

# Yaki-talk

December 1997

The Yakima Valley Regional Library Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 11

## Book Sale a HUGE Success!

When we put out the cart of surplus and donated books at the Yakima Library, we had hoped that our customers would buy the items they found there. And buy they have! We started the first of September, and so far, we have sold over \$1,000 worth of books and other materials!

The advertisement that has appeared in the Yakima Herald Republic several times has helped to publicize this new service. We owe a big "THANKS" to the Circulation staff, who have taken great pride in keeping the cart stocked, and in answering customers' questions. *(submitted by Linda McCracken, Adult Services)*

## Wapato Friends Will Help Pay Wiring Costs

Mickey Wittner reports that the Wapato Friends of the Library have volunteered to pay half of the cost of the wiring required for the new computers. This is a big help to the city of Wapato, which started the year in debt and had no reserves to cover unexpected wiring costs. These are Friends indeed!

## New Bar Codes Are Route to Cleaning Up the Database

We will be putting new bar-codes on all cataloged books as part of converting to the new automated system. This re-bar coding project is tentatively scheduled for February through April, 1998. The help of alert, accurate volunteers may be necessary to accomplish this project on schedule, so keep your eyes open for likely prospects!

We knew from the start that all customers would need new cards because of the large number of duplicate cards and more stringent Post Office requirements for how addresses can be typed.

However, we originally thought we could continue to use the bar codes currently on the books. Unfortunately, many of the records in our database for those bar codes are linked to the wrong author/title record. We have a "dirty database," in computer lingo.

The big question was, should we transfer our dirty database to the shiny new system? Or should we invest a lot of time and effort in catching the mistakes now, before we go live with the new system? It would be quick and cheap to use our dirty data, but the staff and public would continue to be frustrated by inaccurate records. People might think the errors were due to a faulty new system, rather than bad data we put into it.

After much discussion, Anne Haley stated that "Our goal is that the OPAC [on-line public access catalog] accurately represents what is on the shelf." And the most efficient way to clean up the database is to put on new bar codes.

First the bibliographic records on our current system will be upgraded to full MARC (machine readable cataloging, including subject headings). Then we will get sheets of "smart bar codes" printed out for each community library, in the order the books are supposed to be on the shelf. These bar codes will include the title and call number of the book the bar code goes on. If the book matches the bar code, we slap the code on and leave the book on the shelf. We will pull all books without a matching bar code, and HQ will recheck bar codes for which there was no book. Mis-matches will be entered correctly, then sent back out to the shelf. Missing books will be written off, so this will also function as an inventory of our collection.

It is a big undertaking, but when we are done, we won't have to apologize for sending the customer an overdue for a title they have never seen. And we will be able to trust the computer when it says a certain book is checked in. What an improvement!



## 'Tis the Season to be Thankful

The winter solstice and the turn of the calendar is a time to pause and acknowledge everyone's generosity during this past year. Thank you!!

Dee & Sydney Abbate  
Jeanette Assink  
Frank & Suzanne Bacon  
Carolyn Barlow  
Sister Georgette Bayless  
Erma Berkley  
Leona Bouche  
George Boyd  
Terry Brearley  
Mary Buchanan  
Wendy Burns  
Billie Chamberlin  
Fran Covey  
Nancy Dehart  
Neil & Doris Dickinson  
Dale & Mary Jo Dreeszen  
John Durkee  
Dennis Evans  
Jeannie Ferguson  
Teresa Ferguson  
Fraternal Order of Eagles  
Gleed Fire Department  
Jean Garrison  
Gayla Grow  
Ann Harris  
Kathy Hay  
Norie Hellman  
Rich Hills  
Barbara Hood  
Terry Horrocks  
Miriam Hubbard  
Pat Ibatuan  
Doug Johnson  
Darwin & Dolores Kanyer  
Linda King  
Mary Labberton  
Dick Lafontaine  
Craig Lancaster  
Michele Lawrence  
Emily Lemaster  
Nancy Lemaster  
Marilyn Lewis  
Jack Lines  
Lower Naches Grange  
Lower Naches PTSA  
Eric Martinen  
Diana McInnes  
Ella Melik  
Susan Moran  
Allen Nicholson  
Bob Pace  
Marsha Pastrana  
Leslie Pettyjohn  
Kosel & Joan Phipps  
Danny Rangel  
Marbarett Rennie  
Mr&Mrs Julio Renteria  
Nancy & Bryce Richardson  
Mitch Rohlf  
Sara Rose  
Blanca Sagies  
Garrit Schilperoor  
Al & Betty Schram  
Selah Camp Fire Leaders Association  
"Shooting Stars" Camp Fire Group  
Donean Sinsel  
Mr&Mrs Jack Sisk  
Tim St. Hilaire  
Bill Stobaugh  
Sunrise Rotary Club  
Terrace Heights Federated Women's  
Janet Thielen  
Tieton City Hall  
Toppenish Eagles Auxiliary #2229  
Troop 216  
Lucille Washburn  
L.W.P. & Carol West  
Audrey Williams  
Yakima Herald-Republic  
Yakima Stamp  
Michael Young  
Peggy Zeebuyth  
Nina Zutter

Stu & Betty Alvord  
BB&R Farms  
Melissa Barbee  
Rich Barnhart  
Bob & JoAnn Bell  
Mike Bertsch  
Lorinda Bowden  
Helen Bradley  
Theresa Bronson  
Mr&Mrs Ray Buchnam  
Arletta Byington  
Margaret Classen  
Gail Daniels  
Anne Dellinger  
Betty Dominquez  
Earl Drumm  
Loretta Edwards  
Diane Fergus  
Mary Ferguson  
Greg Fitzgerald  
Mary Garcia  
Cynthia Garrick  
Mrs. L.J. Gavin  
Dan Guzman  
Richard Hartwell  
Wayne Heffner  
Mr&Mrs Chester Henderson  
Eve Hollingberry  
Horizon Republic Club  
Ruth Hough  
Nettle Hull  
Doug Jenkins  
Junior League of Yakima  
Dave Kellet  
Doug Kuehn  
Richard LaCourse  
Ada Lambert  
Freda Laughlin  
Richard LaCourse  
Molly Lemaster  
Nancy Lessard  
Betty Linden  
Lower Naches Garden Club  
Lower Naches Lion's Club  
Lower Naches Woman's Club  
Carol, Paige & Chrissa Mathis  
Curtis & Sharon McVay  
Bessie Milner  
Moxee Library League  
Carolyn Norton  
Susan, Ray, Louis & David Paoletta  
Keith & Janet Patrick  
Margaret Phillips  
Gerald & Janice Pickard  
Dell Rankin  
David Renteria  
Pauline Renteria  
Theresa Riel  
Jennifer Rose  
Al Ruffcorn  
Israel Sanchez  
William Schilperoor  
Paula Schuel  
Burt Shelby  
Jane Simmons  
JoAnne Sires  
Pharaby Springstead  
Deborah Stillson  
Ruth Strang  
Kaye Taguchi  
Club  
Glenda Tharnberg  
Ken & Katie Toop  
Sister Sylvia Troncoso  
Bessie Turner  
Joan Weber  
Arvie Willard  
Wendy Wilson  
Yakima Literacy Coalition  
Yakima Women's Republic Club  
Pam Young  
Zonta International

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Dear Question Lady,

A few years ago some people began calling Indians "Native Americans." This year I have kids coming in to the library who seem to have never used the term "Indians." A couple of days ago when I was talking to a little girl asking for "books about Native Americans," I felt funny using the term "Indians."

Does this mean that someday I will be comfortable calling patrons "customers?"

Signed,

Just Wondering (Is there hope for me?)

Dear Wondering,

Of course there is hope for you! You have already shown great aptitude for learning new vocabulary in your work language, library-ese\*. It's not easy learning LSL (Library-ese as a Second Language) on the job, but you may find it easier if you attend all meetings of the LSL support group. (In Yaki-Talk, these are commonly referred to as "General Staff Meetings.")

You can even form your own support group with co-workers or family members. Practice is the best way to learn, and it helps if you are not the only one walking around muttering "customer" under your breath for practice. Before you know it, you will be thinking--and dreaming--in Library-ese.

Signed,

Dear ? Lady

P. S. Rumor has it that you shouldn't become too attached to "hold" (as in "There is a hold on his card since he's got six overdue"). Start practicing "block" instead, to prepare for the day when you say "There is no block on your card, so we can place a hold for that book you requested."

\*Often mispronounced as "lie berries"

**Statistics Note:** When we asked the Office for the full Statistical Report in time for today's deadline, they asked if we wanted them to work on the statistics, or our paychecks. Therefore, we are including statistics for just the community libraries, below, and looking forward to getting our paychecks on time.



## "Say What?"

Margaret Phillips, who handles acquisitions, (the ordering and receiving of library materials) told us this story. Several weeks ago she had a stack of boxes for pick-up by UPS. We were returning a batch of old leased McNaughton books which we weren't interested in buying for the permanent collection.

The regular UPS man was out sick, so his supervisor finally showed up to do the pick-up. Margaret asked him "Are you going to take the McNaughtons today?"

"I don't know if I should or not," he stammered, looking very taken aback.

The stack of boxes was cramping Margaret's small office, so she told him she'd have to insist he take it. "I just don't have room for all these books," she explained.

"Books?!" he exclaimed. "I thought you were talking about MacNaughton's Scotch whiskey!" Margaret said he thought she was bribing the regular delivery guy to handle all her heavy boxes.

Happy Holidays, everybody!

Library	November Circulation	Reference
Buena	463	0
Gleed	246	4
Granger	1,639	50
Harrah	103	0
Mabton	1,016	104
Moxee	1,042	156
Naches	494	8
Nile	213	0
Selah	3,281	261
Southeast	79	0
Summitview	14,292	283
Sunnyside	6,506	229
Terrace Hts	644	34
Tieton	252	7
Toppenish	2,475	91
Union Gap	1,465	107
Wapato	1,900	102
White Swan	340	23
Zillah	654	22
C. L. Sub-total	<u>37,104</u>	<u>1,481</u>

From the December 19th General Staff Meeting:

### **VALUES AND PRINCIPLES OF THE YAKIMA VALLEY REGIONAL LIBRARY**

ACCOUNTABILITY  
CUSTOMER SATISFACTION  
COMMUNICATION  
COMPASSION  
CONSISTENCY  
CREATIVITY  
EMPOWERMENT  
HONESTY  
PROFESSIONALISM  
SELF-INITIATIVE  
TEAMWORK  
VISION