



NOCALL News

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

November – December 2003

Volume 24, Number 2

President's Message

by **Susanne Pierce Dyer**
NOCALL President
Bernard E. Witkin Alameda County Law Library

I have recently returned from a three-week trip to the mountains of North Carolina, coastal South Carolina, and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. As frequently happens, some of my most interesting experiences and cherished memories are not the result of careful planning but of unexpected adventures. For instance, I shall never forget the Haywood County Apple Harvest in Wayneville, North Carolina where the church women sold homemade jams and performers nonchalantly referred to having had bear potpie at a dinner the night before! Nor shall I ever forget Beaufort, South Carolina, especially after hearing the voice mail message telling me that I had won the handmade quilt in a raffle I had entered there. These are unique events, but typical of what can happen when we have the chance to broaden our horizons.

Travel is not the only occasion that offers unexpected opportunities and rewards. I have found that my participation in NOCALL has led not only to wonderful friendships but to sharpened skills that I can use in other sectors of my life and career. For instance, participating in Government Relations Committee Leg Days in Sacramento gave me a chance to meet personally with legislative aides from my area and gave me an unparalleled view into the inner workings of the legislative process. This experience has outfitted me with skills I can use in

advocating for other causes. Organizing a Fall Workshop and then last spring's First California Tri-Chapter Institute exposed me to the world of event planning. I urge any of you who may still be interested in volunteering for a committee this year to contact the committee chairs. Find the names of the chairs and their contact information posted on our web site at <http://www.nocall.org/officers.htm>. To all of you who are involved, keep up the good work! For those of you who are not yet involved, I urge you to serve on a committee next year. You'll be amazed at how you actually get far more personally and professionally out of volunteering than you ever imagined!

Of course, all this pre-supposes that you have renewed your NOCALL membership. If you have, many, many thanks! We appreciate your support and endeavor to make the association and its events useful and rewarding to you. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do. The membership form is on our web site for you to download and mail in case you mislaid the one that was included with your directory. Membership chair Ramona Martinez is waiting to hear from you!

One of the many benefits of membership is the NOCALL News, now under the able editorship of Shelley Blackman. The NOCALL News is now sent electronically via the listserv. As you may know, AALL is now hosting our listserv. Information for subscribing to the new listserv is also on our web site.

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NOCALL Consortium Task Force Needs You!!

The NOCALL Consortium Task Force is still in need of volunteers or anyone with ideas to contribute.

This new task force will investigate the possibility of creating a consortium for our members on the theory that "buying in bulk" saves money and time. The mission of the task force is "to look at law library consortia in other parts of the country to see what they offer their members (what benefits do members derive from membership and what are their obligations) and whether such an undertaking would be useful or feasible for NOCALL."

We need a few good people to join us in this investigation! If you would like to be part of this task force please contact:

Janet Fischer
Golden Gate University Law Library
415-442-7826 or jfischer@ggu.edu
Thank you!

(If you got this newsletter delivered directly to you, congratulations, you are already on the new listserv.) The transition has been rather bumpy, and we all owe a tremendous thank you to Joan Loftus who administers the list serve at our end and who has been heroically trying to get things straightened out with AALL headquarters.

Wednesday, November 12 was the 2003 Fall Workshop. Karin Zilla and her committee organized a fascinating program around the theme of "Value – Define It, Discover It, Deliver It." I was only able to attend the lunch (which was delicious), but I know that everyone fortunate enough to attend the programs was very enthusiastic about it.

Circle your calendars now for our January luncheon and business meeting. It will be held on Tuesday, January 13, 2004 in the Crystal Lounge of the Marines' Memorial Club in San Francisco.

Come and enjoy a delicious meal with your colleagues in what I was assured is their most beautiful room. Don't let the view distract you from our general business meeting which is always a great way to keep abreast of the activities of all the NOCALL committees, etc. Thomson-West is once again underwriting the luncheon, and we are very grateful for their generosity.

While you have your pencil out or your PDA handy, don't forget to mark Friday to Saturday, March 19-20, 2004. Tina Dumas and her Spring Institute Committee are hard at work planning our best ever spring institute which will be held at San Francisco's Holiday Inn, Golden Gateway.

Meanwhile, I hope that you and everyone you care about enjoys wonderful holiday season. May the coming year bring us all happiness, good health, and peace, not to mention lots of serendipitous adventures.



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.

The Northern California Association of Law Libraries assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by the contributors to the association's publications. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of the Northern California Association of Law Libraries.

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Submission Deadlines*:

September/October issue: September 9
November/December issue: November 10
January/February issue: January 12
March/April issue: March 8
May/June issue: May 10

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

Professional Reading in Review

by Susan Llano and Erin Murphy
UC Davis Law Library

“Google Meets eBay: What Academic Librarians Can Learn from Alternative Information Providers,”

by Anne R. Kenney et al., *D-Lib Magazine*, v.9, no.6, June 2003,

<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/june03/kenney/06kenney.html>

This paper presents a study conducted by Cornell University Library in which they compare their digital reference services with that of “Google Answers.” Google Answers is a service staffed by 800 freelance researchers that answer questions posed to them for a small fee. It has been in service since April 2002 and was presented by Google as a cheap, fast way to find information. The study compared and evaluated responses to a set of questions posed to Cornell’s e-mail reference staff and Google Answers researchers. The study’s findings make for very interesting reading, but the conclusion was not a resounding victory for librarians or Google. The scores were actually pretty close with the librarians having a slight edge. The authors believe their study’s results will help librarians gain insight into what makes services like Google Answers so popular to people and what we as librarians can do to improve how we provide service.

“Trumping Google? Metasearching’s Promise,” by Judy Luther, *Library Journal*, v.128, no.16, October 1, 2003, pp.36-39.

Judy Luther suggests that metasearching may be the library’s answer to the public’s love affair with Google, or google-type technology. Patrons who are used to Google’s clean interface and single search box are sometimes put off when they come to a library’s web site and are presented with a multitude of choices and terminology that they are not familiar with. As more and more academic libraries acquire a multitude of databases, some librarians feel that metasearching (or using software that would simultaneously search multiple databases) is the answer for patrons who have the expectations and needs of the “Google generation”. The author addresses the numerous issues that arise in trying to implement metasearching technology, including resistance from librarians who believe that this process “dumbs down” the interface.

“The Information Industry Revolution: Implications for Librarians,”

by George R. Plosker, *Online*, v.27, no.6, November 1, 2003, p.16.

The author details what ensued when SLA asked him to participate in a panel discussing the information industry revolution. Rapid changes in our industry sector are changing user expectations and behaviors. What does this mean for librarians? Mr. Plosker and his fellow panelists produced several key themes during their discussions among them were, the open web, industry consolidation and product quality. The author and his colleagues were concerned with the increasing numbers of researchers who believed that searching the open web was “good enough”. Librarians know that the web is a valuable resource, but that it is only one of many tools that can be used in conducting research. Another cause for concern was the ONE-BIG-VENDOR phenomenon. As vendors continue to merge and consolidate, how does it affect service and the quality of the product? The author concludes by suggesting that librarians should explore cooperative marketing. Can we get together with players in the industry to meet this common challenge? Too many people remain unaware of what the library and information industry can offer.

“The Librarian is In and Online,” by Jessamyn West, *Computers in Libraries*, October 2003, <http://www.infotoday.com/cilmag/oct03/west.shtml>.

Continuing on the “should we worry about Google Answers” theme, Ms. West supplies a reassuring “no.” Her perspective as both a librarian and a researcher with Google Answers is very interesting, especially to someone who wonders how the service works (i.e. someone like me). Ms. West makes the excellent point that “question-answering is not the same as reference work.” The world can support both those who want a burger for \$2 and a steak for \$20. Ms. West encourages us to educate our users about the sources we use, whether it’s the web or a print publication.

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Employment Listings

Looking for a Job?

Be sure to check the JOBS portion of our web page <http://www.NOCALL.org>

Positions are usually posted within 24 hours of receipt.

What Are YOU Reading?

by Nora Levine
Reed Smith Crosby & Heafey

Others may have recommended this before but I loved **THE NUMBER 1 LADIES' DETECTIVE AGENCY** by Alexander McCall Smith. Charming tales of Precious Ramotswe's sleuthing acumen set in Botswana. The first of a series.

Kate K. Alderman
Heller Ehrman

QUEEN BEE OF MIMOSA BRANCH by Haywood Smith

Coming of age...at Fifty??? Who ever heard of such a thing? But, I guess it is "better late than never!" This is one of the funniest books I have read in a long long time. What starts out as a "pity party," for a newly divorced Southern Belle grass-widow, rapidly turns into a commentary on American life-at-large, a "late-bloomer" tour de force. Goody Two-shoes v. the Filthy Beast again! Set in a small town, not unlike Buford, Georgia, this 'Belle' struggles to come to grips with the-change, the changes, and the loss we all encounter in our lives. Lin Breedlove Scott treads the line between the loony-bin and sanity, until she discovers what the secret behind accountability and acceptance offers.

Pamela K. Cline
Howrey Simon Arnold & White, LLP

I recently came across Herman Hesse's **ROSSHALDE**. Reading a previously unread Hesse novel is like finding an old friend. The other Hesse novels I read—**DEMIAN**, **SIDDHARTHA**, **STEPHENWOLF** and **MAGISTER LUDI** – were read at least thirty years ago, and left vestiges in my inner thought processes. ("I was only trying to find my true self. Why was this so difficult?") This novel is earlier than the others.

Rosshalde is the story of a famous artist, Johann Veraguth, who has been alienated from his wife Adele and elder son Albert, and who stays in the marriage because of his love for his younger son Pierre, whom Adele would never give up. Johann has moved out of the great house on the Rosshalde estate, and has moved into an enlarged artist's studio on the grounds. His boyhood friend/art dealer, Otto Burkhardt, arrives from Malaya and sees the unhappy state of his life and challenges Johann to open all the emotional wounds and clean out the infection and make a fresh start by going to Malaya with Otto. After a long period of work and pondering, Johann comes to the conclusion that he has to give up his home and family, including Pierre. The day he informs Adele of his plan to take his trip, Pierre takes ill. As the sickness increases, Johann and Adele work together to try to save the boy. When she realizes that Johann plans to leave her for good, she, out of generosity, offers to let Pierre go with him, if only he can get well. The irony is that, unknown to Adele, the doctor had admitted to Johann that Pierre will die from meningitis. Johann accepts her offer as it was given and the two of them take turns giving Pierre round-the-clock care. The pain Johann feels knowing that he must lose Pierre is not as deep as the feeling of freedom he feels as his life leaves the swampy lake of stagnation and becomes a clear stream once again.

Hesse is one of my two most favorite authors of fiction, along with Patrick O'Brian. I'm looking forward to the opening of the film *Master and Commander* this week.

Dan Cunningham
Reed Smith Crosby Heafey

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Thought I'd mention **THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE**, by Audrey Niffenegger. It's quite interesting if you haven't read it. Even better is that the protagonist is a librarian. [A Today Show' Book Club Selection, by the way.]

Ruth Girill, Librarian
Continuing Education of the Bar

THE DEWEY DECIMAL SYSTEM OF LOVE, by Josephine Carr, was recently recommended to me by a friend. I've only just started the book, but, it's supposedly a new concept in the romance genre to have librarian characters. "After 15 celibate years, librarian Ally Sheffield is in love, and the object of her newfound affections is gorgeous maestro Aleksis Kullio, the latest conductor of the Philadelphia Philharmonic. The fact that Aleksis is already married is a mere obstacle for Ally, since she knows deep in her soul that the two of them were meant to be together. .." [Excerpt from the ALA book review].

Tiffany Keagy
Sacramento County Public Law Library

PREY books by John Sandford

John Sandford has written a dozen or so books about Lucas Davenport, a Minneapolis police officer with a special assignment. Recently, I have read them. They are more violent than I normally read, but very crossword puzzle-ish in a way, which I do like. The series starts out with *Rules Of Prey*. The series continues with *Chosen Prey*, *Mortal Prey*, *Shadow Prey*, *Eyes Of Prey*, etc. Aside from the fact that I don't have to find another good author to read, this series has finally pounded "character development" into my head. All through college, I would dread seeing "please describe the character development in this work" on an essay homework question, because I can't see character development very well in one book. In this series you can see Davenport develop. You also get to know his life and the way he works.

REQUIEM FOR A WREN by Nevil Shute
Shute is the author of *A Town Like Alice* and *On the Beach*. He also wrote a dozen or so lesser known works, of which *Requiem for a Wren* is one. The main character returns home to an Australian sheep ranch after WWII and several years in England to find that his parents' parlor maid has committed suicide. The story weaves his life in with hers as the main character tries to uncover why she what would have driven her to commit such an act. This is an older novel, but rich in descriptions, and contemplative in a way.

SMART MOBS by Howard Rheingold
Smart Mobs discusses mobile telephony and its various uses as well as how we got to mobile telephony from DARPA and the beginnings of the Internet. It refers back to Rheingold's earlier book on virtual communities and shows how the U.S. is pretty far behind other countries in the innovative uses of cell phones. Can you imagine talking to someone standing on your front porch via your cell phone while you are at work, on the bus or at the grocery store? Interesting book that is really opening my eyes to new types of uses for mobile telephony. It is also very well written and is a good and detailed review of the history of the Internet.

Jaye A. H. Lapachet
Coblentz, Patch, Duffy & Bass LLP

HOW RONALD REAGAN CHANGED MY LIFE
by Peter Robinson.

Great book, easy read, well written. I like it because I was in college when Reagan was President and wanted to learn "what the big deal was".... Interesting read for political junkies like me.

IN THE PRESENCE OF MY ENEMIES by Gracie Burnham

First person account of the 2 missionaries taken by the Asian Al Queta terrorists and kept as prisoners for over 18 months. Gracie's husband gets killed as they finally escape. It is a true story, told by the woman herself. Heart wrenching but a glimpse of what Al Queta is like from a first person point of view.

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THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX by J.K. Rowling
The Latest Harry Potter adventure, sure to please. Great book, great character and fun to read with or out loud to your kids...or elderly, bed-ridden parents... pure Harry Potter fun and fantasy.

IN BUT NOT OF by Hugh Hewitt
Small gift book perfect for the high school or college grad. A "how to survive" in this world kind of book with a lot of humor & wit tossed in. Gave six away this last grad period. All recipients read and said it has been very helpful to them.

Maggie Menzel
CCH INCORPORATED, A WoltersKluwer Company

I'm reading **JITTERBUG PERFUME** by Tom Robbins.
A saga of the improbable. Quirky, fun. From the first chapter: "An old Ukrainian proverb warns, 'A tale that begins with a beet will end with the devil.' That is a risk we have to take." Great bus reading!

Kathryn Simmonds
Steinhart & Falconer



Musings from Mark

by Mark Mackler
Folger, Levin, & Kahn

Did you happen to see the October 31 (Halloween) *Wall Street Journal*?...An article entitled "Wolters Kluwer Dusts Itself Off" examined the problems at WK, best known to us as the parent of CCH and Aspen. 44-year-old Nancy McKinstry is the new Chair and CEO. She plans to invest almost one billion dollars over the next three years, to reduce costs by \$280 million and cut 1600 jobs by 2007.
"While other professional publishers invested heavily in bringing their products to the Internet over the past few years, Wolters has continued to rely on loose-leaf and CD-ROM versions of its many products which have suffered high cancellation rates...Wolters continues to walk a fine line when it comes to the Internet...Many LLP customers still prefer print versions of Wolter's products, so the company must maintain a cautious balance." The article concludes by stating that there will be divestments in "non-core" areas in both North

America and Europe. Here we go again??"

Speaking of nice feelings...Yesterday I was stumped by a question. "What's out there that could help me with a question about contracts in New York?" I spent quite a bit of time on this, but came up with nothing definitive. So I finally called a friend and colleague in a New York law firm library who gladly helped me. Today, I received an e-mail from a friend and colleague in a Denver law firm library who had some questions about our new "plain-English" jury instructions. I gladly helped him. To me, this continues to be the best part of our business.

Keeping things in perspective...A few weeks ago, I left my house early in the morning to go out for a nice walk, and what do I find in the middle of the street but part of an SFPD uniform. (Don't ask.) The following weekend, I drove to my neighborhood police station to return the item to its owner. I never went to this particular station before. Ingleside Station honors the memory of Sergeant John Young, who was killed in 1971 by a group of terrorists who invaded the Station, poked a 12-gauge shotgun through a hole in the desk officer's window, and blasted away. What really got to me was that old window, which now hangs from the ceiling as a sort of display. The glass is riddled with multiple bullet holes. Why am I writing about this? Because it's a lesson to me to keep things in perspective. Publisher billing schemes, excessive price increases, unsolicited books, technology that doesn't work the way it's supposed to...they're all relatively unimportant, aren't they?

Good Bye To Bob Berring's "Thinkable Thoughts"...If you have been a reader of West's Librarian Relations publication *Law Librarians in the New Millennium* you'll be familiar with its best column: Bob Berring's "Thinkable Thoughts." Bob's column in the September-October issue was his last. In that column, Bob thanks librarians everywhere. "Librarianship remains the last refuge of idealists. We care about quality and we do not put money first. This is not to say that we would not all enjoy winning Lotto, but as a profession we have not compromised. There is a stark beauty in that attitude. It inspires me on dark nights. If I have goaded you sometimes, it is only because I feel that what we do is important. It matters. Thanks for being part of that."
Thank you, Bob.
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And finally, an “only in San Francisco” story...I’m attending my CPR/Defibrillator skills recertification class. Prior to the final exam, the instructor asks if there are any questions. One of my classmates raises his hand, and asks if it’s necessary to remove any jewelry from the victim before applying the defibrillator paddles. The instructor responds that it’s not necessary to remove watches, rings and bracelets. My classmate raises his hand again. He says, “Well, that’s not exactly what I had in mind. I was kind of thinking of the kind of jewelry that get attached to parts of your torso.” A few seconds of silence in the class, and then everyone breaks up with laughter.



SJSU-SLIS Fall 2003 Career Fair

**By Karen M. Lutke,
Chair, NOCALL Academic Relations Committee
Director, San Mateo County Law Library**

The Instructional Resource Center at San Jose State University was the site of the Fall 2003 School of Library and Information Science Career Fair held November 22, 2003. The telecast event brought together the San Jose, Sacramento and Fullerton campuses with an impressive sixty-seven participants. Fred Gertler, SJSU-SLIS Alumni President, provided introduction, proclaiming the Career Fair would be entertaining and illuminating. He was right! The event provided affirmation for seasoned librarians and information specialists and students alike. Career Fair coordinators Elyse Eisner and Hella Bluhm-Stieber assembled a panel of speakers that reflected the diversity and range of opportunities available today. Speakers included: Michael Ginsborg, Howard, Rice; Schelle Simcox, Paul Hastings; Rebecca Davis, Medical Librarian, UC Davis, Marlene Vogelsang, PG&E Energy Center; Rachael Clemens, Distance Education, Cal State Fullerton; Rosanne Macek, Children’s Librarian, Morgan Hill Public Library; Penny Scott, Business Specialist, University of San Francisco.

Each speaker shared their path to librarianship (bumps and all!), and imparted advice that was equally beneficial to the practitioner and students. Involvement was the key piece of advice offered by each speaker: Involvement through alumni associations, professional organizations, and committee work. Aside from such activities providing resume enhancement, involvement promotes transferable skills to current and potential employment and is great fun. Several speakers encouraged students to volunteer in a variety of information settings in order to explore a specific discipline and to gain practical experience. Speakers also shared what Rachel Clemens referred to as “glad I knew/wish I had known” tips. Technology, software and hardware, and online resources were at the top of everyone’s list, but so too, were greater business reference and government documents classes. Rosanne Macek, citing her corporate-to-children’s librarian path, extolled flexibility and Toastmasters. And Marlene Vogelsang stated what we all know: learning does not stop!

NOCALL was well represented by Michael Ginsborg and Schelle Simcox. Like so many of us, they came into law librarianship by accident and have found a special place. Schelle left the field at one point to explore academia at CSU-Monterey, but missed the fast paced life of the law firm. Having returned to a law firm, she enthusiastically stated law librarianship is “vibrant and exciting!” Michael has the unique perspective of working in both the private and public sector, working part-time at the San Francisco Law Library. He touched briefly on the social aspect of public law librarianship. The cost of legal services is growing proportionately out of reach for an increasing number of individuals and as a result, they are turning to public law libraries in order to protect and enforce their rights. The tumultuous mergers and acquisitions within the legal publishing industry have resulted in escalating costs that make it harder for public law libraries to provide adequate research resources.

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The consequences of this is serious not only for the strain it places on the limited financial resources of public law libraries, but also for the potential to impair the availability of legal resources that will help pro se litigants find the law for the purpose of protecting their rights. And it serves to increase the cost of practicing law, further limiting the ability of solo practitioners or small firms to access legal research tools and effectively represent low-income litigants. As a result, legal protections are in question and this affects the legal profession as a whole. Michael believes the ideals of access are worth fighting for by all law librarians.

SJSU-SLIS Fall 2003 Career Fair concluded with a reception and tour of the new Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. San Jose State-San Jose Public Library. SIMS, Berkeley, will be the site of the next career fair, to be held early spring 2004. I encourage you to attend a career fair. Not only will your participation rejuvenate and refresh your perspective, it also serves to provide affirmation to students and new graduates and promotes a positive role model.



Report on Internet Librarian 2003 *

Janet McKinney, Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.

I was disappointed when I learned that I wouldn't be able to attend the AALL annual meeting in Seattle this year. I've not been to Seattle, and I missed seeing AALL friends and colleagues. Compensation came later in the form of Internet Librarian 2003, in beautiful Monterey, California. I don't know whether it's a positive or a negative that we librarians have a number of excellent conferences from which to choose each year. If you have a chance to attend Internet Librarian (booked in Monterey for the next two years), I highly recommend it.

There were about 800 attendees, which I thought was a nice size – not so huge that you felt overwhelmed, but big enough that you didn't see the same people over and over again. There were 12 tracks over the course of the three days, with a total of 52 programs, two keynote sessions, an endnote session, and one evening session. All but one of the time slots had at least one

program I wanted to attend. I also attended 3 pre-conference workshops. Some of the speakers were with major corporate libraries, such as Microsoft, Sun Microsystems and Nike. I haven't decided whether I'm inspired and encouraged or depressed by their innovative services!

Another positive aspect of Internet Librarian is that every speaker had a live Internet connection. The benefit of a commercial sponsor, I suppose. It was especially helpful during the "RSS/Blogging 101" workshop. Each table had a laptop, and each group at a table added a post to Steven Cohen's Weblog, "Library Stuff." Then each group created a Weblog and added at least one posting. Later in the session each group set up subscriptions, or channels, in Newzcrawler, an RSS aggregator already installed on the laptops. Many of the speakers were luminaries in the law library and information technology worlds. Granted, AALL members aren't slouches when it comes to librarianship and technology, but we often don't enjoy hearing from so many experts outside law librarianship. Over the four days, some of the speakers I heard were Genie Tyburski, Steven Cohen, Jenny Levine, Mary Ellen Bates, Chris Sherman, Cindy Chick, Rich Wiggins, Stephen Abram, and Barbara Quint. There were other speakers that I didn't see but recognize as authors of columns I read regularly. I thought it was great that so many law librarians were speakers. In addition to those already mentioned, they included Barbara Fullerton, Sabrina Pacifici, and Tom Fleming.

One corner of the exhibit hall was set up as a small classroom, where there were 12 "Cybertours" offered. These were 15-minute sessions on a variety of topics. I attended 2 of them (Online Trends from the CyberCorner with Mary Ellen Bates and Delivering Research Results Electronically with Cindy Chick), and I enjoyed both and think it's a great concept. However, I was disappointed in the exhibit hall. I suppose I shouldn't be surprised, but there were only 33 exhibitors. Most of them held little interest for me in my position. I did scout around for news feed vendors, with a little bit of success, and I saw VTLS' new system that uses FRBR-ized records. [Let me

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recommend right now to all you CS members that you read up on IFLA's *Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records* (<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/frbr/frbr.pdf>.) This will have a major impact on library systems if adopted.]

Most of the presentations will eventually be posted on *Information Today's* Website, and a CD recording of the conference will be offered for sale, so I won't take the time and space to go into details. But I'd like to give you some highlights:

- Workflow integration (federated search, OCLC WorldCat & Google integration, link resolvers & OpenURL)
- Massive archives
- Nomadic use
- Learning on the run (he said we need to switch to managing the learning ecology)
- Visual display (most people learn visually and experientially)
- Personality and searching (different personalities search differently)

Chris Sherman's "(R)Evolution of Search Engines: Update" program was very interesting. Here are just a few points:

- AltaVista and AllTheWeb were supposed to merge the weekend of the conference, with the best technologies of both, but it didn't happen. He expects one of them to disappear soon.
- Google is completely rewriting its spider code; look for some changes.
- Vertical search is getting good
- Take a look at Yahoo! Shopping. There's a feature called SmartSort that changes the results list dynamically based on your choice of preferences presented above the results list.
- MSN and search – the goal is to make Windows a search-centric environment. (Does that surprise any of us?)

What's hot?

- o Local search
- o Personal search; search the Blogosphere, DART
- o Natural language
 - Keep an eye on:
- o Overture research
- o Amazon's K9 project – search engine
- o "nutch", an open source search engine project

Declines:

- o Directories
- o Metadata; only Inktomi is still using metadata for indexing
- o Semantic Web

I attended a pre-conference workshop on "extreme" searching, but I was disappointed. One tip I did come away with is the use of Teoma to identify "resource guides" (collections of links on specific topics). They are identified as "Experts' Links" on a results page.

Cindy Chick's Cybertour on delivering research electronically was full of practical ideas. You can get the handout and slides at

<http://lawlibtech.com/presentations/adobe.pdf>

Finally, when the presentations are available at the ITI site, be sure to look for anything by Mary Ellen Bates! Anyone wishing to view some of the presentations given at the conference can follow this link:

<http://www.infotoday.com/il2003/presentations/default.htm>



* *Editor's Note:*

*This article originally appeared in the December 2003 issue of **Connecting**, the newsletter of the Computing Services SIS of the American Association of Law Libraries. It is also available at*

<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/cssis/newsletter/dec03.pdf>.

**Envision Tomorrow's Catalog:
The Evolution of Cataloging
In the E-Commerce Era ***

**Virginia Meier
University of Wisconsin Law Library**

The speaker for this program was Cindy Cunningham, the U.S. Catalog Librarian for Amazon.com. She has her library degree and worked in several libraries before joining Amazon. She is the only librarian working for Amazon.com and her initial charge was to tell Amazon how people searched for books. She worked with editors and they used a hierarchy of subject headings based on the primary category of the item for a browse list. This list eventually became more of a tool for tracking trends in marketing and merchandising, rather than a cataloging and classification tool for helping customers find items quickly and easily.

She began her presentation with a brief background of how libraries and the way the public searches for information have changed. The history of libraries is really a history of letting go of control. Years ago books were chained down and stacks were closed. This evolved into open stacks and most recently to use of the Internet where librarians have limited control over what patrons look at. The Internet and e-commerce have also contributed to the slow loss and shift of cataloging authority. Previously there were a limited number of authoritative sources, e.g. the Library of Congress, and cataloging was a controlled and consistent process. Collaboration and multiple sources have shifted the point of authority. There are also new content definitions and formats to consider, leading to the need for normalization and reconciliation of data into one authoritative item.

Amazon began in 1995 with Baker & Taylor as their single catalog source. Ingram was soon added which necessitated the beginning of reconciling multiple data sources. Data quality became more important in its potential to affect sales, and Amazon recognized that some data sources were more reliable than others. In 2000, Onix (Online Information Exchange) was launched to give publishers a single XML format to transmit all their data to those involved in selling books. The Library of Congress has mapped MARC to Onix.

SCALL INSTITUTE

SCALL has announced that their Annual Institute will be held in sunny **San Diego on Feb. 27 and 28, 2004** at the Doubletree Hotel in Mission Valley.

Free programs, to be held on Friday Feb. 27 will be offered to both SCALL and SANDALL members.

For additional programming and registration details, see the online newsletter at
<http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/scall/newsletter.htm>

Traditional classification also behaves differently in the online environment, often bringing together related items based on customer buying habits. The Book Industry Study Group sets the standards for the book industry and is the classification system that all bookstores use. The definition of catalog has changed as customer expectations have increased. In addition to the basic author, title, publisher, date information, they want comparative consumer information about the product including customer reviews and recommendations, expected availability date, graphics, etc. Use of online information will continue to increase, so the better the quality of the inputted data, the better the results will be. There is too much data to do traditional cataloging anymore. Outsourcing or the use of search engines will be needed to manage and control the data. Librarians may be involved in the construction of these search engines due to their understanding of how data structure influences searching capability.



Editor's Note:

* This article, which is a summary of a 2003 AALL Annual Meeting Session, originally appeared in the Fall 2003 issue of the **LLAW Newsletter**, available at
<http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llaw/publications/newsfall03.pdf>



The Call for Papers Has Begun

Have you been thinking of writing an article of interest to law librarians? Maybe you just need a push to get started? Whether for fame or for fortune, this is your chance to enter the **AALL/LexisNexis™ Call for Papers Competition**.

The AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee is soliciting articles in three categories:

- Open Division for AALL members and law librarians with five or more years of professional experience
- New Members Division for recent graduates and AALL members who have been in the profession for less than five years.
- Student Division for budding law librarians still in school. (Students need not be members of AALL)

The winner in each division receives \$750 generously donated by LexisNexis, plus the opportunity to present his or her paper at a special program during the AALL Annual Meeting in Boston. Winners papers will also be considered for publication in the Association's prestigious *Law Library Journal*.

For more information, a list of previous winners and an application, visit the AALL website at http://www.aallnet.org/about/award_call_for_papers.asp. **Submissions must be postmarked by March 1.**

If you have any questions, please contact any member of the AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee, Kathryn Hensiak, k-hensiak@law.northwestern.edu or Virginia Davis, Davis@UH.edu

NOCALL Board Meeting Minutes
 Wednesday, June 18, 2003, 1:00-2:30pm
 Parlor E, Benson Center, Santa Clara University

Present: Susanne Pierce Dyer, Tina Dumas, Ellen Platt, Wynne Dobyns, Diane Rodriguez, Eric Wade, Karen Lutke, Karin Zilla. Susanne Pierce Dyer called the meeting to order at 1:18pm.

1. Acceptance of May meeting minutes - The minutes were tabled and accepted as written via email after the meeting.
2. Discussion & adoption of proposed budget for 2003-2004:
 - Per the Daily Journal's sponsorship, there is no expense for the NOCALL directory except mailing which is approx. \$2.00 per directory.
 - There was a question about the AALL Liaison costs. In 2002/2003 this expense was wrapped into the institute expenses. There was no Chapter visit last year.
 - Last year's budget was out of line. This years budget has been adjusted to more accurately represent expenses. Administrative fees have been adjusted from \$8000 to \$1500.
 - NOCALL needs to request an insurance certificate from our insurer every year as proof of insurance for meetings, etc.
 - Equalization taxes need to be filed by July 1, 2003.
 - The board thanks Jacque Grossman for her excellent work on the budget.
3. AALL Meeting in Seattle:
 - Barbara Zaruba plans on attending the education meeting early Saturday morning. Shelley-Anne Blackman will attend the newsletter meeting.
 - The State Court and County group is proposing a surcharge of Federal filing fees. The funds will go to whoever provides public access where the plaintiff resides.
4. Committee Chair vacancies: Nominations and Public Relations Chair positions are still vacant.
5. Board Liaisons to Committees: Board liaisons have been assigned as follows:
 - Susanne Pierce Dyer: Academic Relations, Government Relations, and Public Access
 - Tina Dumas: AALL Liaison, Consulting, Education, and Newsletter
 - Diane Rodriguez: Archives and Membership
 - Jackie Grossman: Audit & Budget, Grants, and Web Page
 - Ellen Platt: Constitution and Bylaws and Nominations
 - Wynne Dobyns: Memorials and Law Library Consortium Task Force
 - Eric Wade: Placement, Public Relations, and Union List
6. Discussion of two additional proposed committees:

Memorials and Multi-Type Law Library Consortium

 - Multi-Type Law Library Consortium: We will begin with a task force to investigate and report back information, but not yet make this group an official NOCALL entity. The group will contact SCALL and possibly do a combined investigation. This could also possibly involve the Library of California. The mission of the group is to look at other consortia, contact people who have been involved with other consortia, weigh and balance the options and report back to the Board.
 - Memorials: Look into reinstating a grant award and coming up with an appropriate memorial name for it. Develop a lasting memorial, possibly a plaque kept in the State Library or a remembrance album kept in the NOCALL archives. The committee will report back with their ideas.

7. Advertising in the NOCALL News: This issue was tabled for further discussion. Tina Dumas, former newsletter editor, opined that advertising takes too much time for the amount of revenues. We also need to consider AALL requirements regarding ads and controls over our Chapter website. Perhaps vendor sponsorships are better spent supporting our educational programs.
8. Other business:
 - Tina Dumas is considering San Francisco for the next Spring Institute. The PLI Center is one possible venue with easy access.
 - The positions available section on the NOCALL web space needs more visibility. Ideas include adding a note in the newsletter reminding people of the service and adding a link to that section of the web page on every job announcement posted to the NOCALL list.
 - Global Securities will sponsor the Fall Business Meeting and Lunch and the Daily Journal will sponsor our Spring Business Meeting and Lunch in 2004.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Rodriguez
NOCALL Secretary

ALA Midwinter Meeting

The 2004 ALA Midwinter Meeting will be held at the **San Diego Convention Center, Jan. 9-14, 2004.**

The exhibits will be Jan. 9-12, 2004 in the Convention Center.

See the [ALA Conference Services](http://www.ala.org/Content/ContentGroups/Events_and_Conferences2/Midwinter/2004/home.htm) page at http://www.ala.org/Content/ContentGroups/Events_and_Conferences2/Midwinter/2004/home.htm

for complete information including:

- registration forms
- travel and accommodations and
- San Diego area guides

Membership News

New & Continuing NOCALL Members

The names of members who have joined NOCALL since publication of the 2003-2004 NOCALL Directory are listed below, as well as changes and corrections for continuing members. Any corrections, changes, or additions to the Directory should be sent to:

Ramona Martinez
 NOCALL Membership Chair
 UC Berkeley School of Law Library
 227A Boalt Hall # 7210
 Berkeley, CA 94720-7210
 Phone: (510) 643-2947
 Fax: (510) 642-9122
 Email: rmartinez@law.berkeley.edu

NEW MEMBERS

Kelly Anders

Reference Librarian
 McGeorge School of Law
 3200 Fifth Avenue
 Sacramento, CA 95817
 Email: kanders@uop.edu

Carrie Barclay

2287 Bryant Street
 San Francisco, CA 94110
 Email: ckb@big.net

Judi Bikel

Reference Librarian
 Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
 2029 Century Park East, Ste. 2400
 Los Angeles, CA 90046
 Email: jbikel@akingump.com

Colleen Cable

Manager, Librarian Relations
 West
 50 California Street, 19th Floor
 San Francisco, CA 94111
 Email: colleen.cable@thomson.com

Meredith Casteel

Library Services Manager
 Hanson, Bridgett, et al.
 333 Market Street, Ste. 2300
 San Francisco, CA 94105
 Email: mcasteel@hansonbridgett.com

CONTINUING MEMBERS

Jovita Garcia-Duer

Director, Library Services
 Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich
 2000 University Avenue
 E. Palo Alto, CA 94303

Francis Gates*

francisx@InReach.com

*Francis lists his primary function as “frolicking!”
 Way to think outside the box and categorize
 yourself more accurately than the controlled
 vocabulary allows!!

Catherine Hardy

Head Librarian
 Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe
 333 Bush Street
 San Francisco, CA 94104-2878
 Phone: (415) 772-6812
 Fax: (415) 772-6268
 Email: chardy@hewm.com

Pat Hart

Reference Librarian
 Sacramento County Public Law Library
 813 – 6th Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 Phone: (916) 874-6414
 Fax: (916) 874-5691
 Email: phart@saclaw.lib.ca.us

*(New Members)***Dionne Dockendorf**

Reference Librarian
 Bingham McCutchen LLP
 3 Embarcadero Center
 San Francisco, CA 94111
 Email: dionne.dockendorf@bingham.com

Monica Donovan

Information Specialist
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 199 Fremont Street, 10th Floor
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 Email: DonovanM@jacksonlewis.com

Kathleen Laurel Espell

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 400 Capitol Mall, 27th Floor
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Steven Frankenstein

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Jessica Hopkins

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 Senior Associate Librarian
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Joy Emily Hopkins

Student, Hastings College of Law
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Kristin Ichishta Keyes

McDonough, Holland & Allen
 555 Capitol Mall, 9th Floor
 Sacramento, CA 95814
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*(Continuing Members)***Mike Ibold***

P.O. Box 311
 San Andreas, CA 95249
 Phone: (209) 754-4443
 Email: Mike_Ibold@yahoo.com

*The Office of Administrative Law got the axe in the latest round of budget cuts! Is there anyone out there in NOCALL land with any good ideas on how to preserve the collection at the OAL library?

Theresa Kim

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 Email: tckim@thelenreid.com

Susan Llano

Reference Librarian
 UC Davis Law Library
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Cella Mitchell

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 Fax: (415) 397-8549
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*(New Members)***Torang Jahan**

Senior Research Staff Member
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Melissa Jordan

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Daniel Pleasant, CLA, CAS

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Bill Richter

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Thomas "Dea" Robertson-Gutierrez

DeaLawResearch
 2210 Ashby Avenue
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 Email: tdea@pacbell.net

Monica Rose

Technical Services/Reference Librarian
 Gray Cary Ware Freidenrich LLP
 2000 University Avenue
 E. Palo Alto, CA 94302-2248
 Email: mrose@graycary.com

*(Continuing Members)***Lorre Wicke**

Technical Services Librarian
 Bingham McCutchen LLP

Members Missing in Action

We no longer have current contact information for the following people. If you know anyone on this list and they want to renew their membership and receive the directory, please have them contact me.

Judith Darnell
 Michelle Gallimore
 Suzanne Glab
 Julie Jackson
 Susan Lopez
 Loretta Mak
 Alexis Manheim
 Aruna Marathe
 Marianna Moore
 Jill Nesbitt
 Nina Nguyen
 Evelyn Posamentier
 Louise Roysdon
 Satwinder Sandhu
 Caleb Tucker-Raymond

(New Members)

Carey Rowan

Supervising Librarian/Law Librarian
Solano County Law Library
600 Union Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533
Email: crowan@solanocounty.com

Donna Scales

Library Technician
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Randy Snyder

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Brad Swecker

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James Wirrell

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Jenny Yang

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AALL OBS/TS Joint Research Grant Funding Available for 2004

The Online Bibliographic Services/Technical Services Joint Research Grant, to provide support for technical services law librarians to perform research that will enhance law librarianship in service to our clients, is available each year. Applicants must be members of AALL, and must show evidence that the research will benefit technical services law librarianship. The goal of the Joint Research Grant Committee is to award grants in a single year ranging in amount of no more than \$1,000.

Additional general information about the grant is available at
<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/obssis/research/researchinfo.htm>

The agreement form for grant recipients can be viewed at:
<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/obssis/research/agreement.htm>

Grant recipients will be announced at the annual AALL meeting. Award amounts will be mailed to successful grant recipients as soon as final approval is received by the JRGC Chair. For additional information, please contact this year's chair of the committee, Eloise Vondruska, by email at: e-ondruska@law.northwestern.edu or by phone at: 312-503-7369.

NOCALL OFFICERS 2002-2003

President Susanne Pierce Dyer, Alameda Co. Law Library (510)272-6486 sdyer@co.alameda.ca.us
Vice President/President Elect Tina Dumas, Nixon Peabody (415)984-8378 tdumas@nixonpeabody.com
Secretary Diane Rodriguez, Carroll Burdick & McDonough 415-989-5900 droduiguez@cbmlaw.com
Treasurer Jacqueline Grossman, Townsend & Townsend & Crew (415)273-4320 jgrossman@townsend.com
Past President Ellen Platt, Santa Clara University (408)554-5139 eplatt@scu.edu
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Grants Peg LaFrance, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe (415)773-5928 mLaFrance@orrick.com
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Nominations Jane Metz, Bingham McCutcheon (650)849-4829 jmetz@bingham.com
Placement Mary Staats, Farella, Braun & Martel (415)954-4451 staats@ix.netcom.com
Public Access Coral Henning, Sacramento County Law Library (916)874-5625 CHenning@saclaw.lib.ca.us
Public Relations Pam Rino, Perkins Coie (650)838-4360 rinop@perkinscoie.com
Spring Institute Susanne Pierce Dyer, Alameda County Law Library (510)272-6486 sdyer@admin2.mail.co.alameda.ca.us
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Calendar of Events

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