

VALL REVIEW

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March, 1994

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VALL 1993/94 Executive

Vancouver Association of Law
Libraries

P.O. Box 48663, Bentall Centre
Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A1

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Desktop Production:
Nancy Cotter, Western Legal

From the Executive of VALL

Shirley Hyndman

Our annual January workshop was held jointly with the Western chapter of Special Libraries Association. The attendance was a surprising 99! Two of the morning presenters operate a computer service which specializes in all aspects of CD-ROM systems, from special ordering disks to installing a 34 drive networked system. The Clerk of the Legislature attended to demonstrate the present statutes available on floppy disk, and inform us of the upcoming CD product. The afternoon was quickly spent viewing the displays kindly set up by the five vendors of hardware and CD products.

I certainly feel much better prepared to discuss the products, hardware and software with systems personnel, and educated as to what to anticipate when setting up a work station for CD's, networked or not.

One of the recommendations of the Peter Bark Memorial Fund Committee was to have a member of the **VALL** Executive be a liaison with the Committee and responsible for the remembrances, correspondence, and other duties associated with the Fund and the memorial meetings. After discussion of the various avenues of achieving this, changing present job descriptions, increasing the Executive, etc., the Executive voted to add a part-time position of Past President. An additional task of the Past President will be Chair of the Nominations Committee. Job descriptions of the Executive have been amended.

Our February meeting was a joint meeting with the Legal Research Lawyers, Canadian Bar Association. Carol Warner, a librarian with the law firm Perkins Coie in Seattle, spoke about U.S. Legal Research, with particular emphasis on the use of Lexis and Westlaw. How many of us learned about the "update" feature on *Washington Code*?

Selected responses to **VALL's** letters on *Canada Gazette Part III* and the Dalhousie University library school are reprinted elsewhere in this issue.

- March 17 - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy
- April 21 - speaker to be confirmed
- May 26 - report on the **CALL** conference
- June 16 - last meeting of the session - annual round table discussion

From the Editors

Tracey Carmichael & Jane Wells

The attendance for our January workshop was outstanding and we thank everyone for their support. In this issue, we have provided extensive information on courses and programmes available to the membership. We would welcome reports or reviews from members who attended any of these programmes.

The deadline for the next newsletter is May 26, 1994.

VALL REVIEW

GETTING STARTED ON THE INTERNET

Now that U.S. President Bill Clinton has his own Internet address and the media can't report enough on the "Information Super Highway" (destined already to be the most overused phrase of the 90's), many law librarians are probably eager to jump on board. If you decide to embark on a personal exploration of the Internet you should be prepared to spend some time discovering what resources are available and more importantly, which ones are relevant to your work. What follows is a short guide to some of the basics you should know about to make your journey a pleasurable one. Once you have some pointers to the relevant information and you learn a few basic commands, "surfing the net" is really quite easy!

Internet Books and Guides

Many books on the Internet are now available in local bookstores and from commercial publishers. It is a good idea to buy one or two while you are getting started to help you understand what the Internet is all about. Books should also provide examples and generic directions on how to carry out some of the basic functions like logging into a remote database (TELNET) or transferring a file (FTP). The January 1994 issue of *Online!* reviews the current crop of Internet guides and is helpful in selecting one for purchase.

In addition there are a few guides to the Internet aimed at the law market that are produced by commercial publishers:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Blackman, Josh | <i>The Legal Researcher's Internet Directory: 1993/1994</i> . Brooklyn, N.Y.: Legal Research of New York, 1993. \$50.00. |
| Milles, James | <i>Internet Handbook for Law Librarians</i> . (Law Library Information Reports). Dobbs Ferry, NY: Glanville Publishers, 1993. \$100.00. |

Getting an Internet Connection

There are many organizations that sell Internet connections. There are two basic types of connections for those who do not have dedicated access (like universities).

Dial-up Access provides you with an Internet account on the host organization's computer. You dial-in using your computer and modem but do your processing (reading mail, searching other library catalogues, etc.) on their computer. This is probably the best type of account for beginners because the software is set up for you on the host computer, often with useful menus and help screens.

SLIP or PPP accounts are technically more complicated to maintain. The Internet software that manages your mail and other Internet functions must be installed on your local computer. You also maintain an account on the computer of your Internet provider. Your files and e-mail messages will stay on the host computer until you sign on. They are then automatically downloaded to your local computer where you do your processing. This type of account can be less expensive since you spend less time online with your Internet provider but this advantage can be seriously offset by the burden of having to find and maintain your own software interfaces. This type of account may be worth the effort if you anticipate using the Internet a great deal or have many people in your organization who want to be connected.

Each Internet provider offers different services at different prices. You should look for an organization which offers e-mail, telnet, and FTP. Ask what type of help and user support is available and be aware of their target clientele (i.e.: is it "techies", university staff, casual users, game players, or corporate clients?).

Local Internet Vendors:

MIND LINK! Communications Corp.
Suite 105-20381 62nd Avenue
Langley, B.C.
V3A 5E6
534-5663 or 880-2014

HookUp Communications
Westmount Place
50 Westmount Road North Suite 220
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 2R5
(519) 747-4110
NOTE: will be setting up local
service in Vancouver in 1994.

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GETTING STARTED ON THE INTERNET, cont'd...

University of British Columbia
Computing and Communications
6356 Agricultural Road
Vancouver, B.C.
V6T 1Z2
822-2008 Customer Support
822-6443 Computer Accounts

Wimsey Information Services
225B Evergreen Drive
Port Moody, B.C. V3H 1S1
936-8649

UUNET Canada
1 Yonge Street, Suite 1400
Toronto, Ontario
M5E 1J9
(416) 368-6621
NOTE: Offers local Vancouver access

Electronic Mail

This should be the first Internet feature you use and master. Most e-mail systems are easy to use and fairly self explanatory. See if your vendor offers a user manual.

Begin by sending a test message to someone you know and ask them to send back a confirmation of receipt. What a relief when it works!

Now that you can confidently send and read a message, sign up for an e-mail conference or "listserv". These lists are "owned" and run by volunteers, usually at a university. Every message that is sent to the list's central address is bounced back to all the members. If anyone has a response, all members of the list can read it. This is how law librarians can share information about policy issues, industry gossip, and help one another with difficult reference questions. It is an excellent place to find out about Internet resources that are available for your area of interest. If a law librarian finds (or creates) something new, you can be sure that it will be broadcast on one of the following lists:

CALL-L Canadian Academic Law Libraries List

To join, send an e-mail message to: listserv@unb.ca
Don't write anything in the subject line. The text of your message should read:
subscribe call-l firstname lastname. Eg: subscribe call-l Jane Doe

LAW-LIB To join, send an e-mail message to: listproc@ucdavis.edu

Don't write anything in the subject line.
The text of your message should read: subscribe law-lib firstname lastname.

After you join you will receive instructions which outline how to send a message, how to sign-off of the list and much more.

Telnet

The telnet command allows you to connect to any Internet connected computer and search their public databases such as library catalogues.

One of the best legal resources on the Internet is the Washington & Lee University gopher system. They have created a monumental system which indexes law-related resources available at sites around the world. A gopher system creates menus which can be searched using keywords and when an item of interest is found, you are automatically connected to the remote site to access the information. There is so much information available here that I can hardly summarize but a few items of interest are U.S. Supreme Court decisions, the Federal Register, international treaties and conventions, U.N. documents, foreign law abstracts from the Library of Congress, CIA World Factbook and many law library catalogues. Use the help commands to learn how to conduct keyword searches.

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GETTING STARTED ON THE INTERNET, cont'd...

At your Internet prompt type: Telnet liberty.uc.wlu.edu
When asked to login, type: lawlib

Once you have established an Internet connection and accessed the resources listed above, you will find your way to more information, some relevant, some not. You will be well on your way to becoming a proficient Internet user.

Tracey Carmichael
B.C. Courthouse Library Society

¹ Tuss, Joan. "Roadmaps to the Internet: Finding the Best Guidebook for Your Needs", *Online*, January 1994, pp. 14-26.

PETER BARK MEMORIAL FUND

Progress Report to mid-February, 1994

The **VALL** Executive has decided that their liaison with the Fund Committee will be the Past President. Shirley Hyndman is acting in this position now until she is "past". The Executive has also agreed to continue to make it an annual practice of donating \$500 to the Fund.

Your Committee has drafted an invitational letter which will be sent to **VALL** members and a selected list of other names. We are now compiling such a list from the **CALL** directory, Peter's law school and library school classmates, and others in the law library community. We are hoping to launch this fund drive by mail in early April.

Donations to be directed to:

Peter Bark Memorial Fund
c/o V.A.L.L.
P.O. Box 48663
Bentall Centre
Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A1

The Fund account currently stands at \$2,308.46. Thanks to all for your interest and support.

Pam Clancy

LETTERS

January 28, 1994

V.A.L.L.
P.O. Box 48663
Bentall Centre
Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A1

Dear Ms. Hyndman,

Thank you for your letter of October 29, 1993 in response to the

"Notice to Subscribers" that was published in Volume 16 Number 5 of Part III of the *Canada Gazette*.

Based on the many comments received, I would think it might be helpful to provide you with further information that will hopefully clarify certain issues.

Table of Public Statutes and Table of Acts and Responsible Ministers

The Notice indicated that, although the Table of Public Statutes and Table of Acts and Responsible Ministers were no longer included in Part III, alternative methods of publishing and distributing those Tables were being considered. An alternative method being considered is to have the Tables available as separate subscriptions and to that end, the *Canada Gazette* office has recently sent out a questionnaire to all Part III subscribers.

The Table of Public Statutes and Table of Acts and Responsible Ministers will continue to be available, most likely as a separate subscription, in addition to being published with the annual statutes.

"Assented to" Acts service

This service, provided through the Publishing Centre of the Canada Communication Group, makes individual Acts available to subscribers usually within five working days after an Act has received Royal Assent. It is a separate service from the bills subscription service. Subscribers are invoiced quarterly based on the volume of Acts published, i.e., the cost of subscribing varies from year to year. The annual subscription costs of the "Assented to" Acts service for the first four years, since its inception in 1990, have varied from \$215 to \$388 per year, with the average being \$292 per year. Individual Acts can be purchased by those who do not wish to subscribe to the complete service. Most individual Acts cost less than \$5, with the lengthier Acts costing more. The "Assented to" Acts service is also available to eligible depositories

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LETTERS, cont'd.

through the Depository Services Program.

The "Assented to" Acts, which have official status by virtue of sections 18 and 19 of the *Canada Evidence Act*, have greatly improved access to Acts of Parliament.

Part III of the Canada Gazette

No decision has been made to cancel Part III. Cancelling Part III is only being considered and, as the notice stated and was intended, comments from the user community regarding this matter were sought. The Department of Justice has received a great many comments in response to the Notice and they are all being very carefully reviewed. No action will be taken to eliminate Part III unless the user community has been consulted further.

Thank you again for your letter.

Yours truly,
Robert DuPerron
Chief Legislative Editor
Department of Justice Canada

November 30, 1993

V.A.L.L.
P.O. Box 48663
Bentall Centre
Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1A1

Dear Ms. Hyndman:

Thank you for a copy of your letter concerning the proposed changes at Dalhousie University.

I am concerned, as are all Nova Scotians, about the difficult decisions that will be made at our universities because of the fiscal difficulties of the Province, and I am watching the debate in our universities with much concern.

My government has identified the issue of federal funding for post-secondary education institutions as a major priority for our Province. We must have an equitable funding arrangement which reflects the enrollment of students. Under the current system Nova Scotia is penalized.

Thank you for taking the time to write and share your views.

Yours sincerely,
John Savage
The Premier
Halifax, Nova Scotia

NEWS

Justice Institute Moves to New Westminster in 1995

The new 12.3 acre site of the Justice Institute is located in New Westminster at 8th and McBride. Our new library is going to be about 7,000 square feet (twice the current size), and will be situated right at the main entrance in a large atrium space.

The new facility has some exciting highlights:

- 200 seat lecture theatre
- simulation classrooms
- 12 position indoor firearms range
- media production centre
- gymnasium
- atrium with sculptural staircase (a model of which will be on display at the Vancouver Art Gallery in February in the Richard Henriquez show)
- library (with 3 study rooms, a reading lounge area, a learning lab for computer use and video viewing, and a 3M security system!)

Our new address at Jericho Hill is:

4125 W. 8th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C. V6R 4K1
Ph.: 222-3600; Fax: 660-9637
Envoy: JI; Internet: april_haddad@sfu.ca

Peter Bark Memorial Fund Bursary

Shirley Hyndman is the successful applicant for the Peter Bark Memorial Fund Bursary. She will be attending the **AALL** annual conference on July 9-14, 1994 in Seattle Washington. Congratulations!

Senate Debates

Andrew Hubbertz, convenor of the Access to Government Information Group, also reports that distribution of the bound Senate Debates is being ceased. This means that while the debates will still appear in the unbound form, there will be no index, and thus no access to that portion of the parliamentary record which occurs in the Senate. In this case, those concerned are encouraged to write to Richard Greene, Clerk Assistant of the Senate, Parliament Buildings, Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6.

INFOBITS

- VALL**
- March 17, 1994. Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy. David Loukidelis speaking.
 - April 21, 1994. Gopher feature of UBCNET.

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INFOBITS, cont'd...

- Cheryl Adams. Sedgewick Library.
- May 26, 1994. Report on the CALL Conference.
 - June 16, 1994. Last meeting. Annual round table discussion.
- CALL
- May 14 to May 18, 1994. Annual conference. Montreal. "Rendez-vous Montreal 1994". The conference programme includes discussions on rendezvous of systems on all levels. A Mentor Programme has been introduced and on the social side an evening of "Dutch Treat Outings".
- CLA
- June 14-18, 1994. Annual conference in Vancouver.
 - June 16, 1994. CASLIS. Special Libraries Day.
- AALL
- July 16-17, 1994. Annual conference in Seattle, Washington.
- SLA/WCC
- March 24, 1994. "Extending the Librarian's Domain: Non-Traditional Career Opportunities for Librarians and Information Professionals." Location: Pacific Salmon Commission, 600-1155 Robson Street. Time: 12:00-1:30 p.m. Contact: Mary Anne Pomphrey. Phone: 687-1117, fax: 687-6100.
- QL Systems
- Various courses offered in March. Call for course information: 684-1462.
- UBC School of Library, Archival and Information Studies
- April 8, 1994. "Marketing: A Library Survival Tool for the 90s."
 - April 9, 1994. "Going it Alone. A Workshop about Freelance Opportunities."
 - April 28-30. Three one day workshops dealing with online and CD-ROM searching and the electronic workstation.
 - May 6, 1994. "Information, Technology and the Future of the Information Professional."
- For further information contact the UBC School of Library and Archival and Information Studies at 822-2404 or Fax 822-6006.
- VLA
- March 19, 1994. Repeated April 23, 1994. "Advanced Internet Searching." For those already using Internet. Location is Camosun College Library, Lansdowne Campus, Victoria. For more information contact Hazel Cameron at 721-8251 or 479-3746.

BIBLIO NOTES

Stephen E. Arnold, "Information Specialist: Core competencies." *Information Highways* (formerly *Database Canada*), Vol. 1, Issue 2 (December 1993), pp. 24-25, 34.

The author is a noted information consultant who answers the question "What opportunities are there for someone with a degree in library or information science?" by identifying six essential, or core competencies information specialists should be mastering in order to stay competitive. The six competencies are: *learning, technology, interfaces, bridge building, partnering, and service*. *Learning* encompasses the ability to analyze a situation, identify what information is lacking, then finding that information. *Technology* requires the ability to be flexible and continually learn about new developments in all levels of the software we use. *Interfaces* involves understanding the software we use and being able to analyze and articulate what works and what does not. *Bridge building* might also be called networking, both on a professional and personal level. *Partnering* is the vital skill of selecting and grooming individuals, functions, or resources with which to form a working relationship or team. *Service* is the basic tenet of our profession but is often overlooked or underrated, so it must be given greater prominence by the way in which librarians and information specialists market themselves and contribute to their organizations.

Sheilla E. Desert, "WESTLAW is Natural v. Boolean searching: a performance study." *Law Library Journal*, Vol. 85, No. 4 (Fall 1993), pp. 713-42.

This article is a must-read for anyone using WESTLAW's natural language searching (WIN) or anyone who wants to know more about current information retrieval models. The author describes how WIN works compared to traditional search methods followed by a discussion of her tests of the system. She concludes that although WIN is revolutionary and will be the foundation for future natural language searching in legal databases, it is not always the most effective search method and users may need to rely on Boolean and/or WIN for best results depending on the search.

Anna-Lee Pittman and Stephen Wright, "Foreign and domestic Periodicals Price Index for Canada 1993: the third survey." *The Canadian Journal of Information and Library Science*, Vol. 18, No. 3, (September 1993), pp. 51-73.

This annual survey was previously published in the *Canadian Library Journal*. 4,558 titles in 34 subject categories were surveyed. The average percentage price

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BIBLIO NOTES, cont'd.

increase for all titles for 1993 is 17.4% with an average subscription price of \$300.16; Science and Technology titles account for the highest prices and largest increases. The average subscription price for the 141 Law titles is \$157.63, which reflects a 13.7% price increase over 1992. The Periodicals Price Index (which uses 1989 as a base year of 100) lists Law titles at 138.8 for 1993; Economics and Business titles at 155.7 and Library and Information Science titles at 153.5.

BOOKSTORE

If you have any notices regarding books for sale or books to buy, please send them to the attention of the *VALL REVIEW* editors.

For information on the following items for sale, please contact: Kimball R. Nichols, #1707-1166 Alberni Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6E 3Z3. Ph: 682-0541; Fax: 681-2457.

Law Reports

- British Columbia Reports (BCR)*
Volumes 1-63 (1860-1947)
with 3 Index volumes
- Western Weekly Reports (New Series)*
Volumes 1-75 (1951-1970)
with Index volumes
- Western Weekly Reports (Third Series)*
1971-1976
with Index volumes
- British Columbia Law Reports (BCLR)*
Volumes 1-70 (1977-1986)
with Index volumes
- British Columbia Law Reports (Second Series)*
Volumes 1-83 (1986-1993)
with Index volumes
- Canadian Criminal Cases, Second Series (CCC)*
Volumes 20-33 (1975-1977) and 43, with
1975 Index volumes
- Carswell Practice Cases (CPC)*
Volumes 1-42 (1976-1984)
with 2 Index volumes
- Reports of Family Law, Second Series (RFL)*
Volumes 1-19 (1978-1981)
with 2 volume Index
- Canada Supreme Court Reports*
1879-1919 (several volumes missing)
with 2 Index volumes for 1867-1950

Digesting Services

- Western Legal Publications
B.C. Criminal Cases, Conviction & Sentence
1971-1981, inclusive
British Columbia Civil 1972-1993, inclusive
- Family Law Digest*
Volumes 1-8 (1968-1979) and Index volume
The Digest (English & Empire Digest) (Green Band Edition)
with 3 volume Table of Cases and 1 volume
Consolidated Index, and Continuation volumes
D to F and 1992 Consolidated Supplement

Labour Publications

- CCH Canadian Labour Law Reporter (CLLC)*
1944-1993 (22 volumes in transfer binders with
3 up to date current looseleaf report volumes)
- B.C. L.R.B./I.R.C. Decisions
1974-1993 inclusive (all decisions with indices)
- B.C. L.R.B. Letter Decisions
L31/82-L123/83 (all decisions)
- Western Legal Publications, *B.C. L.R.B. Decisions* (digests)
1979-1988 inclusive and 1993
- Canada Labour Relations Board Decisions*
periodical, Volumes 1-52 (1974-1984)
- Canadian Labour Relations Board Reports (CLRBR)*
(Original Series) 1974-1982 with Index volume
- Canadian Labour Relations Board Reports (CLRBR)*
(New Series) Volumes 1-19 (1983-1989)
- Canadian Labour Relations Board Reports (CLRBR)*
(Second Series) Volumes 1-19 (1989-1993)
with Cumulative Index
- Labour Arbitration Cases (Second Series)*
Volumes 1-30 (1973-1981) with Index volume
- Labour Arbitration Cases (Third Series)*
Volumes 1-35 (1982-1989) with 2 Index volumes
- Labour Arbitration Cases (Fourth Series)*
Volumes 1-33 (1989-1993) with Index volume
- Western Labour Arbitration Cases, 1967-1981*
- Canadian Labour Arbitration Summaries, July 1986-June 1988*

Miscellaneous

- Canadian Bar Review, March 1951-December 1993*
(unbound with some occasional volumes missing)
with Index volume
- The Advocate, 1951-1993* (unbound) with some numbers
missing, but with Index volume 1943-1986
- U.B.C. Legal Notes, 3 volumes* (unbound)
- U.B.C. Law Review, 1959-1993* (unbound and some early
volumes missing)

VALL REVIEW

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

New Faces

Laura Paddick, McGraw-Hill Ryerson, Accounts Manager.

New Location

Susan Daly
Alexander, Holburn
Box 10057, 2700-700 W. Georgia Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V7Y 1B8

There are now 122 members.

NOTICES

From CASLIS (Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Services — A Division of the Canadian Library Association (CLA))

Re: "Communicating Quality" Tool Kit

- How do you communicate quality services to your organization?
- Let's share our "in house" marketing tools.
- Dazzle your colleagues with approaches that work for you.

The CASLIS Planning Committee for the June 1994 Vancouver CLA Conference is requesting special libraries to donate samples of their marketing tools. The material collected will be distributed to registrants for the CLA Special Libraries Day, June 16, 1994. We hope to receive 50 copies of each item, but would appreciate whatever you can provide. Please send items such as

- Brochures
- Annual Reports
- Pathfinders
- Newsletters

Send materials to:

CASLIS TOOL KIT
c/o Rita Penco
Pulp and Paper Centre
2385 East Mall
Vancouver, B.C.
V6T 1Z4

Re: CLA Conference Offers Special Libraries Day

The CASLIS Planning Committee for the 1994 CLA Conference is pleased to announce the first-ever **SPECIAL LIBRARIES DAY** to be held June 16, 1994 as part of the Vancouver CLA Conference.

This special day offers a dynamic series of workshops and lectures exploring the theme of **Special Librarians: The Quality Partners**. Speakers and topics include Barbara Quint on the changing role of Special Librarians; Pat Cavill on marketing; Peg James on plain language; Vicki Whitnell on outsourcing library services; Bobbie Merilees on the information audit; and Stephen Salter and Jan Greenwood on quality standards.

Participants may register for the one day or the whole conference. Other CASLIS-sponsored events on the remaining conference days include a one-day workshop on negotiating skills presented by Ryane Consulting and a session on imaging presented by Microsoft.

For further information please contact DAVID PEPPER at (604) 664-4311; ENVOY. d.pepper; INTERNET: corplib@mindlink.bc.ca or BONNIE STABLEFORD at INTERNET: Bonnie_Stableford@library.ubc.ca