President's Message

Hello Everyone,

Our very successful June transition meeting is now behind us, and we are preparing the agenda for our August 5th Strategic Planning Meeting to be held at the California College of Podiatric Medicine. At this meeting we will be identifying new and ongoing objectives for our Chapter. Our goal is to lay the groundwork for developing a 2-3 year NCNMLG strategic plan that is both realistic and achievable. Due to the complexity of some of our agenda items, and in order to make maximum use of our time, I have hired a meeting facilitator to assist us in achieving optimal results at this meeting.

In these days of tough competition it will help us to focus on our strategic plan and articulate our vision, mission and professional values. This will give us a fresh perspective on who we are and where we are headed. One of the main objectives for NCNMLG is to create value for its members. In order to do this we need your input and participation. Please share your ideas with me or one of your Chapter officers. We have many choices to make and tasks to complete for the coming year.

See you at the meetings.

Warmest Regards,

Billie White
President, NCNMLG

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## CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER
- **15**
  - Copy deadline for September/October *NCNMLG Newsletter*
- **24**
  - Board meeting and program at UC Berkeley’s Marian Koshland Bioscience & Natural Resources Library OR Samuel Merritt College, Oakland (see flyer on page 11)
- **30**
  - Sierra/Nevada Chapter of SLA dinner meeting at the new Nile of Sacramento, 1115 Front St., Old Sacramento. $17 members, $19 non-members, $15 students/retirees. Turkey meatloaf or pasta primavera. Speaker TBA from the Digital Library of California. Contact Ava Goldman, email: ava_goldman@calpers.ca.gov phone: 916-658-1533 for further information.

### OCTOBER
- **11**
  - Evidence-based Medicine and the Medical Librarian, a web-based course begins (See description on page 16)
- **22**
  - Sierra Nevada Chapter of SLA all-day fall workshop, Friday, October 22, Cindy Mediaville, (adjunct instructor, San Jose State), 8:15AM-4 PM, on team-building, leadership, and communication, at the Canterbury Inn, Sacramento, $60 members, $75 non-members, $45 students/retirees. Contact Ava Goldman, email: ava_goldman@calpers.ca.gov phone: 916-658-1533 for further information.

### NOVEMBER
- **13-16**
  - California Library Association Annual Conference, Palm Springs
- **15**
  - Copy deadline for November/December *NCNMLG Newsletter*
- **19**
  - Board meeting and program at Sutter Health, Sacramento

### JANUARY
- **15**
  - Copy deadline for January/February *NCNMLG Newsletter*
- **20**
  - Board meeting at UCSF, San Francisco (Interested members are welcome)

### FEBRUARY
- **9-12**
  - NCNMLG/MLGSCA Joint Meeting, San Diego (See Call for Papers page 13)

### MARCH
- **15**
  - Copy deadline for March/April *NCNMLG Newsletter*

### APRIL
- **9-15**
  - National Library Week
- **12**
  - Board Meeting and program (location TBA)

### MAY
- **5-11**
  - MLA Annual Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia
- **15**
  - Copy deadline for May/June *NCNMLG Newsletter*

### JUNE
- **23**
  - Transition meeting for incoming NCNMLG officers and committee chairs
JULY

2-5  8th International Congress on Medical Librarianship, London, England
6-13  American Library Association Annual Conference, Chicago

For more library-related events, see Librarian's Datebook at http://www.hsl.unc.edu/libcal.htm
**1999/2000 NCNMLG OFFICERS**

President: Billie White  
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MLA Nominating Committee Nominee: Heidi Heilemann  
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**Items for the NCNMLG Newsletter may be sent in electronic/digital format to:**

Sharon S. Chadwick  
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Arcata, CA 95521  
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(707)826-3440 fax  
email: ssc1@axe.humboldt.edu

The NCNMLG Newsletter is published 6 times a year,  
(July/August, September/October, November/December, January/February, March/April, May/June)

**Copy for the September/October newsletter is due by the 15th of September.**

The NCNMLG Newsletter is available in PDF format at the NCNMLG Website at: <http://ncnmlg.stanford.edu> In order to read the newsletter in this format, you will need the Acrobat Reader plug-in which can be downloaded for free from Adobe Systems' web site <http://www.adobe.com/proindex/acrobat/readstep.html>. Once Acrobat Reader is installed, click on the PDF file icon for the newsletter and Acrobat Reader will open up on top of your web browser and display the document right on your screen.
The Governmental Relations Committee keeps NCNMLG members abreast of state and federal legislative issues and governmental actions important to medical libraries and librarianship. (From the position/committee descriptions in the NCNMLG Membership Directory)

I posted notices to the membership listserv when I found something that I thought was important to the members. Occasionally, I would post a brief “how-to” and why it was important to write your legislator. I believe that fostering awareness of public libraries is also important to medical librarians because people who use the public libraries, especially as children, tend to appreciate the services of libraries in their institutions.

I kept up with issues via the news media and postings from ALA and MLA. Since all of the professional library organizations have governmental relations/advocacy sections, each has some information on their websites. In preparation for this report, I collected these sites, for I thought would be useful to the committee and to the membership. To prepare, update and publish this report each year might be a service to the membership that the chair could do.

ALAs Washington Office Newsline
http://www.ala.org/washoff/alawon/index.html
Indispensable for keeping up with government relations! I found this most useful. This is an irregular newsletter published by the Washington office of the American Library Association.

Website for Copyright information
...The Medical Library Association keeps this up to date

Legislative Action Center
http://congress.nw.dc.us/mla/
Contains “Action Alerts & Legislation,” “Guide to Congress,” & “Write to Congress” section

American Library Association
http://www.ala.org/advocacy/
The ALA has a very active advocacy program. This page has ideas the Governmental Relations Committee could adapt to the NCNMLG membership.

American Library Association listservs: http://www.ala.org/membership/lists.html
...This is a long list of listservs. There might be something useful to the members, and the committee could go through these and select a listserv to highlight in the newsletter.

Special Libraries Association
http://www.sla.org/list.html#instructions -
Instructions to join SLA listservs, especially government relations

California Library Association
http://www.cla-net.org/
....These sites contain legislative and advocacy information for NCNMLG members in California.

Nevada Library Association
http://www.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/nla/index.html
and NLA Legislation Page
http://www.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/nla/legislation.htm
....The Nevada Library Association’s site appeared easier to navigate than California’s and contains a variety of useful links. The Governmental Relations Committee could select a site of interest for a brief profile to the members.
Digital Libraries: Part Three of a Three-Part Series  (previously published in the MLGSCA Newsletter)

Eva Perkins, EPA Research.

In conclusion to this three-part series on digital libraries, let us look into our crystal ball into the not-so-far future. We see wearable computers, smart rooms and virtual humans everywhere. The role of medical librarians has evolved into designing digital entities of agent software for knowledge management applications. We will design avatars representing ourselves for online training and reference interviews, and develop intelligent agents (virtual librarians) that will assist in information organization and recall.

First, a little background into this strange world. Research efforts across university campuses, government laboratories and in private industry are bringing us wearable computers, smart rooms and virtual humans. The computer interface is changing from the personal computer on your desktop to a wearable computer. The military is testing shirts with wearable computers that communicate vital signs to medical personnel via satellite. Dr. Edward Rosen has written about the use of wearable computers in telemedicine, as another instance. There is an accelerating market for all forms of virtual reality (VR). Medical students, interns and residents learn through visualization tools that take advantage of VR technologies to study visually and spatially disciplines such as human anatomy, biochemistry and molecular biology. VR-based surgical simulations (think of flight simulators in aviation) provide training experiences without the risks and ethical considerations associated with using animal and human subjects. In another application, virtual reality exposure has become a cost-effective treatment of anxiety disorders -- a case study report in the Journal of Psychotherapy Practice demonstrates the value of this approach to the fear of flying. In our world, librarians at the University of Washington are using software to produce visualizations of full-text searches to identify technology trends. Other librarians will be crafting 3-D visualizations to analyze information retrieval in the future.

Virtual humans are particularly valuable. From training tools to entertainment systems, virtual humans are in demand just as the power necessary to support real-time virtual humans is becoming affordable. In medicine, interns and residents study virtual patients, which manifest a wide range of traumatic wounds and disease states, that is not available with humans in the numbers and diversity of virtual patients. Military medicine has developed a simulated "casualty agent" with appropriate injuries and physiological responses for medics to learn from. In this simulation, the trainee's virtual self (avatar) learns how to respond to battlefield emergencies.

In the future, people (including librarians) will be operating in a three-dimensional computer environment. Already, MIT has a Web site that is "a dynamically growing urban landscape of information." City of News is an interactive Web browser that immerses the user in a 3-D spatial layout. Librarians will become the virtual architects and guides in the information spheres of these cities. Users, on the other hand, will employ virtual reality technologies to build information landscapes in three-dimensional computer environments. Power searchers will navigate in 3-D search interfaces that provide users with multiple reference points in high dimensional space.

So, as we approach this bright new world, let us take stock of our current situation. With so many of our tools and resources on the Net, we have been thrown together with every other Netizen, diminishing our voice in the ongoing debate with information providers over access, value and cost. It has become important to maintain awareness of developments in negotiating site licenses with information providers. Doris Helfer, for example, offers an excellent outline of the University of California’s impressive progress in this area.

Secondly, the endless pursuit of technological expertise continues to be our lot. Who has not questioned the large amount of time spent solving problems brought about by technology? Nonetheless, let us master 3-D environments and create virtual librarians with the best of them.

References

Emerson, T. "What comes after knowledge management?" Information Outlook, 1993, pp 13-14

Helfer, Doris. "The changing academic library and what the University of California is attempting to do." Searcher, 1999, v 7(3):10-16


(Continued from page 5)

Korfhage, R. "Research and writing in information retrieval."


_______________________________________________________________________

Ida and George Eliot Prize

Nominations are invited from the MLA membership at large for the Ida and George Eliot Prize. This Prize is presented annually for a work published in the preceding calendar year which has been judged most effective in furthering medical librarianship. Standards for judging include the work’s contribution to the profession; impact; arrangement of information; and expression of content. The award was first presented in 1962 and is currently sponsored by Login Brothers Book Company, Chicago, IL. The recipient receives a cash award of $200 and a certificate.

Deadline for applications is November 1, 1999. For further information on the procedures for nomination and application, contact Anne Greenspan in the Professional Development Department, MLA, Ste. 1900, 65 East Wacker Place, Chicago, IL 60601-7298; 312/419-9094 x28.

_______________________________________________________________________________________

Louise Darling Medal For Distinguished Achievement in Collection Development in the Health Sciences

The Louise Darling Medal is presented annually by the Medical Library Association in recognition of distinguished achievement in collection development in the health sciences. The medal honors Louise Darling’s significant accomplishment in this professional specialty.

The Louise Darling Medal was established in 1987 by Ballen Booksellers International, Inc., and is now sponsored by Blackwell North America, Inc. The recipient receives an engraved medal, a certificate and a $1,000.00 cash award.

Nominations:

Nominees may be individuals, institutions, or groups of individuals
It is preferred that the nominee be a member of MLA

Nominations may be made for overall distinction or leadership within collection development; production of a definitive publication related to collection development; teaching of collection development; development of an extraordinary national information resource or collection in any format (e.g. printed materials, audiovisuals, electronic files, etc.); or any other collection development activity deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors, the Awards Committee, and the Darling Medal Jury.

(Continued on page 7)
Nominations are accepted from the MLA membership at large and from members of the Louise Darling Medal Jury.

Nominations must be in writing and contain at least the following elements:

1. A precise description of the nominee's achievement in collection development for which the nomination is being made.

2. A current resume' or curriculum vitae for individuals and appropriate background information for institutions.

3. Any further information which may assist the Jury in evaluation of the nomination and selection of the recipient.

Nomination Forms:

Contact Anne Greenspan, Professional Development Department, Medical Library Association, 65 E. Wacker Place, Suite 1900, Chicago, IL 60601-7298. Voice: 312/419-9094, ext 28; fax: 312/419-8950; mlapd2@mlahq.org.

Nomination Deadline:

Please submit six copies of the completed nomination by November 1, 1999 to the Chair of the Awards Committee: Dixie Jones, LSU Medical Center, Medical Center Library, P.O. Box 33932, 1501 Kings Highway, Shreveport, LA 71130-3932, djones@lsumc.edu

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Call for Nominations: MLA FELLOW

Fellowship is conferred in recognition of outstanding and sustained contributions to the advancement and purposes of MLA.

Criteria:
* Current Regular MLA membership for at least 10 years
* 10 years professional experience in health information science
* 5 years of notable leadership in MLA
  - offices in MLA, chapters, committees, etc.
* Outstanding achievement
  - highly significant or durable contribution to the goals of MLA
* Significant scholarship
  - publications, teaching/course development, research evidence
* Professional reputation
  - letters of support from colleagues, literature citations

Nominations should go directly to Dixie Jones, LSU Medical Center, Medical Center Library, P.O. Box 33932, 1501 Kings Highway, Shreveport, LA 71130-3932, djones@lsumc.edu by November 1.
Call for Nominations: HONORARY MEMBER

Honorary Membership is conferred on non-MLA members who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the purposes of MLA. They may be outside the library profession

Criteria:

*Outstanding achievement in an appropriate field
  -library, health science education, medical informatics, legislation, etc.

*Notable leadership in chosen field
  -positions held, honors & awards received, publications, other attainments

*Impact on the advancement of MLA's mission
  -promulgation of standards of performance, adoption of new/modified methodologies in information management, influence on programs

*Professional reputation
  -letters of support from colleagues, literature citations

Deadline for applications: November 1, 1999. Nominations should go directly to Dixie Jones, LSU Medical Center, Medical Center Library, P.O. Box 33932, 1501 Kings Highway, Shreveport, LA 71130-3932, djones@lsumc.edu

For both awards, request applications from:

Anne Greenspan
Medical Library Association
Professional Development
65 E. Wacker Place
Suite 1900
Chicago, IL 60601-7298
312-419-9094
mlapd2@mlahq.org

Jury Members are:

David W. Boilard
Medical College of Ohio - Toledo

Polin P. Lei
University of Arizona AHS Library - Tucson

Thomas Williams
University of South Alabama - Mobile
Call for Nominations: McClure Excellence in Education Award

The Medical Library Association Awards Committee is seeking nominations for the Lucretia W. McClure Excellence in Education Award for the year 2000. The deadline for nominations is 1 November 1999.

The Lucretia W. McClure Excellence in Education Award is the Association's newest. It was established in 1998 in honor of Mrs. McClure and was awarded to her in May 1999. Lucretia W. McClure is one of MLA's most respected members and has made numerous contributions to the advancement of the profession.

The award is presented to an individual whom the Association wishes to recognize as an outstanding educator. CE instructors, library school faculty, professional trainers, informaticians or librarians who instruct users are all eligible if they have demonstrated excellence and achievement in teaching, service, curriculum development, mentoring, research, leadership, publications, presentations, special projects or any combination of these areas at local, regional and national levels. Nominees must be employed as health sciences librarians or educators at the time of the award and must have worked in such a position for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the award.

Nominations must be in writing and must contain at least the following elements:
   a) a precise description of the nominee's achievements
   b) a current resume or curriculum vitae
   c) any further information which would assist the jury in the evaluation of the nomination and selection of the recipient

Self-nominations are encouraged and accepted.

Nomination forms may be obtained from:
Anne Greenspan
Professional Development
Medical Library Association
65 East Wacker Place, Suite 1900
Chicago, IL 60601-7298
Tel: 312/419-9094 ext. 28
Fax: 312/419-8950
E-mail: mlapd2@mlahq.org

Six copies of the nomination and all accompanying documentation must be submitted by 1 November 1999 to:
Dixie Jones, Chair, MLA Awards Committee
LSUMC Medical Library
P.O. Box 33932
Shreveport, LA 71130-3932
Tel: 318/747-6146
E-mail: djones@lsumc.edu

CORRECTION TO MINUTES OF APRIL 9, 1999 BUSINESS MEETING

The Bylaw Amendments were approved by the NCNMLG membership at the April 9, 1999 Business Meeting.

MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

Jamie Lamkin is the new Information Services Librarian at the Barnett-Briggs Medical Library, San Francisco General Hospital. You may remember Jamie as the Tri Chair of the 1999 Joint Meeting in San Jose. Her e-mail is jlamkin@sfgdean.ucsf.edu and phone number (415) 206-6639.

Applications are now being accepted for the journal exchange for the year 1999/00. The NCNMLG runs this exchange in conjunction with the MLGSCA exchange. The cost for the exchange goes for printing and postage. The cost is again $20.00. An application form is enclosed on page 12 of this issue of the NCNMLG Newsletter for your convenience. This will be for the next year and will include three different lists.

For those who are interested Blackwell offers a medical journal exchange called Backmed. Backmed is free to subscribers. To get information on this exchange, please go to their web page: http://lists.blackwell.co.uk/mailman/listinfo/backmed

The exchange can be received in either digest form once a day, or each list individually. Also the list can be turned off from the web page for times when you do not want to receive the list. Examples of such times include when you are on vacation, when you have too much work to do to check the list, or when your work requirements give you little time for checking the list.

If you have more questions, please contact me.

Ronald E. Schultz
415.292.0409
rschultz@ccpm.edu

NCNMLG's Unsung Heroes

[Dorrie Slutsker has written the following article recognizing the fine work of the NCNMLG mail group. What happens to the mail once it is delivered to the NCNMLG mailbox on Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley? Read on………]

The chair of the mail group is Gerald Saunders. He has a committee of two: Laurie Bagley and Juta Savage. They have been picking up and redistributing NCNMLG mail for over 6 years. Gerald draws up the schedule (who picks up/redistributes which week) and manages schedule fluctuations due to illness, vacations, etc. Gerald also forwards the bills for the NCNMLG post office box rental to the treasurer. He is responsible for preparing mailing labels for himself and his committee with the names/addresses of the officers and committee chairs who are the most common recipients of mail. These include the President, Treasurer, Membership Chair, and Coupon Chair.

It is very important that the mail distribution team be informed immediately of the names/addresses of new officers and committee chairs, so that mail reaches its intended destination as quickly as possible. It is also important that NCNMLG members address mail accurately as well as let the membership chair know of changes in their own addresses promptly. Misdirected mail can take a long time to reach its correct recipient and has increased risks for being lost in transit. Desired results such as membership renewal or coupon purchase are also thwarted when mail is incorrectly addressed.
NCNMLG Presents ..

Marti Hearst, Assistant Professor,
School of Information Management & Systems (SIMS) University of California, Berkeley
http://www.sims.berkeley.edu/~hearst

Professor Hearst’s expertise focuses on user interfaces, human capabilities and language analysis to build, and to evaluate the effectiveness of, computer-based information systems. Some of her work includes study and development of search interface systems and text data mining systems. Her interests include the manipulation of information technologies to affect other users' experiences and medical informatics. Professor Hearst will talk about her research and its implications. She also will include a quick overview of SIMS.

Friday, September 24 – Mid-day (Details not available at press time!)
Tentative locations: UC Berkeley Marian Koshland Bioscience & Natural Resources Library or Samuel Merritt College, Oakland
Tentative: Networking lunch – Buffet or lunch-out at nearby restaurant(s) or possible brown bag for small group
Important business meeting will be held on student membership category [membership vote is needed to pass it].

Watch the NCNMLG listserv for the times, location, lunch prices, and transportation!
Sign up instructions for the NCNMLG listserv are on Page 3 of the 1998-99 Membership Directory.

Don’t have e-mail? Can’t use the listserv? Prefer U.S. mail or a fax? You will receive a notice by mail or fax when location and lunch format(s) have been confirmed. Fill out the information below, and fax or mail to:
Mary Beth Train 3305 Middlefield Road Palo Alto, California 94306-3049
Fax: 650-856-0430 Phone: 650-494-3269 e-mail: mbt@netmagic.net

TENTATIVE PROGRAMS FOR 1999 - 2000
November 19, Sacramento Midday State Library: Digital Library of CA, Multi-type Library Networking, or LSCA Grants
April 12, Redwood City Dinner NIH’s E-Bio-Med proposal

YOUR PROGRAM INTERESTS (Examples) I’d go!
BayNet - Bay Area consortia of public and private libraries
The Automation Vendor’s View of libraries, information & the future
Skills Librarians Need in the Virtual World
Negotiation & Communication Strategies for Hospital Librarians
Conducting Focus Groups - Right for You?
The Quality Catalog - Your Management & Promotional Tool

Your ideas:______________________________________________________________

Name & Address: ________________________________________________________
Phone: _______________ Fax: ___________________ e-mail: ______________

Would you ... (Circle Yes or No) Like to recruit a speaker? Yes No
Get underwriter(s) for some of the costs? Yes No
Design a program flyer? Yes No Organize a car pool? Yes No

Comments:
TO:
Mary Beth Train, NCNMLG Program Chair
3305 Middlefield Road
Palo Alto, California 94306-3049
CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS

2000: The Future is Now
2000 Joint NCNMLG/MLGSCA Meeting
February 9-12, 2000
Town & Country Resort
San Diego, CA

The 2000 Joint Meeting Program Committee encourages you to participate in the next Joint Meeting by submitting a proposal for either a contributed paper or poster. Papers and posters on any topic are welcome. Those showing ways libraries are responding to or preparing for future changes and innovation are particularly encouraged.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share information with your colleagues. You might want to consider making a joint presentation with a co-worker. Also, if you know of librarians who are working on projects or involved in research that you think might make an interesting paper or poster, please submit their names and they will be contacted by one of the chairs. Those of you who are planning to present a paper or poster at MLA next year might consider this as a chance to hone your presentation skills before a smaller audience.

A few suggested topics:

Consumer Health
Electronic Resources
Intranets
Copyright
Distance Learning
Telemedicine
Outreach Projects
Library Competencies

For papers: Two copies of an abstract (250 words maximum) describing the contributed paper may be submitted by mail, e-mail, or fax to the appropriate chairperson. E-MAIL IS PREFERRED. The first copy should list all authors and institutional affiliations. The second copy will be used in a blind review process and should not include any information identifying authors or institutions. A WRITTEN PAPER IS NOT REQUIRED. Those whose abstracts are accepted should be prepared to speak for approximately 15 minutes.

For posters: A copy of an abstract (250 words maximum) describing the poster and its purpose may be submitted by mail, e-mail, or fax to the appropriate chairperson. E-MAIL IS PREFERRED. List all presenters and institutional affiliations.

Please submit your abstract by November 1 to:

Contributed Papers Chair
Kay E. Wellik
Mayo Clinic Scottsdale
Clinic Library
13400 E. Shea Blvd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85259
480-301-7355
Fax: 480-301-7005
E-mail: wellik.kay@mayo.edu

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E-mail: nstimson@ucsd.edu
Evidence-Based Medicine Course

Interested in learning the basics of evidence-based medicine (EBM) but been unable to attend a course? Evidence-based Medicine and the Medical Librarian may be the right course for you. Designed as an introduction for medical librarians to the practice of EBM, this web-based course brings the education to your desktop.

The course is approved for 8 CEUs from the Medical Library Association and runs for 6 consecutive weeks. It will take a total of approximately 8 hours to complete the course, depending on previous knowledge of EBM and other factors. The next offering of the course begins on October 11 and runs through November 19, 1999, and the registration fee is $100.

The format of the course is a combination of course material, independent readings, reviews, and exercises. In addition, students are required to participate in discussions through the course listserv. Thirty (30) minute weekly online chat sessions are scheduled Fridays and participation is optional. A final project integrating all the concepts learned during the previous weeks is also required.

For more information about the course or for registration information, contact Julia Kochi at kochi@library.ucsf.edu or Julie Garrison at julie.garrison@duke.edu.

The NCNMLG Board would like to thank Ron Schultz and the Library at California College of Podiatric Medicine for hosting the Strategic Planning session on August 5, 1999.
DIRECTIONS FOR JOINING THE NCNMLG LISTSERVS

General listserv: ncnmlg@krypton.stanford.edu  Board listserv: ncnmlgbd@krypton.stanford.edu
Everyone is encouraged to subscribe to the general listserv and board members should subscribe to the board listserv. These are very low-volume lists designed for communication of important information from NCNMLG to its members. The only time you will need to unsubscribe is when your e-mail address changes. In this case two actions are necessary. You will need to unsubscribe your old e-mail address and then subscribe the new address. This keeps our listserv current!

TO SUBSCRIBE:
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