*News*LETTER *Nouv*ELLES

Volume 38 No. 1 Winter 2015

Message from your President

~ Jessica Reeve

As the New Year starts we are both looking back at the year that has passed and looking forward to the things we hope to achieve during the year to come. In the past year the association came together for a special conference to discuss the future of the association. I would like to thank all those who helped organize the conference, our special guests and all the members who were able to attend and have put their opinions and ideas forward in the discussions since then. In the year ahead I hope to see these conversations continue and a more focussed idea of our future come out in the year to come.

We also successfully joined together with OLA for our annual Holiday Social and I would like to thank OLA and especially Beckie MacDonald for all their help putting together this great event.

I would like to congratulate Kimberly Bohnert the winner of the OALT/ABO Student Award from Mohawk College.

With OLA Super Conference just weeks away I would like to acknowledge Alana Otis who has done fantastic work as the OALT/ABO planner on the committee and I encourage anyone attending to come to the sessions in the Technician stream. Also feel free to drop by and see us at our booth at the Expo (#T18/T19/T20).

I am happy to announce that Jasper Romo has stepped into the role of Newsletter Editor and Sharon Doyle has taken on the role of Conference Coordinator for the 2015 OALT/ABO Conference.

As plans for the OALT/ABO conference are coming together it is time to start thinking about the Executive for the coming year, I encourage each of you to consider taking on a role with the association, without the continued involvement.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Greetings everyone and happy new year! It is with great honour and eagerness that I present this Winter issue of the Newsletter/Nouvelles.

I am a new addition to the OALT/ABO appointed officers, and I look forward to working with each and every one of you.

I greatly enjoyed working on this newsletter, and I want to thank everyone for their generous contributions to this issue. I was impressed with the wide variety of articles I received.

Keep warm this season, and let's **"connect"** at the annual conference in May. If you liked this issue, come let me know how I did!

Cheers,

Jasper Romo

NewsLETTER/NouvELLES Editor

A Huge Thank You from Kate Morrison

(Posted October 2014)

I am very honoured to receive the 2014 OALT/ABO Presidential Award!!! I have loved to do all the work I have done with others during my years so far with OALT/ABO!! There have been ups and downs but with the support of the other fabulous members and friends I have made through the association. We have made it through another almost 20 years of the association with lots of fun, educational, social and learning events. You learned/will learn about what I have done in the past by reading what was read at the conference (in the newsletter that is coming out now) so I won't go into those details. I can't thank everyone I have worked with on various committees/executives/groups enough because without their support I would never have been able to do all the work I have had the privilege to be able to do. It has been a fun and satisfying time. Never let anyone tell you that volunteering is not important! It is such an important compliment to your work life and a wonderful, fun way of learning about what is currently happening in the library world. It certainly doesn't seem like hard work learning this way!

I also have to thank my husband and family who were so supportive while I was involved with OALT/ABO. I would also like to thank my employers (Fennel Campus of Mohawk College, Halton Catholic District School Board, Grand Erie District School Board and Hamilton Public Library) and coworkers who supported me and my involvement with OALT/ABO.

I can be a procrastinator, which is why this is late despite wise words from Maria Ripley:), but don't you be one. Become involved in the association! There is a wonderful community within OALT/ABO that it has been a privilege for me to be part of. It is so hard to have the right words to say how pleased I am to be acknowledged for the work I have done.

After looking back, I need to look forward as we look at the future of our association. Make sure you come to the meeting on October 18th if you are able or have your voice heard from farther away if need be. Let's have as many voices as possible there to see where the future leads!

Thank you very much for the wonderful 19 years I have been involved with OALT/ABO and I look forward to more!!

Tell us about yourself! Send us a glimpse of what it's like in your library, what prompted you to work in the library and information field, what is it you find most rewarding about your line of work. We're all library technicians but we each play very different roles in the every day operations of our workplaces. Let's use this platform to learn from and inspire one another.

Send your submissions (1500 words or less) to oaltabonewsletter@gmail.com

A Bag of Memories

By: Ann Censner

Anyone who has known me for any length of time would not be surprised to find out that my alias on Ebay is *Baghound*. Where some women have shoe closets, I have a bag closet. Recently, while weeding and organizing said closet (more organizing than weeding I have to confess) I noted it also contained pieces of OALT/ABO history. Among the purses, totes, backpacks, etc. were examples of the various bags I had received while attending OALT/ABO conferences over the years. Looking at each brought back specific memories and I thought perhaps by sharing them here, it would do the same for others. There are many more of course. I did not attend every conference and there are those that are no longer with me for one reason or another. But the remaining represent some good times and certainly come in a variety of shapes and sizes. Can you bring forth a specific memory from each of these pieces of nostalgia?

[Continue on next page]

A Bag of Memories

2000-Turning the Page (Merrickville)

"Some were very professional looking briefcases."

"Others were very casual such as this sling back"

2002 & You (Thunder Bay)

"Tote bags lent themselves to the purpose"

2006-Voyageurs (St. Catharines)

"This tote is almost large enough to be a weekender"

2007-Equi Libra (Toronto)

"One of my favourites is this clever tote that can be converted to a backpack"

2008-Setting Sail (Kingston)

"This messenger bag has many uses"

2009-Possibilities (Barrie)

Stepping out

I will not be returning next term as your internal Communications coordinator. I have loved communicating with each one of you, putting silly stuff on Facebook, Linkedin and Twitter. I have loved meeting you all at the conferences and joking around with you, and of course I have loved sharing with you what the Association has been up to.

The first OALT/ABO conference I attended was "Action". I was looking for something devoted to Library Technicians and I was inspired by those around me to volunteer, I had never sat on any sort of board before and was even worried that I wouldn't get voted in, or if I what I was wearing was ok and if I was rejected, would I be forced to leave the room of the board meeting? Told to sit outside? Or even worse would I have to sit in the corner and face the wall like in grade school?

Luckily I was voted in and I found that the Board was welcoming, I can honestly say that I have never been told to sit and face the corner, at least not yet. The Association is a unique organization and it is where I have found fellow professionals who are as enthusiastic and thrilled to be a qualified Library Technician as I am. I love getting together and meeting you all, and to be able to laugh and share with you and I want to be able to give the Association the devotion that it deserves.

Currently I work two part time jobs and I am taking my Masters of Library Science online, these three things are requiring more and more of my time, leaving less time for you, and I don't want to give you any less than you deserve, after all you all are library technicians, miracle workers, and you deserve the best.

So after this term ends in the summer, I will be stepping down, and I urge anyone who is interested to step up, we need you. Volunteering for the association has and will continue to be until June, a privilege. If you do decide you will find enthusiastic an enthusiastic and devoted membership as well as a fantastic, innovate board to support you, and though I am stepping down, I will be here to answer any questions you may have and to help the Association with whatever is needed.

To the current and past board, I wish to thank you for the support and for your service to the association. It has been a blast these past two years. To the membership, thank you for supporting the board and each other. I have loved getting to know you all, I have so enjoyed sharing the #Mondayfunny and #throwbackthursdays. I hope you all enjoyed it too.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Conference in the spring, I know our conference coordinator and her team are working on putting together another really wonderful conference. I am proud to have been a member of the board, I have been proud to serve you. Thank you.

- Serena McGovern

We have open positions with the OALT!
Check out website for vacancies!

E-mail/Courriel: ottawa.oaltabo@gmail.com

Website/Site web: http://ottawa-oaltabo.comze.com

OALTOttawa

Ottawa members of OALT/ABO formed themselves originally as a Regional Branch in 1974 and 40 years later, Ottawa Chapter/Section d'Ottawa is still active and sensitive to the needs of our Library and Information Technician community. With attention to detail, our Executive works hard to share information via our website as well as continuing to offer Professional Development opportunities and events.

Speaking of events, to mark our 40th Anniversary, the Ottawa Chapter/Section d'Ottawa hosted a **"Meet and Greet"** for the Algonquin LIT Students and members on Thursday October 9, 2014. In attendance were a few past and present Instructors and some long-time members along with a good representation of first year students in particular. It was refreshing to see their enthusiasm as they embraced the Library and Information Technician Program.
Photograph by: Barbara Cope

Fast forward to the end of November, with the Holidays fast approaching, the Ottawa Chapter/Section d'Ottawa decided to do something a little different to celebrate the Season. On Friday November 28, 2014 we joined forces with the CLA Ottawa Network and the Library Association of the National Capital Region (LANCR) to host the "Ottawa-Gatineau Library Community Holiday Social" at Grounded Kitchen & Coffeehouse on Gloucester Street in Ottawa.

So, as we move ahead to the New Year, we have to pay serious attention to the upcoming Chapter **Annual General Meeting in February, 2015** and the formation of the next Executive. Most importantly, this is when we have to ask ourselves the big question --- Are we going to be able to continue?

Over the years, even when it looked like we weren't going to have a full slate of Officers, somehow we always have been able to create an Executive. However, willpower and luck goes only so far. This is why not only Ottawa Chapter/Section d'Ottawa, but, any Association that wants to survive needs fresh volunteers to come forward. Therefore, we ask you to please consider the following motivations and say "Yes".

Join our 2015 Executive or Committees:

* Your interests, skills and expectations will be matched and met.
* Your Chapter will support you with help and advice.
* You never will feel alone. We are a Team.
* Everything you do is greatly appreciated.

Style Is Everything

By : Liz Jarnicki
&
Serena McGovern

What is Graphic Design?

"The world of graphic design is based on the principle that when a consumer sees a great picture inside a magazine or above a storefront, it speaks to them in a way that words could never quite capture. From the standard symbol that indicates a restroom nearby to the low battery indicator on our cellular phones, we rely on graphics in our daily lives as no society has ever done before. For example, a picture of a vine-ripened tomato on a jar of spaghetti sauce certainly does not mean that it will taste any better, yet time after time that's the container that consumers reach for when they are searching for a new product. In a nutshell, that's what graphic design is; it's the process of making a product or service appealing to consumers."

* *Michael Jackness, graphicdesign.com*

What does that mean to you? Most importantly if you follow standard design practices you will be able to reach your target audience effectively and communicate with them in a memorable way and you will win them over.

The first item that we feel is important to talk about is white space. There are two types of white space:

1. .Active White Space: Space intentionally left blank for a better structure and layout. It also gives emphasis to the content area. It leads a reader from one element to another.

2. Passive White Space: Empty space around the outside of the page or blank areas inside the content which is the by product of the layout process.

White Space can be used to create a balanced, professional looking design.

I.e., Google search engine

It directs the viewer's eye to the importance on the page, allows the design to breathe.

The use of white space creates focus and emphasis to a an item, and headline. It holds the black and red text beautifully.

Another example is the following Volkswagen ad. Look at all that empty space but see how the small car is held there and the way the headline is perfect for the ad. There is focus, you saw the car first and then read the headline. We know you did, it has been scientifically proven, designers use this data to create rules that they employ in every design.

Think small.
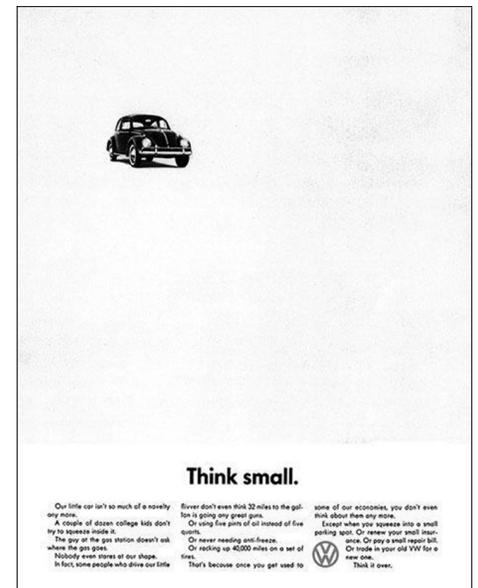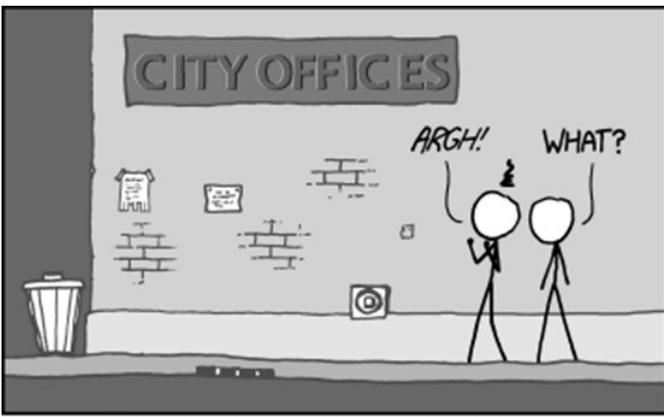
IF YOU REALLY HATE SOMEONE, TEACH THEM TO RECOGNIZE BAD KERNING.

Kerning and Leading

Kerning is the space between the letters, leading is the space between the lines of text. Because a computer does not lay the text manually (like they did in olden times) it leaves the same amount of space for each character so what happens is the W takes up more of the space than a I. This leaves extra space around the I and little space around the W creating uneven space between each letter.

A graphic designer will use software that allows them to easily manipulate this space to create even kerning or leading but your limitation will be MS Office products which do not easily allow kerning and leading. So if you can control the space between lines and letters great, but if not, that's okay too. **We do what we can.**

Fonts

Back in the 15th century people made type by creating wooden or metal letter blocks. They could be rearranged to fit the typists need. This is when they had beautiful kerning and leading because a master typesetter created the space between the letters and the lines of type.

What about fonts?

Serif — has the little decorative ends, works good for body copy (print), the serif's allow the eye to be lead

Sans Serif — no legs works good for the web, lower resolution screens able to handle them better

We are a family ...

Typeface refers to a font family and all its weights. Many programs will allow you to Italicize or bold a font that may not have a bold or italicized option. Avoid using this because it will affect the font's appearance. If you need a bold but don't have the option to choose a heavier weighted font from the family … choose another font.

Times New Roman
Times New Roman Italic
Times New Roman Bold
Times New Roman Bold Italic

Helvetica 35 Thin
Helvetica 45 Light
Helvetica 55 Romain
Helvetica 65 Medium
Helvetica 75 Bold
Helvetica 85 Heavy
Helvetica 95 Black

Some things to avoid with Fonts

> Squishing

> Stretching

> Skewing

>Condensing

I'm regular!

I'm stretched. :(
I'm expanded! :)

I'm squished. :(
I'm condensed! :)

So how do you get fonts?

> Buy them (expensive)

> Free Sites:

> www.dafont.com

> www.1001freefonts.com

> Google free fonts

Colour

Colour comes in two formats for designers. CMYK and RGB. RGB means red green and blue. It is meant for screens, like televisions and the web. CMYK stands for Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Key or Black. It is used for Print or you can always have a special colour. Some organizations have their own special Pantone colours. Pantone is the most standardized colour system we have for printers. Every printer prints differently and Pantone is like the Library of Congress or Dewey Classification system for colour. It's a standard, easier way to find the exact colour we need and as designers, you can trust that Pantone will look good. Pantones require special ink that are expensive, but you can change Pantone colours to CMYK and the colour will turn out pretty similar.

You might notice that an image looks fantastic on your screen and you have designed an amazing poster for the food drive but when you print out the document the colours are off, they don't look anything like what you thought they would and you are stumped.

There are many reasons why this happens, one is because screen resolution is RGB, three colours, Red, Green and Blue and the resolution is 72dpi. There is also a light shining from behind the screen. As well you may have a glossy screen. All of these things distort the actual colour formula creating a misrepresentation of the actual file. Ever notice how the image looks one way on your computer and when your coworker opens it on theirs it is completely different? There is no solution to this common problem, designers work on monitors that are calibrated to their specific needs and after set up they can generally get set up for their needs but in your world this will always be a challenge. Keeping the colour format consistent with the use i.e CMYK for print and the dpi at the right setting i.e. 300 dpi for print will go a long way to help you achieve dynamic prints.

Pantone 549 C52 M06 Y00 K25	Pantone 543 C41 M11 Y00 K00	Pantone 556 C42 M00 Y33 K27	Pantone 563 C52 M00 Y32 K01	Pantone 7494 C25 M00 Y40 K15
Pantone 7407 C00 M22 Y85 K11	Pantone 1385 C00 M44 Y100 K07	Pantone 167 C00 M60 Y100 K17	Pantone 200 C00 M100 Y63 K12	Pantone 188 C00 M97 Y100 K50
Pantone 369 C59 M00 Y100 K07	Pantone 568 C88 M00 Y57 K36	Pantone 142 C00 M28 Y76 K00	Pantone 153 C00 M46 Y100 K18	Pantone 144 C00 M48 Y100 K00
Pantone 288 C100 M67 Y00 K23	Pantone 7456 C55 M35 Y00 K07	Pantone 7445 C30 M20 Y00 K03	Pantone 524 C06 M15 Y00 K00	Pantone 255 C51 M100 Y00 K25

You can also use colour to create really clever displays. Also see how they used colour to draw your eye in on the sign there and they also used all caps for blue. That's another good point to make, avoid using all caps because it makes people feel like they are shouting at you.

Images

Original images are good/better. With images, we all know that you can get them free online. But that is kinda like stealing, no? Also you will run into other issues when you pull from the internet, the resolution will most-likely be 72 dpi, not good for printing but fine for web use. Another issue will be file size. If the file is 24 pixels x 24 pixels and you enlarge it to 1000 pixels x 1000 pixels you will get pixelation, which is that jagged edge that you sometimes see when you print an enlarged document. In school I would use a site like Deviantart and asked the photographers permission. Because they are trying to make a name for themselves they were usually willing to give it to you to use for free or a small fee. Perhaps you have a budding photographer that you work with, you can enlist their help or just start taking photos yourself, original photos can elevate your library. Be sure to carry photo consent forms when taking photos of patrons and staff. Or if taking photos for an event or program make sure to post a sign leading into the program letting people know that photographs will be taken.

Online Image sources:

> Deviantart

> Istock

> Dreamstine

> Redbubble

> Flickr

Dimensions

Different social media sites require different sizes. Printing requires different resolution

PPI/DPI: Points per inch/dots per inch web (72) print (300) means when creating a file for print the resolution is set at at least 300 dpi. Resolution for web use is 72 dpi. Be aware that if you are uploading to the web or mobile, to test the items first. The standards are different for web, mobile

and even among social media cover photos. There are a number of cheat sheets available if you google social media image sizes. A good resource is the following link:

http://blog.hubspot.com/marketing/social-media-cover-photo-sizing-cheat-sheet

Pay attention to the guides suggestion for pixel sizes otherwise you will have image distortion

File types

Eps – encapsulated Postscript format - vector images, illustrations, line art, etc. Keeps image integrity when enlarged or reduced. Can be pulled into MS Office products. Good for both print and web applications.
JPG – loses clarity due to compression but is a standard format for web and print
PNG – Portable Network Graphics – good for web
TIFF - Tagged Information File Format
PDF - Portable Document File, snapshot of a document, sometimes tricky if the font and images are not embedded but a universal format for printing if prepared correctly.

NEXT ISSUE

The Design Process: Step by step guide through a promotion.

As a graphic designer, **Liz Jarnicki** works with the promotions department of the Barrie Campus of Georgian College, designing the Library Commons promotional material, unifying its initiatives, teams, and ideas into one fluid and visible brand. She is a graduate of Georgian's Advanced Graphic Design program.

Serena McGovern is a library technician, a talented designer and graduate of the Georgian College Advanced Graphic Design program. She combines deep knowledge of both libraries and graphic design to add a keen artist's eye to the process as a creative director, while her sharp wit provides the zing in the language we use.

Serena and I will be presenting at OLA, come say hi and bring us your designs to critique.

LIT PROGRAM UPDATES

Mohawk

Happy New Year to OALT/ABO members from the faculty and staff of the Library and Information Technician Program at Mohawk College! May this new year bring you energy and enthusiasm in both your personal and professional life.

At Mohawk our convocation is held annually in October. This past October we were very pleased to recognize 46 graduates from the library technician diploma program and 16 graduates from the records management certificate program. We honoured three of our graduates in particular with awards based on their academic achievement: Renata Miklavcic with the Geraldine Hughes Cataloguing Award, Cindy Wilson with our Library Technician Award, and Kimberly Bohnert with the OALT/ABO Award. All of our graduates can be proud of their hard work in achieving their goal by completing the program.

Winter term courses in our program began on Tuesday January 13. We had a successful fall term and expect that the same will be true for winter.

OALT/ABO members may be interested in courses in our program for professional development, and can consider themselves as meeting the prerequisites for any course. Our courses are all taught online.

Our course offerings for upcoming terms are listed at

http://ce.mohawkcollege.ca/library

under "Program of Studies". Registration for spring term opens on March 24 and courses run from May 12 until August 18.

In late January, Mohawk will again be joining with the library technician programs from Seneca and Algonquin colleges, as well as the OALT/ABO, to share a booth at the OLA Super Conference in Toronto. If you are at the conference, please stop by to say hello.

If there are any questions about our courses, please contact me at 905-575-2309 or email dolores.harmspenner@mohawkcollege.ca

Respectfully submitted,
Dolores Harms Penner
Program Manager
Library and Information Technician Diploma Program
Records and Information Management Certificate Program
Mohawk College

Durham

The Durham College LIT program is well into its third year of operation. The first edition of graduates is finding employment, current students are benefiting from changes to the program, and the Program Advisory Committee continues to meet and provide advice and suggestions to help keep the curriculum responsive to industry needs.

Feedback from field placement supervisors regarding the first cohort of graduates last May indicated that students were well-prepared to enter the profession. Happily, employers agree. Many graduates have found employment in the library and information science or related field. Graduates have secured employment in academic libraries, law firms, school libraries, public libraries and municipal archives.

This fall, Anne Donnellan joined the program as a full-time professor after two years of teaching the technical services courses part-time. Previous positions held by Anne include Manager – Technical Services & Collections at Oshawa Public Library, Deputy CEO, Peterborough Public Library, Librarian – U of T, Cataloguer – Ministry of Agriculture, and Instructor - Seneca College. Students benefit from Anne's current expertise and knowledge in the area of library technical services. Anne is a regular participant and presenter at conferences and professional development seminars.

Members of the Program Advisory Committee enjoyed their spring and fall meetings at the new Centre for Food restaurant at the Whitby Campus. Based on feedback from students, program team discussions, and PAC members, the program of study was tweaked for the third cohort and will be revised again for incoming students in September 2015. Changes include the addition of a 42 hour course in Records Management, to replace the current 21 hour course, a combined collections and acquisitions course, and additional hours assigned to the technical services courses.

This fall, second year students visited the Northumberland County Archives and the Durham Region Law Association Library. First year students visited St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic School and the Oshawa and Community Museum. Field trips are an important learning experience for students as they provide students with an opportunity to see how content discussed in class is applied in real-life settings. All first year students completed a job shadow placement at a school, public, special or academic library or a related organization such as an independent bookstore, community information agency, museum or archives. Second year students commence their field placements in January and many have secured placements in the type of library or organization where they hope to find employment upon graduation. All of our students are looking forward to OLA Superconference in January.

Thank you to the OALT/ABO community for welcoming Durham College students to your organizations for field placements, networking with them at conferences, and providing support and outreach through the association listserv, newsletters, and visits to the campus.

- Susan Pratt

Congratulations

Kimberly Bohnert

I am honoured to be the recipient of this year's Mohawk College OALT/ABO Outstanding Student Award, and would like to extend my sincere thanks to the OALT/ABO for sponsoring this award.

After working towards a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy for a number of years, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do when I "grew up." I chanced upon a summer job as a Bibliographic Services Assistant for the Chinook Arch Regional Library System I realized the answer had been right in front of my face all along: libraries! After working at the Lethbridge Public Library for a time, I knew that becoming a Library Technician was the right path for me, and I began Mohawk College's Library Technician Program in September 2012. After finishing the program in August 2014, I immediately started work as a Library Technician in a junior high school library in Lethbridge, Alberta. Thankfully, the education I received allowed me to jump right into this very busy position. Not only did my time with Mohawk give me the knowledge I needed to work as a Library Technician, but I also benefited gratefully from the two field placements I did: one in a high school library, and one in a law library. I am very grateful to the supervisors of both of my placements for sharing their knowledge and experience with me.

As of right now, I am very much enjoying getting to know the students and staff at the school, sharing my love of reading with everyone, and working to make the library a vibrant and welcoming space. One of the many things I like about my job is that, as the only library personnel in the school, I get to do everything from selecting books, to cataloguing, to reader's advisory, to circulation, and yes, even shelving! The broad range of courses I was able to take through Mohawk means that I feel comfortable with each task, and I enjoy the variety it brings to my days.

It took me a while to figure it out, but I feel very fortunate to have found a career that I enjoy so much; there's nothing quite like seeing a student come into the library and excitedly tell me about the great book they just read! The Library Technician education I received from the courses and instructors at Mohawk College gave me a solid foundation on which to build, and I look forward to many enjoyable and challenging years ahead in the Library Technician field.

- Kimberly Bohnert

Connect OALT/ABO Conference

I am pleased to announce that the 42nd annual Conference of the Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario will take place Wednesday May 6 to Saturday May 9, 2015 at Seneca College, Newnham Campus, Toronto. The 2015 conference theme is Connect, and I would like to invite you all to attend the spring conference and become a part of the OALT/ABO connection.

Information sharing is changing and evolving and making connections with others has never been more important to libraries. Libraries and the distribution of information are no longer bound to brick and mortar, or even the printed page. Information is available at our fingertips, delivered instantaneously to just about any location. eResources have changed how libraries circulate information and library technicians are well placed to benefit from these changes. Our skills and training will allows us to grow, adapt and prosper in the developing eWorld.

Beginning with the Welcome Reception and ending with the Annual General Meeting this year's conference is packed with informative and motivational sessions that are not to be missed. The conference committee has worked very hard to provide a little something for everyone. Do you want to jazz up a presentation? How about creating a cartoon or library instructional videos? Would you like to learn how to turn dry statistics into a beautiful eye catching visual display? You can learn how to do that! Sign up and we'll show you how.

While libraries have changed drastically it's nice to know that some things have remained the same. Libraries are for people and we still like to get those people through our doors. Do you want to make a big announcement or market a new service? Join us for a session on marketing strategies and learn how to design a winning poster.

Also, for the first time we will bring together all attendees for a thought-provoking round table discussion on the future direction of OALT/ABO. Become part of this vital conversation and help shape the future of OALT/ABO. Plan on reaching out to each other, sharing ideas, listening, and learning. Whether you are a first time attendee or a founding member this discussion is for you.

In addition to the key learning elements of the conference, you can broaden your horizons by touring one of Toronto's newest venues, The Aga Khan Museum. Prepare to be amazed by their remarkable and varied collections dating from the 9th century.

We haven't forgotten about fun either. Is there a better way to Connect, re-connect and network with each other than at a Fiesta Fun Night? Finally, top off the conference on the last evening with the annual Awards night. Connect with both new and old friends at an evening of recognition and celebration. Help congratulate our peers on their achievements.

Please join us in May and I hope the sessions we have planned will, engage, involve, and inspire you.

Sharon Doyle, Conference Coordinator

Wednesday May 6

to Saturday May 9

Newnham Campus

CONNECT

At this year's **42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE/**
LA 42 IEME CONFERENCE ANNUELLE

Seneca College | Newnham Campus | 1750 Finch Avenue East, Toronto, ON M2J 2X5

Ontario Association of Library Technicians | Association des bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario
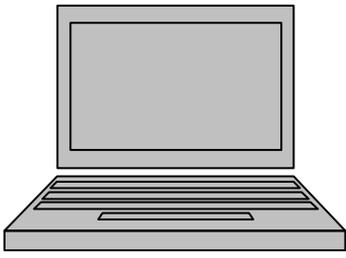
Tech Corner

//lib.tech/upgrading-the-tech-in-library-technician/

by: Albert Villaruz

Being asked to write an article for this newsletter with the angle of web design or something techy is incredibly daunting. Who is my demographic? Where do you, the reader, fall in the range of, "I know nothing about web design and don't care," to "I maintain a blog on WordPress," to "I know how to code HTML5, CSS3, JQuery and next year I'll be old enough for high school " Should I write to teach? Should I write about general Web 2.0 tools and trends? Should I write about why every library technician ought to learn HTML, CSS and JQuery or some form of coding? The content and language of this article depends on such questions.

As such, I've created a short online form using google docs via forms to create this survey: http://bit.ly/libtech-survey
Let me know where you stand and what you think I should write about.

Last summer, our library migrated to a newer version of our content management system (CMS). By default the search textbox kind of looks like this:

By mid-September, as students started using the library website more, we found that students were using this search textbox to try to find books and articles rather than our regular catalogue search box placed further below. We wanted to change the placeholder text to something else.

The easy solution would be to edit the HTML code directly. Simply change the text after the placeholder so that this…

```
<input type="text" id="q" name="q" size="22" maxlength="200" placeholder="Search our website">
```

…turns into this (notice I also changed the size attribute from 22 to 25 to accommodate the longer phrase)

```
<input type="text" id="q" name="q" size="25" maxlength="200" placeholder="Search website & Services">
```

which results in this:

[ta-da ♪]

However, there was one slight issue—our CMS didn't allow direct access to the HTML code for this particular search box. [insert cliffhanger music here]

Creative Solution/Hack Using JQuery

Luckily I remembered reading the JQuery had a neat little function that could edit html code on-the-fly (meaning as you load the webpage, the original text changes on-the-spot/dynamically/live). And by creating this tiny JQuery code, I could then insert it into our CMS which did allow for scripts to be added.

According to this JQuery page: http://api.jquery.com/attr/#setting-simple-attr
I could change any attribute from any HTML element.

Setting a simple attribute

To change the `alt` attribute, simply pass the name of the attribute and its new value to the `.attr()` method:

```
1 | $( "#greatphoto" ).attr( "alt", "Beijing Brush Seller" );
```

Add an attribute the same way:

```
1 | $( "#greatphoto" ).attr( "title", "Photo by Kelly Clark" );
```

So I saved a local copy of the library webpage on my desktop so that I could edit it without fear of messing up the live website. Below is the code I entered into our CMS:

```
<script>
  $( "#s-lg-guide-search-terms" ).attr( "placeholder", "Search Website & Services" );
</script>
```

And voila:

| Search Website & Services | Search |

You may have noticed the button changed colours and the look/feel is different. That is what CSS does which hopefully we'll get into next time.

-Albert Villaruz
Library Technician
Georgian College

Presidential Award Nominations 2015

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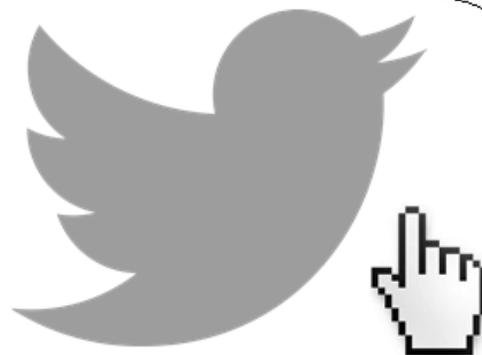
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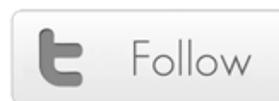
Welcome / Bienvenue

A very special welcome to all our new members:

Christy Baxter

Perri Ann Fraser

Lori-Anne Spence-Smith

Kathy Retzik

Sarah Vanasse-Hong

Christi Fraser

Members Celebrating 40 Years

Talsma, Theresa

Cheney, Ronn

Henry, Pat

Landreville, Linda

Cope, Barbara

Members Celebrating 35 Years

Froud, Margot

Members Celebrating 30 Years

Daunt, Maria

Members Celebrating 25 Years

Barten, Valerie

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Censner, Ann

Members Celebrating 15 Years

Ziebell, Theresa

Suffoletta, Kathryn

Members Celebrating 10 Years

Reid, Ene-Pia

Matthews, Shannon

Murray-Bannister, Beth

Knapp, Cassandra

Hunt, Donna

Avery, Debbie

Liu, Denise

Villaruz, Albert

Members Celebrating 5 Years

Worden-Huffman, Lesley

Clark-Mills, Sally

Gick, Sheila

Wong, Cindy

Muth, Ethel

Cat tax! Thank you for reading!

Call for Submissions

We would love to hear from you, all and any (even a quote) contributions are appreciated. This newsletter is your window of opportunity, to which YOU can send :

* Professional development and education matter to us, so please send us your experiences

* Upcoming events/workshops/training etc…

* Updates about yourself, your work, job developments etc… How about telling us about a day in the life of your workplace?

* New technologies/tools/database

* Book reviews are a fantastic ice breaker if you are nervous about writing

* Library related anecdotes, humour, interesting facts and quotes

* Your blogs or blogs you enjoy, websites, your social cataloguing profiles; GoodReads, Shelfari, LibraryThing

* Photographs

Please submit your articles to:

oaltabonewsletter@gmail.com

Submission guidelines:

* 1000—1500 words. We will accept longer submissions if room permits.

* Microsoft Word Documents

* Photos can be submitted in black and white or colour. Please send as a ".jpg" file.

* Indicate the names of the people in photos you submit

* With your submission please include your name and a line or two about yourself

* We welcome articles in French