

... In touch with TALTA

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TORONTO AREA LIBRARY TECHNICIANS ASSOCIATION - OALT/ABO, Toronto Region

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From the Editor

Welcome to the Summer 1998 issue of ...In Touch with TALTA. Sally has passed the newsletter torch to me and I am very excited about taking over! I hope I can keep up with the long standing tradition of educating, enlightening and hopefully entertaining you. In the past ...In Touch With TALTA editors have complained of the lack of articles being sent in. I am here to tell you that I am going to be no different. Send me your articles! Please don't make me beg. Tell me about your job, your experiences as a Library Technician or even write about any new technology in our field. Come on guys let's promote ourselves.

Since this is my first time as an editor, I hope you will take the time and tell me how you think I am doing. I would even like to hear your suggestions on how ...In Touch With TALTA could be improved.

This issue contains the Annual Reports of the 1997/1998 Executive. As you can see we had an amazing year and our Executive has outdone themselves again (Just a little pat on the back for them!). Also in this issue are Sue Callaway's report on the OALT/ABO Conference and Angela Carito-Walmsley's article on the new OALT/ABO Listserv. Hopefully these submissions will be of interest to you.

Our first meeting will be on September 15, from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Toronto Reference Library (Elizabeth Beeton Auditorium West). The speaker will be Karen Melville on, "Job Search Strategies for the Information Professional".

We are also considering having an Internet Searching Workshop. The date is "tentatively" set for November 14 at Seneca College. There will be a nominal fee to cover materials and food. More information regarding this event will be available at the September meeting.

All the best,

Jennifer Rayment

TALTA EXECUTIVE 1997-98

President: Brenda Holz (h) 416-486-6740

Vice-President: Angela Carito-Walmsley
angela.carito-walmsley@ca.pwcglobal.com

Treasurer/Memberships:
Anne Morrell (w) 416-747-4199

Publicity Coordinator:
Marina Dranitsaris mdranits@lmail.cencol.on.ca

Newsletter Editor:
Jennifer Rayment (w) 416-869-8795
(h) 905-508-5329
jennifer.rayment@ca.pwcglobal.com

Secretary: Gwen Curran (h) 905-833-2034

OALT/ABO Board of Directors Representative:
Sue Callaway scallawa@borden.com

Job Placement Liaison:
Kathryn Moore (h) 416-482-3995

TALTA Representative Public Relations Committee:
Jane Motz jmotz@sickkids.on.ca

TALTA Archivist: Scott Clarke (w) 416-869-8795

IN TOUCH WITH TALTA NEEDS YOU!

In Touch with TALTA is looking for articles for the Fall Issue. If you have any contributions, send them to me at 67 Cartier Cres., Richmond Hill, ON, L4C 2N3 or you can email me at jennifer.rayment@ca.pwcglobal.com. Student articles are also welcome (Looks great on your resume!)

Library Briefs

Library Technicians in Alternative Careers

Are you a library technician working in a non-traditional position? I am interested in speaking to technicians who have pursued other career opportunities, as a result of their library training and skills. If you have moved away from the "traditional" library environment, and would like to share your career experience, please contact me at angela.carito-walmsley@ca.pwcglobal.com

TALTA Programming Survey

It's not too late to get your TALTA Programming Survey in to us! Although the deadline was July 17th, we are still interested in getting your feedback from the Programming Survey. Your comments and feedback will help the TALTA Executive to plan meetings for the coming year, and develop workshops around your needs. Please send your survey in the self-addressed stamped envelope you received, or fax it to the attention of **Angela Carito-Walmsley** @ (416) 863-0926. The results of the survey will be published in the next ...*In Touch With TALTA*.

TALTA Meeting Notices on the Web

TALTA's meeting notices are available on the OALT/ABO provincial web site. TALTA's Calendar of Events page will have information about our upcoming meetings, and you can register via email. TALTA members will still continue to receive a printed meeting notice by mail. Bookmark the page at <http://www.interlog.com/~oaltabo/talta.htm>

Sheridan College Phases Out Library and Information Technician Program

Sheridan College has decided to phase out the Library and Information Technician Program. The last students will be the graduating class of 2000.

Library Mentions

In this issues of ... *In Touch With TALTA*, the "Library Mentions" feature focuses on the Canadian T.V. show **Due South** (Alliance).

- Constable Benton Fraser's Grandparents were Librarians in Alert
- "That is so stupid! A deranged accountant that is like saying a raging Librarian" - Ray Vecchio (Stanley Kowalski)
- "There's a wealth of information at your local library! - Benton Fraser

(Thank you fellow Library Technicians and Librarians from the Due South mailing list. To Subscribe, send mail to esquire@gamerz.net with subscribe duesouth in the BODY of your message.)

OALT/ABO Conference Report

OALT/ABO held their conference on the grounds of Spencer Hall, located at University of Western Ontario, London. Lohania regions organized it and I must say that it made an impression on most of us as to the subject matter, the rooms and the food. Who remembers the excellent choice of meals? I believe that I put on pounds after that conference.

Our days would start typically with a buffet breakfast, offered between 7:30 to 8:30am, with our first session at 9:00am. There was a coffee break, with the session ending and then lunch was a buffet also. The afternoon session was also broken by a coffee break. A short break would allow preparation for the evening meal which offered a choice of six meals. The first evening was preceded by a reception to welcome everyone to the conference and from there we went into the evening meal. After that evening meal, you could relax in your room, go for a walk or talk to some new people.

Sessions offered were varied. Personally, I attended the Entrepreneurial Library Technician, Ergonomics and Advanced Internet Session. There was also Windows 95, Genealogy and various other sessions. The business meeting was completed in record time and so we went onto the brainstorming session. Most of you should have received, via mail, the notes from

both the business meeting and brainstorming session. Sunday morning, we did some planning and you should have also received those notes.

OALT/ABO presented each member with a small gift to celebrate our anniversary. I hope to be able to get this gift to you, either by mail, or at the first TALTA meeting. TALTA region had little representation. But those who were there, I know enjoyed themselves, and I hope to see you at the next one which will be in Sudbury.

On a personal note, this was my first session that I attended as a Provincial Representative and I enjoyed the opportunity to "spread my wings". Please don't hesitate to ever contact me, should you have any questions. I am your representative and am here to serve you. This will be an exciting year and with your input, it will only get better.

Sue Callaway
OALT/ABO
TALTA Provincial Representative
scallawa@borden.com

Listservs for Library Technicians

Coming Soon... OALT/ABO Listserv

OALT/ABO's is currently in the process of setting up a moderated listserv for members only. The listserv will be hosted by Faxon Canada, and will be up and running some time this summer. The listserv will serve as a forum for job postings, continuing education developments, and news of interest to library technicians across Ontario.

The listserv will be moderated by TALTA member, Ronn Cheney. For more information, see the Press Release on Faxon Canada's site @

<http://www.faxon.ca/english/pr210598.htm>

Watch the OALT/ABO's website @

<http://www.interlog.com/~oaltabo> for more information on how to subscribe.

Many thanks from TALTA, to the staff at Faxon Canada for sponsoring the provincial listserv.

Atlantic Province Library Technician Listserv

Members of TALTA and OALT/ABO, are welcome to join the

new Atlantic Province Library Technician Listserv. To subscribe to the list:

1. Address an email message to:
listserv@rs6000.nshpl.library.ns.ca
2. Leave the subject area blank
3. In the body of the message type only : subscribe lt-l your name
4. Shortly a confirmation/welcome email will arrive in your mailbox.
5. When you would like to post something or respond to something you see, make sure you address it to the listserv's address which is : lt-l@nshpl.library.ns.ca

If you have any questions or problems please contact the Atlantic LT Listserv Administrator, Roger Finigan at (902)-757-1999 or at work (902)-585-1735. Roger can also be reached via email at: roger.finigan@acadiiau.ca

Submitted by:
Angela Carito-Walmsley
Vice-President

Newsletter Editor's Annual Report

In my last year as Newsletter Editor, I produced the Summer, Fall and Winter 1997 issues of ...In Touch with TALTA. The Spring 1998 issue will be my last and will be sent out later this month so that I can report on the election and festivities.

The Summer 1997 issue introduced a new Executive and contained last year's annual reports as well as articles on Transformation >97, the OALT/ABO conference held in Toronto in May. For the Fall 1997 issue, Sue Callaway and Joanne O=Driscoll wrote an informative article on Metasearch engines. I also reported on the first membership meeting whereby Brenda Hoiz led a tour of the Picture/Video Collection at the Metro Reference Library. The TALTA Holiday Social was not held until January 19 of this year and I decided to prepare the Winter 1997 issue after this. I also reported on the membership meeting held in November by Mr. Daryl Charandyk on the topic of AHow much do you need to retire ?@.

This is the end of my term as Newsletter Editor and my only regret has been not receiving more articles from members for publication. No matter what the topic, whether it be on the Internet, your workplace, your experiences in trying to find a job or an interesting workshop or seminar you may have attended, other members who receive ...In Touch with TALTA can only benefit from reading about it. I hope you all keep that in mind for my successor.

I have enjoyed working with the other members of the Executive and meeting so many people. It has been a truly rewarding experience.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Gardian
Newsletter Editor, TALTA

President's Report

For eleven years now I have been a member of OALT/ABO. First I joined as a student in Halton-Peel, the region of my college, Sheridan College, and then for the last several years in TALTA, the region of my work. It is without reservation that I can say the most satisfying years of my membership have been the last two when I served as Vice-President and President of TALTA. During these years on the TALTA Executive I have met and got to know more TALTA and OALT/ABO members than in all the other years combined. By representing you on TALTA's Executive I have improved my knowledge and skill in several areas - notably arranging and conducting meetings, booking speakers, impromptu speaking and teamwork. My respect and admiration for the professionalism and dedication of the Executive members are very great. Greater still is my admiration of the many member volunteers and previous Executive members who set up TALTA. Their hard work on our constitution, procedures and policies has smoothed our way. Now, even a novice officer in TALTA knows the expectations and parameters of his or her portfolio. This leaves more time and room for both refining the role, and expanding it with his or her own personal mark.

My year as your President began shortly after the 1997 Annual Business Meeting and the Executive "Hand-over" meeting when I attended the OALT/ABO "Transformations 97" Conference. TALTA was the host last year. It was an excellent event, largely due to the work of Conference Chair, Theresa Kennedy. Meetings were suspended as usual during the summer months, resuming again in September. We have had three meetings with guest speakers, a Winter Holiday Dinner Social and now the Annual Business / Dinner Meeting. The Executive has met before each of these events and communicated with one another in between as often as necessary. I personally feel that each of our membership meetings were successful. Some attracted larger numbers than others, but all were worthwhile and interesting. To improve our association, it is vitally important, for you the members, to tell the executive what topics you want presented!

It is my wish to continue to support TALTA as a member. In the future, perhaps I will be able to serve again in some capacity. Best wishes for another successful year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Weadick
President, TALTA

Vice-President's Annual Report

It hardly seems possible that already a year has passed since I became your Vice-President. My duties this past year included arranging speakers for membership meetings, booking the meeting room, seeing that refreshments were available, hosting the executive meetings in my home, keeping in touch with other members of the executive, presenting a Vice-President's report at each executive meeting, and telephoning members to remind them of upcoming meetings.

At our first membership meeting in September I gave a tour of the Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library's circulation Picture and Video Collection. Next, in November, we had Chartered Financial Planner Daryl Charanduk of Green, Wiebe & Associates speak about planning for retirement. Our Winter Social at the Mandarin Restaurant was held in January due to the postal strike. In March we had a very successful workshop entitled "Knowledge Management: What it is, who is involved and why you should care!" presented by Stephen Abrams and Rebecca Jones. Our Job Placement Liaison, Kathryn Moore, gets the credit for the brainwave!

The final speaker for 1997/1998 was Mary Beth Kupferschmidt, a consultant with Vision PR, who has been hired by OALT/ABO to plan their public relations campaign. She addressed the Annual Business and Election Meeting on April 1st. I am pleased that a number of excellent candidates have come forward to run for positions on the executive. We are also in dire need of volunteers for the In-Touch Committee which, in the past year, consisted of none other than the executive.

I look forward to serving as your President in the coming year and welcome any suggestions for improving communication between the Executive and the membership.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Holz
Vice-President, TALTA

Annual Membership / Treasurer Report

(April 1, 1997 to March 31, 1998)

BALANCE FORWARD \$7,579.24

INCOME

TALTA Membership Fees	\$6,083.00
Transformation 97 (Theresa Kennedy)	\$6,000.78
Total Income	\$12,083.78

EXPENSES

Bank Service Charges	\$153.00
OALT/ABO Fees	\$3,924.00
Newsletter Printing	\$1,101.57
Meeting Costs	\$912.28
Office supplies & Postage	\$1,386.58
Miscellaneous	\$508.87
OALT/ABO	\$3,000.00
Total Expenses	\$10,986.30

OPERATING BALANCE \$8,676.92

INVESTMENTS

GIC \$6,745.76 includes interest (Matures December 16, 1998)

Note:

Meeting costs do not include cost of the 1998 Annual Business Meeting.

TALTA MEMBERSHIP (94)

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Morrell
Membership/Treasurer

Publicity Co-Ordinator's Annual Report

I have spent the past 3 years as a member of the TALTA Executive. From 1995 to 1997, I was one of two Seneca College Student Representatives, and this past membership year I served as the Publicity Co-ordinator. Due to time restraints, I will not be returning to the TALTA Executive for the 1998/99 membership year. I am, however, interested in returning in some capacity in the future.

During the 1997/98 membership year, I produced flyers for the following general meetings:

- How much do you need to retire? How do you get there?
- The Annual Winter Social
- Knowledge Management: What it is, Who's involved & Why you should care!

- Annual Business Meeting (Including separate Dinner Menu)

Throughout the membership year, I received help from the In-Touch Committee, with phoning TALTA members before each general meeting.

During my time on the TALTA Executive, I have enjoyed working with and getting to know the other Executive members. I would like to wish those who are remaining with the Executive, all the best for the coming membership year. I also, strongly encourage other TALTA members to get involved with the TALTA Executive in the future, as it can be a fun and rewarding experience.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Clarke
Publicity Co-ordinator, TALTA

Secretary's Annual Report

On Monday November 12, 1997 I attended my first TALTA Executive meeting as Secretary, having replaced Julie Lucas who unfortunately had to resign because of job restraints.

During my tenure I attended four Executive meetings for which I kept the minutes of each meeting and distributed them to the Executive. I also kept an archive file of all literature received (including the "In Touch With TALTA" newsletters), publicity notices, reports from other Executive members and the minutes of all Executive meetings. I have also included the information received from the two general meetings, both which were very informative.

This has been my first year with TALTA, and until this time my involvement had been peripheral. The experience of serving on the Executive has been very interesting and enlightening. The work TALTA does in keeping its members informed as to job opportunities, professional development, technological changes well as the promotion of Library Technicians is vital, and I wish the 1998/1999 Executive the best of luck in continuing this worthwhile job.

It has been with great pleasure to have worked with the 1997/1998 Executive and I thank them for all the support I have had in taking over the job of Secretary.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gwen Curran
Secretary/TALTA

OALT/ABO Board of Directors Representative's

This is Jeff Corbett and I would like to submit my report to the Annual Business Meeting of TALTA as a member of the executive in the position of Director. This position is to be a liaison between Toronto Area Library Technicians Association (TALTA) and Ontario Association of Library Technicians / Association des Bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario (OALT/ABO). TALTA is a region of OALT/ABO, which is a professional association of Library and Information Technicians in Ontario. I enjoyed being on the executive of TALTA and the Board of Directors, representing TALTA at OALT/ABO meetings. This was a very productive year for OALT/ABO. The provincial executive, Board of Directors and Committee Chairs attended four meetings together.

OALT/ABO continued its Internet accessibility with our own website. The Internet Task Force Committee worked very hard to produce and maintain an excellent site. If you have not already viewed the latest update, please bookmark www.interlog.com/~oaltabo which is the site's URL.

OALT/ABO embarked on an ambitious project, a PR campaign. Watch for upcoming issues of the provincial newsletter, *Newletter/Nouvelles* to explain more on this topic.

With this article, I will have submitted articles to three issues of ...*In Touch With TALTA*.

My position as OALT/ABO representative is a two year term. This is the end of the term, and I will not be running for re-election. I strongly encourage other members of the association to consider running for this or any other position.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Corbett
Director, TALTA

Job Placement Liaison Annual Report

As this was my first experience on an Executive Committee it has been a very enjoyable and educational term as Job Placement Liaison.

With the assistance of the internet and the Listservs (Special Libraries Association, CASLIS, Library and Information Technicians at Sheridan College) I was able to advise the Library Technicians that were looking for employment of approximately 35 positions. I also received 6 placements from inquiries from potential employers.

An advertisement was placed in two of the "In Touch with

TALTA" Newsletters which allowed us to build our database of resumes of potential candidates.

I also enjoyed assisting Brenda Holz our Vice President in booking the guest speakers for our February 26, 1998 meeting on Knowledge Management.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathryn Moore
Job Placement Liaison, TALTA

FIS Continuing Education

The University of Toronto Faculty of Information Studies, or FIS, will be offering the following non-credit workshops. For a course brochure, call 978-7111 or e-mail at conted@fis.utoronto.ca or view them at the FIS website at <http://www.fis.utoronto.ca/conted>.

August 24, 1998:	Ready... Net... Go What's New
October 13, 1998:	Searching Your Family Tree - Genealogy for the Family Historian
October 19, 1998:	Current Awareness Services on the Net
January 7, 1999:	Searching Your Family Tree - Genealogy for the Family Historian
April 21, 1999:	Searching Your Family Tree - Genealogy for the Family Historian

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P.O. BOX 441, DON MILLS, ONT. M3C 2T2
