# NEW YORK NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, INC. — NY/NJ — MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

## In This Issue

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 Editor

It is my great pleasure to bring to you the Fall 2005 issue of the MLA NY-NJ Chapter Newsletter. This being my final issue as editor, I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the newsletter during my tenure and who made it a joy to work on. We have two enthusiastic new co-editors, Leigh Mihlrad and Lori Gluckman, who will be taking over after the Annual Meeting.  Please join me in welcoming them!

**Barbara S. Reich**, our Chair, kicks off this issue by sharing with us some Annual Meeting 2005 highlights to get you hyped up for the upcoming conference in Lake Placid. It is going to be a blast!

Of course, a special thanks to our regular columnists for their submissions:

**Pat Gallagher** continues to keep an eye on the Web, bringing us her favorite picks, while **Nancy Glassman**, the technology columnist, teaches us about RSS feeds. **Joanne Jahr** provides us with a Fall update on the RML's activities, while **Latrina Keith** compiles a list of the recent notable accomplishments of Chapter members. New contributors, **Mahnaz Tehrani** and **Michelle Volesko Brewer**, resurrect the *Advocacy Update* column for us, and **George Wahlert** lets us glimpse into his world of hospital librarianship where he is *making a commotion about librarian promotion!*

*KM 09/2005*

## See you in Lake Placid, NY!

September 28-30

**Going for the Gold:
Librarians as Information Champions**

## *From the Chair*

*By:* **Barbara S. Reich**
breich@humed.com
*Director, Medical Library*
*Hackensack University Medical Center*

There's still time to register to attend this year's **joint annual meeting of the NY-NJ and UNYOC chapters**.  For those of you who are already registered…

Here's a David Letterman style list of the **top 10** events to look forward to:

10. Attend the **Welcome Reception** at the *Olympic Center*, an historic building where you will be able to walk on the ice where the 1980 US Hockey team won their gold medal.

9.  Attend one of several fabulous CE classes, where you will learn information that can immediately be applied when you get back to your institution.

8. Take a stroll in the streets of the lovely town of Lake Placid, where you can walk along the lake, shop in one of the many unique shops, or soak in Olympic history.

7. Enter to win a gift basket created for you by colleagues at another library, and contribute to the education of future medical librarians at the same time.

6. Spend time in the Adirondacks when they are at their most beautiful ... and that is truly an awe-inspiring site.

5. Visit with exhibitors and vendors in a no-stress environment, where you can get your questions answered while not having to do eight other things at the same time.

4. Attend talks by three VERY diverse speakers on three equally diverse and VERY interesting subjects.

3. Be part of a spirited discussion on "**Coaching Information Champions**," where we all will go away with new ideas to help our staff and colleagues become their best selves.

2. Network, network, network. Spend time with colleagues from both chapters - learning, growing, laughing, and relaxing.

Finally, **the number one reason to come to Lake Placid**:

1. Spend quality time with **M.J. Tooey**, our current MLA President, in an environment where you will have plenty of time to converse one on one, and let her know what you want YOUR MLA to be. Those of you who have met M.J. will know I am not kidding. She really wants to hear your ideas for improving the organization, and I believe she will do her best to make it happen.

# Web Watch

Submitted by: **Patricia E. Gallagher, MLS, AHIP**
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*New York Academy of Medicine Library*

## ▷ Pat's Picks

**The rating system:** Websites are rated by mice, from half a mouse to 5 mice, with 5 mice being the highest rating.

(half mouse)  to  (5 mice being the highest rating)

1. **Mayo Clinic.com**
   http://www.mayoclinic.com

This is a well-written, frequently updated consumer health information website. Covering the widely discussed, as well as the infrequently mentioned, it is a good resource for anyone looking for consumer level information. The only downside – lots of advertisements (though not, thankfully, targeted). My rating:
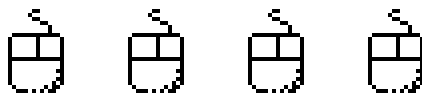
2. **National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine**
   http://nccam.nih.gov

One of the hardest areas in which to find reliable health information is in the area of complementary medicine. With charlatanism ever on the horizon, how do you determine an authentic complementary technique from quackery? NCCAM's website is a start. With a growing number of health information sheets, this is a good place to begin your inquiry into the benefits (or harms) of a particular complementary treatment. There is even some information in Spanish! My rating:

3. **Evidence-based Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School**
   http://library.umassmed.edu/EBM/

This tutorial is particularly valuable to anyone new to EBM. Take a look at their section on "Components of EBM", a very nicely laid out guide to creating a clinical question, as well as the "Tutorials", which allow you to develop a PICO for the major EBM categories. My rating:
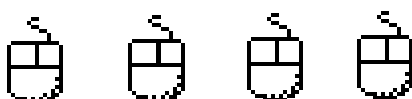
# *Web Watch*

4. **In the First Person: An Index to Letters, Diaries, Oral Histories and Personal Narratives**   http://www.alexanderstreet6.com/firp/

This database of personal narratives is not exclusively medical in nature, however, it is an excellent new (and growing) resource for personal narratives.  You can browse or search; the search form is quite detailed and suggests a number of categories that might not come immediately to mind.  While it will not provide access to some of the more famous names in medicine, it is a good resource with information from those who viewed the passing parade firsthand. My rating:

5. **Hospital Compare**
   http://www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov
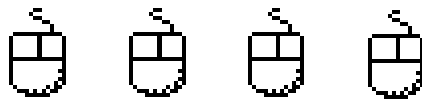
Want to know how your hospital rates against others? Have a patron who is shopping around for a good hospital? A clinician who wants more information about a hospital (s)he is thinking of working at?  Try *Hospital Compare*.  You can search for hospitals geographically or by name.  Limit your search by category (Heart Attack Care; Heart Failure Care; Pneumonia). You will then be presented with a set of treatments (based on the categories you selected).  Again, select from that list, and you can see how the hospital compared to other local hospital or to hospitals nationwide. My rating:

And now for something completely different:

6. **Victorian Web**
   http://www.victorianweb.org

Want to find out about some of the scientific/medical breakthroughs in the Victorian era? A list of the works of Freud or Darwin? Or how about a biography of Wilkie Collins? Try *VictorianWeb* – an outstanding compilation of all things Victorian.  If they wrote, painted, or explored during the reign of Victoria, you will find them here.

*Patricia E. Gallagher 07/05*

## *Technology Review*

*Submitted by:*      **Nancy Glassman, MLS, AHIP**
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*D. Samuel Gottesman Library*
*Albert Einstein College of Medicine*

## ▷  *Newsreaders*

*"I know the Dewey Decimal System, Library of Congress…  I can set up an RSS feed."*  -- actor Noah Wyle as the title character in the TNT movie "***The Librarian: Quest for the Spear***," which originally aired on TNT in December 2004.

If a fictional librarian in a made-for-television movie knows how to set up an RSS feed, I figure it's about time that I learned something about it.  RSS is an XML-based (eXtensible Markup Language) format used by many web sites and web logs to syndicate news feeds (regularly updated information, like headlines, e-newsletters, current awareness lists, tables of contents) directly to a subscriber's computer desktop.  This allows a subscriber to gather, organize, and browse the latest news from many different web sites all at once and all in one place -- a real time saver and coping tool for information overload.  The initials **RSS** stand for *Rich Site Summary*, *Really Simple Syndication*, or *RDF Site Summary*.  In addition to **RSS**, many web sites are also using **Atom**, a newer XML-based syndication format.  In this article, I will use RSS as an umbrella term for both RSS and Atom.

Two elements are necessary to take advantage of what RSS has to offer:
1) A web site or web log must offer *news feeds*.  Many sites indicate that they offer feeds with little icons that say either XML **XML** or RSS **RSS** or Atom **ATOM**.

Examples of sites offering news feeds:

**News**
> *New York Times* - [http://www.nytimes.com/services/xml/rss/index.html](http://www.nytimes.com/services/xml/rss/index.html)
> *National Public Radio* - [http://www.npr.org/rss/index.html](http://www.npr.org/rss/index.html)

**Technology & Government**
> *Wired Magazine* - [http://www.wired.com/news/rss/](http://www.wired.com/news/rss/)
> *United States Government* -
[http://www.firstgov.gov/Topics/Reference_Shelf/Libraries/RSS_Library.shtml](http://www.firstgov.gov/Topics/Reference_Shelf/Libraries/RSS_Library.shtml)

**Library Related**
> *METRO* - [http://www.metro.org/pdfs/quick_start_guide_rss_color.pdf](http://www.metro.org/pdfs/quick_start_guide_rss_color.pdf)
> *OCLC* - [http://www.oclc.org/rss/default.htm](http://www.oclc.org/rss/default.htm)
> *NN/LM* - [http://nnlm.gov/scr/blog/](http://nnlm.gov/scr/blog/)
> *PubMed* - [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/mj05/mj05_rss.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/mj05/mj05_rss.html)

## Technology Review

### Library's using RSS

*Ebling Library, University of Wisconsin, Madison -*
http://www.hsl.wisc.edu/bjd/journals/rss/index.cfm

*McMaster University -*
http://library.mcmaster.ca/php/blog.php?id=98&display=full

*Lister Hill Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham -*
http://www.uab.edu/lister/news/index.php?newsID=1&ID=86

2) Because RSS uses XML format, you will need some kind of RSS feed reader, sometimes called an *aggregator*. Several different types of aggregators are available. Web-based readers are convenient because they do not require special software to be installed. They are useful for people who would like to be able to read RSS feeds from more than one computer.

Browser plug-ins, while not portable, offer more in the way of customizations. **Pluck** is a popular plug-in for *Internet Explorer* users. *Firefox* users can take advantage of its built-in **"Live Bookmarks"** feature or download the **Sage** plug-in. Some RSS readers work with popular email programs like *Outlook* and *Eudora*. *Mozilla's Thunderbird* email software comes with its own RSS reader. RSS readers are also available for handheld devices like PDAs and smart phones.

Examples of News Aggregators/Readers:

### Web-based

*Yahoo -* http://my.yahoo.com/s/about/rss/index.html

*NewsIsFree -* http://www.newsisfree.com

*Bloglines -* http://www.bloglines.com/

### Browser Plug-ins

*Sage for Firefox -* http://sage.mozdev.org/

*Pluck for IE -* http://www.pluck.com/

### Email Options

*NewsGator -* http://www.newsgator.com/home.aspx

*Thunderbird -* http://www.mozilla.org/products/thunderbird/
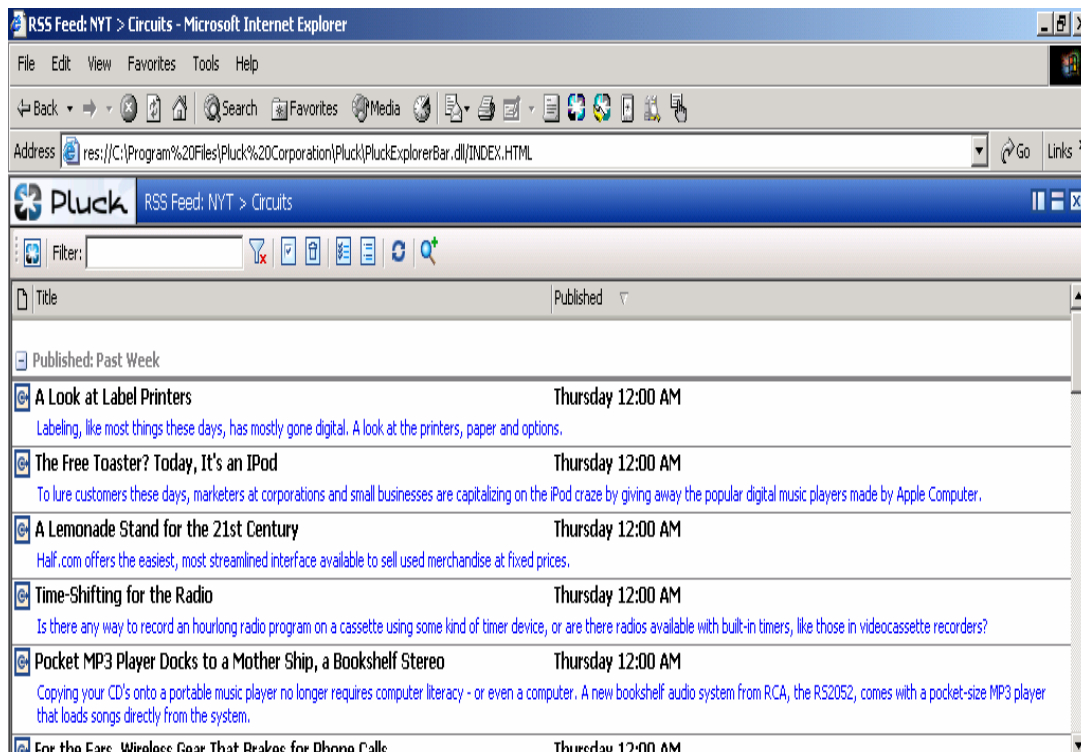
## *Technology Review*                                          *…continued from page 6*
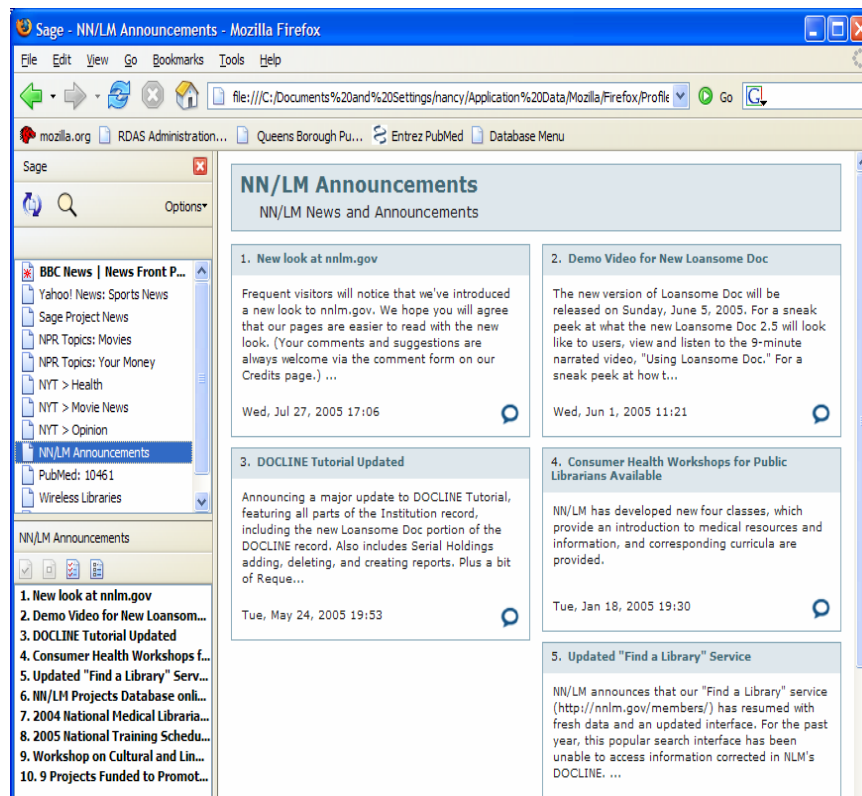


*NN/LM's news feed via the **Firefox** browser and **Sage** reader*
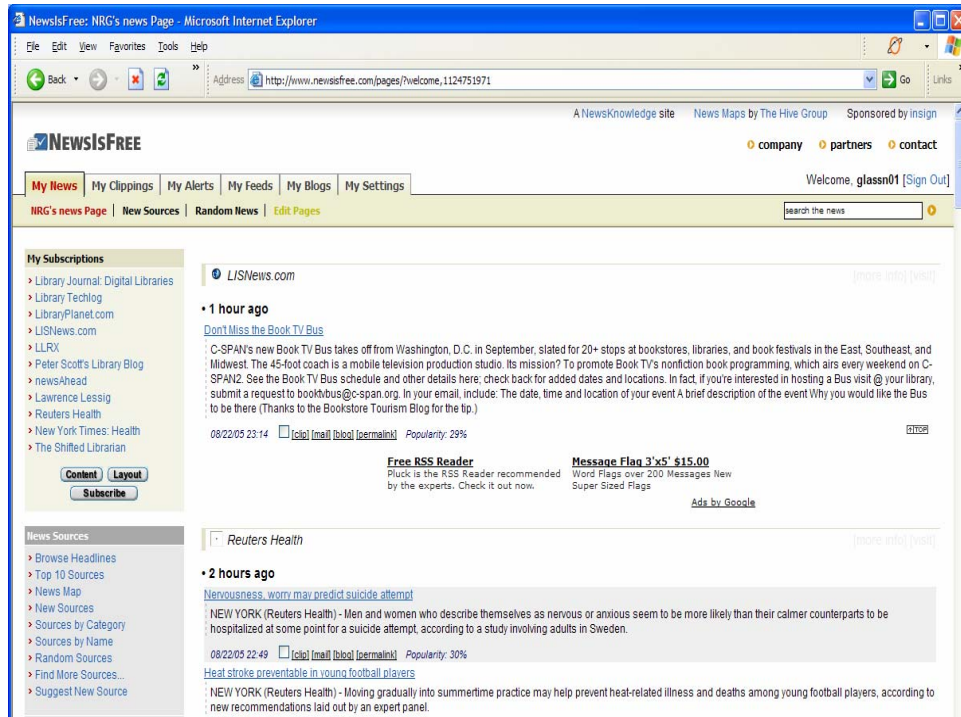


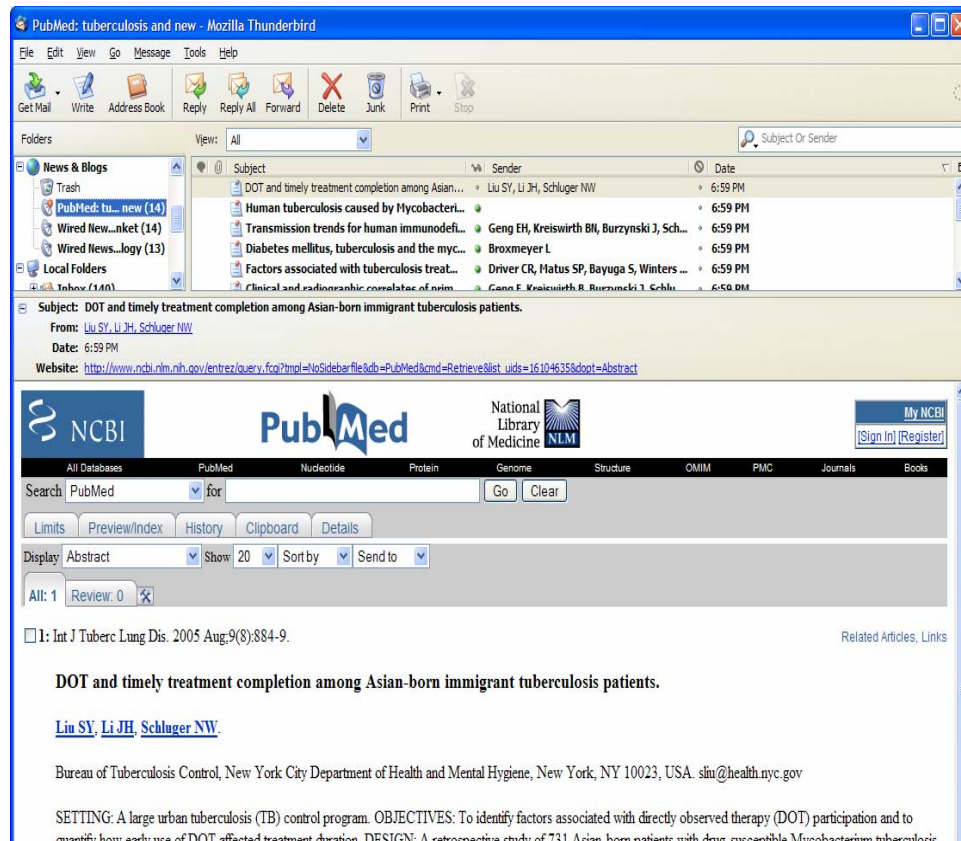*A feed from the **NY Times Circuits** section via **Pluck** and **Internet Explorer***

## *Technology Review*

*Web-based reader, **NewsIsFree***

***PubMed** search results via **Thunderbird***

# Technology Review

There are several ways to create news feeds of your own.  An easy way for the budget-conscious to get a feeling for web log and RSS publishing is to test drive a free blogging tool, like **Blogger** (http://www.blogger.com).  It only takes a few moments to set up an account and create a web log.  No knowledge of HTML or XML is required. By clicking "yes" for the *Publish Site Feed* option when setting up your web log, *Atom* news feed will be created automatically.

More advanced bloggers might want to look into web log publishing software, such as **Moveable Type** (http://www.sixapart.com/movabletype), which supports RSS.  Two excellent tutorials for those who would like an in depth introduction to creating RSS feeds are:  **RSS Tutorial for Content Publishers and Webmasters** (http://www.mnot.net/rss/tutorial/) and **Government Information Locator Service** (http://rssgov.com/rssworkshop.html).

Information overload is a fact of life for all of us.  Tools like RSS and Atom benefit both the reader and the information provider, by streamlining the process of content delivery.

## Further Reading:

### Readers & Resources:

1. Home Office - Keep current with updates and RSS feeds. ***PC world 2004; 22 (10):55.***
2. Broun K. New Dog, Old Trick: Alerts for RSS Feeds. ***Library Journal 2004:18, 20.***
3. Daily G. Aggregating the Aggregators: RSS Reader Round-Up. ***EContent 2005; 28 (4):36-41.***
4. Honan M. RSS- and Atom-Feed Readers. ***Macworld 2005; 22 (3):25,7.***
5. Jackson C. Speedy surfing with RSS. ***Smart Computing in Plain English 2004; 15 (8):45-6.***
6. Lok C. So what are you reading these days? ***Technology Review 2005; 108 (2):25.***
7. Neale JC. Using RSS Feeds to Stay Current in Information Technology. ***Status Line (Nylink) 2005; (193):11.***
8. Palser B. News a la Carte. ***American Journalism Review 2005; 27 (1):58.***
9. Richardson W. The ABCs of RSS. ***Technology & Learning 2005; 25 (10):20, 4.***
10. Stepno B. News on Demand. RSS readers. ***PC World 2004; 22 (7):149-52.***
11. Taylor C. Let Rss Go Fetch. ***Time 2005; 165 (22):82.***

## Creating RSS Services:

1. QuickStudy: RSS. ***Smart computing in plain English 2004; 15 (8):45-6.***
2. Fichter D. Using RSS to Create New Service. ***Online 2004; 28 (4):52.***
3. McKiernan, G. Rich Site Services: Web Feeds for Extended Information and Library Services. ***LLRX 2004.*** (http://llrx.com/features/richsite.htm)
4. Mendelson E. Syndicate Yourself with RSS Feed Creators. ***PC Magazine 2005; 24 (14):42.***
5. Potter V. Getting Started: Several ways to use RSS. ***Infomation Week 2005; (1050):44.***
6. Wilson, RF. How to Set Up an RSS Feed to Syndicate Your Headlines. ***Web Marketing Today 2003; (129)***: http://www.wilsonweb.com/wmt8/rss_feeds.htm
7. Wusteman J. RSS: the latest feed. ***Library Hi Tech 2004; 22 (4):404-13.***

## Miscellaneous:

1. Crawford W. The Aggravations of Aggregation. ***EContent 2005; 28 (1/2):43.***

## *RML Update*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Submitted by:* | **Joanne Jahr, MLS** |
| | [jjahr@nyam.org](mailto:jjahr@nyam.org) |
| | *Network Programs Coordinator* |
| | *NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region* |

## ▷ *Coming Up This Fall*

It's been a busy summer for the RML and it will be an equally busy fall.  The RML Coordinators will be teaching classes, doing training, and exhibiting at conferences throughout the Middle Atlantic Region.

You can keep up-to-date with our schedules at
http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=NNLMMAR&setRef=new

In the meantime, in addition to the *RML Update* that **Naomi Adelman**, the RML Associate Director, will deliver at the joint NY-NJ/UNYOC meeting on Thursday, September 29, the RML is hosting an *RML Town Meeting* on Friday, September 30, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

Join us and give us your thoughts, your ideas and your feedback.

We look forward to seeing you in Lake Placid and at other meetings during the coming season.

Questions, problems, just want to chat, give us a call at tel. **212-822-7396**.

If you want a particular Coordinator, you can find us at http://nnlm.gov/mar/marstaff.html.

**NN/LM**
**National Network of Libraries of Medicine**
**Middle Atlantic Region**

**National Network of Libraries of Medicine Middle Atlantic Region**
Serving -- New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware

## Kudos For Chapter Members

> Submitted by:    **Latrina Keith, MLS**
> [lkeith@nyam.org](mailto:lkeith@nyam.org)
> *Technical Services Librarian*
> *New York Academy of Medicine Library*

## ▷  Congratulations to fellow Chapter members:

### George A. Wahlert, AHIP
Morgan Health Sciences Library, Long Island College Hospital

> ▷  Congratulations to George, who received the **Athena Award** for outstanding contributions to the Long Island College Hospital School of Nursing at the June 2005 graduation ceremony where he was the Master of Ceremonies.  In July 2005, the Othmer Cancer Center of Long Island College Hospital presented George with the **Above and Beyond Award** at the hospital's annual survivorship celebration for his work with the cancer center.

### Lara Lasner Frater, MLS
Public Health Library, NYC Dept of Health & Mental Hygiene

> ▷  The Public Health Library of the New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene welcomes Lara Frater as **Public Health Librarian for Technical Services**.

### Jeannine Creazzo, MLIS
Saint Peter's University Hospital

> ▷  Congratulations to Jeannine, who has been named to the **Executive Board of Infolink** from July 1, 2005 through June 2008.  Infolink is the eastern New Jersey regional library cooperative serving libraries in Essex, Hudson, Middlesex and Union counties.

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## *In Memoriam*

### Kennedy E. Moody

**Kennedy E. Moody**, 70, died on May 2 in Mount Dora, Florida. Ken served as Director of Downstate Medical Center Library from 1974 until his retirement in 1990. He also worked as a librarian Rutgers University and as Associate Director of The New York Academy of Medicine. He is buried in his family plot in Nashville, Arkansas.

*Submitted by **Ron Coombs**, Brooklyn Public Library and Downstate from 1972-1996*

*(An obituary for Ken was also submitted by **Mary Doherty**, SUNY Downstate)*

# In Memoriam

## ELEONOR E. PASMIK

### February 6, 1925 - June 3, 2005

## *A Personal Reflection*

*Submitted by* **Erich Meyerhoff**
*Ehrman Medical Library*
*NYU School of Medicine*

Eleonor Pasmik retired from her position at the New York University Medical Center Library as Associate Librarian and a tenured member of the Faculty in 1991. Throughout her professional life she participated in important library and community activities. After she moved from New York City, she volunteered at the Horton Hospital Library and the Middletown Thrall Library Bookstore in Middletown, New York.

Eleonor was among the most superbly trained librarians. She had a degree in Chemistry and initially was employed as a laboratory technician at Bellevue Hospital and later at Meriden Hospital in Connecticut.  Throughout her life she had a deep and knowledgeable interest in books, which led to a position as a library assistant at the New York University College of Medicine in 1947. Helen Bayne, the learned and exacting head of the library, became her mentor. Eleonor enrolled at the Columbia School of Library Service from which she graduated in 1951 with a Master of Science degree. From 1951 to 1962 she worked as Assistant Medical Research Librarian at the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company where she established a reputation as a first rate reference librarian. In a remembrance of her on the Ehrman Library website (http://library.med.nyu.edu/library/htcontent/pasmik.html), this characteristic is recalled: "Eleonor was known for her excellent reference skills, never giving up until she found the answer."

In 1962 she returned to NYU as Reference Librarian. She held positions of increasing responsibility and was promoted to Associate Librarian under the directorship of Gilbert Clausman, who entrusted her with the day to day management of the library.  After Mr. Clausman retired, Eleonor managed the library until a new director was appointed and she herself retired.

Eleonor had a cordial relationship with several members of the faculty. They would meet for lunch in the Faculty Dining Room. She was known for arranging and supervising interesting exhibits. Initially these were the joint efforts of Eleonor and Gilbert Clausman. Later they became her sole responsibility. Not limited to medical subjects, the exhibits would occasionally display objects from personal collections of members of the faculty. She not only selected and arranged the items displayed but wrote all explanatory notes. The above cited website remembrance states; "Her deep knowledge of medical history and bibliography was demonstrated in her curation of various exhibits about the history of medicine and our faculty..."

Gilbert Clausman and Eleonor established the first archives of any medical school in the city. The Archives was a thoroughly professional establishment with its own quarters under the management of a professional archivist.

The positions she held in the Medical Library Association and the New York/New Jersey Chapter of the Medical Library Association are too numerous to record here. But as noted on the library website, in 1968 Eleonor served as Surveyor of Medical School Libraries in the Greater New York area for the Institute for Advancement of Medical Communication. She contributed her best effort wherever she worked. She had a sunny personality. I cannot remember her depressed. She was interested in solving problems in her own way and never ceased to grapple with fate. She learned to drive a car after she moved from the city. She learned to play Mah Yong, painted and indulged her love of classical music.

She is survived by her sister Edna Nelson.

Farewell Eleonor. With thanks to Gilbert Clausman who cast a critical eye, made suggestions but is not responsible for any shortcomings of this piece, to Adrienne Mumford who provided data, recollections and kept in touch with Eleonor.  The library's remembrance appeared on its website on June 7, 2005.

*Erich Meyerhoff*

Donations in her memory may be made to:

> The Hospice of Orange and Sullivan Counties
>  800 Stonybrook Court
>  Newburgh,NY 12550  or
>
> The Eleonor Pasmik Fund of the Ehrman Medical Library
>  New York University School of Medicine
>  550 First Avenue
>  New York,New York 10016

## *Advocacy Update*

***Submitted by:*  *Mahnaz Tehrani***
mtehrani@nyit.edu *and*
***Michelle Volesko Brewer***
mbrewer@njha.com
*Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs*

This update itemizes issues and activities MLA addressed since February 2005.  It is a summary from the Chapter's Advocacy Committee from a larger MLA document.

For more information, follow the links to web resources on MLANET or the Chapter Web site at  http://www.nynjmla.org/advocate.html  and http://www.nynjmla.org/advocacy_update0805.pdf

## ▷   *Funding Issues*

### FY06 NLM Funding

▷ The President's FY06 budget provides $326,000,000 for the National Library of Medicine (NLM), an increase of $3 million (1%) over FY05; During its March 30-31 meeting, the Joint MLA/AAHSL Legislative Task Force met with staff supporting members of the House and Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees.  The MLA/AAHSL NLM fact sheet distributed during the Hill visits (see Attachment 1) recommends a 6% increase for the library in FY06, in keeping with the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research.

MLA testimony in support of NLM's FY06 appropriation was submitted on April 15th to the Labor, HHS Appropriations Subcommittee and makes the following recommendations:

▷ A 6% increase for the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health and support for NLM's urgent facility construction needs;

▷ Continued support for the medical library community's role in NLM's outreach, telemedicine and health information technology initiatives; and

▷ Continued support for and periodic re-evaluation of the NIH open access to publishing policy.  See http://blueline.mlahq.org/government/gov_pdf/fy06_testimony.pdf.

## *Advocacy Update*

## ▷ **NIH Reauthorization**

Over the last 30 months, the Subcommittee on Health of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce has held ten hearings on reauthorizing the National Institutes of Health. The last reauthorization took place in 1993. Representative Nathan Deal (R-GA) chairs the Health Subcommittee, and Representative Joe Barton (R-TX) chairs the full committee. Committee members expect to introduce a reauthorization bill in the next few months. The Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) authorizes the NIH and is chaired by Senator Mike Enzi (R-WY).

MLA's Washington representatives have meet with House committee staff and report that staff are focusing on three themes for the reauthorization legislation.

See more details on the Chapter Web site: http://www.nynjmla.org/officers.html#advocate

## ▷ **OPEN Access**

Following announcement of its new Policy on Enhancing Public Access to Archived Publications Resulting from NIH-Funded Research, the NIH began working on its public access implementation plan. MLA wrote letters to Health and Human Services Secretary Leavitt and NIH Director Dr. Zerhouni on the new policy noting its disappointment that the six-month release was not maintained and that submission of the author's version is not a requirement. MLA's letters encouraged the NIH to re-evaluate this policy in the future and to move toward a required six-month release. During Capitol Hill visits in March, the Joint Legislative Task Force addressed these issues as described in fact sheets.

For more information visit the Chapter Web site for the fact sheets and all of the links.

MLA letters to Secretary Leavitt and Dr. Zerhouni on NIH Policy
http://www.mlanet.org/government/gov_pdf/leavitt_nih_proposal.pdf
http://www.mlanet.org/government/gov_pdf/zerhouni_nih_proposal.pdf

# Hospital Library Notes

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

## ▷ Tooting Your Own Horn:
## Making a Commotion about Librarian Promotion

If someone just made a motion regarding librarian promotion, then I would proudly second that emotion!  I am not focusing on preservation of the personal self, but rather on preservation of our chosen profession.  Job/career promotion and preservation are survival skills - in this article I will relate my personal experiences.  Part of the syllabus for this "*Uncle George explains it all to you*" lesson would include chapters on **reactive** and **proactive** librarian models and perhaps a reading from the book of *duh*.

I recently gave library clearance to a dietary worker who had worked at my institution for 35 years.  She asked me, "*Are you still working in the library?  How come you never transferred to another department?*".  I hesitated singing "*I am librarian, hear me roar*", and so I explained about my credentials, my position, and about our profession to my captive audience of one.

While you may often hear about the one-person library (OPL), you may not often hear about the **OLL** – one librarian library.  May I hear a drum r**OLL** for those who toil in a one-librarian library?  I feel it is important to advise library users and abusers that you are the **sole** librarian.  Although my title is Director, I am a medical librarian first.  Library support staff may sometimes perform the job responsibilities of a library professional, but we must make it clear to people that librarians are the "***information champions of the world***".  We must also explain who the other library staff members are and we should not diminish any one or any position.

Whenever I do a library in-service or class, I take the time to speak briefly about medical librarianship and to formally introduce myself.  I explain to them the hats that I wear: librarian and administrator.  This helps people to understand who to contact when they lose their stethoscope and who will be their "***search engine***" when they need assistance.  Our adoring fans must understand that as Director, I am the decision-maker.  I am sure that the reaction to this is a quote from the *Wizard of Oz* movie:  *Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain!*

So, the next time you want to wear that "*For this I got my master's degree*" t-shirt, don it proudly.  When I first began my library career many years ago, my former advertising agency supervisor sent me flowers with a note that said "*go out there and knock 'em dead*".  I'm still trying, friends, **still trying!**

# *Save the Date*

2006 Joint Annual Meeting of the New York-New Jersey Chapter of the Medical Library Association and NAHSL

DATES: **Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>-October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006**
PLACE: **The Hilton Hartford Hotel, Hartford, CT.**
http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/hotels/index

The Conference theme is "***The Evidence Is In***" which is designed to cover topics that are cutting edge, as well as issues that are of burning interest. There will be opportunities to network with Librarians from all over the New England Region.  It is also an opportunity to visit a city that has undergone an exciting revitalization.

## Program to include:

- A number of scintillating CE's to be held on Sunday (probably 4) and possibly one on Tuesday after the official conference is over.
- A variety of appealing keynote and plenary speakers on Monday and Tuesday.
- Breakout sessions on topics to give attendees information on the latest issues.
- NN/LM; NLM; MLA; DocLine/EFTS updates.
- Lunch-time Business Meeting
- Welcome reception and networking on Sunday night to be held at the refurbished historic **Mark Twain House** (http://www.marktwainhouse.org/)
- Dinner and fun on Monday night at the Hilton Hartford.
- Nearby shopping, entertainment, and nature - we will be right next to the **Hartford Civic Center Mall** (another Hartford rejuvenation project), and steps away from the **Wadsworth Athenaeum** (http://www.wadsworthatheneum.org/) **Museum of Art** (America's oldest public art museum), and close by **Bushnell Park** (http://www.bushnellpark.org/)  (America's oldest public park), as well as **Elizabeth Park Rose** (http://www.elizabethpark.org/)  **Garden** (oldest rose garden in the US) - there's plenty of history here!

We would like as many NY-NJ people to stay for the entire conference, so room rates in the renovated Hilton are very reasonable ($135 per night).  As the time nears, we will be following the performing arts schedule for ***The Bushnell*** (http://www.bushnell.org/) for anyone that might want to come in on Saturday, and who may be looking for an evening's entertainment.

*Patricia May, MLA NY-NJ Chapter 2006 Annual Meeting Program Chair*
*Janene Batten, NAHSL 2006 Chair*

# *Save the Date*

## ▷ *Nominate a Colleague for the Estelle Brodman Award*

Each year, the Medical Library Association honors individuals who have rendered distinguished service to health sciences libraries and furthered the purposes of health sciences librarianship.   The **MLA Estelle Brodman Award** annually recognizes an academic medical librarian, who at mid-career demonstrates a significant achievement, the potential for leadership, and continuing excellence.  The Award was established in 1986 with a gift from Irwin H. Pizer and presented for the first time in 1988.   The recipient is recognized at the Annual MLA Meeting where they receive a certificate and a cash award of $500.    Please take this opportunity to nominate an outstanding colleague for MLA's Estelle Brodman Award for Academic Medical Librarian of the Year.  The deadline for applications is **November 1, 2005**. Complete information and application forms for all MLA awards and honors may be found at:  http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/index.html

## ▷ *Ida and George Eliot Prize*

The **Ida and George Eliot Prize** is presented annually for a work published in the preceding calendar year, which has been judged most effective in furthering medical librarianship. The award was first presented in 1962. The recipient receives a cash award of $200 and a certificate.  The application deadline is **November 1, 2005**. A nomination form and further information is available at http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/eliot.html

## ▷ *Lucretia W. McClure Excellence in Education Award*

Each year, the Medical Library Association honors individuals who have rendered distinguished service to health sciences libraries and furthered the purposes of health sciences librarianship. The **Lucretia W. McClure Excellence in Education Award**, established in 1998 in honor of one of MLA's most respected members, honors outstanding practicing librarians or library educators in the field of health sciences librarianship and informatics who demonstrate skills in one or more of the following areas: teaching, curriculum development, mentoring, research, or leadership in education at local, regional, or national levels.  The recipient receives a certificate at the annual meeting and a cash award of $500 after the annual meeting.

Please take this opportunity to nominate an outstanding colleague for MLA's Lucretia W. McClure Excellence in Education.  The deadline for applications is **November 1, 2005**. Complete information and application forms for all MLA awards and honors may be found at: http://www.mlanet.org/awards/honors/index.html

If you have any questions, please contact *Sarah Kirby* (sarah.kirby@providence-health.org), *Carol Powell* (powell.225@osu.edu), or *Michele R. Tennant* (michele@library.health.ufl.edu).

## ▷ *Nominate a Colleague for the 2007 Janet Doe Lectureship*

Application Deadline: **November 1, 2005**

Is one of your colleagues a talented presenter with a unique perspective on the history or philosophy of medical librarianship? Now is your opportunity to nominate this colleague to present the **Janet Doe Lecture** at MLA's **2007 Annual Meeting** in Philadelphia, PA. The Janet Doe Lecturer will be honored with a certificate, a $250 honorarium, travel expenses for the meeting, and publication of the lecture in JMLA.

Further information and a nomination form are available at:
http://www.mlanet.org/awards. Nominations must arrive at MLA Headquarters by **November 1, 2005** to be considered.

# *For Your Information*

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