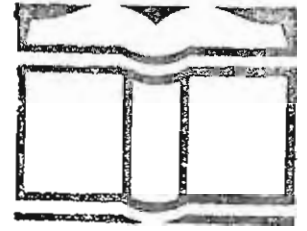


# NETWORKS



HURONIA REGIONAL BRANCH OALT/ABO VOL. 3, NO. 1

## FROM THE EDITOR

At the Huronia Regional Branch meeting held at Georgian College, April 25, 1981 it was decided that Networks would be published 4 times a year - January, March, August and November. This newsletter is a forum for members to express and exchange ideas, comments and criticisms. If you have something which you would like to share with other members - whether it be something happening at your library; a new job; a visit to a library outside the country, etc. - please send it to me at R.R.#1, Stroud, Ont. L0L 2M0. Hopefully, this will help to strengthen the communication between members of our region.

Please take note of the workshops coming up on October 17th at Barrie Public Library. Barbara Rudd and Nancy Mack have worked very hard to organize a program that ensures there is something for everyone. Much information can be gained from a day such as this - not only from the workshops but also from the interaction with other members. Hope to see you there!

-Jackie Druery  
Editor

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to take this opportunity to voice a few of my concerns, bring you up-to-date on provincial matters, and, to ask for your comments on certain matters.

First, however, I would like to thank Pat Henry for her work as the first President of this branch. The amount of time which Pat contributed to matters affecting Huronia Region, and the larger library community, was only evident to me after going through the correspondence, minutes of meetings and related papers which were passed on to me. Your concern and interest is appreciated by all of us, Pat, and we know that your expertise will be available to us in the future.

At the Provincial level we have a lot going on, and a very able executive ready to make decisions. I was impressed by the quality of our first Director's meeting held at the North Toronto Branch of the Toronto Public Library on June 20, 1981. Items of interest from the minutes of that meeting are as follows:

-The balance in the Provincial treasury stands at \$2575.43 as of June 6, 1981.

-An alphabetical list of names of members, by region, will be added to the regular membership directory.

-Editors are needed for the Provincial Newsletter.

-OALT/ABO archival material will be sent to the Ontario Archives.

-Dorothy Kew reported on the CLA Conference. She was most impressed by the program arranged for Library Technicians. It was well attended, not only by technicians, but also by others in the library field. Dorothy also enjoyed meeting other technicians from across Canada.

-Paulette Thibault has agreed to be liaison person for "Proposal for Change". Feedback from the Regions is needed. PLEASE NOTE!

-The OALT/ABO Funding Committee is to become a Presidential Committee.

-Nancy Mack is voting member for the Canadian Library Association, representing OALT/ABO.

-Other business discussed included - new membership card design, new brochure on Library Technicians, indexing of the newsletter, travelling expenses, geographical division of regions, and the slide project which Nancy Mack is coordinating.

I am quite concerned about the lack of attendance at our regular meetings. A map, showing the possible boundaries for Huronia Region, as suggested by the Provincial executive, is attached. This map indicates one of our major problems - the large geographical area. Suggestions to help alleviate this problem have been made at recent meetings. Our last meeting was based on the suggestion to hold meetings at various times in various locations, so that at least all of the members can attend some meetings. This did appear to be successful. Other suggestions were - planning meetings a year in advance to allow members to arrange their schedules; area phone committees; having the programme before the business so that the meetings could be more interesting for non-members. Could I please have comments and suggestions on this problem? At a time when the role of the Library Technician is taking on a higher profile and the Provincial Executive is committed to locating new job sources, it would be unfortunate to have a poor image regionally. Please help us strengthen our association by your interest and participation.

A priority at this time is the active promotion of the Fall Workshops being arranged by Nancy Mack and Barbara Rudd. This is a chance to get together before the winter sets in and to interest others in the library field (school librarians, small community library staff, etc.) in our organization. I hope to see you at the workshop and I welcome your suggestions.

-Mary Davie, President  
Huronian Regional Branch, OALT/ABO

## REGIONAL MEETING, JUNE 3, 1981

Eight members gathered at the home of Janet Scheibler, in Orangeville, for a very enjoyable buffet supper meeting.

President, Mary Davie, reported on the business from the last Provincial Directors meeting. Sudbury Regional Branch asked for opinions concerning appropriate action that could be taken, if any, in the event that an employer refuses to allow time off for a director to attend the annual conference. The Sudbury Regional Branch Board of Directors representative was not able to attend the last conference because her employer would not grant the time off. Regional Branches were asked to make one member responsible for sending material to Andrew Porteus, the Provincial Archivist, so that he will not receive duplicate material. Our new member, Irene Gelyk, volunteered for this position.

Mary also reported that the "Proposal for Change" has been sent to Committee for study as passed at the Annual Business Meeting in St. Catharines. It will be voted on at next year's conference in Thunder Bay. All members are asked to submit their opinions (a copy has been in circulation among the membership for some time) to Janet Iles who will compile the results and submit

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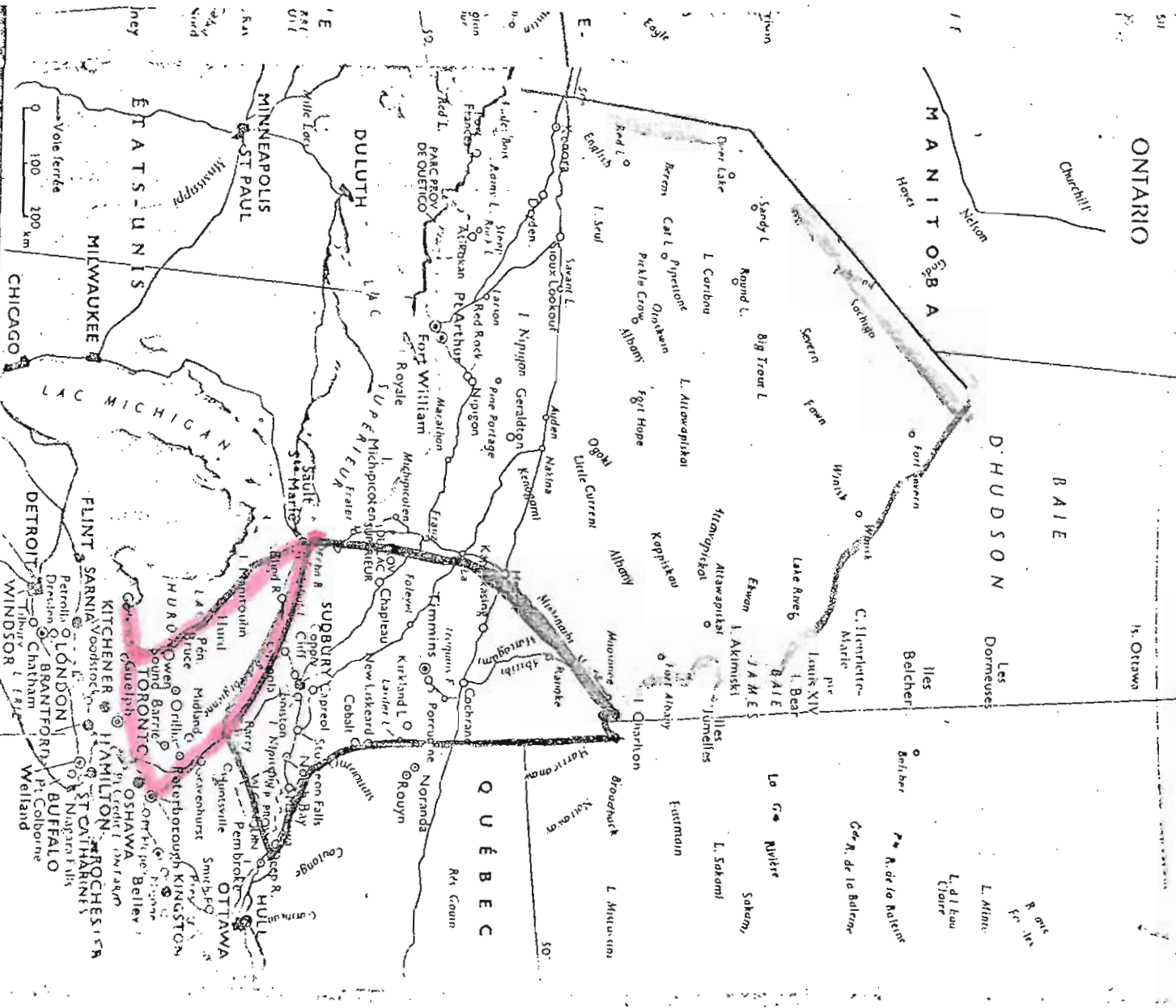
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Huron Regional Branch



it to the Committee. If you have not seen a copy of the "Proposal for Change", contact a member of the Executive.

Members of Huronia Regional Branch welcomed back the London Regional Branch of OALT/ABO, which is reforming after a brief interruption.

Janet Iles spoke briefly on some of the special programmes being held in Owen Sound Public Library during June (see News From Owen Sound in this issue). She also brought along one of the "Bed Boxes" that the Owen Sound Public Library has available on loan for young bed-ridden patrons.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Louise LaFleur, seconded by Janet Iles. Many thanks to Janet Scheibler for hosting such an enjoyable evening!

## BRANCHING OUT

The 1981 OALT/ABO Conference, held in St. Catharines May 14-17, was a great success. There were a few problems, mostly due to the facility used, and not to the host region, Niagara Regional Branch, whose members were friendly, considerate and innovative at all times. Huronia Regional Branch was well represented, especially at the annual business meeting. It was good to see so many members in one place and receive some comments on our regional activities.

Following are highlights of workshops which were attended by our members:

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING - Janet Hodgkins, Welland Public Library

Although I have had little to do with children's programming, I find myself drawn year after year to a workshop in this area. Perhaps, this is because of the quality of the workshops given or the child in me that insists I attend. I was not disappointed; the programme was excellent. Some of the ideas shared were - using mimeographed sheets of games for older children; a game called "Message in a bottle"; and, a bulletin board for messages and ads. Messages used in both the game and the bulletin board were from book characters. We all participated in some of the activities and a good, as well as informative time was had by all.

### SERVICES FOR THE HANDICAPPED

This workshop was given by a panel of handicapped and non-handicapped persons. Some of the major points discussed were - building standards for the handicapped concentrate on wheelchair use, even though ramps, for instance, can be a hazard to the blind; fire alarms are normally sound devices, thus, being useless to the hearing impaired; libraries are often set up with objects jutting out; lighting is often poor for the visually impaired; most buildings are built for healthy 18 year olds even though 60% of the users may be handicapped in some way.

The closing message was "have library services for the handicapped, NOT handicapped library services".

### PUBLIC SERVICES - Gladys Western, Independent Library Consultant

"To the public the person at the circulation desk is the librarian"

A desire to serve, a willingness to please, courtesy, good telephone manners, and a broad knowledge of books and other information sources are all qualities that a person in public service should demonstrate. If you are busy, acknowledge the patron who is waiting by telling them you will be right with them. Smile and be patient.

LIBRARY TECHNICIAN AS FIRST LINE SUPERVISOR - Barbara Land, City of Brampton Public  
Library and Art Gallery

The main part of the workshop dealt with the interviewing process. An interview was role played to demonstrate situations that might arise. The interviewer should have a strategy. It is important to explain the position and expectations clearly. The job applicant should do 60% of the talking. First impressions are important. The interviewer should look for punctuality, politeness, appropriate body language, appropriate dress, interest, enthusiasm and alertness.

It is essential for new staff to have in-depth orientation and training. They must know what is expected of them. Comments should be made regularly concerning their work habits.

Many thanks to NIAGARA REGIONAL BRANCH for hosting a terrific conference!

-Mary Davie

--Janet Iles

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## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are in order for two of our members. Barbara Rudd and Louise Campbell both recently graduated from the Library Techniques program at Seneca College. Congratulations Barb and Louise and best wishes for the future!

## WELCOME ABOARD

Welcome to new members Irene Gelyk, Bette Hutton, Marilyn Powell and Christine Jones. Irene and Bette are both members of the Owen Sound Public Library staff, while Marilyn keeps things running smoothly at Collingwood Public Library's circulation desk. Christine is a student at Fanshawe College.

## NEWS FROM OWEN SOUND PUBLIC LIBRARY

An Awareness Week to publicize the needs and capabilities of disabled people, sponsored by Project AIM (Access is Mobility) was held at the Owen Sound Public Library, June 6-13, 1981. Displays were set up in the library auditorium by various groups. However, few took the time to view them, perhaps because they were not in the main part of the library. The highlight of the week was the official opening of our elevator - a very bright attraction with "portholes" on two sides. This event was very well attended by both disabled and non-disabled people.

In order to bring the Information and Reference Services to the area beside the circulation desk the Owen Sound Public Library was closed to the public from June 29-July 3, 1981. The total adult book and record collection was reorganized. Several reasons prompted this action - it was felt that many patrons were missing the reference section, which was on the next level; circulation desk staff can more easily refer people to the reference staff; and, reference staff are able to assist at the circulation desk, when needed.

-Janet Iles

## COMING UP...

The Huronia Regional Branch of OALT/ABO will be sponsoring three workshops at Barrie Public Library on Oct. 17, 1981. The workshops to be presented include - Students in the library - how to help students help themselves; Special needs for special people - how libraries can meet the needs of disabled persons; Native people - resources for and about native people. A buffet lunch will also be served. For more information see the attached flyer.

The 79th Annual Ontario Library Association conference will be held October 29-Nov.1, 1981 at the Toronto Harbour Castle Hilton, Toronto. For more information contact: Ontario Library Association, 73 Richmond St., Toronto, Ont. M5H 1Z4.

ON THE LIGHT SIDE...

TECHNICIAN'S LAMENT

It's not my place  
To run the train  
The whistle I can't blow.

It's not my place  
To say how far  
The train's allowed to go.

It's not my place  
To shoot off steam  
Nor even clang the bell.

But let the damn thing  
Jump the track  
And see who catches h\_\_\_\_\_.

(Courtesy of South Central Regional Library System and Janet Iles)

DON'T FORGET WORKSHOPS ON OCTOBER 17, BARRIE PUBLIC LIBRARY, SEE YOU THERE!!!