... *In touch with*
TALTA

From the Editor

Welcome to the summer issue of ...In touch with TALTA. We hope that you are having a great summer and that you managed to keep the weather in check. In this blistering, record-breaking scorcher of a summer, it is a relief that due to the nature of our business, libraries are air conditioned, adding relief to the record-breaking weather of this summer.

Traditionally, the end of summer means preparation for returning to school. This issue of ...In touch with TALTA we have compiled for you lists of courses and seminars from the local colleges and universities dealing with library techniques.

We hope that you are having a safe, comfortable summer and we look forward to seeing you in the fall.

John Smith
Newsletter Editor

ATTENTION BUDDING WRITERS

We need you. If you attended an interesting workshop or have started a new job, why not drop us a line? We'd like to hear from you!! Articles on any topic of interest to Library Technicians are welcome. Please mail your submissions to:

John Smith, 59 Spadina Road, Toronto, Ont. M5R 2T2.

Deadline for next newsletter: November 1, 1995

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message

Over these summer months the TALTA executive has been busily planning and preparing for the 1995/96 TALTA year. We are especially focusing on continuing education this year, and hope that you will find our newsletter issues and meetings full of useful information. Aileen Fisher, our new Vice-President, is working to arrange a wonderful workshop on the Internet this Fall and has some great ideas for future workshops. Send in your membership renewal early so you won't miss a thing.

We are always interested to hear what TALTA members would like to see happening with TALTA. Feel free to give me a call at (home) (416) 466-3152 or (work) (416) 367-6373 and share your ideas or concerns.

Joanne O'Driscoll
President, TALTA

JOB PLACEMENT UPDATE

How to list with the service:

Contact Marilyn Meyer, Job Liaison Contact, at (416) 236-2209, her home number, after 6 p.m. At this time, she will discuss existing job opportunitise, and procedures for either faxing or mailing resumes. To date, the jobs have been largely of a contract nature in special library settings with an average requirement of 2' to 3 year range in work experience. Contract work seems to be a generally growing trend with many knowledge-based workers similar to technicians. Marilyn feels that such work could prove to be quite viable, and she is keen on talking to interested TALTA members about available opportunities.

TALTA EXECUTIVE 1994-95

President:
Joanne O Driscoll
(h) 466-3152
(w) 367-6373
(f) 361-2753
jodrisco@borden.com

Vice-President:
Aileen Fisher
(h) 493-6019
(w) 469-6011

Treasurer/Membership:
Angela Carito-Walmsley
869-1130
x 2583
acaritox@colybrand.com

Publicity Coordinator:
George Zandona
(h) 920-4698
869-1130
x 2474

Newsletter Editor:
John Smith
(h) 966-2402
jsmth@io.org

Secretary:
Susan Scholz
(h) (905) 727-8475
(w) (905) 727-1893

**Board of Directors
Representative:**
Donna Ladouceur
(h) 920-6873
(w) 393-7192
(f) 393-7004

Job Placement:
Marilyn Meyer
(h) 236-2209

COMMITTEE NEWS

In-Touch Committee

The In-Touch Committee needs your help. If you are moving or changing your telephone number, please let us know so that we will make sure that you receive your newsletter and that you are kept abreast of upcoming events. If anyone is interested in joining the In-Touch Committee, please contact George Zandona at (416) 920-4698.

The 1995 In-Touch Committee:

Charmaine Sommerfeldt..........223-6113

Geoffrey Patridge 487-6033

Theresa Kennedy.............(905) 855-0650

Rosa Pignataro 787-6743

Kathryn Moore 482-3995

Interconnections '95: A Report from the Land of the Sleeping Giant

For those of you who couldn't make it to Interconnections '95, the 22nd Annual OALT/ABO Conference in Thunder Bay May 24-28, 1995, you missed a great conference and some great workshops. Theresa Kennedy, Leena Rosenberg, and Joanne O'Driscoll, three TALTA members who did attend the conference share their opinions on some of the workshops.

The Power of One: Tactics for One Person Librarianship

Maggie Weaver led this very informative workshop. She covered the topics of focusing, time management, boss management and contacts & networks. The workshop was a wonderful aid, and gave a boost for those of us working in a one, or two, person library.

— Leena Rosenberg

Electronic Document Delivery

The first thing to pop into my head upon hearing what this topic was about was "Alright, how to get things from their computer to my computer." Well, that's one of the things that was discussed. Everyone, including those in the industry has different ideas of what that means—from faxing, to photocopying, scanning, downloading and "internetting". Interesting discussion initially, but ultimately a discussion of how to use EBSCO and other similar sources.

— Theresa Kennedy

Electronic Publishing

Freebie diskettes were given out, allowing us to create our own short hypertext documents. It was a small hands-on class with up-to-date equipment, and very enthusiastic and knowledgeable instructors. The diskettes will be very useful in the very near future.

— Theresa Kennedy

Managing Stress: The Challenge of Change

Helen Hamilton, a Thunder Bay psychotherapist and educator, blended scientific psychology and solid Northern Ontario common sense into her presentation on managing stress. She emphasized the need to alter the way we think about change. Rather than fear or deny change, we should say to ourselves, "this may be difficult, but I'm going to be able to get through it all right." This method of positive coping works to help us all find the strength that is within us to be a survivor.

— Joanne O'Driscoll

An Introduction to the World of the Internet

This workshop was held in first class facilities at Lakehead University. More than thirty participants each had their own terminal connected to the Internet, and were expertly guided to access e-mail conferences and World Wide Web sites. There was time at the end for free-style Internet surfing and I think everyone in the room found themselves absolutely hooked on the 'net.

— Joanne O'Driscoll

Consider Taking an Evening Course to Update Your Skills....

Whether you are looking for an evening computer course, a library course, or a library computer course, here's a sampling of what's offered for Fall 1995:

Seneca College

- for a catalogue call (416) 491-5050 ext. 2522
- registration begins July 24, 1995 and continues until mid- Sept., depending on the course.
- courses offered include Database Researching (focusing on CD-ROM sources), Derived Cataloguing, Automated Library Applications and Library Promotion and Programming.

Sheridan College (Oakville)

- for a catalogue call (905) 845-9430 ext. 4008
- registration begins August 8, 1995 and continues to Sept. 10, 1995.
- courses offered include Database Management Software, Electronic Data and Text Retrieval and Online Information Retrieval.

Ryerson Polytechnic University

- for a catalogue call (416) 979-5036
- registration begins July 10, 1995 and continues until mid-Sept., depending on the course.
- although Ryerson no longer has a Library Technician programme, they offer a professional course series for online searchers including courses such as Online Legal Searching, Basics of Online Searching, The Internet, and Information Access.

Also, if you need to brush up on pure computer skills, Seneca, Sheridan, and Ryerson all have a full range of computers studies courses listed in their continuing education catalogues.

The Information Age Has Its Own Language

Nothing seems to change faster than Information Age technology. One source for information on new trends is the Fast Forward section of each Thursday's Toronto Star. Here are some Information Age definitions reprinted with permission:

BBS: A lot, but certainly not all, of the stuff on a BBS is merely BS. An electronic Bulletin Board System is where people from around the world can trade information as easily as tacking a piece of paper on a bulletin board at the office. With that ease of use, anything goes, and often does.

Client/Server: Not the relationship between you and a waiter. The client is typically a personal computer that communicates with other clients (i.e. PCs) and a larger computer (a server). The client has just one user, the server many. It's like a hockey team where the coach gives over-all instructions to the players on the bench, but the players continue trading information while on the ice. This type of computing is making mainframes, where everyone is connected to one big machine, obsolete.

Cyberspace: It's that parallel universe we travel to when we use our computer to communicate with other computer users around the world. First coined by Vancouver author William Gibson in his book, Neuromancer.

GUI: Graphical user interface, which allows you to use a mouse to point and click at objects on your screen rather than typing in arcane commands in order to tell the computer what to do.

Internet: The Internet was developed by the Pentagon 25 years ago as a fail-safe communications link in case of nuclear war. It has evolved into a more social medium that connects thousands of networks and millions of computers. Estimates of the number of people on the Internet range as high as 40 million, and that number is expected to double within a year.

LAN: A Local Area Network links computers, or allows them to talk among themselves in a small area, usually a single building.

Megabyte: Approximately 1 million characters; actually 1,048,576 bytes.

Mosiac: Nothing to do with Pierre Trudeau's vision of Canada, it is the name of an easy-to-use navigator for the Internet that is credited with the current explosion of popularity of the World Wide Web. Both Mosiac and its sister software Netscape are free and can be downloaded from the Internet.

Protocol: As in society, rules are needed. For computers to communicate, a protocol sets the ground rules.

Upload: Sending a file to another computer, the opposite of downloading a file.

Video-On-Demand: Imagine being able to move fast forward, rewind or pause that televised movie you're watching just like you do with the VCR — only you don't have to make the trip to the video store. That's video-on-demand, an expected "killer application" on the information highway.

WAN: A wide area network that can connect several local area networks.

"Reprinted with permission - The Toronto Star Syndicate. Excerpted from the article, 'Coming to Terms,' The Toronto Star, May 18, 1995"

Invitation from CASLIS

A SPECIAL NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY

The Canadian Association of Special Libraries & Information Services, a division of CLA, invites all TALTA members to a

RECEPTION

Friday September 22nd, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Faculty Lounge, 7th floor Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto 140 St. George St, Toronto

Are you ...

... working in a special library, and like to meet colleagues from similar organizations?

... thinking of moving to a special library, and want to find out the opportunities and challenges of that dynamic environment?

... looking forward to an after-hours chat with friends and colleagues from the special library community?

The National Executive of CASLIS invite you to join them and members of the CASLIS Toronto Chapter on Friday September 22nd !

R.S.V.P. to Maggie Weaver, CASLIS National Secretary:

Phone (416) 925-5478 or (416) 393-7247, leaving a message with your name and affiliation (i.e."TALTA")