

TECH TALK

Volume 21, No. 6 September 1994



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I feel sad to see summer pass (along with my days of learning to play golf) but look forward to routine and accomplishments of fall. However, rest assured the Thunder Bay OALT/ABO executive is all ready to start another season of workshops and meetings.

I had the pleasure of introducing eighteen new students to the OALT/ABO on September 12th and then joined them for coffee and "eggs". The class has several from outside Thunder Bay so it will be nice to welcome them to our city as well as to our professional association.

The first meeting of the year will be at the art gallery with Gail Fikis (another Library Tech grad) giving us a tour. The meeting scheduled for October will be a workshop in the IMC (Instructional Materials Centre) at the Lakehead Board of Education. This workshop has been cleared to have external users use the workroom to create a project (strictly against our policy where the workroom is available only to Lakehead Board teachers to do work for their classrooms). The meeting in November will be held in the Library Tech Lab and we will have someone from the Literacy Coalition group speaking to us. The December meeting will once again be a pizza party, and will also be held in the Library Tech Lab. The only problem here is to find a speaker who can do as well as LaRae and Lenore!

We hope this will be an enriching and enlightening year.

Valerie Welsch

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of August 31, 1994

Cash in bank	470.81
G.I.C.	1,500.00

	\$1,970.81

Jill Otto

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Graduate	19
Student	26
Senior	1
Associate	2
Institutional	4

	52



REVIEWS

The following are the minutes from the April 23, 1994 OALT/ABO Directors meeting held in Toronto.

1. A letter and an information package re-qualifications and generic job description for library technicians was sent to Simcoe County Board of Education.
2. Halton-Peel region had serious problems getting members to be on the regional executive this year.
3. Huronia region will be celebrating 15 years as a regional association in June.

4. Archivist discussed what information should be kept as archival material and what should be discarded. Presently there are no guidelines as to what is to be kept in the archives.

5. Treasurer would like to have 10-year membership lists from the regions.

6. Sudbury region reported that Sudbury will soon have a francophone college.

7. Approval for funding from the provincial board for a regional workshop is still available. Guidelines for a provincially assisted workshop is outlined in the Board of Directors' Policies.

8. A flyer to promote the problem patron kit with OALT/ABO logo will be printed and distributed to CLA members. Labelling and stuffing of envelopes will be done at the conference in May.

9. Discussion re- who will host the 1996 conference. Huronia and Lohania regional directors will be done at the conference in May.

10. Susan Morley will help Theresa Kennedy set up the format for the new directory on INMAGIC. A mock up will be ready for the ABM at the conference. Members will be surveyed for their preference re-format of the directory. The new directory will be available when membership renewals are processed in September.

11. Copy of the constitution will be available for discussion at the ABM. Some more housekeeping changes are to be corrected by Donna Fossum and Judy Koenig.

12. Membership form still needs revamping. Susan Morley and Theresa Kennedy are working on making additional changes to the form. It will be inputted on INMAGIC. The new form will be discussed at the brainstorming session at the conference.

13. Two issues re- membership: (a) make changes to membership fee structure for unemployed (b) how to get members to continue membership.

These issues will be discussed at the September Board meeting.

14. Provincial Board would like a list of graduates from the regions so that the president can send a letter of congratulations through the college/university.

15. Suggestion was made to have a super Saturday of workshops: four workshops in one day and pick two of the four workshops to attend. This would be the one that is provincially funded.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Hyvarinen, Director
Thunder Bay Region
April 30, 1994



**Report on OALT/ABO ANNUAL
CONFERENCE, May 25-29, 1994**
Erindale College, Mississauga,
Ontario

The following is a summary of the workshops I attended. I enjoyed the workshops and found something interesting in most of them.

INMAGIC - Maria Phipps

This workshop was quite interesting as I had never seen INMAGIC demonstrated before. The nice part of INMAGIC is that all fields are searchable with one basic command. Many specialized libraries use it for their card catalogue, indexing, serial management, etc. Saskatoon Public Library uses it for their local history collection. Perhaps we could use it for our local collection, as well as for our Thunder Bay index.

INTERNET - Walter Giesbrecht

This was the best attended of all of the workshops. About half of the audience of eighty had used Internet. Walter took the mystery out of Internet and made it look like fun. He was a dynamic speaker who kept his audience enthralled. He gave us background history with statistics, explained why one would

want to use Internet, demonstrated how to use it, etc. The disadvantages of Internet were the fact that there was too much information, little or no order to it, and the information was constantly changing. Issues to be considered by all Internet users are access, copyright, and quality control or lack of it.

OSH EXCHANGE - Laurie Tirone.
Canadian Centre for Occupational Health & Safety

This centre provides free enquiry service to all patrons. CCINFO Line is accessible by phone and they also have eleven other CD-ROM products they use for information requests. The full text of legislation is available through DOSWINDOWS. They have a multi-media CD-ROM available on repetitive motion accidents. Two bulletin boards are available to users - 1. OSH Exchange 2. BBS - lists conferences around the world. Patrons have a free account on OSH Exchange if you subscribe to any of their services. The database will be available through Internet in the near future.

HALINET - Brian Bell - Oakville Public Library

Halton Information Network consists of four public libraries, the Board of Education, Sheridan College, and the four municipalities.

Oakville Public Library patrons can place holds through their home computers, and this service will be available in the other libraries shortly. Halinet is available via Internet.

TORONTO FREENET

This presentation was not as successful because of technical difficulties, and no live demo was possible. They are hoping to have it up and running in 1994 with 100 phone lines.

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS - Juliet Atsa - Federal Publications

Federal Publications is a private company who distribute federal government publications. They receive a fax each day from the government listing documents released on that day. They sell documents at the same price as the government bookstore.

They will handle questions free from the general public re publications whether you intend to buy it or not. Federal Publications Inc. use title, catalogue number, and keyword searching when looking for a document. Subject searching will be available shortly. This would be a great source for information on very recent publications which your library may not have received yet.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS - Mary Fisher & Aileen Weir, Ontario Legislative Library

Information was provided on how to locate Ontario government publications, financial information, and the legislative process was outlined for bills, statutes, etc. We learned that the Thursday issue of "Votes and Proceedings" gives the status of current bills. If in doubt whether an Act has come into force, one can call the Legislative Council Office for an immediate answer. Also available from Publications Ontario are "Current Issues Papers" on topics such as abortion, land claims, etc. Unfortunately these are available only on microfiche.

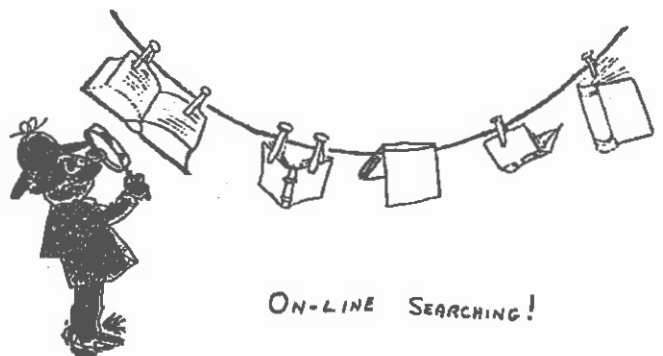
The Legislative library database will be available on Toronto Freenet in the future and is now available on your home PC. The documents are part of the television signal on the Ontario Parliamentary Channel.

DIALOG TIPS AND TRICKS - Frank Gagne

I had no prior experience with Dialog and this was a good introduction. Even though we have it available in our system I was not familiar with it. The handout was very detailed and easily understood. By mid-June six major Canadian newspapers will be available in full text on Dialog.

Submitted by

Cheryl Fenton, Brodie Resource Library
June 8, 1994



EXECUTIVE - 1994/95

PRESIDENT	Valerie Welsch H: 767-2177 W: 625-5240
TREASURER	Jill Otto H: 622-1781
SECRETARY	Carol Young H: 475-9635 W: 625-5246
PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR	Karen Cocks H: 475-0248 W: 345-1461
NEWSLETTER EDITORS	Kathy Crewdson H: 345-6414 Margot Ponder H: 767-6835
REGIONAL DIRECTOR	Helen Hyvarinen H: 767-3679 W: 343-4351
PAST PRESIDENT	Carolyn Enns H: 344-0768 W: 623-2500
ARCHIVIST	Helen Heerema H: 767-4987 W: 475-6456

Valerie Welsch works at the Lakehead Board of Education in the Instructional Materials Centre as the Acquisition's Library Technician. After she graduated from L.U. with her Library Tech diploma, she worked with Barb Koppenhaver at TBPL on contract, and as week-end relief at Confederation College until moving to the Board in May, 1987. She has held the positions of Public Relations and most recently Newsletter Editor. If she's not at home you may find her somewhere on the nearest golf course brushing up on her putting techniques!

Carol Young is the Head of Circulation at the Lakehead Board of Education Instructional Materials Centre, and has been at the Centre for about six years. She has a son who has just graduated from university and is about to join the golf pro circuit. She also has

a daughter who is in grade ten.

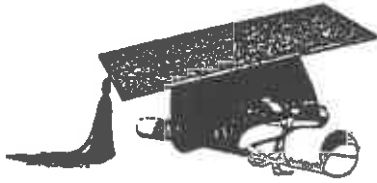
Jill Otto, a 1992 Library Tech graduate, was Margaret MacLean's invaluable secretary for the past two years. She spends her summers working in the Children's Department at Mary J. L. Black Library, and works supply whenever possible within the TBPL system. She is also kept busy with two children.

Karen Cocks graduated from L.U. in 1988 and is the Library Tech at Hillcrest High School. She has a son and a daughter who are both in high school. Not only is Karen an avid reader, if you have any questions about crafts, she's the one to ask for help!

Kathy Crewdson graduated in the spring with her Library Tech diploma. She has been an active volunteer at the Court House Library for the past two years, and has spent many hours helping out in the library at Balsam School. She catalogued the over 1000 volume collection in the Gender Issues Centre at L.U. over the last several months. Quite an accomplishment for someone with five children!

Margot Ponder also graduated this spring. On Sunday afternoons she can be found in the Reference Department at Brodie Library. Margot also works as "supply staff" at both Brodie and Waverley libraries. She volunteers in the library at Hammarskjold High School whenever possible. She has three teenage boys - perhaps that's why she's taken up running, it's a great stress reducer!

Helen Hyvarinen is the Library Tech in charge of the library at Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital. Before going to the LPH she spent several years at Old Fort William working in their library. She is an active NOHLA member and has been a great asset to our organization over the past few years. She has two sons and four grandchildren.



FROM THE HALLS OF LEARNING

Our congratulations go out to the following students who graduated in May.

Diploma in Library and Information Studies

- Cox, Suzanne
- Crewdson, Kathleen
- Freake, Janice
- Littlejohn, Bonnie
- Mavar, Lila
- Nicol, Barb
- Pittman, Trent * winner of OALT/ABO book award
- Ponder, Margot * winner of Dean Braun's medal
- Russel, Crystal
- Sabourin, Janet
- Squier-Bernst, Deborah
- Sugawara, Sumiye
- Walker, Ron * also awarded B.A. (General)



28 September - 7:00 pm - THUNDER BAY ART GALLERY TOUR AND GENERAL MEETING. Come and visit our local art gallery and take in the fall exhibits! You will be treated to a behind the scenes tour by Library Tech Gail Fikis. Gail will also give us a brief introduction to CHIN [Canadian Heritage Information Network], which is a national database for galleries and museums.

22 October - 9:30-12:30 - INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS CENTRE, LAKEHEAD BOARD OF EDUCATION
Ever wonder what goes on at an instructional centre? Where do teachers get all those innovative ideas? What is LIMMS and how does it work? Come out and join in the fun - a "hands on" experience for everyone!

Mid-November - LITERACY WORKSHOP - LIBRARY TECH LAB. Further information will be available in the next newsletter when the details have been worked out.



CONFERENCE REPORT UPDATE

Lakehead University has been booked for the OALT/ABO 22nd Annual Conference to be held May 24-28, 1995. The co-convenors have met throughout the summer, letters have been sent to prospective workshop leaders and some workshops have been confirmed. Letters were sent to employers throughout the region asking for their support and workshop suggestions. The responses so far have been very positive and we appreciate the support and suggestions. All but one of the committee chairs have been filled and the committees are beginning their tasks.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Convenors | - Helen Heerema & Judy Sennett |
| Facilities | - Helen & Judy |
| Workshops | - Helen & Judy |
| Registration | - Cathy Walsh |
| Exhibits | - Carolyn Enns & Helen Hyvarinen |
| Kits & Ads | - Kathy Deguns |
| Social Activities | - open due to resignation |
| Sales | - Valerie Welsch |

For information: Helen Heerema
W: 475-6208
H: 767-4987
H: 768-1526 (FAX)

Judy Sennett
W: 625-6713
H: 983-2205
W: 623-4491
(FAX c/o V.B. Cook
Co.)

We are still open to suggestions for workshops, names of workshop leaders and names of vendors you would like to see at the Conference.

Anyone interested in becoming the chair of or in serving on the Social Activities Committee is asked to contact the convenors.

Submitted by Judy Sennett

Preesenting...

**FIRESIDE CHITCHAT WITH MURIEL
DAVIDSON**

Well, hello, it's me again. Wake up everyone-time to bundle up and buckle down!. I did ask all you dormant library people to phone me when I last wrote to you in February. However, the phone did not ring until last week-with a request to "chat" to you all again.

I wonder how many of you heard that GEAC was running a competition? Well, Confederation College Resource Centre entered it. After having their automated system carefully scrutinised by the judges they were awarded new GEAC software which provided a more updated and larger based automated system. Eventually there will be distant modem access to the library's holdings for anybody with a computer, as is already the case with the Public Libraries and the University.

To supervise the change-over from the existing software the college hired a librarian. The successful person was none other than Gina

Rawson with her new MLA. Gina started at the College on August 22nd and is enjoying renewing old friendships with the staff there. The work is quite different for her as she is used to working in Public Services rather than, as now, in Technical Services. Earlier in the year Gina was on the local Planning Committee for the Canadian Library Association Midwinter Meeting which was held here in Thunder Bay in April.

Job changes

During Gina's seven month leave of absence from the Public Library there has to be a "staff shuffle". Her position as Librarian at Brodie Street is being covered by Joanne Ferrato who is usually at Victoriaville. The fiction there is being taken care of by Lisa Shaffer. Lisa's absence at Waverley Street circulation has given a seven month contract to Cathy Hilliard who is a "longtime supply" for the Public Libraries.

Promotion goes to another supply person who has also covered maternity leaves in the past. Melanie Tribe is now library assistant at Brodie Street circulation. She replaces Brenda Miller who moves to clerk typist-a position held for many years by Angelle Robello who has been appointed to Executive Secretary in the Waverley Street Administration Department.

Have you heard of the new service which Brodie Street Library began in the summer? They will do research for local businesses for the princely price of \$50.00 per hour. It is computer based and rejoices in the "jingle" name of "Bizfax". Roberta Casella has been working on it up until she left to do her last semester in London for her MLA. She has been replaced by Louise McNeil who has supplied for the Reference Department and done summer work at Brodie Street.

One of the newsletter editors, Margot Ponder supplies for the Public Libraries as well. Hang in there, Margot-just look at those three supply promotions.



Meanwhile up at the University, Joyce Torma is now Secretary/Library Technician for the School of Library and Information Studies, having returned from Health Sciences.

At the Board of Education offices, the pattern is in reverse. Terri Parker-Celmer is back at the helm in the Administration Offices after her leave of absence, relieving Valerie Welsch to recapture her job in the IMC. Karen Cocks, in turn, has returned to Hillcrest High School, putting Beverley Proctor onto the supply list again. Penny Bower's extended maternity leave from Hammarskjold is over sending Vivianna Toneguzzi back to the IMC. And, thankfully, Mary McKinstry is now well enough to work again at FWCI, ousting me back to supply in the good company of Linda Bukovy.

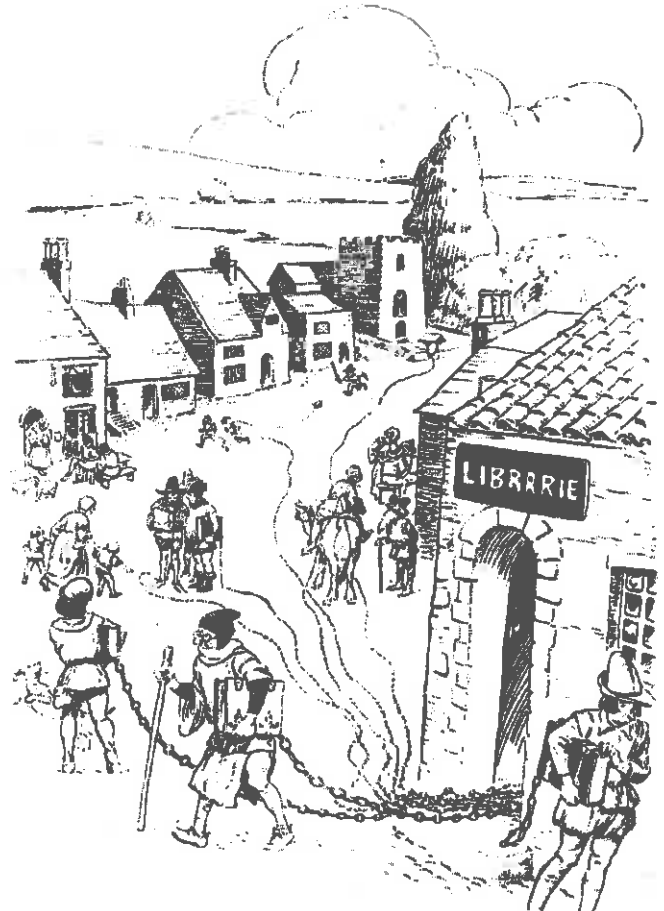
Hatched, Matched and Dispatched

Everything seems so quiet this summer-no busy storks and Eros is obviously trying to be of use in war torn areas rather than peaceful ones, as evident in the lack of betrothals or marriages!

It seems that all too soon the summer has fled and cool days and cold nights are back. I hope that you all enjoyed your summer months. I have spoken to a few people who have had holidays-but nothing exotic to report this year. Two husbands did go (separately) to Europe-without their hard working library tech wives! Most of you stayed faithful and had your holidays in Canada, driving mainly coast to coast. The most adventurous person I spoke to stayed in Thunder Bay-but was somewhat bruised as a result of being cajoled into mountain climbing! Hope the bruises have faded Patricia!

Don't forget to phone Margot and Kathy with any news you may have.

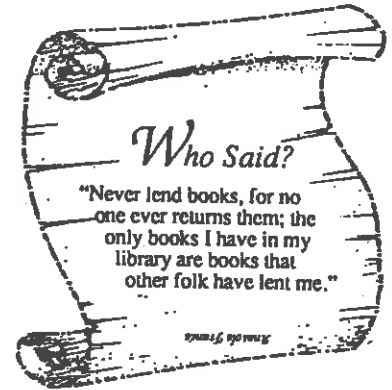
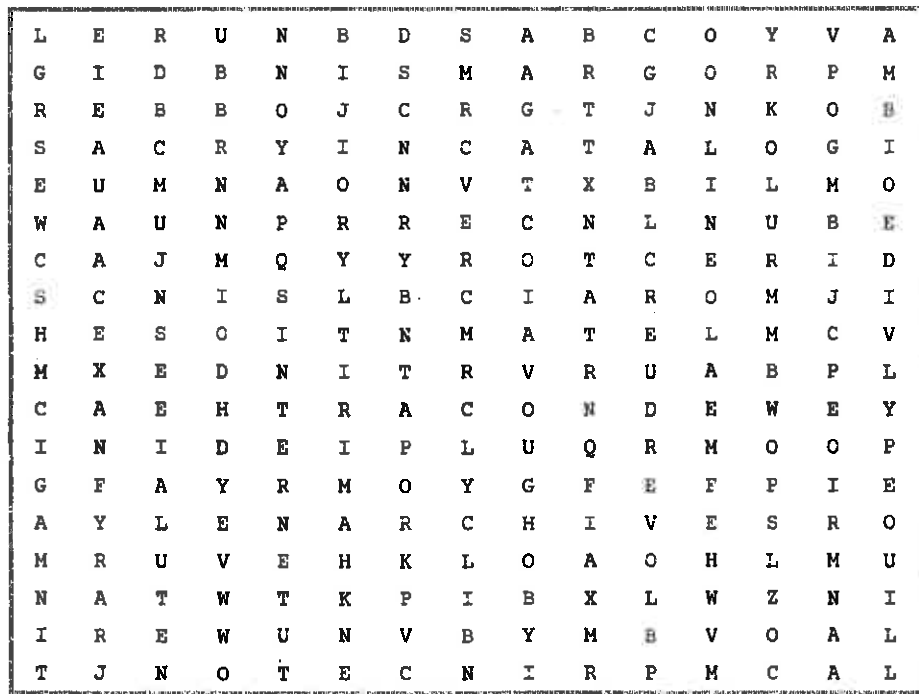
Did You Know That...



Medieval Librarian Opens His First Lending Library

During the Middle Ages books were rare, and so it would seem was honesty. A book was worth as much as a farm and was kept under lock and key. They were either locked in a cupboard or a chest, or they were chained. Chained libraries in England date from about 1320 and continued to influence library planning until the end of the 17th century. Some books were still protected with chains until the late 18th century.

TIME FOR A WORDFINDER CHALLENGE! A double puzzle! Solve the clues then find the words hidden in the puzzle.



1. ___ fines.
2. Needed to keep manual control of serials.
3. An ___ searching system.
4. Computerized library management system.
5. Information highway.
6. Found at the back of a textbook.
7. Place book orders through a
8. Used in a VCR.
9. Children's ___ often held Saturday afternoons at library.
10. Main entry ___ card.
11. ___ classification system.
12. Old books and manuscripts kept here.
13. Needed to borrow library books. (2 wds.)
14. List of addresses, phone numbers, etc.
15. File holder.

- O ___
- K ___
- O ___
- I ___
- I ___
- I ___
- J ___
- V ___
- P ___
- C ___
- D ___
- A ___
- L ___
- D ___
- P ___

EDITOR'S NOTE

This is our first attempt at editing a newsletter. If you have any suggestions, contributions, or comments, please feel free to share them with us! This is YOUR newsletter and it should be used to reflect your concerns as library technicians.

As this is an important year for us with the upcoming "Interconnections 95" Conference in May, we need the enthusiasm and support of ALL library techs in the city to ensure its success!

Please become involved in our association by renewing your membership or by enrolling as a new OALT/ABO member. The necessary forms may be obtained from Joyce Torma, Secretary, Library and Information Studies (343-8420).

We encourage you to come out and join us for our first event of the year at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery on September 28.