

## **A HealthLINE Timeline**

1971 -- NLM's MEDLINE ("MEDLARS Online") begins

1972 -- Metroplex Council of Health Science Librarians started by Dallas-Fort Worth area medical librarians to meet for educational programs. A standard medical library offers Index Medicus in print, card catalogs in large cabinets, paper ALA forms for interlibrary loan requests, photocopiers, electric typewriters. Stacks of key-punched cards instruct room-sized computers. A new invention, the "pocket calculator," costs \$100.

1972 -- Tarrant County Consortium of Health Science Libraries formed to begin cooperative interlibrary loan in Fort Worth area

1974 -- Dallas Information Exchange/Health Sciences formed to begin cooperative interlibrary loan in the Dallas area. Name soon changed to Dallas Health Science Consortium aka Dallas Consortium of Health Science Libraries

1974 -- MEDLINE searching offered by highly trained medical librarians at TCOM and UTSW. Searches are expensive and results are received by mail.

1977 -- Apple, Tandy and Commodore begin to offer off the shelf personal computers

1978 -- Academy of Health Information Professionals credentialing program established by MLA

June, 1979 -- first Union List of Serials produced including both Dallas and Tarrant County health science libraries (technically called the 2nd edition since it was an update of the 1976 Dallas union list).

Sept. 9, 1979 -- Dallas-Tarrant County Consortium of Health Science Libraries created by merger of Tarrant County Consortium of Health Science Libraries and the Dallas Health Science Consortium

1982 - 3rd (and final) print edition of the Union List completed and bound by Empire Bindery

1983 -- Internet domain name system developed and "@" takes hold

1984 -- Apple Mac personal computer appears

1985 -- NLM's Docline system released to link libraries for interlibrary loan

1986 -- Grateful Med introduced as PC-based, user-friendly software for accessing MEDLARS

1987 -- huge growth of the Internet

1987? - fax machines commonly used to speed interlibrary loan deliveries

Jan. 19, 1989 -- HealthLINE created from merger of Metroplex Council and the Dallas-Tarrant County Consortium. Membership includes both individuals and institutions.

1989 -- hypertext proposed to standardize Internet access

1992 -- WORLD WIDE WEB!

1992 -- Loansome Doc offered to enable physicians to request articles electronically from their libraries

1993 -- NLM's Internet World Wide Web site ([www.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.nlm.nih.gov)). Use of the Internet is growing -- first graphical Web browser, Mosaic

1993 -- Nov. 11 & 12 -- HealthLINE sponsored Jay Daly's QuickDOC workshop.

April, 1994 -- with HealthLINE treasury at a high point the group decided to purchase logo mugs and sponsor the cost of registration for several local medical library science students to attend the SCC convention.

1994 -- first HealthLINE Travel Award pays registration fees for several library school students to attend SCC convention

1994 -- Netscape web browser released

1995 -- typical MEDLINE search done via Grateful Med software and dial up phone line

1996 -- Grateful Med becomes available in Windows and over the World Wide Web

June 26, 1997 -- PubMed announced -- NLM's free, web-based version of MEDLINE. From NLM's 1997 annual report: "Vice President Al Gore did the ceremonial "first free MEDLINE search." A new feature introduced was the ability to link a MEDLINE user who wishes to get a full article directly to the home page of a number of medical publishers, where articles may be viewed or ordered. So far, about 100 journals are so linked to MEDLINE and the number continues to increase."

1998 -- HealthLINE Listserv begins, Sherry Porter Listserv Administrator

October, 1998 -- MedlinePlus announced -- online access to consumer health information

1998 -- HealthLINE appoints first Historian, Lynn Johnson

1999 -- NLM introduces LocatorPlus

2001 -- Archives Committee appointed

May, 2002 -- MLA Annual Conference in Dallas

September, 2002 -- MedlinePlus en español released

2004 -- Task Force begins work on long range planning resulting in Communications, Mentoring, Awards and Party Committees?

March 25, 2004 -- first post on HealthLINE blog, Molly Montgomery web master

2004 -- HealthLINE instrumental in creating LibrariansUnlimited listserv for all DFW area librarians

October, 2005 -- Brian Bunnett selected first HealthLINE Librarian of the Year

April, 2006 -- HealthLINE celebrates its "15th" anniversary with an elaborate party

2007 (?) -- listserv becomes official format for meeting announcements instead of mail

July 17, 2008 -- HealthLINE votes to expand blog into a formal web site.

2008 -- Today even a small hospital library offers online access to full text of many articles linked into PubMed search results (free and usually done by the customer himself) by NLM's LinkOut service (free). Electronic journals are often expensive and availability is not standardized. Card catalogs are online card catalogs via library websites. Interlibrary loan is provided through NLM's Docline service with frequent same day return of the article by pdf attached to an email. We still use photocopiers but they often include scanners. Fax machines are a backup and electric typewriters are about to disappear. Vendors give away thumb drives holding a gig of data that fit on a key chain.

(sources HealthLINE archives and websites of NAHSL, Computer History Museum, NLM and MLA)

[http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ja06/ja06\\_mla\\_dg.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/ja06/ja06_mla_dg.html)

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/ocpl/anreports/fy1997.pdf> see p. v

a good history article: [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/final\\_published\\_lacroix\\_backus.pdf](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/final_published_lacroix_backus.pdf)