

ELAN Ex Libris Association Newsletter

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Update, Rehabilitate, Conserve: The Library of Parliament 1995-2006

BY ERIK J. SPICER, Parliamentary Librarian Emeritus

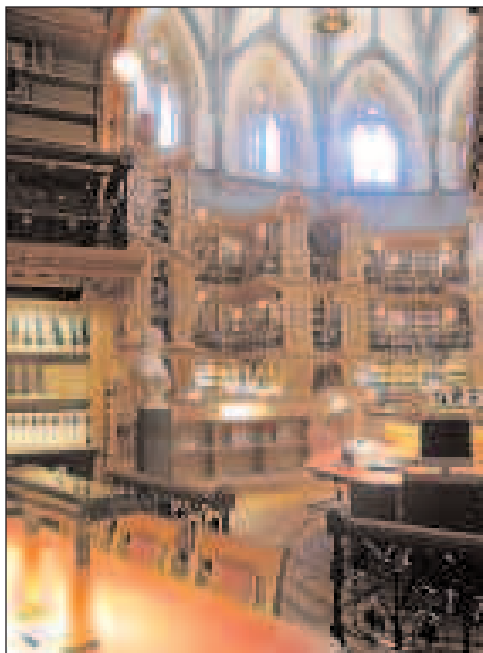
If you think that the recent extensive work on Canada's most recognized and beautiful library was too costly, I hope you will think otherwise after reading this. Unfortunately, without seeing videotapes of the complicated hidden construction work, the cost of more than \$130 million will be hard to accept. But, as mere words are insufficient, please view the Public Works and Government Services Canada website (www.parliamenthill.gc.ca).

suffer other earthquake damage as the library is more deeply imbedded and anti-earthquake measures were taken in belated recognition of the earthquake zone in which Ottawa resides.

The original library was designed in 1859 to be the library for the Province of Canada (the old Upper and Lower Canada combined in 1840), once Bytown was chosen as the permanent capital by Queen Victoria in 1857 after a vigorous campaign by other contenders that continued long after the choice was announced.

That the library took so long to build was due to much opposition, alleged graft, the cessation of work for some years, depression, reorganization, overspending and, of course, the sometimes distracting political efforts to achieve confederation by 1867. Considering all the problems facing the library, it was amazing that it could be used for an opening ball in 1876!

It was a fine building on completion, but the 1916 fire that destroyed the Centre Block, the Library's own fire in 1952, and time itself, overcame the substantial repairs of the 1950s well before 1995. (Out of curiosity I once pulled a decorative block of sandstone out of a border while waiting for a constable at my once private entrance. Of course, I put it back.) In 1995, as Mary Soper says, "the



Credit: Mary F. Soper. © Public Works and Government Services Canada.

In the meantime, the library's magnificent site on Parliament Hill, with the Centre Block and the Peace Tower attached, is now anchored more securely than ever. All are less likely to fall off the cliff and less likely to

Library building was showing its age. Minor repairs...were no longer adequate...to deal with the accumulated wear and tear, the ravages of weather and pollution and antiquated systems. For many years, water had been pouring off the roofs and down the walls, seeping into the masonry and causing it to deteriorate during freeze-thaw cycles. Mortar was crumbling. The interior of the masonry walls were pocked with voids. Many stones required repair or replacement, and all needed to be cleaned. In addition, the old mechanical systems made it difficult to control temperature and humidity levels..., thereby putting the collections at risk...and working conditions uncomfortable. The roof was leaking. It lacked insulation, and air and vapour barriers. The windows leaked. Exterior ironwork was deteriorating. The Reading Room floor was worn beyond repair. The building was falling behind...[in]...meeting current codes and standards for fire and life safety and seismic protection... Failure to address each and every problem immediately would have resulted in a permanent loss of the building's heritage fabric."

In addition, offices and the Reading Room required reworking. To poor lighting, a problem from the earliest days and especially the nights, were added modern cabling problems. The first visible computer installation that had proclaimed the modernity of our services, despite the old-fashioned surroundings, had been overwhelmed by additional modern equipment and furniture that cluttered the Reading Room. That space for public tours was inadequate was not surprising, as it was the unplanned growth of touring after Centennial celebrations that caused this.

However, the barrier that has just been removed was put in place after the fire in 1952 in order to give members some privacy as they worked. Having virtually no staff, members came to the library personally and did not welcome public intrusion. (One

of my first requests from members was for a private room for members only. This seemed reasonable to me, but it had been turned down shortly before I acted after finding a suitable small room. At first, it was much used, particularly by four grateful members. Once three of them were appointed to the Cabinet, however, use dropped and the room reverted to library staff.) Will an increased public presence truly help the functions of the Library and its users?

Because of the crowds, the sliding doors that earlier replaced the swinging barroom doors (in order to speed the entry and exit of tourists and help maintain humidity) still make it difficult for staff and members to get in and out. The problem is, of course, the narrowness of the entryway and lack of another convenient entry/exit.

Before continuing with the readily visible parts of the Library renovation, we must examine the major structural changes to the building essential to prevent the imminent collapse of the building because of its dangerous neglect – as so eloquently argued by Ms. Soper, Public Works Project Director for the Library transformation.

Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) began planning in 1995 and that soon realized the Library would have to be emptied "for practical and safety reasons", yet service to Parliament had to continue. To provide this library service, another historic building, the old Bank of Nova Scotia Branch on the Sparks Street Mall, required major renovation and outfitting to be the acting Library of Parliament during the stabilization and repairs on Parliament Hill. Similarly, work on the historic Queen's Printer Building on Brewery Creek in Gatineau to house the bindery, archives, and stored items also took much time. Both projects added tremendous additional work and strain, primarily for the

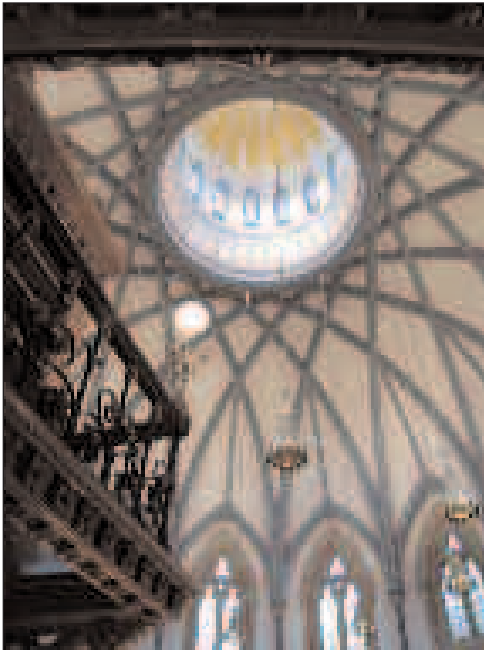
librarians and their assistants, Public Works planners, designers, and craftsmen. It was not therefore until March 11, 2002 that the old Library building was turned over to the contractors, Thomas Fuller Construction, run by descendants of one of the two original architects. Two members of the Fuller family construction team gave cheerfully informative interviews on Library videotapes.

The major unseen and essential item was the non-blasting excavation of a massive pit directly under the Library to house a huge third basement for the new mechanical systems and to allow the ceiling heights of the two existing basements to be increased, in order to accommodate a few more books and new ductwork. This required the removal of the two existing reinforced-concrete basement floors "and excavation of 8.75 metres (28.7 feet) of rock". And this had to be done both quietly and safely, especially during parliamentary sessions. The videotapes of this work are very impressive and show a network of interior scaffolding and slim columns supporting the whole inner and outside wall from collapse! That the contractors were able to remove some 4,800 cubic metres of rock from Parliament Hill without public complaint is a tribute to both their skill and their imaginative approach to their challenges.

The major temporarily seen, but now removed, feature was the white overcoat that enclosed the Library once the weather vane and its base were removed. This translucent white fabric covered the scaffolding, which ingeniously did not touch the building but permitted work to continue without interruption during inclement weather. This was especially important, for on closer examination the stonework condition was even worse than believed. Fortunately the fabric also enclosed well-designed stable platforms from which the restorers could safely and comfortably carry out their

difficult work. The rubble fill between each wall had settled or disintegrated, and much liquid grouting had to be injected in order to stabilise them.

In addition to much exterior grouting, there was much repairing and replacement of many of the various sizes and types of stone blocks. For example, some 30 percent of the window stones had to be taken out and replaced. All this was a major job for specialised workmen. And, before being handed back to Parliament, the exterior stone had to be carefully cleaned to allow it to breathe, glow, and be more visually acceptable.



Credit: Mary F. Soper. © Public Works and Government Services Canada.

In addition to the masonry, however, new and better supported and sealed copper roofs were fitted and the exterior iron work and weather vane refurbished and remounted after much repainting, all creating a spectacularly refreshed appearance. The new exterior view of the Library may even surpass the beauty of the original, but no one living can confirm this. However, the original ornamental slate roof and its attractive dormers were not replaced.

It is likely that the refurbished interior that will be of most interest to visitors, however. Most people ask,

“What has been changed?” Naturally it appears substantially the same, especially to recent visitors. The most evident change is the removal of the barrier or defining counter, which marked the space between the public and the working staff. This has been eliminated in order to accommodate more visitors, but the barrier’s removal seems to ignore the reason for its being there since the reopening after the 1952 fire – to separate the public from Library clientele! We will see how the original configuration, a working barrier now reinstalled around the sparkling clean and repaired marble statue of young Queen Victoria, will meet today’s needs.

The wooden gallery floors have been replaced with glass, as originally in place, to allow more light to filter through. As in the original building, etched glass facings have been placed on the wooden end panels of the galleries and the plastic light shades replaced by glass shades that fit the original style. New furniture has been designed to agree with the 1952 era. Ordinary office equipment has been banished and beauty restored.

Lighting, a problem from the beginning, even with the original glass gas chandelier, has been tackled again. Fortunately, the imaginative suspended lanterns – stylized miniature Libraries of Parliament put in place during the 1952-era improvements – have been retained. Some of the new installations may seem somewhat jarring, however.

Again, some of the most difficult and time-consuming work is largely unseen. This is because “To protect the building structure from the increased humidity [to better preserve the books] as well as from exterior weather, the entire building envelope [had to] be made weather-tight. New interior double windows” were installed and camouflaged fans mounted under the upper windows to prevent condensation and the ugly stains associated with it.

Fortunately, the superb teams of Public Works and Government Services Canada, Library of Parliament staff, and contractors worked together with extraordinary success – linked by the shared desire to produce a building worthy of the Canadian people and Parliament and one not requiring major work for another 50 or 100 years. Barring another fire, of course. Congratulations on a truly excellent job well done. □

In addition to articles in the indispensable Ottawa Citizen newspaper, the illuminating, beautifully illustrated article by Mary F. Soper (then Acting Project Director, Real Property, Major Crown Projects Branch, Public Works and Government Services Canada), “Our Library of Parliament” in Heritage, Spring 2004, pp. 4-9 was the major source of details. Public Works and Government Services Canada gave ELAN permission to reproduce the photographs.

In addition, some 30 audiovisual tapes borrowed from the Library, three visits to the reburbished Library and two helpful telephone calls – one to Lynn Brodie, Director, Information and Documents Centre Resource Service, Library of Parliament, and one to Joan Dorsay, Program Co-ordinator, Library Renovations, Library of Parliament – gave me a feel for this very major successful project. These were my sources and inspiration. Any errors of fact or interpretation are doubtless mine. Many thanks to all involved, including Jean Weibs who asked me to write.

Presentations at ELA 2006 Annual Conference

BY JANET JACOBSON

This is a critical time for the Canadian publishing industry according to our morning keynote speaker, Anna Porter. Anna spoke about the topic Canadian Publishing in the Global Marketplace. She has been involved in the Canadian publishing industry since the late 1960s – as editor, producer and ultimately general editor for McClelland and Stewart; as the publisher of Key Porter Books, sold in 2005; and as a writer.

The author of three mysteries and two novels, Anna recently published a memoir that she entitled *The Storyteller*.



Speaker Anna Porter, chatting with Doug Kehoe about her latest book. Credit: Frances Davidson-Arnott.

Anna is no mean storyteller. Arriving from Hungary in 1969, she was hired by Jack McClelland. At that time, Canadian publishing was not considered first rate. McClelland and Stewart became the publisher for an entire generation of Canadian writers – Farley Mowat, Pierre Berton, Leonard Cohen, Irving Layton, Margaret Laurence, Margaret Atwood – an amazingly talented cohort of writers. In her talk, Anna's love of the business and her personal support of her authors was evident, as was Jack McClelland's gigantic role in creating a golden era of Canadian literature. Anna regaled us

with a number of hilarious anecdotes. Typical would be the story of how Margaret Atwood's first novel, *The Edible Woman*, came to be published. Margaret had given it to Jack a year and a half previously and he had promptly put it in the drawer of his desk. At a party, she mentioned that she didn't just write poetry, but had written a book. Jack said he would love to see it, at which point Margaret said, "Perhaps you could look in your desk".

Canadian authors have not always been well known. In the late 1960s, when Anna accompanied Jack to the Frankfurt Book Fair to push Canadian authors, CanLit was not a hot topic at home or abroad. Awards for Canadian authors were few, and advances to retain top authors did not exceed \$500.

Today, large numbers of books are published in English Canada. Government support is available at both the provincial and federal levels. Quebec writing is a huge industry, massively supported by the federal and provincial governments. Awards for Canadian authors abound. Canadian authors, such as Farley Mowat, are on bestseller lists around the world, have won international prizes, and can command up to \$250,000 in advances. CanLit symposia are held worldwide (in Finland and Iceland, for example) and Canadian literature is taught in many universities outside of North America.

The publishing industry in Canada has changed since the early days. There are many more publishers in Canada than in the 1960s and 70s and they publish 85% of Canadian authors. Canadian publishers act as agents for international publishers. For example, Raincoast Books is the Canadian agent for J. K. Rowling's books, and McClelland and Stewart is the agent for Random House.

Despite these successes, problems loom now for Canadian publishing. The sector is ageing. Young people are unwilling to take the chances taken by

the previous generation of publishers because of the risk of bankruptcy and the unwillingness of banks to finance new enterprises. University publishers are interested in publishing their own professors' work but not in publishing trade literature. There is little interest in Canadian school publishing given the small market. Publishers need to sell books by the unit to stay afloat. While international companies are interested in *distributing* Canadian authors, neither they nor Canadians are interested in investing in Canadian publishing companies. With \$20,000 you can start a company up. Who is willing to step up to the plate?

Change has also occurred in book-selling. Big chains have made it difficult for independent sellers and non-brand-name authors to be successful. Chapters and Indigo account for 50% of the books sold in Canada. Over 300 independent booksellers have closed their doors.

These trends have made the librarian's job more difficult. While more people are using libraries in Canada than in any other country, small publishers cannot afford to spend a great deal of money to advertise new books. It follows that we, as librarians, must maintain the public's interest in lesser known Canadian authors.

The afternoon's presentations explored the topic, Trends and Challenges in Collection Building: What are Libraries Buying and Why? Three panelists, Scott Millard, Manager, Library Service, Halton Catholic District School Board; Charlotte Stewart, recently retired University Librarian (Acting), McMaster University; and Susan Caron, Manager, Collection Development, Toronto Public Library, discussed their collection development strategies. While collection content varies with the type of library, all are facing an increase in the purchase of e-resources. New formats require new equipment and the technical expertise to advise users.

For school libraries, literacy and numeracy are key issues in collection development. A school's collection policy is simply to support the curriculum and to respond to curriculum change. Scott Millard collects whatever is required, from Barbie dolls and teddy bears to books, videos, and pictures. Suppliers include the dollar store and the hardware store as well as the bookseller. The library works with teachers to develop kits needed for curriculum support.



Harry Campbell and Hillary Nicholls at the Annual Conference. Credit: Frances Davidson-Arnott.

The document *Achieving Literacy* recommends library funding on a per-student basis, depending on the grade level of the student. Recommended allowances range from \$26 to \$45. Actual funding ranges from \$10 to \$12 per student. Additional sources of library funding include book donations from parents, money raised by parent councils, and discretionary funding from school principals. The Ontario Ministry of Education occasionally supplies additional funds that must be spent instantly. For instance, in March 2006 each school library in Ontario was given \$3810 to be spent (materials ordered and received) within two weeks – an unachievable goal in many cases. Because these funds are given sporadically, it is difficult to purchase items that require standing orders, such as magazine subscriptions. Other challenges for school libraries include providing relevant content, up-to-date equipment, and money for specialized materials. School librarians must provide materials to meet curriculum changes, view materials to

ensure that they are appropriate for a Catholic school system, and find enough Canadian material to support Canadian content. Often, American material must be adapted to a Canadian audience. New formats require up-to-date technologies. While video streaming on demand and tumble books (online) are available, not every school has the equipment to take advantage of these developments. Library costs include the purchase of teachers' guides (about \$150 on average), cost of public performance rights for videos (\$200 per title on average), and funds for training videos (\$400 on average).

Given the challenges that school libraries face, it is important to maintain and develop close partnerships with the public library system for additional curriculum and computer support.

Charlotte Stewart noted a trend towards increased external collaboration among different types of academic libraries. Because consortiums share the cost of electronic resources, individual libraries may experience decreased autonomy and local control of their budgets. At the same time, internal collaboration between university departments is increasing as cross-teaching and cross-disciplinary appointments have become more common. While some disciplines are well served using digital resources, others, such as humanities and social sciences, still require a large number of print materials.

New technologies have created problems in the academic library. While younger students embrace new technologies and are willing and able to teach themselves, older users often require more support. Internet use has led to an increase in plagiarism. Collection specialists often find themselves responsible for enforcing license agreements, particularly in regard to students using robots to download whole websites.

Although McMaster now spends 75% of its library budget on electronic resources, it must still purchase important print materials, such as prize-winning books and test materials. Digital archival collections of earlier print journals, available on the desktop, are in demand, even though they duplicate current print holdings. Luckily, our Canadian dollar is strong, since 85% of the library's resources are purchased from the United States.

New graduate programs in unique fields are being developed, while graduate enrolment in traditional programs is increasing. Libraries need both depth and breadth of resources to support these initiatives. Graduate programs vary between universities, making it difficult to negotiate the purchase of e-books and e-book collections within a consortium.

Future trends in collection development include the digitization of local resources and the capturing of blogs and wikis as library information resources. Charlotte predicts that, while organizational divisions within the library are disappearing, people skilled in collection development will still be required.

In the Toronto Public Library, collection development is done by more than 100 librarians and subject specialists, using publishers' catalogues for the most part. The library budget is \$16.9 million and is used to purchase material for special and multilingual collections as well as for the general collection.

One of TPL's challenges in collection development, as described by Susan Caron, is to expand the purchase of new formats (audiovisual, e-resources and downloadable files), new languages and new collections. Seventy-five percent of TPL's collection is still in print format, 85% of which is in English. New genres include graphic books and street literature or "urban fiction". The latter has Afro-American protagonists, is

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Ex Libris at CLA 2006 Gets Good Review

BY JEREMIAH SAUNDERS

Every year, the Canadian Library Association (CLA) invites one student representative from each library school to attend the conference. A student is expected to help run the conference, and report back to his or her colleagues about the event.

Jeremiah reported to his colleagues at SLAIS, UBC – Ed.

Have you heard of the Ex Libris Association? The Ex Libris Association is a Canadian national association for retired library and information professionals. I spoke with Ex Libris Association representatives at their exhibit.

An association for retired library professionals? I asked if I could join. With a quick wit, the representative said that I could join the Ex Libris Association, since it is an organization for any librarian who wants to retire some day. Sign me up!

We started to talk about how an association for retired librarians could benefit a new librarian, such as myself. There are three points that come to mind: (1) as a new librarian, I enjoy seeing successful librarians who have had long careers because it gives me something to look towards; (2) the association is able to capture “corporate knowledge” (i.e., the priceless experience of librarians who have seen changes in terms of services and tools); and (3) the association serves as a networking tool, since more and more librarians are set to retire. When I look at librarianship, I often wonder how librarians have adapted, and the Ex Libris Association has the stories that will inspire us and help us define our own career paths.

Let's talk name recognition. Being from SLAIS, I recognized the names of Sylvia Crooks and Basil Stuart-Stubbs in the Ex Libris Association's newsletters. (I researched early BC newspapers (<http://www.library.ubc.ca/spcoll/displays/EarlyBCnws/nwsIndex.htm>) based on an essay by Basil Stuart-Stubbs as one of my first volunteer projects in library school). I only quickly glanced at one of Ex Libris Association's newsletters, so I am sure there are more names worth mentioning. As a young and upcoming librarian, I am constantly coming across references to retired librarians who still want to be involved in their communities. At the same time, I can appreciate librarians who want to retire after years of service, and enjoy other aspects of life.

Finally, *ELAN*, the Ex Libris Association Newsletter, has a column How I Became a Librarian. I wish that I had known about this publication when I was first considering library school. I hope that Info*Nation (<http://www.cla.ca/infonation>), the CLA's recruitment website, makes use of such columns because, if you want to attract librarians, such as myself, then it is wonderful to see stories from librarians with decades of experiences! □

*Reprinted from
<http://slaistocla.blogspot.com>, posted
June 15, 2006.*

CLA Conference 2007

Ex Libris Association will be at the Canadian Library Association Conference in **St. John's, Newfoundland from May 23 to 26**. Be sure to stop by our booth in the exhibit area for a chat. We look forward to seeing you there!

Presentations at ELA 2006 Annual Conference

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written by Afro-Americans, and contains lots of street language. There are many interests competing for the available money. The interest of those seeking popular literature are measured against those with research interests. Those who wish to browse the “best bets collection” are weighed against those who prefer to place holds (6 million holds were placed last year).

Availability of some multilingual materials is a problem, particularly from war zones (such as Somalia). There is a large demand for information from outside North America, particularly from Britain, possibly as an antidote to opinions expressed in American materials. Older materials, including classics, may no longer be in stock. Such a problem does not exist for self-published material.

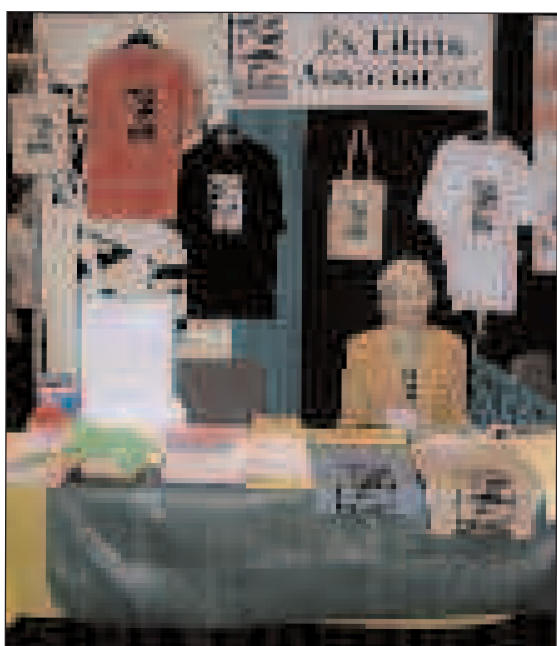
E-collections are the fastest growing part of the collection. TPL now has access to 82 databases, many of which are available in full text, including Chinese magazines, interactive computer books, and e-books. TPL is launching audio books, downloadable to an MP3 player or a computer. This material disappears after three weeks. Downloadable videos, used mainly for educational purposes, are also available.

Challenges to collection development include licensing problems (anyone can dial in by remote access if they have a library card number) and the public's lack of awareness of new media. There is also a greater need for technical support for new technologies, such as downloadable files.

Many thanks to our excellent speakers and to Beth McLean for arranging such an interesting program. □

Ex Libris at OLA Superconference 2007

As in 2006, ELA had a booth in the Ontario Library Association trade show on February 1 and 2, at this year's OLA Superconference in Toronto. The booth was staffed by Al Bowron, Arn Bailey, Doreen London, Doug Willford, Elizabeth Warrener, Frances Davidson-Arnott, Jean Weihs, Jim Montgomery, John Warrener, Mary Williamson, Mavis Cariou, Nancy Williamson, Peter Mutchler, and Tom Eadie. Thanks to everyone for making the booth a success again this year!



Liz Warrener staffing our booth at the OLA Superconference.

A trio of speakers was featured in a session at the Superconference on February 2. It was moderated by Peggy Hiscock, past president of Friends of Canadian Libraries (FOCL).

Jean Weihs led off with an overview of Ex Libris, describing its formation, purpose and projects, including descriptions of some of our publications and historical activities. She talked about how, as new projects were initiated and the membership

grew, ELA reached out to librarians outside the Toronto region and now has members in all provinces of Canada except Prince Edward Island. In outlining ELA's activities, Jean recalled many well-known librarians who assisted in getting Ex Libris off the ground. She described a banquet sponsored by ELA and the Ontario Library Association at the joint Canadian Library Association/American Library Association conference in Toronto that included a humorous re-enactment of the attack on Toronto during the War of 1812, with ELA members as actors (see *ELAN* Fall 2003).

Peggy Hiscock noted that FOCL is a national support group for local Friends of Libraries support groups and that it promotes networking that helps these groups share ideas. She ceded most of her time to John Kennedy, an RCMP constable dressed in his full red-jacket regalia, who is one of the first police officers in the world to work in a library. Constable Kennedy stated that 65 per cent of prison inmates cannot properly read or write. The RCMP has become so convinced about the importance of children reading as a defence against juvenile delinquency that Kennedy now runs the Adopt-a-Library Literacy Program from his office in the library. This joint project between the RCMP and the

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library of Nova Scotia is picking up partners from all sectors, including national sponsors who help raise money and support for libraries. Constable Kennedy noted that he had the full support of the RCMP in involving many partners, such as Wal-Mart and other businesses, and service organizations,

such as Lions Rotary Clubs. He is ready to expand the program into other provinces and invited everyone to visit the program's website, www.fightingcrime.ca.

Shirley Lewis ended the ELA/FOCL session with a talk about her experience as a volunteer with both ELA and Friends of the Mississauga (Ontario) Library. She emphasized that *fun* is the greatest reason to get involved and that having fun doing something that interests you is the best way to volunteer. She described her initial involvement with ELA as limited to attending the annual conference. She later joined the board as chair of the Publicity and Public Relations Committee. Working with colleagues to publicize ELA turned out to be pleasant and productive. Shirley then described her volunteer work with Friends of the Library in Mississauga, whose very active programs offered her a wide variety of volunteer work that used her library skills. Mississauga has a strong local-history publication program, which Friends of the Library finances. As well, the Mississauga Friends advocate for the library with city councillors and other organizations. Currently, the organization is sponsoring visiting authors for Mississauga's special Year of the Book, which focuses on literacy programs and the love of reading. □

ELA Annual Conference 2007

Our next annual conference will be held on **Monday, November 5 at North York Central Library** in Toronto. This is your opportunity to reconnect with old friends, make new acquaintances, network, enjoy stimulating lectures and savour a good lunch with excellent company.

Mark Monday, November 5 on your calendar. See you then!

Our President's Report

BY ARN BAILEY AND
FRANCES DAVIDSON-ARNOTT

Having had a great 20th anniversary year, the Ex Libris Association is entering its third decade with enthusiasm and energy! As you will read elsewhere in this issue, we had a very successful AGM and Annual Conference, organized beautifully by Beth McLean. We were entranced by Anna Porter's revelations and brought up to date on collection development by a very talented panel. We had a highly successful booth at OLA, selling a lot of our attractive new tote bags with the ELA logo, and have plans for exhibits at CLA, BCLA and perhaps other conferences in the coming months. Also, at OLA, we sponsored a joint session with Friends of Canadian Libraries that introduced a lot of new people to Ex Libris and was very well received. Our second annual event at the University of Toronto Faculty of Information Studies in February, planned and produced by Mary Williamson, brought us together with students to discuss unionization of librarians. The event was really good, and students expressed interest in knowing more about the subject. FIS has invited us to stage an event again next year. The upcoming tour of the Library of Parliament and the National Gallery Library in May is very exciting; it will bring members from Ottawa and outside together. Also planned, for the fall, is a tour of at least one library in Toronto – details to follow.

The Board and committees continue to thrive, with everyone doing something new and interesting. The Biography Project Committee is working hard under the direction of Nancy Williamson. *ELAN* continues to provide us with excellent news and articles, and Newsletter Committee members are always on the lookout for contributions. Our Website Committee is continually improving the ELA website and the electronic list. The Publicity Committee keeps up with established activities, such as conference exhibits, as well as bringing us new treats, such as our tote bag. We are very fortunate to have so many keen and intelligent members. But remember, there's always room for more members who want to contribute! Activities in all parts of the country are encouraged. The Board and Executive are most willing to help get any ideas off the ground.

Because of his background in school libraries, Arn hopes to revive a committee that would in some way (probably in a letter to the Ontario Minister of Education) support the need to revitalize school libraries, whose budgets and staffs have been seriously cut in recent years. Ontario's People for Education would be an ally in this undertaking. The state of school libraries is not solely an Ontario problem. There are groups across the country working to the same end (notably the Canadian Coalition of School Libraries), and we will try

to contact them to lend our voice of concern. Such work requires the involvement of recently retired school librarians, and we hope that, if we contact them, they will join Ex Libris. The project is already in the long-range plan of ELA and needs some focusing of effort.

This year saw the departure from the Board of several people: Phebe Chartrand, Peggy Walshe and Marie Zielinska all resigned. Marie served for a long time and is still involved in activities in Ottawa. We thank Phebe, Peggy and Marie for their work on the Board. Joining the Board this year are Arn Bailey, Jan Jacobson and Peter Mutchler (having finished his executive term). We are still looking for a vice-president (president-elect), so please consider taking on this responsibility! Being on the Board is a terrific pleasure and not onerous. This is a great group to work with – wonderful ideas and willing help. New ideas are received with enthusiasm and developed with intelligence. □

This report was written by both Arn and Frances, because the transition from one president to the next is happening gradually and a bit later this year, due to Arn's prior commitments.

ELA Board of Directors 2007

Executive

Arn Bailey, President
Jean Weihs, Recording &
Correspondence Secretary
Doreen London, Treasurer
Jean Wheeler, Membership Secretary
Frances Davidson-Arnott, Past President
Nancy Williamson, Archivist

Board Members

Patricia Appavoo
Jan Jacobson
Shirley Lewis
Beth McLean
Jim Montgomery
Peter Mutchler
Phyllis Platnick
Liz Warrenner
Mary Williamson

Information Professionals and Unionization

BY MARY F. WILLIAMSON, with Jim Montgomery and Arn Bailey

The Dean's Tea at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Information Studies, on February 28, was co-sponsored by Ex Libris Association and the FIS Student Council. When the guests arrived, they tucked into cheeses, grapes and home-baked goodies provided by ELA and had an opportunity to purchase T-shirts and bags.



ELA President Arn Bailey and FIS students listen to speakers.
Credit: Frances Davidson-Arnott.

Assistant Dean Judy Dunn welcomed students, ELA members and visitors. Past-President Frances Davidson-Arnott also welcomed everyone and, for the benefit of students, explained the mission of Ex Libris and outlined a few of our programs.

In Mary Williamson's introduction, she noted that it isn't easy to find information about collective bargaining in Canadian libraries. Roma Harris, a professor at the University of Western Ontario, understated the case when she wrote, "There is not a great deal of material available in the library literature on the subject of labour relations", which, if taught in library

schools, is most likely in courses on management. And yet, anyone who considers taking a position in a library should ask about the union situation, because the answer may influence their decision.

In whatever union they find themselves, librarians are invariably a minority. Whether they are academic librarians in a union of faculty members and librarians, or public librarians in a civic employees union, they inevitably have to shout to make their voices heard and to ensure that their interests are addressed in negotiations.

The first speaker was Rob Rolfe, Library Division chair and a member of the Executive Committee of Toronto Civic Employees Union, Local 416 (CUPE), representing 2300 Toronto Public Library workers and about 7000 City of Toronto outside and housing workers. As a women's profession, librarianship has tradi-

tionally been undervalued and its practitioners underpaid. By joining with other library workers, and outside civic workers who are largely male, librarians in the Toronto Public Library have benefited from CUPE's immense bargaining power. After the 1998 City of Toronto amalgamation, efforts focused on harmonizing librarians' salaries across the newly enlarged city and concluded only in 2004. The latest agreement has a "no layoff" clause, an issue that has been librarians' biggest concern. One outstanding issue is the new Toronto Public Library job specialization. Its lack of recognition irritates children's librarians and Toronto Reference Library staff. However, the union is pressing for knowledge-based advancement.

Mary Williamson, fine arts bibliographer retired from York University Libraries (who replaced Vivienne Monty on the panel), gave an academic librarian's point of view. In 1976, York faculty and librarians negotiated their first union contract, among the earliest in Ontario. For librarians there were big changes – some of them opposed by managers – but they drew librarians into the scholarly life of the university. Among the new responsibilities and privileges were collegial governance issues such as peer review of and awarding research and conference grants, and naming department chairs. And, of course, academic freedom – the ability to speak your mind freely. The requirements for a continuing appointment – a form of tenure – vary from those of faculty members, who are not tied to a 35-hour week. Areas of librarians' work that are appraised include research and publication, performance and teaching, university service, and participation in professional and/or scholarly life. One issue being negotiated at the moment is "full-time reduced load", attractive to librarians near retirement.

Some academic librarians find their responsibilities as colleagues of faculty members too oppressive. Others appreciate that opportunities to do research, publish and build expertise could never have been achieved without their union.

In the discussion that followed the speakers, Joan Winearls, map librarian retired from the University of Toronto, noted that the University of Toronto Faculty Association would have more power if it were a union. Faculty and librarians can opt out of association membership. Librarians can achieve permanent status but not tenure. A strike by support staff some years ago, in which librarians were caught between managers and library assistants, created long-standing bad feelings.

Atlantic News



BY NORMAN HORROCKS

Janet COATES-MASON, Library Manager, Petitcodiac Public Library, Albert-Westmoreland-Kent Regional Library, N.B., retired after 24 years in the region. She was replaced by **Cathy MacDONALD** of the Moncton Public Library.

Dorothy Louise COOKE (née Dobson), a University of Toronto library science graduate, died on December 27, 2006 in Halifax, aged 90. She began her library career at Dalhousie University library in 1957 and retired in 1981 as university librarian. In 1966-67, she was president of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association. After she retired, she published *Nova Scotia Variant Place Names* and *An Index to Acadiensis, 1901-1908*.

David CUMBY resigned after 23 years as chief librarian, Eastern Counties Regional Library, Nova Scotia. He is now pursuing a M.Div. degree at Acadia University, in preparation for entering the pastoral ministry of the Atlantic Baptist Churches.

Richard ELLIS, Memorial University of Newfoundland, will step down as university librarian on August 31, 2007, when he will take a year's administrative leave.

Florence "Claire" HENDERSON CHURCHILL (née Archibald), who worked as an assistant librarian at Nova Scotia Technical College and later at Mount Allison University Library until her retirement in 1975, died on February 11, 2007, aged 96.

Norman HORROCKS, Professor Emeritus and Adjunct Professor, School of Information Management, Dalhousie University, was inducted as an Officer of the Order of Canada by Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean at Rideau Hall on February 9, 2007. At a one-day conference on March 3, organized by the students at the Dalhousie School of Information Management, Dr. Elizabeth Kelley (Dalhousie School of Business Administration) gave the inaugural lecture in the Dalhousie-Horrocks Leadership Lecture Series. The School is launching an endowment fund to support scholarships for students with leadership potential.

Mark LEGGOTT, new university librarian at the University of Prince Edward Island and previously university librarian at the University of Winnipeg, was the recipient of the Outstanding Alumni Award from the Dalhousie University School of Information Management Associated Alumni Association.

Margaret Elizabeth BURNS MARTIN, former head of Adult Services at the Spring Garden Road Library in Halifax, died on December 5, 2006. She was 77. She obtained a BA from Trinity College, University of Toronto and a BLS from the same university. She was a librarian with the Halifax Public Library for nearly 37 years, having previously been a cataloguer with the Harvard College Library. She wrote two books on Nova Scotian historic buildings.

Frederick W. MATTHEWS, former professor at the then School of Library and Information Studies at Dalhousie University from 1972 to 1984, died February 20, 2007, aged 91. Born in Carbonear, Nfld., he obtained a B.Sc. (Honours) in chemistry at Mt. Allison University and a PhD in physical chemistry at McGill University. After a research career at Canadian Industries Limited (CIL) in Montreal from 1941 to 1959, he became manager of CIL Information Services (1959-1968) before moving to Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) in London, England and then joining

Dalhousie University. Dr. Matthews was president of the Canadian Association for Information Science (CAIS), a member of the National Research Council's Advisory Board on Scientific and Technological Information (ABSTI) and a visiting professor in the Department of Library Studies, University of the West Indies, Jamaica. He was also very active in the work of the Dawson Printshop (see **Events** below).

William Hue "Bill" McCURDY (1934-2005), well-known as the head of the Halifax printing business McCurdy Printing and founder of Petheric Press in 1967 – which published works of Maritime interest and also the *Nova Scotia Historical Quarterly* (1971-80), a forum for local historians to publish their research – was memorialized by Patricia Chalmers (University of King's College Library) in *The Dawson Printshop Newsletter*, vol. 7, January 2007, pp. 7-9, with a cover photo of Bill at a printing press taken by Bertrum MacDonald (see also **Events** below).

Terry NIKKEL was appointed director of information services and systems at the University of New Brunswick, Saint John, on October 2, 2006, with responsibility for the library and the campus's Information Technology and Instructional Technology departments. Terry has an MLIS from University of Western Ontario and an MBA from Dalhousie University. His previous position was head of Systems at Dalhousie University Library.

Patrick B. O'NEILL, professor of speech and drama at Mount St. Vincent University, died on April 27, 2006, while attending a conference in Ireland. A Canada-U.S. Fulbright Scholar in 2005 specializing in Canadian theatre history, Dr. O'Neill was a founding member of the Association for Canadian Theatre Research. His research in Canadian material at the British Library in London led to the publication of the *Checklist of Canadian Copyright Deposits in the British Museum, 1895-*

Atlantic News

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1923, 5 vols. in 7, 1984-89. His papers have been deposited in the MSVU Library Archives.

Jennifer RICHARD, Acadia University Library, is editor-in-chief of a new, open-access, peer-reviewed journal *Partnership: The Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research*, published by The Partnership: The Provincial and Territorial Library Associations of Canada. The first issue can be seen at www.partnershipjournal.ca, and the editor-in-chief can be reached at jennifer.richard@acadiau.ca.

Eric STACKHOUSE, chief librarian of Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library, was the 2006 recipient of the Nova Scotia Library Association's Norman Horrocks Library Leadership Award, presented at the NSLA/Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia Joint Conference in Halifax on September 30, 2006.

Events

The **Dawson Printshop**, which for 25 years has been housed in Dalhousie University's Killam Library and was established as part of the School of Library Service (now the School of Information Management), has been transferred to the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design University. The Printshop was launched with funding provided by the husband of an alumna of the School, the late Professor Robert McGregor Dawson of the Dalhousie English Department and his family. Over the years, the Printshop acquired a number of examples of printing presses and equipment for hand binding. Non-credit courses in hand printing, hand binding and paper conservation have been offered and will continue at NSCAD. The larger premises in downtown Halifax promise a greater use of the Printshop in the years ahead.

Holland College Library staff were impressed by the talk given by

Stephen Lewis at the 2006 APLA Conference and decided to join the Adopt a Library program sponsored by CODE. (CODE is a Canadian charity with an emphasis on developing partnerships to promote literacy. It was formerly known as the Canadian Organization for Development through Education.) Through the Island libraries network, the provincial library service and the Robertson Library of the University of PEI joined Holland College in sponsoring a library at the Frewoyeni School in Ethiopia. One of the objectives is to encourage library use by women and girls.

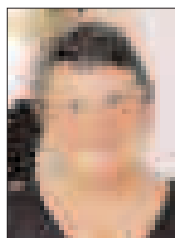
News from British Columbia

BY SYLVIA CROOKS

The BC library community and Ex Libris lost one of its most esteemed and active members in the death of **Anne**

Yandle on December 12, 2006 in Vancouver, at the age of 75. Anne held BA and B.Com. degrees from Trinity College, Dublin and a MLS from McGill University. She was head of the Special Collections Division of the UBC Library from 1964 until her early retirement in 1991.

After emigrating to Canada from her native Northern Ireland, Anne graduated from McGill Library School in 1961 and, shortly after, came to UBC. As her colleague Frances Woodward wrote, "Anne was responsible for the development of the many fine collections, including British Columbia and Canadian history, early children's literature, and for encouraging her colleagues to build the manuscript collections, University Archives, and the his-



torical maps and cartographic archives." Her activities reached far outside the library as well, in local historical societies, the Maritime Museum, Alcuin and bibliographic societies. In her retirement she co-founded Marco Polo Books, which she ran from her own home. She was much loved for her hospitality and generosity and, as Peter Ward, Professor of History and now University Librarian, wrote, for "her curiosity, her rich knowledge, her collegiality, her wish to help". She will be sorely missed.

Another of our Ex Libris members, retired UBC School of Library, Archival and Information Studies professor **Lois**

Bewley, was honoured by the B.C. Library Association at a special reception in February. BCLA renamed its fund to support libraries facing censorship challenges the Lois M. Bewley Intellectual Freedom Defence Fund. A past president of both the B.C. and Canadian Library Associations and recipient of those associations' highest awards, Lois Bewley was acknowledged by BCLA "for her efforts over a long and distinguished career (and beyond) to ensure that intellectual freedom issues remain at the core in the work of libraries, library staff and library associations". Professor Bewley taught at SLAIS from 1969 to 1988.



Lois Bewley. Credit: Sylvia Crooks

An exciting, collaborative library reference service called **AskAway** was inaugurated in British Columbia in the fall of 2006. With the support of the B.C. Ministries of Education and Advanced Education, publicly funded academic libraries and all public libraries across the province are

pooling personnel to provide “live chat” reference service seven days a week. Even the smallest public libraries in the province are taking advantage of this virtual reference service, which is free to patrons. The academic and public library streams are administered separately but share the same name. The Province has provided \$530,000 in start-up funding and will contribute \$350,000 annually to the program. The service is proving to be very popular, judging from the over 1000 questions that were handled by the public library stream alone during the month of January.

With the emphasis on cooperative activities in its strategic plan for libraries, the B.C. Public Library Services Branch is providing both start-up and ongoing annual funding to form **library federations**, including the Kootenay Library Federation of 18 libraries and the North Coast Library Federation of seven libraries. Both these federations were founded in mid-2006. Participating libraries benefit from reciprocal borrowing, group purchasing, shared collections, shared programming and shared public relations.

Dr. Peter Ward, who has served as interim deputy university librarian at the University of British Columbia since December 2005, was appointed university librarian effective March 17. He replaced Catherine Quinlan, university librarian since 1997. Professor Ward joined UBC’s Department of History in 1973, and has served as department head and associate dean in the Faculty of Arts. His research centres on Canadian social history and the history of health in the modern west. Dr. Ward is a graduate of the University of Alberta and Queen’s University. **The MLIS program of UBC’s School of Library, Archival and Information Studies (SLAIS)** has been re-accredited by the American Library

Association. The program has been accredited continuously since 1963.

Dr. Luciana Duranti, a professor in the Archival Studies program at SLAIS, has won three major awards in the last year. She was awarded the UBC Killam Research Prize as well as the Jacob Biely Faculty Research Prize, described as “UBC’s premier research award”. In March 2006, she received the Emmett Leahy Award, considered to be the most prestigious award given to an expert in the field of records management. Dr. Duranti, who joined the SLAIS faculty in 1987, has spearheaded the international InterPARES research project in electronic records management, which involves more than 100 researchers from a total of 25 countries.

Other interesting developments and activities in B.C. libraries:

■ The BCLA’s First Nations Interest Group is sponsoring a **First Nations Communities Read** program in B.C. to promote aboriginal authors, publishers and stories. It is supported by the federal Department of Canadian Heritage and the B.C. Public Library Services Branch of the B.C. Ministry of Education. Six public libraries have already received grants from the BCLA to take part in the program.

■ **Castlegar Public Library** has set up the Teen Advisory Board to help select books for the Youth Collection, to plan and present programs, and to write reviews for the library’s website. The board is made up of teens between the ages of 12 and 15.

■ **Coquitlam Public Library** is offering Live Homework Help between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m., Sunday through Thursday. Students can get help by either chatting with or text messaging library tutors.

■ As part of its activities to serve its multicultural (especially Chinese) community, **Richmond Public Library** now offers Chinese translation on its website. This allows Chinese-speaking patrons to easily

navigate the website, to submit online card applications, renew and hold catalogued items, and access their loan reports. They can also request Chinese-language e-mails for notices about holds and other library matters.

■ **Douglas College Library** has set up a Living Library program, where students can “borrow” their own Living Library person who has expertise in a certain subject area for a 30-minute in-person meeting in the campus cafeteria. Subject areas are listed on the college’s website and cover a wide range, including such non-scholarly topics, as sea kayaking, stained glass, adoption, fundraising, gourmet cooking, proposal writing, and immigrant life experience. □

When you Move

Please remember to send your new address to:
Ex Libris Association
Faculty of Information Studies,
University of Toronto
140 St. George Street, Toronto,
ON M5S 3G6

Would You Like Us to Expand ELA’s Programming?

A donation or bequest to Ex Libris helps us broaden and increase our activities. All donations are tax deductible.

Everything May be Different, but Has Anything Changed?

BY MINAKSHI SHARMA

You cannot step twice into the same river, for other waters are continually flowing in. Heraclitus, BCE 500.

While working at the Inforum, the Integrated Library and Information Studies Laboratory at the University of Toronto, I occasionally come across interesting materials that pique my curiosity. For instance, I recently came across the State University of New York's Library School Summer Course calendar, published in April 1899. Not surprisingly, the first name that I saw as I opened the booklet was Melvil Dewey. He was identified as secretary of the 1899 library committee. I was coaxed into reading further. As I scanned the pages, wilting with age, I felt like I was travelling back in time. Two questions surfaced in my mind: How much has librarians' education changed in over a century? What differences would I find within the palm-sized booklet, with its mustard-coloured cover and yellowed pages?

As I continued to read, the brochure proudly stated, "New York led all the states in caring for that education which can be given to the people at large only through public libraries, by establishing in 1838 the district library system, an example followed by 20 other states". Furthermore, the librarian's educational role was proudly highlighted: "... education can be given to the people at large only through public libraries...." I suppose that some things will never change, since librarians continue to play instructional roles and teach information literacy to library users. I also suppose that, in the late 1800s, libraries may have been the only educational institution in a community, while today, libraries play only a supporting role to the public school system's lead.

As I flipped further, I came across a list of courses offered in 1899: cataloguing and classification, bibliography, accessions, reference, loans, bookbinding, shelving, selection of books, library economy, and library museum. I recalled that, in my first year at library school, I enrolled in the following courses: information and its social contexts, information technology applications, management of information organizations, bibliographic control, on-line information retrieval, information resources and services, research methods and evidence-based health care for information professionals. Except for the last one, are these courses really that different from the ones offered in 1899? As Irene Peter said, "Just because everything is different doesn't mean that everything has changed".

Looking ahead a hundred years from now, I wonder if people would be surprised by the library curriculum in the early 21st century. I also wonder if, after graduating, I myself will be surprised by the courses that I was required to take. Everything may be different in the future, but will anything change? □

Minakshi Sharma is a first-year student at the Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto.

Information Professionals and Unionization

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Arn Bailey, retired head librarian of East York Collegiate in Toronto, spoke on behalf of school librarians. He pointed out that school librarians, first of all, must have teaching qualifications and classroom experience. The school principal may be unaware of the difference between an MLS and a teacher's Library Certificate. As controller of the purse strings, he or she allots a secretary or assistant to the librarian. Holding an MLS is not necessarily factored into salary. It is the union that determines such matters as hours, preparation time and pensions. Depending on the kind of school, teacher-librarians in Ontario are members of different teachers' associations that all fall under the Ontario Teachers' Federation. The OTF works with the provincial Ministry of Education on curriculum change and professional development.

In informal chat between students, faculty and ELA members after the talks, a suggestion was made that a session on information professionals and unions be pulled together in a FIS course, so that students could be better informed. □

Murray Shepherd Honoured

Ex Libris member **Murray Shepherd**, who retired three years ago after three decades as the University of Waterloo's university librarian, was honoured as a conference room in the Dana Porter Library was reborn as the Murray C. Shepherd Learning Lab. "Prior to his retirement", a library announcement notes, "Shepherd played a key role in attracting funding from the Harold Crabtree Foundation to transform the room into a learning lab with modular furnishings, state-of-the-art equipment, and the necessary infrastructure for wired and wireless capabilities".

Adapted from an article in the UW Bulletin (online), November, 2006.



Credit: Maureen Shepherd.

Ottawa Public Library Wins Budget Battle!



BY MARIE
ZIELINSKA, FOPLA
Board Member

To understand the importance of this victory, we must step back in time to

2000 and the amalgamation of the City of Ottawa. At that time, a number of small libraries, on the outskirts of the city in particular, had limited resources and minimal permanent staff supported by volunteers. After amalgamation, it became necessary to integrate those libraries into the City of Ottawa system, improve their services and, of course, adjust salaries to those of City employees. This created a back-pay debt of almost \$1.5 million, which the city wanted OPL to cover from its regular budget. To squeeze such an amount of money from an already tight operating budget would have had a devastating result on Ottawa's library services. An advocacy campaign was started in the fall of 2006, after the election of a new city council. On February 27, the victory bells rang when Council approved OPL's budget as submitted, plus funds to cover the back-pay debt.

Friends of OPL (FOPLA) played a very important role in the advocacy campaign. City councillors were contacted personally whenever possible; all citizen consultation meetings were attended by members of the FOPLA Board; articles were published in the local press; and special cards were distributed to FOPLA members and bookstore users to send to the mayor and councillors. The cards stated that libraries are a core service and must be adequately funded. The soul of this campaign was the chair of the Friends Advocacy Committee and current President of FOPLA, Mrs. Lori Nash. Her organizational skills, ener-

gy, knowledge of various media people, and boundless enthusiasm inspired all board members to contribute to the campaign as much as they could.

Another project that Lori carried out was a giant used book sale on the Sparks Street Mall, in the heart of Ottawa, to support OPL's Every Child Ready to Read program, initiated this fall in Ottawa libraries. The sale was organized by the Friends in co-operation with CBC Radio and TV, which provided space in their building and publicity. During the five-hour sale, \$9300 was raised for the program. Nine thousand books left after the sale were sent to Africa for literacy programs, through the East African Student Association at Carleton University.

Another important fundraiser was the 11th annual Literary Gala, which took place on November 27. It featured

celebrated Canadian author and journalist Patrick Watson and raised \$40,000 for the Ottawa Public Library Foundation. The money will support children's literacy programs, adaptive technologies that expand access to information and materials for physically challenged people, and improvements to the Ottawa Room (the local history collection) at the Main Branch of OPL. □

Welcome New ELA Members!

2006

Salima Anandjit (Scarborough, Ont.)
Barb Carr (Kingston, Ont.)
Jim Gillespie (Nepean, Ont.)
Phyllis Goldman (Toronto)
Elizabeth Hanson (Bloomington, IN, U.S.A.)
Janet Jacobson (Ottawa)
Siu-Yuen So Kwan (Toronto)
Jocelyne LeBel (Edmundston, N.B.)
Barbara J. Lee (Sundridge, Ont.)
Leslie McGrath (Toronto)
Mary Louise Mills (Hammonds Plains, N.S.)
Sheila Pearl (Truro, N.S.)
Lorna Reevely (Toronto)
Prince George Public Library (B.C.)

2007

Sue Adams (Antigonish, N.S.)
Rose Dotten (Toronto)
Tom Eadie (Peterborough, Ont.)
Sandra Hodgson (Toronto)
Nancy Kellett (Toronto)
Marilyn Kogon (Toronto)
Margaret A. Moreau (Omemee, Ont.)

In Memoriam: Katherine Packer, 1918-2006

BY DIANE HENDERSON AND
NANCY WILLIAMSON

Katherine Packer (née Smith) was born in Toronto on March 20, 1918. She attended the University of Toronto from 1937 to 1941, graduating with a bachelor's degree in modern languages. Following her master's studies in library science, she received her AMLS from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1953. She began her career in librarianship as a rare book cataloguer at the William L. Clements Library from 1953 to 1955. In 1956, she and her family moved to Winnipeg, where she worked at the University of Manitoba Library as a cataloguer until 1959, when they returned to Toronto. Continuing in her cataloguing specialty, from 1959 to 1963 she served as catalogue information librarian at the University of Toronto, then became head cataloguer at the newly established York University Library. Her next appointment, as chief librarian of the Ontario College of Education from 1964 to 1967, provided the administrative experience for her future teaching career at the University of Toronto.

Katherine's career as a library and information science educator began with her appointment to the then School of Library Science in 1967. Her career developed progressively and, in 1979, she became a full professor, and then dean from 1979 until 1984, when she retired as professor emeritus. In 1975, she was awarded a doctorate by the University of Maryland and, during her academic career, received several awards, including the CLA Howard V. Phalin/World Book Graduate Scholarship for Library Science (1972) and the University of Michigan Distinguished Alumnus Award (1981).

From the beginning, Katherine strove

to further the application of technology in library operations and library education through her teaching and research. She taught in the areas of organization of information, subject analysis, automation of library processes, documentation methods and statistics. To support her research, she received grants in the social sciences, including a Canada Council grant for research into user reaction to microform catalogues. Katherine's academic publications focused on developments in librarianship and library education in Canada and the impact of changing technology on library catalogues and their users. Her contribution to the University of Toronto included work on numerous academic committees in her faculty, in the School of Graduate Studies and in the university at large. She was also active in professional associations, both nationally and internationally, as chair of the Ontario Association of College and University Libraries in 1965 and 1966 and on committees of ALA (1965-1969) and CLA (1964-1979). She served on committees of both the Federation internationale de documentation (FID) and the International Federation of Library Associations (1975-1981).

Following her retirement in 1984, Katherine had more time to devote to her interests in community, environmental and social causes, both in Toronto and at the family cottage on Stoney Lake. She was for a time president of the Deer Park Ratepayers Group and active in other local community organizations. She and her husband established, at York University, the Packer Endowment in Social Justice, which includes a visiting professorship, lectureship, and graduate and undergraduate awards. In 2000, Katherine was elected to the Board of ELA, co-chaired the Recruitment Committee and was then membership secretary until 2004.

Katherine died in Toronto on October 9, 2006. She was predeceased by her husband William (Viljo) and is sur-

vived by her daughter Marianne. She will be remembered not only by faculty, students and her many friends and associates as a distinguished practitioner, teacher and administrator, and for her determination and dedication to library and information science in general and to FIS and its goals and achievements in particular – but mostly for her lively intellect, warm personality, sense of humour and friendship. □

Contributions Welcome

The Newsletter Committee welcomes articles, news items, and ideas that you think would be of interest to Ex Libris members, for publication in *ELAN*. Please send them to Liz Warrener (see the last page of this issue). Thanks!

Book Reviews

THE ROMANCE OF LIBRARIES
EDITED BY MADELEINE LEFEBVRE, WITH
A FOREWORD BY MICHAEL GORMAN
Scarecrow Press, 2006, 208 p.

REVIEWED BY FRANCES DAVIDSON-
ARNOTT

When I saw a notice on an e-list asking for anecdotes about library romances for a forthcoming book by Madeleine Lefebvre, a very witty and lively woman, I was eager to read it. Later, when I heard the wonderfully clever and very funny Bill Richardson interview her on CBC about the book, I was hooked. The interview was terrific, and I urge you to go to the CBC website to listen to it (Sounds Like Canada, January 17, 2006).

This book was a labour of love. The introductory chapter, the introductions to each chapter and the concluding words are very well-written, with intelligent observations. The anecdotes themselves are organized by topic, as any good librarian would do, with chapter titles such as "Bookmobile Romance", "The Romance of Academic Libraries", "Intralibrary Romance" and "The Romance of Library School". The stories tell of romances between library workers in the same or different libraries, between workers and patrons (even in a prison library), between patrons, and between library school students. The romances that defied classification are amongst the most interesting and sometimes troubling. The landscape is broadly covered, with stories about people straight and gay, young and old, local and foreign; and about romances that are short or long term, old or recent. Most of the stories have happy endings, but some tell tales of failed romance or of romance that didn't quite develop because of distance or other complications.

There are similar situations in other professions – lawyers loving lawyers, doctors with doctors or other health professionals – but we are interested in our own. The twists concerning libraries are often amusing and very meaningful for us and create warm feelings. Libraries are welcoming places where people



Credit: John Warrener

often feel positive, even relaxed, and spend a lot of time. They are also places where people meet those with similar interests, so it isn't surprising that so many people meet the loves of their lives there. In many ways, the similarities among the stories are as fascinating as the differences.

This is a sweet little book but more the sort to dip into rather than read from cover to cover in one sitting. While the stories are well-written and make their points clearly, the style is somewhat uniform, possibly the result of editing. Or maybe library people write that way! The theme is clearly romance, not lust. Remembering the heady days of yore, when most of us now aging boomers were young, I had expected to read about more wild parties and conference romances. I particularly remembered the famous 1973 CLA conference in Sackville, New Brunswick when we, collectively, drank the liquor store dry – and the, possibly apocryphal, stories of booksellers chasing librarians across the university fields at night! At least one well-known librarian told me that his own current relationship started with an illicit affair at a library conference. I witnessed many others over the years! The voyeur in me hopes that Volume Two will follow with some of the spicier stories.

This book is recommended, and the reader might even recognize some of the people in the stories! It has its own website:
<http://www.libraryromance.com/index.htm>

HISTORY OF THE BOOK IN CANADA.
VOLUME III, 1918-1980
EDITED BY CAROLE GERSON AND
JACQUES MICHON
University of Toronto Press, 2007, 638 p,
\$85.

REVIEWED BY HARRY CAMPBELL

This final volume of the \$3.5 million dollar study (described in *ELAN* Issues 38 and 39) covers 62 years of the 20th century. It ends when computer-based information technology and the Internet were beginning to have their impact in

Canada. It is published in English and French editions and, with its earlier volumes, is the most comprehensive single source on printing and the book in Canada that we have. Volume III lists over 600 references that can be consulted for more detailed histories. The thoroughness of the compilation is evident in its articles, its references, its index and its illustrations.

From the seven separate sections, I have selected three for brief description: Authorship, The Publishing Trade, and Readers and Libraries. Other sections – Oral Tradition, The Symbolic Value of Books, Magazines, Religious and Government Publishers, Printing and Design, Scholarly Publishing, The Book and the Nation – are not included in this review for space reasons.

The various authors repeatedly mark World War I and II as turning points in Canadian publishing and in the evolution of books in Canada. The rise of radio and television is also underlined, as well as the appearance of the various professional and trade organizations of publishers, authors, librarians, booksellers and printers. Due notice is taken of international events that had their impact on the Canadian book world.

From 1920 to 1980, foreign publishing events, notably in the U.S.A., proved a key element in Canadian book development. These generated a wide range of governmental and non-governmental inquiries that were conducted in Canada, both federally and in several provinces. They are covered in detail, as are the rise of the leading Canadian funding agencies, such as the Canada Council for the Arts, the federal and Quebec book initiatives, private foundations, etc. and support efforts, such as the Book Publishing Industry Development Program (BPIDP) and the various provincial grant programs.

The place of the writer is analyzed in two large subsections: Authors' Careers and the Author and the Market. These include four case studies, which range from the role of the Canadian Authors Association in World War II to Leslie McFarlane and *The Hardy Boys* (26 million copies of the books in this series

A Love Of Books

BY ALBERT BOWRON

I hope a love of books is not completely déclassé in this information environment of websites and blogs. I confess to such a love. Evidence can be seen in my modest living space: a reminder of my past.

There it stands, my book collection. Accumulated over most of a lifetime, reflecting my interests in literature, the arts, poetry, travel, with a few eccentric titles linked to old friends or chance adventures. I seldom add anything to it, but I find it hard to discard even one tattered paperback. It's like throwing away a piece of my life. I say, let my heirs deal with the leftovers when I have gone to the great library-in-the-sky.

I continue to house obsolete travel guides like *Europe on \$5 a Day*, a Delhi road map, a colourful publication, *Welcome to Iran*. Why do I keep a 1970 map of Metropolitan Toronto?

Years ago, at a CLA conference, a publisher presented me with a luxuriously bound, thick volume entitled *Highlights of my Career as a Library Consultant* by Albert Bowron. The pages are of the best paper and are totally blank throughout. I'll keep that one.

In contrast, *The Love Poems of Irving Layton* is a large, leather-bound, limited edition signed by the author, with five original lithographs signed and numbered by Graham Coughtry. It's beautiful and worth a bundle. Folio-format art books dominate one area and are the most cherished. Some feature splendid reproductions by artists I have known, such as Jack Shadbolt, Harold Town, Gershon Iskowitz and John Richmond. Such books enrich my memories.

The largest space-stealer is my five-shelf collection of poetry – a passion of the last 20 years. It is dominated by Canadian, classical anthologies and modern British poets – a great gather-

ing of notables, salted with doggerel by Edward Guest, Robert Service and Walter Bowles.

Years ago, I sent a biologist friend a library discard entitled *Harris on the Pig*, 1883. He sent it back with a discard from the Highland Creek Mechanics Institute: *Talks on Manures*, 1890, by Harris. If I really wanted to free up shelf space, surely I could discard these gems.

Farley and Angus Mowat, Henry Miller and Kildare Dobbs are well-represented, and I have a complete collection of the publications of the Gaberbocchus Press. These are keepers, but those old 1880 Baedekers and that bulky file of old *Canadian Library Journals* have to be recycled. I'll think about that next week.

Finally, my well-thumbed copy of *Count Palmiro Vicarion's Book of Limericks* will remain in my collection for its playfully obscene but humorous content, for example:

There was a young couple
named Kelly,
Who were found stuck belly to belly,
Because in their haste,
They used library paste,
Instead of petroleum jelly.

Book Reviews

continued from page 16

were sold by 1970). In discussing the role that the market played, fiction and non-fiction writers are dealt with separately, as are sports and children's writers. Of 35 Canadian writers' groups created after 1921, 19 were still in existence in 2005. More detailed accounts are available in the many references and sources listed.

The Publishing Trade section is divided into four subsections: Trade and Regional Publishing in English, Publishing Books in French, Publishing for Children and Students, and The Serial Press. There are 10 case studies, which include such diverse parts of the trade as the Book Publishers Professional Association, Harlequins,

Coles Notes, and French Canadian Classics from Fides. Useful contributions to the section are by George L. Parker, dealing with the history of branch-plant publishing and the agency system in Canada as well as mergers and takeovers in Central Canadian trade publishing. I am grateful for Parker's analysis of what was to many people a whirlwind of showmanship, marketing and mergers. It is also a useful history of the struggle to exclude the publishing trade from the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement.

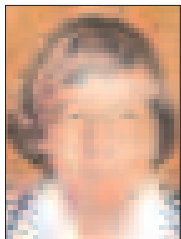
The section on Readers and Libraries contains 23 contributors and articles on various kinds of Canadian libraries: five on reader's habits, five on censorship and encouraging reading of Canadian books, and four on special communities of readers. These articles cover a period when the Canadian population increased from 8 to 24 million, and the industry expanded accordingly. Peter McNally and Marcel Lajeunesse are main contributors, and their articles, "Academic Libraries" and "Public Libraries in Quebec" condense 60 years of achievement into effective, concise narratives.

Booksellers are discussed in the section Distribution. Their inclusion is in recognition of the determination they showed and the problems they faced serving book buyers throughout the period. It is one of the most useful sections of Volume III.

An important part of the *History of the Book in Canada* project was to train those doing research in book history. More than 25 young scholars participated. Their work included preparation of five permanent databases that record Canadian book history. These are the Bibliography of the History of the Book in Canada (BHBiC), Canadian Book Catalogues (CBC), Canadian Textbooks (CT), Canadian Book Trade and Library Index (CBTLI) and Canadian Imprints to 1840 (CI). How will such efforts, as well as those of the editors, be used by future readers of these volumes and members of the book world in Canada? This is a challenge that faces us all.



My Years as a Librarian



BY PAMELA HARDISTY

Growing up in rural Manitoba with no access to a library, why did I first think of becoming a librarian? Perhaps I liked

the idea of having all those books available. I had become an avid reader, like my parents, but there was always a shortage of books. At the University of Manitoba, where I first had access to a library, I was a frequent, if inexperienced, user. I decided to become a librarian but really knew little of their work.

When ready to attend a library school, I made inquiries of McGill University and the University of Toronto. I found that McGill had almost filled its quota for that year, so I applied to and enrolled in the University of Toronto School of Library Science.

Following graduation, I worked in three libraries: the Toronto Public Library's Reference Division, the National Library of Canada and the Library of Parliament. These are some of my recollections of those libraries and my work in them.

Because I had found the Reference course puzzling while studying library science, I asked to do my two-weeks' obligatory practice work at the Toronto Reference Library. There, my supervisor, Martha Shepard, was sympathetic and enthusiastic. My first day there convinced me that I would enjoy reference work and, fortunately, by the end of the first week, I was offered a position. I particularly enjoyed the puzzle aspect of reference work.

On the telephone and at the Reference desk, one met with a wide

variety of questions and clients. As a Manitoban who knew little of Ontario history and politics and even less about Toronto, I had a lot to learn quickly. I had an able and kindly, if stern, advisor in Violet Hyland, a veteran of 30 years in the Toronto Public Library. I owe her a great deal.

Meanwhile, in 1950, the Canadian Bibliographic Centre had been established in Ottawa and, in early 1953, it became Canada's National Library. It had two working branches: Cataloguing and Canadiana with Dr. Jean Lunn as director and the Reference Branch with Martha Shepard as director. The first responsibility of the Reference Branch was to be the preparation of a national union catalogue, of the holdings of the principal and regional Canadian libraries. I thought that it would be interesting to be there at the library's beginning so, in early 1953, I applied for and obtained a reference position, becoming Miss Shepard's assistant.

At the time, Ian Wees was the only other reference librarian, and there was a clerical staff of four or five. All of the National Library staff occupied a large room in the Public Archives Building in Ottawa, sharing space with some of the historical exhibits. In our area, for instance, we had, in one corner, Sir John A. Macdonald's desk, and there were two or three marble busts on top of the Library of Congress card catalogue cabinets.

The reference staff worked on the compilation and editing of the union catalogue, the manuscript for which was acquired largely by microfilming the author entries of the catalogues of participating libraries. After a month in Ottawa, I went on my first filming expedition to Montreal where I filmed the library catalogues of McGill University and the Université de Montréal. On returning to Ottawa, I worked mainly on the editing of the union catalogue. Varying cataloguing practices made identifying titles involved. I found that I preferred the

filming expeditions to the editorial work. Although the filming itself was very tiring and monotonous, I enjoyed working in a number of cities, learning about their libraries and getting to know many of my colleagues in those libraries. I had particularly enjoyed seeing part of Newfoundland and St. John's. In retrospect, I was happy to have had the chance to travel from Port aux Basques to St. John's on the Newfie Bullet, Newfoundland's narrow-gauge railway.

After almost nine years, it appeared that the National Library building was little closer to construction. The growing staff was now settled in a Public Archives storage building. When the Library of Parliament advertised for an assistant librarian, I applied and was appointed.



Pamela at her desk in the Parliamentary Library ca. 1963.

The move from a storage building to the Victorian Library of Parliament with its carved woodwork and domed ceiling was somewhat of a culture shock. I did enjoy being in a library with an active clientele again. The librarians there were working directly for senators and members of Parliament. At first, I concentrated on assisting the Reference Branch, which gave me an opportunity to become better acquainted with the reference staff and the type of information being requested. This focus helped me to identify possible new services. At that time, both Reference and Cataloguing staff were divided by language (English and French), and each had to report to an assistant librarian; however, it had been decided to fill

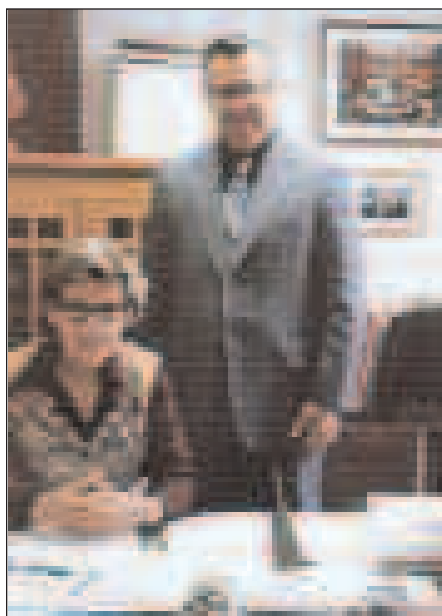
only one position with the objective of gradually making each service bilingual. I hoped that, by working with them, they would come to accept me and the idea of one reference service. The appointment of a new bilingual Reference director, who was an experienced able librarian, greatly helped in making the service more bilingual, and in the introduction and implementation of additional services. Since we were working directly for Parliament, elections often changed our clientele considerably. Priorities might change temporarily; the protracted flag debate, for example, kept some reference librarians busy for months. Later, we set up branch libraries in buildings to which parliamentary offices had moved. The library tried always to be responsive to parliamentarians' needs and wishes. This meant that some of the library's housekeeping was sometimes delayed until a parliamentary recess.

The appointment of the Reference head freed me to concentrate on my broader responsibilities to the library and the Parliamentary Librarian. This was the first time I had been responsible for the organization and direction of an active library service, and I found it most stimulating. I found that my responsibilities broadened as new services were developed and I became more knowledgeable. Libraries were beginning to use computers: computerization of the library's catalogue began. Commercial bibliographic reference services were becoming available. I contributed to the preparation of the library's budget estimates and its annual report. I enjoyed planning programs for and working with visiting legislative and parliamentary librarians. One had to be ready for changing service demands while carrying on with routine administrative duties.

During my years at the Parliamentary Library, I developed a much stronger and lifelong interest in government. From my contact with members of the House of Commons, especially during the early years when more were using the library personally, I became more sympathetic to their problems.

I think I was fortunate in my library career to have worked in such different libraries, and I appreciate the advice and assistance I received from my colleagues. □

Pamela Hardisty retired in October 1980. She now lives in Victoria, B.C.



Pamela in her office with Gilles Frappier, then associate Parliamentary Librarian, ca. 1975-78.

keep up to date...find out more...painlessly

Visit Ex Libris on the Web

The Ex Libris website is a source of more current information than *ELAN*, which is limited to two issues a year. Names of new Board and committee members are announced promptly and details of the Annual Conference are released as they are made available. Not only that, the website provides access to historical and other documents that cannot be fully included in the newsletter, such as the chronologies to support the library education issue of *ELAN* that appear only on the web. Other items of interest include the complete list of past speakers and topics of the past Get-Together programs, the complete text of the 2002 program, *Is Librarianship as a Profession Headed for Oblivion?*, and some direct links to other useful websites.

Are you already an Internet user but have not looked at the Ex Libris Association website? Its address is
<http://exlibris.fis.utoronto.ca>

Or, are you comfortable with computers but not experienced in Internet use or have no computer at home? Take this article to your local public librarians for assistance.

Or, are you computer illiterate and embarrassed? Relax! Your local public library is ready to help and probably even has small-group or one-on-one sessions on learning to tame the computer and the Internet. Give the librarians this article to show them the address for the Ex Libris website. Perhaps they will help you to use the site even before you have finished managing the computer!

Eventually you will find many other websites of interest. If there are no computer instruction programs at your local library, don't give up. Ask around, and you may well find other community agencies offering such assistance. Help is nearby. □

Recent Library-Related Books

BY JEAN WEIHS

I found the following list of recent books interesting and/or entertaining and/or informative:

The Whole Library Handbook 4: Current Data, Professional Advice, and Curiosa About Libraries and Library Services, edited by George M. Eberhart. Chicago: American Library Association, 2006. vi, 285 p., index.

This mix of helpful or informative articles by various people on topics of historical interest and of current importance, lists of all sorts of things, several tables of statistics, chronologies, pictures and photographs, quotations, and humorous pieces. One might expect that a handbook published by the American Library Association and edited by a senior editor of *American Libraries* would be centred on library-related matters in the United States. Happily, this is not the case; information about Canadian and European libraries and a few items about other places, such as “Donkey-Drawn Libraries in Zimbabwe,” are part of the mix. The final chapter, “Librariania,” has a mixture of humour (e.g., a song and a joke) and the off-beat (e.g., a list of haunted libraries and library button and post-cards). The first three editions of this work are also useful because ninety-seven percent of this fourth edition contains new material.

Language Visible: Unraveling the Mystery of the Alphabet From A to Z, by David Sacks. Toronto: Knopf, 2003. xv, 395p., index.

Librarians, who have spent their lives with books, might be interested in finding out more about the origin and meaning of the alphabet that is their basis. The Canadian author devotes a chapter to each letter of the alphabet telling the letter's history, complexities, and meaning in different cultures and language.

Canadian Fiction: A Guide to Reading Interests, by Sharron Smith and Maureen O'Connor. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2005. xxii, 423 p., index.

This guide to some of the best or most popular works of fiction published between 1990 and 2004 is not all-inclusive. It is “a broad sampling that represents the wide spectrum of reading possibilities and enjoyment in Canadian literature ... both mainstream and genre fiction.” The books are grouped generally into chapters devoted to setting, story, character, language, and genre fiction. The genre chapter is divided into its types (mystery, science fiction, fantasy, romance, thriller, and horror), and the types further subdivided into specialities. The 113 pages of indexes make it easy to find novels with a particular content or setting. And if you enjoyed one of the books listed here, the authors have provided a Read On section for each of the entries in which they suggest other books that might

interest you. The Read On section is not limited to Canadian authors and occasionally non-fiction titles are noted.

Our Own Selves: More Meditations for Librarians, by Michael Gorman. Chicago: American Library Association, 2005. xiii, 224 p.

The “more meditations” in the subtitle of this book reinforces the fact that it is a follow-up to Michael Gorman's *Our Singular Strengths: Meditations for Librarians*, published in 1997. In this present work Gorman provides another one hundred reflections on matters that involve or touch the world of libraries and librarians written with Gorman's usual grace and command of the English language. This is not a book that one is likely to read from cover to cover in a methodical fashion. Rather it is a work to be read here and there as fancy strikes or as the desire to find thoughts on some particular aspect of the library world arises. □

The Songs of the Library Staff

CONTRIBUTED BY JEAN WEIHS

Sam Walter Foss, a librarian at the Somerville, Massachusetts Public library, wrote *Songs of the Average Man* in 1907. Five of these songs were about library staff members. *ELAN* will publish one of these songs and the accompanying original pictures in each of the following four issues. We start with:

The Cataloguer

Oh joy! To see the Library staff perpetually jogging,
And to see the Cataloguer in the act of cataloguing.
 (“Catalogs—Log-books for cattle,” was the schoolboy's definition,
A statement not to be despised for insight and precision.)
Every language spoke at Babel in the books that pile her table,
Every theme discussed since Adam—song or story, fact or fable!



And she sweetly takes all knowledge for her province,
as did Bacon,
All the fruit that's dropped and mellowed since the
Knowledge tree was shaken,
All the ologies of the colleges, all the isms of the schools,
All the unsorted knowledges she assorts by Cutter's rules;
Or tags upon each author in large letters that are gluey
Their place in Thought's great pantheon in
decimals of Dewey;
O joy! To see the Library staff perpetually jogging,
And to see the Cataloguer in the act of cataloguing.

FYI ... Check Out These On-line Journals!

BY DIANE HENDERSON

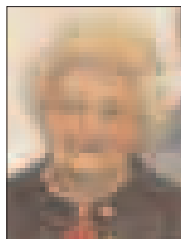
With the widespread availability and use of the Internet, and the high cost of publishing in conventional paper format, the on-line journal has become a regular means of publishing in many fields. In library and information science, two new on-line journals published their first issues in 2006. While they differ in their objectives and orientation, each provides interesting and rewarding reading – be sure to look them up!

COLAJ: Canadian Online Library and Archives Journal was established in 2005 at Queen's University (in Kingston, Ont.) by the Queen's Librarians and Archivists Association. "It is meant to complement the library and archives journals (both in print and electronic) in Canada and is intended as a forum for all issues of interest to Canadian librarians and archivists". Although it is based in a university, COLAJ intends to publish material on any type of library or archive. Anyone who wishes to contribute articles, notes, reviews, or "any other scribblings of interest" is invited to submit. For a history and guidelines for submission, see the journal's website (<http://library.queensu.ca/law/COLAJ.htm>). It is published semi-annually, with both issues of Volume 1 now available. They include feature articles and reviews of books and other media on a broad range of topics. The feature article in Issue 1, by Pamela Haley, is "The Scarlet 'P': Public Librarians in the World of Academe". In Issue 2, Pat Warner writes on "Reserves, Electronic Reserves and Copyright in Canada" and Susan Barker on "A Technician Goes to Library School: Some Thoughts on the Process of Becoming a Librarian".

Partnership: The Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research, (<http://www/partnershipjournal.ca>) "is a practitioner's journal of The Partnership [The Provincial and Territorial Library Associations of Canada] published twice a year". It aims to give members of the Canadian library community an opportunity to have research and scholarly articles published. Its feature articles, on theory, research and innovations in practice, are "in-depth, peer-reviewed articles". Articles based on presentations at library or library-related conferences are included in the Conference Spotlight section. Also published are notes on professional development, profiles and viewpoints. News and announcements, about associations in The Partnership and other matters, complete the regular contents. The journal invites submission of articles for the peer reviewed and other sections; full information is on the website. Feature articles in Issue 1 (with a choice of HTML or PDF format) include "Video Streaming in the Wild West" by Helen Prosser, "Open Access Initiatives in India: An Evaluation" by Leila Fernandez and "Libre accès à la recherche scientifique" by Kumiko Vezina.

Quotes were taken from the respective websites.

Biography Database Coming Soon



BY NANCY WILLIAMSON

The beginning of ELA's database of librarians and other information professionals is expected to

be up and running in the next few weeks. Watch the Ex Libris website and consult the Ex Libris bulletin board. As a start, a small number of

biographies have been prepared, and the Biographical Project Committee is consulting with the ELA's webmaster and the Website Committee. When a few more decisions have been made, we will be able to get the project on the road and add biographies as they become available. We are beginning with the past but hope to include retired and still active professionals as time goes on.

The database will be accessible through the Ex Libris website and searchable by alphabetical-name and other indexes. Googling will be through the Faculty of Information Studies' computer system. We created the current entries from a variety of sources that describe each biographee's personal and professional life. To ease consultation, we standardized the entries. The aim is to present the most significant facts about each person and sources of further information. When the location of an individual's personal papers is known, this information will be included, as will links to other locations.

To get this project off the ground, we need your help. We want to involve as many Ex Libris members across Canada as possible. You can participate by

- writing biographical entries
- suggesting improvements to the database
- correcting erroneous information
- adding to material already in the database.

If you would like to help, please get in touch with Nancy Williamson: FIS, University of Toronto, 140 St. George St., Toronto, ON M5S 3G6
Phone: 416-978-7079
Fax: 416-971-1399
nancy.williamson@utoronto.ca

Books by Ex Libris Members

This new column highlights books written by Ex Libris members. We invite our members to send information about their books together with a two or three sentence annotation to Jean Weihs at jean.weihs@rogers.com.



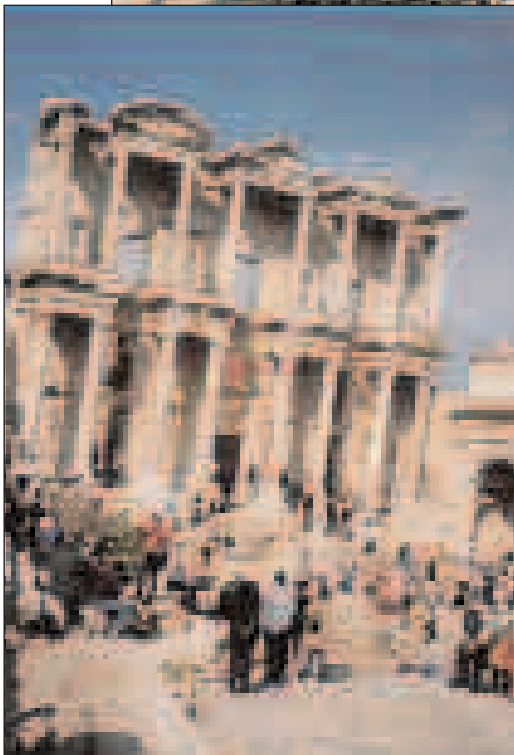
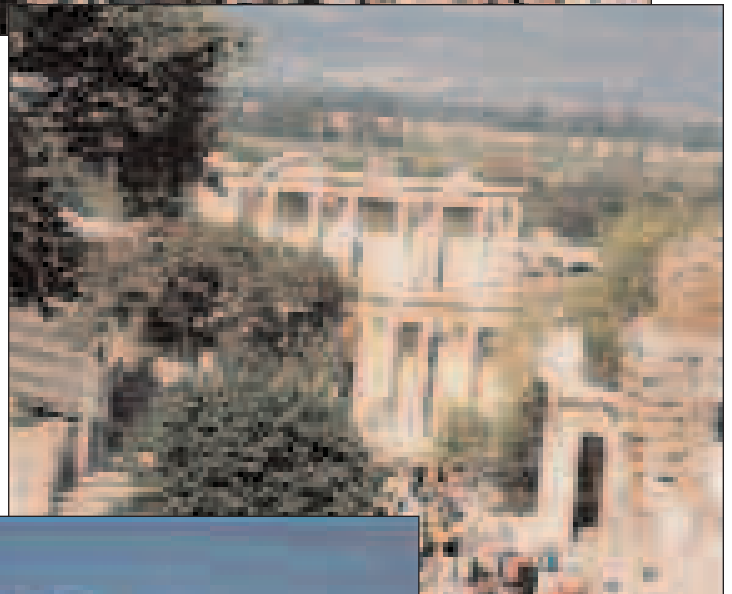
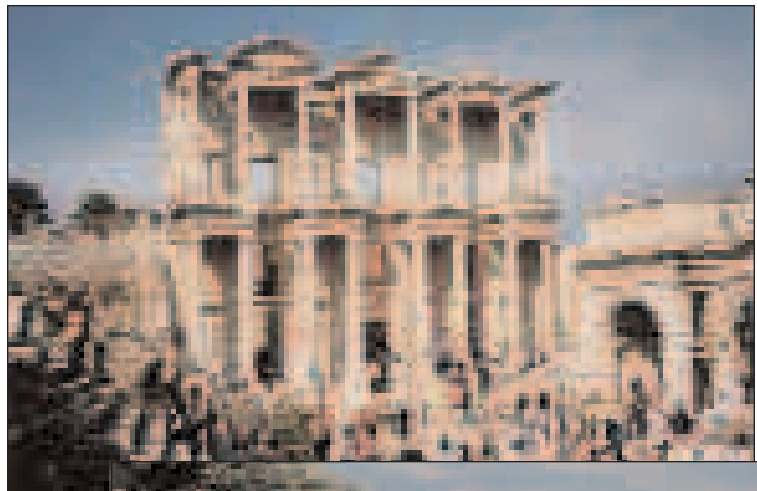
Time Was The Window: A Family's Stories, 1800-2000 by Arn Bailey (Markham, ON, Stewart Publishing and Printing, 2005, \$20.00). Established by Irish immigrants, the Ontario homestead of a fictional family, The Harrisons, is retained through a line of unpredictable inheritance as its setting changes from rural to suburban. Events

focus on members of each generation as they labour, love, and suffer loss. Throughout, a young genealogist tries to learn these family stories and discovers patterns that involve herself. Contact arn-bailey@rogers.com. ISBN 1-894183-72-X.

All About Me, or Is It I? Beware the Wild Pronoun! by Gwynneth Heaton. Illus. with exercises and answers (Victoria, B.C., Trafford Publishing Ltd., 2006. 137 p. \$21.00). Readers of this comprehensive, yet amusing, reference book will never start a sentence with *me* again. The book will help anyone (aged 13 and above) who wants to speak or write good English and who finds pronouns confusing. For more information or to order: www.trafford.com/06-2518, or 1-888-232-4444, ISBN 1-4521-0760-5.

Our Country Series by Jean Weihs (Toronto: MOD Publishing, \$11.95 each) This series tells young people about the biggest, the best, and the first that happened in each of the provinces and territories. An introduction to the land and climates, the peoples, the economies, the governments, the animals, the major cities, and the meaning of the emblems and symbols. ***British Columbia*** ISBN 1-894461-11-8; ***Nunavut*** ISBN 1-894461-09-6; ***Ontario*** ISBN 1-894461-10-X. Order through www.modpublishing.com or jean.weihs@rogers.com □

Celsus Library, built in A.D. 135 at Ephesus, Turkey.



Milestones

Compiled by Merlyn Beeckmans



Obituaries

Jill Anderson died on November 7, 2006 in London, Ont. She was a library technician who had made many contributions to the work of OALT/ABO since 1974.

Mary Eileen Ash died on September 13, 2006 in Toronto at the age of 88. She worked for most of her career as senior librarian at the Canadian Forces College in Toronto.

Vicki Louise (Bisset) Casey died on September 11, 2006 in Toronto. She worked as a librarian at the Toronto and Scarborough Public Libraries and at Metro Reference Library. She also lectured at the University of Toronto, York University and Seneca College.

Joan Schreiber Clarkson died on March 13, 2007 in Toronto at the age of 77. She held a degree in library science from the University of Toronto. She had a long and rewarding career as a librarian at the University of Toronto.

Margaret (Mills) Crowther died in Newmarket, Ont. on January 8, 2007. She was a former assistant librarian at Newmarket Public Library.

Mary (Yates) Dille died in France October 25, 2006 at the age of 66. She worked as a librarian in the Arts Department of the Manchester (U.K.) Library and in the same department in the Toronto Central Library. She traveled with her photographer husband Lutz to northern Canada, Wales and France.

Lisa Anne (Wallace) Filiatrault died in Waterloo, Ont. on November 24, 2006 at the age of 43. She received a BA (1985) and a B.Ed. (1987) from the University of Western Ontario. She qualified as a teacher-librarian in 2001 and directed the Bluevale Collegiate Library in Waterloo.

Marjorie George died recently in Hamilton, Ont.. She held a BLS from the University of Toronto (1939). She worked at the Hamilton Public Library and the Ontario College of Education in Toronto. Most of her career was spent at the Chatham Public Library as head of Cataloguing and assistant chief librarian.

Eva Martha (Alguire) Goldspink died in Chippewa, Ont. on August 22, 2006 at the age of 90. She taught for four decades as a primary specialist and then as a teacher-librarian.

John Frederic Hatton died on December 10, 2006 in Toronto. He held an MA from Victoria University (1948) and a BLS from the Library School at the University of Toronto (1954). He was chief librarian at the Defence Research Board and later held the same position at the Defence and Civil Institute of Environmental Medicine. His outspoken

nature was not appreciated by the faculty of the Library School. His interests were wide and varied – the UN, vintage cars and Japanese gardens, to name a few. These were not passive concerns: he corresponded with Kofi Annan of the UN, owned a Rolls Royce and a Bentley and created a fine Japanese garden. In sum, he was a person of note, as well as a member of Ex Libris. *We thank Bill Morley, John's classmate at library school, for his very valuable input.– Ed.*

Barbara Joan (Ettinger) Hinton died in Edmonton on August 19, 2006 at the age of 78. She received a BA from Queen's University (1949) and later a BLS from the University of Toronto. She became a respected children's librarian, making good use of folktales and puppetry.

Kathleen (McCreight) Hodges died in Collingwood, Ont. on October 12, 2006 at the age of 95. She spent her library career at the Weston Public Library, Toronto.

Barbara (Conde) Hopkins died in Vancouver on September 16, 2006 at the age of 78. She worked for many years in the slide library in the Department of Fine Arts, University of British Columbia.

E. Gwenyth (Coulson) Housby died in Toronto on August 28, 2006. She had a BLS from the University of Toronto and worked at the Toronto Public Library.

Lanah Geraldine Hughes died in Oakville, Ont., on March 19 at the age of 89. She received an MLS from the University of Michigan and was a librarian at Mackinaw College. In 1971 she returned to Canada to create and lead a two-year diploma course in library techniques at the newly opened Sheridan College in Oakville. On her retirement, her students honoured her with an award, presented annually in her name. She had many interests, such as the Oxford Group/Moral Rearmament (now known as Initiatives of Change), geneology, travel, and international and current affairs. She was also a long-time member of Ex Libris.

Josephine Johnson died at Lake Scugog, Ont. on February 15 at the age of 86. She was chief librarian of the Milton Public Library and the main force behind the new library building.

Edith Lorine (Wong) Liu died in Toronto on September 9, 2006 at the age of 78. She held a BSc from McMaster University, an M.Sc. and an MLS from the University of Toronto. She worked for the Department of National Defence, the City of Toronto forensic laboratory and in the pharmaceutical industry.

Milestones, continued

Elizabeth Mary McMahon-Weaver died on February 3, 2007 in Toronto. She was head of the Literature Department at the Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library for many years.

Keith Maclean Owen Miller died recently at his home outside Bracebridge, Ont. at the age of 60. He was reared in Wychwood Park, Toronto and amassed archival material for his book on its history. He retired early as a librarian at the University of Toronto and moved to Muskoka, where he created an amazing garden that included his original hybrids.

Mary Elizabeth Rogers died on August 23, 2006 in Peterborough, Ont. at the age of 84. She was the teacher-librarian at Kenner Collegiate Vocational School for 20 years.

Marion Eleanor (Lawson) Seary died in early 2007 in Halifax at the age of 73. She held a BLS from the University of Toronto. The major part of her career was spent as a bookseller and staff trainer at the Children's Book Store in Toronto (1974-1993). She was a member of Ex Libris.

Ronald Ryan Wilbert Taylor died by drowning on September 25, 2006 in the Niagara River, N.Y. at the age of 56. He held a degree in library science from the University of Ottawa. He worked in libraries in Manitoba and Ontario. He became known as an enthusiastic geneologist-librarian, with a gift for sharing his interests. He was a faculty member of the University of Toronto and the National Institute for Geneological Studies.

Phyllis Vair died recently in Hamilton, Ont. She was head of Cataloguing at Hamilton Public Library from 1952 to 1966. She also worked as a cataloguer at McMaster University.

Retirements

Leona Hendry retired on January 31, 2007 after 22 years as CEO of the Belleville Public Library and John M. Parrott Art Gallery.

Awards

Graeme Campbell of Vancouver won the Dr. Janet Baker Scholarship. He is attending the graduate program at the University of Western Ontario's FIMS.

Anna Leah Harms won the OLA Grace Buller Scholarship for Aboriginal Peoples, which is supporting her studies at FIS, University of Toronto.

Greg Linnell took the top prize and the OLBA Management Prize at the University of Western Ontario.

Heather Wray won the OLA Anniversary Prize at the University of Toronto's FIS.

News

The Ethel W. Auster Scholarship for Doctoral Research was established by the Auster family and University of Toronto's FIS, in memory of the late Professor Auster.

The Patricia Fleming Visiting Fellowship in Bibliography and Book History was established in tribute to retiring FIS Professor Fleming.

Back Issues of ELAN/Ex Libris News

Back issues, from Number 1 to the present, are available at \$2.00 per single issue, \$15.00 for 10 issues, \$25.00 for 20 issues, or \$50.00 for the complete set. Each price includes mailing costs. Special issues are excluded.

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Editor: Margaret Oldfield

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Newsletter Committee:

Merlyn Beeckmans, Sherrill Cheda, Diane Henderson, Liz Warrenner, Jean Weihs

Send contributions and suggestions to:

Liz Warrenner
31 Kelway Blvd
Toronto, ON M5N 1H2
E-mail: jnewarrene@sympatico.ca
Please include OLA or ELAN in the subject line of your email.

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