Why do we go to Conference?

In the back of my mind I knew that much of what happens at Conference happens outside the formal sessions. I also knew that much of what happens in life is out of my control. So things happen of their own accord, even at OLA Conference.

But without realizing it, I had in my mind the idea that since Conference is built with a framework—one of scheduled meetings and activities—that I was a better person for sticking more closely to the framework.

Who knows why. But it changed this time. And it was both unsettling and freeing. I missed some sessions I’d been eager to attend (especially the mysterious Wil-Tel tour!). But many other Conference gifts were magnified.

I spent a lot more time talking and listening outside the meeting rooms.

I talked to many vendors and even let myself talk to vendors of products that I thought my library would not be interested in any time soon, possibly ever. Some of the conversations were really fun! Some were brief, some long. I learned about some products and services that we don’t need now or aren’t in a position to acquire, but we may make a different decision next time around. At my institution I have no direct budget responsibility or authority, but I’m expected to provide input and make recommendations on all kinds of library decisions. Turned out the vendors aren’t too scary at all. And talking to vendors is useful to my library as well as to them.

I visited poster sessions and wished I’d seen them all. This conference had topics galore to pique my interest.

In fact I was in the midst of so many conversations, I missed some programs I meant to attend! For one, I wished I’d gone to the First Timer’s Orientation. Our new members are the future and if we don’t cultivate them and use their skills and enthusiasm, we are dead!

It’s the connections with people that make Conference memorable. From left, Rowdy Williams, Jennifer Greenstreet, and Cindy Keefer.

It’s simple. We come to Conference to learn, to meet people and to have fun. Our relationships with others are fundamental to our lives and our work. At conference I have formal and informal opportunities to draw sustenance from librarians and vendors. It just happened that what I learned this April may have been more about people and relationships than technical library skills.

-Rachel Butler

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President's Column

Another record setting year for the Oklahoma Library Association is wound to a close with the completion of one of our most successful conferences ever. Your attendance at this year’s conference, which was held at the Adams Mark Hotel in Tulsa, helped to set an all time conference attendance record of almost 600 people! We sold out all of our exhibit space and had vendors in every nook and cranny of the hotel. The programs were well attended and traffic in the exhibit halls was great.

Events are not successful without the hard work of many people. In this case our program chair, Ginny Dietrich, and her program committee did an outstanding job of developing a conference program that was exciting, informational, and fun. People come to meetings when there are topics that are of interest to them and this year’s program committee worked very hard to insure that the programs were diverse, informative, and had outstanding speakers and presenters. Hats off to Ginny and her program crew! Great job!

Another element that is key to the success of the conference are the local arrangements. Conference attendees want things to go smoothly and this year was one of the smoothest ever thanks to Rowdy Williams and his local arrangements committee. They had all the AV arrangements well in hand, registration was a breeze and all of the committee members did their jobs so well that there were very few glitches or problems. Thanks so much to Rowdy and the local arrangements committee!! We started the conference with a special presentation from Mr. Dennis LaFreniere, the acting postmaster for Tulsa County. OLA was pleased to be part of a special 2nd day issue of the postage stamp commemorating the Library of Congress. John Phillips deserves special credit for the idea and for making the special event happen.

Our keynote speaker, Dr. George Henderson, set the tone for the conference with his wonderfully moving and meaningful speech about the impact of libraries and librarians in his life while growing up poor in Chicago. A gamut of other exceptional programs and speakers highlighted the next two days and was culminated with a wonderful presentation from Nancy Pickard on Friday night.

My thanks to all of you for attending and having a good time and a special thanks to all OLA leadership for their efforts in making the conference so special.

Finally, I would like to thank Kay Boies and the OLA Leadership for all of their assistance in making my year as president special and more importantly – pretty easy! We have a great association and I look forward to serving our membership in the years to come. Remember – Libraries are the Roots to our Future!

—Donna Morris

Wow! What a great conference!

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

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Circulation and Advertising Office
The OKLAHOMA LIBRARIAN, 300 Hardy Drive, Edmond, OK 73013. Bulk mail postage paid at Edmond, OK 73034. Publishers Permit No. 61. Circulation 1200. Circulation Manager: Kay Boies (405) 348-0506, e-mail: kboies@ionet.net

Calendar of Events

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<td>Long Range Planning Committee, Seminole State College - 10 am</td>
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<td>Navigating the Future Ad Hoc Comm, Rose State LRC - 1:30 pm</td>
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<td>September 14</td>
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<td>October 4</td>
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<td>October 6</td>
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<td>October 9</td>
<td>ODL-Fundraising and Grants Workshop, Hobart PL</td>
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<td>Intellectual Freedom Committee, Stroud Public Library - 2 pm</td>
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<td>Columbus Day</td>
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A ghost haunts the stacks: an uncommon history of John Vaughan Library on the 90th Anniversary of Northeastern State University

There is a French idiom, “plus ca change, plus c’est la meme chose.” The more things change, the more they remain the same. The history of John Vaughan Library bears out this proverb.

From time to time the ghost of John Vaughan, ninth president of Northeastern State University (1936–1951), emerges out of hiding to haunt us out of our daily routine. I suspect that President Vaughan is just curious to know what’s going on in the building that received his name as a memorial to his vision of a new library in 1949. Satisfied that we’re not dishonoring his name, he disappears back into his photograph and looks smugly down upon us from his perch in the hall of presidents in the library’s south wing.

Through the years, rumors of John Vaughan’s ghost have surfaced, and my best source was a temporary night building custodian with a wonderful imagination and the ability to tell a good ghost story. It was in the 1980’s that he told me of mysterious happenings such as books falling off the shelf on their own (Was President Vaughan censoring our selections?), exit turnstiles turning on their own, and finally, the shadowy figure of Vaughan bobbing up and down the south hallway and disappearing into the west wall.

Our custodian knew it was John Vaughan because he claimed that a book that fell off the shelf opened to a photograph of President Vaughan.

The library hasn’t always been John Vaughan’s, and it hasn’t always been housed where it is today. The Annual Catalogue of the Northeastern State Normal School for the year 1909/10 described the reading room as “pleasant and commodious . . . [which is] open to all students every day except Sunday.”

Library at Northeastern State Normal School from 1913 Tsa-LA-GI Yearbook

A photo from the Winter, Spring, Summer 1914 Bulletin of the Northeastern State Normal School in the library’s archives captures the students in a room apparently in Seminary Hall, the original Cherokee Female Seminary, reading by the dim light coming from a single chandelier and four tall windows with shades half drawn. (Photo)

Sitting in high-backed chairs and feet resting comfortably on a support beneath the table, the students don’t seem to mind the paucity of the library collection. The 1909/10 catalogue proudly proclaimed, “There is now being installed in the institution a carefully selected and well equipped library. The books are all new and have been chosen with special reference to the needs of the students in the several departments of the school. The library is conducted on the most modern and approved lines and is in charge of a competent librarian who undertakes and instructs students in library science.” That first librarian was Eliza Rule, 1909/10, according to the catalogue.

Even as we try to lure student workers today with enticements such as free copies, the 1914 library offered something more enticing: college credits. The November 1914, Bulletin announced, “A limited number of students may work one hour each day during the year in the library, and receive one unit credit, as an elective, toward graduation.” Perhaps this innovative idea came from Emmet Starr, noted historian, who was the librarian in 1914/15 and 1915/16.

Since the library’s accession list was not dated when the first acquisition was recorded, it’s hard to tell when it was acquired. Not many books in NSU’s 1909 library are still around today, but surprisingly the first book recorded in that accession list is in the library archives: E. F. Andrews’ Botany All the Year Round published by the American Book Company of New York in 1903 and donated to the library. The 30th book recorded in the accession list is also available in the archives: Froebel’s Mother Play Songs, published by Sigma Publishing Company in Chicago in 1895 and “dedicated to the young ladies of the Chicago Kindergarten College.” Since a price was not listed, it is assumed that it also was a gift.

Maybe in 1909 as now, retiring professors, reluctant to toss the books they’ve collected over a lifetime, found it easier to let go by donating them to the library. The practice of donating books to the library has continued to the present, and in lean budget years, the gifts have surpassed the purchased books in acquisitions.

However, the 1914 Bulletin recognized the importance of the library “as supplementary to the matter of instruction,” an idea which we still try to impart to the students, in somewhat less elevated language. “A good working library,” it stated, “is essential in any school. Next in importance to knowing

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Folio had an energetic annual meeting

The morning activities started at 9:00 A.M. with member's registration plus time to tour the exhibits and time to socialize. At 10:30 A.M. President Bob Segal opened the program with a short welcoming speech. The dais was then turned over to Glenda Kilmer who introduced panelists for the discussion of the topic "The Big Picture: Roles of the Librarian, The Board and Friends". The panelists were Kathy Hale, Director of the Southern Prairie Library System, Mary Harkey, Trustee of the Eastern Oklahoma Library System, and Jo Duncan, Past President of the Metropolitan Library System Friends. The speakers provided insights about the relationships of the three groups, and a question and answer period followed. Following this presentation, there was a short break to allow the hotel personnel to make the final preparations for lunch.

The tables were set before the meeting was called to order, with beautiful centerpieces of lacy parasols set among flowers, to symbolize "April Showers Bring May Flowers." They were the creations of Mary Ward, and truly gave a festive air to the luncheon. A record crowd of sixty people attended the luncheon.

After lunch, the program continued with Glenda Kilmer announcing the names of the recipients of the Lillian Norberg and Mary Lu Atkinson FOLIO Support Staff Roundtable Scholarships. Winners of the Lillian Norberg Scholarships were Cindy Blackburn from Bartlesville Public Library and Denise Jett from Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee. Winners of the Mary Lu Atkinson Scholarships were Karen Johnson and Sarah Simpson, both of the Tulsa City/County Library System. Each received a check of $250.00 and framed certificates.

The winners of the "Big Event" Contest were presented by Irene Wickham. Honorable Mention went to Warner Friends of the Library and the Friends of the Rudisill Library of Tulsa. The First Prize of $250.00 went to the Friends from Choctaw, the Second Prize of $100.00 went to The Friends of the Olive Warner Memorial Library in Hooker, and the Third Prize of $50.00 went to the Friends of the Library from Kingfisher. All of the winners used very innovative methods to help their libraries.

The usual "Roll Call of the Friends Groups" around the state was then presented. We heard of the accomplishments of people from Hennessey, Tulsa, Chickasaw, Metropolitan Library System, Norman, Oklahoma City, Choctaw, Rudisill, Cleveland, Ada, Meeker, Tahlequah, and the University of Central Oklahoma Academic Library. All the talks were interesting and very informative and should provide ideas for other groups.

After a short break, the program resumed with presentations made by Vickie Dooley from the Choctaw Library Guild entitled "Show Me the Money" and by Irene Wickham from Tahlequah, entitled "We All Need Friends".

At the business meeting new members for the Board of Directors were elected. They were Patt Woods of Bartlesville, Gwen Dobbs of the Chambers Library (UCO), Jo Duncan, Vickie Dooley of the Choctaw Library Guild, Eugene Earson of the Pioneer Library System, Norman, Jonathan Ford, Tom Haines, Carol Pottenbaum, Bruce Stone, Debra Taggart, Michael Wallace, Harleen Willis and Ronda Stucks from Cleveland.

As the final piece of business elections for the year 2000 - 2001 were held. Julia Ratliff, President; Glenda Kilmer, First Vice President; Elaine Atkins, Second Vice President; Beverly Dieterlen, Treasurer; and Tom Terry, Secretary were elected by acclamation.

-Bob Segal
Stories of successful projects were fascinating enough to delay food

Hungry librarians from all types of libraries gathered from 11:30 to 1 p.m. to hear four presentations about projects at institutions throughout Oklahoma.

Jeanene Barnett of Bristow High School in her presentation, “Information does not equal Knowledge: helping patrons turn information to knowledge,” explained the program that she developed to instruct students in evaluating Internet sources. Barnett observed that though our children and young people are experienced and knowledgeable about computer technology they are naive and inexperienced with information. Barnett discussed how our role as providers of physical access to information needs to expand to provide intellectual access to information. She explains that intellectual access includes the ethical use of information and evaluation of information sources. By developing this intellectual access, Barnett said, we assist people in changing information into knowledge.

Following Barnett was Anne Prestamo of Oklahoma State University with “If we build it will they come?” This presentation is about OSU’s digital library services. According to Prestamo, the digital library developed from and in response to the distance learning situation at OSU. Prestamo provided a glimpse into the future by explaining OSU’s development of their digital library. She believes that the mission of the digital library is not to be limited to only distance learners, but to expand to include the user next door in another building.

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center brought a dynamic duo to present, “The more the merrier: a collaborative approach to user instruction.” Lynn Yeager and Robin Insalaco explained the benefits of collaborating on the development of courses. They also discussed some of the pitfalls. It was evident that their group of energetic instructors works well with one another and has great fun in developing courses. They made a great appeal for teamwork, and they made it sound fun.

Another duo came from Oklahoma State University. Heather Moberly and Carolyn Warmann, in their presentation, “Planning for Information Literacy,” echoed and supported several points from Barnett’s presentation. The two presentations complemented each other well. In researching the topic of information literacy Moberly and Warmann discovered several sites which directly dealt with the topic and issues of information literacy. That discovery led them to developing a web site that will provide direct links to these resources.

Overall the session was successful and informative. The audience left with a positive impression of the future of the information world and the information trade. The presentations were well researched and thought out.

—MaryGrace Berkowitz

“May we have a comment please?”

Jan Sanders, Director of the Bartlesville Public Library, has had her share of news cameras glaring at her while reporters wait expectantly with lifted eyebrows and raised microphones. But she’s not scared of the press. When the media come to her library, it’s just business as usual. Sanders completed the Advocacy Training offered by ALA, and believes that librarians have a duty not just to advocate for libraries, but to train others to be advocates as well. In that spirit of spreading the message and resource sharing, Sanders addressed a large group of librarians at OLA Conference 2000 eager to hear suggestions about how to deal with the media. She had tips to offer, forged out of the crucible of her own experience:

- When the media approach you with provocative questions, that is not a time to stop and formulate your thoughts—you must prepare beforehand.
- Keep your message positive.
- Never answer a negative question with a defensive response, (e.g. “we do NOT peddle smut!”)
- It’s your interview, not theirs. You can control the pace and content. You have the right to pause, to think, and to frame your response.
- Reporters focus on WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY. Have answers ready.

Cont. on p. 27
Fascinating pre-conference offered the latest information on dealing with human resources issues

This year at Conference, I was excited about driving up early to attend a pre-conference called “Human Resources Refresher.” Having recently started a new job that involves handling more personnel issues, I was certain that this would be no “refresher” for me—much would be first-time learning. I was hungry for all the information on this topic that I could get my hands on, and I wasn’t disappointed.

The presenters were wonderful, the pace was just right, and the topical coverage included those most crucial, brow­ning issues that all of us, whether novices or old­timers, need to know about.

Gerry Hendon of Tulsa City-County Library System said there are basically four types of interviews:
- Eyeball interview—first impression
- Friendly chat—try to avoid this; it may elicit illegal information
- Inquisition—maybe this is where some lawsuits come from
- Patterned interview—background, experience, and situational questions

When interviewing, remember to ask questions that screen candidates in these four areas: S—Skills K—Knowledge A—Abilities T—Traits

Hendon said that sometimes we tend to look for someone just like the person who just left the job, or someone with opposite characteristics. We should choose the person most likely to succeed in the job—not necessarily the most brilliant. Find out how well or poorly they performed specific duties at the previous job. Organize the interview so as not to confuse them in broad categories of education, experience, values, and goals. You can fish for experience with situational questions. Hire for attitude, and train for skills; look for character traits that you and your staff can live with on the interview. Attitude and character traits can’t be re­trained.

Permissible categories for questions include information about education, skills, knowledge, attitude, personal goals, achievements. Anchor questions to reality, and be specific. Abstract questions confuse people. Some examples of good questions include:
- for what kinds of things have you been praised/ criticized?
- what are your strengths for this job?
- what kind of development/training might you need to fill this job?
- were you ever disciplined for not meeting work require­ments? (this is a permissible question)

TO DO in interviews:
- Ask open ended, short questions. Value judgements are okay. Ask 1 question at a time. Be comfortable with silence. Listen most of the time; a good rule of thumb is the 80-20 rule, listen 80% of the time, and talk only 20%.
- Things to ask yourself about the candidate: is s/he fun to have around, or at least pleasant? Can this candidate do the job? Will this candidate do the job?
- Any tests you give must relate to the job directly, other­wise, avoid tests. General knowledge questions are okay for library assistants and librarians who will be working at the reference desk

Integrity, motivation, capacity, understanding, knowl­edge, attitude, and experience are all things you should con­sider when selecting someone for a job. Experience is the least important of these.

Gwen Witherspoon of Pioneer Library System talked about stress relief and how to terminate an employee. “We live and work in an increasingly litigious environment,” she began. The need to terminate an employee is the most stressful situation you can have for both yourself and your employee. This situation is made much worse by the em­ployer’s concerns over the legal issues involved.

Out of respect for the other employees and customers, terminations must be done as promptly as possible. Other­wise morale of other staff will plummet. Witherspoon of­fered advice for managing disciplinary plans:
- get the employee involved in writing the plan for improving performance. Pioneer does something called a “decision day with pay”
- if you go to the trouble of initiating a disciplinary plan, don’t let past performance count. A clean slate is only fair to the employee
- one effective, direct phrase to let the employee know clearly what you expect is, “this is unaccept­able behavior. This must change.”
- set a follow-up meeting to review the plan that employee has been working on
- be very knowledgeable about your organization’s discipline procedure
- actual meeting for termination, when warranted, should be brief and to the point
- have another party present at the termination meet­ing
- treat the employee with dignity and respect
- best time to do it is at the end of the day or at noon
- “at-will” employer means employees can quit at will, and the employer can terminate at will
- it’s better to use terms like “trainees” and “regular employees” rather than “permanent” in the job de­scription. Otherwise, an employee you recommend for termination could argue that the job is supposed to be “permanent.”

Witherspoon recommended keeping a zip-lock bag in your office with whatever visual and tactile items you need for a “mini-vacation.” Sand, sea shells, postcards, aromatherapy—whatever! She emphasized that we must take care of ourselves, and understand that stressful work situa­tion necessitate an increase in our self-care routines.

This Wednesday pre-conference was definitely worth the extra time and money for me. It was nice to have a work­shop-long program of several hours. The presenters were able to cover the topics in much more depth than in a regu­lar conference program.

I came back with several new tools in my belt, and quite a bit of new information about human resources is­sues.

—Karen Bays
What is UCITA and why are librarians opposed to it?

The Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act (UCITA) has been introduced to the Oklahoma Legislature as Senate Bill 1337 by Senator Glen Coffee and co-authored in the House by Representative Jari Askins. The goal of UCITA is to establish a new commercial law for the information economy. It is a proposed “Uniform Law” drafted by the National Council of Commissioners of Uniform State Laws. Such uniform laws are established to allow the states to conduct business with each other. Ultimately it will be introduced into all state legislatures. It has already passed in Virginia and Maryland.

Its proponents believe UCITA will benefit e-commerce. Librarians, however, see numerous problems in the proposed law because:

- It represents a shift in power between copyright law and contract law that would endanger the balanced set of copyright law principles and privileges under which the library community currently operates, such as fair use, for example.
- It would enforce the broad use of “shrink wrap” and computer “click on” licenses, which UCITA calls “mass market licenses.” These licenses could be non-negotiable.
- It does not recognize the intermediary role of libraries in the providing of information via the purchase of software licenses. UCITA sees the world as either “licensee” or “licensor” and libraries do not fit into this neat picture.
- It enables new constraints on public information and materials, including those already protected by intellectual property law.
- It would create new layers of costly procedures for libraries to educate staff, negotiate licenses, and police users’ compliance with unreasonable terms and conditions imposed by vendors.
- It would restrict consumers’ rights to sue for product defect, to donate the product to charity, or even to criticize the product or the information contained in it!
- It has many other problems that are detailed at these library organizational Web sites: arl.cni.org/info/frn/copy/4cite.html and www.ala.org/washoff/ucita.html.

Despite the expressed opposition of many librarians in Oklahoma, OCALD, and the OLA Board, UCITA passed both the House and the Senate in the 2000 legislative session. That’s the bad news. The good news is that many legislators heard our concerns and the Bill is now in Committee and will probably not come out of Committee this session. (As of this writing only the House conferees had been appointed: Representatives Jari Askins, Abe Deutschendorf, Fred Perry, Russ Roach, Opio Toure, and Ray Vaughn.) Next legislative session, however, UCITA likely will be passed by the Legislature. It is also imperative that OLA work with the national library associations to see if amendments suitable to libraries can be written and accepted by the Committee. Several legislators have already indicated a desire to work with us in looking for a compromise. Again, thank you for your help and keep up the good work.

—Ed Johnson

Comment please (cont. from p. 25)

- Have some anecdotal information—stories ready about how libraries change lives.
- Listen to their questions and comments, and empathize with the questioners.
- Reframe their question to make sure you understand what is being asked.
- Identify the ISSUE and ignore the person. Do not react to emotion, attitude, or belligerence. Respond to the issue.
- Know that it may be difficult not to respond immediately, because it is part of our professional training that we must provide immediate responses. Resist this urge, and pause first before speaking.
- If you don’t know the answer or are waiting on a board decision, say so.
- Never say “No comment;” it makes you look guilty.
- Know your library’s mission statement. Familiarize yourself with the long range plan, and hone these down to a very brief, positive statement about what the library does.
- Do not use library jargon such as “Gates Computers,” or “Circulation.” No one except library staff understand what these words mean. Do not use acronyms.
- Be aware of the non-verbal messages you are sending. You MUST look your questioner in the eye. Stand up straight. Do not cross your arms.
- Keep a smile in your voice.
- No matter how little you think you can respond; you know more than they do, and you’re giving them new information.
- Use real facts, figures, and stories. Never make anything up. Follow-up on providing information if you promise to.
- THERE IS NO “OFF THE RECORD.”
- Make sure that everyone in your library knows who speaks for the library. A well-intentioned staff member can do a lot of damage.
- Rehearse if you feel uncomfortable. Recruit a staff member to play the part of the media person, or even better—ask a teenager with an attitude problem.
- Build coalitions. Partnerships are important both financially and for help with advocacy. Have library advocates already lined up in case of challenges.
- Be proactive: merchandise, advertise, and get the positive library message out.

Sanders’ presentation made me think that maybe public relations is a trainable skill that even those of us short of natural talent or charisma could learn, but I’m still grateful that we have a great PR Director at my institution.

—Karen Bays
A jubilant Laurie Sundborg wins a bid at the auction during the All-Conference Event.

Donna Morris presents Carol Casey with the Distinguished Service Award.

Ginny Dietrich, Program Committee Chair, welcomes us to Conference.

Phantom OLA photographer, David Scott, finally caught on the other side of a camera.

Maureen Goldsberry enters with a wry sense of humor at the day night party.

New OLA President, Sharon, gavel from Immediate Past President.
Saulmon (left) accepts the President Donna Morris (right).

Linda Cowen and Sybil Connolly are very amused by John McGrath.

Janet Coontz and Sandra Austin enjoying the conference.

Dr. George Henderson’s keynote speech was inspiring.

The all-conference event was just TOO much fun!
BYOP results in lively discussions and a look at some really weird stuff

“That is a good question,” said Mary O’Donnell, handling a particularly problematic video possessing four separate titles on the cassette label. How should the main entry be noted? She turned to a panel composed of herself and four other cataloging experts: Steve Folsom, Linda Taylor, Katherine Wong, and Janet Ahrberg.

Stumped? Not hardly! An odd silence hung in the room as five heads bowed over a great gray book. Pages were hurriedly flipped. Eyes scanned the text until a finger pointed at a column. A collective sigh of relief filled the air. The experts had triumphed again!

BYOP: Bring your own (cataloging) problems, sponsored by Technical Services Roundtable (TSRT) and the Continuing Education Committee (CEC), was well attended by an enthusiastic crowd of catalogers. There was a high level of interest, many questions were asked, and a number of odd things were examined as well. Attendees came from organizations such as McAlester Schools, Western Oklahoma State College, Grace Academy Christian School, Alva Public Library, and Mid America Bible College, to name a few. Some participants came with problem materials in hand. Others came to learn. Some came just to be with their own kind, as catalogers are generally regarded to be a bit offbeat.

Mary O’Donnell, Oklahoma State University, began the table talk with a discussion of the difficulties of cataloging videos and audios. Many times a cataloger is faced with an appalling lack of information, poor publication quality, CD-ROMs or musical CD’s accompanied by a book, videos without a collective title, and more. According to O’Donnell, each item should be examined by keeping the cataloger’s motto in mind: “It depends.”

Katherine Wong, Oklahoma University, followed with a look at computer files and Internet resources. She noted that, with increasing frequency, many items are accompanied by CD-ROMS. She emphasized including 006 and 856 fields into a MARC record when doing original cataloging of these items. She also warned of the dangers inherent in CD cataloging: “Take care not to install these things on your D drive!” The University of Oklahoma is also involved in cataloging web sites, and Wong urges other libraries to do the same. Her advice is to “Choose locally, share globally,” when it comes to Internet resources.

Linda Taylor, Oklahoma State University, led the group in an examination of serial records. Serials are confusing, she noted, because they look so vague and incomplete. Also, serials have a habit of changing publishers and scope frequently, so the records need to be dynamic and fairly forgiving. As a general rule, Taylor said, “If a change happens in the first five words of a title, or there is a major scope change, a new record is needed.” When cataloging a serial, think about the customers’ needs, and process accordingly.

Steve Folsom, Oklahoma State University, finished the session with a look at monographs, concentrating on problems faced in cataloging Oklahoma town and county histories. Many of these books are self-published, and typical cataloging problems include no title page, title transcription, and incomplete or lack of publication information. The benefits of cataloging these items are that they often contain important historical information that might otherwise be lost, and sometimes have genealogical information as well. In general, and if at all possible, Folsom recommended calling someone who had a part in putting the book together, whether it be the author, publisher, or the chamber of commerce. “You’ll find that they are always willing to talk,” he commented.

In the end, the session was a great success, which led facilitator Janet Ahrberg, Oklahoma State University, to ask, “Did you stump us? I don’t think so!”

—Jana Hausburg

UCD poster sessions and presentations showcased diverse and innovative ideas

The University and College Division sponsored poster sessions and presentations at this year’s Annual Conference in Tulsa reflected a diverse number of issues facing libraries today. There were a total of 17 posters and 11 presentations given on Thursday and Friday at the Adams Mark Hotel. Presenters representing academic, public, and school libraries gave an overview of some of the unique services and innovative programs and collections located here in Oklahoma.

Poster sessions were held in the Exhibit area during the no conflict times and attracted many attendees eager to learn what was happening at other institutions. Topics included unique collections such as the Streeter B. Flynn, Jr. Railroad Collection, aerial photographs, Oklahoma themed children’s books, and the National Clearinghouse of Rehabilitation Training materials at OSU, the biography of Oklahoman library pioneer Ruth Brown, electronic books from netLibrary, library safety issues, cataloging DVDs, PubMed searching instruction, trademark searching services, and conducting electronic user surveys.

The presentations addressed topics such as building gay, lesbian, and bisexual collections, searching for images on the World Wide Web, library services for remote university students, the use of library school students in reference, and bibliographic instruction at institutions ranging from the high school library in Bristow to the Robert M. Bird Health Sciences Library. The sessions were well attended and the audience had many incisive questions for the presenters. Overall the presentations showcased the many innovative ideas Oklahoma librarians have as they enter a new and challenging era.

—David Oberhelman
Buried treasure: there’s gold in them thar archives!

Reference Librarians often encounter questions where it is necessary to refer the information seeker to other resources. That’s one of the reasons it pays to know of where and how to find information in the little corners of the information world called Special Collections and Archives within the state. Sheila Johnson introduced the program in which three Collections and a new Online Special Collection and Archives Subject Guide were the topic.

The Cotton Collection–OSU

Librarian Steve Kite described this new archive collection of Popular Culture and Matinee History. Robert Cotton was a butcher at Landis Grocery Store in Bartlesville, OK. There are books and manuscripts in his collection ranging from 1st editions to cheap dime novels to pulp fiction. Visitors can see 350 movie posters from all over the world. You can find realia such as a Tom Mix wristwatch, matchbooks on Will Rogers or maybe browse through local pictures and history of NE Oklahoma. Cotton was interested in the Matinee Cowboy and branched out into areas such as the Circus where many of famous Cowboy idols made their start.

As a result of his labor of love, Cotton’s collection has become well known and ended up in the bibliographies of many books on these subjects. It is of special note that in collecting his memorabilia and books, it was inevitable that he also collected considerable scrapbooks, newspaper articles and photographs that capture the history of NE Oklahoma. These include obscure pictures that take on life when connected as a scene shot in an old movie or where some famous historical event took place. He collected local street scenes of towns as they grew, prospered, and sometimes died.

After Cotton’s death, his wife and son searched for a home for the collection and found one at OSU. The Collection has been in existence at the University for approximately three years but only opened to the public last October 1999. It is estimated the collection is approximately 50/50 biographies and description. The books are cataloged and on OCLC. There has been a discussion about developing a website for the collection.

Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism

Brad Robison, Librarian of this new facility presented the information for this program. He informed us the goals of the Institute are primarily three-fold: 1) Education 2) Outreach 3) Research. The Library of the Institute will be an interactive Learning Center located in the old Oklahoma Journal Building.

The website explains that the "...Institute is focusing on becoming a worldwide leader in research, prevention and education. The Institute will be a notable historic and educational resource center for the world and will be utilized on a daily basis as a resource for understanding, deterring, and mitigating worldwide terrorism." You will find the website address at the end of this article.

Areas of interest for research include the way people respond during crises (such as individuals, emergency response teams, medical, etc.), and the effect and treatment of PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) on children. Engineers are developing projects such as downloading blueprints to determine possible locations of victims/survivors and determining methods of shoring up unstable walls to prevent injury/death of rescuers. There is also interest in developing and determining building materials least likely to cause injury after such incidents (such as glass and building materials that will break up small enough to do less damage, but won’t turn into damaging powder that would be inhaled into the lungs).

Sociologists and profiler can study the social and economic conditions leading up to this incident in an effort to predict and prevent acts of violence such as the bombing.

The collection has only 6 books so far, however Congress has appropriated $15,000,000 for the development of the collection and facilities. The current web address is www.okcerterrorisminstitute.com. Later the web address will be www.nmip.org. Phone numbers to make contact are (405) 228-0555 and (405) 232-5121.

Native American Materials available at the John Vaughan Library in Tahlequah, OK

The Native American Collection was set up in 1973, 127 years after the Cherokee National Female Seminary was originally built in 1846. In 1909 the seminary and 40 acres of land was purchased by the Oklahoma State Legislature to establish the Northeastern State Normal School.

In 1982, Victoria Scheffler, C.A. and Delores Sumner determined which materials were to be kept in the Special Collections and what was to be placed in a separate archives. Researchers can sort through materials on the Five Civilized Tribes and Plains Indians of Oklahoma as well as the Civil War and other history of Oklahoma. Materials available include. 159 newspaper titles both historical as well as “27 current tribal newsletters and journals for the Five Civilized Tribes and 14 other tribes.” The Archives is made up of University Documents, photographs and several manuscript collections.

The official web address for the archives is http://library.nsuok.edu/Archives/index.html

Internet-based subject guide to collections of public and academic libraries in the Amigos Region

The purpose of the project is to provide researchers an option of accessing the special collections not available on OPACs or on the internet. They included the larger libraries, 4 year and graduate institutions, and Public Libraries and Library Systems serving more than 100,000. They began by using information gathered from ArchivesUSA, using websites of the Library or Library System as a secondary source and be called the Library when

Cont. on p. 33
Ghosts (cont. from p. 23)

a thing is the knowledge of where information concerning it may be found . . . Approximately 500 volumes will be added each year .

"...Twenty of the best magazines are subscribed for and about the same number of newspapers, daily and weekly," according to the December 4, 1916- March 2, 1917 Bulletin. In addition, the library's materials were speedily processed and dispatched to the stacks and reading room: "By the use of the Dewey Decimal System of library classification all new material, books, bulletins, etc. is made available to the students as fast as it is received." Now this is a feat which even our age of technology can't surpass.

In 1949, "a modern building . . . designed to accommodate a collection of 150,000 volumes was occupied. On the first floor was the Cherokee Museum, the Art Display Room, seminar and faculty reading rooms and a model children's library. The second floor provided space for the library offices, the Cherokee Book Room, and the main reading room. (Photo) Books were shelved in closed stacks and had to be retrieved for the library's users. A 1962 TSA LA GI yearbook photo shows students in the Main Reading Room. (photo) The librarian who presided over the building of this modern edifice was Sue B. Thornton, who was listed as "Head of Department of Music" in the 1928-29 Northeastern State Teachers College Bulletin and professor of music in subsequent bulletins. She served as Head Librarian from 1933-1964, surpassing all others in longevity.

Still standing today, the 1949 vintage Cherokee Book Room, better known as the library's Special Collections, is in the same location on the second floor. Adjacent to it is the Curriculum Materials collection, and below on the first floor are the student lounge, technology support services and the "television studio" as well as the Ballenger Reading Room's genealogy collection.

The library handbook of 1957 provided the library hours which are similar to the current hours. However, the library was much more genteel than it is today. It closed during the dinner hours from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Just as we do today, the library closed at 5:00 p.m. on Friday and opened for a limited number of hours on Saturday. It was closed on Sunday.

By the 70's, college students, having been through at least a decade of activism, were quite vocal about their expectations regarding library hours. The Student Senate passed a resolution "requesting an extension of library hours on the weekend," according to a letter written by Dr. Maxwell White, Acting Head Librarian from 1970-75. His December 1970 letter, addressed to Harry E. Hewlett, Student Senate President, in a conciliatory gesture, submitted three proposals through Student Senate Representative Brenda King, and pledged to "accept whichever one the Senate selects . . . on a trial basis."

The plan apparently did not work, or more likely, the energy crisis and institutional debts intervened. A letter from Dr. White to the college faculty dated January 23, 1974, explained that "as a result of both the need to conserve energy and the need to reduce costs, the library . . . hours are being reduced by 13 hours per week . . . Periods when the library has only a handful of students and faculty using its facilities is a luxury the college can no longer afford."

By April 1974, President Robert E. Collier bowed under pressure of Senate Resolution 304, riddled with misspelled words and typographical errors. The eighth Whereas stated, ironically, that "the only possible ramification of the reduction of library service is to lower the already much maligned academic standards of the institution." Could those standards have included the ability to write well? The resolution stated that the John Vaughan Library was "depriving Northeastern State College students the opportunity to study on weekends . . . closing at nine p.m. on week nights, thus depriving evening students the opportunity to use the library to check out materials after their classes adjourn." Moreover, "the student body of Northeastern State College was not consulted no even warded [sic] (nor even warned) that the library hours were being reduced."

The library hours remain an issue which comes up almost every year, in the Student Senate or in focus group meetings with library staff or with President Larry Williams. And we still try to discuss "the limitations which affect the feasibility of library schedules," as Dr. White expressed it.

The faculty library committee was a force to be reckoned with in the fifties, and rightly so, when they discovered that many faculty requests for duplicate copies of books had an ulterior motive. A memo from the library committee accompanying the 1951-52 book budget asked faculty to keep their requests for duplicates to a minimum as "the practice of expecting the library to purchase enough copies of some books so that instructors may use them as textbooks in a particular class tends to leave the library with excessive duplicate copies as soon as a different book is selected for use in that class."

Libraries generally pride themselves on freedom of information and promoting the students' right to read whatever materials they need. A library director in 1964/65, Paul Parham, apparently felt differently about Masterplots and other synopses. In a 1964 memo to the library staff Parham wrote, "The Communications and Fine Arts Divisions have agreed that Masterplots and other similar synopses should be completely noncirculating. They may be used by students only with a note (signed by rubber stamp only) from the faculty member. These books have been placed in the Cherokee Room and should be used there. The privileges in use of these books have doubtlessly been vastly abused. Naturally, we would not want to be a part of any instruction program which would deprive the student of the best reading opportunities."

Just as students in former years used Masterplots or Cliff's Notes in lieu of reading the literature, and some librarians felt that it corrupted the students' education, we present-day librarians sometimes feel that we're catering to a generation of users who perceive the World Wide Web as the sole repository of useful information. Perhaps we won't go as far as Parham by requiring a "note signed by rubber stamp only," but we do point out the pitfalls of relying on the Web rather than using some of the library's other vast
resources.

The new three story structure completed in 1968 and attached to the 1949 building has obviously always been plagued with water and environmental problems and was a haven to bats and other flying intruders. On October 19, 1967, during renovation of the old building and construction of the new building, the card catalog, due to a natural or unnatural catastrophe, had been “soaked in water.” Gilbert Fites, Head Librarian from 1965 to 1970, sent an appeal to the Mid-Continent Casualty Company, to replace the card catalog, rather than repairing it. The insurance company investigator, Mr. Graves, “was not too certain what the card catalog was for,” according to Fites’ letter, “and his immediate suggestion was that we have our present one refinished and plane down the drawers so that they would fit, again.” In his own words, Fites “was not enthusiastic.”

In January 1969, shortly after the new building was occupied, Fites reported a new leak, and in a January 16 letter to President Harrell Garrison reported an air filter problem:

President Garrison:

We have watched the air filters in the library for two weeks. One has not moved. The other had reached the end of its roll and did not readjust itself.

On February 5, the air filters were still a problem:
To: President Garrison
From: Gilbert Fites
Re: Air Filters

We are continuing to watch the air filters in the library. Neither air filter has moved since January 16.

Ironically, the staff in Special Collections continues to check the ceiling air vents to determine if the air is moving. If a piece of tape attached to the vent flutters, staff can tell if the air handling unit is working.

One of the most explosive issues in John Vaughan Library’s history was the security procedure initiated in 1981. According to a March 18, 1981, editorial in The Northeastern, the library had a loss of 8.2 percent of its collection between July 1977 and June 1978. To prevent further loss of library materials, the north entrance/exit was closed, and students were asked to present purses and briefcases for inspection before exiting the building. One irate student wrote a letter to The Northeastern, student newspaper, protesting the practice and ending with this dire warning: “... if this system doesn’t work and you suspect students are hiding books under their coats and sweaters, will you then ask us to remove our coats and sweaters before we leave? Perhaps a brief frisk or a disrobing should be expected if you suspect that bulge under our blouses is War and Peace and not an unborn baby.”

More probably that bulge was a film take-up reel. As recently as 1982, the library’s 16mm motion picture collection was heavily used, but it wasn’t the films which posed an “items missing” problem. In an April 23, 1982 memo to university faculty, John Ault of the AV Services department wrote a memo on the subject of take-up reels:

“In excess of 75 16mm motion picture take-up reels of various sizes are missing. These have been sent from this office to the classroom buildings with films which have been requested for use by faculty members. While the motion pictures have been returned, in many cases the empty reels have not. This occurrence (sic) has now compounded to a serious problem level.” The year those 16mm films are being phased out, reels and all.

Needless to say, the stringent security system was also quickly phased out, and the library exits were entrusted to the electronic Checkpoint System. Some students have always been able to figure out a way to cheat the system, but it usually catches them in the act.

If President John Vaughan’s ghost could talk, it would no doubt have many more interesting anecdotes to share during this 90th anniversary year. One last note: every year we receive numerous telephone calls and letters addressed to John Vaughan. Maybe the callers feel his presence here, too. He hasn’t been sighted lately, so perhaps he’s satisfied with the way we’re running his library.

–Jeanette McQuitty

Acknowledgments

The author wishes to thank Victoria Sheffler and the staff of the University Archives for their assistance.

A complete bibliography is available by contacting the editor.

Buried Treasurer (cont. from p. 31)

nothing else was available. When "cataloging" the collections Steve Folsum used the Library of Congress Subject Headings and used the Library of Congress Authority File when it was available. When authorities weren't available, they formed the authorities according to the AACR2. There were a total of 107 libraries used in the project, with 14 of these public libraries and 93 academic. The headings included 958 subject headings and 715 names for a total of 1692.

This is a work in progress and it is the intention of the program managers, Steve Folsum cataloger and Johnny L. Johnson web site manager to increase the number of libraries represented and the special collections available, but not the geographic area in which they are located. The web site will soon be available for use.

Contact: Johnny L. Johnson at (405) 744-5183 or at his e-mail address at librjj@okway.okstate.edu.

–Jacquie Taylor
Maryland scholar shares theories and techniques for teaching reading to children

One of the best programs I attended at the OLA Annual Conference this year was "Reading Motivation". The speaker was Dr. Linda Gambrell, the Associate Dean for Research in the College of Education at the University of Maryland. She was great!

Gambrell talked about some of the research projects she has conducted. For all we hear about the "reading wars" in the media: whole language vs. phonics, most reading teachers agree that a bit of both methods is the way to go. Children need the word decoding skills that phonics provides, but they also need to learn to decode unfamiliar words using context and mental imaging.

Teaching reading involves "skill and will". While incentives can motivate non-readers to read, they do nothing to motivate good readers to read. What motivates both groups, however, is booktalking, displays of books with the covers facing out, the opportunity to talk about books, and examples from adults they respect who like to read.

Mary Sherman, Director of Pioneer Library System, won the OU School of Library and Information Studies Alumni Award of Merit.

One of the motivational techniques she explained was having students make boxes in which to keep their reading materials for "Drop Everything and Read Time". The boxes should contain a "now" book, a "next" book, and some magazines, newspapers, comics or other "light" reading, so that kids have a choice and don't waste all their DEAR time trying to pick something to read.

Incentives teach children what is valued. When the reward is a pizza, it teaches readers that pizza is the thing that is valued. What works better is when the incentive is reading. Giving kids 10 more minutes of DEAR time as an incentive can work well.

Dr. Gambrell was fascinating and her presentation was full of anecdotes and examples from her research, and she read us some great children's books. I learned a great deal, and enjoyed the presentation very much.

-Beth DeGeer

The OLA Executive Board met at the Stillwater Public Library on March 17, 2000, and took these actions:

§ Approved Charles Brooks' draft for a permanent logo for OLA
§ In executive session, approved the Awards Committee’s recommendations for OLA awards for 2000
§ Increased the number of second day issue covers available for sale from 1000 to 1500
§ Approved a workshop proposal by the Reference Roundtable on “Using the Internet for Ready Reference”
§ Approved the excellent Audit Committee Report
§ Approved a Support Staff Roundtable proposal for a workshop on safety in the workplace.
Two fantastic conference programs

Drama in education
Sarah Brick Archer of Northeastern State University really does know how to put drama in her instruction. She presented us with good and bad examples of how to present your material and yourself. She even presented some very useful, concrete examples of how to tailor a presentation to a specific class. An example for a COMP class was to read part of a poem, read an interpretation of it from MasterPlots, and a criticism — then ask if the class would like to know how she found all that. Her preparation tips covered: Having a good script, Reducing stage fright, Harnessing energy, Setting, Props, Costuming and makeup, Re­hearsal, Improvisations, Opening night, and Striking the set.

How can we agree to disagree?
Richard Gertson and Linda Levy each gave their opinions on how to deal with the difficulties involving differences in work-place ethics. Richard defined ethics as "something offensive to your moral code as opposed to differences of opinion on "how" to do something. Linda added, "ethics are the issues which deal with hu­man dignity". They then discussed alternatives on what one can do when con­fronted with such a dilemma.

—BJ Vinson

People and Places

Bob Segal presented Mary Lu Atkinson/Lillian Norberg SSRT/FOLIO Scholarships to four recipients at OLA Conference this year:
Cindy Blackburn, Accounting/ Acquisitions clerk at Bartlesville Public Library is currently working on her As­sociate’s degree in accounting along with an Associate’s degree in Business Administration. She has worked for the Bartlesville Public Library since 1983 and has been in her current position since 1988.
Denise Jett, Oklahoma Baptist Uni­versity in Shawnee, holds two positions in the library. She is the supervisor of the Curriculum Library and also the Archives Assistant. She is pursuing a master's degree in Library and Information Studies and will begin this summer at Oklahoma University.
Karen Johnson works at the Central Library of the Tulsa City-County Li­brary System. She is presently a part-time Library Associate in the Business, Science and Technology department and sometimes substitutes in other departments and branches as needed. She holds her Associate’s degree in Liberal Arts and will graduate in May with her Bachelor’s in Environmental/ Safety Management. She plans to enroll in library school in the fall of 2000. Sarah Simpson also works for

Tulsa City-County Library System.
She started her library career as a floater, then paraprofessional in the cataloging department before a pro­motion to Inter-Library Loan supervi­sor. She has her Master’s in English from Tulsa University and is in her second semester of the OU Master’s of Library and Information Studies program.

Winners of the free Mountain Plains Library Association’s One-Year Memberships:
JaNae Kinikin, Oklahoma State University
Leslie Langley, Wister Public Library
Keneisha Williams, Anadarko Public Library
Katrina Prince, Metropolitan Library Sys­tem

Andrea Sizemore, Hulbert Community Public Library
Anna White, Tulsa City-County Library
Theresa Fowler, South Broken Arrow Library (TCC)
Jackie Schumaker, Northeastern State University
BJ Vinson, Rose State College
Ann Meeks, Metropolitan Library System

Acknowledgements:
Thank you to everyone who submit­ted an article, a report, or information for this issue, including: Rachel Butler, Donna Morris, Jeanette McQuitty, Bob Segal, MaryGrace Berkowitz, Beth De Geer, Ed Johnson, Jana Hausburg, David Oberhelman, Jacquie Taylor, BJ Vinson, and Susan Stringer.

How do you manage time?
Theresa Dickson and Julia Harmon presented a wonderful and infor­mative program on time manage­ment that was popular at OLA. These two are pros when it comes to juggling work and life at the same time. Handouts included many good hints, tips, and pointers to help the working person manage their stressful lives. Topics covered were planning your day, breaking the procrastination habit, perfec­tionism: a guide to possible solu­tions, what eats your time, and twelve principles to get your life un­der control. If you would like copies of the handouts, you can contact Susan Stringer at susans@pls.lib.ok.us to receive a set.

—Susan Stringer

Mary Patton, Eddie Terry, and Randy Wayland are really enjoying the luncheon!
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