



NOCALL News

Northern California Association of Law Libraries
A Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

March – April 2002

Volume 22, Number 4

President’s Message

by Sue Welsh
NOCALL President
University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law

Spring

“Spring reminds us why we live in California” is the headline of an article from the *Lodi News-Sentinel*, March 19, 1998. It contains such a wonderful description of spring in northern California, and perfectly describes the glorious Spring we have had here this year. The writer contends that, although there are many fine portholes through which to witness the transformation from winter, Mount Diablo might provide the best looking post. From its peak on a clear day, one can see to the Pacific on the west, southwest to Mount Bache, north to Mount St. Helena, and east to the Sierra. What a view! It occurs to me that we, as librarians, have many fine portholes at our disposal for assisting others to find information and perform research. It is exciting to find new portholes each day, and that must be one of the reasons we like what we do. What could be better than being a librarian in California in the Spring?

Spring events

It is a busy Spring for NOCALL. Legislative

Advocacy Day was held in Sacramento on March 12. Susan Van Syckel, Michele Finerty and their committee arranged a day filled with lobbying techniques and actual visits to legislative offices. See the article in this issue. Ellen Platt and her Spring Institute Committee are putting the finishing touches on what promises to be a great conference in Half Moon Bay. The last meeting of the NOCALL year will be on Monday, May 20, at the Alameda County Law Library in Oakland. If you haven’t seen this lovely library, this is a good opportunity. We will see you there!

Newsletter contributors

I would like to take a little space to thank those who are responsible for bringing the NOCALL News to you. This is NOCALL’s primary vehicle for articles and news, and also serves as a good history of our fine chapter. Tina Dumas, editor, and Leslie Forrester, Web Page Chair, were instrumental in making the successful transition from paper to electronic format, and the results are wonderful! Lille Koski acts as advisor, having been on the previous committee. Thanks also to column editors Nora Levine and Jaye Lapachet who keep us up to date on current books and professional articles. We will miss “Musings from Mark” as Mark Mackler moves to the public library arena. Thank you all for your contributions!



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Election Results

Congratulations to the newly-elected officers:

Vice-President/President-Elect: Susanne Pierce Dyer

Treasurer: Jacqueline Grossman

Executive Board: Yvonne Boyer and Coral Henning

As of June 1, Ellen Platt will become President, Erin Murphy will continue as Secretary,
and Sue Welsh will serve on the Board as Past President.

Thank you to all of the candidates who agreed to run for offices!

NOCALL News

The NOCALL News is published five times a year by the Northern California Association of Law Libraries, a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, and is a benefit of membership.

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September/October issue: September 5

November/December issue: November 5

January/February issue: January 4

March/April issue: March 5

May/June issue: May 3

**Submissions should be sent to the editor in electronic format, via email attachment or 3.5 " floppy disk.*

Professional Reading in Review

by Jaye Lapachet

“Getting it Right: Verifying Sources on the Net,” by Sabrina I. Pacifici, LLRX,
<http://www.llrx.com/features/verifying.htm>

Sabrina has some very interesting tips on verifying information you find on the web in this detailed article. The article is basically telling users what the next step is after you search. Would be a useful article to share at training sessions.

“This is a Real Quest for Maps,” by Kendra Mayfield, **Wired News**, March 7, 2002
<http://www.wired.com/news/technology/0,1282,50785,00.html>

A collector goes beyond donating his collection to a map library by using the available GIS technology to make a collection of maps available on the Internet. So far 6500 high resolution digital images are online at: <http://www.davidrumsey.com>. The special GIS browser allows users to overlay maps as well as zoom, pan and print images. Globes and books are also part of the collection. It sounds like this collection might revolutionize the way people put information online. Are we up to the challenge? You will need to load a Java plug-in to view this amazing collection.

“Why your Digital Data Could one Day Disappear,” by Bryan Bergeron, **HBS Working Knowledge**, Feb 11, 2002
<http://hbswk.hbs.edu/topic.jhtml?t=operations>

This is your quintessential preservation article, but with a new age digital twist. Where is your data stored and how long until it starts to deteriorate? These are the questions the article forces you to think about. In private companies, I think that it is our job to write an obligatory memo to the powers that be saying something like "the status of preservation of the firm's data must be examined as studies have shown that digital media are not permanent." Of course, you will need to do your homework first.



ANNOUNCEMENT:

Catch the Wave: Managing Change NOCALL Spring Institute April 26-27, 2002

On Friday: hone your skills in a workshop on "Teaching Research in All Law Libraries," led by Melanie Putnam and generously underwritten by Lexis-Nexis.

Saturday's programs focus on changes in our profession and work lives: 24/7 reference, how librarians are managing change, how we will teach and train in the new economy, and an overview of how we can manage it all. We will also hear from James Duggan, our AALL Executive Board visitor.

To see the complete program schedule and information about Half Moon Bay, please visit the NOCALL website (<http://www.nocall.org>)

Dates to remember:

Friday, April 5 - Last day for refunds if you must cancel your registration, also the last day for registration at the regular rate (all registration forms must be postmarked April 5 or earlier or they will be considered "late registration")

Thursday, April 11 - Last day to get the reduced room rate at the Ramada Limited (650) 726-9700

Monday, April 15 - Last day to register for the Spring Institute (assuming it's not full already!)

**Friday & Saturday, April 26 & 27 - 2002
 NOCALL Spring Institute!!**

Quick List of Nevada Legal Research Web Sites & Tips for Nevada Research

By Ana Hinman, Reference Librarian, Washoe County Law Library, Reno, NV

Web Sites

These free web sites are the ones that I use the most frequently at the reference desk. I have also included notes about my favorite features on the pages. The list is in alphabetical order and not in any sort of ranked sequence. *As with any legal research web sites, watch for disclaimers and limitations regarding usage*

Barber, Klearman & Assoc. Links to Nevada Law **http://www.nevadainjuries.com/links_to_law.html**

This law firm page collects a large number of Nevada legal links and provides plain-English summaries of Nevada tort law on their home page at **<http://www.nevadainjuries.com>**.

Gaming Commission **<http://gaming.state.nv.us/>**

This site has Nevada gaming regulations which are not published as part of the Nevada Administrative Code.

Lexisone.com **<http://www.lexisone.com>** This site includes the largest collection of free Nevada case law on the web that I know of with coverage starting in Jan. 1, 1997. You must register to access these free cases and agree to the terms of usage.

Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/> This page includes Nevada Revised Statutes, Nevada Administrative Code, Nevada Register, recent session laws, recent legislative history information, and recent Nevada Supreme Court opinions.

Secretary of State **<http://sos.state.nv.us/>** This page includes corporate searches and corporate forms for Nevada.

University of Nevada Las Vegas, School of Law Library

<http://www.law.unlv.edu/library/research.html>

This site is a very large and helpful collection of Nevada Legal Links. If you can't find it elsewhere,

you might try looking here.

Washoe County Bar Association

<http://www.wcbar.org> This web page is another good collection of Nevada legal research web sites, but was last updated March 13, 2000.

Selected Nevada Bibliographies & Research Guides

A group of Nevada law librarians are working together to publish a Nevada legal research manual, but a firm publication date hasn't been set. I found the following publications helpful when I moved from Nebraska to start a new reference job in Nevada.

Ann S. Jarrell & G. LeGrande Fletcher, *Nevada State Documents Bibliography: Legal Publications and Related Material* 2nd ed. AALL 2000 .

G. LeGrande Fletcher, *Nevada Practice Materials: A Selective Annotated Bibliography*, 91 Law Libr. J. 313 1999 .

G. LeGrande Fletcher & James Quinn, *A Definitive Primer: Nevada Legal Information on the World Wide Web*, Nev. Law., June 1999, at 23, *reprinted with permission at*
<http://www.law.unlv.edu/library/research.html>.

Nevada Law Libraries That Are Open to the Public

When all else fails, ask a librarian! There aren't many Nevada law libraries in the state. Here are the ones that are open to the public and we're a pretty friendly bunch.

Clark County Law Library

http://www.co.clark.nv.us/law_library/home_page.htm

309 South Third St., Suite #400
PO BOX 557340
Las Vegas, NV 89155-7340
Phone: 702 455-4696
Fax: 702 455-5120

Elko County Library**<http://www.elkocountylibrary.org/elko.htm>**

720 Court Street

Elko, NV 89801

Phone: 775 738-3066

*This public library has a self-service courthouse branch law library. They don't accept document delivery requests, but they do provide a much-needed collection of law books in a remote area of the state.

National Judicial College Law Library**http://www.judges.org/frameset_library.html**

Judicial College Building/358

University of Nevada, Reno

Reno, NV 89557

Phone: 800-255-8343 Ext. 358

Nevada Supreme Court Library**<http://www.clan.lib.nv.us/polpac/library/clan/nscl.htm>**

201 S. Carson Street, #100

Carson City, NV 89701-4702

Reference: 775 684-1640

University of Nevada Las Vegas Law Library**<http://www.law.unlv.edu/library/>**

Mailing Address:

4505 Maryland Parkway

PO BOX 451080

Las Vegas, NV 89154-1080

Phone Main Number : 702 895-2400

Washoe County Law Library**<http://www.co.washoe.nv.us/lawlib/>**

75 Court Street, Room 101

PO BOX 30083

Reno, NV 89520

Reference: 775 328-3250

NEVLL Nevada Law Librarians DISCUSSION GROUP

Nevada law librarians have an e-mail discussion group for sharing information. NOCALL members are welcome to join this unmoderated discussion group. You must be a list member to post a message, or you can send your e-mail research questions to list owner, Paula Doty pdoty@lionelsawyer.com, who will post the message for you. Paula is also available to help

with any technical questions regarding the discussion group commands.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:****2002 AALL Annual Meeting/Workshop Grants**

Deadline: April 1, 2002

The AALL Grants Committee is now accepting applications for grants for the 2002 AALL Annual Meeting/Workshops. The AALL Grants Program provides financial assistance to law librarians or library school students who hold promise of future involvement in AALL and the law library profession. Funds are provided by vendors, AALL and AALL individual members. Grants cover registration costs at either the Annual Meeting or Workshops. Preference is given to newer, active members of AALL or of its chapters. For additional information, including the application form, see http://www.aallnet.org/services/grant_application.asp. The deadline for applications is **April 1, 2002**.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:
NOCALL Grants available:**

AALL VIP Grants:

The NOCALL Board approved two \$1,500 travel allotments. AALL will provide two free registrations. Individual members may nominate potential VIP's by **April 5, 2002**. The Grants Committee will select two VIP's and notify nominators by April 26, 2002. The AALL annual meeting is July 20-24, 2002 in Orlando, FL.

NOCALL Grants to SLA or AALL **Deadline: May 8, 2002.**

Mini-grants for the Spring Institute at Half Moon Bay. **Deadline is 1 April.**

NOCALL Grant Award Criteria

1. Candidates must be members of NOCALL. Members may receive more than one NOCALL grant to an AALL function and more than one NOCALL grant to a NOCALL function in their lifetime.
2. Applications from first-time grant recipients will have priority. An application for a second grant can be made when three (3) years have passed since the award of the original grant. Members of the Grants committee are ineligible to apply.
3. Members may receive grants to non-AALL and non-NOCALL sponsored events when the topic is of importance to the law library field and professional development and when the materials can be shared with the NOCALL community. This can be accomplished through NOCALL News, a workshop or a special report.
4. The grants will be awarded on the basis of:
 - a. Proven ability and/or expertise in a topic field
 - b. Financial need
 - c. Promise of future usefulness and permanence to the law library profession
 - d. Willingness to share materials

Applications must be received by April 15, 2002. In fairness to others incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Peg LaFrance, NOCALL Grants Chair

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

400 Sansome Street

San Francisco, CA 94111

**Summary of Comments to the Committee to Review
Funding and Services of the San Mateo County Law
Library
submitted March 7, 2002**

by Michael Ginsborg
Howard Rice Nemerovsky Canady Falk & Rabkin

This is a summary of comments on the San Mateo County Law Library's financial crisis. You can view the full-text of the comments at:

<http://briefcase.yahoo.com/bc/librarian194121/1st?.dir=/My+Documents>

**How the Funding System of County Law Libraries
Became Outdated**

County law libraries were created for free use by all residents of the county. However, attorneys and county officials were their exclusive users. Until the 1970s court filing fees were adequate to meet their operating costs. But just as a racially diverse group of non-attorney users began displacing attorney users, the operating costs of county law libraries increased at an unprecedented rate, fueled by price escalation in the legal publishing industry. As court filings declined, so did county law library revenue; at the same time, county law libraries assumed an enlarged social mandate to bridge the gap between those who can afford legal information and those who can not.

**The Social Costs Of Substantial Reductions In The
Budget of The San Mateo County Law Library**

County law libraries provide a crucial link between a legally underrepresented population and the justice system. Having sustained ongoing budget reductions, subscription cancellations and other financial sacrifices since the 1970s, the San Mateo County Law Library has "squeezed" every dollar to bring as much value as possible to more and more pro per and pro se litigants. If the Committee does not increase the annual filing fee by \$3 for at least the next two fiscal years, your proposed cost-cutting and fundraising strategies would not prevent a large shortfall in Library revenue. As a result, Karen Lutke, the Library Director, would have to again slash the budget. Such substantial or severe budget reductions would eviscerate the collection and exact devastating social consequences that the Board of Supervisors can and should avoid.

The social consequences would be devastating because the Library would be unable to adequately serve the needs of those who can not afford legal information and often do not know how to find it. The social costs far exceed whatever burden to some court filers that the recommended \$3 increases represent. The revenue from fee increases will extend the Library's Reserve by at least two years, giving the Library time to implement fundraising initiatives, and the law library community time to time to lobby for overdue legislative remedies.

**Alternative Cost-Cutting And Fundraising
Strategies**

Your "self-help" strategies for the Library not only will fail to generate enough revenue, but depend on mistaken assumptions and risk imperiling the statutory intent and mission of county law libraries. I unconditionally support your other remedies, however, and describe the outlines of legislative measures that my colleagues can advocate.

Conclusion

I urge you and the Committee to overcome your understandable reluctance to recommend raising court filing fees by the maximum allowable amount. That recommendation would not set a precedent for indefinitely raising filing fees; rather it would extend the Library's Reserve long enough to allow the Library and law library community to minimize social costs to the Library's users and to pursue long-term remedies.

☞

California Law Librarians 2002 Legislative Advocacy Day

by Michele Finerty
McGeorge School of Law Library

California law librarians lobbied their representatives at the State Capitol in Sacramento the afternoon of March 12, 2002, in support of state budget augmentation for county law libraries and against UCITA. The **California Law Librarians 2002 Legislative Advocacy Day** was sponsored by the Council of California County Law Librarians (CCCLL) and the government relations committees of the Northern California Association of Law Libraries (NOCALL), the San Diego Association of Law Libraries (SANDALL) and the Southern California Association of Law Libraries (SCALL).

This event was part of a day-long workshop in which twenty-one California law librarians sharpened their lobbying skills and identified ways to be more effective advocates. While there isn't a current bill pending for state budget augmentation, the strategy behind the Capitol office visits served to make legislators aware of the value of county law libraries and their dire financial straits.

The morning session began with a keynote address by Michael Mattoch, Chief Consultant to the California Assembly Insurance Committee. Mr. Mattoch described California as the "petri dish" and "cuisinart" of state politics. California voters "experiment with democracy" by voting in reforms such as term limits, open/closed primaries and finance reforms without understanding how they will affect state government operations. Consequently, effective lobbyists understand that legislative advocacy, grass-root organizations and political contributions (significant due to the sky-rocketing cost of running for office) are important influences in legislative change.

Mr. Mattoch's address was followed by a panel comprised of Carolina Rose, Director of Legislative Research, Inc. and former Chief of Staff for Senator Nicholas C. Petris, Michael Corbett, Owner of Corbett & Associates, a government relations and consulting firm which represents the Council of California County Law Librarians, and Frances Fort, Senior Consultant to Darrell Steinberg, Assembly Member,

9th District.

The individual experiences and advice which each speaker gave reflected a common thread. Committee and legislative staff members become important contacts in light of term limits, and it is crucial to educate these individuals on the issues. Effective advocates develop an ongoing relationship with them and use e-mail and faxes to follow up any personal contact. Library advocates should "get on (legislators) radar screens by being frequent flyers" so that they recognize the organization's acronym. Librarians should be diligent and persistent, make themselves known in their local districts and recognize that change does not occur overnight.

After lunch and a briefing on the two topics, participants broke up into small groups to practice speaking to the issues and answering possible questions from legislators: why don't attorneys pay for the libraries; why don't county law libraries consolidate services with public libraries; "everything" is on the Internet so why do libraries need to purchase books; and how are people's lives changed because they have access to the library? The workshop concluded with a debriefing session during which participants discussed their visits to Capitol legislative offices.



**ANNOUNCEMENT:
CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF SUCCESS - THE NATIONAL LEGAL RESEARCH TEACH-IN
1993-2002**

Can you remember your favorite AALL programs or publications from ten years ago? Or even where we held the annual meeting (without looking it up!) in 1993? How about the best selling books that year? TV shows? Movies? Maybe some of us have a fuzzy recollection or two, but ten years is a long time! Wouldn't it be reassuring to know that after ten years there is an AALL/RIPS project that still remains relevant and responsive to the needs of legal research instructors? You will be pleased to know that there is something in our fast-paced world of legal research that has remained steadfast over the last decade -- the National Legal Research Teach-In! It is returning in 2002 for its TENTH consecutive year!

The 2002 Legal Research Teach-In, organized by the Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS (RIPS-SIS), offers the opportunity to improve the skills of your patrons and showcase your skills as a teacher and information provider. Following the pattern of the past nine years of highly successful Teach-Ins, Teach-In 2002 is scheduled in conjunction with National Library Week (April 14-20, 2002). As in previous years, the Teach-In committee has worked with the West Group and LEXIS-NEXIS to prepare unique instructional and promotional materials. Thanks to generous donations from the two companies, the MATERIALS WILL again BE AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE. It is a true measure of their commitment to the law library community that both West Group and LEXIS-NEXIS continue to underwrite this activity, as they have since its inception ten years ago.

RESEARCH TRAINING KITS

New spiral bound kits topped the "BESTSELLER" list last year! – West Group distributed approximately 750 kits to law librarians all over the world! The 2002 Teach-In resource kit will revisit classic areas of legal research integrating traditional legal resources and the newest electronic sources in one convenient package. The kits are designed to provide that extra assistance to get an instructional program off the ground. They may include pathfinders, research guides, posters, lesson plans, lecture notes, research exercises; a myriad of instructional materials developed by law librarians for use by law librarians. ***One kit per institution is available free of charge from the West Group. Contact Marketing Support, West Group, by fax 1-800-854-1597 or email mkgssupport@westgroup.com. Be sure to provide your name, address, institution, telephone number, and, if available, your West Group account number.***

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

A BIG HIT from last year is back by popular demand! Over 20,000 notepads were sent out to approximately 525 locations around the United States, Canada, and Australia, setting another new record! Colorful notepads designed with Teach-In committee assistance and produced by LEXIS-NEXIS, can help you promote your 2002 Teach-In activities. These notepads can be used by library staff or given away to patrons as an incentive to participate in your library events. ***An online order form will be available at <http://www.lexis-nexis.com/infopro/> beginning February 1st and ending March 22nd or until quantities are depleted. If you are unable to access this online form, please contact via fax (937-865-1585) Melissa Engler, Marketing Manager, LexisNexis Librarian Relations Group with your name, full mailing address, email and quantity required.*** If deemed necessary, a limit will be imposed in order to accommodate as many requests as possible.

Orders for training kits or promotional materials should be placed by March 15, 2002, so you will receive them in time for your National Library Week events.

Now is the time to make the commitment that your library will conduct some sort of event involving legal research during National Library Week 2002. With the vast amount of materials available to you, it's easy to plan an educational event. If you need more ideas, descriptions of Teach-In kits from previous years can be found on the RIPS-SIS web page at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/ripssis/>. Past years' kits can be obtained through AALL Headquarters. Contact: AALL, 312-939-4764.

Questions or comments about the 2001 Legal Research Teach-In should be directed to the coordinators for the event, Gail Partin, Associate Law Librarian, Dickinson School of Law, Penn State University, 717-240-5294, gap6@psu.edu; or Karen Brunner, Library Manager, Riker, Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti, 973-538-0800, kbrunner@riker.com.

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Calendar of Events

For more details, see <http://www.nocall.org/calendar.html>

2002

- April 1
Deadline: AALL Grant
- April 1
Deadline: NOCALL Spring Institute Grant
- April 5
Deadline: NOCALL VIP Nominations
- April 26-27
NOCALL Spring Institute, Half Moon Bay
- May 8
Deadline: NOCALL Grants for SLA and AALL