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The Newsletter is published for the members of the New York – New Jersey Chapter of the Medical Library Association.

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## From the Editors

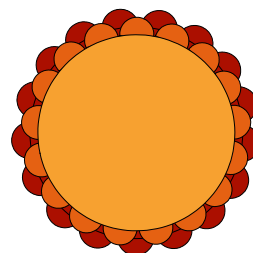
It is our pleasure to welcome you to the Winter 2007-2008 issue of the NY-NJ Chapter Newsletter.

In this issue we present a message from Micki McIntyre, our newly elected Chapter Chair, followed by Nighat Ispahany's summary of the Chapter's Annual Meeting which was held on a balmy October 18, 2007. Tania Bardyn presents "AHIP Membership" news and information and Marie Kennedy informs us about the "MLA Networking Software Task Force". Nancy Glassman and Patricia Gallagher continue to update us through their individual columns—"Technology Review" and "Web Watch". Marie Ascher introduces us to new members in, "The Membership". George A. Wahlert gives us his perspectives as hospital librarian in his column "Hospital Library Notes" and Mahnaz Tehrani updates us on "Governmental Relations".

We hope you will enjoy a new column we are launching called "Libraries in Literature". We look forward to hearing from you about books you have read that feature libraries in the literature. We have also posted some pictures from the Chapter's Annual Meeting. Enjoy!

The Editors  
February, 2008

*NI 02/2008*  
*NG 02/2008*



Pictures from the Chapter's Annual Meeting  
are available on pages 4-6

## *From the Chair*

Submitted By: **Micki McIntyre**  
[mcintyre@umdnj.edu](mailto:mcintyre@umdnj.edu)

*Health Sciences Library at Stratford  
University of Medicine & Dentistry  
of New Jersey*

Hello Chapter Members-

I hope everyone who attended the Annual Meeting on October 18 in Montclair had a good time! There was a great mix of scholarly information, networking, good food, lovely views and even some cool raffle prizes. Thanks to Elizabeth Taylor and her committee members, they put together a wonderful day!

As I take the helm for the coming year as Chapter Chair, I thought I'd better introduce myself to those who don't know me. I've been a Chapter member for more than 25 years, and my library degree is from Columbia (which also dates me). Having worked with various committees in the Chapter, I must say my real passion has been serving with the program committees, and I've been thrilled to help plan some fabulous meetings, especially the joint meetings in Philadelphia.

Professionally speaking, I'm one of the people at the edge of the Chapter boundaries; serving as HealthyNJ Librarian, I am located on the Stratford campus of UMDNJ (down in southern NJ between Cherry Hill and Camden). HealthyNJ ([www.healthynj.org](http://www.healthynj.org)) is a consumer health web site, and our shining moment came in 2006 when we received the NJ state award from NCLIS (National Commission on Libraries and Information Services). I've been at the head of this project since December 2000 and with UMDNJ for 20 years now – hard to believe. Before that I was the online trainer for the RML. I love to travel, and now get to do that for pleasure, rather than for my job.

Being one of the furthest away, and sensitive to those in the wilds of Long Island and Westchester, I am hoping we can use technology to the best advantage rather than drag people out of work for meetings too often. Social networking software is fun and useful for some types of meetings, and good old conference calls certainly can fill in the gaps.

Some personal details: My home is shared with a number of cats, and I'm active in an organization called PetPALS of Southern New Jersey. PetPALS works with the terminally and chronically ill to help them keep their pets at home as long as possible; so we do the glory jobs of shoveling cat litter and walking dogs. It is an all volunteer group, and I'm pleased to serve with them.

Another important aspect of my life is faith-based. I received my master's in theology in 2005, and am active in my church as a lector, sacristan and Eucharistic Minister. I also coordinate the prayer shawl ministry. For fun I am into jewelry-making, yarn crafts and having a good time in Second Life.

Please drop me an email if you have suggestions, wish to serve on a committee, or just want to chat! You can reach me at: [mcintyre@umdnj.edu](mailto:mcintyre@umdnj.edu)

Thank you!  
Micki McIntyre

**Submitted by:**

**Nighat Ispahany, MLS**

[niz2@columbia.edu](mailto:niz2@columbia.edu)

Augustus C. Long Health Sciences Library  
Columbia University

## **Annual Meeting Highlights**

The NY-NJ Chapter's Annual Meeting was held on October 18, 2007 at Montclair State University Conference Center. The theme of this year's Meeting was: ***Librarians Lead the Way to Long Life and Good Health.***

The keynote speaker was Dr. Rosanne Leipzig, MD, PhD, of Mount Sinai School of Medicine. Dr. Leipzig noted that by the year 2030, there will be approximately 70 million Americans in the United States over the age of 65. She emphasized the importance of healthy aging and the urgent need to educate medical students in 'minimal geriatric competencies'. A table was distributed, summarizing these competencies as outlined at the July 2007 AAMC and John A. Hartford Foundation Consensus Conference on Competencies in Geriatric Education. Copies are available at [www.pogoe.org](http://www.pogoe.org)

After a short break, Kathel Dunn, Associate Director, NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region, gave a brief update on RML activities and services. Some of the topics she covered included the MedlinePlus Go Local initiative, LinkOut and Health Reference Center, Collections of Historical and Unique Value, PubMed Problems and Communication, Emergency Planning, etc.

She was followed by Mark Funk, President of MLA, who provided a brief MLA update and strategic planning. Some topics he covered included EPA library closings, Joint Commission Meeting and Hospital Library Standards, Benchmarking surveys, NIH funded research, PubMed Central and Open Access, Medspeak brochures (which help consumers decipher medical vocabulary), etc. He pointed to a number of websites, which include the following: [snipr.com/fallweb](http://snipr.com/fallweb)  
[snipr.com/presblog](http://snipr.com/presblog)

These sessions were followed by presentations of posters, vendor displays, a scrumptious lunch and dessert, a business meeting, passing the gavel from Elaine Wells to Micki McIntyre, distribution of awards and certificates, and finally, a panel discussion. Micki McIntyre, current Chapter Chair, was the moderator. The panel discussion featured strategies planned by colleagues to serve baby boomer patrons.

Panelists:

Allen M. Kleiman, Assistant Director of the Old Bridge Public Library: *Senior Spaces*: a project funded by the NJ State Library to design a space in the library specifically suited to the needs of baby boomers and older adults.

*continued on page 4*

## *Annual Meeting Highlights*

Micki McIntyre, UMDNJ HealthyNJ Librarian: *Second Life: a Peek Inside*. Second Life is a 3D virtual community. Micki has spent much time in this community where she explores health and wellness sites.

Daniel G. Kipnis, Thomas Jefferson University Library: *Broadening your reach from the reference desk with Instant Messaging*.

The meeting was adjourned by 4pm. Special thanks to Elizabeth Taylor, who was the primary organizer of this annual meeting. We also thank those who helped Elizabeth organize this event-- Andrea Markinson, Vicki Sciuk, Deborah Crooke, Claire Joseph, Micki McIntyre, Susan Jacobs, Pat Gallagher, Marie Ascher, Darren Chase, Lea Myohanen and Robin Wright.

*Below are some pictures to highlight the events of the day.  
October 18, 2007*



Dr. Rosanne Leipzig, Keynote Speaker



Kathel Dunn, RML Update

*continued on page 5*



## *Annual Meeting Highlights*



Mark Funk,  
MLA report

Elaine Wells passed gavel to Micki McIntyre,  
the new Chapter Chair



Latrina Keith,  
awards distribution



Chapter members

*continued on page 6*

## *Annual Meeting Highlights*

### Poster & Vendor Session Displays



Members networking over lunch



Kristine Alpi



Madeline Taylor & Patricia May

## ***AHIP Membership***

*Submitted by: **Tania Bardyn, MLIS, AHIP**  
[bardyn@library.med.nyu.edu](mailto:bardyn@library.med.nyu.edu)  
Bellevue Medical Library  
New York University*

### ***December 2007 Chapter Credentialing Report***

The [Academy of Health Information Professionals](#) (AHIP) is the Medical Library Association's peer-reviewed professional development and career recognition program. Credentialing by MLA recognizes your qualifications and knowledge in health information as determined by the [Code for the Credentialing of Health Information Professionals](#). Since December 2006, 26 AHIP members in our chapter have joined, renewed at the same level, or renewed at a higher level in the academy. Their names are listed below with their level listed in square brackets [ ]. Congratulations!

A complete list of AHIP members from the NY-NJ MLA Chapter is available on the chapter website. Our chapter currently has 62 members in the Academy of Health Information Professionals – almost 30% of our membership.

You may recall in [Mark Funk's](#) inaugural address in Philadelphia he asked that the units of MLA to "Just Do It" in implementing Web 2.0 tools for our association. If you haven't learned about Web 2.0 or AHIP make 2008 your year to do both and create opportunities for yourself.

Those of you who attended our annual meeting in Montclair, NJ heard about the new and outgoing officers of the Chapter's Board. I would like to once again thank and recognize our departing Chapter Credentialing Liaison Ross Ljungquist. He did a great job and we thank him for his dedication. If you are interested in learning about the Academy of Health Information Professionals visit the AHIP web site at [www.mlanet.org/academy](http://www.mlanet.org/academy) or contact Tania Bardyn, NY-NJ/MLA Credentialing Liaison at [bardyn@library.med.nyu.edu](mailto:bardyn@library.med.nyu.edu) 212-562-2933.



*continued on page 8*

*AHIP Membership*

***1. New Members (as of December 1, 2006)***

**Marie Ascher**, New York Medical College [Distinguished]

**Keydi Boss**, Holy Name Hospital [Senior]

**Arlene D. Mangino**, Clara Maass Medical Center [Senior]

**Patricia A. Reusing**, NYU Clinical Cancer Center [Member]

***2. Members Renewing at the Same Level (as of December 1, 2006)***

**Karen Brewer**, New York University Medical Center [Distinguished]

**Carol Ann Cave-Davis**, Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center [Distinguished]

**Jeannine Creazzo**, Saint Peter's University Hospital [Senior]

**Diana J. Cunningham**, New York Medical College [Distinguished]

**Kathleen Fiola**, Helen Hayes Hospital [Distinguished]

**Lydia Friedman**, Maimonides Medical Center [Distinguished]

**Mark E. Funk**, Weill Medical College of Cornell University [Distinguished]

**Kerry Ann O'Rourke**, UMDNJ – Robert Wood Johnson [Distinguished]

**Frederic C. Pachman**, Monmouth Medical Center [Distinguished]

**Juliette Ratner**, Mountinside Hospital S.O.N. [Senior]

**Patricia B. Regenber**, Overlook Hospital [Distinguished]

**Ellen Rothbaum**, North Shore University Hospital [Distinguished]

**Cheryl Silver**, New York Medical College [Senior]

**Jeanne Strausman**, NY College of Osteopathic Medicine [Distinguished]

**Isabel Sulimanoff**, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center [Member]

**George A. Wahlert**, Long Island College Hospital [Distinguished]

**Mary L. Westermann-Cicio**, Long Island University [Distinguished]

***3. Members Renewing at a Higher Level (as of December 1, 2006)***

**Kristine Alpi**, Weill Medical College of Cornell University (Senior [Distinguished])

**Tania P. Bardyn**, New York University Medical Center (Senior [Distinguished])

**Laura P. Barrett**, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (Senior [Distinguished])

**Barbara Elish**, Winthrop University Hospital (Member [Senior])

**Barbara S. Reich**, Hackensack University Medical Center (Senior [Distinguished])



## MLA Social Networking Software Task Force

Submitted By: **Marie Kennedy, MFA, MSIS**

[m.r.kennedy@usc.edu](mailto:m.r.kennedy@usc.edu)

Norris Medical Library

University of Southern California

Are you wondering what social networking tools are all about, and if they can help you in your daily work activities? The new MLA Task Force on Social Networking Software is here to help! Charged by MLA president, Mark Funk, to identify, evaluate, and recommend appropriate social networking tools for MLA groups, this energetic Task Force is currently evaluating as many tools as it can, to guide you to the best ones available. The Task Force is documenting how to use these tools successfully, and is interested in engaging with the MLA community while doing so.

The Task Force encourages members to read and respond to the posts at its [blog](http://sns.mlanet.org/blog) so that your enthusiasms and concerns are incorporated into its work.

The Task Force has already completed a survey of MLA members about their current use of social networking software, and the summarized results may be found on the [Task Force blog](http://sns.mlanet.org/blog).

If you have questions about how to apply these tools to your MLA group, or just want to know more about what the Task Force is doing, drop us a line!



Task Force Members:

Regular Members:

[Bart Ragon](#), Chair  
[Marie Kennedy](#)  
[Maureen "Molly" Knapp](#)  
[Michelle Kraft](#)  
[Rikke Ogawa](#)  
[Melissa Rethlefsen](#)  
[Gabe Rios](#)

Liaisons:

MLA Fellows - Jim Shedlock  
 Section Council - Mary Piorun  
 Chapter Council - Sue Ben-Dor  
 MLANET - Melissa DeSantis  
 MEDLIB-L - Tina Kussey  
 Headquarters - Kate Corcoran  
 Board - Connie Schardt, Mark Funk

## Technology Review

*Submitted by:* **Nancy Glassman, MLS, AHIP**  
[glassman@aeacom.yu.edu](mailto:glassman@aeacom.yu.edu)  
*D. Samuel Gottesman Library*  
*Albert Einstein College of Medicine*

### Citation Management on a Budget

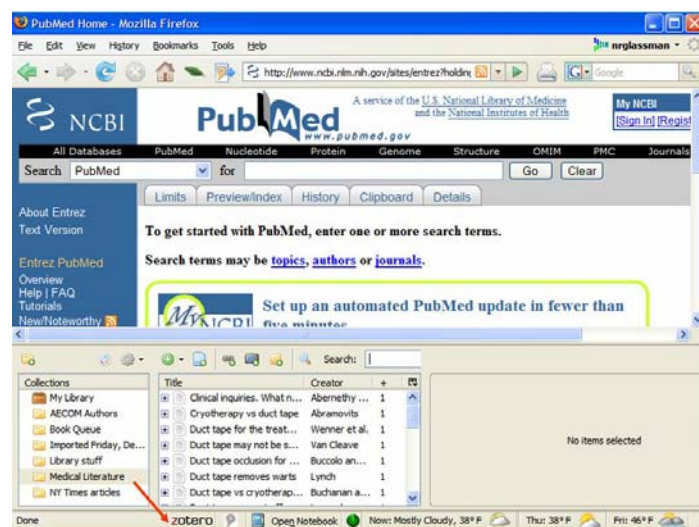
There's a new citation manager on the block. Zotero is a free, open-source extension for the Firefox web browser that gathers, organizes and edits references, and creates formatted bibliographies. It is produced by the [Center for History and New Media](http://www.zotero.org/) at George Mason University.

Zotero's current release works with Firefox 2.0, Netscape Navigator 9.0, or Flock 0.9.1 for Windows, Mac and Linux. It is not compatible with earlier versions of Firefox or with Internet Explorer. Download Zotero at <http://www.zotero.org/> or <https://addons.mozilla.org/firefox/3504/>.

Once installed, a Zotero button will appear at the bottom of the Firefox window as well as in the Tools menu. When activated, Zotero covers the lower third of the Firefox window, but can be resized to show as much or as little of Zotero as needed.



Zotero button

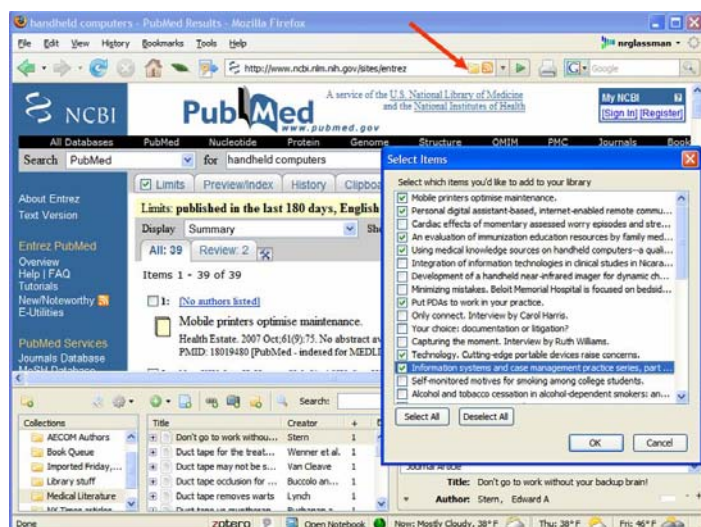


Zotero plugin for Firefox browser

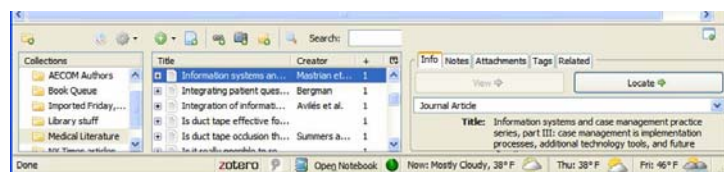
Adding book and journal references to Zotero is easy. When Zotero detects a reference, or group of references on a compatible web page, an icon will appear in Firefox's address bar. Click on this icon to add the reference to your Zotero collection.

The growing list of compatible databases includes PubMed, Ovid, ISI Web of Science, GoogleScholar, nytimes.com, many e-journal publishers, and most library online catalogs. More information and a growing list of compatible web sites is available at: <http://www.zotero.org/translators/>.

*continued on page 11*

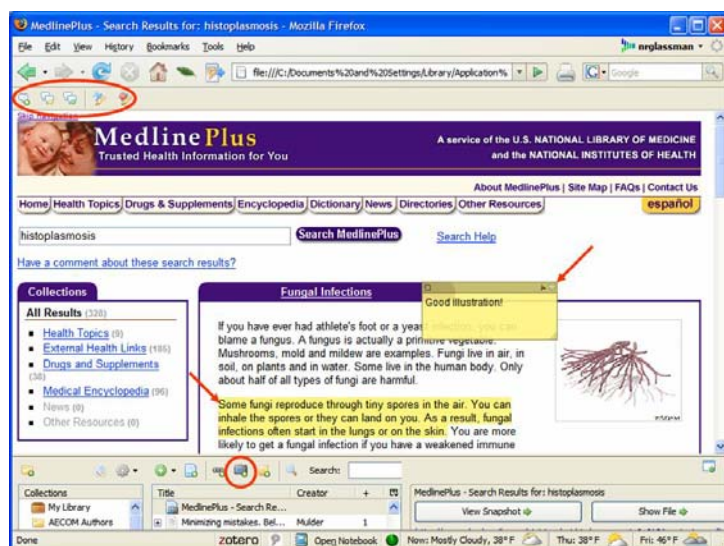


### Adding selected PubMed references



### PubMed references in Zotero

Want to remember an interesting web page for future reference? The handy Snapshot feature captures a screen shot, which can be viewed offline. There is a tool that lets you highlight pertinent sections of a web page, and even a handy "sticky notes" feature for adding additional comments.



### Annotating a web page "snapshot"

References found offline or in databases that are not compatible with Zotero can be added manually using Zotero's templates for books, book sections, journal articles, newspaper articles, and magazine articles.

Zotero is compatible with other citation management programs, including Reference Manager and EndNote. References can be imported and exported using the "RIS" format.

In addition to basic bibliographic information, much more information can be added to a record in a Zotero collection, including notes, files (such as pdfs, or Word files), and descriptive tags. References can be organized in folders. Related documents can be linked together.

Zotero integrates with MS Word and OpenOffice. It currently offers a limited number of bibliography output styles, but there are plans to add more. The current styles include American Psychological Association (APA), Modern Language Association (MLA), Chicago Manual of Style (footnote/endnote only). Additional information and plugins are available at [http://www.zotero.org/documentation/word\\_processor\\_integration](http://www.zotero.org/documentation/word_processor_integration).

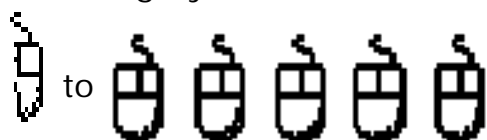
Although the current version lacks the full functionality of other established citation management programs, the beta version Zotero offers many unique and useful features. It has great potential, and is well worth watching.

## Web Watch

Submitted by: **Patricia E. Gallagher, MLS, AHIP**  
[pgallagher@nyam.org](mailto:pgallagher@nyam.org)  
New York Academy of Medicine Library

### Pat's Picks

#### The Rating System



(5 being the highest rating)

#### 1. March of Dimes Peristats

<http://www.marchofdimes.com/peristats/>

Statistical information is of major importance to researchers. March of Dimes has developed this excellent resource for obtaining statistical information on maternal and infant issues. Search for a particular state or issue (like pre-term birth, infant mortality or low-birthweight), create maps or graphs. With recent reports announcing that the United States has one of the worst infant mortality rates of any industrialized nation, this is a vital web resource.

My Rating:



#### 2. Profiles in Science

<http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/>

An online archive, with access to digital representations of the papers of important scientists like Virginia Apgar, Julius Axelrod, Joshua Lederberg, Linus Pauling, and Harold Varmus this is a wonderful resource for your researchers, or to introduce students to the work of scientific and medical researchers.

My Rating:



#### 3. Take Care New York

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/tcny/index.shtml>

New York City's "Take Care New York" initiative consists of 10 steps to better health. As part of the initiative, the City's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene have put together a number of valuable fact sheets, in multiple languages. Download (or order from 311) copies of the "Health Passport" for your staff and hospital's patients. Or, access the many

Health Bulletins, which you can access from the left-hand menu. Though many are



available in foreign languages (including Spanish, Chinese, Creole, Russian, and Urdu), the foreign language text is not easily searchable (you need to read English to find them).

My Rating:



#### 4. Healia.com

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

This search engine, specifically geared at searching Health information, has some nice features. Do a simple search (for example, "Asthma") and you'll be presented with general information, along with tabs that allow you to narrow to Prevention, Causes & Risks, Symptoms, Diagnosis & Tests and Treatments. Or, you can filter to information for or about groups like teens, basic reading, ethnic groups and/or professionals. Features such as the ability to change the website's font size, make this a useful tool in your websearching arsenal.

My Rating:



#### 5. Medical Information on the Internet: A Guide for Health Reporters and Consumers

[http://www.mlanet.org/resources/hlth\\_tutorial/index.html](http://www.mlanet.org/resources/hlth_tutorial/index.html)

Modesty forbids from providing a rating on this particular website, since it was written by myself and Kathel Dunn (though personally, I think it is pretty good!!). This tutorial, provided by the Medical Library Association and aimed at reporters and consumers, introduces new health sciences researchers to a host of valuable free web resources, including PubMed, Web Search engines, Clinical Trials, Consumer Health websites, and statistical, genetic, hospital, drug and historical sources.

*And now for something completely different:*

#### The Lortel Archives: The Internet Off-Broadway Database

[http://www.lortel.org/LLA\\_archive/index.cfm](http://www.lortel.org/LLA_archive/index.cfm)

In prior columns, we've looked at both the Internet Film and Broadway databases. Now, it's time for Off-Broadway to get its turn. Want to see the original cast of *The Fantasticks* (or the current cast, for that matter)? A list of the productions at The Public Theatre? A listing of Meryl Streep's Off-Broadway work? It's all here. Search by Show Title, Theatre, or individual; off-Broadway history is at your fingertips!

My Rating:



## *The Membership*

Submitted by: **Marie Ascher, MSLS, AHIP**  
[marie\\_ascher@nymc.edu](mailto:marie_ascher@nymc.edu)

*Health Sciences Library  
New York Medical College*

## *Welcome New Chapter Members 2007-2008!*

Paul Albert  
Eva Babalis  
Arpita Bose  
Darren Chase  
Margaret Rush Dreker  
Nathaniel Dunford  
Lisa Genoese  
Pamela Hargwood  
Andrew Horgan  
Mary K. Joyce  
Eric David Kantor  
Haldor Lougee-Heimer  
Arlene Mangino  
David W. Williams  
Karen L. Yacobucci

Anca Meret  
Joey Nicholson  
John T. Oliver  
Svetlana Oziransky  
Irina Pulatova  
Vennette M. Rondeau  
Nataliya Ryvkin  
Martha Saj  
Julia Stuart  
Millie Suter  
Susan Van Alstyne  
Yvette L. Walton



## *Getting to Know You*

Let's meet some of our newest Chapter members. Thanks to Eva Babalis, Kara Rothman, and John Oliver for being good sports and giving us a glimpse into their lives.

### **Eva Babalis**

Librarian, Plaza College

**Previous position:** Librarian, Queens Borough Public Library

**Hometown:** Berryville, Arkansas

**Favorite way to spend your free time:** Family, museums, cultural events, being in Manhattan, walking and hiking.

**Favorite food:** Chocolate

**What is the one thing people would never guess about you unless you told them?** What you see is what you get. I have not found any hidden talents.

**If I won the lottery, I would...** tear down my house and rebuild. I would get a new car and spend more on travel and entertainment. I would give to charity and extended family. I would save the rest and worry about what to invest the money in.

**If I wasn't a librarian, I'd be...**retired.

### **John T. Oliver**

Reference and Instruction Librarian at Columbia University Medical Center

**Previous position:** Freelance medical writer and journalist.

**Hometown:** Grew up in the Philadelphia area. Currently live in Manhattan.

**Professional interests:** Instructional design, learning styles, "millennials".

**Who do you live with? Family?**

**Pets?** My wife Jennifer and our cat Miss Kitty.

**Favorite way to spend your free time:** Eating my way through New York City.

**Your favorite book:** Hamlet

**Favorite food:** Fresh pasta



*Continued on page 16*

### *Getting to Know You*

#### **Kara Rothman**

Director, Peter Nicholas Memorial Library, Elmhurst Hospital Center

**Hometown:** Richmond, VA

**Professional interest:** Evidence-based medicine

**Who do you live with? Family?**

**Pets?** Husband, Jeff. Frog, Henry.

**If you could have one super power what would it be?** Time travel

**Your favorite book or piece of music:** Book: A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith, Music: Try a little tenderness by Otis Redding

**Favorite food:** Philly cheesesteak

**What is one thing people would never guess about you unless you told them?** I love to dance.

**If I won the lottery I**

**would...**Invest a lot of it, buy a small house on the coast of Ireland and give to charity.

**If I wasn't a librarian I'd...**be a film critic



Special thanks to intrepid reporter, Marie Ascher, for asking the probing questions and for compiling the responses.

If you would like to be featured in a future issue of the Newsletter, please contact Nighat Ispahany at [ni12@columbia.edu](mailto:ni12@columbia.edu), or Nancy Glassman at [glassman@aeCom.yu.edu](mailto:glassman@aeCom.yu.edu).



## *People*

### *Moving on:*

**Gail Y. Hendler** has left Lenox Hill Hospital to take the position of head, Information Access Services at The Hirsh Health Sciences Library at Tufts University.

**Kris Alpi** will be leaving Weill Cornell in March to take a new position as Head, William Rand Kenan, Jr. Library of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University.

### *Welcome back:*

**William Self** (former editor of this newsletter) has been appointed Director of Library Services at Lenox Hill Hospital.

### *Transitions:*

**Josie Lim** retired from her position of Library Director of the Tischman Learning Center at Montefiore Medical Center. **Sheigla Smalling** has been appointed to Library Director. **Marie Elias** has been appointed to the position of Associate Librarian.

### *In memoriam:*

**Emiko Akiyama** died on October 15, 2007 in Denver, Colorado at the age of ninety. She came to the Medical Library of Cornell University Medical College in 1959 and directed it as Acting Librarian from 1963 to 1970 and again in 1986 until Dr. Robert Braude assumed its direction. A detailed obituary written by Erich Meyerhoff will appear in an upcoming issue of *MLA News*.

**Estelle Brodman** died on March 1, 2007. She was at Columbia University, the National Library of Medicine, and later Director of the Washington University Medical School Library in St. Louis. She served on the Medical Library Association Board, was the President from 1964-1965, and she was the editor of the Bulletin of the Medical Library Association for ten years. A detailed obituary by Erich Meyerhoff appeared in the May 2007 issue of *MLA News*. Her oral history can be found at [www.mlanet.org/about/history/brodman\\_e.html](http://www.mlanet.org/about/history/brodman_e.html)

If you have any news you would like to share in a future issue of the Newsletter, please contact Nighat Ispahany at [ni22@columbia.edu](mailto:ni22@columbia.edu), or Nancy Glassman at [glassman@aeocom.yu.edu](mailto:glassman@aeocom.yu.edu).

## Advocacy Update

*Submitted by:* **Mahnaz Tehrani, MLS**

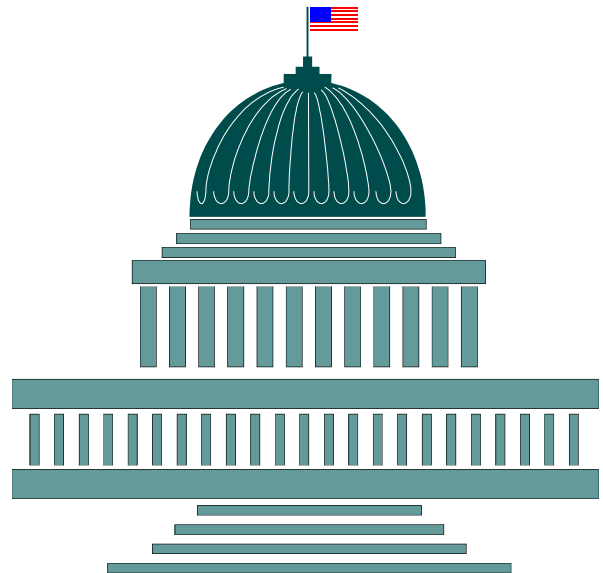
[mtehrani@nyit.edu](mailto:mtehrani@nyit.edu)

*New York College of Osteopathic Medicine/  
Medical library*

*New York Institute of Technology*

In the Summer, 2006 issue of the NY-NJ Chapter Newsletter, the Government Relations Committee began an education/information column on how to be a grassroots advocate. Through this column the membership learned tips on writing their first letter or making the first phone call to their state legislator or congressman.

The Medical Library Association has developed a webpage called "Advocacy and Policy". This page promotes involvement and awareness of health related legislation relevant to health sciences librarians and the library community they serve. It includes news about USA PATRIOT legislation, NIH Reauthorization, other legislative news, civil liberties, funding, information access, intellectual property and copyright, scholarly publishing, technology and telecommunications and much more. For further information please visit this webpage at the following link:  
<http://www.mlanet.org/government/>



## *Hospital Library Notes*

*Submitted by:*      **George A. Wahlert, MSLS, AHIP**  
[gwahlert@chpnet.org](mailto:gwahlert@chpnet.org)  
Morgan Health Sciences Library  
Long Island College Hospital

### *The Little Shop Around The Corner*

"There's gold in them thar book fairs and book sales!" Book fair vendors set up a book and gift boutique in your lobby where patients, visitors and staff can partake of the feast and you receive a portion of the almighty dollar. Book fairs are a great employee morale booster and the fact that your library sponsors it is a feather in your library cap. You do the public relations work and reap from the profits and hope the profits are deposited into your fund accounts.

If you are fortunate enough to play bank teller with your own petty cash fund secretly stashed away somewhere in your library, then instead of a book fair, try a book sale. In my library, we have set-up several tables and carts where our decataloged texts and donated books find a home and proudly display a price tag starting at \$1.00. The trashy novels and murder

mysteries share the spotlight with an old Harrison's and DVD's weeded from the library's collection. Our shop is always "booked", always stocked and open when the library is open. We go about our library business and when a customer is ready, we take their cash, make change, give out a free bookmark as a small thank-you gift, and provide a shopping bag. Word-of-mouth is the best advertising, and we promote the sale through signs, e-mail blasts and the hospital newsletter. We always encourage donations and a local bank recently donated over 300 books from a book drive. Some of the non-medical books are reserved for our patients; our "Books a la Library Cart" program brings free books to patient rooms by our volunteers.

*continued on page 20*

## Hospital Library Notes

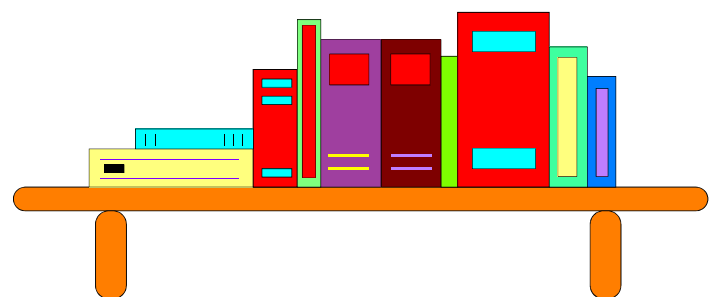
We have an annual “pledge” to the outgoing house staff when they graduate. We send them a congratulatory message and suggest “why take your books with you – donate them to the library instead”. Year after year, as they sign out, they bring their books and the books find a home in our own collection or in the shop. There is also plenty of shop space to also include bric-a-brac items and tchotchkes to entertain our customers. Although our shop sometimes looks like the Antiques Roadshow has come to town, the proceeds help support library services and they are used to purchase library and office supplies. For financial accountability, keep a record of your income and expenses, with receipts for products purchased (tax-exempt, if possible). You never know when big brother might come to do an audit of your little shop around the corner.

I do not feel that a “shop” demeans the value of the library. I believe that a warm body is a warm body and perhaps that person who bought Danielle Steel’s *Now and Forever*

might also see a recent nursing textbook or meet their neighborhood health sciences librarian/shop keeper.

In these tough financial times, every penny helps, so think of this column as my 2.3 cents worth!

As I write this article, it’s payday at my institution. Payday is our highest sales day – the day when we hit pay dirt! Got to go, I’ve a customer! Next!





## *Libraries in Literature*

**Submitted by:** **Nighat Ispahany, MLS**

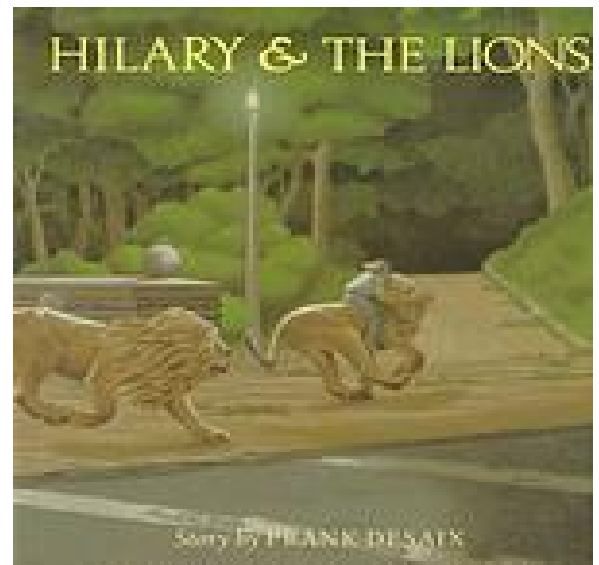
[ni12@columbia.edu](mailto:ni12@columbia.edu)

Augustus C. Long Health Sciences Library  
Columbia University

My interest always peaks when libraries are mentioned in the literature. The following is a brief description of a book I enjoyed this holiday season.

A little girl named Hilary is lost in New York City. She pulls herself up onto the pedestal of one of the NYPL lions to see if she can spot her parents. Unsuccessful and tired from her search she falls asleep and is awakened by a rather loud purring. "You're alive?" asks Hilary. "Getting there very nicely thank you" says the lion as he stretches and yawns like a giant kitten. Soon both lions come to life and take Hilary on a tour of New York City. While at Central Park, one of the lions muses "I remember how we used to laze about at the old zoo...Then the sculptor came and captured our spirits in marble and gave us the library to protect." This book is beautifully illustrated. Read more.

DeSaix, Frank. *Hilary & the Lions*. 1st ed.  
New York: Farrar Straus Giroux; 1990.



We would love to hear from you. Do you have a story you'd like to share that features libraries in the literature?

Please forward any contributions (articles, news items, photos, calendar events, etc.), preferably in electronic format [ASCII text], along with suggestions for content to:

Nancy Glassman [glassman@aeCom.yu.edu](mailto:glassman@aeCom.yu.edu)

Nighat Ispahany [ni12@columbia.edu](mailto:ni12@columbia.edu)

## *Announcements*

### *Save This Date*

The New York-New Jersey Chapter of MLA & METRO (Metropolitan New York Library Council) present:

#### **Practical Project Management: Getting It Done When You Are The Only One (Or Feel Like The Only One)**

**Course Description:** Improve your effectiveness by creating external teams, setting reasonable goals based on existing resources, saying "no" (even within bureaucracies), eliminating irrelevant work (even if it is what you love) and setting better priorities. This program uses the participants' self-generated case studies to apply basic principles of project management to their own situations. In addition, they will write a short-range project management plan and timeline, with checkpoints and benchmarks.

Useful to those who work with limited resources or feel like they do.

**Instructor:** Pat Wagner has been working with innovators in the information community since 1978 as a researcher, trainer, and consultant. She and her husband Leif Smith run Pattern Research, Inc., a research and training business in Denver. Pat is a frequent contributor at state and national library conferences, including MLA, SLA, and ALA.

**Date:** Tuesday, March 4, 2008.

**Time:** 10 AM - 4 PM

**Location:** METRO, 57 E. 11th St., NY, NY

**Cost:** NY-NJ Chapter MLA & METRO Members: \$50

Others: \$70

**6 MLA CE credits**

#### **To Register:**

- 1) Go to METRO Registration System at <http://www.metro.org>  
**ANY QUESTIONS** contact Joan Napolitano, 516-333-2489
- 2) For NY-NJ Chapter MLA members:  
Send check for \$50 made payable to the NY-NJ Chapter of MLA  
To: Claire Joseph  
Medical Library  
South Nassau Communities Hospital  
One Healthy Way  
Oceanside, NY 11572  
**ANY QUESTIONS** call Claire Joseph at 516-632-3452