

MDMLG NEWS

Fall 2017



President's Message from Angela Sponer

In searching for inspiration to write this message, I skimmed previous President's first MDMLG News messages and took a fun little virtual jaunt through history. I suggest that any new member do the same to get a sense of the recent history of our organization, and longtime members could also take a few minutes to reminisce and see how far we've come.

We have a strong history of engaged leaders and members throughout the years, and I will make concerted efforts to ensure MDMLG continues this tradition. The recurring theme of the need of members stepping up to keep our organization running was expressed in many of the messages, and holds true today.

This year I'd like to request two items of each of our members. We all need to remain engaged each year and I hope this will be a reminder for each of us to take part.

One: **Attend a General Business Meeting in person.** Just showing up to a meeting is actually quite the feat for many of us, but I can tell you that it doesn't go unnoticed or unappreciated. We are all busy at our jobs, and sometimes taking the time to show up is half the battle, but it is important. Attending meetings, learning from our speakers, offering input during the meeting and having casual conversations with each other are all essential. This group started out as a social group for health sciences librarians, then, of course, work related ideas naturally followed. I encourage everyone to attend at least one general business meeting this year to share, learn, chat and have fun.

Two: **Make a contribution to the MDMLG News.** This is crucial this year since our committee is shrinking. Everyone has something that they can write about for the News. Maybe we think that work we do in our jobs is common knowledge, but often processes we create and changes we make will be of interest to the local group. It's a great way to exercise our writing skills and prepare for submitting abstracts for larger organizations such as MHSLA or MLA. Don't forget, some of us are nosy and want to know what's happening in your library. New employee? Something exciting taking place at your organization? New professional or personal milestone? Tell the MDMLG News about it. We are a small group, let's share

Thank you for reading this and being an MDMLG member. We will have an excellent year this year and I look forward to seeing and hearing from you all

Angela Sponer, MLIS – MDMLG President 2017-2018

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MDMLG General Business meeting/Lunch & Learn

Thursday, September 14, 2017
11:30 – 3:30

Wayne State University
Margherio Family Conference Center
320 E. Canfield St.
Detroit, MI 48201
313-577-9593

PARKING:

Located at Parking Lot 75, 545 E. Canfield Detroit MI, 48202. The cost for parking is \$7.75

Parking is also available at DMC Detroit Receiving Hospital. The cost is \$4.00.

MAP: Margherio Family Conference Center - <http://bit.ly/2tAij51>

Parking Lot 75 - <http://maps.wayne.edu/view/#lot-75>

DMC Detroit Receiving Hospital Parking - <http://bit.ly/2tAij51>

AGENDA:

11:30am to 12:00pm	Sign In
12:00pm to 12:45pm	Lunch and Learn with Katherine Akers from Shiffman Medical Library. Katherine will be speaking about Publishing Medical Case Reports.
12:45pm to 1:00pm	Break
1:00pm to 2:00pm	Program featuring Gurpreet Kaur Rana from University of Michigan. Gurpreet will be speaking about Global Health.
2:00pm to 2:15pm	Break
2:15 pm to 3:30pm	General Business Meeting

Registration info at <http://www.mdmlg.org/Meeting%20Registration%202017-09-14.docx>



Right in Our Neighborhood

by Barbara Maynarich

Did you know that we have a great resource for books for hospitalized children or children in hospice, and it's right in our neighborhood? Based in Rochester, Michigan, Charlotte's Wings (CW) is a non-profit organization that focuses on providing free books to children who are hospitalized or who have life changing health conditions. Books that focus on health information or grief support are also provided for the children's parents.



Beaumont Hospital Dearborn Medical Library staff with books received by Charlotte's Wings for the pediatric patient's enjoyment.

In 2007, a baby named Charlotte was diagnosed and passed away from a rare brain disease called Alexander's Disease. To honor Charlotte, her parents donated hundreds of books to a local hospital. That donation prompted the idea to create Charlotte's Wings to support children and families in similar situations throughout Michigan.

Since 2008, Charlotte's Wings has provided over 75,000 books and children's magazine subscriptions to Michigan based pediatric hospitals, pediatric hospice, and pediatric specialist outpatient clinics. The premise behind CW's mission is to help relieve some of the stress, fear, or other anxiety that children may be going through while they are hospitalized, by providing books to entertain and take the child's mind off of their illness, even if only for a little while. The organization raises funds through private donations, an annual benefit, and joint fundraising efforts with local Barnes & Noble stores. In addition, community shoppers can donate a portion of their purchases via Kroger Community Rewards, and Amazon Smile. In 2017 alone, Charlotte's Wings annual benefit raised over \$116,000. Since Charlotte's Wings is completely run by volunteers, almost all proceeds go to providing books across Michigan.

To request books for your hospital library program or pediatric programs run through various hospital departments, simply contact Charlotte's Wings via their website at <http://www.charlottes-wings.com/> and click on the "more" section in the dropdown guide. You can also visit them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Charlottes-Wings-72088159906/> for up-to-date information on current book donations they've provided and any special events they are organizing.

To sign up for Kroger Community Rewards which donates a portion of its proceeds to non-profit organizations such as Charlotte's Wings, visit their website at <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>.

To sign up for Amazon Smile, which also donates a portion of its proceeds to non-profit organizations, visit their website at <https://smile.amazon.com/>.

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Check out photos from the Summer Luncheon on the

[Members section of the MDMLG website](#)



Explore Medical History with the Medical Heritage Library

by Alexandra Sarkozy

I am a longtime fan of Jill Turner's MDMLG articles on historical subjects, and I wanted to keep the tradition alive through regular articles on medical history topics and resources in the MDMLG Newsletter. In this article, I will profile one of my favorite medical history research resources, the [Medical Heritage Library](#) (MHL).

Libraries and cultural institutions have worked over the past several decades to expand access to historical resources through digitization projects. The Google Books project (now [HathiTrust](#)), the [Internet Archive](#), [Digital Public Library of America](#), and other institutional repositories all contain metadata and digital objects that can be used in the classroom and for research. As more large-scale collections come online, subject repositories like the [Biodiversity Heritage Library](#) and MHL are portals to historical materials on specific topics like ecology and medicine.

The Medical Heritage Library is a "curation collaborative" that provides a discovery interface to [an ever-growing collection](#) of "digitized medical rare books, pamphlets, journals, and films number in the tens of thousands, with representative works from each of the past six centuries, all of which are available here through the Internet Archive." Content and expertise comes from a wide variety of

medical libraries, including founding members The College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Harvard's Countaway Library, and the Wellcome Library (among others), and additional participating libraries and museums like the [Chemical Heritage Foundation](#). While the digital objects themselves are stored in the Internet Archive, curation, metadata, descriptions, and a [search interface and backend](#) are provided by MHL. Funding support comes from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, CLIR, and NEH.

A fun place to get your feet wet in MHL is at the project's [blog](#). Regularly updated and filled with images, resources, announcements, and ideas for how to use the collections, the blog offers glimpses into medical history ranging from [Victorian herbals](#) to [pharmaceutical advertisements](#).

There are several ways to [search MHL's collections](#). Browsing and searching [the full-text collection](#) at the Internet Archive is one option. A full-text [search tool](#) was recently developed by the Countaway Library includes proximity operators and field-specific search capability. The Internet Archive search only indexes metadata, and the full-text search tool allows a deeper dive into content by searching the OCR (errors and all!) of multiple texts at once.

A final feature of note in MHL is the [State Medical Journals Collection](#). A collection of digitized full runs of medical journals from all 50 states (including some copyrighted material that publishers have agreed to make open access), the State Medical Journal "collection will include 117 titles dating from 1900-2000, comprising 2,500,369 pages in 3,579 volumes. State medical society journals document the transformation of American medicine in the twentieth century at both the local and national level."

More riveting late afternoon reading/viewing:

[Old Marlboro commercials](#) (and bonus [1983 Skoal promotional video](#))
[1922 book All About Coffee](#)

[Health Hints for the Home \(including care of gunshot wounds\)](#)
[Bibliomania](#)

And a final sigh of gratitude for modern dentistry: [Oral Hygiene journal from 1913](#)

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Your article could be here – join
the Newsletter committee

Alzheimer's Disease Awareness – What Role can Libraries Play?

by Barbara Maynarich

As I sit here attempting to wrap my head around the numerous statistics regarding Alzheimer's disease (AD) in America, I feel overwhelmed and defeated. Over 5 million American's are living with Alzheimer's and it is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States¹. At this time, there is no cure and no way to successfully slow its progression. And as if that wasn't bad enough, there is no definitive way to detect or predict it. The growth rate for this disease is increasing by leaps and bounds. I just read that more people die from AD than from breast cancer and prostate cancer combined. So what are we as information professionals to do?

For starters we can talk about it. I've lost my mother, my grandmother, and my dear friend to this horrific disease. My sister now has AD as do several of my friends. Yet I find many people reluctant to talk about it or take AD seriously. Is that because we're embarrassed to say our loved ones' mental capacity is diminished? Is it because too many of us think it's just "old age", some memory loss that comes naturally with getting old? To the contrary, Alzheimer's is not a natural part of aging. It's different from the minor memory loss that comes with old age. Alzheimer's and the various forms of dementia are caused when the brain decays as plaques and tangles begin to grow and spread throughout the cortex of the brain. It is estimated that 1 in 3 seniors die from Alzheimer's or dementia, however many death certificates do not indicate it. If a person dies from a side effect of dementia, such as aspiration pneumonia from choking because the person **forgot** how to swallow, many times the death certificate will list the aspiration pneumonia rather than the Alzheimer's. AD is listed as the sixth cause of death in the United States with 83,494 deaths in 2010. It is important to note that this refers to AD as an underlying cause of death, not a contributing cause. Estimates from cohort studies suggest that AD may contribute to the mortality of 600,000 Americans annually^{2, 4, 5}.

Many articles refer to changing our lifestyles and becoming healthier in general, being more active, and strengthening our brains. Yale researchers have found that reading books of any genre forces our brains to make cognitive connections to increase brain power. This is not as true for reading newspapers and magazines though, since many times we simply skim over articles and do not make the deep cognitive connections that we do when reading books. Even reading for as little as 30 minutes a day can help to create healthier brain function. And the earlier in life we start making these connections through reading, the stronger our brains can become³.

We've probably all heard that playing specific mind training games can help. Games such as [Lumosity](#), [Skillz](#), and [Cognifit Brain Fitness](#), are just a few of the many games available for download to our smart devices from Android or iTunes stores. The key is to continue to learn new things. Learning a new language or learning to play

an instrument are also good examples of brain strengthening activities. The more new and unique things you can learn the better cognitive connections your brain can make.

So what can information professionals do? In November we recognize National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month as designated by President Ronald Reagan in 1983. In June we recognize Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month and September 21st of each year is [World Alzheimer's Day](#). Why not choose one or all of these occasions to promote awareness to your library patrons? The following are just a few possible ways to do so.

- Encourage reading and learning
- Help increase awareness about activities that can strengthen our brains (i.e. games, puzzles, learning new things)
- Encourage physician awareness surrounding the necessity of listing AD/dementia on death certificates so that better statistics can be gathered
- Create bulletin boards, bookmarks table displays
- Handout informational flyers
- Provide information about local walks such as the Walk to End Alzheimer's

We owe it to ourselves and those who follow to try to slow down this rapid growth of Alzheimer's in our nation with the hope of someday being able to witness the first survivor of this horrible disease.

References

1. Alzheimer's Association. (2017). Walk to end Alzheimer's: Alzheimer's Association. Retrieved from <http://act.alz.org>.
2. Borenstein, A.R. (2016) Survival and mortality in Alzheimer's disease. In A.R., Borenstein, *Alzheimer's disease: life course perspectives on risk reduction* (pp 89-94), New York : Elsevier.
3. Spektor, B. (2017, September). Why it pays to increase your word power. *Reader's Digest*, 190(1133), 66-72.
4. [footnote 4](#) Alzheimer's Association. (2017). Alz.org: Alzheimer's Association. Retrieved from <http://www.alz.org>.
5. Alzheimer's Association. (2017). *2017 Alzheimer's disease facts and figures*. Chicago, IL.

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[2017 Detroit Alzheimer's Walk](#)

[Note: the author is the middle of the three walkers in shades]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

October 13-16, 2017

[Midwest Chapter MLA & MHSLA Joint Conference](#)

Ypsilanti, MI

February 9-13, 2018

[ALA Midwinter](#)
Denver, CO

March 4-7, 2018

[Electronic Resources in Libraries](#)
Austin, TX

May 17 & 18, 2018

[Michigan Academic Library Assoc](#)
Lansing, MI

May 18– 23, 2018

[Medical Library Association Conf](#)
Atlanta, GA

[Library Conference Planner](#)

Info on conferences worldwide

Job Postings

[Job Bank](#) at the MDMLG website

[TLN Job Board](#)

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