

APROPOS

Vol. 11 No. 4

SPRING 1990

Editor's Note

In this issue you find out who the incoming Sudbury executive and new members are. We are pleased to welcome new members to OALT/ABO's Sudbury region, especially now, when we begin to plan for the 1992 conference to be held here in Sudbury for the second time.

At Sudbury's annual business meeting, on March 3rd, the round table discussion on "Raising Our Profile" gave everyone there an opportunity to identify our problems and goals as an association. Described briefly in this issue are ideas which came out of this informal brainstorming session.

The Summer 1990 issue (Vol. 12, No. 1) of Apropos will be produced by William Land (Elliot Lake Pub. Lib.), the incoming newsletter editor. Please send any submissions to him at:

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My best wishes to Bill with Apropos.

M. Fuchs

UPDATE ON PROVINCIAL MATTERS
by P. Burton
Summary of Director's meeting
April 7, 1990

Marsha Hunt, Public Relations Coordinator, brought to our attention the article "The Importance of the Library Technician" (Library Journal, March 1, 1990) by Deborah D. Halstead and Dana M. Neeley. Please send her any comments regarding this article.

Political Awareness Committee
Ron Cheney, Chairperson presented the draft revision of the Statement of Standards Committee. Any suggestions by regional members should be sent to Ron.

Kaleidoscope 1989
A financial report was submitted by last year's conference committee. The conference profit is \$9,276.30 of which the provincial share (half) is \$4,132.24.

Conference Procedures Manual
Liz Aldrey (Lohania) said its revision is well under way. Draft was presented at the meeting. The manual has been divided into different sections.

Guidelines were set up for the mailbox person(s).

Revision of guidelines
Guidelines to write annual reports will be revised as these were not consistent in format, etc. These will be standardized for next year.

Apropos is published four times a year by OALT/ABO, Sudbury Region. Letters and enquires should be directed to Box 2351, Station A, Sudbury, Ontario P3A4S8

OALT/ABO Sudbury Regional Branch

Next meeting

Will be held in Ottawa on
June 16. (CLA conference,
June 17th)

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RAISING OUR PROFILE

Sudbury's annual business meeting over lunch on March 3rd at the Cedar Hut Restaurant was very well attended and the round table discussion, successfull. thanks to the help of our leader Nicole Charatte. Sudbury Board of Education.

Everyone agreed our region was suffering because library technicians were not aware that our association exists and that technicians can benefit from joining. Since Cambrian College and other community colleges in the Sudbury area do not offer the library technician program, our numbers are remaining constant but employers and the public at large are less aware of us.

Here are some objectives the group attending the ABM felt we should concentrate on:
-promote awareness of library technicians to potential employers
-promote OALI/ABO to other technicians
-increase the association's membership

To meet our objectives, we felt we needed to contact our current members and recruit potential technicians in the region.

An aggressive membership campaign and the promotion of OALI/ABO needs to be done.

At the March 31st Sudbury executive meeting, it was decided that a membership drive will begin in January of 1991.

Louise Willcox has volunteered to help with the drive.

To improve our image outside the library community, it was suggested that:

-we attend or participate in special events in the area
-that we donate money to causes relevant to our association eg. local literacy programs, reading programs, etc.

Many other strategies were suggested and the new executive hopes to tackle some of these in the coming year.

M. Fuchs

**GEORGIAN COLLEGE TO OFFER
LIBRARY TECHNICIAN PROGRAM**

Sudbury members, Linda Davis, Bette Gore and Paulette Burton are pleased to announce that Georgian College will offer the first course of the library technician continuing education program this fall.

Georgian College sent a survey to area members and people who had shown an interest in taking library technician courses. The response was good and their was sufficient interest to offer the program.

The first course, "Introduction to Libraries" will be offered on five Saturdays between late September to mid December.

In the second session the course to be offered will be "Public Relations", between March and June.

If you are interested or know of someone who would want to take these courses, please contact:

Linda Newton
Program Supervisor
Georgian College
Parry Sound, Ont.
(705) 746-9222

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**SUDBURY HOSTING 1992
CONFERENCE**

After nine years since the last DALI/ABO conference was held in Sudbury, our branch has decided to host it again in 1992.

Those of us who were involved in the last conference can recall that early planning is crucial to getting a proper conference location and good workshop leaders. But even more important, is organizing a dedicated group of people to plan this tremendous event. The Sudbury executive hopes to recruit enough members to help make the task ahead easier on everyone.

If you would like to get involved, regardless of where you are, you can be of help. Please contact any executive members and leave your name.

In the Winter issue the first part of the article Elliot Lake Public Library Moves On! by William Land was featured. Here now is Part II of this article:

Elliot Lake citizens were canvassed for donations during a house-to-house blitz campaign. Also, a "Get-Away Draw" was held. Chances were sold for \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00 on a generous prize; two airline tickets, donated by Voyageur Airlines, and a \$400.00 monetary award. A slogan, "Elliot Lake Library Moves On!" and a "walking book" logo were adopted. These efforts were successful as the Board netted some much-needed cash for this project.

During the summer and early autumn, design drawings were finalized and construction estimates submitted to Ms. Fazekas by contractors. In September, a firm was selected and work on the new library site in the Algo Centre Mall commenced.

At this point, excitement among library staff, Board members and patrons was mounting. At long last, the Elliot Lake Public Library would be in a vibrant, new facility. "Town Council approved interim financing for the project as per the cash flow summary submitted with the CFIP application." Much of the financing for the relocation was to be obtained from the provincial government grants, Town Council and the fundraising activities.

In anticipation of increased use of library services, Council approved the Board's recommendation of increasing the full-time staff complement from three persons to four. A second library clerk was hired.

The plans promised that the new library would be large and functional. It would be divided into two rooms, separated by a large opening. Upon entering the facility, one would find the adult non-fiction collection, a comfortable reading area with periodicals and newspapers, the circulation desk, the librarian's and technical services offices and storage area. The next room would house the junior and French language materials, a meeting room, staff room and staff washroom. Study tables and comfortable chairs were to be strategically placed.

In October, as the site neared completion, plans were finalized for the move. It was decided that the library would close for three weeks from October 9th to October 30th. The momentous task of packing the library collection in preparation for moving was undertaken on the day following Thanksgiving Day.

The library staff, aided tremendously by a dedicated team of volunteers, began to box books and other holdings and dismantle shelving and office furniture. By the end of the first week, everything was ready for the movers!

The journey to the Algo Centre Mall began! A moving company was hired to do the actual move and the library staff, at both locations, directed their activities. Once, in the new site, the task of unpacking cartons and assembling shelving began.

It quickly became apparent that the library wouldn't be ready to open on October 30th so the date was changed to the following Monday. The staff and volunteers worked efficiently and quickly to accomplish this goal.

The doors to the new library had opened on Monday, November 6th with a flurry of activity. The citizens of Elliot Lake had missed their valuable service. Many came in to return books, obtain new ones and to have a look around. Circulation records were surpassed during the first week! Many people applied for a library membership for the first time.

Much of the reaction from the townspeople for the library's relocation to the Mall had been positive. The library staff was elated; at long last, they had left the old, neglected, unpleasant quarters for the clean, functional, fresh-looking facility! Each member of the full-time staff had her (or his) own work station. The Library Board was happy as they had accomplished their long-term objective of relocating the library.

It would be remiss not to mention that the relocation project was fraught with, at times, disappointment and frustration, especially for Ms. Fazekas. Nevertheless, her dedicated efforts on behalf of the library did not go unnoticed by her staff, the Board, the Council and the library patrons. Without her competency and hard work, the library may not have relocated as quickly as it had.

Grand opening ceremonies were held on Thursday, November 30, 1989 at 7:00p.m. in the new home of the Elliot Lake Public Library. A ribbon-cutting ceremony took place with the Mayor, Library Board Chairman, Mall Manager and a representative of the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture doing the honours. A gala reception followed; library staff, Board members, Council representatives, volunteers, special guests and patrons were in attendance. The mood, of course, was festive!

Library life has settled into a comfortable routine for the users and employees. Services have returned to "normal", with a noteworthy exception; everything is brighter, spacious, more functional and attractive than previously. The new facility seems "almost luxurious" and is a welcome, and necessary, addition to our community.

(Editor's note: All quotations in this article were drawn from the following publication:

Fazekas, Barbara L. History of the Project: the Elliot Lake Public Library. Elliot Lake, Ont., 1989.)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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A complete list of members,
Sudbury Branch, will be
included in a future issue of
Apropos.

NEXT ISSUE....

Watch for the following items
in the next issue of Apropos:

- OALT/ABO's new provincial
executive
 - workshop summaries from the
annual conference "Pathways /
Sentiers
 - Free.. for the asking
 - recipient of Presidential
award
 - much more....
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