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# base line

a newsletter of the Map and Geography Round Table

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<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/magert/index.cfm>

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*base line* is an official publication of the American Library Association's Map and Geography Round Table (MAGERT). 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 MAGERT 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 MAGERT. Contributions should be sent to the appropriate editor listed below.

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Members of MAGERT can access



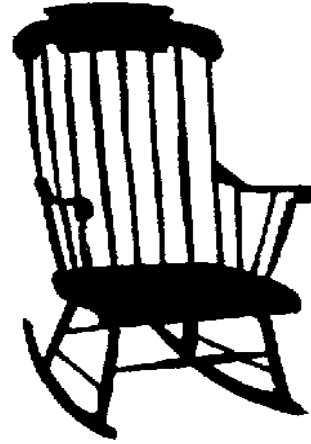
## FROM THE CHAIR

Carolyn Kadri, University of Texas at Arlington

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Plans for ALA Midwinter have been completed. The schedules have been finalized and are available on the MAGERT Web site (<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rt/magert/oversightgroups/2009Midwinter.cfm>).

The Friday evening tour of the Denver Map Library will be 4:30-6:00 and will be conducted by Wendel Cox of the Denver Public Library and Chris Thiry of the





*Pre-Twentieth Century Cartographic Resources*, the organization is no longer in danger of going bankrupt.

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**Executive Board II / General Membership**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
ALA Annual 2008 • Anaheim, CA • July 1, 2008

**Nominations Committee:** – Scott McEathron

No Report.

**Planning Committee:** – Carolyn Kadri

See Vice Chair's report above.

**Education Committee:** – Kathy Weimer

The committee met and discussed the Core Competencies document. The task now is to implement the resulting edits and then get it to the Board for a final look. The Education Assembly liaison to ALA will take the final version of the Core Competencies and send it through the Committee on Education. Hopefully, they will provide some feedback and will post it to the ALA page where other core competencies are listed. Future programs based on the core competencies are an expected outcome.

Carol McAuliffe is stepping in as the new chair.

**Publications Committee:** – Steve Rogers

The publications committee met on Saturday, June 28, 2008 from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

In attendance: David Allen, Jan Dixon, Carolyn Kadri, Roger Knouff, Chris Kollen, Carol McAuliffe, Hallie Pritchett, Steve Rogers, T. Wangyal Shawa, Kathleen Weessies, Kathy Weimer.

Steve Rogers gave a *base line* update, noting that the transition from print to

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online has occurred relatively smoothly. He thanked the regular column editors for their continued good work: Tammy Wong (cataloging), David Bertuca (new maps & books), C.C. Miller (electronic mapping) and Jim Coombs (cartoon).

Due to technical problems, the current issues of *base line* have not been password protected, making them available to anyone with access to the Web. The pros and cons of this status were discussed and it was decided that having *base line* available to all was not such a bad idea and perhaps it would serve as a vehicle for increasing membership. This idea will be forwarded on to the executive board. It was suggested that we announce new issues of *base line* not only on the th

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a possible solution was to have an advertising manager for publications and this person would coordinate with the chair of MAGERT or the executive board.

Jan Dixon gave an update on the *Map Collection Security Guidelines* and showed a mock-up of the administrative summary brochure. She also brought along some illustrations that the task force was considering adding to the full 9-page document. After much discussion, it was decided to hold off on the illustrations, at least for the initial version of the *Guidelines*, and to make the *Guidelines* available through both the MAGERT Web site and *Coordinates* when the final version is ready. The task force will approach the publications committee again about printing the administrative summary when it too is finalized. The summary will also be made available as a PDF on the Web.

Webmaster Colleen Cahill was unable to attend the meeting due to her exhibit booth responsibilities. However, she submitted the following report prior to the meeting:

“The past six months have been one of change for the Web site. We were moved to the new *Collage* content software tool, which is proving to have some problems at present. The ALA staff are working to clear these up. There is one stray bad link in our Web site that the software will not let me fix (I won’t tell you where; it is very minor and no one has noticed it ...yet). This has been reported to ALA and I hope to have a solution from them soon.

*Base line* is now being published directly on the Web site. The only issue with this is we have not been able to make this a members-only access; ALA has asked that we wait to try this until after all the Web pages for the ALA site have been converted to the new *Collage* system. My hope is that this will be completed by the end of the summer and it will be possible to move forward on this.

Please let me know of any edits or additions to the MAGERT Web pages. It would be nice if we make at least a small change to the main page every month; any news or information would be welcome. While I am still learning *Collage*, which is a powerful but complex system, I don’t think that should hold up any changes to the Web site.

—Colleen”

In further discussing the Web site, it was suggested that we consider putting the “From the Chair” column on our Web site in addition to its regular spot in *base line* to further promote the round table and its activities.

Chris Kollen reported on the Map Scanning Registry, noting that there is now a total of 38 entries. She said that there has not been much activity of late. Additional methods to advertise the existence of the registry are being considered.

Chris also reported on the issue of revising *Cartographic Citations: A Style Guide*, last issued in 1992. It was suggested we create a condensed version for the Web and sell the

full printed edition as a MAGERT publication.

A report from publications distribution manager Jim Coombs indicates that the *Rare, Antiquarian, or Just Plain Old* cataloging workbook has been sold to 156 individuals and institutions, adding approximately \$2,600 to MAGERT's income. Also sold during the past fiscal year were 4 books in the Occasional Papers series, 2 Circulars and 1 copy of the West Indies cartobibliography. To date some 439 copies of the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the *Guide to U.S. Map Resources* have been sold.

The final issue discussed was the project to scan the 16 issues of *Meridian* and make them available to readers and researchers on the Web site. After a good deal of discussion it was decided the chair would seek to locate the digital copies in order to get the project back on track.

Steve announced that Hallie Pritchett (University of Georgia) has agreed to serve as the new chair of the

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we noted with satisfaction that the Bibliographic Standards Committee of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section accepted the proposal of a sub-group of our members to develop a manual in the DCRM (Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials) series for cartographic materials. Betsy Mangan

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backlogs of map cataloging, with discussion about simplified records and/or copy cataloging. Few turned to outsourcing, except for unique, foreign language maps that were successfully outsourced to OCLC for cataloging. Some map libraries use student assistants to undertake copy cataloging. Others talked about “simplified records” as a means to get the cataloging done, but were warned that you may “never go back” later for full cataloging. It was recommended to attempt to get grant funding to obtain full cataloging, particularly for unique collections of maps.

In management of digitization/ scanning projects, the group noted that the key is coordination among various departments, especially systems/IT departments. Numerous projects were described as cooperative efforts: National Geospatial Digital Archive at University of California-Santa Barbara with the Library of Congress; University of Wisconsin with the USGS; University of Kansas with a researcher from Germany; and

Collection Management Discussion Group. Please welcome her to this new role at 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver.

### **Attending Liaison Reports:**

#### **WAML** – Kathy Rankin

The Spring 2008 WAML meeting was held March 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> on the campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Speakers presented talks on: food hazard assessment using various types of maps; mapping the Old Spanish Trail; creating online indexes for historic map series; and early maps of southern Nevada. There was also an optional trip to see the *Cirque du Soleil* show “O,” a dinner at a Las Vegas buffet, and a banquet at a restaurant formerly owned by Liberace. The group toured the Atomic Testing Museum. The field trip was a bus trip to Death Valley guided by a naturalist and a geologist with a stop at a National Park Service library.

The Fall 2008 WAML meeting will be held October 1

the fact that RBMS has a diversity committee with an action plan that includes creating a toolkit for going out into the community where Midwinter is held to try to draw into the profession underrepresented minorities. Once this toolkit is available on the Web, we might take a look at it and see how we can adapt what our education committee has done with library school visits so that we also can promote diversity.

**Rare and Endangered Government Publications Committee:** – Mike Smith

The committee is looking into offering a program on security issues for rare materials in general, similar to MAGERT's program, and may want to tap someone from MAGERT to provide a summary of the recent map security issues.

**The Geography and Map Division.**  
**Library of Congress:** – report submitted by John R. Hébert, Chief, Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress

I want to share with you some of the programs and efforts that are underway at the Division and our long-range projects and direction. The Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress engages in a wide variety of programs from **acquisition**, to **cataloging**, **inventory**

Internet it is apparent to all of us that therein lies a whole new community of casual and serious researchers who will benefit from knowledge about maps, map holdings, and reproduction of maps for a whole range of uses. While traditional users will continue to find utility in historical and contemporary materials, it is expected that new applications of geographic information systems by traditional scholars and traditional disciplines will bring a whole host of new users who will be encouraged to integrate cartographic objects in their research.

## Acquisitions

The Geography and Map Division collections now contain approximately 5.5 million map sheets, 80,000 atlases, 500 globes and globe gores, 3000 raised relief images, and over 19,000 CDs containing maps; in April 2008 the Division received a large scale map series on Angola on an external hard drive that was then downloaded into one of the Division's servers. To date, with the institution of machine readable cataloging in the early 1970s, approximately 600,000 bibliographic records exist and that number is strongly represented by contemporary maps, i.e., those acquired since 1970.

The past year was another one filled with considerable acquisitions for the collection. Included among the additions was a manuscript map *Carte de la Province Et Colonie de la Louisiane, dans la partie Septentrional [sic] del Amerique* by Le Page du Pratz [Paris]ca 1732 [Madison Council purchase]; Nicholas Berey and Alexis-Hubert Jaillot,

*Carte de L'Amerique* (Paris, 1671); Hokushika Katsushika, *Katsushika Zenhokusai Taito hitsu* (Edo), 1819; E. Parker, *The Geographical Pastime or the Complete Tour of Europe* (Philadelphia, 1822) (one of the earliest board games published in the United States); Edward C. Biddle, *Industrial & Political Map of Pennsylvania exhibiting the Population, the Principal Resources of Each County, and the Valuation of Property*, 1844; *Local Prohibition Map of Wisconsin* (1950), and 1:1,000,000 scale topographic map series sheets issued during WWII (GSGS/AMS Series 2768, Europe) 23 sheets (gift of Wes Brown); 4 Japanese atlases (gift of Roger Baskes); L.W. F. von Oeschelwitz, [A collection of military plans for the Seven Years' War], (The Hague, 1758-9); IHS, *Iraqi*





This collection is among the last of the materials from the Civil War bibliography to be cataloged, scanned, and mounted on our website.

**U.S. county atlases.** G&M continues to acquire and catalog county atlases from the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, with the aim of building further our holdings of these historically important documents.



materials from the collection of the Real Escuela de Navegación, Cadiz (Maggs Brothers Collection) related to Latin America and the Portuguese and Spanish world. Those items are now available on our website.

## **Reference**

The Reading Room is involved in final editing of the machine readable form of the 1981 Fire Insurance Maps in the Library of Congress. That work, which lists Sanborn map holdings in the Division, will be updated with information on the additions to our Sanborn collection that have occurred since 1981. It is planned that, as the Division scans Sanborn maps, the digital file will be linked to the on-line data base. Interns worked during the summer of 2007 to complete the editing portion of the project with oversight from

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End of another year and 2008 is ending with a small list of new carto-materials, many just in time for holiday gift-giving. Below I have listed a brief

## Maps

**World Gas Map.** London: Petroleum Economist, 2008 (ISBN: 1861862083). Scale: 1:23,000,000. 1 map: col. ; 92 x 117 cm., folded to 31 x 21 cm.

Energy supply seems to be on everyone's minds now and those in the field are looking for current data on anything dealing with fuel. This map and the ones that follow are entries into that field.

Relief and depths shown by gradient tints. Includes satellite imagery, timeline, statistical tables, and graphs on 2006 on gas production, consumption, and movement. Insets: United Kingdom – LNG Trade Movements, 2006 – Trinidad & Tobago – Deepwater gas fields in the Gulf of Mexico (United States) – West Delta deepwater marine Egypt – Northwest Shelf (Australia) – Gulf of Thailand (Thailand) – World

gas production, 2006 – World gas consumption, 2006 – World gas balance.

Fuller, Kevin and Bush, Peregrine. **Gas in the CIS & Europe.** London: Petroleum Economist Ltd., 2008 (ISBN: 1861862482). Scale: [ca. 1:5,600,000]. 1 map: col.; 87 x 137 cm., folded to 31 x 21 cm.

The map shows gas fields, existing/planned pipelines, associated processing plants, and LNG terminals for Commonwealth of Independent States (former Soviet republics) and European countries, including Turkey (it does not cover Eastern Siberia or the Russian Far East).

Relief and depths are shown by gradient tints. The map includes notes, directories, a large inset of northern West

**& Eastern Europe.** London : Petroleum Economist Ltd., 2008 (ISBN: 186186275X). Scale: [ca. 1:5,600,000]. 1 map: col.; 87 x 128 cm., folded to 30 x 21 cm.

This is a companion map to the above title and shows fields, pipelines, processing plants, storage facilities, LNG facilities, tanker terminals, and refineries. It covers Europe including: Turkey, Transcaucasia, and Central Asian republics. The map includes notes, 3 regional insets, statistical tables, graphs, and key to pipelines.

Both maps are important tools for energy and environmental studies research, geologists, and for those studying economics and world trade.

Fuller, Kevin and Bush, Peregrine. **Energy Map of Africa.** London: Petroleum Economist, 2008 (ISBN: 1861862385). Scale: [ca. 1:19,500,000]. 1 map.: col.; 112 x 80 cm., folded to 29 x 21 cm.

A map that goes with the above two titles, this too shows oil and gas fields, coal deposits, tanker terminals, and pipelines and covers the continent of Africa. It includes graphs showing population, economic data, oil production and reserves, gas production and reserves, nuclear and hydro-electric operations, and has 6 inserts, and a list of sources.

## Atlases

**Africa: Atlas of Our Changing Environment.** Nairobi, Kenya: United Nations Environment Programme; London: Distributed by SMI London, base line 29(6): 24

2008 ( ISBN: 9789280728712). 1 atlas (xviii, 374 p.): col. ill., col. maps; 36 cm. (Also available online: <http://www.unep.org/dewa/africa/AfricaAtlas/>).

This atlas is available in print or online and provides a detailed study of “environmental change at more than 100 locations in Africa. There are more than 300 satellite images, 300 ground photographs and 150 maps, along with graphs and charts that give a visual portrayal of Africa and its changing environment that provide scientific evidence of the impact that natural and human activities have had on the continent’s environment over the past several decades. The observations and measurements of environmental change help gauge the extent of progress made by African countries towards reaching the United Nation’s Millennium Development Goals.” —Publisher’s description.

Contents: Africa: Africa’s geography; Africa’s changing environment ; Earth observations – Transboundary environmental issues: Transboundary ecosystems and protected areas ; Transboundary movement of people ; Transboundary movement of pollutants ; Conclusion – Tracking progress towards environmental stability: United Nations Millennium Development Goals : the Millennium declaration ; Country profiles and images of our changing environment.

You can view individual chapters and maps on the UN Web site: <http://www.na.unep.net/AfricaAtlas/AfricaAtlas/chapters.htm>







Minnesota Historical Society Press,  
2008 (ISBN: 978087351593). 1 atlas  
(viii, 215 p.) : ill. (chiefly col.), maps  
(chiefly col.) ; 28 cm.

I have not seen a review copy of this atlas but from what I have read and seen, it looks like a nice treatment of maps for a given state. The atlas contains about 100 facsimile maps showing Minnesota from 1507 to the present (the final 'map' being a GIS). The text describes the mapping of Minnesota in

Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008. (ISBN: 9780802099280). 440 p.: ill. (some col.).

Along with the Asia-related atlases mentioned above, this work will complement one's collection of Asian studies works. This book will be available mid- to late-December so I have not seen it, but from the publisher's description, it may be one to watch:

"Few figures from history evoke such vivid Orientalist associations as Marco Polo, the Venetian merchant, explorer, and writer whose accounts of the 'Far East' sparked literary and cultural imaginations. The essays in *Marco Polo and the Encounter of East and West* challenge what many scholars perceived to be an opposition of 'East' and 'West' in Polo's writings. These writers argue that Marco Polo's experiences along the Silk Road should instead be considered a fertile interaction of cultural exchange. The volume begins with detailed studies of Marco Polo's narrative in its many medieval forms (including French, Italian, and Latin versions). They place the text in its material and generic contexts, and situate Marco Polo's account within the conventions of travel literature and manuscript illumination. Other essays consider the appropriation of Marco Polo's narrative in adaptations, translation, and cinematic art. The concluding section presents historiographic and poetic accounts of the place of Marco Polo in the context of a global world literature.

By considering the production and reception of *The Travels*, this collection lays the groundwork for new histories of world literature written from the perspective of cultural, economic, and linguistic exchange, rather than conquest and conflict."

The main authors (Iannucci is now deceased) are both professors with strong backgrounds in the period.

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This book seems to be of most interest to students of literature (especially Italian), Medieval studies, Asian studies, and for those with an interest in the history of exploration and intercultural relations. Anyone interested in Marco Polo's travels will also enjoy this work.

Franklin, Jane, Lady, 1792-1875. **As Affecting the Fate of My Absent Husband: Selected Letters of Lady Franklin Concerning the Search for the Lost Franklin Expedition, 1848-1860.** Montreal : McGill-Queen's University Press, c2009 (ISBN:

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phers, this book also provides a rich, visual documentary on the edge of Asia, but from a more personal viewpoint than the Aerial Atlas of the Holy Lands (see Atlases). It describes the countries, their cultures, people, and landscape.

This work is of interest to anyone in visual arts, geography, and cultural studies. It would appeal to general readers from high school through adult and offers a glimpse into exotic places that many of us have dreamed of seeing in person.

Williamson, Ronald F. (ed.). **Toronto: a Short Illustrated History of its First 12,000 Years.** Toronto : J. Lorimer /

The following photos of the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim







Great Moments In Map Librarianship by Jim Coombs

