

ELAN Ex Libris Association Newsletter

Inside This Issue

The Genesis of Ex Libris By Janette White	1
Librarians Without Borders By Florence Hwang	3
Our President's Report By Frances Davidson-Arnott	4
ELA at Three Conferences	4
As I Saw It: Remembering Angus By Al Bowron	4
The W. Kaye Lamb Award By Peter Mutchler	5
Storytimes In Care Facilities Wins W. Kaye Lamb Award By Sylvia Crooks	5
Ontario County Library Co-operatives By Anne Latimer McCormick Nyland	6
Atlantic News By Sheila Laidlaw and Kathryn Howe	8
Happy Birthday to Ottawa Public Library! By Marie F. Zielinska	10
Report From Ottawa By Marie F. Zielinska	12
Teacher-Librarians' Association of Nova Scotia: A Brief History and Farewell By Mary Louise Mills	13
Book Reviews	14
Remembering Alan Pepper and Fred McIntosh By Margaret MacLean	15
News from British Columbia By Sylvia Crooks	16
Why I Became a Librarian By Nora Dryburgh	17
Letters from our Readers	18
Milestones Compiled by Merlyn Beeckmans	19

Ex Libris Association Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting

Monday, November 6, 2006
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 (registration starts at 9:00 a.m.)
North York Central Library
 5120 Yonge Street, Toronto
 (North York Centre subway stop)
 Cost: \$25 (includes lunch)

Morning Program Canadian Publishing in a Global Marketplace

Anna Porter, author and former publisher of Key Porter Books

Afternoon Program Trends and Challenges in Collection Building (What are libraries buying and why? The shrinking dollar and expanding choices)

Scott Millard, Manager Library Services, Halton Catholic District School Board
Charlotte Stewart, recently retired University Librarian (Acting), McMaster University
Susan Caron, Manager Collection Development, Toronto Public Library

Registration forms with more information will be mailed to members separately.

For further details, contact Beth McLean:
<emclean8598@rogers.com> 416-653-8598

The Genesis of Ex Libris

BY JANETTE WHITE

E. Stanley Beacock, known to everyone in the library world as Stan, was undoubtedly the father of the Ex Libris Association.

On his retirement in the mid-1980s as director of the London Public Library (he was still adjunct professor at the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS), University of Western Ontario), Stan conceived the idea of an organization that would focus on

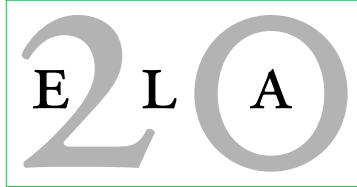
intellectual and social activities for retired members of the library community who were interested in keeping in touch with the profession and preserving its records.

The organization Stan conceived aimed to identify and ensure the collection of materials related to library history in Canada (documents, reports, correspondence, etc.) – materials that have traditionally neither been collected nor organized and, indeed, are often discarded. Also among its aims was an oral history project to preserve the reminis-

The Genesis of Ex Libris

continued from page 1

cences of librarians and the history of libraries in which they served. In fact, in developing this plan and persuading former colleagues and other retirees of both its importance and feasibility, Stan came up with the name by which it is known today: the Ex Libris Association.



Thus, the Ex Libris Association came into being – albeit, at first, as a project of the Ex Libris Organization.

The New Horizons Grant that had largely supported the Association's activities expired in August 1989.

Fortuitously, Stan's plan fit in well with criteria for the federal Department of Health and Welfare's New Horizons Program, which supported senior citizens' organizations. A board was hastily assembled of retirees, largely from public libraries, who had expressed an interest in the project. With Stan as president, this board met with a New Horizons Program representative on December 16, 1985. A proposal was written and a request for a budget of \$14,200 to cover 18 months was submitted on March 4, 1986.

It was not until the middle of August that year that the Department of Health and Welfare approved the grant and sent an initial allotment of \$10,000. When the need to hold a meeting to organize the future association (planned for November 6, in Toronto during the OLA Conference) loomed, members of the unofficial Board rallied quickly to make the necessary arrangements. They hastily assembled a mailing list, using the CLA and OLA directories, drafted a constitution and bylaws, and put together a program about aspects of library history and archives.

In the end, 41 people attended the first Annual General Meeting, and 40 charter members signed up (for a fee of \$5). The Ex Libris Association voted itself into existence; the draft constitution and bylaws were presented for consideration and adopted with amendments. Those present

elected two officers, Stan Beacock as president and Janette White as secretary-treasurer, and 10 Board members: Marjorie Allwood, Mary Barber, Olga Bishop, Eleanore Donnelly, Betty Hardie, John Marshall, June Munro, John Snell and James Talman.

In the first years, working out of a small office at SLIS, Stan undertook to publish and, in most cases, edit the two issues of the newsletter that appeared each year. He managed to persuade contributors to produce a good amount of content on local history, biography, etc. As well, he reprinted papers or summaries of papers given at Association meetings. The secretary-treasurer contributed news of members, awards, retirements and obituaries. The newsletter provided an important link with members across the country, few of whom could get to the Annual Meeting.

By the end of 1988, the Association had made a start on its historical projects. A number of individuals involved in county libraries between 1931 and 1966 had been identified, and some interviewed as part of the oral history project. In December 1987, Dr. Stephen Cummings undertook a survey of documentary holdings about Ontario county libraries.

Although Stan eventually managed to step down as president of ELA at the end of 1989, he continued to publish the newsletter for four more years.

In the Fall 1988 issue of the newsletter, Stan asked, "Is there a future for Ex Libris?" It is doubtful that he would ask this question in 2006.

Despite its inevitable fluctuations in membership, Ex Libris has gradually gained ground in all regions of the country, retains the loyalty of long-term, dedicated members and continues to attract energetic and enthusiastic recruits.

In 1987, ELA's membership totalled 100; by 2005, it had grown to 203 individual members. The Association has developed a productive committee structure and an excellent archive program. It publishes a lively newsletter, *ELAN*, twice a year and also keeps members in touch through a well designed website. ELA has managed to produce two important publications: *The Morton Years: The Canadian Library Association 1946-1971* by Elizabeth Hulse (1995) and *A History of Education of Library and Information Studies in Canada* edited by Brian Land, Diane Henderson and Jean Weihs to mark the 100th anniversary of library education in Canada and published as a special issue of *ELAN* in the summer of 2004.

Members who attend the Annual Conferences enjoy programs on both historical and contemporary themes. The opportunity to socialize and renew acquaintanceships remains an enjoyable and important element of these meetings.

I think Stan who, alas, left us in 2004, would be proud of what has been accomplished in twenty years. □

Note: An excellent three-part summary of ELA's activities, from its beginning to 1995, by Diane Henderson can be found in ELAN Nos. 33 (Spring 2003), 34 (Fall 2003) and 36 (Fall 2004). The ELA Newsletter No. 26 (Autumn 1999) contains an article entitled "How I Became a Librarian" by Stanley Beacock.

Librarians Without Borders

BY FLORENCE HWANG

Librarians Without Borders (LWB) was founded in February 2005 by Masters of Library and Information Science students at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario. Since then, interest has grown not only inside the academic circle, but also within the professional realm. In October 2005, LWB incorporated; it is currently working on getting charitable status.

“What’s interesting about Librarians Without Borders is that we’re a non-profit library organization that was started by students and is evolving,” said Catherine Baird. Daniella Liebrechts added that the support is encouraging.

Baird said that there is a great desire to expand LWB. The organization is working toward building a governance infrastructure and networks, collecting resources and recruiting volunteers. In Fall 2006, LWB will hold its first annual general meeting and work toward establishing a board of directors.

To help spread the word about LWB, volunteers showcased its work on a poster at the 62nd Annual Canadian Library Association Conference and Trade Show in Ottawa last June. LWB student volunteers were pleased to learn that there was already quite a buzz among the professional librarians about the organization and their poster session, thanks in part to outgoing CLA President Barbara Clubb. She mentioned LWB in her closing remarks following the conference’s keynote speakers, Stephen Lewis and Avi Lewis, last June. After their talk, LWB volunteers spoke to about 100 people.

“We had a fantastic response,” said Baird. “Everyone was extremely supportive and curious about what we were doing.” Liebrechts added, “Some people shared their personal experiences about working in third-world countries”.

Some of the CLA conference attendees wanted to know how they could get involved with LWB, while others shared their connection with student volunteers. “People thought we had come a long way in a short time,” said Becky Jansen.

LWB founder Melanie Sellar was a Master of Library and Information Science student at the University of Western Ontario when she met Jorge Chimbinda through an introductory linguistics course. Chimbinda shared his stories about students begging for resources whenever he returned to his homeland, Angola. They both recognized the need for medical textbooks written in Portuguese. Sellar saw the opportunity for her classmates to offer their skills for this project.

LWB’s mission is to “strive to improve access to information – regardless of language, geography or religion – by forming partnerships with community organizations in developing regions”. The organization’s first international ini-

tiative is *Biblioteca Tutangi*. This Portuguese and Umbundu phrase means “Let us study, let us learn”. Once the organization attains charitable status, it will continue raising funds for its Sponsor-a-Book project to build a Portuguese-language collection of medical and nursing resources, to be based in Huambo, Angola.

For more information about Librarians Without Borders, you can contact us via e-mail at info@lwb-online.org or visit our website at www.lwb-online.org. □



Get Involved: Join the Board of Directors of Librarians Without Borders!

Since our inception in February 2005, Librarians Without Borders (LWB) has made significant progress toward building a sustainable and successful organization. Our members now hail from such countries as Canada, Australia, Egypt, Germany, the U.S., Greece, Denmark, Angola, Botswana, Peru, Brazil, Congo, Vietnam, Pakistan, Bangladesh and India. In just over one year, an idea that took root in a conversation between two people now fuses together hundreds from diverse nationalities who are unified in their belief in the importance of libraries and librarians in building strong global communities.

Our founding members, all students of library and information science at the University of Western Ontario, are now graduating and, as we anticipated, have quickly evolved beyond their student origin. We are now at an exciting point in our development: we invite our supporters to join the LWB Board of Directors.

If you share LWB's values and would like to offer your passion or expertise to the organization, please visit our website (www.lwb-online.org) and contact the LWB Nominating Committee at exec@lwb-online.org for more information or an application package!

Please feel free to spread this message widely across your own networks, listservs, and blogs. Help LWB put information in the hands of the world!

Our President's Report



BY FRANCES
DAVIDSON-ARNOTT

As I write this in August, the Ex Libris Association is well into the second half of its 20th anniversary year. The first few months, as reported in the last *ELAN*, set the bar high! We moved into spring with exhibits at the CLA, BCLA and APLA conferences, all with the assistance of CLA, which provided us with booth space. Our member volunteers at these booths increased our profile and the booths gave ELA members a chance to get together. (See other articles in this issue for reports on the conference booths.) These activities were part of our plan to increase our presence outside of the Toronto area.

Several activities are in the works for the second half of this year. We will be at the Nova Scotia Library Association (NSLA) conference in early fall. Planning is going well by Beth McLean for ELA's Annual Conference, in Toronto in November. Following the success of our event at University of Toronto's Faculty of Information Studies last March, plans are underway to present another event in the

spring of 2007. We are also in the early stages of planning an event at OLA, partnering with the Friends of Canadian Libraries. The Board and Executive continue to consider other events for members and hope to bring something new forward.

Once again, ELA's committees have been active. The Promotion and Public Relations Committee is very busy, among other things supporting all of the conference activities. It is also investigating new public relations efforts, looking for different items to sell and distribute at events. The W. Kaye Lamb Award was presented at CLA (for details, see the article in this issue). The Biography Project Committee has begun its serious work, first devising a form for inputting information. The Website Committee has updated ELA's website and monitors the electronic list. The Newsletter Committee continues to do a terrific job. The Membership and Recruitment Committee has had a quieter time, with most of its members involved in other Ex Libris activities, but they hope to get going again before you read this!

As I said last year, as president, my greatest wish is to get many more members involved in Ex Libris Association activities. Please contact any of us on the Board if you are interested in doing something, large or small. We need help to do more and new things! Thanks to all who have been involved this year! □

Angus hated being the "Inspector". He preferred being director of public library services for Ontario. The above incident was typical of the informal approach he exhibited while travelling to many isolated rural communities in Ontario to encourage the underpaid librarians. He treated those in larger centres a trifle more casually.

Later, as head of the Technical Services Division at the Toronto Public Library, I sometimes joined Angus at the El Mocambo Tavern on Spadina Avenue for lunch. He always ordered two poached eggs on toast and a double rum. In my desire to match the director, I had the same and returned to my office the worse

ELA at Three Conferences

Ex Libris had booths in the exhibit areas of three conferences so far in 2006:

- BCLA in Burnaby April 20-22 (booth co-ordinated by Pat Appavoo)
- APLA in Fredericton, N.B., May 25-28 (booth co-ordinated by Norman Horrocks)
- CLA in Ottawa, June 15-16 (booth co-ordinated by Marie Zielinska)

BCLA Conference

BY PAT APPAVOO

I agreed to manage the Ex Libris booth at the British Columbia Library Association conference on April 21 and 22. I was assisted in this task by Betty Harris. Both of us met many colleagues from the past and enjoyed catching up on everyone's news.

A day before the conference, a container arrived filled with t-shirts in lovely colours, posters, recent back issues of *ELAN*, publications and bookmarks. Our display at the conference shared CLA's space.

We handed out many Ex Libris membership forms, sold a couple of tees and some of the publications and generally had a grand time visiting with folks.

In retrospect, I think our presence was useful in informing many soon-to-be retired librarians that there is still a life of organizing, committees, and articles to be written for *ELAN* once their office doors close for the last time. Be sure to call on Ex Libris to keep in touch with your fellow retirees. □

As I Saw It: Remembering Angus

BY AL BOWRON

I ran a fairly relaxed operation at the public library in Galt, Ontario. In 1956, the informal atmosphere was tested when Angus Mowat walked into the workroom one day and announced in mock seriousness: "I'm the Inspector and you", pointing at me, "come with me". I quickly complied, and off we went in his blue convertible to sit beside a country stream, drink rum, and sing sea shanties while he played his guitar.

continued on page 14

The W. Kaye Lamb Award

BY PETER MUTCHLER

In 1999, the Ex Libris Board had discussed the possibility of a joint CLA/Ex Libris award for public libraries that have outstanding programs for seniors. This was when CLA was preparing its Guidelines for Service for Older People. CLA enthusiastically endorsed the idea of a joint award. The award was established by Ex Libris, jointly with CLA, in 2001, in memory of W. Kaye Lamb, who was Canada's first national librarian and dominion archivist and who died in 1999 at the age of 95.

The Board then appointed a committee, headed by Al Bowron, to draft a proposal for presentation to both parties. After some discussion at cross-purposes between the two organizations, the award was given out at the 2002 CLA Conference in Halifax. The recipients that year were Calgary Public Library and Port Stanley (Ontario) Public Library. In 2004, the award went to Toronto Public Library and, this year, to Maple Ridge (B.C.) Public Library. This year as well, Ex Libris was able to include a monetary prize of up to \$500 that accompanied the plaque and citation.

At the beginning, the W. Kaye Lamb Award was intended for public libraries. But, after some discussion, eligibility for the award expanded to academic and special libraries. It also expanded from ongoing programs, services or procedures of benefit to seniors to design and organization of buildings or facilities that improve access and encourage use by seniors. This expansion of eligibility recognizes that, while a library may have the best program for older adults, it's worthless if they can't access it.

Also, academic libraries are finding that more of their clientele are older and require additional facilities to fully benefit from libraries. We hope that university and college libraries will review their practices and submit applications for this award. □

Storytimes In Care Facilities Wins W. Kaye Lamb Award

BY SYLVIA CROOKS

Maple Ridge Public Library, a branch of the Fraser Valley Regional Library in British Columbia, is the winner of the 2006 W. Kaye Lamb Award, jointly sponsored by Ex Libris Association and CLA. The winning library was selected by the awards committee for its "exemplary program" of storytimes for residents of seniors' care facilities. Five local facilities each receive six visits during the year from library staff members, who deliver a fun-filled, half-hour program that includes children's picture books, adult readings, poetry, songs, puppets, story props, sketches and hand-clapping rhymes.

In choosing Maple Ridge Public Library's program, the awards committee stressed how it goes beyond mainstream library service, and how it can be adopted by any size of library. The program was developed by library staff



Library staff member welcoming a care home resident to a storytime program.

in consultation with seniors' organizations and long-term care providers in the community.

Library Manager Caro O'Kennedy stresses that all library staff play an important role in delivering and supporting the program. Library staff began planning by identifying senior residents of care facilities in the community whose needs were not being fully met by traditional library programming, such as home-bound outreach deliveries.

Taking the library to seniors in their residences was seen as the best way the library could reach this population, which had limited library access or none at all.

The Storytime project got underway in 2003 and has received an enthusiastic reception from the care facilities, the community and the library staff. The series of programs is offered (without additional funding) by "utilizing the creativity of our staff and our excellent selection of material and resources through the Fraser Valley Regional Library", the largest public library system in B.C. with 24 branches and nearly 650,000 people in its service area.



Maple Ridge Public Library staff members presenting a program in a seniors' home.

In presenting the award at the CLA conference in Ottawa last June, CLA President Barbara Clubb spoke of how libraries play an important role for seniors, and equally, how seniors have much to offer our communities' libraries. "This program celebrates the power of story and literacy", she said, "which is fundamental to libraries". □

Ontario County Library Co-operatives

BY ANNE LATIMER MCCORMICK
NYLAND

Recently, I found a letter that Angus Mowat wrote to me on January 5, 1945 when I was appointed librarian of Pembroke Public Library (PPL). In this letter, he spoke of the legislation that he was drafting to make possible the formation of either county public libraries or county library co-operatives. While the letter was principally a welcome for me to PPL, he also stressed the need for library service in Renfrew County.

At library school, I had used the regional library system in England for my thesis and had found the concept interesting.

With my appointment in November 1950 as Essex County librarian, I was hooked for life on the belief that libraries going into the community could mean real service to the public.

I am a second-generation county librarian, as I succeeded Betty Hardie, who did the original work on the formation of Essex County Library Co-operative. Not only were county libraries Angus Mowat's special baby, but they were made possible through the unstinting support and dedication of such big-city librarians as Anne Hume and Richard Crouch. As I remember, the county library was first based in the large library, and the staff shared time for both city and county. By 1950, the coun-

ty library co-operative had been formed, with its own library board and a completely independent staff and headquarters.

In those early days, the county librarian may justifiably have been regarded as the last of the big-time persuaders. As this venture developed in the rural areas, the libraries within the county were free to join (persuading them of the benefits of joining was the first persuasive hurdle), but they were entirely independent, free to purchase their own book stock and staff their library. The county library provided additional books from which the local personnel might choose on a three-month basis or from which they could make special requests (early interlibrary loan). The county librarian acted as consultant to the library staff or board on request only – a very frustrating situation.

My greatest asset in gaining the trust and support of the county library board, made up almost entirely of farmers, were the regular visits that my father L. James Latimer (who had also been a farmer) paid to me, spending at least one day on bookmobile visits. He was sincerely interested in agricultural development within Essex County, and this sincerity came across to all whom he met. Because of this enthusiasm for farmers' way of life, I was accepted as not "just a big city person".

One year, when I was presenting the yearly budget, the chairman of my board assured me that, if the newly elected councillor (who was known for his aggressive behavior) gave me

any trouble, the warden would take care of the objection. In reality, the new member was the first on his feet to move adoption of the budget, saying how much the library service meant to his family. Years later, when I moved to Cornwall, Ontario, our local member of Parliament came in to greet me and to tell me that the former councillor, who was now a member of the Pearson cabinet, had spoken to him about me and sent his greetings.

The schools were enthusiastic supporters of the bookmobile service, as their budgets for books had been severely cut and the bookmobile provided both reference and leisure support for the students and teachers. One of the rewarding results was the quick help we invariably received whenever we ran into difficulties, such as being stuck in a snowdrift or mired in mud. I can still picture the scene on a cold, snowy day when we ran into a heavy drift just as we were rounding the curve to reach a school in Tilbury North. Immediately, we saw two students come out the front door, with one student coming to us and the other heading for a neighbouring farmhouse. "Our student" came to tell us that John had been sent to ask his father to bring the tractor and that he would soon be with us. All done very quickly, and we were able to carry on with the rest of our scheduled visits.

Watching the students on another day, I noticed a young boy, approximately eight years old, choosing from the books more usually read by older children. He had two books that I could imagine him liking, and two really thick books. I asked him about his preference; he said that his mother loved to read and he divided his allotment with her. His selection criterion was thickness, as thick books lasted her longer. By spreading the availability of books to the parents, it was easier to sell the county public library when the legislation was eventually in place.

Years later in Halifax, I remember talking with Alberta Letts, then provincial librarian of Nova Scotia, who had been the first Middlesex County (Ontario)



Essex County Library's original bookmobile and Anne Latimer



L. James Latimer's first trip to Essex County

Ontario County Library Co-operatives

continued from page 6

librarian. We asked ourselves why we had not refused to drive the vehicles provided as bookmobiles. In the late 40s and early 50s, if you were a county librarian you



Essex County students and teacher on Bookmobile Day

drove the bookmobile. As Alberta described the vehicle that she handled, it was a trailer of some kind towed behind an ordinary car. I had ineffectively complained to my board about the handling of our bookmobile, but to these men I was just a woman who found it difficult to drive a truck. One day, however, when the board treasurer took me to pick up the bookmobile from the garage, it was the garage owner who said that, while he had driven many trucks through his life, he had never been as concerned (in his words, "scared stiff") as he had been in handling the bookmobile. The vehicle was then checked, the board



Essex County Library's second bookmobile

told it that it should never have been on the road, and a new and safer truck purchased.

I have always been a car buff and was delighted when Angus Mowat arrived for his regular visits and was agreeable to being driven in his Ford convertible. This worked out well, until a dark rainy night when we were heading for a meeting in Tecumseh. One mile into the trip, Angus yelled for me to stop the car. Muttering, "I shall drive, you're driving like a bloody woman!", he took over.

One of the ways in which Angus Mowat brought the county librarians together was by underwriting twice-yearly meetings of county librarians and board members if they decided to attend. The Province paid the expenses and prepared the agenda. These meetings developed a closeness and trust between us that eased our communications and fostered a willingness to help each other. We had our own executive, and it was with great frustration that I declined the chairmanship in November of 1957, stating that we were still arguing for but had not achieved a real county public library. (Because of this frustration, I accepted the position of assistant director, Nova Scotia Provincial Library, where I moved in January 1958.)

Within Essex County, we held meetings with the staff of the member libraries. The purpose was to establish communications between the different branches and to discuss ways in which the county library could be more viable for them. The different branches hosted the meetings – it was a time for them to bring out their silver tea services and the best "dainties". A different world.

During the transition from Essex County Library Co-operative to the County Public Library, I was in Nova Scotia. My knowledge is therefore based on what I heard from Hilda Brooke through the intervening years. I know that Middlesex County Library, under Fran Whiteway, was the test county and that gradually the other counties fell in line and changed to the public library system.

In 1964, when I returned to Ontario and Cornwall Public Library, I received numerous letters from areas surrounding Cornwall asking how rural residents could secure library service. The Women's Institutes were usually in the forefront, looking for more services in their communities. With funding from Eastern Ontario Regional Library System, instigated by its director Claude Aubry, a pilot project was set up to gauge interest in county public library service for Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (SD&G) Counties. In 1972, the taste for such service was proven when the council passed a bylaw establishing the SD&G county library system, to work in conjunction with Cornwall Public Library.

What a difference county public library legislation made! In 1972, it was possible to control book collections, see that branches were properly staffed and ensure that staff were properly trained and paid.

Angus Mowat had the vision to see that small places needed good library service as much as large centres; he worked to accomplish that goal. Claude Aubry shared this vision and it was this dream that prompted the pilot project in SD&G counties. While Angus and Claude had different backgrounds, both Claude and I had grown up in areas where there were few books available, and we wanted other book-hungry children to have access to libraries. My great joy was when Leeds-Grenville County Library began and, finally, there was a library in the tiny village of Lyn.

As librarian of both the city and county, I soon felt the need of contact with other county librarians, contact that had previously been established through the county library institutes. Through the work of Hilda Brooke, who succeeded me in Essex County, and Barrie Robinson, who was then acting librarian of Frontenac County, we were able to interest the other county librarians and librarians of regional municipalities in founding County and Regional Municipal Libraries (CARML). We were

continued on page 9

Atlantic News

Ex Libris Goes to APLA

BY SHEILA LAIDLAW

For the first time, Ex Libris was represented both in the exhibit area and on the program itself at this year's annual conference of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, which was held from May 23 to 26 at the Delta Hotel in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

In the exhibit area, Ex Libris was part of a joint booth with the Canadian Library Association, to whom we owe thanks for allowing us to use their space. Staffing of our display was shared between Dr. Norman Horrocks, professor emeritus, School of Information Management, Dalhousie University; Sheila Laidlaw, retired director of libraries at the University of New Brunswick; and Kathryn Howe, a 2006 Dalhousie MLIS graduate.

The booth was on the last aisle – furthest from the entrance but closest to the liquid refreshments. As is usual at events like this, there were gaps in exhibit activity when people were in sessions but, thanks to the APLA tradition of having all refreshment breaks and lunches sponsored by exhibitors and set up in the exhibit area, there was a captive audience at these times!

Norman and Sheila modelled Ex Libris T-shirts of different colours to encourage sales and did a good business in adult sizes. The sales pitch of “the cheapest Thoreau MacDonald print you will ever buy” did help the adult sales!

The other appearance of Ex Libris at the conference occurred after the exhibits closed on Saturday afternoon. We were uncertain about whether anyone would consider coming to a session billed An Introduction to Ex Libris instead of going sightseeing or

preparing for the evening banquet! But, when we got to the meeting room, we were soon joined by five other APLA members keen to hear our message! They were from the four Atlantic provinces, coming from three universities (Cape Breton, Mount St. Vincent and St. Francis Xavier) and two public library systems (Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries and Saint John Regional Library).

Ian Wilson, regional librarian in Saint John, moderated the session and introduced the speakers. Sheila began by discussing the history, objectives and past activities of Ex Libris and was followed by Norman, who concentrated on our newest project – the development of a biographical directory of Canadian librarians, archivists, trustees and publishers under the leadership of Nancy Williamson.

The presentations were followed by some lively discussion. Talk focused on both the biographical directory and histories of Canadian libraries. One suggestion was that there should be a pulling together of all currently existing histories, both published and unpublished, with a view to updating where necessary and/or reprinting those whose original print run was limited to local contributors, etc.

We know of at least one new member who joined Ex Libris during the conference, because he paid up on the spot! There may be others, as there were many who expressed interest and took application forms.

All in all, it was a fun couple of days and, during the down times in the exhibits, we were able to catch up with all the other exhibitors, many of whom we had known from years ago. Thank you for the opportunity – this was definitely a repeatable experiment both here and in other provinces. Norman agrees with this, as he will be on the Nova Scotia Library Association program in Halifax in September.

More About the APLA Conference

BY KATHRYN HOWE

This May, I attended APLA as a volunteer for Ex Libris, selling t-shirts and memberships. As a new graduate of Dalhousie's School of Information Management, I found that the conference was a wonderful opportunity to chat with recent graduates and future co-workers from around Atlantic Canada. We did manage to sell quite a few t-shirts for Ex Libris, but I sold not a single one! I could have used a few sales tips from my fellow volunteers.

One of the best things about volunteering at the APLA conference was being able to both work on the booth and attend a few of the sessions. For me, the highlight of the conference was hearing the keynote speaker, Stephen Lewis, talk about his experience working with people with AIDS in Africa. He spoke passionately about the important role books play in the lives of African children living with the disease. When he asked children what they most wanted, they always replied, “to go to school”. Their number-one reason for going to school was to “have access to books”. Sometimes as librarians we devalue our contribution to society, but Mr. Lewis showed us how we can create positive changes in our world. By the time he was finished speaking, he had received two standing ovations.

Madeleine Lefebvre, of Saint Mary's University, was the speaker at another session I attended, Cultivating Your Staff to Ensure They Bloom. This went along with the conference theme, Growing a Library. Ms. Lefebvre offered many valuable insights from her years as a manager. Unsurprisingly, her top three tips for managers were communication, communication and more communication. Although she did not talk about her new book, *The Romance of Libraries*, we had the pleasure of selling copies of it at the CLA booth. Needless to say, it attracted quite a lot of attention.

One of the most popular sessions at the conference was one delivered by

continued on page 9

Atlantic News

continued from page 8

Maureen Sawa, from Hamilton Public Libraries, The 12 Habits of Highly Successful Librarians. She began the talk with several funny quotes, including one about librarians by Michael Moore that really tickled the audience: "You think they're just sitting there at the desk, all quiet, and everything. They're like plotting the revolution, man. I wouldn't mess with them." Each of Ms. Sawa's habits started with the letter A: advocacy, assessment, attitude, etc. All except the last one, snuck in as No. 13, which was to "communicate, communicate, communicate." There was a definite theme running through this conference!

The final session I attended was a bit of a pick-me-up from some of the more serious sessions of the conference. I had the pleasure of hearing author Mark Jarman, University of New Brunswick's writer-in-residence, read excerpts from his books, including *Ireland's Eye: Travels* and *Salvage King, Ya!*. He was funny, more than a little irreverent, and just what we needed after a hectic weekend. The reading was held in the hotel's pub, and even people who weren't attending the conference came over to listen and buy his books. It was the perfect wind-down to a successful conference.

Norman Horrocks Named Officer of the Order of Canada

Dr. Norman Horrocks, professor emeritus and adjunct professor, School of Information Management, Dalhousie University, has been appointed an officer of the Order of Canada. This award recognizes "a lifetime of achievement and merit of a high degree".



Dr. Horrocks began his library career in Manchester, England, from 1945 to 1953

interrupted by three years in the British Army's Intelligence Corps. He then worked in Cyprus, Western Australia and the U.S. before joining Dalhousie University in 1971. He became director of the School of Library and Information Studies (now the School of Information Management) and later was also dean of the Faculty of Management. He left in 1986 to become editorial vice-president of Scarecrow Press, a leading reference book publisher in Metuchen, New Jersey, until he returned to Dalhousie in 1995.

In 2004 Dr. Horrocks was awarded the International Kaula Gold Medal, having earlier become the only person to have been elected to honorary membership in three national library associations – the Canadian, British and American. Other awards he received were from the Association for Library and Information Science Education, the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, Beta Phi Mu (the international honour society for library and information studies), Dalhousie University School of Information Management Associated Alumni, the New Jersey Library Association, the Nova Scotia Library Association and both Pittsburgh and Rutgers Universities. In 2003 the Nova Scotia Library Association established the Norman Horrocks Award for Library Leadership.

Norman has his B.A. in constitutional history from the University of Western Australia, and his MLS and PhD from the University of Pittsburgh. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals of the U.K. and an associate of the Library Association of Australia. He continues to be active in the School of Information Management at Dalhousie and is an adviser and mentor to many, both in Canada and around the world.

Editors' note: The announcement above was adapted from one on the Dalhousie University Faculty of Management website, with permission. We would like to congratulate Dr. Horrocks on this much-deserved honour. Norman has been a tireless ambassador for Ex Libris and a columnist for ELAN for many years. □

Ontario County Library Co-operatives

continued from page 7

able to get together and discuss the problems particular to the county library system.

One of the great advantages in Nova Scotia was the fact that there been few local libraries, and local pride did not demand that the book collection never be touched. In Essex County, I had been asked by local staff to check and discard books. I found some amusing items in the collection, including a sex-instruction manual dated 1907. A board member turned up shortly after my work and demanded that no books be discarded, because they had been purchased with local funds. However, it was a far better situation when I started SD&G county library and had authority to clear the book stock and replace it with up-to-date material.

Financial support from the Ontario government favored county library co-operatives, but the government only paid on a percentage basis. For example, if, according to the legislation, the library's grant calculation was \$90,000, it would actually receive only \$75,000. The Ontario Library Association fought valiantly for full payment and, eventually, grants were paid in full.

Having worked in both the county library co-operative system and the county public library system, it was tremendous to find how much more was possible with county libraries under the new legislation. But Ontario's county libraries came out of our struggles and achievements in co-operative libraries. The greater good finally did prevail.

Editor's note: Some of ELAN's readers may have known the author as Anne Latimer or Anne McCormick (Pembroke), Anne McCormick (Essex County and Halifax), or Anne Nyland (Halifax). □

Happy Birthday to Ottawa Public Library!

A History of OPL's First 100 Years

BY MARIE F. ZIELINSKA

This year will remain particularly memorable in the history of OPL, as it celebrates its 100th anniversary. On April 30, 1906, the American steel multimillionaire, philanthropist and book lover Andrew Carnegie officially opened the first Ottawa Public Library building, one of the 2,509 libraries he built across the English-speaking world. It was a dream come true for the citizens of Ottawa. For the first time, they had free access to books providing both knowledge and entertainment.



Since the 1840s, the need for universal access to books had been only partially met by private libraries, Mechanics' Institute libraries offering access for a nominal fee and newspaper reading rooms in hotels. The only free library was the Library of Parliament, which was open only to members and employees of the government. The pro-libraries movement got a big boost in 1895 when the Ontario government allowed municipalities to levy taxpayers for funds to establish and maintain free, public libraries.

Unfortunately, Ottawa's city fathers rejected all such notions. But the old proverb says that, when the devil cannot achieve his own goal, he sends a woman. The fight for a public library was taken up by the Local Council of Women under the leadership of the Governor General's wife, Lady Aberdeen, and Mary Klotz, who, together with her husband Otto (later appointed Dominion astronomer in 1917), was greatly involved in local social and cultural matters. After a vigorous publicity campaign, a question on the ballot for the municipal election of January 1896 asked whether property owners should

be taxed to support a free public library. The answer from voters was, definitely, no.

The Local Council of Women did not take this situation as a defeat and continued the campaign for a free public library. They took advantage of a new provincial act allowing city councils to form library boards without the approval of taxpayers. This created a peculiar, quite amusing, situation in which Ottawa had, from Spring 1897, a library board but no library! This lasted till the winter of 1901, when it became known that Andrew Carnegie had set up a fund for libraries, particularly public ones.

Two letters were sent independently to the Carnegie Foundation, one by Otto Klotz and the other by Mayor W. D. Morris. In less than a month, the mayor received a reply from Carnegie, who offered \$100,000 for the building if the city would provide the land and dedicate \$7,500 yearly for maintenance. It was an excellent deal for the city. The city council could not reject Carnegie's offer without long debate and finally accepted it by the end of its meeting of April 15th. The project was set in motion, but it took another five years before the library opened its doors to the public.

The next step was to select a chief librarian. The library board chose Lawrence J. Burpee, who, while still a young man, was already a well-known historian, writer, joint editor of *Bibliography of Canadian Fiction* and a civil servant. It would have been difficult to find a better person to select and acquire a basic collection for the new library. In 1905, Burpee had at his disposal \$15,000 for books, newspapers and periodicals. It is interesting to note that he diverted \$3,500 from this sum for acquisition of library materials in languages other than English, such as French and German. This way, OPL had a multilingual collection from day one.

The next task was to appoint assistants. The original staff consisted of five peo-

ple, four English-speaking women and a French-Canadian man. Burpee answered to a library board comprising nine aldermen and three members of the general public. After six successful years as chief librarian, Burpee resigned, leaving the library a steadily growing centre of the city's intellectual life. He had also overseen the establishment of three small branches, which piggybacked on the Creighton Street, Hopewell and Rosemount Avenue schools.

After Burpee's departure, W. J. Sykes, former teacher and English master at Lisgar Collegiate, and member of the library board since its inception, was appointed as his successor. During Sykes' term (1912 to 1936), the library grew steadily. Sykes pushed for more branches, especially one in the west end of the city, in the Hintonbourg neighbourhood. The library board appealed once again to the Carnegie Corporation's generosity and received \$15,000 to build the Carnegie West Branch on Rosemount Avenue. When, in 1922, a house next to the Main Library went up for sale, Sykes was able to realize another of his goals: creating a separate children's library called the Boys and Girls House. A second branch of OPL opened its door in January 1934 on Rideau Street.

Unexpectedly, Sykes decided to retire in 1936 and the position was won by the provincial inspector of public libraries F. C. Jennings, who had the difficult task of steering the library through the lean war years while organizing special library services for soldiers in training for overseas duties. The 1940s brought another interesting development: the sudden rise in importance of documentary film as a source of knowledge and a teaching aid at all levels of education. OPL embraced this new medium with great success, renting films to its patrons.

Another milestone in the history of OPL was the opening of a new South Branch on Bank Street on January 21, 1951. One dream was still to be real-

continued on page 11

Happy Birthday to Ottawa Public Library!

continued from page 10

ized: a bookmobile that could serve areas far from a library branch. The bookmobile became a battleground between Chief Librarian Jennings and Charlotte Whitton, elected an Ottawa city controller. Whitton repeatedly turned down all requests for funds to purchase the bookmobile. Feeling totally defeated, Jennings resigned in 1953.

Before leaving, however, he had the satisfaction of seeing the arrival of a bookmobile at Manor Park School thanks to two lawyers, both members of the library board, who had used subterfuge when discussions had failed. Taking surplus money from other parts of the library budget, they bought the bookmobile in two installments: the truck in December 1952 and the trailer in January 1953.

The next chief librarian came from within library staff ranks. Claude Aubry, a writer, had begun work at OPL in 1945 and, at the time of Jennings' resignation, was his deputy. Under Aubry's stewardship of 26 years, OPL underwent particularly important changes in its growth and ways of operation. The bookmobile got a final go-ahead from the province and became an instant success. A decision was taken to convert the catalogue from the original Cutter classification adopted by Burpee to the more popular Dewey classification. This enormous undertaking took 23 years to complete. On the suggestion of Eric Spicer, who became Aubry's deputy chief, the Ottawa Room was opened to collect material connected with the city's history.

The 50s were a time of great expansion and rapid growth of the Ottawa population. As many newcomers from various countries settled in Ottawa, the library expanded its collection in heritage languages to serve as many groups as possible. A sizable amount of money was devoted each year to the acquisition of books in French, making OPL the largest bilingual collection on the conti-

nent. Several "firsts" in Canada, such as acquisition of juvenile paperbacks for circulation and opening branches in shopping malls (the Carlingwood, Hampton Park, St. Laurent and Elmvale Acres Branches) can also be attributed to OPL in this period.

But one serious matter weighed heavily on the chief librarian's shoulders. The demand for library services simply outgrew the downtown Carnegie building and a new, larger one became a must. As early as 1954, Angus Mowat (provincial inspector of public libraries) condemned the Carnegie building as completely inadequate, recommended that it and Boys and Girls House be torn down and that a new, much larger building be erected. Such a suggestion is easily made, but not so easily implemented. As a result of Mowat's recommendation, the Main Library was given a reprieve and Boys and Girls House was replaced by an extension of the Main Library in 1956. This alleviated the situation slightly, but postponed the necessity for a new building by just a few years.

In 1960, library staff started to present book reviews on a commercial radio show named Bookshelf. Its star was Dean Bonney, who ran the show for 18 years. Volunteers from the King's Daughters group started delivering books to shut-ins (later renamed "home readers"). Books were also delivered to seniors' residences. The demand for this service grew from year to year.

In Canada's centennial year, 1967, the city decided to demolish the Main Library and erect a new building, which opened on May 9th, 1974. Aubry retired at the age of 65 and was succeeded by another French-Canadian, Gilles Frappier, who promoted his language whenever he could, getting an additional allowance from the Province for the purchase of books in French. The biggest challenge Frappier encountered during his tenure as OPL chief librarian was the advent of the computer and its integration with the library's daily operations.

The 80s brought other interesting changes. The Main Branch opened on Sundays, eliminated age restrictions for library cards, and developed many new children's programs. The most innovative was, without doubt, Babes in the Library, aimed at babies from birth to 18 months. A lunchtime lecture series for adult readers was also introduced. The Province funded a writer-in-residence program to help young, aspiring writers acquire skills, although this service was later discontinued for financial reasons. The Group of Library Friends began in 1981, and they set up a second-hand bookstore in 1984. The Friends raised over a million dollars for the library to buy books and fund programs that could not be paid for by the regular library budget. OPL also received \$400,000 from Bill Gates to boost computer literacy and provide Internet access to children and seniors in all the branches.

After Gilles Frappier's retirement in 1995, Barbara Clubb, former director of library services in the Ontario government, was appointed OPL's first female CEO. The task before her was enormous. Serious budget cuts, keeping up with new technology, the welfare of recently unionized staff and pending amalgamation of the City of Ottawa with surrounding municipalities in 2000 were major challenges. Amalgamation necessitated streamlining the work of 33 units – some full-fledged urban libraries and some rural, some fully automated and some with no computers, some with large professional staffs and some staffed mainly by volunteers. Those who went through the amalgamation agree that the changeover was painless for library users: on January 1, 2001, the new Ottawa's citizens had a unified library system with Barbara Clubb as the city librarian.

This brief history of OPL does not include all the important events in the last few years. These have been presented in Report from Ottawa in each issue of *ELAN*. To round out the picture, however, it is necessary to mention

continued on page 12

Report From Ottawa

BY MARIE F. ZIELINSKA

For the Ottawa Public Library, 2006 is not only the year of centennial celebrations but also the year a dream has come true. The \$7.7 million South Central District Library (SCDL) opened its doors adjacent to the newly renovated Greenboro Community Centre. SCDL is the fruit of 12 years of constant effort, perseverance and enthusiasm on the part of the continuously growing population in South Ottawa, supported tirelessly by OPL Board Trustee and City Councillor for Gloucester-Southgate Diane Deans, the whole library board and OPL CEO Barbara Clubb.

SCDL is an attractive, modern library with 29,000 square feet capacity on two floors, over 60 computers for public use, and a collection of 100,000 items, with planned growth to 150,000 items within two years. There is also a second-hand bookstore run by the Friends of the Library. A great attraction is a small cafe operated by the store. It serves the store and library users, as well as passers-by from the community centre.

The SCDL began operation on June 7, following the relocation of library material and furniture from Blossom Park Branch nearby. A formal opening took place on June 20 in the presence of Mayor Bob Chiarelli, Councillor Diane Deans, the chair of the Greenboro Community Centre Association and invited guests. The master of ceremonies was Rick Chiarelli, chair of the OPL Board and a City of Ottawa councillor.

Another noteworthy event in Ottawa was the presence of Ex Libris at the trade show during the CLA annual conference in June. Thanks to the generosity of CLA and its president Barbara Clubb, Ex Libris was allotted a

complimentary table in a most favourable location close to the food court. Right after the official opening of the trade show, a sizeable group of people surrounded the Ex Libris table to assist in the official cake-cutting ceremony celebrating our 20th anniversary. Dr. Marianne Scott, former national librarian and president of CLA (and also an Ex Libris member), did the honours. Dr. Scott was introduced by Elizabeth Warrener, who, together with her husband John, represented the Ex Libris Board.

The table was a great success and provided excellent publicity for our group. Almost all the t-shirts and publications available were sold, we signed up two new members on the spot, and all the ELA brochures were distributed. Hopefully, this will result in more members joining Ex Libris. Sincere thanks to Dr. Scott for being our guest of honour, to Liz and John



Left to right: Elizabeth Warrener, Marie Zielinska, Marianne Scott. Photo credit: Doug Robinson.

Warrener for representing ELA, and to all who staffed the table during those two days – especially Peter Greig and Doug Robinson, to whom I am particularly grateful for their help in setting up and dismantling our table. Thanks also to Erik Spicer, former parliamentary librarian, for his advice in preparation for the trade show. We all had a lot of fun and enjoyed participating in the CLA Conference. □

Happy Birthday to Ottawa Public Library!

continued from page 11

OPL's efforts to replace the Main Library with a new hub of library services for the amalgamated city that will provide adequate services for the future.

It seems that lack of space has been a constant problem for OPL; every few years, there are outcries about it. The City says that money is not available, but, as history shows, librarians are practically unbeatable in fighting for a good cause. The idea of a new library building is certainly not dead. For several years, there have been discussions about relocating the Main Library, as much more space is needed than the lot the present building occupies. Should the new structure be a cultural center incorporating a theatre, art gallery, museum, etc. built under a public-private partnership? Two developers recently approached the library board, but neither wants to go public with its plans before the November 2006 municipal election.

Friends of the Library is mounting an advocacy campaign to get an idea about how the different candidates for city council feel about OPL and to convince opponents of a new library building that it is a must. For their part, Library administrators are working quietly on a formal building program. What the future will bring remains to be seen. The situation resembles a sleeping volcano – lava boils and boils until a sudden eruption sends things into motion. One can only wish that Ottawa librarians, Library Friends, and the City succeed in their efforts to create a new, beautiful, functional library headquarters similar to those in Vancouver, Winnipeg and Montreal. □

The history of the Ottawa Public Library is a most interesting one, and the first 95 years are presented in an excellent, most readable book by Phil Jenkins, The Library Book: An Overdue History of the Ottawa Public Library, 1906-2001, published by Ottawa Public Library in 2002.

Teacher-Librarians' Association of Nova Scotia: A Brief History and Farewell

BY MARY LOUISE MILLS

The Nova Scotia School Library Association (NSSLA) held its inaugural conference on May 5 and 6, 1972. The provincial school libraries co-ordinator at the time, Shirley Coulter, reported in the December 1972 *School Library Association Bulletin*, "It was the highlight of the year as well as the culmination of several years of intermittent discussion and two previous attempts at organizing such a group. The NSSLA is a special association of the N.S. Teachers Union, which not only gives its moral support but also financial support and a strong voice when needed....Over 80 interested persons attended this inaugural meeting".

Nova Scotia School Library Association remained our name, despite some thoughts in intervening years to reflect more media. In 1998, the members voted to change the name to Teacher-Librarians' Association of Nova Scotia (TLANS).

Through the years, annual conferences have been held almost every year. In the beginning, many areas of the province developed active associations of school librarians – Cape Breton, Halifax, Kings County, Pictou, and the South Shore Librarian Association (commonly referred to as the "Blueberry Special"). NSSLA/TLANS always sent delegates to the annual CLA meetings and had sporadic links with APLA, NSLA, and other associations.

The NSSLA (later TLANS) *Bulletin* was published at varying intervals each year, beginning in December 1972 and ending in June 2006, and includ-

ed several special issues. The work of various committees resulted in such publications as *Organizing the School Library* (1986), *Nova Scotia School Libraries: Standards and Practices* (1987), and *Library Design Committee: Final Report* (1992).

When Shirley Coulter retired in 1989, she donated money to a trust fund with which NSSLA/TLANS was to establish an award recognising excellence in some aspect of school librarianship or assisting attendance at a professional-development opportunity. Between 1995 and 2006, there were 10 recipients. In 2001, TLANS initiated a special administrator's award, which was presented only twice.



Mary Louise Mills presents Florence O'Neill with the 2006 (and final) Shirley Coulter Award at the TLANS Retirement Gala on May 26, 2006.

Here are some highlights of NSSLA/TLANS' nearly four decades of existence. During the 1970s, censorship and selection policies came to the fore. A certification committee was formed in the fall of 1975, and was successful in obtaining permanent certification for librarians without teaching degrees. Submissions were made to the Graham Report, and Margaret Ross and Bertha Currie represented school libraries on the Minister's Committee on Libraries in 1977.

During the 1980s and 1990s, there were more commissions and reports to respond to – the Walker Commission (formally called the Commission on Public Education Finance), the Minister's Task Force on

School Libraries (chaired by Shirley Coulter), the Doane Raymond Report on public education financing, and, in 1994, the Minister's Advisory Committee (chaired by Dr. Larry Amey).

During the current decade, the NSTU Provincial Executive formed an ad hoc committee to study the impact of the loss of teacher-librarian services in Nova Scotia. Dr. Ray Doiron's detailed and telling report, *Forging a Future For Nova Scotia's School Libraries* (2003), presented an accurate picture of the sorry state of school libraries in our province. In September of that year, Kathy Large, producer for CBC Radio's *Maritime Magazine*, did a 30-minute special called Nova Scotia's Disintegrating School Libraries.

In such a climate, it is not surprising that a motion to dissolve TLANS was reluctantly passed at the October 2005 AGM. President Florence O'Neill advised friends of the association (in her letter of January 2006) "with deep regret and sorrow" that, "We, the teacher-librarians of Nova Scotia, have all worked diligently to make a difference in our schools, and to maintain a presence within the NSTU; however, our numbers are low and declining each year".

The TLANS Executive carried on to complete a business plan for the organization and plan a gala retirement party in the spring of 2006 – a bittersweet end to NSSLA/TLANS. □

Postscript: This brief history of TLANS/NSSLA doesn't express the blood, sweat, and tears shed or the friendships made. A colleague suggested adding a personal recollection. I remember, as a new NSSLA member with a new MLS degree, attending my first CLA conference in Sackville, New Brunswick in 1973. Fellow classmate Elaine Rillie and I camped nearby, braving a torrential rainstorm and partaking in all events, business and social, as we celebrated our beginning careers.

List of presidents found on page 18

Book Reviews

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN AMERICAN LIBRARIANSHIP, 1967-1974

BY TONI SAMEK
MCFARLAND, 2001, \$44.62.

REVIEWED BY LISA SLONIOWSKI

A nation locked in a punishing, expensive, unjust war. Society rocked by a state of unrest and turbulent social change. Challenges made to intellectual freedom and civil liberties in the name of homeland security. Libraries operating as institutions of hegemonic control rather than as centres for democratic dialogue and debate. Library associations steeped in crisis over their ongoing relevance to the profession and to society. Sound familiar? With the exception (alas) of widespread movements for social change, all of the preceding statements could equally describe the present day as the late 60s and early 70s in the United States.

In *Intellectual Freedom and Social Responsibility in American Librarianship*, Dr. Toni Samek (School of Library and Information Studies, University of Alberta) has carefully detailed the history of the American Library Association during this contentious historical time period, particularly how the progressive, leftist elements of our profession struggled against the status quo of library land's most powerful professional association. In researching this book, she combed through a huge amount of primary-source material as well as secondary sources; in particular the ALA's Social Responsibility Roundtable papers, the Sanford Berman Papers (both housed at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign) and the Radical Research Center Papers at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. She also interviewed and corresponded with individuals who were active in library movements during this time period.

The basis of the power struggle was the progressive movement's attempts to counter the profession's historical timidity and reliance on an ideology of neutrality with a relatively new attention to



Credit: John Warrener

social responsibility. Librarians active in developing alternative-press bibliographies, the Congress for Change, Librarians for 321.8 (the Dewey number for participatory democracy), along with the members of the ALA's Gay and Lesbian Caucus, Black Caucus, and Social Responsibilities Roundtable are the primary characters in Samek's account. So are their opponents on the Establishment side, such as David K. Berninghausen, who led several active charges against these movements.

While reading this book, I was struck by how necessary it is for present-day librarians to more openly grapple with the questions raised by our more progressive predecessors. Discussions defining the ideological basis of librarianship rarely happen outside of graduate programs in library studies, and careerism rather than activism seems to have taken over our conference programs and committee meetings. Samek shows us that many of the progressive movements were eventually scaled down or defeated – but at the same time she gives a convincing account of the many overall, long-term gains made by groups of committed activists. This sort of optimism serves us well in a bleak time, and suggests that developing a better sense of our professional political history might give us the tools we need to conquer present-day challenges. □

As I Saw It

continued from page 4

for wear. I hope that my boss, Harry Campbell, didn't notice.

Angus was rather indifferent in his dealings with the various governments he worked under. His relationship with cabinet ministers was casual to non-existent. His real interest centered on the neglected libraries of northern Ontario. The story goes that he lugged a small library of books on his back into a small native community north of Lake Superior. Later, he was instrumental in establishing and funding the

Thunder Bay Regional Library. In his quiet way, he also managed to shepherd several amendments to the Ontario Public Libraries Act and regulations past the bureaucracy and to establish certification of library personnel.



Angus Mowat – Northport, Ontario, February 1971.

It is the anecdotes that better define his career as a civil servant and the affection in which he is held in the memory of his many friends. He had little

patience for library meetings or conferences. At one event – I believe it was the CLA conference in Ottawa – he irreverently strummed his guitar and sang Newfoundland songs just outside the entrance to the general meeting. The long, rambling letters he wrote to me in the 50s were far from official, even though on departmental letterhead. Many were decorated with irreverent, even obscene, cartoons and signed “Your artist friend” or “Uncle Anguish”, or with his aboriginal name, “Chee Cheman”.

In my 43 years in public libraries, I have encountered many memorable and a few forgettable characters. By far the most original and likeable was Angus Mowat. When son Farley and he landed in Halifax for the ninth annual conference of CLA after sailing Scotch Bonnet, a 34-foot ketch, from Oakville, Ontario I knew that we had a different kind of civil servant among us: a compassionate, democratic but concerned adventurer. A friend I won't forget.

His 1960 retirement party at the Park Plaza Hotel in Toronto was crowded with admirers. The party continued at my house into the small hours. Angus spent his last years in Northport, Ontario building another Scotch Bonnet. He died in Kingston, Ontario on September 21, 1977. □

Remembering Alan Pepper and Fred McIntosh

BY MARGARET MACLEAN

Alan George Pepper, resident of Thunder Bay, passed away on Tuesday May 10, 2005 at age 71. Alan was born June 21, 1933 in London, England and moved to Surrey, where he lived until the age of 18. In 1949 he started working at the Merton and Morden Public Library, where he married his wife Sheila (Griffiths) in 1955.

In 1963, Alan brought his family to Fort William, Ontario (now Thunder Bay). He had taken professional courses from the British Library Association before immigrating. He obtained a B.A. in psychology in 1972 and an Honours B.A. in sociology in 1979 from Lakehead University, Thunder Bay. Alan was CEO of the Northwestern Ontario Regional Library System (which later became Ontario Library Service-North). In 1981 he was awarded the W. J. Robertson Medallion for Public Librarian of the Year. He was Ontario Library Association president in 1984-1985. He retired in July 1998.

Alan was heavily involved in Rotary International, which he joined in 1967. He held many offices in the Fort William Rotary Club, becoming governor of District 5580 in 2001.

He is survived by wife Sheila, sons Adrian in Waterloo and Richard (in Thunder Bay), daughter Geraldine Glissonin in Georgia, U.S., a sister Margaret Pratt in Nottinghamshire, England; as well as grandchildren, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Fred Howard McIntosh, resident of Thunder Bay, passed away on June 11, 2005 at age 69. Fred was born May 19, 1936 in Flin Flon, Manitoba. He completed a B.A. at the University of Manitoba in 1960, a BLS at the University of Toronto in 1970, and a MLS at Dalhousie University in 1979.

Fred began his professional life as a teacher-librarian in Gilbert Plains, Manitoba. Thunder Bay became his home when he moved there to teach at Westgate Collegiate and Vocational Institute. From teaching high school, Fred went on to enjoy a long career at Lakehead University, where he held positions as associate professor in the School of Library Technology, acting dean of Professional Studies, chief librarian until 1996, and then librarian emeritus. He was active in the Lakehead University Faculty Association, the Thunder Bay Public Library Board (which he chaired) and the Ontario and Canadian Library Associations.

He is survived by his second wife Karin, daughter Anne Curson in Calgary, stepdaughter Kirsten Oinonen, stepsons Erik Oinonen in Victoria and Anders Oinonen in Waterloo, brother Jim McIntosh in Sardis, B.C.; as well as his sister-in-law, brothers-in-law, granddaughter, and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. □

As a reference librarian with Thunder Bay Public Library, Margaret MacLean worked closely with Alan when he was CEO of the Northwestern Ontario Regional Library System and later when she was a trustee and chair of the OLS-North Board. As a TBPL staff member, she worked with Fred when he was a TBPL Board member and also when he was acting dean at Lakehead University.

*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. □

News from British Columbia

BY SYLVIA CROOKS



Two of the B.C. library community's most prominent and active librarians received the highest award given by the B.C. Library Association, the Helen Gordon Stewart Award, at the Association's conference in April. **Brian Campbell** and **Jim Looney**, who both retired this spring, were recipients of this award, which recognizes those with outstanding careers in librarianship whose achievements bring honour to the entire profession. The award is made infrequently, and it is unusual to have two recipients in one year.

Brian Campbell, most recently director of Systems and Special Projects with the Vancouver Public Library, was with VPL for 26 years. An activist for equality of access to information, freedom to read, and library service to the disadvantaged, Mr. Campbell was the founding chair of the BCLA Information Policy Committee, founding president of the Vancouver Regional FreeNet Association, chair of the BCLA Intellectual Freedom Committee, and founding chair of the CLA Information Policy Committee. Mr. Campbell's influence has been felt at the local, provincial, national and international levels. He has been widely praised for his "vision and passionate advocacy".

Jim Looney served for 30 years with the B.C. Public Library Services Branch and was a force behind many of its initiatives. His position at retirement was manager of Technology and Information Services, and his contributions were especially felt in areas of automation and programming. He coordinated the annual children's Summer Reading Club, which involved all public libraries in the province and liaised with the Library Services Branch on a great array of programs and services. His contributions have been most notable in technology initiatives. He supported libraries across the province in getting Internet access. In cooperation with the B.C. Electronic Library Network, he arranged licensing of databases to provide afford-

able access for B.C. public libraries of all sizes. Mr. Looney also co-chaired Consortia Canada, whose goal is to provide affordable access to digital information for Canadian libraries and their clients.

Three libraries were winners of BCLA Merit Awards in 2006 for their programs and services. **Richmond Public Library** won the award for its Healthy Living Series, which is offered in Mandarin and Cantonese in partnership with Chinese community health support groups. This series of programs covers many aspects of physical and mental health and has proven very popular with Richmond's large population of Chinese-Canadians.

Two libraries shared a Merit Award in this category for their innovative Reading Link Challenge program. **Coquitlam Public Library** and **Fraser Valley Regional Library** both take part in this reading contest, in which children from Grades 4 and 5 are quizzed on the contents of six books they have all read. This year, students from seven schools in Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam and 50 schools in the Fraser Valley school district took part. Winners of the B.C. contest go on to compete against teams from Washington and Michigan states, and then to a Global Reading Challenge. The program, which began in 2002, furthers literacy while children have fun and enjoy reading.

A branch of the Fraser Valley Regional Library, **Maple Ridge Public Library**, was the 2006 winner of the Ex Libris/CLA W. Kaye Lamb Award for services to seniors. An article in this issue gives more details about the award.

Vancouver Public Library is the lead library for an innovative national program called Working Together, which is funded by Human Resources and Social Development Canada and involves four major public libraries: Vancouver, Regina, Toronto and Halifax. Vancouver Public Library administers the program for its partners. The objective of the program is to help libraries find ways in which they can develop relationships with, and work with, socially excluded individuals in their community who have not been library users, to identify barriers to library use and collaboratively develop services that will meet these potential users' needs.

In Vancouver, the program works out of the Mount Pleasant Branch, which serves an ethnically and economically diverse clientele. In Regina, the program works from the Albert Branch, which serves an area with a largely First Nations population. The program in Toronto works out of two branches in communities with large populations of new immigrants. The Halifax program focuses on residents of a low-income, geographically isolated, public housing project.

Using community development techniques and practices, in interacting with socially excluded people in these communities those involved with the project hope to transform the way libraries work and develop "best practices" for libraries to employ in overcoming barriers to use and in planning their services.

The B.C. Strategic Plan for Public Libraries (Libraries Without Walls) initiated by the Public Library Service Branch, is moving ahead with its **One Card program**, which will go into effect this fall. All of B.C.'s public libraries agreed to participate in the program, which allows library patrons to register their library card in their home community and use it to check out materials from any public library in B.C. They can also return materials to any public library in the province.

"This is a symbol of how libraries can cooperate to serve their customers better," says Maureen Wood, past director of the Public Library Services Branch, "and is one of the main planks of the strategic plan which stresses library cooperation". The Branch has distributed \$2 million among B.C. public libraries to help them cover expenses.

One Card programs already exist in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Here is recent news from the **School of Library, Archival and Information Studies** (SLAIS) at the University of British Columbia.

SLAIS Director **Dr. Edie Rasmussen** is president-elect of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, with headquarters in Maryland.

continued on page 17

Why I Became a Librarian

BY NORA DRYBURGH

The B.C. coast north of Powell River was more accessible 75 years ago than it is today; now you need a seaplane or a yacht. Union Steamships stopped every two weeks at wharves where people gathered to pick up orders from Woodward's Department Store, mail, newspapers, and to meet visitors.

My mother and I arrived in Okover Arm on a fall day in 1931. My grandfather loaded the rowboat and we set off for Portage Cove, where my grandmother waited on the beach with the wheelbarrow. I was nearly five, and we were beginning a new life.

A school reader and some children's books were waiting for me at home. Since there were no children within miles and the goats provided no conversation, I taught myself to read by the dreaded phonics method.

A year later, when my mother added correspondence courses for me to her incredible workload, I began to receive books from the Provincial Library. Life seemed perfect.

After the death of my grandparents, my mother and I joined my father, who had found work at Pioneer Mine. I attended school for the first time. It was a terrible disappointment, and there was no library.

In fact, libraries disappeared from my life until we moved to Victoria in 1940. The glorious Carnegie Library still stands at the corner of Yates and Blanchard. It was the most beautiful building I had ever seen. Built of stone, it had tiled floors, a splendid staircase, an iron balcony and grand lighting fixtures. The librarians seemed to me to have the perfect job, and they were so kind and interested, though insistent upon quiet. When I graduated from the University of British Columbia, where the library had been a centre of life, career choices for women were really pretty limited – teacher, nurse, social worker or librarian.

My choice was clear. I applied for work at the Victoria Public Library, passed Miss Clay's scrutiny and became a sub-professional.

Such library jobs do not exist today. We changed date-due stamps, attached them to yellow pencils to stamp books and readers' cards, read shelves, cut out newspaper articles for the vertical file, registered new readers, filed catalogue cards, wrote overdue notices in neat library hand and made the tea. Typewriters were reserved for catalogue cards, and for the head librarian's secretary; the telephone was in the office. We all got a raise when the janitor joined the union and the board decided it was wrong that he earned more than the head librarian.

So, after a year as a subprofessional and with a loan from the PEO Sisterhood, I set off for library school. UBC had not prepared me for the wonders of the University of Washington. UBC's meagre facilities were overstretched by returned World War II veterans. It was geographically isolated from the city, with very few permanent buildings, a limited number of faculties, and no cultural facilities other than the library. Many classes were held in army huts, which also provided student housing for veterans with families and even for some faculty members.

Unlike UBC, the University of Washington was part of Seattle, with permanent stone buildings far grander than the Carnegie libraries. Music, art, and theatre departments were very active, with a performance hall, an art gallery, and several theatres attached to the campus. I saw my first foreign film, made my first visit to an art gallery, heard a symphony orchestra and went to theatre productions. A speaker from China described its new road to the future. The Canwell Committee arrived to seek out communists on the campus and beyond, with another view of the future. My interest in the larger world resulted in a non-stellar performance at library school, but I muddled through to join that world with a BLS.

Nora (Lupton) Dryburgh worked at the Toronto Education Centre Library in the time of Leonard Frieser and beyond. □

News from British Columbia

continued from page 16

Two faculty members recently left SLAIS. **Dr. Richard Hopkins** retired in Spring 2006, after teaching principally in the areas of reference and management since 1983. **Dr. Martin Dowding** left SLAIS to assume a position at Sir Wilfrid Laurier University in the Department of Communication Studies. While at SLAIS, he taught in the areas of bibliographic control, reference, and information policy.

Dr. Francesca Marini joined the SLAIS faculty in July 2005 and is teaching courses in the Archival Studies program. Her research interests focus on the digital preservation, and creation, management and use of performing arts materials. She received her PhD in library and information studies from the University of California –Los Angeles and trained as a traditional archivist at the School of Archival Science, Paleography and Diplomatics of the Modena State Archives in Italy.

Inba Kehoe, librarian for business, public administration and economics at the University of Victoria, assumed the presidency of the B.C. Library Association in April of this year. A graduate of the Faculty of Information Studies at the University of Toronto (1993), she moved to Victoria in 1998 after doing contract work at Queen's University Library. She has been very active in conference planning for BCLA and was chair of the planning committee for the 2004 Workshop on Instruction and Library Use (WILU) in Victoria, the first WILU conference to be held in a western province.

Barry Holmes, most recently CEO of Thunder Bay Public Library, became CEO of Greater Victoria Public Library in September. He is immediate past chair of Chief Executives of the Large Public Libraries of Ontario.

continued on page 18

Letters from our Readers

I received the latest *ELAN* today and have an editorial suggestion. The bit on Vancouver Public Library's "Ready to Read" program may cost in credibility. The claim "The first of its kind in Canada..." just ain't so. London Public, for instance, has had a suite of reading encouragement/readiness programs for years and years, with the earliest target market being minus 6 months to zero (programs for expectant mothers in cooperation with prenatal clinics), followed by "Books for Babies", the usual storytime programs, "A Book for Every Child", and the oldest youth market being Grades 2-8 (through a highly successful mentoring program that matches high school students with elementary school students in library environments, and involving every known child service agency in the region). Many, many libraries have had programs with similar objectives. Maybe VPL has bundled the content of their program differently...?

My suggestion is to avoid using the phrase "first of its kind" in relation to any library service/program/initiative unless absolutely certain that it is true.
– Stephen Cummings

The Newsletter Committee members recognize this comment as a legitimate protest. Unfortunately, ELA does not have the resources to check every fact in ELAN. We do encourage all readers to point out corrections or differing viewpoints for publication in future issues.

The following response is from Judi Walker, head of Children's Services at Vancouver Public Library and coordinator of the Ready to Read project. Judi notes the unique aspects of that program.

Response to Stephen Cummings on the article about VPL's Ready to Read program

The following response is from Judi Walker, the Head of Children's Services at Vancouver Public Library and coordinator of the Ready to Read project, and notes the unique aspects of the program. The Vancouver Public Library's Ready to Read program does, indeed, provide

many of the services that have been offered by public libraries for many years: we do programs at group day-care centres, provide storytime programs in the community, visit prenatal clinics and take part in the province-wide Books for B.C. Babies program. As with your program at the London Public Library, we work very closely with the other agencies in the city which provide services for preschool children and their families.

However, the program also provides library service in new and innovative ways. These five experienced and enthusiastic children's librarians are using a community development model to make contact with the families who could benefit the most from the services of the public library but who do not use libraries at all. The librarians are working in our communities that have the highest number of preschool children, many of whom arrive at kindergarten with very poor preliteracy skills (defined by PLA as "what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write"; neighbourhoods were chosen based on the data collected by the Human Early Learning Partnership).

The librarians are working with these families to find out how we can make the library relevant to them. They are building respectful relationships with them to collaboratively plan programs that reflect the needs of these families rather than simply providing traditional storytimes (for example, doing the program in the family's first language, providing food, swapping songs and rhymes). They are finding the barriers that keep these families from using the library (for example, needing an address for a library card, charging fines, registering for programs) and working to ensure that these families can access our services (by changing the procedures, accompanying them to the library, providing drop-in programs). They are, above all, spending time listening to these families to find out what they need.

The Ready to Read librarians are meeting people where they work, live and play. They visit the food banks, hospitals, government-subsidized housing complexes, friendship centres, detention

centres and churches. They visit family childcare providers in their homes or they may arrange for two or three childcare providers to meet at a Neighbourhood House. They may have a group gather at a branch library, but more often they meet with them in the community.

Our hope is that, through this program, more of Vancouver's preschool children will have the skills they need to be "ready to read" when they arrive at kindergarten- and that the services of the Vancouver Public Library will be relevant and accessible to more of Vancouver's families. □

NSSLA/TLANS Presidents

1972-1974 David Rundle-Woolcock
1974-1976 Margaret Ross
1976-1978 Elaine Rillie
1978-1980 Mary Louise Mills
1980-1982 Faye Haley
1982-1984 Graham Pierce
1984-1985 Sheldon Mitchell
1985-1987 June Oxner
1987-1989 Neal Bowers
1989-1990 Jane Thornley
1990-1992 Alexis Little
1992-1993 Jan Barkhouse
1993-1995 Carol-Anne Belisle
1995-1996 Betsy Mitchell
1996-1998 Holly Gunn
1998-1999 Gene-Marie MacDonald
1999-2003 Joann McPherson
2003-2006 Florence O'Neill

News from British Columbia

continued from page 17

In September **Maureen Wood**, most recently director of the B.C. Public Library Services Branch in the Ministry of Education, became director of Coquitlam Public Library. She came to B.C. from Alberta, where she was director of the Alberta Public Library Electronic Network. Before that, she was provincial librarian for Saskatchewan and developed the northern regional library system for that province. □

Milestones

Compiled by Merlyn Beeckmans



Obituaries

Patricia (Pisnook) Boland died on January 7 in Toronto at the age of 63. She received an MLS degree from the University of Western Ontario in 1987. She was an athlete, coach and TV commentator as well as head librarian at St. Michael's College in Toronto.

H. Patricia (Johnston) Bolger died on April 28 in Renfrew, Ontario. She was a teacher-librarian at Renfrew Collegiate Institute.

Margaret A. (Rita) Carroll died on May 6 in Ottawa. She retired as a research officer at the Research Branch of the Library of Parliament.

Catherine Cashore died on April 29 at the age of 60. She held three degrees from the University of Toronto. She worked in the Medical Sciences Library of that university.

Margaret E. (Kilpatrick) Gibbins died on July 28 in Montreal at the age of 90. She was a McGill University graduate (Arts, 1937) and retired as chief librarian, Dupont Canada Limited.

Alice Willis Harrison died on March 22 in Halifax at the age of 77. She held a library science degree from the University of Illinois. She was head librarian of the Atlantic School of Theology from 1978 until her retirement in 1995.

Jane Frances (McDougall) Lanthier died on June 6 in Toronto at the age of 64. She held library positions in Sudbury and Toronto.

Donald James Nethery died on July 21 in Toronto. He was board archivist for the Toronto Board of Education.

Ruth Estella Vanderlip died on June 4 in Toronto. She held a library science degree from the University of Toronto and was a teacher-librarian with the Scarborough Board of Education.

Appointments

Stanislav Orlov became systems librarian at Mount St. Vincent University Library on July 31. He holds a Master of Information Studies degree from the University of Toronto and is a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer.

The Faculty of Information Studies (FIS), University of Toronto, appointed five new staff members:

Stephen Hockema completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Indiana University, where he obtained a joint PhD in computer science and cognitive science in 2004. While at

Indiana University, he taught programming and computer science at both graduate and levels. He previously completed a B.Sc. in computer and electrical engineering (1994) and a M.Sc. in Electrical Engineering (1998) at Purdue University.

Jens-Erik Mai was associate professor at the Information School of the University of Washington in Seattle (a pioneer in the "i-school" movement), where he is also co-director of the Center for Human-Information Interaction. Jens-Erik teaches indexing, classification, design of controlled vocabularies and theoretical foundations of information science. Jens-Erik holds a PhD in library and information science from the University of Texas at Austin, and a Master's and a Bachelor's degree from the Royal School of Library and Information Science in Denmark.

David Phillips was associate professor in the Department of Radio-Television-Film at the University of Texas at Austin. He holds a BFA (1978) from New York University and a Master's in software engineering from the School of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Pennsylvania, where he lectured in the Computer Science Department. David's PhD is from the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania (1998), where he wrote on digital cash and consumer payment systems.

Siobhan Stevenson, an associate of University of Toronto's Trinity College, taught at FIS during the 2005-2006 academic year on a term appointment, garnering tremendous allegiance from the FIS student body and invigorating the FIS research community with her dedication to interdisciplinary and collaborative research discussion. Siobhan obtained her PhD in library and information science at the University of Western Ontario in 2005, where she taught courses in many aspects of library and information studies.

Nadine Wathen completed a postdoctoral fellowship in women's health in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neuroscience at McMaster University. She is also adjunct professor in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies at the University of Western Ontario, where she obtained her PhD in 2004. From 1997 to 2003, she was co-ordinator of the Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care, following her previous training in experimental psychology (Master's degree from University of Western Ontario, 1992). She will lead FIS' participation in its AIF-funded collaboration with the Department of Health, Policy, Management and Evaluation to establish a program in health information practices at University of Toronto.

Milestones, continued

Awards

Diane Bedard, supervisor of resource centres and webmaster for the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board, was given OLA's Distinguished Service Award for being "a leader and mentor to librarians and teacher librarians" and "fostering the practical and imaginative use of technology in libraries".

Shauna Clinning, youth services librarian at Oakville (Ontario) Public Library, won the OPLA's Award for Leadership in Youth Services for being the "force behind Youth Online: a three-year initiative designed to deliver an outreach program to secondary school students in Oakville".

Patricia Elliott, Simcoe County District School Board, is the OSLA's Teacher-Librarian of the Year for her excellent job of mentoring Simcoe's teacher-librarians and acting as an advocate for school libraries.

Susan Hendricks, Lakeridge Health Corporation, received the OHLA's Lifetime Achievement Award for her dedicated service to health libraries in Ontario.

Todd Kyle, Mississauga Library System, won the OPLA's Children's Librarian of the Year award for his exuberant promotion of books and storytelling for children.

Jeff Moon, Queen's University, won the OCULA's Academic Librarian of the Year for his many contributions to several library associations and his dedicated service to research at Queen's.

The **Ontario Council of University Libraries Scholars Portal** won the OLA President's Award for Exceptional Achievement for creating "access to more locally-loaded and managed electronic resources than any other academic consortium in the world".

Art Rhyno won OLA's Distinguished Service Award for his applications of technology to libraries. He has been a champion of the Ontario Digital Project and Knowledge Ontario.

Stan Squires won OPLA's Lifetime Achievement Award for his extensive work in providing children's library services in Oakville and in helping the Ontario government set up an automated interlibrary loan system for all of Ontario's public libraries.

Paul Talaka, manager of Electronic Services at Hamilton Public Library, won the OLBA's W. J. Robertson Medallion for Public Librarian of the Year for his ability to engage creatively and co-operatively in managing constant changes in library technology.

Peggy Thomas, Library and Learning Resources, won OLA's President's Award for Exceptional Achievement for setting up a new curriculum from kindergarten to Grade 12 that encourages students to "Be the Change" in taking action personally, locally and globally to address problems such as poverty and AIDS.

News

The Ontario Library Association produced a report, *School Libraries & Student Achievement in Ontario: A Study by Queen's University and People for Education* in April 2006. The report states that good school library programs do improve students' grades. The authors recommend that the Ontario Ministry of Education fund and staff school libraries appropriately to promote good educational outcomes.

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.

Send cheque/money order with your request to

Ex Libris Association
Archivist
c/o Faculty of Information Studies
140 St. George St.
Toronto, ON M5S 3G6

Inquiries may be made by mail (above) or by email to
ExLibris@fis.utoronto.ca

ELAN

Number 40/Fall 2006
ISSN 1709-1179

Published twice a year by:

Ex Libris Association
Faculty of Information
Studies
University of Toronto
140 St. George Street
Toronto, ON M5S 3G6
<http://exlibris.fis.utoronto.ca>

Editor: Margaret Oldfield

Proofreader: Jean Weihs

Production: Ontario Library
Association

Newsletter Committee:

Merlyn Beekmans, Sherrill
Cheda, Diane Henderson, Liz
Warrener, Jean Weihs

Send contributions and suggestions to:

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

Deadline for next issue:

March 10, 2007

ELAN reserves the right to
edit contributions. We use
Canadian Press style and the
Canadian Oxford Dictionary.