INTRODUCTION

by Marsha Miller

"A librarian should be more than a keeper of books; he should be an educator...No such librarian is fit for his place unless he holds himself responsible for the library education of his students...All that is taught in college amounts to very little; but if we can send students out self-reliant in their investigations, we have accomplished very much." Otis H. Robinson, "Proceedings," American Library Journal 1 (November 30, 1876)

INTRODUCTION TO INFORMATION LITERACY ISSUE

While I've been 'involved' in information literacy ever since I arrived at Indiana State University in 1985, it seems as though I've always been explaining the ways libraries do things and trying to help others make sense of it. I've been doing all the readings about Generation this and Generation that, which is all well and good. From the academic standpoint, what I'm seeing is the need for more and more collaboration between librarians and teaching faculty, including convincing the teaching faculty that, if they want college students to use 'library resources', they need to make very specific requirements, including specific reading assignments, lists of reference books to go to for certain types of answers, etc. and the continuing need to make sure the teaching faculty understand the crucial role they play in 'getting information literacy' across.

Academic, public and school libraries are well-represented in this issue. A number of practical solutions and observations are made in the articles on service to the growing Latino population in Indiana [or anyplace] with *Where Cultural Literacy and Information Literacy Meet*, and international students are the topic of *INTERLINK at Indiana State University*. The many roles public libraries play that relate to information literacy issues will be found in *Learners at the Gate*. Specific academic programs from IP-FW, IU-SB and Hanover College are highlighted, encompassing a large university campus [IP-FW, IU-SB] and a small, private college [Hanover]. An up-close and personal view of the life of a school media specialist is found with *Us Against Them*.

Special topics related to information literacy and various technologies can be found in the *Googlewhacking*, *E-books*, and *Interactive Gaming* articles.

General interest articles include a bibliography of recent articles on information literacy and a wealth of web sites and articles on a variety of topics from a portfolio project that was part of the Summer I 2006 L554 [Education of Information Users] course at the School of Library and Information Science, IU-Bloomington.
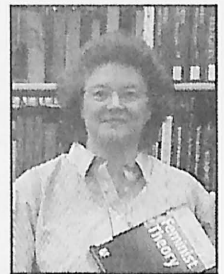
A long list of follow-up questions concludes this special issue.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Editor at Age 3

Marsha Miller (mmiller24@indstate.edu) has worked for 20+ years at Indiana State University, first in the Department of Library Instruction & Orientation, now in its Reference/Instruction Department. She is a founding member of the Bibliographic Instruction / User Education Steering Group and has presented often at ILF Conferences. She sings and plays the clarinet. She has taught *Education of Information Users* at IU-Bloomington for the last four years. Her publications include *Pre-assessment of Library Skills: Why Bother* [1999], local and state presentations on Experiential Learning, and various presentations at LOEX. In 2002 she participated in the 15th International Conference on the First Year Experience [Bath, England], as one of only two librarians invited to present. At the November, 2006, Indiana Library

Editor, More recent photo

Federation's Reference Division Conference, she will be speaking on the future of reference service.

NOTE ABOUT THE QUOTATIONS:

Several quotations, some of them fairly antique, are scattered about this issue. For more Information Literacy quotations, visit Ilene Rockman's "Selected Quotations on the Importance of Information Literacy," at http://www.calstate.edu/LS/InfoQuotes.doc.