How could I choose any other profession?"

Three OASLMS award winners highlighted at Encyclo-Media

Christi Hefner, of Norman’s Eisenhower Elementary School, is winner of the 1996 Polly Clarke Award for Outstanding Library Media Services, honoring a media specialist who has established and maintains an exemplary school library media program, presented at Encyclo-Media. In addition to an engraved plaque, she received a cash award from Follett Library Company, presented by Phil LaBoon. Follett requests that winners use the cash award for professional development or other library related activities or materials. Christi plans to use the award money to attend the AASL Conference in Portland, Oregon next spring.

Christi credits her childhood for inspiring her choice of profession. “I was blessed with having parents who read all the time—one because she appreciated good literature and the other to find information. My sister taught me how to glue cut-up envelopes in every book in our home and fill each one with date due slips. With a background like this, how could I choose any other profession? I knew my destiny.”

The Barbara Spriestersbach Award for Excellence in Teaching was presented to sixth grade teacher Ginger Hensley of Woodlands Elementary School in Ponca City, nominated by her library media specialist, Betty Proneke, who believes Ginger models cooperative planning and resource-based education in all her teaching. Ginger says, “Using integrated studies with my students has helped in student understanding and retention.”

The Administrator’s Certificate of Merit for Promotion of Library Media Services was presented to Judy M. Feary, principal of Mark Twain Elementary, Tulsa Public Schools. Feary is a former media specialist who was instrumental in adding a full-time library media specialist and instituting flexible scheduling in the school’s media center. She says, “I also, at every opportunity, encourage other principals in Tulsa to add a true library/media program to their schools.”

Henley and Feary received plaques from OASLMS Chair Sue McAllister and cash awards from Fred Stanley, Rainbow Education Media.

Government affairs program on a shoestring

by Oliver Delaney
OLA Legislative Liaison

For in a democracy, every citizen, regardless of his interest in politics, “holds office,” every one of us is in a position of responsibility; and in the final analysis, the kind of government we get depends upon how we fulfill those responsibilities. We, the people are the boss, and we will get the kind of political leadership, be it good or bad, that we demand and deserve.

—John Kennedy
Profiles in Courage

How do you as a citizen, and particularly as a member of an association, become a part of the law making process? Grassroots lobbying. Grassroots lobbying occurs when local people contact their legislators to express their opinions and request a particular action on a piece of legislation or issue. It is probably the most effective way to get legislators to act on your behalf because, after all, local people are the ones who elect the legislature. One of the most important tasks facing each member of the Association is developing and maintaining contact with his legislator. Even though the Association may have a lobbyist or legislative affairs liaison to represent its government relations policy and its views, phone calls, visits and letters to legislators from members increase chances of success.

An effective Association government relations policy is the result of long-range planning and the establishment of a procedure for responding to events quickly and cohesively. A long-range plan allows the association to establish a position that is well thought out and developed, particularly before something becomes a hot issue. In addition to looking at long-term trends, the association also needs a lobbyists’ or government relations representative to keep an eye out for rapidly developing events. Why? Because in some

cont. on p. 68
Several statewide activities, of which everyone should be aware, are in progress. The statewide union catalog, OLTNCat, was distributed in CD format and is available on the Web through Autographics. The Oklahoma Department of Libraries (ODL) and the State Department of Education have been actively involved with the OLTN Education Committee in offering sessions throughout the State to train individuals to use both products. Questions about OLTNCat can be directed to John Corbett at ODL.

Revitalization of the Oklahoma Union List of Serials (OULS) is being pursued. ODL has been helping to revive and update the Union List through a task force of interested institutions which recently reported to members of the OULS.

By early winter, the OLTN Shared Database Committee should report the results of a request for proposal (RFP) for a statewide general information database. The Committee has been extremely busy preparing this RFP and reviewing proposals. ODL has committed $250,000 to a statewide database and hopefully this seed money will make it a reality.

OLA's Program Committee has been very productive. Preparation for the Annual Meeting, to be held in conjunction with the Mountain Plains Library Association, is reaching completion. Under the leadership of Kathleen Todd and Peggy Cook, this meeting will offer members a variety of excellent speakers and opportunities to interact with colleagues from Oklahoma and eleven other states. The only ingredient that the Program Committee cannot provide in order to make this a memorable event is your participation. Please review the Preview and plan to be a part of this meeting.

In previous issues, I've taken the opportunity to highlight individuals who influenced our careers. This has allowed me to give special thanks to deserving individuals and to introduce younger members the names of members who are no longer active in the Association. Ruth Wender was the Associate Director at the Health Sciences Center (HSC) Library when I joined the HSC Library staff as an extremely young librarian. She was already a national figure in the Medical Library Association and had published the results of several grants from the National Library of Medicine. She smoothed the rough edges of this librarian, helping me to develop attitudes, beliefs and interests that would benefit health care professionals and institutions, students, and colleagues in a positive way. Often during my career, I have found myself doing something, and realize that it is due to Ms. Wender's influence. I only hope that during my career, I reach the goals that she felt I could aspire to. She was a major force in helping to develop the flow of health care information in Oklahoma. She helped not only me, but many health librarians, become the professionals that we are. As with others that have influenced my career, I would like to express my gratitude.

--Marty Thompson

### OLA SCHEDULE/HOLIDAYS

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 9</td>
<td>Legislative Committee, ODL - 10 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 14</td>
<td>PLD Workshop - &quot;Kids Can't Wait&quot;, Muskogee PL- 9 am-3:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 16</td>
<td>&quot;Kids Can't Wait&quot;, Cherokee Strip Cont Ctr, Enid-9am-3:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>Program Committee/Executive Board, Stillwater Public Library</td>
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<td>January 20</td>
<td>Support Staff Roundtable, Stillwater Public Library - 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 21</td>
<td>M. L. King, Jr. Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 24</td>
<td>Interlibrary Cooperation Committee Meeting, ODL - 2 p.m.</td>
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<td>January 29</td>
<td>Administration RT, Hardesty South Reg. Lib., Tulsa - 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>February 4</td>
<td>&quot;Fundraising&quot; Workshop, Stillwater Public Library</td>
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<td>February 6</td>
<td>Intellectual Freedom Committee</td>
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<td>February 7</td>
<td>Legislative Committee, ODL - 10 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>Joint Sequoyah Children's/YA, ODL - 9 a.m.</td>
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<td>February 21</td>
<td>Membership Committee, Belle Isle Library - 10 a.m.</td>
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<td>February 25</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
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<td>March 1</td>
<td>ALA Mid-Winter, Washington, D.C.</td>
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<td>March 4</td>
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<td>March 1</td>
<td>Program Committee/Executive Board, Shawnee Public Library</td>
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<td>March 4</td>
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<td>March 1</td>
<td>Sequoyah YA, Martin East Regional Library, Tulsa</td>
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<td>March 4</td>
<td>Oklahoma Librarian Deadline</td>
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<td>March 4</td>
<td>Intellectual Freedom Committee</td>
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<td>Automation Roundtable Workshop, OSU</td>
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Impressions of the '96 Festival of Books

In addition to the reds and yellows of autumn, what I look forward to most in October is the Festival of Books for Young People, held at the University of Oklahoma.

Every year it's a delightful treat to meet the authors and illustrators of one's best liked books. Past favorites have been Lois Lowry, author of *The Giver*, Katherine Paterson, author of *Jacob Have I Loved* and *The Great Gilly Hopkins*, and painter Thomas Locker, who illustrating my treasured and autographed copy of Washington Irving's *Rip Van Winkle*.

The speakers for this year's Festival were authors Sharon Creech and Joseph Bruchac, and illustrator Barry Moser. Joseph Bruchac, of Abenaki ancestry, spoke first.

Before I knew him as an author, I knew him as a storyteller. One of his stories, "The Vampire Skeleton" appears in a book entitled *The Ghost and I: Scary Stories For Participatory Telling* (Yellow Moon Press, 1992). This is a story that can quiet a room of sixth graders. In telling "The Vampire Skeleton," Bruchac recommends a technique of the teller saying, "Ho?" and the audience answering back, "Hey!" He used this same technique as he told a story to the Festival's audience. As he explained, stories from his region are told after the first frost of fall and up until the last frost of spring. The storyteller would, in the old days, tell his stories at night around the campfire. To keep his audience awake and listening, the storyteller would suddenly interject, "Hey!" Thus, the audience would answer back, "Hey!" to show they were awake and paying attention.

Next speaker was Sharon Creech who won the 1995 Newbery Medal for *Walk Two Moons*. Her acceptance speech last summer at ALA was given in a ballroom with hundreds of people. This presentation, in the lecture room at Dale Hall, was relaxed and personal. She joked and chatted as though she were speaking with close acquaintances.

Creech grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, but has lived in England the past seventeen years. She talked, among other things, about how she met her spouse (who was in the audience) and how she missed her native United States. She said the story of *Walk Two Moons* came from her own feelings of loss and separation. Her two children had both left home to attend college in "the states" and she missed them terribly. "Fortunately for them," she said, "I didn't go and bring them back to England, but instead wrote *Walk Two Moons*."

It is these personal stories and anecdotes which add life and dimension to the name appearing on the title page. When sharing books with children, it invariably perks up their antennae to tell a personal story about the author or illustrator.

What will be shared about Barry Moser is that he chooses his characters' names from phone books. Take, for example, the name Tucker Pfeffercorn. Moser found this last name in a small town phone book and used it in his retelling of *Rumpelstiltskin*.

In a break with most illustrators, who speak through their slide presentations, Moser was a master storyteller.

He grew up in a Tennessee home with very few books. In his small town, though, everyone knew everyone else's business and everyone had stories to tell. When Moser was commissioned to retell the story of Hans Christian Andersen's "The Soldier and the Tinderbox," he struggled for weeks until he set the story in his own state and used its native tongue.

Moser ended his presentation with *Good and Perfect Gifts* (Little, Brown, 1997), a retelling of O. Henry's "Gift of the Magi." As Moser told the story, he darkened the lights and illuminated the room with his watercolor illustrations.

This is what makes the Festival of Books a unique and special event—to have local access to a forum in which three talented individuals share their stories and their work.

Next year's Festival will be held Saturday, October 4, 1997. Among the speakers will be Janet Stevens and Jerry Spinelli. I can already picture the books I will buy to be autographed: *The Owl and the Pussycat, The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse, Maniac Magee* ...... Ahhh, the colors of autumn and the Festival of Books for Young People. I can hardly wait.

---Desiree Webber

Enjoy the new Children's Sequoyah Masterlist

The 1996-97 Sequoyah Children's Book Award Committee has released the 1997-98 Sequoyah Book Award Masterlist. Books from the 20 titles on the new Masterlist are to be read and voted on by boys and girls of Oklahoma in grades 3 through 6. Established in 1959, this is the third oldest "children's choice" book award in the United States. It is sponsored by the Oklahoma Library Association.

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<td>Avi</td>
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<td>Day, Nancy Raines</td>
<td><em>The Lion's Whiskers: An Ethiopian Folktale</em></td>
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<td>Fletcher, Ralph</td>
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<td>High, Linda</td>
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<td>Lasky, Kathryn</td>
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<td>Love, D. Anne</td>
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<td>Masters, Susan Rowan</td>
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<td>McPherson, Stephanie</td>
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<td>Mead, Alice</td>
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<td>Murphy, Jim</td>
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<td>Park, Barbara</td>
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<td>Ross, Gayle</td>
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<td>Tamar, Enka</td>
<td><em>Junkyard Dog</em></td>
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<td>Turner, Ann</td>
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<td>Viest, Judith</td>
<td><em>Sad Underwear and Other Complications</em></td>
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<td>Williams, Barbara</td>
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<td>Willis, Patricia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yep, Laurence</td>
<td><em>Later, Gator</em></td>
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For more information contact: Charlotte Parker, Oliver Middle School Media Center, 3100 W. New Orleans, Broken Arrow, OK 74012 or call 918-259-4590

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Government affairs ... (cont. from p. 65)

legislatures more than a thousand bills can be introduced over a two-week period. Without some inkling of what's afoot, an association can be caught off guard and find itself left with legislation adverse to its interest. Not only that, but it is virtually impossible for an association to make an important policy decision in so short a time.

Ideally, a lobbyist will help initiate legislation, help write a bill, find an author, make necessary changes and guide a bill to its final passage. For many, such complete participation in the legislative process is not feasible. Legislative battles are not fought and won overnight. Instead it is a series of small skirmishes that continue throughout the committee and subcommittee process. There are many stages at which association lobbying efforts (or lack thereof) can kill or revive an issue. To the lobbyist, the grassroots support for a legislative agenda is essential. The important thing is to communicate effectively with your legislator your opinions and relevant information about the issue.

An active grassroots network (telephone, fax, e-mail, etc) can make the difference between success and failure at every level of a legislative effort or fight.

**Lobbying by Non-Profit Organizations**

Lobbying laws with respect to 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt organizations have never been clearer or easier to apply. In the past the IRS placed severe limits on how far a tax-exempt organization could go to attempt to influence legislation, but IRS regulations were vague and difficult to apply with no clear delineation of how much lobbying is too much (the "substantial test").

In response to criticism, the IRS in recent years has provided a more objective and sometimes more lenient alternative that tax-exempt organizations may choose. Under the latest procedure ("the expenditure test") an organization may spend up to a defined percentage of its expenditures on lobbying without jeopardizing its exempt status. There is a set formula to follow. For example, if a tax exempt organization's expenditure is $500,000 or less, then its total lobbying expenditure is limited to 20% of that $500,000 (or $100,000) and its grassroots lobbying is limited to 5% of $500,000 (or $25,000).

One of the requirements for tax exemption under IRS Code 501(c)(3) is that an organization not participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. A 501 (c)(3) organization may engage in voter education, voter registration, or get-out-the-vote activities. In planning any participation program, the overriding rule is that activities must be non-partisan. In short there is a large difference in the political activity of any organization compared to that of a member or individual; and, there are certain restrictions on a 501 (c)(3) organization that may not be placed on a member of that organization.

**The Legislative Network**

The legislative process frequently moves very quickly, particularly at the state and local levels. It is sometimes nearly impossible to keep up with amendments, refine-ments, compromises, and so on. Preparation techniques for an effective crisis response involve time, money and most importantly, planning, and a grassroots network of member involvement. Today, such a program is easily accomplished through computer software programs which organize members by congressional and legislative districts. The objectives of a grassroots legislative network are to:

- ensure that each legislator receives a certain number of calls from constituents within a specified time period.
- ensure that members place calls within a specified time frame so as to most effectively aid the lobbyist.
- determine the number of calls made by whom and to whom.
- determine why members will or will not contact a legislator.
- ensure that no one member or small group will have to make an excessive number of calls.
- establish a pyramid style communication network system activated only by the association leadership as necessary for effective legislative action.

The most common reason an existing network does not produce is neglect and ineffective communication with the membership. Members can turn a crisis around, but are often the most difficult to mobilize and activate on short notice.

**In the End**

Going to the state capitol can be important, but the most effective lobbying is done in the legislator's district. Visit legislators in their law offices, pharmacies, or farms. At least there they will not be distracted by a committee meeting or an emergency meeting with the governor. Educate. More than ever, legislators are listening to their constituents. A network that triggers calls from member constituents at the most critical moment of a legislative battle can make the difference between success and failure. Does contact make a difference? Without a doubt legislators are sensitive to the views of their constituents and sincerely want to help them. Many votes are cast as a result of a few reasonable letters or phone calls from constituents. You, too, can be an effective lobbyist for the interest of your organization.

**Notes:**

*Lobbyist* - one who attempts to influence legislation through members of an organization, the public, or his/her direct contact with a legislator. In Oklahoma anyone who receives a compensation for his or her legislative activity in excess of $250 per quarter must register with the Ethics Commission as a lobbyist. There are direct and strict laws pertaining to registered lobbyists. On the other hand, as a private citizen, simply expressing your opinion on a piece of legislation is your constitutional prerogative.

Grassroots lobbying - attempts to influence members of the public to act with respect to specific pending or proposed legislation.
How some individuals became a library board with ideas!

On Saturday, November 16, we tried a totally new Board activity at the Bartlesville Public Library. Background: Last fall, three of our Board members attended one of ODL's Board Training Workshops. Then, four Board members participated in a local three-day session, "How to be an Effective Board Member for Your Not-for-Profit Organization." As a result, the Board decided that an official Board Retreat was needed.

The agenda included group dynamics work, policy discussion, review of the ODL Handbook, and planning time. One board member, a psychologist, led a fascinating session defining groups, how they work, why they work, what each member brings to the group, and how to be more productive as a group. The result was that we spent some time getting to know each other much better by sharing both emotions and ideas and also forming ourselves into a cohesive unit. Forging this unity was the primary goal. As we go ahead with plans to provide public Internet and World Wide Web access to our community, the Board will feel strong and fortified.

The President and another member led a discussion of the ODL Handbook, reviewing our City Charter obligations, the open meetings law, and other related topics. Each Board member had already received a copy of the Handbook, so the discussion came easy.

Because the Board already reviews each library policy at least annually, I instead presented some scenarios. Then, the Board split into teams of two and role-played actual library situations that reflected usage of some specific policy. By putting themselves into the picture in a more dramatic way, they were able to see not only the importance of the policy but some of its implications as well.

Finally, the group began to brainstorm ideas of things that they would like to accomplish. As they said, "We've built the building, done a number of long-range plans, developed and reviewed the policies, and now we need activities that will not only move the library forward, but will also KEEP US INTERESTED AND INVOLVED." And, boy, did they do it!

Ideas ranged from using the Board for more training (both for staff and for the public), to having Board members actually work a "day in the Library," to defining and implementing focus groups for new Library services, to speaking to other community groups on behalf of the Library, to visiting other libraries and observing their Boards, to taking their own "How to Be an Effective Board" show on the road!

As we ended the day, each person commented how successfully our time had been spent. The group that had arrived at ten was not the group that left at four. We now had purpose, we had plans, we had enthusiasm. This year, instead of taking the month of December off as we usually do, we will have a walking tour of the library with staff members explaining what they do and how they do it for each department. In January, we will do a detailed orientation to the library's financial situation: how the city budget is prepared, how the staff prioritizes collection development monies, how the Board can assist with building our endowment. And the plans go on from there.

Although this was a completely new activity for the Board, it is certainly one that we want to re-create. Perhaps we will implement an annual retreat as new members are added, allowing the group to redefine itself and set plans.

One thing I know for sure--this group is going to keep me hopping. They have set their agenda for the year, they want to be involved, they want the public to know who they are and what they are doing, and they want the library to be an integral part of life in Bartlesville. It's an exciting process, one that will keep us all learning, stretching, and growing. And the biggest beneficiary will be the Library itself.

Jan Sanders
Cybersex, or shouldn't we re-think this absolutist view?

Having been in academics for more than 15 years, I have enjoyed watching the vicissitudes with respect to intellectual freedom. But none have been more prepossessing to witness than First Amendment issues from the cog's-of-vantage of the practicing academic librarian. Prepossessing? Let me clarify that: a practicing librarian who opposes unbridled intellectual freedom, i.e., the kind of intellectual freedom endorsed by the American Library Association (ALA). I've always believed that if you care about the quality of life, as Irving Kristol once put it, you have to be in favor of some form of censorship.

Such an admission in academic circles is not merely unorthodox the way, say, it would be if Ted Kennedy admitted he listened to Rush Limbaugh. It's far more apocalyptic than that. It's really more on the order of Pat Ireland saying she'd really rather stay home and bake cookies while barefoot and pregnant. In other words, my position is unheard of among academics and illegal among librarians. The official position of academia is that intellectual freedom should be unrestrained. But the official position of ALA outdoes it by a half: censorship of any kind for any reason about any matter whatever, is wrong. Period. End of argument.

If you don't believe me, let me remind you of the ALA's own words: "In basic terms, intellectual freedom means the right of any person to believe what he wants on any subject, and to express his beliefs on ideas in whatever way he thinks appropriate." (ALA's Intellectual Freedom Manual, emphasis added).

Examine the statement carefully: "...and to express his beliefs or ideas in whatever way he thinks appropriate." Later, the Manual leaves little room for doubt, declaring that the freedom of ideas means expressing them "in any mode of communication." That this gives carte blanche not only to pornographers and "performance artists" of every stripe is unmistakable; that it gives free rein to every Son-of-Sam is undeniable. The intent of the Manual is clear: censorship for any reason is bad, wrong, ugly, and immoral. It's not neat either.

So, when the Oklahoma state legislature wanted to avoid having taxpayers pay for cybersex, for the voyeurism of those who might want to connect with "900" Internet numbers on a graphical interface, all heck broke loose among librarians. The Oklahoma legislature didn't want to outlaw the services, mind you, just prohibited public funding of them. Thus, my colleagues thought they saw the Constitution begin to crumble.

But shouldn't we re-think this absolutist view of the First Amendment? In the first place, we know from reading the Federalist Papers that no founding father ever sought to vouchsafe what we now have. And in the second place, the First Amendment does allow for the restriction of expression (the old fire in-a-crowded-theater argument) but not the suppression of ideas. Shouldn't we, as information gatekeepers, at least make it appear to the public that we know the differ-

Got some browsing time?

Explore the following Internet sites, some of those recommended on November 7, 1996 during the ALLCED (academic librarians in OKC metropolitan area) meeting at Southern Nazarene University. They have proven useful and may even be fun.

http://www.unm.edu/~vuksan/mario/search2.html
http://rs.internic.net/nic-support/
http://ftot.ucsd.edu/
http://www.cartalk.com/
http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/disciplines/100.html
http://www.snu.edu/library/computer.htm
http://www.sciencemag.org/science
http://www.switchboard.com
http://www.yahoo.com/search/people/phone.html
http://www.Four11.com
http://www.cuis.edu/~stumpers/intro.html
http://www.bublib.bath.ac.uk/BUBL/Library.html
http://www.law.uoknor.edu/oklahoma/#pers
http://www.mls.ok.us/
http://rodent.lib.rochester.edu/multimed/contents.htm

Submitted by Susan Baker and Melissa Huffman

Members of the Pioneer Library System joined community volunteers in the United Way of Norman's annual "Day of Caring" performing tasks for local social services agencies. Library staff made salads, helped cook and served more than 200 at the Cleveland County Mental Health Association. This was the third year that library system personnel assisted with this project.
ence between "obscene, filthy, indecent, lascivious, lewd, or unchaste" information and information that is not? Is this a completely alien argument? Of course, the real question is, where did this idea of unbridled, unrestrained, intellectual freedom come from anywhere? How is it that if you censor, say, cybersex ferris, our Constitution ends in the waste can? Why must it be all or nothing? If we followed the same reasoning, we'd prohibit criminal arrest for fear of charging an innocent man. Oh, never mind.

Spinoza restricted speech out of anger; Locke against moral strictures that threatened civilized society. Even Jefferson allowed restraint against public opinion. Only Mill comes closest to our postmodern absolutist view, but even he allowed for censorship when it might do harm to others. Even though Mill's view of liberty is the most absolutist, he is not as absolutist as postmodern academics, including librarians.

Librarians and academics alike delight in referencing Milton's *Areopagitica*. But this is because they do not read it, or do not read it carefully enough. Milton restricted where moderns are especially eager to do so, in areas of "popery" (i.e., religion), but also in areas where moderns are loathe to, superstition (it's superior to religion: we can have a pagoda artifact erected in a San Jose, California city park, and not a Christian Nativity). Finally, our Founding Fathers never intended that the First Amendment be taken to mean that any and all modes of communication should be unrestrained and readily accessible. Yet we moderns think that liberty must be absolute or it cannot be liberty at all. We seem either unable, unwilling, or perhaps both, to make any intellectual distinction between liberty on the one hand, and libertinage on the other. There is a difference.

The very underpinning of the idea of intellectual freedom—mental freedom, if you will—being absolutist in nature is a wholly modern idea with no historical foundation other than Mill's qualified absolutism. Hasn't history proven its dictum in spades that what is not learned in one age is repeated in the next? For who can deny Montesquieu's charge that when egalitarianism becomes a mania, license replaces virtue? Or, more simply, when virtue is no longer encouraged publicly, it is no longer practiced privately. Walter Lippman had it precisely right when he wrote, "Freedom of speech separated from its essential principle leads through a short, transitional chaos to the destruction of freedom of speech."

Of course instituting some level of censorship regarding public expressions undoubtedly opens us up to a level of danger. It is a fine line between sensible censorship and an outright restriction of basic liberties, as James Bovard's book, *Lost Rights*, clearly indicates. But it isn't so narrow as tightrope walking, and does not require intellectual funambulists to do it. Surely our present culture is evidence enough that the course we have charted for ourselves for the last thirty years threatens to undo, not only us, but the very republic we love so dearly. One fact remains clear. Our nation has suffered more from the hands of absolutists than ever from the hands of even a Cornstockian censor."

It is inappropriate to say whether either librarians or academics will ever learn that liberty and libertinage are two different matters. Both appear hell-bent on destroying this culture trying to prove that they are synonymous while requiring the First Amendment to cover a multitude of their sins. I can, however, tell you this much. When I raised these same issues about censorship while serving another state library association, I was greeted with a response that has amused me ever since: the members voted to censure me.

--Mark Herring

*Ed. note: From Anthony Comstock (1844-1915), member of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice, in the *OED.*

Librarians sought

Rose State College will hold a two-week hands-on Internet training institute March 16-21 and May 18-23 for 30 professional librarians and library technicians. A grant from the U.S. Department of Education will pay for transportation, lodging, six credit hours of tuition and two meals per day for participants. Those working with children, young adult, elderly, minority, illiterate, disadvantaged or rural groups are particularly encouraged to participate.

Led by Melissa Huffman, reference-special projects librarian, and Mike Freeman, coordinator of computer operations, students will learn to access information through the Internet and to effectively teach Internet use to other staff and library customers.

For more information or an application, call Sharon Saulmon at (405) 736-0259, e-mail to ssaulmon@ms.rose. cc.ok.us or write: Rose State College LRC, 6420 S.E. 15th St., Midwest City, OK 73110.

Academic library survey

Every year OLA's University and College Division polls all Oklahoma colleges and universities to report beginning professional salaries for librarians.

Of this year's fourteen responses, four libraries reported beginning salaries under $25,000, five range from $25,000 to $29,999, and four offer over $30,000. One reported having no beginning professional salary.

The average beginning salary for reporting universities and colleges this year is $27,058, the median $29,017.

Thanks to everyone for completing the survey.

--Sharon Saulmon
Challenged Books Week has been celebrated for 15 years as a reminder of our most basic freedom... the freedom to read. As librarians, we are the protectors of this freedom, and every year, Banned Books Week serves as a reminder to us all.

The rights to freedom of speech, firmly rooted in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, require continuing vigilance in order to keep it vital. This week long celebration examines the freedom of speech by showing actual situations where that freedom has been challenged. It is clear that the threats against the freedom to read come from many quarters, and many political persuasions are represented in the spectrum of those who would limit the freedom of others to choose what they read, see, or hear. (From the American Library Association WWW page: www.ala.org/bbooks/)

Examples of challenged materials

Many books have been challenged over the years, ranging from traditional favorite titles, like The Bible, to newer, recently published materials. Here are some books that have been challenged, and the reasons for the challenge:

* Ulysses by James Joyce was banned in the U.S. for 15 years, and seized by U.S. Postal authorities in 1918 and 1930. Challenged as being "obscene."
* Fanny Hill by John Cleland (aka Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure) has been challenged frequently since it was initially published in 1749. Challenged for frank sexual descriptions.
* Aristophanes' Lysistrata, Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, Boccaccio's Decameron, Defoe's Moll Flanders, and various editions of The Arabian Nights were all banned for years in the U.S. under the Comstock Law of 1873. The Comstock Law of 1873 was the Federal Anti Obscenity Act which banned the mailing of "lewd," "indecent," "filthy," or "obscene" materials. Though unenforced the Comstock Law remains on the books.
* The Bible and The Qur'an were both removed from many libraries and banned from the Soviet Union from 1925-1956.
* On March 3, 1996, the Merrimack, NH school system pulled all copies of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night from the curriculum after the school board passed an act prohibiting the "promotion of alternative lifestyles."
* Teaching evolutionary theory in 1925, John T. Scopes was arrested and convicted of violating a Tennessee law prohibiting the teaching of evolutionary theory. The law was finally repealed in 1967. However, in 1996, the Tennessee Senate is considering new legislation that would mandate the dismissal of any schoolteacher who presents evolution as fact.
* Little Red Riding Hood was challenged in two California school districts in 1989, for the depiction of the title character bringing her grandmother food and wine. The school districts cited concern with the depiction of alcohol in the story.

ALA's 1996 most challenged books list
1. Maya Angelou's I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings. (Newsletter on Intellectual Freedom, May 1996)
2. Catcher in the Rye, by J.D. Salinger. (ALA Database)
6. It's Perfectly Normal, by Robie Harris. (ALA Database)

The most frequently banned books in the 1990's (www.cs.cmu.edu/Web/People/spok/most banned.html)
1. Impressions, edited by Jack Bench et al.
2. Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
3. The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger
4. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
5. The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier
6. Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson
7. Scary Stories in the Dark by Alvin Schwartz
8. More Scary Stories in the Dark by Alvin Schwartz
9. The Witches by Roald Dahl
10. Daddy's Roommate by Michael Willhoit
11. Curses, Hexes, and Spells by Daniel Cohen
12. A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle
13. How to Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell
14. Blubber by Judy Blume
15. Revolting Rhymes by Roald Dahl
16. Halloween ABC by Eve Merriam
17. A Day No Pigs Would Die by Robert Peck
18. Heather Has Two Mommies by Leslea Newman
19. Christine by Stephen King
20. I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
21. Fallen Angels by Walter Myers
23. Little Red Riding Hood by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm
24. The Headless Cupid by Zilpha Snyder
25. Night Chills by Dean Koontz
26. Lord of the Flies by William Golding
27. A Separate Peace by John Knowles
28. Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut
29. The Color Purple by Alice Walker
30. James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl
31. The Learning Tree by Gordon Parks
32. The Witches of Womb by Zilpha Snyder
33. My Brother Sam is Dead by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier
34. The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck
35. Cujo by Stephen King
36. The Great Gilly Hopkins by Katherine Paterson
37. The Figure in the Shadows by John Bellairs
38. On My Honor by Marion Dane Bauer
39. In the Night Kitchen by Maurice Sendak
40. Grendel by John Champlin Gardner
41. I Have to Go by Robert Munsch
Tech services people head out west

Technical Services Roundtable held its Annual Fall Workshop at Southwestern State University in Weatherford on Friday, October 25th. The title of this year’s successful workshop was "On Your MARC ..." There were approximately 47 participants from various types of libraries.

The focus of the workshop was the changes to MARC made by the implementation of Format Integration. In the morning session the program and presenters included: "Introduction to MARC and Format Integration," by Steve Folsom (Oklahoma State University); "Major changes with Format Integration," by Charlotte Frazier (Tulsa City-County Library System); "Effects of Format Integration on Cataloging, Training, and the OPAC," by Kathleen J.M. Haynes (OU School of Library & Information Studies). In addition, a program about the change in the level of cataloging records was made by Janet H. Ahrberg (OSU).

Site coordinator Linda Pye provided participants with a delicious lunch before the afternoon session when participants broke into focus groups to have a hands-on application of MARC cataloging, incorporating Format Integration into the different formats. Program and presenters included: AV cataloging, by John H. Rosenhamer (Oklahoma City Community College); Book cataloging, by Pauline Boyer Rodriguez (Metropolitan Library System); and Serials cataloging, by Ilia Grice (OU).

In the Spring, at the joint OLA/AMLA Conference, TSRT and the Library Education Division will present a pre-conference workshop for Dewey 21 on April 30 featuring Arlene Taylor. This workshop is being funded in part by a grant from the OCLC Forest Press. TSRT will also co-sponsor with the University and College Division a session on "Outsourcing" scheduled for May 2. And finally, TSRT members from OSU will present a session on "Cataloging and Searching Conference Proceedings" on May 1.

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Access to library education just gets easier

Applications are now being accepted for the Mary Lu Atkinson scholarship, designated to assist library support staff personnel with their continuing education. The scholarship is sponsored by the OLA Support Staff Roundtable and FOLIO (Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma).

The purposes of the scholarship program are:
1. To motivate support staff to start or continue education;
2. To encourage support staff to pursue technical training and continuing education which will develop and broaden job knowledge, skills and expertise;
3. To enhance support staff performance and prepare them for the awesome challenges and responsibilities which information and technological advances have placed upon them.

This year's awards consist of two $250 scholarships. Applicants must enroll in an educational institution such as a junior college, four-year college, or technical school, or in seminars and/or workshops which accomplish educational goals. Proof of enrollment is requested, as is an evaluation of the completed course or workshop. The scholarships will be presented during the OLA Annual Conference.

Applications will be accepted through January 31, 1997. For applications and additional information, contact: Jill Vessels or Pauline Boyer Rodriguez at 334 S.W. 26th, Oklahoma City, OK 73109, 405-631-1149.

The OLA Scholarship Committee announces the availability of scholarships to assist promising persons entering the library profession or interested in advancing in the profession by undertaking a course of study in a formal degree or certification program with a particular goal in mind. To be eligible applicants must:
1. Be an Oklahoma resident.
2. Be a current member in good standing of OLA.
3. Hold an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution of higher education.
4. Intend to engage in a formal course of graduate study in an accredited institution of higher education in Oklahoma, with a goal of librarianship as a profession, that will result in a degree or certification.
5. Submit a formal application for consideration by the OLA Scholarship Committee.
6. Submit transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate studies completed to date.
7. A personal interview with the Scholarship Committee or its representative(s) may be required.

For more information and an application, contact Yvonne Hinchee, OLA Scholarship Committee, Shawnee Public Library, 101 N. Philadelphia St., Shawnee, OK 74801-7033. Applications are due by February 1, 1997.

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Janet Ahrberg
People and Places

GLENDA LAMB, formerly nonprint materials selector for the Pioneer Library System, started November 25 as Director of the Public Library of Enid and Garfield County. She also spent a month roaming eastern Asia with her daughter last April and May. While on an island off the southern tip of Thailand, they turned on the TV to see Oklahoma TV weather celebrity Gary England, talking about "Twister," the number one movie in Asia last spring and summer!

SUZANNE HOLCOMBE, CHRISTINE MUELLER, and JOHN BERRY, Oklahoma State University, recently received one of three AMIGOS Fellowship awards for a project exploring technical challenges of republishing items on the WWW. They will use Kappler’s, a seven-volume 1905 compilation of U.S. treaties, law and executive orders pertaining to native Indian tribes to identify cost-effective methods for converting complex text (margin notes, columns, multi-type fonts) using hypertext and full-text indexing. Currently, there is no standard method to replicate a page with margin notes in a digital format.

THOMAS LEONHARDT, Director of Technical Services and Head of Collection Development at University of Oklahoma Libraries, was elected to a 3-year term on AMIGOS’ 5-member delegation to the OCLC Users Council.

LAURIE SUNDBORG, Adult Resources Coordinator for the Tulsa City-County Library System, was elected president of the Oklahoma Center for the Book in September. Other newly elected officers include MARILYN VESELY, retired from ODL, as secretary, and BILL YOUNG, administrator of ODL’s Public Information Office, as treasurer.

PEGGY WOLFE and RON KAYS are now assistant hu-

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The AMIGOS Fellowship Program was established in 1990 and awards up to $3,000 per year are given to one or more persons to foster the development of library and information professionals in AMIGOS member libraries.

Application packets are now available for the 1997 AMIGOS Fellowship. Proposals will be accepted through March 5, 1997. The recipient(s) of the 1997 Fellowship will be announced at the AMIGOS 97 Spring Conference in May. Request your application packet now by contacting Linda Wimberley at the AMIGOS office:

AMIGOS Bibliographic Council, Inc.
12200 Park Central Drive, Suite 500
Dallas, Texas 75251-2104
972/851-3800, 800/843-8482
Fax: 972/911-6061
will@amigos.org or amigos@amigos.org
http://www.amigos.org/amigos

MPLA fall board meeting report

On September 20th, Kathleen Todd, OLA Program Chair, and I flew to Colorado Springs and drove to Denver for the Fall Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) Executive Board meeting. The scenery was beautiful—but finally we had to stop looking at the mountains and look for the Adam’s Mark—an old downtown Denver hotel undergoing a total renovation.

We had to get two bulky boxes of conference stationery and envelopes from Oklahoma City to the meeting room, up an incredible number of small staircases. Kathleen deserves many thanks for not giving up hope!

The MPLA Board, chaired by President Judy Zelinski, dealt with issues including the upcoming 50th Anniversary Celebration at their next conference (Salt Lake City), approving membership promotion strategies brought forward by Marica Wright, reformatting the newsletter, and congratulating Heidi Nickisch, the new editor, on her excellent work.

By far the major matter of business turned out to be our report about the upcoming conference in Oklahoma. We outlined the basic agenda, described conference facilities, answered lots of questions about how best to travel to Shangri-La, and detailed OLA’s procedures for planning programs. The Board pointed out their desire to invite ALA presidential candidates to speak at all future Conferences. Board members seemed very enthusiastic and are looking forward to having a great time in Oklahoma.

Following the meeting, we met with the President, Vice-President, and Executive Director of MPLA to iron out details about producing the pre-conference newsletter, and other such details. When we broke about 4:30 p.m., we felt we’d planned for every single contingency!

That evening, Kathleen and I enjoyed a real taste of downtown Denver—it was OktoberFest (I’m concerned that Denverites don’t understand the calendar). We browsed through many neat little shops and ate traditional OktoberFest type foods—after standing in lines that made you appreciate anything you were able to get!

Sunday morning we had just enough time to get to the Colorado Springs airport, only to be met with delays that would try the patience of the most dedicated librarian—from LONG lines waiting to get through the security gates, to driving around the runways in the plane while they tried to decide whether to fix our mechanical difficulty on the runway, take the plane to the maintenance hanger, or just let us all walk back to Oklahoma City! We were very happy to be safely back at Will Rogers!

--Peggy Cook, MPLA Representative
manities and social sciences librarians at OSU.

MILLIE JACKSON is special collections librarian at OSU. She worked at Michigan State University Library in Special Collections and Rare Books, and has experience as an assistant cataloger and assistant curator of manuscripts.

CAROLYN WARMANN, head of Access Services, is starting her second tour of duty at OSU—her first was as a reference librarian from 1980 to 1984. She also worked at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and Virginia Tech Information Center. She says Access Services is a real eye opener compared to Reference!

Several OLA members starred at the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association meeting in Tulsa in February. RHONDA HARRIS TAYLOR presented a paper on "Liberating Maid Marion: Autonomy and Androgyny in Recent Retellings of Robin Hood for Young Adults," and JUDITH OVERMIER spoke on "The Birds and the Bees for Boys and Girls: Human Reproductive Physiology in 19th Century Children's Science Books." At the same meeting Taylor and Overmier co-chaired a panel on Libraries and Popular Culture that included presentations by DEBRA SPINDLE, Metropolitan Library System, on "Grandpa Was a Preacher and Grandma Was an Indian Princess: Documenting Family Stories;" and by OSU librarians JENNIFER PAUSTENBAUGH and BILLIE CURRY on "From Drive-In Movies to Hula Hoops: Patented Popular Culture," among others.


and education media materials.

The OSU LIBRARY scored well in the Student Satisfaction Inventory conducted by the OSU Office of Student Assessment. The Inventory, a standardized instrument, was mailed to a stratified random sample of 2,000 OSU undergraduate students. Compared with students at other institutions nationwide, the OSU Library scored higher than average in all questions concerning its resources, services and staff. Last year they added more than 20 hours of reference assistance and added public Internet workstations. In 1995/96 more than 14,500 people attended 1,080 training sessions taught by library faculty. The sessions included hands-on PETE, the Library's online system, and Internet training. Also, they have made an effort to interact with students in informal settings—not just when they need reference help or to check out a book.

OLA Executive Board takes action at monthly meetings

September 20, 1996
The OLA Executive Board met at Oklahoma City Community College, and took the following actions:

—Reviewed a proposed information sheet from the Legislative Committee about state questions 675, 676 and 677. Made a few changes and agreed to accept distribution of the information sheet as changed.

—Made corrections and approved the minutes of the August 16 meeting.

—Accepted the treasurer's report for OLA presented by Jeanette McQuitty and for OASLMS presented by Sue McAlister.

—Accepted a recommendation from OLA's MPLA Representative, Peggy Cook, to appoint a conference treasurer for the annual meeting for this year only.

—Gave approval for Editor Rachel Butler to pursue options for changing the format of the Oklahoma Librarian.

—Accepted the report of the Audit Committee as submitted by Bob Segal and referred the committee's recommendations to the Budget and Finance Committee for review.

—Approved referral to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee a consideration to add 'Editor of Electronic Records' to the list of officers in the OLA Constitution and Bylaws. Assigned the responsibility of defining this position to Andy Peters and the group currently developing the OLA Home Page.

—Approved referral to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee a consideration to add the Immediate Past President as a voting member of the Executive Board.

—Accepted a proposal to have the Constitution and Bylaws Committee consider ways to shorten the bylaws by consolidating duplicate information.

—Gave permission for Kathleen Haynes to move OLA archive records to OUSLIS for research purposes.

—Approved a recommendation from the Membership Committee to send a letter to library boards encouraging OLA membership.

October 18, 1996
At its meeting at the Golden Leaf Conference Center, Shangri-La, the Board took the following actions:

—Toured the conference facilities at Shangri-La in preparation for the annual conference to be held there in 1997.

—Approved the minutes of the September 20 meeting.

—Accepted the treasurer's report for OLA presented by Jeanette McQuitty and for OASLMS presented by Sue McAlister.

—Reviewed and edited a draft letter in support of 'Let's Talk About It, Oklahoma.' Agreed that the letter, as revised, would be sent to library participants in past LTAIO programs.

—Agreed that OLA would like to enter into a relationship with SIRS to present an intellectual freedom award. Further agreed that the Intellectual Freedom Committee should be responsible for this award and should base the guidelines on those developed by the Texas Library Association for a similar award. The Board will review and approve the guidelines before they are implemented.

—Accepted a proposal from the disbanded Tulsa Area Library Cooperative (TALC) to establish a scholarship from remaining TALC funds. These funds will be given to OLA and invested. The interest from this investment will be used to fund the scholarship to be awarded to a library science student from northeastern Oklahoma.

—Karen Marriott
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