

# APLA Bulletin

## The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

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September/October 1987

### Carin Somers - A tribute

by Aileen Lewis

In March 1987 Carin Somers retired from the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, where she had been Provincial Librarian since 1974. In normal circumstances, one could have expected Carin to continue in her post for a good many years to come; a very major factor in Carin's decision to retire was her continuing poor health, the result of a 1973 automobile accident.

Carin began her career not in the library field, but as Registrar and teacher of French at Saint Mary's University in Halifax. Following the custom of the day, when she became engaged to be married in 1958, her resignation was very much expected, by the university. Having duly resigned, Carin found a new position at the Halifax Memorial Library (now Halifax City Regional Library) - the university's loss, the library field's gain.

Colleagues who worked with Carin Somers in the Technical Services Department of the Halifax Memorial Library remember a person who was very much a perfectionist, who set high standards, who loved coffee, and who could run faster than anyone else on staff. And as a warm and generous person, who got on well with people.

Carin obviously took to library work, and in 1960 she returned to university, adding a library degree to her Master's Degree in modern languages. She continued work at the Halifax Memorial Library, and has often recounted how fortunate she felt to work under Chief Librarian Mollie Cameron, and to receive guidance from her.

In 1964 Carin became Assistant at the Halifax County Regional Library and Chief Librarian there in 1967. During the next two years, the Bedford Branch Library and the J.D. Shatford Memorial Library in Hubbards, were established. Shortly after this, I joined the staff and became Carin's assistant. The busy pattern continued, as in the early 1970's various municipalities in the South Shore of Nova Scotia contracted with the Halifax County library to receive public library service. As more municipalities joined, the service got larger and larger, and Carin's energy and abilities expanded with it.

Through these years I witnessed Carin's intuitive ability to work with municipal councils, with Boards and with staff. Her perfectionism was still there, the love of coffee had not dimmed, and I would be the first to say that



Carin Somers accepting a gift at the APLA annual conference in May. The gift was presented by Pearce Penney on behalf of the Provincial and Territorial Library Directors Council.

she was still a very fast runner. All the staff knew of Carin's great love of camping, climbing and bird watching. A very fit person, she would sometimes come to work on a Friday afternoon dressed in casual clothes and running shoes, ready for a weekend camping trip. If business required her at the County Administration Office, a floor above the library headquarters, Carin would take a run at the stairs and take them two or three at a time. We all admired!

I worked closely with Carin in those County years and I learned a great deal from her - sound management principles, working effectively with people and the importance of just plain common sense. Carin shared management experiences with her senior staff, perhaps her natural teaching abilities coming through. At any rate, we appreciated it and an uncommonly large number of her staff went on to senior administrative positions.

In 1973 Carin Somers was appointed Supervisor of Public Libraries for the Province of Nova Scotia, a position that was tailor-made for her abilities and wide regional library experience. Carin was particularly pleased that this new position would enable her to work closely with Alberta Letts, the Provincial Librarian.

The automobile accident that changed Carin's life took place during the first month on the job. Carin and

Alberta, returning from a business trip, were struck by another car during a sudden November storm. The accident took Alberta's life and left Carin immobilized in hospital. I and other friends watched the Somers grit and determination come to the fore, as Carin fought her way back through daily pain and several major operations. We admired Carin, and admired that she could ultimately, after understandable anger and frustration, come to terms with both the accident and the changes to her own health.

If there were a saying "You can't keep a good bird watcher down," it would apply to Carin. Mountain climbing and skiing are no longer possible but this person who loves the outdoors so very much, continues to be an avid bird watcher, an up and coming fisherman, and a keen outdoors photographer.

In 1974 Carin was appointed Provincial Librarian for Nova Scotia, a position she held until her early retirement. During her tenure the regional library system experienced continued growth, so that by 1981, 100% of the population of Nova Scotia was served by the public library system. The number of branch libraries increased from 49 in 1974 to 68 in 1987. A major milestone was the contracting, with UTLAS, for centralized cataloging support for the regions, resulting in the first microfiche catalog (COMCAT) in 1982. That same year, the National

Library of Canada signed a contract with the Provincial Library, extending access to DOBIS, providing on-line provincial and national interlibrary loan locations. Notably, this was the first time the National Library's service had been extended outside the federal government.

As Provincial Librarian, Carin was well-known for her willingness to share information and experience with colleagues - provincially, regionally and nationally. In spite of a busy schedule she always made time to help out with advice to the many requests that came in, and in a typical warm and approachable manner.

In addition, Carin served on local, regional and national library associations, including being Second Vice-President of the Canadian Library Association and Past-President of APLA. Carin has been a guest lecturer at the Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies, has contributed to library literature and is one of Canada's foremost outspoken supporters of Library Boards and their trustees.

Carin Somers' friends and colleagues will miss her daily presence in the library world, but we must also applaud her decision to step down from a highly pressured job when it became increasingly evident what toll it was taking on her health.

There comes a time when all of us have to decide what we want to do with our lives. No one who attended a Halifax Library Association dinner in honour of Carin last May, could doubt that Carin is happy and content with her decision to retire as Provincial Librarian. We all wish her many years of happiness.

#### CORRECTION

Beverly Lynch is Past-President of APA, not APLA as reported in the previous issue. Apologies from the printer are sent to those who fill out the two-sided membership form which was incorrectly printed. The two-sided form was printed so that the reverse held advertisements rather than the verso to the membership form.



# APLA BULLETIN

The **APLA Bulletin** is the official organ of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association. The Association seeks to promote library service in the provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, to serve the professional interests of librarians in the region, to serve as a focal point for all those in library services in the Atlantic Provinces, and to cooperate with library associations and other organizations on matters of mutual concern.

Annual membership in the Association costs \$15.00 and includes a subscription to the **APLA Bulletin**. Single copies of the **Bulletin** are available for \$3.00.

Submissions for the **Bulletin** (typed double-spaced), news and correspondence should be sent to the Editor. The deadline for submissions is the

first of the month preceding the month of issue, i.e., August 1, October 1, December 1, February 1, April 1 and June 1. All correspondence regarding advertising should be addressed directly to the Advertising Editor, who can provide details of display and classified advertising rates.

The **Bulletin** is indexed in **Library and Information Science Abstracts** and **Canadian Periodical Index**. Back volumes are available from University Microfilms, Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S.A. 48106.

Andrea John is the Editor of the **Bulletin**, Susan McLean is the Managing Editor, and Laura Jantek is the Advertising Editor.

## THE APLA EXECUTIVE 1987 - 88

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CISTI  
Marine Dynamics Branch  
St. John's, Newfoundland

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All correspondence to the Association should be addressed to the appropriate officer, c/o School of Library Service, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 4H8.

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## BULLETIN MANAGEMENT BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

With the appointment of the new Bulletin team; Judy Reade, Editor; Susan McLean, Managing Editor; and Judy Dunn, Advertising Editor, the APLA Bulletin moved to Halifax for its 50th volume. As with most relocations, the Bulletin experienced some initial problems adjusting to a new printer which resulted in delays with the distribution of some issues. Despite these problems, the team should be commended for their substantial issues.

The Bulletin generated \$4077.28 in revenue in 1986-87 and \$8046.34 was spent on it. The cost of \$3969.06 to the Association was more than the requirement of 50% of membership fees referred to in the APLA Constitution, By-laws, Article I, Section II, (e). The costs of producing the Bulletin have increased on average from \$700 per issue for vol. 49 to \$1000 per issue for vol. 50.

Acquiring tax-exempt status was investigated. But according to Nova Scotian law, only provincial, municipal and native agencies or organizations are exempted from paying sales tax; religious and charitable organizations may receive rebates. Non-profit organizations are not eligible. In general, only capital expenditures may be exempted. As the Bulletin's expenditures are operational, the issue was not pursued.

An application for second class postage was submitted to Canada Post. If our application is accepted, the postage costs will be reduced by 90%.

Judy Read and Judy Dunn resigned their positions with the end of Vol. 50. The Board has recommended that Andrea John be appointed Editor and Laura Jantek be appointed Advertising Editor.

Respectfully submitted  
Elaine Toms  
Treasurer

### The Canadian School Library Association

urges you to honour an outstanding person with the

### Margaret B. Scott Award of Merit

The Canadian School Library Association is pleased to offer the Margaret B. Scott Award of Merit annually.

The award is given to honour an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to Canadian school librarianship at the national level.

Request Nomination Forms and further information from:

Susan Traill, Past-President  
Canadian School Library Association  
62 Elm Park Drive  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R2M 0V9

Nomination deadline for the 1988 award is January 31, 1988.

### Call for Nominations for 1988-89 CSLA Executive Council

The following positions are to be filled:

Vice-President (President-elect: three-year term)  
Councillor (three-year term)  
Secretary-Treasurer (one-year term)

Submit names, along with addresses, written consent and biographical data by January 31, 1988, to:

Susan Traill, Past-President  
Canadian School Library Association  
62 Elm Park Drive  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R2M 0V9

Candidates must be or become personal members of CSLA. Nominations must be accompanied by written consent of the nominee. Biographical data of not more than 500 words (for publication with ballots) must also be submitted.

## — APLA PAST-PRESIDENT REPORT - 28 May 1987 —

### I. MERIT AWARD

As a result of the call for nominations for the APLA Merit Award, three nominations were received; one of these was not received in time to be considered for this year's award. Of those nominated, supporting documentation was received and distributed to members of the Executive, and votes were cast for the 1987 award. The recipient of the 1987 APLA Merit Award will be Katherine LeButt, and the award will be presented at the Merit Award Banquet.

### II. NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

As previously mentioned, there was a problem in getting the call for nominations into the hands of members by the appropriate deadline, which meant that the Nominating Committee had to do considerable work in getting a full slate of candidates. For their efforts, I thank the other members of the Nominating Committee, Ken Moore and Susanne Manovill. Of the 350 ballots mailed out, 219 were received by the deadline, a response rate of 63%. The Executive may wish to consider the advisability of sending the call for nominations out in a separate mailing, rather than with the January issue of the APLA Bulletin as had been done in the past.

### III. REPORT FROM CLA COUNCIL:

There were several issues which arose at March CLA Council Meetings of Interest to APLA:

#### i) COPYRIGHT:

CLA will be mounting a lobbying effort regarding fair dealing in the new copyright legislation. CLA is concerned with the form of the legislation as well, as "piecemeal" amendments to the 1927 Act, rather than a new, revamped act. The results of the national study on copyright will form part of the documentation accompanying CLA lobbying efforts. APLA has been asked to support CLA's efforts in this matter.

#### ii) CLA EXHIBITS:

As a result of concerns expressed regarding the handling of exhibits at CLA conferences, CLA will take over the management of exhibits from CLEA, beginning with the Halifax Conference in 1988.

#### iii) POSTAL INCREASES:

CLA will be lobbying in the arena of postal rates as well, focussing on the detrimental effect such a restructuring would have had on libraries and the book publishing industry.

#### iv) NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LIBRARIES:

CLA Council has endorsed funding efforts for a "White House" type of conference, to take place in 1990. CLA will be working with provincial governments and library associations on this matter.

#### v) NSLA MEMBERSHIP ON COUNCIL:

K. Jensen indicated that a letter had been received from NSLA requesting membership on CLA Council. It was agreed that APLA would communicate with NSLA regarding the background of the application for Council.

#### vi) CLAPCO:

The discussion of the CLAPCO report occupied Council's attention for a good portion of the meeting. The report, because of its potential impact on provincial associations, will be distributed at the APLA Conference, and through notice in the APLA Bulletin. Several courses of action for the recommendations were agreed upon with some, such as the recommendation that an 800 telephone number, slated for immediate implementation. The recommendations dealing with the role of CLA, targeted as of primary importance before work can proceed on provincial concerns, were directed to CLA Headquarters for feasibility and/or background documents. The bulk of the recommendations directly effecting provincial associations were dealt with by referring them to the Executive Director, who will recommend an appropriate consultative process for considering the recommendations.

The CLAPCO recommendations, if adopted in their entirety, will result in a total restructuring of the nature of both CLA and of the provincial associations. It was the opinion of the Provincial Presidents that such a restructuring cannot take place without firstly, a definition of the roles seen for the associations involved (and particularly of the role of CLA regarding lobbying) and secondly, detailed information of the financial implications of such a restructuring.

It would seem appropriate that the APLA consider means of discussing the CLAPCO report and its potential impact on the Atlantic Provinces Library Association with APLA members in anticipation of the initiation of the CLA "consultative process."

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Hamilton,  
Past-President, APLA



# From the President's Desk

by Joy Tillotson

If any of you are looking for an opportunity to continue your education in issues in Canadian Librarianship, let me recommend that you become president of APLA. I have learned more about copyright, intellectual freedom, postal subsidies and the Canadian Library scene in the past few months than I did in the previous few years.

Copyright and postal subsidies are issues about which I was asked to comment (for Feliciter and CLA's discussions with the government, respectively). I had to clarify my thinking about intellectual freedom so I could write a sensible letter to New Brunswick's minister of justice. He had asked us to support a common standard of cataloguing which could be used to

distinguish "revisionist works" from "legitimate history." After much discussion in the executive, I was delegated to write and explain our reaction to this suggestion. We felt that such cataloguing would be contrary to our position on intellectual freedom and that library users ought to be free to make such distinctions using their own judgement. I attended CLA council meetings in June as APLA's representative. Two of the many topics discussed were of particular interest for APLA members. The council approved a plan for dealing with the CLA Presidential Commission on Organization (CLAPCO) report. A one-person task force will be appointed to explore the concept of a federation of Canadian Library associations and

other CLAPCO recommendations dealing with relations between CLA and other associations. The task force will hold meetings around the country, in conjunction with other associations where possible, and at the CLA conference next year. A final report will go to council in March 1989, followed by a report to the AGM in June 1989. We should prepare to take advantage of the meetings in Halifax to express our opinions on this subject. Background information will be available from the CLA task force and our own committee which is working on a response to the CLAPCO report.

The other plans that began to take shape at CLA were for a National Conference on

Libraries and Information Services. A contribution from CLA of \$1500 was approved to go towards a sum of \$10,000 which will be used to begin work on the conference. The first step is to hire a consultant to prepare a conference plan for approval by CLA, the National Library, CISTI and other interested groups. Once a plan is approved, a task force would be formed to "secure funding commitments," staff would be hired and the conference would be held in 1990. Lorraine Williams, the past president of the Canadian Library Trustees Association, has taken on the task of raising the first \$10,000. There should be more news about this at the fall council meeting in November.

# The Automated Reference Desk

"Please Press Return" by Brian McNally,  
Ralph Pickard Bell Library, Mount Allison University

Computers have invaded every facet of human existence; video games entertain teenagers for hours, banking is done behind a sliding glass window, and tots in kindergarten program with logo. Can the day be far off when the reference desk is replaced by an all-knowing intelligent computer - "please press return for the call number you require." This issue and others were addressed by Dave Binkley at a seminar held at Mount Allison University on April 24, 1987.

Mr. Binkley, a librarian at the University of Waterloo, demonstrated very graphically by a series of colour slides the problems and successes he and his colleagues have had designing a computer programme which will answer reference questions and give

bibliographic instruction. Although the project is not yet completed everyone attending the seminar was impressed.

The seminar was barely underway before Dave was receiving questions about design features, criticism for design faults and suggestions for improvements as well as praise for the fine work being done at Waterloo.

Some features of the programme are:

1) gives locations for call numbers - floor and stack by using floor plans and an arrow.

2) shows how to fill out an interlibrary form; may eventually generate form automatically.

3) analyses citations determining if the citation is a book, proceedings, journal article, etc.

4) demonstrates how to use a serials holdings list on microfiche and how to use microfiche reader.

In the afternoon Dave gave a hands-on demonstration of the system using a DEC VT240 supplied for the seminar by Digital Equipment of Canada. DEC is also funding the research at Waterloo.

After the seminar was over the general consensus was that although the system has potential as a tool for individual or small group bibliographic instruction, it would not and could not replace the human to human, reference librarian-client interface.

Four things were learned from this seminar:

a) librarians can be innovative and creative researchers - the research is being

conducted solely by Librarians.

b) Computer illiteracy is an unacceptable excuse for shunning computer technology - the librarians involved in the project are not computer experts.

c) New technology can not be held back. Therefore, it is better that we, as librarians, get in there and develop our own software rather than trying to adapt software developed by someone else for some other purpose.

d) The reference interview when taken as a whole is a simple human to human encounter. But when separated into discrete human-machine interactions it becomes incredibly complex leading us to examine the human to human reference interview more closely.

# Information Exchange

**Vital Links: Canadian Cultural Industries**, a background paper from the Department of Communications, was released by Communications Minister, Flora MacDonald, on April 29th 1987. This background paper, "analyzes challenges facing Canada's cultural industries and describes actions the government is taking to strengthen the sector."

The paper looks at the Canadian book and periodical publishing industry, film, sound recording and broadcasting "within the context of global trends affecting cultural industries. It describes structural and economic challenges facing the industries, and the cultural support instruments employed by the government to meet their special needs."

**Vital Links: Canadian Cultural Industries** is available from: Information Services, Department of Communications, 300 Slater Street, Ottawa, Ontario. K1A 0C8. Tel: (613) 990-4900.

The Canadian Library Association has announced the winner of the Book of the Year for Children Award. She is Janet Lunn, author of **Shadow on Hawthorne Bay**. Lunn also won this award in 1982, with her children's novel, **The Root Cellar**. The winner of the Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Award is Marie-Louise Gay, the illustrator (and author) of **Moonbeam on a Cat's Ear**. Specially engraved gold medals were presented to Gay and Lunn at the

Book Awards Banquet during the '87 CLA conference.

Info Globe, the Electronic Publishing Division of the **Globe and Mail** has announced details of new products and services for CPI users. A printed thesaurus will be available soon, which will provide a complete guide to CPI subject headings. Online abstracts and a current-awareness service are also planned. The company's document delivery service enables users to receive copies of articles indexed since the beginning of 1986. Future plans include issuing a ten-year cumulation on CD-ROM. For review copies, or for further information, contact: Dorothy Tomiuk, Product Development Manager, Info Globe, 444

Front Street West, Toronto, Ontario, M5V 2S9. Tel: (416) 585-5250.

**Reference Reviews** is a new quarterly journal, published by Parker Moore Ltd., in Bath, England. It aims to provide "unbiased, comparative and evaluative reviews of current reference materials as a selection aid for librarians." The emphasis on choice of materials is with British publications. Each issue will contain about 70 reviews, written by practicing reference librarians and subject specialists and arranged under broad subject headings with cumulative indexes. More information from: Parker Moore Ltd., 10 Circus Mews, Bath, England. BA1 2PW.

## USER EDUCATION

## MAILBOX

Compiled by:  
APLA Interest Group on Library Instruction

Answers to questions, and new questions to:

Pat Johnston, Harriet Irving Library,  
University of New Brunswick,  
Box 7500, Fredericton, New Brunswick  
E3B 5H5

### QUESTION:

Now that some Computer Assisted Instruction seminars have been held in this region the Library Instruction Interest Group would like to hear from any library that has developed or purchased a CAI package or is planning to do so in the near future.

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# NEWS FROM T

## NEWS - NEW BRUNSWICK

### Harriet Irving Library

Renovations at the Harriet Irving Library have been underway this summer and will continue into the fall. A complete temperature and humidity control system has been installed in the HIL Archives storage vaults to provide ideal conditions for the housing of rare books and manuscripts. The Government Documents collection is being completely reorganized and plans are underway to move the map collection and technical services department to the basement and current periodicals to a more visible location on the ground floor.

An application for funding under the SSHRC Specialized Research Collections Programme has been approved. It will provide \$30,000 to enrich the curriculum development programme in the Education Resource Centre.

The Mary Ella Milham Library Trust Fund was recently established with the intention of developing a special collection in the history and development of printing, illustration, binding and paper making. In addition to acquisitions for the Milham Collection in the Book Arts, the trust fund will support a biennial lecture dealing with some aspect of book arts.

The first meeting of the Federation and area online interest group will be held September 2 at the Harriet Irving Library. In addition to a business meeting, there will be demonstrations of Grateful Med, BRS Colleague and both **Ulrich's** and **Books in Print** on CD-ROM.

### Mount Allison University - Ralph Pickard Bell Library

Mr. Tom Eadie arrived July 2, 1987 to take up his position as University Librarian. On September 1, 1987 Moira Davison becomes the new librarian in the cataloguing department.

Dr. Sheila Brown, vice-president academic, arrived July 2, 1987. She will be the new chair of the library committee.

### Université de Moncton - Bibliothèque Champlain

La Commission de l'enseignement supérieur des provinces maritimes (CESPM) a confirmé que le projet d'agrandissement de la bibliothèque Champlain du Centre universitaire de Moncton ira de l'avant. En effet, l'aide capitale approuvée s'élève à 6.2M\$, repartis sur quatre ans. Ce projet permettra un agrandissement de 45,000 pieds carrés venant s'ajouter à la superficie actuelle de l'édifice qui est de 63,000 pieds carrés. Les travaux de construction devraient débuter vers la mi-août ou le début septembre 1987.

Un congé sabbatique vient d'être accordé à M. Amedée Leblanc, chef du service des acquisitions de la Bibliothèque Champlain, CUM. M. Leblanc sera en congé, commençant le 1er septembre 1988 jusqu'à la fin juin 1989.

### Centre universitaire Saint-Louis-Maillet La bibliothèque

La bibliothèque du Centre universitaire Saint-Louis-Maillet a pu profiter du programme "Defi 87". Deux étudiants ont effectué diverses dont l'inventaire de la collection, l'entrée sur disquettes de l'Index du journal "Le Madawaska" de 1982 à 1984, l'enregistrement des revues et des journaux ainsi que le démenagement de la collection de périodiques.

Grade à l'initiative de la Société historique du Madawaska et de la bibliothèque du Centre universitaire Saint-Louis-Maillet, cette dernière a obtenu un projet de traitement de fonds d'archives subventionné par le Ministère des communications du Canada et administré par le Conseil des archives du Nouveau-Brunswick et les Archives publiques du Canada. Une employée a travaillé pendant dix semaines au Centre de documentation et d'études madawaskayennes pour traiter le fonds de la Société des Acadiens du Nouveau-Brunswick qui comprend plus de 800 articles.

### REGIONAL LIBRARIES:

#### Saint John Regional Library

Whoever coined the phrase "those lazy, hazy days of summer", was definitely not referring to the Saint John Regional Library system. A more apt description would be "prolific programming involving people, puppets, presentations and performances."

**PROGRAMMING:** All the branches report deep involvement by hundreds of children in the Provincial Summer Reading Program "Read-Discover the Magic." The boys and girls department alone conducted twenty-two programs for 619 school age children during the month of July. Sixteen youngsters enrolled in one of the craft programs made a great quilt featuring scenes from their favourite books (the quilt will be hung as a permanent feature in the Children's Department). Ross and St. Croix libraries are again featuring their Summer Camp at the Library program and Sussex has displayed junior and senior high school art exhibits. Le Cormoran found their French video presentation to be very popular.

**PEOPLE:** We bid farewell to Branch Supervisor Howard Cogswell, who, with his wife Joyce, has left for China to teach English. The Saint John Regional Library Board held their quarterly meeting at the Campobello Library where along with the Campobello Board members they celebrated the Centennial of Library service on the Island by cutting a cake, made by a senior resident and decorated with familiar Dewey classifications.

Most branches have had local resource people from the various communities participate in or conduct library programs on various themes. For example — nationally recognized photographer Martin Flewelling told us the "inside scoop" on taking great vacation pictures as one of the eight informal talks and demonstrations at Central Library during the months of July and August.

Challenge '87 and N.B. Employment Action employees are assisting throughout the Region in branch projects, direct service to the public, stock-taking and inventory, programs and many other tasks all for the benefit of our library users. Our sincere thanks go to all.

**PUPPETS:** Puppetry has been the "hot" program this summer. Two of our summer

students, Kim McNamara and Jacinta Noel, have written their scripts, combined their show with magic tricks, have called themselves the Fiasco Sisters and presented twenty-five shows throughout the region. The East Branch, not to be out done have their own puppets, Moris and Boris, created by Saint John Free Public Library Board member, Mrs. Shirley McCallum and the shows have delighted their young audiences.

**PRESENTATIONS:** Ms. Debbie Carhart, member of the Central Library Information Centre staff for the past thirteen years, left for Ontario in August. As one of her last projects Debbie presented her completely indexed scrapbook of local historian Frank O'Brien's published newspaper articles to Mr. O'Brien along with the original caricature (featured on the cover) of Frank O'Brien by well know local artist Jim Stackhouse.

The staff of the Central Library received a certificate of appreciation for their participation in the National Participation Day activities.

The Honourable Robert Jackson, Minister of Municipal Affairs representing the Honourable Omer Leger, Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Heritage, presented a cheque in the amount of \$15,000.00 to Dale Calder, Chairman of the Campobello Library Board. This cheque is the Department's contribution toward the restoration and conservation of the 1898 Campobello Public Library and Museum building.

**PERFORMANCES:** The Nationally known Romaniac Brothers gave a one hour concert to an enthusiastic, hand-clapping audience in the Multi-purpose room of the Central Library on August 11th, while Sheree Fitch, N.B.'s star poet, captivated her audience of adults and children with her delightful performance on July 22nd.

The performance everyone has waited for has more than met our expectations. With funding from the City of Saint John, a microcomputer named Rango I (via a staff name the computer contest) named after Ranganathan, the late cataloger, is performing daily in the Information Centre with continuous ecstatic utterances of glee from Director, Barb Malcolm.

The best combined performance for the Region came from all staff members of the Regional System who under the capable direction of Ian Wilson and Sue Collins - Co-Convenors - performed well all of their many tasks involved in "hosting" the A.P.L.A. Conference '87 in May.

## LIBRARIAN TO ATTEND COMPUTER COURSE IN FRANCE

Françoise Caron, a librarian with York Region, was selected to represent New Brunswick at a month-long seminar on library automation in Bordeaux, France. The seminar began April 1 at l'École Internationale de Bordeaux.

The program, for librarians only, was organized by UNESCO and l'Agence de coopération culturelle et technique which draws its members from French-speaking countries worldwide. Membership in the agency is restricted to 30 member states, seven associate states and two participating governments (Quebec and New Brunswick). Each member was invited to select one representative to attend the intensive seminar which explored the total environment of library computerization, global and national. The goal for participants was to acquire the specialized knowledge necessary for the implementation and successful operation of library computer systems. Librarians from all over the world attended; their expenses will be met by the agency.

Each seminar participant was required to deliver a paper on library computerization in his or her own country in order to establish a common ground for analysis of current developments in the field. Miss Caron's paper covered the three New Brunswick libraries that now use computers to catalog their collections — the libraries at the University of New Brunswick and Université de Moncton, and the New Brunswick Library Service which catalogs materials for the province's public libraries.

Miss Caron, a native of St-Quentin, New Brunswick, has been head librarian at the Bibliothèque Dr Marguerite-Michaud in Fredericton's Centre Communautaire Sainte-Anne since May of 1984. She is a graduate of the Université de Montréal with a masters degree in library science, and of the université de Moncton with a BA in History and French and a masters degree in public administration. She is a member of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association and of ASTED (Association pour l'avancement des sciences et des techniques de la documentation).

## METRO UNIVERSITIES COOPERATE TO BUY CENTRALIZED LIBRARY SYSTEM

Five universities in the Halifax metro area have initiated a pioneering effort in institutional cooperation in Canada.

Dalhousie, Mount Saint Vincent, the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD), Saint Mary's, and the Technical University of Nova Scotia (TUNS) have agreed to combine resources to purchase an integrated automated library system.

NOVANET, as the system is called, will consist of one database in which all of the libraries' ordering, cataloguing and circulation functions will be integrated. The database will also serve as a catalogue of the libraries' combined holdings, which are now estimated at more than two million items.

The system will cost the universities approximately \$1.1 million, most of which they are hoping to raise from external sources.

Automated systems are used by libraries world-wide, says Lucien Bianchini, university librarian at Mount Saint Vincent and

chairman of the NOVANET interim management board. The primary objective of NOVANET is to link library service at each of the universities and to promote greater planning and sharing of collections. The new system will also result in the more efficient use of the human, physical and financial resources.

The system will be situated in the Computer Centre located in the Killam Memorial Library at Dalhousie University. Implementation will begin by September of this year and is expected to require about 18 months.

The cost of maintaining, housing and staffing NOVANET, estimated at about \$285,000 per year when it is completely installed, will be shared among the member institutions. Dalhousie will contribute about 67 per cent of the cost; Mount Saint Vincent, 8 per cent; NSCAD, 3 per cent; Saint Mary's, 14 per cent; and TUNS, 8 per cent.

(continued on page 5)



# THE PROVINCES

## NEWS - PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

### Prince Edward Island Provincial Library

The P.E.I. Provincial Library, which administers public library services on P.E.I., has embarked on a long term planning process as part of the Department of Education's Five Year Planning Process. The initial submission will be made to the Treasury Board to fund some of the proposed activities. The areas of greatest concern are the need for additional staff, especially in the public service area, funding for a feasibility study and implementation of additional automation.

This year's summer reading program, entitled "Gobble it up" and geared to children age 7 to 12, was initiated by a series of readings by author **Tony German**. Successful readings were held at Alberton, Summerside, Charlottetown and Camp Gencheff where a number of handicapped children were staying.

At Confederation Centre Public Library, a number of one day inservice training sessions were held by personnel of the Staff Development Branch of the P.E.I. Civil Service Commission. These workshops dealt with "Time Management and Stress", "Interpersonal Communication" and "Supervisory Skills in the Library". A final workshop on "Team-building" is planned for September.

### P.E.I. School Library News

Don Scott, Provincial Librarian, addressed the semi-annual meeting of the P.E.I. School Library Association in May. The topic for the session was the Department of Education's Five Year Plan and its implications for School Librarians. Mr. Scott indicated that more money would be available for the 1987/88 school year for school libraries, guidance and special education. In conjunction with the anticipated developments in school libraries, Mr. Scott indicated that guidelines for staffing and school library development were being developed.

Forty-four teachers and school librarians registered for a summer course given at the University of Prince Edward Island entitled "Introduction to the School Library - Using a Resource Centre." This is the first time in a number of years that a course of this nature was given. The instructor was **Neal Bowers**, Teacher-Librarian at Park View Education Centre, Bridgewater.

The course came about as a result of lobbying by the P.E.I. School Library Association. The president, **Judy Davies**, and the Executive are continuing their efforts to encourage the University to offer a diploma program in school libraries.

The Department of Education is funding five new school library positions in addition to the regular teacher-pupil ratio for the 1987-88 school year. Two of the positions will be in Unit 3 with one position each in Units 1, 2, and 4.

There will be several new faces in school libraries in the fall:

**Joyce Gaudet** left Spring Park Elementary School in Charlottetown to become librarian at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Three librarians retired after many years of service: **Bryer Jones** from Queen Charlotte Junior High School in Charlottetown, **Sister Catherine Smith** from Bluefield Senior High School in North Wiltshire and **Mabel MacLellan** from Queen Elizabeth Elementary School in Kensington.

**Cathy Longmore** will be leaving Sherwood Elementary School Library for a one year teaching assignment in the Faculty of Education at the University of Prince Edward Island.

**Pam Bouchard**, librarian at Greenfield Elementary School, Summerside, will be principal of Bordon Elementary School for the 1987-88 school year.

### Robertson Library - University of Prince Edward Island

In June, a two day CAN/OLE Introductory course was given by CISTI at the University of Prince Edward Island. The course, attended by approximately twelve people from various libraries and government agencies, dealt with the types of databases accessible through CAN/OLE and CAN/OLE searching techniques.

### Prince Edward Island Professional Librarians' Association

P.E.I.P.L.A. held its spring meeting at Holland College. A major item for discussion were the implications of additional personnel for school libraries under the Department of Education's Five-Year plan. **Cathy Horne** agreed to organize a committee to look into formulating position qualification guidelines (for the position of school librarian), which the Association could examine and then submit to the various school boards as a recommended guide in the hiring procedure.

**Suzanne Jones** provided the programme feature by giving a slide presentation on the Sydney Development Corporation's Library Automation System which she is in the process of implementing at Holland College.

### Ragweed Press

On Friday, July 17, Ragweed Press suffered extensive smoke and water damage as a result of a fire which broke out in the old Rochford Square School building in which Ragweed Press was located. According to the Fire Inspector, the fire was deliberately set. Most books on hand suffered irreparable damage.

### P.E.I. Public Archives

In March, **Heather Boylan**, a recent graduate of the School of Library Service at Dalhousie University, completed **The Checklist and Historical Directory of P.E.I. Newspapers 1787-1986**. This project involved identifying Island newspapers by starting and ending date, political leanings, editors and holdings at various locations such as the P.E.I. Public Archives, the Robertson Library, U.P.E.I. and Confederation Centre Public Library. This will be a very useful source of information for everyone doing historical research.

## NEWS - NOVA SCOTIA

### Acadia University Library

Construction began in early June on an expansion of Vaughan Library. This stage of the new wing will consist of three floors and will provide a joint entrance lobby to both the Library and the Beveridge Arts Centre. In April, Acadia's Huggins Science Library was integrated into Vaughan to provide needed space for the new Food Science program in Huggins Science Hall.

Acadia University Library has a new PC/CD-ROM workstation. Cataloguing staff are presently evaluating source record suppliers.

**Mary Munroe** has replaced Lis Porter as Head of Circulation at Vaughan Library.

### W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library

Dalhousie's Kellogg Health Sciences Library celebrated its 20th birthday on July 17. One of the most interesting birthday presents received was a PC/CD-ROM workstation with current files of MEDLINE, a gift of students in the Health Professions. The unit has been placed behind the Reference Desk for end-user searching. **Ann Manning** reports that it has been in constant use, especially by faculty. Searching will be free to end-users for at least a year with printing costs (paper and cartridges) likely being a significant factor for instituting charges. A second unit has been purchased by the Faculty of Medicine and installed in the school of Dentistry's Computer Room for teaching students how to do online searches. MEDLINE backfiles will be used there.

**Janice Kean** replaces **Helen Branny** as the Head of Circulation at Kellogg Library.

### General News

The Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia is planning an "Effective Trustee Workshop" to be held in conjunction with their Annual Meeting in Truro, November 20-21, 1987. Inquiries may be sent to the Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia, c/o P.O. Box 34, Bridgewater, N.S. B4V 2W6.

**Margaret Campbell**, Librarian of the Information Records Centre of the Maritime Resource Management Service in Amherst reports that their budget was cut but services must remain the same. The Library holdings are being computerized and an in-house retrieval system will be used. A climatically controlled vault has been installed for offsite storage of government department materials, such as files, maps, etc. to be provided on a fee-based system.

In January, 1987 the Nova Scotia Department of Education released a "Report from the Department of Education Committee on Regional Library Funding". The fifty-nine page report contains recommendations for a new method of funding Regional Library Boards in Nova Scotia.

Acadia and Dalhousie Universities each have received a grant of \$30,000 for a cooperative acquisition programme in military history and strategic studies. The grant was awarded under the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's Support to Specialized Collections Programme.

**Dalhousie University School of Library and Information Studies** will be hosting its regular lecture series. The fall schedule will be printed in the next issue of the **Bulletin**. For more information, telephone Jennifer Brownlow at 424-3656.

## NEWS - NEWFOUNDLAND

Susanne Ellison has received a \$12,000 grant from the National Library of Canada for work on a Bibliography of Newfoundland Newspapers during her sabbatical which begins in September, 1987.

**Dr. Martin Howley** has been appointed to the SSHRC Committee on support for Specialized Collections. This body reviews applications for SSHRC grants in support of specialized collections (but not research tools) and recommends grants and granting policy to the Council.

The Queen Elizabeth II Library is evaluating the use of SPIRES (Stanford Public Information Retrieval System) database management system for the mounting of local bibliographic databases.

### General News

Library support for the new community college system is beginning to take shape. Librarian positions have been advertised for the Grand Falls and Lewisporte campuses of the Central Community College. Libraries are to be open on these campuses for September 1987.

The Cabot Institute of Applied Arts and Technology Library is using Bibliofile to produce catalog cards for its holdings. **Colleen White** has a contractual appointment with the Cabot Institute Library until April 1988.

## CENTRALIZED LIBRARY SYSTEM

(continued from page 4)

Although this is the first time that the five major universities in Halifax have made such a large joint purchase, they have had other cooperative arrangements for the past five years in a wide variety of activities, including academic programs, research, and academic and administrative services. NOVANET's pooling of financial resources and existing facilities and expertise will allow the member institutions to take advantage of technological developments already available at other centres of academic excellence in Canada.

### For more information:

William Birdsall, Dalhousie University Librarian	424-3601
Lucien Bianchini, Mount Saint Vincent University Librarian	443-4450
John Murchie, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design Librarian	422-7381
Ron Lewis, Saint Mary's University Librarian	420-5532
Riaz Hussain, Technical University of Nova Scotia Librarian	429-8300



## CBIC Introduces New Atlantic Manager

Jocelyne Marchand is the new Atlantic Regional Manager of the Canadian Book Information Centre. An Acadian from New Brunswick, she came to Nova Scotia in 1969 to study and never left. She has worked in public relations, community development and broadcasting. She looks forward to meeting everyone who uses the Centre,

and hopes to attract more. Jocelyne will be a regular contributor to *APLA Bulletin*, providing news of the Centre's upcoming events and new books. The Centre is on the 4th floor at 1741 Barrington Street and is open from 9 to 5, from Monday to Friday. Or call them at (902) 420-0688.

## Halifax Library Association: Demystifying the Law

by Sandra Scott, Technical University of Nova Scotia and  
Elaine Toms, Bedford Institute of Oceanography

Is a switchblade a prohibited weapon? Are YOU sure? Can you be fined for removing sand from a public beach in Nova Scotia? Can YOU prove it?

Finding the answers to these and many other legal questions was the topic of the Halifax Library Association's Workshop on Legal Research held March 7, 1987 at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia, Halifax.

Margaret Murphy, Legislative Librarian and Marie DeYoung, Librarian, N.S. Dept. of the Attorney General skillfully led the 25 participants through the complexities of the Constitution, statutes, and regulations that comprise our legal system. Ms. Murphy opened the Workshop with a review of the legislative process, both at the provincial and federal levels. Ms. DeYoung clearly and succinctly summarized the judicial system, highlighting the mandate and jurisdiction of each court from Small Claims to the Supreme Court of Canada.

The Workshop subsequently focused on specifics as Ms. Murphy traced the evolution of a law from its first reading to its final enactment and, in the process, emphasized the primary legal reference tools. Concluding the first part of the Workshop, Ms. DeYoung identified selected sources of legal information.

In part two, the reference situation was simulated as participants, provided with authentic skill testing questions, pursued the answers through a variety of legal reference materials. The practicum ended with Ms. DeYoung outlining the procedures for correctly answering each of the questions.

Ms. Murphy closed the Workshop with a summary of the legal reference interview, adding a cautionary note to the participants regarding the librarian's role as an information provider and not as legal advisor or analyst.

Participants left the Workshop with a better understanding of the mysteries of laws and lawmaking, thanks to the knowledge and competence of the two facilitators who ably communicated the topic in a clear, concise manner.

## PROFILE: THE CONTINUOUS LEARNING ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA

The Continuous Learning Association of Nova Scotia (C.L.A.N.S.) was established in June 1970, as an organization of people concerned with promoting and developing learning opportunities for all adults in Nova Scotia. C.L.A.N.S. is affiliated with the Canadian Association for Adult Education.

The goals of the Association are: 1) To encourage and promote continuing education as a means to maximum development of the people of the province; 2) To clarify principles of continuing education consistent with the needs of Nova Scotians, and

to develop a unity of purpose among agencies concerned with continuing education.

Membership in C.L.A.N.S. (\$10.00) is open to individuals whose interest or activities are in the field of adult/continuing education. Adult education administrators and instructors belong to the Association, as well as community school representatives, university and college extension staff and members of voluntary organizations. Further information from: C.L.A.N.S., c/o Box 14, Roland Avenue, R.R. #3, Armdale, Nova Scotia. B3L 4J3.

## SUSANNE MANOVILL

Susanne Manovill, Vice-President, Prince Edward Island (1986-87) points out these corrections to the report printed in the *Bulletin*, Pre-Conference issue:

The New Vice-President of the P.E.I. Professional Librarians' Association is Cathy Horne.

The theme for Library Week on Prince Edward Island which again coincided with (Canada's) National Book Festival April 25 - May 2, 1987, was GROW or GRANDISSEZ... Gillian Richardson, author of the book: *One Chance to Win*, published by Ragweed Press, visited schools and had one public library reading, where she read from her works, under the joint sponsorship of the Provincial Library, the P.E.I. School Library association and the unit 3 School Librarians. Anne Brimer from the Children's Book Centre, Atlantic Regional Office was not able to come to the Island as planned, due to illness. She was replaced by Nova Scotia author Kay Hill, who read to students in two Unit 4 schools, Cardigan Cons. and Southern Kings Cons. Professor of English at UPEI, Frank Ledwell, read from his book: *North Shore of Home* in the St. Peters Public Library on April 28th.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Eckerd College again will host the Earlham College - Eckerd College Bibliographic Instruction Workshop next year. The dates for this two-day workshop are February 4 and 5, 1988. The workshop will be conducted by Evan Farber, Head Librarian at Earlham College, and classroom faculty from that institution. This year, in addition to discussions of traditional methods of bibliographic instruction, increased emphasis is placed on the role of collection development and use of CD-ROM technology in bibliographic instruction. For additional information and to be placed on the mailing list for the final workshop brochure, interested persons should write to:

Dr. Larry Hardesty  
Director of Library Services  
Eckerd College Library  
Eckerd College  
4200 South 54th Avenue  
St. Petersburg, Florida  
33711 USA



Jocelyne Marchand, Atlantic Regional Manager, CBIC.

## Newfoundland Library Association Annual General Meeting

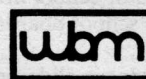
by Nancy P. Bingham-McArel,  
Past President, NLA

The Annual General Meeting of the Newfoundland Library Association was held May 26, 1987, at The Colony, St. John's, Newfoundland. The meeting was chaired by the president, Barbara Porrett. Following a lovely meal the business meeting was called to order. Following the distribution and approval of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting the President's report was presented. Rescheduling of Library Week was brought up and a meeting to discuss this topic further, to be held on June 2nd, 1987, at 10:30 a.m., Queen Elizabeth II Library, M.U.N., was noted. A motion from this meeting will be presented at the Fall General Meeting.

Following the presentation of the Treasurer's Report a motion was presented and vote taken which raised general membership (full) to \$10.00 a year, and E.M.C. membership to \$6.00 per year. George Beckett, for the nominating committee, presented the following slate of officers who were accepted by acclamation: Secretary - Jule Cousins, Treasurer - Chris Dennis, Vice-President (President Elect) - Judy Escott, President - Dan Heino. Sue Sexty expressed the members' thanks to the executive, especially Barbara Porrett, and Judy Escott read a letter from Dan Heino.

After the business meeting Barbara Porrett introduced the guest speaker for the evening, National Librarian, Marianne Scott. Ms. Scott expressed her pleasure at

being able to travel to places, such as Newfoundland, and to have the opportunity of discussing inspiring issues, eg. illiteracy programmes, and mundane issues, eg. budget cuts. She felt that budget cuts were discouraging, but, using the "pendulum swing theory," she hoped that this situation would soon be reversed. She gave much interesting information about the work of the National Library Advisory Board and expressed the importance of this Board which provides a channel of communication between the community and the National Libraries, on issues ranging from funding for research into library needs and Northern Studies (hopefully leading to a coordinated approach in this area) to lobbying for special funding from the government, and preservation issues. She discussed preservation issues at some length, mentioning such issues as preservation of Canadiana (special unique collections, manuscripts, precious volumes, etc.), decentralized newspaper checklists (locating papers and encouraging microfilming projects), working with public archives re: mass deacidification (using prototype system), and watching for new developments in these and other areas. Several questions were presented by members at the meeting which Ms. Scott dealt with in an informative and positive manner. Barbara Porrett then presented a gift to Ms. Scott from the Newfoundland Library Association and the meeting adjourned.



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# CONFERENCE REPORTS

## LIBRARY INSTRUCTION INTEREST GROUP SESSION

### REFERENCE LIBRARIANS: THE DIFFERENT REACTIONS OF PATRONS AND PROFESSIONALS

by Pat Johnston, Harriet Irving Library, University of New Brunswick

Dr. Roma Harris' research provided Reference librarians with information about a dimension of reference service which is largely ignored in the literature and often forgotten about elsewhere, namely: the role played by gender and nonverbal communication in the reference interview.

Dr. Harris, with Dr. Gillian Michell (Western's School of Library and Information Science) prepared a controlled setting for their experiment. They videotaped several reference interviews where the reference questions remained constant, but where the gender of the librarian and patron changed as did the behaviour of the library, ranging from very warm to just civil. Inclusion, that is, attempting to teach the patron how to use the library, appeared in some tapes. The researchers spent much time in devising a gender neutral reference question, and, despite some criticism, it can be generally assumed that "How do you get rid of bugs on house plants?" is a gender neutral question requiring a multi-step reference interview. In all, 16 videotapes were produced. The performers were librarians or someone very familiar with librarians and all participants had acting experience. The videotapes were then shown to more than 300 adult patrons in a large public library.

The results were quite surprising. It seems patrons measure the competence of librarians, not by the accuracy of the answer given to them, but by the gender of the librarian, the warmth shown by the librarian and the amount of inclusion or instruction. In addition, the gender of the patron determines the level of service desired. Male viewers of the tapes gave their highest marks to reference interviews where inclusion occurred. Next on their scale were those tapes that showed a female librarian, with a high degree of warmth, who provided library instruction in addition to answering the question. Female viewers expected something different from the interview. They gave their highest marks to those videotapes where the librarian did not include instruction in his or her answer to the patron's inquiry. In summary, male viewers see the absence of the teaching role as a measure of not caring for the patron, whereas, female viewers seemed to be interpreting the teaching role as not to be important.

The patron's perception of the librarians warmth as being an indication of a good or bad answer raises problems in preparing library science students for positions in public service. An accurate reply to a reference question can be lost if the librarian does not exude warmth, likewise, a warm personality can mask an incomplete or wrong answer.

Dr. Harris and Dr. Michell looked for similar research and found that studies done in counselling psychology have produced comparable results. Men and women have different views on the type of help expected from a counselling psychologist. Men display a didactic intervention style where they state their problem to the psychologist and then ask for advice. Women, however, show a negotiating style. They want, from the psychologist, assistance on how they should view their problem and how they should negotiate treatment. Males see the psychologist as the expert, females see themselves as becoming an expert.

Four of the 16 reference videotapes were shown to librarians. Librarians were much more critical of the reference service than were patrons with female librarians being much harsher critics than male librarians. Ironically, female librarians were most critical of librarians who did not instruct while answering the reference inquiry, exactly the opposite from the service expected by female patrons.

Dr. Harris' thought-provoking talk incited much discussion both during and after the session. It is hoped that more study and research will be done in this largely neglected area of reference service and library instruction.

## SPIDER ROBINSON

by Margot Schenk, Patrick Power Library, Saint Mary's University

"Nobody's perfect, but Spider comes pretty damned close." So says Ben Bova and so say all of us who attended Spider's reading Saturday afternoon at APLA, Saint John.

The suspense built as 2:00 p.m. rolled around; I had never read a science fiction book all the way through and I had no idea what to expect. At 2:10 Spider Robinson spun in with computer printout manuscript and guitar; a few witticisms later, he launched himself into the first three chapters of his new book. The plot revolves around an experience in North Mountain, Nova Scotia in the 1970's, in a hippie haven of back-to-the-landers, involving a dark and stormy night, a mucous moose, a beautiful woman, God, the meaning of life and death, the great mystery of the universe - and more! I couldn't believe how absorbed we all were, how quiet the room, how fast the time passed.

At intermission I looked around to see a crowd of about fifty, consisting mostly of APLA delegates; some members of the general public were also evident. I found in talking to people that I was not the only non SF fan. Of course, there were some hard-core addicts who already knew how spellbinding a reading by Spider can be, but some of us were there to view this phenomenon before he moves to lotus-land (British Columbia) with his wife Jeanne.

After intermission the guitar came out to accompany Spider's composition of a Nova Scotia song. He used a Hilton matchbook for a pick, the people from the Technical Services Roundtable from next door banged on the wall for silence, and still his performance sizzled. Spider had promised us the ending of the book but - time pressure took its toll. We were left having to buy the new book - I will - and you should.

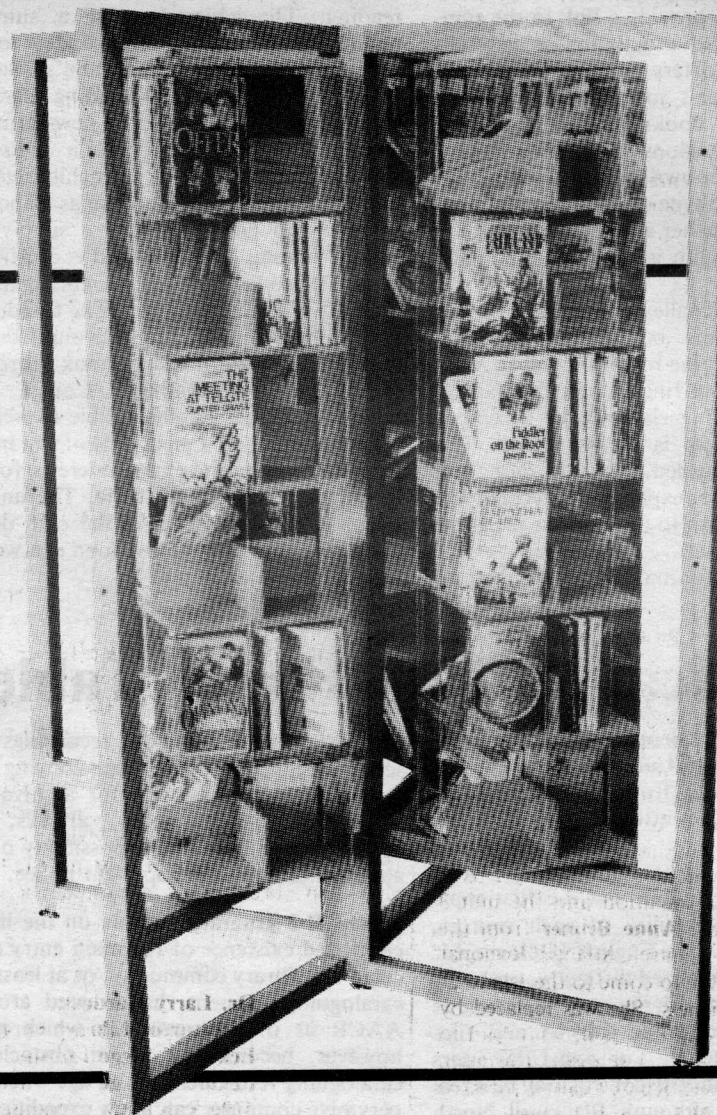
**Time Pressure** by Spider Robinson. New York: Ace Science Fiction, 1987, \$16.95 (ISBN 0-441-80932-4).

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## NEWS ABOUT KIDS IN LIBRARIES

Summer Reading Programs by M. Lynda Marsh,  
Colchester-East Hants Regional Library



Since 1983 the Children's and Young Adult's Interest group of the Nova Scotia Library Association has developed the theme and coordinated graphics for a summer reading club. Each year a committee is struck to work on theme proposals. The Interest group discusses and agrees upon one of the themes presented. Committee reports at the meetings keep everyone in touch with what can be provided as well as aiding the committee when problems arise.

A kit is produced giving basic graphics for publicity and display. A main poster design and bookmarks are the major investment. Master copies of other posters, lettering and specific characters are provided. Special items such as colouring posters, crosswords and word games, log sheets and certificates may also be produced as master copies. This allows each region to develop the program as their budget and time allows. Master copies of the club's graphics can also help to provide a link to the summer's theme in other activities or materials that the library offers.

The committee's job is done when the kit, poster, and bookmarks are produced. The individual regions run their own programs using their own rules and incentives. The number and type of books the children must read or whether a party is planned for the end of the club is entirely up to each library.

It had been a challenge over the years to develop programs because of the differences between the regions involved. Different budgets, staffing and facilities all affect how a reading club will be accepted. The main concern is for simplicity. The theme cannot burden the staff though it must also allow for expansion and creativity for those who wish to develop the program to its full potential.

Joint planning of materials keeps them at

an affordable price. Well designed posters and bookmarks are the main focus and can be designed to be converted to general reading promotion. This allows regions to invest even if there is a possibility the summer reading program has to be cancelled.

Cost is not the only benefit. Reports given after the summer by each region produce a sharing of new ideas. A support and exchange of philosophies is provided through the discussions made at the interest group meetings. This exchange helps to focus and clarify how to best provide this service given a variety of limitations.

The importance or need for summer reading clubs has been debated. It seems that many feel the time and effort put in is not reflected in the circulation and provides no benefit to the already overworked staff.

The purpose of a reading club in its basic form is to focus a child's thoughts on reading. The objectives for a summer reading program can be expanded to include development of the child's reading tastes, obtaining valuable reading practice, exploring new possibilities in new forms of literature, and discovering a personal achievement in the goals each child sets for him/herself. The club may be as elaborate as time and money allows or simply the basic program. The key word is creativity. What is produced in theme and graphics must spark the imagination. The Children's and Young Adult's Interest Group from its initial "Stick your nose in a book" through the Olympics, Halley's Comet and Dinosaur themes has been able to keep a fresh outlook and a great deal of fun in the program and capture new interests for its members across Nova Scotia. The annual question now is "What is the club doing this summer?" and "How soon can we get started?"

## Technical Services Round Table

by Peter Glenister, Mount  
Saint Vincent University Library

22 attended this Round Table, the first such assembly ever attempted at an APLA conference.

Authority control systems and authorities source data was the first topic dealt with. Availability of such sources, particularly for non-English bibliographic records, is a recognized difficulty, probably only to be solved with the passage of time as more machine-readable records and files come into existence. For non-UTLAS users particularly, authority control may be a real problem, and; although Blackwell North America offers the service, there are few customers in the region.

In the area of non-textual materials, the

precarious life of sound disc recordings was seen as a concern; disc to tape copying was suggested as a possibility for archival or non-circulating purposes, always, of course, with an eye to the possibility of an appearance from the copyright police.

AACR 3 generated debate on the likely continued existence of the main entry concept. The library community, or at least the cataloguing segment, has created around AACR its own bureaucracy which may, however, become less of an obstacle to cataloguing refinements in an age when the pervasive computer can allow expeditiously for both catalogue data manipulation and for electronic formats of catalogue code distribution and exchange.

# INTERLIBRARY LOANS ROUNDTABLE

by Sue Sexty, Queen Elizabeth II Library, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Roundtable is a rather strange name for a group which will do most of its meeting through electronic mail, the postal system and the pages of *APLA Bulletin*, but Roundtable it will be and maybe someday we will meet face to face around one. In June an ENVOY message went out to all ILL departments in the Atlantic provinces who are hooked up to that means of communication. However, since some of you do not use ENVOY, the message is repeated here.

The message of June 17 noted that new technology, budget cutbacks, ILL activity at the national and regional level, staff cuts and many other matters are of interest to all ILL librarians. The message requested that those who would like to become a part of this roundtable should contact either Ken Moore or Sue Sexty with suggestions of topics they would like to have discussed, questions they would like to have answered or wisdom which they would like to share. Any communication received would be shared both through these pages and through ENVOY.

When you need to get in touch with one of us, call, write or ENVOY:

Ken Moore  
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Harriet Irving Library  
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Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5H5  
ENVOY: ILL.NBFU  
Telephone: (506) 453-4742

Sue Sexty  
Interlibrary Loan  
Queen Elizabeth II Library  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
St. John's, NF A1E 3Y1  
ENVOY: ILL.NFSM  
Telephone: (709) 737-7424.

## Staff Training in Dartmouth

by Jessie MacDonald, Community  
Services Co-ordinator,  
Dartmouth Regional Library

For the second year in a row the Dartmouth Regional Library Board approved the concept and implementation of a staff In-Service day, closing all facilities to the public and providing funds for training and refreshments. The format and content of the day were planned by a staff committee, representing most library departments. All full and part-time staff except student pages were in attendance.

The day was divided into four sessions: the morning session on "Communications and Effective Customer Service" was well received. The session was given by Lynn Irlam of **People Development** who attempted to address the variables involved in effective communications. Staff responded favourably to this workshop and to the group facilitator who established good rapport with her audience. A very positive attitude was experienced by the audience at the end of the three hour workshop.

The afternoon offered four workshops on topics chosen and given by staff. From this offering two choices were made by staff for attendance at the 50 minute sessions. With prospects of an **automated circulation system** a likely reality within a few years, an in-depth workshop on its many and varied implications were addressed by Pat Boyd, Systems Librarian. Staff were particularly interested in its possible repercussions on existing jobs and any changes in responsibilities that might emerge under automation.

A session on **Special Services** offered to our public was enjoyed especially by part-time employees or those who do not regularly work with the public. Such services as Interlibrary impact made by these services was explained by Mary Ellen Moore of the Adult Services department. This workshop was given twice to enable as many as possible to take advantage.

Linda Winham's **School Projects**, a 50 minute session on finding and checking resources, was of special interest to staff who constantly are bombarded with public inquiries for limited materials by limitless students!

The **D.R.L. Image** was a specialized workshop on the effective use of graphics and displays. Vince Walsh, the part-time graphic artist on staff gave a thought-provoking overview of general design principles.

The day ended with a panel discussion on "What the Public Expects from Us." Linda Pearse, Children's Librarian, served as

moderator for a lively panel of five users who graciously agreed to give their views on the subject in a short five minute address, followed by questioning from the staff audience. The panel was chosen to represent a wide cross section of users, including a parent of young children, a handicapped young adult, a senior citizen, a regular user of the reference collection and a teacher. The panelists, in some instances, delivered constructive criticism giving a positive upbeat ending to a very productive day.

It was agreed that an important part of the staff training program is the interchange of conversation and ideas within the staff complement. Long coffee breaks with enticing refreshments and a catered luncheon served in the library were purposely arranged so everyone would have the opportunity to mix and exchange ideas. A keen and capable committee looked after this important part of the day.

One week following the In-Service session an evaluation meeting was held by the planning committee. A delay of this length was seen as important in giving a perspective on the proceedings. Again, all departments were represented and information from evaluation sheets, distributed by workshop facilitators, were analyzed as well as verbal reports from various departments. From this session serious points were recorded for possible planning ideas for the next such session.



Hon. Nancy Teed, New Brunswick Minister of Health and Community Services, admiring a conference display in Saint John.