**base line** is an official publication of the American Library Association's Map and Geospatial Information Round Table (MAGIRT). The purpose of *base line* is to provide current information on cartographic materials, other publications of interest to map and geography librarians, meetings, related governmental activities, and map librarianship. It is a medium of communication for members of MAGIRT and information of interest is welcome. The opinions expressed by contributors are their own and do not necessarily represent those of the American Library Association and MAGIRT. Contributions should be sent to the appropriate editor listed below.

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Members of MAGIRT can access *base line* as a benefit of their membership.

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Greetings MAGIRT community,

We were blessed by beautifully pleasant and unseasonably dry weather during our Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. We had a very productive and well-attended meeting.

Our Vice Chair, Iris Taylor, organized wonderful tours of the Kroll Map Company and the University of Washington Map Collection and GIS Lab. The tour was followed by our usual get-together dinner at Thackeray.

As part of a new effort to promote ALA divisions, round tables, offices and more, ALA set up a Highlight Desk in the ALA Lounge. First-timers can get plugged in at this one-stop location to get connected. MAGIRT was there in the Highlight Desk to reach out to first-timers.

Past Chair, Leslie Wagner, has put together a slate of candidates for our three officer positions: Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Assistant Treasurer, and Secretary. Stay tuned for the MAGIRT ballot information. We are also looking to fill the open chairs of Map and Geospatial Collection Management Discussion Group and Cataloging Cartographic Resources Interest Group after Annual in Washington D.C. So please contact any of the officers if you are interested in becoming more involved.

Leslie is also looking for nominations for the MAGIRT Honors Award, which recognizes outstanding achievement and major contributions to map and geospatial librarianship. Nominations must be received before February 28, 2019 to be considered by the MAGIRT Honors Award Committee for the 2019 Award. Please contact Leslie if you have one in mind.

We are geared up for the planning for Washington D.C. I have just submitted the meeting schedule request. As soon as we have the preliminary schedule, we will have it shared in all our social media platforms.

It’s my pleasure to serve you. If you have any questions and comments about MAGIRT, please feel free to contact me at twon@loc.gov.
The long-awaited National Atlas of the Arctic is now available from East View

The culmination of years of intensive scientific research, this Russian-language, library-quality edition was published in Russia in 2017 and boasts 495 pages of maps, illustrations, and text detailing circumpolar Earth above 66° North, with focus on the Russian Arctic.

The National Atlas of the Arctic's 22 sections feature nearly 500 thematic, satellite, and nautical maps, as well as narratives on a wide range of topics.

East View has copies in stock and can ship within three business days. This atlas will be a highly-prized reference work in any library—don’t miss out on getting your own copy.

THE NATIONAL ATLAS OF THE ARCTIC INCLUDES SECTIONS ON:

- History of Research, Discoveries and Development of the Arctic
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- Relief
- Subsoil Resources
- Climate
- Coasts of the Sea
- Snow Cover, Glaciers, Permafrost
- Land Waters
- Soil Cover
- Plant and Animal World
- State of the Environment and Nature Conservation
- Population, Culture
- Cultural, Spiritual and Natural Heritage
- Economy
- Land Use
- Strategic Planning

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Contains more than 200 maps, accompanied by texts, spatial images and other illustrative materials. Contact books@eastview.com to order
MAGIRT Cataloging and Classification Committee (CCC)

Sunday, January 27, 2018  8:00-10:00am: Seattle

Iris Taylor, Chair of the CCC, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am, with a 3-minute intermission after the ALCTS/CaMMS-MAGIRT Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group Meeting. She welcomed all attendees to the CCC meeting. There were 17 attendees in total. Members present: Paige Andrew, Catherine Hodge, Nancy Kandoian, Tim Kiser, Susan Moore, Iris Taylor, Laura Ramsey, Tammy Wong, and Min Zhang.

1. **Call to order** (Iris Taylor)

2. **Welcome and introductions**
   
   CCC members and guests introduced themselves.

3. **baseline cataloging editor report** (Tammy Wong)
   
   The minutes from CCC meeting held at ALA Annual Conference, in June 2018, were approved as published on page 9 of the August 2018 baseline. See [http://www.ala.org/rt/sites/ala.org.rt/files/content/publicationsab/baseline/BL-39-4.pdf](http://www.ala.org/rt/sites/ala.org.rt/files/content/publicationsab/baseline/BL-39-4.pdf)

4. **ALCTS CaMMS/MAGIRT Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group report** (Tim Kiser)
   
   Fifteen were in attendance at the meeting of the ALCTS CaMMS/MAGIRT Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, Washington, on January 27, 2019, meeting jointly with the MAGIRT Cataloging and Classification Committee. Link to meeting agenda: [http://tiny.cc/CRC2019MW](http://tiny.cc/CRC2019MW)
   
   - The group held a discussion, prompted by an email from Louise Ratliff of the University of California, Los Angeles, on best practices for cataloging GIS datasets. Though many of the institutions of those in attendance do not collect or catalog these datasets, there was agreement that it would be valuable for some example records to be gathered for the shared reference of our community, and that the interest group’s space on the ALA Connect website would work well as a location for sharing them. IG coordinator Tim Kiser of Michigan State University will solicit example records for GIS datasets via relevant listservs in the weeks ahead.
   
   - Prompted by an email from Nancy Kandoian of the New York Public Library, the group held a discussion on preparing for the impact of a new Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) policy regarding limited use of ISBD punctuation in PCC-authenticated bibliographic records. As there was an announcement from PCC during the conference of a delay in implementation of a significant part of the new policy pending
(among other things) developments at OCLC, we will continue to wait before assessing potential impacts of the policy on our work.

- The group compared notes on our experiences regarding the removal last year of Google Maps functionality from the Klokan Bounding Box online tool.

- Tim Kiser presented a new cataloging practice at Michigan State University, to record, when appropriate, a note on the absence of a copyright statement on maps published in the United States between 1924 and 1977, in MARC field 542.

- Please contact Tim Kiser if you may be interested in serving as coordinator for the interest group, starting after the conclusion of the 2019 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

Discussion of these or any other topics is welcome via the MAGIRT-RDA listserv, magirt-rda@lists.ala.org, or at ALA Connect. Please send ideas for future meeting discussions or presentations to Tim Kiser at tkiser@lib.msu.edu.

5. **CC:DA report** (Min Zhang)

Association for Library Collections & Technical Services  
(A division of the American Library Association)  
Cataloging and Metadata Management Section  
Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access Report

By MAGIRT Liaison: Min Zhang  
January 30 2019

**Outcomes of the October 2018 RSC meeting in Montreal**

The fourth meeting of the RDA Steering Committee (RSC) was held on October 22-26, 2018 at the McGill Humanities and Social Sciences Library in Montréal, Québec, Canada. The meeting was broadly focused on the 3R Project (RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign Project) and on RSC communication and working methods in the post-3R environment.

**Stabilization of the English Text**

The RSC developed a broad plan for the stabilization of the English text of RDA. This means that there will be a complete final draft of the English text from which others will be able to use as the basis for their work. This does not preclude the addition of new instructions such as options required by new RDA communities. There will still be the possibility of minor editorial changes to RDA text, such as correcting typos, inconsistencies in wording, etc.

**There will be three stages in the stabilization process.**

The first stage will finalize the RDA value vocabularies and element sets in the RDA Registry. The second stage will finalize the instruction wording in the RDA entity and element chapters. The third stage will finalize the text of the guidance and resource chapters.

The goal for completion of all three stages is April 2019, after which the English language text will be available for translation, policy statement preparation and other types of supplemental work. The stabilized English text will become the “baseline” for future release notes about additions and significant changes to RDA.
RDA Content Discussion

Major topics related to RDA content included discussions and decisions on:

Guidance chapters

• Aggregates and diachronic works. There will be further development of guidance and refinement of terminology for these concepts, as well as the review and adjustment of relevant instructions in the entity chapters.

• Application profiles. The effective use of RDA will require an application profile to communicate specific community choices among options.

• Comprehensive/analytical/hierarchical description. These concepts have been replaced by a new framework: minimal description, effective description, and coherent description. More information is available in the beta Toolkit in the guidance chapter on Resource description.

• Guidance chapters in general. Fuller and more guidance is needed, so text will be expanded and clarified.

• Non-human personages. The addition of a high-level element to each RDA entity is under consideration as a solution to the narrowed definition of Person.

• Sources of information. The RSC reaffirmed its decision from the 2017 Madrid meeting to provide general instructions on sources of information in RDA rather than RDA stipulating an order of preference. Application profiles for specific communities can provide detailed guidance about sources of information where desired. The text on sources of information is available in the beta Toolkit in the guidance chapter on Data provenance.

• User tasks. The RSC agreed to remove the User tasks section from Element Reference within each element because almost all elements support all user tasks, depending on the application.

The RSC agreed to add a guidance chapter instead.

Entity chapters

• Access point elements. At its 2017 meeting in Madrid, the RSC agreed that access points should become elements in RDA. In practice, this has meant disentangling the often lengthy and complex instructions for name/preferred name/variant name (or title) elements from the access point/authorized access point/variant access point instructions. Thomas Brenndorfer presented an analysis of the challenges of creating these new elements, including re-arranged draft text and recommendations for further discussion. The RSC thanked Thomas for his thoughtful work on this difficult task and will move ahead with evaluating the proposed language and structure.

• Element labels. Because the RSC agreed in an earlier meeting that element labels should avoid including punctuation, those that include the term “etc.” will be changed to eliminate this term.

• The Committee discussed eliminating the term “other” in element labels and will do some analysis to see how this can be achieved. The term “designation” in element labels may also need to be clarified.
• New elements. The RSC will explore a possible new element for Expression “version.” The RSC will investigate the impact of adding element sub-types for Agent relationship elements to accommodate finer granularity for Corporate Body, Family, and Person. This work will include a potential solution for languages that do not have gender-neutral terms to describe persons. A few new elements may be necessary to accommodate the description of diachronic works and aggregates.

• Relationship designators and relationship elements. As part of a discussion of known pending requests from communities for new relationship designators, the RSC clarified that in the new Toolkit, relationship designator as a concept has been replaced by relationship element. The relationship designators from appendices I, J, K, and M are now elements that provide a defined relationship between two entities. These relationship elements can be seen in the Relationship Matrix in the Resources tab of the beta site in a hierarchical view, and in the element list in each RDA and expressed concern about the potential for infinite sub-typing. There may be a solution in cataloguers creating a separate description for important but granular resources.

• Soft deprecation of elements. Some elements have been retained in the beta Toolkit as a transition device for legacy data. Examples include the “details of” and “parallel” elements. Instructions in those elements include the text “The following option is preferred” which points to the preferred element for recording that data. These redundant elements are considered “soft deprecated,” which means that each is a candidate for future removal from RDA. The RSC agreed to prepare and publish a list of soft deprecated elements as formal community notice for planning and training purposes. The elements will be removed only after a re-evaluation by the RSC following the stabilization of the English text.

For final report, please refer to http://rda-rsc.org/

Library of Congress Report

Significant Library-wide Personnel Changes

Dave Reser accepted a new position in the ILS Program Office in July 2018, after almost 20 years as a cataloging policy specialist.

Ivey Glendon joined PSD as a senior library automation specialist on January 7, 2019. She replaces Bruce Johnson, who retired in December 2017 as the Cataloger’s Desktop product manager. Ivey previously worked at the University of Virginia Library.

LC Guidelines Supplement to the MARC 21 Format for Authority Data

In October 2018, an appendix was added to the LC Guidelines. This appendix describes the process by which changes to the MARC 21 Format for Authority Data are implemented in the LC/NACO name authority file (LC/NAF) as well as in the authority files for LCSH, LCGFT, LCMPT, and LCDGT.

BIBFRAME

The Network Development and MARC Standards Office (NDMSO) and the Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division (COIN) continue to work together on BIBFRAME
development and testing. Approximately 60 Library of Congress catalogers are currently participating in BIBFRAME Pilot Phase Two. During fiscal 2019, the number of participants will be expanded to 100. Pilot participants have been creating bibliographic descriptions in both BIBFRAME and MARC 21 for each resource they catalog. Testing includes input of bibliographic data using BIBFRAME 2.0 vocabulary, input of non-Latin scripts, and the ability to incorporate authority data. Development of a policy decision on inputting non-Latin script with limited romanization is a goal for the 2019 fiscal year.

Work has also focused on providing a fuller level of interaction with a live BIBFRAME 2.0 database consisting of the complete BIBFRAME conversion of the Library of Congress bibliographic file. Features of the database include user search capability and use of linked data queries to highlight relationships between resources. Merging and matching BIBFRAME 2.0 work descriptions in the database is underway and will continue to be refined throughout 2019.

Descriptive Cataloging Manual
Z12, Special Projects for Name Authority Records and Bibliographic Records, was added to the Descriptive Cataloging Manual in October 2018. DCM Z12 provides background information and instructions about special projects for authority records in the LC/NAF such as the Dance Heritage Coalition Access Project and the Pinyin Conversion Project. Z12 also contains information about LC bibliographic records changed during these projects. Z12 should be used in conjunction with Z1 and other appropriate cataloging documents for authority work.

Subject Cataloging and Classification
“Multiple” Subdivisions
In order to better support linked-data initiatives, the Policy and Standards Division has begun a project to cancel “multiple” subdivisions from LCSH. “Multiple” subdivisions are a special type of subdivision that automatically gives free-floating status to analogous subdivisions used under the same heading. For example, in the established string Influence (Psychology)—Religious aspects—Buddhism [Christianity, etc.], the multiple subdivision is —Buddhism [Christianity, etc.].

Staff in PSD will cancel the multiple subdivisions from LCSH and create individual authority records for each valid, complete, heading string that was created based on a multiple subdivision. PSD wishes to be as comprehensive as possible when making authority records based on heading strings used in bibliographic records; OCLC Research is assisting in this effort by providing lists of the headings used in bibliographic records in OCLC.

The authority records generated by this project will be added to LCSH in batches beginning in the first quarter of 2019, and the records will be distributed through the MARC Distribution Service’s Subject-Authorities product. Subject-Authorities subscribers should expect that some weekly distributions may total over 1,000 records. More information, including interim instructions for catalogers using these subdivisions, is available at: http://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/subject/multiplescancellationproject.html.
Statistics in Summaries of Decisions
Summaries of decisions explain why individual proposals for classification numbers, subject headings, genre/form terms, etc., that appeared on Tentative Lists were not accepted, and they occasionally also contain announcements related to subject cataloging and classification. Beginning with the Summary for October 2018, summaries of decisions now include statistics on the approximate number of proposals that were approved on the list, as well as the number that were not approved, not necessary, or marked resubmit.


For CC:DA full report, please refer to https://alcts.alava.org/ccdablog/?cat=33

6. LC Geography and Map Division report (Paulette Hasier)

G&M ALA Update 201901
The Geography and Map (G&M) ALA update reflects of the activities in the Division since June 2018.

FY 2018 Highlights

* In just over six months, the first six story maps have attracted more than 34,500 visits. The Story Map tool leverages an existing software suite (ArcGIS) licensed from Esri and provides, at no additional cost, a way for library staff to share collections to a broader audience. Promoting the use of the ArcGIS tools for data visualization and story narration increased the ArcGIS user base by ten-fold, thus maximizing our resources.

* In FY18, maps were included in LC approval plans, which has expanded G&M’s breadth of maps published in foreign countries and increased the number of cartographic items obtained in these areas. This inaugural effort resulted in additional funds being allocated for the annual acquisition of foreign cartographic items and far exceeded the number of items added annually to the collection through the Department of State Foreign Map Procurement Program.

* All of the pre-1900 Sanborn maps scanned by the Historical Information Gatherers are now online for every state. The post-1899 maps will be going up over the next few years and currently the following states also have these maps online: Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Wisconsin and Wyoming. The other states will be added online based on when the contract agreement with HIG allows; all maps will be online by the end of 2020. Currently there are 18,875 cities that have 25,228 maps sheets online.

* G&M staff contributed, for the first time, to a Library Pop-Up exhibit entitled, “Spring Fling.” Staff provided content and subject matter expertise to over 8,500 visitors, throughout the span of the event. In addition, it allowed the Geospatial Information System (GIS) staff to showcase their historic geospatial data. The “Tornadoes in the United States: 1950-2016” application was so engaging that the Librarian staff asked to use it for a local TV spot promoting the event.
* G&M catalogers continue to be part of the Bibliographic Framework (BIBFRAME) Pilot Project Phase II. They have created more than 300 cataloging descriptions in BIBFRAME Work, Instance, and Item records.

G&M Staff supporting ALA activities
• LC G&M Division representative to ALA MAGIRT – Min Zhang
• Min Zhang—liaison to the Committee on Cataloging: Description & Access Map & Geospatial Information Round Table sub committees (MAGIRT):
  • Chair, MAGIRT (2018-2019) – Tammy Wong
  • Vice Chair MAGIRT (2018-2019)—Iris Taylor
  • Base line cataloging editor – Tammy Wong
  • Cataloging and Classification Committee — Chair Iris Taylor, Tammy Wong, Min Zhang
• ALCTS-CaMMS/MAGIRT Cartographic Cataloging Interest Group— Iris Taylor, Tammy Wong, Min Zhang

7. OCLC report (Laura Ramsey)

OCLC Update
MAGIRT Cataloging & Classification Committee
ALA Midwinter Conference
Seattle, Washington
January 25-29, 2019

OCLC Virtual AskQC Office Hours
Virtual AskQC office hours are the second Wednesday of the month at 1:00 pm US Eastern Time. Following are the upcoming topics for the AskQC Office Hours:
• February 13: Provider neutral cataloging, presented by Robert Bremer
• March 13: Introduction to the Virtual International Authority File (VIAF), presented by Hayley Moreno
• April 10: An overview of OCLC training resources, presented by OCLC Member Training
• May 8: Merging duplicate bibliographic records and the Member Merge Project, presented by Shanna Griffith and Laura Ramsey
• June 12: Small errors with big consequences, presented by Bryan Baldus and Robert Bremer

For more information, past sessions, or to register for the upcoming sessions, go to: oclc/askqc

OCLC Member Merge Project Update
There are currently a total of 19 libraries participating in the OCLC Member Merge Project, through which specially trained institutions are given the ability to de-duplicate master bibliographic records in WorldCat. We are planning for a fourth cohort to begin later this year. Institutions that participate in PCC are eligible for consideration. Any library interested in applying can contact us at AskQC@oclc.org.
OCLC WorldCat Quality Statistics
For the first half of this fiscal year (July 2018-December 2019) OCLC staff:
• corrected 53,331,702 bibliographic records
• performed 63,586 manual merges resulting in the deletion of 67,872 bibliographic records
• added 55 new authority records
• updated 4,290 authority records
For the same period, OCLC members made 1,127,916 corrections to bibliographic records

Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC)
For those libraries who prefer offline access to the DDC, OCLC now offers a Dewey print-on-demand option. The 4-volume set includes the latest changes and topics available in the DDC and is updated on a biannual basis with releases occurring in January and July.

WorldShare Record Manager
• NACO training videos are available here: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLkN3y9CSC9Dx9SPRa2c_R4wBPBVzOGy7U
• New features not available in Connexion:
  » Ability to make changes to an authority record after contribution up until the daily distribution
  » Linking between authority records
  » Additional authority files: MeSH, NTA names, GND (German Integrated Authority file), Maori subject headings, Library & Archives Canada Canadiana French names (English subject file coming soon)

Linked Data Prototype Project Wraps Up
In 2017 and 2018, several research, academic, public, and federal libraries joined with OCLC in a joint research project prototyping a new suite of linked data services. This unique project uses the out-of-the-box services from Wikibase and a high-quality set of name entities available from FAST, VIAF, and Wikidata to prototype services to:
1. Reconcile names for people, organizations, concepts, places, and events against an index based on entities, returning language-tagged headings and persistent identifiers; and
2. Create, edit, and share entity descriptions while also adding contextual relationships between entities, beyond what’s possible with traditional bibliographic and authority data.

The project has just wrapped up and there are several ways to learn more about this collaboration.
• Watch a webinar that sums up the project and results. https://www.oclc.org/research/events/2018/103018-linked-data-prototype-managing-bibliographic-data.html
• Read Andrew K. Pace’s Next blog post on productive linked data (http://www.oclc.org/blog/main/linked-data-in-libraries-from-disillusionment-to-productivity/).
• Read the OCLC Member story, highlighting feedback from the library participants (https://www.oclc.org/en/member-stories/ld-prototype.html).
• Explore the Linked Data Wikibase Prototype project including background, news, and presentations (https://www.oclc.org/research/themes/data-science/linkeddata/linked-data-prototype.html).

Prepared by Laura Ramsey
January 2019

8. **MARC Advisory Committee report** (Susan Moore)

The MARC Advisory Committee met twice during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle. There were three proposals and three discussion papers on the agenda. The first proposal taken up was 2019-01: Designating Open Access and License Information for Remote Online Resources in the MARC 21 Formats. The proposal changes the definition of the first indicators of field 506 - Restrictions on Access Note to indicate first indicator 0 - No restrictions includes open access resources and first indicator 1 - Restrictions apply includes resources that have restricted or closed access. Also, field 506 would be added to the Holdings Format. Field 540 - Terms Governing Use and Reproduction Note would gain subfield f (Standardized terminology for use and reproduction rights) and subfield 2 (Source) as well as subfield g (Availability date) and subfield q (Supplying agency) and added to the Holdings Format as well. Field 856 would gain subfield 7 - Control Subfield with position 0 having coding to indicate if the resources have open of restricted access and position 1 having coding to indicate the source of controlled vocabulary for access, use and reproduction. This proposal passed unanimously.

Proposal 2019-02 Defining Source for Names and Titles in the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format generated a great deal of discussion. The proposal would add subfield 2 - Source of name-title heading to 100, 110,111, 700,710,711, 130,240, 730, 758, 830, 800, 810, and 811. Discussion focused on how the subfield would be updated as the form of name and titles changed. The proposal passed narrowly.

Proposal 2019-03 Defining Subfields 0 and 1 to Capture URIs in Field 024 of the MARC 21 Authority Format Would add subfield 0 for URIs that identity a “Record” or “Authority” entity describing a Thing and subfield 1 for URIs that directly identify a Thing itself. The proposal passed unanimously.

Discussion Paper 2019-01 comes from the British Library and explores alternative ways to code that an online resource is hosted externally in the holdings format. Options explored were adding a code to Field 008, position 6 or adding a code to Field 008, position 7. There was a slight preference for adding a code to Field 008, position 7. There will be a proposal coming back at annual.

Discussion Paper 2019-02 explores adding coding to Field 041 for intertitles and transcripts for films to the bibliographic format. This will come back as a proposal.

Discussion Paper 2019-03 would create a way to record a subject added entry of unknown entity type to the bibliographic format. The paper comes from the German National Library as there are thesauri used in Germany that don’t break the terms into the types used in the current
6XX fields. The consensus of the committee was the field should be outside the standard 6XX fields. This will come back as a proposal.

Susan Moore
MAGIRT representative to the MARC Advisory Committee

9. **RBMS/DCRMC report** (Nancy Kandoian)

Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS) - Bibliographic Standards Committee (BSC)

The committee has set up a Program Planning Group to encourage more technical services-related programming at the RBMS annual conferences because the members feel there hasn’t been enough. For the [Baltimore 2019 meeting](https://www.alavirtualconference.org/baltimore-2019) (theme “Response & Responsibility: Special Collections & Climate Change”), there will be a workshop initiated by the BSC group, “Introduction to Rare Materials Cataloging for the Non-Cataloger.” Workshops and seminars at the conference are not required to fit with the theme of the conference, as opposed to other kinds of programs. The group has solicited ideas for other programs to sponsor in the future, and they have gotten some good feedback. One idea is a seminar or panel on “culturally competent re-description” or something regarding biases in cataloging.

The 2020 RBMS conference will be in Bloomington, Indiana, with a theme of “Power, Resistance and Leadership.”

The RBMS Technical Services Discussion Group met at Midwinter and discussed interdepartmental relationships and workflow integration.

10. **Old businesses**

R3 Task Force of the MAGIRT Cataloging Classification Committee (Paige Andrew)

The R3 Task Force did not meet or do any work since the 2018 Annual Conference due to its Chair being on sabbatical. The TF will get rolling again soon after the 2019 ALA Midwinter Meeting with a goal of completing as many of the remaining outstanding proposals for changes/additions by the time the 2019 Annual Conference rolls around in June.

11. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.
Respectfully submitted,
Tammy Wonge
MAGIRT TREASURER’S REPORT
FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
January 27, 2018

This report is based on the four months ending December 31, 2018 MAGIRT performance report.

Overview:
Beginning Net Assets for MAGIRT [Sept. 1, 2018] = $57,263.00

TOTAL INCOME [Sept. 1, 2018-Dec. 31, 2018] = $2,516.00
TOTAL EXPENSES [Sept. 1, 2018-Dec. 31, 2018] = $268.00
Current balance (income minus expenses as of Dec. 31, 2018) = $2,248.00

Ending Net Asset Balance [Dec. 31, 2018] = $59,511.00 ($57,263.00 + $2248.00)

Comments:
Total revenues YTD are $2516. The majority of these funds are from personal memberships ($2016), plus a donation ($500). We budgeted $7,200 for dues and have received $2,016.00 so far in dues as of the end of December. Therefore, dues are down by a 16% variance of $384.00 (budget $2400.00; actual $2016.00).

Expenses for the same period have not been substantial, totaling $268.00. The expenses have been administrative (i.e. bank and taxes).

Bruce Godfrey
Treasurer, MAGIRT (2018-2019)
MAGIRT Highlights from the ALA Midwinter Conference
Seattle Washington Jan-25-28, 2019
Photos provided by Tammy Wong

John Loacker gave a tour of Kroll Map Company
Matthew Parsons gave a tour of the University of Washington Library’s Map Collection and GIS Lab.
Azusa Tanaka gave a presentation on gaihozu – maps of Japan’s imperial territories created from the Meiji period (1868-1912) until the end of the World War II.

Past Chair, Leslie Wagner staffs the new ALA Highlight Desk in the ALA Lounge where first-timers to ALA can learn more about MAGIRT.

Carol McAuliffe conducted the Map and Geospatial Collection Management Discussion Group Meeting.
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Road, agriculture, building footprint & roof material-type feature extraction of Colombo, Sri Lanka via automated Object Based Image Analysis in Trinible® eCognition. Map data was used to generate economic indicator statistics at the neighborhood level – contact us for a case study.

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“To those devoid of imagination a blank place on the map is a useless waste; to others, the most valuable part.”—Aldo Leopold, “Conservation Esthetic,” A Sand County Almanac.

In 2005, I was sitting with the former New Maps editor, Fred Musto, at a meeting, where we were talking about maps, as usual. I am a big fan of cartographic curiosities and Fred was the expert. During our conversation, he mentioned that he would probably be retiring from writing for *base line* and told me about how much he enjoyed the position.

Later that year, the announcement went out that Fred was stepping down. I got this crazy idea that maybe I could pick up where he left off and discuss the materials that I enjoyed and so contacted Mark Thomas to offer my services. He accepted me and in February 2006 (Vol. 27:1), I wrote my first installment of “New Maps and Cartographic Materials, Along with Other Items of Interest.”

Now it is February 2019, and this may be my final column of “New Maps...” and I cannot believe it has been 14 years since I started this endeavor. It seemed like a very short time ago that I wrote to you the first time. During those years hundreds of maps, atlases, books, and web resources have been reviewed and I have tried to provide an objective critique of each item so that you might find resources worth acquiring for your collections.

During this time, I have tried to make it interesting and help raise awareness of cartographic materials and their use. My goal has always been to read and examine each resource that I included, and to provide a diverse selection of useful works. I also wanted to be entertaining and to invite readership through this style.

Your comments and compliments through the years were greatly appreciated. I enjoyed hearing from many of you, receiving holiday cards, and thanks for showing some neat stuff. It has always been a pleasure writing for you and for being able to be a part of *base line*, MAGIRT, and the community of map librarians, geography professors, cartographers, and map enthusiasts.

My main reason for ending my *base line* career is because I am retiring as Map & GIS Librarian at the University at Buffalo. My first library experience was in 1983, cataloging a collection of rare maps and cadastral surveys. I worked after that in a number of fields of librarianship and also spent time in conversation with my predecessor in the Map Collection, Ernie Woodson, who enjoyed having an interested colleague. I spent more than ten years as the original map cataloger, which was after seven or so years as a serials cataloger.

The past seventeen years I have been honored to serve as Map Librarian where I could continue to develop and promote map use in education. These years have been rewarding...
and fun. In addition to teaching and working with faculty and students, I have connected with cartographers, GIS specialists, and other map librarians across North America, and the world. I accomplished some long-term goals of acquiring many unique and rare maps and atlases and developed Internet resources that served a diverse population of students, colleagues, and professionals.

Though I am retiring, I am not finished working with maps. I will still be involved and active, both in drawing maps and in helping people to use them. It is hard to stop; maps are integral to everything I do and working in a large collection, you become a part of it.

Again, thank you all for reading my scribbles and for being good colleagues and friends who I am proud to know. You are all stars on my map!

Infographics

“An infographic is a collection of imagery, charts, and minimal text that gives an easy-to-understand overview of a topic. As in the example below, infographics use striking, engaging visuals to communicate information quickly and clearly.”—Venngage web page

An infographic (short for information graphic) is a visual representation of information or data. According to the design community, these began to be mainstream about ten years ago. Infographics provide a quick visualization of data or concepts that are easy for everyone to understand. Text is kept to a minimum; the images and graphic display of numbers and words take the place of a written, textual essay that may or may not get the point across.

I believe that infographics are a form of map. The cartographer in this case is the designer who takes data, determines what the message is, and makes a graphic that explains the concept without lengthy explanations. Infographics can be complex but most are made simple and with few concepts being described.

Their purpose is to make viewers aware of the point that is being made; simplicity is essential.

Below are a few articles and resources that describe infographics, or that help you to create your own designs. This leads up to one of the books I review, which is covers an intricate theme, through the use of many infographics.
**What is an Infographic? Infographic Examples, Templates, and Design Tips**

[https://venngage.com/blog/what-is-an-infographic/](https://venngage.com/blog/what-is-an-infographic/)

For a quick description of infographics, their purpose and use, this article is perfect. It contains both definition and examples, along with references to helpful materials.

Also, for anyone wishing to create good infographics, without advanced skills, Venngage has an online application that is free to use. Visit their site: Make Infographics That People Love ([https://venngage.com/](https://venngage.com/)).

The application can be used for free or there are fee-based advanced tools and non-profit or educational versions. The system is designed to follow a step-by-step process for creating graphics. No experience is needed to begin.

This application would be good for students, teachers, public presenters, and for organizations wanting to create professional quality graphics without expert skills. It would be reasonable for high school through adult learners to use this system.

**Create Beautiful Infographics (Piktochart)**

[https://piktochart.com/formats/infographics/](https://piktochart.com/formats/infographics/)

“With absolutely no design experience. Pretty easy to create and share. Rather difficult to resist” this website allows you to produce an infographic for free. It has a wizard that lets you input your data and then select visuals to use in creating a design.

You have to create an account, then select a template from their library, add your data, and create the graphic for sharing and use. There is also a fee-based edition, as well as pricing for non-profits and educators. You can produce customized infographics, presentations, reports and flyers, and posters.

This application, like the Venngage one above, is good for students, teachers, public presenters, and for organizations wanting to create professional quality graphics without expert skills. It also could be used by high school through adult learners.

**Ending the Infographic Plague**


Infographics can be quite useful, but accuracy and clarity are essential. This article, from The Atlantic, discusses misuse and abuse of infographics to sway opinion or to encourage acceptance of a concept.

The article explains that graphic data visualizations can be used to misrepresent or to create inaccurate perceptions of a topic. It is worth reading, if for nothing but to be aware and skeptical of data presentations.
The Surprising History of the Infographic
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/surprising-history-infographic-180959563/

I cannot leave you on a negative note so here is another article, from the Smithsonian, that describes the history of the infographic, which includes maps.

The article explores the history of data visualizations and the development of such graphics to explain the world, raise awareness, alter perceptions, and to document the world in simpler ways.

Maps are high on the list of data visualizations since that is their main function. The map is the “original” infographic in a way. The article shows how the use of non-spatial graphic depictions of data began and why it is popular today.

Do you like them, or are infographics a passing thing?

There are a number of articles and editorials on the value of information graphics, their popularity, dislike for them, and every emotion in between. In the fast-paced information world, with its short-attention span audience, quick graphic depictions of data will keep growing.

For deeper data visuals and descriptions, maps and graphics, along with textual essays will still be the proper method of conveying this material. But the simple, direct visual display is useful in raising awareness that will invite more people to learn and to examine concepts in order to build knowledge. This is vital to the continuation of critical thinking and inquiry. View infographics as another tool and use them where appropriate, instead of making more complex explanations that may not accomplish your intended goal.

Maps

When searching for maps, often I find the most appropriate map for a particular need, in a journal or book on the topic. Years ago, I began going through current periodicals and adding citations to a database I was compiling, of maps that appear in other publications. The effort proved monumental after a point; too many maps appeared each month to add. I considered asking the map community to volunteer to take on the role of citing particular journals so that we could create a combined catalog of maps to use as a reference tool.

This project fell by the wayside as it proved overwhelming to try to catch enough data to be considered adequate for publication in some form. However, it is worth mentioning again, that map reference often requires looking in unlikely places for maps that answer a particular purpose.

An example appears in a recent journal. Geographical (the Royal Geographical Society of England) ran an article about bees “A Sting in the Tail” (91:1 (Jan. 2019): 20-29), discusses the diminishing bee populations of North America and Europe and the causes of this change. In the article there are a number of maps. The first group show European density and supply of bees. A cartogram shows the world’s pesticide use, which can be used to compare with bee populations. The maps would be valuable for zoologists and planners.
who are tying to determine the state of the situation for their nation.

No published sheet maps are available, but this article and others like it, provide maps that are valuable for developing research on any topic.

Because many journals now have an online edition as well, these maps may be more findable there than in print. For this bee article, there is an online version (https://geographical.co.uk/nature/wildlife/item/3023-pollinator-crisis) that includes the same maps.

Remember this when trying to fill a request for a map that you cannot find any other way.

**Atlases and Books**


This work was originally published in Germany as *Wirtschaft verstehen* in 2016. It is the compilation of ideas by a writer for *The Economist* and by an infographic specialist. Their goal is to help the average person gain an appreciation for some of the interactions that make up the world global economy:

“The goal of this book is to inspire you to explore the complex world of the economy. We want to provide understandable and entertaining access to it through the medium of the infographic.”—Introduction

This work is a type of atlas designed to show aspects of the world economy to anyone “who finds it impossible to work their way through the business section of The New York Times each morning...”
The book is organized into sections that begin with the individual (the smallest element of the economy) and works up to the full global economic system. The contents pages are visual, with subtitles, allowing the reader to quickly find specific topics easily. There are 99 visualizations that cover specific aspects relating to world economics. The table of contents lists the major concepts covered:

I: The individual. Employees; The boss; The consumer; The poor; The rich; Work, money, and happiness
II: The company. Manufacturing; Investments; Profits; Business models; The product; The organization; The team; Finances; The customers
III: The national economy. The US economy; The state and politics; Growth; Competition; Money; The labor market; Prosperity
IV: The global economy. Global production; World trade; Illegal global markets; The institutions; The global financial market; Multinationals and brand names; Talent distribution an labor migration
V: Theory. Aristotle; Adam Smith; Karl Marx; F.W. Taylor; J.M. Keynes; Milton Friedman; Amartya Sen
VI: Environment and resources. Sustainability; Resources; Farming and the food industry; Business ethics; Waste & recycling; Economic policy; Green tech
VIII: The future. Megatrends; Innovation; Digitalization; Automation; The future of work; The future of finance; Saving the best for last.

The infographics come from a variety of reliable sources, which are referenced at the end of the book, and an index provides additional access to specific themes. Bold visuals, color, and text make for readable, understandable data descriptions. The book is large, which provides large graphic images on each page. You won't need glasses to view the pages; they are easy to read.

This book will interest economics students, but it is designed for the average person, from high school through adult learner, who wants to learn more about economics. The visuals also cover topics that are related to economics, such as agriculture and industry. The graphics on individuals in the workflow provide good social interaction descriptions.

This work would be good in any collection, including a map collection because of the visual nature of the content. It will be useful in book collections of all types.


“William Shakespeare’s lifetime (1564-1616) spanned the reigns of the last of the Tudors, Elizabeth I and the first of the Stuart kings, James I and the changing times and political
mores of the time were reflected through his plays. This book looks at the England in which Shakespeare worked through maps and illustrations that reveal the way that he and his contemporaries saw their land and their place in the world. It also explores the locations of his plays and looks at the possible inspirations for these and why Shakespeare would have chosen to set his stories there.”—Publisher

This work follows on the heels of the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death and provides insights into the world as it was known and perceived by him and his fellow countrymen during that period. The maps displayed throughout, are described in the context of contemporary society and life.

The work is also a history of Medieval map making, especially in England, as well as a study of the evolution of cartography as it moved toward modernity. It is predominantly a collection of good, color facsimiles of maps, properly referenced and described. The maps show the world, countries, and events as they appeared to the contemporary audience.

Chapters cover topics, such as “Medieval Background,” which defines the contemporary world, “Projections, Accuracy and Printing,” describing the state of cartography in the 16th and 17th Centuries, “Mapping England” and “Mapping London,” discussing English cartographic practices, and “Shakespeare’s Europe,” showing maps of contemporary European locations and describing English expansion beyond their homeland.

Also included in this work are maps relating to places that featured in Shakespeare’s plays. The focus of the book is on English views of the world, both locally and abroad. England was a late entry in world colonizing; their renaissance was just starting during this period. Cartography and these new ideas expanded the average citizen’s grasp of their place in relation to everything else. Maps played an important part in this growing awareness.

As shown in the book, the English person in Shakespeare’s time was spatially literate; maps became more plentiful, accurate, and affordable by all levels of society and people were very likely to know the location of many foreign places. Geography enhanced learning in England.

This book is a treasure trove of contemporary maps from the 16th and 17th Centuries, with some earlier examples as well. The facsimile reproduction is good so that if you were to see this book for the maps alone, it would be worth obtaining a copy.

For Medieval and Renaissance studies, especially in relation to England, this is an excellent resource. Shakespeare students will love to read this for context to his plays and his environment. This book will be good for map collections and for general collections.

As part of a series of small sized atlases from ITMB, this is an atlas of roads and travel sites between Cairo, Egypt and Cape Town, South Africa. The maps cover the Eastern part of Africa from the Mediterranean down the continent to the Southern end. The index key (p. i-iii) shows the location of the maps on each page and gives a perspective to the entire atlas’s coverage.

Shown are major roads down to tertiary and even tracks through open country. Cities and towns are indicated along with railways. Many other features are shown as well. For some major cities, there are larger scale maps that cover 47 pages.

Relief is shown by gradient tints. Also included in features are national parks and special sites of interest to travelers. An index of cities and towns appears at the end of the atlas.

This atlas does not replace the larger country maps that contain greater detail and content, however, it would be useful for travelers and for quick reference of the countries along the Eastern side of Africa.

The work is easy to use and would be useful to learners of any age. The price is reasonable making it a good acquisition for any collection.


New York City is the inspiration for an infinite collection of maps. Maps of the city are being produced all the time; everything from subway guides, street maps, online direction maps,
historic maps, and conceptual maps. This production will probably never cease.

Katharine Harmon’s compilation, *You Are Here NYC*, provides some new and unusual maps showing New York as it is in fact and fantasy:

“It was never built for the comfort and happiness of its citizens, but to astonish the world.”—Susan Ertz, *Anger in the Sky*. This quote opens an essay on New York as a place with a purpose. The illustrations inside are truly astonishing.

“With more than 100 maps from artists, cartographers, and explorers, You are here: NYC gives the reader a breath-taking view of the Big Apple, both real and imaginary”--Publisher

Harmon is the also the author of *You Are Here: Personal Geographies and Other Maps of the Imagination* (2004. ISBN: 9781568984308). That book is an interesting journey into conceptual and other types of maps that is popular in many classes for its creative examples and innovative look at cartography.

This current book carries on the theme, but on a macro scale with New York City as its focus. It is a collection of essays by a variety of authors who demonstrate the diversity of cartographic visualizations of New York. Using historic and contemporary maps and art, each author describes a different aspect of the mega-complex of humanity.

The maps range from photorealistic to extremely abstract; maps shown were done by serious surveyors and from artists. Each work is described and referenced. Chapters by each author touches upon a theme. The Table of Contents do not truly describe the chapter themes:

To astonish the world. A panorama of power / Maria Popova; The view from 9th Avenue / Bob Mankoff -- A beautiful catastrophe. Mapping a greater New York / Zoe Mendelson -- A symphony of conveyances. Mapping New York City, one foot at a time / Becky Cooper -- Finding home. A map, a tonic, a shower curtain / Sarah Boxer -- Personal geographies. Mapping the martini / Geoff Nicholson; Mapping the city’s smellscapes / Kate McLean -- Nothing never happens. A New York pictorial state of mind / Antonis Antoniou.
There are historic maps, bird’s eye views, time-study maps, maps made from all sorts of media, imaginary concept maps, “what if” maps showing thoughts on what the city would be like “if” something was changed. Other maps document themes, such as smells. The maps are imaginative.

For studies of New York City, this book will provide a number of views of what it means to each author and to society. New York enthusiasts will appreciate the unusual maps (including an Andy Warhol). Artists can find inspiration, as well as designers. Anthropologists will enjoy the essays. This book will be useful to high school through adult learner.


Tibet is an ancient and mystical land, legendary and real. Books about the nation have described various aspects of its history and existence.

This remote region of Earth has been studied by scholars and geographers for ages, yet no historical atlas that specifically describes Tibet has been published prior to this work. The author explains in his preface what other studies have included Tibet in their content. He decided to prepare this atlas to provide scholars with a resource that will assist their studies.

The atlas covers the entire range of Tibetan Plateau history, from prehistoric to the present. Using primary sources and cartographic materials, the author has prepared a collection of 49 newly-drawn maps to convey data on specific moments in time. The Table of Contents shows the time periods that are included:

- Introduction -- Part 1. The prehistorical and ancient periods, circa 30,000 BCE to 600 CE
- Part 2. The imperial period, circa 600-900
- Part 3. The period of disunion, circa 900-1642
- Part 4. The Ganden Podrang period (Kingdom of the Dalai Lamas)
- Conclusion

Included in the Contents pages are titles of each map, which aid the locating of maps by specific dates. Each map provides a good, clear representation of the relevant data for the period and theme being depicted. Text describes the history surrounding each map and photographs and some contemporary art supplements the descriptions.

The work required knowledge of the primary texts and documents from Tibet, along with the expertise of the author on the subject. This atlas is an excellent source of history of the region. The final map is a detailed political map showing the current state of Tibet as an administrative division of China. An index provides help in locating subjects in the entire work.
Asian scholars, specifically Tibetan scholars, will find this an essential tool for their studies. Buddhist scholars will also value its use. Geographers, historians, anthropologists, and many other researchers will also appreciate this book.

The maps would be useful to anyone from high school through adult learner and fill a gap in our knowledge of the world.


For anyone who studies rivers or who needs to view features along rivers, this publication is an example of the combination of maps and satellite imagery. This is one of a continuing series of atlases of the Missouri River that shows current details of the path and surrounding features of the river bed. The map scale is approximately 1:28,000, and shows good resolution on the satellite image. Overprinted are names and boundaries, significant features, and other infrastructure indicators. Also shown are adjoining levees, river fuel stops, bend and tributary stream names, and other features.

For planners, disaster planners, environmental research, and other professionals, this is a good reference. Boaters on the river may find it a handy reference to the vicinity of their travels.


World War I is now past its centennery, but new literature is in full force. This book is an atlas of all the naval actions during the Great War and provides a detailed history of the conflict from sea. As noted in the Preface, “The Great War was a genuinely global conflict from the outset.” He also notes that “In a war of unprecedented scale, fought by vast armies... the seeming lack of visible naval action has affected how the war at sea is remembered and portrayed.”
There were few major naval engagements during the war, but many smaller actions, often in the far reaches of the world. But the naval activity during the First World War that had the greatest effect on the outcome was also the most mundane; blockades, convoys, coastal patrols, and monitoring of shipping lanes was key to the final success of the Allied operations. Had the convoys been destroyed, or the blockade of German ports not been kept, vital supplies and economic restrictions could have changed the final victory greatly.

This atlas provides a detailed look at the naval actions during the war and helps to raise awareness of the essential role that navies had in the period. The maps and text describe numerous operations from every corner of the world. There are 119 color maps in the atlas that show major and minor battles, patrol and escort operations, significant sea activities, and other events. The maps show ship maneuvers, counterattacks, and the individual actions of ships during battles.

The book is arranged chronologically, with each year’s actions documented at a time. Maps cover worldwide dimensions down to local actions. Shown are many obscure activities, such as the Siege of Tsingtao in October-November 1914, where the German colony held out against a combined British-Japanese fleet.

The maps are well-drawn and ships, fleets, and movements clearly indicated. Annotations assist in following the actions. Because of the nature of sea movement, ship plots are shown, with time markings so that the paths of every vessel can be viewed.

For historians, naval historians, and to better relate naval actions during World War I, in context with the land war, this atlas is excellent. It would interest students from high school through adult learner. The atlas would be a popular gift to an enthusiast and would also be good in any map collection.
When you know something about a place, it always catches your eye when you see a reference to that place. Even if you do not know the place, it often still gets your attention.

In this case, I was scanning through a journal and just happened upon an interesting piece of geographical data that drew my attention because of the time period that was described.

The city of Toronto, Ontario, has had that name for a relatively short time (about 200 years), yet here the name was found to have appeared on a map far earlier. Prior to this, the town of York held the government offices of Upper Canada.

A recent find shows that the earliest appearance of the name Toronto is on a 1678 map by Jean-Baptiste-Louis Franquelin. The map was made to serve as a land title record. Titled: Carte pour servir a l'eclaircissement du Papier Terrier de la Nouvelle Rance (Map serving to clarify the Land Registry in New France), indicated the name “Tarontos Lac” where present-day Lake Simcoe is located.

The article describes the map and how the discovery of the name on it was made. It also describes the history of the map and its creation. Further, the author describes several other maps and his reasons for believing that the 1678 one is the first to use the name Toronto.

“Tarontos” was a French derivation of “Tkaronto,” an Indigenous word referring to the fishing weirs they used. Eventually the name evolved to its modern
form. The reason that the city's location was related to the term is that the portage from Lake Simcoe to Lake Ontario also had the same name. The portage ended where the city now stands.

If the author’s supposition is correct, then Toronto has been used as a place name for 350 years.

From a mapper’s perspective, this article provides a good description of several historic maps, along with biographical information on the cartographers. It further discusses the details on each map that are relevant to the topic. Facsimile illustrations of the maps are shown with enlarged sections.

Cartographic history may not be everyone’s interest, but this article is worth examination. For Canadians, this is a good history of their most populous city and its development. It is also a good example of cartographic research on a smaller scale that is relevant to the serious study of geography.

**Web Resources**

**Smithsonian Learning Lab**

[https://learninglab.si.edu/](https://learninglab.si.edu/)

As I was searching recently for a map, I came upon this wonderful website. The Smithsonian Institution created the Learning Lab, a database of digitized materials, many of them primary sources, designed for discovery and use by students and teachers. The SI has gathered a selection of materials from its collection that “…puts the treasures of the world’s largest museum, education, and research complex within reach. The Lab is a free, interactive platform for discovering millions of authentic digital resources, creating content with online tools, and sharing in the Smithsonian’s expansive community of knowledge and learning.”—Website

Included in this growing collection are images (photographs, maps, documents), audio and video resources (primary and secondary materials), text (documents, articles), and other materials. A search will bring up visual thumbnails of the results, which includes a caption description. You can filter results by media type (image, video), then select the result that matches your search.

In the case of some searches, the result may not look like the query but this is because the search looks at content from articles and metadata. One search I did returned results that showed specific issues of Smithsonian online articles. Selecting the article, however, showed the requested result.
I searched several of my favorite sample searches and found a wide variety of results that were very impressive. Photographs from nineteenth century events, rare maps from the past, along with more current ones, and books. Also included are materials outside of the Institution. These provide Internet links so you may obtain materials there.

In one example, I searched for the New York State Museum Bulletin and was sent to a link to the New York State Library index to the Bulletin. (http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/scandocs/museumbulletin.htm) Here I could view and download the digitized issues.

For some items, you may view and download readily. For items, such as books, you need to login to view. An account is free and basically asks you to provide a name, age, and e-mail address. Additional data on your status (e.g., librarian, teacher) and a few basics are requested, then you are setup.

Accessing some data takes a little getting used to, but nothing too difficult. The system is designed for grade school through adult user so will not be a problem to use.

This is a great multi-disciplinary research database because it combines materials from every field and in many formats. It is a good site to bookmark for future reference and is truly a treasure that has unlimited possibilities for students and for teachers. For more details on what the Learning Lab does, go to their About page (https://learninglab.si.edu/about).

The Many Roads That Lead to Rome, Visualized

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/many-roads-lead-rome-visualized-180957542/

Smithsonian Magazine online has an article from December 14, 2015, showing map visualizations made by designers and computer programmers. The maps show all roads in Europe leading to Rome, Italy, and in another map, all roads leading to towns named Rome in the United States.

These maps were produced using a program written by a team at Moovel Lab that examines roads throughout the focus area (in this case Europe), then takes data for each route that
goes to Rome, Italy. The routes are combined to produce a branch-like structure of pathways that change size and intensity as more routes travel the same path.

Recently, this group expanded their “Rome” concept by plotting all flights going to Rome (https://lab.moovel.com/projects/flightstorome). They plotted flight paths from 712,425 locations around the world. The results are aesthetically interesting as is the analyses that can be drawn from the map.

Go to the Moovel Lab website to see more visualizations, or you can create your own using tools that they developed on their site (http://roadstorome.moovellab.com/explore).

**Distance and Travel Measurements**

Recently I had to provide some help in finding simple measuring devices for geographic features. I began with a simple search and came up with some unusual tools that can help you to quickly determine distances.

**Distance Calculator: How Far is It?**
https://www.distance.to/

This web tool is easy to use. Type in a starting point and a destination point. The results are the shortest air distance available (Great Circle arc). A route planner can be made from this. If you want, you may use coordinates for plotting the start and stop points. You can also click on a place to start, then click again on your destination on the map to get the two points you need. The application also allows you to input a bulk group of destinations using a spreadsheet. The results will be a list of places and distances.

**Distance From...**
https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/distances.html?n=422

This one produces a graph similar to a radius map that provides a visual distance of a place to multiple destinations. You can zoom in or out, to see more cities and distances. You can even get a map if you click on the arrows for each city.
The display also lists cities near and far, giving distances and direction from the target city. The above example shows distances from Buffalo, NY.

**Distance Calculator**
https://www.distancecalculator.net/

This application is easy. Type in the “from” and “to” locations and get the Great Circle distance. A map shows the two points and direct route. This data can be shared on social media or Google.

**Driving Directions** (Michelin)
https://www.viamichelin.com/web/Routes/Route-Buffalo--New_York-United_States-to-Niagara_Falls--New_York-United_States

Using this program, you enter start and stop points and get a road map with driving directions, similar to Google maps. But this has an added feature.

Under “Options” you can add the make and model car you drive, enter the cost of gas per gallon, and some other options. The report will tell you how far you must drive, how long, and how much the trip will cost in terms of fuel. I entered my model car and the price of gas. I was told how much time it would take and how much I would need to spend on gas to get to my destination.

In addition, you can print the map and directions, along with your fuel data. You can also print out an expense record to save for mileage reporting.

This is a nice feature that I already used to plan my first journey after retirement. It is a product that is free to use and will work for anyone with a computer. It is great for driving directions and also for work-related trips where documenting travel is required.

**Conclusion**

Looking forward to spring; it’s not far away. Looking forward to my next journey; that begins today. Farewell for now. Enjoy the maps. Anticipate each new day of life, and in cartography.–DJB
From the Editor’s Keyboard

As we embark on our 40th year of base line this newsletter has and will continue to be a conduit of information to the map and GIS librarian profession. As we have all read in the New Maps and Cartographic Materials column in this issue that David Bertuca will soon be retiring from SUNY Buffalo and that this issue's column could possibly be his last. I would personally like to thank David for his many years of contributing his knowledge and enthusiasm in this column to the readers of base line and commend his serve to the library profession. Job well done David. We will miss your reviews and cartographic quotes. Thank you.

So this brings me to the task at hand. What’s next?

I would like to encourage any MAGIRT member who is interested and wishes to volunteer to continue this important column in base line, please contact David or myself. We can give you the details of what is involved in making this column a reality six times a year. David has indicated that he is more than happy to share any sources and avenues he has used for finding materials to review, with you.

So if you enjoy finding and exploring new atlases, maps and websites and also enjoy writing, why not combine the two together and tell us about them. This is a wonderful opportunity for someone to make a concrete and impactful contribution to our part of the library profession. It also looks great in that tenure or promotion portfolio.

MAGIRT Connect page. For all the resources you need to know about what is happening inside MAGIRT.

https://connect.ala.org/magirt/home
GREAT MOMENTS IN MAP LIBRARIANSHIP  by Jim Coombs

I NEED TO SHOW YOU WHAT YOUR SON'S DOING AT SHOW AND TELL TODAY.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? HE BROUGHT A JIGSAW PUZZLE OF THE U.S. STATES. HE SPENDS HOURS PLAYING WITH IT AT HOME.

I CAN TELL ... HOWDY! AH'M TEXAS AND AH'M A BIG UN!

OH, AND I'M, LIKE, SOOO CALIFORNIA, OK?

WELL I'M MINNESOTA DONCHA KNOW!

HERE IN LOOZYANA WE LAISSEZ LES BONS TEMPS ROOLAY!