storage and retrieval systems requires complementary training to enhance traditional library training.

This program will provide new and experienced library workers with the skills necessary to perform both administrative and client services in an automated, networked library. By merging their library-specific knowledge, skills and applications with computer expertise in information retrieval and storage, library workers will be able to function efficiently in the technology-based library.

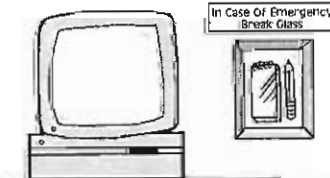
Students will gain an understanding of current technology and future trends, including operating systems, systems security, applications, hardware and software, and basic Local Area Networks and Wide Area Networks, as well as diagnostic, troubleshooting and product evaluation skills applicable to all public, government and private sector libraries.

The courses will be delivered through a combination of classroom-based theory, computer workstation applications, assignments within the college setting, and on-site, workplace-based projects.

Length of Program: ..... Two Semesters  
Location: ..... Welland Campus  
Start Date: ..... September

[brahm\\_gilman@yr.com](mailto:brahm_gilman@yr.com)

Our Association tries to be thorough and up-to-date, and we rely on the information that we receive from you! Send your articles, news items of interest and comments via e-mail to the Editor, Brahm Gilman: [brahm\\_gilman@yr.com](mailto:brahm_gilman@yr.com)



## Notes and News

- The new address for the Lohania Region is:

OALT/ABO  
P.O. Box 75  
Dorchester, ON  
N0L 1G3



## Job Liaison Contacts

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(905) 279-9973 (h)
- **Huronia:**  
Christine Carmichael (519) 376-6623 (w), (519) 794-4520 (h)
- **Lohania:**  
Vicki Lisowyk (519) 451-2500 ext. 2172 (w), (519) 268-2160 (h)
- **Ottawa:** discontinued
- **Sudbury:**  
Christine Greffe (705) 524-7333 (w)
- **Thunder Bay:**  
Jill Otto (807) 343-8110 (w)
- **TALTA:**  
Marilyn Meyer (416) 675-1411 ext. 2406 (w), (416) 236-2209 (h)

## Regional Newsletters

**Huronia • Networks** - quarterly  
Editor: Janet Iles (519) 376-6623 (w), (519) 376-2105 (h)

**Lohania • Update** - quarterly  
Editor: Colin Chamberlain  
(519) 672-9699 (h)

**Ottawa • tête-à-tête** - 3 per year  
Ed.: Linda Landreville (613) 722-7132 (w)

**Sudbury • Apropos** - 3 per year  
Editor: Lise Desormeaux (705) 675-3028 (w), (705) 897-5708 (h)

**Thunder Bay • Tech Talk** - 3 per year  
Editors: Kathy Crewdson & Margot Ponder

**TALTA • ...In Touch with TALTA** - quarterly.  
Editor: John Smith (416) 966-2402 (h), (e-mail - [jsmith@io.org](mailto:jsmith@io.org))