

base line

a newsletter of the

Map and Geospatial Information Round Table

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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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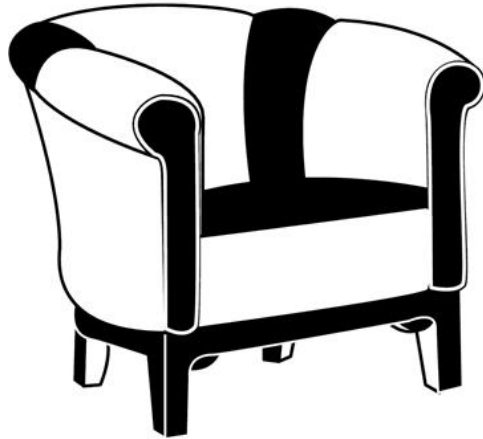
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<http://www.ala.org/magirt/>

FROM THE CHAIR

Kathleen Weessies
Michigan State University



In 2014 MAGIRT will partner with an ALA Emerging Leader Group to work on a project relating to MAGIRT activities. This group will meet with MAGIRT representatives for the first time at the 2014 Midwinter Conference in Philadelphia.

The stated purpose of the project is to identify new areas of operation that we might engage in to the benefit of our members.

We will want any new activities to comply with our stated mission, which is:

To lead and inspire information professionals at all levels of expertise in their work with map and geospatial information resources, collections and technologies in all formats, through community, education and advocacy.

This mission is nice but vague. In a more literal hands-on sense, MAGIRT has the potential to serve information professionals in their work-related tasks, in their scholarship, and in their service activities. MAGIRT has the capability of helping librarians struggling to advance their geospatial collection forward at their institution by providing instruction and informational guides. Additionally, we can collectively engage information providers to advocate positive change. We have the potential to provide outlets for scholarship such as publications, webinars, and conference presentations. We also have always provided opportunities for professional service through committee work and program planning.

Much of MAGIRT's latent potential waits for our membership to step forward and tell us how we can best help them. Watch in the next year for opportunities to interact with our Emerging Leader group as they seek out and define and prioritize gaps in how MAGIRT serves its membership. In the ensuing months and years I expect you will see more focused communications from MAGIRT with opportunities and services, based on these new initiatives. 🌐🌐

MAGIRT Schedule
ALA Midwinter Conference
Philadelphia, PA • January 24-26, 2014

Date			Time	Event	Location
Fri	Jan	24	02:00 - 05:00 p.m.	Tour of a prominent map store	Details to be announced
Fri	Jan	24	6:00 p.m.	Dutch Treat Dinner	Details to be announced
Sat	Jan	25	08:30 - 10:00 a.m.	GIS Discussion Group	Marriott-Franklin 04
Sat	Jan	25	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Map Collection Management Discussion Group	Marriott-Franklin 04
Sat	Jan	25	01:00 - 02:30 p.m.	Program Planning Meeting – 2014 and 2015	Marriott-Room 407
Sat	Jan	25	01:00 - 02:30 p.m.	Any MAGIRT Committees or task groups	Marriott-Room 407
Sat	Jan	25	3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	OpenGeoPortal and EVGeoCloud Conversation	Marriott-Room 407
Sun	Jan	26	08:30 - 10:00 a.m.	ALCTS CaMMS / MAGIRT Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group	Phil. Conv. Ctr.-104 A
Sun	Jan	26	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Cataloging and Classification Committee (CCC) Meeting	Phil. Conv. Ctr.-104 A
Sun	Jan	26	01:00 - 03:00 p.m.	Executive Board Meeting II (MAGIRT) (note: we have the room 1 – 4 p.m.)	Marriott Room 402

Kathleen Weessies, Chair
Map and Geospatial Information Round Table
American Library Association
weessie2@mail.lib.msu.edu

ANNOUNCING THE 2014 MIDWINTER FUN ACTIVITIES FOR MAGIRT

DATE: Friday, January 24, 2014

WHAT: Tour of the Philadelphia Print Shop, Chestnut Hill

Dinner at the nearby Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant, Chestnut Hill

WHEN: 2 p.m. to ???, including subway transportation

Join fellow MAGIRT members as we travel from the Market East Station, about 2 blocks from the Pennsylvania Convention Center and Philadelphia Marriott hotel to the Chestnut Hill West Station in northwest Philadelphia to visit the Philadelphia Print Shop. This family-owned rare books, prints and maps store containing items from the 15th through early 20th centuries was founded in 1982 by Don Cresswell and Christopher Lane. Once we arrive, Don or his son will provide a tour of the shop and then we will be on our own to shop, browse, and enjoy!

<http://www.philaprintshop.com/>

8441 Germantown Avenue

(215) 242-4750

(The store is about a block from the train station.)

SEPTA DETAILS:

1. Meet at the Market East Station <http://www.septa.org/maps/system/index.html> between Filbert and Market streets on 11th ***no later than 2:10 p.m.*** to catch the 2:36 p.m. train (#833).
2. Since we will travel in two zones it will cost \$6 each way. A potentially cheaper way to do this is to buy a "One Day Independence Pass" for unlimited rides on that day for \$12; go online to buy this at the SEPTA shop at www.septa.org and click on "Discount Fares" and then "Specialty Passes/Event Tickets" OR you can purchase at the station. In addition, there is a senior citizen rate of \$1.00 for those 65 and older (hmm, I wonder if I can sneak in as a senior?).

DUTCH TREAT DINNER DETAILS:

After a fun trip and tour of the Philadelphia Print Shop (and possibly doing a little other shopping at other locations on your own) we will meet at the Iron Hill Brewery at the Chestnut Hill Shoppes for food and conversation at 5:30 p.m. The restaurant is about a block from the Print Shop, within easy walking distance. This will be a dutch treat dinner, order as little or as much as you like and enjoy catching up with colleagues before we launch full-steam-ahead into the rest of the conference!

Iron Hill Brewery, 8400 Germantown Ave. <http://www.ironhillbrewery.com/chestnuthill/>

Menu is at: <http://www.ironhillbrewery.com/chestnuthill/menu-all.htm>

PLEASE RSVP to Paige Andrew at pga2@psu.edu no later than **January 6, 2014!**

ON THE CATALOGING/CATALOGUING FRONT

Tammy Wong, Library of Congress

An Announcement from LC Policy and Standards Division (PSD)

New policy on formulating place names to be used in MARC 21 field 370 (Associated Place) in NACO authority records:

After discussions on the PCC list, and by participants at the PCC Operations Committee meeting and PCC-related meetings at ALA Annual, the policy for formulating a place name to be used in authority field 370 will now be to use the authorized form of the place. This practice should make it easier for catalogers to supply data for this field and improve the potential for the data to be used in a linked environment.

It will no longer be necessary to re-formulate some place names to look the same as they would if they were being added as an addition to the access point in the 1XX. A revised DCM Z1 page for the 370 field, with examples, will be formally published in November—a pre-publication version has been posted at: <http://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/rda/PCC%20RDA%20guidelines/Z01%20370%202013nov.pdf> and **may be applied now**.

Catalogers are welcome to, but not required to, change the forms found on existing authority records.

Location of pre-publication DCM Z1 pages can be found under “MARC 21 Encoding” on the [Post RDA Implementation Guidelines and Standards](#) page.

As a reminder, the following subfields are **not** yet activated for use in MARC 21 field 368 (Other Attributes of Person or Corporate Body):

\$d (Title of person)
\$s (Start period)
\$t (End period)
\$u (Uniform Resource Identifier)
\$v (Source of information)

Please do **not** code these subfields in a 368 field in NACO records. When the subfields are activated for use, an announcement will be sent. 

Get to Know the Newest Membership and Marketing Chair...

Hello dear readers. My name is Jessica Clemons and I am your Membership and Marketing Chairperson (MMC) for 2013-2015. I was sponsored by MAGIRT as an ALA Emerging Leader for 2013, so I would like to thank you for making that experience enjoyable. As the MMC I have some ideas to help energize our current members and attract new members. For example, I will be ordering some specialized giveaways for our Midwinter and Annual meetings. We are promoting our social media presence so you will see “@MAGIRTala” on most of these items. Next year we have a bigger marketing budget so if you have an idea for MAGIRT swag, you might want to consider joining the committee. Attracting new members is a bit more challenging but I hope to make some connections at the conferences, look at student chapters of ALA, and the entire MAGIRT board is going to be more “out there” on social media, including ALAConnect. On a more personal note, currently I’m a science librarian at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, NY. I am working towards an MGIS from Penn State University and I’m very interested in geospatial data collections. I’d love to hear your membership and marketing ideas, so please feel free to contact me at jclemons@esf.edu.

From the Editor

Steve Rogers

This will be my final issue as editor of *base line*. After seven years as editor and four years after retiring from Ohio State, I believe it’s time to step aside. Consequently, I am turning my editorial duties over to a very capable colleague — the new editor of *base line*, John Olson of Syracuse University. A number of you may already know John, as he has long been an active member of MAGIRT, serving on and contributing to the Publications and GeoTech Committees for many years. Please join me in welcoming John as the new editor of *base line*.

For me, it has been an honor and a privilege serving as editor of *base line*. I wish to sincerely thank our regular columnists, officers, and other members who have submitted columns, minutes, announcements, proposals, agendas, reviews, budgets, reports, cartoons and other contributions over the past several years. It is these individuals who make *base line* the indispensable resource it is for MAGIRT members. Thank you all. 🍷🍷

MAGIRT Executive Board Minutes
Monday, June 17, 2013: 1 pm MST via Skype

In Attendance: Tracey Hughes (Chair), Hallie Pritchett, Carol McAuliffe, Susan Moore, Marcy Bidney, Colleen Cahill, Beth Cox, Angela Lee, Kathleen Weessies, Roger Knouff, Dorothy McGarry (visitor)

Absent: Paige Andrew, Wade Bishop, Marc McGee, Greg March

Call to Order

Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 8, 2013 - Meeting minutes approved.

Officer Reports

- Chair

- Demonstration people are needed for ALA Membership Mapping at Pavilion. There are no fixed times but Tracey is looking for volunteers. Possible times listed below. Tracey will send volunteers the information that Pete sent her regarding the Membership Map.
 - Friday – 6:30 – 8:00 pm (Tracey Hughes)
 - Saturday – 10 – 11 am (Angie or Marcy?)
 - Saturday – 4 – 5 pm (Angie or Marcy?)
 - Sunday – 10 – 11 am (Carol McAuliffe)
 - Sunday – 2:30 – 4:30 pm (Marc McGee)
- Attendance at other geospatial events
 - Numeric and Geospatial Data Interest Group of ACRL:

Saturday, June 29, 4:30pm to 5:30pm, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Skyway 269
 - Marcy sent out the agenda. It was agreed that it would be good to have a MAGIRT presence there. Tracey volunteered to attend if no one else could.
 - Ignite Sunday Session: Creating Geospatial Data Services – Needs and Challenges:

Sunday, June 30, 11:30 am – Noon, McCormick Place Convention Center S102d
 - Kathleen said she was interested in attending.

- Vice Chair
 - Kathleen will probably be sending out a last call for RSVPs. Space is filling up fast for the Awards dinner. Kathleen will send out directions and confirmations to everyone after the last call has been made. Attendance is pretty even for both Newberry tours.
 - Kathleen asked if the map-related “Things to do in Chicago” was helpful or not. Everyone agreed it was helpful and not a waste of time.
- Past Chair
 - Hallie reported that she had asked Danielle to fix the attachment size issue on the MAGIRT BD listserv. Danielle promptly increased the size of attachments allowed.
- Treasurer (absent)
 - Treasurer’s report will be given at Annual.
- Secretary
 - The current roster is now up in ALAConnect. Immediately following Annual, the 2012/2013 Roster will be archived.
 - The current inventory list is also now up in ALAConnect. As things are sent to the Archive, they will be taken off the Inventory.

Committee/Discussion Group Reports:

- Bylaws & Governing Documents Committee – Hallie Pritchett
 - Manual revisions as Discussion Item
- Cataloging & Classification Committee – Susan Moore
 - **Draft Agenda will be posted in ALAConnect shortly.**
- MAGIRT/CaaMS Cartographic Cataloging Interest Group – Marc McGee (absent)
- Education Committee – Wade Bishop (absent)
 - Report on second webinar (Carol) – 35 people from all across the U.S. attended. It was very well-received with many positive remarks following the program. Carol has been approached by the American

Planning Association about doing a blog post for them about the topic and the National Council for Geographic Education about doing a similar webinar. AAG has also been in contact. Carol suggested that people think about potential topics and to not be afraid to try doing a webinar since there is a lot of support and the platform, AdobeConnect, is easy to use.

- Tracey also participated in the recent webinar, ALA 101. She agreed that AdobeConnect is very easy to use.
- It was suggested that future webinars be held at 2:00 EST.

- GeoTech Committee – Greg March (absent)

- We will be showcasing the mapping of the ALA membership at Annual via the RTCA and the Membership Pavilion. Soft launch will be at Annual. The permanent home will be at Esri in mid-July or later.
- Additionally, Angie reported that the committee's article on geospatial catalogs was accepted by the Journal of Map & Geography Libraries. Chris and team are making edits.

- Membership & Marketing Committee – VACANT

- Membership report - Paige to provide this in lieu of Membership Chair at Annual. Summary is that we lost a few members, gained a few members, but gained more than we lost.
- Roger volunteered to work on the PowerPoint that is usually running in the Pavilion. We usually have a flat screen, slide show running at the Pavilion. There will only be one computer to show both the PowerPoint and the membership map demonstration. It was suggested that a PowerPoint presentation be created that includes the new membership map for times when we do not have someone available to demonstrate it live. Roger will send Angie the old PowerPoint and she will incorporate some slides. It will be sent to Tracey when it is done and she has the final list. Danielle has the other materials to be set out at the Pavilion.

- Nominations & Awards – Hallie Pritchett

- Colleen Cahill and Steve Rogers will receive the MAGIRT Honors Awards this year.

- An announcement was printed in *base line*.
 - Trophies have been received and certificates should be printed this week.
 - Susan Moore is rotating off as Chair of CCC. Tracey asked that Susan think about whether she has someone in mind to take over or if she would like to continue on as Chair.
- Online Presence Oversight Committee – Tracey Hughes
 - Currently creating documentation and potential responsibilities chart.
 - Plan is to work more closely with Committee Chairs & DG Coordinators for content.
 - There have been 661 views in the last two months.
 - A screenshot of statistics from 4/1/13 to 6/4/13 is provided at the end of the minutes (4/1/13 is the date that Kathleen sent out the announcement email for the LibGuide)
 - Kathleen shared that two people told her that they couldn't find it as it is listed now. It is possible that we may need to add "LibGuide" to description.
- Program Planning Committee (2013) - Tracey
 - 2013 Program Planning Update
 - Committee members for 2013 are Tracey, Susan, Paige, Roger, John Ridener, and Kathleen.
 - All in order and moving forward on track!
- Program Planning Committee (2014) - Kathleen
 - 2014 Program Planning Update – "The Accidental Map Librarian" – all moving forward.
 - Some speakers lined up already.
 - Kathy Rankin and Mary L. are actively working on the corresponding LibGuide.
- Publications Committee – Roger
 - Distribution Manager/Distribution strategy update – Kate will take over Jim's role as distribution manager, Kate and Colleen are working together to make changes to the MAGIRT Publications page. Carol

will update that information on the Roster. They will be discussing in a future meeting whether we will be distributing directly to publishers or if we want to go through the ALA bookstore.

- Electronic publication guidelines/criteria – Electronic Publications series is still under discussion.
- GIS Discussion Group – Angela Lee
 - Two discussion items for Annual 2013
 - Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish to discuss some FDLP-related issues & CUAC
 - Through their FEDLINK FDLP Agency Working Group, GPO can engage the agencies that do maps to provide iCohere training (i.e. recorded webinars), just as they do for Census and other agencies.
 - Since maps are part of the FDLP, GPO can provide improved coordination with agencies; we can help them ensure that they capture fugitive maps (i.e., federally-produced maps that were not distributed through the FDLP)
 - Education for geospatial librarians
 - Angie will email Wade about possible questions to talk about and will follow up with GODORT.
 - Co-sponsored with GODORT
- Map Collection Management Discussion Group – Marcy Bidney
 - Marcy said she has already received some topic ideas for discussion.
- Note from Tracey – She asked that all Chairs take notes if not formal minutes for their group and to update their LibGuide boxes immediately following conference. Also, remember to give your meeting attendance lists to Carol so that she can send it on to Danielle.

Unfinished Business

- None

New Business

Call for New Business Items Discussion Items

- *CUAC Discussion – Marcy Bidney*
 - CUAC (Cartographic Users Advisory Council) is no longer going to exist in its current form. How do we cover the role that CUAC has played in the past? How can MAGIRT pick up some of the responsibilities for CUAC?
 - Potential Ideas
 - Have individual groups host Webinars on a regularly scheduled basis with government agency representatives to discuss initiatives, products, data and services.
 - Have a member from each group join the phone calls that take place monthly by the Federal Geographic Data Committee's working group. Note, GSIS already has a member serving in this capacity.
 - Encourage individual members to post about relevant government information on the listservs for all of our groups.
 - Have one or more of the organizations appoint an individual or a committee to handle advocacy and government communication.
 - Create a space in the LibGuide for relevant agency information.
 - Encourage members to meet with federal agency representatives at other meetings such as the ESRI User Conference, the American Association of Geographers, the Geological Society of America conference, NACIS, and the Federal Depository Library conference.
 - MAGIRT is already doing some of these things, such as webinars and working more closely with GODORT. Marcy said that she doesn't see any glaring holes that we could easily fill. If we make a space for it on the LibGuide, someone would have to make a concerted effort to keep it up-to-date.
 - Marcy suggested that we wait until the GIS Discussion Group to further work out the details. There will be time then for meaningful discourse between GODORT and MAGIRT about how to best handle some of these issues.
 - Since CUAC is no longer going to exist, the LibGuide, Roster, Webpage, and Manual needs to be updated.

- *Formalize Webmaster as part of OPOC – Adoption of revised OPOC mission/ purpose/duties (Tracey)*

- Details sent in advance to MAGIRT Exec Board members. Proposed new language:

Webmaster-Specific Duties:

The MAGIRT Webmaster is responsible to maintain and keep current the MAGIRT website. The Webmaster largely takes direction from the OPOC and the Executive Board on the MAGIRT website content and design, however, the Webmaster is encouraged to provide direction and initiative on those matters as desired.

- The Board voted to approve the content though the location in the Manual was still to be worked out between Hallie and Tracey.

- *MAGIRT Manual Updates (Hallie)*

- Version 6 was posted in ALAConnect.
- Archives Section (Section 12) – “Items that are archived elsewhere:” has some issues to be followed up on.
 - Mailing lists (magirt@ala.org, magirtbd@ala.org, magirtwebmaster@ala.org) – archives for all ALA mailing lists are located on the ALA Mailing List Service page - <http://lists.ala.org/sympa>. However, all past mailing lists containing “MAGERT” are not listed. Danielle is checking to see if they can be retrieved.
 - Web site – ALA does this but Colleen has never gotten access.
 - ALA Connect – Hallie is looking into whether ALA does it.
 - LibGuides – Our subscription does not have an archiving function. What is the best way to capture this information? Use Libguide pages? Screen captures?
- Items to go into the Archives wording – No comments given.
- Archive submission procedures – Secretary coordinates submission to the Archives. Committee Chairs need to let the Secretary know when they are producing something that will need to go into the Archives. The Secretary will collect materials at conferences to be sent to the Archive.
- *base line* Editor / Distribution Manager position description will just have a place holder in Manual for now.
- No other non-executive board positions that need to be included in the Manual.

- Roster Procedures will be under Secretary Duties.
- Updating the Finance section will have to wait until later this summer.
- Hallie said that she will have a version up and ready to be voted on before people leave for Annual.

- *Liaison Updates (Tracey)*

- Richard Huffine no longer works for the USGS so that is an open liaison position. It was suggested that Richard be approached to see who should be contacted about a replacement.
- RUSA and LITA were suggested as possible liaison opportunities. Carol thought that they were too big to adequately liaison to. It was suggested that some subgroups be approached and Susan volunteered to talk with the Chair of BRASS to see what might work.
- Some may need to be more casual liaison relationship such as, inviting groups to come to discussions.

Announcements

- *MAGIRT Hotel for Chicago*

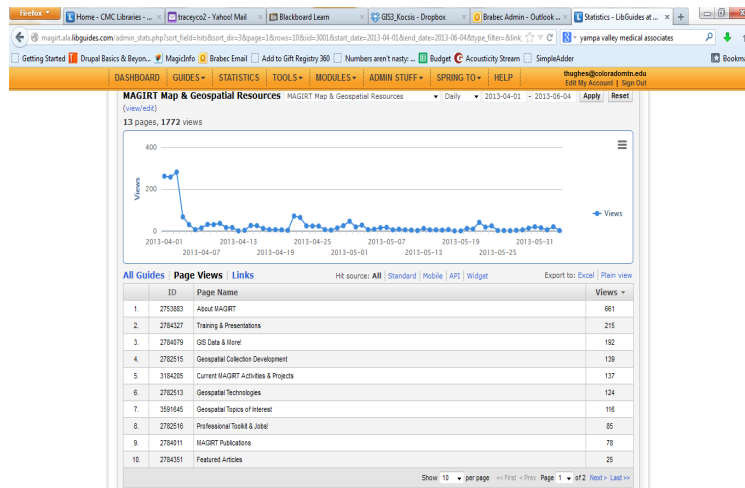
- Chicago: Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, 301 E North Water St, Chicago, IL 60611, 312-464-1000
 - Note: This is very loosely a MAGIRT hotel since others may be staying elsewhere due to price and other considerations.

Next Exec Board Meeting Dates:

- Sun, Jun 30, 2013 – 4:30 – 5:30 pm Chicago time!

Adjournment

MAGIRT LibGuide Statistics by Page View



MAGIRT Executive Board Minutes
Sunday, June 30, 2013 Chicago, IL

In Attendance: Tracey Hughes (Chair), Hallie Pritchett, Paige Andrew, Carol McAuliffe, Susan Moore, Marc McGee, Marcy Bidney, Colleen Cahill, Beth Cox, Angela Lee, Kathleen Weessies, Michael Smith, Nancy A. Kandoian

Absent: Wade Bishop, Greg March, Roger Knouff

Call to Order

Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 17, 2013- Meeting minutes with edits approved.

Officer Reports

- Chair
 - o Conference went very well. Scheduling was difficult but we made it work.
- Vice Chair
 - o We had very successful social activities this year. Paige said he would like to recognize both Tracey and Kathleen for their hard work planning for this year's conference.
- Past Chair
 - o Nothing to report
- Treasurer
 - o Treasurer's report – See end of minutes for attached report. We are in good shape and we continue to improve our net worth. Tracey would like to note that compared to other Round Tables we do not have a surplus and we should continue to be fiscally responsible. Hallie asked about checks for the Honors awards and Paige said that would have to come through Danielle. He will work with her to get that taken care of.
- Secretary
 - o Nothing to report

Emerging Leaders Report

- o MAGIRT-sponsored Emerging Leader Jessica Clemmons reported on her group's project which was to assess the impact and effectiveness

of the Emerging Leader program since it started in 2007. The overall conclusion was that it helped people become more engaged in ALA as an organization and we are just now seeing the impact of the program as more and more past Emerging Leaders are stepping into leadership positions. Two issues were brought to light by the report, one was that some projects were too much like busy work and not valued by the sponsoring group and the other was that some project liaisons did not provide enough support for their Emerging Leader group. Still, 92% of past participants said they would do it again which indicates that these issues were not severe.

- Carol asked Jessica for tips on deciding on a MAGIRT project for 2013/2014. Jessica thought an interesting project would be to figure out how to get various groups to collaborate together within ALA. The idea of a project to recruit new members would also be workable. Kathleen thought that the dismantling of CUAC might be a good topic to work with for collaborating with other groups.
- Jessica said that another issue participants reported was that some projects were too short and some were too long so it was important to find something that worked within the time frame given.
- Tracey said that Paige would be in charge of a MAGIRT project for 2014 and that Jessica's input would be highly desirable.

Liaisons

- WAML, Western Association of Map Librarians – Katherine Rankin (report read by Nancy)
 - The next WAML meeting will be held on October 31 through November 3, 2013, at Tenaya Lodge near Yosemite National Park. The focus of this year's program is setting a vision for the future of the organization along with engaging presentations related to geographic information and mapping from local presenters, and presentations from WAML members. Additionally, there are plans for a mapping activity where the group will update OpenStreetMap for the area around Tenaya Lodge, a GIS unconference, and an all-day field trip to Yosemite National Park.
 - WAML has been conducting a survey of its members to help determine whether the organization should change its name, the future of its journal the *Information Bulletin*, and the direction the organization should take.
- ACRL, Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS): Nancy A. Kandoian
 - There are upcoming regional workshops being planned. Nancy will

keep an eye on their progress and send more information about when it is available. RBMS had their preconference in Minneapolis which was well attended. Next year's preconference will be in Las Vegas before ALA. The Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials (Cartographic) (DCRM(C)) will be part of a multivolume manual which will only be available online and they hope to be done by the end of this year. Paige asked when feedback was desired and Nancy said the deadline was July 31. A public hearing was held Saturday, June 29. She said she would post information about how to give feedback through the MAGIRT listserv.

- Tracey asked if it would make sense to give liaisons a space on the MAGIRT LibGuide. Nancy and Tracey will discuss this possibility.
- Freedom to Read – Susan Moore
 - Tracey made a motion to reinstate or become a member of Freedom to Read (if we are not currently), whether it is \$50 or \$100. Motion was approved.
- GODORT – Mike Smith
 - Kathleen asked about the status of the GODORT resolution regarding the need for permanent access to government publications and documents online. Tracey suggested that the topic be put on the next MAGIRT Executive Board agenda. Hallie suggested that MAGIRT consider their own resolution.
 - Committee on Rare and Endangered Government Documents – They are continuing to work on security guidelines. Mike said he could not find a copy of the Map Security Guidelines on our website. They are also writing a report on shared print monographs. They talked about the GPO/NAPA report on the future of GPO.
- Marc Advisory Committee (MAC) – Susan Moore
 - A new group which is both similar and yet different from MARBI. All parties that were at the table with MARBI will be at the table with MAC and all parties will have a vote which is not the same as it was in MARBI.
- An update was given on the Ignite Session with Nicole Kong, GIS specialist from Purdue University whose session was titled “Creating Geospatial Data Services – Needs and Challenges.” The room was packed but there was a lot of confusion over the scheduling of the Ignite Sessions. Each session was very short and there were no time for questions. Tracey asked Carol to connect Nicole and Wade (Chair of the Education Committee).

Committee/Discussion Group Reports:

- Cataloging & Classification Committee – Susan Moore
 - Working on “Best Practices in RDA Cataloging for Cartographic Materials”. The rest of the notes will be in the CCC minutes in *base line*.

- MAGIRT/CaaMMS Cartographic Cataloging Interest Group – Marc McGee
 - There were 24 people in attendance. Two major topics were covered, digital geospatial data concepts and Library of Congress genre forms. They also talked about the “Best Practices” document that CCC is preparing.

- Membership & Marketing Committee – VACANT
 - Membership report (Paige to provide this in lieu of Membership Chair)
 - MAGIRT currently has 323 members which is a small increase over the last year. International new members are up significantly which is a trend being seen across ALA. Corporate membership remains at 1 and Institutional membership is down by 2. Generally, membership numbers remain flat overall so MAGIRT needs to continue to be proactive in recruiting efforts in order to get our numbers up to remain a healthy organization.
 - Tracey circulated a catalog of marketing materials and asked the board to vote on the planter as a possible give away item. The majority vote was “No” to purchasing the planters.

- Program Planning Committee - Kathleen Weessies
 - 2014 Program Planning Update: “The Accidental Map Librarian”
All moving forward. They have a program outline with 3 speakers lined up. Kathy Rankin and Mary L. are actively working on the corresponding LibGuide. Kathleen said that she learned a lot from the success of this year’s program, especially tie-ins. Tie-ins such as the LibGuide and webinar provide synergy with everything building upon each other.
 - 2013 MAGIRT Program results – Tracey reported that the evaluations mostly rated the program with 4’s and 5’s.
 - 2015 Brainstorming – Some brainstorming was done. Since we haven’t done a digital topic in a few years that possibility was

discussed. Another possible topic was rare map handling, policy and procedures. Paige said that RDA will still be hot at that time. Carol mentioned digital humanities as a possible topic.

- Publications Committee – Beth Cox reported in Roger’s absence
 - Distribution Manager/Distribution strategy update - Kate is working with Jim Coombs on this.
 - Electronic publication guidelines/criteria – They are working on the final changes. Once completed, the board will be given the chance to review and vote on the guidelines. Guidelines will include an author agreement.
 - They also discussed having an additional back-up /dark archive for *Coordinates* and *Meridian*.
 - Tracey asked that we make an effort to bring things under the ALA umbrella rather than having things live at an outside institution and to consider making that part of our formal procedures.
- GIS Discussion Group – Angela Lee
 - CUAC disbanding – The discussion mostly revolved around how to carry out the functions that CUAC performed. The consensus was that MAGIRT and GODORT could work together to serve some of those functions via webinars, listservs, etc. The main question remains, how do we effectively liaise with the agencies to communicate the needs of the community? A formal group between MAGIRT and GODORT was discussed. Marcy said she would send out a summary of the meeting to everyone who was present at the discussion group to see who wanted to get involved. Carol asked to be included on that email since she was unable to attend the discussion.
- Map Collection Management Discussion Group – Marcy Bidney
 - There were 9 new members in attendance. Topics included security issues, data management, and collection development.

Discussion Items

- Discussion & **VOTING** on MAGIRT Manual Updates (Hallie Pritchett)
 - Prior to the meeting, Hallie sent the draft via email and through ALA-Connect. She also highlighted the pertinent changes.

- She reported that the following sections still need updates:
 - *Program Planning Committee structure*
 - *Archives Section*
 - *Finances Section*
 - *Publications positions/duties descriptions*
- Also, the Manual needs to be put up on the webpage.
- Hallie pointed out that each section now has a revision date and history so the entire document won't have to be voted on in the future.
- A motion was made to approve the updates to the Manual as outlined by Hallie. Motion was approved and many thanks were given to Hallie for all of her hard work.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

Passing of the Gavel

Next Exec Board Meeting Date:

- August 27, 2013 1PM EST via Skype 

MAGIRT TREASURER'S REPORT FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE JUNE 30, 2013

This report covers the period since the Treasurer's Report published in the June 2013 issue of baseline (end of April 2013), and is based on the May 2013 MAGIRT Performance Report. While there are not significant differences in the numbers from the end of April it is worth noting that we continue to approach our budgeted dollar amount for dues for the year (\$5,600 budgeted, we stand at \$5,377) and hopefully we will reach that goal by the end of August.

(Of note, we began the current 2012-2013 fiscal year with net assets of **\$33,197** as reported on the August 2012 MAGIRT Performance Report.)

- Total revenues for the Sept. 2012 through May 2013 period are **\$7,708**; primarily from personal dues (\$5,377), but also including \$541 from book

sales, \$40 in subscriptions, and \$1,750 in donations from our generous sponsors.

- Expenses for the same period stand at **\$2,274**; representing \$124 in banking fees, \$1000 for transportation (assisting our Emerging Leader so she can attend this conference), \$360 in outside printing, \$213 for equipment/software, \$56 to the ALA reproduction center, and \$539 in “overhead”; less an \$18 credit for order processing (books).

Total Net Assets for MAGIRT as of April 30, 2013 = **\$38,535**

TOTAL INCOME [Sept. 1, 2012 – May 31, 2013] = **\$ 7,708**

TOTAL EXPENSES [Sept. 1, 2012 – May 31, 2013] = **\$ 2,274**

Current balance (income minus expenses 2012/13 ALA fiscal year) = **\$ 5,434**

Total Net Assets for MAGIRT as of May 31, 2013 = **\$38,632**

I also wanted to alert the Executive Board members that of course some larger expenses related to this conference will be forthcoming in July. These should show up on a July, or possibly some on an August, Performance Report that incoming Treasurer Beth Cox will receive from ALA (via Danielle). Therefore, to prepare you, here is what we budgeted this year for conference expenses: Facilities rent (\$200), Conference equipment rent (\$1,100), Meal functions (\$1,150), Speaker expenses (\$1,500), and Awards (\$100).

Additionally, Danielle reported that she received an invoice on June 24, 2013 for the LibGuides subscription in the amount of \$748, which should appear on a June Performance Report.

As noted in the published prior Treasurer’s Report I will work with our incoming Treasurer, Beth Cox to develop an end-of-fiscal-year report once we have the July and August 2013 Performance Reports later in the summer. 🌐🌐

Reported by Paige G. Andrew
Treasurer, MAGIRT (2011-2013)

***MAGIRT MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2013***

This is just a brief synopsis of the status of MAGIRT membership based on the

“ALA Statistics Monthly Report, May 2013” as created on June 6, 2013 and delivered to Tracey Hughes and Paige Andrew.

Key statistics in this report show a slight increase in the overall number of MAGIRT members from **323** Personal members in May 2013 as compared to **270** in May 2012, a 4.44% change. Organizational membership is down slightly by 4.76%, from **42** in May 2012 to **40** in May 2013. Corporate membership remains unchanged, with **1** for both years.


Total change in all membership categories:

<u>May 2013</u>	<u>May 2012</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
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323	313	+ 3.19%
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Some other highlights can be found in the various breakdowns of this report as well. For instance, NEW personal membership has increased from **2** in 2012 to **7** in 2013 (a 250% increase in year-over-year); and International members in this same area also increased from **6** in 2012 to **9** in 2013 (a 50% increase in year-over-year). Both of these figures are positive news, but the increase in International membership is especially noteworthy as we should try to find out if we are meeting the needs of this segment of the MAGIRT “population”. If not, this should lead to some discoveries that perhaps we can act upon in the coming year.

The report has substantial breakdowns within the major categories of Personal, Organizational, and Corporate memberships, in some cases we have lost members out of specific subcategories. Of note here is that Student memberships are down this year by 10.26% or **35** in 2013 from **39** in 2012. Here again is something the Membership and Marketing Committee should pay attention to and make allowances for going forward. Perhaps a more direct appeal to all the library schools might turn this around?

I do hope that we are able to garner a new Chair of the Membership and Marketing Committee as soon as possible so that he or she can begin working on the core issue of working to increase MAGIRT membership with the members of this committee. 

Reported by,

Paige Andrew
Treasurer, MAGIRT

MAGIRT Executive Board Minutes
Tuesday, August 27, 2013 via Skype

In Attendance: Kathleen Weessies (Chair), Tracey Hughes, Paige Andrew, Carol McAuliffe, Susan Moore, Marc McGee, Beth Cox, Jessica Clemmons, Wade Bishop, Pete Reehling, Kathy Rankin (visiting)

Absent: Marcy Bidney, Roger Knouff

Discussion Items

Welcome from Chair - Kathleen said that the new meeting format has been geared towards the discussion of ideas. The Manual does not dictate the format of Executive Board meetings though the Bylaws do say that the Annual Meeting (singular) has to be conducted by the standard code of Parliamentary Procedure. Kathleen welcomed any input or concerns on the format and wanted to know if the group thought that votes with a quorum made under this format would be binding. The consensus was that it would be binding and we should move forward on the issues that need to be voted on today.

Approval of minutes from June 30 (Exec Board 2)– Motion and vote to approve minutes. Minutes were approved.

New *base line* editor – Steve Rogers has suggested that John Olson serve as the new *base line* editor. John has also expressed interest. Kathleen reported that the Publications Committee is on board. Paige noted that he is confident in John's ability to be the editor of *base line*. Motion and vote to make John Olson the new *base line* editor. Motion was approved.

MAGIRT Manual proposed changes to *base line* editor position description and the Finance section from Tracey Hughes - - Motion and vote to accept the proposed changes in these two sections as presented by Tracey Hughes. Proposed changes were approved.

Webinar Recap - Paige and Susan conducted a successful MAGIRT webinar as a follow-up Q&A session from the 2014 MAGIRT Program about cataloging cartographic materials using RDA. Paige reported that he received a very nice thank you letter from Kathleen. Kathleen wants to find a way for MAGIRT to ride the energy generated by these webinars and translate their success into lasting benefit for MAGIRT.

Issues to be addressed for future webinars:

- Susan reported that several people who registered never got the URL to the webinar. There is also confusion over whether a confirmation email was sent and if it had the link to the webinar in it. Carol

reported that the reminder email sent out right before the webinar did not have the link though an earlier email did. All agreed that the link was buried and too difficult to find. This information will be relayed to Danielle so that a change in methodology can be put into place ahead of the next webinar.

- Carol reported that once the webinar registration reached capacity (100 people) that there was no email response indicating to them that the webinar was full. Carol also thought it would be helpful to include a link to the LibGuide where the recordings will be posted in that response. Paige also commented on the lack of feedback telling people that the registration limit had been reached and thought it was very important to communicate with registrants to avoid frustrations.
- Susan reported that there were some issues specific to delivery (lost audio in the beginning) but everything else went very well.

Ideas for future webinars:

- Kathleen asked if all MAGIRT Programs have a follow-up webinar though Paige thought that could be dependent on the topic and presenters.
- Carol suggested that programs consider conducting a webinar which repeats in entirety the content of the original program so that those who were not able to attend the conference get a chance to participate.
- Kathy Rankin said she would be willing to do a webinar for the 2014 MAGIRT program.
- Carol reported that John Ridener from WAML contacted her to see about using a webinar solution to fill in a hole left by the dissolution of CUAC. The webinars would be co-sponsored by both WAML and MAGIRT and might involve agency reps giving updates. It was mentioned that it this would be more about information-sharing rather than instruction. John should be following up with Wade about the possibility.
- Wade said that presenters have been hard to come by and he has been letting them come to him rather than actively seeking presenters and topics. Also, given the problems encountered at this time, Wade does not think we are ready to start charging yet. To come up with ideas, Paige suggested we poll MAGIRT membership to see what they need in the way of professional development. Jessica volunteered to do this as the new Chair of Membership and Marketing.
- Jessica also suggested we target new grads who are planning on being Geographic Information Librarians and try to work with

student chapters. Carol thought it could work like the in-person panel presentations that the Education Committee has done at schools near conferences. The panel presentation could be converted into a webinar and then marketed to many schools at once.

- Wade said the Core Competencies provide a rich area to pull topics from.

Annual Conference 2014

- Status of program planning –Accidental Map Librarian is moving forward with Kathy Rankin and Mary Larsgaard. Hallie Pritchett has agreed to be the third speaker. There will be a corresponding LibGuide which will create a lasting benefit for everyone. Kathleen feels like we are building a suite of MAGIRT sponsored materials to support new map librarians, both with this program and past programs/publications.
 - Perfect swag item for Vegas – Suggestions included dice, a Sanborn map of Las Vegas, or a modern map of Las Vegas.
- Poster Session - Tracey reported that it was decided that we weren't going to attempt a poster session for 2013 but the discussion about 2014 was ongoing. There were lingering questions about whether we should do it with another group or on our own, where we should have it, and if we should serve food. Pete suggested that we work outside of ALA's confining schedule and move the event to the evening somewhere else. The question was brought up what the purpose of the poster session would be. Is it to raise the profile of MAGIRT in ALA? Provide opportunities to present at a conference? Share what our members are doing in the field? Pete asked about using the exhibit hall and Tracey said that people weren't interested in doing that before. Kathleen thought it might be a good idea to link it to a discussion group but that the event needs its own energy to make it happen. If the energy isn't there, it may be time to table the discussion right now. Paige said that it needs a group within MAGIRT or a person to take ownership, do the leg work, and go from there.
- Status of social events planning-
 - Midwinter 2014-Paige is going to be researching possibilities soon. The Philadelphia Print Shop is a place we might be able to tour. It would mean a train ride into that area (Chestnut Hill, northwest of Convention Center) but there are restaurants nearby.
 - Annual 2014-Kathy Rankin asked to say a few words about

the possibility of going to the UNLV Library during Annual. There are so many people requesting events in their library the Dean has said they were going to have to prioritize them though Kathy does not know what that will be. Also, they close at 7 pm on Friday and Saturday which would make it difficult to have an afterhours event there. Friday afternoon there is already a RBMS pre-conference reception being held at the Library but there is the possibility we could join them. Kathy said logistics are a problem because UNLV is paying for the reception. Kathy and Paige will be in touch about the possibility. Kathy also suggested the Nevada State Museum which is \$18.95/person though she was unsure about group rates. Paige is willing to talk to anyone about reducing fees. Tracey mentioned the Atomic Testing Museum which is interesting and near the conference hotels.

- Pete asked to get the membership data from September 1st at the beginning of the fiscal year to update the membership map for Annual. Tracey suggested that Pete email Danielle.

Liaisonships

- Current Vacancies
 - AACCM – Susan Moore will replace Mary Larsgaard
 - NACIS – Paige would like to step down.
 - USGS – Vacant
- Pete said that liaisons existed before the Internet and asked if it was still critical to have them. Susan said it depends on the role of the liaison. Her role is really important in the MARC Advisory Committee because she represents MAGIRT's interests on the committee. Angie said it is about both communication and advocacy. Paige said that another role is to extend networking and increase opportunities to collaborate with other organizations. Kathleen mentioned that the Chair is supposed to see a report from liaisons and has not seen that from all liaisons at this time.

CUAC Discussion - It was agreed that we would table the discussion about CUAC until the next meeting until Marcy can attend.

MAGIRT-sponsored Emerging Leader Project - Deadline is October 1st - Jessica Clemmons reported at Annual about what worked and what didn't. Paige asked that people send ideas for a project to him. Past ideas include a group membership drive (Hallie) and Jessica's idea to investigate how MAGIRT can work more effectively with other ALA groups. Jessica said that the group would decide how to actually accomplish the goal we set for them. Pete thought that

perhaps we can talk to potential emerging leaders and work with their strengths and unique skills. Jessica thought that our method of mentorship was really effective during her time as an Emerging Leader. Paige asked about the matching process for emerging leaders and sponsoring organizations. Jessica said that she was allowed to choose based on her interests. Projects are handled differently and groups prioritize the top 4 or 5 projects they want to work on. If someone is being sponsored by an organization, then by default their group is put to work on that organization's project if they have one that year. Paige will go back and look at what is needed for the application by October 1st. Pete suggested that we approach the organizers of Emerging Leaders and see what they think of our ideas.

Announcements

Paige announced that Penn State has gone through and cataloged and scanned over 30,000 sheets of Pennsylvania Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, available now on the Penn State Libraries' Digital Collections website. Those that are out of copyright are available for world-wide use, more will be added as copyright status changes going forward.

Wade said his first Geographic Information Librarianship course started last night. There are 13 students in the course though only 4 or 5 are actually interested in an academic librarianship track. Wade suggested we keep this in mind when reaching out to other areas of librarianship. The course will also be offered at Drexel from Jan – March 2014.

Kathy Rankin reported that Vladimir V. Shkurkin, an expert on Sanborn maps, passed away on August 13th.

Marc McGee said that MAGIRT/ALCTS CAMMS Cartographic Resources Cataloging Interest Group has decided that they would like a separate listserv to discuss RDA topics and to help inform CCC on RDA topics. Tracey said Danielle could set up the listserv though there is a fee. Marc will check with Danielle to discuss the parameters and cost to report back to the Executive Board.

Adjournment

Next Exec Board Meeting Date:

- October 22, 2013 1PM EST via Skype 

Organizational Manual

On behalf of the Bylaws and Governing Documents Committee of MAGIRT, you will find the newly revised MAGIRT Organizational Manual at our website: [MAGIRT Organizational Manual](#). Our governing documents specify that after revisions, the document be printed in *base line*. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please direct them to Tracey Hughes, chair of the Bylaws and Governing Documents Committee via email at thughes@coloradomtn.edu.

MAGIRT Executive Board Minutes Tuesday, October 22, 2013 via Skype

In Attendance: Kathleen Weessies (Chair), Tracey Hughes, Paige Andrew, Carol McAuliffe, Susan Moore, Beth Cox, Wade Bishop, Pete Reehling, Marcy Bidney, Roger Knouff, Kathy Rankin (visiting)

Absent: Jessica Clemmons, Marc McGee

(Secretary Note: There were various technical difficulties during the meeting so meeting minutes may be incomplete.)

Approval of minutes from August meeting - Approval of minutes were delayed until further review is possible.

Discussion Items

2014 Annual Conference - Kathleen announced that everything needs to be scheduled well in advance and now is the time to start talking with committees to see if they are going to meet in Las Vegas. Pete requested that Education and GeoTech meeting be back to back in Vegas and in the same room if possible. It was decided that a poster session was not going to happen at the 2014 conference because there was no one available and willing to take responsibility for it. Marcy recommended that Kathleen look at the calendar to see what needs to be done and when for the Annual Conference.

Emerging Leader discussion – Tabled at this time.

Budget– Beth discussed the budget documents and possible line items that may

base line 34(6): 30

Online Resource Guide Available

MAGIRT members have been hard at work creating an online resource guide for the geospatial librarianship world. The information is free for you to use on topics ranging from geospatial data, geospatial technologies, a professional development toolkit, and recent MAGIRT activities on these subjects.

Check it out at <http://magirt.ala.libguides.com/resources>

MAGIRT contracted with the popular LibGuides platform by Springshare. The goal is for this guide to be useful to the profession. We invite your input and your proposals for future MAGIRT Libguides, because it is you that will make it the best resource it can be.

Kathleen Weessies

Chair

Map and Geospatial Information Round Table

need to be adjusted.

- Award – \$650 needed for one person \$1300 if we want to budget for two every year.
- Swag – Should that amount be kept at \$500? Email Jessica to find out what is needed.
- LibGuide – Continued at same amount.
- Revenue – Current numbers are needed from Jessica. This year we had advertising revenue from a vendor so a new line for that revenue has been added to the budget document.
- “No changes” means that they are recommending it stay the same for 2014.
- Additional comments should be sent to Beth before Thanksgiving. A final draft will be presented at MidWinter

Adjournment

Next Exec Board Meeting Date:

- November 24, 2013 1PM EST via AdobeConnect 

New Maps and Cartographic Materials, Along with Other Items of Interest

David J. Bertuca, Map Librarian
University at Buffalo Libraries Map Collection

Before I add my commentary for this issue, I would like to take time to congratulate Steve Rogers on his term as editor of *base line*. He did a great job with layout and collecting materials for each issue and successfully made the transition from print to e-only. I enjoyed working with him and he graciously accepted my bi-monthly scribbles and files, and let me offer materials without limiting size.

Editing anything requires dedication to gathering materials, keeping up with deadlines, encouraging submissions, and lot of effort, patience, and preparedness. Steve did these quite well and we have had some great issues to read during the seven years he has been in charge (I looked that up—time flies). I wish him well in his next endeavors.

Another year ends, but the world of cartography goes on and on; so many new maps, mapping concepts, and innovations to assist us in our everyday lives.

Recently I was invited by a professor to view and critique the student GIS project presentations. It was great to see the work in its completed form rather than the pieces I got to see while assisting in data gathering and production. Some of the work, especially from the graduate students was very good and the techniques shown were professional. It is wonderful to work with students and to see the results of your assistance on their efforts.

I will be short this issue and focus on some items of note that should be useful to you in the future. Now that the semester is ending, I can concentrate on going through more new maps and get back to normal for a time. I've included several fun things to do for your entertainment and to assist you as you wind down the year. I look forward to seeing you in 2014!

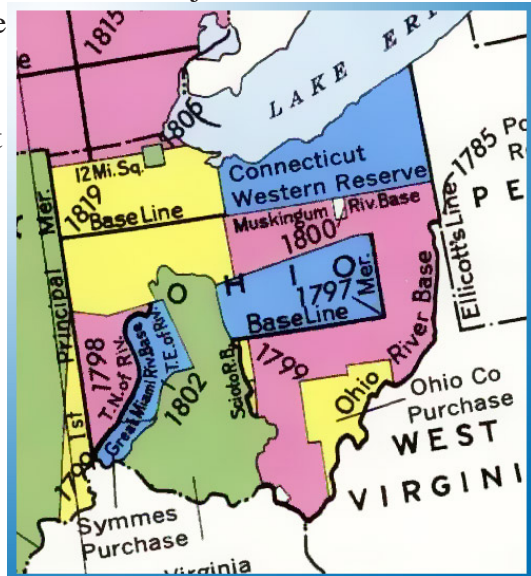
Map Quote

“A map does not just chart, it unlocks and formulates meaning; it forms bridges between here and there, between disparate ideas that we did not know were previously connected.”—Reif Larsen, *The Selected Works of T.S. Spivet*.

Holiday Gift

I decided to look up something to share with you all and figured I'd leave Steve Rogers a parting gift. We wouldn't have a journal without an editor, but we wouldn't have great journal title without a base line. The image shows base lines as they spread across the country. Though most of us know what these are and why, the topic is more popular than I expected.

I did a quick search and found the map of base lines (excerpt shown at right), but then found this link to a group of people devoted to identifying all the base line markers in the country. If you take a look at the "Principal Meridian Project" (<http://www.pmproject.org/index.htm>) you will see that someone finds the search for meridian markers as interesting as geographers do.



The Project's goal is to photograph all the meridian and base line markers and they have done a good job covering the country to accomplish this. You can view photographs of the locations and markers, along with maps that show their locations across the United States. It is interesting to see the variety of styles used to mark these features. In many cases, the pages describe more than just the

markers. It is an interesting website for a topic that is ignored by most. Happy Holidays!

News and Ideas

Mercator Puzzle!

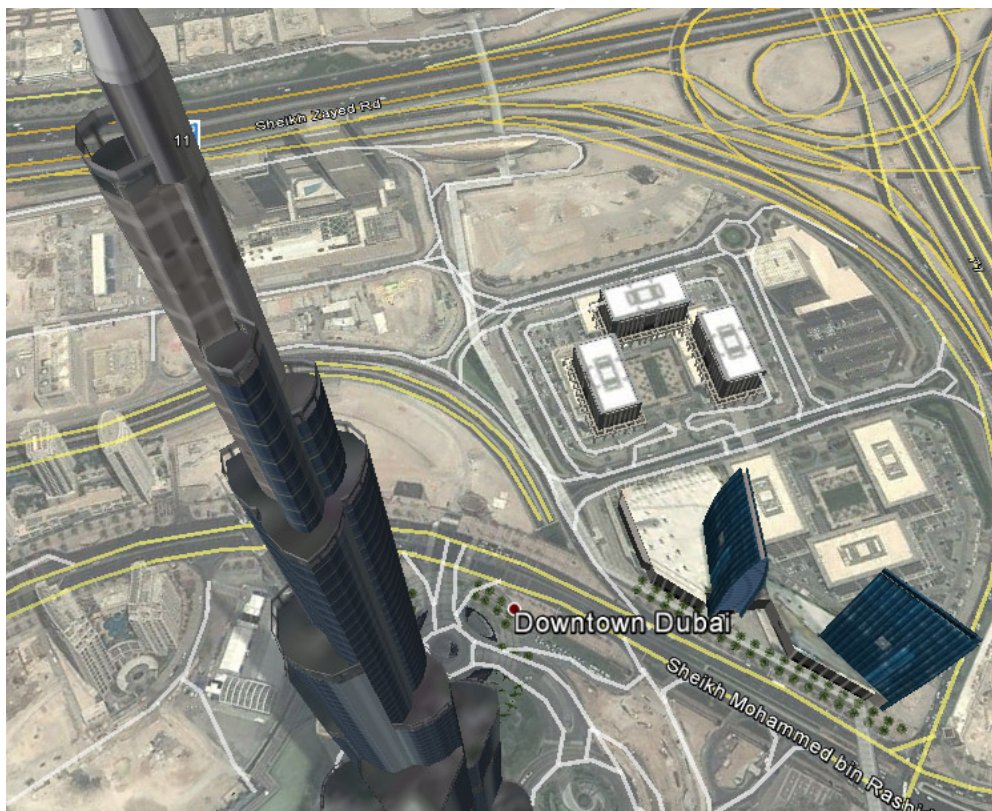
<http://gmaps-samples.googlecode.com/svn/trunk/poly/puzzledrag.html>

Now that the semester is over and you've got all that spare time, why not take a few moments to do a world puzzle? This will test your spatial coordination. The countries are not to size, making it more of a visual test. Click and drag to adjust size and move the shapes to their proper place on the map.

Remember this site in the future when you have students who need a little geography challenge.

Google Map Exercise

https://maps.google.com/maps?q=tallest+building+in+the+world&safe=off&ie=UTF-8&ei=-wKqUvDRKvFLsQT6s4LYDg&ved=0CAoQ_AUoAg

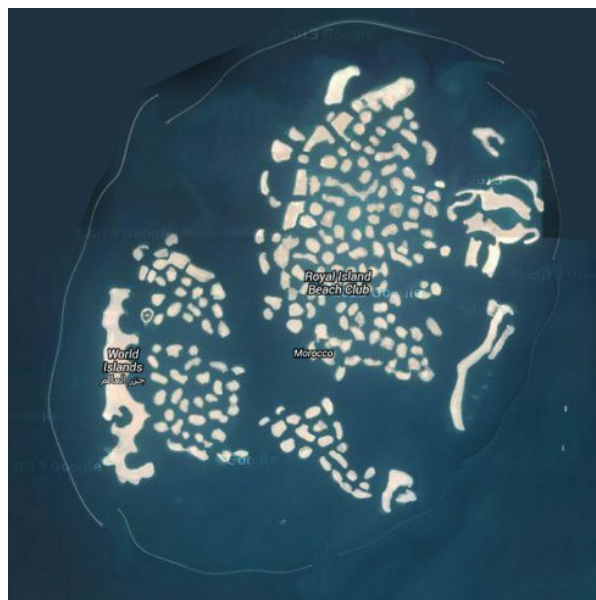


The Burj Khalifa in Dubai is the tallest building in the world at 2,722 feet. Such a structure is not only impressive from the ground or the top; it is also amazing to see from space.

I did a Google Map search for this structure just out of curiosity and the example is worth seeing. First, viewing the building from straight down, or as straight down as is possible from a satellite image. At first, you can't see the building. Then it hits you; it is so massive that the image cannot show it easily without distortion. Once you can see the building, and zoom in to look, the next thing to do is to switch to Google Earth.

This takes a lot of practice. You can approach the building, which is in a forest of lesser buildings, but though it stands out, getting close is not easy as you navigate and zoom in. It has to be tried to understand. The structure is so tall and massive that you cannot see the entire thing unless you begin from a distance.

After you finish the Earth view, go back and look around the neighborhood.



The famous man-made islands are nearby, one a figurative world map, along with some palm-shaped archipelagoes. The entire region is a testament to human innovation and aesthetics, along with an enormous amount of money.

This exercise is worth trying for stress relief and for training. For young students, learning geography can be made interesting while teaching navigation concepts. The search need not be for the tallest building in the world; there are so many places to see and visit from above that make this a great tool to use.

Did you know that garlic can neutralize a compass's magnetic ability?

Now that I have your attention, you may want to read a short article in the journal *Chemical Heritage* (31:3 (Fall 2013/Winter 2014): 16.). The article "Laws of Attraction" gives a brief history of 'lodestone,' the rock that made the compass possible and that began a revolution in modern life.

The study of magnetic properties went from alchemy to science and back as philosophers and craftsmen spent time figuring out how magnetism worked and its peculiar attributes. The article is among many that appear in this journal that are related to geography and human history. Though the print edition is exquisite for its illustrations, the online edition will suffice for reading. See this article online: <http://www.chemheritage.org/discover/media/magazine/articles/31-3-laws-of-attraction.aspx> and scan both the current and previous issues for other articles of relevance to mappers. *Chemical Heritage* isn't just about chemistry; it covers everyday topics and offers much to non-chemists from any field. It is a good journal to review occasionally and to keep in mind when hunting down multi-disciplinary studies, or even for cartographic-related topics.

As for garlic and compasses, you will have to read the article.

British Library British and Irish Towns: Digitized Fire Insurance Plans
<http://www.bl.uk/maps/georeferencingmap.html>

Those of you who enjoy or work with Sanborn Fire Insurance maps will want to know that the British Library is scanning and georeferencing their collection of fire insurance maps and making them available for users, including GIS users. The sample below shows a small part of Dublin and is representative of what is available. This collection is also useful for genealogists, planners, historians, and literature students, so will be handy to remember for the future.



Start Here:

<http://www.bl.uk/maps/georeferencingmap.html>

As you can see from the map, they are a far from completion. This is a massive undertaking and they are doing mainly major urban areas first, and not complete areas. You can also take a look at the maps in a list:

<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/firemaps/fireinsurancemaps.html>

However, it's just a list; there is no index to this part.

If you wish to assist in georeferencing new images, you can help:

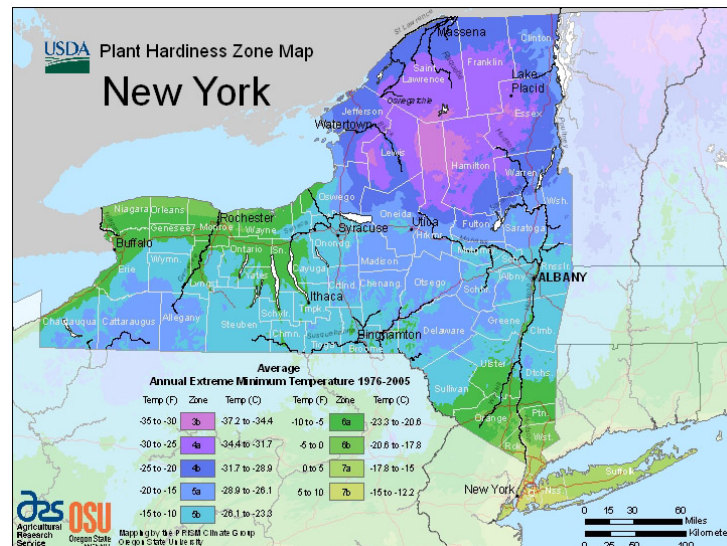
<http://britishlibrary.typepad.co.uk/magnificentmaps/2013/11/2700-new-maps-online-for-georeferencing.html>. They will even give you credit and post your name on the list of contributors. There is a chart that shows who is in the lead in doing this too.

Also note that there are maps being digitized from World War I and the U.S. Civil War: <http://www.bl.uk/maps/georeferencingmap.html>

Maps

USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map

<http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/>



“The 2012 USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map is the standard by which gardeners and growers can determine which plants are most likely to thrive in a specific region. The map is based on the average annual minimum winter temperature, divided into 10-degree F zones.”

This is an update to the standard map with some changes. Now GIS viewers are

available for the first time and GIS data files are available for download.

More importantly, this map is not being printed now, but the site offers the user the ability to download high-resolution images for printing or use. Files for the entire U.S., as well as individual states, are available in a variety of resolutions and file types.

Beyond its clear value for growers, the map provides a basic view of the states in terms of climate and temperature zones. It would be useful for any level user and is easy to access and use the maps.

New York City Bike Map

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/bicyclists/bikemaps.shtml>

For bicyclists in the New York City urban area, this map will allow you to plan routes and find your way around. The city is too crowded to leave all planning to chance. On this official NYSDOT site, you can download maps to use, get detail maps for main areas, or get bridge and intersection maps to assist in crossing safely.

There is also a “Ride the City” direction finder. Enter starting and ending addresses and get directions. The directions can be “Safer” or “Direct” route calculations.

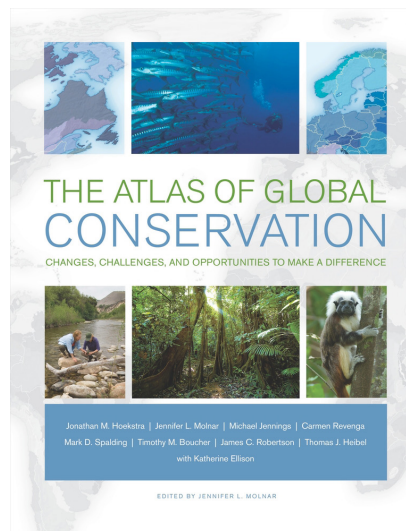
Additional links are available for bus and ferry schedules, and safety and other resources.

This site will be helpful to tourists and residents for biking and moving throughout New York and the boroughs and is good for any level learner/user.

Websites

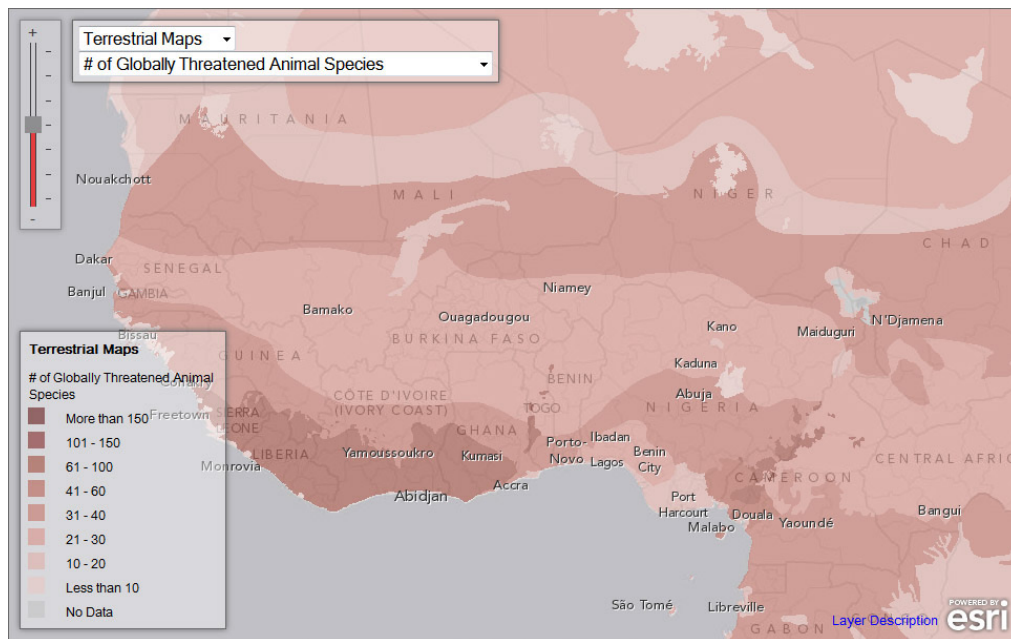
The Atlas of Global Conservation

<http://www.nature.org/ourscience/sciencefeatures/conservation-atlas.xml>



Environmental studies researchers and professionals will find this work to be useful in studying habitats around the world. The work gathers this data in one place, with an interface that is easy to use.

“These maps are the result of an unprecedented effort by Nature Conservancy scientists, in collaboration with governments, scientists and conservation organizations around the world.” The atlas contains more than 80 world maps “describing the state of terrestrial, freshwater and marine habitats.”



The Atlas is designed so that one may select from a variety of topics for each habitat type, then zoom into a region on the map for a closer view. Map data can also be downloaded for GIS applications.

In addition to the Atlas, there are also a series of interactive, web-based map viewers on related topics. These maps include various environmental themes and cover world, U.S. or state-level data.

The Atlas of Global Conservation is a worthwhile tool for researchers from high school through adult, with emphasis on professionals and scholars. The ability to download data for use in GIS and Google map production and the additional map viewers allow for a variety of themed studies.

The Atlas is also available in print form for purchase: <http://www.ucpress.edu/book.php?isbn=9780520262560>

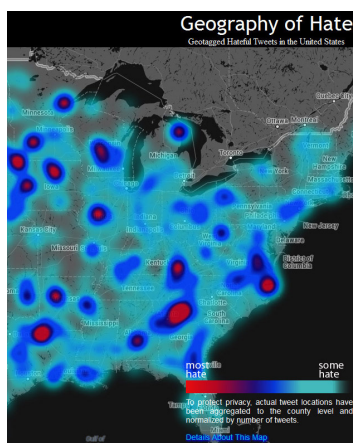
FloatingSheep

<http://www.floatingsheep.org/>



“If we can float a sheep, we can do anything.” What? Social media and cyber-interactions generate a lot of spatial data as people ‘tweet’ and text their day. This website gathers such data and creates maps showing a variety of concepts. Here is a better description of this resource:

“There is an increasing amount of data on the Internet that is geo-coded to a particular spot on the earth. This has huge implications for how we interact with our surroundings and each other. This site is dedicated to mapping and analyzing user generated geocoded data. The results provide one glimpse of what Internet users (in the aggregate) think about particular places. Where are people posting placemarks about swine flu? Which places are considered to be “fun” by the collective intelligence of the Internet users?” —FAQ

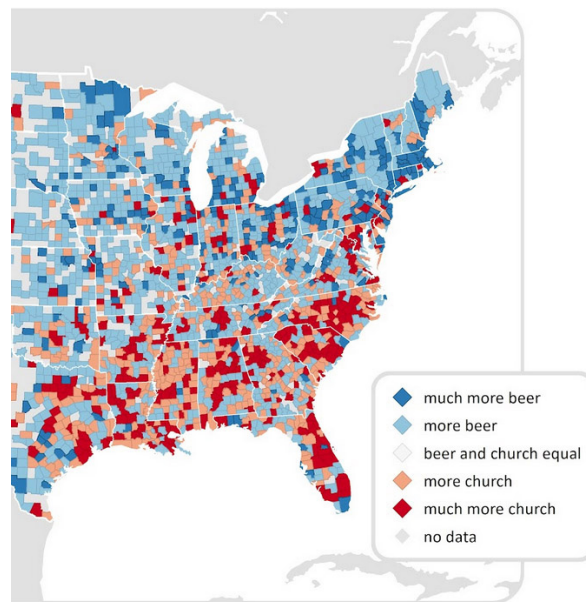


The data is being collected and analyzed by a group of professors whose aim is to study the uses and effects of social media. They also provide access to the

data so that others may be able to perform their own analyses. Make sure to click on the DOLLY link — The DOLLY Project (Digital OnLine Life and You) is a repository of billions of geolocated tweets that allows for real-time research and analysis.

The maps produced run from highly subjective and esoteric: [The Great American Pizza Map](#), to more thought-provoking: [Mapping Racist Tweets](#). They provide materials that would appeal to anthropologists, social communications studies, and a variety of other types of research.

This site is one of a number that are starting to utilize communications data to try to understand the world as it is. The recent post illustrates how mappers and data gatherers are using social media to show what is going on. It is an animated video world map documenting “Tweets from December 5th and 6th, 2013 containing ‘Mandela.’”



When visiting the site, be sure to view the page of “Publications” to see what else the authors are doing, and also the “In the News” page, which features their maps as posted on a variety of news services.

The “floating sheep” concept is explained on the FAQ page.

This website will become more useful in time by researchers in many fields who are gathering data for their own studies. It is worth noting for the future and will be of interest to learners from high school through adult.

Social Media Data Collection and Analysis: the Next Big Thing in Mapping

Social media and communications are increasing and evolving at an incredible rate. Globally this phenomenon not only affects millions, it generates data that statisticians, mappers, and researchers are using to visualize this traffic, and the themes that are being discussed. The “Floating Sheep” website is an example of the usefulness of this data collecting and offers ideas and maps that will help others in conceptualizing their studies.

The concepts of mapping this data are being taken seriously by researchers and government agencies who are interested in more objective analysis of social media data for a variety of uses, from disease spread mapping to disaster planning. Our awareness of current trends is important as we will be expected to know how to start searching for data and results in the future by a growing population of users.

For an example of a practical use for social media data gathering, visit the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office: Emergency Updates blog: <http://jeffcosheriff.blogspot.com/2013/07/bluebellfire-social-media-documentation.html> to see a report: “Bluebell Fire Social Media Documentation and Analysis.”

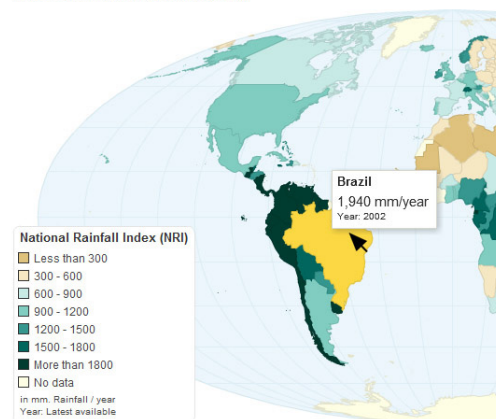
A second example comes from a Homeland Security Department report that analyzes data gathered during Hurricane Sandy and how it assisted disaster-related activities (http://www.naseo.org/Data/Sites/1/documents/committees/energysecurity/documents/dhs_vsmwg_lessons_learned_social_media_and_hurricane_sandy_formatted_june_2013_final.pdf).

For more on this topic, I ran a simple Google search “documenting social media” <https://www.google.com/#q=documenting+social+media&safe=off> to see news, studies, and resources that are developing on the topic.

Charts Bin

<http://chartsbin.com/>

National Rainfall Index (NRI)



This website contains maps of the world on a wide variety of themes and sub-themes. The maps are interactive, allowing the user to find data on each country by moving the cursor over a country. The data is collected from a variety of sources and is referenced. For each map, additional data may be available, along with tables in some cases.

Examples of some of the maps available include:

- Total Renewable Water Resources Dependency Ratio by Country
- General Government Debt as Percent of GDP by Country
- Moody's Credit Rating for each country
- Mortality Due to Chronic Respiratory Diseases
- Global Milk Production and Consumption
- Human Trafficking in the World
- National/Iconic Animals around the World

In addition, the site allows users to register and upload their maps. An example of this is titled: "Tomography Articles in Material Science," and shows data from a scholarly article on the topic.

One nice feature of the maps is that you can expand them to the entire screen size while retaining their interactive nature. The maps also allow zooming in to view sections closer. Another feature is the optional data tables. These can be sorted on-screen; so, for example, if viewing a list of countries and their annual rainfall you can sort the data by rainfall amount (ascending or descending).

The diverse nature of themes included on this site makes it a very good resource for map searches. The maps are well-drawn, use good color, allow for additional data, and enable users to use the maps for their work. The maps would be useful for any level of learner, including researchers. This website is definitely worth remembering for the future.

Book

Rushkoff, Douglas. *Present Shock: When Everything Happens Now*. New York: 2013 (ISBN: 9781591844761). vii, 296 p.

Though not necessarily geography, this book does offer an interesting look at our current global society. The author explores "how the world works in our age of 'continuous now' when people are focused only on the present, with little regard or concern for the future, or the past."

The idea of futurism — when people predict or expect what will come — has gone out of fashion. Popular culture has a "now" view of things that is spilling into our planning for the future, or the lack of it.


According to Rushkoff, “‘presentism’ is the new ethos of a society that’s always on, in real time, updating live. Guided by neither history nor long-term goals, we navigate a sea of media that blend the past and future into a mash-up of instantaneous experience.”

The author considers both the exciting prospects of this, along with the disadvantages that can occur. He discusses what can happen when we do not have linear narrative to put the present into perspective; when planning does not consider consequences of “now thinking” and its effect on society, economy, and long-range planning.

Considered are the effects of digital technology and electronics on our ability to see beyond now. Rushkoff argues that while these technologies free our minds to think and to build knowledge in more effective ways, their effect has been to distract our attentions toward trivia-seeking, reality shows and Twitter fanaticism, and a much more near-sighted view of ways to solve the problems of the world. This is discussed in terms of economics, politics, and other fields where the driving forces have shifted from long-term considerations to instant gratification mentalities. It praises and condemns without bias to provide an objective understanding of the overall picture.

For futurists and contemporary culture studies this is worth reading. The book is geared toward adults and is scholarly enough for use in college and adult studies as well as for general audiences. It offers valid commentary on the effect of digital and electronic technologies on our environment and may provide a resource to work in this field.

Conclusion

As I watch the snow flying through the air before my window, I think about the time I will have to relax a little and get ready for the new year. I also now have some time to go through a pile of maps and books on my desk to enjoy, while noting the ones that I want to remember for future needs. Enjoy the end of the year and I will be back in 2014! —DJB 

Great Moments In Map Librarianship by Jim Coombs

