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The Library Voice





Volume 1, Issue 8 April 1, 2005

What is a Blog, Anyway?

Within the last few years, there has been an overwhelming increase in the use of Internet communication methods. Email is the most common, but there's also online chat, message boards, and the newest addition to the family, the weblog.

Weblogs, or for short, blogs, are flexible, easily created websites on which a person or group of people can post thoughts, links, or pictures. These postings can be of a personal or professional nature, depending on the type of blog you choose to create. Blogs are generally updated on a regular basis—think of them as the journals or diaries of the Internet. The newest entries in any blog will appear at the top of the screen. Once a post has been made by the moderator of the blog, readers are able to post their own comments.

Within the academic environment blogs are quickly gaining popularity. They can be used to facilitate communication between department or faculty members, they can be an avenue for professional development, and they can be a great way to keep up with the comings and goings of other professionals in your field. Blogs are also all the rage with students, who use them to post stories about themselves or their friends.

Interested in starting your own blog or learning more? Here are some resources to get you started:

Blogger — www.blogger.com

You can use this site to start your own blog, browse other people's blogs, or learn more about what they are.

Blog of a Bored Student — http://blogs.warwick.ac.uk/cdoidge/ This is an example of a personal blog. Note the large number of comments posted by readers.

Culinary Blog and Portland Food Guide — http://www.extramsg.com/ This blog is part professional, part personal. Its moderator includes facts about the local food industry, as well as stories of his personal life. The beauty of the medium is that you can maintain any level of formality that you choose.

Library and Information Science News — http://www.lisnews.com/ While this is aimed at librarians, it's a great example of an informative professional blog. There is virtually no personal commentary. Please note that there are a number of active moderators who make posts to this site.

Sarah King

Library Update/Fast Facts

- Through our Tsunami book giveaway our library was able to raise a total of approximately \$450.00.
- As of April 2005 our library has more than 9,300 cataloged books on the shelves (We started the year with about 6,000.).
- On May 24th the Charlotte campus library will be receiving an additional 6,500 books from the Charleston campus.
- The library will be closed from May 20th until the start of the advanced standing program on June 20th. Summer hours at that time will be altered to accommodate the students in this program.
- In conjunction with faculty a campus-wide information literacy initiative has begun. Several classes will have IL-specific workshops integrated into their coursework as a result.
- In the deliberations of the library committee it was decided to designate extra funding (in addition to normal collection development money) to the purchasing of books and other resources for the business program this summer.

R. Moniz

Wall Street Journal

It's late, you're tired and you've been trying to finish up an assignment but you're having trouble because you need access to the Wall Street Journal. Sure, you

can hop over to the library and read the Journal there, or better yet, make a copy of the needed article. But what if there was an easier way to accomplish this mission? Well, there is. Did you know that the Wall Street Journal is



available online through the Charlotte Public Library's website? Yep, that's correct! You can read articles from today's Journal as well as search archived articles all online at no cost! All you need is your Charlotte Public Library card and the following instructions:

- 1. Go to the Charlotte Public Library's website: http://www.plcmc.org
- 2. Click on Online Resources
- 3. Scroll down the page and select the link for the Wall Street Journal
- 4. Enter your public library card number (yes, you must have a Charlotte public library card in order to access the online site)
- 5. Once in the database you can either search by keyword and date range using the basic search tab or if you want to view articles by date (for example today's articles only) then choose the publication search tab. Upon choosing the publication search option, select the link for the Wall Street Journal and choose the date you want to view.

Presto! You now have the information you need to complete your assignment.

Amy MacCabe

What You Don't Know About Milk and Eggs—Household Food Trivia

Did you know that you can tell the age of an egg by the height and firmness of its yolk? The yolk of a new egg will retain a firm circular shape, while the yolk of an older egg will sag and flatten almost immediately.

For the lactose intolerant, goat milk causes fewer problems than cow milk. Why? Because goat's milk is easier to digest. The downside? Many people think it tastes terrible.

In the past, butter was used to solve a variety of problems, including bad hair days (people used it as hair gel), and burns (people used it as a soothing ointment.)

Everyone is familiar with cow's milk as a beverage, but many do not know that in other parts of the world it is common to milk water buffalos, yaks, sheep, reindeer, and camels.

Ovo-Lacto vegetarians eat no meat, but do eat dairy and eggs. Vegans (pronounced vee-gan, with a hard "g") eat no animal products at all. Vegans tend to be very thin. ;)



It takes 21 pounds of fresh milk to make one pound of butter.

Have you ever seen a hard-boiled egg that had that greenish color around the yolk? That coloration is caused by a chemical reaction that occurs between the sulfur in the egg white and the iron in the egg yolk. Don't worry, it won't hurt you.

Facts taken from:

McGee, Harold. McGee on Food & Cooking: An Encyclopedia of Kitchen Science, History, and Culture. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 2004.

Ingram, Christine. <u>The World Encyclopedia of</u> Cooking Ingredients. London: Lorenz, 2002.

Compiled by Sarah King

The Carolina Insider: The Blue Ridge Parkway

The Blue Ridge Parkway is a 469 mile recreational motor road that connects Shenandoah and the Great Smoky Mountains National Parks while protecting the cultural and natural features of the region. Designed as a

"scenic drive", the Parkway provides both stunning scenery and close-up looks at the natural and cultural history of the mountains. Over 25 million people drive the parkway each year. In North Carolina, the Parkway meanders from the Virginia border, down along the rim of the Blue Ridge Mountains to Asheville. There it swerves west, past Cherokee and the Qualla Boundary, to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The Parkway was conceived during the Great Depression as a scenic tourist link between the two National Parks, previously mentioned. It was implemented out of a need to put people to work in 1935 during the Depression.



10 Tips for Enjoying The Blue Ridge Parkway:

- 1. Go slowly and enjoy the scenery. The speed limit is 45 mph. Although there are no stop signs or stoplights, this is not a freeway.
- 2. Stop at the overlooks to soak in the views. If an overlook is busy, take a short walk to find a more secluded spot.
- 3. Take a blanket and picnic. There are several picnic areas along the way, and many green areas along the drive to stop.
- 4. Take a jacket. With the elevation changes along the drive, the temperature may vary as much as 20 to 30 degrees. At the highest elevations, the hottest summer days only reach into the 70s.
- 5. Watch for hikers and bicyclists.
- 6. Be certain to take your camera and plenty of film. Ask someone to take a picture of you along the way.
- 7. Gas up before you get on the parkway. There is only one gas station on the parkway (at Mt. Pisgah). Gastations are also located on intersecting highways near the Parkway exits.
- 8. Restrooms are located at major stops such as picnic areas and visitor centers.
- 9. Please do not disturb wildlife or plant life. Bear sightings are rare.
- 10. If you are into bird watching or wildflowers, be sure to take your guidebooks.

For more information check-out these websites:

http://www.blueridgeparkway.org http://www.nps.gov/blri

Doreen Anglis

Videos from Charleston

Over spring break, the Charlotte library received 350 videos from the library at the Charleston campus. The staff has been working on putting these titles into our online catalog. A sample of the titles include Customer Service: Anticipating Customer Needs, The Joy of Gingerbread Housemaking, Thoreau at Walden Pond, Real World Selling, The Spirit of Hospitality, Joseph Campbell and the Power of Myth, and many more.

Check out the titles that are available by going to the library catalog. On the opening search page, click on "Keywords" in the left column and a new screen opens. Type in keywords in the search box, choose J & W Charlotte, North Carolina under collection, and video/slides under materials, then click submit. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact any of the librarians.

Jean Moats

New Books

Business/Marketing/Fashion

The Chicago Guide to Writing About Numbers (2 copies)
Disney War

Other

Steppenwolf

The Handmaid's Tale

His Excellency George Washington

Don Quixote

Tom Jones

Bill Clinton My Life

Fahrenheit 451

The Affluent Society

The Autobiography of

Malcolm X

The Lost Boy

Nineteen Eighty-Four

Effective Teaching with

Technology in Higher Education

Evolution vs. Creationism

Diary of Anne Frank

The Devil Wears Prada

Stranger in a Strange Land

Help Yourself

The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin

A Clockwork Orange

The Tipping Point

Promoting Reasonable Expectations

Copyright Essentials for Librarians and

Educators

Blink

Integrating Information Literacy into the

Higher Education Curriculum

Culinary Arts

Best Food Writing 2004

The Resource Guide for Food Writers

Inside the FDA

The American History Cookbook

Culinary Math

Contemporary Restaurants and Bars

The Great Dessert Book

Patisserie

Authentic Recipes from Japan

Culinary books donated by Kathleen Purvis, Food Editor, Charlotte Observer:

French Women Don't Get Fat (2 copies)

Fresh Choices

The Mom's Guide to Meal Makeovers

The Low-Carb Gourmet Recipes for the New Lifestyle

The New Mayo Clinic Cookbook

Essentials of Healthful Eating

One Bite at a Time: Nourishing Recipes for People with Can-

cer, Survivors, and their Caregivers

The Diabetic Gourmet cookbook

Hand on Heart

The Food Coach

Fresh from the Vegetarian Slow Cooker

Fresh Food Fast

A Beautiful Bowl of Soup

Olive Trees and Honey

The Low-Carb Gourmet

Café Paradiso Seasons

Low-Carb Quick and Easy

Superfoods Rx: Fourteen Foods That Will Change

Your Life

Cook 1.0: A Fresh Approach to the Vegetarian

Kitchen

Vegan World Fusion Cuisine

New Vegetarian Cooking

Fresh at Home Everyday Vegetarian Cooking

The Vegetarian Family Cookbook

The PDQ (Pretty Darn Quick) Vegetarian Cookbook

Venturesome Vegetarian Cooking

Christina Cooks: Everything You Always Wanted to Know

about Whole Foods

The Imus Ranch Cooking for Kids and Cowboys

The Carbohydrate Addict's No Cravings Cookbook

The Grassfed Gourmet Cookbook

Before & After: Living & Eating Well After Weight Loss Sur-

gery

Elegant Dairy-Free Entertaining

Videos

Student Speeches for Analysis Volume 1

Student Speeches for Analysis Volume 2

Student Speeches for Analysis (2 videos)

Great Moments from Great Speeches

Successful Speaking

DVDs

Great Moments from Speeches

Ready to Wear

The Story of the Weeping Camel

Super Size Me