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BROOKLYN, QUEENS AND STATEN ISLAND
HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIANS

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE FOUR
WINTER 1993

"NO TWO SNOWFLAKES ARE ALIKE."

With each new snow fall, I think of my seventh-grade science teacher, Sr. James, who in her thick Irish brogue informed us that "no two snowflakes are alike", as we studied about weather in the winter of 1967. For our homework assignment, Sr. James asked us to write an essay about where snowflakes came from. Several days later when our assignments were returned, Sister told us that scientifically most of our papers were correct, but that we had forgotten to note that snowflakes really come from the hand of God! Well, enough said about snow - we've already been plowed under!



Crystals of Snow (greatly magnified).

During the fall meeting, I noticed that several members used the newsletter as a doodling pad. So, I am announcing the "FIRST ANNUAL BQSI NEWSLETTER DOODLING CONTEST". All you have to do is doodle something in this issue, return it to me and I will choose the winner. The grand prize winner gets to be the Guest Editor for the next issue. NOT!

Recently our library received a survey that asked us to check what consortiums we belong to (as an institution or personal member). This is how it read for BQSI: Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island Health Sciences Library Group. With pride, I blackened out the words "Library Group" and typed in bold letters "Librarians", so that we would have a correct listing. Why is it that these organizations don't know our name? I believe that as members of BQSI we should do our best to make certain that our name is correct. We can't assume that others will know what BQSI stands for.

We have come full circle with this fourth issue of 1993. A new publication schedule can be found on page four, and be sure to read Lydia Friedman's review on page three. The Spring 1994 issue will contain a practical joke to celebrate April Fool's Day!

Thanks for listening!



SHARED RESOURCES REPORTS

Since September of 1993, the Huntington Hospital Medical Library has been a DOCLINE user. Their LIBID is 11743A.

Due to a recent fire, the library at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center (MUH/MC) will be not be accepting any interlibrary loans until further notice.

The JFK Medical Center in Edison, New Jersey now has a fax machine. The number is 908-632-1623.

BHSL statistical forms are to be mailed, NOT FAXED, to Lydia Friedman the first week of every month (unless other specific arrangements have been made with Lydia).

Due to a critical staff shortage, Nassau County Medical Center (NCM), LIBID 11554A, would appreciate your using other libraries when possible for interlibrary loans and fax requests for a period of six months (memo from NCMC dated 12/8/93).

North Hills Passavant Hospital (NHP) has changed its name to Passavant Hospital.

The Medical Letter (TML) has withdrawn from BHSL.

Please note the following corrections/additions to the BHSL update of September 1993:

- . The fax number of Blue Cross of Western Pennsylvania Corporate Library is 412-255-7423.
- . The Medical Center in Beaver, Pa. (LIBID 15009A) is an active DOCLINE participant. Their new telephone number is 412-773-1941, fax number is 412-728-7429.
- . The fax number for Suburban General Hospital (ZQU) is 412-734-6149.
- . The LIBID for the St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing, in New Castle, Pa. is 16101A.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Congratulations to Paul Tobin of St. Mary's Hospital, who was a Gold Standard Search winner (see the November-December 1993 NLM Technical Bulletin. Way to go, Paul!

Narciso Rodriquez of Brooklyn Hospital has a new telephone number: 718-250-6943,44. The fax # is: 718 250-6428.

Carolyn Mansbach of Jamaica Hospital has a new address and telephone number, noted below:

8900 Van Wyck Expressway
718-206-6042

Several members attended the MEDLARS Refresher & Review, taught by BQSI Professor Emerita Robert J. Bronson, on January 13th. Thanks to Roberta and Maureen Czujak for the great workbook they wrote and produced.

In various locations around N.Y.C., members viewed the NLM Satellite Broadcast on January 21st. Perhaps we can compare notes at the Spring meeting with those who were unable to attend.



THE ROUNDTABLE RETURNS!

Just when you thought that The Roundtable was about to be cut into toothpicks, Lucy DiMatteo has sent in this query:

What sources do you use for book reviews?

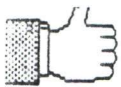
Thanks, Lucy! Send your comments by March 15th to George Wahlert for inclusion in the next newsletter.

**IF YOU HAVE AN
ITEM OF INTEREST,
SEND IT TO ONE OF
THESE GEORGE'S!**



"We cannot tell a lie!"





Lydia Friedman
Maimonides Medical Center

It's Howdy DOODY time.

Introducing Doody Publishing's new and unique journal entitled Doody's Health Sciences Book Review Journal.

This journal contains citations of 250 biomedical books per issue, of which 150 are reviewed. An annual cumulation in May will cite 3000 publications, reviewing 1800. So far 80 publishers have sent in books to be reviewed. The reviews provide a description, purpose, features, target audience, and overall assessment of the books. In addition, the books are rated, based on a questionnaire each reviewer completes, covering quantity, quality, illustrations, references, if the author's objectives were met, etc.. Reviewers are professionals in their fields and are almost all affiliated with academic medical centers. They are recruited by Editorial Review Groups which are chaired by leading academic specialists.

This long awaited publication can serve as a valuable selection tool for collection development. During a period of tight fiscal constraints when purchasing power is restricted, informed decisions are essential. The reviews are detailed, yet concise and provide positive and negative evaluations. Unique from reviews in other biomedical journals, Doody's only reviews books up to six months old in a convenient single source covering 75 medical specialties. It is designed by health sciences librarians for health sciences librarians --- hurray for Doody! There is a Library Board of Advisors made up of 16 high respected librarians, including Mark Funk of Cornell University and Gale Dutcher of the National Library of Medicine.

NEWS BREAKER --- At the time of submission of this column I have scooped written announcements to the public that will state

"The Medical Library Association has recently announced its endorsement of a new journal, Doody's Health Sciences Review Journal, as a valuable tool for health science librarians. Both individual and institutional members of the MLA are eligible for a 20% discount off the subscription price."

This journal is published six times a year by Doody Publishing, Inc., 1145 Westgate Street, Suite 200, Oak Park, IL 60301-9918. Telephone number: 1-800-219-9500. Subscription price: \$195. (20% discount for MLA members). Annual cumulation: \$295. (see if MLA discount is offered). Sample issues are available - ask for Dan Doody and tell him you read about it in Lydia Friedman's column.

Helpful Hint: For those of you who cannot, or choose not to subscribe to the above journal, another method which I have found useful in managing book reviews is to photocopy the book reviews I find of interest in the journals received each day, and file them according to subject specialty. Certain negative reviews are kept too as reminders not to purchase. When it is purchasing time again I consult the files. What is your method?

Please forward any comments regarding this column to Lydia Friedman.

THINGS THEY NEVER TAUGHT YOU IN GRADUATE SCHOOL!

Since I am still working on the piece about librarians as "happy" chondriacs, I decided to rewrite some fairy tales and relate them to libraries and librarianship. Here are some examples:

Cinderella decides to skip the ball, and visits her local library where she reads a copy of Vanity Fair.

The Three Little Pigs were really librarians who have all of their best plans blown away by the big bad wolf, who works as a hospital administrator in his spare time!

Aladdin decides to work at a hospital library and asks the genie to grant him three wishes: to fully automate the library, to have all bills paid, and to process his application to the Academy of Health Information Professionals. The rest of us will have to continue dreaming!

On her way to visit Grandma, Little Red Riding Hood goes to the public library and borrows a copy of Kathie Lee Gifford's latest book for Grandma. She later uses it to hit the big bad wolf over the head.

Hansel and Gretel, now grown and medical students, are caught trying to sneak Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine from the library. The librarian throws them in the book return and sends a letter to the Dean of Students.

Would you like to contribute a twisted fairy tale? Why not write one up and send it in!

This newsletter is issued four times a year - at the end of March, June, September and December. Correspondence may be addressed to: George A. Wahlert, Editor
Morgan Library - Long Island College Hospital
340 Henry Street
Brooklyn, New York 11201
MLCNY #: S-80 METRO #: 127
Please submit items for the March issue by

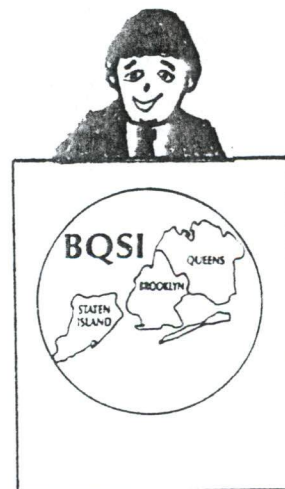


CALL FOR NOMINEES!



Hear Ye! Hear Ye! The nominating committee is calling for nominees for a member to fill a position on the Executive Board, which will become effective at the close of the Spring meeting this year. The elected member will serve three years on the Executive Board, which consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and two other Board members. The Executive Board has the authority to manage BQSI's property and to regulate and govern its affairs (see the BQSI Bylaws, Article V). The Executive Board member must be able to attend at least one meeting annually (usually the Spring meeting). If you are interested in this position or would like to nominate someone, please inform George Wahlert, Chair/Nominating Committee after February 22nd.

And Now A Few Words From Andrew Giuliani



"Trade in your guns for
MLA CEU Credits!"