

TECH TALK

Vol. 24 #1

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President's Message!

Spring greetings from your new president! I am spending the next couple of months getting my "feet wet" and trying to absorb everything there is to know about OALT/ABO in one easy lesson. Thank goodness Valerie Welsch is only a flight of stairs away!

On March 25, 1996 our Annual Dinner Meeting was held at the Nor'Wester Resort Hotel. Everyone seemed to enjoy the change of venue, the excellent food, and good company. A new executive was elected for 1996-97 and although not many of the faces have changed, everyone has been repositioned...and these new roles will be a challenge to us all. This continuity, however, brings a wealth of experience to our organization and I am looking forward to a very productive year.

Tara Wyght, joins the OALT/ABO team as co-editor of our newsletter. She is a recent graduate of the Library & Information Studies Program and will undoubtedly offer input from a student's perspective. Welcome aboard Tara!

We congratulate our OALT/ABO Graduate Award Winner for 1996 Terri Badiou who was presented with this award at the Annual Dinner Meeting.

From our "suggestion box", we have learned that the membership would enjoy workshops on the **Internet and Stress Management**. Hopefully, we will be able to accommodate these and other requests for 1996-97.

The coming year promises to be innovative and exciting and I am looking forward to working with the new Executive to bring your workshops that reflect the current workplace and economic climate of the 1990's.

Everyone have a safe and restful summer!

Carol Young



Provincial Report



Valerie Welsch attended the Annual Business Meeting held in Collingwood on May 11, 1996. The meeting was called to order, the agenda was approved, and the adoption of minutes of the 22nd Annual Business Meeting in Thunder Bay were accepted. The reports of the executive and directors were then presented. After a few changes, the constitution was approved. Should I add "Thank God!!" The out-going committee members were acknowledged and a presentation of honoraria followed. Next came the election of the new executive officers. They are:

President	Penni Lee
Vice-President	Theresa Kennedy
Secretary	Valerie Welsch
Treasurer	Siobhain Doyle
Public Relations	Bill Land
Coordinator	

The 1997 Conference will take place in Toronto, and London, Ontario will host the Silver Anniversary Conference of our association in 1998.

The wind-up festivities will be a hard act to follow. We were thoroughly entertained by an *Elvis Impersonator/DJ*. He enjoyed himself as much as he was enjoyed!!

Treasurer's Report

Statement of income as of April 30, 1996

Revenue:	
Memberships	\$ 240.00
Annual Dinner Meeting	547.40
Interconnections '95	4624.36
Interest	1.03
Total:	\$ 5412.79
Expenses:	
Annual Dinner Meeting (meals, engraving, gifts)	\$ 724.13
Service Charge (February, March)	2.90
Membership Form (design, printing)	37.40
Tech Talk (printing, stamps)	38.75
P.O. Box Rental	115.56
GIC Investment	3000.00
Total:	\$ 3918.74
Surplus as of March 31, 1996	\$ 1299.64
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	1494.05
Surplus as of this date:	\$ 2793.69
Assets:	
Cash in Bank	\$ 2793.69
G.I.C.	4071.25
Total:	\$ 6864.94

MEMBERSHIP FEES	
GRADUATES	\$60.00
STUDENT	\$15.00
ASSOCIATE	\$40.00
SENIOR	\$15.00
INSTITUTIONAL	\$82.00
UNEMPLOYED	\$30.00

1996-97 Executive Members

PRESIDENT	Carol Young H: 475-9635 W: 625-5246
TREASURER	Valerie Barten H: 475-3668
SECRETARY	Margot Ponder H: 767-6835 W: 343-8420
PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR	Kathy Crewdson H: 345-6414
NEWSLETTER EDITORS	Karen Cocks H: 475-0248 W: 345-1461 ext. 50 Tara Wyght H: 473-9133
REGIONAL DIRECTOR	Jill Otto H: 622-1781
PAST PRESIDENT	Valerie Welsch H: 767-2177 W: 625-5240
ARCHIVIST	Helen Heerema H: 767-4987 W: 475-6456

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

The Annual Dinner Meeting, held at the Nor'Wester Resort Hotel, was attended by approximately twenty five people. The dreary weather conditions didn't seem to put a damper on the warm spirited guests inside. A good time was had by all. After the delicious meal and a bit of mingling, the items on the OALT/ABO agenda were discussed. Valerie thanked the outgoing executive members for their efforts, and introduced the new members. Our new president Carol Young in turn thanked Valerie for her contributions over the past two as president.

The various draws throughout the evening were as popular as ever. A special thank you goes out to the executive members who supplied the hand crafted items.

We paid tribute to two special members for their outstanding contributions to our association. Kathy Crewdson and Margot Ponder presented pottery to Judy Sennett and Helen Heerema for their hard work and dedication in making *Interconnections '95* and previous conferences so successful. LaRea Moody also gave a

humorous account of Judy and Helen's conference experiences.

It goes without saying ...they both went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that Thunder Bay's OALT/ABO conferences would make a lasting impression on all those who attended. Once again ladies, we thank you for your tireless efforts. Judy and Helen ... you truly are a credit to your profession!



L: Judy Sennett R: Helen Heerema

Did you know that!... the number of titles published in the first half of the 20th century is equal to the total titles published from the beginning of moveable type (1450-1900).

Under the Influence?



Try ... Jumping to conclusions! Flying off the handle! Dodging work! Bouncing cheques! Fighting progress! Dragging your heels! Pushing your luck!



FROM THE HALLS OF LEARNING

Congratulations to all the recent graduating students from the Library & Information Studies Department at Lakehead University. They are:

*Terri Badiou
Betty Bailot
Margery Bylsma
Jennifer Culham
Judith Dowhos
Sheri Evans
Josephine Fiorenza
Darlene Hachey-Bilmer
Jolie Hamer
Rita Marchesin
Joanne Morgan
Shannon Ramsey
Shannon Richards
Nancy Schneider
Tracey Sinclair
Theresa Sutton
Jennifer Wreszczak
Tara Wyght*

Just think ... your nights of burning the candle at both ends are now over. We at OALT/ABO wish you all the best in your future endeavours and hope that you will continue to keep in touch with us.



Left: Valerie Welsh presents Terri Badiou with the OALT/ABO Branch Award at our Annual Dinner Meeting.

**** Terri was also presented with the Dean Braun's Medal at the May convocations. Congratulations Terri! ****

OALT/ABO 23rd Annual Conference

Report:

"A Delicate Balance"

Collingwood Ontario

By Donna Brown

This year the Conference Committee decided to hold a "mini-conference" to try to cut down on costs and hopefully attract more delegates. Once again the workshops were very well presented even though there were fewer to choose from.

Truly Innovative Fundraising

****A first-rate workshop was presented by Kerri Robinson, CEO of the Collingwood Public Library and Kathy Frizell, Public Relations Coordinator also from the Collingwood Public Library ****

Both women were excellent speakers, and have given many workshops on fundraising from OLA, CLA to small public libraries ... their breakthrough fundraising initiatives have put **Collingwood Public Library on the map.**

This workshop was held in a condominium that they are currently raffling off in a major fundraising attempt. So far, ticket sales have exceeded their expectations, and it will probably turn out to be a successful venture for them.

They began their workshop by describing how and why they decided to get into fundraising. It all began in 1990. Kathy Frizell was originally hired for a one year contract position, but her abilities were so valuable, the library board decided to keep her on a permanent basis. At about the same time, Kerri Robinson began her post of CEO. When she started in this position, she could see that the library needed some help not only with the staff, but with better public relations. With both of them combining their ideas and skills, Collingwood Public Library has done excellent financially for a community of their size.

It all began with a logo. A local artist donated her time and skills towards that. From that stemmed items such as posters, internet directories, note pads, calendars, sweatshirts and T-shirts. They have planned such events as golf tournaments, dinner theatres, multicultural events, and even partnered with the city Recreation department to bring in the Tall ships.

Their logo was interesting. They decided that they just didn't want to market Collingwood

Public Library, but be able to expand their expertise to any public library.

The logo was simply a Carnegie Public Library, with "**THE PUBLIC LIBRARY**" imprinted on it, thus enabling them to market their fundraising ideas or fundraising package to any library in Canada and the U.S.

I enrolled in this workshop in the hopes of obtaining some good fundraising ideas for my First Nation libraries. I did get a few ideas from their smaller projects, but some of their larger fundraising events would not be possible for a First Nation reserve.

Tour of the Collingwood Public Library

It is always nice to see how other Public Libraries are set up, especially for a small community such as Collingwood. It is a fairly new building constructed after their Carnegie library was destroyed by arson a few years back. It is interesting to note how their library is set up, and I was particularly impressed with their children's area which is bright and nicely decorated to entice children.

I received many good handouts on their services and some extremely good ideas for programming which I plan to share with the First Nations libraries.

Internet and Libraries



This workshop was a good basic introduction to the world of the Internet. All three presenters were well informed and easy to understand. The session began by informing us of the equipment needed to access the internet. The list is as follows: 1) Computer 2) Modem 3) Programs 4) Telephone line 5) ISDN line 6) Service Provider. We compared Service Providers as to what to look for before choosing one.

The Internet offers such features as: E-Mail, information, programs, entertainment, and various discussion groups. We also discussed the importance of bookmarks and how to use them. We then covered home pages and viewed an example of a good home page. (We looked at SOLS homepage) The World Wide Web was covered describing it as a

navigational tool enabling one to move through the Internet. The anatomy of the web page and the browser were also mentioned. Search engines such as Alta Vista, Inforseek and Open Text were discussed and a comparison was made between them.

Excellent handouts were offered, listing information such as an Internet glossary and Internet Bibliography.

Valerie Welsch's Conference Report:

Well, I have been a member of OALT/ABO for ten years and finally got to attend my first conference put on by another region. A Thunder Bay representative was needed for the Annual Business meeting, so I opted to attend. After the hour and a half flight to Toronto, I boarded the Simcoe County Airport Service van and rode for another hour and a half to the Cranberry Resort in Collingwood on Georgian Bay. The entire conference was held inside the resort except for the BBQ on Friday evening.

The workshop that I attended Friday afternoon was "CENTRAL 2000". Michele Dotterer, the regional sales manager for Information Access Company (IAC), was the presenter. IAC provides electronic document delivery of abstracts, full text, and full content to thousands of journals. Michele uses the Internet as a gateway to the IAC. If your library could afford the service, you could contact the Academic Index, Expanded Academic Index, Business & Company ProFile, Business Index, General Business File, Computer Database, F & S Index, Health Reference Centre, Legal Trac, National Newspaper, and PAIS International. Some of the abstracts are available through IAC before the journal is even published. The cost of a subscription was based on your book budget minus any A/V and reference allotment. The example Michele gave was a small library might have an annual book budget of \$50,000 and so a general reference database for one year would cost them \$10,000.

Michele gave everyone Telenet instruction so we could try the service for the month. If requested, we could try the databases through Netscape for

a week (after special passwords we established). I requested such a service and the Lakehead Board of Education's Teacher-Librarians' recently had a week to evaluate the service.

After this workshop, Donna Brown and I attended the BBQ. We won the prize for the best "regional theme" name tags. Special thanks must go to Heather Houston for our receipt of this honour.

On Saturday morning Donna and I attended the second workshop entitled "Internet and Libraries". This was presented by Jenny Amy, Oma Brett and Adele Service. Ironically, this was an interesting session on the Internet (even though we were minus the computer). The three ladies presented their practical learning experiences as they led us through Internet service providers, creating bookmarks, and organizing them under headers, evaluating Web pages, and using different search engines. I have since enjoyed trying Oma Brett's bookmarks handout. Here is one to try -- Cyber Dewey:

<http://ivory.lm.com/~mundie/DDHC/CyberDewey.html>



EDITORS' NOTE

Thank you Donna Brown and Valerie Welsch for your informative conference reports!



WITH US • SURF THE POSSIBILITIES!

WIRED FACTS: *Did you Know That...*

- 70 % of Canadians are aware of the information highway.
- between 1994-1995, the number of registered hosts on the Net rose from 3.2 million to 6.6 million.
- a recent Commercial/Net/Nielsen Demographics Study found that 37 million people in Canada and the US reported having had access to the Internet.
- a 1995 Angus Reid Group survey states that 17% of the Canadian population (3.4 million people)

million Canadians were connected from their home.

- MIDS survey showed that in the first nine months of 1995, the number of Internet commercial domains exploded from 29,000 to 114,000.
- studies in Canada and the US find that homes with children are more likely to own computers.
- women are playing a larger role in PC purchasing. Where 15 years ago 70% of all PCs were purchased by men, today PCs are purchased in equal numbers by men and women.
- sending & receiving E-Mail is the most popular on-line-activity.
- the average on-line user stays connected for about 30 minutes a day.
- while 10% of the leading 200 corporate advertisers had an on-line presence by mid-1995, about half anticipate having an on-line presence by the year end.

Financial Post 500 1996

FROM THE GRAPEVINE



Congratulations to Valerie Welsch who has been recently elected secretary of Provincial Executive. Our northern concerns will definitely be voiced with her in this position!

The Library Technicians at the Lakehead Board of Education recently took part in an impromptu workshop on Microsoft Publisher. It was held at Hillcrest High School Library. They had a great time learning the ins and outs of this diverse graphics program.

Our new co-editor, Tara Wyght, is vacationing with her husband Greg in Australia. Although she is on holidays, she has promised to keep us posted of any noteworthy library news from "down under".

Valerie Welsch and daughter Candice will be off touring France for the month of July. She too promises to report back to us on her globe-trotting experiences. Bon voyage Valerie!

A profile of our very own LaRea Moody will soon be featured in one of the up and coming Provincial Newsletters. So ... please stay tuned!!

Donna Brown is now the Native Library Service Consultant at OLS. She has taken over this position from Carolyn Christie who has recently retired. Congratulations Carolyn! Donna's new position entails library training for the First Nation Librarians. There are currently 34 Native Libraries that require this service encompassing a region that spans from the Manitoba border to Parry Sound.

For Your Summer Reading Pleasure! From the Globe & Mail's Best Seller List: (May 25, 1996)



FICTION

1. The Tenth Insight: Holding The Vision by James Redfield.
2. The Celestine Prophecy by James Redfield.
3. The Women Who Walked Into Doors by Roddy Doyle
4. Fugitive Pieces by Anne Michaels
5. The Runaway Jury by John Grisham
6. The Jade Peony by Wayson Choy
7. Away by Jane Urquhart
8. The Roaring Girl by Greg Hallingshead
9. The Horse Whisperer by Nicholas Evans
10. Next of Kin by Joanna Trollope

NON-FICTION

1. The Unconscious Civilization by John Reiston Saul
2. Red China Blues by Jan Wong
3. In Contempt by Christopher Darden
4. The Dilbert Principle by Scott Adams
5. Would You Believe? by Tom Harper
6. Time and Chance by Kim Campbell
7. Kneel Deep In Paradise by Brett Butler
8. No Surrender by Hugh Segal
9. The Eagle and the Rose by Rosemary Alton
10. When Elephants Weep by Jeffrey Mousseioff Masson and Susan McCarthy



Have a Terrific Summer!
See you in September!