

Letter from the Chair

Greetings from [Spokane!](#) I hope all of you who made it to Dallas had a swell time, and a useful [MLA meeting](#). [see the Dallas report, page 6]. Our chapter's big news is, of course, planning for the meeting this fall in [Vancouver](#). I'm excited by the keynote speaker, Eve-Marie Lacroix, Chief of the Public Services Division of the National Library of Medicine. Our hosts have a link to her bio sketch on the meeting website. Take a look at her professional background, which includes Canadian and U.S. experiences.

Among the Roundtables, I'm especially looking forward to the one on Grey Literature – always interesting to deal with! If your patrons ask the same sorts of questions mine do, there's always something "fugitive" that wants tracking down. As you might expect, there'll be more on PDAs – so plan to attend.

To continue our discussion of the [Chapter MAP](#), I hope you'll consider these goals, and send comments to [H-LIB](#) so we can discuss them.

GOAL 1: PNC/MLA promotes excellence and leadership in its members through education

Objective 1.A: Provide quality continuing education courses and programs to the membership.

We've always used the annual CE survey, conducted by our colleagues at the RML, and input from the Professional Development Committee, to identify courses and plan when and where they will be offered. Not all are at the annual meeting; we've had some at other times as well. Does this method meet your needs? Do you find yourself saying "there's nothing in CE that really grabs me this time"? If so, what could we do to change that? Are there classes we should offer over the net, or to concentrations of members in some specific place? Are there MLA classes you want to take, that you can't get to at the annual meeting? Tell us about this – email [me](#) or other [board members](#).

Objective 1.B: To establish links with other associations or organizations for professional development.

continued page 3, column 1

From the Editor

I am very pleased with this issue. We have a number of articles from our colleagues. Anne Girling did yeoman duty and has two in this issue. Don't miss her report on Small Computers in Library. Jean Pasche also submitted a very nice summary of the answers she received to a question posed on HLIB-NW about health observance websites. The Tech Tips column continues with some great suggestions and you won't want to miss Spotlight On Colleagues - entries are from Alaska, Washington, and Idaho!



**Bringing it
all together**

2002 PNC/MLA Annual Meeting – Vancouver, B.C.

Remember to register for the 2002 PNC/MLA Annual Meeting held in scenic Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada from Saturday, October 19-Monday, October 22 . The conference will be held at the Coast Plaza Hotel just a short walk from spectacular English Bay and Vancouver's famous Stanley Park.

continued page 3, column 2

Table of Contents

Around the Region	4
Chapter Business	11
Colleague Spotlight	6, 7, 8
Dallas Reflections	6
Health Observance Websites	4
Humor	7
Meetings	1, 2, 3, 11
Membership Form	15
MLA	15
News You Can Use	16
Officers/Chairs	2
Positions Available	18
Publication Statement.....	2
Publications and Presentations	2, 21
Reference Challenge	7
Tech Tips	12

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Publications and Presentations

Implementing Evidence-Based Nurse Practice

Anne Girling, solo librarian for the Alaska Native Medical Center, Anchorage AK, spoke on "Searching the Evidence: Practical Techniques" during the conference, "Implementing Evidence-based Nurse Practice", sponsored by Theta Omicron Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau and the Alaska Native Medical Center. The conference took place May 7-8, 2002 at the Alaska Native Medical Center, Anchorage; it was attended by registered nurses from hospitals across Alaska.

Anne's presentation covered the following topics:

- review of print and online resources available for "uncovering the evidence" on which Evidence-based Practice is dependent;
- steps used for developing a search strategy;

· search filters (basic and comprehensive search strategies) developed for use when searching PubMed and OVID databases; and

· "Who you gonna Call?" when you can't find the information you seek? **Your Friendly Librarian**

Evaluations indicated that attendees appreciated the practicality of the presentation. Comments included, "You not only told us **what** we needed to be looking for, you showed us **how** to go about finding it"; "The handouts you provided will make it easy for to follow the process you to us"; and "Are you available to come to our hospital and give this presentation to our staff?"

Another Evidence-based Nurse Practice conference is being planned for 2003; discussions concerning making the conference an annual event are also being heard. These local and in-house conferences provide valuable opportunities for promoting libraries, library services, and librarians. ##

Future PNC/MLA Meetings

October 19-22, 2002, Vancouver, British Columbia - at the Coast Plaza Suite Hotel by Stanley Park and English Bay

PNC Fall 2003 - joint meeting, January 28-31, 2004, Sacramento, CA

PNC Sept/Oct 2004: Seattle

PNC Sept/Oct 2005: Portland

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Statements and opinions expressed in the newsletter do not necessarily represent the official position of the Chapter or the Editor.

News and articles are welcome! Please include your name, library, address, phone and fax number, and email address (if available). The editor reserves the right to edit submissions as necessary. Articles from *Northwest Notes* may be reprinted without permission; credit would be appreciated.

Chair, continued from page 1

When you check the [MAP site](#), you can see our measurement indicators for this objective. We carefully don't specifically identify a group we want to link with. Is there one that would help you? Tell us who they are.

GOAL 2 PNC/MLA fosters rapid and accurate health information delivery in support of informed health care decision making.

Objective 2.A: To advocate the use of new methods of health information delivery and support the dissemination of information on library innovation and trends.

This one's a favorite of mine; some of you have received e-mail from me about tiffs and PDF files! What specific thing should the [Technology Committee](#) work on in this area?

I hope you all get to enjoy some of this summer ahead – I've a son's wedding to attend, and, I hope, some camping! (Even though I like bears, I hope we don't meet any).

I look forward to seeing many of our members in Vancouver next month. ##



Vancouver, continued from page 1

Our conference launches off with a weekend of continuing education courses for which you can register. On Saturday, choose from the following “*Well Kept Secret-Health Related Government, Organization and Think-Tank Content?*” with Laura Larrison, “*PDA's and the Library*” with Peggy Baldwin and / or “*You're Speaking - But Are You Connecting?*” with Margaret Hope. On Sunday, your CE registration options include “*Health Informatics - what's it got to do with me?*” with Dr. Kathy Hornby, “*Designing for Usability on the WWW*” with Mary Sue Stephenson

and / or a one-hour “*PubMed Update*” with Linda Milgrom.

End the weekend at the Welcome Reception on Sunday night in preparation for the exciting conference program ahead. Admire the panoramic evening view from the 35th floor of the conference hotel while enjoying cocktails and reuniting with friends.

The program will begin on Monday with our keynote, Eve-Marie Lacroix from the National Library of Medicine who will discuss future challenges, opportunities and collaborative efforts for libraries & librarians in her talk, “*Managing Health Information - We're In It Together*”. The day continues on with our “*Barriers to Health Care*” panel and Dr. Clyde Hertzman's discussion on “*The Role of Libraries in Child Development and Health*”. Spend some of the day at our Exhibitor displays and join them at the “*Lunch with Vendors*”. Catch up with your RML representatives and hear about their plans at the “*RML Tea Party*”. We will also have a Contributed Papers & Posters session which will include two presentations by University of Washington librarians. Emily Hull will discuss “*Finding the Figures: Leveraging an Existing Database to Connect Consumers and Clinicians to Statistical Resources on the Web*”. Joanne Rich and Harry Love will present their paper “*Take your classes to the masses: the migration of a drug information tutorial to the web*”. We will also be displaying the following posters: “*Using the Internet to Communicate with Immigrant/ Refugee Communities about Health*” by Ellen Howard, “*Tune Up Your Information Skills:: a library liaison campaign for customized presentations to faculty*” by Janet Schnall and “*Do you have the right stuff? Selecting a natural medicines resource to answer the question*” by Terry Ann Jankowski. At the end of this busy Monday, wind down and relax with some classical music and a delicious

meal at the Conference Banquet.

We continue the next day, with other fascinating speakers and topics including “*Physician Expectations from Libraries: The Impact of PDAs and the Internet*” by Dr. Steve Wong. Our Tuesday panel topic will be “*E-resources*” with four librarians sharing their insights and experiences. Then join our “*Roundtables Luncheon*” where you'll have the opportunity to discuss copyright, grey literature, end-user training, Docline or NLM Outreach. Afterwards, Barbara Mintzes will provide an intriguing slide show providing examples of pharmaceutical-direct-to-consumer advertising. Last, but definitely not least, our final speaker will be Susan Barnes with informative news from NLM.

There will also be free time available for you to explore Vancouver. Visit the Tourism Vancouver website to find out about the sites the city has to offer. You can also find out about the latest music, art and theatre events on the Tourism Vancouver's Calendar of Events

Don't forget, American visitors will have the added benefit of a great exchange rate and will be eligible to receive sales tax rebates! AND remember, even more savings can be obtained from flight discounts offered by PNC/MLA 2002's official airline Air Canada(which includes United Airlines codeshare flights). Just notify your travel agent of Tour Code CV457451.

For further information, click on the Registration link on the PNC/MLA 2002 website at: <http://www.chspr.ubc.ca/pncmla/> ##



Health Observance Web Sites: Some Observations

By Jean Pasche
Pacific Northwest Research Institute,
Seattle, WA

When I posted a query to HLIB-NW asking for web sites listing annual national health observances, I received many suggestions. I have now had a chance to look at them. Following are my very brief annotations, for both good and bad sites.

<http://www.health.gov/nhic/pubs/nho.htm>

2002 National Health Observances is my favorite because it is comprehensive and also provides links to the sponsoring organizations for more information. This site is a product of the National Health Information Center, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, US DHHS.

<http://www.nationalwellness.org/Resources/index.asp>

Click on NWI (National Wellness Institute) 2002 Calendar of National Health Observances for the PDF document. This site is also comprehensive and also provides links to the sponsoring organizations. It is almost but not quite a duplicate of the first site, above. Both sites have a few observances not listed by the other.

<http://www.medinfosource.com/resource/healthobserve.html>

This site is done by MedInfoSource, which is part of CME, Inc. It, too, is comprehensive and duplicative, but does have one or two possible advantages. Since it does not include any information about the sponsoring organization, it is shorter and can be more quickly scanned. There is also a graphic at the top for the current month, which highlights the "big" observances for that month.

Around the Region

British Columbia

Another move for Lea!

Lea Starr began a new position on April 2nd as the Assistant University Librarian-Science Libraries at UBC. She is "glad to back in the academic environment." When asked what she wanted shared about her new surroundings, she listed the following exciting news: there are tons of research dollars coming in, the medical is going to double in size by 2010 at which point it will be the largest medical school in Canada, and their medical school will be going to distributed learning in which 24 students in 2003-2004 will be offsite. Her contact information is: 1956 Main Mall, Main Library, Vancouver, B.C. , V6T 1Z1, Tel: 604-827-5040, Fax: 604-822-3242, E-mail: lea.starr@ubc.ca

And a Farewell

by Jim Henderson to Hlib-NW on August 28, 2002

Just wanted to say farewell, for now. Today is my last day at the Medical Library Service. Next week, I become Head of the Health Sciences & the Osler (History of Medicine) Libraries at McGill University in Montréal, Québec.

It has been a constant source of enjoyment and inspiration for me to collaborate with and learn from the great PNW group. The borders didn't seem to exist. Thanks to everyone for all the help, support, advice, and fun through the years. We have accomplished a good deal together. The spirit of the PNW will be in my heart and with me in the way I work at McGill.

I will be back. We didn't sell our house in Vancouver, so the plan is to return after a few years being really Canadian, learning French and enduring freezing winters and torrid

summers. Christmas and summer holidays will be here in BC.

I will miss you, so please stay in touch. My new e-mail address is jim.henderson@mcgill.ca.

Regards,
Jim

Idaho

Director Of Idaho Health Sciences Library Retires

A reception honoring Nancy Griffin, retiring Director of the Idaho Health Sciences Library, was held Tuesday, July 9th in the Oboler Library.



Ms. Griffin came to ISU in 1990, as divisional librarian for the life and health sciences. One of her primary responsibilities was to plan for

the creation of the Idaho Health Sciences Library (IHSL). The IHSL became a reality in 1993, and Ms. Griffin was appointed its Assistant Director. She became Acting Director in 1997, then Director in 1998, and has served in the latter capacity to the present day.

As Director of the IHSL, a facility that serves as the primary health science informational resource for the state, Ms. Griffin has been very active in state and national medical library associations. She is past-president of the Idaho Health Information Association, and a long-time member of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association. She has been the recipient of several grants, from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Pacific Northwest Region, and the National Library of Medicine. At ISU she served on numerous university committees, and was the first member of the library faculty to chair the Curriculum Council.

continued page 19, column 2

next column

continued page 5, column 1

Ms. Griffin received her MLS in Library Science from SUNY, Buffalo, in 1989. Prior to that, having earned a graduate degree in Zoology from Michigan State University, she taught anatomy and physiology at Genesee Community College in Batavia, N.Y. Immediately before coming to ISU, Ms. Griffin was a hospital librarian at the Medical Library, Mercy Hospital, Buffalo, N.Y.

With her husband Paul, Ms. Griffin has three daughters and one son. Her daughter Maureen has become well known to Pocatellans for her accomplishments in track and field. Dogs and horses have also played an important role in Mr. Griffin's life; she has raised Collies and field-bred Irish Setters, and owned several horses. Ms. Griffin will be returning to the Buffalo area after her retirement from ISU.

Montana

The Kalispell Regional Medical Center's (KRMC) Medical Library is in the process of becoming automated for the first time. Heidi Sue Adams, medical librarian, recently obtained a digital photocopier that allows for scanning of articles that can then be sent via email, fax, or printed out in hardcopy format. All this from one machine! Also, at this time, KRMC is the only medical library participating in the new Montana Shared Catalog System. This project will allow all participating libraries to be on a shared library system that containing modules for circulation, serials, and cataloging. This will allow patrons to see KRMC's holdings on the Internet, in addition to viewing their own circulation records from home. The system went live on July 30. This means that Kalispell Regional Medical Center Medical Library will be fully automated. Heide Sue says, "A long time in coming, but well worth the wait!" submitted by *Gail Wilkerson*

next column

Janice Bacino Takes New Position

It is with a certain amount of sadness that I wish to tell you all that I have resigned as medical librarian at St. Peter's Hospital in Helena, Montana. My last day is August 30th. I have accepted a position as librarian for the Helena College of Technology, University of Montana.

Of all the things I will miss about this job, most I will miss having this group as a support and resource. You are the greatest group of colleagues and I will try my best to keep the ties. Thanks to each of you for your help, wisdom, and good cheer over the years.

Sincerely,
Janice

Pat Manlove

Pat Manlove, medical librarian at the Western Montana Clinic, Missoula, Montana for 20 years (1970-1990) died on Monday, June 24, 2002. Pat was an active member of the PNC/MLA.

She was co-chair of the 1982 PNC meeting which was held in Missoula. Those who attended that meeting will recall (if nothing else) the wild west gunslingers and Vigilante justice staged in the parking lot of the conference hotel before the farewell banquet.

Pat also worked with the Montana Health Sciences Information Network and Dale Middleton of the RML to compile a Montana Union List of Serials during 1982-83. This printed union list enhanced the daily workflow and simplified interlibrary loan activity in Montana medical libraries for a number of years in the days before SERHOLD and DOCLINE.

She was also a member and served on various committees of the Montana Library Association. A memorial service was held in Missoula on Friday, June 28. Pat was a friend and

next column

a colleague who will be missed.

Oregon

Claire Swanson, MLS, has joined Legacy Health System library group in the Portland, Oregon area. She replaces Janet Owens as librarian at Legacy Meridian Park in Tualatin. Janet is now with the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley.

Claire was Medical Librarian at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta for four years before moving to Oregon. She has technical reference experience in patents and trademarks from Georgia Institute of Technology.

Library Exhibit on Esther Pohl Lovejoy, Second Woman Graduate of OHSU in 1894

The OHSU Library currently has an exhibit on Esther Pohl Lovejoy in the display case on the main floor of the Library near the Information Desk.

Esther Pohl Lovejoy was the second woman graduate of the University of Oregon Medical School in 1894 and ultimately the first woman graduate to practice medicine. She practiced medicine in Portland until the gold rush in Alaska beckoned. Along with panning for gold, Esther opened a makeshift hospital to treat scores of goldminers after an epidemic of meningitis broke out. Esther returned to Portland and entered public life as a pioneer member of the Portland Board of Health in 1905 and was health officer and chairman of the Board from 1907 to 1909, the first woman in the U.S. to hold such a position.

Esther was a member of the Medical Womens National Association (Mwana), founded in 1915, and she was present at the first meeting in New York of the Mwna War Service Committee renamed American Womens Hospitals. She traveled to France in August 1917 and in Paris joined the staff of the

continued on page 10, column 1



Spotlight On....

Nola
Higley

1. What is your favorite word?

Retirement — it's not really my favorite, but it's on my mind a lot

2. What is your least favorite word?

Basically

3. What is different about working where you are now from previous jobs/places?

Here, I "rule the roost," more so than at any other job.

4. Is there anything surprising or unexpected about your job or work environment?

An unpleasant surprise was being told we must downsize the library to half its present size this year. Some fun surprises are the really oddball non-medical information requests we get.

5. Do your outside interests help on the job?

Oh yes, everything you know can help in a library job.

6. What turns you on?

My handsome cowboy (husband); looking down on the beautiful valley where I live when coming home from work; all the beauties of nature

7. What turns you off?

Arrogance

8. Do you have family members and/or pets you'd like to tell us about?

I have an 8-year old grand daughter Alexas who is wonderful. We also have 4 horses, 7 cats, 3 dogs & a snail.

9. What are your most satisfying hobbies or leisure-time interests?

Working, riding, walking, traveling,

& having fun with my husband & little grand daughter; playing with the pets, puttering around at home, church activities and reading, reading, reading.

10. What sound do you love?

My husband's voice; a cat purring, bird songs, the frogs singing at night

11. What sound do you hate?

Loud raucous noises — machines, so-called music

12. What profession other than librarianship would you like to attempt?

Dog training

13. What profession would you not like to participate in?

Politics

14. Do you have any books, movies, recordings, etc. you would recommend? (variation - what book(s) are you reading right now? What is the last movie you saw?)

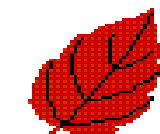
Going to & from work, I've been listening to the audiobook of "Good to Great," by Jim Collins - about companies that went from good companies to great companies. I don't usually read business books, but this one is fascinating. I mostly see "G" movies, going with my grand daughter; last one I saw was "The Other Side of Heaven."

15. If you were to come back as an animal, what would you choose and why?

A duck at Disneyland. They looked like they were having a great time.

16. If heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?

Welcome home — have some chocolate. ##



DALLAS REFLECTIONS

MLA took place in Dallas, Texas this past May. Meeting reflections were solicited from PNC attendees and they responded! Instead of listing each person's reflections, they are grouped [not all pieces could be included, but at least something from everyone appears]. Contributors' names appear below. Have fun trying to mix and match! Thanks to ALL of you for contributing to this—I hope it will be an interesting read!

Contributors: Heidi Sue Adams, Marcia I. Batchelor, Bonnie R. Chadbourne, Judith Hayes, Carol Jones, Suzy Long, Sarah McCord, Patrice O'Donovan, Connie Schardt, Janet G. Schnall, and Jan Schueller.

Colleague Connections:

"Dallas was definitely the Big D - Doggone Delightful. What I enjoyed most was meeting my colleagues and friends and the good times that evolve around those encounters. Like meeting friends at the pool and all the impromptu talks and walks with fellow PNC librarians. Keep those good times rollin'..."

"It was great to get fresh perspectives from other librarians around the world. I especially enjoyed making new contacts with others, and gaining new insights that will change the way I do/approach some of the things in my library. I also was able to meet other librarians in the region who I had not previously met at PNC. That was really nice"

"Tell the group that Natalie Norcross is halfway through her MBA in Finance, as well as working full-time as the Interim Co-Director of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Health Science Libraries."

General Meeting reflections:

"The Hospital Library section

continued page 8, column 3



**Spotlight
On....
Anne
Girling**

1. What is your favorite word?

Vacation

2. What is your least favorite word?

Can't – give it a try before claiming defeat

3. What is different about working where you are now from previous jobs/places?

I have worked here so long (1977 to the present with two 2 –year absences), that I find this question difficult to answer. One difference I noticed after changing from being a Nurse to a Librarian, is that now I get more respect and am treated like more of an equal by physicians and administrators than I did before the change.

4. Is there anything surprising or unexpected about your job or work environment?

I believe it was a bit unusual to get off work on Saturday morning as a Nurse and return to work on Monday morning as a Librarian. That is what I did January 1997; same employer, different profession.

5. Do your outside interests help on the job?

No

6. What turns you on?

Foreign travel

7. What turns you off?

Game/Reality TV Shows (including the Survivor series)

8. Do you have family members and/or pets you'd like to tell us

about?

My nine, yes I said NINE, cats keep me active and out of mischief. I have 3 boys: Jibber, Dawg, and Son; and 6 girls: Julian, Pandora, Tasha, Tazmanne, Jezebel, and Delilah. They range in age from 2 to 12 years old. Please note, I am no longer a sucker for a sad story!

9. What are your most satisfying hobbies or leisure-time interests?

Home improvement – I love putting down a wood floor, painting walls, building shelving units, making Winter Curtains, etc.

10. What sound do you love?

Thunderstorms

11. What sound do you hate?

People smacking their gum

12. What profession other than librarianship would you like to attempt?

Computer programming

13. What profession would you not like to participate in?

The Law, food service, and dietetics

14. Do you have any books, movies, recordings, etc. you would recommend? (variation - what book(s) are you reading right now? What is the last movie you saw?)

Books - espionage, intrigue, action, etc.: Tom Clancy, Robert Ludlum, Jack Higgins, Michael Creighton. Movie: The Scorpion King – The Rock was Great! TV show: CSI – Crime Scene Investigator (they show knives/bullets/etc. plunging through flesh, severing blood vessels, destroying tissue, etc., plus a lot of other Medical Examiner type stuff).

15. If you were to come back as an animal, what would you choose and why?

A grizzly bear so I could sleep all Winter and roam around Denali National Park all Summer.

16. If heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?

You arrived earlier than we expected, go back down to earth and enjoy yourself a little while longer. ##

Reference Challenge

This “article” crossed my desk and thought I’d share it with you. However, I don’t have a source for this ... anyone want to see if they can verify that this is “trustworthy” information? [The Editor]

For All My Women Friends

Article by Jean Houston

Women respond to stress differently than men do. Fortunately, we also have a better way to fight against it: each other. Friendships between women are special. They shape who we are and who we are yet to be. They soothe our tumultuous inner

continued page 14, column 1



How many academic librarians does it take to change a light bulb?

Just five. One changes the light bulb while the other four form a committee and write a letter of protest to the Dean, because after all, changing light bulbs IS NOT professional work!

How many catalogers does it take to screw in a light bulb?

Just one, but they have to wait to see how LC does it first.

LIGHTBULB JOKES <http://www.ifla.org/I/humour/humour.htm#light>



Spotlight On...

Sherrilynne Fuller

1. What is your favorite word?

Serendipity

2. What is your least favorite word?

No

3. What is different about working where you are now from previous jobs/places?

Fast-paced and populated by creative, interesting, caring and fun people

4. Is there anything surprising or unexpected about your job or work environment?

How the pace of change continues to accelerate; I keep hoping for a short respite to “catch up.”

5. Do your outside interests help on the job?

I have always had a great curiosity about and love of animals, plants, and the environment. This has provided the “fuel” for my daily work with faculty and staff in the UW Health Sciences Center on improving access to biomedical information.

6. What turns you on?

A walk on the beach (ocean, river...) with my “significant others” — humans and animals

7. What turns you off?

Administrative routine

8. Do you have family members and/or pets you'd like to tell us about?

I have a terrific husband, David who is a hydrogeologist (water resources specialist) for the Port Gamble S'kallam Tribe; a caring, smart, witty daughter, Heather, who is a sophomore at UW majoring in biology; the best dog in the world - Allie, a very intelligent pound puppy rescuee who is a chow/kelpie (Australian cattle dog) mix; and Morris, Boston Blackie and other assorted stray cat adoptees.

9. What are your most satisfying hobbies or leisure-time interests?

Growing native trees and plants for reforesting some logged land that we have in the North Cascades; camping and hiking in the beautiful Pacific Northwest; travel to all parts of the globe; and crochet, knitting, spinning and weaving.

10. What sound do you love?

Natural running water (e.g. ocean waves, waterfalls)

11. What sound do you hate?

Any kind of motors/engines

continued page 9, column 1

Dallas, from page 6, column 3

volunteers not only created, compiled, and reported Benchmark data, they created a database that I can use to make SELECTIVE reports! Bravo!”

“I bought 3 great new books at the MLA bookstore on Consumer Health, they all have contemporary copyright dates and one even has a template for creating custom bookmarks..”

“I was totally jazzed about the fact that the SERHOLD/OCLC Pilot project is moving ahead so well. It really began in PNC... It has been a long haul, but soon everyone who updates in SERHOLD can have their holdings “magically” updated in OCLC’s union list...!!!”

“The general program seems always to be arranged like the entrees in the hospital cafeteria, with everything I want presented at the same time followed by nothing of interest at all..”

“Funniest thing? A librarian left their business card at my poster with their name and title: Chief Futurist and Strategist!”

Continuing Education:

“... I took an all day CE class in Dallas, “Evidence-based health care”. The class was designed to provide approaches for curriculum development and teaching evidence-based health care (by the instructor definition, a broader term than EBM, inclusive of allied health disciplines). The class was a good fit for work I’m doing currently in my hospital to develop an EBM class for physicians. The instructors had great handouts: sample curriculums, pre-class surveys, course evaluations forms, and resource lists. All were provided with permission to share and use as needed. In addition, everyone in the class provided a snapshot of their EBM activities during the day. The instructors closed the class with a

continued page 9, column 2

continued from page 8, column 3

12. What profession other than librarianship would you like to attempt?

Epidemiology — tracking/preventing disease outbreaks (in my next life...)

13. What profession would you not like to participate in?

Surgery — I hate the sight of blood and besides, I have spatial dyslexia... J

14. Do you have any books, movies, recordings, etc. you would recommend? (variation - what book(s) are you reading right now? What is the last movie you saw?)

Last movie seen — Fellowship of The Ring (SUPER!!) Books: (I'm always reading several simultaneously; if we ever have an earthquake in the middle of the night I'll be squashed by the books piled on the headboard of the bed...). William Least-Heat Moon - River-horse: the logbook of a boat across America (Terrific book. If you haven't read his book Blue Highways, that's fun too). Mark Twain — Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court (as relevant today as when it was written...). Lord of the Rings (all three volumes; read recently for at least the 4th time in my life!). Stephen Ambrose - Undaunted courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the opening of the American West

15. If you were to come back as an animal, what would you choose and why?

An eagle; several live near our house and having watched them for several years raising their young and carrying on their daily lives they seem to have an interesting life. Especially hilarious is watching an adult eagle trying to explain — unsuccessfully — to a youngster the risk of landing on a branch in the top of a small ever-green; reminds me of human parenting....

16. If heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?

Welcome; you "done good"... ##



Dallas, from page 8, column 3

discussion of what might constitute a basic EBM skill set, or competencies and what the process might be for advancing these in medical education and residency programs. So in 8 brief hours, the class gave me a sense of how EBM is impacting library services and the role of the librarian, the chance to practice my teaching skills, resources to take back and use on my job, and a sense of what additional/future work with EBM might be. Very time and cost-efficient..."

"Kudos to our own Peggy Baldwin for her help in the PDA class, and a reminder that she is teaching a PDA class at PNC/MLA in the fall. "

"I took the Health Economics CE course, and gained a new insight on economic articles in healthcare. Although the main professor being from Scotland focused on the British side of economics, her principles can be applied to any language, especially the American literature. This was evident when the University of Penn's Wharton School librarian stepped up to teach the American part of the class. I think of this class as using evidence-based medicine techniques when specifically evaluating the various cost-analysis studies."

"I took a class on how to develop a Portal and just as I suspected we really do NEED to make that upgrade for our web users."

Poster Sessions and Presentations and Meetings:

"My favorite part of the Dallas meeting was the poster sessions. This year the posters were up for 24 hours and divided into 2 sessions. Posters of similar themes were grouped together - a great idea! There were several posters on PDAs: how to undertake a PDA Fair; the library's role in defining needs and services as well as how librarians can integrate PDA technology into their work environments..."

"I think the posters were great. One of the best ever was Janet Schnall's poster on doing 10 minute training spots. She should market it. It was wonderful!"

"A session on AIDS/HIV information dissemination in Nigeria showed me the situation in Nigeria is very similar to the one in Zimbabwe where Battelle has a project."

"There was the usual bewildering array of sophisticated vendor solutions and the practical & innovative member "Posters"."

"Sarah McCord gave a talk on Competitive Intelligence in the Academic Environment. Her slides are available at <http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu/hsl/sarah/MLA2002.ppt>. Our own Jan Schueller at Battelle was also a speaker on competitive intelligence.."

"I thought that Chapter Council would be less than stimulating—8 hours in a room with a bunch of strangers. I couldn't have been more wrong. It was well run, interesting and I'm glad to be the Rep for PNC!"

"Also enjoyed the standing room only paper session on the impact of the web on usage of print reference collections."

"Michelle Spatz chaired a good session on the last day on Dealing with questions and patrons about death and dying."

"Went to theEMBASE lecture on compounding pharmacy, learned that if you're compounding medication for ferrets, flavor it with banana."

Region, from page 5, column 3

American Red Cross. In 1919, she founded the Medical Womens International Association and was chosen to be the chairman of the executive board for the American Womens Hospitals (AWH). She died in 1967.

The OHSU Library exhibit on Esther Pohl Lovejoy will continue through September.

Information also at <http://www.ohsu.edu/library/new.shtml>

National Library Week

The *Oregon Health & Science University Library* celebrated National Library Week by asking our vendors to give us some of their "goodies". For two days, there was a table in the Library that held a plethora of pens, pads, croakies, clips, flashlights, key chains, highlighters, bags, magnets, mints, and assorted other items. The patrons loved it. Needless to say, things like the flashlights and cloth bags went quickly, while other things like bookmarks ended up as leftovers to be used later. It was fun watching people go through the basket full of pens, selecting the one they liked the best.

Most of the vendors we contacted were very generous. Vendors included Ebsco, Gale Group, Innovative, ISI, Majors, Matthews, MDConsult, Ovid, ProQuest, Science Direct, Stat!Ref, and Swets Blackwell as well as some NLM pens, pads, and bookmarks. It was a great way to introduce people to products they might not have known we have.

OHSU New Subscriptions For 2002

The OHSU Library added over 100 print and electronic journals to the collection for 2002. Journals were selected based on a number of factors, including ecommendations from the OHSU Community, interlibrary

next column

loans requested, and the number of times cited by OHSU authors. Also, during 2002, the Library has access to over 1000 Elsevier journals electronically, as a trial to see which titles are used most extensively. The lists of journals added to the collection are at <http://www.ohsu.edu/library/depts/coldevcomm/2002addcancel.shtml>.

Washington

EDUCAUSE Announces Award Winners

EDUCAUSE has announced winners for its 2002 Awards Program. Individuals honored by the awards are Douglas Van Houweling for Excellence in Leadership, Diane P. Balestri (posthumously) for Leadership in the Profession, Kenneth C. Green for Leadership in Public Policy and Practice, and James P. Frazee for "EDUCAUSE Quarterly" Contribution of the Year. Institutional awards go to Wake Forest University School of Medicine, the College of Mount St. Joseph, the University of Minnesota, and the *Intercollegiate College of Nursing / Washington State University College of Nursing*. Winners will be recognized at the association's annual conference in Atlanta, October 1-4. For more information, see (<http://www.educause.edu/news/2002/08/awards.asp>).

Nancy Press Leaves the RML

I have loved working with all of RML staff can do the fun stuff only because the rest of you are so terrific at taking care of the health information needs in the region.

I'll be the Library Director and for Mars Hill Graduate School in Bothell beginning this Fall. Mars Hill offers degrees in divinity and counseling, so I'll still be a health librarian, with an emphasis in psychology and social work. I'll still be on hlib-nw and I'll

next column

probably be on DOCLINE soon.

Neil Rambo Elected To MLA Board

Neil Rambo has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Medical Library Association. His term began at this year's annual meeting in Dallas and will continue for three years.

Congratulations, Neil!

New Librarian at MultiCare in Tacoma

submitted by Christi Wheelock, Library Technician, MultiCare

It is with great pleasure that I announce that MultiCare Health System has hired a Librarian! Neal Van der Voorn has been a Librarian with the Washington State Library and will begin working with us starting September 23. He will be a great addition. I would like to thank all of you for your patience and assistance over the past year while we have been operating short of staff. ##

Dallas, continued from page 9, column 3 McGovern Lecture:

"Dr. Beck Weathers, Everest survivor, is a superb storyteller. The McGovern Lecturer at the first Plenary Session, Dr. Weathers had us in tears, then provided laughter relief as he described his miraculous survival and rescue after being left for dead..."

Out and about:

"A truly wonderful meal with great company at Texas de Brazil..."

"...an outstanding show of Pulitzer Prize-winning photographs at the Texas School Book Depository..."

"Best thing about Dallas was the weather: warm not hot, sunny, dry, like a season called Spring that doesn't exist in the Northwest very often."

"I wandered over to the "Grassy Knoll", Dallas' most famous landmark..."

"Surprised that Dallas had an

continued page 11, column 1

excellent Thai restaurant.”

...a great sign from a delightful walk in Deep Ellum “Dude, where’s my futon?”

“Hardly any Starbucks...”

Departing Reflections:

“Met & bonded briefly with some librarian’s doing very interesting things. Realized once again that we are all clearly in the same boat. We all have similar client, budget, and technology issues. Realized I really need to get out more...but probably won’t because it’s back to the trenches for me...”

“...as is usual following a meeting, I have that all too familiar feeling of having been resting too long on my accomplishments. There has been all kinds of forward movement while I was busy in the trenches.”

“All in all, MLA’s a great way to rejuvenate!”

“All in all a good MLA.”

“Not enough Starbucks, but a great meeting with truly wonderful librarians...!”

Respectfully submitted by Patrice O’Donovan, PNC/MLA Chapter Council Representative. ##

Meeting Summary Report

Computers in Libraries 2002

by Anne Girling, BSN, MLS
Alaska Native Medical Center

The 17th Annual Computers in Libraries Conference, the largest technology conference and exhibition for librarians and information managers, was held March 13-15,2002 at the Washington Hilton and Towers, Washington DC. It was attended by two of our Alaskan PNC/MLA members: Donna Hudson, Elmendorf AFB Library and Anne Girling, Alaska Native Medical Center Library, Anchorage AK.

Presentations were arranged in four tracks:

· Track A: Today’s Digital Reality - Searching & Search Engines; Col-

next column

laborative Digital Reference; and E-Learning & Literacy

· Track B: Webwizards’ Symposium – Web Design & Development; Usability Testing & Studies; and Web Tools

· Track C: Digital Content Management – E-Books; Tools, Taxonomies, & More; and Creating, Preserving, & Managing

· Track D: Systems – Processes & Management; Intranets, Portals, & Knowledge Management

Each session was limited to forty-five minutes and followed by a 15-minute break; this provided attendees with an opportunity to switch tracks with minimal inconvenience. Cassette recordings of each session were made available for purchase both during and at the conclusion of the conference.

Pre- and post-conference classes provided longer, more in depth sessions on topics covered briefly during the conference plus additional topics (e.g. Grant Writing) not covered during the conference.

Many Exhibitors (journal/book jobbers, library systems companies, database vendors, computer technology providers, etc.) were on hand to promote and demonstrate their products and provide between meal snacks/drinks. I was able to arrange a free upgrade for my OPAC during one of my many visits to the Exhibition Hall.

Although Donna and I followed different tracks throughout the conference, we were able to get together for conversation between sessions and for dinner each evening.



Chapter Business

Membership Committee

It’s Not Too Late!!!

You can still renew your membership or join the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association for the very first time!!!

Why am I a member? Because membership in PNC helps me keep my finger on the pulse of medical librarianship. It’s smaller than MLA, and large enough so that new ideas can rise to the surface and be shared. We are a small but creative group that allows easy exchange of valuable information. What could be more professionally enriching than that?

One additional advantage to being a member is that PNC offers scholarships to help those who want to attend the annual meeting, but need financial assistance. This year the meeting will be in Vancouver, B.C. from October 19 through 22. The meeting location and program sound wonderful—the perfect setting for meeting, socializing, and learning from your colleagues.

So, join us! You won’t be disappointed!

Thanks to Kathy Martin, PNC/MLA Membership Chair and Emily Hull, PNC/MLA Web Editor, for providing an up-to-date list of PNC/MLA members. Are you a member? Have you paid your dues for this year? Just take a look on the list at <http://depts.washington.edu/pncmla/members.html>

To join (or “re-up”)PNC/MLA just use the easy form at <http://depts.washington.edu/pncmla/memberform.html>

Committee Members, 2002

Alaska - Anne Girling -
agirling@anmc.org
Alberta/British Columbia - open

Idaho - Kathy Nelson - library@ida.net

Montana - Gail Wilkerson - Gail.Wilkerson@med.va.gov

Oregon - Kathy Martin - kathy.martin@wfhonline.org

Washington - Chris Beahler - cbeahler@u.washington.edu

AHIP Liaison Report

Highlights From The Credentialing Committee Meeting, Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association Dallas, TX, May 17, 2002

submitted by Terry Ann Jankowski (terryj@u.washington.edu)

33% (or 1245) of MLA members are Academy members. This has been relatively consistent over the years and is in line with other professional organizations.

MLA has created some tip sheets for librarians giving career presentations and for those looking at careers as health sciences librarians. These are posted on MLANet.

Beginning Sept 1st, MLA is piloting a process to let AHIP members renewing AT THE SAME LEVEL without providing copies of the documentation, i.e. the articles, certificates etc, but simply completing the form and indicating points.

It was suggested that MLA build a portfolio builder on MLANet (like the agenda builder for the annual meeting) so that people can keep track as they go and make it easier to complete the renewal process

Lending Library

The following new items can be borrowed by libraries in the Pacific Northwest from our lending library:

1. VIDEOTAPE: Children's Environmental Health Information Resources, March 21, 2002, 1 hour 52 min. (Sponsored by the Partners in Information Access for Public Health Professionals)

A presentation designed to assist public health professionals and librarians in identifying and evaluating resources related to child health and the environment. Topics included general environmental health resources, pesticide exposure, environmental triggers of asthma, lead poisoning prevention, GIS applications in environmental health, and Healthy People 2010. (Course materials and MLA CE credit information are available on the NN/LM Web site at <http://nmlm.gov/partners/children>.)

2. VIDEOTAPE: CDC Responds: Treatment Options for Postal and Other Workers Exposed to Anthrax, December 27, 2001, 1 hour 30 min. (Sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

An overview of choices available for those who have been undergoing antibiotic treatment after inhalational anthrax exposure.

3. BOOK: Baker, Lynda M and Manbeck, Virginia. Consumer Health Information for Public Librarians. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow, 2002.

To borrow any of these, send an email to nmlm@u.washington.edu. The items in our lending library are listed at <http://nmlm.gov/pnr/etc/lendlist.html> ##

TECH TIPS (a.k.a. TT:)

Toolbars for Quick and Easy Searching

by Peggy Baldwin, MLS, AHIP

The Google Toolbar and the Nutshell Toolbar can be installed in Internet Explorer, to make searching the Internet directly from your browser possible. Both toolbars offer some very helpful features.

Google Toolbar

You can find information on a topic from any place on the Web. You can search all of the Web or the currently visited website. I use the Google Toolbar to search my health system's Intranet pages, because the searching tool we have on the site is not effective. You can customize the toolbar for your own needs. There is a drop down menu that allows you to change settings and / or go directly to Google and their help pages.

The Google Toolbar has the following features:

- PageRank: See Google's ranking of the current page.
- Page Info. Access more information about a page including similar pages, pages that link back to that page, as well as a cached snapshot.
- Highlight. Highlight your search terms as they appear on the page; each word in its own color.
- Word Find. Find your search terms wherever they appear on the page.

continued page 13, column 1

We have installed the Google Toolbar on the four computers in the library for our users and provide a brief sheet of Google searching syntax. It's a great way to get library users to choose Google as their search engine. It's easy to install, automatically appearing along with the Internet Explorer toolbar. And it's free!

To get more details about the Google Toolbar consult their help pages at <http://toolbar.google.com/help.html>. You can download it at <http://toolbar.google.com/>

Nutshell Toolbar

The Nutshell Toolbar will also search the Web or a specific site. In addition, you can select Amazon, Internet Movie Database, Dictionary.com, or Daypop (news) from a drop down menu to search directly. That just about covers it for me! This toolbar is not as full featured as the Google toolbar, but the drop down menu of sites makes it very useful. And like the Google Toolbar, this toolbar is absolutely free! Downloadable at <http://www.torrez.org/projects/nutshell/>

TT: SURVEYMONKEY by Dolores Judkins

Do you ever want to do a survey to see what people like and don't like about your library. There is a great software program called SurveyMonkey (www.surveymonkey.com) that is free for the basic package. This includes asking up to 10 questions and receiving 100 responses in the survey. It's very easy to use, and very easy for people to answer online. All the software is web based, so you don't need to have any of it on your own computer. And the results come back in a very easy to read format.

The OHSU Library recently did a survey using Zoomerang

(www.zoomerang.com), another survey tool very similar to SurveyMonkey, and also free for basic services. This year, we offered a chance to win a gift certificate to Borders as an enticement to get people to fill out the survey and had more than a 400% increase in respondents. We don't know for sure that's why we had the increase, but we've never had this kind of response before.

TT: Travel Light (Bookwise) with a Pocket PC

by Laura Larsson

I saved myself pounds of weight and nearly the cost of my iPaq by using Microsoft Reader software and creating my own online books to read this summer while I was in DC at the National Library of Medicine. Here's how I did it using MS Word.

First you buy an iPaq. This isn't so unreasonable a cost if you plan to become a Pocket PC "expert" like I'm trying to be. (I already know something about Palm OS devices since I have a HandEra 330) iPaq's run around \$499-\$599. Mine cost \$599 (educational price) but came with a sleeve so that I could add wireless, Compact Flash and PCMCIA modems or storage devices. The iPaq 3850 that I purchased came with Microsoft Reader. You can find MS Reader at: <http://www.microsoft.com/reader/info/ppc.asp> if your PPC version needs upgrading.

The first hurdle was learning how the Pocket PCs do what is called hot syncing among the Palm devices. Once I learned that process, I began looking for free ebooks. Typing in "free ebooks" or "etext public domain ebooks" into Google turned up quite a few choices in the MS Reader format.

I also went to Microsoft's Mobile Website and downloaded the desktop version of the Microsoft Reader,

located at: <http://www.microsoft.com/reader/download.asp> since I wanted to see how the desktop version differs from the handheld version. I also downloaded the Microsoft Reader Text-to-Speech Package so that I could listen to eBooks if my eyes got tired.

But, what I really wanted was to be able to create my own eBooks. I knew there had to be a way. This is what I did.

- Go to the Microsoft site and find the MS Word 2000 Reader add in (<http://www.microsoft.com/reader/downloads/rmr.asp>)

- Download it and install it.
- Open MS Word and look for the little tree icon in your menu bar to be sure that the add on got installed properly.

- Keep Word open.
- Find something to download. I went to my favorite website, The Gutenberg Project, <http://www.gutenberg.net>, and decided that I would find all the "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm" texts since I haven't read them recently. I typed in Montgomery's name and up popped her books. Oh boy! A click took me to the text versions.

- A moment later when all the text was downloaded to the Web page, I clicked on Edit | Select All.

- Then back to Edit | Copy. Now, with the entire book in my clipboard it's

- Back to Word.
- Open a new document.
- Click on Edit | Paste (actually, I did Ctrl v).

- Click on the MS Word Reader converter icon.

- Save the ebook to your hard drive (I used C:\My Documents\LauraL My Documents\
- Do a sync.

Voila, easy ebooks and literally thousands to choose from. Alternatively, you can download ReaderWorks software from the

world, fill the emotional gaps in our marriage, and help us remember who we really are. But they may do even more. Scientists now suspect that hanging out with our friends can actually counteract the kind of stomach-quivering stress most of us experience on a daily basis.

A landmark UCLA study suggests that women respond to stress with a cascade of brain chemicals that cause us to make and maintain friendships with other women. It's a stunning finding that has turned five decades of stress research - most of it on men - upside down. "Until this study was published, scientists generally believed that when people experience stress, they trigger a hormonal cascade that revs the body to either stand and fight or flee as fast as possible," explains Laura Cousino Klein, Ph.D, now an assistant professor of biobehavioral health at Pennsylvania State University in State College and one of the study's authors. It's an ancient survival mechanism left over from the time we were chased across the planet by saber-toothed tigers. Now the researchers suspect that women have a larger behavioral repertoire than just "fight or flight."

In fact, says Dr. Klein, it seems that when the hormone oxytocin is released as part of the stress response in a woman, it buffers the fight or flight response and encourages her to tend children and gather with other women instead. When she actually engages in this tending or befriending, studies suggest that more oxytocin is released, which further counters stress and produces a calming effect. This calming response does not occur in men, says Dr. Klein, because testosterone which men produce in high levels when they're under stress - seems to reduce the effects of oxytocin. Estrogen, she adds, seems to enhance it.

The discovery that women respond

next column

to stress differently than men was made in a classic "aha!" moment shared by two women scientists who were talking one day in a lab at UCLA. "There was this joke that when the women who worked in the lab were stressed, they came in, cleaned the lab, had coffee, and bonded," says Dr. Klein. "When the men were stressed, they holed up somewhere on their own. "I commented one day to fellow researcher, Shelley Taylor, that nearly 90% of the stress research is on males. I showed her the data from my lab, and the two of us knew instantly that we were onto something. "The women cleared their schedules and started meeting with one scientist after another from various research specialties. Very quickly, Drs. Klein and Taylor discovered that by not including women in stress research, scientists had made a huge mistake: The fact that women respond to stress differently than men has significant implications for our health.

It may take some time for new studies to reveal all the ways that oxytocin encourages us to care for children and hang out with other women, but the "tend and befriend" notion developed by Drs. Klein and Taylor may explain why women consistently outlive men. Study after study has found that social ties reduce our risk of disease by lowering blood pressure, heart rate, and cholesterol. "There's no doubt," says Dr. Klein, "that friends are helping us live longer."

In one study, for example, researchers found that people who had no friends increased their risk of death over a 6-month period. In another study, those who had the most friends over a 9-year period cut their risk of death by more than 60%. Friends are also helping us live better. The famed Nurses' Health Study from Harvard Medical School found that the more friends women had, the

next column

less likely they were to develop physical impairments as they aged, and the more likely they were to be leading a joyful life.

In fact, the results were so significant, the researchers concluded, that not having a close friend or confidante was as detrimental to your health as smoking or carrying extra weight! And that's not all: When the researchers looked at how well the women functioned after the death of their spouse, they found that even in the face of this biggest stressor of all, those women who had close friends and confidantes were more likely to survive the experience without any new physical impairment or permanent loss of vitality. Those without friends were not always so fortunate.

Yet if friends counter the stress that seems to swallow up so much of our life these days, if they keep us healthy and even add years to our life, why is it so hard to find time to be with them? That's a question that also troubles researcher Ruthellen Josselson, Ph.D, coauthor of "Best Friends: The Pleasures and Perils of Girls' and Women's Friendships" (Three Rivers Press, 1998).

"Every time we get overly busy with work and family, the first thing we do is let go of friendships with other women," explains Dr. Josselson. "We push them right to the back burner. That's really a mistake, because women are such a source of strength to each other. We nurture one another. And we need to have unpressured space in which we can do the special kind of talk that women do when they're with other women. It's a very healing experience." ##



OverDrive Website: <http://www.overdrive.com/readerworks/downloads/default.asp?Download=RWSTAN>.

Using the ReaderWorks software really requires that you read the documentation that is also available on this site. While the Wizards in the program are helpful, you may need some help getting the program to work. For help creating your own ebooks, visit this site: <http://www.cewindows.net/reader/makingreaderbooks.htm>. Not only does it give relatively good instructions but it also links you to a number of sites where you can get ebooks. Note that you can also convert Palm doc formatted books to MS Reader format using ReaderWorks. For details visit: http://www.pdabuzz.com/Features/Ebook_Conversion.html. This page suggests you download WordDoc Converter 2.0 which converts Palm doc to html (strongly recommended format). Now open the ReaderWorks Standard application to convert to .lit format. **Warning** - you cannot use ReaderWorks Standard with Windows 95. I've always found UPenn's site to be exceptional for good ebooks at <http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books/>. I also like MemoWare <http://www.memoware.com> for its quantity of books. Look at Microsoft's Website for other sites selling ebooks: <http://www.microsoft.com/reader/us/shop/default.asp>.

When I really feel like I want a good, meaty, detective or romance novel, I go to Fictionwise, <http://www.fictionwise.com> and download one of the many books I've purchased in advance. Fictionwise staff does a terrific job of alerting me to exactly the kind of book I like to use for those periods when I want to escape from reality. The prices are often what I would expect to pay for a pre-read book so I don't mind the price too much.

You can also use TomeRaider (<http://www.tomeraider.com>) to convert books for use on either your PPC or Palm OS device. MobiPocket, <http://www.mobipocket.com>, also works for conversion for handhelds. I also like iSiloX (download from PalmGear.com) for converting Web content for use on my HandEra.

So, what are the *advantages* of an ebook over a regular paperback or hardbound book? There are several:

- no heavy books to lug around
- the conversion process is REALLY easy
- my iPaq is backlit so that I can read in bed without a light so my husband of 25 years doesn't complain about the light shining in his eyes and keeping him awake
- it's much easier to store ebooks on your computer for future re-reading than it is on your shelves since electronic books don't take up valuable shelf space
- ebooks are easy to create from text or Word documents
- more and more books are being issued in multiple formats, including ebooks

Disadvantages

- it's easy to fall asleep while reading an ebook and drop your handheld (if you're lucky it lands on your blanket, not the floor)
- it does take time to convert text to MS Reader (.lit) format
- Gutenberg books are generally classics, not current titles ##

MLA

Don't Keep Mum About Achievements and Accomplishments!

This is an early invitation to look around for noteworthy accomplishments among all MLA chapter members. The Medical Library Association's Awards Committee and Juries will deliberate on nominations for awards and honors submitted by **November 1, 2002**. The awards will be awarded at the 2003 Medical Library Association meeting.

The MLA web site provides more information on each of the various professional awards: the requirements,

the sponsor(s) of the award, application forms, and a list of past award winners. Visit: <http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/index.html>

The awards honor a range of professional accomplishments for activities performed during various points in awardees' professional careers. Each award has its own sponsorship and was founded at a different moment in MLA's history.

The Louise Darling Medal, for example, is presented annually to recognize distinguished achievement in collection development in the health sciences. The award was

established in 1987 and first awarded in 1988, with a contribution by Ballen Booksellers International, Inc. It continues to be supported by Blackwell North America, Inc. Past award winners have included Jonathan Eldridge, Alfred N. Bran-

continued page 16, column 1

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please use the form found online at <http://depts.washington.edu/pncmla/memberform.html>

don, David Morse, and the National Library of Medicine Preservation Program for Biomedical Literature. The award honors achievement, leadership, cooperative efforts, and service. The accomplishments may be in publication, course work, a specific accomplishment or description of a methodology in the area of collection development.

MLA members (who are also members of their local chapters) have volunteered to serve on the Awards Committee and juries. We invite our colleagues to help us identify nominees who are the shining stars among us. The guidelines of some awards permit not only nominations, but also self-nominations. As the MLA information states, all awards are considered annually, but they are given only when nominees and candidates clearly meet or exceed requirements.

We invite MLA chapter members to be nominators and nominees for awards this coming year!

Ramune Kubilius, MALS, AHIP Collection Development / Special Projects Librarian, Galter Health Sciences Library, Northwestern University AND Jury Chair, Louise Darling Medal for Distinguished Achievement in Collection Development in the Health Sciences

MLA AWARDS THE BEST OF 2002

Each year, MLA gives a variety of awards, grants, and scholarships to individuals in recognition and support of the valuable contributions they have made to the health sciences librarianship profession. From research and instruction to outstanding service and leadership, MLA's professional recognition program supports and encourages the best and brightest in the field. Link to the 2002 recipients at http://www.mlanet.org/awards/awards_2002.html. Congratulations to the winners and nominees!

For consideration for 2003 awards, applications must be received by November 1, 2002. Link to nomination and application forms at <http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/>. Grants and scholarship applications must be received by December 1, 2002, unless otherwise noted. Link to nomination and application forms at <http://www.mlanet.org/awards/grants/>. Questions should be directed to Lisa Fried, mlapd2@mlahq.org or 312.419.9094 x28.

ISI/Frank Bradway Rogers Information Advancement Award

We know you are out there on the cutting edge of new services and initiatives using technology in the most creative ways. Take a moment to think about what your colleagues are contributing and nominate their projects or efforts. The Medical Library Association would like to know about these new applications, so we can give your colleagues the recognition they deserve.

We are seeking nominations for the ISI/Frank Bradway Rogers Information Advancement Award. This award is presented annually by the Medical Library Association and sponsored by the Institute for Scientific Information. The award recognizes an outstanding MLA member OR members contributions for/to:

- 1) the application of technology to the delivery of health science information,
- 2) the science of information, or
- 3) the facilitation of the delivery of health science information.

For more information on the award go to: <http://mlanet.org/awards/honors/rogers.html>

For a copy or the nomination form and instructions click here: http://www.mlanet.org/pdf/awards/rogers_072000.pdf

Statistics

Each year the publishers of the journal "Modern Healthcare" publish a supplement titled "By The Numbers." It is a great supplement filled with some of those hard to find tidbits of information we may get asked for during the year. Some of the charts and numbers include:

- Healthcare spending per capita
- HMO growth rates
- Hospital admissions and outpatient visits for the past 10 years.
- Medicaid and Medicare spending
- Lengths of stay
- Five year forecast for inpatient demand
- Hospice admissions
- Median U.S. Physician income
- Outpatient prescription drug expenditures
- U.S. AIDs cases
- Healthiest, unhealthiest states
- Leading cause of death
- Top 10 graduate programs in healthcare administration and many more.

For the full article go to <http://www.modernhealthcare.com/pdf/2001by.pdf>.

Research Reported Too Early

A new article in JAMA: Journal of the American Medical Association points out that some medical research is reported too early in the popular press. Perhaps not surprisingly, press reports often don't emphasize, or sometimes even include, information on study limitations such as animal (versus human) research, small study size, or publication in non-peer reviewed journals.

While we may be good at pointing out the importance of evaluation for web materials, and various criteria for performing that evaluation, this is a good lesson that such evaluation is necessary in more traditional formats

continued page 17, column 3

Murray Gottlieb Prize

The Murray Gottlieb Prize is awarded annually for the best unpublished essay on the history of medicine and allied sciences written by a health sciences librarian.

The Gottlieb Prize was established in 1956 by Ralph and Jo Grimes of the Old Hickory Bookshop, Brinklow, MD in order to recognize and stimulate the health science librarian's interest in the history of medicine. The author of the winning essay receives a cash award of \$100, a certificate, and paid registration to attend the MLA annual meeting. Recent winning essays include Michael A. Flannery's "The Early Botanical Medical Movement as a Reflection of Life, Liberty, and Literacy in Jacksonian America," Maggie Yax's "War as Laboratory: Albert B. Sabin's Military Service and Its Influence on His Poliomyelitis Research and Development of the Oral Poliovirus Vaccine," and "Financing North American Medical Libraries in the Nineteenth Century," written by Godfrey S. Belleh and Eric v.d. Luft.

The deadline for submissions is November 1. Additional information is available from <http://mlanet.org/awards/honors/>.

RITTENHOUSE AWARD

We are seeking nominations for the Rittenhouse Award. The award is made for the best unpublished paper on medical librarianship or medical informatics submitted by a student enrolled in a course for credit in an ALA-accredited program of library and information studies, or a trainee in an internship program in health sciences librarianship or medical informatics. Papers may be bibliographical address a health sciences issue or topic or report the results of research. The paper submitted must have been completed during the student's course work toward a graduate degree in library science or during an internship program.

The deadline for submission is November 1, 2002.

For a copy of the instructions click here: http://www.mlanet.org/pdf/awards/rittenawd_072000.pdf

Estelle Brodman Award

You can make a difference! Nominate yourself or an outstanding colleague for the Estelle Brodman Award for Academic Medical Librarian of the Year. The Brodman Award recognizes an academic medical librarian, who at mid-career demonstrates significant achievement, the potential for leadership, and continuing excellence. The Award was established in 1986 with a gift from Irwin H. Pizer. The recipient receives a certificate and a cash award of \$500 at the Association's Annual Meeting.

The deadline for applications is November 1st. Complete information and application forms for all MLA awards and honors are at <http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/index.html>.

Medical Library Association Scholarship

The Medical Library Association (MLA) is offering a scholarship of up to \$5,000 to encourage library school students who shows excellence in scholarship and potential for accomplishment in health sciences librarianship.

Eligibility:

- The applicant must be entering an ALA-accredited graduate library school or, at the time of the granting of the scholarship (February), have

as well. <http://jama.ama-assn.org/issues/v287n21/rfull/joc11828.html>

New Institute Will Study Digital Technology

A grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation will fund a new institute to study ways that technology can improve scholarly communication. The Scholarly Communication Institute, developed by the Council on Library and Information Resources and the Dartmouth College Library, will host a small group of experts in the field to discuss innovation and improvements that technology allows in the ways scholarly information is generated, distributed, and archived. The institute will hold at least three annual sessions, which will take place at the Dartmouth campus. CLIR, 11 April 2002 http://www.clir.org/pubs/press/2002_mellsci.html

Journal Boycott Falls Short Of Goal

Despite having the signatures of more than 30,000 academics, a group pushing for more access to academic content has so far had little impact on the publishing of journals. The Public Library of Science in April 2001 called for academics to boycott journals that do not put their content online after six months without a fee to access it. But according to directors of the project, few of the signatories have stopped submitting to those journals, subscribing to them, or acting as editors. The group now plans to begin publishing its own set of scholarly journals, allowing academics to continue publishing but ensuring that content will be available online within six months. Chronicle of Higher Education, 16 May 2002. <http://chronicle.com/free/2002/05/2002051601t.htm>

continued page 19, column 1

MLA, from page 17, column 1

completed no more than one-half of the academic requirements of the graduate program.

- The applicant must be a citizen of or have permanent residence in either the United States or Canada.
- An applicant who is a past recipient of the MLA Scholarship or the MLA Scholarship for Minority Students is ineligible.

To Apply:

Application forms can be requested from the Professional Development Department of the Medical Library Association or downloaded from the Web site <http://www.mlanet.org/awards/grants/index.html>. The application packet includes: a completed application form; at least two and no more than three letters of reference; an official transcript from each college or university attended; and a statement of career objectives. Return the completed forms to: Professional Development Department, Attention: Lisa C. Fried, Medical Library Association, Suite 1900, 65 East Wacker Place, Chicago, IL 60601-7298, Phone: 312-419-9094, extension 28, Fax: 312-419-8950, E-mail: mlapd2@mlahq.org

MLA Fellows And Honorary Members Jury Seeks Nominations

You still have time to nominate an outstanding colleague for fellowship in MLA. Fellows are selected for sustained and outstanding contributions to the field of health sciences librarianship and to the purposes of the association.

Also consider nominating a nonmember who has made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the purposes of the association for honorary membership. Past recipients include public officials, leaders in medical institutions, and others.

The deadline for receipt of nominations is November 1, 2002. You will find nomination information and a list of past recipients at <http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/index.html>. Also feel free to contact Lisa Fried at MLA Headquarters (mlapd2@mlahq.org) or Linda Grix, Jury Chair (lgrix@jps.net) for additional information. ##

Health Observance websites, from page 4, column 1

<http://www.apha.org/journal/nation/tnhcalendar.htm>

This site is a product of the American Public Health Association. I did not find it useful for my purposes because this listing is more for conferences than observances, and the entire list is quite brief. It does provide links.

http://www.pohly.com/dates_alpha.shtml

Pam Pohly's Net Guide. This site looks great until you notice that it is for 2001, not 2002. I was not successful in turning up the 2002 version, if one exists, which I suspect is not the case. I emailed Pam Pohly, the creator, and asked if there is a current version. To date, I have not received a reply. I wish she would update it because it is the only site I've seen with an alphabetized list as well as a chronological one. It could still be used for that purpose, then checked against a current list.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/proclamations/>

This is a list of "Proclamations Issued by President Bush" on his official web site. It is neither alphabetical nor chronological and contains many non-health-related

continues page20, column 1

Publications and Presentations

The Consortium Library at the University of Alaska Anchorage has been awarded a subcontract to manage and expand the Arctic Health website developed by the National Library of Medicine. To this end, Kathy Murray presented the history and hopes for this site at two meetings over the summer. The first was at the Canadian Health Libraries Association meeting in Waterloo, Ontario the end of May. The second presentation was at the Polar Libraries Colloquy in Copenhagen in June. #

Vacancy Announcement

Position: Health Sciences Librarian
PCN: 305724. Full-time, Tenure-track, Regular appointment w/benefits, faculty rank, status, privileges, and responsibilities

Location: Consortium Library
University of Alaska Anchorage

Salary: Minimum \$38,000 annually. Competitive benefits to include health, dental, life insurance, retirement, and tuition-waiver benefits. Represented by bargaining unit.

Application Procedure: Please send letter of application (note PCN: 305724), resume or curriculum vitae, the URL of a website authored or co-authored by the applicant, and names, addresses, telephone, fax number, and email address of at least three references to

University of Alaska Anchorage

Human Resources Services

Administration Building, Suite 245

3211 Providence Drive

Anchorage, Alaska 99508-8136

Voice (907) 786-4608

TTY (907) 786-1420 Fax (907) 786-4727

The complete announcement can be found on the UAA employment information website at <http://www.finsys.uaa.alaska.edu/uaahrs>

Security Tags Help Librarians

Some libraries have started using radio frequency identification (RFID) tags in their books to streamline check-in, check-out, and inventory tracking, as well as helping to minimize theft. RFID tags contain information about the book, like bar code tags that have become common in libraries. Unlike bar code tags, though, RFID tags can be read without being visually scanned. With RFID tags, librarians can check books in or out without ever opening them or looking for the bar code. Inventory can be taken simply by walking through the stacks and passing a wireless reader wand over the books. Rockefeller University Library uses the tags, which set off alarms and activate video cameras when the system detects a non-checked-out book passing out of a library exit. At 50 cents or more, however, RFID tags are significantly more expensive than bar code tags, which cost about 2 cents. <http://www.wired.com/news/technology/0,1282,52493,00.html> Wired News, 20 May 2002

Building A Life-Like Human Body For Medical Students

The Living Anatomy Program is building a synthetic human body that creators hope will provide medical students with a life-like model, one that looks, feels, and behaves like a real human. David Fineberg, who directs the project at the University of Buffalo, said the goal is a model that medical students can use to practice surgical procedures, including the vital tactile training used, for example, in separating “an adhesion between two pieces of intestine.” The model will work with surgical tools, including scalpels and scissors, that mimic the sensations of actually cutting and snipping flesh. <http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/10.06/start.html?pg=7> Wired Magazine, 1 June 2002

Visiting The Doctor Online

Internet company Medem Inc. will offer a service enabling patients to “visit” their doctor online for a fee. Medem claims that the service meets eRisk guidelines for online medicine, which have been endorsed by 33 malpractice carriers, the AMA, and other medical societies. The service is meant for patients already under the participating doctor’s care and expands Medem’s “secure messaging” option, which lets patients request appointments and prescription refills and ask brief questions for no charge. Roughly 10 percent of Medem’s 80,000 doctor users offer the messaging option. Once doctors enroll in the service through Medem, patients will register with their doctor and obtain a password. The doctor’s terms of service will detail the cost and the expected response time. Patients will pay for e-mail consultation with a credit card. Those payments will be largely private, since e-mail consultations generally are not reimbursed by insurers. Wall Street Journal, 17 June 2002

Alzheimer’s Patients Get Help from Technology

Researchers at the University of Washington are developing so-called assisted cognition systems to help Alzheimer’s patients care for themselves over the course of an average day. The program combines GPS and handheld technology with artificial intelligence to create a device that “learns” how to help people through their day. The Activity Compass part of the system learns where a patient typically goes and is able then to offer directions or even suggest intended destinations to those who have forgotten. The Adaptive Prompter assists patients in remembering how and when to do more home-oriented tasks, like taking medication or making and eating meals. <http://www.wired.com/news/technology/0,1282,53028,00.html> Wired News, 24 June 2002

Policy Change Considered for the .Edu Domain

EDUCAUSE, the higher education information technology nonprofit that oversees management of the .edu domain, has opened a public comment period on a proposal to expand the eligibility requirements to obtain a name in the domain. Currently an institution must be accredited by one of six regional accrediting agencies to apply for a name in .edu. Under the proposed change, postsecondary institutions accredited by any national accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education would be eligible. Officials at schools including Pioneer Pacific College in Oregon and Westchester Business Institute in New York, which are not currently eligible, support the proposal, saying that without .edu addresses, there is a perception their schools are not legitimate. <http://chronicle.com/free/2002/07/2002070501t.htm> Chronicle of Higher Education, 5 July 2002

Study Shows Mixed Result For E-Books

A study conducted at Ball State University showed that e-books are having mixed success competing with conventional printed texts. The study compared comments and academic performance between those using printed texts and those

continues page 20, column 1

from page 19, column 1

using e-books. Quiz scores between the two groups were, on average, the same, suggesting similar instructional potential from e-books. Users of e-books, however, complained about the difficulty of navigating through e-books and of finding particular words. E-book features that drew praise were those that were similar to what can be done with a printed book, such as highlighting sections of text. The directors of the study said they remain optimistic about the potential for e-books, seeing value in the ability to store several whole texts on a single device and to have those texts updated every semester. <http://chronicle.com/free/2002/08/2002082601t.htm>
Chronicle of Higher Education, 26 August 2002 ##



Health Observances, from page 18, column 1

proclamations. I did not find this site useful at all. There are no links to sponsoring organizations.

<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/1983.html>

The AMA's 2002 Calendar of Adolescent-Related Health Observances. This is not of interest to my researchers, but would be useful for the appropriate audience. Links to organizations and/or addresses are provided for more information.

http://www.ark-nursing-students.com/Health_Observances_Calendar.html

Arkansas Nursing Students' Web Site. This one must be viewed one month at a time so you can't print out one list. It does not claim to be comprehensive and does not appear to be. Each month gives only an alphabetical list of observances with no further information.

<http://books.mcgraw-hill.com/cgi-bin/pbg/chases.html>

This just takes you to the McGraw-Hill web page advertisement for Chase's 2002 Calendar of Events, available by subscription or purchase of the print edition. It is not limited to health events. Not useful for my purposes/budget.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/injobsrv.htm>

This site, sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control, is similar to the one for adolescent health, but looks more comprehensive. There are links and/or addresses of the sponsoring organizations.

<http://www.mhsource.com/advocacy/observe.html>

Mental Health Observances. Same sponsor and same attributes as number 3, above.

<http://www.pta.org/nycu/calendar.asp>

Judging by the URL it is/was a site sponsored by the PTA, but now all you

GOOGLE NEWS

Posted April 5, 2002 01:01 PM
Pacific Time

Executive Summary:

With little publicity or fanfare, Google has added a new search box that allows you to pull up recent stories culled solely from newspapers and magazines around the world, including InfoWorld.

To try News Search, go to Google.com, then click Advanced Search. Press your Page Down key to find the News section.

The News Search input box now also appears at the top of <http://news.google.com>, a headline-news page that began only this past December.

AND MORE NEWS

Google has started a fee-based answer service. More of an "answer brokerage" that Google oversees. Ask a question and have a Google Researcher bid to supply you with an answer. How does one become a Google Researcher? First, write a paragraph on why you want to be a researcher. Then, pass a test by answering 5 sample questions. Google editors will also "spot-check" answers and if they aren't up to standards the question will be put back into the system. A user feedback system will also be incorporated to rate Researchers. The FAQ states, "The Researcher will be an expert at locating hard to find information on the web". What about all of the info not on the web? Finally, some Researchers will be "experts in their fields."

Answers

According to the FAQ both questions and answers will be publicly viewable on the web. Anyone who has registered for the service can comment on any question or answer but the actual "answer" can only come from an approved Google Researcher. If a registered user

continued page 21, column 1

continued page 21, column 3

get is a “this page not found” message. I tried going to the home page for the PTA, but could not locate a calendar of events, even by checking for a “New York” site.

<http://www.rubicon.com/passport/holidays/holidays.htm>

This is another site which is listing 2001 holidays – not health observances – for many countries. I was not successful in locating a 2002 version, and am uncertain as to the site’s sponsor.

<http://www.holidayfestival.com/>

When I first checked this site, I got a “you don’t have permission to access” message. That was apparently caused by server overload. Don’t give up if you have trouble getting into this one. The Worldwide Holiday & Festival Site is well organized. The site’s sponsor is not obvious; I suspect it is done primarily as a vehicle for travel-related advertising. Check the buttons to the left for “Countries,” “Religions,” and “This Month.” I chose the last one to print a calendar of holidays for an amazing array of countries. The drawback is that the current month (May 2002 {ed. note: Jean supplied this article in June 2002}) is the latest one provided. Also, you have to hold the cursor on the country listed or click on that country to determine the actual holiday. However, by choosing an individual country or religion, you do get a list of the fixed holiday/feasts/observances and the moveable ones. This latter approach is by far the more useful. ##

For archival reasons, all PNC/MLA Alerts are included in the newsletter.

PNC/MLA ALERT

Dear PNC/MLA Members,

The PNC/MLA Board is pleased to announce the availability of one \$250.00 award to fund a PNC/MLA member to attend the Leadership Symposium to be held at the end of the MLA 2002 meeting in Dallas. (Details are attached or can be viewed at the following URL:

<http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2002/ce/880.html>.

To apply for the award from the Chapter, please submit a 250-400 word application statement outlining:

*Why you want to attend

*Your personal leadership goals in terms of health sciences librarianship

*How attendance at this symposium will facilitate your achievement of these goals

All applications must be received via email* attachment or fax** by noon, Friday, April 5, 2002. After review by Board representatives, the successful awardee will be notified by April 12, 2002. The successful awardee will be required to submit a brief report to NORTHWEST NOTES prior to receiving their reimbursement.

This is a great opportunity—I encourage you to apply. Good luck!

Distributed on hlib-nw 3/18/02 ##

answers your question to your satisfaction for free you can cancel your query. If the question is answered by a researcher you can also ask him/her for a “clarification”. If the answer is not to your satisfaction, you can choose to apply for a refund.

Fees?

First, a non-refundable \$0.50 fee to list the question. Then the amount you are willing to pay. The minimum is \$4 and the max is \$50.00. From the FAQ, “The more research required to find an answer, the more you should offer. Three-quarters of your research fee goes directly to the Researcher who answers your question; the other 25 percent is used by Google to support the service. Setting a price too low to compensate for the time required may result in your question not receiving an answer. The more you are willing to pay, the more likely your question is to get answered quickly. “Here’s a question for the library community, will the fee-based resources that many public libraries make available see a rapid increase in usage? Will virtual reference desk services be flooded with questions from Google Researcher’s who can then sell the answer or at least a portion of it on Google? Several services similar to Google Answers have come and gone. The fact that Google is doing it? What do you think will happen? For many people RESEARCH=Google. Submitted by Steve Rauch on hlib-nw 4/19/02

