Messages from MARS

October/December 2000 Issue

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How often do you look at the MARS web site? Do you really know what's there? Sure, we all know it has the MARS Handbook, and committee web pages. But did you know it has tools to help you train your patrons on the Internet? Or recommended reference web sites that could help you help your library users? The MARS web site is a continually expanding group of resources both about MARS and for all of us in MARS. Several new MARS web site resources clearly demonstrate the variety and utility of the MARS web site.

Best of Free Reference Web Sites 2000 is a fantastic resource for everyone who uses the Internet to find information. This page describes and provides links to over twenty-five outstanding free web sites suitable for reference work. It includes some of the big names we'd expect, such as AskERIC, Britannica, and CNN. It also includes some lesser-known sites that are just as valuable. Some I had never used before include The Martin Luther King, Jr. Papers Project from Stanford and CI: Corporate Information. My favorite, though, is Great Buildings Online, which features information, photographs, architectural details, and even 3D modeling of some of the world's most famous structures. The thirteen Martians who produced this list, led by LeiLani Freund and Lori Morse, deserve many kudos for a job well done.
Another excellent new resource on the MARS web site is Internet Training and Learning: A Guide to Web Resources for Public Librarians. This page includes descriptions of and links to tools to help librarians help themselves and their patrons learn about and navigate the Internet. The resources featured include: beginning to advanced Internet tutorials; resources designed to help children understand the Internet; web design and development aids; tools addressing the evaluation of web information; and glossaries of Internet terminology. The MARS Public Libraries Committee developed this list, and will review the resources twice a year to keep it up-to-date.

Martian-to-Martian Transmission is another recent addition -- and this one is designed specifically for Martians. It's one-stop-shopping for those involved in MARS committees, discussion groups, and other activities. Do you want program planning advice? Do you wonder about publicity opportunities for your MARS function? Are you looking for ideas for programs? Martian-to-Martian Transmissions has all this and more. Thanks to the 1999-2000 Planning Committee, led by Denise Beaubien Bennett, for developing this great resource.

The MARS web site is at [http://www.ala.org/rusa/mars/index.html](http://www.ala.org/rusa/mars/index.html) -- visit it today and see how it can help you!

Nancy Buchanan Collection Management Librarian, Questia Media
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2. 2000-2001 MARS Executive Committee Members (with Liaison Responsibilities), Coordinators, Committee Chairs, Discussion Groups, and Task Forces

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Nancy L. Buchanan, Chair
Liaison to Birthday Party
<nbuchanan@questia.com>

William McHugh, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect
Liaison to Planning
847-491-2175 (wk); 847-491-8306 (fx)

Andrea J. Copeland, Member-At-Large
Liaison to Management of Electronic Reference Services, Managers in MARS Discussion Group, Public Libraries
<acopelan@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu>

Linda Friend, Past Chair
Liaison to Outreach
<lxf5@psu.edu> or <lcf@psulias.psu.edu>

Carole J. Richter, Secretary
Nicholas Rosselli, Member-At-Large, 1999-2002
Liaison to Education, Training & Support, Local Systems and Services, Publications
<nrosselli@yahoo.com>

Doris Ann Sweet, Member-At-Large, 2000-2003
Liaison to Hot Topics Discussion Group, Products & Services, User Access To Services
<dasweet@hms.harvard.edu>

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Cathleen Bourdon, RUSA Executive Director, <cbourdon@ala.org>
Carrie Bickner, MARS Scheduling Coordinator (2000-2002), <cbickner@nypl.org>
Pat Riesenman (MARS Historian) < riesenma@indiana.edu>
Jian Liu (MARS Historian-in-Training) <jiliu@indiana.edu>
Alesia McManus, MARS Web Coordinator < am245@umail.umd.edu>
Anne Haynes, Messages from MARS/MARS-L Moderator < anhaynes@indiana.edu>

COORDINATORS

MARS Web Coordinator
Alesia McManus
< am245@umail.umd.edu>

Messages from MARS/MARS-L Moderator
Anne Haynes
< anhaynes@indiana.edu>

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DISCUSSION GROUP CHAIRS

Achievement Recognition Certificate Committee
Andrea J. Copeland (Member-At-Large 1998-2001)
<acopelan@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu>

Education, Training and Support Committee
Marianna Fitzgerald (Co-Chair 2000-2001) < mfitzgerald@cuyahoga.lib.oh.us>
Arlie Sims (Co-Chair 2000-2001) < asims@wpost.depaul.edu>

Hot Topics In Electronic Reference Discussion Group
Linda Keiter (Chair) < lkeiter@library.utah.edu>
George Porter (Co-Chair) < george@library.caltech.edu>

Local Systems and Services Committee
M. Kathleen Kern  <kern@alexia.lis.uiuc.edu>

Management of Electronic Reference Services Committee
David M. Hovde  <hovde@omni.cc.purdue.edu>

Managers in MARS Discussion Group
Michael J. Ciccone, Chair  <mciccone@nypl.org> or  <cc210@freenet.buffalo.edu>
Carrie Bickner Vice-Chair  <ebickner@nypl.org>

"MARSBest" Selection Task Force
LeiLani S. Freund Co-Chair  <leilanif@ufl.edu>
Lori Morse Co-Chair  <morsel@library.phila.gov>

Nominating Committee 2001
Lise Dyckman  415-750-5795 (wk); 415-750-4794 (fx)

Nominating Committee 2002
Linda Friend  <lxf5@psu.edu> or  <lcf@psulias.psu.edu>

Outreach Committee and Birthday Party Task Force

Outreach Committee
Naomi Lederer (Chair, 1997-2001)  <nlederer@manta.library.colostate.edu>

Birthday Party Task Force
Mary Strife  <MStrife2@wvu.edu>

Planning Committee
Marcella Stark  <mstark@mail.smu.edu>

Products and Services Committee
Rosemary Meszaros  <rosemary.meszaros@wku.edu>

Program 2001 Committee
Carolyn Meanley  <cmeanley@uh.edu>

Public Libraries Committee
John Hinchcliffe  <jhinchcliffe@nypl.org>

Publications Committee
Toby Lyles  <tlyles@udel.edu>

User Access To Services Committee
Sally J. Jacobs  <sijjacobs@vcu.edu>

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3. MARSBEST Report

MARSBEST 2000 is completed and will be published in the Fall issue of *RUSQ*, which is due out shortly. It is also available on the MARS website at: http://www.ala.org/rusa/mars/best2000.html

The MARSBEST Taskforce will not be holding a meeting at the 2001 Midwinter Meeting, but will start to conduct our work virtually. Anyone interested in joining the Task Force may contact either Lori Morse (lmorse@hslc.org) or LeiLani Freund (leifreu@mail.uflib.ufl.edu), the Co-Chairs again for 2001.

Thanks to all who have made this project such a success.

Lori Morse & Leilani Freund, Co-Chairs
MARSBEST

4. RUSA/MARS web site update

Three links have recently been added to the MARS web site (http://www.ala.org/rusa/mars/): the MARS 2001 Midwinter Meeting Space Request Form, Best of Free Reference Sites 2000, and Internet Training and Learning: A Guide to Web Resources of Public Librarians. In related news, RUSA Update is now available online at http://www.ala.org/rusa/update/rusa_update.html.

Please send questions, comments and suggestions about the MARS web site to:

Alesia McManus
MARS Web Coordinator
am245@umail.umd.edu

5. MARS 2000 Publications Committee Midwinter Meeting Schedule

Midwinter Meeting Schedule: Jan. 13, Saturday -- 9:30 - 12:30 a.m. and, if business is not completed during the first meeting, Jan. 14, Sunday-- 9:30 - 11 a.m.

The Publications Committee's responsibilities include facilitating both print and electronic publications by MARS committees and units, and oversight of the MARS website, the "Messages from MARS" section of RUSA Update, and the MARS-L discussion list. During our midwinter meeting, the committee will begin the process of recruiting a new candidate for the position of MARS Web Coordinator. A search committee will be formed, with the goal to interview candidates at the following ALA Annual Conference. The new MARS Web Coordinator will serve a one-year internship upon appointment followed by a three-year term as coordinator. The position description is available at http://www.ala.org/rusa/mars/webmast.html.
Within the next year, the Publications Committee will bid farewell to a number of members who have provided valuable service over the years. Therefore, we would like to invite members to volunteer for service on the Publications Committee. If you are interested in a future committee assignment, please complete a Committee Interest Form <http://www.indiana.edu/~librcsd/mars/interest.html> or call the RUSA office at 1-800-545-2433, ext. 4398.

As a reminder, MARS committee members should consider submitting publication proposals throughout the year. During your committee planning process, contemplate the value of developing MARS programs or discussion topics into print or Web publications. The Publications Committee will gladly assist you. For more information about our work, see http://www.ala.org/rusa/mars/marspubh.html. If you have questions about committee projects or the publication process, please contact me.

Toby A. Lyles <tlyles@udel.edu>
Chair, Publications Committee

6. MARS Awards Committee Call for Nominations

It's time to nominate and show appreciation for your "Favorite Martian." You can submit your nomination to any of the committee members listed below. Your nominee for the MARS Achievement Recognition Certificate should be a current member of MARS who has been active for the past two years. Criteria for nomination includes either service remarkable for sustained contributions toward attaining the goals of MARS or for making a single significant contribution that has resulted in a positive impact upon the work of the section. Nominations should be made in time for consideration at the Midwinter Conference. This year's Awards Committee includes Andrea Copeland, acopelan@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu; Nancy Bodner, nbodner@us-netdirect.com; Nicholas Rosselli; rosselli@iunhawl.iun.indiana.edu; Doris Ann Sweet, dasweet@hms.harvard.edu.

Andrea Copeland, Chair

7. Meet MARtians!

Please join us at our Meet MARtians happy hour in Washington D.C. Location to be announced, but mark your calendar now for 5:30-7:30pm on Friday January 12, 2001. No need to be a MARS member or attending the rest of the conference!

Naomi Lederer
Chair, Outreach Committee
nlederer@manta.library.colostate.edu
(970) 491-0593
The Products & Services Committee will present its annual Midwinter Discussion Forum, “How Much? Why? The Economics of Online Full-Text” on Saturday, January 13, 2001, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Three speakers will address the issues, and there will be plenty of time for questions. We invite you to come and participate. Check your program or the Products & Services web site <http://library.nevada.edu/test/ala/index.html> for meeting place and additional details.

Rosemary L. Meszaros, Chair
Products & Services Committee

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subscribe mars-l Firstname Lastname