

# Librarian's Lobby

## By Daniel D. Stuhlman

### February 2008

### Internet Research

It is my job to help researchers find information in the library and help faculty do a better job guiding their students in learning how to do scholarly research. Before the days of electronic encyclopedias teachers would tell students "Don't use an encyclopedia for your research." I had to translate, "Don't copy from the encyclopedias, but use the encyclopedias for general knowledge and ideas." Scholarly, scientific, and subject specialized encyclopedias are just as reliable as other forms of scholarly research. Today some teachers tell students "Don't use the internet." This is just plain impossible in today's electronic world. I have to translate that statement to, "Be judicious of the web sites that you use. Make sure you are using reliable information." Libraries can give researchers access to more than 15,000 periodicals on line. Most libraries can not afford to subscribe and store that many titles. Librarians observe a digital gap between teachers who understand current trends in scholarly research and those who live in the pre-computer age. There is a place in research for search engines and data base searches. Data base searching is part of the scholarly research process.

## Using a Data Base for Fuzzy Searching

Fuzzy searching is a way of looking for information when you are not sure of the search terms. One may search a data base such as ProQuest, Ebsco, or the library catalog effectively by author, title, or subject and even establish limits such as date or title of publication, but sometimes you don't know the exact subject and a keyword search is too general to help you. Fuzzy searches are used when you don't have exact names or subjects. Gale®, a part of Cengage Learning, is a leader in the production and publishing of electronic resources for libraries. Gale's editors gather articles from reference works and periodicals by topics. They prepared an edited list of sources. Many libraries subscribe to three Gale data bases that allow a type of fuzzy search; **Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center, Gale Virtual Reference Library, and Literature Resource Center**. These data bases may be accessed from the library's web site.

### Gale Databases

Find:

All Cross-Searchable Products  Selected Cross-Searchable Products

Select the products you want to search.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Select All	Cross-Searchable Products	Additional Products
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Select	 <b>Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center</b> - JAN. 2008 Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center is a one-stop source for information on today's hottest social issues. Drawing on acclaimed series published by Greenhaven Press and other Gale imprints, OvRC features viewpoint articles, topic overviews, full-text magazine, academic journal, and newspaper articles, primary source documents, statistics, images and podcasts, and links to Websites. New to the database are Lexile reading levels for periodicals and an integrated national and state curricular standards search with content correlated to the standards.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Select	 <b>Gale Virtual Reference Library</b> Gale Virtual Reference Library is a database of encyclopedias and specialized reference sources for multidisciplinary research. These reference materials once were accessible only in the library, but now you can access them online from the library or remotely 24/7. Because each library creates its own eBook collection, the content you see may vary if you use the database at different libraries (your school, your public library, or your office).	
	<b>Additional Products</b>	<b>Cross-Searchable Products</b>
	 <b>Literature Resource Center - LRC</b> - Jan 2008 Full-text journal articles, literary criticism, reviews, biographical information, and overviews on over 130,000 writers in all disciplines, from all time periods and from around the world.	

You may search 1, 2 or 3 data bases with this screen or you may choose to view one data base.

**Opposing Viewpoints** presents a collection of articles on both sides of hot social issues. Examples of subjects include: abortion, Internet, Iraq, child abuse, gangs, etc. Choose a subject and list of articles is sent to the screen. Choose an article and you will get a list of books and articles for further reading. This is a great way to start a search full text sources. If the list of articles is too long you may list results to

magazines, academic journals, reference books, statistics, multimedia, primary sources, or reference books. The articles are chosen and arranged by the editors at Gale. Advice on correct bibliographic citations is included.

**Gale Virtual Reference Library** is a collection of encyclopedias and other reference books that are fully on line accessible. Searches can be made on one or more titles at a time. Entries range from a few words to several pages.

**Literature Resource Center** offers full-text journal articles, in the disciplines of language and literature. This includes literary criticism, reviews, biographical information, and overviews from all over the world and includes all time periods.

## American Memory

Last summer I attended a training session sponsored by the Library of Congress called, American Memory. The URL for this web page is <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>. American Memory's mission is to provide free and open access to the written and spoken words, sound recordings, still and moving images, prints, maps, and sheet music that document the American experience. These materials,

chronicle historical events, people, places, and ideas that continue to shape America, serve as a resource for education and lifelong learning. The collection now has 100 thematic collections in subject areas such as advertising, African American history, cities and towns, folk life, government and law, American expansion, literature, historical maps, performing arts, sports, recreation,

technology, military history, and religion.

One of the collections, from Duke University contains the archives of the advertising agency, J. Walter Thompson. This collection includes more than 7000 ads dated from 1911 – 1955. On the left is an ad for an Olympic FM Radio. On the right is an Admiral ad for radios and phonographs. Admiral was based in Chicago.

Other non-book materials include play scripts, audio recordings, sheet music, photographs, animated films, and videos.

In 1857 one railroad, St. Louis, Alton, and Chicago, thought it was an airline. They offered two trains daily, 11:20 am and 11:15 pm in the spring and 10:30 am and 10:30 pm for the summer. The ad does not state the scheduled arrival times.

Original Air Line and United States Mail Route!  
1857. Spring Arrangement. 1857.

**St. LOUIS, ALTON AND CHICAGO**  
RAILROAD.

The only direct Route from Chicago or Joliet to  
**ST. LOUIS**  
KANSAS AND NEBRASKA,  
ALSO TO  
Bloomington, Springfield, Jacksonville, Naples, Alton

IN DIRECT CONNECTION AT BUFFALO WITH THE  
LAKE SHORE AND MICHIGAN SOUTHERN ROUTE  
And BUFFALO AND LAKE HURON RAILWAY, and  
GREAT WESTERN AND MICHIGAN CENTRAL LINE  
VIA SUSPENSION BRIDGE,  
AND THE VARIOUS LINES OF STEAMERS ON LAKE ERIE.

NEW AND IMPORTANT CONNECTIONS ARE ALSO MADE WITH  
**Peoria and Oquawka Railroad,**  
For Peoria, Walnut Grove, Washington, Pekin, Brimfield, Elmfield, Knoxville,  
Galesburg, Monmouth and Burlington, and by the BURLINGTON and MISSOURI  
RIVER R. R. to Mt. Pleasant, and its connections to all parts of Southern Iowa.

Trains leave Chicago daily, from Depot of Michigan Southern and Rock Island R. R.  
At **11.30 A. M.** and **11.15 P. M.**  
(SUNDAYS EXCEPTED.)

Passengers by this Route make the same "Direct connection" as via the  
Indiana "Short Lines," at ST. LOUIS, with Trains on  
**THE PACIFIC RAILROAD,**  
AND STEAMERS ON THE MISSOURI RIVER, FOR  
**KANSAS & NEBRASKA,**  
AND ALSO WITH FIRST CLASS STEAMERS FOR  
NEW ORLEANS AND ALL PORTS ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

Fare and Freight as Low as by any other Route.

**THROUGH TICKETS**  
By this AIR LINE ROUTE can be obtained at all the Railroad and Steam  
boat Offices in the Eastern States.

E. M. GOODRICH, Gen. Eastern Agent. A. H. MOORE, Gen. Supt.,  
Bloomington, Ill.

Original Air Line and United States Mail Route!  
1857. Summer Arrangement. 1857.

**St. LOUIS, ALTON AND CHICAGO**  
RAILROAD.

The only direct Route from Chicago or Joliet to  
**ST. LOUIS**  
KANSAS AND NEBRASKA,  
ALSO TO  
Bloomington, Springfield, Jacksonville, Naples, Alton

IN DIRECT CONNECTION AT BUFFALO WITH THE  
LAKE SHORE AND MICHIGAN SOUTHERN ROUTE  
And BUFFALO AND LAKE HURON RAILWAY, and  
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Galesburg, Monmouth and Burlington, and by the BURLINGTON and MISSOURI  
RIVER R. R. to Mt. Pleasant, and its connections to all parts of Southern Iowa.

Trains leave Chicago daily, from Depot of Michigan Southern and Rock Island R. R.  
At **10.30 A. M.** and **10.30 P. M.**  
(SUNDAYS EXCEPTED.)

Passengers by this Route make "Direct connections" at ST. LOUIS with Trains on  
**THE PACIFIC RAILROAD,**  
AND STEAMERS ON THE MISSOURI RIVER, FOR  
**KANSAS & NEBRASKA,**  
AND ALSO WITH FIRST CLASS STEAMERS FOR  
NEW ORLEANS AND ALL PORTS ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

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**THROUGH FREIGHTS VIA CHICAGO OR JOLIET,**  
Contracted at the Lowest Rates, at all the Principal Eastern Railroad and Shipping  
Offices, and For goods with Dispatch.

E. M. GOODRICH, Gen. Eastern Agent. A. H. MOORE, General Supt.,  
Bloomington, Ill.

DePaul University's Teaching with Primary Sources (TPS) created a bibliography of Chicago resources in the American Memory collection, called "Chicago and Illinois Treasures: A Starter List of Primary Sources from American Memory" Go to this URL to view the list.

[http://condor.depaul.edu/~tps/Documents/Chicago\\_Treasures.htm](http://condor.depaul.edu/~tps/Documents/Chicago_Treasures.htm)

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**Daniel D. Stuhlman** is president of **Stuhlman Management Consultants**, Chicago, IL, a firm helping organizations turn data and information into knowledge. We are looking for new clients and opportunities. Visit the web site at [Stuhlman.biz](http://Stuhlman.biz) to learn more about knowledge management and what our firm can do for you. Previous issues of **Librarian's Lobby** can be found at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~DDStuhlman/liblob.htm>. **E-mail author.**