

PORTFOLIO: PUBLICATIONS

led by Cheryl Dinnin

Many thanks to those of you who took the time to comment on the first issue of OSLA's redesigned, rethought magazine, *The Teaching Librarian*, with its new editor, Bobbie Henley.

The literacy focus of the first issue in this new volume will be useful to both classroom / subject teachers and to teacher-librarians as we collaborate to improve student achievement in traditional literacy. Together with this issue on advocacy and the next issue on leadership, we hope you find them to be important tools for you and your program.

With each issue, we look for your feedback through "TL Mail" and we are encouraged by the number of ideas you have been willing to share already in our new column, "It Worked for Me" (p. 6).

Send your ideas electronically to the editor or any member of the editorial board. (E-mail addresses are in the front of each issue.)

We're looking for writers from across Ontario with positive messages for our school library community. Let us know if you have article ideas you'd like to pursue - for *The Teaching*

Librarian or for the OLA magazine, *Access*.

If you are a teacher-librarian having success collaborating with a specific subject teacher, we'd like to hear from you. Broadening our communication through the publication of successful curriculum ideas in subject magazines is another role of this Publications Portfolio.

Keep in touch with us and with each other!

PORTFOLIO: MEMBERSHIP, AWARDS, NOMINATIONS

led by Joyce Cunningham

Many of you attended the OSLA award reception at this year's Super Conference. There we honoured the Teacher-Librarians of the Year (Mary Kebalo-Plata of the Halton District School Board, and Michelle Regina of the York Catholic District School Board) along with the Administrators of the Year (Phil Gagnon of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, and Sandy Jones of the Greater Essex County District School Board).

That evening you heard all of the recipients speak most eloquently about the library programs in their schools and districts. One common theme that emerged was the significance of the whole team

(trustees, directors, superintendents, principals, teacher-librarians and library technicians). Once again, we heard outstanding teachers remind us of the importance of the library program in a child's learning and the successes that we can celebrate when the team works together.

Building that co-operation and trust is not always easy. There are those outside forces who would like to divide us and conquer us. To combat this we are looking for more accounts of the successful team efforts. We are also meeting with outside groups such as the federations and other library organizations.

We recently met with Pam Casey, President of the Ontario Association of Library Technicians. Pam emphasized the need for a common front, communication and co-operation.

We currently have 1412 OSLA members and although we take pleasure in that number, we know that there are many more teacher-librarians who are not members. Thus in the next year we will explore ways to increase the membership even though many now find themselves as part-time teacher-librarians.

Many of you have wonderful ideas, suggestions or concerns that we need to hear about. Please keep in touch. ■