

# TECH TALK



Volume 23, No. 3 November 1995

## *President's Message*

The executive are hoping you have enjoyed your library tours to date.

The September General Meeting was held at OLS followed by a tour of the facilities by Donna Brown and Carolyn Christie. I recall the years working as Children's Librarian at Keewatin Public Library and Ignace Public Library and my yearly jaunts to Thunder Bay for book exchanges and workshops presented by OLS (then called "Regional"). Thanks to these workshops I also had the pleasure of meeting several Canadian children's authors. Thanks again to Donna and Carolyn for explaining the valuable service OLS provides for smaller communities.

The October meeting was held in Hammarskjold High School's library. Library Technician Penny Bower gave everyone a lesson on how (and how not) to move a library. Her slide presentation gave the history of the school's libraries along with some of the logistics of this final move. The Teacher-Librarians then took over the meeting with Frank Beimer's handing out Zen Kozyra's question sheet. We were placed in groups of two and instructed to find the answers and note the source. This was a great idea to get everyone to explore a high school library and see what is available. After coffee break Frank explained his role as Teacher-Librarian. Thanks again to Penny, Frank and Zen for an entertaining and informative evening.

On Thursday, November 16th, everyone is welcome to join Charles Wilkins, local author and former writer in residence for the Thunder Bay Public Library, in the Department of Library & Information Studies Lab. Charles is on the local radio weekly, writes for Canadian Geographic Magazine, edited "Wolf's Eye", and has just written "Breakaway: Hockey and the Year Beyond". And this is just off the top of my head! Come to the next meeting and find out all the other things this highly entertaining gentleman does!

December brings in Jingle Mingle again but we are ready to try a different location. In days of yore, we used to have a "wine and cheese" at LaRea Moody's house. After two decades we decided to give LaRea a break and have the meeting in the Lab. Now there are some of us ("long-term" is probably more politically correct than "old") members are missing the vino and the atmosphere of a home and so... the December meeting is going to be at my house. Everyone is invited to join the executive at **260 Piccadilly Avenue on December 7th at 7:30** and have a mingling good time!

It must be something to do with my age that I am so aware of the passage of time. There are only two meetings left for the OALT/ABO members in 1995. I look forward to seeing you at the next meetings.

Valerie Welsch

## *Provincial Report*



The following are the minutes from the 23 September, 1995 OALT/ABO meeting at Sheridan College.

### **1. OALT/ABO BROCHURE**

Brochure format (version including the duties of serial management) passed. Each region will receive a template to print the brochure as needed.

**Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des Bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario  
Thunder Bay Regional Branch  
P.O. Box 2305  
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 5E8**

2 **Marsha Hunt** of Halton-Peel region was recently presented with her Presidential Award at a meeting. Director's position for Ottawa region is vacant and duties will be shared on a rotational basis. Algonquin College has started an Alumni Association. Niagara College is offering a new course on "Library Computer Network Operations".

### 3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Mary Grace reported that the Sheridan College has no room for an OALT/ABO office. Mary Grace will be looking into feasibility of OALT/ABO having its own telephone number. She also reminded directors that she has OALT/ABO bookmarks, pins, histories, problem patron kits and the OISE publication "Library Technician" if needed.

Provincial Newsletter will be including a series of articles featuring prominent OALT members from the various regions. Marsha Hunt will be profiled in the upcoming newsletter. La Rea Moody is Thunder Bay's choice. Written interviews (along with a black and white photo of the subject if possible) are to be submitted to the provincial newsletter editor (Brahm Gilman) as soon as possible.

Susan Morley suggested that an orientation session for new members of the Executive and Board be included at their first meeting.

Salary survey is now completed, translated and will be mailed with the next issue of the Newsletter/Nouvelles.

Conference Report submitted by Huronia. Conference will be held at the Cranberry Resorts, Collingwood, ON. Dates are Friday, May 10 - Sunday, May 12, 1996. Conference packages will be mailed out the week after New Year's, 1996. Guest speaker will be Joan A. Pajunen, Canada's Faith Popcorn. There will be a competition for the Regions to design their own name tags. Conference prices remain tentative - student prices have not yet been included. There will be a "fire sale" where regions can bring leftover sale articles and clear at discount prices.

French translation of the Constitution etc. will be done by Ottawa members but all official documents will be sent to Sudbury for their approval with deadline date.

### 4. PUBLIC RELATIONS KIT

There will be two different kits: one for potential members and institutions and one for new members. Mary Grace will investigate costs of a folder with a logo vs. decal vs. rubber stamp.

Potential Members and Institutions

- personal letter of introduction
- OALT/ABO brochure
- membership form
- fact sheet (to be reviewed and updated the Feb. meeting)
- current newsletter
- map of regions
- bookmark

New Members (Provincial)

- personalized letter
- membership directory
- provincial constitution and by-laws
- Newsletter/Nouvelles
- current statement of ethics
- current statement of standards
- current statement of qualifications
- fact sheet

### 5. INTERNET TASK FORCE

Sheridan College is willing to attach OALT/ABO data to their Home Page. It was suggested that a task force be set up consisting of one member from each region (if possible) to formally arrange a presence on the Internet and determine the best way to present OALT/ABO information. Members interested in representing Thunder Bay Region in the task force should contact Jill Otto as soon as possible.

### 6. MEMBERSHIP FORMS

Disks containing membership forms have been sent out. Information on the disk is to be changed to reflect local needs. Regions who wish to have the French version should send their disk to Ottawa.

### 7. TRAVEL

Travel expenses were reviewed. More discussion is scheduled for the November meeting.

### 8. TEN YEAR AWARDS

The decision was made to suspend this award temporarily because a large chunk of the database is missing so a membership of ten consecutive years can

not be verified. Janet is attempting to track consecutive memberships in archive files and will report at the November meeting.

**9. RE-VAMPING OALT ASSOCIATION**

Sue Boudreau raised the question of OALT/ABO's future and planning for the 21st century. Do we continue with annual conferences/travelling workshops? How will we promote our association and handle the ever increasing unemployment of members? Sue proposed a weekend "think-tank" to discuss such issues to be led by an outside facilitator. Interested members would attend at their own expense. Think about it! Where? When?

**10. FUNDS INVESTMENT**

Treasurer will check on the legalities of OALT/ABO investing money and earning interest.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Jill Otto, Director  
 Thunder Bay Region  
 September 23, 1995.

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**REMINDER**

Fall is membership renewal time! Forms may be picked up from Margot Ponder in the Library Tech Office at L.U. (343-8420)

The fee structure is as follows:

Graduate	\$60.00
Student	\$15.00
Associate	\$55.00
Senior	\$15.00
Institution	\$82.00
Unemployed	\$30.00*

\*A signed statement requesting the discount price for the reason of unemployment should accompany the application form.

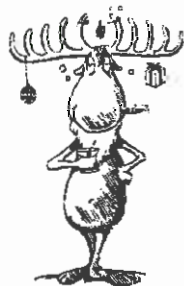
<b>Report Treasurer's</b>	
as of September 30, 1995	
<b>Revenue</b>	
Memberships	\$ 795.00
Interconnections '95 (repayment of loan)	800.00
Interconnections '95 (Nightshirt sales)	243.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1838.37</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Provincial Reconciliation	\$ 120.00
Postage (M. Ponder)	16.85
Printing (K. Crewdson)	19.82
Public Relations (K. Cocks)	133.82
Honorarium (D. Brown, C. Christie)	50.00
Provincial Travel (J. Otto)	193.39
Bank S/C (September)	.95
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 534.83</b>
<b>Surplus as of August 31, 1995:</b>	634.98
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	1303.54
<b>Surplus as of this date:</b>	<b>\$ 1938.52</b>
<b>Assets</b>	
Cash in bank	\$ 1938.52
G.I.C.	1000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2938.52</b>

### MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Graduate	14
Student	14
Senior	0
Associate	0
Institutional	0
	28



**16 November, 7:30 P.M. : An Evening with author Charles Wilkins.** Join us in the Library & Information Studies Lab and meet Charles Wilkins, who will talk to us about his brand new book, as well as his experiences as Writer in Residence for TBPL, writer for the Canadian Geographic Magazine, and local editor.



**7 December, 7:30 P.M. : Jingle Mingle at Valerie Welsch's house - 270 Piccadilly Avenue.** This is a

social occasion where everyone relaxes and enjoys the food and the Christmas music, however there will be a short General Meeting prior to the frivolity!

### EXECUTIVE - 1995/96

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Valerie Welsch</b> H: 767-2177 W: 625-5240
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>Valerie Barten</b> H: 475-3668 W: 935-2729
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>Carol Young</b> H: 475-9635 W: 625-5246
<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR</b>	<b>Karen Cocks</b> H: 475-0248 W: 345-1461
<b>NEWSLETTER EDITORS</b>	<b>Margot Ponder</b> H: 767-6835 W: 343-8420 <b>Kathy Crewdson</b> H: 345-6414
<b>REGIONAL DIRECTOR</b>	<b>Jill Otto</b> H: 622-1781

The following ★ **MORE IMAGE HUMOR!** appeared in the MALT newsletter recently and although it refers to librarians we thought you might find yourselves nodding your heads at a few of these images!

U may be a Librarian - you might be a librarian if :

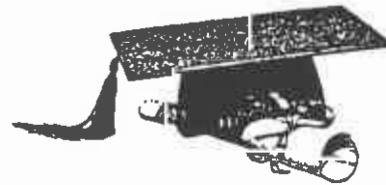
- 1) You might be a librarian if it often appears that you have wrinkles in your nylons: especially if you don't wear nylons -- and you're a man.

- 2) If you wear socks on the beach you may be a librarian.
- 3) If the cans in your cupboard are arranged alphabetically by the name of the agribusiness responsible for their production, you are very likely a librarian.
- 4) You may be a librarian if you need new glasses and are disappointed to find such a limited selection of horn rims.
- 5) You may be a librarian if you don't think this is funny. You are probably a librarian if you think this is insulting. You are certainly a librarian if you do not see why this is insulting.
- 6) If your Nash has less than 50,000 miles on it , that is one sign you may be a librarian.
- 7) If you are the lowest paid faculty member at a university you are probably a librarian.
- 8) The person assigned to record the minutes is usually a librarian. If two librarians are at a meeting, the other one will be asked to arrange for coffee and cookies. If three librarians are at the meeting, two of them will be in a run-off election for the coffee-and-cookie job.
- 9) If you go to Ohio on vacation you may be a librarian.
- 10) Librarians frequently have permanent soup stains on their pocket protectors.
- 11) You might consider the possibility that you are a librarian if you have a dress you can not wear because the skirt is so short that your legs show above the top of your tube socks.
- 12) When Walmart puts a plaque of honor with your name on it on the door of their dressing room, you wonder if you're a librarian.

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*Librarians are as diverse in appearance, interests and attitude as any other people. About their only common traits are that they all hold master's degrees from accredited institutions of higher education and they have a sense of humor that allows them to laugh at the absurdities of the stereotype commonly associated with their profession.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Millard Johnson PORTALS  
 zendog@lib.pdx.edu  
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## ***FROM THE HALLS OF LEARNING***

We are extremely pleased with the number of students who have joined our ranks this year. It is always a pleasure to see new faces and we hope you enjoy your year with us.

Some of you might be interested to know that several of our students and former students have been hired to work at the Circulation Desk for a few shifts each week. **Kathy Walkinshaw, Jodie Cataldo, and Josie Fiorenzo** are the lucky ones who got the jobs.

**Kathy Crewdson** is now the new library technician in the Northern Studies Resource Centre in the Chancellor Paterson Library at L.U. Congratulations, Kathy!

**Barb Nicol** is working part time in the Graduate Studies Department.

**Ron Walker** is working part time in the Library and Information Studies Department while continuing with his studies in the Honours BA programme.



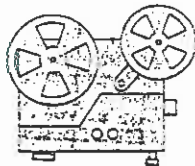
Never lend books, for no one ever returns them; the only books I have in my library are books that other folks have lent me.

*Anatole France (1844-1924)*

**HERE ARE THE ANSWERS FOR THE CLICHES AND PROVERBS QUIZ FROM THE LAST NEWSLETTER:**

1. You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
2. Spare the rod and spoil the child.
3. A watched pot never boils.
4. All that glitters is not gold.
5. Where there's smoke there's fire.
6. Beggars can't be choosers.
7. Too many cooks spoil the broth.

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**SEEN ANY GOOD MOVIES LATELY? TRY THIS QUIZ ON LIBRARIES/LIBRARIANS IN THE MOVIES. CAN YOU IDENTIFY THE MOVIE? (Answers are on the last page)**

1. Morgan Freeman explains to Brad Pitt about the FBI's secret list of who has checked out the books on topics such as bomb-making, the occult, and in this case, the seven deadly sins. You're not supposed to know such a list exists, of course, but money in the right hands will get it for you. And then once you know who's been reading Dante you can go bust down his door!

2. An obscure movie about people trying to run a small radio station, in which the manager of the station is continually having fantasies about himself as a hero. One of his fantasies, about "Conan the Librarian" -- at least 6 foot 6 inches, bulging with muscles, and whose response to a timid request of where to find a book was to lift the patron up in the air and yell, "Don't you know your Dewey Decimal Classification?" Now that was well removed from the stereotype of a librarian.

3. A Tracy/Hepburn film about a library at a radio station which was to be replaced by a computer. Tracy heads the computer installation team and Hepburn plays the librarian. When the computer is installed, the librarians are going to be out of work. However, the computer malfunctions when a request for Corfu is transmitted as curfew. Hepburn and her team of librarians manage to take control of the situation, and answer all the questions. Spencer Tracey then fixes the computer using one of Hepburn's hairpins.

4. Here's a mid-60's movie starring Julie Christie. In this one, her son plays a page at the New York Public Library whose talent is dashing through the stacks on roller skates to retrieve books. Real life sidebar: A few years after the movie had been released, NYPL was visited by a group from the then Soviet Union who had seen the movie. Under the impression that all the pages at NYPL actually worked this way, and thinking this to be the greatest thing in the world, the visitors weren't interested in seeing the Guttenberg Bibles, rare treasures, etc. The first thing they wanted to see were the pages!

5. How about Rene Russo, the love interest in this movie. She plays a collection development librarian. This portrayal was a major reversal in both the physical appearance and professional focus from the usual stuffy librarian who is behind the Circ desk.

6. In this movie Clarence the angel allows Jimmy Stewart's character to see life as it would be in Bedford Falls if he hadn't lived. Mary, (his wife in "real life"), was the village librarian - unmarried, arrayed in a drab coat, worn felt hat, glasses, and sturdy shoes. Who can forget her screams when accosted by this strange man claiming to be her husband?

Movie quiz taken from  
AUTOCAT@UBVM..cc.buffalo.edu  
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## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF ..... JOSEPH DESPRES

After receiving my Diploma in Library and Information Studies in May of this year, I felt it would be wise to acquire some work experience in my field before entering the job market.

Because of my interest in archival work I decided to offer my services as a full time volunteer to the Lakehead University Archives Department for the months of June and August and the Thunder Bay Historical Museum for the month of July.

My duties at the L.U. Archives included performing a detailed inventory on a large part of their holdings. This consisted of pulling dozens of dusty boxes down from the shelves, checking their contents carefully against the inventory list, revising descriptions of items when necessary and making minor repairs.

If you think this job was boring, however, you would be mistaken. While working at the Archives, I had the privilege of handling many rare and valuable photographs and documents pertaining to the history of the city of Thunder Bay, the province of Ontario, and Canada's development as a country.

I was fascinated to find items such as a 1794 edition of the first bilingual newspaper printed in Canada, personal papers and diaries of many well known local and national figures and photographs dating back as far back as the 1860's in its collection.

In the month of July I was employed as a cataloguer at the Thunder Bay Historical Museum. My primary duty there was the cataloguing of artifacts. If one must catalogue, this is certainly the environment to do it in. During my time there, I processed a wide variety of artifacts including an English Bible printed in 1599,

several books on cookery from the 1800's and many items relating to Old Fort William and the fur trade.

In conclusion, I feel that my summer months were very well spent. While accomplishing my goal of honing my skills as a technician, I also found my work to be an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

*Editors' note: We would like to thank Joseph Despres for his interesting article. We REALLY appreciate receiving any contributions - news, views, comments, complaints, requests, ideas, or simple chatter from our readers! Don't wait for an invitation - just send us anything which you think might be of interest to members. If you've been to a workshop recently, tell us about it! If you've seen something new on the Internet, please let us know!*

A good library is a place, a palace  
where the lofty spirits of all nations  
and generations meet.

*Samuel Niger (1883-1956)*

### MOVIE QUIZZ ANSWERS:

1. Seven Deadly Sins
2. UHF
3. Desk Set
4. You're a Big Boy Now
5. Major League
6. It's a Wonderful Life

*Merry  
Christmas*

