

APROPOS

WINTER, 1993 VOL. 14, No. 2

Editor's Note:

Welcome to the winter issue of APROPOS and the final issue with which I will be involved! Due to some personal commitments I must resign my position. However, I would like to thank the OALT/ABO executive and those who had supported me. Thank you for the experience.

This issue will include some details regarding the 1993 OALT/ABO 20th Annual Conference, news that the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines has joined the Laurentian University's MultiLis Library System, some miscellaneous news and again a new Membership list for 1992-1993.

Brenda Vaillancourt

Director's Report:

Since the last issue of APROPOS, I have attended two teleconferences - November 21st, 1992 and February 6th, 1993.

Here are some of the issues which were discussed:

Job descriptions completed:

The Ad-Hoc committee on Political Awareness, headed by Ron Cheney, have compiled generic job descriptions for technicians working in aca-

demie, governments, public and special libraries. These are to be distributed when requested by library technicians and their employers. This committee's mandate has now been completed and will be disbanded at the Annual Business Meeting.

Library technicians in Canada - Bibliography:

OALT/ABO has compiled a current (1988-on) selective bibliography focused on library technicians and their role in libraries. Corrections are being made and French language articles will be added to the bilingual list.

Membership directory:

A new directory will be printed in 1994. Until then, changes and corrections will be added to Newsletter/Nouvelles. New members are to receive these additions and corrections until the new directory is published.

OALT/ABO at CLA Conference:

The CLA conference is being held in June in Hamilton. OALT/ABO would like to participate in a panel discussion or workshop. Marsha Hunt, Public Relations, will contact organizers and find out how we can become involved and at what cost.

OALT/ABO Sudbury Regional Branch

Apropos is published three times a year by OALT/ABO, Sudbury.

Letters and inquiries should be directed to Box 2351, Station A,
Sudbury, ON P3A 4S8

Northern Ont. Teleconference Network Workshop:

NOTN has approached our association to suggest a teleconference workshop province-wide. Bette Gore, President, agreed to contact NOTN to discuss plans for a Fall 1993 workshop. If anyone is interested in seeing the types of workshops offered by NOTN, do not hesitate to contact me.

Constitutional Revisions Continue:

Susan Morley, Ex-Officio, has compiled a list of changes which are badly needed to OALT/ABO's constitution. She received little feedback from the regions regarding those changes. The Board of Directors has asked Susan Morley to integrate the changes into our present constitution for discussion at future meetings.

Outdated Video Should Not Be Shown:

OALT/ABO produced a video in 1986? which the Board of Directors has now deemed outdated and has asked members to not show it. No funds are available at this time to revise it or produce a new one.

Province Wide Charity Drive

Marsha Hunt, Public Relations, has suggested and received approval from OALT/ABO to become involved in some form of charity as a means to improve our image and become visible with the public.

This year, at the annual

conference, members are asked to bring used Christmas cards which will be donated to the Canadian Cancer Society. To add some flair to this fund-raising idea, each region will participate in a box decorating competition. "Special" prizes will be awarded to the regions with the 'best' boxes.

The next Board of Directors' meeting is on April 3rd at Richview Public Library in Toronto.

Monique Fuchs

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Reflections '93

OALT/ABO's 20th Annual Conference

May 10-14, 1993
Carleton University
Ottawa, Ont.

Members who are anxious for a registration package will be pleased to know that they will be mailed early to mid-March. Special rates will be offered to members who wish to attend from Wednesday to Saturday.

Here are some of the conference packages available:

Monday, May 10th:

Registration.

Tuesday, May 11th:

Tours all day then a BBQ.

Wednesday, May 12th:

Workshops and Annual Business Meeting (ABM).

Thursday, May 13th:

Workshops and Mystery Night.

Friday, May 14th:

Workshops, and Banquet and Casino.

Conference Package No. 1
(includes accommodations, meals and workshops and evening activities):

Member \$580.00
Nonmember \$675.00

Conference Package No. 2
(includes meals, workshops and evening activities):

Member \$365.00
Nonmember \$475.00

Conference Package No. 3
(daily registrant):

1/2 day \$50.00
1 day \$100.00

Tour day \$15.00

Banquet and Casino \$60.00

Evening Package (Opening night, Mystery Night, B.B.Q. and Banquet and Casino) \$125.00

Some Workshops:

- Customer Service in the library
- Total Quality Management
- Team Building
- Travelling alone (OPP)
- Innovative Programming for Children and Young Adults in difficult times
- A tour of Ottawa Public Library's Dial in Access - on-line catalogue
- Library Technician working on contract
- CISTI - ROMULUS
- leadership and personality = Myers Briggs Indicators
- laughter as stress release
- Professional ethics

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Sudbury's ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Where: Cedar Hut and Steak House at
855 Barrydowne Rd.
Sudbury

Date: Saturday
March 27, 1993

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Planning to attend? Think about it twice because the members who will be attending may have a chance to win a special prize. For this year the executive has decided to have a luncheon meeting to more or less make if a social event instead. Lunch will be followed by the election of new officers for 1993/94.

All members are encouraged to attend. New members always welcome.

RSVP (if attending) by Wednesday March 24, 1993, call:

Lorrie Roberts
969-5565, Ext.16, or
969-5480

Ministry of Northern Development and Mines Library Joins Laurentian University's MultiLis System:

After much deliberation, and few false starts, the Library located at the head office of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines in Sudbury is automating its collection.

Trying to get the job done with the severe financial constraints currently facing the government proved to be a challenge. However, the plan now underway makes good use of available local resources and we have been able to minimize our cost.

The MNDM library is quite small (about 5,000 volumes) but has been difficult to access because of inconsistent care over many years. About 3/4 of the collection had been classified but it is impossible to tell how the card catalogue came to be in its present chaotic state. It has been clear for some time that a recon project was the only answer to clear up the mess.

With the help of a systems analyst from the Ministry

Information Technology Branch, we examined our needs and the suitability and costs of various systems. A proposal from Laurentian University to have their MultiLis system house our catalogue proved to be the most viable solution. To save money, it was necessary to contract out the data entry (rather than have Laurentian staff do it). Early in January, the Library Corporation (Bibliofile) began this part of the project.

Once the data is entered, the diskettes will be downloaded into Laurentian's system and our own database created. We have a cataloguing account on the system enabling us to verify the records before labelling the books and reorganizing the shelves. The job of updating records will be time-consuming as only about 70% of our collection will have classification numbers available through Bibliofile, with the remainder requiring original cataloguing.

The computer connection with Laurentian University was easy because the Ministry subscribes to Internet which we can use to access the university's catalogue along with those of many other institutions. Doing the ongoing cataloguing will cost the Ministry nothing (my time) and we will be able to keep our records up-to-date on a modern system. Laurentian allows us free access to the MultiLis system. In return, they have a record of our holdings for ILL (interlibrary loans) purposes.

In total, this project will only cost us about \$5,000.00 (for the data entry). We have ended up doing a lot of the work ourselves to save money but having this system in place will be well worth the extra effort and time required.

Linda Davis

TOUGH TIMES ... JOB SECURITY

Read Fireproofing: Protecting Your Job in the 90's by Brian Grosman with Allan Reznik. -- Key Porter, 1992.
ISBN 1-55013-371-3

Experts and employees agree: job security is a thing of the past. With talk about downsizing budget cutbacks and restructuring, there are still things you can do to keep your job when all around you some are losing theirs. The author describes the strategies that all employees should adopt to protect their jobs, if the worst happens, to ensure that they leave on the most favourable terms. It is timely and essential reading for every employee in these troubled economic times.

DOWN MEMORY LANE ...

Twenty years ago, a small group of library technicians felt a need to promote a wider understanding, acceptance and advancement of Library Technicians in Ontario. In 1973, OALT/ABO was formed along with several regional branches. We presently have seven regional

branches: Halton-Peel, Huronia, Lohania, Ottawa, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, and Toronto area.

The Sudbury Region is small compared to other regions. Our members are scattered throughout Northern Ontario which makes it difficult to have new executive members. We are always interested in seeing new faces. So don't be shy - come and join us - you will feel a sense of satisfaction and camaraderie. Those of us who have been actively involved over the past 20 years are a bit worried when others don't step forward to help us keep OALT/ABO alive and well. We have managed to do so up until now. Let's not take our association for granted - let's make sure it is working for us - OALT/ABO has played a vital role in educating employers in the library field and the community. OALT/ABO is helping us to maintain our credibility. It is necessary for us to remain visible if we are to maintain the existing positions in our present economic situation and for the development of new ones. Let's be proud of our accomplishments!

WHERE HAVE ALL THE GRADS GONE?

If you are wondering whatever happened to so and so from your library technician class, just drop us a line. We may be able to help you get information regarding a former classmate.

Paulette Burton, President.

A MUST HAVE FOR YOUR LIBRARY:

Directory of telefacsimile in North American libraries / by C. Lee Jones, ed. --7th ed. Bethlehem, PA : CBR Consulting Services, c1992. (At head of title: The Library FAX Directory. \$57.00

Harrod's Librarians' Glossary of terms used in librarianship, documentation and the book crafts, and reference book, compiled by Ray Prytherch. -- Brookfield, VT : Gower Publishing, c1990. ISBN 0-566-036207 \$89.95=US

Interlibrary Loan Services Manual : Directory of Interlibrary Loan -- Ottawa : National Library of Canada, 1991. ISBN 0-660-14384-4 \$34.00

LEXIQUE D'INFORMATION DOCUMENTAIRE = LEXICON OF INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION, par Claude-André Bonin ... [et al.] Documentor, 1986. (ISBN 2-89123-107-X)

Conçu à la fois comme un outil de référence et un instrument d'apprentissage, l'ouvrage présente quelque 2500 termes anglais et 3400 termes français connus dans l'évolution terminologique des sciences de la documentation. Ce lexique est à la croisée des cultures française, québécoise, canadienne, anglaise et américaine. étudiants, professionnels et techniciens en documentation y trouveront réponse aux problèmes de ter-

minologie qui se posent dans un domaine en constante et rapide évolution.

Meant to be used as a learning tool as well as a reference work this lexicon includes some 2500 English terms and 3400 French terms. This edition is at the crossroads of French, Québec, Canadian, English and American usage in the terminology of information. Students, library technicians and librarians will find here quick answers to their needs in a domain characterized by constant and rapid progress. It is the new title for their revised and enlarged publication of the former Current Words in Library Science, first published in 1979.

Available at/Disponible au:
Le Coin du Livre Ltée.
1657, Chemin Cyrille Rd.
Gloucester, ON K1B 3L7
(613) 746-1242
FAX/TÉLÉCOPIEUR:
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PRICE/PRIX: \$21.50

FREE FOR THE ASKING:

Write to:

Ministry of Agriculture & Food
Information Centre
801 Bay St., Main floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2B2

Ask for:

Thinking of Owning a Pet?
ISBN 0-7729-9621-0

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