



## Newsletter of Thunder Bay Chapter

Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des Bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario  
Vol. 34 No. 3 January 2007

**OALT/ ABO 34th Annual Conference /  
La 34<sup>ième</sup> conférence annuelle de l'OALT/ ABO**

# Equi-Libra



**May 7 - 12, 2007  
Humber College - Lakeshore Campus - Toronto**



Humber College Lakeshore Campus  
(formerly Mimico Lunatic Asylum)  
[wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)

**OALT/ ABO Thunder Bay Chapter** will sponsor a member's transportation costs up to \$400.00 to the 2007 Conference. The member must attend the Annual Business Meeting on OALT/ABO Thunder Bay Chapter's behalf. (more inside)

**OALT/ABO**  
**Quarterly Newsletter**  
**Volume 34 No. 3**  
**January 2007**

**Thunder Bay Chapter**  
**OALT/ABO**

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**President's Message**

**Happy New Year!** - to everyone and may good tidings continue with our Association.

Donald arranged for a guided tour of Magnus Theatre on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, and on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Don Pearl is going to present an Introduction to Digital Photography at the School Board Office (2135 Sills Street). If you already have a digital camera, bring it and your manual along as Don is prepared to provide some one-on-one. I will be talking with Don again and will ask if he also provides web sites for camera reviews. If he doesn't I will.

I am heading to Sierra Leone again to visit my daughter. Only this year I will be gone from March 6<sup>th</sup> to March 28<sup>th</sup>. That means the Annual Dinner and ABM will have to be held after that. Linda Bukovy is going to phone everyone asking if you are willing to be on the executive. Remember that only three positions are elected, President, Secretary, and Treasurer. In order to keep our association running, we will need someone to fulfill those positions. Under our Constitution, the maximum a person can stay in a position is two years and your present executive has been there for two years. However, do realize that a one year commitment is also an option.

Jenna Winkler, OALT/ABO chapter coordinator has expressed an interest in attending one of our meetings. I have provided her with the dates that I know and will be in contact with her again.

See everyone soon!

**Valerie Welsch**



Humber College Lakeshore  
sign - wikipedia.org

## OALT/ABO 34th Annual Conference

# Equi-Libra



Humber College  
Institute of Technology  
and Advanced Learning

Lakeshore Campus  
3199 Lake Shore Blvd.  
(West of Kipling)  
Toronto, Ontario M8V 1K8

May 10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Registration package  
now online at

<http://www.oaltabo.on.ca>

1 Transportation Subsidy Available

## OALT/ABO Thunder Bay Chapter

**Annual Business Meeting** - Tentatively booked at the Scalero Room, East Side Mario's for Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Symposium at 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30.

**Executive Positions** - Three positions need to be filled: President, Secretary and Treasurer. Linda will be conducting a telephone campaign to recruit volunteers to fill these positions so we have a full slate for the ABM. Two "appointed" positions could possibly be filled: Donald Henderson has expressed interest in Newsletter Editor, and Helen Heerema to remain Archivist.

**Overview of the Year's Events** - Tour of the Jean Morrison Fur Trade Library at Fort William Historical Park, Tour of Lakehead University's Archives, Jingle Mingle, tour of Magnus Theatre, Digital Camera Workshop and Annual Business Meeting. The Executive is pleased with response and attendance at the variety of events.

**Conference at Humber College** - Toronto, May 9-12. The 2007 OALT/ABO Conference will be held at Humber College, Toronto, from Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

OALT/ABO Thunder Bay Chapter will sponsor a member's transportation costs up to \$400.00 to the 2007 Conference. Any local member interested in attending the Annual Business Meeting on OALT/ABO Thunder Bay Chapter's behalf can contact Valerie Welsch prior to the Annual Business Meeting.

### THE THUNDER BAY CHAPTER OF OALT/ABO

*-is extending an open invitation to all other  
professional and trade associations  
in the community*

**The Thunder Bay Chapter Executive of OALT/ABO** is reaching out to other organizations to share in our knowledge-based workshops, tours, evenings with guest speakers, etc., in the hope that your organization would do the same, pooling resources to enhance community professional standards in the field of knowledge and information management.

For a description of a Library Technician follow the link to :  
[www.oaltabo.on.ca](http://www.oaltabo.on.ca) .

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
Kathy Crewdson @kcrewdson@lakeheadu.ca

**TRANSPORTATION  
SUBSIDY  
AVAILABLE FOR  
CONFERENCE!**

*OALT/ABO* Thunder Bay Chapter will sponsor a member's transportation costs up to \$400.00 to attend the 2007 Conference Annual Business Meeting on behalf of the Thunder Bay Chapter.

Contact Valerie Welsh prior to the local ABM in April.

[vjwelsch@tbaytel.net](mailto:vjwelsch@tbaytel.net)

**From the Editor:**

I'm finally sitting in front of my new computer after months of technical frustrations; and once again I'm amazed at what the technology can do when it works; but also amazed at the pace of change which has taken so much time from our lives in our efforts to adapt to new tools.

As the market sorts itself out, we all absorb the costs of innovation and adaptation. Costs related to systems maintenance and support have caused larger organizations such as Lakehead University, for example, or a small association like ourselves, to transfer their services to larger web-based providers such as *Google* or *Yahoo*.  
(cont'd.-pg.5)

**A History of  
Finnish Businesses  
in the Thunder Bay Area**

In 2002, The Thunder Bay Finnish Canadian Historical Society (TBFCHS) supported and sponsored the publication of *A History of Finnish Businesses in the Thunder Bay Area* (2006). The publication was compiled and edited by Martti Kajorinne and a team of dedicated volunteers.

*A History of Finnish Businesses in the Thunder Bay Area* (2006) is a rich historical resource that links the generations of Finnish immigrants in Northwestern Ontario through detailed genealogical information with the businesses and organizations they created and nurtured. History has shown that once the Finns started settling in the Thunder Bay area, they opened their own businesses. The various businesses had and still have a distinctively Finnish character. Today, Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario have imbibed the Finnish character of a distinctive community.

Both former cities of Port Arthur and Fort William, which today form the City of Thunder Bay, had, from the earliest days, their own Finnish business districts: the former on Bay Street and the latter on east Simpson Street. Bay Street still remains Finnish in character: the language is spoken in practically every establishment; Finnish imports are sold; and Finnish style cuisine is offered.

In the spring of 2002, the members of the TBFCHS began the task of gathering information on businesses in the Thunder Bay area that had Finnish owners or employees. Since then, members from the TBFCHS have been gathering information on all Finnish businesses that existed in the Thunder Bay area from the 1800's to the present in preparation for the publication, *A History of Finnish Businesses in the Thunder Bay Area* (2006) This project took five years in the making.

The process of developing the publication began with the circulation of a form, requesting input from those who had relevant information. An interview featuring Martti Kajorinne on the *Morning Show* on CBC radio in November 2002 helped to launch the book project. A website was set up; printed information was distributed; and letters were mailed.

The project team interviewed hundreds of people and collected information on approximately 200 Finnish businesses that operated in Thunder Bay and the surrounding area. They also taped interviews with 25 early Finnish settlers. The interviews, which lasted approximately two and a half hours, were then transcribed and edited for inclusion. Business enterprises, described in the book, include photographs and - (cont'd., pg. 5)

**From the Editor –(cont'd.)**

As I watch these larger internet enterprises also evolve and compete, I'm again amazed by how, well, *enterprising* some of them are. For instance, *Google* is growing by leaps and bounds, directly competing with *Microsoft* by offering widely-acclaimed, award-winning web-based applications and data storage. On a global scale *Google* is even working with third world countries to provide access to their education edition of applications.

Perhaps *Google* is worth its NASDAQ trading price: they've managed to keep their crisp, clean layout that's such a pleasure to navigate and sites such as *Librarian Central* or *Google for Educators*, *Google Earth*, are great resources; and check out the posters available on their *Tools* page!

In an attempt to do a product comparison, today I downloaded Netscape: owned by AOL, produced by Mozilla, and driven by Internet Explorer's search engine ... What can I say? Change is good?

Enjoy the spring!

- Wanda Ewachow

**Finish History - (cont'd.)**

maps and cover a spectrum, from service and manufacturing, to forest harvesters, commercial farmers and post offices.

Collection and interpretation of data required 4,000 hours of researcher time. In addition to directly soliciting information, photographs, and oral history interviews, information was collected through the creation of a web and online forum. Questions posed on the forum ranged from stories of family immigration to recollections of the beginnings of the businesses, the accounts of various Finnish businessmen/women in Thunder Bay, ethnic profiles of the clientele and employees, and the challenges in dealing with people from different cultures. The resulting information is sorted by category, name, location, owners, duration and comments.

After five years, the TBFCHS's enthusiastic quest into this project has culminated in a 230 page comprehensive resource. The book is an essential tool for researchers seeking specific references for biographical or economic studies. The market for this book includes archives, libraries, genealogists and researchers around the world.

"The book is dedicated to those Finnish immigrants and their descendants who worked hard to carve out a new life in the Thunder Bay area. It was their perseverance, through good times and bad times, which allowed them to leave their mark on the past. Present and future generations should be proud of the legacy left to them by their predecessors in this land of many opportunities" (Kajorinne, Martti 2006).

The TBFCHS's hope is to preserve history that would otherwise have disappeared. The Society is to be congratulated for supporting the continued promotion of Finnish culture.

In conclusion, the TBFCHS gratefully acknowledges the support of the Government of Ontario Ministry of Citizenship & Immigration through the Ontario Community Builder's Program. The Ontario Historical Society is also to be acknowledged for its leading role in support of this endeavour.

- Kathleen Crewdson

*A History of Finnish Businesses in the Thunder Bay Area* (2006) is selling for \$20.00 and can be purchased through Kathleen Crewdson.



**ARMA Canada*****Bridging  
the Paperless Divide***

2007 Winnipeg Conference

June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Delta Winnipeg<http://www.armacanada.org>***The Key*** - *Thunder  
Bay's Guide to Community  
Services* can now be viewed  
online at the City's website.  
*The Key @*  
<http://www.thunderbay.ca>**ARLIS/NA****Art Libraries Society of  
North America****35<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference*****Atlanta 2007*****April 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>**<http://www.arlis-se.org>**APLA/CLA/NLLA****Canadian Library Association  
2007 National Conference*****Retain-Recruit-Restructure  
Regenerating  
the Library Community*****May 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>****St. John's, Newfoundland**<http://www.cla.ca>***The Play's the Thing*  
Tour of Magnus Theatre**

"The smell of the greasepaint, the roar of the crowd." These words transport the reader to the image of live theatre where actors portray lives on stage for audiences to view and marvel. Written words in a script become live action, lights dim and flare, and costumes and makeup transform actors of the twenty-first century into diverse characters from across time and space. Welcome to the world of Magnus Theatre, Thunder Bay's own theatre company. Attached to the historic Central Park School, it is an integral part of the Waverley Park Heritage Conservation District.

On January 31, 2007, OALT/ABO members toured the facility. Led by Magnus Theatre representatives John Cameron, Publicity and Marketing Director, and Ryan Newman, Head Technician, the group went on an engrossing walk through the innards of the theatre, upstairs and down.

We first proceeded downstairs to view dressing rooms where banks of bright lights around mirrors waited for actors to apply makeup and costumes. Around the corner was the Green Room, a quiet place where the actors could relax before the show. Sound from the stage is piped into that area so actors are aware at all times what is happening upstairs. Around the corner we reached the property area, more familiarly known as 'props' - and what props! Old trunks, bottles, dinnerware, furniture, books, mounted animal heads, everything under the sun - a packrat's heaven! Prior to a play being staged, the Set Director reads the script and makes notes of props needed, then sets off to this hidey-hole. If the prop room doesn't have it or can't make it, Magnus often appeals to the community to borrow the necessary items during the run of the play.

Down a narrow dark corridor to a dead end which Ryan announced was below center stage: above us, braces and bolts could be removed to let the trap door open, allowing actors on stage to make quick "now you see them, now you don't" exits. Prior to shows, platforms are set up under the trapdoors (barely discernable); preventing the descending actors from crashing ten feet below onto a concrete floor.

Up the stairs to the main floor, through the carpentry shop where sets are constructed, and then into the wings separated by huge black curtains that seem to stretch at least 25 feet upwards; above this is the fly section where about 25-30 long pipes are suspended 45 feet above stage level. These support the curtains, lights, scrim screen and backgrounds. At stage left an apparatus called the fly system hugs the wall; it's comprised of an arrangement of pulleys, weights and (cont'd. - pg. 7)

**Magnus - (cont'd.)**

a counterweights that allow a person to raise and lower up to 400 pounds hanging on one pipe without much problem. What looks real to the audience is revealed to be false from behind: brick walls made from boards and plywood and unopenable doors. As we walked through the set of "In a World Created by a Drunken God" (which was then playing), it was astonishing to see how close the stage was to the audience. Two strides out from the stage and the actor steps into the first row (as John said, "There isn't a bad seat in the house!").

Behind and above the audience seating is the booth where magic is created with lighting and sound. A lighting console programs and stores cues needed for the entire show, plus there are tricks up the technicians' sleeves. Coloured cellophane sheets (gels) encased in cardboard frames slide in front of lights, creating different colours on stage. Gobos (go-betweens) are patterns cut out of aluminum inserts and placed in brackets in front of lights: these can create a myriad of shadows ranging from light streaming from behind window panes, pine trees illuminated by moonlight - all sorts of effects. Sound production is done through computer: like the lighting cues, each cue has a different number and is programmed, then recorded for the show. They can be stored and saved on floppies or CD's: a technician's nirvana!

Off to (cont'd. - pg. 8)

**Primary Sources, that's the Goal!**

For any graduate of Lakehead University's now-defunct Library Technology Program, it was like old home day on Wednesday October 18, 2006, when OALT/ABO members went up to the 5th floor of the Chancellor Paterson Library (an earlier home of the Library Technology Program) to tour the Lakehead University's Archives and meet the part-time Archivist, Jeremy Mohr, here since March of 2006.

Lakehead keeps an archives area for several reasons:

- 1) to provide a central location for collecting primary sources;
- 2) for the research that may be generated;
- 3) to attract graduate students and researchers; and
- 4) to distinguish itself from other universities.

The Archives' mandate is fairly broad: the history of Northwestern Ontario and Lakehead University. Some outstanding sections of the archives include the **Finnish Historical Society Collection** (as well as pictures and play books written in the Finnish language), ledgers of the Finlandia Club, Ontario women's organizations, information on Silver Islet, Northern Ontario sports teams, the **Oscar Styffe Collection** (lumber & gravel), and Lakehead University history and campus development.

Though most information is acquired through donations, availability is up to the discretion of the Archivist. Very little access is allowed, limited to the staff of the Northern Studies Resource Centre and the Archivist.

The role of Archives is to collect unpublished resources such as ledgers, photographs, newspapers, audio-visual formats and electronic records (tricky, due to the ever-changing format of information, e.g., cassette, CDs, MP3, etc.). It is regarded as a primary research source since it's comprised of original material.

Cataloguing rules decree that all items of one provenance (derivation) are kept together in order of date to show the scope of context of the items; this shows how things worked through the years. It may take a day or more to organize each box since each item is listed individually and placed in a separate folder. Items are placed in acid-free envelopes and file folders, then put into acid free boxes, then given a series number. Boxes are arranged on shelves, each shelf has number, and each box has a number according to its position on the shelf. (cont'd. - pg. 8)

**Magnus- (cont'd.)**

wardrobe where costumes for each character in each show are developed. Rods holding clothes leap-frog up the walls, while myriad boxes and bins clearly labelled by their contents stacked on shelves. Whatever isn't there is sometimes created right from scratch or else the Costumer goes to local thrift stores to scour for finds, then altering them to fit.

Magnus also has a theatre school for budding thespians, plus rehearsal rooms for actors to practice and block out their positions upstairs while the main stage is being readied for the performances.

Down a series of stairs back to where we had started. As someone once said, "The play is the thing" but without the actors, set designers and directors, costumers, lighting and sound technicians, and all the talented people in the wings, a play is words.

Many kudos to Magnus Theatre for revealing some of the magic of live performance.

- by **Linda Bukovy**

To  
**Bill and Gene**  
the *Unshelved* guys

**Congratulations**  
**On Your Fifth Anniversary**  
**of *Unshelved!***

- and Thanks so much!

**Archives - (cont'd.)**

These numbers are listed in an index in this order: Series, box, folder, items. Privacy issues may put time restrictions on when items can be viewed.

Jeremy Mohr set items out on a table for the OALT/ABO members to examine, reminding all to wear the white cotton gloves for the items' protection. It was a tantalizing glimpse into what the Archives holds.

- by **Linda Bokovy**

**ACA-AAO**

**Association of Canadian Archivists**  
**Annual Conference 2007**  
June 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Queen's University  
Kingston

**Summer Institute on Literacy and Libraries**

***Libraries and Literacy:***  
***MAKING IT WORK***

JUNE 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Montreal

<http://www.centreforliteracy.qc.ca>

**Alberta Library Conference 2007**

***A Class Act: Celebrating Alberta's Libraries***

April 26<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>

Jasper Park Lodge

<http://albertalibraryconference.com/2007>