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President's Page

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April 2013

Dear MACers:

It's hard for me to believe that my term as president is nearing its end. It has been an honor to serve in this position, and I sincerely thank you for the opportunity. I have always felt that MAC is a special organization. Over these past two years, I have come to appreciate this "specialness" more fully, through the unwavering dedication and hard work of so many MAC members who give freely of their time and talents. Thanks to all, for everything you do and have done to make this a high-quality operation!

Speaking of dedication and hard work, the Program and Local Arrangements Committees have planned a wonderful Annual Meeting for us in Indianapolis. Program sessions promise to provide engaging and thought-provoking treatments of a wide array of subjects. I should admit that Indianapolis is one of my favorite cities, partly because of my deep family roots in the area, but mostly because Indy is just a really cool place to visit! I know you will enjoy your time in the Circle City.

Please remember we will be voting on a \$15 dues increase at the Indianapolis Members' Meeting on Friday. As outlined in the last newsletter, Council proposes this increase in an effort to bring MAC's costs in line with its operating budget. As part of this effort, Council has worked diligently to pinpoint areas where we can conserve monies and streamline activities to be more cost efficient. We ask you to please take part in this important vote for MAC's future.

One of the ways we are working to cut costs is to move more operations on-line. As you know, MAC's renewal/new member form now includes a "Go Green" option to forego print and receive MAC publications via the Web, and, for a second year, we are utilizing an on-line election ballot that has substantially reduced mailing costs.

At the same time, we are investigating news ways (or improving old ones) to engage members. The On-line Publications Task Force is exploring how the newsletter can be a stronger communication tool. Jennifer Johnson and the Task Force will be sending out a survey to members to gather your input. In addition, we continue to work out details concerning the new Speakers Bureau pilot project, with a full report coming at the Indianapolis meeting. I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,



Ellen D. Swain
President, Midwest Archives Conference