

From the President

The second Internet workshop became a reality on Saturday, June 3, 1995. Once again Dr. Tom opened up the Internet for us. Nine members and five guests signed up to "surf", but before we went off to get wet, we learned about S.C.B.E.'s involvement in the International Arctic Project, via the Internet.

It was great to hear that the local school children are very involved — from sending vital weather reports and satellite images to the team — to learning about the individual dogs on the sled teams, and why one dog was sleeping on his collar each morning.

We saw a picture of the Board's flag, taken at the North Pole on Earth Day, and actually saw the flag, now that it is back home at the Board.

Dr. Tom set out a little treasure hunt for us, and we surfed off into ... Well, for some of us, the hunt was a Challenge — we really needed the coffee in the

pot in the lab at Cambridge! Most of us picked up some great recipes along the way, and we all know where to eat in San Fran, if we ever get there.

Despite all this fun and frivolity, we managed to wedge a meeting into the day, between mouthfuls, over lunch.

Now the fun is over and work begins. On August 24, we met at Judy's for a pizza party/conference meeting. The conference theme chosen was A delicate balance/Un équilibre harmonieux. We are on our way to another successful gathering.

I hope you enjoyed your summer.

See you on the 30th of September at Cranberry Resort at 10:00 am for the conference meeting and tour of the facilities.

Gale

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A filing cabinet has been defined as a system for losing things alphabetically.

The Internet has been compared to the Library of Congress with no card catalogue.

Personality Traits of a Library Technician

by William Land

In response to the editor's request [APROPOS] for ideas of the personality traits that are part of a person who chooses to become a Library Technician, I believe that:

- ♣ This person has a great love of books and is an avid reader. Many of us have fond memories of our childhood where our first experience with books and reading prompted us to seek a career in libraries. One of my earliest memories is receiving my first library card at eight years old from the Elliot Lake Public Library. Another example of my love for books is illustrated by my specialized book collection.
- ♣ A highly organized, methodical and logical individual who seeks a career in libraries. Accuracy and careful attention to detail are extremely important in library work. Library holdings are carefully arranged by class number. At home, my book, music and spice collections are arranged alphabetically.
- ♣ A Library Technician enjoys investigative work. Responding to reference questions is similar to sleuthing. Can a reference technician, like a detective, find information to respond to simple or complex inquiries? Often the task can be completed in a matter of seconds; sometimes hours of searching are involved. For myself, the greatest satisfaction is finding an answer to a patron's question and seeing their gratitude and joy upon receiving the information.
- ♣ A love of people and a need for solitude are two related attributes of a person who chooses this occupation. The time spent with library patrons allows one the opportunity to interact with many different people; periods spent on administrative, technical or clerical tasks provide a chance to be alone. Personally, I am someone who enjoys meeting new people and experiencing new challenges, but additionally require regularly scheduled

hours to pursue personal interests.

- ♣ A person who can adapt effectively to change would seek a career as a Library Technician. In this age of information explosion, change is constant. New technologies are being developed and one must learn about automated computer systems, on-line searching, CD-ROM technology and word processing to stay employed in this decade. Another point: with spending constraints and downsizing affecting many libraries, one must be creative in order to provide a consistent level of quality service with declining human and monetary resources. Personally, I find it frustrating that the library in which I am currently employed [prior to moving to Huronia Region] does not have a new acquisitions budget, but I love not typing catalogue cards any more.
- ♣ is committed to the profession. A continued interest in professional development through workshops, conferences and participation in library associations is a characteristic of this group. For me, a membership in OALT/ABO is rewarding as I have the chance to reap many benefits, including networking and, having served on both the regional and provincial executives in the past years, developed existing and new skills.
- ♣ The Library Technician is someone who has many qualities, but is someone who seek enjoyment in the world of books. That world is bookstores, publishing, writing, or naturally, libraries.

*Bill is now a member of Huronia Regional Branch but at the time he wrote this article he was a member of Sudbury Regional Branch. This article first appeared in **APROPOS Fall 1994 Vol. 16 no. 1**. We thank Bill for giving us permission to reprint this article, so we can get to know him better. Do you agree with Bill? Do you possess some or all of the traits Bill mentions?*

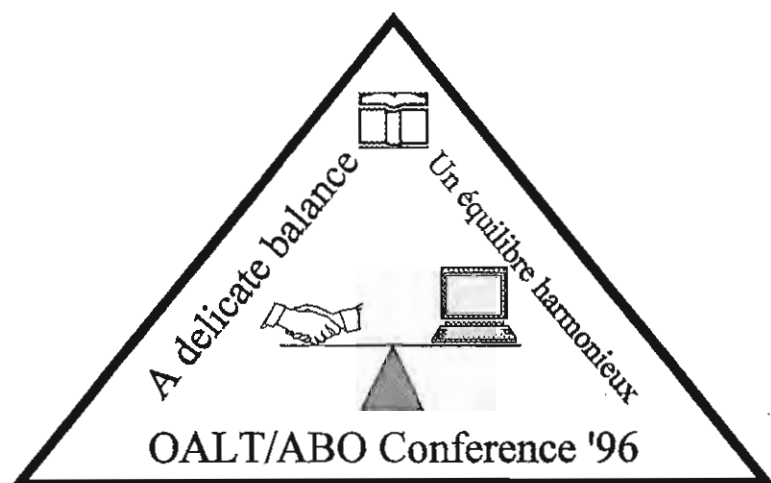
Bill has a new mailing address:

P.O. Box 2221

Orillia, ON

L3V 6S1

OALT/ABO CONFERENCE MAY 10-MAY 12, 1996



The conference logo was created by Janet Iles. After establishing a preliminary design, ideas from Janet Scheibler and Olive Vousden were incorporated into the resulting logo.

The triangle shape represents Collingwood's Blue Mountains and repeats the shape from the scale.

At the top is the association's logo.

The hands represent service and the computer represents technology. In our work we have to strive for a balance between service and technology. Technology must be a tool in providing service.

Pre-conference Guest Speaker — Joan Pajunen May 10, 1996 10:00 am.

[\$20.00 OALT/ABO members and \$30.00 non-members]

Joan Pajunen, is the Managing Director and partner of Service Dimensions, Inc. In this role she ensures clients receive creative, no-nonsense solutions and the tools to build a better organization, on-time and within budget.

A recognized service industry expert, Joan is often quoted and consulted on trends in the service sector. She is advisor to several presidents and chairmen, in the retail sector, as they strive to change the culture of their organization to meet the challenge of the nineties.

She is consulted on trends and has authored articles for major retail and service industry

publications and sits on the Retail Advisory Board of a Canadian College.

Referred to in the press as **Canada's Faith Popcorn** Joan is a frequent guest on radio and TV and her opinions and predictions are reported in the media across Canada.

We are honoured that she has agreed to be our pre-conference speaker. Her Friday morning address will be open to the general public as well as conference delegates.

We hope we will get a good response to this pre-conference event. Talk it up to others who you think may be interested in attending.

**Conference Planning Meeting
September 30, at 10 am.
at Cranberry Resort, Collingwood
On Highway 26, 1 mile west of the town
All are invited to attend**

Archivist's Report

Thanks to everyone who gave me minutes of meetings, pictures, and conference files for our archives. I sorted through the files. I have purchased a storage box and file folders. Using Janet Scheibler's list of headings as a guideline I made headings for the file folders. Then I placed the material in the appropriate file folder. The next step will be to go through each file to see if we are missing specific minutes, reports or issues of Networks. I seem to be in short supply of Director's reports.

The pictures need to be organized and labelled so we can look through them and reminisce about past conferences and special events in Huronia.

May 1996						
Sun	Mon.	Tue.	Wed	Thu	Fri.	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Mark the above dates on your calendar. To help with budgeting the following are the proposed conference packages.

Full conference (Friday noon-Sunday Breakfast) Includes accommodation, meals, workshops

Member \$390 (single) or \$330 (double room per person)

Non-member \$450 (single) or \$390 (double room)

Half Packages

Package A – Friday lunch-Saturday breakfast

Member \$200 (single) or \$170 (double room)

Non-member \$230 (single) or \$200 (double room)

Package B – Saturday lunch-Sunday breakfast

same as Package A

Extras:

Pre-conference speaker

Member \$20 Non-member \$30

Thursday night accommodation booked with Huronia

\$75.00 (does not include Friday breakfast)

Transportation (bus from airport, round trip \$40/person)

Day people charges

Workshop (3 hours) Member \$45 non-member \$55

Meals (plus taxes and gratuities)

Breakfast \$06.50

Lunch \$12.50

Dinner \$25.00

BBQ \$28.00

Membership Renewal Time!



**Be part of the action,
please renew your membership.**

