First Town Hall meeting a resounding success!

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Town Hall Meeting is now in session!! On Thursday evening, February 19th, the Bartlesville Public Library hosted the first in the series of open forums sponsored jointly by OLA and ODL. Ours was a resounding success by all criteria: attendance, participation, community involvement, and community support. Let me tell you what we did and how it worked.

The session here was part of a three-month-long series called, "1st Amendment: Where Would American Culture Be Without It?" sponsored by the library, Allied Arts and Humanities Council, Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise, Washington County Bar Association, and others. The idea was for citizens to examine what the first amendment says, learn how it impacts their lives, and then how to use the Amendment responsibly. The first session was a presentation by OK Supreme Court Justice Marian Opala which set the scene wonderfully for our town hall meeting held the following Thursday.

The meeting opened with brief remarks made by Judge Janice P. Dreiling, OK Associate District Judge. Then, Dr. Bobbi Sexson, Curriculum Development Officer, Bartlesville Public Schools; Dennis Tollison, Children's Minister, First Baptist Church; Mike Riggs, legal department Phillips Petroleum Company; and I each spoke. The panelists were asked to respond to the question, "Given the universal scope of information currently available via electronic format (Internet, cable television, etc.) and, keeping in mind the individual's right to free speech as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, then, what responsibilities does that place on those providing access to information and to the citizens of Bartlesville?" Each person spoke from his own perspective, bringing the thoughts and concerns of their own constituency.

While we had not "rehearsed" our remarks, they did flow together well, and achieved the result of letting audience members see the complexity and depth of the question. We did not expect, nor did we receive, consensus. All members of the panel (except the librarian) felt that filters should be implemented... The schools, because they consider themselves a marketplace of ideas, but "not the open public forum like the library." The church, because they are "protecting the children and guiding them." The corporate world because they are concerned with both security and appropriate "business" use.

I explained the place which the public library has historically held as a free forum for ideas. Then I told them a bit of how we select resources, in any (cont. on p. 17)
Do you know the Dewey number for the respiration of bats?

Where can you find really cool and helpful sites for Oklahoma Internet Information?

Who said, "We call the Library Bill of Rights, the Library Patron's Bill of Rights."

Of the 128 libraries responding to "The Internet: To Filter or Not Survey," how many filter? do not?

What are the credentials of the Oklahoma Association of Wine Producers web site author?

The answers to these fascinating questions were given as part of workshops presented this year by committees, roundtables, and divisions of the Oklahoma Library Association. Topics included the new edition of Dewey Decimal Classification, boardsmanship, filtering issues, new government documents on the Internet, and web site evaluation. Workshops were conducted throughout the state this year by librarians, trustees, and Friends of Libraries.

The continuing education component of your library association provides great value and an excellent way to stay current, network, and give something back. The quality and breadth of each workshop has rewarded each participant with new information and education.

Ten years ago when I returned to work as a librarian, I knew the profession had changed dramatically in the time I stayed home for my children. I knew I could not return effectively to the workplace without updating my knowledge about offering the best library service to users. OLA's continuing education opportunities provided a place, not only for current information about the field, but a chance to know colleagues.

OLA's Proposed Long Range plan calls for the development of a 12 month continuing education calendar, offering workshops in different regional locations. You can be a part of the planning and implementation of quality educational and professional development.

--Susan Dulaney Wright

(Answers on page 17)
Libraries: principles for the 21st century

Your observations are sought on the draft of a new statement.

"This is a time when many of us are facing intellectual freedom challenges in our libraries, when the "son of CDA" will almost certainly be brought forward, and when filtering and the Internet are urgent issues," notes Ann Symons, ALA president-elect. She chose intellectual freedom as the theme for her presidential year. To provide a framework in which the library profession can address critical questions and issues surrounding intellectual freedom, she asked a subcommittee to draft a statement for the 21st century.

The draft statement follows. The goal now is to circulate the draft as widely as possible and gather input.

March 1998 draft statement:
"Libraries: An American Value"

Libraries in America, whether they are public or special, academic or school, are a cornerstone of the communities they serve and are essential to the preservation of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. Libraries provide the ideas, resources, and information imperative for education, work, recreation, and self-government.

Libraries are a legacy to today's generation, offering them the heritage of the past and the promise of the future. To ensure that libraries flourish and have the freedom to promote the public good in the 21st century, we believe certain principles must be guaranteed.

To that end, we affirm this contract with the people we serve:

> We defend the constitutional rights of individuals to obtain and use the library's resources;

> We value our nation's diversity and strive to offer its benefits through developing and providing resources and services to the communities we serve;

> We support the rights of all individuals, including children and young adults, to determine which resources are appropriate and necessary for themselves;

> We respect the responsibility of all parents to guide their own children's use of the library and its resources and services;

> We connect people and information by assisting each person in identifying and effectively using resources;

> We protect each individual's privacy and confidentiality in the use of library resources and services;

> We celebrate and preserve our democratic society by providing opportunities for all individuals to become educated, culturally enriched and informed.

Change is constant; but we believe these principles transcend and endure in a dynamic technological and political environment.

We believe further that through these principles, libraries in the United States can contribute to a world free of fear and want, a world which values and protects freedom of speech, a world which tolerates cultural differences and respects individual beliefs, and a world where all are truly equal and free.

++ Send comments on this draft to either June Pinnell-Stephens, LF21 Committee Chair, Noel Wien Library, 1215 Cowles Street, Fairbanks, AK 99701, phone 907-459-1020, fax 907-459-1024, or email junep@muskox.alaska.edu; or to Ann K. Symons, ALA President-elect, Juneau-Douglas High School Library, 10014 Crazy Horse Drive, Juneau, AK 99801, phone 907-463-1947, fax 907-463-1932, or email symons@alaska.net.

What is the value of the library to you and your family?

All of these services are FREE at the library. Here is the value you receive for these services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Cost to you at the Library</th>
<th>Cost to Buy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read a children's book</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$10 per book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surf the Internet</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$20 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read a best seller</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$25 per book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read the newspaper</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$13.10 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read a magazine</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$2.50 per copy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of meeting rooms</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$120 per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check out a video</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$3 per video rental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check out a CD</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$15 per CD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend a computer wksp.</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>$30 per hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part of the the Tulsa City-County Library Election Fact Sheet for the May 12 election. The request is for a 1.2-millage increase and $22-million bond package.
How is life in a newspaper library? How is it different than and the same as what I'm doing in my job? I met Carol Campbell when we were both members of a panel representing different types of libraries who spoke to Mike Havener's Reference class at the OU library school. She is the kind of dynamic, solution-oriented, and funny person who grabs your mind. Carol, the library manager for the Daily Oklahoman newspaper, runs a five person library. There is also one "adjunct" computer-assisted reporting position, a vital part of today's newsroom. This person gets data in electronic format, for instance the state budget and expenditures, so they can do analyses and comparisons formerly not even possible for a daily newspaper staff. "I'm all for having fun at work," says Carol, "and I don't care if they shift their jobs around. A lot of what they do is repetitive. So everyone is cross-trained." Throughout the day the library usually has a steady flow of information needs, though if something big is going on, there may be a rush from about 3 to 9 pm. The first person gets there between 6-6:30 a.m. and the library is open until 10:30 p.m. It is not open on weekends.

The newspaper library is involved in providing three main services: reference service, computer training for reporters, and in creating a product, the archived version of the newspaper. Perhaps 20 percent of staff time is spent doing research. Library staff encourage the reporters to do their own research. Reporters can access the in-house Electronic Library from their desktops in the newsroom. Example reference requests the library gets are: "Where is House Bill so & so in the legislative process?" "What year did they introduce Mickey Mouse?" or perhaps a request for Internet searches.

The library sometimes does fee-based research for the public, but a large percentage of the time staff refer people to the Oklahoma Historical Society or their local public library. Insurance companies and attorneys' offices are frequent users of the library's fee-based services. With reporters from other newspapers, the library usually has reciprocal arrangements.

Unlike many other libraries, staff here create a product. Most of Carol's time is spent processing the newspaper into the archived electronic text library, checking and cleaning up details. The Daily Oklahoman database goes back to Nov. 1981 and is full text searchable. She contrasted the online version of the paper, which is like another version of the paper, with the archived, cleaned up version.

Carol said, "A big issue in newspaper libraries these days is electronic photo archiving, including the perennial question, 'What equipment should we buy?" Library staff are also building a photo database, checking captions, spelling of names, and working on the merging of the two databases. Currently there are about 17,000 photos in file drawers. Before the advent of electronic archiving, the library staff wasn't very selective about what photos they kept; now they are not keeping as much material. The library has microfilmed all clip files and created an electronic index. This project was contracted out before Carol was library manager. "In retrospect," she says, "I would have found a way to do it in house, because the quality control was not what I'd like." One plan in the works is a database of local VIPs with biographies and mug shots.

Another issue of interest to librarians in all settings—from one side or another—is negotiating with online providers. "It's a touchy issue," Carol says. "How many years will you sign a contract for? You don't want a long contract, because things are changing so rapidly." How does the online archive the Daily Oklahoman is building on the Internet fit with the version offered on the Lexis/Nexis service, which takes a big cut of the revenues? Carol believes "the two versions serve two different markets." This is an area hotly debated in the business world. Another big issue for newspaper librarians, as well as the rest of us, is copyright in the electronic age. "When are we breaking copyright, when are we complying?" Carol has worked 29 years for the Daily Oklahoman. She's worn many hats, starting in the composing room in the linotype days, ad layout, computer typesetting and paste up, general desk with obits, fishing report, burglaries, and article rewrites. She wrote for the women's department, laid out the community pages, and just prior to becoming Library Manager, she was heavily involved in training the news people on the new computer system. She's seen the dramatic change from an old way of doing things to the Internet. She's a big fan of using the Internet to find answers, and is especially appreciative of the Special Libraries Association listserv used mainly by those in the newspaper business. She says, "A Daily Oklahoman reporter doing a story on the increase in single women buying homes needed some statistics. So I put out a request to the listserv and right away got back some great information." "Politics" are not really a problem in this special library. Almost everyone in a position of power at the Daily Oklahoman came up through the ranks and knows how to cooperate to get the job done. However, Carol is expected to participate in a certain number of extracurricular activities, such as helping out with the Institute on Coverage of Disasters and Tragedies the D.O. put on last year. The company is very supportive of her attending conferences and CE courses.

In her spare time Carol likes to sew, crochet and knit and to get in the car and go—especially to New Mexico—looking for pots and baskets.

Do you see a merging of reporters' and librarians' work? "Not really," says Carol. From the manager's point of view, the library's roles are to make the reporters' research possible and to provide training to enhance their abilities.

--Rachel Butler
Town Hall meeting (cont. from p. 13)

format. I explained that electronic resources are in some ways the same, and in many ways different. I talked of the importance of having (and following) clear, published policy statements for collection development, for Internet use, for meetings room use, for all the things we routinely do. I explained that the library staff has implemented rules that we consider reasonable and fair, and that enforcement of these rules constitutes our only restraints. In clarifying our position, I explained that while we have considered carefully each of the decisions we have made, we also reserve the right to change as developments occur. "Quite honestly," I said, "We are making this up as we go along. No one has all the answers; some of the questions haven't even been thought of."

Following the separate comments, the floor was opened for questions and/or comments from participants. We were lucky enough to have a varied audience, ranging from mid-high students to senior citizens, and from the political right, left, and middle. We took questions for over an hour and could have gone on until midnight.

What were the good points of doing the program? It raised questions which many of our users had never considered and gave us an opportunity to explain why this is such a difficult decision. Also, it gave us a forum to discuss things like open access, parental control, and filtering in a sane, rational discussion, before emotions and tempers played a part. It also gave us a chance to line up strong library supporters who, although they might not totally agree with our methods, do agree with what we are trying to accomplish.

I cannot encourage you enough to do this program. It is NOT threatening. It is NOT scary. It is NOT a witch hunt. It IS a way to make your community aware of the strength of their library. It IS a way to let others know the good that libraries already do. It IS a way to enlist new library advocates and library users. Will such a program solve all your problems? No, you'll still have to fight for funding. But, you will come off as an intelligent, progressive institution with the best interests of your community at heart.

--Jan Sanders

Mystery Workshop Answers from President's Column:
573.2194
http://www.state.ok.us/~odl/
Sylvia Morales, Metropolitan Library Commissioner.
57 filter and 71 do not.
OLA member who is not even a grape grower!

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THE LEADER IN INTEGRATED INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
Developing a path through the forest: Tools and concepts for next generation catalogers

On Monday, December 8th, 1997 I joined 21 librarians for OCLC's Knowledge Access Management seminar. We came from Maine to California, from academic, special and public libraries, along with one from a network, SOLINET. For the next three days we looked at trends in publishing and the information explosion, we looked at managing this material (cataloging), and we struggled with Technical Services and the Library's place in this new environment.

What are the critical trends in knowledge access management? In light of these trends, what changes will be required of libraries? What do we do next?

Dr. Martin Dillon, Executive Director of the OCLC Institute, led us through the trends. Much of this we knew from our experience in libraries, i.e., the huge growth of electronic publishing, the Internet and the World Wide Web. But he showed us that book publishing, which had held level for the last five years, now shows a small downward tick. We explored the cost of cataloging vs. the cost of keyword searching on one of the Web Searchers. Even if cataloging a book cost only $10, the web cataloger's (Yahoo) cost is only a cent. That leads to statements like no cataloging with keyword searching is better than good cataloging and no keyword searching.

We moved on to Dublin Core, OCLC's attempt to improve resource discovery on the Web by bringing order (cataloging) to the Web. Dublin Core is an attempt to build an interdisciplinary consensus about a group of core elements (metadata). Ann Sandberg-Fox, chair of the ALA ALCETS Digital Resources Committee and principal editor of International Standard Bibliographic Description for Electronic Resources, and two of OCLC's metadata experts led us there. Its 15 core elements look much like some of AACR2R's descriptive elements and we looked at their relationship to the MARC record, AACR2R's Chapter 9 (Electronic Data). These Metadata elements are loosely defined, with much discretion left to the "cataloger." Lots of DC work is being done in Scandinavia, England and Australia with work on software which would make a translation from DC to MARC, classify a web page, etc. Much time late Monday was spent on WWW work groups looking at the same questions which led to the development of the Dublin Core. [For more info, look at the Dublin Core homepage at purl.org/metadata/dublin_core]

Tuesday, bright and early, we went to the lab and cataloged sites (Dublin Core) to see how the principles are applied. Then we dumped these sites into some of the trial translation machines we talked about Monday. We explored PURLs (Persistent URL's) as a way to give stability to site and page URLs. And saw how they worked and didn't work. Ann then took us through the development of SGML (Standard G Markup Language) and XML (maybe the next HTML). By mom's end we were looking at TEI (Text Encoding Initiative), from the Center for Electronic Text in the Humanities, EAD (Enhanced Archival Description, from the Berkeley Finding Aid Project - an archivist attempt to "electrify" their finding aids, and GILS (Government Information Locator Service), for identifying and describing information resources throughout the U.S. Government.

Tuesday's final session had us brainstorming Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT Analysis) of cataloging (AACR2R and MARC) and metadata. It was invigorating, as we began to look at each, seeing the cracks and reinforced concrete. And seeing how valuable good cataloging (now including Metadata) is and can be.

Wednesday was for looking to the future. We reviewed what we had done and then broke into five small groups to look at the "Next Steps", trend analysis and action planning for (1) Technical Service, (2) the Library, (3) our Institutions, (4) OCLC and (5) the World. We listed what we considered the top three trends, issues or problems that impacted our area of concern. Then selected one of the three and listed the top three opportunities or threats to that area. We next chose one opportunity or threat to list the top three next actions. And finally took one action and listed three evaluation criteria.

As each group reported, we could see not only the forest and the trees, but also a path through the forest. We began to see ways to help patrons, to dispense knowledge, to get at information without having to weed through 31,000 hits. To leverage this enthusiasm, we were each asked to go home and develop a distance learning project - one that would be completed before the end of January. For this the librarians at Oklahoma City Community College and I are choosing 12 Oklahoma sites to catalog, sites which will enhance our student's research and our faculty's teaching.

--John Rosenhamer

SearchBank is here! The databases are...
General Reference Center (Magazine Index) ...back to 1994
General BusinessFile ASAP ...back to 1995
Health Reference Center-Academic ...back to 1994
Expanded Academic ASAP ...back to 1995
Predicates PROMPT (Predicates Overview of Markets and Technology ...back to 1995
National Newspaper Index ...back to 1995
LegalTrac ...back to 1980
Books in Print
FirstSearch changes! The databases (no full-text) are...
ArticleFirst Database
ContentsFirst Database
ERIC-U.S. Dept. of Education
FastDoc Database
GPO Monthly Catalog
MEDLINE
NetFirst Database
OCLC Union Lists of Periodicals Database
PapersFirst Database
ProceedingsFirst Database
WorldCat Database (OCLC Online Union Catalog)
The statewide shared databases provide even better service for Oklahoma users!

The FirstSearch project launched last year is completing a very successful first year. The usage statistics have indicated a real need for access to electronic information. Participation among libraries stands at over 600 members and includes every type of library. In August 1997 ODL initiated a study of existing products and goals for the future. A users' group meeting was held at which participants were given an opportunity to give us feedback on the project and an opportunity to volunteer to serve on the evaluation committee for subsequent contracts. As most of you are aware, the Oklahoma Library Technology Network (OLTN) Shared Database Committee reviewed the current database contracts. The committee, including representatives of special, academic, public, and school libraries, met from September through January to study products available and make recommendations to ODL and OneNet about future contracts. Their recommendations resulted in...

The Big Change

On April 1 this year, we added another vendor to provide more full-text resources for your library and its patrons. In addition to FirstSearch, the OLTN Shared Databases Committee has selected the Information Access Company (IAC) to provide SearchBank databases with full-text information from journals, magazines and other information. Just as a reminder, you will have access to the FirstSearch base package which includes WorldCat and ten other bibliographic databases, but no full-text. The SearchBank databases include almost four times as much full-text coverage as our current databases.

Because our first-year pilot project with statewide information databases (FirstSearch Oklahoma) proved to be extremely popular, ODL and OneNet have signed an intent to contract with IAC for three years. The Oklahoma State Legislature and the federal Library Services and Technology Act are supporting this very important service. Since we are purchasing a statewide site license for both First Search and IAC SearchBank, there's no charge to any Oklahoma library that chooses to participate.

Other changes from the first year's project

1. Name of service: The first year of the project we used the name FirstSearch Oklahoma. Now that we are including more than one vendor's products, we will be using a more general name: OLTN Statewide Information Databases.

2. Library access: Libraries will continue to access FirstSearch in the same way they have during the past year. IAC SearchBank can be accessed in several ways: a web browser, InfoTrac for Windows, telnet or OPAC terminals. Authorization to access SearchBank from your library will vary depending on whether your library has fixed IP addresses or dial-up access. Contact John Corbett or Carol Fox at ODL for more information (call 800-522-8116 or 521-2502).

3. Access to SearchBank from home or office is more limited: The IAC license is more limited in its provision of access to their databases from home and office than our current contract. Here's how it will work:

  > Libraries providing online access to their library's catalog and other services from their customers' homes and offices can provide a gateway to IAC SearchBank. In this case, the library's fixed IP address is the authorization, allowing off-site customers into SearchBank.

  > If your library does not provide online access from home or office, you can still give your patrons a way to access SearchBank outside the library. IAC will allow a limited number of simultaneous users statewide to access SearchBank via an authorization number. The authorization number you use for FirstSearch will be the number your patrons can use to access SearchBank (example: 1010-137-052).

  > Libraries are expected to take the precautions necessary to ensure that only authorized users can access these databases.

Implementation of this statewide database

All libraries must register for SearchBank access. An online registration form is located at http://www.state.ok.us/~odl/facform.htm. If you do not have access to the World Wide Web, contact us and we will send you a copy of the form. Once you have completed the registration, you will be sent information about how to connect to the IAC databases.

Training. ODL is scheduling training for the spring, summer and fall. IAC will have a booth at the Oklahoma Library Association annual conference in Tulsa at the end of April.

The citizens of Oklahoma will benefit enormously from the statewide site license for these electronic resources. We believe it's an extremely effective way to equalize information access in the state, regardless of location or funding level.

--Susan McVey

Legislative update. Though this picture will have changed by the time you have this newsletter in your hands, it is important to know that people at ODL and in the Association do a lot of work behind the scenes in support of libraries across the state. On April 6 Bob Clark sent out the following memo to library leaders:

Recent news regarding surplus revenues mean it will be more difficult to secure the $300,000 needed to add the new statewide licenses. Legislators thought they had $190 million in surplus revenues to spend this year and according to the Journal Record were stunned when told that all but $59 million of the extra money has been obligated. Rep. Jim Hamilton said, "We're just in a very bleak budget picture for the balance of the session." It is imperative the legislators hear from you no later than the end of April.
Products & Services

The Impact/ONLINE™ Family creates powerful connections between people and information. This suite includes cataloging and ILL services, as well as tools to manage cooperative, regional and statewide union catalogs and other informational databases through the Web.

Impact/ONLINE WebPAC™
- Enables patrons to search your union catalog and submit ILL requests over the Web from library, home, school or office

Impact/ONLINE ILL™
- Automates initiation & tracking of interlibrary loaning/lending, minimizing staff involvement

Impact/ONLINE CAT™ & WebCat™
- Cataloging utility with powerful MARC editor
- Copy cataloging via the Web

Impact/Online MARC™ & TRACEIT™
- MARCit cataloging resource service
- TRACEIT holder location service for ILL
- Web access to database of over 55 million bibliographic & authority records
- Subscription & transaction pricing

Impact/ACCESS™ via WebPAC
- The common user interface for easy patron access to published information databases

Impact/CD™
- Libraries without Internet share resources with a common database on CD-ROM
- Many of the same features as the Impact/ONLINE suite of products
- Interlibrary Loan processing gateway to/from Impact/ONLINE

Database Preparation
- 100% Retrospective Conversion
- Non-MARC to MARC retro upgrade
- Authority Control
- Work with SGML/HTML/MARC and generically tagged files
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"Knowledge Is Power"
Sir Francis Bacon, 1597

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Newsbits

The Interlibrary Loan Policies Directory, 6th ed.
Are you a library in the U.S. or Canada that loans and/or photocopies more than 100 items annually for interlibrary loan to other libraries? Doesn't matter what your "type" is.

Though you may have your interlibrary loan policy in OCLC's NAD (Name and Address Directory), many libraries find a printed version more useful. Some libraries belong to other databases and may not have access to your NAD.

There is a remedy! Leslie R. Morris, Niagara University, is compiling The Interlibrary Loan Policies Directory, 6th ed. The directory will include the policies of over 2,000 libraries and be published in late 1998. To be accurate, the directory needs help from lots of people.

Why should you participate?
> Borrowers will not ask you for classes of items that you are not willing to loan, i.e., bound periodicals, videos, etc.
> Borrowers will be able to ascertain your charges in advance.
> You will advance the needs of the interlibrary loan profession.

To make your contribution, get the blank form off the web at www.niagara.edu/library/form.html, or contact Leslie R. Morris, Director of Libraries, Niagara University, Niagara University, NY 14109-2200 (really!). Phone 716-286-8002, fax 716-286-8030, or email morrisrl@niagara.edu

Now combined with "The Celebration of Books" is another conference enjoyed by many Oklahoma librarians and teachers, the OU "Festival of Books for Children and Young People," which historically has been held each fall on the OU campus. A track devoted to children's literature at this year's Celebration reflected the combining of these two conferences.

Watch for it next year!

Noted American Poet Stanley Plumly will speak at OSU library

Noted American poet Stanley Plumly will read from his work in the Edmon Low Library Browsing Room on April 23. Plumly is the award-winning author of Out-of-the-Body Travel and In the Outer Dark. In his newest collection of poems, The Marriage in the Trees, Plumly sharpens and deepens the themes—the shock of mortality, the life of the soul, the painful beauty of the every day—begun in his critically acclaimed Boy on the Step.

Plumly's books will be available for purchase during the reading and profits will go to event co-sponsors: Friends of the OSU Library and the Stillwater Mission of Hope. The event is also sponsored by OLA's Social Responsibilities Round Table.

Center for the Book conference brings out poets, writers, librarians and teachers

"Making a book is like making a friend," says Steven Kellogg, children's author/illustrator. "You have no idea when you have that sense of inspiration, how far it will go." He went on to say, "The work of art puts us in touch with the essence of who we are, the structure of our lives and selves." Thus he writes from the heart about things like: Pinkerton(!), his giant pooh, whose antics speak to readers' hearts not only of their own pets but of relatives and friends as well.

Kellogg was one of many, many writers of all kinds, from near (Tulsa itself) and far, who talked and shared and signed books for an eager audience during the 1998 annual conference of the University of Oklahoma Center for Poets and Writers. "The Celebration of Books" was held March 27-28 in Tulsa's beautiful Rogers University Conference Center.

Saturday was filled with a cornucopia of choices: romance novels, suspense novels, poetry, publishing and promotion tips, memoirs, films, history, and much more. A dynamite session on uncovering the story of 1921 Tulsa Race Riots, "Greenwood Revisited: Triumph over Tragedy," included panelists Eddie Faye Gates, Peter Burchard, and Jewell Parker Rhodes, moderated by Scott Ellsworth, plus a riveted audience.

Tulsa City-County Library journeys through science

Nearly 150 miniature B-2 stealth bomber look-alikes took flight Feb. 7 in TCCL's Central Library. Young library customers competed in the paper-airplane contest at "A Science Odyssey," a daylong event featuring a guest appearance by the former world record holder for keeping a paper airplane in the air the longest time, a Ben Franklin impersonator, a room full of bats and free Internet surfing.

The program kicked off a two-month exploration of science and technology at TCCL libraries. TCCL was one of 24 libraries selected nationwide by PBS and WGBH-Boston to serve as an outreach site to complement the 10-hour documentary series "A Science Odyssey with Charles Osgood," which aired on PBS in January.

Using archival film, animation, expert interviews and primary source documents, the series asked the question, "What have we learned in the past 100 years?" The series integrated history, science and biography in each of five areas--medicine; physics and astronomy; human behavior; technology; and earth and life sciences.

"Serving as an outreach site gave us the opportunity to engage our community in a conversation about science and its influence on human progress this past century and possible directions for the 21st century," said Kelly Jennings, children's coordinator for TCCL. "It also enabled us to highlight library resources related to science and technology, and to link children and adults with local resource people knowledgeable in the subject areas covered by the series."
People and places

NITA COX, recent OU library school grad, is now Documents Librarian at Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant.

PAT WEATHER-MEYERS is now Director of Information Management and Delivery at OU. Pat has been Head of Access Services there.

Three decades on the job

The Chickasaw Regional Library System (CRLS) has seen a lot of changes but the one thing that has remained constant is Don Ruiz. Immediately following his graduation from Lone Grove High School in 1967 Ruiz began working for the library. "I was given about a ten minute shelving lesson when I first started. I basically had to just learn it on my own."

Thirty-one years later he is still on the job and working just as hard as ever. Rumor has it that Don has never called in sick since 1967. "That's not quite accurate," says Ruiz. "Back in '93 we were moving books from the old Healdton Library to its new building and I twisted my back and missed two days. And once I had eye surgery and missed a day." When asked how he stays motivated to come to work he smiles and says, "I just have a job to do so I do it."

Ruiz is also known around CRLS for being faster than the computer. If a customer is looking for a book he can tell you exactly where it's located, what the Dewey number is, and even if it's checked out. People are always asking, "Don, how many times have you handled that book?" and he replies, "Don't even ask me!"

One of Don's most memorable recollections of his career is the "big" move from the library's former location in the Broadlaw Shopping Center to its current building on Railway Express. "It was a tremendous move," he remembers. "We tried to get a moving truck to load everything into that but didn't work out. The library had this red station wagon and we laid the seat down and loaded it up. I don't know how many trips we made in that station wagon. To this day the million dollar question is, "Why couldn't we get a moving truck?"

Mr. Ruiz was recently honored at the library for his friendly attitude toward library patrons and his co-workers. "Don exemplifies loyalty, dedication and hard work," states Lynn McIntosh, CRLS Director. "I don't think we could run our headquarters library in Ardmore without him."

In Memoriam

"Longtime Tulsa library commissioner Phil Dessauer passed away in December. Appointed to the library commission in 1969, Dessauer donated his time and expertise to the library system for nearly 25 years. Through the years, he served as commission chairman from 1974-76, and chaired every committee, including the selection committee which appointed Pat Woodrum as executive director. He represented TCCL on the Urban Libaries Council, serving a term as president, and was elected to the Library Hall of Fame in 1982. Dessauer was former managing editor of the Tulsa World from 1976-81, chief author and roostmaster of the Tulsa Press Club Gridiron show for more than 25 years, and a visiting professor at the University of Tulsa, where he taught writing and editing from 1981-88."

Charles Ingram, 69, died on March 9. Charles earned his Bachelors of Arts degree in 1951 and a Master of Library Science in 1963 from the University of Oklahoma. He began his library career at the Oklahoma City Library in 1948 as a Library Assistant and in 1954, he became the Chief Production Assistant. In 1962 he became Assistant Acquisitions Librarian at the University of Oklahoma, and in 1963 he began a career at the OU Medical Center Library as the Assistant Librarian for Public Services. He moved to Oklahoma City University in 1965 first as Documents Librarian, then Acquisitions Librarian. In 1973, Charles made his last move and joined the Southwestern Oklahoma State University Library as the Acquisitions Librarian, retiring from there in 1990. During his careers at the OU Medical Center, Oklahoma City University and Southwestern Oklahoma State University Libraries, he worked for three of the leading library directors in Oklahoma: Leonard Eddy, Frances Kennedy, and Sheila Hoke. Charles Ingram was recognized as an authority in his profession as an acquisition librarian. He served OLA as Chair of the College and University Division in 1968, Constitution and By-Laws Committee in 1971, and Auditing Committee in 1972. In addition to his outstanding library career, Charles was an accomplished artist whose work brought him great joy and recognition. Charles left an impact on each of the libraries in which he worked and will be remembered by librarians who knew him as an elegant individual who had a remarkable creative talent.

Anadarko Public Library gets grant

The Friends of the Anadarko Community Library received a check for $50,000 last September from the Paul G. Allen Charitable Foundation to be used for the Faye Gardner-Allen Children's Library Multi-Media Computer Project. Allen's mother, Faye Gardner-Allen, used to work in the Anadarko library.

Library director Christina Owen says the grant included approximately $35,000 for computers in the children's area, $20,000 for accelerated reader books, plus a children's section service desk, "a wonderful overhead projector," a union catalog and CD tower network with the public schools which can be used from home, computer upgrades, and other equipment. Library staff take pride in their tradition of cooperation with the public schools, including marking all books used in the schools' accelerated reader program.

Located in an old brick storefront in downtown Anadarko, the Library is beautifully remodelled from its previous life as a car-fixing garage. It's a great place and you will be warmly received!
OLA Executive Board actions taken

JANUARY 16, 1998
The OLA Executive Board met at the Downtown Doubletree Hotel in Tulsa and took the following actions:
>Accepted the Treasurer's report as submitted. OLA had a positive cash flow for the first six months. 1997 OLA/MPLA Joint Conference treasurer Ken Bierman reported that OLA's total income from conference was $4,232.24. The Board thanked him for his many efforts on behalf of OLA and the joint conference.
>Heard a presentation by Sheila Johnson about the proposed "The Internet: To Filter or Not" workshop. The registration flyer will include a survey to determine who is using filtering software and, if so, which types. Survey will be mailed to school librarians, as well as to all OLA members.

FEBRUARY 20, 1998
OLA's Executive Board met at the Anadarko Public Library and enjoyed a sumptuous array of food and drink provided by library staff while taking these actions:
>Accepted the Treasurer's report. Sequoyah sales and donations are running 57% ahead of last year.
>Expressed its thanks to Mona Hatfield and the Sequoyah Committees for their hard work and superb fund raising efforts this year. To date they have covered last year's deficit expenses, and this year's promotion and production costs.
>Received a report from Karen Marriott on the Town Hall grants. Bartlesville and Shawnee Public Libraries have received grants; two more are needed to fulfill the original grant's terms that funds must be spent by September.

Ethical food for thought.... Where do you stand?

Unprofessional act?
"After twenty years, my perspective remains unchanged: censorship is never warranted, but it should not be confused with a refusal to aid and abet egregiously antisocial acts in the name of some higher obligation."

Twenty years ago Robert Hauptman published an essay commenting on an experiment in which he visited thirteen public and academic libraries, asking librarians for help in building an explosive device that he strongly hinted was to be used on a suburban house. It was done at a time of frequent terrorist activities. He was appalled that none of the librarians refused to help on ethical grounds, and suggested in his essay that this was an abrogation of professional, social, and human responsibility. He revisited the topic in a more recent article. The FBI reported an increase to 1,880 terrorist activities in this country in 1993.

Hauptman said, "There have always been underground publications, military manuals, and chemistry texts available to psychopaths who wished to harm others, but it is only recently that this material as well as human contacts have become easily accessible on various computer networks, all of which are interconnected on the Internet. What formerly took some real physical and intellectual effort is now just a few keystrokes away." He went on, "Information professionals also participate in the general social contract and thus their professional obligations [...] may not conflict with what is normally taken to be acceptable behavior. Aiding and abetting a heinous crime in the name of what I have termed a dubious commitment to information dissemination and then claiming that a professional organization's code calls for this is an abjuration of personal responsibility and a highly unprofessional act."
From "Professional Responsibility Reconsidered," RQ, Spr. 1996.

What about limited resources?
Paige Weston raised another issue last year. "Libraries I work with (and others around the country) are migrating toward more and more web-delivered library services. I hear librarians say they need to restrict the URLs to which their web-capable public workstations can connect because, 'We don't have enough workstations. If people use these to surf the net, other people can't use them to search the local catalog.'

The idea I want to try out on you is an analogy. Libraries have a limited number of tables and chairs, too. When a user sits down to read in a library, do we check whether what she's reading came from our shelves (passed through our selection procedures) or whether it's something she brought in with her? Do we do this when other users complain they can't find a place to sit down? Should we? How do we decide when? When five users are waiting? Or fifty? When the reader has sat for eight hours? Or eight days? [...] What attracts users into the library? What makes libraries relevant? What exactly is it we're trying to preserve access to? And a final question, are these the right questions to ask?"

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