Helen Thomas  
Washington Bureau Chief, United Press International  
Oklahoma Library Association 1988 Annual Conference  
2nd General Session, March 11, 1988

I am honored to be here, I think. But I always leave Washington with fear and trepidation. Anything can happen and usually does. Today, the President tried to tighten the economic screws to get Panama’s strong man out and there are rumors flying that he will be forced to leave soon, but so far he is holding out against the colossus of the north. The special prosecutor in the Iran/Contra scandal also has started what is expected to be a run of indictments, starting with the indictment today of former National Security Advisor Robert McFarland. I'm not here to give you the news notes, but he did plead guilty to charges of lying to Congress.

Well, the big story in the country, and it will remain so until November, is the presidential race. Vice President Bush has the Republican nomination in the bag, we think. As well he should have. He has campaigned for eight years. He’s picked up all the IOUs. The Democratic ticket seems to be shaping up—Dukakis and Gore or vice versa Gore and Dukakis. And in all of this, Jesse Jackson seems to be a wild card. Jackson increased his appeal among the white voters by moving to the middle and toning down his rhetoric. He could be a key player in the Democratic race. He will go to the convention in Atlanta in July with a strong hand and a bunch of delegates. Senator Dole seems to have had it. Gephardt is on the ropes and the others have dropped like flies—Kemp yesterday and Gary Hart today.

Politics is a cruel business and is not for the fainthearted as we know. A woman was on the national ticket the last time around, but not this time. It was a breakthrough and it could happen again, but don’t hold your breath. Well, pundit or not, I don’t think anyone can call this election at this particular moment. There are some general observations surely. No candidate seems to be truly inspired. No candidate seems to be endowed with those great ideals of serving mankind or is that asking too much. So, let’s elect a woman.

Kidding aside, the man who had more opportunities in our national life to light a candle rather than curse the darkness is Bush. His résumé sparkles with responsibility, starting with the job he has now. He was CIA Director, UN Ambassador, two-term congressman, charge to China, but he left no tracks in any of these jobs—see no evil, hear no evil. His role or non-role in the Iran/Contra scandal is haunting. Secret dealings with a nation that they had tagged as terrorist went on for two years. I think Bush said he was at an Army-Navy game. I didn’t know it lasted for two years. Anyway, Bush headed the anti-terrorist task force and like others in the administration, he kept pounding his fist in every speech, publicly saying we will never deal, never negotiate with terrorists. And no one can remember one word of opposition that he uttered publicly or privately.

All of the candidates bear close scrutiny as well they should. They’ll cater to our regional prejudices. They’ll tell us what we want to hear. They’ll all wear sincere ties or bowties. Meanwhile, back at the ranch sits President Ronald Reagan. The last thing he wants is to be counted out. He abhors the label lame duck. He wants to go down with all flags flying. And then, there is the question of God’s involvement in this campaign. Two evangelicals with messages, politicians from the pulpit, now a natural phenomenon in our national life. But, I often wonder, does God really care?

So it appears at this moment that

Continued on page 50
Continued from page 49
the undecided are winning. The voter seems to be withholding judgment on who should lead the nation closer to the 21st Century. Maybe some of you have made up your minds, but it seems to be a very tentative time for all as the men in the arena promote their candidacies.

The summit meeting between Reagan and Gorbachev last December did raise the hopes of mankind. Since World War II, we have known some coexistence with the Soviets, but mostly the name of the game has been hostility and the Cold War. Yes, we did recover from the excitement and thrill of knowing that east and west sometimes can bridge the gap and peace is better than war. In his fading presidency, Reagan is learning that peace can bring more joy than all of the macho Rambo far and wide. So we now have a president who rages against the dying light. He wants to leave as a peacemaker.

As for the summit, it seems so long ago, that jump out of the limousine to shake hands with people did more for Gorbachev’s image than a hundred speeches and it did humanize the Russians in the eyes of the American people. Just watch Reagan in Moscow in May. He is going to try to compete if they will let him get near one Soviet citizen. Actor that he is, he knows when he’s been upstaged. The Gorbachevs charmed the openhearted Americans. For reporters, there weren’t too many scoops, but I did learn that in the first meeting, Gorbachev leaned over to Reagan and he said, “Ron, you can have all the missiles you want. Just keep my wife out of Bloomingdale’s.” I guess the height of the new detente was personified on New Year’s Day in Palm Springs when Bob Hope told the President, “Thanks for saying all of those nice things, even if I’m not Russian.”

For the moment the President is riding high and the new arms treaty has put him back up there in the popularity polls. The President has always had a “High Noon” image in the White House, and he has now found out that there are limitations even for a nuclear power, especially for a nuclear power. And as he has moved toward detente, he has tried to appease his angry conservative supporters. Several of them were invited to the Gorbachev State Dinner. Nevertheless, he incurred their wrath when he said in an interview that the conservative opposition believes that a nuclear war is inevitable between the super powers. Fortunately, somewhere along the way to the forum the President changed his own mind and he decided that a nuclear war could never be won. It’s what Winston Churchill called the sublime irony of mutual terror or the balance of terror.

Yes, the presidency is on-the-job training. Some learn the hard way. Some repeat the mistakes of the past. Some never learn and they walk out the same door they came in. The presidency is certainly the greatest public honor that can come to anyone, but living up to that special place in history is another story. We are pursued these days by what is private and what is legitimately public. All I can say is that if you decide to run for the highest office in the land, you have to know that your life will be an open book. Your finances, your family, skeletons in the closet—all will be exposed, if not by the media then by the political opposition or even people in your own party. And a candidate can say all he wants that it’s none of your business, but it is the people’s business. Once you decide to run for public office there is too much at stake and no place to hide. As a matter of fact, if you seek a top government job, it seems that you had better make up your mind at the age of seven and live accordingly. I’m teasing, but it’s not so far off. Potential candidates are finding themselves under a microscope. For better or for worse, a candidate will be judged not as Caesar’s wife, but surely on character and honor. Everyone today is wired for sound. Everyone is on camera if they are public persons. One might presume that such a scrutiny would be a deterrent, but as you can see, there is no dirth of candidates going for the brass ring.

We have been through a lot in Washington this past year. Sometimes we were not sure who was at the helm—Ollie North or William Casey. For all who aspire to the role of leadership, credibility and accountability are the sine qua non that make the difference. We do hold them to a high ethic because they hold the public trust. Most things are forgiveable, but lies are not. Candidates should take heed of Johnny Carson’s quip, “Only lie about the future.” As the late Senator Aiken used to say in the Watergate era, “If you tell the truth, you don’t have to remember what you said last time.”

Well, some of the dust has settled in the Iran/Contra scandal. The President has survived, although his credibility has suffered, his leadership has been called into question. The President had two roads to go—complicity, which would have been even more costly, or professing ignorance and he chose the latter as the better part of valor. The President had promised to shout from the rooftops once the devastating hearings were over and to tell his side of the story. Instead, we heard not a bang, but a whimper, with the President saying, “There is nothing I can say that will make the situation right.” Well, his likability saved him from the fall and it was operation survival and it worked; an inaccessible president with a very protective staff. Any good PR person would have advised the same, but somewhere the truth was lost forever. The Congressional report says that the President failed to see that the laws of this land would be fully executed and that if he didn’t know he should have and his only reaction according to his chief of staff was that he felt put upon.

We saw in the hearings Admiral Poindexter and Colonel North, two military men, both of whom had sworn on the Bible many times to uphold the laws of this land, publicly boast that they had lied, deceived Congress and everyone else at the top strata, altered reports, shredded and burned official documents after a government inquiry was underway. They shredded the truth to confetti. North said that if he had his way he would divulge nothing to Congress. Poindexter said, “Our goal was to withhold information.” This is a man who was touted as having a photographic mind who said, “I do not recall” 184 times. Fawn Hall, North’s secretary told the Congress, “Sometimes, you have to rise above the written law.” The scandal involved putting American
foreign policy in private hands outside the law, using international arms, profiteers, as go-betweens putting the arm on potenitates, rich widows. Some 10 federal agencies, 13 foreign countries were involved. Well, the so-called prying White House Press Corps was the last to know. In the Watergate scandal, John Mitchell’s memorable line was, “Watch what we do, not what we say.” Last year, Reagan told Republican leaders, “The people like me, but they don’t believe me.” We are all quite sure that Reagan will pardon Poindexter and North sooner or later. Some fifty years ago, Justice Brandeis said that if the government becomes a lawbreaker, it breeds contempt for the law. He also said that a constant spotlight on public officials lessens the possibility of corruption. Well, great presidents stand up to be counted and they must always rise to unforeseen occasions. They also know that in terms of their responsibility, all roads lead to Rome. One man’s courage is a majority.

The President now has what we would call a caretaker government and he is revving up for his last hurrah and in all of his speeches he says he is going to have a “socko third act” and a “triumphant fourth quarter”. Nevertheless, the Reagan Revolution is winding down and he feels that he has miles to go before he sleeps. He has two obsessions—Star Wars and knocking off the Sandinista Government in Nicaragua. His chief of staff, Howard Baker, is steering him more toward the middle, more moderation in his dying months of office. His wife, Nancy, is playing a more influential role to make sure that they leave center stage gracefully. Well, Reagan believes that the only role of government is national security. But Lincoln said that government should do for people what they cannot do for themselves.

On the bright side, and there is one, the President has a great sense of humor and after the feud between his wife, Nancy, and former Chief of Staff Donald Regan ended with Regan’s ouster (and it was real all right), Reagan said that the two decided to have lunch to patch things up and the only others invited were the foottasters. And as the devastating hearings loomed, casting a deep shadow over his morning in the White House, Reagan said, “I’ve been shot, had colon cancer, skin cancer, prostate surgery—those were the good old days.” And, when he was shot, he told his wife, “Honey, I forgot to duck.” Well, the President has run the White House like a chairman of the board, delegating duties and not worrying about details. It’s the style the people like.

Jimmy Carter was faulted for being so immersed in the nitty gritty, nuts and bolts, even to deciding who would use the White House tennis court next. Reagan loves being president and that’s refreshing in a way. No sweat. He doesn’t agonize over decisions. He sleeps at night. We might not. He’s not like all those presidents who call the presidency the splendid misery or the loneliest job in the world.

Last year, we bowed to the foresight of the founding fathers 200 years ago. What could be a more worthy cause in our national life, especially at this moment, than the Constitution? In history, we have seen the vision of the founding fathers in terms of our freedoms and our rights and we have seen the Constitution used and abused. Most of all, we have seen it prevail and endure and, despite the problems, one can be a true believer in democracy. Winston Churchill called it the worst form of government except for all the others that have been invented. And sometimes, in sophisticated Washington, one might think that really isn’t the way the game is played. But it has to be because that’s the way it works—mutual respect, but never put politicians or, come to think of it, presidents on a pedestal. They don’t belong there.

But, if the President has been beleaguered, you should read our mail. Letter writers are ten to one against reporters and we are called vultures, piranhas. Sam Donaldson gets the most mail. I must say that some letter writers do say, go to it, find out the truth, we do have a right to know. Yes, we do urge the President to hold more news conferences because, believe it or not, it is the only forum in our society where a president can be questioned and held accountable. The President had only three news conferences last year. I saw two presidents go down the drain because they could no longer convince, persuade or govern—Lyndon Johnson in the Vietnam War and Richard Nixon in the Watergate Scandal. But I can assure you there is no joy in the fall from grace of any president, shattering of all good faith in the country. On the other hand, there is some satisfaction in knowing that no man, not even a president, is above the law.

I am often asked how I prepare for a news conference. First, I go to the hairdresser. I can assure you, your family and your friends don’t care what you ask; they want to know if you are well-groomed. We in the press believe in the people’s right to know almost everything for a nation ignorant and free never was, never will be, a democracy. From my view from the bridge, secrecy is more harmful to a free society than any so-called news leak. We know that no dictatorship can operate or survive under a free press. The journalistic creed is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable. And, of course, cynics that we are, we never believe a rumor until it is officially denied. I try to cover presidents as if they were human beings, tough sometimes, since they do enshrine themselves with imperial trappings.

Every president since George Washington has had his troubles with the press. In our press room at the White House, there is a photograph of FDR enscribed to reporters from “their devoted victim.” Truman said, “When the press stops abusing me, I know I’m in the wrong pew.” Kennedy said, “I’m reading more and enjoying it less.” What LBJ said is unprintable. Once Nixon looked up when we reporters walked into the cabinet room and he said, “it is only coincidental that we are talking about pollution when the press walks in.” Carter always seemed to be saying, “Lord, forgive them for they know not what they do.” Reagan has had a few choice names for us like “those SOBs” on an open mike. Last year when the Sandinistas tired on a press helicopter near the Honduran border, Reagan quipped, “Well, there is some good in everyone.”

Continued on page 53
OSU Library Announces New Faculty Appointments

Ella Macleod Melik assumed duties in the Oklahoma State University Library as Assistant Reference Librarian (Library Instruction) on September 6 of this year. Ms. Melik holds the B.A. (1971) and the M.A. (1973) in French and German from the University of Glasgow, Scotland. She received the postgraduate Diploma in Library and Information Studies in 1975 from the Polytechnic of North London. She is currently enrolled in the Certificate of Advanced Studies Program in Library Science at the University of Oklahoma.

Prior to her recent appointment in the OSU Library, Ms. Melik served for two years as Public Services Librarian at the Metropolitan Library System in Oklahoma City. She had previously served as Assistant Librarian with the British Council, London, and as an Information Assistant with the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Jan E. Hester joined the faculty of the Oklahoma State University Library as Assistant Physical Sciences and Engineering Librarian on September 26. Ms. Hester received the B.A. from Southern Methodist University in 1986 and was awarded the M.S.L.S. from Catholic University in July of this year.

OLA SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

1988
December 4-11 Hanukkah
December 9 *Mail Ballots to Executive Secretary
December 16 Executive Board/Program Committee-Guthrie Historical Society
December 25 Christmas Day

1989
January 1 New Year’s Day
*Oklahoma Librarian Deadline
January 6 Sequoyah Children’s Book Award Committee Meeting
January 7-12 ALA Midwinter, Washington, D.C.
January 15 *Submit Items for Bulk Mailing to be mailed February 1
January 20 Executive Board/Program Committee-Sheraton, OKC
February 8 Ash Wednesday
February 10 Sequoyah Children’s/Young Adult Joint Committee Meeting
February 17 Executive Board/Program Committee-ODL
*Count Ballots for OLA Offices (Nom. Comm. Chairs)
February 21 Legislative Day
February 23-24 CUD/ADRT/OK Chap. ACRL Workshop, Tulsa
March 1 *Oklahoma Librarian Deadline
March 3-4 Oklahoma Reading Council Spring Conference
March 17 Executive Board/Program Committee-Hardesty, Tulsa
March 19 Palm Sunday
March 24 Good Friday
March 26 Easter
March 31 Reference Roundtable Workshop
April 1 Intellectual Freedom Committee Workshop
*Submit Annual Report to Executive Secretary
April 5-8 ALA/Asso. of College & Research Libraries, Cincinnati
April 9-15 National Library Week
April 20-27 Passover
April 21 Executive Board/Program Committee-ODL
May 1 *Oklahoma Librarian Deadline
May 3-6 Annual Conference—Sheraton, Oklahoma City
May 13 *Return Handbooks to Executive Secretary for Updating
May 26 Sequoyah Children’s Book Award Committee Meeting
June 1 *Prepare Predecessor’s Notebook for OLA Archives
June 16 Executive Board/Program Committee-Norman Public Library
June 24-29 ALA, Dallas

Pamela Scales is now a Librarian in McFarlin Library at the University of Tulsa. Pamela holds an MLIS from the University of Oklahoma and an MA in German. She is a librarian with the University of Colorado, where she has also held a German position. Prior to receiving her MLIS in 1987, Pamela was an intern in the University of Law Library and a copy cataloger in McFarlin Library.

TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN OLA
I have many memories of covering the White House. There have been times to laugh, times to cry, and times to wonder. I remember in Plains, Georgia, when we were watching Carter play on the front porch with his grandchildren on Christmas Day. He was obviously playing to the camera. His son Jeff walked over to us and the cameraman said, “Don’t you feel sorry for your dad, the burdens, the press always watching?” “No, Jeff said, “He asked for it.” And, I remember riding on Air Force One when Kennedy came back and we asked him what would happen if the airplane crashed. “I know one thing,” he said, “Your name will be just a footnote.” And I remember when Jackie came aboard with a new German shepherd named Clipper and we sent her a note, question: “What do you feed Clipper?” And, she wrote back, “Reporters.” And, I remember when Kennedy gave a dinner for Nobel Prize Winners and in his toast, he said, “Never have so many intellectuals gathered under one roof since Thomas Jefferson dined alone.” Scientist Linus Pauling, also a Nobel winner, picketed the White House that very day with a “Ban the Bomb” sign, went back to his hotel, changed into a tux and came back to the White House for dinner and I thought it was a splendid moment in democracy. I remember when Martin Luther King came through the receiving line at the White House and Kennedy told him, “I have a dream.” I remember when a rabbi spoke at the Martin Luther King rally at the Lincoln Memorial and he said, “The greatest sin of all in the Nazi era was silence.” And, I remember when Sarah Vaughan sang at the White House and then she danced with Johnson and Hubert Humphrey. Later she cheerfully told us, “Twenty-five years ago, I couldn’t sit down in a restaurant in this town.”

Stories about Johnson would fill a library. We were often invited to the ranch and once at dinner at the ranch, Johnson asked Bill Moyers, who had been a Baptist minister and was then his press secretary, to say grace. Moyers bent his head and began to pray. Johnson commanded, “Speak up Bill.” “I wasn’t talking to you, Mr. President,” Moyers replied. When Johnson was taken to Bethesda Naval Hospital outside of Washington for gall bladder surgery, the psychiatric ward had been transformed into a press room. “What happened to the patients?” Johnson asked Moyers. “We gave them all press cards,” Moyers replied. And I remember when someone said, “I don’t mind Carter being born again, but did he have to come back as himself?” And, I remember asking Billy Carter if he, too, had been born again and he said once is enough. Then there was my favorite, Miss Lillian, Carter’s mother, who said, “Sometimes when I look at my children, I wish I had remained a virgin.” And I remember interviewing Miss Lillian in Plains in 1976. She was fuming over a French woman correspondent who had belabored Carter’s promise never to lie who asked her what she meant by that and so forth and finally she said to Miss Lillian, “Do you lie?” Miss Lillian said, “Well, I might tell a little white lie.” “What do you mean by a little white lie?” the correspondent said. Miss Lillian said, “Do you remember when you came through that door and I told you how beautiful you looked? Well, that was a little white lie.” And on her 82nd birthday, she swept through our press room and I asked her what great bit of wisdom she could impart to us from all of her 82 years of living. She said, “I learned never to open my mouth around Helen Thomas.” And I remember the first time I got to say thank you Mr. President. We were getting near to the end of a news conference and Kennedy was trying to work his way out of the question. He kept talking, hoping to find the answer. Finally, I got up and I said, “Thank you Mr. President.” He said, “Thank you Helen.” And I remember Martha Mitchell who said politics is a dirty business. And in the world of political celebrities, there was Henry Kissinger, the man with the mammoth ego. A woman ran up to Kissinger and said, “Oh, Dr. Kissinger, thank you for saving the world.” And he said, “You’re welcome.” And when he teased his secret service agents that he might be kidnapped by terrorists, they told him, “Don’t worry, we’ll never let them take you alive.”

We in the press know that we are not loved and we know that we don’t win popularity contests. We know that the pendulum swings with the times, often with the story. Sometimes we do wish that our role was better understood, but that might be asking too much of a public that wants to kill the messenger who brings the bad news. Still it behooves us all to be fair and responsible and I often think of newspapers as shared pain. While we are not looking for trouble, we all must remain watchful. Jefferson said eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. Engraved in the mantel in the state dining room at the White House, below a magnificent portrait of Lincoln, is a prayer by John Adams which says, “May only good and wise men live here.” We all hope for that. Lincoln said, “Let the people know the facts and the country will be safe.” I believe that and I have found that people can handle the truth and they deserve no less. And I do believe that we should keep an eye on presidents who have life and death power over all humanity today to keep the people informed and democracy alive. Thank you.

Best Wishes for the New Year

ROUSE RECEIVES AWARD

Roscoe Rouse, Jr., Librarian Emeritus and University Historian, Oklahoma State University, on July 11, 1988, in New Orleans, received the Alumni Recognition Award from the University of Michigan School of Information and Library Studies.

The award was given for Rouse’s professional activities and the many contributions he has made to the field of library and information services.

Library organization and management, for him, has covered a period of forty years, with all but three of these as head of an academic library. During a thirty-five year period he served as director of three major university libraries: Baylor, SUNY-Stony Brook and Oklahoma State University where, in each, his successful reputation can be attributed to initiative, a good sense of responsibility, hard work and the ability to cope with administrators, staff and the public served.
POLLY CLARKE AWARD
WINNER ANNOUNCED

Shan Glandon

The Oklahoma Association of School Library Media Specialists recently announced the winner of the first OASLMS Polly Clarke Award at the OASLMS Luncheon during the Encyclo-Media Workshop in September.

Eight library media specialists were nominated for the award which is designed to identify and reward librarians who practice cooperative planning and teaching. Nominees were judged on the basis of evidence of a well-balanced library program in the areas of curriculum support, instruction and administration of the library program, and professional involvement in the library media field. Those honored were: Sue Langley, Broken Bow Middle School; Colleen Arnold, Longfellow Junior High School, Enid; Sara Copeland, Wright City School; Bobbie Parrott, Parkview Elementary School, Oklahoma City; Vilene Davis, Pocola High School; Donna Richey, Westmoreland High School, Moore; and Vicki Stewart, Bartlesville Schools.

The OASLMS Polly Clarke Award was named to honor longtime Northern State University library science educator Polly Clarke. The winner of this first award was Shan Glandon, library media specialist at Jenks West Elementary School.

Her principal says of the Polly Clarke award winner, "I am of the opinion that she demonstrates an exemplary library media program that deserves recognition, not only on the state level, but also on the national level." A classroom teacher says of her, "Never give her an idea of a unit on which you would like her help unless you're sure you want to do it because she will have it organized and ready for you before you can turn around."

In addition to administering a media center which serves 630 students, she has in just three years in Oklahoma, developed a scope and sequence for information skills at her school, sponsored a yearly Book Fair, and prepared a constitution project and an election project. She was a presenter at Encyclo-Media in 1987 and 1988. Shan developed two episodes of the Public Media television program "At Home With an

Oklahoma Library Association Receives Grant for Centennial Project

The Oklahoma Library Association has received a grant from the Oklahoma Foundation for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities to develop two reading and discussion programs in conjunction with Oklahoma's upcoming centennial celebrations. The programs, titled "The Oklahoma Experience," will focus on writings and ideas of various aspects of life in Oklahoma that make Oklahoma unique. "We hope to bring attention to many Oklahoma authors, but we will also use writings by non-Oklahomans who have had significant insight into people and events in our state," says Dr. Jennifer Kidney, project director.

Working with Kidney on the project are Dr. William W. Savage, Jr., professor of history at the University of Oklahoma, and Frank Parman, co-editor of Point Riders Press. Savage is the author of Singing Cowboys and All That Jazz, a book about musical traditions and history of Oklahoma. Parman, also a playwright, is author of Daybook of Western Heroes.

"We're hoping to have programs in several libraries next spring. The format of the programs will be very similar to the popular "Let's Talk About It" programs," stated Kidney, who is also State Project Director for the "Let's Talk About It" reading and discussion programs in Oklahoma libraries.

Libraries and other non-profit organizations that are interested in sponsoring an "Oklahoma Experience" program in the spring should contact Kidney at the Norman Public Library, (405) 321-1481.

Letter to Reference Roundtable Members

Once again we need your membership and your input for program planning this year, specifically for workshop ideas. We have a date - March 31 - on the OLA calendar, and are seeking a topic that will be useful continuing education for all reference librarians. Send your suggestions and attend planning meetings.

The May 4 Annual Conference program is already looking great. Betsy Baker from Northwestern University (whom some of you knew when she did her M.L.S. at the University of Oklahoma) is scheduled to present "Reference Services in an Automated Setting." Since all of us are increasingly facing this situation, it should be helpful.

The current membership list indicates that quite a few of us have not yet paid OLA dues for this year. Would you doublecheck to be sure you have done so? OLA really needs our support.

I'd also like to remind you of the "Reference Roundup" column in the Oklahoma Librarian. It can't exist if you don't send news! Any of the following:

a. new reference sources
b. interesting questions and the sources
c. CD ROM technology in reference
d. database search tips
e. ready reference sources at various school levels
f. reports on special projects
g. humorous incidents
h. any item of interest you wish to share with colleagues statewide

Okay? So pay your dues, come to planning meetings, and send news! Let's keep in touch.

Bev Joyce, OU Libraries

Oklahoma Author", and she has published articles in the School Library Media Activities Monthly and School Library Journal. Prior to coming to Oklahoma in 1986, Shan was a member of the New York Library Association and vice-president/president-elect of the Buffalo School Library Association.

New York's loss has been Oklahoma's gain. Polly Clarke would be pleased to see the first annual award in her honor go to Shan Glandon.
Grant Available

Library science students have the opportunity to experience the educational benefits of the Oklahoma Library Association Annual Conference next May 3-6, in Oklahoma City through participation in the JMRT/Baker & Taylor Grassroots Grant Program.

The program offers one $250 scholarship to a student majoring in library science in an undergraduate or graduate program. Students enrolled in library technical assistant programs are also eligible to apply. To qualify, students must be members of the Oklahoma Library Association and OLA Junior Members Round Table. The winner will be selected on the basis of professional promise and leadership ability.

Baker & Taylor and the Junior Members Round Table of the American Library Association have offered Grassroots Grants in each state and the District of Columbia since 1978. The grants may be used to defray travel, housing and other costs associated with attending the annual library conference in each state. Any remaining money used for the student's library education.

Student's interested in applying for the 1988/1989 Grassroots Grant should contact their local library program coordinator or Richard Bledsoe, Bizzell Library, University of Oklahoma, Norman 73019, telephone 405/325-2607.

The deadline for Grassroots Grant applications is March 1, 1989.


This guide is meant to provide a clear summary of major decisions faced by anyone starting or operating a small business in Oklahoma. Included is a minutely detailed checklist for starting a business in Oklahoma. Other information includes facts about franchising, investment incentives and taxation; minority small business opportunities.
NEW FROM THE H.W. WILSON COMPANY

FALL 1988

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BOOKTALK! 3
By Joel Bodart-Palma.
$28 U.S. and Canada, $32 other countries.
This booktalks-only supplement to the highly acclaimed Booktalk! 2 offers more than 400 new selections for audiences from children to adults.

INDEX TO POETRY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE: 1982-1987
Compiled by G. Meredith Blackburn III and Lorraine A. Blackburn.
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Over 100 poetry collections published between 1982 and 1987 are indexed in this listing of approximately 10,000 poems for the very young and elementary, junior and senior high school students.

INDEX TO LEGAL PERIODICALS THESaurus
$25 U.S. and Canada, $35 other countries.
A ready-reference guide to the subject terms used in Index to Legal Periodicals, this volume speeds research by including broad, narrow, and related terms in one convenient list.

PLAY INDEX, 1983-1987
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