

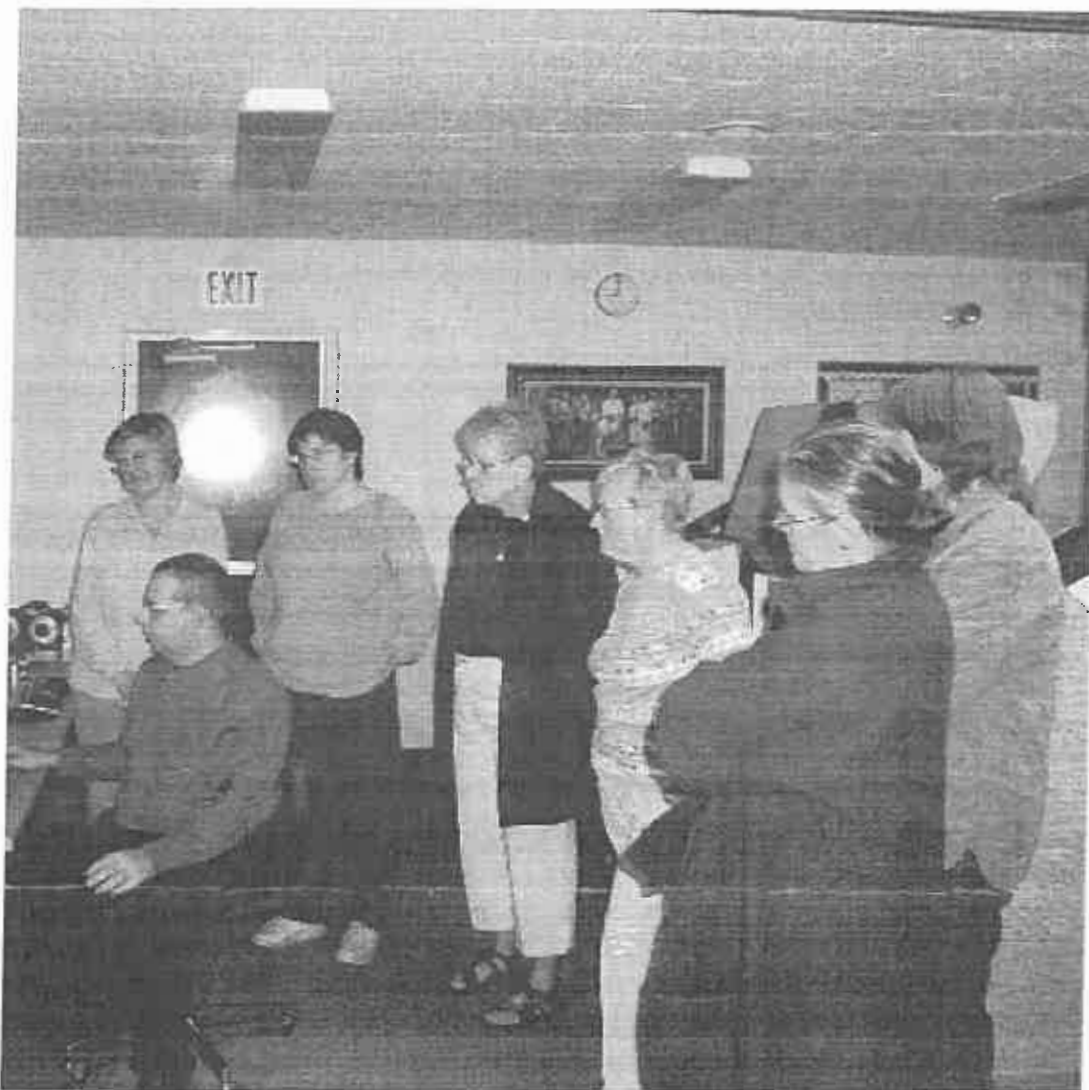
TECH TALK



Newsletter of Thunder Bay Chapter

Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des Bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario

Vol. 33 No. 2 October 2005



We had a fine time at the LDS Library

Join us for Marian Doucette's workshops on Saturday, November 5th

Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des Bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario
Thunder Bay Regional Branch
P.O. Box 10208
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 6T7

OALT/ABO

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 33 No. 2

October 2005-10-16

**Thunder Bay
Chapter
OALT/ABO**

P.O. Box 10208
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**President's Message...**

I was out on the golf course a couple of weeks ago when a flock of geese flew overhead. They were all honking and so I asked my husband, "Why do geese honk like that?" Since Jack didn't know the answer, I asked Jeeves.com. The answer I received is this most wonderful lesson that I am sure could be applied to our association. Here is the answer to the question – why geese honk.

Next fall when you see geese heading south for the winter... flying along in V formation...you might consider what science has discovered as to why they fly that way:

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in V formation the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range, than if each bird flew on its own.

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone... and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front. If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed the same way we are.

When the head goose gets tired it rotates back in the wing and another goose files point. It is sensible to take turns doing demanding jobs...with people or with geese flying south.

Geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. What do we say when we honk from behind?

Finally...and this is important...when a goose gets sick or is wounded by gunshots, and falls out of formation, two other geese fall out with that goose and follow it down to lend help and protection. They stay with the fallen goose until it is able to fly or until it dies, and only then do they launch out on their own, or with another formation to catch up with their group.

If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other like that.

Author Unknown

Now if we just had the sense of the goose, pulled together, flapped, honked encouragement, what a great active group we could be.

Join us for
Marian Doucette's
workshops
Saturday, November 5th
Room 3003,
ATAC Building,
Lakehead U. Campus.

The morning workshop is **Blogging your library** (9:30 – 11:30) and the afternoon workshop is **Canadian Sources of Information** (1:00–3:00).

The **Jingle Mingle** will be held at my house, 260 Piccadilly Avenue, on the 7th of December from 7:30 onward.

There will be a brief business meeting and then we can mingle.

Valerie Welsch
President

**Thunder Bay Chapter
Public Relations Report
September 22, 2005-10-16**

The Executive discussed possible topics for our meetings this year when we met in June. We thought a presentation for those interested in genealogy would be an avenue we would pursue, so we invited Dave Nicholson, a noted genealogist and local author to come and speak to us about using the Latter Day Saints Church database for research.

November 5th, we are bringing in a guest speaker, Marian Doucette. This will be a two-part "hands-on" workshop, morning and afternoon, and will focus on **Blogging** your library and **Canadian Sources of Information**.

December *Jingle Mingle* will be held at the home of Valerie Welsch on December 7th.

A tour of the library in the Lakehead University Health Sciences Centre in January, and in February a return of Erika Maki (our lady who analyzed our handwriting), from PARO, to discuss time management or entrepreneurship.

Our Annual Business Meeting will be held at the Victoria Inn in March.

Your executive is committed in our goal to promote and strengthen our members through learning, advocacy, and networking initiatives.

Submitted by
Kathy Crewdson
Margot Ponder
Public Relations

**Thunder Bay Chapter
Secretary's Report
September 22, 2005**

I attended a meeting in June at the home of Valerie Welsch where leadership duties were transferred to the new Executive. Workshop ideas and events for this year were discussed. As secretary, I have written up the minutes for this executive meeting.

I have not spent money to date.

Submitted by
Linda Bukovy
Secretary

Bio on Marian – Guest presenter of the November Workshops

Marian Doucette

Information Services Coordinator

Huron County Library

Marian Doucette is the Information Services Coordinator for the Huron County Library. A graduate Library Technician, with an Honor's BA in visual art history and women's studies from University of Western Ontario, and Managing Information Enterprises certificate from the Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto, she is also a teacher and lecturer on online reference services, internet searching and marketing, as well as a puppeteer and storyteller.

Books, information and literature, have always played a role in Marian's life, her high school job as a page in the Clinton library, soon turned into something more when given the opportunity to combine her two great loves – stories and puppets – to entice kids into the world of literature. A devoted life-long learner, she continues to enhance her library career and interests in literacy and information.

A member of the Ontario Library Association, the Ontario Library Information and Technology Association, and the American Library Association she is most active in the OALT/ABO. Marian has served as both Regional and provincial President, presented numerous workshops and received the Association's Presidential Award in 2000. In 2003 she was awarded OALT/ABO's inaugural Award for Innovation based upon her skills in developing and presenting workshops for library personnel.

She is co-editor of an anthology of one-act plays, *Seven Short Plays From Theatre Ontario*, published by Playwrights Canada Press. A popular trainer in how-to use the Internet in answering questions, she frequently delivers Reference workshops across the province for Southern Ontario Library Service, or at library conferences. Most recently she was delighted to have worked as project director for the award-winning Reuben R. Sallows Digital Library.

Letter from the Editor:

Well, I'm sure at this point Valerie is wondering if this will get out in time: I think it will – but it is "touch and go" more often than not.

You'll find, unlike previous newsletters, that I may stick more to the "nuts 'n bolts" of things, with less humour and entertainment offered. This is not an oversight, or even my honest choice.

I'm not a humourless person, but I do get strapped for time – more times than I care to think about. I don't *want* to say I bit off more than I can chew, but some days it does feel that way.

If anyone has suggestions, requests, journalistic offerings, etc., or even just complaints, don't hesitate to pass them on: you can't hurt my feelings, and we all want this thing to grow.

I wanted to produce a write-up of our genealogy workshop with Dave Nicholson at the church of the Latter Day Saints. It was a great evening with so much valuable information – I can barely make out my chicken-scratches!

Fortunately for all of us, he was kind enough to provide us with numerous hand-outs. He gave us permission to share them,

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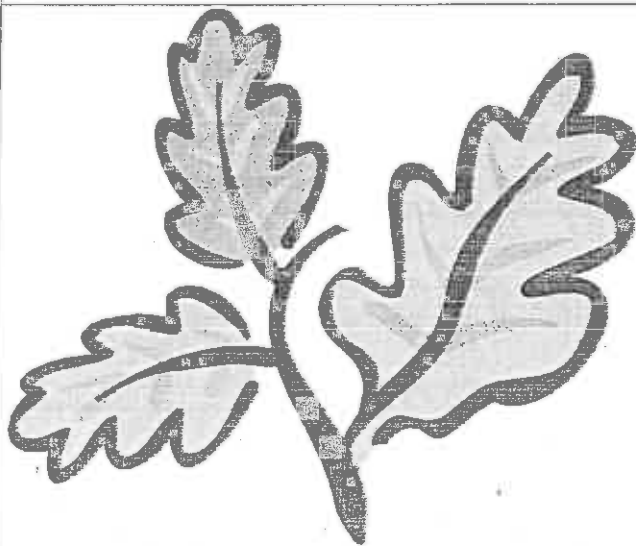
Blogging for your library

Have you blogged today? Web logs or "blogs" have caught on in the library world as a means to share and exchange ideas, market library services and programs, and engage communities. Learn why and how you can use blogs to promote your library services, or keep abreast with new developments in library services.

Searching *Canadian, eh!* @ your library

1. Review the core reference collection, discovering where to find Internet comparables and when to use them.
2. Identify a process for quickly assessing the quality of online information.
3. Learn how to use a variety of keyboard shortcuts and competently use multiple browser windows in reference work.
4. Recognize different types of search tools and their value.
5. Demonstrate effective search strategies for locating appropriate information.
6. Discover ways to keep current with new quality resources available on the Internet.

In keeping with the *Canadian* theme of course, this session will include locating answers for all thing Canadian using the best available home-grown online resources: locating health, history, art, news, pictures, geography, laws, and statistical information, as well as discovering "Well Known People who happen to be Canadian."



Maude Barlow

Although this is too late to serve as a reminder, I hope some of us have the time to attend Maude Barlow's speaking engagement on Tuesday, October 18th.

Perhaps someone can write a review!

Letter from the Editor (continued)

and I'm hoping at some point in the near future they'll get posted on the web-site. In the meantime, for those of you too keen to wait, don't. Give me a call or an e-mail, and I'll make sure you get copies. I may even do a mass e-mailing if I get my scanner hooked up, but I'm not saying when!

Here's hoping your harvest is in, the fruit flies didn't carry you away, and your kids have skates already.

Enjoy the beautiful weather, and see you at the workshops!

Wanda Ewachow
767-7588
wlewacho@lakeheadu.ca



Thunder Bay Chapter Treasurer's Report
2005 September 22 @ Fall Meeting
LDS Church, 2255 Ponderosa Drive
Thunder Bay, Ontario

2005 April 21 Balance 1504.31

Expenses:

Service Charges	000.95
Conference Air Fare	351.35
Post Box	<u>149.80</u>
	502.10

Revenue	Service Discount	
	Memberships	40.00

2005 September 22 Balance:		1402.21
	GIC	<u>2209.11</u>
	Total	3251.32

Submitted by

*Donald M. Henderson
Treasurer*

OCULA WORKSHOP

If you happen to be in Toronto Friday, November 4th, OCULA is hosting a workshop on *Marketing your Library* between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Bar Association.

Peggy Barber and Linda Wallace of Library Communication Strategies Inc. are the scheduled workshop leaders.

To learn more about Peggy and Linda, see:
<http://www.librarycomm.com/who.html>

2006 OALT/ABO 33rd Annual Conference

May 10th -14th, 2006
Brock University
St. Catharines, Ontario

The Ontario Library Association is seeking volunteers for its *Superconference*, February 1st to 4th, 2006, at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

If interested, contact:

Tammy Robinson, Volunteer Coordinator
Oshawa Public Library
trobenson@oshawalibrary.on.ca

Joseph Sansalone, Assistant Volunteer Coordinator
Oshawa Public Library
jsansalone@oshawalibrary.on.ca

CLA invites you to the 60th Annual Canadian Library Association Conference in Calgary, Alberta where we will...Rediscover the Library Movement. Visit

<http://www.cla.ca/conference/2005/index.htm>

A Reminder

*The
CLA
Library Technicians Interest Group
offers an*

Annual Award of Merit

If you have someone in mind, check the website!

CLA 2006 Conference

This year's Annual Conference will be held in Ottawa, June 14th to 17th, 2006.

Check the website for details:

<http://www.cla.ca/conference/conf.htm>

Two new

CLA

Special Interest Groups

this year!

Information Commons: "To organize a forum for discussing information commons initiatives at the annual CLA conference."

Evidence Based Librarianship: To represent the interests and organize continuing education opportunities to promote "evidence based librarianship and library related research"; and also "[t]o govern an evidence-based librarianship journal called *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice* by establishing the journal's guiding principles and ensuring that the journal's editorial board is in place on an annual basis".

The Library Technicians SIG is headed by **Karen Hildebrandt**, of Library Concordia, University College of Alberta :
karen.hildebrandt@concordia.ab.ca

CLA's Continuing Professional Development Online Courses November 2005

Managing Copyright Issues ~ online course with Lesley Ellen Harris, Author, Speaker, Copyright Lawyer: November 7 – December 9, 2005 (5 weeks, 16 e-lessons).

Digital Content Management: Compliance in the Digital Age ~ online course, again with Lesley Ellen Harris: November 7 - December 9 (5 weeks, 16 e-lessons).

Small Library Syndrome

This library suffers from small library syndrome. Large libraries do have their problems but they are often quite different to the peculiarities of small libraries. The problems here have to do with being vulnerable to reductions in staff and funding, there's no leeway, any cut is felt very strongly. It is very likely to end up with staff being so disillusioned that they leave. When you have a high staff turnover, often ending up with completely different staff every few short years, the methods of doing the work change drastically.

I know in this library, because it's so small, there has been the unfortunate tendency to keep information in heads instead of recording it somewhere. Even simple things such as which serials have to be indexed have not been recorded. I've done my best to get all those helpful details onto the system so the next person (I am disillusioned, plus I'm a contractor so I can be put off without notice, and so I am looking to move into another job) won't have to deal with suddenly discovering after weeks of doing the accessioning that there hasn't been any indexing done and they are actually blamed for it. Saying 'you didn't tell me' does help me, but only irritates the lib'n.

Without experienced long term staff there has been a real mix of cataloguing levels and styles, even to the point of someone getting in there who didn't actually understand cataloguing at all! It's all very well to say 'people make mistakes' and 'we don't need high level cataloguing' and 'there have been problems converting from one system to another' but look at the mistakes.

Why do we have: every word in a title capitalised? The series numbers ending up in the publication field? No authors at all? Records with only a title (maybe they were going to get back to that, um, them, um all of them.....). Subject headings without capitals or every word capitalised.

I think my current lib'n understands cataloguing, just hates it, but someone in the past had no idea ... and there wasn't a long term, experienced person to keep an eye on them.

There are a host of other problems associated with being a small library, and not all small libraries end up like this, but the ones that work usually have long term staff.

This article is an example of a library technician blog. See many other ideas that you have, or wish you had expressed at:
<http://librarytechnician.blogspot.com/>



Don't forget!

Jingle Mingle

at Valerie's

Wednesday, December 7th from 7:30