



N E W S

::: OCTOBER 2001 :::



Hats off to your library!

Send in your invigorating outreach programs, vitalizing in-house projects, and extraordinary examples of what your library is doing so we can spread the inspirational wealth in our December issue.

31 oct 01

Wow... **this is a great idea**. I've recommended that our library create a similar document for our redesign. Even more, I hope that Style Guides like this one become the norm rather than the progressive in the near future. It just makes good sense. [**Rogue Librarian**] Another example that's been around for a long time is **Yale's Style Guide**. **JB**

30 oct 01

I'm getting ready to teach a Web Pub II workshop. Today we're going to learn more HTML mark-up, talk about standards, get a nifty little intro to CSS, download images and incorporate them into their files, review FTP, and more friendly stuff of the same. Students who weren't in Web Pub I will get to mark-up my file: **free-associating-filler du jour**. **JB**

I've always thought librarians should have their own prime-time show, say, Monday at 9PM. I've grown weary of cops, lawyers (unless they also run a bowling alley), doctors, and latexed vigilantes. I'm ready for heated debates on appropriate subject headings and fights resulting over the stress of processing too many RUSHES or GIFTS. I want to see the clever reference exchange scintillated with a suprising undercurrent of sexual tension and red-faced desire! Give me prophetic words swarming from a Lynch-like weirdo that connect the dots of upcoming episodes!! Librarians go prime time. Yes? Apparently, somebody else thinks so too. **NYPL Blue**. Sunday nights at 10:00. Not exactly what I had in mind. **JB**

29 oct 01

It looks like **Microsoft has backed down** and opened up MSN.com to almost all browsers. If anything, this is a hopeful example of how knowledgeable and ardent voices can influence web politics. As a bonus, Microsoft comes off looking like an ass. [**Zeldman**] **JB**

26 oct 01

"Attention: Web Browser Upgrade Required to View MSN.com"

"If you are seeing this page, we have detected that the browser that you are using will not render MSN.com correctly. Additionally, you'll see the most advanced functionality of MSN.com only with the latest version of Microsoft Internet Explorer or MSN Explorer. If you wish to visit MSN.com, please select the appropriate download link below."

This is the message you get if you use any standards-compliant browser except Internet Explorer or (surprisingly!) Netscape (I tried it on Netscape 4.78 and 6.1, Opera 5, and Mozilla, only one of which is not **standards-compliant**).

This might be a blatant form of anti-competition on Microsoft's part, but I think it's more likely just another example of how little they understand (or care about) **W3C standards**. Shame on Microsoft! [via **Zeldman**] **CB**

ADAMITISM: Going naked for God. More sesquipedalian sex words to impress your colleagues and make new friends with **here**. **JB**

There are all sorts of sick people out there of which libraries tend to attract their fair share of. In this library alone, I've witnessed a few, most notably, the guy with the amputee fetish. And the guy who gyrates in his chair while hovering over the computer screen bugs me too. But **this** takes the cake. Some things, I really don't care to understand. **JB**

The **new beauty of info-streams**; the forge of spiraled tributaries on the cast of traditional linearise and their effect on information aesthetics and visual culture. **JB**

25 oct 01

I never knew that Russia had so many public libraries... in fact, that it **easily outnumbered** everyone else. Source: *UNESCO's Statistical Yearbook* as compiled in Kurian's Illustrated Book of World Rankings. **JB**

Radical Urban Theory: an independent web-only journal and labor of love. **JB**

Whoops... the Maya Angelou bit from yesterday is old news. Oakland has hired a bonafide librarian, and her name is Carmen Miranda... excuse me, **Carmen Martinez**. [Thanks, Scott] **JB**

24 oct 01

Hi. **I'm Fiona, and I'm a librarian**. And I have excellent taste in music. **JB**

Oh look! It's the Shadout Mapes playing the **stereotypical mousy librarian** in an impressive double-play anime. She's kinda bloated in the mouth though, dontcha think? **JB**

Sweet Baby Jesus! As a walloping votary of Cuban music, I would love to be the lucky librarian processing **this very generous gift!** [**geek**] The line about *saying goodbye to something* reminds me of **Hedwig's five inches...** have you seen it yet? Great flick. **JB**

Since when did being famous qualify someone for library director? If Jerry Brown has his way, Maya Angelou may just fill that position for Oakland's Library System. Afterall, celebrity **status overrides administrative leadership** and qualified professionalism, doesn't it? [**NewPages**] **JB**

Profile of an **Island Librarian**. [**librarian.net**] **JB**

An impressive and extensive worldwide **directory for newspapers**. Check your hometown and (hopefully) you'll see what I mean. **JB**

23 oct 01

Small Press Distribution: a non-profit book distributor exclusively dedicated to literary titles. Their library outreach includes an approval plan, a newsletter, *Open Stacks*, and discounts. **JB**

If you teach about quality of information on the 'net, take note: **the Internet is serious business** these days when it comes to current events reporting and analysis. [link via **NewsTrolls**] **CB**

22 oct 01

Library director resigns over ban of poppy sales - "it was a crazy decision and it offends my sense of values as a Canadian." Amen, sister. More on **Canadians and poppies**. **CB**

I did my MLS in London, Ontario, and remember almost never stepping foot into the ailing downtown Galleria - like many others - but that may change for a lot of people when they **move the central library** into one of its anchor store spaces. **CB**

The debate over **overseas sweatshop labor** hits the digital library world. **CB**

Anarchist Librarians gets a face lift and an upgrade. **JB**

19 oct 01

More in **Letters**. We're changing our font sizes and styles based on what our readers have been telling us. Screw JB and her insistence on small fonts. Mwaaaaahahahaha! **CB**

Conference on electronic publishing 11/5-7 in DC: [E-Book 2001: Authors, Accessibility, & Applications](#) - with the recent announcement from NetLibrary, it might be an opportunity to find out what other changes may be in the works for the e-book biz. **CB**

More angst on the scholarly publishing front: [40 computer scientists abandon print for the online competition](#). **CB**

18 oct 01

Do you know of a library that kicks some serious culo? We're looking for invigorating outreach programs, vitalizing in-house projects, and extraordinary examples of what libraries are doing to make themselves an integral part of their community. If you know of any such programs, [send 'em on in!](#) We want to share the inspirational wealth in our December issue. **JB**

17 oct 01

Huh... does anyone use [this approach](#)? It sounds a bit gestapo to me. More honey, less vinegar recommended. **JB**

Tell me, what is America's most hedonistic city? The city that care forgot? The Paris of America? Hmmm? Look in [Nicknames and Sobriquets of U.S. Cities and States](#).

LCSH:

- [Names, Geographical United States](#)
- [Nicknames United States](#)

JB

A directory of [Progressive Librarians Around the World](#). **JB**

The San Antonio Express-News is looking for a [student intern](#): 12-week, 40-hour paid position - summer 2002. Deadline: 01 NOV 2001. **JB**

16 oct 01

[News Librarian Avatar](#) (on valium). **JB**

Jays, how screwed up is [this](#)? You *look* like a terrorist, son... no chemistry for you! Should libraries start limiting what kinds of books we check out to suspect people? [Red Rock Eaters] **JB**

Another [article on library blogs](#). It's a good one. [Exciting, isn't it?](#) [Thanks, Steven] **JB**

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution is looking for one brilliant student interested in pursuing a career in News Research to apply for their [paid internship](#) for 2002. Deadline: 15 DEC 2001. **JB**

The [skinny on Anthrax](#). Causes, symptoms, treatment, etc. [\[B&R\]](#). I've heard in some cities, the Anthrax Scare has gotten in the way of [hashing](#)... sad state of affairs for us hashers. **JB**

Forget the card, where can I get that [Librarian Superhero](#) shirt?! **JB**

15 oct 01

New and improved! Now you can read NBL at your preferred font size. **CB**

[Uncle Frank on Cuban libraries](#): "Any government that tries to control what its citizens read is evil." **JB**

One of my favorite contributors at LISNews, Ryan Shepard, has set up his own blog. For more progressive librarianship, bookmark [infolibre](#). **JB**

Ever thought of becoming a news librarian? You might want to check out [A Day in the Life of a News Librarian](#) from the Special Libraries Association [News Division](#). **JB**

14 oct 01

[NetLibrary is up FOR SALE](#). **JB**

[The vulnerability of free speech](#): Campuses are trying to sort out the tradition of debate and academic freedom in the wake of terrorist attacks. What commentary is protected, and what is beyond the pale? At this point, at least two professors have been penalized. **JB**

[Rory's](#) put together [Librarians Against War](#). It includes the Peace Telegram, sent to President Roosevelt by the Progressive Librarians Council in 1940 and other letters, such as a current Emergency Declaration. **JB**

12 oct 01

Do books still matter? You bet they do. Especially in prison, where the Internet is not allowed and the library has its own black market goin' on: titles for favors. Literature has power - and every librarian knows it. Do yourself a favor and read this engaging article about a [maximum-security prison library](#) in New York. Written by a library student during his summer internship at Eastern Correctional Facility. **JB**

Thousands of new web sites are launched everyday. Today, David Lynch [gets ready](#) to launch [his](#). **JB**

"[The library was my refuge](#), the only place I had outside my inner world. The library saved me." Libraries: a harbor for artists, the unconventional, and the borderless. **JB**

Where do you stand on [Debbie Does Dallas*](#) (scroll down to *Debbie gets hostile*)? Selection or censorship? And when does one crossover to the other? Additional comments to Jaffe's remarks from [Sandy Berman](#).

*For Library Journal log in:
E-Mail: crew@newbreedlibrarian.org
Password: newbreed
JB

11 oct 01

Why aren't libraries doing [this](#)? Amazon continually finds ways to add value to records, helping people access what they're looking for. Just yesterday, we were talking about Blackwell's ridiculously expensive [Table Of Contents service](#) at a reference meeting. We agreed that adding TOC info to the catalog would be a big help - but how? Who is going to do it? My question is, how does Amazon continue to do it? **JB**

I actually know a guy who uses "[dig it](#)" to hyphenate his steady stream of logorrhea. It used to make me laugh. Now I simply cringe. [[NewPages](#)] **JB**

[What makes Web Sites Credible?](#) [pdf] For an excellent synopsis, read [Shirley's highlights](#) of the study. [[Digital Web](#)] **JB**

10 oct 01

Our [current feature](#) author redesigns his digital home with intelligent sophistication. Voilà, the new [v-2.org](#)! **JB**

Union goes to bat for a UCLA librarian who was [suspended for criticizing U.S. foreign policy](#) in an email message. **CB**

09 oct 01

[Glacier National Park](#), located in Northwest Montana, is currently [accepting applications](#) for a Librarian. Deadline: 19 October 2001. **JB**

"The Academy's main objective was to work for the 'purity, vigour and majesty' of the Swedish language, i.e. its clarity, expressiveness and prestige. To attain this objective the Academy was to produce, among other things, 'a dictionary and grammar of the Swedish language, together with such treatises as may contribute to stability and the promotion of good taste'. In addition the Academy was to

arrange annual competitions in eloquence and poetry on specified subjects. As prizes the King offered two gold medals for the best works and two silver medals for the second best." [History of the Swedish Academy](#).

The [Nobel Prize in Literature](#) will be announced on Thursday. The Nobel Prize in [Physiology or Medicine](#) for 2001 was awarded yesterday. **JB**

I use an example similar to [this one](#) when I'm explaining the concept of *controlled vocabulary* to undergrads. I tell them nobody expects to see "Soy Sauce" [keyword] up on the aisle header; we expect [the subject heading] "Ethnic Foods" - the umbrella term that encompasses all the keyword items.

This conceptualization seems to help them understand when and why to use subject headings over keywords, or the other way around. **JB**

08 oct 01

November may see the end of a [long-standing battle](#) between the local library and town government in Long Island. **CB**

The [battle of the banner ads heats up](#) - now there's ad blocking blocking software. When will it end? [link via [NewsTrolls](#)] **CB**

Why [IKEA is a good example of information architecture](#). [link via [Bloug](#)] **CB**

Two recommendations from [library news daily](#):

- [E-Journal Miner](#) - lists ejournals and other online serials that are available from publishers or directly from their producer
- [invisible-web.net](#) - companion to *The Invisible Web: Finding Hidden Internet Resources Search Engines Can't See* by Chris Sherman and Gary Price **CB**

[Nicholas Negroponte on fear of technology](#): "When plumbing was introduced to villages, namely, bringing water to each home, some argued that the fabric of society was being destroyed in that the village well or river bank would no longer be the locus of communal washing. Women would stay indoors and do their laundry. Today we look upon that as silly and are not about to trade in our bathrooms and kitchen s. Instead, society has found other means of community." [link via [Remarkd Bookmarks](#)] **CB**

[Barcode](#), a graphical editorial. **JB**

How did people use the Internet - Google in particular - to inform themselves of the September 11th attacks? How did [Google evolve](#) as a result? **JB**

[Infodiversity, meme-sex, and Media Carta](#): For robust culture, propagate memes from the bottom up. **JB**

05 oct 01

This past summer a bunch of us got together to overhaul the library's web publishing curriculum, and we're just about ready to take it for a spin (the first workshop is 10/17). To help folks out, I put together a [web site](#) with workshop outlines, exercises, and curriculum resources. I just finished validating the code. **CB**

A [letter](#) from Mitch Freedman. **CB**

[Put that in your bun and smoke it!](#) **CB**

[8 photographs from Ground Zero](#), cataloging the slow progress. Taken by [my friend](#) who is a part of the EPA's response team for this project. **JB**

[Webcamming the writing process](#). My guess is that this will be of more interest to cognitive researchers than to those enrolled in creative writing. **JB**

The [Henry Miller Library](#), located in Big Sur, CA, promotes the literature and art of Henry Miller. It also serves as a social center for the local community by providing a gallery/performance/workshop space for artists, writers, musicians, and students. People have even been married here. The library was created by Miller's long time friend and one-time personal secretary, Emil White. Public Internet access is available.

I finally got around to starting *Tropic of Capricorn*. This book had been missing from the library for some time, preventing me from reading it until now. I especially like [this passage](#). It reminds me of doing the same, only with [my brother](#) and in reference to my father's Classic Comic Books. We read and lived through these stories for entire summers - the summers that came between no television (in a desperate and heroic attempt to gain our attention, my mother had cut the cable chord with a hefty pair of sewing scissors one Saturday morning) - and no driver's license. **JB**

"I feel this way about it. World trade means world peace and consequently the World Trade Center buildings in New York ... had a bigger purpose than just to provide room for tenants. The World Trade Center is a living symbol of man's dedication to world peace ... beyond the compelling need to make this a monument to world peace, the World Trade Center should, because of its importance, become a representation of man's belief in humanity, his need for individual dignity, his beliefs in the cooperation of men, and [through cooperation, his ability to find greatness](#)."

Minoru Yamasaki, Architect of the World Trade Center **JB**

A [t-shirt database](#) constructed by library school students using [cataloging instructions](#) to catalog 533 t-shirts including this one, [Adventures of the Incredible Librarian](#). **JB**

04 oct 01

Adding a [third dimension to the Web](#). **JB**

[A Plague of Banned Books](#). [NewPages] **JB**

Do libraries have [surveillance mirrors](#) these days?? Silliness from the *Onion*. [[LISNews.com](#)] **JB**

LISNews has some folks [commenting about our Freedman interview on salaries](#). "FINALLY - the "salary issue" ... I think I will be holding back my check for ALA membership until I see something more than talk. P.S. Skip the Don Saklad chronically-voluminous-bilge and begin with the third post. **JB**

[A Common Ground](#) serves as a forum for students to express their opinions on intellectual freedom and social responsibility... "Please don't let your professors be the only ones to enjoy your work. Submit your papers so that others can learn and benefit from your well spent time and energy." **JB**

03 oct 01

She's even wearing the essential [little black dress](#). [[librarian.net](#)] **JB**

The [CIA is looking for library science graduates](#). **JB**

[The web works because HTML is an open system](#). **JB**

"It really is enough to know that the wire bins were empty at Dunkin' Donuts." A reader's response to Carrie Bickner's essay now available in [Letters](#). **CB**

Lisez-vous français? La revue électronique [Hermès](#) offre des «textes critiques portant sur la société de l'information, les communications et la société actuelle.» Some articles in English, too. **CB**

Hampshire College takes no prisoners when it comes to selecting the [software that runs their web sites](#). **CB**

If *Lolita* had been written today, [would Nabokov have ended up in a cell](#) next to Dalton? **JB**

A [helpful reading list](#) from Politics and Prose Bookstore in Washington, DC. [Red Rock Eaters] **JB**

02 oct 01

The phrases "Huh?" and "Whoa, Nelly" keep playing through my head as I try to comprehend the current controversy over the W3C's [Draft Patent Policy](#). The upshot: companies and individuals holding patents on open standards technologies (such as those the web is built upon) could spell bad news for web developers and users. [Join the fray](#). More at [Zeldman](#) and [DigitalWeb](#). **CB**

"[It's Never Too Early](#)" - Librarians, trained in early literacy, are helping little kids to read before they start school. **JB**

Sipos is [keeping her fingers crossed](#) while Vancouver's [WA] latest library goes up. **JB**

I wonder what [this technology](#) could do for Interlibrary Loan? **JB**

01 oct 01

Mitch Freedman's interview on [library salaries](#) is now available. **CB**

This month, I'm pleased to present Adam Greenfield of [v-2.org](#) and [Rogue Librarian](#), Carrie Bickner. I try to read every piece of brilliance Adam puts out there and encourage you to read his [frankly antiquarian rant](#). In [People](#), Carrie writes to us from New York. It's a reflective piece on the aftermath of September 11th. This has been an especially rewarding issue for us as we continue to find radiant and fantastic people willing to contribute to NewBreed Librarian. **JB**

My grandmother turned 88 yesterday, and today is International Day for the Elderly - sounds like a day worth celebrating. Also today, a new issue debuts: **CB**

- **FEATURE:** Making wise decisions in an age of all-pervasive digital technology
- **INTERVIEW:** Mitch Freeman on library salaries
- **TECHTALK:** PDAs and Libraries
- **PEOPLE:** Reflections in the aftermath of September 11
- **ASK SUSU:** Am I scared of change?

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