

CLENEExchange

March 2006

“School ends, but education doesn’t.”

Volume 22, Number 3

Keeping Up With Learning: Trying to Catch the Wind

by Gail McGovern, Planning and Training Wizard (gmcgovern@macnexus.org)

Not only is the amount of information available still growing at an exponential rate, but almost as fast growing are the ways to access it. It really does seem as if we are struggling to catch the wind just to be aware of what sources are available to help us keep up with learning theory and practices, let alone digest all of it.

The preliminary results of a CLENE survey about how you keep up with learning revealed a wide variety of sources and methods for accessing the information. Of the 25 people who have responded so far, 13 subscribe to RSS feeds.

Here’s what we found in response to our question, What are you doing to keep up with learning (i.e. what do you read, listen to, or watch to find out about what’s happening)?

You use a wide variety of methods:

- reading print library and training journals
- reading online newsletters and articles
- reading conference proceedings
- reading e-mails from vendors
- reading newspapers
- subscribing to listserves and blogs
- talking with friends, colleagues and clients
- browsing in bookstores and libraries
- attending live conferences and workshops
- attending webinars and online classes
- surfing the net and doing SDI searches
- watching TV
- listening to the radio and podcasts

Besides keeping up with what others have to offer, respondents reported that they personally have their own blogs (10) or wikis (1), create their own podcasts (2) or participate in webcasting (1).

A number of specific print and online sources were mentioned. Websites are included to help those of



you who wish to try to catch the wind!

Print Sources:

Computers in Libraries
www.infotoday.com/cilmag/

Fast Company
www.fastcompany.com/

Harvard Business Review
www.hbsp.harvard.edu/products/hbr

Library Journal
www.libraryjournal.com/

Public Libraries
www.ala.org/ala/pla/plapubs/publiclibraries/publiclibraries.htm

School Library Journal
www.schoollibraryjournal.com/

Training + Development
www.astd.org/

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Upcoming Conferences

ALA Midwinter

January 19-24, 2007 - Seattle
January 11-16, 2008 - Philadelphia
January 23-28, 2009 - Denver

ALA Annual

June 22-June 28, 2006 - New Orleans
June 21-June 27, 2007 - Washington, D.C.
June 26-July 2, 2008 - Anaheim
June 9-July 15, 2009 - Chicago

Public Library Association

March 25-29, 2008 - Minneapolis

Volunteers Needed for ALA in New Orleans

**CLENE is once again sponsoring
one of its most popular conference programs,
Good CLENE Fun**



This fast-paced showcase of ideas designed to energize team meetings, staff development sessions or computer training classes is a perennial favorite of ALA attendees. Participants move through quick, highly interactive round table sessions and see a variety of techniques demonstrated.

Volunteers are needed to be presenters, pass out materials, and greet attendees. If you will be available to help on Saturday, June 24 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., contact either

Jasmine Posey at jposey@greenwichlibrary.org
or Kathy Schalk-Greene at Kathy@mtlaurel.lib.nj.us

Going to ALA in New Orleans? Don't Miss CLENE's Third Annual Training Showcase: Best Practices in Training

What is the CLENE Training Showcase?

This showcase is a poster session that celebrates the variety of successful training programs in America's libraries and provides the opportunity for librarians, staff, and professionals in the field to network and exchange ideas about continuing education, staff development and training initiatives. Drawings for door prizes will be conducted throughout the program.

When and where is the Training Showcase?

The Showcase takes place on Sunday, June 25, 2006 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. during the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans.

Why should you attend the Training Showcase?

You will see examples of outstanding training programs, have a unique opportunity to network with staff development and training professionals from around the nation and find exhibit materials targeted to trainers from Showcase Sponsors: the American Management Association (AMA), the American Society for Training and Development (ASTD), HRD Press, Neal-Schuman Publishers, Pfeiffer, Scarecrow Press and WebJunction.

What could you win at the Training Showcase?

A variety of great door prizes from Showcase sponsors.
All attendees will receive a free copy of Training Magazine.

**CLENE salutes WebJunction www.webjunction.com,
a Showcase Sponsor for the second year!**

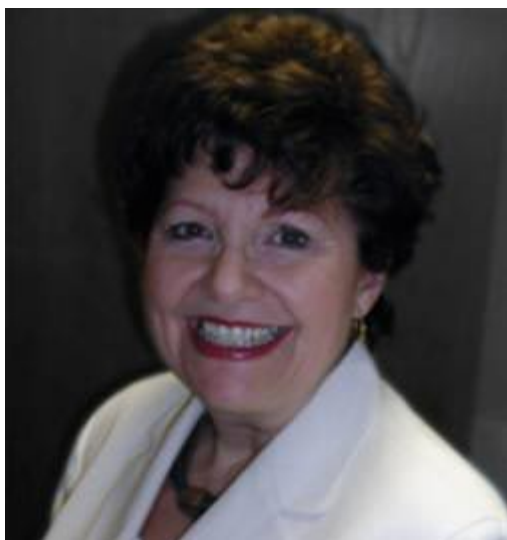
CLENE appreciates the support of all of the Showcase Sponsors.
Please thank them when you attend.



Another quality program brought to you by
the Continuing Education & Network Exchange (CLENE)
a Round Table of the American Library Association
www.ala.org/clene

Member Profile: Anne Masters

by Gail McGovern, Planning and Training Wizard (gmcgovern@macnexus.org)



Name: Anne Masters

Organization and your position there:

Pioneer Library System, a multi-county public library system serving three counties in central Oklahoma. We have 9 branches, 3 in each county. The largest branch and the system headquarters are in Norman, a city of 100,000. I am the Associate Director for System Services

How long have you had that job? I have held this position 4 1/2 years

Describe your typical work responsibilities:

The System Services Department includes the areas of public information, staff training, literacy, materials selection and programming. In addition to supervising the work of the professionals in these areas, I oversee the materials, training and programming budgets and do some grantwriting in the areas of programming and literacy. I have helped implement the PLA Planning for Results process in our branches and the Prime Time Family Literacy program.

What was your most interesting library-related job before your present position? Why?

For 29 years I was the Director of Media Services for the Norman Public Schools. The school library media program grew to include professional and support staff in every school and every level and

was an integral part of the instructional program. In 1989 we were named the School Library Media Program of the Year by AASL.

Where did you earn your MLS?

The University of Oklahoma School of Library and Information Studies.

What is the most helpful training resource that you use on a regular basis? For the first training I did when I came to Pioneer I used the FISH video. It was so successful that we purchased the video and have incorporated it in our new employee orientation as our introduction to customer service.

Describe your best training idea to share with CLENE members. Be prepared and look prepared by creating a professional environment. The tables should be arranged to facilitate interaction, the handouts should present a professional image, the refreshments should be welcoming and make the participants feel that they are important. Set up the room and the equipment hours in advance when possible so that you can be assured that everything is as it should be.

What is your favorite place that you have traveled and why? I can't choose only one. The place I have visited most often with my daughters is South Padre Island where we just kick back and enjoy the beach. We enjoy it because it is familiar and we feel at home when we are there. I love the beach towns in Mexico, too. My favorite ALA Conference town is San Francisco because it is beautiful, cool and everything feels accessible. For beauty I would choose Switzerland and Vancouver, B.C.

What is your favorite thing to do when you attend library conferences? I never miss the President's Programs and have heard some wonderful speakers. I always try to take at least one-half day to tour the city. It would be a shame to travel to these wonderful cities and miss the local color!

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ALA Exhibits of Interest to Trainers

Cal Shepard, Manager of Educational Services at SOLINET, checked out the exhibits at the 2006 ALA Midwinter conference in San Antonio for the CLENEExchange. She identified the following resources that might be of interest to those who are involved in staff training.

1. 3M Visual Systems

This booth contains information about and examples of digital whiteboards, digital easels and digital wall displays. This technology allows trainers to have interactive computer and had written displays during a class.

2. Web Wise Seniors - This booth is a must for anyone engaged in training seniors. They carry end user computer videos, class curricula for technical classes and even large-print computer books. Just about everything you'd need to teach top notch computer classes.

3. Tutto the Healthy Luggage - For trainers who have to travel this luggage can be a life saver! It comes in various styles and sizes and, best of all, is nearly indestructable!

4. ACRL - ACRL provides lots of professional development opportunities. At their booth you can find out about their face-to-face classes as well as their E-learning opportunities. They're even hosting a virtual conference.

Please share your favorite exhibitors or products with CLENEExchange readers by sending information about them to gmcgovern@macnexus.org

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What is the biggest training disaster you have ever experienced? What did you learn from it?

Many years ago I was invited to speak to the school librarians in a large district and I went prepared to talk to people with MLS degrees. I discovered that they were teachers who had no background in library education or experience in libraries. I learned to "never assume."

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- Exclusive discounts and special offers
- Preferred pricing on all AMA seminars
- Unlimited access to Members-only Website
- 50% discounts on seminar "Last-Minute Seats"
- Access to special track on HR/Training issues
- Access and benefit from case studies
- Use of interactive self-assessments

**See the public AMA Website at
<http://www.amanet.org/index.htm>
Contact Barbara Rittinger
at brittinger@arlingtonva.us
for the CLENE member number and
members access website.**

Favorite Quotes

"That is what learning is. You suddenly understand something you've understood all your life, but in a new way." Doris Lessing

"We learn by example and by direct experience because there are real limits to the adequacy of verbal instruction." Malcolm Gladwell

"What is important is to keep learning, to enjoy challenge, and to tolerate ambiguity. In the end there are no certain answers." Martina Horner, President of Radcliffe College

"Learning without thought is labor lost; thought without learning is perilous." Confucius

Websites:

Bibliographic Center for Research
www.bcr.org/

IT Conversations
www.itconversations.com

Online Computer Library Center
www.oclc.org/

Publib listserv
<http://lists.webjunction.org/publib/>

Voice of Youth Advocates
www.voya.com/

WebJunction
<http://webjunction.org>

Blogs

blogwithoutalibrary.net
www.blogwithoutalibrary.net/

clioinstitute blog
www.clioinstitute.info/blog/

Free Range Librarian
<http://freerangelibrarian.com/>

Future Now
<http://futuretense.corante.com/>

IFTF's Future Now
<http://future.iftf.org/>

Learning Circuits
<http://learningcircuits.blogspot.com>

LibrarianInBlack.net
<http://librarianinblack.typepad.com>

Library Stuff
<http://librarystuff.net/>

Librarian.net
<http://librarian.net/>

Popwatch
<http://popwatch.ew.com>

Shifted Librarian
www.theshiftedlibrarian.com/

Tame the Web
www.tametheweb.com/ttwblog/

If you are concerned about keeping up, you may also wish to read a wonderful resource sheet from the Canadian Child Care Federation titled *Keeping Current through Lifelong Learning*.

Here is an excerpt "A diploma or certificate is an important step on a journey of lifelong learning. But as knowledge constantly changes and develops, how do you stay informed? Regular time set aside for personal and professional growth provides you with a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment, keeps you challenged and energized and gives you the motivation to continue. Feel free to expand on the following suggestions as you develop your own personalized strategies for keeping current."

Six Ways to Keep Yourself Growing

1. Stay informed
2. Join forces
3. Get wired
4. Challenge yourself
5. Know yourself
6. Care for yourself

Read the specifics for all six areas at the website; below are the three listed for Care for yourself.

www.cfc-efc.ca/docs/cccf/rs059_en.htm

Care for yourself

- Regularly participate in physical activity — try dancing, yoga, aerobics, swimming, walking etc.
- Nurture your mind, body and spirit — join a choir, take art classes, join a book club, go on regular walks with a friend. Laugh! Have fun!
- Remember that to give your best, you need to be healthy and have a positive outlook on life.

Add your input
to the CLENE Keeping Up Survey
<http://tinyurl.com/az4hs>

Hot Topics in Learning

Editor's Note

Hot Topics in Learning is a new feature of the CLENExchange; it will include emerging trends and hot issues from learning-related fields.

Using online games

In his Learning Circuits article, Karl M. Kapp discusses the use of online games especially for the “Gamer Generation.” His definition of a gamer is anyone born between 1980 and 2001 who plays any type of computerized and/or video game for more than five hours a week, understands how to navigate the Internet, and is savvy with handheld gadgets—or just about everyone under the age of 30.” Read more about gamers and see examples of games at <http://tinyurl.com/ebpac>

The maturing workforce

In his post on the Learning Circuits Blog, Eric Lesser discusses preparing for an aging workforce. He emphasizes the use of proactive strategies and “having a plan requires creating a diagnostic process that includes examining the company’s current workforce demographics, determining which talents are critical to the company’s success, identifying potential solutions and finally developing an integrated plan to address changing workforce dynamics.”

Read more at <http://tinyurl.com/k2ofb>

Using new learning technologies

In another Learning Circuits article, Amy Finn, discusses assessing and integrating new learning methods, methodologies, and technologies in the vein of the song lyric, “Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver and the other gold.” She includes a very helpful chart with definitions and applications for the following: blog, moblog, wiki, vlog, podcast, and RSS.

Read more at <http://tinyurl.com/jmdd5>

Using a discussion wiki for learning

A wiki is a web application that allows users to edit as well as add online content. It can be used to share information simply and cost effectively. If you have never used this technology, take a look at the LCB (Learning Circuits Blog) Discussion

Wiki. Its Navigation and Editing Tutorial and Getting Started page are the simplest I have seen and they will help you understand how the technology is used. See <http://learningcircuitblog.pbwiki.com>

elearning trends

Dave Lee, a workplace learning specialist, lists his top ten elearning trends in his blog, [e e learning](http://elearning.com).

- 1 web 2.0 gains enthusiastic acceptance in learning
 - 2 googlization of learning continues
 - 3 methodology and design are rediscovered
 - 4 rampant adoption of podcast-like technologies
 - 5 blogs and wikis disappear
 - 6 open source tools take over lms market
 - 7 simulations will continue to gain acceptance
 - 8 mobile technologies continue to change delivery
 - 9 workflow learning
 - 10 talent hired for general aptitudes needs training
- Read details at <http://tinyurl.com/mke5b>

The pinball approach to teaching

In his post on Learning Circuits Blog, titled The Fourth Paradox of Educational Simulations, Clark Aldrich discusses the “Tilt principle.”

Here’s an excerpt:

When playing pinball, you can nudge the machine a little bit to keep the ball from going out of play. But if you nudge the machine too hard, you will “Tilt” the machine, ending that play.

That is incredibly easy to write. It is incredibly easy for a student to “learn” that statement to the point that they could write it on a test.

But to nudge a pinball machine at the right time takes skill and practice. Even the best pinball player in the world cannot always do it perfectly. The ace player might also take more risks with nudging when there is more at stake.

If you built a machine to teach pinball nudging, any traditional instructor would say, “that seems like a lot of work to teach what is essentially one simple statement.” If you were becoming a pinball expert, however, you would absolutely need the deeper approach.

To see how he makes a great analogy to teaching “big skills,” read more at <http://tinyurl.com/nyajv>

Your Invitation to CLENE Events at Annual

ALA Annual Conference June 22-28, 2006, New Orleans **CLENE Meetings**

Friday, June 23	Time TBA	CLENE Past Presidents' Dinner	Room TBA
Saturday, June 24	8:00 a.m. - noon	CLENE Board Meeting	Room TBA
Saturday, June 24	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Good CLENE Fun	Room TBA
Sunday, June 25	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	CLENE Training Showcase	Room TBA
Monday, June 26	8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	CLENE Board Meeting	Room TBA
Monday, June 26	1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	CLENE Staff Development Group	Room TBA

For more information from ALA about the conference, see the website at
<http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2006a/2006an.htm>

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