



The OPLIN CIRCUIT

News for Ohio Public Library Staff & Management

Volume 3
Number 2
April 2006

Hedges Named New OPLIN Director

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That Other New Guy

Karl Jendretzky joined the OPLIN Support Center at the beginning of 2006.

Karl was born in Columbus and grew up in a rural area near Centerburg. He became familiar with computer technology at an early age while disassembling hardware brought home by his dad. By the time he was a teenager, Karl was providing technical support to everyone, including his high school teachers. To this day, he still gives hours upon hours (upon hours) of free technical support to family and friends alike.

Karl's fascination and ability with computer technology was solidified by the education he received at the Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) in Newark and

Following an extensive search and interview process, the OPLIN staff and Board of Trustees are proud to announce that Stephen Hedges has been named the new OPLIN Executive Director, starting April 3rd. The Board voted in favor of the appointment at a meeting on March 10th. Stephen comes to OPLIN from the Nelsonville Public Library system in Athens, Ohio, where he had served as Director since 1997.

Under Stephen's direction, Nelsonville became the first public library system in the United States to use open source software for all circulation, cataloging, management and web services, positioning it as a world-wide leader in the implementation of open source library software. He also inaugurated and directed the

DeVry University in Columbus. Attending COTC during his junior and senior years of high school, Karl studied mechanical engineering. At DeVry, he received a Bachelors of Science in Computer Information Systems. Karl has found OPLIN to be a perfect match to his skills and desires.

implementation of Ohio's first public library free summer lunch program for children.

Stephen is the co-author of the book *Best in the Nation: The First Two Hundred Years of Ohio Libraries*

(Wooster Book Co., 2003), and has served on the governing boards of a number of Ohio library organizations, including the Ohio Library Council (OLC), the Ohio Valley Area Libraries (OVAL) regional library system and OPLIN. He was the chair of the OLC Government Relations Committee in 2005.

Stephen earned a Master of Library and

Information Science degree at the University of South Carolina (1995), and completed the Management Development Program for Library Administrators at Miami University (1992). He also earned a Doctor of Philosophy in the History and Theory of Music at the University of Chicago (1983), a Master of Music degree from Bowling Green State University (1976), and a Bachelor of Music degree from Ohio University (1974). Prior to working in public libraries, Stephen established a music publishing business in Athens, Ohio.



Stephen Hedges starts on April 3rd.



Visitors from DAS

The Office of Information Technology (DAS) will be conducting a physical inventory of all equipment that belongs to Unified Network Services. Over the next several months, Asset Management staff will travel to each OPLIN location throughout Ohio to complete this task.

This visit shouldn't take much time nor should it take any effort on the part of libraries. The visitors will simply verify each router or other piece of equipment by making note of its asset tag.

You can expect a visit from one of three people: Mr. Morman, Mr. Phelps, or Ms. Quappe. Their photos can be verified at <http://www.oplin.org/oplin/DAS/inventory.htm>.

Database Preview '06

The 2006 OPLIN/OHIONET Public Library Database Preview is April 1 - May 15 at www.ohionet.org/ref_preview.php. Library managers and staff with electronic content selection responsibilities are invited to review the databases in this preview. We've included information about remote access, usage statistics, technological specifications, and pricing for each product.

Some products are being offered through OPLIN as group contracts, and will be clearly identified as such in the Pricing field. Pricing for these will be sent to each library director the week of April 10th. They include products offered in the past, as well as *LegalForms* (Thomson Gale), *Literature Reference Center* (EBSCO), and *ReferenceUSA*.

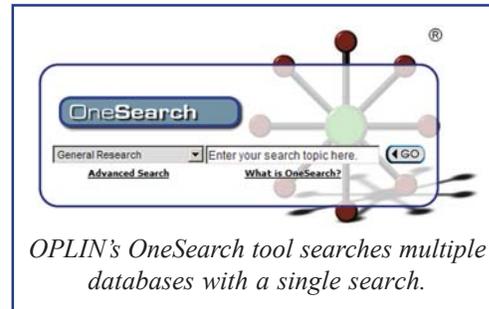
If your library has not received pricing information by April 17th, contact OPLIN.

OneSearch Wins an Award

At a special dinner ceremony held during the 2006 ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio, OPLIN's OneSearch tool was a recipient of the WebFeat President's Award for Innovation in the category of multi-library networks.

WebFeat President Todd Miller presided over the 3rd annual presentation of the Award, which recognizes innovation in design and function in WebFeat clients'

state-of-the-art federated search systems. Other winners this year included Boston Public Library, Denver Public Library, GALILEO (Georgia's Virtual Library), Princeton University, and the University of Pittsburgh. Holly Carroll, Deputy Director, Cleveland Public Library, accepted the award on behalf of OPLIN.



OPLIN's OneSearch tool searches multiple databases with a single search.

OPLIN and the other winners were chosen from among 20 nominees. Miller noted in his presentation remarks, "WebFeat systems are custom-configured in partnership with client libraries, and each system offers an array

of features and user ergonomics that meet the specific needs of each community." He added, "Each of the honored libraries has a federated search system that other libraries across the country now use as models for federated search best practices."

Past winners of the WebFeat President's Awards for Innovation include Chicago Public Library, King County Library System, San Francisco Public Library, SEFLIN, and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

SBC is Now AT&T... But What Are We?

Earlier this year, SBC completed its purchase of AT&T and adopted the AT&T moniker. So what does this mean to OPLIN and your library? For starters, your SBC bills should now have the AT&T name (but retain the old SBC mailing address). Otherwise, the most immediate impact OPLIN has seen as a result of this merger is the reduction in DS3 costs to the metro libraries.

Some libraries may see a change in their local monthly tariff rates. Tariff rates are the prices for data circuits that are purchased independent of the SOMACS agreement. For example, a few libraries, mostly in the metro areas, have been quoted T1 circuit rates from AT&T that are significantly less than the \$400 T1

lines maintained through OPLIN.

How does this merger affect E-Rate paperwork? We anticipate one of two scenarios: the first is that the FCC will acknowledge the merger of SBC and AT&T and allow the use of either Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) through the end of this year; the second is that your library may need to file a SPIN Change Request, which is not a complicated process. OPLIN will communicate any information regarding the proper E-rate paperwork procedures as soon as we know them.

The merger has also brought new types of services within reach of the State of Ohio, OPLIN, and your library. Watch out for these new services later this summer!



webMAIL Tips

How to Display E-mail Message Sizes

The recent upgrade to OPLIN webMAIL gives users a wide variety of customizable features. For example, did you know that you can display the size of each individual e-mail, so that you can tell which ones are hogging all of the space in your inbox?

Here's how you do it:

1. Login at <https://mail.oplin.org>.
2. Click OPTIONS at the top of the screen.
3. Click "INDEX ORDER".
4. Make sure "SIZE" is selected in the drop down box then click on "ADD".

The trash file does contribute to your account's size total, so be sure to empty it regularly.



How to Set Up Filters

In response to numerous requests from webMAIL users on how they can fight SPAM in their inboxes, the OPLIN Support Center has developed a series of "how to" guides for setting up e-mail filters. These can be found in the **About OPLIN > FAQ || OPLIN E-Mail Accounts** area of the OPLIN website.

There you'll find illustrated, step-by-step guides to setting up e-mail filters in OPLIN webMAIL as well as Eudora 7, Mozilla ThunderBird, and Outlook.

Out & About on the Circuit

OPLIN Board Meeting
April 14, 10:00-1:00
State Library of Ohio

ALA Legislative Day
May 1-2
Washington D.C.

OLC SW Chapter Conference
April 7
Dayton Marriott, Dayton

OLC North Chapter Conference
May 4
Holiday Inn, Independence

OHIONET Annual Meeting
April 20
University Plaza Hotel, Columbus

Small Libraries Conference
May 17-18
University Plaza Hotel, Columbus

OLC Central Chapter Conference
April 21
Fawcett Center, Columbus

OPLIN Board Meeting
June 9, 10:00-1:00
State Library of Ohio

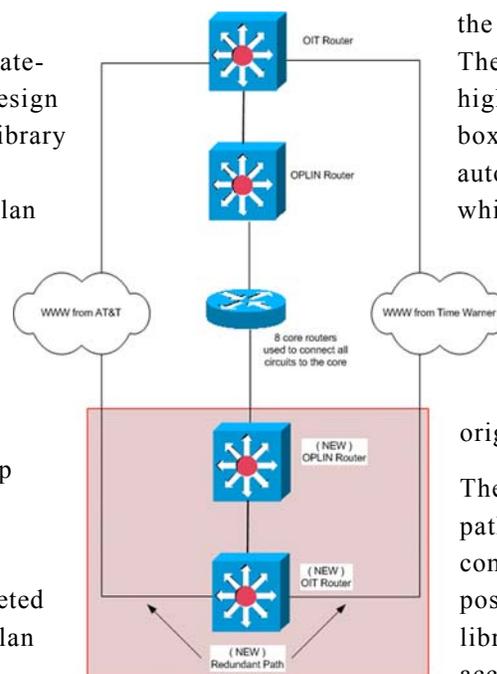
OLC NW Chapter Conference
April 28
Toledo Hilton

TechConnections 6
June 12-13
Dublin

Traveling Down a New Path

Two years ago, OPLIN designed and implemented a new state-of-art core network design to make Ohio public library Internet access more reliable. Part of this plan was to eliminate as many single points of failure at the OPLIN core as possible. This included failover equipment and backup circuits.

During the month of March, OPLIN completed another part of this plan by implementing a second redundant path



from the OPLIN core to the commodity Internet. The secondary path, highlighted in the red box (at left), is an automatic failover, which means the engineers will not need to manually move the circuits in the event of a failure on the original network design.

The new secondary path does not completely eliminate the possibility of your library losing Internet access, but it does reduce the risk.



OPLIN Database News

AccessScience

AccessScience has a new and **updated site tour** (<http://books.mcgraw-hill.com/accessscience/demo/>) that demonstrates all of the features added in the past year.

AccessScience is now offering multimedia content by **adding video to their Headline News**. These video news articles report on the medical, environmental, and technological issues that affect daily life. Look for the camera icon on the homepage.

Students can supplement their regular AP coursework with **Study Guides for the Advanced Placement** - relevant articles, features, and animations compiled and organized to match the course descriptions offered by the College Board.

EBSCO

EBSCO has been busy rolling out **new features** to both their *EBSCOhost* and *EBSCOadmin* interfaces this winter, including:

- **Visual Search** delivers a graphically rich, extremely efficient visual searching alternative, available in addition to EBSCO's popular Basic and Advanced Searching modes.
- **Clustering** displays links of search results sorted by subject, in addition to regular Result List article links.
- **Database Selection from the Basic and Advanced Search Screens** is available using a drop-down list of the databases in the profile being searched.
- **Database Groupings by Subject** can be presented in the database drop-down list to offer users groupings of databases sorted by popular subjects.
- **Printing, E-mailing and Saving in Standard Industry Formats** allows researchers to cite articles using specific industry formats.
- **RSS-Enabled Alerts** allow librarians and users to feed results from *EBSCOhost* Search and Journal Alerts into their news readers and aggregators, as well as their websites.
- The Option to **Display, Save or E-mail EBSCOhost Records in MARC format**.

EBSCO also recently launched **History - It's Happening!**, a free website resource for middle and high school libraries, as well as the young adult section of public libraries, to promote North America's vivid history and help celebrate events such as Women's History Month. The site is a model for database searches that students can conduct on their own in the library. Students can use the site to start research or just browse key

primary source documents, historic video footage, speeches, selected articles, and websites about notable men and women from Canada and the United States, including those who explored the continent. Suggested reading information from *NoveList* focuses on history in fiction.

A section for librarians and teachers also highlights suggestions for using the site. This free, interactive resource resides at www.epnet.com/flashPromo/historyhappenings/index.html.

Encyclopædia Britannica

At the beginning of March, *Britannica Online* fully transitioned to their **new website**, which includes expanded search capabilities and new resources such as *World Data Analyst* (an exclusive database of current and past statistics on the countries of the world that allows users to compare and customize data), *Gateway to the Classics* (an extensive collection of significant works in literature, philosophy, history, and science), *Merriam-Webster's Dictionary of Quotations*, and 300 new *Proquest* journal titles.

Training materials for the new *Britannica* interface and *World Data Analyst* are available under About OPLIN on our website.

Encyclopædia Britannica has also been in the news lately regarding an article published by the journal *Nature* in December. In it, *Nature* concluded that **Wikipedia**, the website that allows users to contribute and write its content, was about as accurate in covering scientific topics as *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

In early March, *Britannica* fired back at *Nature* in a 20-page statement arguing that "almost everything about the journal's investigation... was wrong and misleading." *Britannica's* entire statement can be read at http://corporate.britannica.com/britannica_nature_response.pdf. *Nature's* response can be read at http://www.nature.com/press_releases/Britannica_response.pdf.

NetWellness

NetWellness has added a new feature to its homepage to help users stay informed about the spread of avian influenza, or **Bird Flu**. Check this link regularly for up-to-date information from the Centers for Disease Control, the World Health Organization, the American Veterinary Medicine Association, and other sources.

As it nears its **tenth year** on the Internet, *NetWellness* is gathering anecdotes about how the site is helping users meet their health information needs. If you have any stories you would like to share, use the Feedback feature to let them know.