



CHRONICLE

CINCINNATI AREA HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

<http://cahsla.org>

September 2005

No. 93

President's Page

By Shelley Paden, President

At first glance, the recent hurricane and subsequent gas shortage have little in common with what we are doing in CAHSLA. However, both of these events have reminded me that we as a society are witnessing how important it is to have clear communication, be respectful of our resources, and appreciative of all the good things we have.

CAHSLA members have traditionally valued communication and connection with each other. Communication is the key to creating a successful organization that is responsive to its member's needs. Making a connection will determine our success or failure and establish the long-term role in our member's lives. With that in mind, I want to encourage all of you to let the Executive Board know what you want to see our organization accomplish. While we have been diligently focusing our efforts and planning, we also want to be responsive to your needs. What we need the most is to hear from; what do you want to gain through CAHSLA this association year? Feel free to contact the board members with any concerns, suggestions, or comments. The current board includes Sharon Bressert-Purtee (Vice President/Program Chair), Cathy Constance (Treasurer/Membership Coordinator), Penny Philpot (Secretary), Barbarie Hill & Lisa McCormick (CAHSLA Chronicle Editors), Jane Thompson (Archivist), Don Smith (COCLS Coordinator), and Edith Starbuck (Past President).

The CAHSLA treasury is healthy, and we want to use this resource wisely. This year we plan to use some money to retain old members and attract new ones. The board has decided to give away small prizes at the end of the year—maybe gift certificates, free CAHSLA workshops, or other fun surprises - as an incentive to increase meeting attendance. Each time you come to a CAHSLA meeting you will increase your chances to win a prize. Get involved with the organization, reap the benefits of interesting programs, network with librarians, and don't forget the chance to win prizes! We want to know what other ideas you have for using the treasury—what projects or programs do you think will be beneficial to the organization as a whole? Finding the best use of our money is our goal.

CAHSLA has a long tradition of serving the needs of librarians interested in health sciences. We have shared information, ideas, fellowship, and fun. From the outside the operation looks pretty seamless, however, it is never as easy as it looks! Be sure to be appreciative of all the time and effort the program chair and committee puts into programs this year. Don't be shy about offering your time and talents to help out with the organization.

In the coming year, check out the CAHSLA webpage (www.cahsla.org). With our webmaster's assistance (Barbarie Hill), the board is planning some additions. We plan to post our procedures manual, bylaws, history, a list of local area health science libraries,

and useful library links. Having this information online will make the board's work easier and will give anyone looking at the page an overview of our organization. Any other suggestions are welcome.

With your help we can continue to make the organization strong. Take time to think of all you have gained from CAHSLA and the people (from board members to new members) who make it happen and share this information with prospective members.

I hope you are looking forward to the coming year. See you at our September Membership meeting!

CAHSLA Membership Meeting

The first meeting of the program year was held September 21st at the Indiana Wesleyan University branch in Cincinnati. While attendance was sparse, the fellowship and food were very good and the librarian for this 1-year-old educational endeavor gave an interesting and enlightening presentation. The school is designed for adult students pursuing a degree in their "spare" time between jobs, family, and other responsibilities. IWU tries to make its program as flexible and convenient as possible for these busy people, including online and mail delivery of library resources.

CAHSLA Financial Report 9/9/2005

Checking Account		
Balance as of 6/2/2005		\$ 892.30
Deposit		
Dues (1)	\$ 15.00	
Balance as of 9/9/2005		\$ 907.30
Savings Account		
Balance as of 6/2/2005		\$2742.56
Deposits		
Interest (4 mo.)	\$ 9.46	
Balance as of 8/9/2005		\$2752.02
Cash		
Balance as of 6/2/2005		\$ 51.23
Balance as of 8/9/2005		\$ 51.23
Total Assets		\$3710.55

Submitted by:
Cathy Constance, Treasurer, 9/9/2005

2005 Midwest Chapter/MLA Annual Conference

The conference was held this year in Fargo, North Dakota – not exactly a vacation destination but a nice little town, and the ND medical librarians put on a very good meeting. Each of the four plenary speakers had an important and entertaining message, the contributed papers and posters shared ideas we could use, and the NLM update and GMR Technology Forum offered important knowledge. The big social event was a Scandinavian smorgasbord in the restored Art Deco Fargo Theater during which we were entertained by a concert on the Wurlitzer organ, and later we enjoyed a screening of the film Fargo, introduced by a local actress who played one of the roles in the movie. Overall, a very good time was had by all.

Monica Mayer, a ND physician and member of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Tribes, introduced the meeting by leading us through the Lewis and Clark expedition with a focus on the health and medical aspects of the trip and the interaction between the travelers and the Native Americans they met in the region later to become North Dakota. Her fascinating stories included an account of the medical provisions accompanying the band of explorers, including a large number of the special “pills” concocted by the group’s doctor, the ingredients of which were essentially the same as a whole box of ExLax in each pill. The standard remedy for a wide range of ailments was two pills.

Joe Janes, University of Washington Information School faculty, spoke about extending services to the increasingly digital user. The classes of users we serve are expanding to include readers and downloaders

of e-books and audio books, web surfers as well as traditional searchers, remote users, bloggers, digital object creators, distance ed students, etc. Some of these potential clients aren’t familiar with library services and will not think of libraries as a means of support, but they still need the “stuff, help and place” we provide. The stuff includes accessible and usable digital resources, creative commons (somewhere between copyright and public access), different tools to make order out of the chaos that is growing in scholarly communication through journal publishing, and instant answers in a freely available search world. The help we provide will be support in searching, finding, accessing, using, understanding, evaluating. We’ll also provide connectivity and connection, bandwidth both technological and personal help and support, technology, software, hardware support, perhaps even hosting. Even more importantly, we will provide professional advice, guidance, tell them what to do – and we’ll provide all this 24-7-365. In short, users want quick, cheap (or free), easy access and use, and good enough; this is not us at present! We have to articulate our strengths and play up our service orientation. We have to build tools that help people without direct intervention (e.g. pathfinders and easily understood names for services and tools). We have to position ourselves and our services as time-savers. We have to decide what kinds of things we are best suited for (e.g. Google does ready reference better). We have to develop an extended notion of library and librarianship which is a concept of the library outside the building with staff that organizes, provides, and supports its community anywhere, anytime, any way in which people interact with information.

Barbarie Hill

OHSLA Fall Meeting in Cincinnati

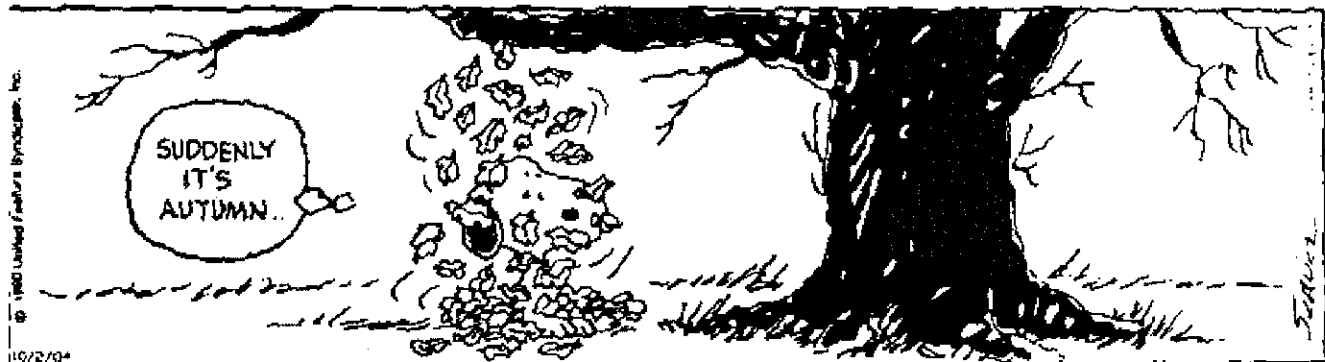
The Ohio Health Sciences Libraries Association will offer a rare opportunity on October 26th to attend their meeting without leaving Cincinnati. The meeting will be at the Genome Research Institute, the former Merrell-Dow building where UC's Health Sciences monographs collection is located during the library renovation project.

The program promises to be entertaining with two different presentations and a short business meeting over lunch. In the morning, Glen Horton, Technology Coordinator & Assistant Director, Greater Cincinnati Library Consortium (GCLC), will present *Blogs, RSS, & Libraries, Oh My!* Weblogs (blogs) have become hugely popular as a source of information, creative outlet, and even humor. They can also provide great opportunities for social networking. Many blogs are targeted at libraries and the medical sciences and more are springing up all the time. Come learn what they are, how to find them, and how to even start your own. Glen will also discuss the basics of Really Simple Syndication. RSS is a simple technology that allows users to easily stay current with blogs, news sites, and more. Libraries are also finding creative uses for RSS as an outreach tool.

After lunch, Mary Conroy, Electronic Resources Coordinator, OHIONET, will lead a discussion of Electronic Serials Management. Electronic resources are rapidly replacing many print resources at our libraries, but how do we keep track of the databases, e-journals, aggregated full text resources, and make them easily accessible? We'll review some of the steps involved in managing electronic serials, and see the tools available from several vendors who specialize in this area. Mary will provide an introduction to electronic serials management issues. Representatives from Serials Solutions, Eve Davis and Patrick Murray from EBSCO, and George Machovec from GoldRush will discuss the serials management services and solutions provided by their companies, and we'll see their products in action. For a glimpse of the future, Bill Carney from OCLC will discuss the OCLC e-serials holdings pilot and vendor partnerships; this is a project designed to increase discovery of electronic resource collections, without increasing library workloads.

The cost for the day is \$40 which includes continental breakfast and a buffet lunch. For more details and registration, go to <http://www.ohslanet.org> Hope to see you there!

CLASSIC PEANUTS | Charles M. Schulz



KATRINA - Library Relief

Several in this wonderful group have expressed interest and desire to assist our colleagues in the midst of this horrendous tragedy. The RML for the South Central Region sent this message on 9/23:

"From the Louisiana Library Association webpage: The LLA Disaster Relief Fund is now accepting monetary donations to assist school, public, and academic library restoration efforts in southeastern Louisiana. Please make checks payable to LLA-Disaster Relief and mail to:

LLA
421 South 4th St
Eunice, LA 70535"

The URL for the Louisiana Library Association is:
<http://www.llaonline.org/>

Nominate the next MLA Hospital Librarian of the Year!

Go to
http://www.mlanet.org/pdf/awards/hosplib_nom_2005_0721.pdf to get the form and see how easy it is recognize one of your colleagues for his/her outstanding work in the hospital library field. Do it today!! Fax completed form to 312.419.8950. Deadline for nomination is November 1, 2005.

Print It For Free

website review by
Michael D. Brooks
Saint Joseph's University
Francis A. Drexel Library
Philadelphia, PA

So there you are. Sitting at your desk all alone with little or no budget, and virtually no staff to speak of and you've got displays to put up, signs to make, thank you cards to send, and calendars to prepare. Where do you go? To whom do you turn? Why Printfree.com (<http://printfree.com>), of course.

Yep. That's right. Now you can access a website dedicated to printing a variety of documents for free. And there's no catch. You don't have to sign up or register or promise to sell your firstborn offspring. All you have to do is select, click, and print. Printfree.com has a friendly, homey feel-very inviting.

If you need to make a calendar, you can. If you need to make greeting cards, you can. If you need to make signs, you can. If you need to make . . . well, you get the picture. Each feature is accompanied by a set of instructions on how to setup and print your projects.

Although the site is free for all to use, it's not quite free to the designers. They are the unfortunate victims of TINSTAAFL (There Is No Such Thing As A Free Lunch). They do have advertisers, but the advertising is unobtrusive (and useful) if you're looking for low-cost features and ideas that are not readily available on the site or not quite exactly what you need.

The site is clean and easy to navigate. To ensure that getting around is easy, even for those who get lost just going to the corner store, the site owners have developed a page to assist in circumnavigation with the Comprehensive Site Map page (http://printfree.com/Site_Map.htm).

The Terms of Use page (http://printfree.com/General_Forms/terms_of_use.htm) is straightforward in its explanation of what the site is about and how and who can use it and is a humorous tongue-in-cheek poke at fine print disclaimers.

If you enjoy your visit and like what you see, go to the Feedback Page (<http://printfree.com/feedbackpage.htm>) and let the Webmasters know.

First Serial Rights Only.
C2005 by Michael D. Brooks

CAHSLA COLLEAGUES

Welcome

Alison Kissling has joined the Pratt Library staff at Cincinnati Children's Hospital on a half-time basis. Alison earned her Masters of Library Science from the University of Kentucky in 1993 and worked as a consultant to the CCDD Rubinstein Library at Children's for several years before leaving to home school her two daughters for a time. Welcome back, Alison!

Welcome back, Penny Philpot (Tri-Health Good Samaritan). Penny spent the early part of the summer recuperating from emergency surgery and is now back to work full-time. Cardiac rehab is still a part of her weekly schedule, and soon she will return to her volunteer work at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens. Penny sends her thanks and gratitude to all who cheered her with cards and notes. She is happy to be back to work and looks forward to connecting with friends and colleagues in the health sciences library community.

Kudos

Lisa McCormick (Jewish Hospital) achieved a goal that was a long time in the making. In May, Lisa finished her Master of Science in Health Community Health Administration and Wellness Promotion.

Personal News

Jane Thompson (UC Health Sciences Library) begins a sabbatical leave October 1. Her project is devoted to looking at the use of BioMed Central journals at UC, including faculty publishing. Jane's leave will consist of 3 periods of time, Oct-Nov 2005, Feb-Apr 2006, and Aug-Sept 2006. She can hardly wait.

Travel

Val Purvis and Barbarie Hill (Children's) and Denise Britigan, Edith Starbuck, and Leslie Schick (UC) were Cincinnati's representatives at the Midwest Chapter meeting in Fargo, ND in September.

In the literature and on the web

An editorial from the Cincinnati Enquirer online edition 9/23:

Library logs on to 'e-book' revolution **Editorials**

Next week, the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County will introduce a service allowing users to download time-limited electronic versions of books - both text and audio - to their computers or other digital devices. Patrons will be able to read or listen to a book without going to the library to pick it up, thanks to the two-week digital "loans." The library (www.cincinnati.library.org) is among 15 institutions involved in the Ohio eBooks Project.

While this project hardly signals a brave new world - although Aldous Huxley's dystopian classic of that name is among the books you can e-check out - it highlights a growing trend of making written materials more convenient and accessible via Internet, CD or even cell phone. It's a welcome innovation.

As with most high-tech things, the kids are ahead of the game. Many universities and some high schools are starting to provide their students with electronic versions of textbooks, and major publishers are getting into the act. McGraw-Hill has about 40 e-textbooks available for K-12 students, plus 400 college texts; Holt, Rinehart and Winston has a similar number of texts available online to students at participating schools.

It's hard to beat traditional books for features such as portability, ease of use and quick random access of information. And it's still difficult to read a book-length text on computer screens.

But e-books offer advantages that can amplify the learning process in ways print-on-paper can't - audio and video files, interactive features, search tools and quick updates.

Another huge plus for students: They won't have to lug around 50-pound backpacks crammed with textbooks anymore.

While some people may fear the decline of books, this trend could actually boost reading, especially among young people for whom the computer is a natural habitat. It's just another medium for the message. As library services director Keith Kuhn said, "It's more about the content and less about the container."

Anything that increases literacy, understanding, access to knowledge and a love for reading deserves support. We applaud the public library for braving the e-book waters.

Here is the site for the free pdf software I told you about at COCLS. It works with a scanner and acts like a printer. It's easy. I've been using it for months now. The ads aren't bad to put up with for free use, otherwise there's a small fee. <http://www.pdf995.com>

Nonnie Klein

SHOE *Chris Cassatt and Gary Brooks*



CALENDAR

- Oct 26 OHSLA fall meeting. Genome Research Institute, Cincinnati. 9:30-3:30
- Dec ?? CAHSLA Christmas party
- Late winter 2006 CAHSLA workshop, possibly in cooperation with SLA or GCLC
- Late spring 2006 CAHSLA picnic

The *CAHSLA Chronicle* is published four times a year in September, December, March, and June. The editors are Lisa McCormick, Jewish Hospital Health Sciences Library, and Barbarie Hill, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Pratt Library.

CAHSLA Chronicle

Barbarie Hill, Editor
Edward L. Pratt Library
Cincinnati Children's Hospital
3333 Burnet Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45229-3039