

APROPOS

vol. 6 no. 2

(FALL 1984)

Contents

Editorial Eloquence	1
Presidential Ponderings	1
Plenty of Praise	2
I AM A STATISTIC	3
Free...For the Asking	4
Did You Know	4
Canadian Book Exchange Centre	5
Nexus	5
OALT/ABO Members want Mini-Courses	5
The Storymakers	6
Workshop Planning Committee	6
OLA is Doing Something Right	6
Computer Book Recommended	6
Treasurer's Report	7
JOB OPPORTUNITIES	7
Tips for Techs	7
Membership List	8
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	9

EDITORIAL ELOQUENCE(?)

There is nothing sweeter for a new editor's peace of mind than to take over the editorship of an already well-formed publication. And from the Survey Results compiled by Monique Fuchs, that is exactly what was placed in my hands. Members apparently enjoy APROPOS, find it useful and relevant, and have described it as a useful communication tool. Even people outside our own region deem it a worthy publication (See "Plenty of Praise").

A number of recommendations for further improvement were made through the survey. Some of those suggestions are being implemented in this issue (See "Tips for Techs", "I am a Statistic"). Future issues will hopefully continue to improve as more of your wishes regarding APROPOS are met.

If you are able to contribute to any of the regular columns, or wish to write a feature article (approx. 1,000 words), please send the information along. The deadline for the next issue is January 18, 1985.

Share your problems, and let us help with solutions, or share your solutions to help solve our problems. Write about your job, your family's dealing with you working amongst all those murderers and rapists, or maternity leave and the hardship of returning to work with a new baby. What interests YOU, what YOU do, interest US!

Bette Heard
Editor

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

We are once again entering a new school year and with it a new program of OALT/ABO activities.

Your Executive is planning two workshops for the coming year. The first will be held on Oct. 20, 1984 at Laurentian University. Two sessions are being held, one on children and drama and the other on computers and the reference desk. (See "Workshop Planning Committee") Our second workshop will be held in March 1985, for which plans are still being made. We hope all area library people will attend and make our workshops a success.

We once again are planning an early Christmas get-together and hope all will attend our social.

In early September 1984 I received a letter from Loretta Taylor, President of OALT/ABO. It is a tribute to the Sudbury Region and our newsletter, APROPOS (See "Plenty of Praise"). Over a number of years the people (particularly the newsletter editors) have worked to make APROPOS a quality, professional newsletter, and it sure is nice when others notice and take the time to write it down. So APROPOS editors and writers take note - the time, effort and hard work are noticed and appreciated.

Judy Laplante
President
Sudbury Region

APROPOS is published four times a year by OALT/ABO, Sudbury Region. Letters and enquiries should be directed to Box 2351, Sudbury, Ontario, P3A 4S8

Sudbury Regional Branch

OALT/ABO

PLENTY OF PRAISENewsletter Touted

Judy Laplante
 President - Sudbury Region
 September 3, 1984

Dear Judy:

This letter should have been written to Sudbury a long time ago. Since I started serving on the Provincial Executive and having access to each region's newsletter, I've been very impressed by Sudbury's APROPOS. I mentioned this from time to time to Linda Davis when she was Director so now I shall do it formally in print.

Everything about your newsletter is so professional. The set-up, the typing (never any typos!), the attractive coloured paper and the excellent writing and articles; both look and content are superb. You really are to be congratulated.

The newsletter appears deceptively simple but I know how much work and organization goes into making such a professional finished product.

One of the joys of being president of this association is being able to bask in the reflected glory of other members' accomplishments.

I'm basking.

Loretta

Loretta Craig Taylor
 President OALT/ABO

Technician Achieves Recognition

Susan Chapman, a 1984 graduate of the Seneca College Library Techniques Program, has been named first runner-up in Canadian Library Journal's student article contest.

Her article "Paraprofessionals in a Cataloguing Unit" appears in the August issue of CLJ (vol. 41, no. 4). It provides a look at the education and actual work experience of library technicians who are

currently employed in cataloguing environments. The author includes the results of a survey on the role of the technician in the cataloguing department.

Neil Campbell, a graduate of UBC School of Librarianship, received first prize in the contest, and Margaret Wilkinson, student at Faculty of Library and Information Science, University of Toronto, was named second runner-up. Their respective articles, "On Paperlessness" and "Three Hypotheses", also appear in the August CLJ.

CLA Awards for Children's Literature

Jan Hudson is the recipient of the 1984 CLA Children's Book of the Year Award for her novel Sweetgrass (Tree Frog Press, \$6.95). The Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Award was presented to Ken Nutt for his illustrations in Zoom at Sea, written by Tim Wynne-Jones (Groundwood, \$9.95).

Felicitations in Feliciter

The September 1984 issue of Feliciter had two articles of special interest to Library Technicians - praising us and making our professionalism apparent to others.

Our 11th Conference was given a succinct report which included the names of the elected Executive, and the recipient of our Presidential Award, along with the conference theme and workshop areas.

Brian Nettlefold, a visitor from Dublin, Ireland, had the following to say in the Letters column:

"The discussions I had on the education of library technicians and their relationships with librarians in Canada today were most useful to me in my work on this topic here in Ireland."

I AM A STATISTIC

by Millie Cayen

Millie graduated from Cambrian College's Library Technician course in 1977. Her first full-time job was at Canadore College in North Bay until May 1979, when she and her husband moved to Kingston. She was then unemployed for 6 months, until she was able to find work in a small research library at Queen's University. Four years later Millie left Kingston and Queen's with her husband and her son to return to Sudbury, where they are presently residing.

I've been asked by friends, family, and now a newsletter editor how it feels to be unemployed. Although I have no true talent for writing, I'm going to relate my personal experience to you.

I became unemployed in mid-November 1983. It was the natural consequence of moving from Kingston back to our home-town of Sudbury.

At first I looked upon being unemployed as God-sent free time; a well-deserved reprieve. I was busy settling into a new home, and Christmas was just around the corner. You know how hectic that can be in the most normal of times. Nonetheless, I faithfully did the rounds of the obvious places of potential employment for library technicians, armed with resumes. Even if I wasn't anxious to begin working immediately, I certainly didn't want to miss out on some fantastic job either. After all, the rate of unemployment was (sorrowfully, still is) extremely high, and one never knew when another job would come along.

Repeatedly, I heard sentences peppered with words like 'budget restraints', 'cutbacks', and 'attrition'. Worry began to nibble at my confidence in being able to find a job at any time.

However, within 2½ months of arriving in Sudbury I was chosen to head a make-work project involving the city's hospital libraries. Oh sure, it was only temporary (8 weeks), but to me it represented a stepping stone; a way to meet further contacts. Also it provided me with the opportunity to maintain my library skills, (already terms of the trade weren't readily rolling off my tongue, and to gain further experience. The eight weeks flew by. No sooner had I adjusted to working full-time than I found myself once more merely a statistic.

I continued to religiously search newspaper advertisements and follow up leads from friends. Then suddenly summer was upon me. I told myself I should be pleased not to have found a full-time job as yet. I hadn't had a summer off in so many years I couldn't recall the last time. Everyone said they envied me my extended "holiday". But was I gloating? No, not at all. I wasn't fully relaxed; I couldn't truly appreciate it. After all, I had to stay on top of my job search or surely that one and only job would elude me.

As if to provide a bolster to my quickly deflating balloon of self-confidence, three months later I was asked to fill in at Laurentian Hospital for their one and only library staff who was taking 5 weeks vacation. (That resulted from the make-work project!) Although this job concurred with the arrival of much out-of-town company I felt I had no choice but to accept.

CANADIAN BOOK EXCHANGE CENTRE

The National Librarian, Marianne Scott, has announced that the Canadian Book Exchange Centre will resume full operations. As of September 1, 1984, all Canadian libraries, cultural and educational institutions may again send their surplus library materials to the centre. Since July 1, 1983, due to staff reduction, the centre has accepted surplus materials from federal government libraries only.

To avoid congestion in the Centre in September, libraries are asked to stagger their shipments over a few months, or to contact the centre in regard to scheduling shipments.

The following types of publications should be eliminated from shipments: Single or scattered issues of periodicals; incomplete sets of publications which can not be used in parts; loose-leaf publications; daily or weekly parts of monthly or yearly publications; damaged publications; textbooks that have been marked or underlined; unpublished material (i.e. shadow literature); popular religious publications; self-help publications; trade catalogues, advertising brochures and propaganda printed in large quantities.

Foreign and international official publications of the following countries are preferred: U.S.A., Great Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, and Germany. All publications of international organizations are acceptable.

Libraries may continue to obtain publications from the centre's stock of two million serials, government publications and monographs. Participating libraries bear only the shipping costs; the publications themselves are free of charge.

NEXUS

The theme of the 1985 OALT/ABO conference, sponsored by TALTA Branch, is NEXUS. It will take place May 1-4th at the Carlton Inn in Toronto. All members will receive pre-conference literature for the event, our 12th annual get-together.

OALT/ABO MEMBERS WANT MINI-COURSES

Survey Results Examined

When the new executive of the Sudbury Region met for the first time in May to make plans for the upcoming year, it felt a need to have input from the members.

As a result, a questionnaire was prepared and mailed with the summer issue of APROPOS. Of the 28 surveys sent, 15 responses were received - a very good return!

In this issue of APROPOS, we would like to share with the members the results of this survey. The information compiled will serve in guiding the executive in the preparation of this year's activities as well as future projects.

To all members who took the time and effort in filling out the survey and expressing their needs and opinions, we are most grateful.

Results

14 respondents are currently employed, 11 as library technicians

Mondays and Fridays were equally popular for meeting days, but the majority approved rotating the evenings

7:30 p.m. was the most popular time for meetings.

General membership meetings at twice a year are satisfactory to a large majority of the respondents

29 different suggestions were made regarding workshop topics, in such areas as Special Cataloguing Rules (e.g. non-print, gov't docs); Computer use; Personal growth and advancement; Technology in libraries (i.e. automated cataloguing and circulation); Children and libraries; Public Relations and displays.

14 would be interested in mini-courses.

Suggested locations for workshops or courses were Sudbury (most popular), North Bay (second), and Timmins and Elliot Lake (tied for third spot).

(N.B. - overnight billeting can be arranged for persons needing such service e.g. S.S.M. techs wishing to attend N.B. workshops, stay in Sudbury 2 nights.

Editor)

Wide geographic interest in assisting with workshops was shown. Most support was in Sudbury and Timmins.

APROPOS is considered to be a useful communication tool by all respondents. Many favourable aspects were commented on, specifically layout and content. Suggestions for improvement included specific articles, book reviews, list of LT's and libraries, profiles of LT's, Letters column for members' comments.

Topic suggestions for future issues were quite varied - problem solving, recommended books, orientation programs, budget set-up and management, libraries of the future.

Less than half of the respondents were willing to contribute articles or columns to APROPOS.

Monique Fuchs

THE STORYMAKERS

The Children's Book Festival is an annual event sponsored by the Children's Book Centre, a national non-profit information and resource centre for Canadian books for children and young people. Many agencies and individuals help fund the Festival: the Canada Council; members of the Centre; various private donors; the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; the government of the Northwest Territories.

The Storymakers is the theme of the 1984 Children's Book Festival, Nov. 17-24, 1984.

The Children's Book Festival brings Canada's best-loved children's authors to communities in every corner of the country. Watch for these authors:

Northern Ontario - Elizabeth Brochmann
 Southern Ontario - Ted Harrison
 Eric Wilson
 Jan Hudson

For more information, or to apply for an author visit, contact The Children's Book Centre, 229 College St., Toronto Ont.
 M5T 1R4

WORKSHOP PLANNING COMMITTEE

October 20, 1984 - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Choice of two sessions:

Automated Reference Services - Joanne Turple & Bob Wilson of Laurentian University

OR

Bless All the Wee Beasties and Children - Fabian Lemieux, Ministry of Education

Laurentian University Library - Approximate Cost FREE to members, \$10.00 to NON-MEMBERS (Includes Lunch)

For more information contact:

Maysel Dag - 675-3008, ext. 258
 560-5134 (home)

Linda Davis or Monique Fuchs -

1 - 800 - 461-0183 (Free to area code 705)

OLA IS DOING SOMETHING RIGHT

FOCUS, August 1984, announced that OLA will be receiving a \$13,500 grant for operating expenses from the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture. Minister Susan Fish has also approved a further \$1,150 grant to cover the major portion of the costs of project Freedom to Read, to be undertaken in the fall.



COMPUTER BOOK RECOMMENDED

THE ABC OF BASIC: An Introduction to Programming for Librarians. Eric J. Hunter. London: Cline Bingley, 1982. \$7.95 U.K. ISBN 0-85157355-X

TREASURER'S REPORT
March 1984 to September 1984

Opening Balance	5,000.48
INCOME	
Memberships	260.00
Nightshirt sales	122.00
UTLAS Workshop fees	190.00
Prov. reimbursement (UTLAS)	200.00
Interest	1.32
TOTAL INCOME	<u>773.32</u>
EXPENSES	
Prov. membership dues	890.00
UTLAS Workshop	200.00
Directors' meetings	138.19
Workshop food & misc.	138.95
Investment certificate	1,000.00
Newsletter - postage	48.80
printing	17.39
Postage	16.00
Telephone charges	1.28
Bank charges	.48
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>2,451.09</u>
Closing Balance	3,322.71
Investment Certificate	1,000.00

Monique Fuchs

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Library Technician 3 (Schedule 3,7)
\$358-400 per week (under review) plus
\$1,000 per year custodial responsibility
allowance)

Required by the Ministry of Correctional
Services, Guelph Correctional Centre, to:
operate the institution's library services
for inmates and staff; supervise and train
inmates assigned to the library in routine
library functions. Location: Guelph.

Qualifications: significant, directly
related library experience; ability to plan
and organize work; good knowledge of infor-
mation storage and retrieval operations and
daily operating procedures of library and
records functions; ability to develop and
maintain effective working relationships
with officials and supervise inmates;
satisfactory attendance and work record.

Return application by Oct. 5 to:
File C1-0425, Regional Personnel Admin-
istrator S-W, Ministry of Correctional
Services, 1315 Bishop Street, Cambridge,
Ontario, N1R 6Z2.

Current Data File Technician (Library
Technician 2) Schedule 3,7 \$17,100-19,000

Required by the Office of the legisla-
tive assembly, legislative library to help
maintain the current data file. You will:
select newspaper clippings and other mater-
ials for inclusion in the file; assign
appropriate subject headings; provide ref-
erence service for the files; relieve at
the circulation desk. Location: Toronto.

Qualifications: Diploma from a recog-
nized library techniques program and some
experience or equivalent combination of
education and experience; ability to scan
articles and identify relevant material
quickly; awareness of and interest in
current events; willingness to work at
routine tasks for prolonged periods of
time; flexibility, good judgment; circu-
lation experience and familiarity with
subject heading work advantageous.

Return application by Oct. 5 to File
LA-7-21, Personnel Office, Office of the
Legislative Assembly, Room 116, North Wing,
Legislative Building, Queen's Park,
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1A2.

TIPS FOR TECHS

Library broke? Have a lot of items you
use daily and want them handy for quick
reference but can't afford a blotter with
an acetate sheet? Try making your own
with the acetate side of a regular book
cover from the rolls in boxes. Just tape
the top side securely on your desk top,
reinforce the bottom corners with tape,
and attach the bottom corners with two-
sided tape for easy removal and replacement.

Budget restraints have us all down.
Try stretching your budget dollars by pur-
chasing some materials from second-hand
book stores. You can often get good buys
in paperbacks, or replace a worn-out
favourite novel at a reasonable cost.

OALT/ABO SUDBURY REGION MEMBERSHIP LIST (September 1984)

PAULETTE BURTON 496 Maple St. Sudbury P3C 2B5 674-7540 E.S. Franco Jeunesse 566-5510 x-21	JUDY ELSTON 821 Douglas apt. 103 North Bay PlB 5P3 476-0941 North Bay Psych. Hosp. 474-1200 x-126	WILLIAM LAND 3 Washington Cr. apt. 703 Elliot Lake P5A 2XL 848-5614 Elliot Lake Sec. Sch. 848-7162 x-17	MAIRE LEIGH SHEPPARD 188 Windsor Ave. Timmins P4N 3B4 267-5480 Northern College Porcupine Campus 235-3211 x-150
MILLIE CAYEN 1870 Springdale Cr. Sudbury P3A 5J1 566-5382	SYLVIA FENTON 49 Tower Kirkland Lake P2N 1P3 567-7140 Northeastern Reg. Lib. 567-3341	JUDY LAPLANTE Site 27, Box 15 R.R. 1 Lively POM 2EO 692-9471 Cambrian College 566-8101 x-320	URSULA SKOWRONSKI 1720 Paris St. apt. 202 Sudbury P3E 3C2 522-5020 Cambrian College 566-8101 x-652
ELISE CHARRON 18 Gill St. Onaping POM 2RO 966-3653 E.S. Rayside 983-4241	ANNETTE FERRON 3132 Leo St. General Delivery Val Caron POM 3AO Sudbury Public Library 673-1151	MARGARET MARTEL 251-9th Ave. E. Lively POM 2EO 692-3848 Walden Public Lib. 692-4848	SHARON WIGNEY 31 Walters St. S.Ste Marie P6C 4Y8 949-4786 S.Ste Marie Public Lib. 949-2152
WENDY COLQUHOUN 35 Moreau St. apt. 308 Garson POM 1VO 693-3265 Sudbury Algoma Hosp. 675-9192	KATHRYN FOOT Site 1, Box 29, R.R.2 Lively POM 2EO 692-5474 Geo. Vanier Pub. Sch. 692-3112	FAITH POIRIER 294 Ross Ave. Timmins P4N 5XL 267-5649 Northern College Porcupine Campus 235-3211 x-150	LOUISE WILLCOCK 39 Capital Place Elliot Lake P5A 2P8 Sault College Elliot Lake Campus 848-2285
DEBBIE CONWAY R.R.1 Swastika POK 1TO 642-3583 Northern College Kirkland Lake 567-9291 x-148	MONIQUE FUCHS 209 Catherine Dr. Garson POM 1VO 693-4317 Min. of Educ. 675-4427	JULIE RANCOURT 141 Esten Dr. S. Elliot Lake P5A 3E1 461-1847	<u>EXECUTIVE</u> President - Judy Laplante Director - Millie Cayen Secretary/Treasurer - Monique Fuchs Public Relations - Maysel Dag Newsletter Editor - Bette Heard Membership - Linda Davis
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MAYSEL DAG 2008 Hebert St. Sudbury P3B 1Y9 560-5134 Sudbury Bd. of Ed. 675-3008 x-258	BETTE HEARD 3272 Maple St. R.R.2, Site 32 Box 530 Val Caron POM 3AO 897-4020 Capreol High Sch. 858-3501	LORRIE ROBERTS 4070 Roma St. Hanmer POM 1YO 969-5480 Valley East.Pub. Lib. 897-6250	
LINDA DAVIS 1267 Cardinal Ct. Sudbury P3A 3C2 566-9374 Min. of Educ. 675-4427	ARLENE JOYCE 1005 Miller St. Sudbury P3A 2X3 566-4796 Sudbury Bd. of Ed. 675-3008	SUZANNE RUEL 4 LaSalle Kapusking P5N 2R7 335-2692 Bibliothèque Pub. de Kapuskasing 335-3363	
DENISE DENOMME 3057 Lina St. Box 906 Val Caron POM 3AO 897-6784 Laurentian Univ. 675-1151 x-349 or 334			

O A L T / A B O E V E N T S C A L E N D A R

OCTOBER 1984

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 SRB Work shop
21	22	23	24	25 O L A conference Toronto	26	27
28 OLA Conf. Toronto	29	30	31			

NOVEMBER 1984

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Child. Ok. Fest.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL						
25	26	27	28	29	30 XMAS DINNER Marconi's 7:00 p.m.	

FEBRUARY 1985

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
NEWSLETTER MONTH					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 OSLA IDEASHOP	9
10 OSLA Ideashop	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 GEN. MEMB. MEETING		

MARCH 1985

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	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 OALT/ABO Work shop
31						

APRIL 1985

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	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	NEWSLETTER MONTH			

MAY 1985

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			COALT/ABO CONFERENCE "NEXUS"			
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	

JUNE 1985

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	CANADIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION			MID-JUNE CALGARY		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
					COALT CONFERENCE	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
COALT CONF. 30						