

NewsLETTER/ NouvELLES

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Abbey Market
P.O. Box 76010
1500 Upper Middle Road West
Oakville, ON L6M 3H5
info@oaltabo.on.ca

Editor: Maria Ripley
info@oaltabo.on.ca

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"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower."

— Albert Camus
(1913-1960) French writer - born in Algeria

From our President

Stella Clark

I can't believe how fast the year goes, and it is September again! In some ways, I feel that we have just left the conference, and yet a lot has happened over this summer. I took a trip out to Alberta in August to meet siblings that I have not seen since we were young children. Now we are all grown, most of us with grandchildren the age we were when our family was broken up and everyone adopted into other families. My younger sister has spent over twenty years searching for everyone, since she became an adult and learned that she had siblings. Now all but one have been in contact together – almost all of it over this last year. It has been an emotional roller coaster for sure, but exciting to meet again. So this is where my attention has been all summer.

We did manage to have our executive turnover meeting early in the summer. I have many thanks for Tracy for all the encouragement on my stepping up as president. I am thankful for our current executive – I know that I will have all the help and direction I need for this coming year. This will be our first year where the membership year follows the calendar year, and we are looking forward to this eliminating a lot of problems that have occurred in the past. We are also anticipating the launch of our new website look - we had a preview in the spring, and I'm sure everyone will be as excited as we are about it. As always, our biggest focus will be on the conference – the highlight of our year.

I hope that the chapters will have the participation that we need to make them successful. We all know it takes more than those who are trying to organize and run them – we need members to enjoy them! Come out to your chapter and catch up with friends while you experience what your executive has provided for you. They are not getting paid, remember – they are working to make our association a great one for you. That includes me – I need to participate in the online bookclub with my ideas – not just read the books!

**THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU**

***We couldn't have done it
without you!***

**A round of applause for the
2007 OALT/ABO
"Equi-Libra" Conference
Planning Team on a job well
done!**

Melissa Hall, Chair, Sheena Bujold, Andrea Burrows, Tracyann Crawford, Brenda Maxwell, Susan Morley, Kate Morrison, Valerie Walton, and Maggie Weaver.



**and
Our Generous Sponsors**

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Library and Information Technican Program

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Reporting and Monitoring Branch

Thomson Scientific

**Your 2007-2008
OALT/ABO Executive Has One
Vacancies left to fill!**

CHAPTER COORDINATOR

❖ **VACANT** (*One Year Commitment*)

- Advocates on behalf of Chapters and Chapter members.
- Responsible for inter Chapter communication
- Provides upcoming information about Chapter events to the Internal Communications Coordinator.
- Submits Chapter programming and additional funding requests to the Executive for approval.

If you are interested in actively participating in your association contact Stella Clark (President) at sclark@hpl.ca

Need help deciding? Contact any one of the Executive members to chat about the position you are interested in. Remember, you get out of an association what you put into it, is it time for you to step-up?

**Welcome Jennie Clarke to the Executive as
Internal Communications Coordinator!**

Jennie Clark graduated from York in 1992 and from Seneca in 1998. Her library work experience had her working in a Private School, the Toronto Catholic School Board and the York Region School Board. She has since pursued a writing career and has written two poetry books (with two more books in the works) and she has also written and published a booklet for school age children about the use of the Superhighway that was published in the local Markham Paper. Jennie and her family currently lives in Oshawa.

Welcome Jenn! (read Jennie's article on p 9)

OALT/ABO Conference

May 7 to 10, 2008

**St. Lawrence College
Kingston, Ontario**

Reflections on “Equa-Libra”

By: Melissa Hall, 2006 Conference Coordinator

This year's conference was held in Toronto at the Lakeshore Campus of Humber College. Even though it was still in the city of Toronto, the campus is beautiful and historic. Part of the campus, where we held the AGM as well as the banquet, used to be a psychiatric hospital. Although a couple of the buildings haven't been restored yet, the ones that have been were really well done. As well as the buildings, the Lakeshore Campus is also on the lakeshore of Lake Ontario and next to a marina. Lots of people took some time to wander down to the water. The weather was great for the conference so outdoor activities were very popular.

The theme this year was important to everyone as it was dealing with creating a work-life balance. As we are working more hours in order to make a living and to sustain our families, it is important to remember to balance everything without stress-filled lives. This was important to me personally because I was finding that as the single person at work, they were expecting me to be able to step up and work more hours. I was having difficulties saying no as well as keeping up a schedule that included things that I wanted to do, like going to the gym and hanging out with friends. My work is very important to me but I knew that if I kept up at the pace I was going, stress leave from work was not far behind. Since taking some courses at the conference, I have cut my work hours to just work hours and spend more time on me. I haven't been this happy in a really long time! Some of the courses that people found fun and interesting were “How Taoist Tai Chi can benefit you”, “Philosopher's Cafe on work-life balance” and “Promoting your health at work”. As well as focussing on creating a healthy balance between work and life outside of work, there were sessions that lots of library technicians find helpful to take back to their work to make things easier or to create new things to offer to clients.

As always, there were some tours that took delegates off-site. One tour went to the Toronto Archives. Another tour was of the newly

designed Humber College library. All of the tours were very popular as a way to learn outside of the classroom but still fun!

This year we continued with the technology advances from last year with online registration. We worked out some of the glitches from last year and offered delegates the ability to register online multiple times in order to pay for social events separately from the conference sessions and accommodations. They were still able to pay by credit card or cheque and Humber College took care of all of the registration for us. Humber College was great to work with on the registration and the organizing of the sessions, meals and accommodation. Another advance made this year was to do the planning of the conference almost completely virtually. Since I am located in Ottawa and the conference was going to be in Toronto, I figured I would have to make frequent trips but that was not so. Over the year I only made six trips before the conference. My committee and I met on the times I was in town and our meetings were long but everything got done on those days. Everything else was done via email and I think that it worked very well!

Of course, this conference was not a success because of Humber and myself alone. I had a great committee and really couldn't have done it without them: Susan Morley, Traceyann Crawford, Maggie Weaver, Kate Morrison, Andrea Burrows, Sheena Bujold, Brenda Maxwell, and Valerie Walton. All of their help and patience with me (and my many questions) was wonderful. Thank you very much to them all for their help!! I would also like to thank Maria Ripley. She took the initiative to look for sponsorship for the conference. She ended up raising about \$2000 for the conference and this was amazing. I hope that she will continue her hard work with fundraising for the association.

I had a wonderful time planning the conference and attending it as well. I hope everyone had a great time and I look forward to seeing everyone at next year's conference in Kingston! ♦

Maggie Weaver Awarded the 2007 OALT/ABO Presidential Award

Presented by: Penni Chalk, 2006 Presidential Award Winner

Last year, I had the privilege of being presented with the OALT/ABO Presidential Award, from our dear colleague Jill Anderson. It is indeed a great honour to be recognized by your peers in this way. So, now it is my turn to present this award to another one of our deserving colleagues.

This year's recipient has been very actively involved in OALT/ABO both at the local level and at the Provincial Executive level. She has been President both locally and Provincially and has worked on numerous conference committees. She is also excellent at coaxing others to become involved in the association, and helping them to realize their potential.

This person is also involved in various other library associations including CLA and SLA. She is an active proponent of library technicians and often speaks at local functions as well as CLA functions. She is past chair of the Library Technicians Interest Group with CLA and continues to remain involved with this organization in the promotion of Library Technicians and the value they bring to the information profession. One of her colleagues from CLA said that the Library Technicians Interest Group exists because of her. She's the one that got it started and has been very vocal at CLA to make sure that it is an inclusive association. She has also been very active in Alberta as well with the Alberta Association of Library Technicians, making presentations at their conferences.

This year's recipient has presented numerous workshops at OALT/ABO conferences on topics including Marketing the One-Person Library, Web resources for business, and Marketing your LIT Skills. She even pitches in and presents workshops on behalf of others who could not make it. She has also presented workshops for the Ontario Library Association, the Canadian Library Association and the American Library Association. Her career has been varied. She has worked as the business librarian for a large chemical company, was the Canadian representative



for Dialog, started the IntelliSearch fee-based service with a team of three in the Toronto Reference Library, and started up and operated an information service for the City of Toronto Economic Development Division, helping small business clients get into exporting. She is currently self-employed, with clients in the federal and provincial governments. As her own "one-man band" she tries to promote the value of library skills for agencies that don't have libraries. Marketing, time management, and boss management (now in the form of customer relations) are all part of her work, as is focusing on key services and juggling the marketing mix.

In her spare time, she is an instructor with the University of Toronto, Faculty of Information Science, Professional Learning Centre and currently with SLA Click U educational program.

This person is also an author of the Canadian B2B Research Sourcebook: your essential guide.

I am sure you all know by now that I am speaking of Maggie Weaver. The award guidelines state that the candidate must be a member of OALT/ABO, there must be

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2007 Presidential Award Winner

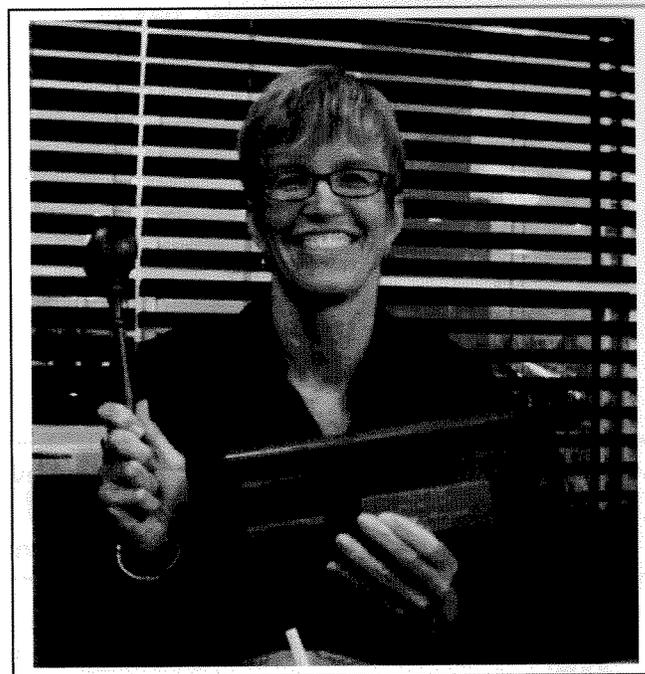
evidence that the Association has played a significant role during the individual's professional career, that they have shown demonstrated leadership in helping others achieve full participation in the library profession within the Association and/or in the workplace, outstanding contribution in building the Association either regionally or provincially and advanced recognition of the Library and Information Technician profession through publications, seminars or workshops. Maggie has done all of this and more. Although not a formal member of the Committee for Change she was an active supporter of this, and helped move the new constitution along to a living active document. She has remained involved and continues to work towards its promotion.

In the Spring 2006 issue of the CASLIS newsletter Maggie refers to herself as a "Cosmopolitan, nomadic barbarian" a term lifted from Stan Skrzyszewski's Philosopher Practitioner 2006 session, which he defines as: "those who are still able to escape from the local and particular constraints of the job and trace new paths of work, the hybrids and the mutants, the "cyberpunks" so that in today's world the cosmopolitan entrepreneur may be considered barbaric by some, nomadic for sure and no longer dressed in a James Bond suit from Saville Row, but with piercings and tattoos from Blue Dragon Tattoo." Maggie is always open to new ways to put a spin on her chosen profession – trust her to come up with a new description for marketing her talents. But, as one of her colleagues is quoted as saying: "I am not sure I want to know about the piercings .. there is such a thing as too much information!"

And, if number one party girl were a qualification, Maggie would win hands down!

Please join me in congratulating Maggie on receiving this year's OALT/ABO Presidential Award ♦

Past President Tracy Morgan Presented with the President's Honorary Gavel for Holding Office During the 2006-2007 Year



Tracy Morgan, 2006-2007 OALT/ABO President



2007-2008 President Stella Clark and 2006-2007 President Tracy Morgan.

Presentation was made to Tracy by Stella at Halton-Peel's "Shop Talk" event on October 2nd, 2007.

A library is a hospital for the mind. ~ Anonymous ~

LIT College Program Updates

Submitted by: Algonquin, Mohawk and Seneca Colleges

ALGONQUIN COLLEGE

This fall at Algonquin College, we were in the enviable position of opening up a second section of first year students to meet the demands, welcoming 60 new students to the program. We also have a number of new part time faculty teaching with us, further enhancing our program. In addition, we are working on a curriculum review to better equip our students and to meet the requirements of the employers in our field. We are watching with interest the development of the new Masters of Information Studies at the University of Ottawa, allowing our students and graduates to remain in Ottawa should they wish to pursue further education to advance their careers.

In our Continuing Education program, we will be offering the following courses in January 2008:

- LIB1911 Introduction to Libraries
- LIB1918 Subject Analysis and Indexing
- LIB1929 Field Work I
- LIB1962 Database Searching I
- LIB1930 Reference III- Science and Technology
- LIB1932 Basics of Library Management
- LIB1939 Field Work II
- LIB1941 Library Software

For more information, visit our web site at www.algonquincollege.com

MOHAWK COLLEGE

Fall is here and students have resumed courses in the library technician program at Mohawk College. Our courses are taught online, and are intended for people who are working in libraries but don't have formal library education.

As of a year ago our program is offered through Ontariolearn, which is an umbrella organization designed to enable the 22

member community colleges in Ontario to share their online courses. Thus students can now register at other colleges in Ontario and take our courses.

Our winter term will begin on Jan. 11/08, and OALT/ABO members may want to consider taking a course for professional development. Graduates of library technician programs can consider themselves as meeting the prerequisite course requirements for any of our courses. Registration for winter term opens on Nov. 19/07, and details will be on our web site -

<http://disted.mohawkcollege.ca/librec/library.html> under "next semester" by early November. Some courses that may be of interest to OALT/ABO members are:

- INFOLT340 Database Design for Information Workers
- LIBR10002 Government Information
- LIBR10003 Cataloguing Electronic and Internet Resources
- LIBRLT335 Multimedia
- LIBRLT405 Law Libraries and Legal Research
- LIBR10004 Health Libraries and Resources

Two other courses, part of our 6-course Records and Information Management certificate, may be of interest as well:

- OADMRM101 Active Records Management
- GRAPRM102 Document Management Technology

Further inquiries about our program can be directed to me at any time.

Dolores Harms Penner
Program Manager
Library and Information Technician Program
Mohawk College
Email dolores.harmspenner@mohawkcollege.ca
Phone 905-575-2309

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College LIT Programs

Seneca College

Are you trying to keep current in your cataloguing? Want to get a better feel for the privacy laws in Canada? Do you have other areas of interest? Check out our Seneca College Fall 2007 and upcoming Winter 2008 part-time calendars online at:

https://www.senecac.on.ca/parttime/pip-library_technician_workshops.html

Details on what will be covered, where these workshops will be held and when, are listed and updated regularly.

- LIW430 – Privacy Laws in Canada is scheduled for this Fall 2007 on November 17th, 9 - 4pm.
- LIW450 – Serials and Electronic Resources – focus on cataloguing March 15th 9 - 4pm
- LIW420 – Media Monitoring a three hour workshop scheduled for March 29th.

Mark your calendars and register to ensure you have a seat.

For more information please contact the Program Coordinator at 416-491-5050 x2528.

New Kid on the Block

Theresa Ziebell, 2008 Conference Coordinator

Although I was studying Spanish and Russian at McMaster University, it was my Russian professor, Walter Smyrniw, who sparked my interest in libraries. He encouraged a number of us to seek our Masters of Library Science. Unfortunately after graduating with my Bachelor of Arts, I had had enough of school and wanted to enter the work world.

After working in a number of government positions and also obtaining a Bachelor of Education at Western University, I kept returning to the idea of working in a library. Luckily in 1979, I took a contract position with Environment Library and then in 1980, I found myself in a permanent position working in Acquisitions at Statistics Canada Library. A few short months later, I became Head of the Unit.

By 1982, I took advantage of the Care and Nurturing Leave that allowed me to raise my young family. Four years later, I was back at the Library working twelve hours a week as the Library's Administrative Assistant. This position allowed me to balance family and work responsibilities and gave me the confidence to ask for another Library position working three days a week. The Cataloguing Unit offered me that opportunity.

It didn't take me long to realize that I needed formal training to truly do the work I was expected to do. Believe me, trying to figure out the Dewey Decimal system on your own is almost impossible. Algonquin College offered the Library Technician Program and I registered as a part-time student. Now everything was falling into place and I was learning. Nine long years later, I graduated in 1999 and became a member of OALT/ABO.

In 2004, I slowly became involved with the Ottawa Chapter and agreed to take on the Treasurer position. Then I took on more responsibility as Treasurer for the 2005 Conference and learned much more.

At the end of November 2007, I will retire from the Federal Government Public Service with 30 years of service and can devote more time to the 2008 Conference. I hope many of you can attend. It's our first time in Kingston, Ontario. So don't wait, register, it's going to be great in 2008! ♦

Theresa Ziebell is a Metadata Specialist with Statistics Canada Library.

OALT/ABO Partners with OLA and Develops Three Sessions for 2008 Super Conference

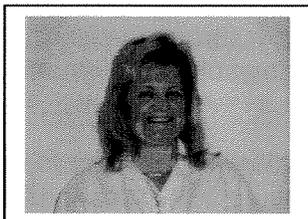
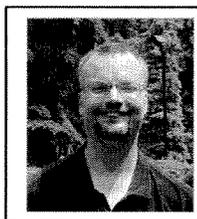
by Maria Ripley, President-Elect OALT/ABO

Thursday, January 30, 2008 - 10:40 a.m.

Library Technician: Movin' on Up

Cathy MacLean, Manager, Library Services, Royal Ottawa Health Care Group; *Kathryn Suffoletta*, Dorchester Public Library Branch Supervisor, Library and Employment Resource Centre, Middlesex County Library; *Chris Whittaker*, Information Assistant, R. Samuel McLaughlin Mental Health and Addiction Information Centre, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto.

How does a Library Technician see the potential of moving themselves up and out of the "assistants" box? What sort of career plan should they develop in order to aspire to be a Supervisor, Manager, etc. What courses or programs should they be acquiring? What skills should they be developing? How would one position themselves in the eyes of the CEO as being capable and competent in such roles? Learn from your peers how they have done it and how you can aspire to do it too.



L to R: Chris Whittaker; Beth Murray-Bannister

Ontario Library Association

2008 Super Conference

January 30 to February 2, 2008

Exhibit/Trade Show

January 31 & February 1, 2007

Metro Toronto Convention Centre
255 Front Street West
Toronto, Ontario

<http://www.accessola.com>

OALT/ABO members can register for OLA's Super Conference at members rates!!

Friday, February 1, 2008 - 2:10 p.m.

245 \$a: Cataloguing /\$b: back to basics

505 \$a: Field tags, indicators and punctuation -- Where to start -- Cataloguing different mediums -- Tools of the trade --- Online resources -- Rules to use and rules to break.

520 \$a: Have you catalogued a book since the courses you took as part of your LIT diploma? Are you now thinking of returning to the world of field tags, indicators and punctuation? Would you know where to start if you were asked to catalogue a picture book, a video or loose-leaf materials? Join three accomplished cataloguers from three different types of libraries as they share their experiences on what tools to use, what resources to access, what cataloguing software is available and what "rules" are actually rules and what 'rules' can be broken.

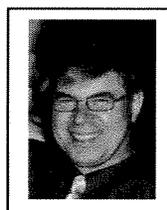
700 \$a: Beth Murray-Bannister, Itinerant Library Technician, Information Technology Services (Library Services), Waterloo Region DSB; 700 \$a: James Wagner, Technical Services Coordinator, Lincoln Public Library; 700 \$a: Brenda Maxwell, Library Assistant, York University Law Library.

Saturday, February 2, 2008 - 10:40 a.m.

The Benefits of Sign Language for Children

Laura Berg, My Smart Hands.

Learn about the benefits of using ASL with hearing children. Discover how introducing simple signs for everyday words can assist babies, preschoolers and school age children in their communication and learning skills. View a video of a signing baby and learn the ASL signs for a few songs. You do not need to have any prior knowledge of Sign Language in order to easily and successfully incorporate it in to your program.



L to R: Brenda Maxwell, James Wagner, Laura Berg

New Experience Within the System

By Stella Clark, OALT/ABO President

This summer I was able to take a temporary position within the Hamilton Public Library in a completely different area for me.

For the past almost twenty years I have been doing children's services at my branch in Stoney Creek, but a temporary part-time was opened in our Special Collections Department, and I was able to take it. This is our local history and genealogical research department, among other neat things, and I enjoyed it tremendously. Nothing is allowed to be signed out, and there are as many things on microfilm as paper. The reference work was so interesting, and I learned a lot about how to research families through cemetery aids, and obituaries from old newspapers.

I have been interested in Stoney Creek history for a long time, but this was a chance to look at the history of Hamilton, especially through the many pictures on file. My "shelf reading" was a box of family letters from the 1800's for a prominent Hamilton family. Our collection of rare books is also housed in this department, so I got to wander through and touch some of those! That is heaven for me!

I took this position to have part-time hours for the summer to relieve some of the personal pressure I have been under this year, and to start figuring out how I can get the retirement process going (which is still too many years away!), but I found it a refreshing change of pace from the typical public library work as well. It is nice that such a large system as ours allows flexibility of movement so that we can try different jobs. I found the six weeks went too quickly, and that I was just getting my feet wet, but it was really nice to have the opportunity to experience it. ♦

Stella Clark is the Librarian Assistant at the Stoney Creek Branch of the Hamilton Public Library as well as your OALT/ABO President for 2007-2008.

Library Technician Becomes an Author

By Jennie Clarke

What drives a person to work in a library? Is it a love for books or working with the public? Perhaps it is the fact that one can be close enough to the greatest of philosophers, poets, mathematicians or scientists of all time. Working in a library means serving the community at large with the greatest role to play: providing knowledge. Jennie Clarke (nee Sacco) or Poe as her closest friends call her, began working in the library field as a Library Assistant back in 1994. She credits several high school English teachers, writer David Hayes and her college English professor for assisting her in her decision to make her career choice in libraries: Jennie will kid that her reason for a library career is the writers themselves and her need to be surrounded by their spirits.

Part of her primary education was in Italy where she was surrounded by a very religious set of grandparents who shared many biblical stories with her. When she returned to Canada she sought out the same stories but written by others, including John Milton. Throughout high school her involvement with theatre saw many achievements and awards for her stage managing skills. She pursued theatre arts until 1988 when she entered Humber College for the school of journalism. After several months into the program Jennie was approached by her English professor. He suggested she did not belong in this program as her writing was much more than journalism and led her path to university and to the study of creative writing. Jennie was educated at York University where she earned an Honours Degree in English Studies and went on to earn her Honours Diploma from Seneca College in Library Techniques. In 1998 she took on her first position as a Library Technician in a Toronto High School where her zeal for literature and learning carried forth.

Her passion and ambition have always been writing short stories and poetry. When teachers tested her grammar skills, she complained she

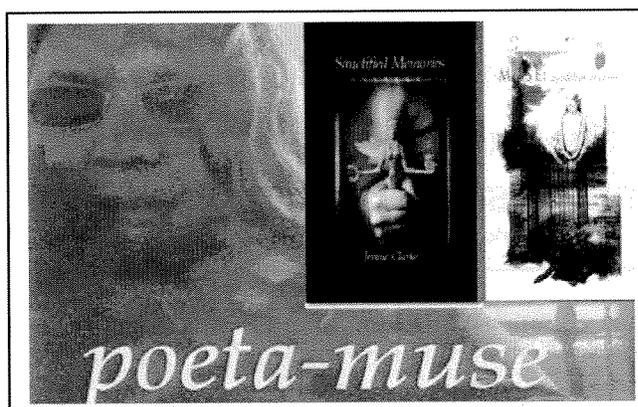
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Library Technician Becomes an Author

was writer not a speller. Jennie's first poem was published in a local newspaper and other publications, including her photography. In 2001, Jennie published her first book of poetry entitled: **Muse: a collection of poems**, a journey that thanks to the Internet has seen her book sell over 5000 copies in the first year worldwide. From Denmark to New Zealand, Israel and the UK, *Muse* now sits amongst many influences such as William Blake, Charles Bukowski and Ezra Pound. Because of the Internet as well, Jennie is a web designer and book promoter for local writers in Toronto. An avid reader and learner, Jennie welcomes all opportunities to strengthen her Library skills and keep up to date with the latest in many types of literature. She feels the most precious gift one can give to another person is a book. This is primarily why her career focus has been with children and young adults. She has the best of two worlds: libraries and the art of writing.

Just recently Jennie published her second book entitled: **Sanctified Memories**: it is the second journey of Jennie's Muse. Jennie brings it all together again with a rich style of gutting imaginary, vigour, and powerfully flowing poems. What remains sanctified to the reader are the landscapes of lingering emotions and magical realism of Jennie's visions and memories of time and sentiment. *Old Photographs* invents a new filmstrip to the dark sides of all our shadows. From *Brothers in Arms* to *Aidan Glen* where her children represent the heroes in her life. *Alpina* and *Smearred Dress*, describes the pains of rape and searching for solace from violence. The essence of being human all flow within the pages of **Sanctified Memories**. Liberation of fear and acceptance of who we are and what our purpose is in this life is what the reader will find. The acceptance of death and the afterlife are seen through *Shut Lid* and *The Saddest Film*. Buddha said, "The way is not in the sky. The way is in the heart". This is an attitude that Jennie lives by. Finding strength and wisdom in righteous people, goodness and keeping spirits alive feed her muse. **Sanctified**



Memories comes alive through the core of Jennie's spirit.

At present she is working as chief poet and editor of **Alchemy of pain**: a book of poetry and prose by international writers, fronted by her, to be published January 2008, as well as her first collection of short stories: **Jackets of House Arrest**.

By day you will find Jennie working in a library, processing, cataloguing and maintaining a collection that all can enjoy. Her belief in libraries and the importance of these marvelous institutes gives her the energy and power to keep the love of literature and her own writing alive. Having worked in school libraries within the private, Catholic and public boards in Ontario, she is presently regrouping and working through her next two books. She has fronted many book talks and poetry workshops which is something she loves to do. Change is essential for this writer. You will never find her in one place for too long. Part of her life and her philosophy is constant movement. Like a monkey swinging from branch to branch, Jennie feels that as a writer and a person change is what makes a person fully human.

Her latest book is available at www.amazon.com or via her website at www.poeta-muse.com. **Muse: a collection of poems** is available by special order only in second edition print for the time being. She can be found for a bibliographic reference via the National Library of Canada. Anyone wishing her to conduct a workshop on poetry can contact her at poeta-muse@hotmail.com. For now, we will find Jennie in her writing room at home surrounded by her 1930 Underwood Typewriter, her collection of the masters of literature, her colourful candles and her laptop or as she suggests, her third hand. ♦

Ottawa Student Members Sponsored by the Ottawa Chapter's "Jean Desislets Memorial Fund" to Attend the OALT/ABO 2007 Conference in Toronto.



Student Award Winners
L to R: Sharon Filiatrault and Rachel Auclair

Sharon's Story:

Imagine my surprise when Ann Censner of the Ottawa Chapter contacted me out of the blue in April offering me a sponsorship to attend Equi-Libra in Toronto! When I joined OALT/ABO in February, I looked at the conference link on the website and could only dream about having the time, money and employer support to attend. All of those obstacles were swept away by the generous support I received from the Jean Desislets Memorial Fund.

I'm a Library Technician student in the Distance Education program at Mohawk College, and although I've been working in libraries for fourteen years, this is my first formal library training. My current job as a Library Technician at Lester B. Pearson Catholic High School in Ottawa required me to complete my diploma, and I have been working away at it part-time for several years. Mohawk instructors always stress the value of joining professional associations, so I took the advice and joined OALT/ABO and the Ottawa Chapter. Little did I know how quickly I would get involved!

My employer graciously gave me special leave for the conference and I was off to Toronto. From the Welcome Reception right through to the Farewell Barbecue, I can honestly say I enjoyed every minute. Each workshop I

attended was relevant, interesting and informative. The highlights for me were my first and last workshops, Grassroots Advocacy by Wendy Newman and the Author Presentation by Antanas Sileika. Sandwiched in-between were a variety of sessions that furthered my understanding of what it's like to be a "real" Library Technician.

What an amazing group of people! I felt very welcomed into the OALT/ABO family and came home excited about being part of the association. I've already followed up on the question "What can you do for your association?" by talking to my Library Technician colleagues at the Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board about coming to the next Ottawa Chapter meeting, and attending next year's conference.

I'm so thankful for the opportunity to have had such a positive learning experience, not to mention a great social time (who knew Library Techs could party like that?!). It means a lot to me to meet others in the profession, talk about common issues and concerns, develop skills and abilities, share stories and have some laughs. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the members of the Ottawa Chapter for your financial support as well as your friendly welcome. See you all soon! ♦

Imaginez ma surprise quand Ann Censner, de la section d'Ottawa de l'OALT/ABO, s'est mise en contact avec moi soudainement, en avril dernier, pour m'offrir de participer à la conférence "Equi-Libra", à Toronto, aux frais de l'Association. Quand je m'étais inscrite à l'Association, en février 2007, j'avais regardé les renseignements concernant la conférence, sur le site web de l'OALT/ABO, et je ne pouvais que rêver d'avoir le temps, l'argent et un employeur qui supporterait ma participation à la conférence. Eh, bien, tous ces obstacles se sont volatilisés, grâce au généreux appui que j'ai reçu du Fonds Mémorial Jean Desislets.

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“Jean Desislets Memorial Fund”

Je suis étudiante, inscrite au programme par correspondance en bibliotechnique, du Collège Mohawk et, bien que je travaille dans des bibliothèques depuis quatorze ans, c'est ma première formation pédagogique. Mon emploi présent, comme bibliotechnicienne, à l'école secondaire catholique Lester B. Pearson d'Ottawa, exige que je complète mon éducation, en vue d'obtenir mon diplôme en bibliotechnique, et j'y travaille, à temps partiel, depuis plusieurs années. Les professeurs du Collège Mohawk soulignent toujours la valeur de s'inscrire à des associations professionnelles, alors j'ai suivi leur conseil et je me suis inscrite à l'OALT/ABO et à la section d'Ottawa. Je ne m'attendais pas à m'impliquer si rapidement!

Mon employeur m'a accordé un congé spécial pour participer à la conférence, et je suis partie pour Toronto. De la réception d'accueil jusqu'au "barbecue" d'adieu, je peux dire franchement que j'ai joui de chaque minute. Chaque atelier auquel j'ai assisté était approprié, intéressant et éducatif. Mes ateliers favoris comptent ceux auxquels j'ai participé au début et à la fin de la conférence : "Grassroots Advocacy" ("Plaidoyer populaire"), par Wendy Newman et la présentation de l'auteur Antanas Sileika. Entre ces deux ateliers, une succession de sessions variées ont approfondi ma compréhension de l'expérience de vie réelle d'une bibliotechnicienne.

Quel groupe de personnes épatantes! Je me suis sentie chaudement accueillie dans la famille de l'OALT/ABO, et je suis retournée chez moi tellement emballée d'appartenir à l'Association, que peu de temps après la conférence, j'avais déjà répondu à la question: "Que pouvez-vous faire pour votre Association?", en invitant mes collègues bibliotechniciens(nes) du "Conseil des Écoles Catholiques d'Ottawa-Carleton", à venir assister à la prochaine réunion de la section d'Ottawa et à participer à la prochaine conférence annuelle en 2008.

Je suis très reconnaissante pour l'occasion de bénéficier d'une expérience si positive, sans compter de profiter d'une bonne dose d'interaction sociale. Qui aurait cru que les bibliotechniciens pouvaient s'amuser de la sorte? C'est important pour moi de rencontrer des collègues de ma profession, pour discuter des sujets de l'heure et de problèmes communs, et d'échanger des anecdotes avec eux, puis d'avoir du plaisir ensemble, tout en développant mes connaissances techniques et aptitudes professionnelles. Je voudrais transmettre mes remerciements sincères aux membres de la section d'Ottawa de l'OALT/ABO pour leur support financier et leur accueil chaleureux. Au plaisir de vous revoir tous bientôt! ♦

Par Sharon Filiatrault (Traduit par by José Gélinas)

Rachel's Story

I have to admit that when I got an email from Ann Censner of the Ottawa Chapter, offering me a sponsorship to the annual conference of OALT/ABO, my first thought was: Yay! A trip to Toronto!

I am a Library Technician student at Algonquin College and will be going into my second year this fall. Encouraged by teachers, I joined the Association earlier this year not knowing much about it. However, in preparation for my trip and at the conference itself, I learned about the importance of OALT/ABO. I got to know a great bunch of women (and some men too!). I found it so refreshing to meet people passionate about what they do and always wanting more for their profession.

I will confess I was nervous when I arrived in Toronto. I did not know anybody and felt my lack of experience in the field would be a liability. However, I had a warm welcome from everybody and I honestly did not have time to be homesick. From my very first workshop, Taoist Tai Chi, to the farewell Barbecue, I learned about what it is to be a Library

Continued on page 13

“Jean Desislets Memorial Fund”

Technician, but also how important it is to belong to this Association. OALT/ABO is really just a big family that supports each other and seems to always come up with creative ways to promote our great profession.

Thank you OALT/ABO, and particularly the Ottawa Chapter, for welcoming me and showing me how truly amazing Library Technicians can be! ♦

Je dois admettre que lorsque j'ai reçu un courriel d'Ann Censner, de la section d'Ottawa, m'offrant un parrainage pour participer la conférence annuelle de l'OALT/ABO, ma première pensée a été : Quelle chance, un voyage à Toronto!

Je suis étudiante en bibliotechnique au Collège Algonquin, et je commence ma deuxième année à l'automne. Encouragée par mes professeurs, j'ai joint les rangs de l'Association, plus tôt cette année, sans en savoir trop long sur l'Association. Par contre, en préparant mon voyage et à la conférence même, j'ai appris l'importance de l'OALT/ABO. J'ai rencontré plusieurs femmes (et quelques hommes aussi), des gens passionnés par ce qu'ils font et toujours désireux(es) de développer leur profession. C'était rafraîchissant de voir ça!

J'étais sincèrement nerveuse en arrivant à Toronto. Je ne connaissais personne et je craignais que mon manque d'expérience serait un obstacle à mon intégration dans le groupe. Pourtant, j'ai été chaleureusement accueillie par tout le monde et, honnêtement, je n'ai pas eu le temps de m'ennuyer. Dès mon premier atelier "Taoist Tai Chi", jusqu'au "barbecue" d'adieu, j'ai appris ce que signifie être bibliotechnicienne, et aussi combien l'OALT/ABO est vraiment une grande famille où les membres se supportent mutuellement, pour toujours promouvoir créativement notre grande profession.

Un grand merci à l'OALT/ABO et, en particulier, à la section d'Ottawa, pour m'avoir accueillie et montré à quel point les bibliotechniciens(nes) sont extraordinaires!

Par Rachel Auclair (Traduit par José Gélinas)

OALT/ABO Salary Survey 2007

By Maggie Weaver, OALT/ABO External Communications Coordinator

This summer, 224 OALT/ABO members and non-members responded to our biennial salary survey. The results have been compiled, and with the larger numbers responding particularly from school and special libraries, we have been able to do a bit more analysis than last time.

Completing the survey questionnaire is one way than OALT/ABO members can contribute to their association -- the analysis benefits everyone. Next time we hope for even more responses from public and academic (college, university) libraries, so that we can provide more analysis on those sectors.

This year's respondents have already received a copy of the survey analysis. Look out for the copy that will be bound in with the Membership List, which will be published later this year and sent to all members. ♦

Reading is to the mind what
exercise is to the body.

~ Joseph Addison ~

OALT/ABO Membership Renewals

By Melissa Hall, Membership Coordinator

With our new constitution change, voted on by members last April, our membership year will run from January to December each year.

**Member renewal forms will be mailed by
the end of October.**

Please watch for it in your mail!

**If you do not receive your membership
renewal by November 30th please contact
Melissa Hall, Membership Coordinator**

Membership renewals not returned by December 20th will result in you not receiving your January 2008 Newsletter.

Queen of the Tour

by Stacy Goddard

Since retiring from the library work force almost three years ago, I find the focus of my Conference going experience has changed. Instead of attending workshops primarily aimed at bettering my skills in a school setting, I now seek out activities that aim at enhancing my new “career” as amateur genealogist. These activities can take the form of a workshop (last year, I attended a class on cataloguing museum artefacts), but increasingly, I find myself on a tour.

A pre-Conference day took place in a small part of Etobicoke called Aldergrove. This tour was not part of the conference experience for anyone else, but like many OALT/ABO members who take this opportunity to visit friends and family, I wanted to visit someone important to me who lives near Humber’s Lakeshore Campus. This way, I was able to meet other members at the kick-off cocktail party Wednesday and go off to visit my godmother on Thursday, followed by an evening at the Races.

Friday was a major tour day; three tours were offered and on three tours did I go. I have been intending to get to Toronto Archives for many moons, so I leapt at the chance to climb on the yellow bus with other history buffs and head into Toronto. It was a beautiful day and everyone admired the views along the lakeshore and the newly leafed-out trees and blossoms. On arrival at the facility, we were divided into two groups for the tour. My group was first taken to view the five stories of records in eight levels in the storage area. We watched what I can only describe as fancy forklifts manoeuvre in the spaces fetching and replacing boxes. The boxes and shelves are bar coded, so rather than individually cataloguing the boxes, the barcodes get matched up on the shelves when the box is replaced. Our next stop was the reference room where you would consult with staff help on, for

instance, the history of your house. There was a collection of books about Toronto or by Toronto authors. It was interesting to hear, (especially for me, as our Virtual OALT/ABO Book Club had read ‘In the Skin of a Lion’), that Michael Ondaatje had researched the building of the Bloor Viaduct in this facility. In a corridor leading from this area was the conservation room where we spent some time finding out how historic artefacts are preserved. Back downstairs, we swapped guides and got a tour of the current photo exhibit of Toronto, dating back to about 1850. I found this very educational since I was born in Toronto, but haven’t lived there for many years.

We walked straight off our bus into lunch – all that listening is hard work! Fully refreshed, I was ready for Tour 2, the Humber Lakeshore Campus Library. More than a tour of the facilities, we got divided again into two groups to find out how the library had been expanded and renovated. It is an impressive space and the guides obviously enjoy working there.

After a brief break for refreshments, it was time for Tour 3, Lakeshore Campus history. Our guide, Wayne Reeves, is also a guide for Doors Open, so his guiding resume is excellent. It was fascinating to learn about the transformation of the old Institute for the Insane into a modern educational, health and recreational park. As well as history, our tour covered geography, geology, biology and city planning.

These tours provided different things for different participants; if, like me, you no longer work in a library, you will still find this aspect of our Conference very helpful. If you are still in the library workforce, tours show you how other libraries function. We can’t lose!

Libraries are as the shrines where all the relics of the ancient saints, full of true virtue, and that without delusion or imposture, are preserved and reposed.

— Libraries
~ Francis BACON (1561-1626) ~

CLA (LTIG) News

At the CLA Library Technician Interest Group (LTIG) business meeting in St. John's, the 2007 LTIG Award of Merit was presented to Erica Smith by Frank Mussche, President of Libramation, the award's sponsor. Erica was the driving force behind the establishment of the newest Canadian library technician association, NSALT, earlier this year.

Eighteen people attended the CLA LTIG Networking social supper this year; the networking social at the upcoming CLA conference in Vancouver in May 2008 will be hosted jointly by LTIG and BCLA Library Technicians and Assistants Interest Group (LTAIG).

On behalf of LTIG, a session proposal has been submitted to CLA for the 2008 conference:

Developing Your Professional Portfolio

Your progress in the information profession will be driven primarily by you: your performance on the job, your decisions, and your actions. You can make your own luck when it comes to careers, not just by being in the right place at the right time, but also by evaluating what skills and experience you will need for that next step, or that perfect job, and by planning to develop your competence, learn new skills, and make contacts. In short, you will develop your own professional portfolio. Learn how to work with your employer, colleagues and friends to determine the skills you need, create opportunities to learn, and ensure that your professional portfolio is an active and ever-growing contribution to your successful career.

We will find out at the beginning of October if the session is accepted for the conference. CLA is about to launch an upgraded website, with functionality that will allow interest groups and divisions to upload their own information, and keep their own pages current. This should help LTIG keep in touch with its members.

In February 2008, look out for the Feliciter theme issue of library technicians, edited by Karen Hildebrandt, convenor of LTIG. If you would like to contribute to this issue of Feliciter, please contact Karen at karen.hildebrandt@concordia.ab.ca

You Know That You Are an Addicted Genealogist When...

- When you brake for libraries.
- If you get locked in a library overnight and you never even notice.
- When you hyperventilate at the sight of an old cemetery.
- If you'd rather browse in a cemetery than a shopping mall.
- When you think every home should have a microfilm reader.
- If you'd rather read census schedules than a good book.
- When you know every town clerk in your state by name.
- If town clerks lock the doors when they see you coming.
- When you are more interested in what happened in 1695 than 1995.
- If you store your clothes under the bed and your closet is carefully stacked with notebooks and journals.
- When Savage, Torrey, and Pope are household names, but you can't remember what you call your dog.
- If you can pinpoint Harrietsham, Hawkhurst, Kent on a map of England, but can't locate Topeka, Kansas.
- When all your correspondence begins "Dear Cousin."
- If you've traced every one of your ancestral lines back to Adam and Eve, have it fully documented, and still don't want to quit.

--Author Unknown

The Oldest Library Technician?

Submitted by: Maggie Weaver, External Communications Coordinator

Ennigaldi-Nanna of Ur was the daughter of Nabonidus, who was the last King of Babylon in the 6th century BC, before the Persians under Cyrus took over. Ennigaldi was born in 570 BC, and her mother was Nitokris of Egypt.

Nabonidus was a pretty awful king. He was the son of a high priestess of the Sumerian moon god Nanna (called Sin by the Babylonians), whose most sacred city was Ur, and he wasn't really interested in governing. He was more interested in restoring old temples, particularly those of Sin, and he spent a lot of money fixing up the Ziggurat at Ur.

Ennigaldi officiated as high priestess of Nanna in Ur, as was usual for the daughter of the king. She also ran a scribal school for upper-class women. When Sir Leonard Woolley excavated her palace in Ur, in a room next to the temple school he found a collection of objects that were much older, some as old as 21st century BC, including a Kassite boundary marker, a piece of a statue of King Shulgi, and a clay cone that had been part of a building at Larsa. With them were clay cylinders that identified the objects in three languages, which Woolley interpreted as museum labels. In other words, this was the oldest known museum.

We don't actually know if Ennigaldi wrote the museum labels for her father, but it's possible - upper class women were literate at that time, and Nabonidus was away a lot.

In fact, Nabonidus was away for 10 years, which was why he was the last Babylonian king. He had been given responsibility for the northern city of Haran, which had the second most important temple to Sin. He raised taxes to pay for the restoration of Sin's temple in Haran, and the priests of Marduk, Babylon's chief god, got worried that he might be thinking of a religious cabinet shuffle and make Sin chief god instead of Marduk, so they ran him out of Babylon. Nabonidus stayed away for 10 years, and the economy went to hell in a handcart, so Babylon was absorbed with hardly a fight when Cyrus was expanding the Persian Empire.

I first learned about Ennigaldi-Nanna in "*Uppity Women of Ancient Times*" by Vicki Leon, a recommended bedside read. There's also "*Uppity Women in Medieval Times*", in which I first learned about Blanche Parry, a Hereford-born "gentlewoman" to the 3-year old Princess Elizabeth. Blanche probably taught the princess Welsh. She stayed with Elizabeth when she was imprisoned in the Tower of London by her Dad, Henry VIII. In 1565, Queen Elizabeth made Blanche Keeper of the Queen's Books.

Does anyone know of other "old" library technicians? ♦

Congratulations to Our 10 and 25 Year Members –

10 year Personal Members: Jeanette Giroux, Katharine Heney, Jennifer Rayment, Maggie Weaver,
10 year Institutional Member: Atomic Energy of Canada Library

25 year Personal Member: Helen Hyvarinen

This list may not be completely 100% accurate. If you feel you've been a member for 10 or 25 years as of May 2007 and we missed you, please contact Melissa Hall, Membership Coordinator.

A Day in the Life of an Itinerant Library Technician at the Waterloo Regional District School Board

By: Beth Murray-Bannister

“Bag ladies”. When the Waterloo Region District School Board’s newly hired itinerant library technicians started their rounds to schools six years ago, this is how we were known. We were the people who arrived at schools laden with the tools of our trade, but few people really understood what we did. In the years since, not only have our bags been streamlined, but also the job we do is more clearly understood and respected.

Amidst the many changes occurring in school libraries across the province, the Waterloo Regional District School Board adopted a unique model for their one hundred elementary school libraries. This library model includes a team of three staff members – Library Clerk, Itinerant Teacher Librarian and Itinerant Library Technician.

The school’s Library Clerk charges, discharges, shelves and repairs loaned materials, handles overdues, assists in the use of the library and locating resources, and processes new materials.

The Itinerant Teacher Librarians are responsible for acquisitions, collection management, Library Clerk training, and library budgets. They work in co-operation with school administrators, overseeing the daily operation of each of their twenty libraries. They also support teachers in integrating the library into instruction, and run library programs like the OLA Forest of Reading.

I am one of seven Itinerant Library Technicians who have the assignment of visiting thirteen to fifteen school libraries on a rotational basis, usually once every three weeks. We report to Library & Resource Services - a division of Information Technology Services.

Because we are itinerant, we carry our laptop, scanner, extended key board, files, AACR2, office supplies, and more with us from school to school. When the Itinerant Library Technicians started visiting our school libraries

in 2001, we did look somewhat like “the bag ladies”. We used folding carts with wheels to pull huge, green canvas bags holding all or most of our gear. Oh yes, and we also carried our purse and another bag over our shoulders containing our lunch and indoor shoes. We could not deny the fact that we did look like “bag ladies” and we too found great humour in this. I am pleased to say that we have made enormous improvements in this area and now look more like airline flight attendants toting our compact leather laptop cases on wheels making our load much lighter, less awkward, and more professional in appearance.

During the school year, a typical day consists mainly of:

- cataloguing new acquisitions
- re-classifying older materials and editing their online records
- changing many items in each of our school library’s collection to be consistent with newly developed standards
- database maintenance
- processing materials
- assisting with the weeding and deleting of dated resources
- ensuring curriculum documents are current
- labeling or removing of resources in compliance with the copyright act

The technicians work twelve months a year. Summers involve special project work in both elementary and secondary schools. No two summers have ever been the same but typically we work on such projects as:

- inventories which include discrepancy and items missing reports
- packing up and re-shelving of resource materials for library renovations
- cataloguing and setting up materials for new school library openings

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"A Day in the Life"

by Beth Murray-Bannister

What I appreciate and enjoy most about our unique position is that our technical expertise is well utilized by the School Board. We are constantly improving and updating our electronic resources used to catalogue and classify educational materials and resources in English and French. Our cataloguing skills are consistently kept up-to-date as we create full and original MARC bibliographic and authority records.

Because we have few clerical library duties, we do not have personal contact with library patrons. However, our reference skills are well challenged as we assist the clerks with search strategies on the public access computers or answer collection arrangement and library standards questions.

The Library and Resource Services team communicates throughout the day using an internal email conference where we are able to post questions, suggestions, solutions to problems and keep updated on new processes and standards we have adopted.

While there are presently over one hundred Library Clerks serving the elementary school libraries, there are only seven Itinerant Library Technicians and five Itinerant Teacher Librarians. These twelve dedicated professionals cover all elementary school libraries across a substantial geographic region. Needless to say, it takes an amazing amount of teamwork, co-operation, and communication by all three library positions to make this the successful model that it is today.

Beth Murray-Bannister has worked as a resource co-ordinator and library technician for over 10 years. She has worked in public health and school libraries. She is past chairperson for the Ontario Public Health Library Association, as well as a former member of the Waterloo/Dufferin/Guelph Health Library Network and alumni representative on the Mohawk College Library Technician Program Advisory Committee. All Waterloo Region District School Board Library Technicians are currently members of the Ontario Association of Library Technicians.

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Web 2.0 Tools

Del.icio.us Social Bookmarking

Submitted by: Anaela Carito-Walmslev



Are you:

- tired of disorganized bookmarks in your browser?
- fed up with looking for a link on your home computer only to realize it's bookmarked on your work computer?
- curious about what others are looking at on a particular topic or subject?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, online social bookmarking tools are for you!

The web has seen an explosion of online social bookmarking tools. Wikipedia defines social bookmarking as:

“Social bookmarking is a way for Internet users to store, organize, share and search bookmarks of web pages. In a social bookmarking system, users save links to web pages that they want to remember and/or share. These bookmarks are usually public, but depending on the service's features, may be saved privately, shared only with specific people or groups, shared only inside certain networks, or another combination of publicness and privateness. The allowed people can usually view these bookmarks chronologically, by category or tags, via a search engine, or even randomly.”

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_bookmarking)

While there are numerous online social bookmarking tools on the web, this article focuses on **Del.icio.us** (<http://del.icio.us/>). Del.icio.us was one of the first players in the social bookmarking scene and continues to lead the pack. At a mere 4 years old, del.icio.us is one of the most popular social bookmarking sites.

So what makes del.icio.us my favourite bookmarking tool?

Getting organized ... bookmarks anywhere, anytime

Between home and work, I spend my time on five different computers. Delicious allows me to save my bookmarks and access them anywhere, anytime. Not only can you access bookmarks anywhere, links can be added to your del.icio.us account from any web-accessible computer. Del.icio.us also offers a private sharing feature. While this takes the “social” out of social bookmarking, it means that I can add links to my account I normally wouldn't share with the rest of the world.

Del.icio.us also offers users a handy bookmarklet button which works in any browser. (<http://del.icio.us/help/buttons>) The button allows you to easily bookmark the current site you are browsing to your del.icio.us account. Del.icio.us also allows you to add notes and comments to your links. You can visit my 800+ public bookmarks at <http://del.icio.us/angelacw>.

Tags, tags, and more tags

Tags are keywords that you assign to your bookmarks. Tags help you organize your links into topics or subjects. Unlike formal taxonomies, you can assign any descriptive word or words as a tag to describe your link. Once you start adding tags to your bookmarks, you'll notice that users often post similar links to related content using the same tags.

You can view the most popular tags on del.icio.us by click the **popular** link button. (<http://del.icio.us/popular/>) Curious to see what's just been posted to del.icio.us? Take a look at the most **recent** page. (<http://del.icio.us/recent>)

Continued on page 20

“Social Bookmarking”

Submitted by: Angela Carito-Walmsley

Finding and research

The power of social bookmarking tools lies in the ability to search other users' links on topics of interest. The del.icio.us search engine not only searches your bookmarks, but also allows you to search other users' links, tags and notes. For example, while writing this article, I searched the tag “delicious” to find relevant links of interest for the “further readings” section.

Networking!

The **network** feature is another powerful research tool on del.icio.us. The del.icio.us network allows you to connect with other users who may share the same interests as you. I use my del.icio.us network to explore bookmarks from friends and other del.icio.us users interested in web 2.0 technologies. Similarly, if I find a bookmark that might be of interest to one of my friends, I can bring it to their attention by using the “links for” feature.

Subscriptions

Del.icio.us has a **subscriptions** feature that allows you to watch all your favorite tags in one place. After you add a tag to your subscription watch list, del.icio.us watches for everyone's bookmarks saved with that tag. Links which match your subscribed tags are delivered to your subscriptions page. As a “tag” aggregator, the subscriptions page is a great tool for watching what people are bookmarking about a favorite topic or subject.

RSS anyone?

RSS feeds are available on most pages within del.icio.us. Look for the orange  logo at the bottom of each page. RSS allows you to subscribe to links added by any del.icio.us user. You can also use RSS to subscribe to a popular tag or to track additions to your subscriptions page. (If you don't use RSS, don't worry – we'll be covering that in a future issue of this newsletter.)

Integration with your browser

If you are looking to integrate your bookmarks into your browser, there are lots of unofficial tools on the web that work with del.icio.us. You will find numerous tools that integrate with del.icio.us including browser add-ons, bookmarklets, and mobile plug-ins. Now you may be wondering, wasn't that the point of not using my browser bookmarks? Happily, browser plug-ins allow you to share and browse your del.icio.us links, without having to leave the current website you are browsing.

So how can you make your library del.icio.us?

Libraries have started using social bookmarking tools on their websites. Examples of how you can use del.icio.us in your library include:

- creating subject and industry guides;
- links to community information;
- organize links using the Dewey Decimal Classification;
- promoting resources aimed at a specific audience;
- creating linkrolls on your library's website.

To learn more, take a look at “[Make Your Library del.icio.us: Social Bookmarking in the Stacks](#)” presented on February 22, 2007, by Jason Griffey from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

For more examples of how libraries are using del.icio.us see “del.icio.us libraries”:
<http://angelacw.wordpress.com/2007/06/04/delicious-libraries/>

Don't forget, you can also search the tag, “*delicious+libraries*” in del.icio.us too.

If you do decide to make your library delicious, please send it to me, and I'll be sure to blog about it and add it to the del.icio.us libraries list.

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“Social Bookmarking”

Submitted by: Angela Carito-Walmsley

Once you start using del.icio.us, you'll quickly realize the power of online social bookmarking tools. You may never go back to browser-based bookmarks ever again!

Angela Carito-Walmsley blogs over at *mélange* <http://angelacw.wordpress.com> and can be found on del.icio.us at <http://del.icio.us/angelacw>. Contact her at angelacw@rogers.com.

Links and Further Reading

Del.icio.us

Delicious: <http://del.icio.us>

Del.icio.us bookmarklet button:

<http://del.icio.us/help/buttons>

Del.icio.us popular tags:

<http://del.icio.us/popular/>

Del.icio.us recent links: <http://del.icio.us/recent>

DEL.ICIO.US TOOLBOX: 180+ del.icio.us tools and resources:

<http://mashable.com/2007/08/31/delicious-toolbox/>

Del.icio.us libraries

List of libraries using del.icio.us:

<http://angelacw.wordpress.com/2007/06/04/delicious-libraries/>

“Make Your Library Delicious: Social Bookmarking in the Stacks”, presentation by Jason Griffey, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, February 22, 2007

<http://www.opal-online.org/5weeksGriffey20070222.htm>

“Tags Help Make Libraries Del.icio.us”, Melissa L. Rethlefsen, Library Journal, September 15, 2007:

<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6476403.html>

Social Bookmarking

Wikipedia – definition of Social Bookmarking:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_bookmarking

“Social Bookmarking in Plain English”, Video by CommonCraft

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x66IV7GOcNU>

Social Bookmarking 101: Presentation by Stephanie Zimmerman, Training Coordinator - Library System of Lancaster County:

http://www.lancasterlibraries.org/lslc/lib/lslc/training_docs/social_bookmarking_101.pdf

“Social Bookmarking: 50+ Social Bookmarking Sites”, August 8, 2007:

<http://mashable.com/2007/08/08/social-bookmarking-2/>

“Social Bookmarking Showdown”, Scott Gilbertson, Wired Magazine, November 6, 2006:

<http://www.wired.com/techbiz/it/news/2006/11/72070>

“Top 30 Social Bookmarking Sites”:

<http://www.ebizmba.com/articles/social30.html>

“The Big Boys of Social Bookmarking: The Top 24 Sites”:

<http://www.10e20.com/blog/2007/05/15/the-big-boys-of-social-bookmarking-the-top-20-sites/>

Volunteers are not paid not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.

- Anonymous

“Social Bookmarking”

Submitted by: Angela Carito-Walmsley

Finding and research

The power of social bookmarking tools lies in the ability to search other users' links on topics of interest. The del.icio.us search engine not only searches your bookmarks, but also allows you to search other users' links, tags and notes. For example, while writing this article, I searched the tag “delicious” to find relevant links of interest for the “further readings” section.

Networking!

The **network** feature is another powerful research tool on del.icio.us. The del.icio.us network allows you to connect with other users who may share the same interests as you. I use my del.icio.us network to explore bookmarks from friends and other del.icio.us users interested in web 2.0 technologies. Similarly, if I find a bookmark that might be of interest to one of my friends, I can bring it to their attention by using the “links for” feature.

Subscriptions

Del.icio.us has a **subscriptions** feature that allows you to watch all your favorite tags in one place. After you add a tag to your subscription watch list, del.icio.us watches for everyone's bookmarks saved with that tag. Links which match your subscribed tags are delivered to your subscriptions page. As a “tag” aggregator, the subscriptions page is a great tool for watching what people are bookmarking about a favorite topic or subject.

RSS anyone?

RSS feeds are available on most pages within del.icio.us. Look for the orange  logo at the bottom of each page. RSS allows you to subscribe to links added by any del.icio.us user. You can also use RSS to subscribe to a popular tag or to track additions to your subscriptions page. (If you don't use RSS, don't worry – we'll be covering that in a future issue of this newsletter.)

Integration with your browser

If you are looking to integrate your bookmarks into your browser, there are lots of unofficial tools on the web that work with del.icio.us. You will find numerous tools that integrate with del.icio.us including browser add-ons, bookmarklets, and mobile plug-ins. Now you may be wondering, wasn't that the point of not using my browser bookmarks? Happily, browser plug-ins allow you to share and browse your del.icio.us links, without having to leave the current website you are browsing.

So how can you make your library del.icio.us?

Libraries have started using social bookmarking tools on their websites. Examples of how you can use del.icio.us in your library include:

- creating subject and industry guides;
- links to community information;
- organize links using the Dewey Decimal Classification;
- promoting resources aimed at a specific audience;
- creating linkrolls on your library's website.

To learn more, take a look at [“Make Your Library del.icio.us: Social Bookmarking in the Stacks”](#) presented on February 22, 2007, by Jason Griffey from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

For more examples of how libraries are using del.icio.us see “del.icio.us libraries”:
<http://angelacw.wordpress.com/2007/06/04/delicious-libraries/>

Don't forget, you can also search the tag, “delicious+libraries” in del.icio.us too.

If you do decide to make your library delicious, please send it to me, and I'll be sure to blog about it and add it to the del.icio.us libraries list.

Continued on Page 21

OALT/ABO'S NEWS ALERTS:

Our Discussion List is hosted with Yahoo! Groups. Please be sure to get yourself signed on so you are kept up-to-date with shared job postings, questions from fellow LTs and recent issues that need immediate action.

Your new OALT/ABO Web Site to be revealed January 1, 2008!!

As per your requests a members only section of the website will be created as Phase 2 of the new site.

QUESTION:

What would you like to see in the members only section?

Send an e-mail with a subject line "**Members Only web page**" to Maria at: info@oaltabo.on.ca to share your ideas – remember this is YOUR website!

The next two 2007-2008 Newsletters will go to print on the following dates:

January 12, 2008
April 15, 2008

Please consider contributing to YOUR newsletter! If we don't talk about what we do, who will?

(Deadline for submissions is 15 days prior to the print date with the exception of January's Newsletter deadline being December 1st.)

Please welcome Jenn Clarke as the incoming Newsletter Editor.

OALT/ABO Bookclub Chapter Reads

October 2007

The Poisonwood Bible

by Barbara Kingsolver

December 2007

White Oleander by Janet Fitch

January 2008

Deafening by Frances Itani

March 2008

Stanley Park by Timothy Taylor

May 2008

Guest author at Conference

open for suggestions

People News

Congratulations to Penni Chalk on her appointment with the Change Management Pillar to assist with scheduling and registering approximately 1800 staff for Phase 1 training.

Penni joined the Ministry of Revenue/Finance in February of 1982, working as a library technician in the Ministry library. She joined the MOST project in December 2004 as the project's Information Coordinator and has been responsible for setting up and maintaining the project's central filing systems (both hard-copy and in eRoom) and has provided document management support for the MOST, RevGen and Telephony RFP evaluations. Penni has been the FOI liason officer for MOST and provides eRoom training to all new staff joining the project.

The Halton-Peel Chapter members were thrilled to reconnect with Diana Doxtdator at Shop Talk last month. Diana's new role in "the Library world" is working with SOLS to develop a First Nation Advocacy Program – Congratulations Diana!

LIT NEWS:

NEW - Conestoga College is offering a part-time release and distance education format of the Library and Information Technician Diploma Program at the Doon campus.

<http://www.conestogac.on.ca/ce/fall/business/lit.jsp>

YOUR 2007-2008 Executive Contact List

President: Stella Clark

Stoney Creek, ON L8E 5W9
E-mail (H): pclark8@cogeco.ca

President-Elect: Maria Ripley

Mississauga, ON L5A 3M4
E-mail: mariaripley5261@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Claudia Scharmann-Persaud

Toronto, ON M3M 3G7
E-mail: claudiapersaud@sympatico.ca

Membership: Melissa Hall

Kanata, ON K2M 3A4
E-mail: mhall@cihi.ca

Conference Coordinator: Theresa Ziebell

Ottawa, ON K2A 4A9
E-mail: ziebthe@rogers.com

External Communications Coordinator: Maggie Weaver

Toronto, ON M4T 1A5
E-mail: kweaver5478@rogers.com

Internal Communications Coordinator: Jennie Clarke

E-mail: clarkemuse@hotmail.com

Chapter Coordinator: Maggie Weaver

(Maggie will do double duty until this position is filled – see above)

Archivist: Penni Chalk

Oshawa, ON L1H 7K5
E-mail: pchalk@sympatico.ca

Past President: Tracy Morgan

Milton, ON L9T 1G3
E-mail: morvay@globalserve.net

An inspirational quote:

I shall pass through this world but once.
Any good thing therefore that I can do,
or any kindness that I can show to any human being,
let me do it now.
Let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

- Etienne de Grellet

**Ontario Association of Library Technicians /
Association des bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario**

◆ Abbey Market P.O. Box 76010 ◆ 1500 Upper Middle Road West ◆ Oakville ◆ L6M 4H5

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