



NEWSletter NOUVELLES.

ASSOCIATION DES BIBLIOTECHNICIENS DE L'ONTARIO

NEWSLETTER/NOUVELLES
is published 3 times per year, in
September, December, and
March, and is available with
membership in the
Ontario Association of Library
Technicians/
Association des Bibliothécaires
de l'Ontario
Abbey Market Post Office
Box 76010
1500 Upper Middle Road West
Oakville, Ontario
L6M 3H5

EDITORIAL

The two articles featured in this issue of *Newsletter/Nouvelles* highlight the diverse skills and interests of library technicians. In one, LaRea Moody gives readers a humorous look at her very specialized work environment in the Thunder Bay Court House Library. In the second piece, Jane Parker reports on the Computers in Libraries Conference and provides a glimpse of the technological future in libraries.

Both writers recognize the importance of adaptability in this business of providing information. The needs of special client groups and the explosion of technology call not only on our ability to adapt, but to be innovative and interested in making the environment work for our users.

Our own association works hard to provide members with top-notch professional development opportunities. Show

your interest and support for these endeavours by attending workshops and conferences. Encourage your colleagues to join us at the next opportunity so that we, and our library patrons, can benefit.

Please submit copy for the next issue of *Newsletter/Nouvelles* to the editor by March 2, 1992.

Linda Davis
Editor

1991-1992 OALT/ABO Executive

Bette Gore
President

A 1973 graduate of Cambrian College, Bette has been an active member of OALT/ABO for many years. In her continuing search for new challenges, Bette has completed her BA degree (1984) and a course in conversational French (1989). She views her role as President of OALT/ABO as her greatest and most likely satisfying challenge to date.

Kathryn Kern
Vice-President

Kathryn received a BA from the University of Winnipeg (1980) and a Library Technology Certificate from Red River College (1982). Since then, she has developed several one-person libraries. Currently, she works for the BT Bank of Canada. Kathryn has been active with TALTA since arriving in Toronto and looks forward to expanding her involvement at the provincial level.

Brady Leyser
Secretary

Brady is a graduate of the Seneca College Library Techniques Program. He recently chaired the TALTA Ad-hoc Committee on Programming and has been involved in the Toronto Association of Law Librarians (TALL) Union List Committee. Brady is currently completing a pop/rock music bibliography to be published internationally by Popular Culture Inc.

Christine Droy
Treasurer

Christine returns for a second year in charge of OALT/ABO's accounts. She is a 1984 graduate of Seneca College and recently joined the staff of the Learning Resources Centre at Cambrian College in Sudbury. When she's not counting money, she is out kayaking with her husband.

Marsha Hunt

Public Relations Co-ordinator
Marsha is a graduate of Sheridan College and McMaster University. This is her third term on the executive of OALT/ABO. She is employed by the Peel Board of Education as a Library Resources Technician.

EXPLORATIONS

19th Annual OALT/ABO Conference

May 27-30, 1992
Sheraton Caswell Hotel (Sudbury)

Circle these dates on your 1992 calendar and plan to join us in Sudbury for OALT/ABO's 19th Annual Conference. Explorations '92 promises a variety of workshops, lively entertainment, and an opportunity to share information with colleagues in your particular interest group.

The atmosphere will be casual, comfortable and congenial, so plan now to be part of this important gathering. We can't guarantee the weather (remember 1983) but you will have a chance to explore your areas of professional interest and the City of Sudbury.

For more information, contact Bette Gore (705) 524-9314 or Linda Davis (705) 566-9374.

MAIL POSTE

Canada Post Corporation / Société canadienne des postes
First Class / Première Classe
Sudbury, Ontario - 5062

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Address Change! Please note our new address is: OALT/ABO, Abbey Market P.O. Box 76010, 1500 Upper Middle Rd. W., Oakville, Ontario, L6M 3H5. Our thanks is extended to Otto and Irene Sillius for relocating us and notifying other associations of the change.

Janet Iles has graciously accepted the position of Chairperson of the Presidential Award Committee. As last year's recipient of OALT/ABO's prestigious award, Janet follows tradition in heading the committee for the coming year. We all know people who deserve recognition for their superb work and effort on behalf of OALT/ABO. Let's see to it they receive the proper accolades by nominating them on the form enclosed with this issue of *Newsletter/Nouvelles*.

Our latest Board of Directors/Executive meeting

was held November 23rd. Susan Morley (Ex-Officio) is ensuring the Membership Directory will be ready for mailing shortly. Kathryn Kern (V.P.) will have the Salary Survey mailed at the same time, reducing mailing costs. Marsha Hunt (P.R.) has prepared some new member kits for distribution to colleges.

The January 25th meeting will be a teleconference from 10:00am to 1:00pm, at five teleconference sites around the province. Observers are always welcome at Board meetings. This teleconference may be the perfect opportunity for many of you to hear what these meetings are all about. Please contact your director to discover your nearest location.

This year is the Manitoba Association of Library Technicians' 20th anniversary. We wish MALT well in the future and trust they

will continue to strengthen and grow.

Conference plans are progressing rapidly. You should receive your registration package by early February. There will be plenty to keep your mind stimulated during the day and your social centres satisfied during the evenings. Meeting times have been scheduled for past and present members of the administration to exchange information. As well, there will be a special luncheon for delegates to meet others in like jobs, discuss problems and concerns, or simply exchange names and phone numbers. Take advantage of this opportunity to really get to know your peers!

May your holiday season be full of fun and frivolity, love and laughter.

Bette Gore
President

Notes & News

The Revised Statutes of Ontario 1990 (12v.) are now available from Publications Ontario, 5th floor, 880 Bay Street, Toronto, M7A 1N8. The index will be available in May 1992. Price for the complete set is \$ 695 + GST. Call 1-800-668-9938 for more information.

February 24 - March 2 is Freedom to Read Week. Order a kit with information on how to participate from: The Book & Periodical Council, 35 Spadina, Toronto, M5R 2S9. Kits are 12.00 each + GST with a 20% discount on five or more. Orders for single copies must be prepaid. Phone (416) 975-9366 for particulars.

The 14th annual National Book Festival takes place April 25 - May 2, 1992. Write: National Book Festival, Canada Council, 99 Metcalfe Street, P.O. Box 1047, Ottawa K1P 5V8 for further information.

March 13, 1992 is National Junk Mail Return Day. Address your bundle of accumulated junk mail for return on this day to: H. André, House of Commons, Ottawa K1A 0A6.

Sympathies

With regret we announce the death of Maysel Dag (Sudbury) on Dec. 8th. Maysel was a longtime member of OALT/ABO and worked diligently on the Explorations '92 Conference Committee. She will be greatly missed by all her colleagues.

Computers in Libraries Canada Conference

This annual conference, organized by Meckler Publishing, was held in Toronto in October, and was a wonderful opportunity for professional development. It was a chance to explore several growing and challenging concepts in the library world. One is the work being done to network libraries, and the other is the disappearance of the library as we know it today. Libraries without walls, staff as gatekeepers to information grids, and technology that will change the service we provide were all discussed.

Actually these concepts are not new.

Many libraries already provide services beyond their own buildings and beyond collections that sit on shelves. On-line searching, dial-in access to catalogues and ILLO already exist. Take these services one step further, and we have electronic journals that will never exist in print, ILLO that never sends the item (just downloads the text), interactive dial-in access to community databases, and patrons who want to take information away on a disk, not a paper photocopy.

The first morning provided a choice of short courses. The course

on LANS given by Marshall Breeding was very informative and pulled together all those terms I've heard but didn't fully understand. I recommend his book *Library LANS: Case Studies* coming out this winter and published by Meckler.

Other sessions I attended included Frank White from the University of Windsor who spoke of the importance of establishing a written microcomputer policy to clarify the role of systems staff and make the job of support easier. There was also a session on Windows which was an introduction for the curious as well as informative for those

who are trying to maximize its use.

The vendor displays were also very interesting, including samples from the Meckler booth of their many journals and chances to buy their books at reduced prices. There was a vendor selling a unit that allows patrons to check out their own books and another demonstrating a catalogue system that worked under a Windows environment so that you could view the index in one window, bibliographic record in another and in this case, a photograph of the catalogued artifact in another. CD-ROM products were prevalent. One such

product displayed stunning Audubon prints accompanied by the actual bird calls. Not something everyone needs, but the technological potential for other applications is there.

I highly recommend this annual conference for library staff in any type of library that wants to remain at the forefront of information services. It is an eye-opener, especially for libraries who have maintained a passive role in this technological age.

Jane Parker
Halton-Peel

Professional Development

Ontario Library Association
100 Richmond Street East #300
Toronto, Ontario M5C 2P9
(416) 363-3388

OSLA Ideashop
"Partners: Linking the Next Decade"
Harbour Castle Westin Hotel
Toronto, Ontario
January 29-31, 1992

College & University Division
Holiday Inn
Toronto
February 21-22, 1992

Canadian Library Association
200 Elgin Street # 602
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1L5
(613) 232-9625

"Marketing Your Library" with Arlene Farber Sirkin (SLA)
Toronto April 8, 1992
Ottawa April 6, 1992

Teleconference
"Copyright in Film and Video"
February 1992
(call for more details)

Ryerson Polytechnic Institute
350 Victoria Street
Toronto, Ontario M5B 2K3
(416) 979-5180

On-line Legal Searching
January 14 - February 25, 1992

Advanced On-line Searching
January 15 - April 15, 1992

On-line Health & Life Sciences Searching
March 3 - April 14, 1992

On-line Supersearcher
March 15 - April 16, 1992

Technical Toolkit or On-line Searchers
May 5 - 16, 1992



This column informs readers about meetings and special events sponsored by regional branches of OALT/ABO. Please forward all regional information to the editor for future publication.

Halton-Peel

January 25, 1992
Super Saturday
-workshops sponsored by Halton-Peel Region and the Alumni Association of Sheridan College (a.m., p.m. and full-day sessions)

March 5, 1992
Annual Business Meeting

Contact Person:
Suzanne Orlando
(416) 452-0271
(416) 890-1099 ext. 2661
(work)

Hurononia

March 14, 1992
Annual Business Meeting
-Simcoe County Law Association Library, Court House, Barrie with guest speaker, Paul Wessinger, MPP Simcoe South

Contact Person:
Pat Henry
(705) 728-3480
(705) 739-6569 (work)

Lohania

February 15, 1992
Workshop
-Résumés, with speaker Sue Weaver, at Mohawk College, Health Sciences Education Centre, Sanitorium Road (p.m.)

March 29, 1992
Annual Business Meeting in London

Contact Person:
Donna Fossum
(519) 668-7823
(519) 685-4628 (work)

Ottawa

February 28, 1992
Annual Business Meeting
-McNab Community Centre, 7 p.m.

Contact Person:
Susan Bourdeau
(613) 231-7557
(613) 943-8940 (work)

Sudbury

January 8, January 22, February 19, 1992
Conference Committee Meetings
-at the home of Bette Gore

March 7, 1992
Annual Business Meeting

Contact Person:
Paulette Burton
(705) 560-1788
(705) 675-3028 ext. 13
(work)

Thunder Bay

January 18, 1992
Workshop
-Promoting Your Library with Barb Koppenhaver, Community Services Coordinator, Thunder Bay Public Library, 9:30-noon

February 18, 1992
Workshop
-Care and Conservation of Unpublished Materials with Alex Ross, City Archivist, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

March, 1992
Annual Business Meeting

Contact Person:
Cathy Walsh
(807) 344-1682
(807) 343-1610 (p.m.)

TALTA

January or February, 1992
Workshop
-Marketing Your Library (details tba)

Contact Person:
Linda Yarema
(416) 259-0480
(416) 978-5851 (work)

Professional Reading

Pfiffner, Pamela. "In a Bind." *Publish*. (September 1991) p.65.

The author outlines the criteria to consider when having new publications bound. Should you go with saddle stitch, side stitch, perfect or mechanical bindings? Read the pros and cons and study the illustrated examples in this recent article in *Publish*.

Schneider, Don. "Classrooms without Walls." *Canadian Geographic*. (August/September 1991) p.66.

This article features three school environmental programs which demonstrate the commitment of students to the local ecology. The programs show how environmental education can help students turn their enthusiasm into action.

Prohaszka, Maria. "Real Presents." *Earthkeeper*. (November/December 1991) p.14.

Prohaszka presents a raft of ideas for making the holiday season environmentally friendly. Her practical suggestions for gift-giving make a lot of sense in today's over-packaged throw-away world. Includes a list of non-profit organizations with items for sale.

Running a One-Half Person Library

On the top floor of a 66-year old district Court House building, high on a hill overlooking Lake Superior, reposes a sizeable collection of the legal wit and wisdom of the District of Thunder Bay.

The Court House Library occupies three rooms and a hallway, housing a collection of approximately 8,000 volumes. It is one of 47 district Court House Libraries in Ontario, and receives a major portion of funding from the Law Foundation and Law Society of Upper Canada, in addition to the revenues from local members' fees.

Until 1988, the text collection had been catalogues (I use the word loosely) according to an original scheme, i.e. DV-Divorce, LA-Landlord and Tenant, BK-Banking, as well as a number of esoteric combinations. Within those broad categories, the books were assigned numbers in order of their receipt. This, of course, did not enhance ease of access. In addition, these same alpha-numeric were painted on the spine of each title in a brilliant fluorescent orange paint. The rationale was that missing items could easily be spotted when the Library Technician made her rounds of the law firms, seeking out those long overdue.

The greatest improvement in library practice is the present central cataloguing of texts (using KF modified Law of Canada) at the Great Library in Osgoode Hall. As

each library receives new titles, forms with pertinent bibliographic information are filled out and sent to the Great Library. They generate labels, shelflist cards, along with regularly updated book catalogues (author/title, subject, classified). In this way, as I try to gently wean the balky lawyers away from the previous archaic system, every district court house library in Ontario is shelved in exactly the same manner.

There are 150 practicing lawyers, ten judges and crown counsel, ten or so articling students and affiliate members who use the library regularly. In addition, students from Lakehead University and Confederation College, along with occasional high school students and researchers, use the facilities.

The Library Technician is in attendance 20 hours per week. Members of the local Association have their own keys (issued by the Sheriff's Office), and use the facilities, day, night and weekends. The technician's desk is fair game for anyone looking for pencils, paper clips, and general nosing around.

The textbook collection circulates via book cards, where borrowers sign their names and the exact date the item was taken. Non-circulating materials have REFERENCE ONLY - DO NOT REMOVE FROM LIBRARY stickers prominently displayed, which of course lose their meaning when some-

one desperately needs a particular book.

By and large, the members of the bar are an agreeable lot, and materials eventually find their way back to the stacks. Once or twice a year, I announce a royal tour and outline the travel route. Armed with my list of 20 or so missing titles, I generally return with at least 50 items that I did not even know were missing.

Lakehead University's Department of Library and Information Studies sends students to our library for practice work several times a year, and they work on the karex, send overdue notices, prepare bibliographies, and if I satisfy myself that they really understand alpha-numeric, let them do the inserts of the releases. The Crown Attorney's Office has been most co-operative in providing occasional assistance when they have students.

Overriding all the usual technical tasks is the assistance to the lawyers in their constant quest for information. This is really the most interesting aspect of the job. The problem with legal research is determining the amount of time to allot to a particular search.

Presently, acquisitions, collection development and general library policies are reviewed by a library committee, consisting of three very keen lawyers and the Library Technician who meet once every

two months. This is a very satisfactory arrangement in keeping on top of any impending problems. A budget for the year in effect, and if the publishers can cut back their double and triple mailings of advertising brochures, perhaps the saving on postage will preclude the rising cost of the books! The library has a minicomputer with two floppy disk drives and a printer (no modem), which is used to keep files of members, monthly financial statements, form letters, etc. It is used primarily as a word processor, and is an invaluable tool. A separate link-up with Osgoode Hall enables the articling students to do their tax and accounting courses. The acquisition of a FAX machine has proved to be the greatest invention since the wheel.

Although the closest cities of comparable size to Thunder Bay (population 120,000) are Minneapolis, 480 km to the south, Winnipeg, 700 km to the west, and Sault Ste. Marie, the same distance east, the fact that we have a university and public library who do online searching, makes our isolation a lesser factor than was previously the case.

LaRea Moody
Thunder Bay

* Edited from an article which appeared in *Canadian Law Libraries/Bibliothèques de Droit canadiennes*, v.15, no.4 (October 1990)

Presidential Award

The Presidential Award is intended to recognize outstanding contributions or major achievements of an OALT/ABO member in promoting and/or developing the Association. The 1992 award will be presented at the annual banquet on May 29, 1992 at EXPLORATIONS '92 in Sudbury.

Previous Presidential Award recipients are:
1984 - Danielle Amat (Ottawa)
1985 - Liz Aldrey (Lohania)
1986 - Sue Weaver (Halton-Peel)
1987 - Paulette Burton (Sudbury)
1988 - LaRea Moody (Thunder Bay)
1989 - Pat Graham (Ottawa)
1990 - Bette Gore (Sudbury)
1991 - Janet Iles (Huron)

Additional nomination forms are available from members of the Provincial Executive and Board of Directors or Janet Iles, Chairperson of the Presidential Award Committee.

Nominees from previous years must be re-submitted for consideration this year. Please send fully completed forms to:

Janet Iles
120 - 7th Street S.W.
Owen Sound, Ontario
N4K 5S9

The deadline date for submissions is February 29, 1992.

Information to Contributors

The editor welcomes any articles or news items of interest to the Library Technicians of Ontario. Contributions should be typed on one side of the paper only. Include your full name, telephone number, and regional affiliation. French translation of official executive business is provided. Otherwise, publication will be in the language of submission.

NEWSLETTER/NOUVELLES
Editor
Linda Davis
1267 Cardinal Court
Sudbury, Ontario
P3A 3C2

Job Liaison Contacts

Halton-Peel:
Gisela Smithson
(416) 279-9973
Huron: Judy Koenig
(705) 444-1076
Lohania: Donna Fossum
(519) 668-7823
Ottawa: Ian Leslie
(613) 225-9504
Sudbury: Linda Davis
(705) 566-9374
Thunder Bay: Joyce Torma
(807) 345-5008
TALTA: Grace Lofters
(416) 239-5646

Change of Member Information/Formulaire de changement de données

Name of Member /
Nom du membre

Region /
Section régionale

Name From /
Nom de

To /
à

Home Address /
Adresse domicile

Work Address /
Adresse bureau

Home Telephone /
Téléphone domicile

Work Telephone /
Téléphone bureau

Date

Signature

Please complete and mail to: Membership Chairperson, OALT/ABO, Abby Market P.O. Box 76016, 1500 Upper Middle Road West, Oakville, Ontario, L6M 3H5
Veuillez remplir ce formulaire et le faire parvenir à la: Présidente, Comité d'adhésion, OALT/ABO, Bureau de poste Abby Market C.P. 76016, 1500 Upper Middle Road West, Oakville (Ontario) L6M 3H5