

# Oklahoma LIBRARIAN

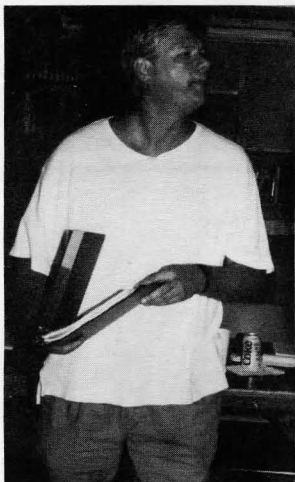
Volume 46, No. 4  
July/August, 1996

## OLA's New Leadership Jump Starts the Year in Stillwater

### Introductions, Accelerated Planning for Coming Year, and Mexican Food

Things start happening when people get together to brainstorm and work toward common goals. People may bring out surprising facets of each other. Gerald Hickman, 1996/97 chair of the Bylaws Committee, introduced himself to the new OLA leaders and added, "If we have a revolution, you'll have to go through me!" Later he looked startled, and said, "It must've come from associating with Marty [Thompson, 1996/97 OLA President] too much."

On June 16-17, Marty and the current OLA team met in the Browsing Room of the OSU Library to get acquainted and start planning this coming year. Down to business—our most



Marty provides guidance during the 1996 Leadership Conference.

important activities are continuing education for the membership and legislative action.

"This is your year," said Marty, "I see myself as a facilitator." He emphasized the need for groups to provide enough continuing education opportunities THROUGHOUT the state to provide for everyone, even those who choose not to go to the annual conference. "Try some different things," Marty said. He reminded people that, "what you are elected to do is your responsibility," but if you keep moving, everything works out, especially if you involve others.

Because of the combined

MPLA/OLA annual meeting in Shangri-La, we have a wonderful chance to interact with librarians from out of state. Because OLA will be entertaining a lot of guests who don't know us and don't know Oklahoma, the conference will have more fun things to bring us all together. And we're already known around the country for our wonderful hospitality.

### OLA Home Page

A year and a half ago, Bob Swisher put a home page up on the Internet. The Leadership Conference included discussion of the OLA home page and what should be on it, with the business of OLA a clear priority. The group continued brainstorming about potential audiences for the web page, and many policy concerns. Andy Peters, Pioneer Library System, has agreed to be Webmaster and leader of a home page committee. This new emphasis on electronic communication is a beginning—the paperless Association is not imminent. OLA's also continuing with all its current communication means.

### Program Planning

Kay Boies highlighted OLA policies and procedures. Once the ideas have been hatched, people need to know how to make those ideas happen.

Wrapping up the Leadership Conference, Kathleen Todd, program committee chair, and Peggy Cook, her helper, led the group in its first conference program planning meeting—a month earlier than in most years. We brainstormed. What makes a conference? What makes a celebration?... History and ritual are associated with them, opening and closing activities, colors, food. Many possible themes were tossed around, most playing on western or frontier ideas. In Stillwater, the new leadership got a great start for this next year.

### Do you pay attention to what other people are doing and share the news with others?

Help yourself, help your peers, and help your association. Spread the news if someone is good at some particular thing, or is especially interested in and knowledgeable about something. This is a simple way to share our resources, since none of us can know everyone. Ideas and energy are our best and most constant resources and they have to be cultivated, encouraged and shared. It is part of mentoring. It is part of

being a professional.

With your sharing, maybe someone will be put in touch with someone new. Maybe a workshop will be put in motion. If you let me know, maybe an article in this newsletter will be an end result, perhaps a contribution to OLA's web page on the Internet. Or maybe someone will just have a great idea or a solution that they hadn't had before.

As Beta Phi Mu president-elect Mar-

ion Reid told a group of librarians in Norman this spring, "Make a contribution. Write— it doesn't have to be a refereed, scholarly article to be a professional contribution. Write a meeting report, a poem, or even do a cartoon!"

Without each other, we can't get to where we want.

—Editor



# OLA President's Message

As incoming president, I would like to thank all the members for their support and the elected officers and committee chairs who participated in the Leadership Retreat this year. Everyone appeared to be eager, willing, and excited about the upcoming year. The Association continues to build on the success of previous years and this year has all the signs of being successful. However, true success is in each of us and I encourage everyone to become involved and take an active role in the Association this year.

Many have been anxiously awaiting this year when the Oklahoma Library Association (OLA) hosts a combined meeting with the Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA). This meeting will provide an opportunity for each of us to meet new colleagues and share our in-

dividual areas of expertise. Any suggestions that you may have for this meeting should be communicated to the individual(s) representing you at Program Committee meetings. Through your involvement, this meeting has the potential of being the next highlight in the Association's achievements and the best combined meeting in MPLA history. The Shangri-La Resort provides new surroundings and sets a different atmosphere for this meeting.

This is an election year and each of us should become involved in the political process in Oklahoma. I encourage you to work for candidates that represent your political philosophy and make library supporters out of these candidates. There is no question that our ability as an association to affect legislation is improved when the librarians making calls were also involved in the election of a legislator as well as being constituents. Because the Oklahoma budget is not increasing dramatically, each of us has a vested interest in seeking the support of elected officials to continue providing and hopefully increase

the support for Oklahoma libraries.

The opportunity to thank the individuals who have influenced our careers does not always present itself. Therefore, I would like to take the liberty of doing that this year in each of my presidential columns. This will allow me to give special thanks to deserving individuals and to introduce the names of members who are no longer active in the Association to younger members. This month I would like to thank Francis Kennedy. Ms. Kennedy was the Director of the Oklahoma City University Library for many years, President of OLA, and a recipient of the OLA Distinguished Service Award. She influenced my decision to become a librarian which paved the way for me to become who and what I am today. I am not the only librarian whose career was influenced by this lovely, dynamic lady; these individuals are scattered throughout the country. Ms. Kennedy is a special person whose interests in libraries, the people who use them, and fellow librarians has improved Oklahoma libraries.

--Marty Thompson

THE OKLAHOMA LIBRARIAN is the official bulletin of the Oklahoma Library Association. It is published bi-monthly. The inclusion of an article or advertisement does not constitute official endorsement by the Association. It is mailed to each member of the Association upon payment of annual dues.

Editor:

Rachel Butler

Oklahoma City Community College

Circulation Manager:

Kay Boies

(405) 348-0506

**Circulation and Advertising Office:**

THE OKLAHOMA LIBRARIAN, 300 Hardy Drive, Edmond, OK 73013. Third class postage paid at Edmond, OK 73034. Publishers Permit No. 61. Circulation 1000.

**Editorial Office:** Rachel Butler, Oklahoma City Community College, 7777 S. May Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73159. (405) 682-1611 x7643. Printed by Transcript Press, Norman, OK 73069. c. OLA.

**OLA SCHEDULE/HOLIDAYS**

August 29	Certification Curriculum Development Meeting, ODL
September	Library Card Sign-Up Month
September 1	<i>Oklahoma Librarian</i> Deadline
September 2	Labor Day
September 5	Legislative Committee, ODL - 10 a.m.
September 6	Sequoyah YA Committee, Library for the Blind, OKC - 10 a.m. Sequoyah Children's, ODL - 10 a.m.
September 10	Intellectual Freedom Committee, OKC
September 14-15	Rosh Hashanah
September 20	Program Committee/Executive Board, OKC Community College
September 23	Yom Kippur
September 26	Sequoyah Children's, Encyclo-Media - 6 p.m.
September 26-27	Encyclo-Media, Oklahoma City
Sept. 28-Oct. 5	Banned Books Week
Oct. 1 & 3	ODL OLTNcat Training for WebPac libraries, ODL
October 3	Legislative Committee, ODL - 10 a.m.
October 8	ODL OLTNcat Training, Waynoka
October 9	ODL OLTNcat Training, Yale
October 10	ODL OLTNcat Training, Locust Grove
October 13-16	LAMA/LITA Joint National Conference, Pittsburgh
October 14	Columbus Day
October 16	ODL OLTNcat Training, McAlester
October 17	ODL OLTNcat Training, Anadarko
October 18	Program Committee/Executive Board, Shangri La

# Best Wishes to Pat!

by Jan Keene

Pat Woodrum recently announced her retirement effective October 31 and her intention to run for State Senate in District 35. We wish to say thanks for all she has contributed to OLA and libraries in our state during her 32-year career.

Pat began her career with the Tulsa City-County Library System in 1964, as the first branch librarian of the Woodland Hills Branch. In 1966 she was promoted to head the Reference Department at Central Library. Following the birth of her son Clay, she returned to direct the Extension Division until 1970, when she took on all public services. In 1973, she became Assistant Director, and was appointed Director in 1976, following the death of Allie Beth Martin.

She has served OLA in many ways, chairing the following committees: Sequoyah, National Library Week, Nominating, Legislative, Program Planning, Budget, and Standards; and serving on numerous others. She served as Chair of the Public Library Division and President of the Association in 1979. Pat's efforts in library election campaigns are perhaps her most important contributions to the state—S.Q. 507 to raise the millage cap from 2 to 4 mills, S.Q. 666 to permit single county library development and extend the cap to 6 mills for some districts, and in the defeat of S.Q. 669.

OLA honored Pat with the Distinguished Service Award in 1982 and a Special Meritorious Service Award in 1996.

ALA has benefited from her leadership as President of PLA, Chair of PLA's 2nd National Conference and Chair of ALA's Development Advisory Committee. She has also served on the Boards of Directors of PLA and LAMA, and on



the ALA Committee on Accreditation.

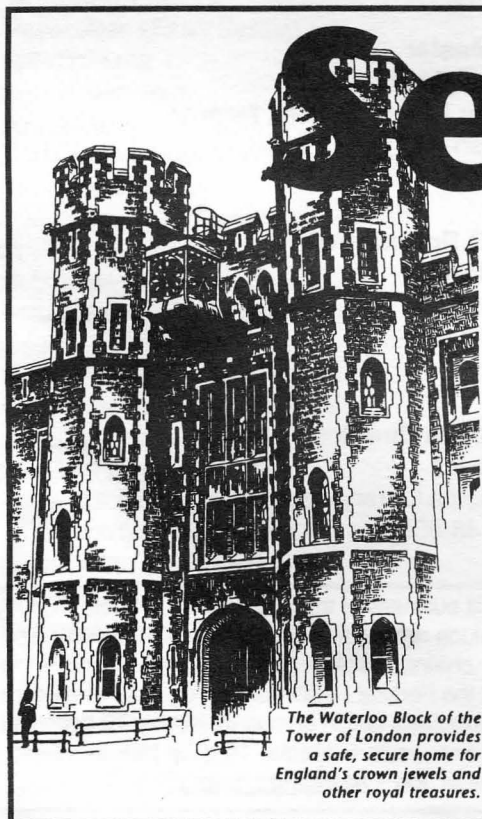
She has served higher education as a member and Chairman of the Board of Regents for the University Center at Tulsa (now Rogers University), as a member of the Advisory Committee to the President of the University of Oklahoma School of Library Science, and on the Advisory Committee to the College of Arts and Sciences of the University of Oklahoma.

Pat has been active with the Oklahoma Public Library Directors Council, and has assisted ODL by serving on LSCA and other advisory committees.

During her tenure as Director of TC-CL, she has overseen the construction of 11 new libraries and the expansion of four others. The staff has grown from 169 FTE to 220, and circulation has increased from 3.6 to 7.4 per capita. In 1982, she undertook an ambitious development program to build the Tulsa Library Trust from its meager beginning of \$14,000 to its current \$6.5 million. She was the fourth Librarian in Tulsa, preceded by Alma Reid McGlenn (1913-1939), James Gourley (1939-1962), and Allie Beth Martin (1962-1976).

Beyond her outstanding career, many of us count Pat as a dear friend. She's known for her sense of humor, calm manner, tact, and ability to organize projects and motivate people. At home, she's an energetic gardener, generous hostess, and a gourmet cook. These days, she gains much pleasure from being grandmother to Clay III (Trey), now one, and looks forward to having more time to show him the world.

We all wish her the best with the upcoming election. We know she will make an outstanding State Senator.



# Secure.

When you order through EBSCO, you can be sure the investment you make in your serials collection is safe. Your assurance against loss to the integrity of your collection includes:

- Unsurpassed fulfillment on journal issues made possible by our global network of publisher contacts and customer service representatives in 19 countries
- Electronic order entry with publishers for the elimination of manual data input errors
- Payment verification sent to publishers with first claims to reduce the need for additional claims
- Free replacement issues from our Missing Copy Bank® stocked with more than 40,000 issues
- A financially strong and stable organization (Dun & Bradstreet gives EBSCO Industries Inc. the highest financial strength rating in the industry).

Considering the investment your library makes in its serials collection, it doesn't make sense to trust it to anyone else.

Contact us today:  
(214) 387-2426 • (800) 487-2426 • Fax (214) 991-2175  
Suite 400, 5339 Alpha Road • Dallas, Texas 75240-7308

**EBSCO**  
SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES

*The Waterloo Block of the Tower of London provides a safe, secure home for England's crown jewels and other royal treasures.*

*A part of the EBSCO Information Services group.*

# OLA'S 1996-97 LEADERSHIP

## Executive Board

**President**

Clinton M. (Marty) Thompson, Jr.  
OU Health Sciences Center Bird Library  
405-271-2672

**MPLA Representative**

Peggy Cook  
Norman Public Library  
405-321-1481

**Vice-President/President-Elect**

Susan Wright  
Oak Hall Episcopal School, Ardmore  
405-226-2341

**Immediate Past President**

Jan Sanders  
Bartlesville Public Library  
918-337-5363

**Secretary**

Karen Marriott  
Metropolitan Library System, Oklahoma City  
405-231-8622

**Federal Relations Coordinator**

Donna Skvarla  
Oklahoma Department of Libraries  
405-521-2502

**Treasurer**

Jeanette McQuitty  
Northeastern State University Library  
918-456-5511



photo  
not  
available

**State Dept. of Education Coordinator**

Paula Walker  
State Department of Education  
405-521-2956

**OASLMS**

Sue McAlister  
WestMoore High School  
405-691-8000

**Oklahoma Librarian Editor**

Rachel Butler  
Oklahoma City Community College Library  
405-682-1611

**University and College Division**

Sharon Saulmon  
Rose State College LRC  
405-736-0259



photo  
not  
available

**WebMaster**

Andrew Peters  
Pioneer Library System, Norman  
405-321-1481

**Library Education Division**

Kathleen Haynes  
OU School of Library and Information Studies  
405-325-3921



photo  
not  
available

**FOLIO Representative**

John Harkey  
Eufaula  
918-689-5286

**Public Libraries Division**

Janet Brooks  
Metropolitan Library System, Oklahoma City  
405-231-8622

**Executive Director**

Kay Boies  
Oklahoma Library Association  
405-348-0506



photo  
not  
available

**ALA Councilor**

Jan Keene  
Tulsa City-County Library  
918-596-7880

The OLA Executive Board conducts the official business of the association. It meets monthly, usually on the third Friday. Agenda items include reports from the president, treasurer, and executive director, as well as from division chairs, the ALA councilor, MPLA and State Department of Education representatives and the Federal Relations Coordinator. The board authorizes expenditures and discusses and formulates action on current issues. To schedule an item on the agenda, notify the president or executive director 10 days before a board session. Highlights of board meetings appear in the Oklahoma Librarian.

# OLA'S 1996-97 LEADERSHIP

## Roundtables, Committees

### Roundtable Chairs

#### Administration

Laura Bottoms  
Rogers State University  
918-343-7717

#### Automation

Pam Maxwell  
Moore High School  
405-793-3159

#### Children & Young People's

Martha Evans  
Bridge Creek Secondary, Blanchard  
405-387-3981

#### Government Documents

David Snider  
Lawton Public Library  
405-581-3450

#### New Members

Debra Spindle  
Metropolitan Library System  
405-231-8650

#### Reference

R. D. Bell  
University Center at Tulsa  
918-594-8136

#### Social Responsibilities

Shari Clifton  
OU Health Sciences Center  
405-271-2036

#### Support Staff

Jill Vessels  
Metropolitan Library System  
405-631-1149

#### Technical Services

Bea LeValley  
Northwestern State University  
405-327-8571

### Committee Chairs

#### Audit

Bob Segal, McAlester  
918-426-4441

#### Awards

Sandy Ellison  
Oklahoma Department of Libraries  
405-521-2502

#### Budget and Finance

Clinton M. (Marty) Thompson, Jr.  
OU Health Sciences Center  
405-271-2672

#### Constitution and Bylaws

Gerald Hickman  
Seminole State College  
405-382-9244

#### Continuing Education

Katherine Hale  
Southern Prairie Library System  
405-477-2890

### Ethics

Danelle Hall  
OCU-Dulaney-Browne Library  
405-521-5072

### Governor's Mansion Library

John Rosenhamer  
Oklahoma City Community College  
405-682-1611

### Intellectual Freedom

Holly LaBossiere  
Ponca City Library  
405-767-0345

### Interlibrary Cooperation

Jan Sanders  
Bartlesville Public Library  
918-337-5363

### Legislative

Debra Engel  
Pioneer Library System  
405-321-1481

& Donna Morris  
Metropolitan Library System  
405-231-8654

### Local Arrangements

Jennifer Goodson  
OU Health Sciences Center  
405-271-2670

& Patricia Davis  
Enid Public Schools  
405-249-3530

### Long Range Planning

Susan Wright  
Oak Hall Episcopal School, Ardmore  
405-226-2341

### Membership

Patricia Zachary  
Walters Public Schools  
405-875-3144

### Nominating

Beverly Jones  
Southwestern State University  
405-774-7081

### Program

Kathleen Todd  
Ardmore Higher Ed. Center Library  
405-223-1441

### Scholarship

Yvonne Hinchee  
Shawnee Public Library  
405-275-6353

### Sequoyah Children's Book Award

Terri Street  
Lakeview Elementary School, Norman  
405-366-5899

### Sequoyah Young Adult Book Award

Rosemary Moran  
Tulsa City-County Library  
918-596-7931

### Sites

Bettie Estes-Rickner  
Edmond Public Schools  
405-340-2207

## Oklahoma Legislative Report 1996

by Oliver Delaney, OLA Legislative Liaison

The 1996 legislative session began on a positive note with the realization that there would be additional funds in certain categories. Of those new monies the largest expenditure was given to education, a total of \$212M in new money. Higher education will receive an additional \$71.4M (+12.6 %), common education will receive \$116.5M (+8.1 %), vocational education will receive an extra \$9M (+9.6 %), and, for the first time, a permanent solution to the mid-term funding problem was found. Growing school districts will receive \$42.7M.

While the Oklahoma Library Association (OLA) did not actively solicit any of the 3,000-plus pieces of legislation that were introduced in this session, OLA was involved in four specific bills relating to libraries, and monitored a number of other proposals of indirect interest. In addition, OLA supports legislation which increases electronic access by creating telephone networks and databases.

Representative Randy Erwin and Senator Jack Bell attempted to bring to a public vote a constitutional amendment creating a new taxing district for public libraries, one based on a school's transportation district (*HJR 1065*). The bill passed the House of Representatives but failed to receive a hearing in the Senate Finance Committee. OLA expressed serious concerns about the bill as being unnecessary. Current library legislation already provides that counties or parts of counties may join with an existing library system when both parties agree.

Access by children to obscene materials through telecommunications was much debated in both the federal and state governments. In Oklahoma, Representative Fred Perry introduced legislation essentially directed at computer generated child pornography. *HB 2506* amended the criminal statutes relating to obscene materials by adding to the definition of obscene materials both CD-ROM and magnetic disk tape/memory which are considered pornographic. The new law is effective November 1, 1996.

Coming on the heels of *HB 2506*, late in the legislative session, and specifically directed at the OU situation, was *HCR 1097* by Representative Bill Paulk and Senator Trish Weedn. Now law, *HCR 1097* directed all state agencies and all institutions within the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education to remove immediately all obscene material from their computers and computer systems. Every member of the State House and State Senate signed on as author.

Oklahoma is still not ready to create its own Telecommunications Authority. Legislation introduced in 1995 and in 1996 in both the State House and State Senate attempted to create a separate unit to oversee the various entities involved in telecommunications. One piece of legislation which did make it to the floor of the Senate in the final days of the session was soundly defeated. Members objected to creating a Commission and particularly to giving the Governor more power. The Governor's budget did include additional funding for telecommunications in libraries and schools.

One more piece of legislation deserves your attention. *HB 2530* by Representative Jim Hamilton and Senator Ed Long will permit a library board member who has served a partial term of membership (up to eighteen months) to now serve a full term of office. The law is effective April 3, 1996, on the signature of the Governor.

Two issues of particular interest to librarians in the coming years are ad valorem reform and telecommunications. Ad valorem tax reform continues to be a high priority among certain groups. As the life blood of library and school support, librarians must be "at the table" when the subject of property tax reform is discussed. Telecommunications also will continue to be a major goal for libraries and schools with or without a statewide authority. Essentially what is needed is free basic access for every school and every library.

## Exhibit Draws Public Reaction

By Peggy Cook, Branch Manager, Norman Public Library

A recent exhibit at the Norman Public Library by the University of Oklahoma chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) drew much public attention. In this article, I will address some background events, policy issues we faced, special training sessions we conducted, and some of the lessons we learned in hopes you can benefit from our experiences.

### Background

Library staff members were contacted by members of the OU NORML Chapter in November 1993. Students requested use of the display case, and I asked them to prepare an exhibit proposal and present it to the library board at their next meeting. At the February 1994 meeting, the students had no proposal, but rather spoke to many issues of concern to them, including marijuana legalization and, in their view, a connection between increased hemp growth and the salvation of the rain forests. After hearing this discussion, the Board declined to bring forward a motion to approve placing the exhibit in the library and the issue died for lack of a second.

### We Had a Policy for Everything but This

The Norman Public Library Advisory Board (appointed by the city to deal with building issues and to represent the interests of the community) did have some concerns about how to deal with this situation. Up to this point, the library had no policy for use of exhibit cases. Previously, the only displays had been local artists, clubs, and youth organizations, who showed their items for the standard one-month term. Consequently, I began work with an employee (who was also completing law school) to draft reasonable, fair, and clear exhibit case policies. That policy was approved and implemented when presented to the board.

OU NORML once again petitioned to book the display cases, and in accordance with the new policy, an exhibit time was set for February 1996.

### Training and Preparation

Now the issue became one of training and preparing our staff for anticipated comments. The fair use of our exhibit cases by community organizations in Norman was emphasized during all discussions. The Pioneer Library System board passed official statements noting that the library did not advocate the statements or policies presented in any display cases. These notices were posted in all exhibit areas.

Norman library staff were trained in conflict and confrontation situations by Theresa Dickson to prepare them for angry comments by customers. Further, staff members were asked to write down their greatest concern or fear about the exhibit and those concerns were discussed at Branch meetings.

The Public Information Officer, Bob Tormey, prepared a fact sheet for board members and the staff to use to give quick answers about why we had an exhibit from this group. The exhibit creators were listed on this form so staff could refer comments to them, as the responsible party. Staff members also emphasized that the library did not create or endorse the exhibit — it was the property of the organization.

### The Library Does Not Advocate or Endorse

We waited for the exhibit to go up on February 1. It did not



Display in the Norman Public Library created by the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) during February was a learning experience for library staff, as well as an opportunity to educate city officials and the public.

arrive, however, until February 5th. Exhibit coordinators brought articles of clothing, underwear, shoes, and bags made from hemp. The main portion of their display consisted of several large poster boards covered with 8-1/2 x11" text pages with lengthy descriptions of their organization, their struggle to get their message out, and the virtues of using the hemp plant for farming and rope making. The main graphic on the eye-level display was the liberty bell, with a marijuana leaf overlaid. The large logo read, "Let Freedom Ring".

Our first comment about the exhibit came that evening when a couple called back after visiting to complain that we had allowed it, but they finished their call by adding that they understood that we had to have it. Their main concern was that it was inappropriate for children to see. Throughout that week, we had a few comments, both pro and con. Most people were glad that we allowed free expression of differing opinions, and others were concerned that children were able to see this information. One individual even wanted information on how to order the clothes on display.

#### **They Did Their Own Publicity**

The NORML group conducted its own publicity plan, we discovered. The OU student newspaper had been notified of the exhibit and ran a photo of a student looking at the exhibit. The OU campus student TV crew also responded to the press release and contacted our PIO to do a story. The PIO and I responded with our prepared statements, and referred the news crew to the exhibit coordinator for specific comments about the contents of the exhibit.

Later in the month, we learned that the OU chapter of NORML had communicated with the national NORML organization and they added comments about the Norman exhibit on their Internet Web page and on national weekly fax distribution to members. We received several calls from people across the country who had read the Internet comments.

#### **I'm Going to City Council!**

In anticipation of comments to city officials, we sent our position paper to key City of Norman officials such as the Mayor, City Attorney, Manager, and Clerk. A citizen did write letters to the OU student paper and attended the City Council meeting to complain about the exhibit being allowed. The Mayor listened to his comments and thanked him, but essentially the city's legal staff decided the city could not deny the group because of their first amendment right to a public

display. He added, while the marijuana reform group has a right to the display, (he thought) they used poor judgment placing it where many children would see it in the library.

#### **How an Unrelated Event Impacted the Library**

During the third week of February, a national news story was released concerning the wide availability of drugs to teenagers, especially marijuana. The local city newspaper, *The Norman Transcript*, asked for and received permission to take a picture of the exhibit to use in conjunction with their Sunday lead story based on that press release. Even though our PIO had faxed the newspaper with details about the exhibit and the library's position, they were not used and the picture alone ran with the story.

We then received many calls from concerned citizens who hadn't seen the exhibit but called the library to complain anyway. Each call required a time consuming discussion of what was actually happening with the exhibit and the library's position. Many people told me that they didn't care about the rules, they just didn't want this group to be allowed to use the exhibit cases.

#### **What Did We Learn?**

Communicating with city officials, sharing ideas about fairness and our rights as citizens, and our rights to discuss issues, even unpopular ones, was an important part of helping officials speak knowledgeably when citizens called them to complain about the exhibit. It was a great benefit to work with the City government in this process.

It was important to have a board-approved exhibit policy and statements prepared in advance of our position on this exhibit. Just as important was sharing this information with staff and holding special training sessions to prepare them for angry customers.

We could not have foreseen that a national study about teen drug use would be released during this month, and would re-define people's view of the exhibit. The library did not endorse the viewpoint expressed in the exhibit, but many people could not separate displaying and endorsing the exhibit. Many people expressed support for our willingness to let the group express a "counter" opinion. Until the second newspaper article ran, connecting the exhibit photo with the drug story, our comments were running 50-50, pro-con.

Some people believe everything in the library is safe for children, and complained bitterly that their children were exposed to the exhibit. Our staff members took time to talk to these people about the variety of topics in the library and the need to discuss their family's reading with their children.

In the future, with controversial exhibits, I would consider exhibiting both the pro and con displays concurrently.

During our research and during the exhibit, which we considered a local fairness issue, our staff members sought advice from other libraries in the state. We got good advice from Bartlesville, Tulsa City-County and Metropolitan Library System concerning previous exhibit issues they had faced.

The exhibit closed on February 29th when group members came and collected their belongings. The next exhibit, by a Girl Scout troop, went up that evening and we all promised to buy extra Girl Scout cookies this year.

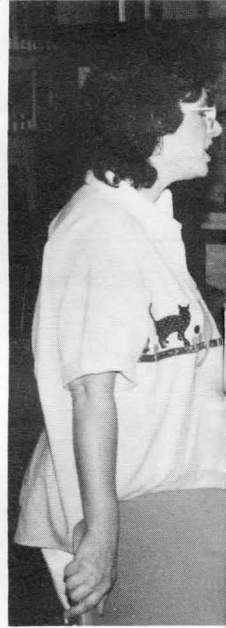
# 1996 LEADERSHIP



David Snider, Beverly Jones, Jeanette McQuitty try to avoid the camera, while Karen Marriott and Peggy Cook talk in the back.



Above: Sharon Saulmon, Buffy Edwards, and Karen Marriott, accompanied by one of the renowned La-Las from the Annual Conference.



Right: Peggy Cook and Holly LaBossiere.



Above: John Corbett and Janet Brooks during a break in the action.

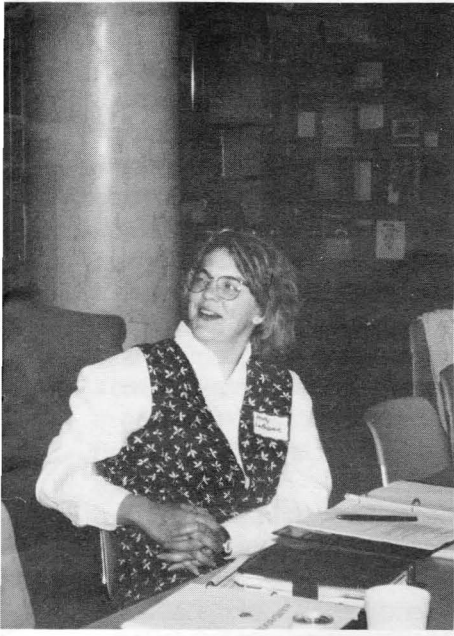


Above: Kathleen Todd and Bob Swisher.

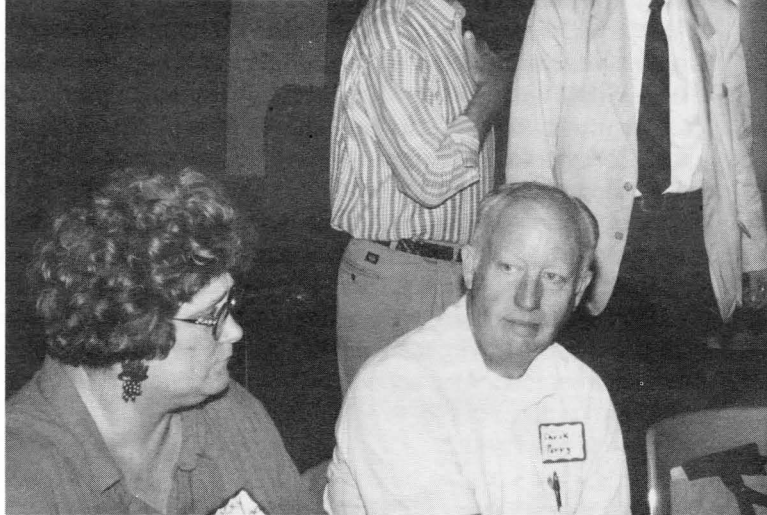
Right: John Rosenhamer and Andy Peters talk as Jennifer Goodson passes by. At the tables are Jane Taylor, Danelle Hall, Paula Walker, Bea LeValley, and Kathleen Haynes in varying states of readiness.



# CONFERENCE



Above: Carol Ihrig, Debra Engel, Becky Kirkbride, and Laura Bottoms paying attention while beyond the Browsing Room window, the OSU campus steams under the June sun.



Above: Let's get this going! Becky Kirkbride and Chuck Perry (front), and Bill Cunningham and R. D. Bell.



Right: Gerald Hickman and beverage midst the hustle.

Right: Susan Wright and Bob Segal.



Debra Engel and John Harkey

**New faces, old faces  
building bridges  
Commitment  
our gift,  
our reward.**

## Check, Think, and Watch For! OLA Things to Know

**YOUR MEMBERSHIP** : Your peers want your name to appear in the directory this year so you are easier to find! OLA membership runs from July through June. Send in your membership now to get the most for your \$\$\$—all bulk mailings, the directory, the special mailings on workshops, reduced rates for programs... If you are positive you mailed in this year's membership form—check your checkbook! Your memory may not be reliable on this topic. And, if it's easier, you could also CHARGE IT.

**TRIAL NEW INSTITUTIONAL PAYMENT METHOD** : Set up to facilitate workshop attendance for library staff as well as librarians. For one year, OLA is making available Institutional Deposit Accounts, a way of paying up front into a deposit and then deducting dollar amounts later to pay for OLA services, such as workshop fees for staff. Many libraries are familiar with using this type of payment for AMIGOS workshops. Contact Kay Boies for details, 405-348-0506.

**NOMINATIONS**: Put your minds together and come up with ideas for new OLA leaders. Nominations for OLA's president-elect, secretary and treasurer are currently welcomed by Beverly Jones, Donna Skvarla, or Jan Sanders, this year's Nominating Committee.

Watch for the

### FIRST WORKSHOP OF THE SEASON :

Technical Services Roundtable's Fall Workshop,

Titled: On Your MARC...

Friday, October 25, 1996, 9:00-3:30 p.m.

Conference Center, Southwestern State Univ., Weatherford

Great speaker talent—

imported from a variety of Oklahoma libraries!

Morning:

Four 30-minute sessions on these topics: Basic MARC, Major Changes Resulting from Format Integration, Effects of Format Integration on Technical Services, Levels of MARC Records

Afternoon:

Two one-hour hands-on sessions with participants choosing from: Cataloging AV, Books, or Serials

## I'd Sooner Read Reporting

Don't forget to send in your numbers for Oklahoma's "I'd Sooner Read" program, totals to be contributed to the national campaign. In counting for the program Anne Masters says Oklahoma libraries can go back to January 1995. Please fill out a copy of this form and return it to:

I'd Sooner Read Book Count  
4100 N. Flood  
Norman, OK 73069  
or call (405) 366-5862

## Interlibrary Loan Discussion Group Meeting

The second meeting of the newly formed interlibrary loan discussion group met on June 13, 1996 in Weatherford, OK at Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU). Those in attendance included Carolyn Mahin and Pam Acree from the University of Central Oklahoma; Tracy Schickedanz, Edwin Wiles and Retha Robertson, Oklahoma City University; Mary Hardin, Kitty Pittmann and Melecia Caruthers, Oklahoma Department of Libraries (ODL); Marquita Vincent, Enid Public Library; Bev Newby, Western Oklahoma State College; and Carolyn Torrence, Mary Roberson and Audrey DeFrank, SWOSU.

This was an open discussion meeting so a number of topics and concerns were considered. The Oklahoma Union List of Serials was one topic. If you have questions concerning the union list you may contact Vicki Sullivan at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries (1-800-522-8116). Other items discussed included management programs such as Saveit and AVISO, email requests, fees, overdue books, security strips, IFM, etc.

Everyone was interested in and had questions about Autographics, the new vendor for the online and CD-ROM Oklahoma Union Catalogs (OLTN-CAT). The online version will be available through the Internet with weekly updates, and the CD-ROM version is for those libraries without Internet access. If you have access to the Internet, logon to Autographics as ODL would like to have input on it. The Internet address for Autographics is <http://www.auto-graphics.com/cgipac/mmx/odol>. There will be a training session in September for Autographics—time and date to be announced. Questions? Contact Susan McVey at ODL.

On Oct. 28-30 there will be an interlibrary loan workshop with guest speaker Virginia Boucher, author of several books on interlibrary loan. Also scheduled in the Spring of 1997 is a workshop on copyright (date TBA). All of these workshops are being provided through ODL.

Join us for our next meeting and voice your questions, complaints, or suggestions. The next meeting is tentatively set for Dec. 5 in Tulsa. Call Carolyn Torrence or myself for information on our next meeting (405-774-3031).

—Mary Roberson

We have read \_\_\_\_\_ books!

This count is for the period beginning \_\_\_\_\_  
and ending \_\_\_\_\_.

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Library: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## PEOPLE & PLACES

Effective July 1, JULIE BROOKS has been promoted to Director of the Library at Western Oklahoma State College.

Eleanor Roosevelt both had lunch and attended a reception in her honor in the Library at Northwestern State University in Alva in 1937, when she was on campus to dedicate a building. This library tidbit was uncovered during research for a cookbook done by the Library staff in celebration of the University's centennial year. BEA LEVALLEY says, "We're really excited about it." Along with the 900 recipes from 500 current and former faculty, staff, and student contributors, there are line drawings of campus buildings, many fun trivia items about the University, and information about contributors. One recipe is from the granddaughter of a man in the first graduating class in 1901. Two thousand copies have been printed, with all proceeds going to the Library endowment. It also turns out that Anna L. LeCrone, president of OLA in 1916 when OLA had its first joint annual conference (with Kansas Library Assn.), was a librarian at Northwestern.

SUE MCALISTER was named Teacher of the Year at Westmoore High School in Moore this spring.

Just before summer session, librarians at Oklahoma City Community College, including DONNA DENNISTON, JOHN ROSENHAMER, and RACHEL BUTLER, with the help of many others from our Physical Plant and Library Bureau, moved the Library from its old surroundings of shag-carpeted walls to our brand new building under the clock tower. We have space! We are gradually ironing out computer glitches arising from a new online system, more layers of different software, running everything through the campus network etc. Come and visit us!



Picture Book Comes to Life— Children's Librarian SANDY SHROPSHIRE, Moore Public Library, brings Lynn Cherry's *The Great Kapok Tree* to life with a puppet theater she designed. The set, complete with puppets and rain forest music, traveled to branches of the Pioneer Library System as part of summer reading program activities for children. Librarians read the book to children as different puppets begin to move about on the jungle stage. Collaborating with Shropshire on the project are Desiree Webber, Dee Dee Corn, and Elaine Harrod of the Moore library's Children's Department.



Bomb sniffing dog and handler work their way over the OLA Registration booth under the fascinated eyes of Donna Denniston and Beverly Sprehe, preparing for President Clinton's visit, early Friday morning of the Annual Conference, April 5, 1996. Photo by Wendall Fields, Follett Library Resources rep.

WILLA COMBS, long-time ODL Board member, recently died. She was first appointed to the Board in 1983, serving under four governors, and helping ODL through major changes, including budget cutbacks, automation and implementation of the NOTIS system, development of OLTN plan, formation of the Oklahoma Center for the Book, and voluntary certification for public librarians. She was a great friend of libraries and the people who work in them.

### Festival of Books for Young People

The 17th annual Mildred K. Laughlin Festival of Books for Young People, sponsored by the School of Library and Information Studies, will be at the University of Oklahoma in Dale Hall on October 26. The theme of the 1996 Festival is Creative Journeys. Guest speakers are Joseph Bruchac, Sharon Creech, and Barry Moser.

Bruchac is a Native American storyteller and author, 1993 winner of the IRA Teacher's Choice and NCTE Notable Book awards. Most recent among his twenty books are *Between Earth & Sky: Legends of Native American Sacred Places* (1996), *The Boy Who Lived With the Bears: And Other Iroquois Stories* (1995), and *A Boy Called Slow* (1995).

Creech is a teacher of American and British literature in Thorpe, Surrey, England. In 1995 she won the Newbery Award for *Walk Two Moons*, a work also recognized by the NCTE Notable Trade Books in Language Arts, ALA Notable Children's Books, *School Library Journal's* Best Books, and BCCB's Blue Ribbon Books. Her most recent book is *Absolutely Normal Chaos* (1996), and *Pleasing the Ghost* is forthcoming in August 1996.

Moser is an acclaimed illustrator, author, and teacher with awards for *Appalachian: The Voices of Sleeping Birds*, written by Cynthia Rylant. His most recent books include *When Birds Could Talk & Bats Could Sing* and *Still & Ugly Bat: Folktales & Fables of Long Ago Told in the African-American Tradition*, both written by Virginia Hamilton (1996).

For registration, contact Kathy Latrobe, University of Oklahoma, SLIS, 401 West Brooks, Room 120, Norman, OK 73019. (405) 325-3921 or klatrobe@uoknor.edu

# OCLC FirstSearch

*The fastest growing end-user database services  
in the library community.*

## **Paint the Perfect Reference Picture.**

- ◆ Full-text and images\* online
- ◆ Worldwide web access\*
- ◆ NetFirst™, the authoritative guide to Internet resources\*
- ◆ More than 50 databases
- ◆ Features: library holdings information; link to PRISM ILL; document ordering
- ◆ WorldCat™, the end-user version of the OCLC Online Union Catalog

*\* Scheduled Fall or Winter 95/96*

OCLC *FirstSearch* is available  
throughout the Southwest  
from AMIGOS Bibliographic Council, Inc.  
800/843-8482  
amigos @ amigos.org



OKLAHOMA LIBRARIAN  
300 HARDY DRIVE  
EDMOND, OK 73013

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Edmond, OK 73034  
Permit #61