OLITA's 2005 Digital Odyssey details, see page 2.

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InsideOLITA

For and about members of the ONTARIO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION

OLITA President 2005
Jean Foster
Windsor Public Library

OLITA:
Your Association for Learning, Networking and Information Sharing

President's Message from OLITA President 2005, Jean Foster

OLITA: Representing Libraries Powered by Vision and Technology

In 2003, OLITA surveyed its members to find out who joined OLITA and why. The results revealed a broad range of library professionals; those who work with technology, those who use technology and those who plan library services using technology. As a result, in 2004, OLITA's strategic plan was expanded in scope beyond the focus of the individual technologies to include professional development activities based on applications, dialogue with non-library stakeholders, development of position papers and posting informational toolkits on the OLITA website

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OLITA Award

The Reuben R. Sallows Digital Library Project Team - Marian Doucette, Information Services Coordinator, Robin Wark, Curator, the Reuben R. Sallows Gallery, and Peter Marval, Website Developer. Also shown, a screenshot of www.sallowsgallery.ca, and Reuben R. Sallows.

OLITA's 2005 Award for Technological Innovation sponsored by OCLC Canada

And the winner is...

"The Reuben R. Sallows Digital Library"

produced by Huron County Library

The Reuben R. Sallows Digital Library www.sallowsgallery.ca produced by The Huron County Library, in collaboration with The Sallows Gallery, provides centralized access to six geographically dispersed collections of pictorial art created during the sixty-year career of Canadian photographic pioneer Reuben R. Sallows (1855-1937). Funded in part by the Ontario Ministry of Culture, Department of Canadian Heritage and the County of Huron, this site features a searchable database of over 900 digitized images of Sallows' work found in collections from The Sallows Gallery, Huron County Museum, Huron County Historical Society, University of Guelph Library, Archives and Special Collections, The University of Western Ontario Archives, and Archives of Ontario.

In addition to providing easy access to catalogued images for comparison or research purposes, the site features publications created by the library and gallery, biographical information on Sallows, virtual exhibits, research materials, and Pastimes - themed learning activities. This site serves to increase public awareness of Ontario's agricultural history, while promoting and encouraging appreciation of the photography created by "Canada's photographic genius."Special thanks to OCLC Canada for their sponsorship of this award and to the OLITA Award Committee 2004. ▮

OLITA'S DIGITAL ODYSSEY! May 13, 2005

OLITA'S DIGITAL ODYSSEY 2005

POWER TO THE PEOPLE:
Library Service in the 21st Century

Location in Toronto to be announced May 13, 2005 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Register online at the OLA Web site [http://www.accessola.com]
Click in The Learning Space on: May 14 DIGITAL ODYSSEY

Education and networking like no other @ your library®

THE ONTARIO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION at THE EDUCATION INSTITUTE

PLAN TO ATTEND…

DIGITAL ODYSSEY 2005: POWER TO THE PEOPLE: LIBRARY SERVICE IN THE 21ST CENTURY: MEETING THE CHALLENGE

Friday May 13, 2005 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location in Toronto to be announced

FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER: JOSEPH JANES

Assistant Professor and Chair of Library and Information Science at the Information School of the University of Washington and Founding Director of the Internet Public Library.

Whether you offer an email reference service or a full-fledged online chat reference service, the face of service is changing to meet users' expectations. In this world of instant answers from Google and expanding access through services such as Amazon.com's "Search Inside the Book", the people are clearly front and centre. Customer involvement and interaction through online collaborative workspaces, social networking software and "rate this resource" features in portals and online bookstores are also setting new service standards.

How are libraries meeting this demand for easy-to-use, exciting and dynamic service? What technologies are impacting our users' expectations and how is service shifting to meet this demand?

In this exciting one day session, we will explore this shifting information landscape. Joseph Janes will open the day with a look at the implications for service delivery and the rest of the day will be an exploration of new applications and their impact on library service in the 21st century. Clearly, the people have the power!

ALSO FEATURING:

Dr. Brian Detlor, Assistant Professor of Information Systems at the DeGroote School of Business, McMaster University Enabling Researchers in the 21ST Century through Library Portals Academic library portals have become user-centered Web-based interfaces to library collections that not only provide patrons access to OPACs, online databases and Internet resources, but also create virtual environments which enable people to personalize these collections, as well as communicate and collaborate with other library users. Dr. Detlor will provide an overview of library portals in academic and research environments and the factors that drive user adoption of such systems.

Peter Ellinger, Manager, Library Technology Application, Ontario Legislative Library, Jane Foo, Digital Services Librarian, Seneca College and Carolyn Lam, Manager, Newnham Library Using a Federated Searching Solution to Keep Pace with User Expectations
It is only with the launch of sites like Google and Amazon that users have developed greater expectations of integrated information delivery: emphasis is now on content rather than on source. Libraries have since acknowledged that they need to provide a solution for the simultaneous searching of disparate collections of online information. This session will look at how two libraries have used and implemented ENCompass as their own local federated search solution.

David Mattison, Librarian and Archivist, BC Archives All Together Now: Tools for the Collaborative Web. The Web is an ideal tool for collaboration. Libraries and librarians have been in the forefront in adopting various kinds of collaborative, networked tools that exist only because of the Web. David Mattison will provide an overview of three tools that he works with on a daily basis through his Web life: the Weblog, the wiki, the Scout Portal Toolkit and the syndicated content feed protocols known as Atom and RSS that tie all three together.

Professor Marcus Bornfreund, Manager, Law and Technology Program, University of Ottawa, Managing Editor, University of Ottawa Law & Technology Journal Creative Commons: Power to the Librarians?
The Creative Commons initiative has become a worldwide effort to encourage the sharing of creative works, with branches in more than 60 countries. Professor Bornfreund, project leader of Creative Commons Canada, will provide a critical analysis of Creative Commons from the Canadian perspective as well as address the impact of the open access phenomenon on the library sciences.

Kathy Scardellato, Project Leader, Virtual Reference Library, Toronto Public Library Methods to Better Understand User Behaviour Understanding user behaviour can improve web sites and other online services. Kathy Scardellato will explore some relatively low cost, and easy to replicate usability tests that can be conducted by your library. She will also share what TPL has learned from this process.

…and more!

Watch the OLITA listserv and Education Institute web site for further details. ▮

THE ONTARIO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION
2004: The Year In Review

FAREWELL FROM OLITA PRESIDENT 2004, JENN HORWATH

It has been an exciting and busy year for OLITA. What better way to cap off the year then at Super Conference 2005 where OLITA Super Conference Planners (Pat Moore, Jennifer Soutter and Alison Hopkins) have assembled one of the strongest slates of speakers and programs ever for OLITA members! One of the many highlights of this year was for me The Digital Odyssey 2004: Make Your Library's Journey A Safe One: Security and Privacy Challenges Facing Libraries Today. I can safely say the number of "a-ha moments" at this conference hit a record high as speakers discussed issues from the effect of the U.S. Patriot Act on Canadian library records to how easy it can be to hack into library systems! A special thanks goes to OLITA Councillors Paul Takala and Shelagh Paterson and also Kit Darling for taking the lead in organizing this conference. As well, this year saw the release of "Guidelines for Using RFID Tags in Ontario Public Libraries" authored by the Information Privacy Commissioner/Ontario with assistance from OLITA. OLITA Councilor Allison Standen provided valuable input to the IPC for this important document. This year also saw two new toolkits published to the OLITA web site as well as the introduction of the new column OLITAround the Province, a space for OLITA members to share information about their new technology initiatives. In addition, the OLITA Award for Technological Innovation, sponsored by OCLC Canada, again saw many, many brilliant nominations. Congratulations to this year's winner, Huron County Library! More details about the award winner, further highlights from this year as well as exciting events to look forward to next year are featured in this issue of InsideOLITA. Finally, as this is my last message as OLITA President, I would like to thank the OLITA Council Team for their inspiration, vision and dedication. Thanks to their hard work and diligence, OLITA continues to move forward as an organization for learning, networking, and information sharing. ▮

"DIGITAL ODYSSEY 2004: MAKE YOUR LIBRARY'S JOURNEY A SAFE ONE: SECURITY AND PRIVACY CHALLENGES FACING LIBRARIES TODAY" - A SUCCESS

The Education Institute scored another success last May with the OLITA-sponsored Digital Odyssey. More than 35 delegates from all parts of Ontario attended "Make Your Library's Journey a Safe One: Security and Privacy Challenges Facing Libraries Today" at Hamilton Public Library. Highlights included a primer on system vulnerability by the "ethical hacker" Paul Stillwell of Cyberklix Inc., and a presentation on the impact of technology on patron privacy by Mike Gurski, Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner of Ontario. Delegates then chose from an additional 6 sessions designed to prepare libraries to build secure networks. Presentations can be accessed at:
http://www.accessola.com/olita/
Select "OLITA Digital Odyssey" ▮

TWO NEW TOOLKITS ADDED TO OLITA WEB SITE

Check out the toolkits section of the OLITA web site for two brand new toolkits: wireless and RSS. The wireless toolkit features links to resources on wireless technology, standards and implementation. Meant as a primer for those thinking about implementing wireless in their libraries, this toolkit provides a solid introduction to the technology. The RSS toolkit provides steps for both setting up an RSS feed reader and writing an RSS feed for your web site. Also included are links to guides and tutorials about RSS. Feedback is always welcome as are suggestions for more toolkits in the future. ▮

ELECTRONIC PRIVACY WATCH: ALL EYES ON RFID IN 2004

The topic of RFID use in libraries was a hot topic in 2004 as libraries struggled to clarify issues of patron privacy in relation to the new technology. In response to these concerns, OLITA worked with staff of the Information and Privacy Commissioner/Ontario (IPC) to produce the paper Guidelines for Using RFID Tags in Ontario Public Libraries. Released in June, 2004 at the CLA conference, the document provides key definitions for the various terms related to this technology, outlines basic expectations and assumptions that libraries should be working within regarding privacy policies, provides recommended best practices for the acquisition and deployment of RFID technology, and reviews future challenges that libraries may face. The document is available at: http://www.ipc.on.ca/docs/rfid-lib.pdf

OLITA Council has been discussing other e-privacy issues for exploration such as the Privacy Impact Assessment Process, library privacy policies, issues surrounding Smart Cards and more. ▮

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Want to get more involved in your association? There are plenty of opportunities for your involvement from exciting committees to convening sessions to helping make conferences run smoothly. Best of all, volunteering is one of the most rewarding experiences around as you meet new people, see the behind the scenes of the association, and learn from and share with other OLITA members! If this sounds interesting to you, contact any Councillor for more information about volunteer opportunities!

OLITAround the Province
NEWS BYTES ABOUT TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS AROUND THE PROVINCE

NEWS BYTES ABOUT TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS AROUND THE PROVINCE

BUILD YOUR BUSINESS @ BRAMPTON LIBRARY

During OPL week, Brampton Library launched "Minding your Business," a free bimonthly enewsletter for small business owners. Customers can view the enewsletter on the library's web site or subscribe to it by email.

Each newsletter will feature a topic that is crucial to small business success, while keeping business owners informed about relevant library programs and services. The October/November issue featured Top 5 tips for Internet searching, a web site review, small business statistics and a list of new small business books. Planned topics include human resources management, sales skills and tax planning.

Visit www.bramlib.on.ca/business/business_services.htm

Contact:

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Business & E-Services Coordinator
Brampton Library
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CONFEDERATION COLLEGE LIBRARY LAUNCHES NEW STUDENT-DESIGNED WEBSITE

Confederation College Library has launched a new web site designed and developed by students, for students. Content of course was developed by library staff, but the design and building was completed by a team of 4 summer students. As part of the new library web page at www.confederationc.on.ca/library the Library incorporated the open source software "Ask a Question". This new service has been extremely popular as staff members have answered library questions, college program questions, and Thunder Bay questions from as far away as Germany.

Students were again instrumental in getting the program established and in developing a training manual for staff in its use.

Contact:

Laraine Tapak, Director
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JOHN GALT DIGITIZATION PROJECT

A new digitization project on John Galt has been launched at the University of Guelph. The project consists of two sites. One site consists of full text and images, Word documents and 48 books written by John Galt, representing just over 20,000 pages of published material. The second site is a Descriptive Bibliography of the Works of John Galt, with links to all manner of images such as the title pages of variant editions, original bindings, links to the full text of the first editions, etc. More content will be added by next summer. John Galt (1779 - 1839) was a Scottish Canadian novelist, but more importantly, founder and first Superintendent of the Canada Company. Please feel free to send feedback on the project to Tim Sauer. The two sites are located at: <http://www2.lib.uoguelph.ca/resources/ebooks/galt_list/index.cfm> and <http://www2.lib.uoguelph.ca/resources/ebooks/galt_bibliography/Bibliography_John_Galt.htm>

Contact:

Tim Sauer, Head of Information Resources, Library, University of Guelph, tsa@uoguelph.ca

LIBRARY @ MOHAWK REVITALIZES WEB PRESENCE

In December, the Library @ Mohawk completed an extreme makeover of the Library web site. Based on feedback from usability studies with students, the web team added new tutorials and rearranged content on the home page to improve navigation in September. Colours were then changed to conform to the new college-wide corporate colour scheme in December. More changes to navigation will be made following phase two of the usability study and the final phase of the usability study, to take place in June, will aid the team in making any additional improvements to navigation. See the new BRAIN at : http://brain.mohawkcollege.ca/

In addition, in September, the facultyspace was launched. The purpose of this electronic tool is to highlight quality web resources for faculty on such topics as instructional technology, assessment, plagiarism, classroom management and more. In future, online forms will be provided so faculty can make recommendations, book videos for classes or arrange for materials to be placed on reserve. Check it out at : http://spin.mohawkcollege.ca/facultyspace/

Contact :

Jenn Horwath, eLibrarian
Library @ Mohawk
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LINE-UPS BE GONE! NORTH BAY PUBLIC LIBRARY INCREASES COMPUTER USE AND DECREASES WORKLOAD USING PCRESERVATION

On October 22, 2004 at 1:00 pm the NBPL went live with a new on-line computer booking system, PCReservation by Envisionware. The system has made computer booking more flexible and decreased the amount of staff intervention required.

Previously, we held patron identification and required signed waivers in order to book computers. This manual system was inflexible and time-consuming for patrons and staff. Now, holders of library cards or Internet cards book computers for themselves.

Staff worked with Allison Standen of Convergent Library

WANT TO SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE?
WRITE FOR ACCESS. jfoster@city.windsor.on.ca

Technologies to interpret the NBPL's Internet Use Policy in the new system, so that the system mirrors the policy and not vice versa.

PCReservation has liberated staff time previously dedicated to moving patrons on and off computers, handling IDs, and dealing with patrons who were irritated by the old, inflexible system. Within a day, regular computer users were booking their own sessions and we saw a 16% increase in usage from October to November.

Feedback from patrons and staff has been very positive, and staff can now focus on instruction rather than booking.

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Ken Hernden, Head of Reference, A/V and Systems
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NEW BLOG AT WESTERN LIBRARIES

At the Western Libraries, University of Western Ontario, the Innovative Interfaces integrated library system is used. After Innovative's Millennium Silver upgrade, they implemented Millennium Cataloging, a web based cataloguing tool. Prior to that they used their text based Database Maintenance system. To make staff understand the change and feel at home with the web-based cataloguing system, they had a need to communicate information to and converse with staff about Millennium Cataloguing. They had training sessions, e-mail messages and mentoring. However, they needed to have cumulated information readily available where staff could provide feedback as well. Millennium Cataloguing blog http://millcat.blogspot.com/ took birth to fulfill this need. This was Raj K. Jain's (Head, Cataloguing) first attempt at blogging and he is learning to make good use of it.

Contact:

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REGION OF WATERLOO LIBRARY GETS STATE-OF-THE ART ELECTRONIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

On November 10, all ten rural branches of the Region of Waterloo Library system turned into iBistros. iBistro is the name of the new online library "catalogue" unveiled that day that offers much, much more than the previous catalogue for the Region of Waterloo.

For example, users can now view recommended reading and best seller lists, perform similar topic and author searches, view book covers in colour, read reviews, and even sample chapters. Also included are a kid's library, feedback mechanisms and "my account" options.

Contact:

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RFID TECHNOLOGY @ TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

A pilot of RFID enabled self check-out and collection security has been implemented at the Toronto Public Library. Express check-out workstations have been very well received by customers at TPL's newly opened 99th branch, St. James Town, and will be part of library service when Malvern re-opens this winter after extensive renovations.

RFID tags have been affixed to approximately 170,000 items and allow customers to check out items easily, quickly and privately, with staff assistance readily available for those who need it. Dual monitor workstations, with a touch screen monitor on the public side of the desk and a standard monitor and keyboard on the staff side allow for seamless access to the Dynix system for resolution of problems. The software, provided by Tech Logic Corporation, has been configured to allow users to access the express check-out system in five languages – English, French, Chinese, Tamil and Urdu. Library staff members also use the system to check-in multiple items with a single click of the mouse and are pleased with the reduction in materials handling.

Contact:

Patricia Eastman, RFID Project Leader
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AN ONLINE TREASURE http://ebybook.region.waterloo.on.ca IS LAUNCHED AT WATERLOO REGIONAL LIBRARY

Sunday October 3 was a day of celebration for dozens of local historians, librarians and information technologists. It was the official launch of the "Eby Book" website: From Pennsylvania to Waterloo,

http://ebybook.region.waterloo.on.ca, at Joseph Schneider Haus Museum.

Continued from page 5

Ezra Eby's two volume book, "A Biographical History of Waterloo Township" was published in 1895 and 1896, and ever since has been "the Bible" for people wanting to know about Pennsylvania German people, history and antiques. It is a record of over 1000 Mennonite families who migrated from Pennsylvania to Ontario in search of farm land, starting in 1800.

Eby's book has been long out of print, so people wanting to consult it had to travel miles to the nearest library or museum that owned a copy. When Region of Waterloo Library and Joseph Schneider Haus applied for Ministry of Culture funding back in January 2003, digitizing the book's 1600 pages and putting them online was the primary goal.

The final website ended up being much, more more. Documents, photographs, maps and pictures of objects associated with six pioneer families named in the book were added.

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OLITA EFFECTIVENESS STUDY

On Wednesday, February 2, 2005, OLITA will launch a year-long look at the effectiveness of the 15 year old association. Heading off this study will be a focus group for past presidents and councillors to be held at the start of Super Conference. Phase II of the study will be a follow-up teleconference with the councillors who attended the focus group. And Phase III will feature a survey of attendees of the Digital Odyssey in May, 2005. It is hoped the results of the study will inform the strategic planning process for 2006. Some questions to be explored are: If OLITA did not exist in 2005, would you invent it? What opportunities could OLITA provide for your involvement? If you could only choose one thing, what would you insist that OLITA continue?

Why study the effectiveness of OLITA? Building on the work done at Geneva Park in 1998, OLA is spearheading a review of all divisions in an effort to examine its mandate, effectiveness and governance structure. Look for OLITA's final report to be released in late 2005.

Would you like your voice heard? Let us know! We are anxious to hear from members regarding their views of the effectiveness of OLITA.

OLITA bits and bytes

Listserv: olita-l@accessola.com
Web site: http://www.accessola.com/olita

OLA Super Conference 2006:
Planning is underway!
Have a suggestion for a speaker or a session?
Let us know at the web site:
http://www.accessola.com/site/showPage.cgi?page=education/superconference/sessionplan/index.html

OLITA @ Super Conference 2005

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Philip Kiff - 209 Current Trends in Accessible Web Site Design: Common Barriers and Current Solutions

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Rita Vine - 909 Cool Search Site... Or Something Else? How to Evaluate Web Search Tools

Gary Price - 211 Tools for Managing Online Information 417 Web Collection Development

Lynne C. Howarth - 418 Metadata Matters: Key Lessons from Metadata Projects

Gordon B. Neavill - 512 Real Losses, Real Gains: Long-Term Survival of Digital Information

Thomas Dowling - 714 Better User Authentication with the Shibboleth Project

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Katherine Parrish - 114 How Are Kids and Teens Using Technology

Darlene Fichter - 205 Always Fresh: Fast Content for Your Web Site with Real Simple Syndication (RSS) 515 Designing for Scent: Why Stinky Sites Work

The tip of the iceberg!

Ontario Library and Information Technology Association Council 2004

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Report from OLITA President Jean Foster

OLITA's primary focus is the application of emerging technologies in information management organizations (LIBRARIES). New applications only come to life through the collaboration of the planners who ask "How can we…?", the researchers who continually ask "What's new….?" and the techies who thrive on discovering "How to…". OLITA's members are invited to join the discussions from every point of view, from every type of library in order to find cost-effective, efficient, working solutions to the problems we all share. When funds are scarce, free information sharing can help avoid the pitfalls of reinventing wheels in isolation. Lessons learned from any project using technology are worth sharing.

The tide has turned in technology. Function is driving the invention. It takes Vision and Technology working together to realize the dreams of what libraries can be … the ODL, wireless, 24x7, interactive … share your dreams. In 2005 OLITA will conduct an effectiveness study to help determine future directions by reviewing its past with presidents and Councillors from previous years, present goals and identifying future tech trends for libraries.

Enjoy the 2005 Super Conference OLITA Spotlight presentations. Come to the OLITA AGM – Friday, February 4, 2005 at 5:15 to meet the OLITA Technology Award Winners Huron County Library and your 2005 Council.

Mark your calendar for the May 13, 2005 Digital Odyssey: Power to the People. Send us your news from around the province for the next InsideOLITA. Join our dialogue and share your questions and answers to help us plan the OLITA sessions for the 2006 SuperConference.

OLITA welcomes new members … library workers who all touch technology … technology workers who support libraries … technology vendors who need to understand libraries.

"The best way to predict the future is to invent it."

Alan Kay

InsideOLITA

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InsideOLITA describes the decisions and activities of OLITA leadership, explains OLITA program and provides technological news of Ontario's libraries.

OLITA COUNCIL MEETINGS:
March 3, 2005
May 12, 2005
September 19, 2005
December 9, 2005

THE EDUCATION INSTITUTE
The OLITA Digital Odyssey
Power to the People:
Library Service in the
21st Century
Novotel North York
May 13, 2005

SUPER CONFERENCE
OLITA Education Sessions
OLITA Annual Meeting
OLITA Award Ceremony
OLITA Members' Reception
Metro Toronto Convention
Centre and the
Intercontinental Hotel Toronto
Centre
February 3-5, 2005.

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www.accessola.com/olita

OLITA LISTSERV
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For members only to ask for and
to share advice

OCCASIONAL PAPERS
As determined by OLITA
Council from time to time.

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