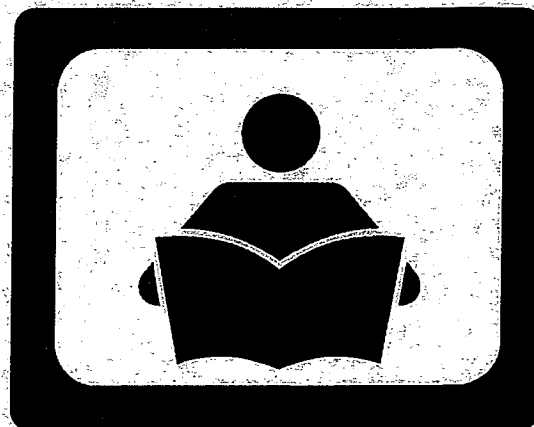
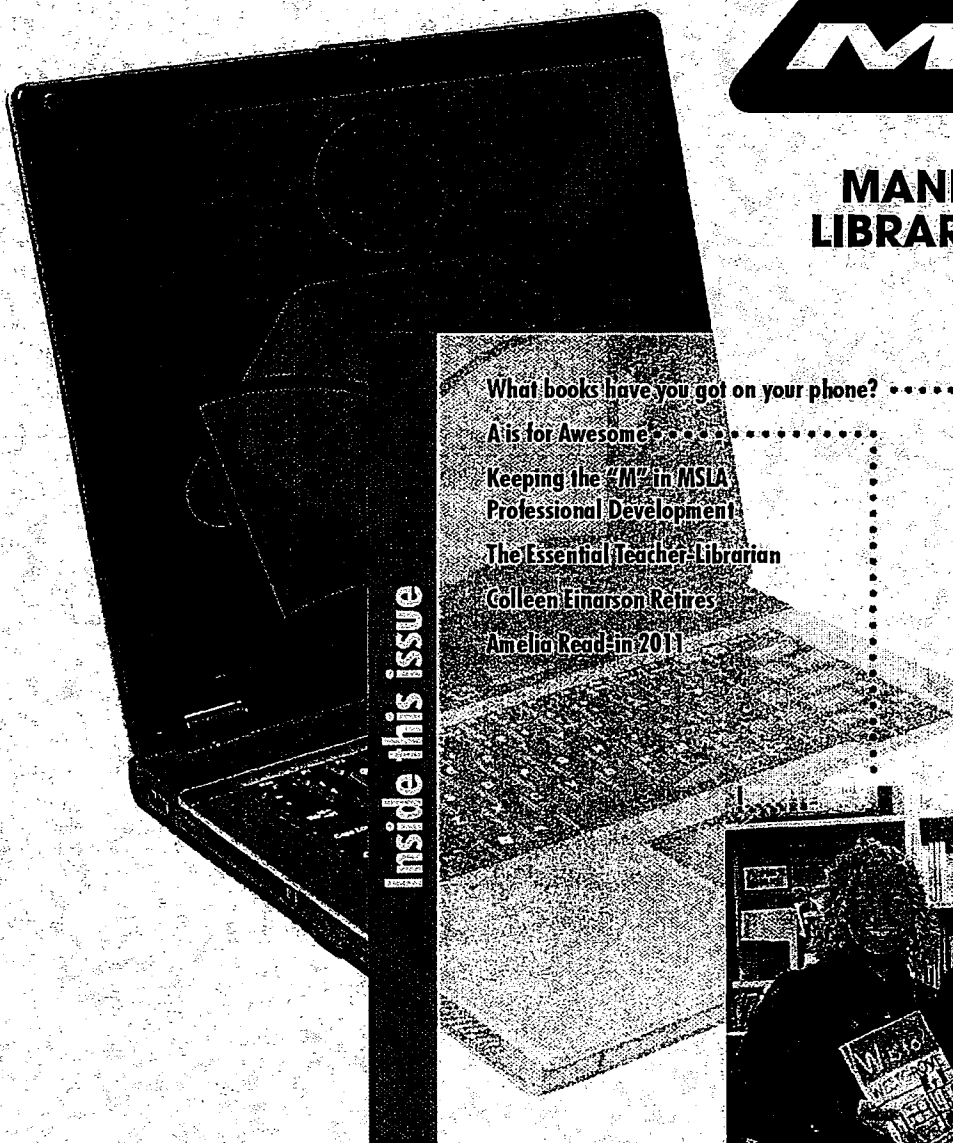


MSLA Journal

Volume 38, Number 3
Spring 2011



**MANITOBA SCHOOL
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**



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- Ais for Awesome
- Keeping the "M" in MSLA
Professional Development
- The Essential Teacher-Librarian
- Colleen Einarson Retires
- Amelia Read-in 2011



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President's Report

By Jo-Anne Gibson

FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS, IT HAS BEEN MY honour to serve the school library community and do my part to help students achieve their intellectual, social and emotional goals. One of the things that has struck me the most is how a relatively small organization like the MSLA can make such a difference in the lives of not only our students here in Manitoba but also in Canada and around the world. In addition to hosting two successful professional development sessions in October and March, this year, several members of the MSLA travelled to two rural communities to offer professional development sessions; we have taken part in two teleconferences with our national counterpart, the Canadian School Library Association, to offer our support to various provincial school library associations; and with the MSLA's ongoing financial commitment to school libraries represented by the International Association of School Libraries and maintaining a liaison officer with this organization, the MSLA has helped school libraries in various parts of the globe attain a presence at the international school library level.

Not that this is an easy time for library association across the globe. Due to increased financial pressure and lack of volunteers, for the past year I have represented the MSLA on a committee examining the structure of all library associations within Manitoba. I have also represented the MSLA at the national level as the Canadian Library Association proposes to make drastic organizational changes including dismantling of the formal structure and financial support of CASL division.

The pressures on the MSLA are also evident. With declining numbers of teacher-librarians throughout the province, we are currently 20% below the required 60% of

members that are teachers as required by the Manitoba Teachers' Society to keep our official Special Area Group status. Like the CASL, the MSLA wonders if it's time to start thinking about breaking away from our parent organization and embrace the entire school library community that includes school library technicians and clerks.

Yet these concerns seem like small worries next to the devastation we've witnessed in the past year to school libraries in Haiti, Australian, New Zealand and Japan. I couldn't have been more proud of our organization as our board passed motions to support school libraries in two of these regions. The MSLA's challenge to other SAG groups to donate \$2.00 per member to the Red Cross for Japanese humanitarian relief is one example of just how caring this organization truly is.

As I move into the role of past-president, I'd like to thank the members of the MSLA executive and liaison officers who have been so incredibly supportive. Being a newcomer to world of school libraries, their encouragement and insight has been invaluable. I know that as the MSLA moves forward, it is in more than capable hands; Vivianne Fogarty, who takes over the leadership role of this organization at the annual AGM in May, is a wise teacher, a deep thinker and is committed to ensuring that the MSLA flourishes well into the future. Best of luck, Vivianne, as you "take over the reins" and lead the MSLA to even greater heights. 🐧

Editor's Message

By Lorie Battersahill

DID YOU KNOW THAT there are seventeen different kinds of penguins? The biggest kind is the Emperor penguin and it's three feet tall! The smallest one is Little Blue which is sometimes as small as two pounds! Some penguins live in hot places and they pant like a dog when they get too hot! Who knew?



There's nothing quite like a grade one student, pumped up on new research findings, to remind me that the best part of the research cycle really is sharing. Those kids just love to share their fascinating findings.



I must admit that I too have been guilty of that kind of zeal when I'm on a research quest. I'm only too happy to share my latest interest with anyone who will listen. "Did you know..." is one of my favourite conversation starters.

The MSLA Journal is one of my favourite places to share new discoveries and I hope that you think so too. We count on our readers to share the new things they've discovered in their teaching practice. Have you found a great new way to make note taking fun and effective? Did you come up with a research unit that really created a buzz? Is there a terrific new website that you could share with our readers?

As we approach the end of another school year I encourage you to consider sharing some of the things that you're particularly proud of with your fellow MSLA members. Submit a short write-up to the Journal. You'll never find a more appreciative audience. 🐧

Our Kind of Traitor by John le Carre

I'm back to reading a John le Carre novel. I was looking for a mystery that involved political intrigue and social issues. I have read part of the *Millennium* trilogy, which deals with many contemporary topics, but I know that most avid readers have already read them, too.

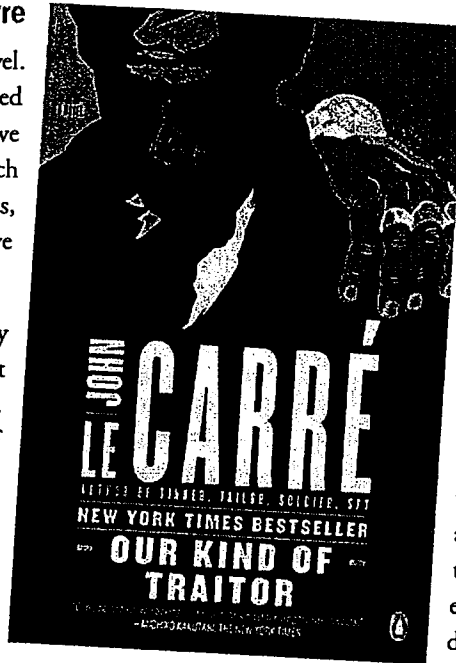
Le Carre's career was built on the rivalry for world domination between the East and the West, beginning in the 1960s. The USSR was the enemy until the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. Apart from the KGB, the people probably most disappointed about that milestone in history may have been authors of spy thrillers.

But something always emerges to fill a vacuum and in the case of Russia, criminal gangs developed swiftly, displaying incredible brutality in their pursuit of wealth. Their connections with legitimately-operating business, politicians and government officials entrenched them in society and have ensured that it is difficult for individuals or any group to avoid or challenge them. Journalists who have tried to investigate the blackmail, theft and corruption rife in Russian society have been assassinated.

Our Kind of Traitor, about Russian money-launderer trying to get away from a rising ival, gives le Carre an opportunity to use and update his impressive bank of knowledge about our former nemesis.

It begins in Antigua, where Perry, a teacher of English literature and his lawyer-girlfriend Gail are holidaying cheaply, courtesy of the recession. Perry is a strong tennis player, and a thuggish-looking, tennis-loving Russian named Dima notices his skills. Dima is renting a palatial home where his large, extended family is also ensconced. Dima's wife is a demented religious, his teenage sons precocious, his 16-year-old daughter elusive, and two young girls, daughters of Dima's protégé, are obviously traumatized children.

Perry is the conduit through which Dima wants to establish a link to Britain's secret service. By the time they know it, Perry and Gail are convinced, each for their own reasons, that they must help save Dima (and potentially his family) from being killed, as the parents of the two girls had been only a few weeks earlier. The



couple can't believe they've got feelings for Dima—a murderer who spent fifteen years in the Gulag archipelago and became part of the gangs that grew up after 1989. He's muscled his way into the position of chief money-launderer for the Russian banks, and controls the movement of billions of dollars around the planet.

But in the ever-changing world of criminality, there's always someone else looking to take over. Dima wants to exchange information for residency and protection for his family in Britain. When Perry

delivers Dima's message to the state spooks they interrogate the couple and set in motion the battle of the bureaucracy—the question is whether the power struggles and budget problems within the security service can be overcome before the Russian Mafia makes their move.

Aside from the intrigue that goes on among both the criminals and the good guys, it's a pleasure to read le Carre's fine writing. He interweaves history and background information seamlessly so there is no separation from the plot. As always, he knows the world each side lives in; his characters are authentic, and it's not hard for the reader to imagine being in Perry and Gail's place. They're ordinary blokes, both frightened and excited by the possibility of becoming involved in the world of espionage. Their best and worst qualities are tested, as is their relationship.

It's all part of the New World Order—perhaps even more complicated than when it was simply East vs. West. Le Carre has risen to the test and gives us much to think about when we make financial transactions or buy goods that come cheaply. Who's behind it all? Le Carre reminds us that we should take nothing at face value—there's so much more than meets the eye. ■



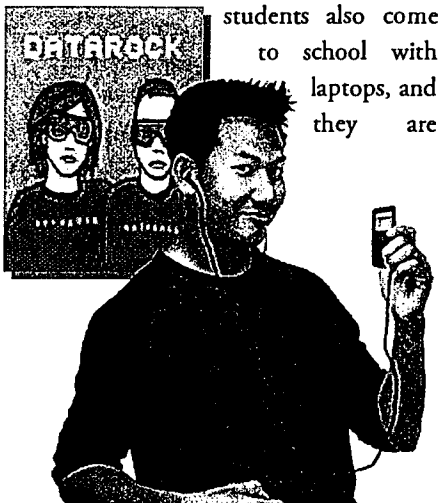
By Harriet Zaidman



What books have you got on your phone?

By Rhonda Morrisette

STUDENTS AT THE WINNIPEG ADULT EDUCATION Centre are happy to learn they can use their Smartphones or other personal devices like iPads or iPods to download and read or listen to library books. All they need is to first download the free Overdrive app, go to the Winnipeg Adult Education Centre (WAEC) Digital Library Website, and have their active student number handy. Some



students also come to school with laptops, and they are

very interested in using them for educational purposes, including to download eBooks and Audiobooks. The digital download library is always open! Students can enjoy eBooks and Audiobooks on a computer at home, or transfer them to a wide variety of personal devices, eReaders and/or MP3 players. Some Audiobooks can also be burned to CDs.

The WAEC digital library includes multiple copies of the novels and titles that are being studied in English classes to enable each student in the class to download a novel at any given time. Other single-copy titles support the school curriculum, and others are popular titles or of special interest to the WAEC students chosen for casual reading and developing literacy.

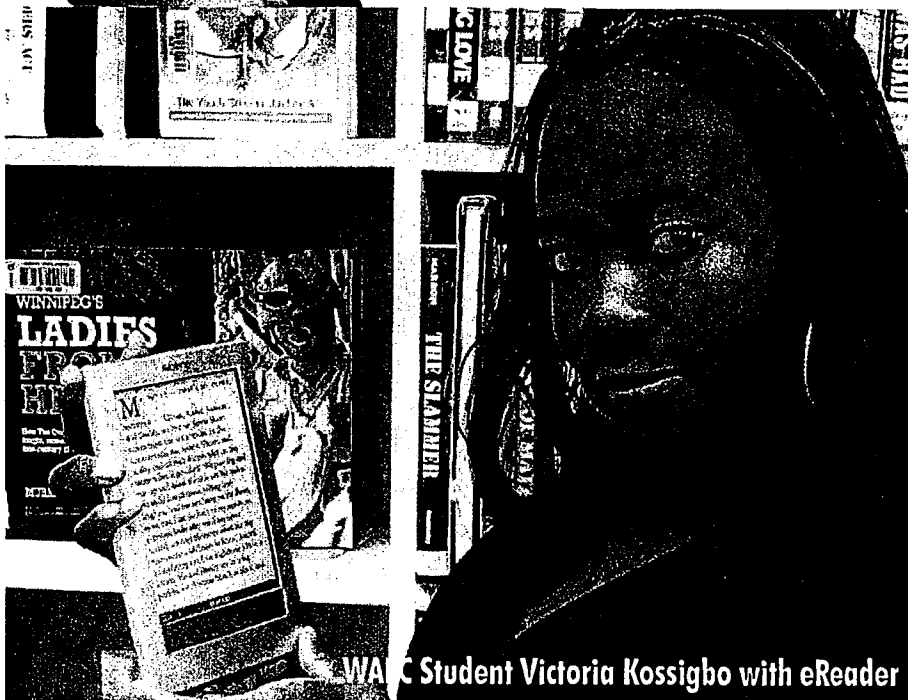
Students can borrow up to 5 titles at a time. For eBooks, students can choose to borrow for 14 or 21 days, and for Audiobooks students choose 7 or 14 days. Once the lending

period is up, the title expires on the computer or device and becomes available immediately for the next user to borrow. Students can download the same title again once the lending period is over, unless another has placed a hold on that title.

The digital download library at WAEC was first introduced to a few students in September 2010. By November, when it became clear that the download library was working well and reliably, it was fully launched and promoted at the main building where the physical library is located at 310 Vaughan St and at all six WAEC off-site locations.

EAL students say they benefit from the English novels in Audiobook format for tracking text on print copies and for pronunciation. Another benefit of the eBook is the student has control over the size of the text. Many students are interested to learn that there is an even larger eLibrary available through the Winnipeg Public Library, also powered by Overdrive, which utilizes the same free software and procedures for checking out eBooks and Audiobooks. Also similar to the Winnipeg Public Library system, WAEC eBook and Audiobook titles are added to the automated library system along with print titles, making it easy for patrons to find when searching the catalog as well.

There are also substantial benefits to the library and school. The digital library is sustainable in that there is never a need to replace worn out or lost copies. Once purchased, they belong to the school forever. (There is an annual hosting fee.) It's easy to track and add popular requests to the digital library. Working with classroom teachers, titles can be purchased in the correct quantities to support the school curriculum and programs. Perhaps most importantly,



WAEC Student Victoria Kossigbo with eReader



the digital download library allows the school and library to be responsive to the learning needs and preferences of students in a 21st century context. Most students are supportive of the sustainable nature of e-books and Audiobooks, yet some have also made it clear that they want the print library to continue to grow as well because they also love the look, feel and aesthetic of the paperback and bound versions.

School library administrators and staff are taking a good hard look at the Overdrive digital school download service at WAEC and comparing to what is provided through other eBook and/or Audiobook vendors. If you'd like further information please contact me at rmorrisette@wsd1.org.

Visit the WAEC digital download library at <http://waec.lib.overdrive.com>.

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The *Essential* Teacher-Librarian

Clarifying the contributions of Teacher-Librarians to the development of information literacy skills in 21st century learners

By Christine Robinson, MEd

THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXCERPT FROM THE Introduction of my final capping paper for my M.Ed at the University of Alberta Teacher-Librarianship by Distance Learning Program.

The Literacy with ICT Continuum

In 2006, Manitoba Education Citizenship and Youth (MECY) published the Literacy with ICT (information and communication technology) Continuum. The document defines literacy with ICT as “choosing and using ICT, responsibly and ethically, to support critical and creative thinking about information and about communication across the curriculum,” (MECY, 2006b, p. 8). After attending an in-service on the Literacy with ICT Continuum (MECY, 2006b), I finally realized the link between this document and the inquiry process that I was learning about in my EDES 542: Inquiry Based Instruction course. The role of the teacher-librarian in Manitoba suddenly became clear to me. The Literacy with ICT Continuum (MECY, 2006b) with its organization based on the inquiry process and its content based on information literacy skills was obviously the document that could provide those guidelines I was so desperately in need of. I was surprised none of my teacher-librarian colleagues had pointed this out to me.

Unfortunately, the Literacy with ICT (MECY, 2006b) document defines information literacy in terms of technology use only, and in fact does not use the term

‘information literacy’ at all. I realized there was much confusion in my school division regarding the multiple definitions of information literacy in the 21st century and uncertainty about the role of the 21st century teacher-librarian. This resulted in a perception that caused teachers, administrators and other divisional staff to interpret the Literacy with ICT (MECY, 2006b) document as something to be addressed by the “technology department” only, leaving a glaring gap in the ability of teacher-librarians to address the information literacy needs of students.

Through further investigations and involvement in local and provincial professional associations, I came to realize that it isn’t just the teachers in my school and division that struggle with the role of the teacher-librarian; it is our entire provincial education system. Teacher-librarianship in Manitoba is in a state of confusion.

With a government mandated continuum comes funding. As a result of the impetus to infuse technology throughout the curriculum through the use of the Literacy with ICT Continuum (MECY, 2006b), school divisions have spent a lot of monies on technology. There exists a perception that the technology departments of school divisions have been quite well funded at the expense of libraries which have suffered cost cutting measures such as reduced staffing. Regrettably this opinion and its implications have caused much uncertainty about who should be helping teachers to imple-

ment and integrate the Literacy with ICT Continuum (MECY, 2006b).

Teacher-librarians have been left in the cold with regards to information literacy programming in Manitoba, yet hope exists for our renewed role in schools. The inquiry and information literacy structures that exist within the Literacy with ICT Continuum (MECY, 2006b) can allow teacher-librarians in Manitoba to re-establish their expertise with information literacy and clarify their roles as both teachers and leaders in our schools.

What is our Role?

For teacher-librarians to clarify the essential nature of their position in Manitoba schools, it is first important for the role of the 21st century teacher-librarian to be well defined. A clear definition of our role in information literacy instruction and our expertise with inquiry based learning will lead to an understanding of how our role coincides with the Literacy with ICT Continuum (MECY, 2006b). To that end my capping paper examines the question How can the role of the 21st century teacher-librarian be clarified and defined within the context of the already existing curriculum structure in Manitoba?


To help me answer this question I investigated pertinent professional and academic literature to answer the following questions:

- How is information literacy defined in the 21st Century?
- What is unique about 21st century learners and the essential skills necessary

in the 21st century?

- What role does inquiry-based learning play in information literacy programming and instruction?
- What is the role of the 21st century teacher-librarian?

After reviewing the literature I reflected on how teacher-librarians can define their role within the context of the already existing curriculum structure in Manitoba. Additionally I included implications of the literature review for various stakeholders in Manitoba.

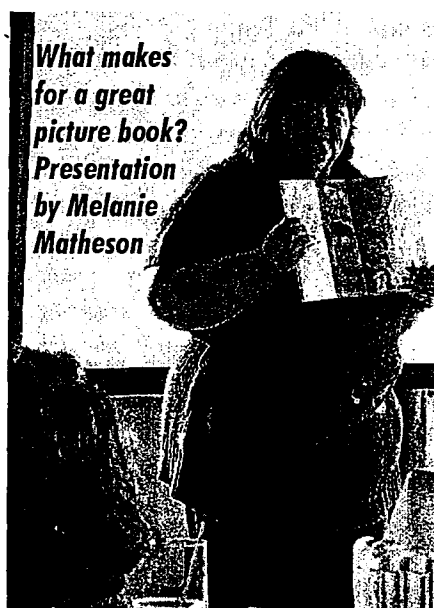
A summary of my literature review and a list of the implications will be published in the Fall MSLA Journal. For a complete copy of this capping paper please visit the Manitoba School Library Association website. 

Amelia Read-In Event


By Paulette Leclerc

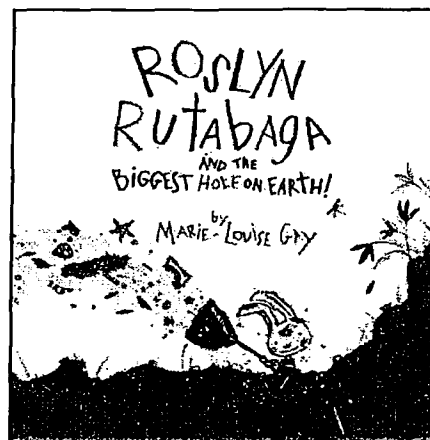
THE AMELIA FRANCES HOWARD-GIBSON ILLUSTRATOR'S AWARD is given to an outstanding illustrator of a children's book published in Canada each year. The award is bestowed upon books that are suitable for children up to and including age 12. To be eligible for this award, an illustrator must be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada, and the illustrations of the book must be worthy of the text.

On Saturday, April 9, the Winnipeg Children's Literature Roundtable (WCLR) held its annual Amelia Read-In Event at the Rossmere Country Club. The day began with an in-depth presentation of each of the nominated books. In table groups, the participants then discussed the strengths and weaknesses of each of the books. Voting took place to determine the top 3 favourites. After further discussions, Roslyn Rutabaga and the Biggest Hole on Earth!, illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay,



was honoured as our group's pick for best Canadian picture book.

After a delicious lunch, everyone enjoyed a presentation by book designer Melanie Matheson. She critiqued each of the books, highlighting different characteristics of a great picture book: font/typeface, end pages, cover, cover jacket, spine, paper weight and quality, emotion, point of view of illustrations, visual subtext, variation in imagery, and much more. It was a great day for picture book lovers! 



2011 Nominated List

Book of Big Brothers / Illustrated by Luc Melanson (Groundwood Books)

Counting On Snow / Illustrated by Maxwell Newhouse (Tundra Books)

Fishing With Gubby / Illustrated by Kim La Fave (Harbour Publishing)

The Good Garden / Illustrated by Sylvie Daigneault (Kids Can Press)

I Know Here / Illustrated by Matt James (Groundwood Books)

Owls See Clearly At Night: A Michif Alphabet / Illustrated by Julie Flett (Simply Read Books)

Making the Moose Out of Life / Illustrated by Nicholas Oldhand (Kids Can Press)

Roslyn Rutabaga and the Biggest Hole on Earth! / Illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay (Groundwood Books)

Singing Away the Dark / Illustrated by Julie Morstad (Simply Read Books)

Spork / Illustrated by Isabelle Arsenault (Kids Can Press)

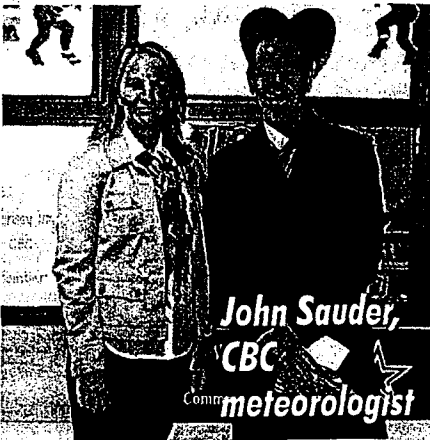
Lively discussion around that table



I Love to Read Month @ Maple Leaf School

By Liz Loewen, Teacher-Librarian in RETSD

DURING I LOVE TO READ MONTH, MANY schools turn to prominent local names in an effort to promote the importance of reading and literacy. As well as reinforcing



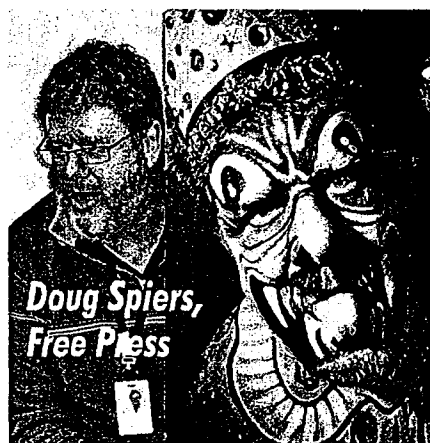
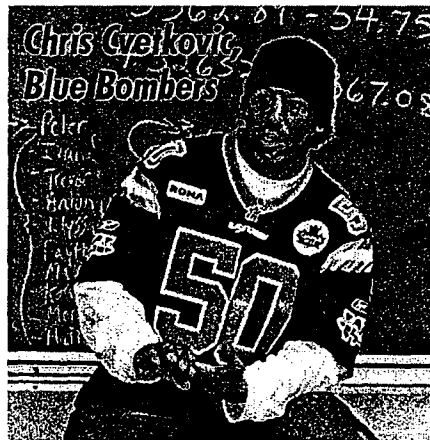
the importance of literacy ILTR month is a terrific opportunity for schools to engage the community and to build school spirit.

This year Maple Leaf School had the opportunity to bring in various members of the media such as Doug Spiers from the Winnipeg Free Press, Chrissy Troy—Hot 103 FM and John Sauder, CBC meteorologist. They also invited local celebrities such as Winnipeg Blue Bomber Chris Cvetkovic, Child Entertainer, Al Simmons and Bonnie Mitchelson, MLA. To top off the event, on Friday, February 18th Mayor Sam Katz invited a couple of lucky classrooms down to City Hall to read with him!

Every class had the opportunity to have a celebrity read to them. The celebrity readers choose books that often represented their field of interest or occupation. This opened up the floor for many questions about the particular field of interest and career choices. This was a great opportunity for the students to find out information and learn to ask questions.

As educators we believe in the importance of promoting and reinforcing literacy skills. We recognize how important it is for kids to know that the skills they develop through curriculums are important lifelong skills and can also be a lot of fun.

I love to read month is an opportunity to have some fun with words. Through the participation of the celebrity readers, the importance of reading, writing, viewing, representing, speaking and listening are further reinforced, as the children see first hand that these essential skills are used every day in their various careers. I love to read month is a wonderful opportunity for students and it is also a great chance for our local celebrities to interact with the students up close and personal. 📖



MSLA L.I.T. Forum 2011

A is for Awesome

ON MARCH 7, 2011, THE MSLA HOSTED THEIR ANNUAL L.I.T. FORUM, A professional development event for school library staffs and interested teachers, at Collège Louis Riel. This year's focus was on the letter "L" for literature: we took one published author (Larry Verstraete), mixed in two teachers who wanted to celebrate their schools by writing a book with their students (Lisa Sykes and Louise DeClercq), and the result was a fabulous presentation we called "A is for Awesome."

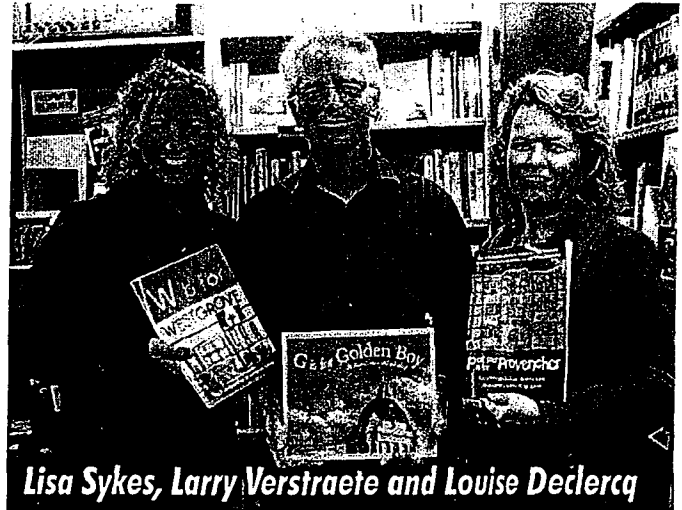
It all began with a dream the teacher-librarian from Westgrove School, Lisa Skyes, had to create and publish a book with input from every student in her school. Wanting to highlight the positive aspects of her school and celebrate literacy at the same time, Lisa called upon her friend, Larry Verstraete whom she had worked with before his retirement from teaching, to share his knowledge about being an author. This was a positive first step in getting her students excited about becoming authors, themselves.

When it came time to create the art work for the Westgrove book, Larry brought in his friend and well-known illustrator, Brian Lund, to guide the students through the artistic process. Both Larry and Brian were at the time, working on their own book project, *G is for Golden Boy*. It was the process for creating this fabulous alphabet book, that Larry shared with the participants at the L.I.T. Forum. Listening to Lisa describe the sheer joy on the faces of the Westgrove students as they unveiled the published copies of their amazing book, *W is for Westgrove*, was truly inspirational.

At the official book launch of *W is for Westgrove* and *G is for Golden Boy* at McNally Robinson Booksellers, sat another teacher-librarian who was soon to get the book-writing "itch." Thinking that writing a book would be a wonderful way to celebrate her school's long and illustrious history (in 2006, École Provencher celebrated their 100th anniversary), Louise DeClercq embarked on a year-long book-writing and historical research project with her students. The result was a wonderfully creative and informative



Larry Verstraete



Lisa Sykes, Larry Verstraete and Louise DeClercq

bilingual book, *P is for/est pour Provencher: An alphabetical history of our school/une histoire alphabétique de notre école*. Particularly noteworthy in this book is the fabulous 3-D art work produced by the various classes in the school which expertly brings the text to life.



Lisa Sykes presents *W is for Westgrove*

The MSLA would like to thank the presenters of this year's forum, Larry, Lisa and Louise, for sharing their book-writing experiences with the school library community. As well, we would like to thank the principal, Marcel Matte, the library technician, Lisa Vallée, and the technology support teacher, Marc Bissonnette from Collège Louis Riel from the Division Scolaire Franco-Manitobaine for hosting the L.I.T. Forum, and Sleeping Bear Press for sponsoring the event. If you would like a taste of each of the three presentations, please visit the MSLA website where there is a live-stream link: www.manitobaschoollibraries.com.

The MSLA is proud to announce that plans for the 2012 L.I.T. Forum are well underway. Look for an evening social event to be held in conjunction with next year's forum which will feature a day-long session on February 10, 2012 with Dr. Jennifer Branch. Dr. Branch is an associate professor and coordinator of the Teacher-Librarianship by Distance Learning program at the University of Alberta. 🐻

“M” Keeping the in MSLA Professional Development

GIVEN THE MSLA'S ONGOING COMMITMENT to school library staffs across the province, two members of the MSLA (Edna Johnson and myself) travelled two and a half hours northwest of Winnipeg to Minnedosa, Manitoba on February 28, 2011 to deliver some much-appreciated professional development. In attendance at the session were library clerks from both the Rolling River and Park West school divisions. Our host for the afternoon session was Georgina Johnson, a well-respected library clerk from Minnedosa Collegiate.

The presentation followed a similar format that was held in Boissevain, Manitoba in the fall of 2010. Topics covered included:

1. Meeting the job demands of a rural library clerk;
2. Getting to know the needs your school library clientele—teachers and students, alike;
3. How to use library statistics and year-end reports to justify increases in budgets;
4. Marketing a school library using displays, contests and technology;
5. How to increase and retain student volunteers;
6. Reading promotion and books that are guaranteed to get students reading; and
7. Staying connected when distance is an issue using Web 2.0 tools.

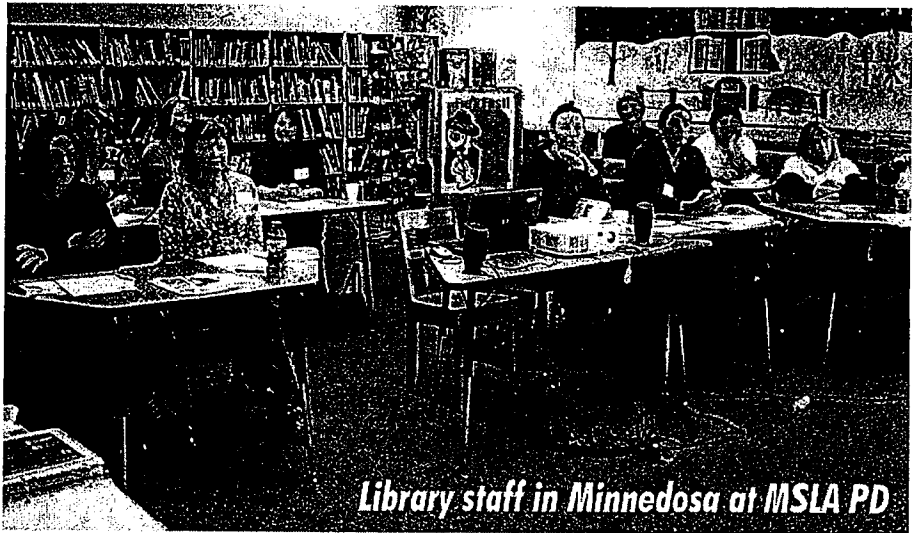
Of particular interest to the participants were the various marketing ideas such as how to use Animoto and digital picture frames to show a library's latest acquisitions, how to make bookmarks, how to use bulletin board space and shelving more effectively to promote books and reading, and how to use Follet's Titlewave report

to develop the collection and provide curricular support.

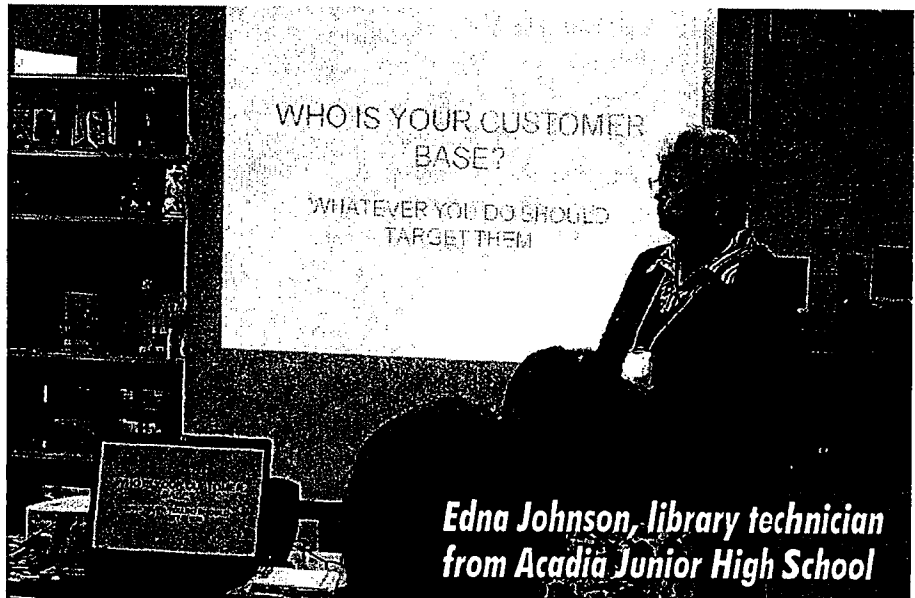
Based on feedback from the participants, future professional development sessions such as this might include discussions on weeding the collection, cataloguing and

using technology in the library.

If you would be interested in having a similar presentation next year at your school division, please contact me at jagibson@peminatrails.ca.



Library staff in Minnedosa at MSLA PD



Edna Johnson, library technician from Acadia Junior High School

Colleen Einarson of St. James Assiniboia School Division Retires

By Orysia Bodnarchuk



Colleen Einarson

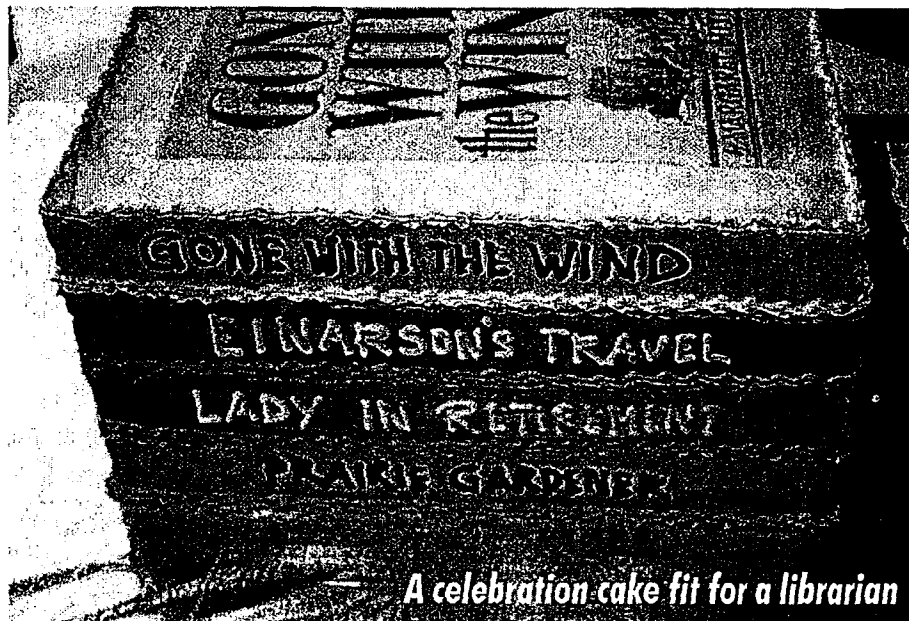
ON MARCH 17, 2011, STAFF, COLLEAGUES, family and friends of Colleen joined together to celebrate her retirement after 35 years of service. We gathered at Terrace 55 in the Rotation Gallery on the 2nd floor of the Pavilion of Assiniboia Park. Colleen greeted her guests as they arrived. Hors' d'oeuvres were served as guests visited and renewed friendships. After the guests had time to mingle and snack, the formal part of the evening started with acknowledgement of guests, a few words from the Media Centre Staff, Library Technicians, and Coordinators. Colleen was presented with a retirement gift, a coffee table with a stack of books as its base. The formal session ended with Words of Blessing from Pastor Lynne Hutchinson followed by cake and coffee.

Colleen began her career with St. James School Division in 1976 as a Library Technician at Alexander Ross School and then transferred in 1979 to Silver Heights Collegiate. In 1990, Colleen assumed the role

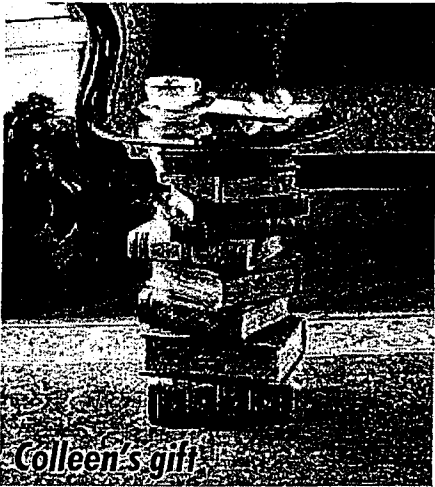
of Supervisor of Library/Media Services. It was during this time Colleen completed her Masters of Library Science. Many weekends were spent driving to Grand Forks in order to obtain her degree. In 2006 the position of Administrator of Professional Staff Development Centre was added to her title.

Her strong work ethic was evident. Over the years, Colleen automated the St. James-Assiniboia School Division libraries, set up online booking for Audio Visual materials, wrote the Library Handbook with policies and procedures as well as the "Supplement to LibraryWorld" manual, trained and supported new library staff for 26 schools, trained students from Red River College on work experience, implemented school library web pages, online database access and planned/facilitated numerous PD sessions for Library Personnel and other departments. In her last 20 years as the

Library/Media Services and PSDC Supervisor/Administrator, Colleen showcased her leadership qualities and her continued and generous support to the division's library personnel as well as library personnel in other school divisions. She worked on numerous educational initiatives designed to support school-based administrators and classroom teachers in their work with students. These included assessment and evaluation, collaborative and cross-curricular learning, differentiated instruction, and multiple intelligences. She provided administrators with research articles and support materials for use in designing in-service sessions and presentations. Colleen over the years was a member of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Association for Teacher-Librarianship in Canada, Canadian Children's Book Centre, Canadian Library Association, Canadian School Library Association, International Association of



A celebration cake fit for a librarian



School Librarianship, International Reading Association, Manitoba Association of Library Technicians, Manitoba Library Association, Manitoba School Library Association, Ontario Library Association, National Association of Secondary School


Principals, National Council of Teachers of English, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, National School Board Association in addition to many other Curriculum based Associations.

Apart from the "Library World", Colleen has many other interests. She is very involved with her church, a longtime member of Manitoba Theatre Centre, and the Soroptimists of Canada, just to name a few. Colleen also loves music and has given piano lessons to numerous students including family. She is also an avid gardener and each year anxiously awaits the new season to begin. Colleen has also been doing some traveling over the past few years and has visited such places as Spain, England and Germany. You do not have to know Colleen for long to know that her

family and friends are an important part of her life.

Colleen has become a friend to many of us. Colleen, it certainly goes to say that all of us will miss you, but we know that you are looking forward to your retirement. There are gardens to tend, volunteering to be done, and many more parts of the world that are waiting for you to travel and explore.

We thank Colleen for her dedication, guidance and friendship over the years and wish you many years of health and happiness.

On March 31st, 2011 Colleen Einarson closed the book on St. James-Assiniboia School Division and is now turning the pages in her new book of life. 


MSLA leads the fundraising drive for Japan Relief

By Jeff Anderson

DURING THE MARCH MEETING OF THE MSLA A motion was unanimously passed to pledge a toonie for every member of the association to the Red Cross Japanese Relief Effort. The executive also put forth a challenge to other SAG groups to match or exceed the MSLA pledge. The challenge seemed to strike a chord with members and it appeared on the MTS webpage the next day.

The MSLA initiative has generated many fundraising activities in school libraries around the province. For example, David Livingston School raised \$307.00 by holding a silent auction; Ecole Lavendrye School's bake sale raised \$500.00; Sister MacNamara raised \$300.00; Tec Voc High School held a dinner and concert and raised \$4000.00; Prince Charles' "pledge a toonie" raised \$80.00; Chancellor School \$150.00; bannock and soup lunch and silent auction at Winnipeg Adult Ed. raised \$582.00. There are ongoing fundraising initiatives at Ecole Kelvin, Acadia Junior High, Ecole Churchill, Lord Nelson and Wayota School. In all, the initiative hopes to contribute upwards of seven thousand dollars to relief efforts. Way to go!



It is wonderful to see students and teachers volunteering their time and energy to help people thousands of miles away. The MSLA is proud to have been a part of this humanitarian effort. 

Acronyms of Interest to School Library Media Personnel

Compiled by G.R. Brown

*No longer operational/combined with another group

AASL	American Association of School Librarians www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/index.cfm
ALA	American Library Association www.ala.org/
ASLC	Alberta School Library Council aslc.teachers.ab.ca/Pages/Welcome.aspx
BCLA	British Columbia Library Association www.bcla.bc.ca/
BCTLA	British Columbia Teacher-Librarians' Association (of the British Columbia Teachers' Association) www.bctf.ca/bctla
CACL	Canadian Association for Children's Literature (of CLA)
CASL	Canadian School Library Association www.cla.ca/AM/Template.cfm?Section=CASL2
CIC	Canadian Images Canadiennes (Conferences)
CLA	Canadian Library Association www.cla.ca/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home
CM	Canadian Materials: A Reviewing Journal of Canadian Materials for Young People www.umanitoba.ca/cm/
CSLA*	Canadian School Library Association (see CASL)
DREF	Direction des ressources éducatives françaises www.edu.gov.mb.ca/m12/biblio/index.html
IASL	International Association of School Librarianship www.iasl-online.org/
IBBY	International Board for Books for Young People www.ibby-canada.org/
ILL	Interlibrary Loan
IMC	Instructional Media Centre
IRA	International Reading Association www.reading.org/General/Default.aspx
IRU	Instructional Resources Unit (Manitoba Education) www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/iru/index.html
LAA	Library Association of Alberta www.laa.ca/
LwICT	Literacy with Information and Communication Technology
MALT	Manitoba Association of Library Technicians www.malt.mb.ca/
ManACE	Manitoba Association for Computing Educators www.manace.ca/
MASL*	Manitoba Association of School Libraries (see MSLA)

MECY*	Manitoba Education-Citizenship and Youth: Now Manitoba Education
MLA	Manitoba Library Association www.mla.mb.ca/
MLC	Manitoba Library Consortium
MLTA	Manitoba Library Trustees Association mla.mb.ca/mlta
MSLA	Manitoba School Library Association www.manitobaschoollibraries.com/
MSLAVA*	Manitoba School Library Audio Visual Association (see MSLA)
MYRCA	Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award www.myrca.ca/
NBSLA	New Brunswick School Library Association
NSSLA	Nova Scotia School Library Associations
OLA	Ontario Library Association www.accessola.com/ola/bins/index.asp
OSLA	Ontario School Library Association www.osla.on.ca
PEITLA	Prince Edward Island Teacher Librarian Association www.edu.pe.ca/peitla/about.htm
QASL	Quebec Association of School Librarians
QLA	Quebec Library Association www.abqla.qc.ca/
RCGW	Reading Council of Greater Winnipeg www.readingmanitoba.org/pdf_files/0708/RCGWAbout.pdf
SAG	Special Area Groups
SLA	Saskatchewan Library Association www.lib.sk.ca/sla/
SLAM	School Library Administrators of Manitoba
SLIC	School Libraries in Canada www.clatoolbox.ca/casl/slic/
SLiP	School Libraries Information Portal (of National Library) www.cla.ca/slip/advocacy.htm
SLJ	School Library Journal (US) www.schoollibraryjournal.com/
SSLA	Saskatchewan School Library Association www.ssla.ca/
WCLR	Winnipeg Children's Literature Roundtable home.merlin.mb.ca/~wclr/index.html

