



# ExLibrisNews

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## ELA's Annual Get-Together 2001: A Summary

### HISTORY OF THE BOOK IN CANADA PROJECT A PRESENTATION BY JUDY DONNELLY

The 2001 annual Get-Together of the Ex-Libris Association began with a fascinating presentation by Judy Donnelly, Project Manager of the History of the Book in Canada project.

This national five-year project will result in three volumes in both English and French covering the history of Canadian book and print culture from the beginnings to the year 2000.

The seeds of the project were planted in the mid- 1990's during meetings of Canadian scholars at the Bibliographical Society of Canada conferences and elsewhere who were monitoring other national history of the book projects particularly in Great Britain, France, USA, and Australia. The founding conference was held in 1997 at the National Library of Canada in which an editorial committee was assembled under Professors Patricia Fleming, University of Toronto and Yvan Lamonde, McGill University and a grant proposal sent to SSHRCC. In December 1999, \$2.3 million was granted and in 2000 the project got under way under the joint editorship of Fleming and Lamonde and based, through the editors of individual volumes, at

six universities across Canada.

As Judy indicated, the project will not just cover "the book" but all formats, including newspapers, maps, music, posters, as well as subjects of Canadian print culture: children's literature, fiction, scientific works, cookbooks, textbooks, etc. In essence the project will investigate how those materials are "written, printed, published, distributed, sold, read and collected."

Judy then went on to outline some of the topics that will be covered in each volume. The editors must ensure that themes initiated in earlier volumes be carried on into later volumes and there must also be a geographical and gender balance. Highlights from the proposed volume contents help give us a flavour of the work.

For instance Volume I (Beginnings to 1840) will look at, among other topics, European publications about Canada and their circulation before the establishment of the printing press in 1751, literacy and the origins of libraries, and interactions between Native peoples and non-natives and their impact on manuscript and print culture.

Volume II (1840-1918) will look more closely at who was publish-

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# ELA's Annual Get-Together 2001: A Summary

ing and how, and technological developments and legislation that spread the print culture and influenced its reception.

Volume III (1918-2000), perhaps the most challenging of the three because of the rapid changes in technology in the period (and the lack of research), will cover such diverse topics as censorship, the growth of libraries, and the impact of social, demographic and political events on print. Oral histories conducted with members of the book trades and librarians will form an important resource for the third volume.

One of the aims of the project is to help train the next generation of history-of-the-book scholars in Canada. The project has been able to hire post-doctoral and graduate students to work on various aspects.

Electronic Resources will form a crucial resource for all scholars involved, and six databases are now in progress. One is a bibliography of secondary sources on Canadian book history and a thesaurus of terms.

Another being created under Professor Paul Aubin, is a bibliography of Canadian textbooks.

A bibliography of Canadian auction, publishers', booksellers' and library catalogues will be complemented by a Canadian book trades index connecting names to firms, initially to 1840 and then expanded to 1900.

A database of pre-1840 Canadian imprints is being prepared, extending the sort of work done by Pat Fleming (*Upper Canadian Imprints 1801-1841: a Bibliography* (1988)) to other

regions and periods. Elaine Hoag of the National Library of Canada is assisting with this. And finally, a bibliography of Canadian almanacs to 1950 is being prepared.

Judy ended her talk with an intriguing slide presentation on the iconography of the Canadian book (from early paintings and prints), showing various people reading, using or making books. There were many questions and comments on her presentation indicating a strong interest in the project.

For further information on the project, and to keep up with developments, see the HBIC website: [www.hbic.library.utoronto.ca](http://www.hbic.library.utoronto.ca)

Judy Donnelly is a graduate of McMaster University and received her MLS from the University of Toronto in 1987. She has held a variety of librarian and information research positions. In the year 2000 she was appointed project manager and senior business administrator of the five-year, \$2.3-million bilingual *History of the Book in Canada Project*. She is stationed with the Project Director, Professor Patricia Fleming, at the Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto.

Judy has herself done research on the history of the book and is a co-compiler with Pat Fleming and Anne Dondertman of an ongoing bibliography of pre-1900 Canadian almanacs. Among other publications, she has published with Carl Spadoni *A Publisher's legacy: A Bibliography of McClelland & Stewart Imprints, 1906-1985*, which appeared in 1994.

—Joan Winearl

## **GATS AND PUBLIC SECTOR LIBRARIES IN CANADA: A PRESENTATION BY HARRY CAMPBELL AND KEITH CROUCH**

In the afternoon session, Harry Campbell and Keith Crouch dealt with the question of how the World Trade Organization (WTO) could change the role of the public library sector in Canada through the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS). They also dealt with how the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) could place constraints on intellectual property arising from the public library sector.

Harry Campbell led the audience through an understanding of the issues by examining passages from a number of key documents. Harry referenced an article by Fiona Hunt entitled "WTO and the Threat to Libraries," published in the *Progressive Librarian*. He pointed out that GATS, created in 1994 at the Uruguay Round, introduced trade in "services" to the WTO agenda with the aims of deregulating services and providing national treatment for foreign-based companies. Under GATS national treatment regulations, the public library sector could be threatened by challenges placed before the WTO dispute resolution court by private information services demanding equal financial support or compensation from government for unfair trade practices.

The International Federation of Library Associations and

*continued on page 3*



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## GATS and Public Sector Libraries in Canada

Institutions (IFLA) and the Canadian Library Association are two of a number of organizations that have positions on GATS. Harry pointed to the "IFLA Position on WTO Treaty Negotiations," which was reproduced in IFLA Journal 26, 2001. It states that without tax support, the library's role as a democratic institution—which makes available the widest range of material reflecting the diversity of society—will be compromised.

Article VI of GATS challenges qualification requirements and licensing, which could mean that professional qualifications for librarians, teachers and others may be barriers to trade in services. IFLA's position is that libraries should be part of protections proposed for culture, and should be part of a separate treaty which allows for cultural goods and services in international trade.

The Canadian Library Association, in a Resolution passed at the CLA Conference in June, 2001, reiterated its opposition to the GATS on the basis of the Agreement's lack of transparency, documentation and negative impact on the provision of public sector library debate. CLA urges the federal government to release all GATS documents, to consult with Canadians about them, and to ensure that public sector libraries be exempt from GATS disciplines "as services delivered in the exercise of government authority."

With reference to the CLA document, *An Assessment of the Impact of the GATS on Policy, Programs, and Law Concerning Public Sector Libraries*, by Steven Shrybman, Keith Crouch spoke about the possible threat that the WTO GATS poses to the existing

free access that Canadians have to cultural information through public service libraries. To be excluded from GATS regulations, the public library sector must fall under the GATS definition of a provider of services in the "exercise of government authority," (Article 1:3c); and, not operate as a commercial or competitive enterprise.

The growing tendency for public libraries to join with private enterprise and for-profit information providers due to funding pressures may be a threat to non-competitive and non-commercial claims made by these services. The current "exempt status" of the public library sector may be threatened if American information services lay charges before the WTO dispute panel that public funding, fee charges, and public-private partnerships are a competitive threat to them. If a WTO dispute panel were to rule that library services are commercial and not exempt from GATS disciplines, the Canadian government would be faced with three choices:

1. Fund private providers equal to the public system;
2. Withdraw public services;
3. Face retaliation.

Are public library services exempt? Since GATS definitions are unclear, clear definitions must be found for terms which apply to the public library sector before the government submits "library services" to GATS disciplines, or before a challenge is presented to the WTO by a private organization. For library services to be excluded, terms such as "competition" and "commercial" in relation to the public service library sector must be defined. At present, there is no interpretation of the phrase "in exercise of government authority" as it applies to services. An examination of the United Nations Classification

Code (subclass 96311) illustrates the difficulty of defining library services for application to the GATS situation.

CLA has established a committee to communicate an effective library response to GATS and has engaged a lobbying firm to represent library interests. CLA will coordinate a second phase study on the WTO Agreement on Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). It is necessary for all of us to support CLA and other associations in their efforts to investigate and lobby to ensure that public sector library service can continue to reflect the public interest of citizens.

—John Arndt

## Ex Libris Annual Get-together

**Monday  
November 4  
2002**

Stimulating...

- Speakers
- Program
- Fellowship

**Place and program to  
be announced.**



# As I Saw It: To Afghanistan With Tough Love

By Al Bowron

In one way our visit to Afghanistan was accidental. My wife and I were on an eight-month journey around the world, with no fixed itinerary. We got as far as Pakistan and had no intention of doing Afghanistan. Our intention was to fly directly to Teheran. However, severe frustration with various airlines in Lahore, overbooking, high cost and late night landings convinced us to go overland on our own.

We had left Toronto in October, 1976, and travelled west. A pre-booked plane ticket had taken us to Singapore with stop-overs in Japan, Hong Kong and Thailand. In Bangkok I contracted a case of dysentery. In Singapore I was tenderly cared for by Arthur and Marianne Vespry. An English doctor was recommended, who got me on my feet in time to attend a meeting of the South-East Asian Libraries Association.

Our six weeks in India and Pakistan via bus, train, boat, pedicab, tonga and on foot is another story. January, 1977, found us in Peshawa, just east of the Afghan border, where it took us several days of tussles with the bureaucracy of both countries to obtain money, visas and tickets that got us on an unheated bus for Afghanistan.

After nine hours with a two-hour delay at the border, a spectacular trip through the Khyber Pass, past mud-walled towns, ancient forts and dreary and verdant countryside, we were in Kabul at -10 degrees C. The city looked haphazard but very busy. There was lots of snow and ice. The people were handsome. A few women were fashionably dressed in sheep-skin coats with make-up. Most, though, were invisible in burkhas. Later, on a city bus, the driver wouldn't start until my dear wife moved to the back of the bus with the other women.

Our hotel, Khyber, was cavernous,



Photo: Al Bowron

**KANDAHAR TO HERAT, JANUARY 1977. THE BUS CALLED "HELSINKI"**

Soviet-built, cold and friendly. There was a bar and a bathroom across the hall. The doorman slept on the floor in the lobby. Chicken Street featured fashionable clothes, beautiful jewelry, carpets and handicrafts. There were supermarkets and food aplenty, but mostly for tourists and unaffordable for most Afghans.

Other areas we visited included bazaars, museums, squares and mosques, which were full of interest and people. We had one big difficulty. The street signs, bus

schedules, menus etc. were, of course, in Pashto, and unintelligible to us. Our Afghan visit became preoccupied with catching the right bus, eating digestible food, changing money, keeping warm and finding addresses. The tourist organization was a great help.

Of course, I had to visit the Kabul Public Library. I met the director. He sported a smart suit and tie with a neatly trimmed

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## How I Became A Librarian: Sue Bonsteel

I grew up on a farm near Simcoe, Ontario. I went through high school and business college in Windsor, and then I worked for 12 years at the Steel Company of Canada (now Stelco in Hamilton). During WW2, I chased orders for nails, wire and screw products, and when the boys came back, I went back to my typewriter.

I soon left Stelco for a really high paying job at the Student Christian Movement in Toronto. After a year, when my mother died, I quit my job and spent a year with the last wave of veterans on campus studying at university in Hamilton.

I then went to New York City for a couple of years, recruiting students for work camps around the world for an organization run by the World Council of Churches. After a couple of years, and after having studied at Columbia in New York, I left the Big Apple and married a country parson.

During the next eight years we produced four children. We had parishes in Stirling, Bethany and Oakville-Bronte, where we lived for eight years. At the end of that time my husband went to Probation Services and we were posted to Stratford.

By this time there were two kids in high school and two in elementary, and since probation officers then were paid on a level with clergy—and since we had to buy our first house—I had to find work. I spent about a year in a very good bookstore in Stratford being treated miserably by the owner.

One day, Stratford's chief librarian, Miss Lois Thompson, came into the bookstore. It was near the

end of the month and she had money to spend—her allocation had not been used up. She heard the boss tear a strip off me for something or other and promptly asked if I would be free to work in the public library during a holiday weekend when she would be short of staff. The staff at that time consisted of four wonderful ladies who had been there forever.

During that weekend, and subsequent weekends, I figured out how a catalogue worked and what cards were for, and I had a great time throwing stuff out of the filing cabinets. I discovered later that this process is called "weeding the vertical files."

Shortly thereafter, John Parkhill, a classmate of my husband's at Queen's, came visiting on his way back from teaching a course at the brand new library school at Western in London. He suggested that I might like to check out the school, so I applied and got in. I received a \$300 grant from the Midwestern Regional Library System for my fees.

I took up residence in a boarding house with wonderful people, and

for the next calendar year I worked like a slave during the week, then came home on weekends to a house where there was always a pair of jeans on the kitchen table waiting to be mended. The kids learned to cook, run the vacuum and the washing machine, but they have never forgiven me for abandoning them during that year. As for myself, my menopausal year went by in a flurry of deadlines, presentations, discussions, and learning to drink beer at the CEEPS with the other students, most of whom were the age of my kids. I had a wonderful time.

The day I graduated, in May 1970, I was offered a job as reference librarian at Stratford Public Library, the first one they had ever had. It was under the library's new chief, Blake McDougall. I figured out fast that the only thing a reference librarian really needs is curiosity. When Blake left for Edmonton a couple of years later, I was offered the job as chief. After 10 seconds of meditation, I accepted.

And that is how I became a librarian.

LOST, on the lower road, between the 12-mile creek and this town, the 2d. vol. of *Burk's European Settlement in America*, marked *Niagara Library, No. 102*; and the 1st. vol. of the *History of Jacobinism*, marked as the other, and numbered 62.—If any person has found them or either of them, and will deliver them to the subscriber, shall be handsomely rewarded.  
A. HERON.  
Niagara, Ont. 31st. 1800.

Submitted by Mary Williamson



# How I Became A Librarian: Anne Nyland

Why and how did I become a librarian?

Simple. I am a book addict, and at 83, no amount of rehab will change this thirst for books. Growing up on a farm outside the village of Lyn in Eastern Ontario, I developed an insatiable desire for books. This desire has never been slaked completely.

Lyn had a miniscule library which consisted of some shelves in the telephone office. I was allowed to choose from part of one shelf. We actually had a larger number of books in our home than was usual for the time. I tried re-reading those books, borrowing from neighbours... but this did not satisfy me.

For plain reading, newspapers were a primary source. As good Tories, we subscribed to the *Mail and Empire*, as well as the Brockville newspaper. If my father was not too tired, he read me the bedtime story from the paper, which was my introduction to Beatrix Potter. And I discovered that if you are going to weep copiously over Sewell's *Black Beauty*, the best place to do so is on your father's lap.

As soon as I could, I started reading the newspaper myself. This had an amusing aftermath when our eight-year-old daughter was following in that tradition years later at the time of the Profumo scandals. Fortunately I overheard her ask her sister, "What's a call girl?" and had 10 seconds notice before she asked me. I don't think newspapers were as scandal prone in the 1920s as they are today, although I suspect the politicians were equally so.

Thinking about early days has

reminded me that the 1920s was a different world. Coal oil lamps were our lights until I was six, and finally with moving to Brockville we had electricity.

In our home, by the time you were six you were supposed to start thinking about what you were going to be. Choices for a girl were very limited: secretarial work, nursing or teaching. My mother had been, as my sister was, a teacher. Even my favourite cousin, Geraldine, was a teacher. I was resolutely opposed to such a future. I resented my sister's bossiness, but just the same, thank goodness for her suggestion that maybe I could be a librarian. This became my dream, replacing all other possibilities.

The Brockville library was under the guidance of a Cambridge graduate, Paul Makepeace. As I finished grade 13 when I was 17, I spent an extra year taking extra subjects at school and working without pay in the library every afternoon. Knowing of my desire to be a librarian, Mr. Makepeace had me in his office one afternoon a week to explain some of the requirements of the work and to introduce me to Dewey classification.

Mr. Makepeace was an inveterate cigarette smoker. His favourite brand was Players, and his office was always in a complete fog of smoke. He loved books and more than that, he loved talking about them, to my great joy.

I considered that university in general was a means to achieve my goal to be a librarian and did not quickly develop a Queen's spirit. Today, my daughter and I laugh about the fact that other people say, "when we were at uni-

versity." For us, it is always "when we were at Queen's." They were good years.

The big moment was the night before starting library school in Toronto. I remember sitting and dreaming that I was finally reaching my goal. Library school and its practicality were a rude awakening.

Library school was a great "keep in shape" time. Lugging Mudge and Dewey up and down those steep stairs to the school and doing that unforgettable triangle: library school to public library, to university library and back to library school. It was good preparation for county and regional library work in later years.

Retirement may not be wonderful, but the greatest compensation for no longer living with books is the treasure trove which is available to me at the Fish Creek branch of the Calgary Public Library. What I lacked as a child is now a feast of always changing possibilities.

**Letters  
to  
the  
Editor  
Welcome!**



## Book Review

### BOOK GUY: A LIBRARIAN IN THE PEACE

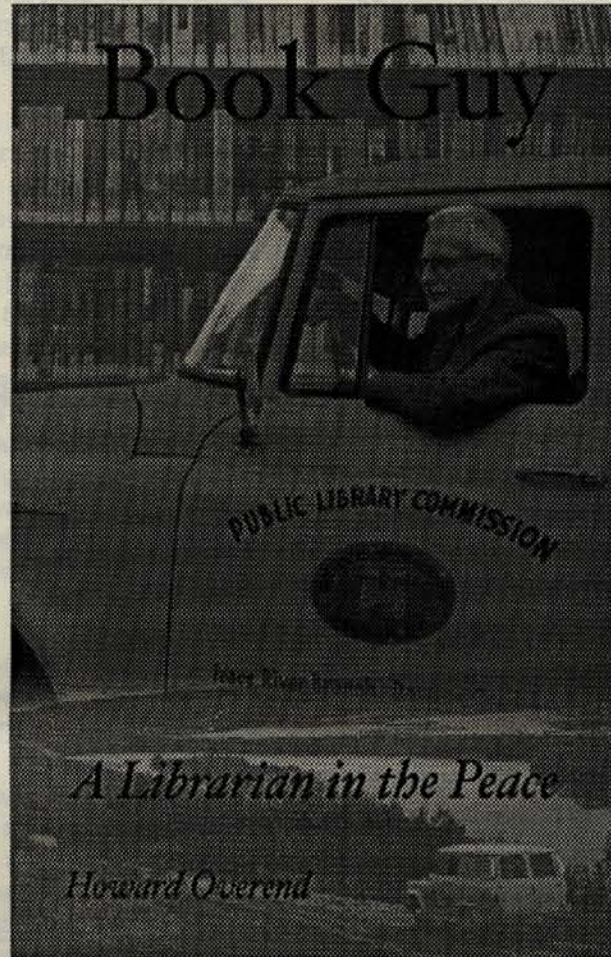
BY HOWARD OVEREND.  
VICTORIA, B.C.,  
HORSDAL & SCHUBART,  
2001.  
\$18.95

Retired British Columbia librarian Howard Overend has produced a remarkable account of his career in the Peace River area, in his new book, *The Book Guy, A Librarian in the Peace*.

A 1951 University of Toronto Library Science graduate, Overend began his career as a children's librarian in the Fraser Valley. Soon after came two subsequent posts, one in Southwestern Ontario's Middlesex County, the other back in Cranbrook, B.C. Then, in 1958, the author moved to Dawson Creek where he accepted a position with the Provincial Public Library Commission as head librarian at the Peace River Branch. There he remained for the next 14 years.

A significant portion of this job involved delivering books to rural school children scattered throughout the vast region of the Peace. This delivery circuit took three weeks of travel quarterly in the school year and covered a distance of about 2000 miles. Fifty schools received and exchanged 7000 children's books.

Whenever the author and his driver arrived at a school, they met great enthusiasm. On one occasion, a young student shouted to the others "The book guys are here!" The name stuck and later became the title of this book.



Early in the book, the author provides a captivating account of his first trip up the Alaska Highway starting at Dawson Creek and going as far north as Whitehorse. (One of his passengers was a National Film Board scriptwriter gathering material for a forthcoming film about the library service.) It is these periodical descriptive accounts of travel in this remote landscape that are such a delight to read; the colours depicted are especially vivid and memorable.

These joyful scenic adventures co-exist with accounts of many serious hazards. Steep winding passes, deep roadside ditches, thick dust clouds from oncoming traffic, frigid winter weather with slip-

pery, icy conditions prevail. The author and his colleagues sustain several car accidents with resulting injuries. One particularly perilous incident involved crossing a river made soft by a Chinook thaw in winter. Fortunately the van, loaded with books, made it safely to the other side!

The author describes his work and work environment with meticulous detail, including what appears to be a complete roster of all his colleagues. Several of his colleagues, such as his predecessor, receive special attention. Overend seems determined to extend his appreciation to colleagues whenever pos-

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### Book Guy: A Librarian In The Peace

sible. The author has also wisely included two maps! (See pages 50 and 51). Readers may wish to have bookmark handy, ready for frequent references to these pages! Readers may also wish to consult a Canadian Encyclopedia.

The book seems to end on a rather wistful note. For the author, the Peace was a special place at a special time. And for those of us who wish to develop a deeper awareness of this vast country of ours and to appreciate its varied development, this book should be very welcome.

—Marjorie Bender

## Books Of Interest...

### **Pandora's Handbag; adventures in the book world by Elizabeth Young. London, Serpent's Tail, 2001**

A collection of insightful book criticism, which is very often funny as well as being good. As Young says "Books have never hurt me. People have." If you like reading, read this.

### **Stet: an editor's life by Diane Athill. London, Granta Books, 2001**

A candid memoir about nearly five decades of publishing and editing celebrated writers such as Brian Moore, Mordicai Richler, Jean Rhys and V.S. Naipaul—a little gem.

### **Double Fold: Libraries and the Assault on Paper by Nicholson Baker. New York, Random House, 2001**

Baker is outraged that often preservation of newspapers, by microfilm, results in destruction of an invaluable archive. He tells a good story and he cares passionately about library materials.

THE EXLIBRIS NEWSLETTER  
NEEDS A NEW NAME

**BIG PRIZES**

FOR SUBMITTING A  
NEW NAME

- IT MUST BE SHORT AND  
SNAPPY

**&  
BILINGUAL**

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO WIN  
1. AN ELA TEE SHIRT.  
2. A COPY OF OUR SEN-  
SATIONAL BESTSELLER  
"THE MORTON YEARS"

DEADLINE — SEPTEMBER 30, 2002  
SEND ENTRIES TO — EX LIBRIS ASSOC.,  
FACULTY OF INFORMATION STUDIES  
U. OF T, TORONTO, ONT., M5S 3G6.

## Book Review Writers Wanted

Good writers wanted to write interesting book reviews. If you like to write and read, we are looking for YOU. Give us your 500 words about books written by Ex Libris members and/or books of interest to members (books about libraries and librarians, and related subjects such as publishing and information technology or retirement investing and travel).

**Inquiries: Sherrill Cheda 416-482-5242 or [scheda@vianet.ca](mailto:scheda@vianet.ca)**



# Our President's Report

By **Harry Campbell**

As we look back on the history of the ExLibris Association, we see a steady increase in cooperation between the Association and various partners on the Canadian library scene. Particularly important has been our projects with the Canadian Library Association. We can now recall some success in another cooperative venture with the CLA, this time the presentation of our joint W. Kaye Lamb Award to a Canadian library in 2002. We have also had continuing cooperation with the OLA, who permit us to exhibit at their Super Conference, and who print and distribute *ExLibris News*.

It is probably time to explore contacts with other provincial special library groups. We will be making a presentation to the Friends of Canadian Libraries (FOCAL) in Halifax in June. We hope to encourage new membership in the Atlantic provinces, as we were able to do in the Prairies at the CLA meeting in Winnipeg last fall.

Much could be done by our own members in different ways to help our Publicity Committee head Sherrill Cheda reach her goals. We know that more than 5000 librarians will retire in Canada in the next 10 years. We should be reaching them now and soliciting their input in our programs and

activities. Your help in securing new members in 2002 will be appreciated by our Membership Committee.

Now members will be encouraged to make use of our ELA website, hosted for the next two years by the Faculty of Information Studies at U of T. In 2004 we will assess the value of the site to decide its future. Earlier indications were that younger members would be interested in using it, along with the more than 80 of our current members who now use the Internet. Give our webmaster, Suzanne Sexty, your suggestions for the site when it's launched in May, 2002.

At their meeting in January, the Board of Directors approved the plan for an ELA online archives project. You can read more about it in this issue. As you can see, it will depend on securing the needed financial sponsorship. The Board will be meeting in the weeks ahead. Your suggestions for continuing sponsorship are needed, and should be sent to Nancy Williamson, our Vice President and incoming President.

The new members on the board for 2002 are Merlyn Beeckmans, Sherill Cheda, Peter Hajnal and Mary Williamson. Do not hesitate to contact them directly, or the other members of the board.

We need your input.

We hope to establish local recruiting get-togethers in 2002. If you can sponsor one in the fall in your area, please inform our Publicity and Membership Committees.

## EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE AND BOARD 2002

### *Executive*

Harry Campbell, President

Nancy Williamson, Vice-President/President-Elect

Jean Weihs, Recording & Correspondence Secretary

Diane Henderson, Treasurer

Katherine Packer,  
Membership Secretary

Ann Schabas, Past President  
(Acting)

### *Board*

John Arndt

Merlyn Beeckmans

Marjorie Bender

Al Bowron

Sherrill Cheda

Paula De Ronde

Peter Hajnal

Mary Williamson

Joan Winearls

***Ex Libris News Editor***

Lori Knowles

## BACK ISSUES OF EX LIBRIS NEWS

The Board of the Ex Libris Association has authorized the sale of back issues of its newsletter, *Ex Libris News*. Single issues are available at a cost of \$2.00 per copy; a complete set of back issues from Number 1 to 28 is available for \$24.00.

Write Ex Libris Association, c/o Dean's Office,  
Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto,  
Toronto, ON M5S 3G6



## Ex Libris Association

### Renewal Notice

Membership in Ex Libris Association is based on the calendar year. We value your membership and hope that you will renew again this year. Remember, any donations are tax deductible. In order to keep our records up-to-date, we ask that you fill in this form and return it as soon as possible. Make cheques payable to EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION.

Mail to:

**EX LIBRIS ASSOCIATION**  
c/o Dean's Office, Faculty of Information Studies,  
University of Toronto,  
140 St. George Street  
Toronto, ON M5S 3G6

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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**REGULAR MEMBERSHIP @ 15.00:**

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP @ \$200.00:**

**DONATION** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$** \_\_\_\_\_

*Members wishing to pay more than the regular membership may do so through a donation. Receipts for income tax purposes will be issued.*



# Ex-Libris Association Website Site Launch

## May 1, 2002

The Ex Libris Association is launching its NEW WEBSITE May 1, 2002.

It may be accessed at  
<http://www.exlibris.fis.utoronto.ca>

In her Report to the ExLibris Association Board, webmaster Suzanne Sexty said: "In format the site attempts to show ELA's connection with past, present, and future ... through a combination of background, font style, and navigational aids. The background (parchment style) and navigational aids on the HOME-PAGE (illuminated books) suggest a link to the past, while the font style (Arial, sans serif) suggests a forward or future-looking association."

Website pages will include: CONTACTS (Executive, Board, Committees); MEMBERSHIP (application form for membership); HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION; PROJECTS (which will include information about the Archives project and the W.K. Lamb Award for Service to Seniors); SHOPPING (various items for sale: books, ELA t-shirts, etc); LINKS (to selected web resources); EX LIBRIS NEWS.

The goals of the ELA website, based on a membership survey, are to promote the Association, to keep members informed of issues of concern, to supplement (but not replace) the existing services provided by the Association, to provide links to other web services that focus on library history including persons, institutions, and associations of importance to the understanding of libraries in Canada.

Members are invited to send their comments to:

[ELA-eb@fis.utoronto.ca](mailto:ELA-eb@fis.utoronto.ca)

concerning the ELA Website since it is important to keep it a useful source of information that reflects the goals of the Association.

*Continued from page 4*

### **As I Saw It: To Afganstan With Tough Love**

moustache. We talked about his need for more resources (in the three languages of the country) and the possibility of an exchange. I was served sweet tea and biscuits.

The next day we left for Kandahar—in the wrong direction. Once we realized this, we returned to the city and solicited the help of a student who spoke some English. Then we were on our way with the Heart and Fayez transport company. The bus was unheated, crowded and smoky. There was one other woman, heavily veiled, who stayed in the bus for the long trip, even when we all distributed ourselves over the desert landscape for a pee. After a delay to put chains on the wheels to better navigate the icy road, we reached Kandahar in the dark.

Our stay in Kandahar was forgettable. Our room was heated by a wood stove and lit by one dim bulb. The staff was friendly. We were awakened by a porter at 5:30 a.m., who lit the fire and served a breakfast of tea, fried eggs, and nan with butter and jam.

A motor rickshaw got us to a new busline, called Melagaro Transport. This vehicle, a gift of the Finnish government, was luxurious and clean, with heat and reclining seats. The destination sign said "Helsinki" and had never

been changed. Eight hours later we reached Herat, the closest city to the Iranian border. We both had chest infections and didn't appreciate our unheated hotel room or the lack of hot water.

The next morning, February 1, we took the short journey to the border after the hotel staff, the cab driver and even the bank tried to extract money above the agreed price. They were unsuccessful, but we left a Herat a bit disillusioned. However, we did have time to visit the very beautiful local mosque. Next, a walk across a vast no-man's land past guards carrying automatic weapons, we entered Iran for a different set of adventures.

Our eight days in Afghanistan were a bit of a struggle. We were unprepared for the cold and poverty, but the Afghans we met (only men, of course) were fine people, proud and tolerant of strangers. I often wonder what has happened to those we met and to the urbane librarian of Kabul Public Library under Soviet invasion, the Taliban regime, and American bombing.

## **Ex Libris Website**

May be accessed after  
May 1, 2002

[exlibris.fis.utoronto.ca](http://www.exlibris.fis.utoronto.ca)

Please send comments  
about the website to  
[ELA-web@fis.utoronto.ca](mailto:ELA-web@fis.utoronto.ca)



## NEWS FLASH!!!

### Ex Libris Is Proud To Announce The Winners Of The First W. KAYE LAMB AWARD FOR SERVICE TO SENIORS

Submissions for the award were received from the Calgary Public Library and The Western Counties Regional Library in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

The services described in the applications of both organizations were judged to be so excellent that the decision was made to recognize both as winners of the award for 2002.

The submissions were reviewed by Al Bowron and Merlyn Beeckmans for the Ex Libris Association and by Sylvia Crooks for the Canadian Library Association.

The awards will be formally presented at the Awards Banquet during CLA's Halifax Conference in June, 2002.

## Book Guy: A Librarian in the Peace

Howard Overend tells it how it was, ages ago, taking books to appreciative readers in the back of beyond. Neither dust, nor mud, nor snow, nor cold could stay the true-grit librarians of the Public Library Commission's Peace River Branch from their appointed rounds. "An unexpected joy to read," Alan Twigg, BC BookWorld. "Am really enjoying it," Jean Dirksen, FVRL. "... very interesting ... well written," Margaret Rule, Middlesex County Library.

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### *Out Of Such Pain, Such Peace*

*Tall, pure, serene the mountains stand;  
Erect, in the proud integrity, the serried peaks sweep on:  
That whoever watches could but guess  
The awful travail of their birth,  
The chaos and confusion, the tumult and upheaval,  
Which in the earth's deep bosom wrought  
Out of such pain, such peace.*

*Bewildered and oppressed, the war-scarred multitudes  
Inherit now the earth;  
Theirs now the chaos and confusion,  
Theirs now the tumult and upheaval—  
Who struggle on beneath the silent peaks:  
And whoever watches, can but trust  
That out of such travail they shall yet bring forth  
An order free, strong, just, serene—  
That earth's own children must beget themselves  
Out of this very pain, their peace.*

—John Marshall  
Jasper National Park, 1941



# ELA Archives Project: Where Do We go From Here?

**By Nancy Williamson**

Since the Committee's report to ELA Members in November, some intensive work has been done and the Archives Project has now reached a critical stage.

With expert advice, we now have a clear plan for the design of the database. Data has been received from some ELA members, and Committee members have searched intensively in CAIN (the Canadian Archival Information Network). A record format has been developed and a representative sample of data has been prepared. A tentative budget has been drawn up, and we have access to technical experts, who are ready to help us get the system up and running.

Now, quite simply, we need your help in determining how we can bring the project to fruition. To proceed further, two additional components are essential to the project - HUMAN SUPPORT AND MONEY. Can you help us?

First, Ex Libris is not a well known organization, even in the broad library and information studies community, and we need to establish credibility in the eyes of granting agencies. This means ensuring that we have some well established organizations/institutions behind us.

The Committee is in the process of contacting major library and information science organizations across the country (e.g. CLA, National Library Canada, National Archives, provincial library associations, information studies programmes, etc.). They will be asked to give their endorsement and support and to make suggestions as to ways and means of ensuring that the project can be sustained

on a continuing basis.

At this point, we have no idea as to how much relevant archival information already exists and this is an ongoing project. It will not end with the initial development of the system. It will need to be continuously maintained and updated.

The tentative budget for development is estimated at \$15,000, to be used for programming and other initial activities. The Committee is confident that it has found the best possible expertise at the best possible cost but Ex Libris is not a wealthy organization, so money must be sought from outside the association. We have been exploring potential

grant possibilities and there are some obvious ones (e.g. SSHRC), but there are not many that fit the Ex Libris profile.

We are gathering data for grant proposals, but we need your comments and suggestions. If you can help in any way, please contact: Nancy Williamson, Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto, 140 St. George St., Toronto, Ont. M5S 3G6; tel: 416 978-7079; fax: 416 971-1399; e-mail: william@fis.utoronto.ca.

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## In Memoriam Essays

### DR. OLGA BERNICE BISHOP

Dr. Olga B. Bishop, Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto, died in London, ON, on January 11, 2002, at the age of 90. Although confined to a nursing home, Olga's many friends received Christmas greetings from her only a short time before her death.

A native of Dover, NB, Olga earned her B.A. and M.A. in history from Mount Allison University, a Bachelor of Public Administration from Carleton University, and her A.M.L.S. and Ph.D. in Library Science from the University of Michigan, becoming the first Canadian woman to earn this latter degree. Her Master's thesis, "Publications of the Government of the Provinces of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, 1758-1952", and her Doctoral thesis, "Publications of the Government of the Province of Canada, 1841-1867" were published by the National Library of Canada and immediately became invaluable reference works for government publications' specialists.

In 1953, Olga joined the staff of the Library at the University of Western Ontario as a general librarian and in 1954 became Medical Librarian at Western. In 1965, she was appointed to the faculty of the University of Toronto School of Library Science as Associate Professor where she initially taught courses in library administration, bibliography and reference, and special libraries. Subsequently she also taught courses in Canadian Government Publications, Science Literature for the Specialist, Bio-Medical

Literature, and Health Sciences Librarianship.

Promoted to Professor in 1970, she took an active part in the activities of the Faculty of Library Science and chaired its important Curriculum Committee from 1970-1972, at a time when it was switching from a one-year B.L.S. to a two-year M.L.S. degree program. She retired from the Faculty of Library Science in 1977 with the rank of Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Bishop was best known for her distinguished achievements as a bibliographer. In 1976, the Queen's Printer for Ontario published her bibliography, *Publications of the Government of Ontario, 1867-1900*. She remained active in retirement and, in 1980, the University of Toronto Press published her two-volume *Bibliography of Ontario History, 1867-1976; Cultural, Economic, Political, Social*, as part of its Ontario Historical Studies Series.

In 1981, Pergamon Press published her work on "Canadian Official Publications". In 1984, her bibliography *Publications of the Province of Upper Canada and of Great Britain relating to Upper Canada, 1791-1840*, was published by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture. She also edited three local histories of Westminster Township near London, ON.

Active in the work of many professional associations, Dr. Bishop served as President of the Institute of Professional Librarians of Ontario, 1966-67; the Canadian Association of Library Schools, 1973-74; and the Bibliographical Society of Canada, 1976-77. She was also the recipient of a number

of awards and honours. In 1971, she received an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Mount Allison University; in 1981, she was awarded the Marie Tremaine Medal from the Bibliographical Society of Canada for outstanding service to Canadian bibliography and for distinguished publication in that field; and in 1985 she received the Alumni Recognition Award for International Leadership in the Library Profession from the University of Michigan.

An active member of her church in London, her friends will remember Olga fondly for her talents as a hostess, cook and expert seamstress.

—Brian Land  
Dean of the Faculty of Library Science, University of Toronto, 1964-1972.



# In Memoriam Essays

## RUTH ELLEN KONRAD



Ruth Ellen (Bonwick) Konrad was born in London, England, the middle of three daughters of missionaries working in Seoul, Korea. She had a happy childhood in Seoul, playing with Korean children in the lanes around their home. All her life she retained the ability to speak Korean as a child would.

In 1922 she was sent to live at Llewellyn Hall (a home-away-from-home for the children of missionaries) in Oshawa, Ontario, to attend high school. After graduation she returned to Korea for a year to teach school.

Ruth returned to Canada to attend the University of Toronto. She made many lifelong friends during her years in the Annesley Hall residence of Victoria College. She described herself as "not a serious student," but got her BA in 1931.

After the divorce from her husband of 12 years, she was determined to support herself, so she took her degree in Library Science at the University of Toronto, and in 1947 became one of the first

librarians in Canada to serve an entire county (Kent County in southwestern Ontario) by bookmobile.

During this time she met Zygmunt Karczmarzyk (later changed to Konrad), who had escaped Poland during the war. They were married in 1950 and had nearly 40 years of intense devotion to one another.

From 1953 until her retirement in 1971, Ruth was Chief Librarian in several locals in the western suburbs of Toronto. At least a dozen of her staff continued to correspond with her for the next 30 years. In Mississauga, a collection of Canadian history, which she started, is named after her.

Following her husband's death in 1988, she moved to St. John's, Newfoundland. She became a faithful member of the Newfoundland Historical Society, and contributed many articles to the *Encyclopedia of Newfoundland & Labrador*.

Most things she enjoyed became impossible for her after a stroke in the fall of 1988. She moved to Chancellor Park, where she was well cared for. She passed away in November, 2001. Hers was a long and wonderful life.

—*Michael Rochester*  
*Son of Ruth Ellen Konrad*

## JOHN TAYLOR PARKHILL

Born in St. John, NB, John Parkhill served as a lieutenant in the Canadian Army in WW2. He was educated at Queen's, McGill, Harvard, Simmons and Boston. He taught English at Harvard and Boston, as well as library science at the universities of Western and Dalhousie.

After working in the US for several years, Parkhill returned to Canada in 1961 as head of the Central Library of the Toronto Public Library, where he had the complex job of reorganizing the collection into subject departments.

John was appointed Director of the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board in 1968. He took on the tricky project of planning for the building of the new Metro Reference Library. He worked with the architect, Raymond Morijama, acquired staff and equipment and took care of many other preparatory details. The building opened on time in 1977. For 13 years John did a remarkable job of guiding and developing the early years of the largest public library in Canada.

In 1980, John had had enough and resigned his position for other challenges: writing, teaching and clearing up the affairs of the Niagara Regional Library. He took retirement in 1984.

I will remember John as a professional colleague, an impressive librarian and a personal friend.

John Parkhill died peacefully, surrounded by his family, on February 23, 2002.

—*Albert Bowron*



# Milestones, compiled by Elizabeth Ketchum

## Obituaries

**Margery W. Trenholme** died October 15, 2000 in her 87th year. Ms. Trenholme received her BLS in 1946 from McGill University. She was appointed librarian at the Law Library at Harvard University, but shortly after became librarian at the Commerce Library at McGill University. Ms. Trenholme organized and established the library at the McGill School for Graduate Nurses and Physiotherapists. In 1950, she became Chief Librarian at the Fraser-Hickson Institute

**Yvette Kagis** died June 16, 2001. Ms. Kagis earned her degree in library science while working at the Library in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Through the 1960's until she retired in 1976, Ms. Kagis worked at the University of Saskatchewan Library in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

**Violet Louise (Hulin) Coughlin**, 95, passed away on December 29, 2001. Dr. Coughlin was Emeritus Professor and former Director of the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies, McGill University. A native of Montreal, she received a BSc and High School Teaching Diploma in 1928; and a Bachelor of Library Science in 1938. Dr. Coughlin served as a librarian and lecturer at Royal Victoria College from 1941 becoming an Assistant Professor in 1957. In 1958, she received a Master's degree in Adult Education from Columbia University, and awarded a DLS in 1966 from the Faculty of Library Service at Columbia. Dr. Coughlin became director of the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies in 1970 a position she retained until 1972. She retired as Emeritus Professor in 1975 and served for many years as an Associated Instructor at the Faculty of Library Science, University of Toronto.

**Mary Elizabeth Silverthorn (Mrs. Harvey Gibbs)** died May 3, 2001. Mrs. Gibbs received a B.A. from the University of Alberta and B.S. and A.M. in Library Science from the University of Illinois. She was appointed Assistant Professor at the Library School University of Toronto and retired as a Full Professor in 1969.

**Nancy Louise Stadler (nee Wade)** passed away January 11, 2002. She graduated from Queen's University in 1969 with a B.A. and from the College of Education at the University of Toronto. Mrs. Stadler completed her Masters of Library Science at the University of Western Ontario in 1972. She began her career at the Pembroke Public Library, and then worked at the Ottawa Public Library to 1977. She represented Canada at the International Youth Library in Munich. For over 20 years, Mrs. Stadler served as Children's Librarian, Branch Head, and Operational Manager for the Toronto Public Library System.

**Albert Mate (1931-2001)** passed away December 21, 2001. Mr. Mate joined the library at the University of Windsor in 1958. In the early 1960's he became Head of Reference. In 1967 he was Assistant Librarian for Information Services. He served as University Librarian from 1980 until he left in January 1986 to become the Director of Libraries at Concordia University in Montreal. He remained in this position for several years until ill health forced him to retire. Mr. Mate was interested in music throughout his life. For several years, he played the viola in the Windsor Symphony Orchestra and in a local string quartet.

**Grace Buller** died March 16, 2002. Grace was Vice-President of Canadian Pensioners Concerned (Ont.) and Co-Chair of its Housing and Homelessness Committee, and former Co-Chair of Older Women's Network. She was Head Librarian at several branches of the Toronto Public Library and Coordinator of Young People's Services. Grace was the former Acting Director of the Ontario Provincial Library Service, and Manager, Ontario Public Library Service. In February 2002, the Ontario Library Association announced the establishment of the OLA Grace Buller Scholarship for Indigenous Peoples.

## Retirement

**Suzanne Sexty** retired recently from the Queen Elizabeth Library, Memorial University, St. John, Newfoundland. She started her library career at Memorial University in 1968 as head of the cataloguing department. In the 1970's, she became Head of the Business Library at the University of Colorado. In the 1980's, she returned to the Queen Elizabeth Library at Memorial as Government Documents Librarian and became also involved in interlibrary loan and library instruction programs. Active in the work of APLA, Suzanne received the APLA Merit Award because of her contributions to that organization.

**Marie F. Zielinska** ended her 20-year involvement last year in IFLA's Section of Library Services to Multicultural Populations as its co-founder, member of the Standing Committee, chair and Special Adviser. A farewell party was held in her honor at the Satellite Meeting of the Section in Buffalo in August 2001 and she had been bestowed, in recognition of her contribution, the title of Honorary member of the Section. She also received a gold medal from the Polish-Canadian Congress for 40 years of community work and a Merit Award in recognition of her long standing membership and contribution to the work and activities of the Association of Polish Engineers in Canada on the occasion of its 60th anniversary.

## Appointments

**Dr. Norman Horrocks**, Professor Emeritus, Dalhousie University, School of Library and Information Science received the American Library Association's John Ames Humphrey/OCLC/Forest Press Award for a significant contribution to international librarianship.

**Dr. Bertrum MacDonald**, Director of the Dalhousie University, School of Library and Information Science, was awarded a Dibner Library Resident Scholar Fellowship by the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC.

**Bernard Dumouchel**, Director General of CISTI, was presented with the 2001 Award for Distinguished Service to Research Librarianship by the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL).

**Larry Moore**, OLA Executive Director, received The CLA Presidents Award for "exemplary leadership extraordinary commitment and dedication, exquisite style and flair and unique sensitivity in serving the Canadian library community." (ACCESS, Winter 2002)

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