WELCOME!

to the first Reference and Information Services Division Newsletter!

As I wrap up my year as Division Coordinator, I am pleased to introduce our newly-elected Reference and Information Services Action Council members for next year. Nancy Linder of Orrville Library will serve as Assistant Coordinator. New Action Council members are: Pam Benjamin, Cleveland Public Library; Kym Lucas, Medina County District Library; and Laura Giralomo, Troy Miami County Public Library.

As some of you know, RISD is OLC’s largest division, with over 900 members. We’re looking forward to seeing many of you at the OLC Annual Conference in Cleveland, November 19-21, and hope you will attend our division’s program offerings, listed below. I’m especially excited to welcome Ray Oldenburg, author of “Celebrating the Third Place: Inspiring Stories About the ‘Great Good Places’ at the Heart of Our Communities.”

Those of you who had the opportunity to attend the Reference Retreat workshop in May at the Mohican State Park Lodge know what a wonderful event it was. I’d particularly like to thank Ginny Palmer of the Dayton Metro Library and her committee for planning such an outstanding event. We’re looking forward to hosting another retreat in 2005.

Another thank you is due to this year’s division members. Together, we worked hard and had a lot of fun planning the programs for annual and chapter conferences. Many thanks to incoming Coordinator Lynne Welch and Action Council members Tami Jones, Deb Matthews, Susan Branch, Amy Garrett, Renee Geary, Connie Kirby Cole, Jeri Micks, and Michelle Savoti.

Christine Gramm
2003 Coordinator
Reference and Information Services Division
RISD Programs at OLC Annual  
by Christine Gramm

RISD has planned some outstanding programs for OLC Annual Conference in Cleveland. We hope to see you there!

Making Your Library a Great Good Place
Ray Oldenburg, sociologist and author of “The Great Good Place” and “Celebrating the Third Place,” explores the qualities that can make libraries vital gathering places at the heart of our communities

Your Library: Collection, Community and Market
Presented by Ken Warren, Director, Lakewood Public Library
Learn how to understand your community using demographic and market segmentation tools. We’ll focus on collection development and the library’s role as knowledge maker and see how Lakewood Public Library addressed the changing needs of its service population.

The Anatomy of a Recorded Book
Get a behind the scenes look at what goes into making a Recorded Book. Learn why audio book formats are so popular with your patrons and what makes a narrator great. Special guest appearance by a featured Recorded Books reader. Co-sponsored with the Adult Services Division.

Computer Related Copyright in Libraries
Lean how current technologies such as the internet, CD Rom and digital images are affected by copyright law and recent legislation. Co-sponsored with the Adult Services Division.

Reference Mentoring Program
by Deb Matthews, Past RISD Coordinator

It has long been the desire of the Reference and Information Services Division Action Council to start a mentoring program among its members. This is the year!

Starting at the Reference Retreat and then throughout the rest of the year watch for more information about the new Mentoring Program.

This program will be open to new librarians, experienced reference staff, staff from big libraries and small, or anyone who feels they can benefit by developing a professional relationship that fosters sharing and problem solving.

This program will be a great way to become involved in OLC and with the RISD, as well as networking with other librarians throughout the state. Watch upcoming newsletters and special announcements for more information.

Reference Sillies & Stumpers
Interesting questions reference desk questions contributed by 2003 Reference Retreat Attendees

“Do all unicorns have horns or only the male ones?”
“Where can I find information on premarital leg wrestling?”
“Where can I find a wholesaler for unblanched krill?”
“Why is it called the ‘Great Seal of the State of Ohio’ instead of the ‘Seal of the Great State of Ohio?’”

Email your most unusual reference questions to tjones@briggslibrary.com

Great Reference Web Sites
If you don’t know about http://refdesk.com/, you’re missing a wonderful reference tool. This web site is like having a ready reference collection at your fingertips. With quick links to news, weather, and a host of useful web-based reference sources, this site should be on your favorites list. Just for fun, ref.desk.com also includes a site of the day, word of the day and thought of the day. Check out ref.desk.com when you get a chance and you’ll find yourself returning over and over again. – Chris Gramm, RISD Coordinator

How many carbs in that banana? How much fat in that hamburger? No matter what plan you’re on here’s a link to the USDA Nutrient Database, which everyone should bookmark! http://www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/cgi-bin/nut_search.pl This is a wonderful resource, and one of my favorite examples of Our Tax Dollars At Work – Tami Jones, RISD secretary and newsletter editor

Email me with your favorite Reference Web Site – we’ll feature as many as we can in future issues of the RISD newsletter.
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