

## President's Column

Once again it is newsletter time. The year is nearly half over and the committees are functioning well.

The Union List Committee has sent out the order form and sold approximately 100 copies of the *Michigan Statewide Health Sciences Union List of Serials*. They are currently preparing for the August fiche—only update.

The Ad Hoc Membership Committee has met and come up with some excellent ideas. The purpose of this committee, which is chaired by Lea Ann McGaugh, is to develop a way to expedite membership renewal, produce a directory and register members. Norma Powers and Stephanie John are also contributing to this effort.

The Conference Planning Committee, Education Committee, and Local Arrangements Committee are plugging along on the October 1985 conference in Lansing. The program looks like it will be very stimulating. Preliminary information will be mailed in June.

Helen Howley is the archivist for M.H.S.L.A. She keeps all the records of the association, but, in order to do so, needs to have copies (originals if possible) of your materials (see related story). Please remember to send the materials dealing with the association.

The Clinical Center at M.S.U. sustained smoke and soot damage as the result of an electrical fire May 13. There were no injuries. The clinics were open again to patients about three days after the fire. The Clinical Center library, fortunately, sustained only minor soot damage. I would not want to undertake the chore of trying to preserve and clean books and journals which had been covered with soot!

The next Executive Board meeting will be August 8, 1985 in Lansing at the Hilton Inn at 10:00 a.m. If you have any issues you wish the Board to address or any questions you want answered, please call or write me. You can reach me at the Clinical Center Library, A137 Clinical Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824 or phone 517-353-3037.

Leslie Behm



## Hot Topics

*A selection of the hottest topics in medicine for clinical information specialists. A brief history or description is provided along with their MeSH headings so you can surprise your patrons with your omniscience. These items can also be used for bulletin boards. Suggestions for this column are **particularly** welcome.*

\*We all know from the news media that **anorexia and bulimia** are among the most discussed diseases today. An interesting aspect of these conditions that is just starting to become known is that the individuals with these diseases have been known to misuse ipecac syrup, which is ordinarily used only to induce vomiting for accidental poisonings. It was recently reported that Karen Carpenter died of ipecac poisoning (actually **emetine poisoning**, which is one of the two active ingredients). When ingested in large amounts or over a long period of time, ipecac abuse leads to emetine overdose, which usually causes death from heart failure. It has been estimated that over 300,000 people may abuse ipecac in some way. The MeSH headings for this topic are EMETINE/adv eff/tox/poi and HYPERPHAGIA (for bulimia).

\***AIDS**, of course, is still in the news. It's now being called "the Black Death of the 1980's". The F.D.A. has just approved isoprinosine for use in patients who have not responded to other treatments. The number of people projected to contract AIDS is expected to reach 21,000 by next year - epidemic proportions - and the fatality rate is steady at 40%. The MeSH headings are: ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (83) and ISOPRINOSINE.

# New Faces



We welcome all news items related to staff accomplishments, new arrivals, departures, retirements, etc. Send news items to the editor.

Heidi Koch has joined the staff of the Detroit-MacComb Hospital Association's library. She began work in Fall as a substitute for a staff member on maternity leave and started full-time employment there in January. She received her B.S.N. from the University of Rochester and her M.L.S. from the University of Michigan in 1984. She works daily with Apple //es and the integrated program AppleWorks, and is interested in their applications in libraries.

Joan Freeman is the new library manager at Calumet Public Hospital in Laurium. She works 20 hours a week in their library and also attends classes at Michigan Technological University in Houghton. Welcome!

As we lose Doris Asher to the jungles of Sumatra (temporarily - we hope), we welcome Elizabeth (Betty) Gabhart, who will be replacing her during her year-long leave of absence. Doris is accompanying her husband to Padang, West Sumatra, Indonesia, where he will consult at Andalas University on curriculum development in genetics. The Ashers will be spending their free time out in the jungles hunting orchids. Betty was most recently the Coordinator of Educational Resources at Samaritan Health Center in Detroit. Prior to that, she was at the hospital library at Cottate Hospital at Grosse Pointe Farms and the librarian for Mercy School of Nursing of Detroit. The five-week overlap between Betty's arrival and Doris' departure will mean a smooth transition with minimal disruption in library services for Sparrow library users. Although we will miss Doris, we would like to welcome Betty and wish her the best in her new job.

Alison Munson is the latest addition to the staff of the Saginaw Health Sciences Library as of April. She is working to complete her education and has already proved her capabilities.

Marge Kars, formerly at Holland Community Hospital, is now working with Jeanne Hartenstein at the Bronson Hospital. Rob Hertel, who formerly assisted Marge, has replaced Ms. Kars.

Betty Rogers at Hackley Hospital in Muskegon received her M.L.S. from Western Michigan University in December 1984. Congratulations, Betty!

## Newsletter For The One-Person Library

Professional isolation is just one of the problems of the librarian who works alone. *The One-Person Library: A Newsletter for Librarians and Manage-*

ment is a new, informal newsletter designed to help. Charter subscriptions are now available for this monthly publication at a 20% savings. To receive your copy, send your pre-paid order to OPL Resources, Ltd., P.O. Box 948, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

## Education Committee Activities

The M.H.S.L.A. Education Committee has met to plan the workshop and continuing education classes for the 1985 M.C./M.L.A. - M.H.S.L.A. joint educational conference. Workshop evaluations from 1984 were reviewed as was a survey for continuing education priorities.

The 1985 conference will include several opportunities for participants to earn M.L.A. continuing education credits. Along with the regular M.L.A. courses, the new "Training for Trainers" course will be offered. In addition, three workshops offering three credit hours each will be offered during the regular conference.

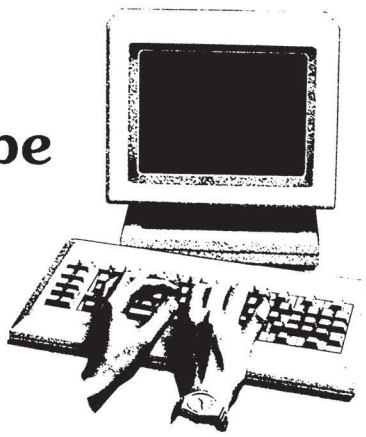
Workshops being planned include: Training for Support Staff; The Hidden Collection (Janet Everitt of Upjohn); Microcomputer Software Evaluation; Diagnosis-Related Groups; Quality Assurance; Contract Services; Satellite Communications and the Library; and Public Domain Software.

Frances Bischoff has been invited to give the keynote address for the conference.

## GMRMLN Library Directory Update In Preparation

The Management Office of G.M.R.M.L.N. has announced that a new edition of the *GMRMLN Directory of Libraries* is in preparation. The data will be put into a database with each state as a separate file. Paper copies will be available on a 100% cost-recovery basis and will be produced once a month to fill that month's orders. Ten volumes (or nine, if North and South Dakota are combined) will be available for purchase. Copies of the disks will also be available. Users should own dBase III or PC-File in order to use this information. If you have not received an entry form, please contact the Management Office immediately, as the deadline for submission of library information was June 15, 1985.

# Lagniappe



"Lagniappe" is a Louisiana French word meaning "a little bit extra". We invite you to contribute tidbits of interesting information that you run across in your professional life and which others might not see. Drop a line in the mail to the editor or send it to her at her INTERACT address of SAGCHHS.

\*No-one should miss "Hospital libraries: they pay for themselves" in the November/December issue of *Hospital Topics*, pp. 21-22.

Calvin Kunin, M.D. of Ohio State University published an outstanding article on "Managing Bibliographic Citations Using Microcomputers" in the April 1985 issue of the *American Journal of Medicine* (pp. 627-34). He starts with a brief review of the workings and capabilities of microcomputers and of specific bibliographic database programs like Personal Data Manager from I.S.I. and BOOKENDS. Most of the article is a detailed description of how to use only four of the thirty-two dBASE II fields to manage bibliographic citations and he uses examples from dBASE II to teach the reader about database programs in general.

PaperChase is now available to libraries for use in-house at only \$14/hour. This user-friendly online information access system was first announced in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Its newest version allows interactive monitoring of searches so that the librarian can help with strategy, and can limit the search to that library's journal collection. Individual access to the system is controlled via passwords. PaperChase also offers monthly individualized bills and volume discounts. For more information, write PaperChase, Beth Israel Hospital, 330 Brookline Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02215 or call 617-735-2253. They will send you more information and even give you password good for several days at no charge.

BRS has announced a new user-friendly interface called BRKTHRU which came online on April 1, 1985. It was favorably, even ecstatically, reviewed in the April issue of *Information Today* (p. 19, 33, 35). This system, as compared to COLLEAGUE, is tailored to the general user and relies almost entirely on menus, although it has a direct route to most commands for the experienced user. The rate is the same as that for COLLEAGUE - \$35/hour, but decreases to \$17.50 at night. "BRKTHRU", says the author, "is a new or casual user-oriented front-end command language that . . . quietly delivers expertise and system confi-

dence to the actual keyboard of the system so that an untrained user can conduct effective searches without needing two days of training and a two-inch thick manual." Anyone out there with experience with BRS/COLLEAGUE and access to BRS/BRKTHRU is urged to contact the newsletter editor and provide a brief review from the expert's stand-point. Can end-users use this with less effort and training than COLLEAGUE? Is the retrieval as good as that from a search-intermediary using the regular BRS system? What is the average cost per search? What sort of topics are users searching? And—is anyone using PaperChase yet?

"I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore" could be the motto for the newest column in *American Libraries*. Titled "Image: How They're Seeing Us", it covers the media image - good or bad - of librarians. We've all complained about the stereotype of a librarian as a fussy, prudish, unattractive person who wears 'sensible' shoes, glasses on a chain, and a sweater, who delights in "shushing" anyone who breaks the tomb-like silence of the panelled crypts that most libraries seem to be in these portrayals. Now, at last, there's a way to strike back. Please share any examples of good or bad images of librarians with Edith McCormick at *American Libraries*, 50 E. Huron Street, Chicago, IL, 60611. And write to the offending publications and networks, too: you can contact ABC at 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles CA 90067; CBS at 7800 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles CA 90036; and NBC at 3000 West Alameda Boulevard, Burbank CA 91523.

## H.I.R.A. Announces Catalog Update And New Officers

Health Instructional Resources Associated (H.I.R.A.) has announced that the catalog has been mounted on an IBM PC. There are more than 500 updates and the new catalog will be printed this summer. For more information, contact Molly Lynch.

The new officers of H.I.R.A. have been announced following the election in April. They are: president-elect, Daria Shackelford; secretary, Mary Jo Durivage; and treasurer, Kathleen Carmichael. Congratulations to all.

The new membership directories have been completed and were handed out at the April 17th meeting and will be mailed to all members not present at that meeting.

The next H.I.R.A. meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 12 at Flint Osteopathic Hospital and will feature a panel discussion of electronic mail.

# A.L.A. Is Building Staff Development Guidelines

The American Library Association is working on the creation of a clearinghouse for staff development programs and workshops. This clearinghouse would solicit, organize, store and disseminate information on successful programs and speakers. The assistance of the M.H.S.L.A. members is being solicited. If your library has had a successful staff development program, please send the information listed below to : David L. Leamon, Jackson District Library, 244 W. Michigan Avenue, Jackson MI 49201 or contact him via INTERACT at JACKDL. The type of information they need includes:

1. The name, address and phone number of your library
2. The name and phone number of the person responsible for staff development in your library
3. Your library's and/or your parent institution's policy on staff development
4. An outline and title for each program
5. Documentation of program details (handouts, bibliographies, agendas, etc.)
6. Any union contracts that spell out staff development guidelines or requirements, if any
7. (optional) Names of program speakers or presenters
8. (optional) Evaluations of said programs
9. (optional) Contact person for further information

Please try to get the information to Mr. Leamon by the first week of July.

## Position Open

**AHEC LIBRARIAN.** The Northern Michigan Area Health Education Center is seeking an energetic individual to develop regional medical library networks and cooperative programs for a 32-county area of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan. The AHEC librarian will be responsible for developing and implementing cooperative projects for the provision of information to health care professionals and students in the AHEC area including: circuit-riding, hospital library consulting, current awareness services, continuing education support, and the AHEC newsletter. Qualifications: MLS from ALA-accredited institution. Prefer three years of broad medical library experience. MEDLINE training required, must have significant experience with NLM and/or BRS. Must be MLA-certified or agree to take and pass exam within two years. Also required are excellent grammatical and spelling skills, and the ability to work independently and to communicate effectively with a variety of health care professionals.

Preference given to those with interest or background in microcomputer applications or media resources, a history of active involvement with professional associations and cooperative efforts. Excellent benefits. Position open October 1, 1985. Send resume with cover letter and the names of three references to: Ms. Stephanie C. John, Director, Saginaw Health Sciences Library, 1000 Houghton Avenue, Saginaw MI 48602. An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

## Word-Processing Document Standards War Continues

The National Bureau of Standards recently announced that it is considering the Document Interchange Format (DIF), as the standard for the transmission of data on local-area networks (LANs). In the present state of the art in word-processing, different programs cannot share files because each uses different control characters to indicate how a document is to be printed or formatted. (The Document Interchange Format should not be confused with Data Interchange Format (also known as DIF), which only has the capability of allowing some integrated programs to share files internally.) The Document Interchange Format is a new set of specifications developed by the Navy for its equipment. The Document Interchange Format standards, for instance, will allow a Wang word-processor to use files from an IBM Displaywriter and vice versa.

The DIF standards were developed by the U.S. Navy, which needed to swap word-processing documents in a multi-vendor environment. Several major vendors, well aware of the Navy's buying power, have endorsed DIF and will be writing DIF-based software for the Navy. They include Wang, Xerox, DEC, and Data General.

Some of the issues that DIF still must address successfully before it can become a standard for the transfer of data in LANs are speed, reliability and flexibility. And IBM has yet to endorse DIF, for it uses its own standard (the Document Interchange Architecture/Document Content Architecture or DIA/DCA scheme). In addition, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is continuing work on ODA/ODIF (Office Document Architecture/Office Document Interchange Format), which it touts as being able to interpret more formatting instructions and has the added advantage of including the communications protocols which are needed to transmit text. ANSI and IBM both plan to add standards for the transmission of data, graphics, and video to their standards. So stay tuned for the big shakeout.

# The MHSLA Archives Needs Your Pictures And Programs



The MHSLA archives provide a valuable record of this organization's achievements and contributors. When we review this organization's past, it becomes easier to see that we are making progress and accomplishing some monumental tasks. In order to chart MHSLA's course, the archivist, Helen Howley, needs pictures of past MHSLA events and regular contributions from its officers. All officers and chairpersons, past as well as present, should have sent/continue to send her copies of the materials listed below:

1. Minutes of:
  - a. the Executive Board meetings
  - b. the Conference general meeting
  - c. the Ad Hoc Committees' meetings
2. Reports of any standing or special committees, including agendas, handouts, etc.
3. All Presidential addresses
4. All speeches from the keynote speaker at annual meetings
5. Details, such as planning, organization, financing, reservations, printing, speakers, honorariums, evaluations, etc. of:
  - a. annual meetings
  - b. workshops and seminars
  - c. continuing education courses
6. Annual meeting financial statements
7. Treasurer's reports
8. Annual membership lists
9. Photographs of:
  - a. incoming officers
  - b. the Executive Board
  - c. meetings of committees from informal snapshots to posed photographs.

If in doubt, send it anyway and she'll weed it if it's a duplicate. Originals are preferred, and MHSLA will reimburse contributors for film and photo reprints. The archives especially need pictures and programs

from last year's conference in Flint. Local groups are strongly encouraged to contribute their material as well, and both local groups and standing committees are encouraged to contribute photographs of their organizations at work. Please send your archival material to: Helen Howley, 1116 North Granger, Saginaw MI 48602 or phone 517-752-5030.

## Reviews of Computer Printers

The June 1985 issue of *Consumer Reports* has a review of the best dot-matrix and letter quality printers for microcomputers (pp. 338-343). The top-rated as dot-matrix printer was the Panasonic KX-P1091 which works at 120 cps and sells for \$499 retail. The top-rated daisy-wheel printer was the Juki 6100, which works at 18 cps and sells for \$599. The article rates 19 printers which list for \$270 to \$700, and covers features such as print quality and speed, graphics print mode details, paper handling and ribbon costs. For more information comparing printers, check through recent issues of *Computer Decisions*, which provides mail-in cards to request manufacturer's information, or *PC: The Independent Guide to IBM Personal Computers* which published an entire issue on printers.

## Nota Bene

The dates for the **joint M.C./M.L.A. - MHSLA** conference have been changed slightly, to October 15th through 18 (Tuesday through Friday), 1985. The N.L.M. update will be Tuesday, and continuing education courses Wednesday. Binding Unlimited will be providing a tour of their bindery.

The **Michigan Statewide Health Sciences Union List of Serials** will be **updated again** in August. The Union List Committee has sent out a survey requesting your input on format, updates, and content. Please complete and return it as soon as possible (the deadline was June 5). If you haven't placed your order yet, do it as soon as possible: there aren't many hard copies left and MHSLA would like to recover its costs quickly. To order, send a letter indicating whether your library is a participant, your OCLC three- or four-character code, the number of paper or fiche copies you want and a check payable to MHSLA. Send your order to Norma Powers, Treasurer, MHSLA, Munson Medical Center Library, 6th and Madison Streets, Traverse City, MI 49684. The cost is \$25.00 per fiche and \$50 per paper copy for participants, and \$50 per fiche and \$100 per paper copy for non-participants. And congratulations to the committee on an absolutely superb product that any organization would be proud to acknowledge as theirs!

The Publications Committee is updating the **MHSLA directory**. Please check that you are currently a member of MHSLA (contact Norma Powers if you're not sure) and that the information listed in last year's directory is correct. If you have any additions or changes, please contact Stephanie John by dropping a line to the Saginaw Health Sciences Library, 1000 Houghton Avenue, Saginaw MI 48602, calling 517-771-6846 or 'zap it to her' at SAGCHHS. (In the future, the Membership Directory will be timed to coincide with the first issue of the newsletter each year.)

As a related item, the Publications Committee is also updating the **MHSLA mailing list**, as differentiated from the membership list, which is also computerized for us by the Michigan Hospital Association. As MHSLA is affiliated with M.H.A., they provide this service, including gummed mailing labels, for a nominal cost to MHSLA. This list is used to send out the registration packet for the annual meeting, news on continuing education courses, membership information, etc., and it not sold to outside agencies. If you are a member, don't worry - you'll be on it. If you're reading this newsletter second- or third-hand, you can request to be placed on it. And if you know medical librarians, such as new staff members, who are not members but would be interested in M.H.S.L.A.'s activities, please suggest their names. Send your information to Stephanie John at the address given above.

The Michigan Library Consortium has announced that it has arranged with University Microfilms to provide a **discount** of \$1 per article ordered from UMI via INTERACT. Contact Mike Conway for more information.

The **next MHSLA Board meeting** is planned for August 8 at 10 a.m. at the Hilton in Lansing so that board members will be able to review the conference facilities. Mark your calendars now.

## Science Library At M.S.U. Moves

*with special thanks to Judy Coppola, who contributed this story*

The M.S.U. Science Library moved from its former ground floor location to its new quarters at the end of 1984. This new location on the second floor of the west wing of the Main Library provides much more space for our ever-growing collection of some 360,000 volumes in the stack area plus 15,000 in the Open Reference collection which includes indexes, abstracts, directories, dictionaries and other significant resources.

Stacks for call numbers Q, R and S are now on 2-West. Stacks for call numbers T through Z are on 3-West. The Reference, Closed Reference and Science Reserve desks and Science Library offices are located on 2-West. New books are displayed on separate shelves. A satellite Copy Center is conveniently located on the same floor and accepts both cash and departmental charges.

There are approximately 6,500 periodical subscriptions. Over 2,900 current unbound journal titles are shelved in the reading area while other serial titles are interfiled with books and bound journals in the stack area. These materials support the curriculum and research needs of faculty, students, and a wide range of off-campus users.

The Science librarians are subject specialists who provide reference services and select new materials. Quick and in-depth reference services are both offered, either in person or by phone, and may range from simple bibliographic verification to exhaustive pursuit of an elusive piece of information. Other services include demonstrations, classroom instruction, tours, subject seminars, and preparation of handouts for individual or group use.

Database searching constitutes a major service of the Science Library. We have access to databases covering the spectrum of disciplines in science, medicine and technology and new databases are becoming available with increasing frequency.

We hope you will stop by when you have the opportunity. We think you will agree that our new quarters are bright and spacious and a considerable improvement over our former location. For information, you can call 517-355-2347/48. And don't forget the Clincial Center Library and Leslie Behm at 353-3037.

# Valley Regional Health Sciences Librarians

The last meeting of VRHSL took place at Dow Corning on April 8, 1985. The officers of VRHSL are: president, Janis Van Tiflin; vice-president, Betty Crawford; and secretary/treasurer, Doris Rake. Lori Karnath demonstrated the automation of library activities at Dow. Pat Wolfgram and Addie Heilbronn presented the new MISHULS list, which was received with great enthusiasm. Stephanie John suggested a cooperative acquisition of serials and will be circulating a list of suggested titles in late May for consideration by the five libraries which expressed an interest in this project.

Carole Colter discussed the White Pines Region of Cooperation's automation/e-mail project. Bay Medical Center, Midland Hospital Center, the V.A. Hospital in Saginaw and the Saginaw Health Sciences Library are all participating in this project and are using the White Pines electronic mail system, ROC-MAIL, and plan to expand their use once the system becomes capable of time-sharing. Until such a time, these libraries use INTERACT daily for ILLs and have a 'gentlepersons' agreement that each library can enter ILLs freetext and thus avoid the lengthy automatic form. Each library has also agreed to check their INTERACT mailbox every day between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. which allows enough time for data entry in the morning and photocopying in the afternoon so that ILLs can go out in that day's mail.

The fall meeting will take place on September 30, 1985 at Saginaw Osteopathic Hospital.



# Metropolitan Detroit Medical Library Group

The July meeting of M.D.M.L.G. will be held on Thursday, July 18 at 1:00 p.m. There will be a luncheon aboard the boat *Lansdowne*, which is docked near Cobo Hall. The charge for the luncheon will be \$11.00 and reservations are limited, so sign up early. Alan Pratt will be the speaker, and his topic will be microcomputers and libraries.

# FAHSLN News

Hurley Medical Center's Hamady Health Sciences Library began circuit-riding service to two institutions in January of this year. A professional medical librarian makes one on-site visit a week lasting about two hours to the Greater Flint Health Maintenance Organization and Little Lapeer General Hospital. They have also begun LATCH (Literature Attached To Charts) service on a trail basis.

Doris Blauet reports that she recently held an old book sale and netted \$200 for Flint Osteopathic Hospital's Medical Library.

# WMHSLA

The Spring Education meeting of the WMHSLA, entitled "Anticipatory Librarianship", was held Friday, May 24 at Holly's Bistro in Grand Rapids. There were eight speakers during the morning session. Jeanne L. Hartenstein and Marge Kars of Bronson Methodist Hospital spoke about the changing healthcare environment and were followed by a session called "Online Opportunities and Challenges" with Eileen Dechow (Butterworth Hospital), Brian Simmons (Blodgett Memorial Medical Center), and Tom Van Dam (Pine Rest Christian Hospital) participating. The last topic of the morning session was "Marketing Library Services" and its speakers were Dorothy Crist of Muskegon General Hospital, Jean Parker of Mercy Hospital, and Betty Rogers of Hackley Hospital. The afternoon was taken up by a two-hour group discussion on the morning's topics, which sought to generate ideas for goals both for individual libraries and for WMHSLA centered around these ideas.

## MEDLARS News

*\*As of April 1, 1985, MEDLEARN will now be available from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.*

*\*MEDLARS has dropped the monthly minimum charge of \$15.00 for each user code. From now on, users will be charged only for actual online use.*

MHSLA  
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## MHSLA Committee Members 1984/85

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### Bylaws

(chairmanship is open)

The M.H.S.L.A. newsletter, published quarterly by the Publications Committee, solicits news and information of medical library interest from all readers. The subscription to the newsletter is included in the M.H.S.L.A. dues, which must be paid each year in order for the member to receive all M.H.S.L.A. mailings and to be listed in the directory. All items for the next issue must be received by July 31, 1985 in order to be considered for inclusion in that issue. Direct submissions to the chair of the Publications Committee, Stephanie C. John, at the Saginaw Health Sciences Library, 1000 Houghton Avenue, Saginaw MI 48602, or phone 517-771-6846 or send a message via INTERACT to SAGCHHS.