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

Spring 2005 Newsletter ◁▷ http://www.nynjmla.org/newsletter.html

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 Spring 2005 issue of the MLA NY-NJ Chapter Newsletter.

Barbara S. Reich, our Chair, kicks off this issue by highlighting some essential reading for librarians from the medical literature and sharing with us some of the Chapter's upcoming projects. Following her letter to the membership is a selection of photo highlights from the Chapter's Annual Meeting, ***"Steppin' Out of the Box: the Information Specialist in Context"***, that took place this past October in Brooklyn.

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 a new open-source web browser that is becoming very popular -- the Mozilla Project's *Firefox*. **Joanne Jahr** provides us with important information on EFTS, and new contributor, **Denise O'Shea**, gives us the scoop on PubMed's *LinkOut*.

Latrina Keith compiles a list of the recent notable accomplishments of Chapter members and **George Wahlert** lets us glimpse into his world of hospital librarianship…*adoring mice included!*

KM 04/2005

Start planning for Fall 2005!

September 28-30

Our next **Joint Annual Meeting** will be in **Lake Placid, NY**.

From the Chair

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

Spring is, at last, in the air. The days are getting longer, and my drive home is accomplished in full daylight again. On one of those sunny days late last week, I thought about an article, "**Quiet in the Library**[1]," that had been published in **NEJM** that day. I had first heard of this article through MEDLIB-L a few days before its official publication date. The initial discussion made it sound like it was just another "*Who needs libraries now that we have the Internet?*" article. In fact, the article was really about the disquieting realization that it is almost impossible to 'keep up' felt by many physicians. The author's final conclusion is that both medical libraries and the physicians' view of their profession are in a period of transition.

Even the initial few paragraphs, which did sound like they might be yet another 'death knell' story, made me wonder. Unlike the library at the author's institution, the library here at HUMC is not quiet or empty. We are busier than ever, and many afternoons, there are no empty seats to be had. Clearly, the 'library as place' is still an important facet here.

This 'article' was, in fact, a sidebar to another article, "**2015 – The Future of medical libraries.**[2]" This article really **IS** about the future of medical libraries, and envisions several scenarios of how things might be ten years from now. Written by Donald Lindberg and Betsy Humphreys, it discusses the library as place, the ubiquitous nature of electronic information, and the information specialist in context. Mentioned also are the challenges of integrating and providing uninterrupted access to all this digital information. It is, I think, a wholly optimistic, yet realistic picture of the future, and makes me look forward to the next set of challenges. This future can - and will - be accomplished, if we all work to make it so.

Meanwhile, back in 2005, I imagine many of you are busy with planning for MLA. Still, it's not too soon to put the **2005 Joint Annual Meeting of the New York-New Jersey and Upstate New York and Ontario Chapters** on your calendar. "**Going for the Gold: Librarians as Information Champions**" will be held in Lake Placid, New York on September 28 - 30, 2005. The committee, led by **Diana Cunningham** and **Andrea Markinson**, is busily planning this meeting, and has a terrific assemblage of meeting and CE activities slated.

Finally, if you've ever thought of volunteering for the Chapter, what's holding you back? Many of our committees could use additional help. It's a great way to get to know your colleagues, have a role in shaping your organization, and earn those AHIP points. There's a list of committees with contact information for the Chair of each of these at http://www.nynjmla.org/officers.html. Why not email the Chair of a committee that interests you, and say, "I'd like to help"?

1. Lee TH. **Quiet in the library**. N Engl J Med. 2005 Mar 17;352(11):1068.
2. Lindberg DA, Humphreys BL. **2015 – The Future of medical libraries**. N Engl J Med. 2005 Mar 17;352(11):1067-70.

Steppin' Out of the Box: The Information Specialist in Context

On Monday, October 4, 2004 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Chapter members gathered at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn to participate in the **NY-NJ MLA Chapter's Annual Meeting**. It was a great success thanks to all of the hard work put in by organizers. The committee included Co-Chairs *Marie Ascher*, *Andrea Markinson*, and *Dorice Vieira*, as well as members, *helen-ann brown*, *Mary Doherty*, *Patricia Gallagher*, *Susan Jacobs*, and *Bharathi Subramanian*.

SUNY Downstate Alumni Auditorium

Vendor sponsorship displays

Maxine Rockoff gives attendees an "RML Update"

Robert T. Mackes, 2003/04 Chapter Chair

The Keynote Speaker was **Dr. Gary Byrd**, Director of the Health Sciences Library at SUNY, Buffalo. His talk, "*Informationist and Expert Searcher: Critical New Professional Roles for Health Sciences Librarianship*" was very interesting and timely. MLA's 2004/05 President-elect, **MJ Tooey**, was also in attendance and gave NY-NJ Chapter members an "*MLA Update*".

Dorice Vieira, Robert T. Mackes, & Barbara S. Reich

Steppin' Out of the Box: The Information Specialist in Context

Tracy Allen

Kathel Dunn

NY-NJ Chapter members who volunteered in 2003/04 were recognized for their contributions to the Chapter during the business meeting. A panel discussion followed, with presentations by panelists, *T. Guillaume Van Moorsel*, *Kathel Dunn*, *Julie Hodorowski*, and *Nancy Calabretta*.

The poster presentations were a big hit! Chapter members viewed the posters after lunch and discussed them with colleagues.
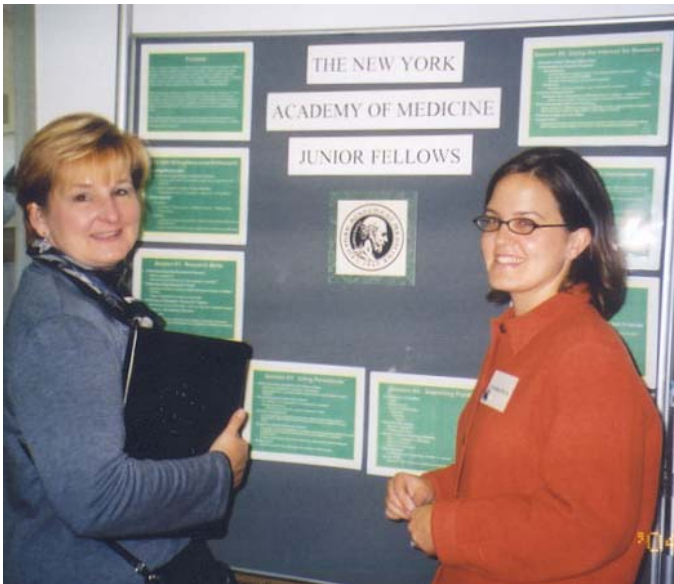

Nighat Ispahany, Pat Stachiw & Marina Chilov

Julie Hodorowski & Pauline Beam

Steppin' Out of the Box: The Information Specialist in Context

▷ *More poster presentations...*

MJ Tooey & Gretchen Hazlin

Janet Lasin

Diana Delgado

Eleanor Silverman & Patricia May

Susan Werner & Colleen Kenefick

Dina Matsoukas & Marina Chilov

Steppin' Out of the Box: The Information Specialist in Context

▷ **Networking during lunch...**

Richard Winant, Laura Barrett,
& Andrea Markinson

Michelle Volesko, Julie Quain, Kerry O'Rourke,
& Barbara Reich

Vida Cohen & Madeline Taylor

Suzanne Crow, Kris Alpi, Tania Bardyn, & Dorice Vieira

Carole Cave-Davis, Latrina Keith, & Robin Wright

Mark Funk, Carolyn Anne Reid, & Diana Cunningham

Dina Matsoukas, Rita Neri, Pat Gallagher,
Susan Jacobs, & Tracy Allen

June Rosenberg, Dottie Schwartz, & Mary Doherty

Web Watch

Submitted by: **Patricia E. Gallagher, MLS, AHIP**
                  pgallagher@nyam.org
                  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)

In prior columns, I reviewed **Project Bartelby** (http://www.bartleby.com/) and **The CARES Directory** (http://www.unitedwaynyc.org/?id=65). Both have new URLs.

1. **Centerwatch**
   http://www.centerwatch.com

We've already talked about **Clinical Trials.gov**. Here is another resource, this one sponsored by Thompson Scientific, for finding information about clinical trials that are in progress. Like **Clinical Trials.gov**, it does not list everything, but you can cover a lot of ground by searching both of them. My rating:

2. **Turning the Pages**
   http://archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/ttp/intro.htm

If you've been lucky enough to see the kiosks that have been available for several years now at the British Library, or visited the NLM booth at MLA in the last few years, you probably are familiar with "**Turning the Pages**". If not, get ready for a treat! While the online version does not permit the intimacy of the "touch screen" experience, using your mouse to "turn the page" is almost as satisfying. Currently, NLM has two books available: **Conrad Gesner's Historiae Animalium** and **Ambroise Paré's Oeuvres**. My rating:

Web Watch

3. **Health Care Annual, 2004 Update**
   http://www.uhfnyc.org/pubs-stories3220/pubs-stories_show.htm?doc_id=236016

This is a PDF version of the latest version of the (formerly) print publication of the **United Hospital Fund**. It is an invaluable resource for statistical information about hospitalization in the New York City and its environs. We reviewed an earlier edition last year. No password necessary on this one. My rating:

4. **Instructions for Authors in the Health Sciences**
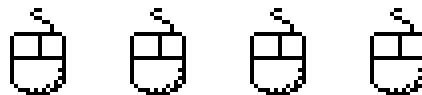   http://www.mco.edu/lib/instr/libinsta.html

We all get asked, on a fairly regular basis, for instructions to authors. Sometimes, it is even for a journal that we own. This website, from the *Medical College of Ohio's Mulford Library*, provides links to a multitude of medical journals' Instructions to Authors. My rating:

5. **Patient Level Information – UpToDate**
   http://patients.uptodate.com/

UpToDate has some (free) patient education material available. While it is not a lot of information, what is there is useful and of high quality. My rating:

And now for something completely different:

6. **The British Library's "Turning the Pages"**
   http://www.bl.uk/collections/treasures/digitisation6.html

You've looked at the NLM site, now visit the BL, and revel in some of the (non-medical) books available here, like *Leonardo's Notebook*, Jane Austin's *History of England* and *Sultan Baybars' Qur'an*. If you really want more medical works, the *Blackwell Herbal* and *Vesalius Anatomy* are there as well. My rating:

Patricia E. Gallagher 1/24/05

Technology Review

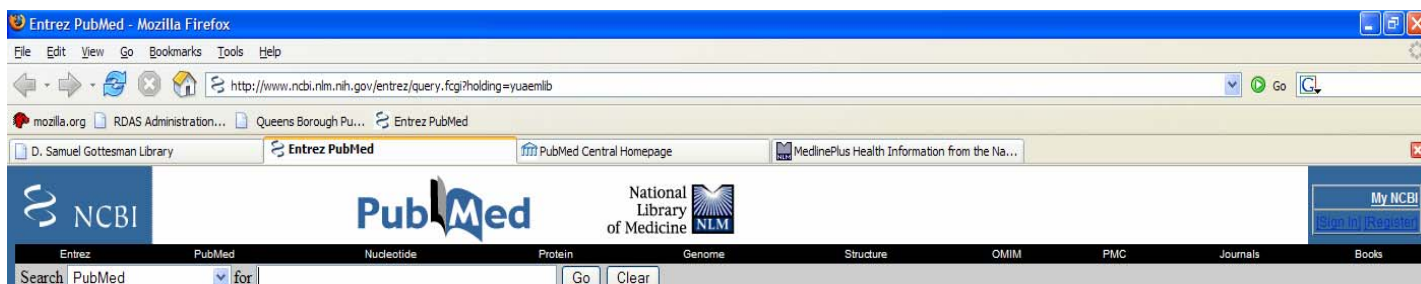|	
Submitted by:	**Nancy Glassman, MLS, AHIP**
	glassman@aecom.yu.edu
	D. Samuel Gottesman Library
	Albert Einstein College of Medicine

▷ *Firefox*

Look out *Internet Explorer*! There's a new web browser in town -- the **Mozilla Project's Firefox**. As of February 16, 2005, Mozilla reports over 25 million downloads of this free, open-source web browser since the release of version 1.0 in late 2004. I have been using Firefox for a few months and have been very happy with it. In this column I will describe some of the features that convinced me to make the switch.

Firefox is available for *Windows*, *Macintosh,* and *Linux* operating systems. At 4.7 MB in size, it is quick and simple to download **Firefox**, even with a slow Internet connection. Installation is straightforward and offers the option to import *Internet Explorer Favorites* or *Netscape Bookmarks*.

Tabbed Browsing

One of my favorite features is **Tabbed Browsing**, which is also available in current versions other browsers like **Opera**, and **Firefox**'s cousins, **Netscape** and **Mozilla**. Similar to folders in a filing cabinet, the tabs allow you to open and work with multiple web sites within one browser window. If you are browsing a web page and would like to open a hyperlink in a separate tab, hold down the *Ctrl* key (*Cmd* key for Mac users) when you click on the link.
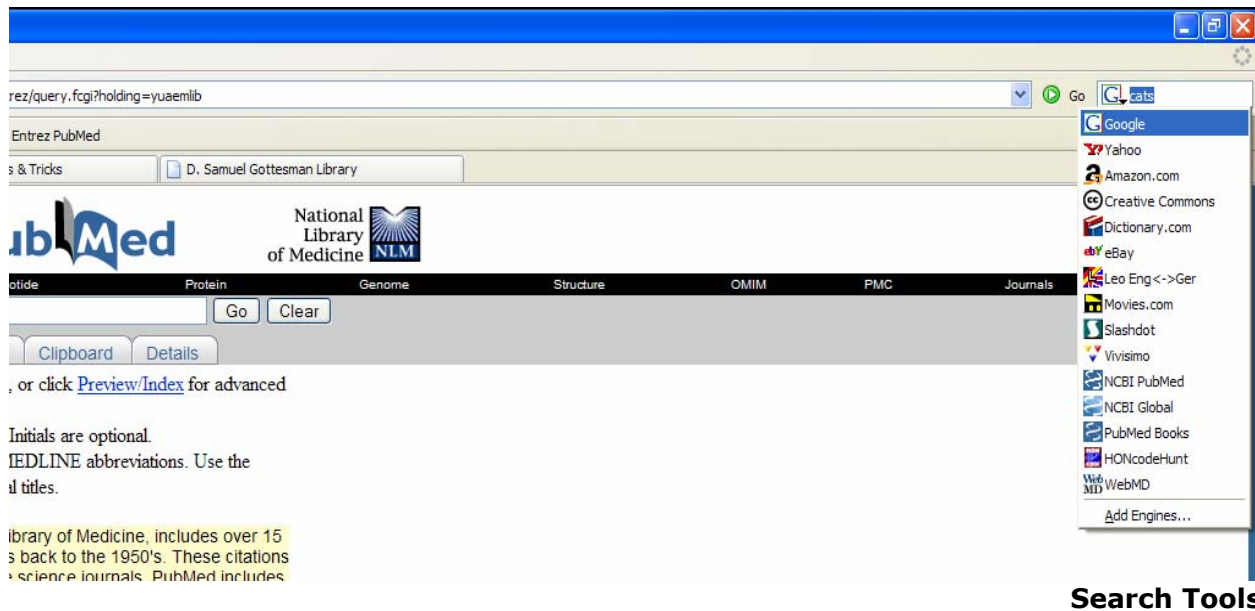

Tabbed Browsing

Search Toolbar

Firefox has a built-in search toolbar on the top right-hand corner of the window. The toolbar comes with a few search engines built in, including **Google**, **Creative Commons**, **Amazon.com**, and **Ebay**. Many, many more, including **PubMed** and **Weather.com** can be downloaded. Clicking on **Add Engines** from the drop-down menu will take you to a page on the *Mozilla.org* web site listing all the available search engines.

Technology Review

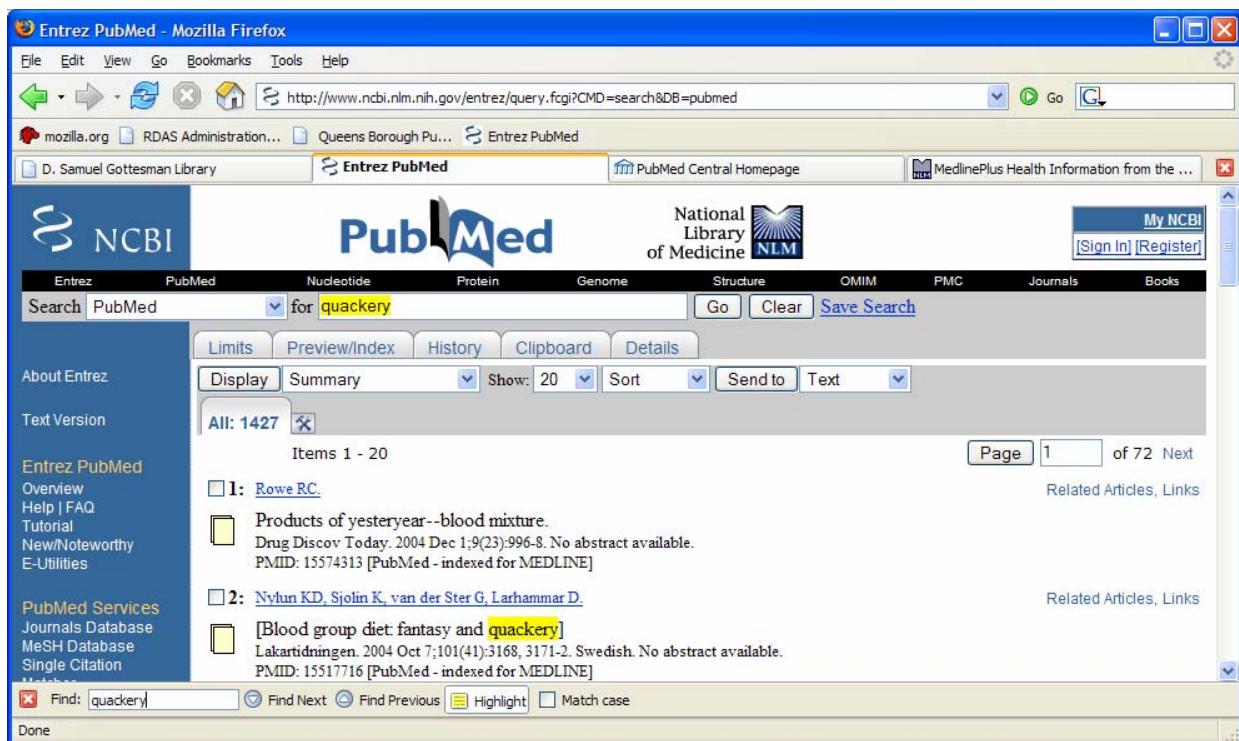**Search Tools**

Find in Page

All web browsers contain a "**Find in Page**" tool. In many cases it is a small window that opens up on top of the page being searched, often covering much of the text. *Firefox* handles this by adding a *Find* bar to the bottom of the window. "**Highlight**" is one of the *Find* bar's most useful features. Type in the term you are trying to find in a particular web page and click the *Find* bar's "**Highlight**" radio button. All instances of the term appearing on that page will be highlighted.
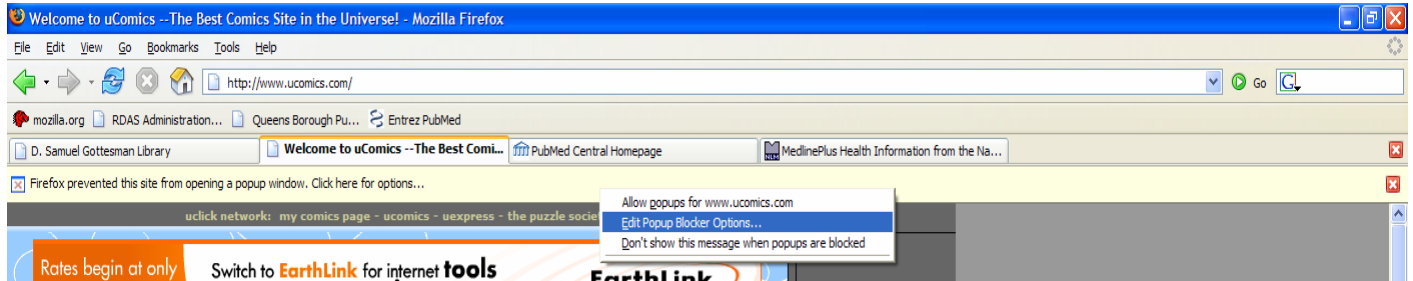
Find in Page
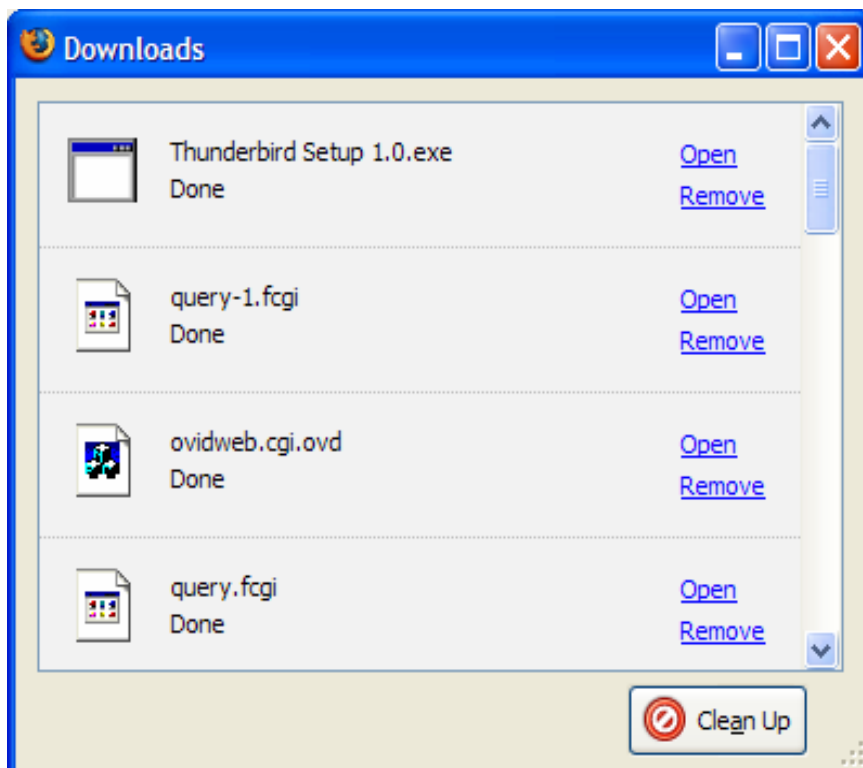
Technology Review

Popup Window Blocker

Pesky popup windows are a pet peeve for many *Internet* users. **Firefox** has a popup blocker setting. When **Firefox** encounters a popup, a notification bar will give you the option to allow them (or not) for the site in question. *Internet Explorer version 6.2*, which is part of *Windows XP*'s *SP2*, has a popup blocker.

Popup Blocker

Download Manager

Have you ever downloaded a file from a web site and then could not remember where you saved it once the download was completed? I admit that I have – on more than one occasion. **Firefox**'s **Download Manager** makes it easier to keep track of where those files are going. It allows you to specify exactly where you want downloaded files to go. The default in *Windows* is the *Desktop*. The **Download Manager** can also be set to ask where to save files each time. Files can be opened directly from within the **Download Manager**.

Download Manager
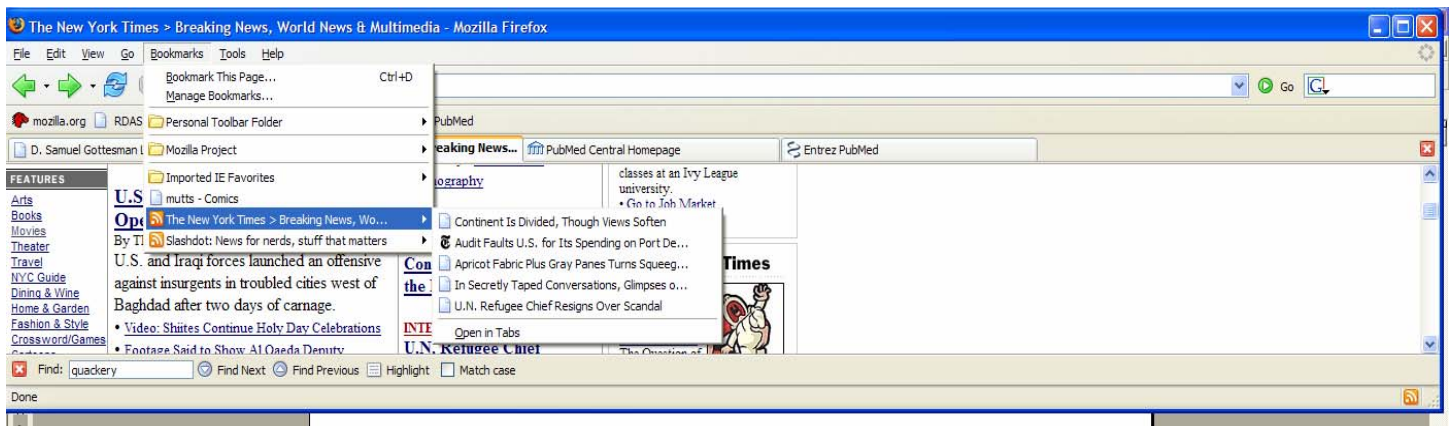
Technology Review

Live Bookmarks

Live Bookmarks is a useful tool for those of us who have become addicted to *RSS* feeds and blog headlines. *RSS*, which stand for "*Rich Site Summary*" or "*Really Simple Syndication*", lets web sites use XML to summarize their content, such as news items, and make them available via news readers. **Firefox** flags a site containing *RSS* with a little orange icon on the lower, right-hand corner of the screen. After you click on that icon, **Firefox** will add that *RSS* feed to your bookmarks, so you will be just one click away from breaking news. Examples of web sites that offer this feature are **The New York Times**, **Yahoo**, **SlashDot**, **BBC News**, and the **Metro Magnet**.

Live Bookmarks

Mouse and Keyboard Shortcuts

Mouse and keyboard shortcuts are available on most web browsers. **Firefox** has a few handy ones. For example, holding down the *Ctrl* key (*Cmd*, if you are a Mac user) while hitting the **+** or **-** keys will either increase or decrease the size of the text on a web page. Holding down the *Ctrl/Cmd* key while clicking on a hyperlink will open the link in a new browser tab.

Open Source

Because **Firefox** is open source software, people all over the world are busy creating new **themes**, **extensions**, and **plug-ins** for it all the time. They can be found at https://addons.update.mozilla.org/. "**Themes**" refers to the look and feel of the browser window. For example, there is a theme made specifically for those who fancy cats – one with little cat shaped icons. **Extensions** add functionality to the browser. A very useful **Firefox** extension is **SessionSaver**, which saves all browser tabs and restores them in the event of a browser crash. Other extensions include more *RSS* readers, and enhanced mouse functionality.   **Plug-ins** are programs that work in conjunction with the web browser, such as the familiar **Adobe Acrobat Reader** or **Flash player**.

Technology Review   *…continued from page 12*

Security

Security is a big concern for all of us. Although no browser is immune, many experts believe **Firefox** is a very secure web browser for several reasons. It is not integrated with the *Windows* operating system. Users have control of cookies. **Firefox** does not support *ActiveX*. Spyware/adware software cannot be installed automatically by just visiting a web site. It is important to keep in mind, however, that **Firefox** is very new and that eventually hackers will come up with ways to exploit it.

Minuses

The biggest drawback I have found to working with **Firefox** is that some web pages designed specifically for **Internet Explorer** do not display properly in **Firefox**.

Give **Firefox** a try. Maybe you will find yourself doing the **Firefox**-*trot*, too.

Further Reading

1. NEWS - **Firefox Challenges IE - Mozilla's free Firefox browser begins to make inroads; more administration tools are on the way**. *Informationweek 2004(1014):32.*

2. Bates Finnie C. **Download City: Browser Alternatives**. *PC Today 2005;3(3):98-9.*

3. Dickerson C. **Opinions - CTO Connection - Firefox is the latest sprinter headed toward the finish line: A viable enterprise desktop**. *InfoWorld 2004;26(47):22.*

4. Dickerson C. **Information Technology - Firefox: Giving Microsoft a Hotfoot - Explorer still dominates, but tiny nonprofit Mozilla's latest browser is grabbing a chunk of market share from the software king**. *InfoWorld 2004;26(49):60.*

5. Kay R. **Browsing the Browsers - In the Technology section: Russell Kay takes a look at alternatives to Microsoft's Internet Explorer, including Netscape Navigator, Firefox and Opera**. *Computerworld 2004;38(45):29.*

6. McHugh J. **The Firefox Explosion**. *Wired 2005;13(02):92-7.*

7. Phelps A. **Browsers: Manage Downloads in Firefox 1.0**. *Smart computing in plain English 2005;16(3):80.*

8. Phelps A. **Browsers: Live Bookmarks in Firefox 1.0**. *Smart computing in plain English 2005;16(1):91.*

9. Wayner P. **Custom Tailor a Web Browser Just for You**. *The New York Times 2005 January 27, 2005;Sect. 9.*

RML Update

Submitted by: **Joanne Jahr, MLS**
jjahr@nyam.org
Network Programs Coordinator
NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region

▷ *EFTS and LinkOut*

This issue's **RML Update** is a collaborative effort to encourage you to participate in two allied initiatives: **EFTS** and **LinkOut**.

EFT$ by *Joanne Jahr, Network Programs Coordinator*

"If you belonged to EFTS, this bill would already be paid." For EFTS members, these are stickers that can be placed on invoices sent to non-EFTS libraries.[1] For non-EFTS libraries, is this a wake-up call? Isn't it time that you became a participant? Is it inertia on your part? Is it someone in a supervisory position over you who is resistant to "pre-paying?" If you want to participate and are being held back by others in your institution, there is a wealth of supporting material available to you as "ammunition." Let us know and we'll help you gather it. [2]

Things to bear in mind:

- NLM is an EFTS participant;
- All of the *Resource Libraries* in the *NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region* participate, as well as those in the *NN/LM New England Region*, *NN/LM Mid-Continental Region*, and the *NN/LM South Central Region*, and many more in the remaining regions are signing on;
- Many EFTS libraries are crafting their routing tables to only include other EFTS participants;
- And, because of the time and money involved in sending invoices, many EFTS libraries are tacking on surcharges to non-EFTS libraries.

Currently, the *Middle Atlantic Region* has a **66% participant rate** and, while the ideal would be to have **every** DOCLINE library in the region participating, realistically we're shooting for **75%**. Anything over that would make us deliriously happy.

If you do not belong to EFTS—and you know who you are—now is the time!

The EFTS home page is https://efts.uchc.edu/efts/common/index.html

Any questions, I can be reached at jjahr@nyam.org or 212-822-7352.

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[1] Labels can be ordered from EFTS or downloaded as a pdf from
https://efts.uchc.edu/efts/Static/EFTS%20WebSite/tools.html

[2] See 'What participants are saying about the EFTS' at
https://efts.uchc.edu/efts/Static/EFTS%20WebSite/WhatLibSay.html

RML Update

Submitted by: **Denise O'Shea, MLS**
doshea@nyam.org
Technology Coordinator
NN/LM Middle Atlantic Region

▷ *Link Up with LinkOut*

LinkOut is a feature of *PubMed* that provides users with links from *PubMed* and other *Entrez* databases to a wide variety of relevant web-accessible online resources, including full-text publications, biological databases, consumer health information, research tools, and more. The goal of LinkOut is to facilitate access to relevant online resources beyond the *Entrez* system and to extend, clarify, or supplement information found in the *Entrez* database.

Specifically, LinkOut allows users to see their own library's holdings and access electronic full-text through the *PubMed* interface. LinkOut icons provide quick and easy access to e-journals in accordance with pre-existing licensing arrangements. LinkOut also enables patrons to limit their *PubMed* searches to your local holdings. These are just a few reasons why your library should register for LinkOut. Today, approximately 100 of the 400+ DOCLINE libraries in our region are LinkOut libraries.

(For a complete list of LinkOut Libraries visit
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/journals/active_libraries.html#MAR)

The RML is pleased to offer training in LinkOut to help you get started. The class "***Getting Started with LinkOut***" is a hands-on class designed to introduce students to LinkOut and provide step-by-step instruction on activating LinkOut for print and electronic journal collections. Topics covered are registration for LinkOut, entering holdings, displaying a library's icon for "branding" purposes, and access to free full-text through LinkOut.

Participants who successfully complete this class will be awarded 4 MLA continuing education credits.

For more information on this class and for past course materials, visit
http://www.nnlm.gov/train/linkout/.

Please let me know if you are interested in receiving training in LinkOut. In addition, you may contact me at any time for help with your LinkOut questions and for troubleshooting any LinkOut problems you may experience.

My contact information is doshea@nyam.org or 212-822-7358.

Kudos For Chapter Members

Submitted by: **Latrina Keith, MLS**
lkeith@nyam.org
Technical Services Librarian
New York Academy of Medicine Library

▷ *Congratulations to fellow Chapter members:*

Ken Riccardi, MPA, MLS, AHIP
North Shore University Hospital - Manhasset

> ▷ Congratulations to Ken who was recently credentialed at the Member level by the **Academy of Health Information Professionals**.

Kris Alpi, MLS, MPH, AHIP
Public Health Library
NYC Dept of Health & Mental Hygiene

> ▷ Kris recently had an article published in *Library Trends*:
>
> ### Meeting the Health Information Needs of Diverse Populations
> Kristine M. Alpi and Barbara M. Bibel
> *Library Trends, Vol. 53, No. 2, Fall 2004, 262-82.*

Congratulations to our members who won **Outstanding Achievement Awards** at the Chapter Annual Meeting, October 4, 2004.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Mary Mylenki, MLS
NN/LM-Middle Atlantic Region
New York Academy of Medicine

Outstanding Contribution by a Member

Janina Kaldan, MLS
Robert Wood Johnson
University Hospital at Rahway
Health Sciences Library

Kudos For Chapter Members

Outstanding Contribution by a New Member

Konstantina Matsoukas, MLIS
Columbia University
Augustus C. Long Health Sciences Library

Outstanding Contribution by a New Member

Denise O'Shea, MLS
NN/LM-Middle Atlantic Region
New York Academy of Medicine

In Memoriam

Virginia Anderson Gregory
1929-2004

Chapter members will remember Virginia Gregory for her work as a consultant for METRO's Hospital Library Services Program. Virginia assisted METRO's hospital library members in the Bronx and Westchester County from 1987 to 1992 when she retired. She was a tireless advocate for the librarians she served who will recall her energy, her creativity, and her perseverance in assuring that each eligible library received the state-funded services to which they were entitled. Prior to her work at METRO, Virginia was the librarian for Memorial Sloan Kettering's research facility in Westchester.

Virginia was active in the chapter and in national MLA. She was a member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals at the Distinguished Level. She served on the Chapter's Continuing Education Committee and helped develop quality educational opportunities.

In 1994, Virginia relocated to Williamsburg, Virginia where she volunteered in many community organizations and was active in Bruton Parish Church. She loved gardens and gardening and will be remembered for the great tours she gave of the Historic Area gardens in Colonial Williamsburg.

Virginia is survived by two daughters, Elizabeth Noakes of Pulaski, Tennessee and Sarah Gregory of Mansfield, Wisconsin, and two sisters, Patricia Chernoff of New York and Susan Wilkinson of Montevallo, Alabama.

Submitted by Virginia Manbeck, January 2005

Hospital Library Notes

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

▷ *The Mouse That Roared!*

In one episode of the Emmy-award winning PBS program "**Between the Lions**", Theo the lion, working at the front desk in a library, announces "Hello, everybody? I'm going to do my mighty roar". After he takes a huge breath and roars, everybody runs out of the library. He then says "Wait, come back!".

Roaring about the library will not force your library fans out of the stacks, but it may make them realize the importance of the library. Promotion of the library and library services is a very important mechanism in library public relations. I am a firm believer in the "pat your library on the back" theory; you practice it by placing signs noting new services, books or grants received, etc., and by making announcements at hospital meetings.

One day I really *roared* when I found that some "artist" had doodled on a journal cover. Lovely (?) mini palm trees graced the cover and the journal title was filled in with squiggly lines. Since the person was not caught in the act, and I did not want to play "*The Great Mouse Detective",* I decided to take action and let out a *roar* about what had happened.

I copied the journal cover and placed it on an easel with a sign noting that someone had defaced hospital and library property. I did not ask the person to identify themselves. I did note that it was upsetting that someone would do this and that the library staff works very hard to manage and maintain the library. Someone had set the trap for me to respond. Sometimes you have to reach out and touch someone about negative library biz, like budget and staff cutbacks, and non-availability of some services. It seemed petty to *roar* about my personal and professional reaction to library vandalism in the public's eye, but it had to be done. The responses poured in like sympathy cards - you would have thought we were having a funeral for a dead journal! People came to me and told me how badly they felt and they never thought this would happen in the library. Someone asked if they could donate money to replace the journal. I kept the poster up for one week.

So why did I write this piece in "*mouse*" style? On the second display day, someone wrote, "I love this library" on one of our erasable bulletin boards. The artist drew a picture of a mouse, surrounded by hearts. The mouse that *roared* is now the *most happy fella…* serving cheese fondue at our latest gallery display.

Hospital Library Notes

Save the Date

2005 Joint Annual Meeting of the New York-New Jersey and Upstate New York and Ontario Chapters of the Medical Library Association

"Going for the Gold:
Librarians as Information Champions"

DATES: September 28-30, 2005
PLACE: Hilton Lake Placid Resort, New York.

Hotel reservation form at
http://www.nynjmla.org/annmtg2005.html

(Individuals are encouraged to register for their hotel as early as possible. Conference rate is available the nights of Tuesday, 9/27 – Thursday, 9/29. Additional nights at this rate may be added before or after the conference depending on availability.

A vibrant group of program planners have already begun to create the best ever program for our meeting in magnificent Lake Placid in the Adirondacks during the "leaf peeping" season.

Speakers, Continuing Education, Sponsors and other information will be posted soon...
http://www.nynjmla.org/annmtg2005.html

Suggestions are welcome re: special requests or events.

Contact program chairs:

Diana Cunningham at DIANA_CUNNINGHAM@NYMC.EDU
or Andrea Markinson at Andrea.Markinson@downstate.edu

For Your Information

▷ **MLA's Leadership and Management Section: The Benefits of Membership**

Submitted by **Brian Bunnett**, *member of the South Central Chapter and of the LMS Membership Committee.*

Certain problems are common to all medical librarians: how to keep their skills current, finding a network of colleagues who can advise and support them, and figuring out a career plan that offers them opportunities for growth and advancement. The MLA, fortunately, exists in order to help us address these problems. And within the MLA there is a flourishing system of sections that makes this task even easier.

There are currently 23 different MLA sections. These sections draw like-minded colleagues together so that they can better pursue their common interests. Their range – from medical informatics to collection development to dental and veterinary libraries – attests to the diversity and vitality of our profession. Membership in any one of these sections is certain to stimulate and benefit those who belong to them.

I am a member of the Leadership and Management Section (LMS) and serve on that section's membership committee. I am willing to admit that this affiliation has perhaps clouded my objectivity. And it's not inconceivable that my partiality to the LMS has made me lose sight of the important work that I'm sure is conducted within the other 22 sections. However that may be, I think that you might find membership in the Leadership and Management Section to be especially appealing. Let me explain why.

The LMS allows its members to network with colleagues interested in leadership and management by promoting research and professional development activities. It accomplishes this goal through programs and symposia held at MLA annual meetings, through *The Leading Edge* – its excellent newsletter, through its listserv, and through social events and business meetings. A particularly valuable service provided by the LMS is its identification and remediation of leadership and management problems in medical libraries. A recent LMS survey, for example, found that the profession offered few training and educational opportunities for librarians wishing to become middle managers. In response to this finding the LMS created a task force to determine how the section can help to fill this vacuum.

I mentioned at the outset that all librarians face the problem of figuring out a career plan that offers them opportunities for growth and advancement. Managerial and administrative positions are often exceedingly challenging and difficult. But they can also be fulfilling, rewarding, and stimulating in ways that other library positions are not. Those of you interested in such a career path will find that joining the MLA's Leadership and Management Section will help you to realize your professional aspirations.

More information about the LMS is available on its web page at: http://www.lms.mlanet.org/.

An application form is available at: http://www.lms.mlanet.org/join_us_form.html.

For Your Information

▷ *NY-NJ MLA Chapter Continuing Education Committee*

The continuing education committee of the NY/NJ Chapter seeks your input for possible topics for courses/workshops for 2005.

Your suggestions will help us to plan a program that will meet your continuing education needs.

Please e-mail your ideas to Ken Riccardi at kriccard@nshs.edu

We thank you in advance for your input.

▷ *NY-NJ MLA Chapter Needs a 2005-2006 Newsletter Editor*

The NY/NJ Chapter is looking to recruit a volunteer who is interested in working on the **NY-NJ MLA Chapter Newsletter**.

Please e-mail
Dina Matsoukas at km2056@columbia.edu
if you are interested in serving as either
Co-Editor or **Editor** in **2005-2006**.

This is a great opportunity for long-time members of the Chapter and new members alike.

Not only will you earn AHIP points for your participation but you will also have the chance to get to know the Chapter's Board and Committee members, as well as, to become more involved in Chapter business and activities.