

WM
MPLA Webmaster Report
05 January 2015

Website Rebuild/Redesign

We switched MPLA website over to the new iteration right after the November 2014 Arizona conference. This was pleasantly quick and painless.

In the time since, I have worked on some links that were omitted from the original rebuilt (basically, I left some cables available for new stuff, but missed connecting them). I hope I have caught all of those by now, but if you notice anything not working or a link that leads to a "search results not found," please let me know.

Roy and I remain concerned at the speed (or lack thereof) with which the website displays pages. The reason some pages are slow to load is that when I rebuilt the website, I employed some website technology behind the scenes to generate content on some pages. For example, the pages that display board reports are very slow because the website is generating the content for that page by looking in directories for content that matches criteria I established for display. That's a long and complicated explanation for "why." Roy and I are working on some ways to fix that and speed displays. We are caching pages for faster displays. Roy also mentioned that we can essentially "rebuild" the rebuilt website behind the scenes and see some performance improvement. We had talked about doing that over the holiday break, but I'm not sure it has happened.

Manual of Procedure Issues

After we put the new MPLA website online, I discovered some issues in the Manual of Procedure. I think I have made Judy aware of this issue, but I can't speak for certain. In the most recent iteration of the MoP, there are links to now "dead" pages. When we redesigned the website, everything changed - urls, links, etc. The MoP should be revised to either remove direct links, or changed to the new links. I'm not sure I have a strong idea of what to suggest on this. On the one hand, now that that the website has been changed over, I don't foresee changes to links, but I also can't say for certain. The MoP, regardless, should be edited to reflect these links changing or removed entirely.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Chaney
MPLA Webmaster