

From the President

Gwen Jackson, President

Congratulations to the Technology and Trends (TNT) Round Table — NCLA's newest kid on the block. Technology and Trends, however is no newcomer to the Executive Board. It has been a vital committee of NCLA since 1988 when the Media and Technology Committee was renamed. The purpose of this committee as stated in the July 29, 1988, minutes of the Association was "to act as a clearing house of information on technology applications in North Carolina libraries and to promote technology in North Carolina libraries of all types." The objectives of TNT Round Table as stated in its Bylaws are "to unite in this group, North Carolina Library Association members interested in the advances and uses of technology, to provide an opportunity for discussion and activity, and to seek to fulfill the purposes of the North Carolina Library Association." In six short years the emphasis of this unit has changed from being an information clearinghouse to being an "indispensable" information tool.

It is most appropriate that the Technology and Trends Round Table is welcomed officially in this issue of *North Carolina Libraries* which focuses on virtual libraries. Guest editor Gary Harden notes that "librarians must educate themselves in the use and application of new technologies and become involved in the design of information delivery systems in cooperation with computing and networking professionals." The leadership of TNT has established several goals that endorse the need stated by Harden, including electronic distribution of our newsletter and the NCLA listserv.

It has been most gratifying to note the variety of professional development opportunities that have been sponsored by our sections and round tables during the fall. Many of these activities have had a technological emphasis and have ranged from Collection Management in the Electronic Environment (College and University Section); Managing Self, Managing Others (Library Administration and Management); the Information Highway from the User's Point of View (Reference and Adult Services); the Internet (New Members); and Understanding Yourself and Others (Status of Women). In addition to these offerings, the Association of School Librarians' biennial conference has provided programming on a variety of technology-, curriculum-, and literature-related topics. Several NCLA sections and round tables co-sponsored programs during the Southeastern Library Association conference in Charlotte.

Yes, the North Carolina Library Association is indeed alive and well! Because of you, we are strong in our:

- count (2,122 members)
- commitment to provide services from the 'cradle to the grave'
- collaboration between all types of libraries.

In his introductory article, Harden challenges us to "devise new and innovative services" in our libraries to take full advantage of the virtual library. He further reminds us that "we have the opportunity to establish the direction of a major transition in librarianship and library service. The choice is ours." How are you accepting the **challenge** proposed by Harden to make our profession the front runner in this information age?

Take time to "smell the roses" and practice some of the suggestions, observations, and reminders on how to live a happy and rewarding life that H. Jackson Brown, Jr., gives in his *Life's Little Instruction Book*. A few of my favorites are:

- Be forgiving of yourself and others.
- Make new friends but cherish the old ones.
- Don't postpone joy.
- Never give up on anybody. Miracles happen every day.
- Vote.
- Live so that when your children (colleagues) think of fairness, caring, and integrity, they think of you.
- In business and in family relationships, remember that the most important thing is trust.
- Think big thoughts, but relish small pleasures.
- Strive for excellence, not perfection.
- Wear audacious underwear under the most solemn business attire.
- Become the most positive and enthusiastic person you know.
- Remember that winners do what losers don't want to do.

Above all, have a joyous holiday season. **Celebrate** life and libraries!

Networking Glossary

compiled by Gary Harden

(Note: Many of these terms appear in articles in this issue; other general interest networking terms have been included as well.)

- ARCHIE ➤ a utility program which locates files available through anonymous FTP.
- ARPANET ➤ Advanced Research Projects Network
- CYBERSPACE ➤ the virtual environment one occupies when using a computer connected to the Internet.
- CWIS ➤ Campus Wide Information System
- DARPA ➤ Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
- DNS ➤ Domain Name System; distributed name and address system used on the Internet.
- FTP ➤ File Transfer Protocol; a TCP/IP protocol that lets a user on one computer system transfer files to and from another computer system over a network.
- GOPHER ➤ a distributed information delivery system developed at the University of Minnesota.
- HTTP ➤ Hypertext Transfer Protocol; the protocol used to deliver information in the World Wide Web.
- IRC ➤ Internet Relay Chat; a protocol which allows real time conversations between computers on the Internet.
- LISTSERV ➤ an automated electronic mailing list distribution system.
- MOSAIC ➤ a World Wide Web browser (client) program developed by the National Center for Supercomputing Applications at the University of Illinois, Champaign.
- MUD ➤ Multi-User Dungeon or Multi-User Domain; a virtual environment in which computer users can interact in real time.
- NIC ➤ Network Information Center; provides information and assistance to network users.
- NII ➤ National Information Infrastructure
- NNTP ➤ Network News Transfer Protocol; a protocol for the distribution and retrieval of news articles.
- NREN ➤ National Research and Education Network
- NSFNET ➤ National Science Foundation Network
- PPP ➤ Point to Point Protocol; protocol for transmitting data packets over telephone lines.
- SLIP ➤ Serial Line Internet Protocol; protocol for transmitting data packets over telephone lines.
- SMTP ➤ Simple Mail Transfer Protocol; protocol used for transferring electronic mail over the Internet.
- TCP/IP ➤ Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol; transmission and application protocols used on the Internet.
- TELNET ➤ virtual terminal protocol; lets users access remote computer systems and use applications and services.
- UNIX ➤ a multi-user computer operating system developed at Bell Laboratories.
- USENET ➤ the news distribution system which operates over the Internet.
- UUCP ➤ Unix to Unix Copy Program; lets one Unix system send files to another Unix system over telephone lines.
- VERONICA ➤ a utility which provides for keyword searching of gopher server menus.
- VR ➤ Virtual reality
- WAIS ➤ Wide Area Information Server; a distributed information retrieval system developed by Thinking Machines Corporation.
- WWW ➤ World Wide Web; a distributed hypermedia information system developed at CERN, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics.