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OLA's "creating new connections" draws nationally known speakers

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OLA's "Creating New Connections" draws nationally known speakers

by Maureen Sloan,
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Two nationally known names in the library world and the editor-in-chief of *The Oregonian* have agreed to speak at "Creating New Connections," OLA's 1995 conference scheduled for April 26-29 in Portland.

Eleanor Jo "Joey" Rodger, currently president of the Urban Libraries Council and formerly executive director of the Public Library Association, will deliver the keynote address on Thursday afternoon (April 27). Those who have heard Rodger before describe her as an "excellent and inspiring" speaker who knows libraries and who challenges her audiences to think now about the libraries of the future.

Rodger's articles on public library users and uses include "Public Opinion About the Roles of the Public Library in the Community: The Results of a Recent Gallup Poll" (Public Libraries, June-July, 1994 with George D'Elia). She holds a B.S. from the University of Michigan and an M.L.S. from the University of Maryland. She has also done graduate work in education and in theology.

Regina Menudri, retired director of the Berkeley Public Library and past president of the American Library Association will urge her listeners to "Smile When You Call it Berkeley" when she speaks at the Friday (April 28) luncheon. Menudri, who will also present a conference workshop, will describe the three successful Berkeley tax elections, various levels of community work, and her philosophy of public service. Menudri was director of Berkeley Public Library from 1977-1994 and president of the American Library Association in 1986-87.

Sandra Mims Rowe, editor of Oregon's largest newspaper, *The Oregonian*, will speak at the Exhibitor's Lunch on Thursday (April 27). Since coming to the *The Oregonian* two years ago, Rowe has instituted major changes at *The Oregonian*, including the reorganization of reporters into issues-oriented work teams instead of using the traditional beat system.

Evening of dinner and theater planned for OLA/Portland

The magic and monsters of Shakespeare's "Tempest" will delight OLA conferencees in a memorable evening (Friday, April 28) that will combine a buffet supper at the Hilton with a performance of "The Tempest" at Portland's Performing Arts Center. Speakers from the Tygres Heart Shakespeare Company will also attend the dinner and talk about their company and their current production of "The Tempest."

Cost is $42 for dinner, speakers and the play. Cost for the theater performance only is $18. Signup is on the conference registration.

Bookstore afternoon at OLA

Coming to a pre-conference? Why not arrive early and visit some of the special bookstores Portland has to offer.

There are many bookstores in the metropolitan area, including stores that specialize in mysteries, science fiction, children's books, travel and cooking. Be sure to call for information about opening a library account to take advantage of the special discounts to libraries.
Breaking the Mold

Giving GOOD Service When Good Service Is Not Enough

I'm not in sales, I'm a librarian. “Don't look at me, I'm just the check-out clerk.” “I can't help you, I just shelve books.” Here on earth, everybody sells. Skills. Talents. Know-how. Time. Think about it... Remember when you decided not to go back to a company because the clerk sent you the wrong item, the receptionist was rude and surly, the manager didn't have time to talk to a mere customer, the doctor had you wait two hours?

That's selling. Negative selling.
You want a grant. You've got to sell your idea and your skills to the granting foundation. Do you want a raise? You've got to sell your supervisor on your skills and value. Selling is communicating in a way that gets you what you need. It's learning to be comfortable in your job. Any job. From library director to library volunteer.

Join Oregon SLA and OLA LSRR and Alan J. Zell, 28-year veteran of the retail industry and recognized marketing expert, to hone your service skills. Learn how selling and service work hand-in-hand in the high quality, GOOD service, library and information centers of today.

Breaking the Mold and Giving GOOD Service When Good Service Is Not Enough are sponsored by the OLA Library Support Services Roundtable and Oregon Special Libraries Association. Both are part of the OLA Pre-Conference Program on April 25.
All work and no play...would make us all very dull people indeed!

To counteract this tendency the conference committee have prepared for you enticing treats such as microbrewery tours, city walks, a special library tour and a theater evening. We don’t want you to miss the excellent workshops and sessions that will (as always) be part of this year’s conference, so we have scheduled the fun at times where it will not interfere with the conference program.

On Tuesday afternoon the Oregon Chapter of SLA have organized a walking tour of downtown Portland libraries: the U.S. Court of Appeals, PGE, the Northwest Regional Education Laboratory, and the Oregonian libraries will be featured.

We have arranged with Ecotours of Portland to provide a variety of other tours; they specialize in small custom designed tours using mini-buses, and so will take a group as small as three or four people. This is a new departure for SLA conference planning, so we are anxious to see if you like it. Tours will be on Wednesday evening and Saturday morning. We realize that the Public Library Division dinner is also on Wednesday evening and we don’t expect, or intend, to lure any public librarians away from this; but what about the academic folk or maybe the special librarians? Would you like to try a microbrewery tour or a walking tour of the downtown area after your preconference? We guarantee you’ll see Portland in ways you’ve never seen it before. Our Saturday tours feature two half-day bus tours of the city and an afternoon tour to the Columbia Gorge or an all day tour to the northern Oregon coast - a great way to wind down after the rigors of the conference. Even if you live in Portland you may enjoy seeing some places

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Dull People
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you've never taken the time to visit.

"Knowing I loved my books, he furnish'd me, from my own library, with volumes that I prize above my duke-dom" Tempest, Act I, Scene 2.

In these words Prospero, explaining to his daughter, Miranda, the circumstances under which they came to the deserted island on which they live, shows how a man used to make life liveable. These books enabled him to educate his daughter and to weave the magic spells and potions that causes the tale of The Tempest to unfold. We have booked a bloc of tickets for Friday night in the Winningstad Theater in Portland's Performing Arts Center - literally only a block away from the Hilton. The Tugres Heart company which is putting on this production have made their name performing Shakespeare in this very intimate theater - only 300 seats; so the experience will be very different from Ashland. The evening starts with a buffet supper at the Hilton at which two speakers from the Tugres Heart company will give you an insight into the company, the play, and their production. This should be a very exciting evening, so take the opportunity of being in Oregon's big city and have a night on the town!

After you've read of all these exciting offerings, and been tempted, go back to your conference packet and look for the flyers which give you full details of how to register for the tours and get to the play.

Academic Database
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their intention to join the union catalog project as soon as possible.

What is the relationship between Orbis and local library systems and how does Orbis work?
Orbis does not replace the local systems at participating libraries nor is it an unconnected catalog. Links are established between the local catalog and the union catalog which allow real-time updating of information and transactions. The interactive nature of Orbis means that when an item is cataloged and the bibliographic record posted to the local system of a participating library, the cataloging data is automatically posted to the union catalog within seconds. It also means that when an item is checked out at a participating library, the information about the loan of the item (or its return) is automatically posted within seconds to the union catalog. Order records and holdings information for periodicals are also posted to Orbis shortly after being keyed into the local system.

Patrons can choose to search for materials in the local catalog first. If too few or no matches are found or the needed items are checked out, they can pass through the local catalog to search the union catalog by entering one keystroke. The search is repeated in Orbis without the need for re-keying the data. Patrons can also choose to go directly to Orbis and search for materials in the combined database.

Although the circulation module is not yet available in Orbis, the status of all items held by member libraries is displayed in conjunction with the bibliographic record. Patrons can use existing interlibrary loan services to retrieve the items displayed.

How is Orbis governed?
Orbis is governed by the Orbis Council which consists of the library directors of the participating institutions. Each has signed a "memorandum of understanding" contract which outlines the shared governance structure of the project and details the rights, obligations, and responsibilities of the member libraries and the University of Oregon Library (the host site).

What are the benefits of Orbis for Oregon?
The goals of the Orbis project are to support instruction and research by making it easier to search library holdings at member libraries and, importantly, to support resource sharing. As Orbis grows, it will become Oregon's equivalent of a virtual research library, easily accessible, comprehensive, and tied to a responsive document delivery program. It will also promote cooperative co-