



# ELAN

Ex Libris Association Newsletter

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### President's Report

BY ARN BAILEY

During the first part of my year as President, I have been assisted by Past President Frances Davidson-Arnott.

Having had an earlier four-year stint on the Board, I have found ELA to be an organization that has changed its nature from an executive-run group to one reliant on strong committees comprising the members. Members of those early executives, such as Janette White, Al Bowron (a regular contributor to *ELAN*), Brian Land, whose letter

on the issue of the British Columbia Legislature Library eloquently stated our case (see "News from British Columbia" for more details—*Ed.*), and Jean Weihs, our highly efficient permanent Secretary, remain as stalwarts in Ex Libris.

Of the current committees, I am grateful for the efforts made by the Newsletter Committee, co-chaired by Liz Warrener and Jean Weihs. *ELAN*, our main means of communication, is edited by Margaret Oldfield. I recently sat in on a meeting of the Web Site Committee chaired by Jim Montgomery. This group's

### Ex Libris Association Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting

Monday, November 5, 2007  
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
(registration starts at 9:00 a.m.)  
North York Central Library  
5120 Yonge Street, Toronto  
(North York Centre subway stop)  
\$25 (includes lunch)

*Morning Program:*  
Independent Bookselling in  
the Age of the Big Box Bookstore  
and Internet Bookselling

Panelists:  
Brenda Bickram, Books for Business;  
Leonard McHardy, Theatre Books;  
Sheila Kauffman, Another Story;  
Alison Fryer, The Cookbook Store

*Afternoon Program:*  
Life on the Web

Speaker: Gwen Harris,  
Gwen Harris Information Services

Do you want to know what your grandchildren are doing? Internet trainer and Web searching expert Gwen Harris will tell us about social networking sites on the Internet and show us examples.

*For further details, contact*  
Frances Davidson-Arnott  
Frances.Davidson-Arnott@  
SenecaC.on.ca

Details about a tour of the Thomas Fischer Rare Book Library on November 20th will be mailed with the AGM materials package.

management of the format and content of our site requires an expertise alert to possibilities. Members and prospective members and surfers can already learn much at this site.

The committee members working on the Biography Project, now titled *Biographies of Librarians and Information Professionals in Canada* and chaired by Nancy Williamson, have painstakingly established patterns and criteria for entries and produced the first prototypes from several regions of the country for the Web site. This will prove to be a valuable source of interest and research.

Months before the Annual Conference, necessary preparations had already been made, notably reservations and the program, by the committee in charge.

The Promotion and Public Relations Committee, led by Shirley Lewis, came up with the merchandising coup of the OLA and other conferences – a stylish bag with our logo. Check this out for yourself and as gifts.

## Ex Libris Ottawa Tours

BY JANET JACOBSON

A group of 23 Ex Libris members from Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal enjoyed two days of dining and touring libraries in Ottawa on May 9th and 10th. We met for dinner on Wednesday evening, and again for tours of two prominent Ottawa libraries on Thursday – the Library of Parliament and the Library of the National Gallery of Canada.



Credit: Frances Davidson-Arnott

Membership and recruitment must always be a priority – maintaining our numbers and hopefully increasing them. The Membership and Recruitment Committee has been approaching possible members.

We have an ad hoc committee to organize outings for members and guests. The first of these in Ottawa set a high standard. Library tours and a dinner gathering were arranged by Jan Jacobson. Jean Orpwood's planned excursion will be to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. Members in other provinces will be encouraged to plan such social outings that have a focus related to our careers.

The Finance Committee, chaired by Treasurer Doreen London, has made a recent recommendation related to assisting out-of-town Board members to attend meetings. This should open opportunities for more non-Torontonians to serve the organization, though we acknowledge that out-of-towners have done so in the past.

We enjoyed our evening socializing and dining at the Courtyard Restaurant, a heritage building in an old courtyard in the Byward Market, before dispersing to our various hotels and bed and breakfasts.

### Library of Parliament Tour

The group met on Thursday morning on Parliament Hill for a tour of the Library of Parliament. Erik Spicer, retired Parliamentary Librarian, described the extensive renovations and major structural repairs undertaken from 2002 to May 2006 in the Spring 2007 issue of *ELAN*. Two members of the Reference staff gave us a detailed tour of the beautifully renovated reading room, dominated by the statue of the young Queen Victoria. The original parquet floor on the lower level of the reading room has been repaired, while upper level floors are glass covered to allow

Enlisting new Board members is the responsibility of the Nominations Committee. In this, Frances Davidson-Arnott has had some success, and the new appointees or those switching roles will be announced at the November meeting. If you wish to learn more about participating, we are waiting to hear from you.

As for other efforts, I'll mention three. The last Board meeting in April had a full agenda, related mostly to the reports of the committees I have described. Our seminar for Toronto's FIS students was reported in the previous issue of *ELAN*, and another is planned for 2008. In a meeting with Larry Moore about mutual concerns for OLA and ELA, I learned that he is to retire next February. His support of Ex Libris over the years has been steady and generous.

In addition to meetings, e-mails between executive members relate to such things as other groups interested in library history and IFLA.

So much is being accomplished. ■

light to filter through. Basement storage areas have been fitted with special lighting and space-saving stacks.

The Library of Parliament provides a special research service for the Members of Parliament and Senators, as well as an information service for other libraries. During our discussions on the tour, we learned that neither the present parliamentary librarian nor his senior managers are librarians. It is unfortunate that none of the senior library managers bring a specific library knowledge base and expertise to their jobs. Since some



Credit: Frances Davidson-Arnott

library staff and physical resources remain in the old Bank of Nova Scotia building on the Sparks Street Mall and in Gatineau, across the Ottawa River, the co-ordination of services can also be a challenge.

**National Gallery of Canada Library Tour**

Peter Trepanier, Reader Services Librarian, arranged an excellent, in-depth tour of the Library of the National Gallery of Canada. The Library has the most extensive collection of visual arts literature in Canada and includes books, exhibition catalogues, periodicals, auction catalogues, artist documentation files, photographs, slides, archives and private papers.

At the entrance, we toured an exhibit called The Library of Carl Schaefer, a Canadian artist close to the Group of Seven. The display included a selection of his books, exhibition catalogues, art sales records, monographs, periodicals and technical materials from the 10,000 volumes he donated to the Gallery.

As we entered the Reading Room from the foyer, there was a stunning view of Nepean Point and the Ottawa River. From there, we broke into two groups. We visited the extensive, moveable stacks which house the Gallery Library's collection, the photograph/slide/archives collection, and their technical services area. The technical services staff is busy indeed. One and a half staff members do all cataloguing of major gifts (which must be completed each year before taxes are due), exhibition catalogues, auction records, art books and periodicals. With a 25-year backlog, cataloguing is done on a "crisis" basis, or as an item is requested.

Staff at both libraries gave us excellent, in-depth tours of their libraries and willingly answered all library-related questions. It was a pleasure to get to know each other better. ■



Credit: John Warrener  
Tom Eadie, Pearce Penney and Liz Warrener

**Ex Libris at CLA Convention and Trade Show 2007**

BY ELIZABETH WARRENER

The Canadian Library Association's National Conference and Trade Show were held from May 23 to 26 in St. John's, Newfoundland. It was a somewhat colder than expected week in St. John's, but the people at the conference, in the hotels and in restaurants were warm and welcoming.

Ex Libris had a well-situated table close to the entrance of the Trade Show. Those working on the booth reconnected with many old friends and made some new ones. Harry Campbell

went above and beyond the call of duty, conversing with some IFLA delegates at length in French. The ELA booth was staffed by a wonderful group of people who seemed to be acquainted with a huge number of attendees. Many thanks to Harry Campbell, Tom Eadie, Norman Horrocks, Pearce Penney, John Warrener and Jean Weihs for their dedication, enthusiasm and hard work, and to Cameron Riddle for his help in dismantling the booth at the end of the show.

In our free moments, we were charmed by the breathtaking beauty of St. John's, the friendliness and politeness of the local people and the unforgettable taste treat of codfish and scrunchions. ■

**Ex Libris at BCLA**  
BY PAT APPAVOO

In April, for a second year, the Ex Libris travel box was delivered to me for the BCLA Conference. This year the display location was in the corridor leading to the conference exhibits hall. This meant that every delegate passed by the Ex Libris display (sometimes several times a day). This provided a wonderful opportunity to visit with friends, colleagues and enquirers.

The display included t-shirts, tote bags and the Ex Libris membership pamphlets. Most of the pamphlets were picked up by those interested in the organization and its purpose. One young woman took a pamphlet "for her mother".

In answering questions about Ex Libris, I spoke of the idea of tours to historic libraries around the world. This was greeted with some enthusiasm.

My goal this year was to increase awareness of Ex Libris among the retired and soon to be retired. I think that goal was met. The lovely Ex Libris banner helped the awareness campaign. Whether this will mean more members from BC is yet to seen. ■



Pat Appavoo at the BCLA Conference



## News From The Capital

BY MARIE ZIELINSKA

After continuous growth in the 100 years of its operation, in 2006 Ottawa Public Library noted 4.6 million visits to its branches, 9.7 million items borrowed and 2.7 million electronic visits to the OPL Web site and its e-services. After the municipal election, a new Board of Directors was appointed for OPL, under the chairmanship of Jan Harder. No better person could have been chosen, as Jan is both a seasoned politician with nine years of experience as city councillor, and a staunch supporter of libraries.

In the fall of 2006, the Board started to work on a new long-range strategic plan for the years 2008-2011. Four main goals have been chosen for this period: Access, Facilities, Users and Partnerships. *Access* will be improved through longer service hours, Web and on-line services, collections, better geographic distribution of services and improvement of services to people with disabilities. The last is an area of great concern to the library. Its efforts in this area were recognized in May 2007 with the presentation of the **People with Disabilities Award for OPL's Homebound Services**.

Plans for *Facilities* include not only the maintenance and renewal of existing facilities and building new branches in growing areas of the city, but first of all, the building of a new central library to ensure a strong foundation for the whole library system. The Board has approved a contract to the Resource Planning Group of Vancouver and Toronto to develop a functional building program for a new central library and possibly the City of Ottawa archives. Among the *Users* the Board singled out as most important were children and youth, business, new Canadians and the disadvantaged.

The main *Partners* of OPL are the OPL Foundation and Friends of OPL Association (FOPLA), bound together by a Memorandum of Understanding. FOPLA recently celebrated its 25th anniversary and elected at its June Annual Meeting a new chair, Mrs. Lori Nash. Her main interest lies in the field of public relations, which is of great importance both to the Association and the Library. Thanks to her efforts and boundless energy, two new used bookstores have been recently opened, raising the FOPLA income to new heights. ■



## News From British Columbia

BY SYLVIA CROOKS

**Jacqueline Van Dyk** has been appointed Director of the Public Library Services Branch in the BC Ministry of Education. The branch administers the Library Act and provides support to BC's public libraries. For 20 years, Jacqueline worked in public and college libraries in BC, mainly in library systems and administration. She has done extensive consulting and has been very active in provincial, national and international library associations. Her library degree is from the University of Western Ontario.



In April, a large gathering of faculty, alumni and students honoured **Terry Eastwood**, founding faculty member of the Master of Archival

Studies program at UBC SLAIS, on the occasion of his retirement. Several speakers praised his unique contribution to archival education over the 25 years of the program. Professor Eastwood has been active in archival associations nationally and internationally, being a past president of the Association of Canadian Archivists and editor of its journal, *Archivaria*. He is also a Fellow of the Society of American Archivists and past member of its council.

In June, **Penny Grant** stepped down as Executive Director of the Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL). She will continue teaching at San José State University's School of Library & Information Science, where she began teaching after completing a doctorate in library science at James Cook University in Australia in 2004. She had worked in the VIRL system since the early 1980s, becoming Executive Director in 1998.

**AskAway**, the BC Electronic Library Network's virtual reference service, won three awards this spring. The program won the 2007 BC Library Association's Service Merit Award, as well as the Outstanding Service Award from ALPS (Academic Librarians in Public Service). **AskAway** also received the 2007 Judges' Award, one of the BC Innovation Awards in Education Technology, for the program's "extraordinary partnership and collaboration between BC's post-secondary and public libraries". More than 60 public libraries and 27 academic libraries in BC participate in the **AskAway** program.

One of the latest services offered by public libraries in BC is **Library to Go**, which downloads audio books onto patrons' computers, PDAs or MP3 players. BC's Ministry of Education provides financial support to public libraries that wish to participate in the program. Patrons are allowed to have five titles checked out from a huge Digital Library. After 14 days, the audio books are automatically returned to the library.

The BC library community was upset this spring to learn of the government's plans to close the **BC Legislative Library** for "seismic upgrading". There has been speculation that the government might have other plans for the library's quarters. Many letters of concern were sent to the government, including a letter written by Brian Land on behalf of Ex Libris. However, the good news is that the Library continues to operate as before, and plans to reduce staff and move the bulk of the collection

to a warehouse have not happened. The unofficial word now is that there will be no reduction in staff or moving of the library or the collection in the near future. Perhaps all those letters have made the government reconsider its options. The Legislative Library was established in 1863 to serve the colonial legislature of Vancouver Island. It became the provincial legislative library in 1871 when BC joined Confederation.



## Atlantic News

BY NORMAN  
HORROCKS

### Events

#### Confederation Centre Public Library.

The Friends of the Confederation Centre Public Library, Charlottetown, PEI, hosted a reception on May 27, 2007 to dedicate Priscilla's Corner. This is a quiet reading area adjacent to the large print collection and is named in honour of the late Priscilla Ykelenstam, who died in August 2006. Priscilla was a graduate of the Eastman School of Music (University of Rochester) with a master's degree in music. A flutist with the Atlantic Symphony Orchestra, she obtained her MLS from Dalhousie (class of 1972) before joining the Prince Edward Island Provincial Library Service. She took the initiative in forming the Friends of the Confederation Centre Public Library and, after her retirement, she was

#### Welcome New ELA Members

Liz Aldrey (Wellandport, ON)  
Trudy Bodak (Thornhill, ON)  
Ron Clancy (Vancouver, BC)  
Mary Collis (Ottawa, ON)  
Judy Ginsberg (Toronto, ON)  
Barbara Hynek (Surrey, BC)  
Ruth Kingma (Toronto, ON)  
Audrey MacLellan (Toronto, ON)  
Derek Robertson (Ottawa, ON)  
Marion Wilburn (Mississauga, ON)

active in the Friends Group, the PEI Volunteers for Literacy and the Union of Public Sector Employees retirees group.



**Halifax Public Libraries.** North is Freedom is the name of a new sculpture which was unveiled outside the Halifax North Memorial Public Library on June 28, 2007. It is the work of local artist Doug Bamford and Ottawa artist Stephen Braithwaite. It depicts two youths, one hauling the other to the top, while a third bronze figure stands on the library roof showing the way to knowledge. "Knowledge is power and knowledge enables you to climb up", says Braithwaite. The three figures were modelled on students from the nearby Saint Patrick's/Alexandra School. One side of the sculpture carries an eclectic range of notes contributed by local community residents. On the other side there are four lines of free verse:

North is freedom –  
Uptown, down-home:  
Each book a drum;  
Each life a poem.

"North is Freedom" was written by Dr George E. Clarke, Professor of English at the University of Toronto, who read several of his poems at the dedication ceremonies. He was a regular user of the library when growing up in the neighbourhood.

**Norman Oder**, News Editor of *Library Journal*, spent the July 6-9 weekend in Halifax. He visited the downtown Halifax Spring Garden Road Memorial Library and enjoyed the french fries

from another Halifax landmark, Bud the Spud, "the iconic chip truck" (to quote from Wikipedia). Bud has been parked outside the library each summer for the past three decades. Oder's "Two classics in downtown Halifax", which includes photos of both of them, can be found at [www.libraryjournal.com/blog/100100001001/post/850011686.html](http://www.libraryjournal.com/blog/100100001001/post/850011686.html).

#### New Brunswick Public Library

**Service.** The Saint John Library Region became the Fundy Library Region on May 1st. The new name better reflects the locations of the region's libraries along the Fundy coast.

#### Nova Scotia Association of Library

**Technicians.** On March 12, 2007, the first AGM of this new association was held in Halifax. Its aim is "to promote a wider understanding, acceptance and advancement of Library Technician graduates and students in Nova Scotia, to further the cause of Library Technicians in Nova Scotia, and to respond to issues that relate to the entire library community". Fuller details can be found at <http://users.eastlink.ca/~ericasmith> or in the Spring 2007 issue (Volume 1, No. 1) of the projected quarterly *NSALT News*. Elected as NSALT President was **Erica Smith**, Library Support Specialist, Five Bridges Junior High School, Tantallon, NS (See **Awards**).

#### Publications

**Joan Dawson's** latest work is *The Mapmakers' Legacy: Nineteenth-Century Maps of Nova Scotia* (Nimbus Publishing, Halifax, 2007, \$24.95, ISBN 9781551096070). This continues the story begun in her 1988 publication *The Mapmaker's Eye*, which looked at Nova Scotia in the 17th and 18th centuries through old maps. Joan, who worked as a cataloguer at Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Saint Mary's University and the Atlantic School of Theology libraries before her retirement, is a Fellow of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society.

**Boris Raymond** has published *The Phoenix Circle*, an historical novel about the fall of the Roman Empire (KLYO Press, Halifax, 2007, \$19.99, ISBN 9781419642357, order through [www.booksurge.com](http://www.booksurge.com)). Dr. Raymond taught Sociology and Library Science at Dalhousie from 1974 until he retired in 1990. This is a revised and abbreviated version of his first historical novel *The Twelfth Vulture of Romulus*, which was published in 2003.

## People

**Greg Blake**, Head of Reference, Fredericton Public Library, retired on 29 June 2007, after over 30 years at the Fredericton Public Library.

**Janet Clark** retired on July 23, 2007 from the South Shore Regional Library, NS, where she had been Chief Librarian since 1984. **Cheryl Stenstrom** will become Chief Librarian on October 1, 2007. A 1997 MLIS graduate from UBC, Cheryl has previously worked in public libraries in BC and at the South Shore Regional Library. Active in CAPL, she was elected to a three-year term on CLA Executive Council in May this year.

**Kathleen Eaton**, Chief Librarian, Confederation Centre Public Library, Charlottetown, has received the Excellence in Public Service Award from the Institute of Public Administration of Canada. It recognizes her work in creating partnerships in order to offer English language programs to newcomers to PEI.

**Margaret Fancy**, Collection Development Librarian, has retired after 39 years at Mount Allison University library, Sackville, NB. She was noted for her work in developing the Library's special collections – especially the Mary Mellish Archibald Library of Folklore, the Bell Collection of Acadiana, and the Edgar and Dorothy Davidson Collection of Canadiana.

**Richard (Dick) H. Ellis**, who stepped down as University Librarian, Memorial University of Newfoundland on August 31st before taking a year's administrative leave (see *ELAN* No. 41, p. 10) will continue to work at MUN's Queen Elizabeth II Library (see also Awards). From September 1st to October 31st, **Susan E. Cleyle**, Associate University Librarian at MUN, will be Acting University Librarian. In the fall, **Lorraine Busby**, Associate University Librarian for Information Resources, University of Western Ontario, will become University Librarian at MUN.

**Madeleine Lefebvre**, University Librarian at Saint Mary's University, Halifax, NS since 1999, became Chief Librarian at Ryerson University, Toronto on August 26, 2007. Madeleine was President of CLA 2003-2004 and is the author of *The Romance of Libraries* (Scarecrow Press, 2005). On her departure, Systems Librarian **Peter Webster** became Acting University Librarian.

**Dr. Dorothy Milne**, Science Collections Librarian, Queen Elizabeth II Library, retired from Memorial University of Newfoundland on December 31, 2006.

**Wendy Lisbeth Thorpe** died on June 10, 2007, aged 59. Her MA in History thesis from Queen's University in 1972 was entitled *Lady Aberdeen and the National Council of Women, 1893-1898*. From 1974, Wendy was employed as a private-sector records archivist with the Public Archives of Nova Scotia.

**Jane Wright** came to Halifax from Ottawa to obtain her MLIS at Dalhousie (class of 1988). After working as a researcher for the NDP, at Planned Parenthood and the NS Government Employees Union, she made a career change by opening a neighbourhood bistro, Jane's on the Common, on Labour Day, 2003. It was an instant success, was featured in *enRoute* and *Chatelaine* and won the Best New Restaurant Award in the readers' poll in *The Coast*, Halifax's weekly newspaper.

A consistent winner in the newspaper's annual survey, Jane's was voted Best Restaurant in the July 26, 2007 issue ([www.janesonthecommons.com](http://www.janesonthecommons.com)).

## Awards

**Christine Corston** received the 2007 CASLIS Award for Special Librarianship in Canada. She was founder of the Atlantic Chapter of CASLIS. In 2004, she retired from her position as Librarian of the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women but remains active in the special library field.

**Marie Deyong**, Director of Library Services and Online Learning, Nova Scotia Community College Library Services, is the 2007 recipient of the CACUL-CTCL Award for Outstanding College Librarian, an award sponsored by The Bibliocentre. She was cited for her work for CACUL and CTCL, for the upgrading of the libraries at the 14 campuses of the NS Community College system and the establishment of the new Halifax-Dartmouth campus Library.

**Richard (Dick) H. Ellis** received the 2007 Atlantic Provinces Library Association Award of Merit. A Past President of APLA and *Bulletin* Advertising Editor, he was also recognized for his work for CARL/ABRC and CAUL/ABRC. He has participated in the Council of Atlantic University Librarians (see also **People**).

**Shelley Gullikson**, Information Literacy Co-ordinator, Mount Allison University, received the 2007 CLA and CACUL Robert H. Blackburn Distinguished Paper Award for her article "Faculty Perceptions of ACRL's Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education", which was published in *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, September 2006 (Vol. 32 No. 6), pp. 583-592.

**William (Bill) R. Maes**, University Librarian and Adjunct Professor, School

of Information Management, Dalhousie University, was this year's recipient of CACUL's Miles Blackwell Award for Outstanding Academic Librarian. Bill was Director of Library and Information Services at the University of Regina from 1993 to 1998, when he joined Dalhousie. A recognized leader, he has played active roles in CARL/ABRC, Novanet, CAUL/CBUA and the Canadian Initiative on Digital Libraries. In 2003, he was awarded the Golden Jubilee Medal of Queen Elizabeth II for his contributions to the region and to the profession.

**Erica Smith**, Library Support Specialist, Five Bridges Junior High School (formerly Tantallon J.H.S.), NS, was the recipient of the 2007 CLA Library Technician Interest Group Award of Merit, sponsored by Libramation. A 1997 graduate of the NS Community College Library Technician diploma program, Erica worked in college and university libraries before joining Tantallon J.H.S. in 2004. Active in various library associations, she has been President of NSLA and earlier this year was elected the first President of the newly established Nova Scotia Association of Library Technicians (see **Events**). ■

*My thanks for information supplied by Nichola Clearveland, Susan Cleyle, Nadia Goguen, Judith Hare and Donald Moses, on which some of the above was based.—NH*

## When You Move

Please remember to send your new address to:  
Ex Libris Association  
Faculty of Information Studies  
University of Toronto  
140 St. George Street,  
Toronto, Ontario M5S 3G6



## News from Canadian Library/Information Studies Schools

COMPILED BY  
DIANE HENDERSON

With this issue, we begin a new series focusing on our seven schools. Each has been invited to provide a short account of recent and upcoming events, new programs, program changes, awards, appointments and other highlights. Thanks to all our contributors.

### UBC School of Library, Archival and Information Studies

BY SYLVIA CROOKS

In April, SLAIS celebrated the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Master of Archival Studies (MAS) program. In 1981, this two-year degree program was inaugurated in conjunction with the Department of History and was the first graduate program in archival studies in North America. It has gone on to win international awards and recognition. The anniversary coincided with the retirement of **Terry Eastwood**, who was the first chair of the program and continued as chair for the next 19 years. In other faculty news, **Dr. Joe Tennis** left SLAIS to join the faculty of the Information School at the University of Washington; **Luanne Freund**, from FIS at the University of Toronto, will join the faculty to teach courses in search systems, reference, and information technology.

There are now 15 students in the SLAIS PhD program, which was inaugurated in 2003. The School's interdisciplinary Masters in Children's Literature continues to be very popular; since its founding in 1999, the program has graduated 28 students.

### University of Alberta, School of Library and Information Studies

BY ANNA ALTMANN

The first two students to earn a combined MLIS/MA(HuCo) degree graduated this past academic year. The new thesis-based program, approved in Fall 2003, allows students to obtain the Combined Master of Library and Information Studies and Master of Arts in Humanities Computing degree in three years. For more information on this program, see the SLIS Web site at [www.slis.ualberta.ca](http://www.slis.ualberta.ca).

SLIS was given a new faculty position, to begin July 2007. The School advertised for candidates with expertise in knowledge management, an area in which the MLIS program has been lacking. **Dinesh Rathi**, completing his PhD at the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign), will join SLIS in January 2008. **Ann Curry**, presently at SLAIS (UBC), will also join SLIS in January. She has accepted an appointment to a five-year term as director of the School. **Anna Altmann**, the current director, is retiring in June 2008.

### University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Information and Media Studies

BY KRISTEN ROMME

This summer, the Faculty of Information and Media Studies (FIMS) continued to grow, welcoming a new dean, **Dr. Thomas Carmichael**, and eight new faculty, five of whom are LIS scholars: Professors **Susan Hayter**, **Catherine Johnson**, **Ajit Pyati**, **Paulette Rothbauer**, and **Nadine Wathen**. This fall, we welcomed our largest-ever cohort of MLIS students (115), along with 7 new doctoral students in LIS. The LIS Co-op Program also continues to grow, placing a record number of students in the workplace this term. In October, the graduate programs in LIS will host Library Research Seminar IV in conjunction with the Library Research Round Table of the American Library Association. This three-day conference will examine the theme The Library in

its Socio-Cultural Context: Issues for Research and Practice. For more news about the graduate programs in LIS at Western, see the FIMS Graduate Bulletin at [www.fims.uwo.ca/bulletin](http://www.fims.uwo.ca/bulletin).

## University of Toronto, Faculty of Information Studies

BY KATHLEEN O'BRIEN

At our Annual Alumni Spring Reunion, the Alumni Jubilee Award went to 1982 alumna **Janine Miller**, and the Student Jubilee Award to graduating student **Kathleen Scheaffer**. More than 120 FIS students graduated, including, for the first time, our newly incorporated Museum Studies students. Some 20 awards were presented to FIS grads for significant contributions and academic excellence. In other award news, FIS Professor **Nadia Caidi** received a three-year SSHRC Grant for research on threats to citizens' access to public information post-9/11.

Dean **Brian Cantwell Smith** will step down when his 5-year term is up in June 2008 but will continue on the FIS faculty, teaching and conducting academic research. Professors **Nadine Wathen** and **Paulette Rothbauer** left the faculty to take positions at the University of Western Ontario FIMS. Looking ahead, over the next few years we will continue to add new faculty and, in the meantime, have welcomed our largest class ever this fall, with more than 200 new students!

## McGill University, School of Information Studies

BY PETER MCNALLY

The most significant event of the year was the Board of Governors' approval in May of the School's name change from Graduate School of Library and Information Studies to School of Information Studies. This change reflects a conscious decision to broaden the School's focus from Library and Information Studies to cognate professions and disciplines.

Within the Master's program, there are now three distinct streams: Librarianship, Archival Studies, and Knowledge Management. All graduates will receive a Master of Library and Information Studies degree, with transcripts indicating the specific stream of specialization. Successful completion of the MLIS degree requires 16 courses: 4 common to all streams, 4 uniquely required for each stream; 4 electives uniquely related to each stream; and 4 free electives.

At Spring Convocation, the School conferred its 10th PhD, having admitted the first candidate in 1991.

## Université de Montréal, École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information

BY ISABELLE BOURGEY

Faculty replacement was an important issue in 2006-07, as EBSI recruited two assistant professors, **Dominic Forest** (in the field of automated text analysis) and **Yvon Lemay** (in archival science) due to numerous retirements that took place the previous year. Two more positions are still open for the coming year.

Faculty and staff worked hard to produce the draft version of the self-evaluation report for the ALA Accreditation Committee, due for a visit in November 2007. Finally, it was also the first year of activity for the Friends of EBSI (Le fonds des amis de l'EBSI), whose objectives are to involve alumni in the funding of new projects and of student scholarships. For more information see [www.ebsi.umontreal.ca](http://www.ebsi.umontreal.ca).

## Dalhousie University, School of Information Management

BY FIONA BLACK

SIM members have achieved more great things in recent months: graduating student **Mari Beth Slade**, MLIS/MBA, won the Emerald MLS Student Best Paper Award for her paper titled "Compete or Collaborate? Resource Sharing in Corporate Libraries";

graduating student **Debra Mann** is the first student to initiate and lead a new SIG in CLA (for those with print disabilities); student **Kim MacInnis** won three separate scholarships for her continuing MLIS/MBA degree; in May, **Louise Spiteri** won a prestigious Management Teaching Excellence Award; **Bertrum MacDonald** (with **Peter Wells**) and **Fiona Black** won separate three-year SSHRC research grants; MLIS co-ordinator **JoAnn Watson** won the Faculty of Management's Interdisciplinary Administrator of the Year award; **Fiona Black** won the Dean's Award for Academic Leadership. **Bertrum MacDonald** completed his five-year term as Associate Dean (Research) and began a richly deserved sabbatical. For profiles of our engaging students, please visit <http://students.sim.dal.ca/prospectus>.

## New School of Information Studies at the University of Ottawa

On March 15, 2007, the University announced the appointment of **Dr. Kenneth-Roy Bonin** as director of the School, which the Faculty of Arts intends to establish by September 2008. We will provide more information in the Spring 2008 issue of *ELAN* and also on the ELA electronic list. ■



Credit: Frances Davidson-Arnott





## My Career in Libraries

BY JIM MONTGOMERY

My early years were spent in four communities

– Kingston, Ontario, San Antonio, Texas, Quebec City and Toronto. I did not encounter a library until I was marched with my sixth grade class to the Locke Branch of the Toronto Public Library, and after, I did not use the public library very much as a high school student. When I was briefly out of university in Toronto, I worked at the Toronto Reference Library as a clerical assistant in General Reference. The Central Library was a fascinating venue filled with staff who had a wide range of creativity and eccentricity. Right from the start, the librarians demonstrated, by example and discussion, basic techniques of the reference interview and reference skills, the organization of collections and the value and benefit of service to the public. The senior staff members were kind and supportive to the many younger staff moving on after a brief period of employment.

Following graduation from university, I set out to take teacher training at the Ontario College of Education. I abandoned this goal before the end of the course with the certainty that it was not right for me. After some reflection, I applied and was accepted into the BLS program at the School of Library Science, University of Toronto. I completed the degree over two academic years, including a unique and useful work period at Etobicoke Public Library.

In the late 60s, before its move to the new location beside the Robarts Library on St. George Street, the library school was located at the corner of College and McCaul Streets. The cozy little building with the adjoining warehouse still stands today as the Hope Shelter for the Salvation Army. The program was a valiant reconciliation of teaching the traditional subjects and grappling

with the demands of documentation, information science and early computer technology. The Faculty members, many of whom were new to teaching, rose to the occasion with a sense of great responsibility. My respect for and gratitude to them have never wavered.

In 1970, I completed the Master of Library Science degree, a truly positive experience. Fortunately, I was already familiar with basic public library work, had service experience as an itinerant subprofessional at several branches of the Etobicoke Public Library and was well equipped and marketable for the tight job market in public libraries at the time.

My first day of work at the Scarborough Public Library was unforgettable. No one seemed to know that I was coming. Cedarbrae District Library, recently opened, was a very attractive building at that time. The building did have challenges related to climate control, ventilation and programming space. From this service hub, the system had developed innovative programming and exhibits that were delivered by a diverse and creative staff. The library system struggled, as did other libraries in rapidly growing communities with tight budgets. In spite of this, the Scarborough Public Library system throughout the 1970s endeavored to utilize the latest in technology and emerging audiovisual media applications.

The years at Cedarbrae brought both opportunities and frustrations. As Branch Head, I was involved in the development of an on-line reference service, a library user survey, the design of new library services, challenging collection building, supervision and mentoring of librarians, and further refinements to and eventually an addition to the building. All these ventures, and more, brought tremendous learning opportunities, skill development and lasting relationships. The library system was straining to expand with new branches in the 1980s.

As a de facto main district library, there was great pressure and stress on staff, including me, to accomplish public service, special projects and overall workload within tight timelines. At the end of the 1980s, I left Scarborough to take on new challenges as an inner-city branch head at the Charles Sanderson Branch, Toronto Public Library (TPL). This library served several diverse neighbourhoods, including Kensington, Niagara and Chinatown.

The change in library culture was quite a shock for me, coming from a suburban system with a completely automated circulation and a wide range of users to a neighbourhood library awaiting automated circulation and a very different profile of users. At Charles Sanderson Branch, the major user group was newcomers to Canada, adults and children with a wide range of languages, cultures and information needs. There had to be a strong commitment to English as a Second Language, including the support for basic Literacy materials and programming. At Sanderson Branch, the collection, service and programs were built from the bottom up and there was encouragement by enlightened library managers to make service and programs relate to the individual needs of the local community. There was the belief at TPL, in the late 1980s, that there were limitations to formulas: no “one size fits all” and little “top down” mega-programming. Programming for children was properly nourished.

In this position, I was awakened to the comprehensive social, educational and informational needs of a community with very limited resources struggling to survive and succeed. Outreach literally meant reaching out, and I fought to provide the branch with every book, tape and other resource that the public and the local community needed. I gained a sense of humility in working with a public, young and old, without being able to speak Cantonese, Vietnamese, Portuguese or Spanish.

As Branch Head, I had the honour of being the Toronto Public Library representative on the Board of Management of Scadding Court Community Centre, which was attached to the library. This opportunity was a most unique window to the community's needs and potential. Some of the most rewarding experiences of my library career were regular contacts with ESL library classes, liaison with community agencies and networks and the evolving, long term working rapport with Scadding Court Community Centre. In 2003, on the occasion of the American Library Association Conference in Toronto, Sanderson Branch was one of the libraries singled out for print and picture coverage in *Library Journal*.

I retired from full-time library work in 2003 and have continued with Sunday library work as well as being involved on the Board of the Scadding Court Community Centre. Though there have been many changes in library models of service, staffing ratios and technology in the decade before and after the 1998 Toronto municipal amalgamation, nothing can replace for me the satisfaction of providing personal assistance and service to users. This is one of the factors that kept me close to the reference desk and public service and not in the areas of higher management and policy generation. Serving a diverse public and my commitment to supporting staff and colleagues, sometimes bloodied but unbowed, has made the journey a memorable one. With my own interests in family history and popular literature, I look forward to continuing to be a regular library user. ■



Harry Campbell at CLA in May  
Credit: John Warrenner

## Harry Campbell's Association with IFLA

HARRY CAMPBELL  
INTERVIEWED BY  
MARY WILLIAMSON

**Mary:** What in your opinion are the chief accomplishments of IFLA during the years that you have been associated with it?

**Harry:** My association with IFLA began in 1950 when I was head of the UNESCO Clearing House for Publications in Paris. A plan to create co-operative bibliographic control of all national publications had been launched, and I worked with IFLA's European members to implement it. The work was taken over by the IFLA Office for Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC) in London and contributed to the establishment of the International MARC format after 1983.

After leaving UNESCO in Paris in 1956 to come to Toronto, I continued to attend IFLA meetings, and in 1967 the Canadian Library Association hosted the IFLA Conference in Toronto.

IFLA co-operated with UNESCO in launching the UNESCO/IFLA Public Library Manifesto. Later a UNESCO/IFLA School Library Manifesto was launched, and in 2002 IFLA proclaimed the IFLA Internet Manifesto. These broad statements of principles, framed in accord with IFLA's stated core values, are designed for study and adoption by libraries and library authorities and serve to stimulate national government standards and developments.

Through the 1960s and 1970s, IFLA's membership expanded slowly. Library associations in countries such as the USSR, Bulgaria, Singapore, Indonesia, and the Republic of South Korea were joining. The Conference was held in Moscow (1970), Budapest (1972), Washington DC (1974), and Oslo (1975). There were few participants

from Asia, Africa and Latin America. The time had come for IFLA to take its programs outside of Europe and North America. I agreed with this objective, as the president of the International Association of Metropolitan Public Libraries (INTAMEL), and became active in helping to carry it out.

**Mary:** Why were you made an Honorary IFLA Fellow in 1979?

**Harry:** Herman Liebars, Royal Librarian of Belgium, was president of IFLA in 1969. He established IFLA's secretariat in The Hague and linked IFLA with the USA through the Council on Library Resources, an agency of the Ford Foundation in Washington DC. Liebars saw that support from UNESCO would always remain a token amount, and he set out to broaden IFLA's financial base and its membership.

I became First Vice President of IFLA in 1973, just at the time Liebars had to take leave of the office of president, since he had been appointed the Grand Marshall of the Court of Belgium. For the next year, I worked with Secretary General Margreet Wijnstroom to achieve changes in the governing structure of IFLA, its membership dues system, and its relation as an NGO to UNESCO and to the British Library, where we maintained the UBC Office. I continued on the IFLA Executive Board from 1975 to 1979, by which time it had adopted a new constitution and had established the Program Development Group to manage the IFLA Sections Programs. The name of IFLA was changed and now included institutions as members. As well, individuals could join as Personal Affiliates and commercial firms and sponsors were admitted as members. It had become a new IFLA. When I retired as First Vice President in 1979, the Council made me an Honorary Fellow, a designation that I value more than any other I have received.

**Mary:** Why were you given the International Kalia Gold Medal in 1984?

**Harry:** An international jury of the Kalia Foundation in India selects the recipients. A condition is that a paper is delivered at a library conference on the receipt of the medal. I would have liked to have gone to India, but my paper "Librarianship for Enduring Peace and Social Progress" was given in 1989 at the OLA Conference in Toronto and was published by OLA.

I had been in India in 1973 as president of INTAMEL at the Annual Meeting there. We visited urban public libraries in Delhi, Calcutta and other cities. It was not until after partition in 1947 that Indian librarianship came on the international stage in its own right. This was largely due to the efforts of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, who had promulgated his India-based Five Laws of Library Science. In addition, he had secured public library legislation in Madras and other states. In 1954, Dr. Ranganathan published an important criticism of IFLA, dealing particularly with the under-representation of the newly developing countries.

In 1971, at the IFLA Liverpool Council meeting, a small group of English-speaking librarians from developing countries was formed at a UNESCO sponsored Pre-Session Seminar. There were similar meetings of French-speaking members in 1973 and Spanish-speaking members in Washington DC in 1974. The IFLA Division for Regional Activities was set up in 1976. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in Ottawa provided funds for these regional activities. I had been fortunate enough to be involved in these meetings and negotiations.

The medal was awarded to me for "meritorious service for the cause of library and information science".

**Mary:** In future years, what can IFLA do to be more effective? How can individual libraries around the world help to carry out IFLA's projects?

**Harry:** Many libraries and institutions that are IFLA members have taken on specific tasks and sponsor various projects. Let me illustrate a few of these:

- Uppsala University, Sweden serves as a focal point for IFLA's Action for Development through Libraries Program (ALP) for aid to less well-endowed countries. This was set up in 1987 and is financed largely by IFLA Nordic members, with government and non-government assistance. Birgitta Sandell is Director.
- Royal School of Library and Information Science, Copenhagen is the centre for the IFLA/FAIFE Committee (Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression). This centre conducts surveys and issues annual reports on the status of freedom of information around the world. The current Director is Susanne Seidelin.
- IFLA's Copyright and other Legal Matters Committee Executive Board monitors the actions of WIPO and the World Trade Organization with respect to international fees and licensing of copyright material. IFLA is particularly concerned with the plans of these organizations as they affect the concept of fair use or fair dealing.
- Bibliothèque nationale, Paris is the focal point for IFLA's activity in library and archival preservation and conservation. It is associated with national institutions in Beijing, Washington DC, Moscow, Canberra, Tokyo, Rio de Janeiro, Santiago, and Caracas that carry out regional conservation efforts. Christiane Baryla is the Director.

Opportunities exist for library institutions to act on world library problems, such as wartime library destruction, national disasters, etc.; IFLA is strengthened by such national activities. In 2006, IFLA launched the IFLA Fund, which seeks donations to enable its work to continue and expand.

**Mary:** What role in IFLA can Library and Archives Canada and the Bibliothèque et archives nationales du

Québec play in the future? What can individual Canadians interested in world librarianship do?

**Harry:** These two libraries provide important leadership since they represent the interest in books and documents. They are key institutions in achieving Canadian and Quebec international library goals. Quebec is particularly important in the world of francophone libraries.

IFLA members in several countries have set up their own national organizations to deal with IFLA. These IFLA caucuses meet regularly at the IFLA Congress to discuss what positions they will take on IFLA matters. Canada has not developed a similar working group. The leaders of our national libraries might encourage this.

Canadian library associations and institutions and individual Canadians can become members of IFLA by paying the annual membership fee. They will receive IFLA publications and have access to IFLANET. They can also link up with other IFLA members who share common interests.

We are all aware that in different countries there are vast gaps in access to information resources. These gaps are as stark today as when IFLA was first established. There have been developments in wealthy countries, but there remain dozens of countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America where access to library resources is still very difficult.

### **IFLA Comes to Quebec City, August 2008**

**Mary:** What is the role of IFLA in the international library world? What will take place at the World Library and Information Congress in 2008?

**Harry:** The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) has been in existence for over 80 years and is the world's leading non-

governmental library and information organization. Its headquarters staff of a dozen people is in The Hague, Netherlands, with small offices in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The official languages are French, English, German, Spanish and Russian, but Chinese and Arabic are used for some publications.

IFLA's Web site IFLANET, founded in 1993, carries full information on the publications and activities of IFLA's 48 membership Sections. These are organized by type of library and by type of library activity and embrace all of the interests of its worldwide membership of about 2,000 associations, institutions, commercial agencies and personal members.

The latest IFLA Statutes of 2002 set out IFLA's core values:

- The belief that people, communities and organizations need free access to information for their physical, mental, democratic and economic

well-being.

- The conviction that provision and delivery of high quality library and information services help to guarantee that access.
- The commitment to enable library associations and institutions throughout the world to participate in the governance and policy development of the Federation.
- The endorsement of the principles in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights dealing with free access to information.
- The belief in the right of all Members of the federation to engage in its activities without regard to citizenship, gender, language, political philosophy, race or religion.

IFLA has a Governing Board of not more than 30 members elected every two years by postal ballots. The IFLA President is elected directly by the membership. The Board elects a Treasurer and second Vice President

among its members.

Chairpersons and officers of each of the 48 sections are also elected by the Sections at their regular meetings. Most of the activities of the annual meetings deal with the working programs of the Sections.

At the World Congress in Quebec City, there will be an open general program for all members. There will also be a Council meeting.

At the Section meetings, there will be programs with speakers and discussions from the membership. The 48 Sections often provide 100 to 150 papers, each prepared in advance on themes selected by each Section. There are also separate two- or three-day preconference meetings, often held offsite. These provide opportunities for visits and discussions at local libraries. ■

## Geezers and Public Libraries

BY ALBERT BOWRON



Artist: John Warrener

Why do we refer to teenagers as “young adults” and those over 65 as “older adults”? Because to use the term “old” would, we think, embarrass or insult. It is okay to be young, but it is definitely not okay to be old. It is this attitude toward those of us who are nearer death than birth that is the reason for the proliferation of the many euphemisms used to describe us: aging, older, senior citizens, elderly, old fogeys.

The recent analysis of the 2006 census should change a lot of attitudes as well as the management of the economy and the provision of services: 14% of Canada's population is over 65. By 2015, there will be more seniors than children, and, horrors, 60% of us are sexually active.

Fourteen percent is not a large slice of

the total population. So, why should part of the library budget be spent on large print or talking books and awareness programs? Are our needs so different that we should expect special treatment? The answer, in my view, is that we do have special needs and that it is reasonable to expect them to be met by any public library. The results of the 2006 census indicate that these special needs will become more urgent. Budgets must change.

Without a qualm, I accept seniors' fare on the transit system, reduced ticket prices to movies, reduced airline fares and, yes, I seek out stores that offer seniors' discounts on certain days. I am pleased that the “Beaver”<sup>TM</sup> sends the Canada Pension and Old Age Security cheques each month. Grateful I am not: I earned every penny over the years, and I am glad to get it back. Similarly, public libraries might waive all overdue charges

and membership fees for us old folks. I know that these paltry sums cost more to collect than they are worth anyway, and they are not a deterrent to keeping items past the due date.

When I retired, I suddenly realized that I needed more information unique to my age. What social and health agencies are available? What about volunteer opportunities? What about housing and retirement homes? There are many such questions. The libraries could help, and many do.

Many of us need special materials, such as good selections of talking books and videos as well as magnifying devices and lessons in computer use. Many large library systems and rich smaller ones can supply such services. Others will have to jig their budgets in the face of increased need.

*continued on page 14*



## Elisabeth Gibson: A Profile

BY ELIZABETH WARRENER

Most librarians begin, develop and end their careers in traditional settings. Some take a completely different path. Sometimes, an interest leads these librarians to a new career. Elisabeth Gibson is a librarian who has become an artist.

Elisabeth graduated with a BLS from the University of Toronto in 1960. She enjoyed library school and remembers her classmates fondly, particularly Margaret Hammond and Mary Williamson. On graduation, she worked at the Toronto Public Library, starting out at the Main St. Branch, where she worked with Grace Buller, “the best boss you could ever hope for”, according to Elisabeth. She worked at TPL until 1966, when she got a job in charge of the bookmobile at the Etobicoke Public



Library. In September 1968, she left Etobicoke Public Library to begin a part-time position at the University of Toronto Library School. From September 1968 to December 1969, she did marking and some teaching for Miss Silverthorne in the Public Library Collections course. In 1969, her son Andrew was born, followed by daughter Kate in 1971. For years thereafter, she did on-call work for the Etobicoke Public Library and in 1976, she returned to its Extension Services to do shut-in service on a permanent, part-time basis. In March 1988, she began a part-time position with longer hours at Elmbrook Park Library in Etobicoke.

Librarianship was Elisabeth’s first choice as a career, and she loved it. She enjoyed meeting people, reviewing books, looking at new material and the challenge of childrens’ programming at Elmbrook Library.

Her interest in art developed as soon as she began to work in libraries after graduation. She found that she was spending all her spare time in the art section. In the fall of 1960 or the winter of 1961, she took her first course at the Artists’ Workshop, in its old location in a warehouse at the back of the old Holt Renfrew store on Bloor St. in Toronto. At the end of this course, an exhibit was held. Elisabeth didn’t think that she was expert enough to show her paintings, but her artist boyfriend insisted on her participation and made a selection. She was delighted with the positive

feedback received from viewers at the show. She took three more courses at the Artists’ Workshop. Looking for opportunities closer to home, she took a course with Zoltan Szabo (whose art exhibit she had seen at Richview Library) and attended evening classes at the Etobicoke Art Group. In January 1970, she took a watercolour course



with John Leonard and discovered her favourite medium. She works in watercolour to this day. Around 1978, she began to take a week off every summer to devote to painting. This proved to be a turning point in her development as an artist. She met people who ran art courses and art trips. She started to go on painting trips to Georgian Bay, Grand Manan Island and other spots.

Meanwhile, she was starting to exhibit her work. Her first show had been at the Alderwood Library in spring 1976 – an exhibit with two other artists, Marjorie Park and Elizabeth Elliott. It was immensely successful; she immediately sold the six paintings she had in the show. Interestingly, Marjorie Park and Elizabeth Elliott have become her hangers for all subsequent exhibits. Elisabeth’s first solo exhibit was in April 1979 at Richview Library. Thereafter, she had exhibits at Richview every two or three years. In 1984, there was a show of her work at Eatonville Library.

In 1988, she took a childrens’ librarian position at Elmbrook Park Library. She had balanced her library work and her art well, but the new position consumed more time. Eventually, she realized that she could not devote the time she needed to satisfy the demands of the art. As she puts it, “For the schedule to work, art needed to give, and art wasn’t giving.” She would either have to leave the job or give up art. She made her choice and retired from the Etobicoke Public Library in June 1997.

Since her retirement, Elisabeth has had a show at her home every year. It helps to

pay bills and fund art trips, most recently to Bruges in June 2007. She has taught for seven years at the Humber Valley Art Club at the Neilson Park Creative Centre. She teaches in Willowdale, Baysville, Richmond Hill and Aurora. She will be teaching in September at the Haliburton School of Fine Arts at the Frost Centre Institute in Dorset.

For the last eight years, she has run an art program for the Out of the Cold initiative for the homeless at All Saints Kingsway Church. She has organized an annual art show for the participants for the last six or seven years. Each exhibit includes 150 to 200 pieces done by the students. Elisabeth sells their work and gives them the proceeds.

Her library background and organizational skills have served her well in arranging both her own exhibits and the shows for the Out of the Cold artists. Elaborate cataloguing and accounting are crucial.

Elisabeth is passionate about her painting. Her style has evolved over the years, changing from attractive, gentle floral paintings to a more robust use of colour and a change in subject matter to boats, buildings and landscapes sometimes outlined in darker ink. She says that energy and freedom are very important in watercolour. Two visits to Newfoundland, in 1991 and 2000, proved to be turning points in her style. In 2000, there was a huge evolution in her painting in Newfoundland. She could feel the changes and wanted to paint "flat out" for two weeks, barely stopping to sleep. As a result of the work generated on that trip, she was voted

into the Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolour in 2001, a real honour. She says that, the more you paint, the more you evolve. You don't plan to change, but the changes come.

Her career in librarianship and her career in art have run in tandem. She discovered her love of art working in the library and has had numerous exhibits there. And she needs that librarian skill set when mounting an exhibit. Her daughter, Kate Gibson, is a librarian in Aurora. For Elisabeth Gibson, librarianship and art have proved to be absolutely complementary. ■



Artist: John Warrener

#### **Geezers Continued**

Success is assured if public libraries can extend their services to senior citizens, hospital wards, housing units and individual homes to serve those who can no longer get to the library. Like service to schools, prisons, hospitals or sheltered workshops, such outreach programs are useful and highly appreciated.

I don't believe library managers need feel special guilt because they are neglecting the old adults. Most managers have a yearly struggle with inadequate budgets. As far as we old fuddy-duddies are concerned, just wait until we constitute 50% of the population. Then, get ready to jump through hoops! ■

\* "Beaver" is a slang term used during the Second World War to refer to the federal government.

#### **Thank you Trevor! Welcome Jennifer!**

You may notice some changes in the layout of this issue of *ELAN*. Our previous layout artist, Trevor Balla, has moved on from OLA to a new job. His role has been taken on by Jennifer Marriott. – Ed.

#### **Correction**

The Fall 2006 issue of *ELAN* incorrectly identified one of the co-winners of the W. Kaye Lamb Award. The co-winners were the Western County Library (N.S.) and the Calgary Public Library.

### **Seeking Recollections of Nora Bateson**

Nora Bateson (1896-1956) had a dynamic 25-year library career in Canada, but is "one of the great under-appreciated figures in Canadian library history", according to historian Peter McNally. Among other achievements, Miss Bateson directed the PEI Library Demonstration (1933-1936) that established the public library system in that province, served as Nova Scotia's first Director of Libraries (1938-1945) and was one of five librarians appointed to the Canadian Library Council, precursor of the Canadian Library Association. Her career encompassed work in Canada, Jamaica, the United States and New Zealand, and an informal note found at Library

and Archives Canada described her as "dogged, mercurial, engaging and memorably articulate".

Sue Adams, librarian at St Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia, is currently working on a study of Nora Bateson's life and work. The archival record seems rather scattered and incomplete, with personal correspondence particularly lacking. Sue would greatly appreciate hearing from anyone with personal recollections of Nora Bateson, or suggestions for sources of historical material. She can be reached at 902-863-1848 or by e-mail at sadams@stfx.ca.

## The Public Libraries Bill, 1852

BY LORNE BRUCE

At the mid-point of the 19th century, the concept of public libraries in Ontario (known as Upper Canada or Canada West before 1867) began to undergo a major transition. Prior to 1850, public libraries, often referred to by library historians as “social libraries”, generally were accepted to be collections of books available to groups or individuals on a fee-paying, membership basis. Children and women normally were excluded unless provisions allowed their participation. There were many early 19th century variants of the Canadian “public library”:

- mechanics’ institutes that supplied instruction, public lectures, and libraries to improve workingmen’s education;
- library associations offering reference and circulating collections for use by proprietors or subscribers;
- athenaeums, i.e., literary, scientific, or artistic groups forming a library for members that featured current magazines and newspapers;
- literary societies or book clubs forming libraries or providing book exchanges for members;
- agricultural societies – some developed rural libraries, exchanged books, and circulated newspapers (e.g., farmers’ institutes);
- mercantile libraries for the use of business clerks, bookkeepers, etc.;
- subscription libraries for members paying an annual or monthly fee;
- library company, i.e., libraries that members contributed money for a book stock and paid an annual fee to use;
- scientific societies forming libraries for members’ interest in science or engineering.<sup>1</sup>

In addition, numerous Sunday school libraries for children and adolescents supplied an essential fourth “R” in Victorian education – religion.<sup>2</sup> These libraries, together with small text

collections in common and grammar schools, had begun to appear earlier in the 1820s following a decision to authorize district school boards to use legislative money to a maximum £100 for books (56 Geo. III, c. 36, s.12) in 1816.

The growth of social libraries and school collections before 1850 kept pace with the development of early Victorian communities. With the passage of the Municipal Corporations Act (Baldwin Act) in 1849 and the restructuring of the educational system by Egerton Ryerson after 1850, came an opportunity to strengthen and standardize libraries. From 1841, it was not uncommon for the Province of Canada to provide financial support for both school collections and for social libraries. In Upper Canada, Ryerson attempted to combine these types: his 1846 *Report on a System of Public Elementary Instructions* emphasized the need for general circulating libraries for students and adults in school sections; central lists for books and regulatory control of library operations; as well as local voluntary community efforts to establish libraries through existing municipal councils and school boards.<sup>3</sup>

In 1850, Ryerson included libraries in the Common School Act (13 & 14 Vic., c. 48) that established a system of free public libraries for children and adults as follows:

- general public libraries run by municipalities operating under the Municipal Corporations Act of 1849, i.e., townships, villages, towns, cities, and counties;
- teachers’ libraries (a public occupational type);
- common school libraries for students and ratepayers and their families;
- libraries in government public institutions, e.g., asylums and penitentiaries.

Ryerson considered common school libraries to be “free public libraries” as they were established by statute, tax

supported, freely accessible, administered by public bodies; and received funding from the colonial legislature. In his annual reports, he collected statistical evidence to show the progress of these libraries and also included “other public libraries” (i.e., social libraries) and “Sunday school libraries” serving the growing population. During the 1850s, his system of libraries, supported with matching book grants of £3,500 annually from his Education Office, expanded rapidly but thereafter encountered opposition from people and politicians who did not accept his regulations or prescription for reading.<sup>4</sup>

One year after Ryerson’s school act established rate-supported public libraries, Robert Bell steered another act for the “Incorporation and Better Management of Library Associations and Mechanics’ Institutes” (14 & 15 Vic., c. 86) through a parliamentary session held in Toronto. Bell was obviously interested in libraries: he had suggested using a liquor tax to support the development of school libraries, he possessed his own private library; and he was active in his home town as a member of the Carleton Place Library Association and Mechanics’ Institute.<sup>5</sup> His 1851 act allowed groups of not less than 10 persons holding £25 to sign a declaration to form an institute or association. No grants from the legislature were provided by legislation but normally parliament voted amounts for public incorporated bodies in the 1850s, usually \$200 per year. By 1857, the number of grant supported institutes and associations had risen to more than 140 in Canada East and West. As a consequence of the two acts in 1850–51, the legislative framework for library development in mechanics’ institutes, library associations, and common school libraries was well established. Ryerson had combined American ideas about school–district public libraries with existing government public funding for school texts and books. Bell’s provisions regularized voluntary incorporation for institutes and library associations that had begun to proliferate in the 1840s.

Surprisingly, then, in the fall session of parliament at Quebec in September 1852, another library act was advanced by a Conservative member for Toronto, William Henry Boulton.<sup>6</sup> Boulton (1812-74) had practiced as a lawyer prior to his successful campaigns for a Toronto seat in the House of Assembly in the elections of 1844, 1848, and 1851. As well, he served as mayor of Toronto from 1845 to 1847 and was well acquainted with Toronto's social and municipal life, often hosting prominent persons, such as Governor-General Lord Elgin, at his residence, the Grange.<sup>7</sup> As a traditional Tory connected with the Family Compact, he was staunch defender of the rights of the Church of England in Canada. Yet Boulton also displayed a populist strain: he cultivated support from the Orange Order in Toronto and he eventually became deputy grand master for British North America. After passage of the Rebellion Losses Bill by the Canadian parliament in 1849, Boulton realized traditional Tory strength had dissipated and he began advocating republican, American style innovations. One ill-advised effort was a draft 1850 bill for a new constitution that advocated an elective Legislative Council (the upper house of parliament), provided the governor general with veto powers, set fixed election periods, and allowed for impeachment.<sup>8</sup>

We do not know what motivated Boulton to introduce his library bill aside from his republican leanings. He was genuinely interested in books and libraries, being active in the newly-formed Toronto Athenaeum (1843) that incorporated in 1848 (11 Vic., c. 16) for the purpose of forming a public library and museum. This dual concept became more fashionable after a few English communities used the Museums Act passed by the British Parliament in 1845 to establish publicly supported libraries. On March 26, 1846, Boulton petitioned the government, as mayor of Toronto, to transfer duplicate books from the Legislative Library to the Athenaeum "for the benefit of

the citizens", partly in compensation for loss of usage of these books by the public after the legislature moved to Montreal. A Standing Committee weighed his request and reported, on May 22, 1847, that duplicates should be divided between Toronto and Quebec which had also been a home for the legislature for a short time.<sup>9</sup> On June 23, 1847, the House approved the transfer to the Athenaeum and the Quebec Library Association after Boulton raised the issue before the session ended. In spite of this action, the Athenaeum's goals never came to fruition – it, in turn, transferred most of its assets to the Canadian Institute after 1853 and became a news room.

We have better knowledge about why Boulton's legislation failed. The Legislative Assembly Journal for September 20, 1852 records "Ordered, That Mr. Boulton have leave to bring in a Bill to authorize Cities and Towns to establish and maintain Public Libraries. He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was received and read for the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday next [27 September]." In fact, second reading was considerably delayed. It was five months before the assembly reconsidered the proposal on February 24, 1853: "The Order of the day for the second reading of the Bill to authorize Cities and Towns to establish and maintain Public Libraries, being read: Ordered, That the said Order be discharged." Normally, second reading would constitute passage by the House and lead to Royal Assent provided it received the "double majority", i.e. a reasonable support from members in both Canada East and Canada West. This practice, normally used for bills effecting both sections of the Province possibly was one source of delay considering the absence of general legislation in Canada East before 1855 to allow the creation of municipalities corresponding to parishes within counties (18 Vic., c. 100) and the reluctance of Canada East to fund and provide free public libraries in schools

or municipalities at this time.<sup>10</sup> Another impediment was an outbreak of cholera that interrupted the parliamentary session. But the most serious setback was Boulton's uncertain status – his 1851 election came under review in October 1852 due to the necessity for a £500 property qualification. Boulton was engaged in defending his position, as it was common knowledge that he had suffered financial distress in dealings with his former Toronto law partners. Eventually, a Select Committee appointed to inquire into his financial standing reported on March 29, 1853 that he lacked the requisite property qualification. As a result, Boulton's election was void and his seat vacated. In these circumstances, it is not surprising that the library bill did not progress.

The text of the 1852 bill was not revealed until it was digitized in 2004 for the Early Canadiana Online project. Many unsuccessful bills from the early period of the Province of Canada had perished in fires and early researchers, such as John George Hodgins, had not been able to retrieve a copy.<sup>11</sup> After my own unsuccessful search, I speculated in 1994 that perhaps it was short in length and included permissive provisions based on American state legislation and the 1850 Public Libraries Act adopted in Britain.<sup>12</sup> From its text, it is evident that Boulton, with his legal education and close family ties in Boston (he married Harriette Mann Dixon there in 1846), copied almost verbatim the entire contents of the Massachusetts public library act issued in 1851. Why did he introduce it? Perhaps he was following his political republican tendencies. Perhaps he was establishing legislation that might be used to realize the Athenaeum's program of a public library in Toronto. Lacking further information, what we can do gainfully is examine the text:

An Act to authorize Cities and Towns to establish and maintain Public Libraries.  
Be it enacted, & c.,  
That any City or Town in the Province



Duty/Power	Ryerson's Common School Act [amended 1853 with Regulations]	1851 Act [amended 1856]	Boulton: 1852 Public Library Bill
Incorporation	all municipal bodies, school boards and township sections empowered to establish libraries	requires declaration of minimum of ten persons holding £25	councils of cities and towns
Formation of library	according to Municipal Corporation Act 1849 for municipalities (bylaws) and for school trustees normally public meeting with vote & township bylaw	file declaration with county registrar including name, purpose, trustees, mode of succession, admission of new members, bylaws, etc.	local bylaws
Governance	elected municipal or school body establishing library (e.g. villages)	board of directors or trustees elected at annual meetings by membership	board of five trustees appointed by municipality
Management	Librarian appointed to manage collections & annual report by School Inspector to Ryerson	officers, e.g. president, librarian, treasurer, secretary, etc. elected at annual meetings by members	
Purpose	"school libraries for general reading"	"ordinary and usual business" of MI or LA	"maintain a public library" (including branches) and suitable rooms"
Public access	"each individual residing in a school section, of sufficient age to read the books ... shall be entitled to all the benefits and privileges ... relative to libraries"	subscribed members	residents may use according to regulations
Finance	£3,500 available annually from legislature to match local expenditures for books selected from Education Office's catalogue	<i>MI &amp; LA eligible for legislative grants [practice -- not in act, revoked in 1858]</i>	5 shillings (\$1) for each household-er for establishment and 1 shilling & 3 pence (25¢) per year thereafter
Property	assets exempt from taxation	1851: limit to £100; amended in 1856; places over 3,000 pop. £500 in holdings, under 3,000 pop. £250 in holdings	may receive bequests and donations

is hereby authorized and empowered to establish and maintain a Public Library within the same, with or without branches, for the use of the inhabitants thereof, and to provide suitable rooms therefore, under such regulations for the government of such Library as may from time to time be prescribed by a Board of five persons, to be named annually by the Municipal Authorities of such City or Town.

II. Any City or Town may appropriate for the foundation and commencement of such Library as

aforsaid, a sum not exceeding five shillings for each of its householders in the year next preceding that in which such appropriation shall be made, and may also appropriate annually, for the maintenance and increase of such Library, a sum not exceeding one shilling and three pence for each of its householders in the year next preceding that in which such appropriation shall be made.

III. Any City or Town may receive, in its corporate capacity, and hold and manage any devise, bequest or donation for the establishment,

increase or maintenance of a Public Library within the same.<sup>13</sup>

Unlike British legislation that limited free libraries to municipalities over 10,000 population, established a ½ penny rate (12 pence in a shilling), and required assent of ⅔ majority of ratepayers in a special poll, this American-style legislation was relatively generous in terms of establishment and financing. It also permitted municipalities to accept collections or money from individuals or organizations. Unlike Ryerson's

library system, there were no terms for legislative funding and no governmental regulations. Notably, the bill followed American precedent by establishing the board form of governance, a feature absent in British cities.

In retrospect, Boulton's introduction of specific legislation for municipal public libraries in cities and towns was ill-timed and lacked general support, a feature of some of his other legislative manoeuvres. On balance, his library bill was premature for there were only two dozen eligible places in Canada West where his libraries could be established with Toronto, Hamilton and Kingston being the principal urban centers. As well, his "facsimile legislation" did not address any flaws or oversights in the legislative provisions of Ryerson or Bell, aside from the acceptance of donations. Canadian parliamentarians could be reasonably satisfied that public libraries, either free or membership, were adequately provided for. A table comparing the two acts and Boulton's bill summarizes the various positions with regard to public libraries. In terms of mid-century, liberal-democratic ideas on governance, Boulton's bill perceives local-central political relations to be autonomous with little or no overlap or joint activity, as in the case of 1851 legislation for voluntary associations. Ryerson's legislation was more attuned to the general liberal preference for a functional partnership between local-central bodies with the central power instructing/encouraging and the local government providing service. This consensus became one of the hallmarks of the Canadian "Liberal state" in late 19th and early 20th century.<sup>14</sup> Both Ryerson, whose system of libraries was dismantled in the late 1870s, and Boulton had a common basis of action, the power of government. This liberal faith inspired important concepts that would eventually gain wider acceptance: the use of taxation for libraries, the use of legislation to standardize collections (e.g., the fiction issue), and free community access to libraries by all residents.

In terms of its historical relevance, the 1852 bill is an early acknowledgement that our modern (i.e., late 19th and early 20th century) concept of the public library was conceived in the pre-Confederation era. Anglo-American influences were implanted well in advance of the usual historical marshalling point, passage of the Ontario Free Libraries Act in 1882. The incubation stage for the modern public library in Ontario may owe less to the work of mechanics' institutes and voluntary library associations than it does to Ryerson's legislative

dictates and the unsuccessful effort by William Henry Boulton. While most of Ryerson's "free public libraries" were established within the school system that he directed and influenced to a great degree, there were other forces at work at the municipal level. In fact, Boulton's attempt was only the first of two municipal library bills that appeared before Confederation. Another bill, lengthier, more nuanced, and also overlooked by library historians, was introduced by Alexander Morris in 1866 and will be the focus of my next article on the pre-Confederation period. ■

### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> See Karen Smith's introduction, "Community Libraries," in *History of the Book in Canada* (Toronto: University of Toronto, 2004), vol. 1, pp. 144-151.

<sup>2</sup> Ryerson's annual school report for 1848 reported 360 Sunday school libraries with 47,000 volumes.

<sup>3</sup> For a good survey of Ryerson's system, see Gordon T. Stubbs, *The Role of Egerton Ryerson in the Development of Public Library Service in Ontario* (Ottawa: Canadian Library Association, 1966).

<sup>4</sup> See B. Curtis, "Littery merit, 'Useful Knowledge', and the Organization of Township Libraries in Canada West, 1840-1860," *Ontario History* 78 (1986): 285-311 for opposing views.

<sup>5</sup> Robert Bell, "Township School Libraries - Means of Establishing Them," *Journal of Education for Upper Canada* 3 (1850): 81; and Courtney C. J. Bond, "Robert Bell," in *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* (Toronto: Univ. of Toronto, 1990), vol. 12, p. 85.

<sup>6</sup> See, Hereward Senior, "William Henry Boulton," in *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, (Toronto, Univ. of Toronto, 1972), vol. 10, pp. 80-81.

<sup>7</sup> See John Lownsbrough, *The Privileged Few: the Grange and its People in Nineteenth Century Toronto* (Toronto: Art Gallery of Toronto, 1980), pp. 98-115.

<sup>8</sup> See J. L. McNairn, "Publius of the North: Tory Republicanism and the American Constitution in Upper Canada, 1848-54," *Canadian Historical Review* 77, (1996): 522-524.

<sup>9</sup> Report printed in *Appendix to the fifth volume of the journals of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada... 20th day of March to the 9th day of June, 1846...* (Montreal: G. Desbarats & T. Cary 1847), "Appendix OO."

<sup>10</sup> See Marcel Lajeunesse, "Meilleur, Chauveau, and Libraries in Mid-Nineteenth Century Quebec," *Journal of Library History* 18 (1983): 255-73 for this period.

<sup>11</sup> J. G. Hodgins, *Documentary History of Education in Upper Canada from 1791 to 1876* (Toronto: Warwick & Rutter, 1894-1910), vol. 10, p. 102 (published in 1902).

<sup>12</sup> See L. Bruce, *Free Books for All: the Public Library Movement in Ontario, 1850-1930* (Toronto: Dundurn Press, 1994), pp. 36-37.

<sup>13</sup> *Bill no. 75: An act to authorize cities and towns to establish and maintain public libraries*, 1st Session, 4th Parliament, 16 Victoria, 1852. Quebec: [J. Lovell, 1852]. The Act was also printed for Lower Canada as *Acte pour autoriser les cités et villes du Haut-Canada à établir et maintenir des bibliothèques publiques*.

<sup>14</sup> For a historiographic overview see Ian McKay, "The Liberal Order Framework," *Canadian Historical Review* 84 (2000): 617-645. For the liberal mindset shaping the 1882 library act and subsequent growth, see my article "Public Libraries in Ontario, 1882-1920," *Ontario History* 77 (1985): 123-149.

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*This article was printed as submitted.—Ed.*

## On the Persistence of Public Knowledge

BY STEPHEN CUMMINGS

For most scholarly purposes the most important iteration of a literary work is the edition said to be truest to the author's original intent. The process of authenticating the prime instance of a work involves many tools, not least among which are enumerative and the three variants of analytic or critical bibliography: historical, textual and descriptive bibliography. A literary work moves through time much like a cresting wave, erupting occasionally into editions with differing characteristics such as type face, spelling, paper, binding, illustrations and ancillary attachments. Authenticating originals poses similar problems. In the fascinating story of the Vinland Map, analysts used techniques ranging from aligning bookworm holes to blasting paper with high energy protons in a cyclotron.

With far greater impact than modern high-speed lithography, mass distribution or acid bleached paper, the advent of digital technology is troubling scholars' ability to authenticate prime texts. When personal computers and office productivity software became widely available in the 1980s, courtesy of Bill Gates and ilk, there was a publishing explosion. As with any explosion, there are major challenges for scholars, archivists and librarians in preserving the significance of bits and pieces so generated.

Consider the problem of form factor<sup>1</sup>, or the underlying physical support for an item's intellectual content. Da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*, for instance, was originally painted in oil on wood. Now the image appears on coffee cups, t-shirts, billboards, television, and even projected digital images on the exterior walls of buildings. In music, the original form factor for Gregorian Chant was a group of monks, but through time has evolved

onto wax cylinders, shellac 78s, vinyl 45s, 33 $\frac{1}{3}$  LPs, CDs and digital files in a plethora of formats including .wav, .mp3, .mp4, and so forth. Even instances of authentic original performance, such as the Rachmaninov piano rolls circa 1920 depend on the availability of a contemporary Reproducing Piano to recapture the phrasing of the original, leaving only the matters of tuning and tempo (speed at which the paper roll advances) of the machine Rachmaninov used as subtle puzzles for musicologists.

The problem of medium is no less challenging. Proprietary file formats and fonts present a huge challenge to the preservation of literary works. A poem, dissertation or screenplay produced on personal computer in the early 1980s likely would have involved dos-based MultiMate or WordPerfect 4.1 word processing software and have been stored on 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  inch floppy disks. Neither MultiMate nor WordPerfect 4.1 file formats are readable by currently available word processing software, and finding a working 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  floppy disk drive is all but impossible.

The reality is that we have very little control over what remains accessible and what is lost. We might, for instance, convert a document created today in Microsoft Word (which format has a probable lifespan of 10-15 years) into an Adobe PDF file (which has a probable lifespan of 15-30 years) and store this converted document on a CD or a DVD (with a projected shelf-life of 100 years). However, if there is a break-through in storage technology in 2020, such that we all become equipped with desktop computers (with an average lifespan of 3-5 years) that use holographic storage systems, which storage systems have become so popular and so effective that CD or DVD drives are no longer manufactured, then all our careful planning is lost. The content is lost.

Another core issue in the preservation

of public knowledge is the effect of copyright law. Profits from copyright ownership drive organizations such as the RIAA (Recording Industry Association of America) to become powerful arbiters in the preservation and distribution of public knowledge. Librarians, archivists, folklorists and others counter with the notion of "fair use" of intellectual property as a democratic right. These champions of differing standards daily enter North American courts to joust for the moral high ground, while lawyers profit.

Clearly the largest, most efficient information warehouse currently available is the Internet. Google's business case is based, in part, on the assumption that there is no practical limit to the amount of data that can be stored and distributed via the Internet. Google's proprietary Gmail service, for instance, now comes with a no-cost gigabyte+ of storage for e-mails and their attachments. Emily Dickinson could have stored her entire poetic oeuvre on the Internet via Google and still had room left over to preserve the political documents of her father and grandfather, her grocery lists and her birthday card calendar (if there was one) with keyword searching for the whole lot.

HTML is another fundamental document file format. Current estimates suggest that Google indexes 3-5 billion HTML Web pages in hundreds of languages. Unlike libraries and archives, Google does not require engineers to design monumental buildings to support weight, it requires engineers to design affordable electrical systems to support computation.

Committing an intellectual, artistic event to a physical form for the purpose of communication is more an act of faith than of craft. The long term survival of the work depends on factors far beyond the creator's control or influence. At less than 30 years of age, the Internet is certainly less a proven form factor than

<sup>1</sup> The term "form factor" refers the physical dimensions of computer components such as motherboards. It is here used to refer to any physical support (e.g., wood, canvas, floppy disk) for a medium (e.g., paints, typeface, digital file format, voice).

the paper Gutenberg printed upon. When I first learned that personal computer chips were made of silicon, I had a fanciful thought that perhaps I should invest in the trucking firm that delivered sand to IBM's factories. From this perspective, the Internet is literally a sandcastle. Successor chip materials fabricated in dimensions measured by nanometers are likely to be more fragile still and dependent on phenomena as short-lived as the position of an electron. On the other hand, there is something satisfyingly poetic in the image of a vast, pure beach of computational sand, washed and given fleeting form by waves of human intellect and artistic vision.

The long aesthetic view, however pleasant, doesn't absolve us of our caretaker duties. Armies of crab-like little Thomas Bowdlers patrol the beach. Ominous politicians command them.

Self-righteous fanatics are planting landmines. Convoys of copyright trucks are removing beach chunks to secret inland places. The beach is unquiet.

Nor should the untended lapping of waves seduce us into complacency. We are not born with guarantees of public genius. Genius may be born to the individual, but is earned by the public. The next Mozart, Rimbaud or Tom Thompson is also our responsibility.

We are caretakers of both beach and sea, and we have work to do. ■

Related reading:

The Long Now Project.  
www.longnow.org

Peter B. Hirtle, *Copyright and Fair Use*. [http://fairuse.stanford.edu/commentary\\_and\\_analysis/2003\\_11\\_hirtle.html](http://fairuse.stanford.edu/commentary_and_analysis/2003_11_hirtle.html)  
*Building a National Strategy for Preservation: Issues in Digital Media Archiving*. Commissioned for and sponsored by the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program, Library of Congress, April 2002.  
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*The Viking Deception*, NOVA Science Programming on Air and Online, PBS air date, February 8, 2005. Transcript at: [www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/transcripts/3205\\_vinland.html](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/transcripts/3205_vinland.html)

*This article was printed as submitted. – Ed.*

## Dr. Robert Blackburn Honoured



*Dr. Blackburn receives Chancellor's Medal from Judy Dunn while Mrs. Blackburn looks on.*

*Photo courtesy of the Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto.*

In May 2007, Dr. Robert Blackburn received a spontaneous standing ovation when he and Mrs. Blackburn came to the Faculty of Information Studies, U of T, to receive the 65th anniversary Chancellor's Medal at

Spring Reunion. The Chancellor's Medal is offered every five years after the 55th year of graduation from the University of Toronto to mark and celebrate the anniversary. Dr. Blackburn graduated in 1942 with his Bachelor of

Library Science (BLSC) degree. The Chancellor's Medal is typically given at Convocation Hall, but Dr. Blackburn asked to receive it at FIS because of the Faculty's importance to his career and life. ■

Artist: John Warrenner



## Book Review

### THE LIBRARY AT NIGHT

by Alberto Manguel  
Alfred A. Knopf  
Canada, 2006, 373 p.

REVIEWED BY JEAN WEIHS

The book jacket proclaims that this book is the “story of the critical role that libraries have played in our civilization”. Librarians already know this, but some or many of us do not know some or all of the particulars of the library history that can be found between the book’s covers. This is not a traditional history of libraries in chronological order. It is the author’s contemplation of random facts – a combination of the author’s thoughts about books he has owned and read and the personal libraries of prominent people throughout the ages as well as a history of some libraries.

Manguel, who states that in his “foolhardy youth ... [he] dreamt of becoming a librarian”, has devoted 15 chapters to the library from different viewpoints. In each chapter he begins with personal reflections about his own collection of books and follows this with one or more tales about some aspect of library history.

“Library as Myth” describes the establishment of the library at Alexandria, its meaning to the accumulation of knowledge and how the myth of the library has echoed through the years. “Library as Order” deals with the arrangement of books ranging from Callimachus in the third century, (B.C.E.) and the third century (C.E.) Imperial Library in China to Melville Dewey. Manguel believes that “If a library is a mirror of the universe, then a catalogue is a mirror of that universe.” Coping with volume growth is the topic of “Library as Space” with several pages about Diderot’s *Encyclopédie* and an interesting contrast of the large sums of money spent on an electronic version

of the Doomsday Book that could not be read 16 years later and the still-readable almost 1,000-year-old paper copy. “Library as Power” connects rulers and the power of the written word. This is exemplified by King Ashurbanipal of Assyria and then by Andrew Carnegie – an industrialist rather than a ruler – who recognized the symbolic value of founding a library. “Library as Shadow” deals with censorship illustrated by Friar Juan de Zumarraga, who destroyed the “vast literature of the Aztec Empire”, to the recent U.S. Patriot Act. Architecture is discussed in “Library as Shape”, with descriptions of the British Museum in London, the Bibliothèque nationale in Paris, and the Laurentian Library in Florence that was designed by Michelangelo. (Manguel describes the Toronto Reference Library as “amicable”.) “Library as Chance” describes the finding of manuscripts, scrolls, and books in caves, temples, trading places, etc. “Library as Workshop” argues for the necessity of a private place to work, such as a study. Jorge Luis Borges’ studio is described together with the studios of other celebrated writers. In “Library as Mind,” a contemplation of the library of the mind leads to a retelling of the history of the Warburg Library. “Library as Island” contrasts readers and nonreaders, libraries and on-line books, and expresses concern that the viability of new technologies may result in a society without history. The next two chapters, “Library as Survival” and “Library as Oblivion” deal with the effects of war, exile, and looting on books and libraries and on the survival of an intellectual life. “Library as Imagination” describes imaginary books, imaginary libraries such as that of François Rabelais, and the imagery catalogue of Paul Masson. “Library as Identity” includes Antonio Panizzi and the beginning of the British Museum, which leads to the function a national library and the development of Lebanon’s national library. And finally, “Library as Home” speaks of travellers who find their home in books. The choice of the many illustrations is eclectic. There is much beyond

the expected pictures of libraries and portraits of important people. To give a taste of these illustrations: Samuel Pepys’ bookcase; the ground plan of the ancient Pergamon library; Adolf Hitler’s personal bookplate; Rabelais’ house in Chinon, France; a stele with the Code of Hammurabi; a fresco on a church wall in Albi; a biblioburro (a library carried on the back of a donkey in rural Colombia), and pertinent cartoons.

A most enjoyable book with only one caveat: the index. Although the 13-page index seemed adequate at first glance, I found it inadequate when I was writing this review. Several times it failed me when looking for particular items that I wanted to check. Sometimes I found the item sought by chance. “See” references would have made a more effective index.

## Books by Ex Libris Members



Artist: John Warrenner

### HOMEFRONT & BATTLEFRONT: NELSON BC IN WORLD WAR II

by Sylvia Crooks  
Vancouver, BC, Granville Island  
Publishing, 2005, Rev. ed.  
September 2007, \$24.95.

This “thoroughly researched and poignant book” is the story of the total commitment during World War II of a small Kootenay city that devoted all its energies and millions of dollars to help make victory possible. The book recounts the stories of its young men and women who went off to war, and the 70 who did not come home, including Victoria Cross winner Hampton Gray. It brings to life the Canadian experience of the Second World War, revealed through the lens of this one BC community.

Order through [www.granvilleislandpublishing.com](http://www.granvilleislandpublishing.com). ISBN 9781894694384.



## The Reference Librarian

*See the Reference Librarian and the joys that appertain to her;  
 Who shall estimate the contents and the area of the brain to her?  
 See the people seeking wisdom from the four winds ever blown to her,  
 For they know there is no knowledge known to mortals but is known to her;  
 See this flower of perfect knowledge, blooming like a lush geranium,  
 All conveying rays of wisdom focussed just beneath her cranium:  
 She is stuffed with erudition as you'd stuff a leather cushion,  
 And wisdom is her specialty – it's marketing her mission.  
 How they throng to her, all empty, grovelling in their insufficiency;  
 How they come from her, o'erflowed by the sea of her omniscience!  
 And they know she knows she knows things – while she drips her learned theses  
 The percentage of illiteracy perceptively decreases.  
 Ah, they know she knows she knows things, and her look is education;  
 And to look at her is culture, and to know her is salvation.*

### The Songs of the Library Staff

Sam Walter Foss, a librarian at the Somerville (Massachusetts) Public library, wrote *Songs of the Average Man* in 1907. Five of these songs were about library staff members. This is the second of these songs with the accompanying original pictures published in *ELAN*.

### Back Issues of ELAN/Ex Libris News

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## Milestones

Compiled by Merlyn Beekmans



### Obituaries

**Janet (Cox) Bartley** died on March 8, 2007 in Thunder Bay at the age of 90. She held a BA from Acadia and an MA and a BLS from the University of Toronto. She worked at the Thunder Bay Public Library.

**Marjan H. Horota** died on June 17, 2007 in Toronto at the age of 83. He earned a BLS from the University of Ottawa in 1964 and joined the faculty of the University of Guelph as a librarian at the McLaughlin Library (1964-1988). He was editor of *Young Ukraine* magazine and *Novi Dni* (New Days) monthly magazine, the latter for 20 years.

**Lanah Geraldine Hughes** died in Oakville, Ontario on March 19 at the age of 89. She received an MLS from the University of Michigan and was a librarian at Mackinaw College. In 1971 she returned to Canada to create and lead a two-year diploma course in library techniques at the newly opened Sheridan College. On her retirement, her students honoured her with an award presented annually in her name. She had many interests such as the Oxford Group/Moral Rearmament (now known as Initiatives of Change), geneology, travel and international and current affairs. She was also a long-time member of Ex Libris.

**Henry Pawel Kozlowski** died on February 19, 2007 in Dunrobin, Ontario at the age of 85. He served in the Polish underground against both the Nazis and the Communists. Several times he was about to be executed but managed to survive. He and his family came to Canada in 1969. He earned an MLS and worked at the National Library of Canada until his retirement in 1991. He played an active role in the Polish-Canadian community.

**Mary (Sheridan) McConnell** died recently at the age of 87. She graduated

from the University of Toronto School of Library Science in 1943. She became chief librarian at the Orillia Public Library. Later she became Head of the Children's Services of the Leaside Public Library. She ended her career as Head of the Library at Loyalist College, Belleville.

**Margaret "Maggie" Murray** died on July 9 in Toronto at the age of 96. She first worked as a teacher, then obtained a BLS from the University of Toronto. She held library positions at Toronto Public Library, the Ontario Addiction Foundation, TransCanada Airlines, and the Ontario School of Hygiene. She then became the Chief Librarian for the University of Toronto Law School. She was well known as a raconteuse extraordinaire, a fine knitter and an avid supporter of the arts.

**Joan Patricia Scanlon** died on July 19 at the age of 73. She was Chief Cataloguer and Area Head, Cataloguing and Technical Processing at the University of Winnipeg Library.

**Adorée Magdalene Woolf (Lebrooy) Waygood** died in Vancouver on May 10 at the age of 89. She was a nurse during the blitz in London. She married a botany professor and settled in Winnipeg. She received an MLS from McGill in 1963 and worked as a teacher/librarian in Churchill High School in Winnipeg, then at Dakota Collegiate Institute in St. Vital, Manitoba. She ended her career as divisional librarian for the Seine River School District.

### Retirement

**Ross Thatcher** retired this past summer as Library Director at Mount Royal College in Calgary. His motto is "Become a librarian, see the world". After earning an MLS at the University of British Columbia, he began his career at East Kootenay College in Cranbrook,

B.C. He then managed two cataloguing departments at two universities in the South Pacific. He also has held library positions at two campuses of the University of Colorado, Ryerson University in Toronto and the University of Calgary.

### Appointment

**Professor Hope Olsen** was appointed Associate Dean of the School of Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She began her duties on July 1. She received her MLS from the University of Toronto and her PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

### Awards

**Brian Bell** received the OLBA's Public Librarian of the Year Award for his many contributions to bringing machine-readable cataloguing to all schools, to make work more efficient, enhance access and share materials across jurisdictions. He was OLA President (1998-1999), served on the board of Inform Canada and has been involved with Knowledge Ontario. He is currently Executive Director of Alouette Canada, seconded from his position as Manager of Electronic Services at Oakville Public Library.

The **British Columbia College and Institute Library Services (CILS)** has received the CNIB's prestigious Dr. Drayton M. Forman Memorial Award for its outstanding leadership in the advancement of library and information services for Canadians living with vision loss. CILS uses audio and e-text formats to assist students not only with course work but also with life skills. The Forman Award honours a longstanding CNIB volunteer.

The CNIB presented a second Forman Award to **Telecompioneers of Canada**

## Milestones, continued

for their Talking Book Repair Program. They repair approximately 70,000 audio playback machines per year.

**Donna Brown** received the Friendship Feather from Ontario's First Nations Public Libraries Honour Program. She has spent the last decade as a First Nations consultant in support of First Nations library programs.

**Kirsten Clement**, Brantford Public Library, was selected as OPLA's Youth Services Librarian of the Year. She runs a successful teen summer reading program, established a Teen Advisory Group and makes presentations on research skills at local schools.

**Jan Figurski** received the Ontario Health Libraries Association (OHLA) Lifetime Achievement Award. He was President of OHLA (2003-2005) and delivered sessions at the 2004 and 2005 OLA Super Conferences. He made significant contributions to the Health Sciences Library at London (Ontario) Health Sciences Centre from 1987 to 2006.

**Bobbie (Roberta) Henley**, Brantford Collegiate Institute, received OLA's Distinguished Service Award. She pioneered imaginative school library programs, conducted in-service workshops for teacher-librarians, presented at OLA Super Conferences as well as being President of OSLA.

**Marilyn Kogan** received the OSLA's Award for Special Achievement. She has dedicated herself to providing the best electronic resources for Ontario's K-12 students. She was one of the founders of COOL (Consortium of Ontario Libraries). Her negotiations with vendors of electronic information databases has enabled school boards to purchase products at lower prices. Her knowledge of school systems has made her valuable to the Knowledge Ontario resource committee. She is a member of Ex Libris.

**Patty Lawlor**, a librarian and First Nations consultant for southern Ontario was given a Friendship Feather by the Friends of Ontario's First Nations Public Libraries Honour Program. She was instrumental in the development of Our Way Forward, the Ontario First Nation public libraries strategic plan and helping in reading programs.

**Michael Ridley**, Chief Librarian at the University of Guelph, is Ontario College and Universities Librarians Association's Academic Librarian of the Year. He has been active in a number of professional organizations: president of the Canadian Association for Information (CAIS), president of the Ontario Library Association, board member of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) and chair of the OCULA. In all these activities, his goal has been to encourage collaboration for the benefit of all.

**Hetty Smeathers**, teacher at St. Joan of Arc School, York Catholic District School Board, is Teacher-Librarian of the Year. She provides an excellent program of book talks, instruction on

technology access, print and electronic resources, and research lessons. She is chairperson of the Library Subject Council, and she represents teacher-librarians at the Library Services Board and the Library Review Committee of the YCDSB.

**Jane Venus**, Manager of Children's and Youth Services with the Ottawa Public Library, is OPLA's Children's Librarian of the Year. She spearheaded the award-winning Library Shuttle service and 123 Read with Me programs. She works with community groups and schools on literacy programs and encourages library board members to visit branches in order to keep abreast of all the changes in library service.

### News

The Ontario Ministry of Education provided \$70,000 to submit a proposal and timeline for a possible redevelopment of the 1982 *Partners in Action: The Library Resource Centre in the School Curriculum*. OSLA President **Peggy Thomas** and OLA President **Esther Rosenfeld** are heading up a team to develop the new guideline. ■

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