

Indexers Ink



The Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the American Society of Indexers

www.pnwasi.org

Winter 2007

Tenth Anniversary Banquet by JD O'Connor

The 2006 Fall Meeting and Tenth Anniversary Celebration of The Pacific Northwest Chapter of the American Society of Indexers held October 7, 2006, in Olympia, WA, culminated with a banquet dinner at Tugboat Annie's Restaurant. It was a time for meeting attendees to discuss the full day of sessions and to network with fellow professionals in a more relaxed setting.

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Following a buffet dinner, the Board introduced the founding members present. These were Elspeth Pope, Carolyn Weaver, Kari Kells, Julie Kawabata, and Louise Martin. Sherry Smith presented Volunteer Recognition awards to and acknowledged the efforts of the numerous individuals who provided service to the chapter throughout the previous year. After this came the much-awaited raffle for the items of art, books, and homemade objects donated by various individuals and organizations, from teddy bears, to artwork, to personally created books.

The keynote speaker for the evening was Charlee Trantino of Pennsylvania, the 2006 winner of the H.W. Wilson Award for Excellence in Indexing, for her index to *A Skeleton Key to Finnegans Wake: Unlocking James Joyce's Masterwork*, by Joseph Campbell and Henry Morton Robinson. She won us over with her humorous and humble sharing of the circumstances that led to her receiving such a prestigious award and, because of it, how delighted she was to learn that "there most certainly is a society—and you are not only organized but totally amazing." She went on to say that "You have very much changed my world." Because indexing is often a solitary employment, her comments reinforced for me how important it is to take advantage of the community available through local and regional indexing associations, such our Pacific Northwest Chapter. We have



A display at the 10th Anniversary meeting introduced the PNW chapter founding members.

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opportunities to gather together with other indexers, to network and learn from others, and to share knowledge. It is wonderful to be able to talk to others who, as Charlee put it, “understand what I go through every working day because you all struggle with the same issues...” How nice it is to be able to discuss the intricacies of an index structure or the detailed difficulties of speedy revision without the other person staring glassy-eyed before us.

As a result of her visit with us, Charlee decided to become a member of our chapter. We warmly welcome her to our ranks and, while she may not be able to visit as often as we like, we will be able to maintain contact through our association.

The full text of Charlee’s speech follows.

Thank you Colleen.

Tech Corner ***PopChar Utility by Ergonis*** ***by Cathy Martz***

Have you ever needed to index a name with a foreign character, such as a circumflex, umlaut, or dieresis, and had to spend time trying to find the right keyboard shortcut? What about other symbols, such as the cent sign, division sign, pound or euro symbols?

Ergonis makes a handy utility for both Mac and PC users called PopChar.

Whenever you need a special character, PopChar is there to help. After downloading, click the “P” in the menu bar to display a table of characters. Select the desired character and it instantly appears in your document. PopChar works seamlessly with Cindex and Word. (At this writing, we haven’t found a Sky or Macrex user who has tried PopChar, but it should work.)

PopChar X supports Unicode fonts with thousands of characters available. Just switch from ASCII to Unicode to see all of them, neatly arranged in the standard Unicode categories.

Web designers will especially enjoy the ability to insert HTML symbols.

PopChar has a demo and free trial version at www.ergonis.com. A full single license costs \$29.99. 📖

Above all else I need to tell you how deeply I am touched by your invitation to speak to you today. It is a singular honor, and one I appreciate from the bottom of my heart.

As some of you know about me, before the phone call last spring from Deborah Patton telling me that I had won the Wilson Award, I was working totally alone...sitting there in my second floor office in a 150 year old farmhouse looking out at barns, hills, fields, and...cows. Lots of cows. What did I know about other indexers out there beyond the cows? Bumpkis. Nada. Nothing at all.

Then came Deborah’s phone call to tell me I had won the award, a phone call which didn’t go at all as she or I expected. Let me explain. Deborah is a Patton. My mother was a Patton, the oldest girl in a family of sixteen kids. Where I live in the Endless Mountains of Pennsylvania every other person is literally either a Traver, Crispbell, Sickler, Smith...or Patton.

When I answered the ringing phone that evening, the voice on the other end innocently said, “Hello is this Charlee Trantino?”

“Yes,” I said suspiciously, figuring it was some sales rep.

“This is Deborah Patton,” she said.

My mind raced. Deborah Patton? Which cousin was this? A second cousin? A cousin once removed? My heart sped up and my breath caught because my next question was Who died? The primary reason Pattons I couldn’t remember called, and usually in the evening and out of the blue was to tell me: “Aunt Milly died. Your cousin Perry over in Noxen died. Aunt Beulah died (I kid you not I had an Aunt Beulah). And so these thoughts tumbled through my reeling brain as I awaited the bad news.

But no...Deborah’s next sentence was... “Are you the Charlee who’s the indexer?”



Sherry Smith hands out certificates of appreciation to PNW founding members (left to right) Elspeth Pope, Carolyn Weaver, Kari Kells, Louise Martin, and Julie Kawabata at the 10th Anniversary celebration.

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“Yes,” I said now thoroughly puzzled.

“Well I’m pleased to tell you that you’ve won the ASI H.W. Wilson Award for Excellence for 2006.”

“Huh?” I said, with my usual wit and brilliance.

And that began it all. Like coming upon one of those soldiers who hid in the jungles of a Pacific island and didn’t know the war was over, Deborah and ASI found me, brought me out of the woods so to speak...and said me: Hey Charlee, there are lots of us out here. You are not alone...Come join us. Or in the immortal words of *The Price is Right*, CHARLEE TRANTINO, COME ON DOWN!

Wow.

So I did.

And now you’re asking...how could she have been so...so...so out of touch.

I was just out there trying to make a living while trying to write the great American novel...taking care of 11 cats and two dogs (the present count, it is subject to change daily), and running an antique store. Sure I knew there must be other indexers, but I had also written cover copy for upteen years and Les Weckelbaum — yes Virginia, there is a Les Weckelbaum — had tried for decades to organize us freelancers and failed, so I never pursued the idea there could be a society of indexers.

But I soon discovered after Deborah’s phone call there is, there most certainly is a society — and you are not only organized but totally amazing. I mean that. I’ve been blown away. You have very much changed my world...

Of course sometimes I still feel like the odd man out. When I got to Toronto I walked into the main meeting room to see all the tables organized by SIGs. Once I determined that a SIG was a Special Interest Group, I glanced around for my specialty — Rush jobs.

Doggone it, there was no table for that.

I’m serious! The primary reason publishers call me...and call me...and call me is that there is a note affixed to my file in their offices saying... Call Charlee when panicked...desperate...or need an index yesterday. Since the production people I work with at Doubleday, Random House, HarperCollins, and Warner are frequently panicked and desperate, I get called a lot to meet insane deadlines. It makes for a steady stream of work, but it doesn’t make for a lot of sleep.

But I digress. Back to me and the world of indexers. I also found out that you understand what I go through every working day because you all struggle with the same issues, from those dealing with the creation of an index to those dealing with how to collect from slow payers. I also discovered to my delight that you are smart, and some of you are so smart it dazzles me. You are risk takers. You are entrepreneurs. And you dare to go where no indexer has gone before...and more on that later.

And perhaps most important, I found out that indexers evidently fit a personality profile...it’s true...and to my lasting delight and total amazement, at Toronto I met people who shared my interests, and my quirks, and who quickly became friends. The experience was mind-boggling and wonderful.

And one other momentous thing happened at Toronto. I came out of the indexing Stone Age and acquired software.

Yes, I created my ASI-H. W. Wilson Award index without indexing software. That sounds worse that it is. To back up for a moment I started creating indexes around 1990. I had rekeyed indexes for years before that. I never used index cards. I always worked directly on the computer and pretty quickly came up with my own version of “software.” It allowed me to work fast — and as the rush job queen that was a sine qua non. How fast? For example in 2004 I created 64 indexes...and wrote my first vampire book. If I couldn’t work fast, I’d be in deep doo-doo. So what I had created did the job...for the most part. What my “software” couldn’t do was alphabetize. That lack always made editing and proofreading a nerve-wracking experience. So was I open to new technology? Of course I was.

At Toronto I met the people from the three indexing software companies, tried all the programs, and ended up with SKY. It works just fine...and it’s terrific for data entry. But for indexes that require a great deal of crafting because of the difficulty of the subject matter...or the fuzziness of the concepts...I found my old system facilitated the writing of the index. Would I now give up my SKY software and return to my own system? No...of course not. It would be foolish to keep struggling with alphabetizing and punctuation. For some indexes however, such as the last one I finished about the father-son relationship between George Washington and Lafayette, I ended up using a combination of both SKY and my old system.

And in truth, for the Campbell index and a book so difficult it required all my intellectual strengths to work on it,

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it may have been a blessing I didn't have software. Because, fellow indexers, as you can guess, the index for *A Skeleton Key for Finnegans Wake* by Joseph Campbell and Henry Morton Robinson was a bear to work on...but it was also a labor of love. It was a difficult index for a very difficult book about an impossibly difficult novel.

Campbell himself described *Finnegan's Wake* as "The strange dream and the strange black book that celebrates it." Ezra Pound said after encountering *Finnegan's Wake*: "I will have another go at it, but up to the present I make nothing of it whatever." And Joyce's own brother Stanislaus asked, "What is the meaning of that rout of drunken



Carol Roberts and Charlee Trantino, featured speakers at the PNW 10th Anniversary celebration held in Olympia, Washington on October 7, 2006.

words?"

Readers have been asking that ever since. But when I first turned to Campbell's *Skeleton Key*, back in the late 1970s, for help in penetrating what seemed so impenetrable, I found the *Skeleton Key* unhelpful. The explanations I longed for were in it, but I couldn't ACCESS them. Who was this "Bygmester Finnegan of the Stuttering Hand? Who was Humphrey Chimpden Earwicker, aka H.C.E. or Here Comes Everybody, who appeared to be the protagonist of the book? Campbell does reveal that in his *Skeleton Key* but where? His own writing style is not linear. It is less convoluted than Joyce's, but Campbell himself is a difficult read. As a graduate student in English literature, I soon became frustrated with both books and gave up. I returned to *Finnegan's Wake* many times over the years, dipped in and out, delighted in the language, but never got very far in it and never understood it at all.

For me creating the index for Campbell's book was like digging for buried treasure. Piece by piece I was unlocking the *Skeleton Key*...opening up Campbell's astonishing insights and trying to organize them in a way that had logic and was ACCESSIBLE.

Campbell said that Joyce had a secret he was trying to tell in the pages of *Finnegans Wake*. I'm not entirely convinced of that and I don't know what the secret is, but now with an index to the *Skeleton Key*, Campbell can much more readily help us decode and decipher Joyce's strange and wonderful dream. To a point. The reader of Joyce's masterpiece still has as they say where I come from, "a hard row to hoe." But with an index, they can at least see the doggone row and navigate around the Campbell book to find the answers they seek.

In fact when I talked with Colleen about what I might address when I spoke with you today, beyond this one index on this one work, she suggested the subject of "ACCESS" and how indexes do provide readers with that great gift of opening up texts — especially difficult ones — for readers. Without an index, Campbell's SKELETON KEY remained a mountain to be conquered in its own right before attempting the Everest of Finnegans

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Learning to Read by Gayle Davies

Colleen Dunham started our fall meeting with an activity intended to encourage conversation among attendees who didn't know each other. We were to learn what others remembered about learning to read. While most of us had stories about parents, grandparents, and libraries, a few stories were unique. Carol de Matteis recalled the nuns teaching her in kindergarten to read the weather report. Carol Roberts read the *Wall Street Journal* to her father at age 7. She claims that she hasn't read it since leaving home. Charles Anderson has a photo of his childhood bookshelf and has been searching for the same titles on eBay. While he hasn't found them all, he now has many of his favorite early books.

Wake. With an index, it now can be used as a KEY to give access.

Think about it. Think about how many important works remain unread or dimly understood because the average reader, or even the even good reader, finds them daunting. A number of years ago, a publisher asked me to index Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*. I did. When I tried to find that edition recently — to no avail I might add — I noticed on the Amazon site the comments of people who had purchased Adam Smith's great classic of economic theory. They had bought the book, but hadn't read it. They knew it was important, but they couldn't ACCESS the information. My yelling at the computer that there was an edition out there with an index that could help them, didn't do anything, but we might want to think about raising our collective voices and being heard, that indexes give ACCESS. They are a tool and like Campbell's *Skeleton Key* they can unlock "secrets."

So Colleen's suggestion that I speak about ACCESS got me thinking about the works that so desperately need indexes. I hope you start thinking too. Think about an index to the collected works of Shakespeare. OhmyGod, there's a PhD thesis in the making. Think about an index for the *Canterbury Tales*... Think about an index for *Das Capital*...for the *Federalist Papers*...for *Julius Caesar's Commentaries*. Think about the benefits of having indexes for the great works in philosophy, economics, and history—the works students never read and simply buy the *Cliff Notes* for. We can create those indexes. So now think about how to convince publishers to publish editions with indexes. They would be invaluable editions, providing perennial backlist profits for the company, and a huge help to students.

So I do believe it can be done...and it should be done.

And last, speaking of students...think about teaching students to actually use those indexes. I know we all lament that most people, when we say we are indexers, look at us blankly or stand there hang-mouthed. Then we explain what we do and realize that, sadly, most people are not in the habit, as we are, of immediately turning to the back of a book and checking out the index. They don't even know it exists let alone how to use it.

So another huge topic for us to think about, and perhaps attack, is how to educate students and teachers about indexes. I mean not just wringing out hands and bemoaning the faults of students...but to actually formulate a strategy to educate the educators. Ah it's a thought. It could be a grand scheme. It could be, metaphorically, another "strange dream with a great black book to celebrate it." But unlike Joyce's, it is a dream that could become a reality, at least I believe it could.

Because when all is said and done, we indexers are people whose work does have significance and purpose...we are educators in the truest sense of the word. We facilitate the acquiring of knowledge. We help people to learn.

And now, like Joyce whose *Finnegan's Wake* is circular, beginning at the last page and continuing on the first with the words *A way a lone a last a loved a long the river run, I have come full circle too...* I was working in isolation but through ASI have found community. I began in education as an English teacher and find that I am still an educator as an Indexer. And I feel that together we do have a mission, besides the necessity of earning our daily bread...and that is to provide ACCESS to ideas and information. And I believe, I feel, that since we indexers do think so much alike, that you believe this as well.

And now, having talked at you for so long, I would like to talk with you and hear your ideas. So I thank you so much for having me, and listening to me, and now I would like to listen to you! 📖

Thank You to PNW ASI

From Charlee Trantino...

I had been dragging my feet about affiliating with any specific ASI chapter. After meeting so many of you at the conference, I couldn't resist. You were great. *Simpatico*...and more. I've thrown my hat in the ring and my official ASI chapter is... PNW.

I hope that meets with your collective approval. It means I shall become modestly bi-coastal...and must therefore return. I absolutely loved Seattle and all of you.

From Carol Roberts...

I want to thank you again for inviting me to speak at, and share in the festivities of, your chapter's 10th anniversary celebration. I thoroughly enjoyed myself for a number of reasons: you put on a great show (high fun factor), I had a chance to meet some new people and reconnect with a few old friends, and your members were really into the subject of my talk. Not that I expected resistance to new techniques, but a kind of synergy developed after we got going, something every speaker hopes for.

More generally, I'm so impressed with your chapter! You've "got it goin' on," as they say. On the day of my workshop, you couldn't miss the great camaraderie and the evident pride in having reached that 10th anniversary. At the banquet, the volunteer recognition said it all. To have that many committed volunteers really shows how much the members value the chapter. Congratulations to you all! 📖

About Carol Roberts' Workshop "Painless Index Editing"

by Katherine Jensen

In May of some late-nineties year, I attended my first ASI Conference, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The workshop I was most excited about attending was called "Marketing for the Shy." Someone named Carol Roberts was presenting it. As a new indexer, and quite


"Carol shared her great sense of humor, style and practical nature with us."

possibly the world's worst marketer of my own services (I still can't SELL anything – including services I perform well!) I figured that session alone was worth the flight from California, based solely on its name! The idea that anyone would be so honest was amazing to this exhausted, disgusted veteran of what felt like a million phony "How to Do Whatever Effortlessly in No Time" seminars suffered through in corporate America. If somebody who copped to being shy about marketing had succeeded in indexing, maybe I could too! Not one aspect of that workshop disappointed me when I actually attended it. It was honest, straightforward, simple, logical, and very useful. I'm still doing some of the things Carol suggested. I still loathe marketing, but I can do it and I'm grateful to have had that assistance from an experienced professional indexer who was willing to be REAL rather than

"expert," when what I needed more than anything else was reality.

I would use exactly the same adjectives to describe

"Painless Index Editing" which the PNW/ASI had the great good sense (read: *brilliance*) to provide for attendees the 2006 Fall Meeting and 10th Anniversary Celebration. Along with a hands-on demonstration of real techniques she has developed over the years, Carol shared her great sense of humor, style and practical nature with us. She provided a handout which made sense while she was presenting and still makes sense! Instead of trying to cover every streamlining technique known to time managers and systems experts worldwide, she presented a few truly useful and manageable methods she uses to edit more efficiently. I can still remember most of them without looking at the handout, which is pretty amazing for someone in the decade I'm in. Her style left me feeling as if the direction my own editing habits have moved in is a good one, and that there are a few more things I can pick up easily to do the job even better.

As workshops go, this one was just what this indexer wanted, and I'm grateful to have been there. 



Learn and laugh at the next chapter meeting.

Spring 2007 Meeting will be held April 20-22 in Richland, Washington, in conjunction with the Washington Library Association's Annual Meeting!

FRIDAY afternoon, choose from: Workshop: "What Skills Are Needed to be a Successful Freelancer" or Peer Review: a great opportunity to learn from the work of others and to have one of your own indexes critiqued.

SATURDAY

- "Content Management in Museums." How do museums keep track of all the content in their vast collections? Two museum curators share their experiences
- "What's This Thing We Call Index Editing?" Facilitated discussion.
- Catered Lunch
- "Productivity: The Pros Speak Out." A panel of experienced indexers addresses questions on productivity.
- "An Indexer's Experience with Repetitive Stress Injuries (RSIs)." An RSI can stop us in our tracks; what they are and how can we avoid them.

SUNDAY. All are welcome to attend the chapter board meeting Sunday morning over breakfast.

Save the date! Fall meeting, September 29, 2007, in Vancouver, Washington. 

PNW/ASI Fall 2006 Meeting

Panel of Publishers

by Karen Winget

ICC-Macmillan, Microsoft Learning, and Marquand Books were represented on the panel for the afternoon session of the fall PNW meeting. Sherrie Smith did a fine job of guiding the discussion and keeping it relevant to a diverse audience of would-be, new, and experienced indexers. The goal for the session was to provide opportunities for indexers and publisher representatives to talk with one another in an informal professional setting.

As you might expect, a fair number of questions from indexers centered on how to get work and, of course, page rates. But there were also questions about quality, and what publishers expected from an indexer.

Patricia Masserman from Microsoft Learning handles embedded indexing projects, and of the panel, she talked the most about quality. Having some experience with indexing, she seemed the most knowledgeable about what makes a good index for the user. She described some pitiful attempts (one was a simple list of sorted key words). She also talked about schedules, and like most project managers, gives high marks for providing good indexes on time.

The textbook publishers (Erika Kauppi, Sonia Taneja, and Winifred Sanchez) had less to say about quality and more about meeting deadlines and pleasing authors. An indexer asked about using the previous edition's index as a guide or as a template for re-indexing the book. There were anecdotes from both panel and audience on problems resulting from unmet expectations of editor or author. It was apparent that a clear understanding of the requirements for the index up front is needed. It also seemed to me that the responsibility for this is the indexer's, as many editors and most authors are not knowledgeable about what makes a good index. However, according to the textbook editors, the bottom line many times is whether or not the author is pleased with the result. And again, deadlines are supreme. One of the project managers even suggested that submitting an index ahead of the deadline was a plus. (I think I heard some muffled snorts in the audience at that point.) The discussion about rates was short and not so sweet. Rates, said these project managers, are set by the publishers and are rarely negotiable.

In addition to clarifying the requirements for the index up front, a question was posed about submitting queries to the editor or author along the way. Carrie Wicks, from Marquand Books, said they were encouraged. That seemed to be the consensus of the panel. Again, communication with editor or author up front and along the way

can mitigate problems of unmet expectations after the index is submitted.

For indexers looking for work—skip the samples, voice mail, hard copy packages. E-mail the resume with a strong cover message stating areas of expertise, a list of references (or offer them on request), and perhaps a list of recent indexes. This advice came from the ICC-Macmillan project managers, who deal with high volumes of paper and requests for work.

The goal for the session was to create a dialog between indexers and publishers. The editors and project managers did perhaps take away an appreciation of indexers' desire to produce quality indexes and the difficulty of doing that on short schedules. Indexers may have come away a little discouraged about the editors' emphasis on deadlines and, in general, the lack of knowledge about quality indexing. A continuation of this dialog with representatives from other publishers—scholarly, university presses, journals—would be welcome. 📖

By the Numbers

by Colleen Dunham

25	number of times laughter erupted in 101
101	room number at the Olympia Center where indexers met on 10/7/06
4.3	length of time (in weeks) that Mike Mollett has been indexing

Who the heck is Mike Mollett?

- ⇒ As junior indexer in the room, Mike got the job of measuring enjoyment at our Oly meeting. He was the laughter ticker. His assignment was to make a tick when he heard laughter.
- ⇒ Mike wants to be an indexer because it fits with what he does now -- copyediting and proofreading. "It pays better, too," says Mike. (Really?!)
- ⇒ The worst index Mike has ever used is the one in *The Handbook of Good English* by Edward D. Johnson.

Publisher Outreach Raffle A Huge Success

by Nancy Gerth

A raffle held at the October 7 meeting of PNW/ASI netted \$255 earmarked for publisher outreach. Attendees were given one free raffle ticket with registration, and could purchase more for \$1 each. Tickets were deposited in separate bags for each item, and any number of tickets were allowed from each player. Winning tickets were drawn at the end of the banquet Saturday night. Donated items included:

Hypatia-in-the-Woods Press Books and Hypatia Bear

won by *Charlee Trantino*

Three books from the Hypatia-in-the-Woods Press: *Conversations with the Inner Dog* by Llyn De Danaan; *Hypatia of Alexandria* by Vicki Leon (in *Uppity Women of Ancient Times*); *Koans for the Inner Dog* by Llyn De Danaan. *Conversations with the Inner Dog* and *Hypatia of Alexandria* were set in type and letterpress printed by Elspeth.

Hypatia Bear is an 18" tall chocolate-brown, huggable bear in a specially-designed and hand knit dress. Her outfit is a combination of golden yellow and orange

Elspeth learned to knit when she was six and hasn't stopped. Dressing bears justifies her addiction to watching *Law & Order*; *Cold Case*; *Without a Trace* and *NCIS*. For those who wanted to take Hypatia Bear home, but were disappointed, she is one of a large family of bears of all sizes, all dressed uniquely.

**Donated by Elspeth Pope
Pope & Holly Indexing**

Handknit Wool Blend Hat

won by *Jane Henderson*

Designed to keep that most important indexer's tool — your head! — toasty warm throughout winter. Machine washable (gentle cycle), but hand washing recommended

**Donated by Andrea Avni
Vashon Island WordWrights**

Greeting Cards

won by *Cher Paul*
A set of 12 hand crafted greeting cards. Gayle will also make cards to order

**Donated by Gayle Davies
Gayle Davies Indexing Service**

Greeting Cards

won by *Carol DeMatteis*
A set of 12 greeting cards featuring photographs of roses in Cathy's garden. There are three each of four different photographs. Cards are blank inside.

**Donated by Catharyn Martz
Catharyn Martz Indexing Services**

Greeting Cards

won by *Jean Mann*
A set of six blank greeting cards featuring Do Mi's award-winning colored pencil art. To order cards, contact Do Mi at 541-461-5085, dmstauber@gmail.com.

www.domistauberart.com

**Donated by Do Mi Stauber
Do Mi Stauber Indexing Service**

Indexing Whimsy

won by *Elsbeth Pope*
Perfect End: (The Secrets Behind Index Writing). An altered book related to indexing.

**Donated by Candi Hyatt
Candace Hyatt Indexing Services
and Kari Kells
Index West**



A few of the items in the raffle held at the 10th Anniversary meeting. Proceeds will support the chapter's Publisher Outreach Program.

Fun items from the FriendShop — operated by the Friends of the Seattle Public Library, the FriendShop is an innovative retail shop in the internationally acclaimed Central Library designed by Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas. The Friends of the Seattle Public Library support programs, services, events, and special initiatives of the library.

**Donated by Colleen Dunham
Colleen Dunham Indexing**

Indexer's Survival Kit #1 *won by Gayle Davies*
Stash herbal and black tea samplers, chocolate-dipped biscotti, Euphoria Chocolate Company dark chocolates, a bottle of Willamette Valley Vineyards pinot noir.

**Donated by Catharyn Martz
Catharyn Martz Indexing Services**

Indexer's Survival Kit #2 *won by Carol Roberts*
A hammock-chair for backyard bird watching and relaxing; nesting materials.

**Donated by Martha Osgood
Back Words Indexing**

For the Birds *won by person unknown*
A guide to birds of the Pacific Northwest, and snacks for the birds and the birdwatcher

**Donated by Jane Henderson
Indexplorations**

Magnetic Sudoku. This book contains 200 puzzles on magnetic pages. Use the magnetic letters provided to solve the puzzles. You'll never have to worry about losing the letters or losing your place if you must tear yourself away from these enticing puzzles for any reason!

**Donated by Cheryl Landes
Tabby Cat Communications**

Sherman Alexie books and film, signed by the author *won by Roger Samuels*

Alexie's work has been included in The Best American Short Stories and The O. Henry Prize Stories, and Pushcart Prize XXIX of the Small Presses. He has been a member of the Independent Spirit Awards Nominating Committees, and has served as a creative adviser to the Sundance Institute Writers Fellowship Program and the Independent Feature Films West Screenwriters Lab. Alexie has also been featured on Politically Incorrect, 60 Minutes II, and NOW with Bill Moyers.

**Donated by Colleen Dunham
Colleen Dunham Indexing**

Indexing from A to Z by Hans H. Wellisch *won by Maria Sosnowski*

**Donated by Elspeth Pope
Pope & Holly Indexing**

Indexing Biographies and Other Stories of Human Lives by Hazel Bell *won by Martha Osgood*

**Donated by Catharyn Martz
Catharyn Martz Indexing Services**

"Cherries" *won by Louise Martin*

A hand-appliquéd, hand-quilted wall hanging made with love.

**Donated by Martha Osgood
Back Words Indexing**

"Calla Lilly" *won by Karen Winget*

Framed photograph, third in a series of four.

**Donated by Cynthia Landeen
Indextrous**

"Broken Top in Autumn, Oregon Cascades" *won by Maria Sosnowski*

Color photograph, 11" x 14" print, matted at 16" x 20"

Donated by Sherry L Smith

Seattle *won by Yvonne Fowler*

Published by Beautiful America. A scenic, lively tour of one of America's most exciting cities in pictures and words. Get a glimpse into the city's culture and neighborhoods. Discover things to do inside and outside the city. Text by PNW/ASI member Cheryl Landes.

**Donated by Cheryl Landes
Tabby Cat Communications**

The Impudent Rooster *won by Jane Henderson*

Adapted by Sabina Rascol from a Romanian story by Ion Creanga and illustrated by Holly Berry, this delightful folktale is an altogether marvelous blend of magic, justice, and love, perfect for the read-aloud audience. Published by Dutton Children's Books.

Donated by Sabina Rascol 

**Another raffle will be held at the
Spring 2007 meeting
in Richland, Washington!**

Just for Fun!

Here's a fun web site, especially if you like ping pong or The Matrix:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OcIWgDSmH04&search=matrix%20pingpong.](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OcIWgDSmH04&search=matrix%20pingpong)

Do you have a fun web site to share? Send it to the editors.

News from Other Chapters

by Gayle Davies

The **Chicago/Great Lakes Chapter** held an informal dinner chat in February. In a relaxed atmosphere, members discussed indexing topics of interest and suggested ideas for future meetings.

Sherry Smith and Kari Kells presented their "Decision Making in Index Design: An Intermediate and Advanced Workshop" at an October meeting of the **Colorado Area Chapter**. Participants were asked to index three short history documents prior to the meeting so that discussion could focus on their varied approaches.


In November, Gale Rhoades, led an interactive workshop on Microsoft Tips and Tricks for PC and Mac users. Indexers, editors and technical writers were welcome at this **Golden Gate Chapter** meeting.

The **Mid- and South-Atlantic Chapter** (formerly Washington D.C. Chapter) hosted Indexing Software Workshops in Febru-

ary. Kamm Schreiner worked with Sky users, and Dave Ream worked with Cindex users to increase speed and productivity.

The focus of the March meeting of the **New England Chapter** was non-book indexing. Presenters included Marilyn Rowland who talked about indexing a nearby library's local history collection.

The November meeting of the **New York Chapter** focused on the topic of usability of indexes. Speakers included Richard Barsam on the author's perspective, Mary Onarato on college student research habits and the implications for electronic library resources, Pat Carlson on vocabulary and interface in electronic databases, Maria Coughlin on assessment of who the audience and users are for indexes, and Frances Lennie on the visual appeal of indexes.

Carol Roberts presented a workshop on Scholarly Indexing at the February meeting of the **Twin Cities (Minnesota) Chapter**.

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