

# TECH TALK

Volume 27, No. 4, January 2000



## *President's Message*

*Hope everyone had a happy holiday season.*

*This is our first newsletter in the new millennium. The millennium midnight passed without any glitches and January 1st, 2000 was beautiful day. For some it was probably a bit of a letdown with all the Y2K preparations made throughout the year. All I did for Y2K preparation was get a manual can opener and fill two five gallon pails with water!*

*Saturday, February 12th, two workshops have been planned for the whole day. Szabolcs Szterszky (Subby) will facilitate INTRODUCTION TO CREATING WEB PAGES IN THE MORNING and Val Gibbons will facilitate ADVANCED INTERNET SEARCHING in the afternoon. Everyone should have already received a flyer for these workshops. Hope to see you there.*

*The annual dinner meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mark this date on your calendar.*

*The OALT/ABO 27th Annual Conference will be hosted by Ottawa Regional Branch May 3-7, at Sam Jakes Inn in Merrickville. This is a great opportunity to enhance library skills and share information with other library technicians.*

*Happy Valentine's Day!*

*Helen Hyvarinen*



## **INTERESTED IN CREATING A WEB PAGE OR LEARNING ADVANCED INTERNET SEARCHING?**



### **TAKE PART IN A WORKSHOP**

**Saturday, February 12, 2000**

**Braun Building  
Lakehead University  
955 Oliver Road**

#### **Itinerary:**

**9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.**

**Introduction to Creating Web Pages with Szabolcs Szterszky**

**11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m. - Lunch**

**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Advance Internet Searching with Valerie Gibbons**

**Please call Kathy Walkinshaw at 473-8074 (home) or 684-3150 (work) by February 4 to confirm attendance.**

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**Treasurer's Report**

**Statement as of December 31, 1999**

**Expenses**

Provincial Travel	86.67
Craft Supplies	53.20
Newsletter	<u>43.66</u>
Total:	183.53

**Revenue:**

Regional Subsidy	<u>216.00</u>
Total:	216.00

**Assets:**

Cash in Bank	1,327.58
G.I.C.	<u>1,900.00</u>
Total:	3,227.58

**Membership Statistics:**

Graduates	21
Students	2
Institutional	<u>2</u>
Total:	25

## ANNUAL DINNER MEETING



The date of the Annual Dinner Meeting is tentatively set for Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Slovak Legion. There will be great food, great company and great door prizes! We will also be holding elections for OALT/ABO Regional Executive. Open positions include President, Secretary, Public Relations Coordinator and Newsletter Editor. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact any member of the Executive.

### Director's Report



For those members who were not able to attend the General Meeting on 7 December 1999 and join in the discussion of Huronia's proposal here it is.

### PROPOSAL RE: OALT/ABO STRUCTURE

#### Current structure of OALT/ABO

Provincial executive and board of directors  
5 elected / 3 appointed executive  
Director from each of 7 regions  
Autonomous regions  
Regional executive (typically 5 elected, 1 or 2 appointed)  
Director to provincial board

#### Problems with current structure

Widespread regions  
Travel expenses or teleconference expenses for 4 provincial meetings per year  
Travel expenses for regional meetings (usually 4 per year)  
Mailing of membership fees/cards back and forth between regions and provincial  
Mailing of regional newsletters and provincial newsletters  
Internal problems for both far-flung and close regions  
Cost of travel to meetings/workshops prohibitive  
Time to travel for same prohibitive  
Larger (number-wise) regions appear to have many paper only members  
Looks good on resume?  
No apparent interest in networking and workshops  
No apparent interest in promoting organization  
Small number of members, yet large number of library types  
Wide variety of interest in relatively small group  
Difficult to plan workshops for such wide appeal

#### Proposed new structure

Make-up of provincial governing body  
Elected regional/district representatives (appendix I)  
OR  
Elected interest group representatives (appendix II)  
Paid part-time executive director, paid part-time membership coordinator (retirees?) Or one full-time to cover both, or any other workable combination.  
Duties would include correspondence and newsletter publication.  
Elected executive to include president, vice-president, treasurer.  
Meetings of governing body  
Annual meeting to coincide with annual conference  
Contacts between representatives, executive and paid staff via fax, email, etc.  
Mail-in or proxy voting for representatives

#### Benefits of proposed system

Cost effective  
Membership fees directly to provincial organization  
One newsletter, not one per region and one provincial  
Provincial funds available for interest group workshops  
Consistency with other professional and library organizations as becomes a provincial organization with regional/interest affiliations, not regional organization with provincial affiliations  
Promotes interest groups based on type of library for improved networking  
Less paper heavy with more streamlined membership procedure and fewer newsletters, minutes, etc.  
Natural evolution for the organization after 25 years of existence  
Web page updated at regular intervals by paid executive  
Centralized office, central telephone and fax lines,

central mailing address

Other organizational models exist so no need to reinvent the wheel

Opportunity to piggy-back conference with other large organizations if desired

Easier to implement yearly membership renewable every 12 months rather than fixed dates as now

Easier to implement membership with no cards mailed out, just a receipt and database of members

Answer to proposed merger with OLA as would become a cost-effective, more efficient organization

More efficient dissemination of information as no longer need to rely on directors to disseminate

**"Problems" to be considered (with some answers)**

Current regional funds could/should be donated to new provincial organization to fund newsletters, workshops, conferences, paid staff, etc. Not an unreasonable suggestion since most of accumulated funds came from conference profits, thus technically belongs to members at large.

Reluctance of regions to "disband"

More interest group interaction should appeal to many

"Social" get together still an option for those who wish  
Time frame for implementation should be set out by a representative, province-wide group agreeing on a time-line.

Our Listserv is inundated with comments and opinions regarding this proposal right now. In case you have misplaced your instruction on how to subscribe to the Listserv - here they are again.

① *To subscribe send a message addressed to:*

[oaltabo-request@faxon.ca](mailto:oaltabo-request@faxon.ca)

*Leave the subject line blank and write - subscribe in the body of your email*

OR

② *Send a message addressed to:*

[majordomo@faxon.ca](mailto:majordomo@faxon.ca)

*Leave the subject line blank and write: subscribe in the oaltabo in the body of your email*

You will receive an email message confirming that you are subscribed to the listserv. To post a message address it to: [oaltabo@faxon.ca](mailto:oaltabo@faxon.ca)

I would appreciate any comments and opinions any one has so I can go to the April 1<sup>st</sup> provincial armed with our region's viewpoint.

Valerie Welsch

Regional Director

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## Library Jeopardy

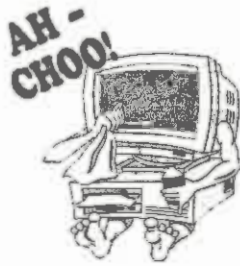
**Answer:**

***Unearthed in the 20th century,  
this/these loation/s  
was/were in fact the first  
collection of written records,  
and thus the first library.***

**SELECT A QUESTION:**

- a. **What was the Great Library of Alexandria?**
- b. **What were the Egyptian temples of ancient Greece?**
- c. **What were the Sumerian temples?**
- d. **What was the library of Nineveh, Assyria?**

## HOW TO SPOT A COMPUTER VIRUS HOAX



Are you tired of receiving e-mail messages warning of deadly computer viruses? Experts say there are a number of signs that a virus alert is a hoax.

- No Web link. Typically, a hoax will claim that a company such as IBM or Microsoft has made an announcement about a devastating new virus. A real alert will contain a link to a fixed Web page of the company explaining the problem.
- Poor grammar. A virus announcement should come from the desk of a well-educated company official but they often contain misspellings and grammatical errors - typical of the young people who usually create and release the hoaxes.
- Hysteria. All hoaxes contain an urgent request for the recipients to send a copy to everyone they know. They also tend to use adjectives such as "deadly" to describe the virus.

If in doubt about a virus warning, check out the following Web sites:

[www.nonprofit.net/hoax/catalog/virus/viruses.htm](http://www.nonprofit.net/hoax/catalog/virus/viruses.htm)

<http://vil/mcafee.com/hoax.asp>

Source: San Jose Mercury News,  
[www7.mercurycenter.com:80/premium/business/docs/virusbox03.htm](http://www7.mercurycenter.com:80/premium/business/docs/virusbox03.htm)

## TO AVOID VIRUSES

Never open anything INCLUDED, LINKED OR ATTACHED to an email from someone you don't know. This is only really a problem for users of Microsoft mail programs like Office, Outlook, and Exchange, but it's a good habit for everyone. It IS possible to download a dangerous executable program through e-mail, or through your web browser. For heaven's sake DON'T RUN A PROGRAM FROM A SOURCE YOU DON'T HAVE VERY GOOD REASON TO TRUST! If your browser or e-mail reader does not ask you permission before it runs a downloaded program, THROW THAT BROWSER OR READER AWAY! It's no more useful than a door to your house that can't keep anyone out. IS directors, get a clue and demand that macro and Visual Basic "functionality" be removed from Microsoft mail products!

## A QUICK TEST OF INTELLIGENCE

Don't cheat!

Read this sentence:

FINISHED FILES ARE THE RESULT OF YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC STUDY COMBINED WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF YEARS

Now count aloud the F's in that sentence. Count them only once, do not go back and count them again.



**1999 Governor General's  
Literary Award Winners**  
Ottawa, 16 November 1999



These awards honour the outstanding literary achievements of our country. For more information check out:

[www.nlc-bnc.ca/events/readings/govgen/index.htm](http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/events/readings/govgen/index.htm)

**FICTION**

**Matt Cohen**, Toronto, for *Elizabeth and After* (Alfred A. Knopf Canada)

**Lise Tremblay**, Montreal, for *La Danse juive* (Leméac Éditeur)

**POETRY**

**Jan Zwicky**, Victoria, British Columbia, for *Songs for Relinquishing the Earth* (Brick Books)

**Herménégilde Chiasson**, Robichaud, New Brunswick, for *Conversations* (Éditions d'Acadie)

**CHILDREN'S LITERATURE - TEXT**

**Rachna Gilmore**, Gloucester, Ontario, for *A Screaming Kind of Day* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside)

**Charlotte Gingras**, Montreal, for *La Liberté? Connais pas...* (Éditions de la courte échelle)

**CHILDREN'S LITERATURE -  
ILLUSTRATION**

**Gary Clement**, Toronto, for *The Great Poochini*, text by Gary Clement (Groundwood Books/Douglas & McIntyre)

**Stéphane Jorisch**, Montreal, for *Charlotte et l'île du destin*, text by Olivier Lasser (Éditions Les 400 coups)

**NON FICTION**

**Marq de Villiers**, Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, for *Water* (Stoddart Publishing)

**Pierre Perrault**, deceased, for *Le Mal du Nord* (Éditions Vents d'Ouest)

**TRANSLATION**

**Patricia Claxton**, Montreal, for *Gabrielle Roy: A Life* (McClelland & Stewart). English version of *Gabrielle Roy, Une Vie*, by François Ricard (Éditions du Boréal)

**Jacques Brault**, Saint-Armand, Quebec, for *Transfiguration* (Éditions du Noroît / BuschekBooks) French version of *Transfiguration* de E.D. Blodgett and Jacques Brault (Éditions du Noroît/BuschekBooks)

**DRAMA**

**Michael Healey**, Toronto, for *The Drawer Boy* (Playwrights Canada Press)

**Jean Marc Dalpé**, Montreal, for *Il n'y a que l'amour* (Éditions Prise de parole)



## FREE BOOKS AVAILABLE

If interested please contact Marsha at the Department of Library and Information Studies, at 343-8420.

- 1) *Books in Print*. 1996-97. Vol. 1-4, and 9.
- 2) *Ulrich's International Periodical Directory*. 34th ed. 1996. Vol. 1-5.
- 3) *Corpus Government Index*. 1997. #1, 2, 4. 1998. #1.
- 4) *Gale Directory of Databases*. Sept. 1997. Vol.1-2.
- 5) *Periodical Title Abbreviations: By Abbrev.* 6th ed. Vol. 1.
- 6) *Yearbook of International Organizations*. 1994/95. Vol. 3.
- 7) *Publishers Directory*. 1998. 18th ed.
- 8) *Quill & Quire. Canadian Publishers Directory*. Winter. 1998 ed.
- 9) *Directory of Special Libraries & Information Centers*. 1993.
- 10) *Encyclopedia of Business Information Sources*. 1991-92. 8th ed.
- 11) *American Universities and Colleges*. 12<sup>th</sup> ed.
- 12) *Canadian Universities Distance Education Directory*. 1994, and 1996.
- 13) *Canadian French Books in Print*. March. 1999.
- 14) *Fraser's Canadian Trade Directory*. 1989. Vol.1-4.
- 15) *American Book Trade Directory*. 1996-97.
- 16) *World of Learning*. 1996.
- 17) *Handbook of CEA*. 1997.
- 18) *American Library Directory*. 49th ed. 1996-97. Vol. 1-2.
- 19) *Willings Press Guide*. 1996. Vol. 1-2.
- 20) *Scott's Atlantic*. 1998. 14th ed.
- 21) *Whitaker's Books in Print*. 1997. Vol. 1-5.
- 22) *Canadian Sourcebook*. 1999.



The correct Library Jeopardy answer is:  
SUMERIAN TEMPLES



## Answer to Intelligence Test:

There are six F's in the sentence. One of average intelligence finds three of them. If you spotted four, you're above average. If you got five, you can turn your nose at most anybody. If you caught six, you are a genius. There is no catch. Many people forget the "F" in "OF". The human rain tends to see them as V's and not F's.



## EDITORS' MESSAGE

If you have stories or information (library related or other) you'd like to share, please contact either one of us. We'd prefer if you sent any articles via Email to:

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Caron Naysmith & Gwen Gamble