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# TECH TALK

Volume 30, No. 5 April 2003



## *President's Message*

March 27, 2003

As president of OALT/ABO for the 2002-2003 fiscal year, I find I have realized how much good can come from a group of keen people with a common interest. It is not necessarily apathy that causes memberships in associations to decline, but more likely multiple associations all vying for memberships from technicians as they enter the work force as well as individual time restraints. The latter, free time, tends to vary throughout a lifetime and quality sometimes may outweigh quantity. Even though a member's contributions may diminish at times due to other commitments, hopefully good memories and that wonderful "keyed-up and motivated" feeling after an excellent workshop or conference will draw members back when time is more plentiful. I feel it is important to continue to be aware of changes in laws and technologies affecting our libraries and to continue to share thoughts and ideas.

This year has been quite a learning experience for me, and I have realized how important it is to be realistic about what one is willing and able to do with kids under 10!! The Thunder Bay chapter of OALT/ABO deserves a focused and enthusiastic new president, especially with Confederation College

developing a new Library Technician program, a new OALT/ABO constitution in the making, and an ever-growing market for information literate people like us!

Thank you for this opportunity,

Cyndy MacKenzie  
President



## **Regional Director's Report 2002/2003**

The Board of Directors and Executive met at the Glen Abbey Library, Oakville, on Saturday, September 14, 2002 and Saturday, November 23, 2002. A teleconference was held on Saturday, January 18, 2003. The final meeting of this term will be held in Oakville on Saturday, April 5, 2003.

With the closing of Huronia and Sudbury regions,

the failure of the new region of Quinte-Frontenac to materialize, and for a time the uncertainty of TALTA it is apparent that changes must occur for OALT/ABO to survive.

At the ABM in Thunder Bay last May the Committee For Change gave its report and recommendations. A Constitutional Committee was formed to implement these recommendations. This committee has reviewed our present Constitution and has proposed amendments. In order for our association to move forward these amendments must be accepted at this year's Annual Business Meeting. Copies of the proposed amendments were sent to all members in the latest copy of the provincial newsletter. I strongly urge our membership to consider the proposed changes and let the executive know your thoughts. Whoever will be representing Thunder Bay at this year's ABM in Toronto needs to know our position regarding these changes.

I have enjoyed my term as Regional Director. The meetings I have attended and the people I have met have given me a greater appreciation of OALT/ABO as a whole. Thank you for this opportunity. I wish the new executive well and I will continue to support our region and our association.

Respectfully submitted,  
Valerie Barten, Regional Director  
March 27, 2003

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**Treasurer's Report  
(March 27, 2003)**

<b>Expenses:</b>	
Provincial Travel (Barten)	206.88
Thunder Bay Museum (Jingle Mingle)	350.00
Public Relations	<u>24.57</u>

**TOTAL** **\$581.45**

<b>Revenue:</b>	
Regional Subsidies	148.00
Regional Subsidies	<u>60.00</u>

**TOTAL** **\$208.00**

<b>Assets:</b>	
Cash in Bank	2599.27
G.I.C.	<u>2144.30</u>

**TOTAL** **\$4743.57**

**Bank Book Balance** **\$2599.27**  
**Cheque Book Balance** **\$2599.27**

**Membership Statistics:**

Graduates	23
Associate	2
Retired	2
Unemployed	2

**Total** **29**

**Public Relations Coordinator Report  
March 27, 2003**

As Public Relations Coordinator for OALT/ABO Thunder Bay Branch, it has been my pleasure to inform the membership of all up and coming meetings and workshops as well as to provide refreshments.

Flyers provided for this year:

1. September 26, 2002 - General meeting at Northern Studies Resource Centre. Guest speaker was Dr. Bill McCallum, chiropractor.
2. October 30, 2002 - Workshop at PARO with Erika Maki. Workshop was entitled Sign on the Dotted Line.
3. November 26, 2002 - Jingle Mingle and General Meeting at the Thunder Bay Museum. Our craft was Abaca Lace Angel.
4. February 22, 2003 - Workshop on Electronic Job Searching and Resumes, Part 2 at Training Wheels Resource Centre. This workshop was cancelled due to illness.
5. March 27, 2003 - Annual Dinner Meeting at the Slovak Legion.

As always it has been a pleasure working with my fellow executive members this year.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Kathleen Crewdson  
 Public Relations

## **NEWSLETTER EDITORS ANNUAL REPORT MARCH 2003**

This is the end of our two-year term as newsletter editors. We put out our region's TECH TALK for another year and have found it to have been challenging, interesting and enjoyable.

The Thunder Bay region hosted the provincial conference on May 1-5, 2002, and many people contributed articles that discussed the workshops. The function of a newsletter is to inform its readers, and we feel that this past year's editions provided not only information on the conference (Critical issues in customer service; Early literacy; Full-text electronic databases; The power of one: tactics for one-person libraries) but also websites, concerns regarding our regional/provincial association and a way for library technicians to keep in touch.

We thank all those people who have contributed to the newsletters and our executive for their support and input.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Bukovy  
David Taylor  
Newsletter Editors

## **OUR WIND-UP DINNER AND MEETING**

What a way to end the year - good friends, good food, and an election of a new executive. The Thunder Bay Branch of OALT/ABO held its annual dinner and general meeting on Thursday, March 27, 2003, at the Royal Canadian Legion Slovak Branch located in the city's historic East End. Twenty-one people attended (14 members and 7 non-members). After a chance to let people mingle, Donald Henderson, secretary and emcee of the

evening, greeted them, and after introductions and a moment of reflection, gave the order to help themselves to the tasty buffet food and desserts provided by the Legion's kitchen. This meal and the door prizes provided by Donald Henderson on behalf of the executive put the group in the right frame of mind for the business meeting that followed. Reports of the executive and a discussion of how the proposed changes to the Constitution may affect this region led the way to the election of a new executive for the 2003-2005 term. They are: President: Donald Henderson ; Secretary: Valerie Welsch ; Treasurer: Trudy Mauracher ; Newsletter Editors: Valerie Barten and Linda Bukovy ; Public Relations: Caron Naysmith ; and Regional Director: Kathy Crewdson. A big thank you to the out-going executive and then the meeting was adjourned.

## **ANNOUNCING: OALT/ABO AWARD FOR INNOVATION**

When it came to the things she was passionate about, Judy Koenig was NOT a spectator. Whether it was her personal life and family, her community, her work or OALT/ABO, Judy jumped in with both feet, ready and very able. She joined Huronia Regional branch and then worked to start the library techniques program at Georgian College. When the program was up and running, she sat on the Advisory Committee and enrolled in the program, all the while working at Collingwood Public Library and raising a family. And, not surprisingly, she was the first graduate of that program. Judy seemed to have two favourite words: "I" and "do". Whenever Huronia was involved in a project Judy's voice would ring out: "Shall I do that?" and "I can do that!" Judy was a VERY big part of the Huronia Proposal for Change and at the very heart of Huronia Regional Branch. Unfortunately, she died three years ago. Therefore, to honour Judy Koenig, Huronia Region, the new OALT/ABO Award for Innovation will recognize an OALT/ABO member who has done something innovative within the last two years, in the workforce, for the association or

for professional development. The recipient will receive a commemorative plaque for his/her efforts. Nominators should forward the name and contact information for the candidate, and their OALT/ABO affiliation. Outline why you think the nominee is deserving of the award, giving as much info as possible about the time involved, people affected and the impact on both the nominee and others. A more detailed submission will ease the decision process.

**Points to consider:**

- What was the major accomplishment?
- Was it a one-time project versus an ongoing project or multiple days? That is, a workshop versus program
- Who were the people affected? Colleagues, patrons, the general public, the community, the number of people involved/impacted, how and where
- Did the nominee initiate the process?
- The time frame involved
- How was project, innovation, etc. funded; this could be an innovation in itself!
- Any observations from others about the nominee and their action

Make sure to include nominee's name, address, e-mail address, regional branch and pertinent information about why this person should be honoured. Please include your name, regional branch, telephone number and e-mail address.

Submissions for the 2003 OALT/ABO Award for Innovation should be completed and mailed by May 1, 2003 to: Gale Moreau, 234 Duckworth Street, Barrie, Ontario L4M 3W9.

## **APRIL**

Cancer Month  
 Dental Awareness Month  
 National Book Month  
 National Humour Month  
 National Poetry Month  
 Stress Awareness Month  
 Volunteer Appreciation Month - Thunder Bay

3<sup>rd</sup> full week of month - Canada Book Week

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|----|---|
| 2  | International Children's Book Day   |
| 3  | Don't Go To Work Unless It's Fun Day  |
| 16 | Thank Your School Librarian Day - sponsor is "Carpe Libris" (Seize the Book)  |
| 18 | Canada - Constitution Act of 1982 - replaces British North American Act of 1867 - new set of fundamental laws and civil rights                |
| 23 | Shakespeare, William - playwright - b. April 23, 1564 in Stratford-on-Avon; d. there April 23, 1616 - wrote at least 36 plays and 154 sonnets |
| 23 | Canada Book Day (founded in 1996) - celebrate Canadian books and writers  |
| 23 | UNESCO - International Book Day   |
| 24 | Library of Congress Anniversary - April 24, 1800- Congress set act to "purchase of such books as may be necessary for the use of Congress"    |
| 29 | Moment of Laughter Day  |

**MAY****Cystic Fibrosis Month****Date Your Mate Month - make your romance  
sizzle****Multiple Sclerosis Month****National "Promote Your Ideas" Month****Women's Health Care Month****2nd Sunday of month - Mother's Day****2<sup>nd</sup> week of month - Education Week****3rd week of month - International Salute to  
Public Relations Week**

- 3 UN World Press Freedom Day**
- 4 Holocaust Remembrance Day**
- 8 No Socks Day**
- 11 Eat What You Want Day**
- 15 UN International Day of Families**
- 18 International Museum Day - to pay  
tribute to the museums of the world**
- 22 Immigrants' Day (Canada) to celebrate  
and recognize contributions of  
immigrants to the Canadian  
experience**
- 22 Conan Doyle, Sir Arthur - author;  
creator of detective Sherlock Holmes -  
b. May 22, 1859 - d. July 7, 1930**
- 24 Commonwealth Day**

**Editor's Message / Job Contact**

If you have stories or information (library related or other) you'd like to share, please contact me. In addition, if you have any leads regarding upcoming jobs in the library field, please let me know, and I will inform members through e-mail. Important: if any e-mail address changes occur, please let me know promptly at e-mail address [lbukovy@hotmail.com](mailto:lbukovy@hotmail.com) or by phone at (807) 577-5430. - Linda Bukovy