

wplla Newsletter

A PUBLICATION OF THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Bullish about Law Librarianship: WPLLA Grant recipient relates AALL Annual Conference Experience By Stosh Jonjak

Fall 2014



As recipient of the WPLLA Chapter Grant, I attended the 2014 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference in sunny San Antonio. I am very grateful to both WPLLA and AALL for this opportunity. WPLLA was on the rotation to receive an AALL chapter grant, and WPLLA incentivized the chapter grant with a travel stipend. All of this made it possible for me to attend my first AALL annual meeting.

On the first day of the conference, I attended the AALL Hackathon "Building the Information Future." This was an all-day workshop that paired groups of librarians with programmers tasked with taking an electronic content set, instituting a plan to organize it, and building an electronic user/public interface to access the content. My group, which included the University of Pittsburgh's Electronic Research and Technology Services Librarian Susanna Leers, opted to organize the New York State Education Department Commissioner's Decisions. These decisions were available electronically online and were already OCR'ed, but were haphazardly organized. They were a perfect candidate for our electronic content set. Our objective was to index and categorize the opinions to make them easily navigable via various criteria. Our ultimate goal was to grow the collection to encompass all electronically available state-level Department of Education opinions, develop uniform navigation and indexing standards for these decisions, and make accessing these opinions and navigating the interface as easy as possible for the general public. Our success was recognized by being named runner-up among the workshop groups.

The exhibit hall showcased the Silicon Valley-ization of the legal research industry with numerous, small, tech-focused start-up companies appearing alongside

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Editor's note:

Each year, AALL provides ten chapters (on a rotation basis) with one free full Annual Meeting registration. Chapters may use whatever other criteria they wish to select a recipient of the AALL grant. As a chapter, the WPLLA Scholarship Committee annually awards a conference travel stipend, based on a brief essay describing the goals the recipient hopes to achieve by attending the conference.

Congratulations, Stosh!

Editor's Message

Welcome to a new WPLLA year of programs and activities. We have several new members this year and we look forward to their fresh ideas and contributions. This newsletter would not be possible without the content contributed by those WPLLA members – new and longstanding – who take time from their busy schedules to share their ideas, experiences, and stories with us. As you go about your work activities take a moment to examine your daily routine from a fresh perspective. What seems ordinary to you could be a new and enlightening experience for an aspiring law librarian. (Bette Dengel proves that even cleaning your desk can be an adventure!) Please consider sharing a moment of your time and activities by writing an article or mentoring a WPLLA member.



We are a talented and diverse group of professionals that benefit from one another's experiences. In this issue, Sue Megarry keeps us current on county law librarianship, Susanna Leers sharpens our technology skills and awareness, Ann Unger encourages us to optimize our effectiveness, and Joel Fishman offers legal food for thought. This year's WPLLA Grant recipient Stosh Jonjak shares his conference experience and "bullish" outlook on law librarianship. Last year's WPLLA Grant recipient and this year's AALL Grant recipient Patrick Parsons reaffirms the importance of providing such financial support to foster professional development and networking opportunities. These stories come alive in this issue thanks to the artistic layout skills of Pat Roncevich.

Please consider contributing content to future issues of our newsletter. We all benefit when we share our ideas, insights, and news. Enjoy!

Sallie Smith, Cataloging/Systems Librarian, Barco Law Library

The Value of AALL and WPLLA Grants by Patrick Parsons

This year, I was among the 2014 AALL grant recipients to attend the annual meeting and conference in San Antonio. And last year, I received the WPLLA conference grant that allowed me to travel to Seattle for the 2013 AALL meeting and conference. I feel very fortunate to have won both, as each has contributed to my education as a law library student. Without these opportunities, my outlook on law librarianship and my own desired direction in the profession would be different. I know that sometimes these kinds of grants may seem small and unimportant. All I can say is that, personally, they have been invaluable to my professional growth. Both grants are a testament to the dedication and interest that law librarians have in mentoring others in their craft, and I can certainly say that such networking and educational opportunities have helped me become a more developed, more informed, and more enthusiastic law librarian.



Patrick is a Fellow at the Daniel F. Cracchiolo Law Library at the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law. He is pursuing a M.A. in Information and Library Science, as well as a certificate in Digital Information Management at the University of Arizona School of Information Resources and Library Science. A former WPLLA member, Patrick earned his J.D. at the University Of Pittsburgh School Of Law

Bullish about Law Librarianship *continued from page 1*

the industry's familiar giants. For example, Boopsie, Darts-ip, Fiscalnote, ModioLegal, Ntrepid, PacerPro, and Ravel Law were all new exhibitors similarly displaying technology-based solutions to legal research problems. Because these technology-centered companies require so much less infrastructure, they are able to quickly establish themselves and compete in the marketplace. I feel this will continue to be a growing trend in the legal research industry.

Next to the startups were the industry giants who, of course, had the most impressive giveaways and displays, and the highest number of representatives. As it has been for the past couple of years, the large vendors focused on highlighting their next generation interfaces. Westlaw trumpeted its new Next-based modules, Lexis espoused the improvements to Advance, and Bloomberg BNA highlighted interface improvements and added content. Due to the power and flexibility of these next generation interfaces, the big companies are now able to implement features that require more computing power and massive data storage.

With larger companies are starting to introduce more visualization and analytics into their data, we are in the earlier stages of a shift of legal information moving from being solely word-based to incorporating visuals and graphics. And with data more robust and easier to manipulate, there is a trend towards information being more accurately predictive of future events. Predictive analytics would be able to answer such questions as: Judging by how he or she has ruled in the past, how will this judge rule on this motion? Or, based on the historical results of this state and similar states, will this legislation pass? Or, based on how much such settlements have been in this region, what should be the amount of this settlement?

The conference sessions I attended were similarly technology-themed and focused on implementing newer technologies to expand law librarian services. One presentation, "Vendor Shootout at the Alamo: Current Awareness Tools," discussed competitive intelligence/current awareness platforms to deliver information to attorneys before they even realize they have a need for it. Manzama, BNA Convergence, InfoNgen and Pinhawk Librarian Digest were some of the tools highlighted. These products curate articles and deliver customized newsletters to their recipients. The librarian's role is to improve the relevancy of the articles being delivered by inputting criteria in the software as well as being the administrator between the newsletters and the attorney/recipients. It was helpful to hear librarians, rather than vendors, critique and assess the software and to elucidate issues about implementation and firm culture.

The always technology-themed "Cool Tools Café" featured presentations about digital curation software, screencasting software to make short videos for users, and various productivity apps. All the presenters had implemented the particular technologies in their libraries and could demonstrate the practical viability of using them in a law library.

The entertainment options at AALL were excellent and enabled me to meet many interesting people in the profession. Fastcase's hospitality suite was generously stocked with food, frosty beverages, and librarians at all hours of the day and night. Bloomberg BNA hosted an excellent dinner overlooking the San Antonio River Walk. Thomson Reuter's appreciation event bused loads of librarians to a cattle ranch 45 miles from San Antonio. Appropriately, *City Slickers* was televised on the bus during the ride to the ranch. At the cattle ranch, we were treated to Texas beef brisket, photo ops with real longhorn cattle, a rodeo show with horse slaloms and fireworks, and a country band. Judging by their line dancing abilities, law librarians clearly know how to have a good time.

Overall, the conference was an opportunity for me to hear many unique and different perspectives from law library professionals. Some librarians were facing similar work challenges, but in different workplace environments (academic, government, and vendor-side). Other librarians had found technological solutions for persistent problems. I left the conference with a head full of ideas about implementing software and technologies to meet information needs. I met many individuals in the profession, with a healthy stack of business cards to show for my networking efforts. And I was very impressed by the cordiality of fellow law librarians.

I am very grateful to WPLLA for the opportunity to attend the annual conference – it was a valuable experience and I am thankful for the support!

WPLLA's 2014 Summer Legal Research Workshop: Strengthen Your Skills, Learn from the Pros by Karen Shephard

This past June, WPLLA again offered a Legal Research Workshop designed to better prepare summer associates for the research challenges they are likely to encounter in their law firms. The annual workshop is one of WPLLA's service missions to the local legal community aimed at strengthening research skills and providing information about legal resources. The workshop is also open to those assisting with other forms of legal work at area organizations and local bar associations.

The workshop ran for two weeks and offered four, two-hour lunchtime sessions on June 11 and 12 at Reed Smith LLP, and June 17 and 18 at the Allegheny County Law Library. Nearly a dozen individuals participated in sessions on business, federal and Pennsylvania resources, and commercial databases.

Workshop instructors prompted participants to contemplate the type of information needed to address a particular issue, where the information might be found and how best to search for it. Law Librarian Rita Young-Jones of Reed Smith Pittsburgh offered a roundtable session on business law resources. Marc Silverman, Associate Library Director at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, covered the basics and intricacies of federal legal resources. Dr. Joel Fishman, Assistant Director for Lawyer Services at the Duquesne Center for Legal Information/Allegheny County Law Library, provided in-depth instruction on Pennsylvania legal research.

For the commercial database session, Allison Quering and Caren Silverman of Lexis Nexis highlighted features and search strategies of LexisAdvance. Debra Pfeifer of Thomson Reuters Westlaw talked about using WestlawNext and the Digest System to discover relevant cases. While Bloomberg BNA representatives were not available for the session, due to conflicting events, they provided guides on litigation and transactions, in addition to a few premium items (ear buds, iPhone stylus pens, business card holders, and highlighters).



This year a small fee was charged for each session, with the exception of the vendors' program, which was free to all. WPLLA extends its appreciation to Thomson Reuters Westlaw and Lexis Nexis for generously providing lunches for workshop. The lunch break not only enabled participants to appease their appetites, but to network with the presenters and fellow attendees.

Joel Fishman, Assistant Director for Lawyer Services, gave an impromptu tour of the Allegheny County Law Library's rare book collection, following one of this summer's Legal Research Workshop sessions.

Technology Corner by Susanna Leers

Trouble in Citationland: "Error 404: page not found...?"



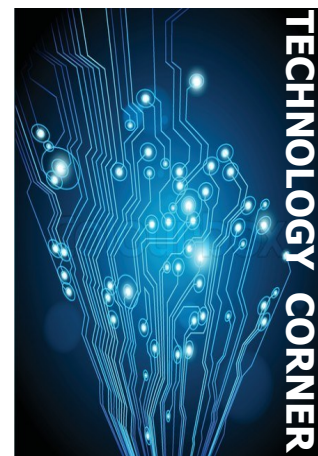
Librarians are very aware of the impermanence of hyperlinks to information on the Internet. This is of particular concern to law librarians. Because even though websites change, go away and are taken down, that doesn't stop courts and scholars of all types from citing, increasingly, to online sources in their work. The

general name for the problem that arises is "link rot". With the continued growth of the Internet, the amount of such rot has been accelerating, imperiling citation references in academic research and case law. For practicing lawyers, link rot is making it harder to find examples of legal precedent.

Last summer, law librarians June Liebert and Raizel Liebler (John Marshall Law School) authored an article in the Yale J. of Law and Technology, *Something Rotten in the State of Legal Citation: The Life Span of a United States Supreme Court Citation Containing an Internet Link (1996-2010)*. Their study found that nearly one-third of the websites cited by the U.S. Supreme Court were nonfunctioning! Building on this, Harvard law professor Jonathan Zittrain conducted a study that found the percentage of defunct links to be at 50 percent; he also found that 70 percent of the links in the Harvard Law Review, measured from 1999 to 2012, don't work.

And as time passes, the number of nonworking links increases. Even recent links are vulnerable to rot. According to the Chesapeake Digital Preservation Group, a collaborative archiving program, the average life span of a webpage is between 44 and 75 days. The CDPG began collecting hyperlink information for online law- and policy-related materials in 2007, and in its 2013 report it stated that more than 50 percent of the .gov links it archived no longer work just five years later. The CDPG notes that important legal materials are increasingly being "digitally born" and distributed online rather than published on paper, resulting in a "troubling trend" of transient legal information. This situation poses challenges in the legal environment (and elsewhere) when fixed content is necessary for legal writers to support their conclusions.

Judges, attorneys, academics, and others using citations need systems and practices to preserve web content as it exists in a particular moment in time, and to make it reliably available. The Georgetown Law Library is hosting a symposium on October 24, 2014, that explores the problem of link rot. Presenters include the aforementioned Jonathan Zittrain and Raizel Liebler as well as other notables such as GPO Superintendent of Documents Mary Alice Baish and Robert Miller of the Internet Archive. Seating is limited, but the event will be webcast live, so anyone can attend virtually. Registration is free, at <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/library/404/rsvp.cfm>.



Susanna is the
Electronic Research and
Technology Services
Librarian at the Barco
Law Library.

Her photo is pixelated -
she prefers it that way!

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court and Constitutional Issues

by Joel Fishman



Jeffrey Bauman,
WPLLA 2014 Spring Banquet
Featured Speaker

AUTHOR'S NOTE:

Professor Bruce Ledewitz and I are co-directors of the Pennsylvania Constitution Web Page of the Duquesne University School of Law (<http://www.duq.edu/academics/schools/law/pa-constitution>). This site is an informative starting point for research about the Pennsylvania Constitution, Pennsylvania constitutional law cases pending in various courts, and current public policy debates concerning the State Constitution. If you have any questions about the website, please contact Joel Fishman.

Joel Fishman, fishman@duq.edu, is Assistant Director for Lawyer Services, Duquesne Univ. Center for Legal Information/Allegheny County Law Library.

Guest speaker for the 2014 WPLLA Spring Banquet was Jeffrey Bauman, law clerk for Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Debra Todd. Mr. Bauman gave an informative talk about the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the highest court in the Commonwealth and the oldest appellate court in the nation. He began his presentation by providing biographical information about the justices, such as who is in line for the chief justiceship over the next few years. He then addressed the role of a law clerk and described how a case comes before the court. He said the Court faces two major problems - election cases that have to be determined quickly for ballot reasons and capital punishment cases.

Mr. Bauman emphasized the importance of constitutional questions that come before the court under the "New Federalism" policy in which the state courts look at their own state constitutions rather than the federal constitution to interpret cases. In Pennsylvania, it is important to note that the first Pennsylvania Constitution of 1776 predated the federal constitution by 11 years and the Bill of Rights by 15 years. In 1991, the Supreme Court decided *Commonwealth v. Edmunds* (526 Pa. 374, 586 A.2d 887) in which the court laid down a four-prong approach to analyze constitutional cases: 1. the text of the article-section; 2. the history of the section; 3. how it has been interpreted by other states that have a similar provision; and 4. policy considerations of the section.

The role of New Federalism over the past thirty years has been to have the state courts give more liberties to individuals than do the more conservative federal courts, such as the U.S. Supreme Court. It is possible now to just argue a case on state constitutional issues and not have it appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court (*Michigan v. Long*, 1983). But with dual sovereignty, it is possible for a state supreme court to overrule the U.S. Supreme Court, for example in Pennsylvania, the case of *PAP's A.M. v. City of Erie*, 812 A.2d 591 (2002).

The Pennsylvania Constitution: A Treatise on Rights and Liberties is the main current treatise on this subject (Ken Gormley, principal editor; Jeffrey Bauman, Joel Fishman, and Leslie Kolzer, associate editors; Bisel 2000). Another major author on state constitutional history is Robert F. Williams of Rutgers-Camden Law School, who has written extensive articles on various aspects of state constitutional law and as well as the leading textbook on the subject for law schools.

After engaging in this discussion of constitutional issues, Mr. Bauman concluded that librarians play an important role in assisting lawyers and law clerks with delving into historical sources for constitutional cases.

Message from the President

Welcome to the 37th year of the Western Pennsylvania Law Library Association! I am very honored and excited to serve as your President this year. I am looking forward to continuing the traditions of collegiality and service that previous Presidents and Executive Boards have fostered throughout the years. A big thanks to Ann Unger (Vice President), Sallie Smith (Secretary), Amy Gillin (Treasurer), Sue Megarry and Donna Kielar (Members-at-large) and Stosh Jonjak (Past President) for serving on the Executive Board this year. They are a huge help to me and an asset to our Association.

I was fortunate to be able to represent WPLLA at the Council of Chapter Presidents Meeting, AALL Chapter Leadership training, and the first Chapter Summit at this summer's AALL meeting in San Antonio, Texas. The Chapter Summit was especially helpful. This one-day event gave me the opportunity to hear Mark Levin, an experienced speaker and consultant, talk to us on the legacy of leadership we leave behind as leaders, and more importantly, give us advice on member recruitment, retention, and engagement. I had the opportunity to talk with and hear from other chapters about their challenges and success stories. I returned to Pittsburgh reenergized and eager to share what I had learned from the other chapters.

I have three main goals for this year. First, I would like WPLLA to continue our tradition of offering a variety of interesting programs that will help us perform at a higher level in our jobs or in our personal lives. We will continue to reach out to other organizations with programming and plan to offer as much remote access to our programming as is technically possible. Our thanks to Ann Unger, Vice President, and committee members Sarah Steers and Catherine Song for planning our programs this year. I know they have some unique plans for this year. I am sure everyone will find at least a few programs he or she will not want to miss.

Secondly, I would like to coordinate a process for welcoming new members into our association and establish a program to mentor these new members in their first year. We need to assist our new members in getting established in both Pittsburgh and our profession so WPLLA can remain a strong and vibrant association.

Lastly, our website will be reviewed and evaluated for a possible redesign. Our long devoted Webmaster, Linda Tashbook, is taking a well-deserved sabbatical this year. I am pleased to announce that Liz Whittington has agreed to fill-in as webmaster during Linda's leave and to lead an effort to update and redesign our website. Please contact Liz at liz.whittington@K&LGates.com if you would like to help her with this project. No technical skills are necessary to assist!

I would like to thank those members who have stepped up and volunteered to take positions on Committees or to tackle projects. The generosity of our members to always help each other at a moment's notice never ceases to amaze me and makes me proud to say, "I am a law librarian!"

Personally, most of my best ideas come to me when I am forced to stop my frantic pace - either driving into work, riding the subway or shuttle, or even in the shower! I would like to invite members to contact me, or any member of the Executive Board, with your suggestions, comments, or questions. I am looking forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting our new members at this year's programs and events!

Best,
Cindy



AALL Council of Chapter Presidents

Some of you might not be aware that there is an organization within AALL for Chapter Presidents. This year's Council of Chapter Presidents met July 12, 2014 at the annual meeting to discuss mutual interests and to learn about AALL activities that affect the chapters. Chair Jean Willis, NOCALL past President, announced two goals for the coming year: to encourage chapter leaders to use the chapter listserv to communicate with other chapter leaders; and to encourage chapter participation in AALL's Prepare to Partner Program, an effort to assist chapters with finding and facilitating partnership opportunities with other legal professional associations at the local level. You can find more information by searching for "Council of Chapter Presidents" on the AALL website.

Information Overload?

Some Thoughts on being Effective and Getting Things Done by Ann Unger

I recently had some time off from work, and the chance to rediscover some “oldies but goodies” resources on effectiveness. I wanted to share some of these expert insights and personal observations in the hopes of starting a dialogue on the topic.

Lessons from the late Stephen R. Covey’s *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* and *The 8th Habit: from Effectiveness to Greatness*, are summarized on his official website <https://www.stephencovey.com>. They are: Be proactive; Begin with the end in mind; Put first things first; Think win-win; Seek first to understand, then to be understood; Synergize; Sharpen the Saw; and Find your voice and inspire others. One point that resonated with me was: Don’t lose sight of critical issues and goals - they often fall in the matrix of important but not urgent, and that “not urgent” part means they can fall under your radar (forever!).

When I returned to work, I consciously applied “Think Win –Win” and “Seek to Understand” in my transactions with others. I made an effort to expand the time between stimulus and response. I took a breath, sipped some water, focused on the immediate, put a smile on my face, and listened to the other person. As librarians, with requests for services coming at us all the time, keeping our equilibrium and poise is like a balancing act. (I conjure up a mental picture of the 19th century Hanlon Brothers acrobats performing their death-defying stunt the “Perilous Ladder,” in a vintage illustration on The Daily Glean blog.)

Another author on the topic of effectiveness is David Allen, who has built an apparently robust business based on his time management system known as “Getting Things Done.” His five steps, from his official website <http://gettingthingsdone.com> are: Capture (what has your attention), Clarify (what it means), Organize (where it belongs), Reflect (review frequently), and Engage (simply do). Our tendency is to load up our brains with tasks to do and ideas to consider. But our brains can only handle one thing at a time. So we need to organize all that stuff into a reference system that we can then calmly retrieve and take action.

Allen advocates a two-minute rule: immediately take care things that can be done in two minutes or less, then approach all other matters as action steps. Ask yourself what is the next action and do it (don’t dither). Personally, I am still working my way through the CD set that outlines his system. But, I’ve begun using a date stamp labeled “Ann’s To Do” along with a line to jot down “file, process, etc.” Somehow, this visual and tactile/kinetic register helps keep my clipboards and in-boxes organized and dynamic.

Just out this year is cognitive neuroscientist Daniel J. Levitin’s *The Organized Mind*. His book explores how our minds work, and what practical steps we can take for dealing with information overload. While I have not yet read this book, I have found insightful articles about its content on (you guessed it) the Web. A recent *Wall Street Journal* review enumerates Levitin’s ten tips on organization. They include taking breaks, such as getting some fresh air or walking around the office. Don’t switch back and forth from small tasks to large tasks. Don’t spend more time on a decision than it is worth. Use a paper to-do list that allows for random access, such as index cards rather than a single list.

We can try to recognize our own habits and information overload challenges. For example, write down notes as soon as possible after a meeting. Have various locations for doing various types of tasks. This may sound impractical, but for me it works better to stand at a file cabinet while sorting papers, to sit at a desk when doing analysis, and to sit at a table facing the wall when doing detailed work. (I recall Jerry Seinfeld’s comedy routine that questioned the purpose of paperweights – they may be an early means of “holding down the information overload.”)

These are both challenging and exciting times, and you may have your own comments on how to be effective and get things done. Frankly, from what I’ve seen, many of you are already aces at keeping your work on track. But as they say, we are all on the same journey. So watch for an email invitation from me asking you to share your ideas about how you get things done and what Web sources you use to stay up-to-date on our profession.

Pennsylvania County Law Librarians

2014 Spring Meeting Report by Sue Megarry

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Editor's note: PACLL members gather twice a year, spring and fall, at locations hosted by member law librarians.

The Pennsylvania County Law Librarians held their spring meeting on May 30, 2014. Sue Megarry, Butler County Law Librarian, hosted the meeting at the Butler County Staff Development Center. This newly created space has state-of-the-art computer and telecommunications equipment. The facility was created by the Butler County Commissioners for hosting staff training sessions, demonstrations and meetings thereby eliminating the need to expend budget funds for renting outside facilities.

These PACLL meetings are a great social outlet for our far-flung group of law librarians from several Western Pennsylvania county law libraries. They also provide a venue for informational programs. This meeting was no exception. Max Peaster, Erie County Law Librarian, presented the morning program, "Preserving Pennsylvania's Public Documents." Max described a digitization project that began when his microfilm reader/prINTER went on the permanent disabled list and Max was no longer able to view the library's collection of early Pennsylvania Bulletins.

As they say, necessity is the mother of invention. By working with his county's Records Retention Committee, Max obtained funding to digitize his microfilm collection of Pennsylvania Bulletins, dating from July 4, 1970 through December 30, 1995. (It should be noted that Pennsylvania has not yet digitized these early public documents.) Once digitized, the Pennsylvania Bulletins were transferred to a single CD-ROM, and they are now easily accessible and searchable by the many patrons of the Erie County Law Library. As he described his digitization effort, Max pointed out funding sources and shared some of the pitfalls one can encounter when undertaking such a project.

Following the morning program, PACLL broke for lunch with the usual gabfest among attendees. The afternoon program featured WPLLA's very own Stosh Jonjak presenting "Cloud Computing, Mobile Technology and the Best Legal Apps." We've all heard about the "cloud" and use mobile phones and maybe even an app or two. Stosh put all the legal cloud applications together for us and proved that you *can* teach an old law librarian (at least this one) new tricks!

Sue Megarry is Law Librarian at the Butler County Law Library.

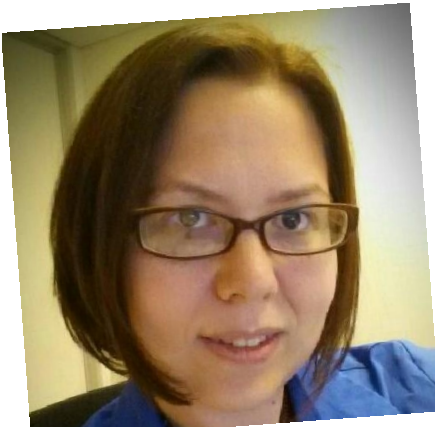
Watch out, Book Worms!

A winged visitor made a surprise visit to the University of Pittsburgh Barco Law Library. The red-tailed hawk landed on the window ledge of the Technical Services Department and proceeded to dine on its noonday meal. The hawk is a carnivorous bird that can be found throughout North America, including urban areas where this visitor found easy prey among the University's pigeon population.

*Photo by Jantosh Gerling,
Library Specialist, Barco Law Library.*



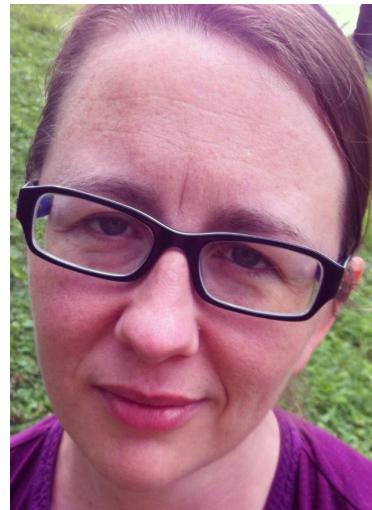
Meet Our Newest WPLLA Members!



My name is **Kristy White**. I am Library Systems Specialist at Reed Smith LLP, with 18 years of prior work experience in academic libraries. Thus far, I love every aspect of my job. What motivates me is that I work with a fantastic group of people and am very happy to be part of this team. It might surprise you to know that I started a charity for the homeless people of Pittsburgh called Care Kits N'at (find us on Facebook).

With the generous donations of friends and family, my husband, two kids and I make and distribute care kits to the homeless. When I am not working, I enjoy spending time with my family and our menagerie of pets.

My name is **Jayne Gardner**. I am a returning WPLLA member after a 10 year hiatus as a school librarian. Currently, I am Librarian at the State Correctional Institution – Greene where I run both the general library and the law library. The law library is the most demanding section, as I must stock it with a strong criminal collection plus materials to assist inmates with civil cases that may arise due to their incarceration. Some inmates have a basic understanding of legal practice, but others don't understand such fundamentals as the difference between a Prothonotary and Clerk of Courts, or Court of Common Pleas versus Appellate Court. I have to draw that fine line between providing information without practicing law, while at the same time educating them on the issue at hand. My current position is a rewarding one, and I look forward to working as a bridge between WPLLA and other prison librarians.



Liz Whittington is currently a reference librarian at K&L Gates. She's been a librarian for 15 years, 13 of those in law libraries. She previously worked for Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft and Kelley Drye in New York City. When she's not at work, she's either reading or exploring Pittsburgh with her family.

My name is **Samantha Cabo**. I am a Reference Assistant at the Barco Law Library and an MLIS student at Pitt's iSchool. I went to law school but am new to Pennsylvania legal materials, so I'm learning alongside the students that I assist. As the semester progresses I am encountering more challenging reference questions and am becoming a more efficient researcher. I wish more law students could see the value of having a basic knowledge of law librarianship while they have access to the many law library resources. Some students and young attorneys "moan and groan" about legal research, but being able to conduct cost-efficient research is an invaluable skill when applying for jobs or working in a setting with minimal access to fee-based or physical legal resources. Legal Research and Writing was my favorite part of law school!



Archeology in My Office by Bette Dengel

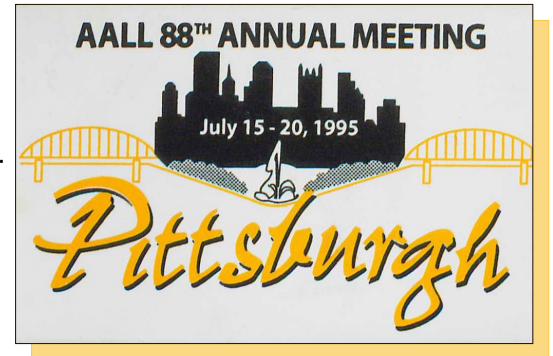
After 31 years as a law librarian, I figured I really ought to clean my office. The following items that I unearthed in my “archeological dig” might bring back memories for some of you:

- * A luggage tag from the 88th AALL Meeting held in Pittsburgh in 1995 and 5 copies of each newspaper that I edited for that conference.
- * The CD of parody songs sung at the West party from the 1992 AALL conference. Those parties were always the highlight of AALL. I recall going with Agnes Robinson to a post-West-party in someone’s hotel room where, at 1 a.m., the hotel staff threatened to throw us out!
- * A coffee mug showing the early Westlaw search commands. Remember those days when all we had was a command line? We’d type cryptic things like “sdb” to indicate “same search, different database?” I still have the pad of forms that we used to work out the Boolean search before we signed-in to the database. Those forms saved precious seconds when the cost was based on exact time used, no flat-rate pricing!
- * The Butterworth Journal – a blank book that was given out at AALL. I still haven’t recorded anything profound in it.
- * The bottle of bleach that I used in an effort to save a digest that had an unhappy accident with cherry soda – it worked!
- * A plastic case for the old Shepard’s CDs that we thought were so great when they first came out.
- * Photos of the male dancer my husband sent to the library for my 40th birthday (bet you didn’t know that!). Couldn’t get away with that anymore.
- * A 3-inch long miniature gavel imprinted “Michie Butterworth”... does Michie still exist?
- * The business card from Tom McFate, long time Bisel rep who would sit and chat (and chat!) about sailing.
- * Some newsletters from 1985-86 when I tried writing a monthly issue for our bar. That was a bust!
- * A stack of unopened continuous feed labels, complete with sprocket holes. How long has it been since I had a printer with sprockets????
- * A box of ultrafiche, purchased so I could discard Southwest and Pacific Reporters to make space on the shelves.
- * A date stamper that stops at December 1999!
- * The Manual of Procedures I typed on a manual typewriter when I student taught in 1972. The included photocopies are on ancient thermal paper.
- * An old “LawDesk” box which now stores maps. In retrospect, those CDs sure were clunky.
- * Proposed Pennsylvania county law library standards from 1978, which I don’t think were ever approved. That project moved as slowly as the codification of the statutes!
- * Three boxes (1,000 cards each) of 4x6 catalog cards – anyone need any? I didn’t think so.
- * A sale flyer from Borders bookstore - I really miss that place!
- * The 1984 invoice of \$38.35 for a POF2d bound volume and \$31.35 for an ALR volume – that’s about 1/10th of their current price!
- * A bottle of rubbing alcohol, used to clean typewriter keys. Anyone else still have a typewriter? Mine’s an IBM Selectric!
- * A stack of labels for 5-inch floppy disks. Hmm, my first computer ran its whole operating system off one of those.
- * The yellowed, half-page 1991 newspaper article about me and my library. I had totally forgotten about it!
- * A really nice portfolio stamped “Lawyers Cooperative.” How could I forget Walt Losee who called me the “Library Goddess”?
- * An even better zippered portfolio from Westlaw - do I get a sense of one-upmanship?
- * My 1999 driver’s license, and boy, did I look young!

Wonder what else I’ll find . . . hopefully not the body of a dead lawyer!

Blast From the Past by Sallie Smith

In July 1995, AALL held its 88th Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh with the theme “Connected for Justice.” Memorabilia from that event was recently unearthed by Beaver County Law Librarian Bette Dengel who was then editor of the conference newspaper, *The Pittsburgh Point*. (See related article “Archeology in My Office.”) Many of WPLLA’s long-standing members have fond memories of that enormous undertaking. Local Arrangements Co-Chairs, Cynthia Cicco and Frank Liu, were assisted by several other chapter members, many of whom are still active in our local organization.



By all accounts, the meeting was a resounding success. There were, however, some “glitches” - little and big – as noted in the Local Arrangements Committee’s final report. For example, the list of names for the volunteer and exhibit badges were sent to headquarters by the required deadline but the mail went missing somewhere between Pittsburgh and Chicago, and a local typist had to be hired to produce the requisite badges. Then, the “professional” cashier hired for registration duties lacked the necessary training, and committee staffers had to explain how to operate a cash register. Finally, with more on-site registrations than anticipated, several tables in the Convention Center lacked “Baskets of Pittsburgh” centerpieces and extra baskets had to be purchased for delivery *ex post facto* to the centerpiece winners.

Bigger glitches, however, materialized in the course of the conference – all of which were attributed to communication, communication, communication, or the lack thereof between headquarters and the local committee. For example, the last minute arrangement of shuttle bus service made it difficult to have schedule information ready for the start of the meeting. An insufficient number of downtown hotel rooms resulted in booking additional rooms in Greentree, unbeknownst to the local committee that was well aware of the potential for heavy traffic delays. And lastly, fundraising and frugal planning prevented what could have resulted in budget problems due to confusion about subcommittee budget allocations.

Those who attended the conference may remember the opening reception at the Carnegie Museum, with guided tours by volunteers sporting black and gold Pittsburgh sports team caps. In the exhibit hall, the Souvenir Subcommittee offered for sale a completely coordinated outfit geared to Pittsburgh’s casual style: navy blue cotton shorts adorned with a teal and gray AALL Pittsburgh logo stylishly located on the left leg and topped off with your choice of a gray, teal or navy T-shirt. Color coordinated sports caps completed the look. And for those attendees who forgot to pack sleeping attire, the subcommittee “had you covered” by offering a one-size-fits-all white nightshirt also emblazoned with the signature conference logo.

To assist attendees with sampling local cuisine, the conference newspaper published a Polish food glossary explaining Haluski, Kolachky, Kolbassi, Palacinky, and Pirohys. Conference goers were also encouraged to consume Isaly’s chip chopped ham, steak salad with fries, Heinz ketchup and pickles, Clark Candy bars, food from “The O” in Oakland, breakfast at Deluca’s in the Strip, Primanti Brothers sandwiches stuffed with fries and slaw, corned beef sandwiches from Richest Deli, Mama Lucia’s pizza, and Iron City beer.

As for conference content, the year’s hot topic was Outsourcing, with two educational programs: “Outsourcing: Boon or Bane for Law Librarians?” and “Who’s Outsourcing Whom?” Back in 1995, the educational program handout materials were provided in a softbound volume. A quick scan of the table-of-contents showed that program topics were surprisingly forward-thinking: Internet publishing, the virtual library, the law in cyberspace, the impact of new formats on collection development, preserving electronic records, and easing into the next generation library system. While details about the program topics have decidedly changed, law librarians were – and continue to be – on the right track for “connecting with justice” through increased public access to legal information.

Editor’s note: Thanks to Bette Dengel’s archeological desk digging, the 1995 Annual Meeting materials have been added to the WPLLA Archives.

WPLLA Meeting Minutes

Executive Board, August 20, 2014
9 a.m., Pepper Hamilton

Board members present: Cindy Cicco, Ann Unger, Stosh Jonjak, Amy Gillin, Sallie Smith, Donna Kielar, Sue Megarry (via phone)

Treasurer's Report – Amy Gillin reported WPLLA's checking account balance of \$4,480. Two additional checks to be deposited will bring the balance to just over \$5,080. There are no expenditures to report until programming is determined. Cindy Cicco would like to develop a budget based on the past 2 or 3 years of spending; Amy will research past expenditures. The CD matures Spring 2015.

AALL Leadership training – Cindy Cicco summarized the AALL Council of Chapter Presidents meeting and Leadership training. According to the Council, chapters can submit archives to AALL for safekeeping. Cindy will alert Pat Roncevich, WPLLA Archives Chair, to investigate this option. At Leadership training, chapters shared program initiatives and ways to keep members engaged. Cindy suggested considering more programs that reach out to other organizations and broadcasting AALL2Go sessions.

Goals/Projects for the year – Linda Tashbook will not be available as Webmaster for part of the year. Stosh Jonjak will check to see who may be interested in helping with the website. The Board discussed converting the Facebook page to a closed group.

Committees – Ann Unger reported on program ideas: a roundtable session, program on Apps and/or e-books, a wellness-related topic. She plans to survey members for other topics. Sallie Smith reported on the newsletter: she will continue with Fall and Spring issues and include information about new members. Amy Gillin will provide a list of new members from last year and this year.

October business meeting – The annual meeting will be held Thursday, October 16, 12 to 1 p.m., at Pepper Hamilton. Conference call-in will be available for those who cannot attend in person.

Please contact WPLLA Board Members if there are matters to bring to their attention.

Executive Board, September 24, 2014
9 a.m., Pepper Hamilton

Board members present: Cindy Cicco, Stosh Jonjak, Amy Gillin, Sallie Smith, Donna Kielar, Sue Megarry (via phone). Ann Unger was absent.

Treasurer's Report – Amy Gillin reported a checking account balance of \$5,215.19. She has updated the membership list to reflect renewals received to date.

Webmaster and Website Redesign – Cindy Cicco reported that Liz Whittington will fill-in as Webmaster while Linda Tashbook is on sabbatical. Liz will also initiate the website redesign; Stosh Jonjak will help.

Programming – Cindy Cicco reported for Ann Unger. Robert Duncan will present a November Roundtable. Joel Fishman will host a program on Trends in Libraries: Usage & Budgeting. Ann is investigating an entertainment idea for the holiday party.

AALL Chapter Visit – Cindy Cicco said WPLLA was eligible for an AALL Executive Board member visit. Ann Unger will investigate board member interests to decide whom to invite.

Survey Report – Cindy Cicco will summarize responses from the WPLLA Executive Board's membership survey so there can be a follow-up discussion with members at the business meeting.

Facebook Page – Stosh Jonjak reported that converting Facebook to a group is not feasible. It will remain a "page" with both he and Cindy Cicco as administrators.

Mentoring – Cindy Cicco will ask committee members Lori Hagen and Frank Liu for ideas about mentoring new/newish members. As President, Cindy will send them a welcome letter and alert them to chapter resources.

Archives – Pat Roncevich has digitized all available newsletters, but many are still missing. Cindy Cicco will give her the contact for submitting chapter archives to AALL for safekeeping.

WPLLA 2014 Annual Business Meeting



Sallie Smith Stosh Jonjak Ann Unger Cindy Cicco Amy Gillin Donna Kielar

The October 16 meeting at Pepper Hamilton was called to order at noon by President Cindy Cicco. She welcomed attendees and introduced the Executive Board and the chapter's newest members. Secretary Sallie Smith said business meeting and Executive Board minutes would be in the fall newsletter. Treasurer Amy Gillin said the chapter has 65 members, a checking account balance of \$5,215.19, and a 13-month CD (\$3,750 face value).

Old Business: Cindy Cicco said the Executive Board's survey showed that members use WPLLA for networking and are generally happy with the programming. Some indicated an interest in more remote program offerings. She will distribute a summary of findings via the listserv. Cindy reported on the AALL Chapter Summit and Leadership Training sessions in San Antonio, and recommended the chapter help fund the vice president's attendance at the next Chapter Summit.

Committee Reports: Ann Unger announced an October 30, 12-1 p.m. program, by Joel Fishman on the Allegheny County Law Library: Services to the Public and Members, and a tentative November roundtable on management by Robert Duncan. She solicited program ideas from members, such as more roundtable topics, a holiday party idea, invited speakers, and webinars. Linda Tashbook, who goes on sabbatical in December, said Liz Whittington will maintain the website and lead the website redesign, with the help of Stosh Jonjak and Kristy White. Cindy Cicco will give the Website Committee a charge for the redesign. Sallie Smith announced a forthcoming Fall newsletter and distributed ideas for members to contribute to the Spring issue. Pat Roncevich said the Archives still needs pre-1995 newsletters for digitizing. She is investigating the AALL Archives Policy for chapters. Members discussed public relations initiatives, including reaching out to the library and information science schools at Pitt and Clarion.

New Business: Cindy Cicco sent a welcome letter to new members and solicited volunteers to mentor them. Stosh Jonjak changed the Facebook page so members can submit posts once posts are approved by him or Cindy Cicco. Members discussed what content should be on the Facebook page.

Other Business: Joel Fishman said the Allegheny County Law Library is conducting strategic planning to expand services, collection and membership, and encouraged input from WPLLA members. The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.



Kristy White, Stosh Jonjak



Karen Shephard, Mary Stacy



Cindy Cicco
Joel Fishman
Donna Kielar
Ann Unger



Melanie Johnston, Mary Stacy



Stosh Jonjak



Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center



Cindy Cicco



Joel Fishman and Friend



Pat Roncevich



Patty Horvath and Amy Lowell



Marc Silverman and Patty Horvath

Visit the WPLLA website:

<http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/wplla/>

For directions on subscribing and posting to the WPLLA listserv:

<http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/wplla/wpllaist.htm>.



Remember to check WPLLA's Facebook page

www.facebook.com/wplla for information on events and communications from our members.

WPLLA Committee Membership 2014-15

President

Cindy Cicco

Vice President

Ann Unger

Secretary

Sallie Smith

Treasurer

Amy Gillin

Members-at-Large

Donna Kielar

Sue Megarry

Immediate Past President

Stosh Jonjak

Bylaws

Joel Fishman, Chair

Newsletter Committee

Sallie Smith, Chair

Pat Roncevich, Layout

Dawnlyn Diehl

Kate Frey

Stosh Jonjak

Catherine Song

Kristy White

Archives

Pat Roncevich, Chair

Patricia Horvath

Catherine Song

Sarah Steers

Kristy White

Grants/Scholarship

Karen Shephard, Chair

Nominating Committee

Stosh Jonjak, Chair

Programming Committee

Ann Unger, Chair

Catherine Song

Sarah Steers

Public Relations

Jayne Gardner

Lori Hagen

Recruitment/Mentoring

Lori Hagen

Frank Lui

Web

Stosh Jonjak

Linda Tashbook

Liz Whittington

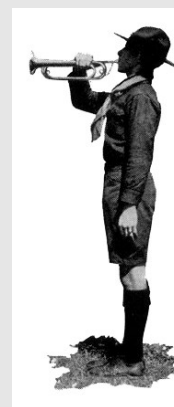
Upcoming AALL Webinar:

Privacy in the Law Library What You Don't Know CAN Hurt You

Librarians must understand what information is protected and limit how that information is collected and utilized. On **November 6 at 11 a.m. CST**, join panelists as they provide an introduction to privacy laws impacting libraries, including American Library Association guidance. The process and results of the audit performed by one academic law library will be shared, along with resources for establishing a library privacy policy. Once you understand the standards that your library must meet, you can audit your library for privacy compliance, and take steps to ensure the protection of your patrons and your library. Please [register](#) by **November 3**. More information can be found on [AALLNET](#).



Calling all Writers!



Do you have ideas for an upcoming newsletter?

Please contact
Sallie Smith, sas67@pitt.edu,
with suggestions for the
Spring 2015 issue.