Table of Contents
Upcoming Issues

Spring 1998
Public Involvement Means Public Support
Guest Editor
Sara Charlton, Tillamook County Library

Summer 1998
Public Access to Government Information
Guest Editor
Ted Smith, University of Oregon Library

Fall 1998
Reference Services
Guest Editor
Loretta Reilly, Oregon State University Library

Winter 1998-1999
Library Partnerships
Guest Editor
Lynn Chmelir, Linfield College Library

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Sex in the Library: Internet Access Issues in Oregon

The steamy issues in librarianship today swirl around access to the wide open world of the Internet. From constitutional issues to copyright, from child pornography to parents’ rights, from dirty pictures to unfiltered access to materials on breast cancer, we are finding sex a hot topic in libraryland. Oregon libraries are grappling with questions concerning filtering, rights of minors, and outraged parents.

This issue of the OLA Quarterly examines the constitutional issues libraries face, what sorts of intellectual freedom challenges the Oregon State Library Clearinghouse has been receiving, and how public, school, and academic libraries are dealing with the latest challenges of the Information Age. We have also interviewed Oregon librarian David Burt who has gone on-line with his non-profit organization, Filtering Facts, which encourages libraries to voluntarily adopt filtering software on public access Internet terminals.

I hope these articles will provide you with an overview of the policies and practices being put in place by your colleagues across the state, and the sometimes wide divergence of opinion even among the members of our profession.

Carolyn Peake, Guest Editor
Lake Oswego Public Library

2
Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse
Challenges and the Internet
Mary Kay Dahlgreen

3
Internet Filtering and Individual Choices
Candace D. Morgan

5
An Interview with David Burt
Carolyn Peake

7
Update on Policies for the Use of Public Internet Workstations
David Burt

8
Surfwatching the Internet
Margaret Barnes

9
Public Use of the Internet at Beaverton City Library
Cecile Carpenter

10
Jackson County’s Compromise
Ronnie Lee Budge

11
Sex, the Network, and Academic Libraries
Deb Carver

13
Internet Access Issues in Oregon’s Public Schools
Rebecca Macy

14
Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks: an Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights

The OLA Quarterly is an official publication of the Oregon Library Association. Please refer questions and input regarding the quarterly to:

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