TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN LIBRARIES: The 2nd OLA

Library Automation Conference

by

Beverly Jones

OLA and the Tulsa Area Library Cooperative offered, in conjunction with the Southwest Computer Conference, a day long workshop on telecommunications in libraries. Brigitte Kenney, President of Infocon and Editor of Telebits was the featured speaker on new technology and how it can be used in libraries. The afternoon included a panel from the Corporation Commission and Southwestern Bell and Ms. Kenney discussing the Southwestern Bell tariff application and its implications for libraries.

The program began with an extensive introduction to the vocabulary and concepts necessary to understand the applications. Several concepts were presented as devices for telecommunications cost saving.

Telephone usage is one such area. Shared lines coupled with multiplexors may reduce current number of lines. The multiplexor itself can do diagnostics, eliminating the need for a conditioned line, or need for conditioning only at the D1 level. Tie lines are often used by businesses and are available to libraries. Tie lines provide the equivalent of a local call in a remote area. Small local communities might share a tie line, including the library. A multiplexor can, of course, be used on the tie line. Unloaded lines can be used by two agencies or branches in the same switching office area at far less cost, if they are available in the area.

Dataphone digital service can be cheaper for those libraries with a high volume of usage although initial rates appear higher. (The Irving project libraries in Colorado will be using this option.)

Equipment such as the multiplexor mentioned earlier, offer savings. A telephone jack doesn't have to be installed by Bell anymore, and it needn't be, the more expensive RJH5S. A RJ11C is all that is needed. Buying telephones rather than renting pay back the investment in a minimal time frame. A digital PBX or a Local Area Network (LAN) connect printers, word processors, etc. Any new building should include LAN cables.

Long distance service options include Satellite Business Service. It may be a cheaper long distance option than MCI and Sprint because it is not distance sensitive. Billing includes identification of the extension from which calls originated. It, however, is apparently not yet available in Denver or Oklahoma City. Several areas have recently succeeded in identifying enough potential use to convince Tymnet or Telenet to add their city to these networks.

Rural areas and areas without Bell can get a small dish satellite (to sit in the window) and directly wire a microcomputer with this reception device. The configuration is not yet two-way, however. (This will be used by Information Access in the near future. It should be especially useful to rural libraries.)

Additional information on saving telecommunications money is found in Reverse the Charges by Samuel Simon, published by Pantheon and available from ODL.

Any cable system can be modified to be a two-way communications connection for the transmission of data. Iowa City provides interactive references and access to an on-line catalog via this means.

Ms. Kenney finished her presentation with advice to OLA that they continue the Telecommunication Committee, lobby for reasonable telecommunications costs, and be aware of advances in technology and how those advances can be used by libraries.

The panel discussion later in the day centered upon the rate increases filed now with the Corporation Commission by Southwestern Bell and other changes expected in the near future because of divestiture and competition. The Corporation Commission representative indicated the Attorney General's office is taking a pro-consumer stance on the rate increase request and that either of those two offices can be contacted by concerned customers. The telephone company presented a rate impact study of four public libraries: One is a community of 3,500, one a city of 50,000 and two large metropolitan areas. The smallest library will have a 30% increase if the rate increases go through as requested, the medium sized library will have an increase of 20%. The metropolitan libraries were treated as a main library and selected branches. The main library service would increase by 10% while the branches varied from an 18% increase to a 60% increase. The Oklahoma Library Association is expected to present testimony at the hearings in November.
Library Legislative Day

The Oklahoma Library Association’s Library Legislative Day for 1984 will be held on February 8. This is the day when librarians and friends of libraries in Oklahoma gather at the State Capitol to visit with their legislators on behalf of supporting legislation of interest to libraries. This day is a special annual activity of the Library Development Committee. This year the committee is under the leadership of Lee B. Brawner, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Library System. If you need further details contact Lee Brawner at (405) 235-0571. "Who, me? A lobbyist?" Why not! Narrowly lobbying is defined as "soliciting or trying to influence the votes of the members of a legislative body; to urge the passage of a particular bill." It can be in support of or in opposing to a particular bill. Lobbying is a form of education. Legislators do rely on lobbying efforts to increase their understanding of the many complex issues which they must address and to provide information on constituents' attitudes. In a broader sense, a lobbyist is one who wants his opinion heard, who cares about how and what decisions are made and who believes in the grass-roots approach. Lobbying is the process of getting your ideas to the people who make decisions, of providing facts and figures you know to those who need them to make those decisions, or speaking up for what you know to be good ideas which need advocacy to get a hearing, and of influencing the way your government, at all levels, makes progress. Our governments at all levels need our help. Lobbyists must take the time and trouble to speak out and present the facts and opinions on which those in government can base their decisions. Good issues and ideas need lobbyists to get a hearing and action. Without our "input" the "expert" is not going to represent the needs of the people. Good lobbyists work in the public interest, relating their concerns to the overall good. While there are some lobbyists with nothing but axes to grind, they are offset by individuals acting as lobbyists for the common good. The most effective lobbying efforts are many times done right in your home town. Legislators are interested in their constitu-

tents. Lobbying can be done at home by personal contact, telephone calls or letters, or at your legislator’s office. Get to know your legislators if possible. Be able to attach names to faces in order to address them by name if you approach them about a bill. Always remember, your legislator is a person with feelings just like you. Be positive in all your contacts with him or her. They are elected to represent you, and that means listening to you and considering your ideas. Let us not limit our lobbying efforts just to elected officials. There are also those in government who make many of the rules and decide how laws are to be implemented. Let them know what rules you can accept and what you need for protection. Newsmen and media personnel who have much to say about what gets attention in print and air need to know what you believe. Join the campaign of candidates for office and build a "listener" from the grass roots and get acquainted with those in the community who know and move other people. Share with them your cause and ask their help to get to the lawmakers they know. Large organizations may be effective, but knowledge is the key. Educate your neighbor, your cohort and fellow citizen well to become enthusiastic about those concerns you believe and support. The Oklahoma Legislature will reconvene Tuesday, January 3, 1984. There are at this time a number of legislative proposals still pending before the Legislature. Others may be introduced in this session. When you visit your legislator on Library Legislative Day, February 8, make your ideas known.

— Oliver Delaney, Editor

COALITION FOR LITERACY

PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The Coalition for Literacy, a group of eleven national organizations including the ALA, has launched a three-year drive to help America’s estimated 23 million adult illiterates.

Cosponsored by the Coalition and the Advertising Council, Inc., the "literacy awareness campaign" seeks to alert the public and recruit 50,000 volunteer literacy program managers and tutors.

President Reagan officially opened the campaign at a White House meeting in September with 200 business, education, and financial leaders. "Let those of us who can reach those who cannot," he said, calling for volunteers to work in existing literacy programs.

The major tool of the recruitment drive is a toll-free hotline, which will begin operation in December. Staffed by CONTACT, a human service information agency, the 800-number will use a national computerized directory to refer an estimated 200,000 callers to community literacy programs and resources. Where no programs presently exist and phone response is strong, the Coalition will help create new agencies, aiming for fifty in its first year of operation.

The Coalition has recently appointed as its chair Violet Malone, Associate Professor of Continuing Education at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. It has already received a pledge of $50,000 from the Department of Education, and seeks to raise an additional $250,000 from individual, foundation, and corporate donations for first-year, start-up costs alone.

Besides the ALA, which will coordinate its activities, the Coalition’s member organizations include: the American Association of Advertising Agencies, the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education, B. Dalton Bookseller: CONTACT, Inc., the International Reading Association, Laubach Literacy International, Literacy Volunteers of America, the National Advisory Council on Adult Education, the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, and the National Council of State Directors of Adult Education.

For more information, contact: Jean Coleman, Office of Library Outreach Services, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; (312) 944-6780.

A number of articles on this effort have been published in previous issues of the Oklahoma Librarian: 32:5 (Sept./Oct.) 1982; 33:1 (Jan./Feb.), 1983, p. 3; 33:2 (Mar./Feb.), 1983, p. 22.

— Ed.

Advertising rates for the Oklahoma Librarian have been increased to: $175.00 for a full page, $80.00 for a half page, and $50.00 for a quarter page.
LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

Isn't a reading and discussion group a very old idea? Tried and true is a better description. In the past several years NEH has supported a number of highly successful library reading/discussion programs. They can take place even in the smallest libraries, and they appeal to widely varied audiences. One of the most interesting models, developed in Vermont, is now being used in New Hampshire and Massachusetts libraries. Here is one of many positive comments from participating scholars: "All in all, I am now even more convinced that education is a humanizing, life-long process. We must continue to provide these kinds of programs for adults in this technological world." A series on the Southern woman, developed for the Lynchburg, Virginia, Public Library by a scholar, who had participated in the New England projects, attracted 150 people, far exceeding the library's expectations.

Scholars and librarians working with the New England programs found that training and demonstrations are the most effective ways to stimulate interest in reading/discussion programs. "Let's Talk About It" will supply the materials and information to help local planners present the programs themselves.

But will the program work? The American Library Association has had a long, successful history of creating and promoting in-library discussion programs. They include the Great Issues Program, a post-World War II project that involved numerous national leaders; the American Heritage project, a 1950s program that focused on our national history; and the popular Courses by Newspaper, also funded by NEH, which promoted humanities discussion programs in libraries nationwide.

In addition, the project will be drawing on the talents of respected experts from librarianship and academia. They include Sandra M. Cooper, executive director of ASCLA, who will serve as project director; Peggy O'Donnell, principal project consultant, who has directed three previous NEH projects and more than a dozen workshops for NEH on humanities programming in conjunction with ALA divisions; Pat Bates, chief consultant on model reading programs, who created the enormously successful library discussion programs in Vermont and New Hampshire/Massachusetts; Heul Perkins, principal project scholar, who is assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs at Louisiana State University; and ALA President Brooke Sheldon, who will serve as project evaluator.

Where can I find more information? Contact Sandra M Cooper, Executive Director, ASCLA, American Library Association, 50 E Huron St, Chicago, IL 60611; (312) 944-6780.

ALERT

by Sheila Wilder Hoke*

In the October 21, 1983 issue pg. 15-16 of the PUBLISHERS WEEKLY one can find an article entitled "Senate 'Bill to Study U.S. Public Lending Right'. The content is ... "For the first time in the United States serious discussion has begun about granting royalties to book authors whose works are lent by libraries ... Ideas to be explored include:

1. Restraining libraries from buying new materials during their period of maximum sales — during the first year after publication.

2. Writers should be compensated each time a book is borrowed from a library.

Perhaps authors do need some protection. What the publishers may not see, perhaps, is that many books listed in indexes and what libraries purchase may never be bought by individuals. The books may not be popular at all. Library purchase of the book multiplied by the number of books published may create a market for the book that otherwise would not sell at all.

Libraries cannot wait an entire year to purchase a book in order that individuals could purchase it first. Because jobbers no longer are able to discount their stock at the end of the year before IRS accounting, many jobbers dump their books. If one has not purchased the item before then, the book becomes out-of-print and unavailable for purchase. Certainly this is a hardship on academic libraries since it takes some time and review to be able to know if one wants the book.

Perhaps what is in this article may never come to pass but I do think librarians should be alert to it. Libraries are struggling to survive in this age with inflation. Book publishers are having difficulties — i.e., witness the number of bankrupt publishers and the numerous changes both in title and publishers in the serials field.

An enlightened citizenry is the backbone of the nation. Libraries contribute to this by providing materials so that citizens can be well informed.

*Sheila W. Hoke is Director of the Southwestern Oklahoma State University library.
Executive Board & Program Committee
Schedule of Meetings, 1983 - 84

During the year, the Executive Committee and Program Committee for the Annual Conference will meet on the same day and in the same location. These are open meetings and members of the association are invited to attend. The Program Committee meets at 10:00 a.m. and the Executive Branch meets at 1:30 p.m. Future meetings are:

- September 16 at Oklahoma State University
- October 21 at Enid Public Library
- November 18 at Norman Public Library
- December 16 at Central State University
- January 20 at Excelsior Hotel, Tulsa
- February 17 at Oklahoma Department of Libraries
- March 22 at Excelsior Hotel, Tulsa
- April 20 at Central State University
- May 18 at Oklahoma State University

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Oklahoma Library Association Calendar
1983 - 1984

November
1 — Support Staff Workshop (ODL)
2 — Sequoyah Committee
8 — Support Staff Workshop (ODL)
15 — Support Staff Workshop (ODL)
16 — Reference Roundtable Workshop
18 — Executive Board and Program Committee (Norman)
19 — Children's Librarians Workshop
29 — Support Staff Workshop (ODL)

December
2 — Printing Arts and Special Collections Workshop
15 — Election Ballots due to Executive Secretary
16 — Executive Board and Program Committee (CSU)

January 1984
7-13 — ALA/Midwinter Conference (Washington, DC)
20 — Executive Board and Program Committee (Tulsa)
25-27 — Special Libraries Association (Winter), (Colorado Springs)

February
8 — Legislative Day (Capitol/OKC), Library Development Committee
9-10 — Small Librarians Workshop (ODL)
17 — Executive Board and Program Committee (ODL)
Annual Reports due to Executive Secretary
Election results and ballots evaluated

March
22-23 — OLA Annual Conference (Tulsa)

April
2-7 — Texas Library Association Conference
4-7 — ALA/ACRL Conference (Seattle)
8-14 — National Library Week
20 — Executive Board and Program Committee (CSU)
— OLA Handbooks due to Executive Secretary

May
2-5 — Mountain Plains and Wyoming Library Association (Joint Conference), (Cheyenne)
18 — Executive Board and Program Committee (OSU)
26-31 — Medical Library Association, (Denver)

June
9-14 — Special Libraries Association (New York)

15 — OLA Leadership Conference
22-27 — American Library Association Convention, Dallas

July
1-4 — American Association of Law Librarians (San Diego)

The OLA Executive Board, meeting on September 16, 1983, at the Oklahoma State University, considered and adopted the following policies on advertising and letters to the editor:

GUIDELINES FOR ADVERTISING

All advertising copy is subject to the publisher's approval. Because of the professional nature of The Oklahoma Librarian and its relationship to subscribers, all advertisements must be thoroughly examined before publication. The publisher reserves the right to unilaterally reject, omit, or cancel any advertisement which is not in keeping with the standards, objectives, and policies of the Oklahoma Library Association. The publication of any advertisement in The Oklahoma Librarian is neither an endorsement of the advertiser nor of the products or services advertised. OLA is not responsible for any claims made in an advertisement.

OLA attempts to comply with the letter and the spirit of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. As such, the association endeavors not to discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, creed, sex, lifestyle, national origin, or physical handicap in its employment practices and will not knowingly permit The Oklahoma Librarian, as an advertising medium, to be used in support of discriminatory employment practice.

LETTERS POLICY

The Oklahoma Librarian encourages the open exchange of ideas, opinions and concerns among members of the association. The staff of the Librarian may not agree with the expressions, but it dedicates the letters section to the freedom of that exchange. Letters to the Editor should concentrate on issues, be typed double-spaced, and be signed by the writer and/or writers. Anonymous letters will not be published. The editor reserves the right to select and edit and condense letters according to space limitations and the editor's judgments. Care will be taken to ensure that the letter is not altered.
Frances Alsworth,
OLA President, 1983-1984

This season has been a very busy one for librarians, and our association has been involved in a variety of activities. The Southwest Computer Conference in Tulsa was a real success for the librarians who participated. Our special sessions with B. Kenney were quite interesting and informative. In the morning session she gave us basic information concerning telecommunications that provided guidance for future considerations concerning that type of activities in our libraries. In the afternoon session she was joined by a representative from the Corporation Commission and a representative from Southwestern Bell in a discussion and question and answer session regarding the changes coming in 1984 relating to the break-up of AT&T. The afternoon session was lively and everyone present felt better informed about the problems we will be facing. Telecommunications are going to be more important in the future and we need to be able to provide services of this type to our patrons.

Planning for our spring conference is progressing, and it sounds exciting! We have made definite arrangements for Seymour Hersh (The Price of Power) to speak at one session. Several other very interesting speakers are being lined up. The program promises to offer informative, appealing sessions that will require all of us to choose from many desirable alternatives. Plan to attend the entire conference so that you can benefit from these programs and make yourself a more creative librarian.

The economic crisis we are facing is prompting the members of OASMS to pass a resolution asking that the governor call a special session of the Legislature to deal with educational funding. The Executive Board of OLA endorsed that resolution, and sent a letter to the governor and legislative leaders asking that the special session, if called, also consider the funding of libraries. You too might wish to contact your legislators and other state leaders as a concerned Oklahoman.

The voters should speak out on important issues and this is certainly of great importance!

The holiday season is approaching, and we will all be taking time out for celebrations. May I take this opportunity to wish each of you happy holidays. I hope that our world circumstances become more conducive to celebration!

OLA Goals for 1984

- Continued growth in membership — perhaps a 10% increase this year.
- Continued efforts to make librarians politically aware and politically active.
- Increased involvement of a larger percentage of the members in OLA activities.
- Establishment of a support staff roundtable.
- Establishment of a task force to work in planning activities aimed at eliminating functional illiteracy.
- Jointly sponsored task force to conduct a survey and prepare a report on the impact of increased costs in telecommunications on library services.
- Workshops and/or conference programs that emphasize ways in which libraries encourage creativity.
- Scholarships.

WHAT IS 'FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY'

Your library needs Friends. Friends can run the projector at your children's film show; they can raise money for your new building; they can lobby your city council and help in hundreds of other ways.

Friends are volunteer support groups for libraries, the way that PTA's are the support group for schools, and about 50 libraries in Oklahoma already have them.

FOLIO (Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma) is a statewide organization which assists local Friends groups in forming, in fund raising and in programming. There is also a national organization of Friends, FOLUSA (Friends of Libraries U.S.A.).

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Conservation efforts continue to be an important aspect of our lives; particularly, the conservation of energy and the reduction of costs. In Oklahoma, there is a valuable resource of information available from the Oklahoma Environmental Information and Media Center located at East Central Oklahoma State University in Ada.

Cindy Coulter is the librarian at OELCMC with a wealth of information on environmental matters that may be borrowed by any Oklahoma resident. Call 1-800-522-9315 (ext. 373) or (405) 332-8000 (ext. 673). Need a list of what the center contains on various subject areas? Request Cindy to place you on the mailing list for the OEIMC newsletter, 'Resources'.

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

The Oklahoma Library Association's NOMINATING COMMITTEE is now accepting recommendations in preparing a slate of candidates for the election of officers for 1984-85. The membership is asked to forward suggestions for the following offices: Vice President and President-elect (public), Secretary, and ALA Councilor. To be considered recommendations must be received by December 9, 1983. Ruby W. Ewing, Chair, Central State University, 100 North University, Edmond, Oklahoma 73034.
GUIDE TO BASIC MUSIC MATERIALS

The second edition of A BASIC MUSIC LIBRARY: ESSENTIAL SCORES-AND BOOKS (compiled by the Music Library Association Committee on Basic Music Collection, under the direction of Pauline S. Bayne. Robert Michael Fling. Editor. $12.00. Paper July 1983) is designed to serve as a selection tool for those who have responsibility for collecting music materials in small and medium-sized libraries, whether public or academic. Considering today's interest in music, no library, however small, should be without a basic collection of music and music reference sources. Every community has a number of amateur and professional musicians and music educators who need the services of a good music collection. This volume can be used to evaluate and expand an existing collection or build a new one.

Coverage in the second edition has been expanded to include score anthologies, choral and dramatic music in study score, recordings, works for piano, organ, instrumental solos and duos, concertos in piano reduction, and books on music theory and music history. All the material in the first edition has been revised to include newly-issued books and scores and to provide up-to-date buying information, including International Standard Book Numbers, where appropriate, and publishers' numbers for scores.

The recommended scores and books are arranged by format, medium, and subject. This organization should facilitate collection building according to the types of material most needed by the library's users. Reference books may be the first category of books to be selected in a given library; performance scores may never be collected; methods and tutors may be excluded by a library's collection policy. However, in any of the areas covered, these lists offer a starting point.

Martin Havan has just completed another book about Oklahoma politics and history, covering mainly the 60's and 70's, titled How To Win Elections Without Hardly Cheating At All.

The book contains four chapters on campaign tricks and techniques that worked in successful campaigns of Gov. George Nigh and other Oklahoma governors, Corporation Commission races, and national campaigns where he has been involved.

There are also chapters about sex and a libel suit in U.S. Senate race. Oklahoma bid-rigging. Gov. David Hall's downfall, the State Supreme Court scandal, Speaker Albert, Mike Monroney, Tom Steed and much more. It is a hard-cover book of more than 300 pages plus interesting historical pictures.

RECOMMENDED REFERENCE BOOKS FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED LIBRARIES AND MEDIA CENTERS 1983

Edited by Bohdan S. Wynar

Shrinking library budgets have necessitated an ever more careful evaluation of materials to be purchased, especially in the area of reference, where materials tend to be expensive. In view of these circumstances, smaller libraries must develop logical, systematic selection policies. Now in its third year of publication, Recommended Reference Books assists by providing on an annual basis a selection of the most suitable reference titles in all subject areas for small and medium-sized libraries and media centers.

The 506 titles reviewed in this volume were selected from the 1983 edition of American Reference Books Annual (ARBA). They were chosen by the editor as the most valuable reference works published during 1982 for use in smaller libraries. To assist in the selection process, reviews are coded, indicating that a given reference work is a recommended purchase for smaller college libraries, public libraries, or school library media centers.

Dictionaries, encyclopedias, indexes, directories, bibliographies, atlases, handbooks, and other types of reference tools are reviewed. Annuals suitable for smaller libraries that were not reviewed in this volume will be reviewed in subsequent editions. The book is arranged into forty subject-oriented chapters and includes author/title and subject indexes. The reviews are critical (aiding in selection); lengthy, and signed by subject specialists. Each review contains citations to other reviews of the work appearing in periodicals (e.g., Library Journal, Wilson Library Bulletin, and Choice).

Rising costs of reference books and the surfeit of new reference books published each year make this work an important and timely selection aid.

ANNIVERSARIES AND HOLIDAYS

(ALA, 1983, $20.00) provides quick identification of notable anniversaries, holy days, holidays, and special events days, and links outstanding days to books for further information or background reading. The book is designed to serve as an information tool for use by public and school librarians, research specialists in system reference centers, teachers, writers in the communication fields, public relations personnel planning programs and exhibits for special days, and the individual reader curious about holidays as one aspect of world history.

The fourth edition enlarges the international scope established in 1975. It includes the holidays and days of observance of 183 nations as compared with 153 in the third edition. The text of the fourth edition includes 2,637 entries and follows the pattern of earlier editions in including holy days and religious festivals, holidays and civic days, and days that commemorate the achievements of outstanding men and women or a memorable event.

The fourth edition has been brought up to date in recognition of the changes in the status of nations since the publication of the third edition in 1975. Increased emphasis has been placed on anniversaries and holidays honoring women. Several dozen holidays have disappeared in the last few years because of changing political conditions. In addition, the interests of industrial society have brought about a trend toward a planned limitation on the number of holidays and free-time festivals.

STUDY CONCLUDES
LIBRARY STORIES MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO CHILDREN

"Storyhours Do Make a Difference," a slide/tape presentation, and a book on the same subject showing the effectiveness of public library storyhours are now available from the Dallas (Texas) Public Library.

The book and presentation are the results of a study conducted by the Dallas Public Library and North Texas State University to determine the effectiveness of three types of public storyhour programs in the acquisition of receptive language (listening skills) by 3 to 5-year-old children.

Frances A. Smardo, early childhood librarian for the Dallas Public Library and an adjunct professor at North Texas State University, was the principal investigator of the study.

Weekly storyhour programs were presented for 24 weeks to 437 preschool children from daycare centers in different socioeconomic areas. Significant differences were found in the four groups. Children seeing live storyhours scored higher in the acquisition of listening skills than those in other groups. Children who saw either live storyhours or filmed versions achieved better listening skills than those viewing videotaped versions of the live storyhour and those in the control group who did not see storyhours in any form.

The 15-minute slide/tape presentation, consisting of 63 color slides, an audio-cassette tape, and a written script of the recording may be borrowed for up to three weeks from Dr. Frances A. Smardo, Early Childhood Librarian, Dallas Public Library, 1515 Young, Dallas, TX 75201. An $8 fee covers the postage, handling and insurance costs for its use. The book version of the study, What Research Tells Us About Storyhours and Receptive Language, may be purchased for $4.20 from the same address.
ESTHER MAE HENKE

Whenever you are in a public library in Oklahoma, your life is touched by Esther Mae Henke. For 30 years she has worked at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries in Oklahoma City, to improve the quality of library service to all Oklahoma citizens. It is with regret that her retirement is announced for December 31, 1983.

Ms. Henke is currently head of the Library Services Branch at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and oversees such varied state-wide programs as public library construction, the children’s summer reading program, continuing education for library staffs, performance evaluation, grants, and state aid. State institutions are assisted by the Library Services Branch, multi-county library systems are developed, and local library boards are provided consultant services.

Interested and active in all phases of library work, Ms. Henke has been involved in National, Regional and State library organizations, holding many offices and receiving many honors. She is most proud of the Distinguished Service Award presented to her in 1971 by the Oklahoma Library Association in recognition of inspired leadership, devoted service, and unusual contributions to Oklahoma libraries.

Esther Mae was born in Orlando, Oklahoma and began her career as a bookmobile librarian in Richmond, Missouri. She began work at the Oklahoma State Library in 1953 as a “Field Librarian”. She worked on the reference desk and was “allowed out” two days per week. In 1955 the first Multi-County Library Act was passed with the assistance of Allie Beth Martin, Edmon Low, Leta Dover, James Gorley, and Ralph Hudson. The Osage-Pawnee Multi-county Libraries were organized. In 1956 she was named Assistant State Librarian and in 1957 she became-head of the newly created Extension Division where she supervised two library consultants, one of whom was Virginia Owens.

Federal funds were received by the Oklahoma State Library for the first time: in 1963 the Oklahoma Council on Libraries was created and in 1966 the first State Library Citizen Board was named. 1967 saw the passage of the Public Library Code.

During her tenure at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, 8 multi-county library systems were developed, federal funds for public libraries were received for the first time. State codes for libraries were enacted and the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, itself, was formed from the combined State Library and Library Commission.

Although she intends to spend time gardening and traveling the world to watch solar and lunar eclipses, Esther Mae Henke will continue to assist the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, and through them, all Oklahoma public libraries, their librarians and users.

people and places

“Tending to criticize bad government, we all tend to ignore good government,” said the Daily Oklahoma, September 13, 1983.

“For example: We stopped at Warr Acres Library to ask about a fairly new book on electronic journalism.

“No, we don’t have it,” the clerk told us, ‘but let’s check the catalog.’ Stepping over to a semi-electronic machine with a TV-like screen, she skimmed through a list of ALL books available in ALL city-county libraries, and quickly found the book was available at four libraries — downtown, Belle Isle, Midwest City and Southern Oaks.

The librarian called downtown, someone there found the book and sent it via courier to Warr Acres where we picked it up the next day — less than 24 hours later.

Now that’s a good library — and good government.”
LIBRARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Financial Assistance for Library Education, Academic Year 1984-85 is now available from the American Library Association (ALA).

The annual directory gives information on scholarships and assistantships from state library agencies and associations, educational institutions and local libraries, as well as national awards. Most listings are for programs leading to the master's degree in library science, although some apply to undergraduate, sixth-year certificate, doctoral and continuing education programs.

Copies of the booklet are available upon request from the Standing Committee on Library Education (SCOLE), ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. Send $1 to cover postage and handling for single copies: Institutions and associations that wish to obtain multiple copies for distribution should contact SCOLE at ALA.

The Small Oklahoma Library Organization (SOLO)

The Small Oklahoma Library Organization was created in 1981 by a group of concerned librarians and library administrators for the purpose of creating a cooperative network of small, rural, school, college, and public libraries in Eastern Oklahoma. SOLO provides a structure for the sharing of human resources and ideas, as well as providing a forum for the discussion of problems and issues unique to the smaller, non-urban library.

SOLO offers programs of professional development through in-service training and continuing education opportunities held in Eastern Oklahoma. One-day workshops and seminars are conducted periodically each year covering a variety of topics of interest to the small library. Because meetings are held in Eastern Oklahoma costs and travel time are kept to a minimum. Close proximity also allows more library staff members the opportunity to attend the sessions.

Membership in SOLO is open to all types of libraries, librarians, library employees and library administrators in Eastern Oklahoma. Institutional membership fees are $50. Individual membership fees are $5 per year.

"The officers and current membership of SOLO want to make this organization a quality organization. We have pride in our professionalism and in the work we do for the communities we serve, whether we are serving public or student populations," states O. J. Grosclaude, SOLO President and Salislaw City librarian. The first issue of the SOLO newsletter has been published (Summer, 1983).

SOLO officers for 1982-83 include: O. J. Grosclaude, President, Salislaw City Library; Patsy Avery, Vice President, Stigler/Haskell County Library; Antonio, Secretary, Muskogee Public Library; Margaret Rigney, Treasurer, Connors State College.

The Chicago Tribune once called Henry Ford an ignoramus in print. Ford sued, challenging the paper to "prove it." During the trial Ford was asked dozens of simple, general information questions: "When was the Civil War?" "Name the Presidents of the United States." and so on. Ford, who had little formal education, could answer very few.

Finally, exasperated, he said, "I don't know the answers to those questions, but I could find a man in five minutes who does. I use my brain to think, not store up a lot of useless facts.

A similar story is told about Einstein. Someone once asked him how many feet are in a mile. "I don't know," Einstein is reported as saying, "why should I fill my head with things like that when I could look them up in any reference book in two minutes?"

These two men, giants of the century, knew what every good leader learns sooner or later: The ability to get information, and then act on it, is what gets things done. As one business leader recently put it: "I want people around me who can solve problems, not recite facts."

THE NEW NATIONAL SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA PROGRAM OF THE YEAR AWARDS

A new awards program to recognize excellence in school library media programs at both the elementary and secondary levels will be cosponsored by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and the Encyclopaedia Britannica Companies (EB).

These new awards, open to all types of schools and school districts for the first time, represent a new thrust to reward both excellence and innovation in school library media programs. This program, involves many months of planning and design by the cosponsors, to benefit schools, students, and citizens concerned with quality education.

At a time when the country's educational community is focusing on the A Nation At Risk report, it is vital that school library media programs receive recognition for the significant impact they have on the teaching and learning of students. Once again AASL, as joined by its longtime colleague in the private sector, the Encyclopaedia Britannica Companies, to bring public attention to this national effort.

Guidelines of the new awards provide that single school library media centers and entire school district library media programs in grades kindergarten through twelve will compete with others of comparable size. Three prizes of $2,500 each will be made in 1984, with one awarded for programs in small districts (under 15,000 students), one for medium districts (15,000-49,999 students), and one for large school districts of 50,000 or more.

Single schools and school systems — both public and non-public — are eligible to apply for the award. Each application will be judged by an AASL Committee on the basis of the quality of the program and the degree to which the program meets the needs of its own school community.

Recipients of the 1984 awards will be announced in the spring of 1984, and will be presented during the ALA Annual Conference in Dallas, Texas, June 23-28. The new awards program succeeds the AASL/EB School Library Media Program of the Year awards recognizing excellence at the elementary level during the decade 1973-1982. It is the first time that a single school can be eligible for this national recognition.

Britannica launched its first School Library Awards program for elementary schools in 1963 with the advisory assistance of AASL. Many national leaders participated in developing the initial awards, given annually through 1972. One of the main purposes was to build public support for the 1965 School Library Standards in cooperation with the National Library Week Reading Program, sponsored by the National Book Committee and American Library Association.

Application forms for the new awards are available from the American Association of School Librarians, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611. The application must be signed and submitted by the superintendent or equivalent officer. Completed applications should be forwarded to the AASL office and must be postmarked no later than December 1, 1983.

CALL FOR POSTERS

The OLA Continuing Education Committee invites you to present a poster at their poster session during the March 1984 OLA Convention in Tulsa.

A poster session is a way of exchanging information in an informal and lively manner. Easels are provided on which posters that summarize a project are mounted. The posters include brief descriptive narratives as well as photographs, charts, tables, or graphs so that projects are clearly described. The topics covered are very widely and may be of interest to only part of the "audience" that walks through the area to browse at the posters that attract their interest.

The posters are left up for several hours so that conference attendees can look at them at their convenience. At specified times, the people presenting the poster will be in attendance to discuss the project and to exchange ideas with anyone wanting more information. When posters are unattended, handouts or sign-up sheets for the names of people desiring further information are available.

At the March convention, the OLA Convention Education Committee will provide the easels, space and scheduling for several poster presentations. The poster sessions will set up in the exhibits area. Titles of the posters and names of the presenters will be listed in the conference program. Any topic related to the business of libraries is acceptable. The committee will balance the selection so that there will be something of interest to everyone. To give you an idea of the range of topics, here are titles of some poster sessions presented at the last American Libraries Association convention:

- "How to Bar Code 850,000 Volumes in One Week"
- "MICROSearch: A Tool for Searching ERIC"
- "A Job Search Aid"
- "Using Children'S Books to Nurture Self Discovery"
- "Social, Psychological and Demographic Characteristics of Adults with a Disposition Toward Library Censorship"

Anyone interested in presenting a poster is invited to submit their ideas to the committee. Send your name(s), address, telephone number and topic idea to: John Hinkle, Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries, 200 N.E. 18th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73105. The deadline for submission of your idea is January 13, 1984. The Committee will announce their selection by February 1, and will provide each presenter with advice on the construction of the poster.

Your poster may be the catalyst for the development of a network of people in Oklahoma who are interested in that specific topic. Please submit your suggestion soon. If you have any further questions, feel free to contact Carol Hughes, Chair, OLA Continuing Education Committee, 400 Civic Center, Tulsa, OK (918) 592-7893 or John Hinkle at the address above (800) 522-8116.

CHILDREN'S NONFICTION CONFERENCE

Next June, the College of Education at Brigham Young University will be sponsoring the First International Conference on Children's Nonfiction. The conference will be held for five days beginning June 18, 1984, and will be of value to teachers, librarians and others interested in the education of elementary school children. During the conference, eminent national authors, editors, publishers, and educators will conduct seminars and workshops on the creation of children's nonfiction books and their use in the classroom and home.
Standards for Federal Librarians

The General Accounting Office (GAO) report released on August 12 concluded that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has failed to demonstrate that the current minimum qualifications for federal librarians are inappropriate. The study, conducted from January through June, was initiated at the request of Reps. Patricia Schroeder (D-CO), Mary Rose O'Keeffe (D-OH) and Geraldine Ferraro (D-NY). Reacting to the report, three legislators, joined by Reps. William Ford (D-MI) and Donald Albosta (D-MI), urged OPM to withdraw the proposed standards until the credibility of OPM's standards development process is established. In a strongly worded letter to OPM Director Donald Devine, the five Members of Congress stated that the proposed changes could encourage the employment of less qualified librarians, and thus endanger the entire information network of the Federal government. The proposals are short-sighted attempts to save money at the expense of lowering the quality of the Federal workforce. Addressing several of the principal issues in the controversy, the letter to Devine stated:

"The report identified two criticisms that OPM has not fully addressed: the justification for lowering the minimum entry grade for librarians, and the credibility of OPM's standards development process. OPM proposes to reduce the entry grade for a librarian with a Master of Library Science degree from GS-9 to GS-7, on the grounds that the MLS degree is usually earned in less than two years. In effect, OPM is arbitrarily devaluing the MLS degree. OPM's artificial distinction between one-and two-year master's degrees is unreasonable, since a two-year MLS degree is "practically unavailable." Yet OPM has not done the research necessary to show that offering a GS-7 salary will be sufficient to attract qualified librarians. OPM has also proposed to lower the minimum qualification requirement from a Master of Library Science to a bachelor's degree or equivalent experience (GS-5). We are greatly disturbed by this blatant attempt to reduce the minimum entry grade in this female-dominated profession from GS-9 to GS-5."

GAO's ten-page report stated that OPM did not exceed its broad classification authority in developing the proposed standards, but failed to address librarians' criticisms concerning the reduced entry grade level and lowered minimum qualifications. GAO recommended that OPM consider determining whether federal librarians hired with less than a two-year MLS and those without the MLS perform successfully. GAO also suggested that OPM conduct statistically reliable occupational surveys and provide clear documentation to improve its credibility. OPM is required to submit a written statement on actions taken on the GAO recommendations to the Senate Committee on Government Affairs and the House Committee on Government Operations by Mid-October. Copies of the GAO report, Classification and Qualification Standards for the GS-1410 Library Information Services Series (GAO/GGD-83-97), are available from the Publications Office, U.S. General Accounting Office, Washington, D.C. 20548 (202/275-6241).

ALA's steering committee on the proposed standards is generally pleased with the results of the GAO review, but is disappointed that the report failed to mention the OPM omission of the highest knowledge requirements for librarian positions and referred only to criticisms by librarians, ignoring that by federal agency personnel.

Membership Directory

OLA's 1983-84 Directory, which includes membership through October 15, 1983, has been mailed to all members. A supplement will be issued in early January which will include memberships paid between October 15 and December 31. Please submit any corrections or address changes to OLA's Executive Secretary, 300 Hardy Drive, Edmond, OK 73034, prior to December 31.

Change of Address Notice

Name _________________________________
New Mailing Address _________________________________
New Telephone No. _________________________________
Mail to Kay Boiles, Executive Secretary
300 Hardy Drive
Edmond, OK 73034
Phone: (405) 348-2923

Thoughtful Gifts You Can't Buy

- Give your place in line to someone on his lunch hour.
- Bake a batch of cookies for the office.
- Smiley at a meter maid.
- Write "I Love You" on your mother's calendar.
- Thank a good friend for being one.
- Go out of your way to give someone a ride home.
- Offer to babysit for your babysitter's kids.
- Adopt a lonely puppy or a stray kitten.
- Throw a low-cal party for your dieting friends.
- Hand your mailman a hot cup of coffee.
- Give a hug to someone who needs you.
- Ask a puzzled tourist if you can be of any help.
- Share a ballgame with a kid who's never been to one.
- Tell your staff they've done a good job.
- Let a driver in front of you out of a stalled lane.
- Open the door for someone with an armload of packages.
- Make someone laugh who's low.
- Prate a peer at the next management meeting.
- Volunteer to drive an elderly person to the store.
- Sort out your paperbacks and take them to a rest home.
- Clean out your closets and give what you don't need to someone who does.
- Ask your doctor how he or she is feeling.
- Straighten the newspaper for the next person who reads it.
- Thank a tired and cranky sales clerk.
- Switch your TV to your roommate's favorite show.
- Make a casserole for your neighbor who's in the midst of moving.
- Return a borrowed book with a thank you note inside.
- Telephone a friend you haven't heard from for a while.
- Make a point of caring.

Make every day Christmas. Share a little of your time, a lot of your love with those who share your life.
IT'S A FACT!

- Charles Hobbs, of Ada, and Jimmie Pigg, of Moore, were among the more than 100 teachers who were honored with the 1983 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching. Mr. Hobbs received the honor for mathematics. Ms. Pigg was honored for science teaching.
- The College Entrance Examination Board has identified the following needs for entering college freshmen:
  1) A basic knowledge of how computers work and terminology,
  2) some ability to use the computer for retrieval of information,
  3) awareness of how computers may be used,
  4) some understanding of the problems confronting society and individuals in using computers, including social and economic impacts and ethics.
- More than 100 libraries in the New York City area now lend microcomputers. Fifty or so libraries elsewhere in the country provide the same service. Hundreds have coin-operated models to use in the library or models for free use there. Often the take-home model is the Timex, Sinclair 1000. Uses by patrons include trying out a particular model being considered for purchase, or trying out the idea of owning a microcomputer at all.
- The Oklahoma Corporation Commission scheduled hearings on the proposed rate increase for Southwestern Bell November 7, 1983. Because of the proposed rate increase and its potential impact on libraries, Southwestern Bell agreed to do a study of sample public libraries in the state, identifying their present billing and the proposed billing if the rate request is approved. The percentage of increase varies from 10 to 60 percent, according to telephone company study.
- USA Today has announced the beginning of "Classline," an education program that will provide the newspaper for a discount to classrooms with free guides for teachers. For more information, contact Classline, Box 500, Washington, DC 20004.

INSIDIOUS CENSORS!

In 1982, Thomas Nelson Publishers of Nashville, purchased the Dodd, Mead & Co. publishing firm of New York. Dodd, Mead & Co., a 144 year old firm, was one of the last major family owned publishers in the United States with a respectable stable of such authors as Agatha Christie, Winston Churchill, Sigmund Freud, H. G. Wells, George Bernard Shaw. Thomas Nelson is the largest publisher of bibles in the world. Soon after acquiring the secular book publisher, Thomas Nelson initiated a policy regarding books which take the name of the Lord in vain or use excessive vulgarity. To some the policy is confusing and arbitrary. A few authors are very angry and are charging censorship. William Murray's book, Tip on a Dead Crab, scheduled for publication by Dodd Mead in November, has been shelved due to a dispute over "some 20 phrases" construed to be swear words or expletives. Sitting in a warehouse is Richard Conniff's work, The Devil's Book of Verse, because the author refused to excise two poems to which Thomas Nelson objects.

— Oliver Delaney

THE SEQUOYAH PREVIOUS WINNERS ACTIVITY CARDS

BOOKMARK, INC., publisher of the SEQUOYAH CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD ACTIVITY CARDS, now has available THE SEQUOYAH, PREVIOUS WINNERS ACTIVITY CARDS.

There are twenty-five (25) previous winners, beginning with OLD YELLER, by Fred Gipson, in 1959. The 1983 winner is A DOG CALLED KITTY by Bill Wallace.

Mary Hagen, the author of the activity cards, has designed approximately five activities for each winner. The activity cards, which are packaged in a 4 x 6 file box, help promote the reading of these outstanding books, and offer interesting follow-up activities to the reader.

Use of materials and equipment in the library media center is encouraged, as well as other sources in the school and community.

All teachers of third through sixth grades, reading teachers, librarians and media specialists are invited to try the cards. The price is $9.95 plus $2.00 postage and handling charge per set.

To order THE SEQUOYAH PREVIOUS WINNERS ACTIVITY CARDS, the 1982-83 SEQUOYAH CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD ACTIVITY CARDS, or the 1983-84 SEQUOYAH CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD ACTIVITY CARDS; write to Bookmark, Inc., P.O. Box 14464, Oklahoma City, OK 73113. For additional information regarding any of the Sequoyah Cards, contact Liz Coddington of Bookmark, Inc., at the above address or phone (405) 751-5146 or 843-3909.