



NOCALL *News*

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

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President's Message

I would like to thank everyone who came to the 2007 Spring Institute. The topic was Strategic Planning and we all rolled up our sleeves and attendees created mission and vision statements that reflect the organization's purpose and goals. The top eight or nine mission and vision statements discussed at the meeting were reproduced in a survey, which was available on NOCALL.org from August 8th to August 22nd. Survey participants were asked to rate the statements on a scale of 1 to 5 as follows: Love it, Like it, It's OK, Don't Like it, and Hate it. One hundred and thirty-three people (approximately half the membership!) completed the survey. The survey resulted in a clear favorite for both statements.

Mission Statement defined

A mission statement is a clear statement telling why the organization exists, whom it serves, and how. It should be no more than two simple sentences that conveys what is unique about the organization.

A Professional Organization of Law Librarians Providing Development through Networking and Education

Vision Statement defined

Vision provides the driving, motivating force. It is clear, specific, simple and innovative. It reflects the organization's values. Everyone in the organization can integrate it, speak it, feel it and act upon it.

Leading Law Librarians into the Future

The Education Committee has been hard at work responding to the membership's desire to have additional social and educational opportunities. To further that goal we have three upcoming events: Sunday September 23rd is the Beach Blanket Babylon outing; Tuesday September 25th is "Get A Life," a LexisNexis presentation on work/life balance followed by a business meeting and lunch at the Vallejo Courtyard Marriott; and "The Art of Negotiation" Fall Workshop on Tuesday October 23rd with renowned speaker Pat Wagner.

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In the works are a few other social and educational programs. I would like to put together a holiday party this year in early December. I could use some assistance with this effort so if you have suggestions or can spend some time working with me on this I would greatly appreciate it (chenning@saclaw.org). Also, Holly Riccio is working on a film screening of the documentary "Soul of Justice". This film is about Justice Thornton Henderson and is directed by Abby Ginzburg. Mark your calendars for this event sometime in February.

Vice President Kelly Browne is already hard at work on the upcoming Spring Institute. She has identified the venue, the date and the topic: Napa on March 28th, topic: Project Management! As information becomes available we will pass it along.

It is going to be a busy and exciting year. I look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming events!

Coral Henning, President
916-874-6013

NOCALL News

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MUSINGS FROM MARK

Mark Mackler
California Department of Justice
San Francisco

To Begin On a Gloomy Note...Two NOCALL members passed away since our last "Musings": Nancy Carlin and Ursula Bernhart. You'll find stories about each of them elsewhere in this issue of NOCALL News. I want to let you know that NOCALL will make donations in their memory to their favorite charities.

Only in San Francisco...Those of you who know me know that I sometimes hang out in the small lunchroom in the basement of San Francisco City Hall. It's a great little place. I can have lunch, it's quiet, and I can read. So, one day a few weeks ago I'm heading toward the lunchroom and I hear what sounds like a clown horn right behind me. I wheel around. It's a clown. Oh, God, I'm finally losing my mind...But no, it's a real clown! Kenny the Clown is running for Mayor of San Francisco. "I feel I could do better than Mayor Newsom," says Kenny. Kenny is 6'3" and weighs 250 lbs. He has challenged Gavin to a basketball game, but the Mayor hasn't responded.

Over in the Garden State...The New Jersey Supreme Court has reprimanded Newark-based Sills Cummins for allowing an associate not admitted to the state bar to work there for seven years. The associate, who no longer works at the Firm, says he was told by at least one partner not to worry about his lack of a New Jersey license. The partners don't remember it that way. Nevertheless, the Firm signed a consent order to monitor their new attorneys' credentials more closely.

What's Up with West?...Recently, the *New York Times* reported that Thomson was planning to sell its textbook and educational publishing business in order to raise big bucks to pay for their Reuters purchase. So far, so good. But I became nauseous when the story went on to say that Thomson put the business segment on the market because it did not fit "the all-electronic model that is used to sell information and services to the medical, scientific, financial and legal communities...The sale of the educational unit brings an end to the Thomson corporation's participation in traditional publishing." I waited to see a correction in the *Times*, but none appeared.

And finally...Our friends at the Golden Gate Chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators compared their current Top Secret Salary Survey with their Survey from 1989: The IT positions consisted solely of "Computer Operator" and "Data Entry Operator"; Salaries for new Associates varied between \$50,000 and \$60,000; Legal Secretaries with 6+ years experience were making between \$28,600 and \$34,200.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Nora Levine

Bill Bryson. A SHORT HISTORY OF NEARLY EVERYTHING.

I am currently immersed in A Short History of Nearly Everything. I have read a number of science books in recent years including the amazing A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking. I have to hand it to Bill Bryson for collecting a great amount of scientific knowledge and lore from many disciplines and synthesizing it all into a fun to read, enjoyable exploration of just what we know (or think we know) and how much we don't know about the origins of the Universe, the evolution of life on earth, the lives of a cell, and much more. His chapter organization helps us start with the encompassing cosmos and the tiny atoms within it, and how we have come to view the rules that govern the amazingly vast and ancient as well as the infinitesimal and often short-lived particles at the quantum level.

It gets better. With each chapter there are stories of discovery along with illustrative anecdotes about many of the great minds of science and their peculiarities, good fortune or bad and their feuds over theory and who got credit for discoveries. We come to know Lord Kelvin as a great scientific patron and scientist in his own right, who boldly attempted to guess the age of the earth. He wanted to say hundreds of millions of years old but settled down to a more acceptable thirty million years.

The chapter on discovering the earth's age is a wonderful story of how thinkers over time struggled with evidence and overcame religious dogma, using whatever tools were available at the time to eventually reach back into unfathomable time. As dating methods became more reliable, the guesses about earth's age lengthened, but only in the last half of the Twentieth Century did we reach the astounding conclusion that the earth is 4.6 billion years old. Similarly the age of the Universe lengthened and it is now believed to be at least 13.5 billion years, maybe more - starting at the moment of inflation when a tiny area billions of times smaller than a proton suddenly expanded and released immense energies to create space, time, matter and everything we know, blasting light-years outward in all directions, all in trillionths of a second and cooling as it expanded until matter could coalesce.

We learn that fossils only represent a teensy fraction of all species, and of those, very few are discovered. From what we do find, we need to infer whole creatures, whole ecosystems and climates, and then try to learn what evolved into what, where and when. Speaking of species, the vast majority of species today are microbes very similar to earth's earliest life. They vastly outnumber all other

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species combined both in number and in mass. We have no idea how many species exist. So many are believed to live in the earth's crust to great depths that it is estimated they would cover the entire earth's surface five feet deep if they lived on the surface.

Other fun stuff includes how the Cretaceous extinction theory evolved to the point where people realized something huge hit the earth to end the rule of the dinosaurs. (The KT impact) Scientists found the smoking gun evidence of a massive asteroid impact zone 120 miles across and 30 miles deep over what is now southern Mexico only a few years ago – a blast that killed off 10% of the species in water and 90% of the land-based species. Yet life went on after a relatively brief die-off period, and mammals became dominant on land. The culprit was an asteroid about 6 miles across. To this day there is no reliable way to predict when such an event might happen again, nor prevent it. I highly recommend this book for anyone who would like to enjoy a good review of science that is highly readable and informative.

Greg Fite
Bernard E. Witkin Alameda County Law Library

Ayaan Hirsi Ali. INFIDEL

Ms. Ali is a Somali woman who became a member of the Dutch Parliament. The journey to that point and beyond - both physically and intellectually - are at once fascinating, terrifying, controversial and thought-provoking. I seem to be reading books by women who are trying to find their way in a multi-cultural world.

Min Jin Lee. FREE FOOD FOR MILLIONAIRES.

This is the debut novel of Ms. Lee. Within the form of a 19th Century novel she sets this protagonist -- a young Korean-American woman in the midst of Princeton, MBA's, investment banking, and Korean immigrant parents. It is a quick read with memorable characters. I also recently listened to ADAM BEDE by George Eliot; such a wonderful story and writer. A perfect accompaniment while knitting.

Peg La France
Research and Information Resources Manager

Laurie King. THE ART OF DETECTION

This is the latest in a series of books about Kate Martinelli, a San Francisco homicide detective. She and her partner Al are investigating the murder of a local collector and dealer of Sherlockiana memorabilia, (ephemera and collectibles associated with the fictional character Sherlock Holmes.) Within the novel there is a complete short story, which is interesting as well. I was surprised at the ending, which was great, because I dislike it when I can guess the

murderer's identity too early in the plot. There are a lot of interesting characters and scenes in this book. There is a lot of background on Sherlock Holmes and his fans, which is interesting as well.

Jan Karon. AT HOME IN MITFORD

This is a repeat of a book I have read before about a small town in North Carolina. It is a "comfort food" book, and I go back to it when I don't know what else to read. It is the first in a series of Karon's books about the town of Mitford. The main character is a minister and the story revolves around his interactions with the people in his town. One of the themes is the stress that comes from all the things that we need to do, which I paid more attention to this time, having read it right in the middle of summer associate season. I liked getting reintroduced to the characters as well.

J.K. Rowling. HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS

I really liked this book, even though I thought there were parts that could have used a bit more of an explanation. All the old and favorite characters show up for one last blast. Harry, Ron and Hermione are on their mission to get rid of Voldemort and get help and assistance from various people, but spend a lot of time on their own working towards the goal. I am glad they weren't able to do everything themselves, because it made the quest seem more of a community event and, after all, they are only 17. I thought the Epilogue was great, but would have liked it to be longer. I was able to read most of the book a second time, as my son wanted it read to him. He was not able to contain himself and would read large sections on his own in between the times I would read to him!

Rupert Holmes. SWING

This was recommended to me by Ruth Girill. The book takes place at the Claremont Hotel and in and around the Cal campus, Oakland and San Francisco. It is the story of a young musician who wins a prize in the 1939 Exhibition on Treasure Island and who needs some help in the arrangement of her music. Ray, the arranger, falls for the young composer, but his life becomes more complicated when a dead girl lands at his feet in the Court of the Moon on Treasure Island. Things get complicated from there as mystery and subplots mount and Ray tries to unravel everything.

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

Jed Horne. BREACH OF FAITH: HURRICANE KATRINA AND THE NEAR DEATH OF A GREAT AMERICAN CITY

I've been fascinated by New Orleans since the AALL conference and this book gives an excellent perspective on

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the storm and its aftermath. This book was recommended to me by a New Orleans law librarian as the best of the many written on Katrina. From the numerous interviews conducted by Horne, the Metro editor of the Times-Picayune newspaper, you get a sense of why people decided to stay (or flee) in the face of the oncoming hurricane, how those who stayed struggled to survive the horrendous storm and flooding and the ongoing struggle of all of them to rebuild their lives and their city in the wake of the catastrophic destruction. Horne discusses the local political scene, at best ineffective and at worst corrupt, from the do-nothing levee boards to squabbling politicians. There is also little positive to be said of FEMA and the Federal government's response or the role of the Army Corps of Engineers. The stories about government and engineering mistakes put everything in perspective, but it's the stories of individuals that grab you. This book reminded me very much of "The Great Earthquake and Firestorms of 1906: How San Francisco Nearly Destroyed Itself" by Philip Fradkin, which I happened to be reading at the time of Hurricane Katrina. In fact, in the paperback edition, Fradkin has added a preface comparing the two disasters, but you don't need to read the preface to see the similarities.

Elliott Roosevelt. MURDER IN THE MAP ROOM

I love this series of murder mysteries, featuring Eleanor Roosevelt, and written by her son, the late Elliott Roosevelt. There is always a wonderful mix of fictional characters and real people and events. (Main characters in this book are Madame Chiang Kai-Shek and her entourage.) This series has the feel of someone really familiar with what was going on behind the scenes at the White House. I Googled one character to determine if she was real or fictional (she was real) and found a couple of scenes from this book right out of Eleanor's autobiography, which might explain how these mysteries seem so authentic.

*Paula Lichtenberg, Librarian
Keker & Van Nest LLP*

Khaled Hosseini. A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS

I just finished reading A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini and it was amazing. I came close to giving up on this book because it's not exactly light summer reading, but if I had, I would certainly have missed out. The book follows two Afghani women from the early 90's to 2007, during some very turbulent times in Afghanistan. There are some horrendous experiences described as they experienced the war and mistreatment by men, but it's an absolutely compelling story. I would highly recommend it.

*Ramona Martinez
Boalt Hall School of Law*

**MEMORIAL: URSULA BERNHART
AUGUST 30, 1940 – JULY 31, 2007
ATHLETE, ENTREPRENEUR,
ENVIRONMENTALIST**

**Catherine Ghent
Principal, Taylor & Associates**

Ursula Bernhart passed away on July 31, 2007 after a two and a half year battle with ALS. Ursula, a native of Germany, moved to the United States in 1963. She lived in New York for five years before coming to California. After working at various law firms in San Francisco, Ursula joined forces with Katherine (Kay) Taylor to set up the library management and consulting firm known to many of you as Taylor & Associates.

Ursula was a remarkable woman with many talents and interests. As an athlete she was a marathon runner, a scuba diver, a skier and a backpacker. An environmentalist, she was a life-long member of the Sierra Club and volunteered in many local and national park projects. She was always willing and eager to encourage her friends and acquaintances to experience the outdoors. One of my fondest memories is the birthday picnic that Ursula organized for me at Point Reyes station, followed by a hike to see the Tule elk in the Marin headlands.

While the outdoors was probably her greatest love Ursula was also passionate about her work. She devoted herself to creating and running Taylor & Associates. Over the 23 years that she ran Taylor & Associates she had hundreds of law firm clients, some of which remain with Taylor to this day. She established, organized, moved and managed law libraries all over the bay area. She hired and trained many library assistants, some of whom have been working for Taylor & Associates for over 20 years. Many young people were first introduced to law librarianship by Ursula and some of them went on to library school and have since become successful law librarians.

I was Ursula's business partner for over ten years and she taught me everything I know about law librarianship and running a business. She was a friend and mentor to me and I miss her intensely. Ursula is deeply mourned by her loving and supportive family, friends, colleagues, employees and clients.

Anyone wishing to honor Ursula's life and memory may make donations in her name to the ALS Association Greater Bay Area Chapter, 565 Commercial Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94111 or to the Sierra Club, 85 Second Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105.



IN MEMORY OF NANCY J. CARLIN

Carolina Rose
Legislative Research, Inc

On Monday, July 9, 2007, Nancy J. Carlin passed away peacefully in her sleep at approximately 4 a.m. at her home in Pleasanton. She was 51.

"It came as such a shock," reports her long time library assistant, Cindy Clark at Le Boeuf Lamb. "She'd been out the whole week before feeling under the weather. Nothing serious as far as we knew. We expected her back on Monday. But when she didn't show up or call or answer her phone, we got really worried and sent the police and fire department to her house. They found her in bed, looking as though she'd been enjoying a nice dream."

I like that last image of my friend. Nancy was a woman who laughed easily and enjoyed life. She also had an intelligent, calm warmth about her that drew you in and inspired lasting friendships.

While our main points of contact were work related, Nancy and I became good buddies over the 15 or so years that we knew each other. The woman was delightfully incorrigible. She loved her job and interacting with friends, family, colleagues and co-workers in fun, quality ways. Earlier this year while we visited in her office, Nancy shared hysterical stories with me about some recent Star Trek Conference escapades she had enjoyed with a friend. As I was swabbing the tears of laughter from my eyes, she pointed to a small model of the Star Ship Enterprise sitting high on a shelf next to a window that could be seen from the hallway.

"It belongs to one of the firm partners" she mused in that low-key way of hers. "He made it from a kit and comes by to visit it every now and then since he can't keep it in his office. Something about not presenting the right corporate image for clients," she smiled, eyes twinkling. "But he knows I'm a fan too, so his secret is safe with me."

Over the years I came to appreciate how much Nancy adored her family and how close they all were to each other. Her closest and dearest family members were her nephew, Larry, and his son, Chandler, who often visited and helped out at her new home in Pleasanton. I especially loved to hear about her regular Disneyland trips with her lucky niece, Caneel. The woman knew how to do Disneyland right. In fact, I was planning to enjoy a long weekend there in the fall, and Nancy was on my super short list of possible cohorts.

Nancy is remembered warmly by her librarian colleagues.

Donna Purvis shared these thoughts: "I have wonderful memories of Nancy through NOCALL and several plane trips to AALL annual conference. It was always such a nice surprise that we often were booked on the same plane and a couple times even seated together without any planning on our part. On these trips she always shared her enthusiasm for libraries and her law firm experience. It was such a delight to know her even though we only saw each other once or twice a year. She will be missed."

Mary Hood recalls, "Nancy was a 1980 graduate of Santa Clara University School of Law. She worked for us at the circulation desk while she was in law school. After graduation she went to Santa Clara County Law Library before becoming a firm librarian. I always looked forward to seeing her and catching up with her at NOCALL and AALL meetings. I was shocked when I heard the news of her passing right before leaving for New Orleans."

The published obituaries provide this information about our friend and colleague¹: Nancy was born in Oakland on Sept 1, 1955. She graduated from Bishop O'Dowd High School in Oakland and attended Santa Clara University Law School where she graduated Magna Cum Laude. She was the Regional Librarian for LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene, and MacRae LLP in San Francisco where she had worked for 17 years. She loved her job and her co-workers. Nancy had a busy life, loved swimming, travel and her dog, Sammy. She is predeceased by her beloved parents, Jim Carlin, who was the Oakland Fire Dept Battalion Chief and her mother, Lucille Carlin. She is survived by her brother, Paul Carlin, his wife, Joy Carlin, her aunt and uncle, Barbara and Jules Glaser, her niece, Caneel Phlean and her nephew Larry Orluck.

Nancy's favorite charity was Asante Africa Foundation, Inc., which is dedicated to facilitating and strengthening the health and education of children and families in Africa. Asante works directly with local African villagers to define their needs, such as building schools and sanitation facilities, sponsoring children's school expenses, providing porridge for a daily meal, and funding adult education. Nancy actively supported this fine organization by volunteering her time on projects in addition to donating funds. Now her family and co-workers at Le Boeuf have adopted Asante with the goal of collecting sufficient donations to build a classroom named after her. They invite the participation of her wider circle of friends and colleagues. The address is 1334 Carlton Place, Livermore, CA 94550. The phone number is (925) 292-0245.

I will always remember my friend Nancy as a lovely, kind,

¹ *Oakland Tribune*, July 12, 2007, http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_qn4176/is_20070712/ai_n19375801; *The Independent*, July 19, 2007, page 8.

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warmhearted woman who could make me laugh at a drop of a hat with her great droll and dry sense of humor. She believed life was about the choices we make, so she focused on the good in everything around her, especially in people. Not surprisingly, Nancy was a huge fan of Harry Potter and was eagerly looking forward to the July 11th movie opening and the July 21st release of the next book in the sequel. I imagined her being a bit *peevish* about missing both; so shortly after I heard the sad news, I braved the opening day lines at the theater in her memory and experienced the whole thing with her in my heart. It was bitter sweet.

In the outpouring of grief and remembrance that followed in the aftermath of Nancy's passing, David Hancock, a LeBoeuf Partner and co-owner of the Star Ship Enterprise wrote: "Nancy embodied kindness, good humor, and a desire to see the best in every person and in every situation. It is not a strain on credibility, nor a mere commonplace said on this sort of occasion, to state categorically that Nancy was a *good* person. Her spirit is now free of her body, but it is still among us. We are all better for having known her in life, and we will carry her memory as a living part of ourselves."



A NOCALL SOCIAL EVENT REVIEW

Julie Horst, NOCALL Treasurer
University of San Francisco

Several NOCALL members met for a social event on Saturday morning August 18, 2007. We met at the Ferry Building in San Francisco at 9:30 AM to attend a live radio broadcast of *West Coast Live* (<http://www.wcl.org>). The broadcast takes place from 10:00 AM to noon almost every Saturday and is aired on KALW 91.7 FM San Francisco, Oakland, and San Mateo in addition to numerous other stations along the west coast, in Florida, and a few states in between.

The broadcast we attended took place in the Port Commissioner's Room in the Ferry Building. They also broadcast in the City from the Magic Theater at Fort Mason and the Empire Plush Room, in Berkeley, they broadcast from The Freight and Salvage Coffee House.

Ron, the producer, was time-keeper, as I and other NOCALL attendees introduced one another and chatted, Ron kept announcing how many minutes until air-time.

There was a lot of activity in the preparations for going live. The engineer was doing sound checks, Mike Greensill was warming-up his fingers on the piano, the first act, a terrific band called Gaucho, was arranging their chairs and microphones for a string bass, two guitars, a drummer, and an accordionist.

"Two minutes to air!" shouted Ron. Sedge Thomson, the man in the red shoes, reviewed the guest list and took a sip of water. Ron went over the rules for the audience, and Mike started playing the intro music. At 10AM we went live.

The show opened with Gaucho, the gypsy jazz swing group, and then Mike and Sedge did their little patter about what's going on in the Bay Area. After a couple of minutes Ron started flashing his fingers and they brought in a couple of chairs for the first interview with Michael Cloes, of the Chef Culinary Network of Paris.

We heard another tune by Gaucho and they were followed by an interview with Scott McCloud, a cartoonist who thinks about almost everything in cartoon form.

After a short break at the top of the hour, the show began again with a tune performed by Mike Greensill, a jazz pianist who, when he isn't on the radio, plays at Moose's in North Beach on Sundays and Mondays. After Mike warmed us up again, Armistead Maupin showed up to talk about his new Tale of the City, called *Michael Tolliver Lives*.

The pièce de resistance was True Fiction Magazine, the improv troupe who told us the tale of "The Librarian", a shushing, glasses-wearing, slightly clumsy professional named Gladys, who found both love and loss on the SF Bay Bridge.

After the show, Gaucho sold CD's and Maupin signed copies of his book. Then the NOCALL group gathered in the gorgeous sunshine amidst the farmers, tourists and locals for a delightful lunch and sparkling conversation. The first ever NOCALL Social Event was a marvelous success. Hope to see YOU at a future event.



PROFESSIONAL READING IN REVIEW

Elisabeth McKechnie and Susan Llano
U.C. Davis Law Library

“Is the Future of Legal Scholarship in the Blogosphere?”, by Margaret A. Schilt, *Legal Times*, August 31, 2007. <http://www.law.com/jsp/lfl/PubArticleLLF.jsp?id=1188464547361>

The author of this article claims that blogs may be the future of legal scholarship and that traditional law reviews will be influenced by what happens in the blogosphere. One can see how professors might be attracted to what the author terms “the siren call” of blogs. Blogging can get you name recognition and reach more readers than a traditional law review; they also offer immediate feedback. A scholarly dialogue can start as a comment on the blog and develop into a series of thoughtful back and forth pieces. In contrast, it would take months to publish a response to an article in a law review. While the author does not see blogs replacing traditional legal scholarship, she believes that as blogs are increasingly becoming the source for current scholarly dialogue, librarians need to figure out where and how that dialogue will be preserved.

“The Quest to Get More Court Rulings Online, and Free”, by John Markoff, *New York Times*, pg. C6, August 20, 2007.

Carl Malamud is on a quest to make primary sources free online to anyone that needs to see and use them. He’s recently started using computer scanning technology to copy decisions, but is still far from his goal of making more than 10 million pages of case law available. This is not Mr. Malamud’s first crusade; he has had similar issues with the SEC and the PTO. In 1994, his efforts resulted in the records for these two agencies becoming available free online. He may have quite a battle on his hands, though, and the article recounts earlier efforts by Alan Sugarman of Hyperlaw (remember them?) to do the same thing. Sugarman was eventually wiped out financially. Malamud’s website is at <http://public.resource.org>.

“An Anthropologist in the Library”, by Scott Carlson, *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Section: Information Technology, vol.53, issue 50, pg.A26, August 17, 2007. This article looks at the findings of an anthropological study conducted at the University of Rochester Library. Nancy Foster, an anthropologist at the University of Rochester and Susan Gibbons, an associate dean at Rochester’s library, set out to study undergraduates and how they do research, write papers and spend their days. Some of their methods were unconventional, like handing students large pieces of cardboard and asking them to draw their paper writing process representing themselves as stick figures. They also took video cameras into dorm rooms and recorded

the ways students worked on their computers. Some of their findings were surprising; their study contradicts the widely held view that this Net Generation is hard wired for technology and that there is a great technical divide between students and faculty. Some of their findings are summarized in this article, but they are coming out with a book soon that will be published by the Association of College and Research Libraries. http://www.alastore.ala.org/SiteSolution.taf?_sn=catalog2&_pn=product_detail&_op=2434

“Survey Says Librarians Like Their Jobs but are Displeased With Vendors”, by Alan Cohen, *Law.com: Large Law Firm*. August 10, 2007. <http://www.law.com/jsp/lfl/PubArticleLLF.jsp?id=1186650119943>

This article summarizes the results of the sixth annual firm librarian survey conducted by LawFirmInc. The survey, covering 95 law firms, shows that firm librarians are moving beyond traditional tasks into knowledge management, computer training, competitive intelligence and marketing projects for their firms. As a result, although average billable hours for libraries have fallen, their billable rates have increased and libraries have gained in prominence and respect within their firms. Eighty seven percent of firm librarians report that they are happy in their jobs and only one percent say that they prefer traditional librarian tasks. The one area in which firm librarians remain unhappy, however, is in their displeasure with services and pricing offered by big name vendors Lexis and Westlaw. The article links to charts summarizing survey results.

“Commentary: Dust off your library card for reasonably priced information,” by Donna M. Fisher, *Missouri Lawyers’ Weekly*, July 30, 2007. 2007 WLNR 14696311

This brief commentary reminds the busy law librarian that not all information has to be expensive or has to be provided by the law library’s commercial databases. Often public libraries provide free online access to a variety of databases and article indexes as well as hard copy materials such as scholarly journals, business news, company information, reference materials and periodicals useful in her firm’s practice which aren’t available in Westlaw.





MY AALL - AALL TOWN HALL FORUM ON RESEARCH SKILLS FOR LAWYERS AND LAW STUDENTS

Susan Nevelow Mart
UC Hastings College of the Law

One of the highlights of my conference (apart from a close up look at the FDLP tattoo that made the *New York Times* and the human who hosts it) was the Town Hall Forum West hosted on integrating paper and online resources for legal research. The work for the forum started a year ago, when West held regional roundtables for law firm and law school librarians. I attended the one in San Francisco, and some of the revelations at that meeting were echoed in every region. The results of all the roundtables were compiled in West's White Paper, available at http://west.thomson.com/pdf/librarian/Legal_Research_white_paper.pdf.

While the results shouldn't surprise many librarians, and in fact have been the subject of ongoing complaints which most certainly date back to the foundation of the first law school, West's goal was to try and move the conversation forward. So here's a brief review. Law students and new associates:

- can't conduct efficient, multimedia legal research;
- can't conduct cost efficient research;
- don't know the value of secondary sources;
- can't use indices and tables of content; and
- don't understand the key resources in their practice areas.

The group of panelists included an academic librarian who teaches legal research, and two firm librarians. West also offered its own perspective, and discussed its plans for a "Bridge the Gap" program, additional training for law firms, and posting pictures of actual books with search results in Westlaw. Everyone agreed that no one group has the responsibility to improve skills, but that all of the groups with a stake in the problem need to do what they can and need to start a dialogue. NOCALL is working on this issue with a group of law firm and academic librarians, and we'll keep you posted.



AALL IN NEW ORLEANS

Jennifer Marshall Pesetsky
Information and Research

In 2004 and 2005, I had a depressing travel streak. Upon leaving a travel destination, a natural disaster would strike the place I had just left. Two examples. I left India the day before the Tsunami hit in December of 2004. And, hurricane Katrina visited New Orleans soon after I did in August of 2005.

This summer, without subsequent natural disasters, I returned to India as a honeymooner and to New Orleans as a NOCALL grant recipient.

New Orleans is a wonder for the senses. My cab driver from the airport spoke with such a Cajun drawl, I could barely understand him. The French Quarter, an easy walk from the convention center, is filled with quaint homes and shopping delights. People rave about the food, but it was wasted on me since I'm a vegetarian - even the cabbage is served with ham. And, the nightlife was noteworthy even with my honeymoon jetlag.

Despite the fun, I felt the aftermath of hurricane Katrina strongly. The locals I met spoke of Katrina without prompting. They talked about where they were when the floods came, how much damage their homes and businesses sustained, and how happy they are to have us, the convention tourists, visiting.

The AALL conference began with New Orleans flare. At checkin, instead of the traditional itchy polyester lanyards given to hold attendees' nametags, the local committee substituted Mardi Gras beads. The range of programs offered showed the diversity of our profession. Programs were held on: cataloging, networking, new technologies, teaching research, and many other topics. There was even a program on my new career direction - becoming a librarian entrepreneur. Sometimes it was difficult choosing amongst programs in a timeslot.

Many of the vendor parties kept with the New Orleans theme. Lexis hosted their opening dessert party serving decadent beignets, New Orleans pralines and sweet potato pie to the sounds of an energetic show band. The West party was held at the House of Blues with a band called Rockin' Dopsie, Jr. and The Zydeco Twisters, who called for volunteers to come to the stage to perform various dance moves much to the enjoyment of their librarian colleagues.

At the exhibit hall, I entered many raffles in hopes of winning an iPod for my husband. That didn't happen.

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The closing banquet ended in traditional New Orleans fashion with a parade. Police motorcycles led the way with their flashing lights and sirens. Floats with librarian revelers followed throwing beads. Dancing followed bringing the 2007 AALL conference to a close. Report from AALL Annual Meeting and Conference in New Orleans, July 13-17.



REPORT FROM AALL ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE IN NEW ORLEANS, JULY 13-17

Janet Fischer
Golden Gate University Law Library

As the grateful recipient of a NOCALL member grant to attend this year's conference, I am happy to give my report. This year's grant was designated a Memorial Grant in remembrance of Lydia Freeman, former librarian at the firm of Hansen Bridgett in San Francisco. Lydia was employed there as a librarian for 25 years, and she oversaw its growth from a firm of 20 attorneys to more than 120 spread throughout three offices. Lydia was a member of AALL, NOCALL, and a founding member of the San Francisco Mid-Size Law Firm Librarians group. Shortly before her death in 2003, Hansen Bridgett renamed their library in her honor. I was honored to receive this grant given in her memory.

This conference was the first held under AALL's new, shorter format. Certainly, no one had time to get bored! We were rushing from one meeting to the next with little time for breaks or even lunch. Still, it was exciting to be in New Orleans and the conference was hopping with activity and exciting workshops. I will touch on a few highlights.

As a member of the Government Relations Committee, most of my time was spent in GRC meetings and related workshops. Several GRC sessions covered the report from the Access to Electronic Legal Information Committee and Washington Affairs Office, *State-by-State Report on Authentication of Online Legal Resources*. This report is a monumental effort by AELIC to identify any state that either names their online legal resources (administrative codes and registers, state statutes and session laws, state high and intermediate appellate court opinions) as "official" (a few do), and if they do, if the state has in place any mechanism to authenticate such documents (no state does). The report may be found at <http://www.aallnet.org/aallwash/authenreport.html> and a hardcopy

may be ordered at http://www.aallnet.org/products/pub_authen_report.asp. This report was the basis for the ground-breaking AALL National Summit: *Authentic Legal Information in the Digital Age* held in April. Delegates to the summit included judges, state reporters of decisions, court management personnel, as well as our own Bob Berring. Bob's article on this topic, "Losing the Law: A Call to Arms" (10 Green Bag 2d 279 (2007)) has been made publicly available by The Green Bag at <http://www.aallnet.org/summit/GreenBag-LosingtheLaw.pdf>.

One workshop that stood out for me was *Reinventing the Depository* with Eric Wedig, University of Tulane Howard Tilton Library. This library is not their law library, but it did hold the federal depository collection which dated back to the 1800s and included a complete Serial Set. Government documents were kept in the basement and after Hurricane Katrina and the ensuing flood this collection was under nine feet of water for two weeks. The fiche collection was a total loss; when fiche stays wet for that long it just globs together (I think that is the technical term). Film was saved, but the rolls came back from the salvage company with no labels and staples in the strips. Each one (9,000 of them) had to be gone through. Compact shelving actually helped preserve some materials as they kept the books pressed together and on the shelves. These items actually fared better than those in other areas with only a couple feet of water; here the water was absorbed up into the materials and created a Petri dish of mold. Two years and millions of dollars later, they still await a payment from FEMA.

Another highlight of the conference was the Pacific Chapters Reception where we were able to chat with friends and enjoy some nibbles. After the reception I enjoyed the "Scandalously Good Walking Tour" which took us along the river and into the French Quarter. I'd never been to New Orleans, and I thoroughly enjoyed touring the city. The event that took up most of my day on Saturday was the Webmasters' Workshop where participants were given a whirlwind introduction to CSS and on accessing an MS Access database with an Active Server Page (.asp).

This AALL Conference was one of the most useful I've been to and I am grateful to NOCALL for making it possible for me to attend.





NOCALL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 30, 2007
12:00 to 1:30 p.m.
Marines' Memorial Club
San Francisco, CA

PROPOSED MINUTES

Prano Amjadi called the meeting to order at noon. There were approximately 60 people in attendance.

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

- Swearing in of the Executive Board**
 Justice Patricia Bamattre-Manoukian of the California Court of Appeals swore in the Executive Board:
 President:
 Coral Henning, Sacramento County Law Library
 Vice-President/President-Elect:
 Kelly Browne, Sacramento County Law Library
 Secretary:
 Mary Sexton, Santa Clara University
 Treasurer:
 Julie Horst, Hastings College of the Law Library
 Past President:
 Prano Amjadi, Santa Clara University
 Members at Large:
 Shannon Burchard, University of San Francisco
 Susan Nevelow Mart, Hastings College of the Law Library
- Thank you to Craig Griffith, Thomson West**
 Prano thanked Thomson West for sponsoring the luncheon. Craig Griffith reminded NOCALL members about upcoming activities in Northern California sponsored by Thomson West.
- Professional Achievement Award**
 Donna Williams was the recipient of the Professional Achievement Award for more than twenty years of contributions to the association. She thanked NOCALL members for the award and expressed her appreciation for the support of her family and of her employer, the California Judicial Branch.

As lunch was served, Prano Amjadi noted that members were seated at tables according to their type of library and their type of work within the library, to encourage discussion about common issues. Following up on suggestions at the Spring Institute on Strategic Planning, she asked members to complete surveys on each table. Coral Henning

encouraged comments on the paper surveys and noted that an electronic survey of NOCALL members would soon follow.

OLD BUSINESS

At approximately 1:00, Prano Amjadi reconvened the meeting, welcoming first-time attendees.

- Approve minutes of the February meeting**
 A motion was made to approve the February Business Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.
- Election results**
 Prano noted that election results had been posted on the NOCALL list, would be included in the NOCALL newsletter, and that successful candidates had been sworn in earlier as members of the executive board:

 Vice-President/President-Elect
 Kelly Browne, Sacramento County Law Library
 Secretary
 Mary Sexton, Heafey Law Library, Santa Clara University
 Members at Large
 Shannon Burchard, University of San Francisco
 Susan Nevelow Mart, Hastings College of the Law Library

Prano also commented that electronic voting, used for the second time, appeared to be working well and asked anyone aware of problems with electronic balloting to contact the Board. There was a motion to destroy the one paper ballot received. That motion was seconded and passed.

- Treasurer's Report**
 Print copies of the Treasurer's Report were available as members checked in. Julie Horst came to the podium to summarize it, in rhyme and headgear ala Beach Blanket Babylon.
- Beach Blanket Babylon**
 Julie Horst also reminded members that tickets were still available for a performance of Beach Blanket Babylon, the first NOCALL social event, on September 23rd at 2:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

- Announcements**
 Wynne Dobbins, of Apple Computer, bid adieu before her retirement and expressed her thanks to NOCALL members.
- Committee Reports**
 Written committee reports had already been submitted and will be printed in the NOCALL newsletter. Any committee with business to discuss

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was invited to address the membership. Chairs or spokespersons for the following committees did so:

- o **AALL Liaison:** Donna Williams read a thank you note from Kathie Sullivan, the AALL Board Member who attended the NOCALL Spring Institute. Donna also thanked Ellen Platt for handling Kathie's local transportation arrangements.
- o **Archives:** Prano Amjadi noted that Regina Wallen, Chair of the Archives Committee, had resigned. Kathleen Wilko, at Stanford University's Law Library, has agreed to take over as chair and the archives will remain at Stanford.
- o **Awards:** Pam Rino encouraged nominations for next year's Professional Achievement Award, noting that six people had been nominated in 2007. The amount of detail and depth included on the nomination form is an important factor in selecting the annual award winner.
- o **Public Relations:** Newly elected Executive Board Member at Large, Susan Nevelow Mart, announced that she was stepping down as chair of the Public Relations Committee and encouraged others to volunteer for that position.

Prano expressed her thanks to the Government Relations Committee, noting that there had been exponential growth in the level of their activities.

- **Other New Business**
There was no additional business.
- **Past President Appreciation**
Prano presented the Past President Plaque to Pam Rino and thanked her for her three years of service on the Executive Board.
- **Passing the gavel**
Prano passed the gavel and cable car bell to Coral Henning, who expressed her thanks to Prano and encouraged members to volunteer for committee work.

Prano Amjadi adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Sexton
NOCALL Secretary

NOCALL CROSSOVER MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 27, 2007

2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Sequoia Room, Hiram W. Johnson State Office Building
San Francisco, CA

Agenda

1. Call to Order by President Coral Henning
2. Report on Strategic Planning Brainstorming at Spring Institute by Ellen Platt
3. Results of Survey at May Business Meeting; Pat Wagner Topic: Kelly Browne
4. Proposal to Consolidate Committees: Coral Henning and Kelly Browne
5. Plans for Survey for Fall Meeting: Coral Henning
6. Plans for Spring Institute: Kelly Browne
7. CrossOver Meetings

1. Call to Order by President Coral Henning

Coral Henning called the meeting to order at 2:30. Fourteen additional people were present: Prano Amjadi, Kelly Browne, Shannon Burchard, Janet Fisher, Greg Fite, Peg LaFrance, Ramona Martinez, Susan Nevelow-Mart, Ellen Platt, Holly Riccio, Diane Rodriguez, Mary Sexton, Mary Staats, and Mareth Wilson.

2. Report on Strategic Planning Brainstorming at Spring Institute by Ellen Platt

Ellen Platt summarized the brainstorming sessions at the April 28th session of the NOCALL Spring Institute on Strategic Planning. She also distributed her notes on these sessions, at which committees with related purposes – e.g., listserv, website, newsletter – met together to list questions related to their activities and discuss possible solutions. Ellen's written notes identify the groupings, many of the participants, and most of the questions discussed.

3. Results of Survey at May Business Meeting; Pat Wagner Topic: Kelly Browne

Kelly Browne summarized the results of a NOCALL Education Committee survey distributed to all who attended the May Business meeting. There was little consensus in response to survey questions. However, 46% favored NOCALL meetings in San Francisco; 34%, 40%, and 36% favored meetings on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, respectively; 41% favored luncheon meetings for social networking; and 40% favored collaboration with the Special Libraries Association.

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Comments included on the written survey forms suggested topics for future meetings, listed additional organizations that NOCALL might collaborate with, and noted the need for public transportation and parking at meetings. There were multiple requests not to schedule the Spring Institute on a weekend.

Coral then led a discussion of upcoming NOCALL events including:

- The September business meeting, currently planned as a 9:30 meeting in Vallejo, with lunch available as an option, at individual members' expense. Vallejo was selected because the location is between San Francisco and Sacramento, accessible by ferry, with hotels providing shuttle service. A possible topic is a LexisNexis sponsored program on work/life balance. Coral asked for alternative suggestions, if a Lexis speaker is not available.
- Beach Blanket Babylon tickets are available for September 23rd at 2:00 p.m.
- Pat Wagner will be the speaker at the fall workshop on October 23rd. The location, topic, and precise time of the workshop are still to be determined. Kelly asked for suggestions. The Pattern Research, Inc., website (www.pattern.com) lists programs that Ms. Wagner has presented elsewhere.
- A Christmas/Holiday party in December. Coral asked for suggestions because a location should be booked soon.
- For Black History Month in February, a screening of Abby Ginzberg's, "Soul of Justice" about Judge Thelton Henderson was suggested. This would be an evening meeting, with dinner, at a location to be determined.
- Spring Institute planning information is available below.

4. Proposal to Consolidate Committees: Coral Henning and Kelly Browne

There are currently 21 committees, many of which have only one member with a discrete task, such as producing the newsletter. Coral and Kelly proposed grouping existing committees into clusters, flattening the current hierarchy and encouraging committee members to work together to accomplish new or existing goals. Current committee chairs

would retain their titles and responsibilities, but would also select a new coordinator to foster communication and cooperation within each cluster.

After discussion, the following six clusters of committees were agreed upon, with a board member liaison for each:

- Administration
 - Audit and Budget
 - Constitution and Bylaws
 - Archives
 - Nominations
 - AALL Liaison
 Board Liaison: Prano Amjadi
- Communication
 - Newsletter
 - Web Page
 - ListServ
 - Union List ?
 Board Liaison: Kelly Browne
- Outreach
 - Government Relations
 - Public Access
 - Public Relations
 - Consulting?
 Board Liaison: Shannon Burchard
- Recognition
 - Awards
 - Grants
 - Memorials
 Board Liaison: Mary Sexton
- Education
 - Education
 - Spring Institute
 Board Liaison: Julie Horst
- Membership
 - Academic Relations
 - Membership
 - Placement
 Board Liaison: Susan Nevelow-Mart

Kelly and Coral are working on a template that each committee/cluster would use in producing reports. Board Liaisons will be in contact with committees/clusters throughout the year and meet with them in preparation for board and business meetings as needed.

We agreed to try the grouping/clustering and make adjustments as needed. Some committees may be redefined or eliminated: the need for a Union List

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committee was questioned. Individual committees may fit better in a different cluster than listed above: government relations could be moved from the Outreach to the Communications cluster.

5. Plans for Survey for Fall Meeting: Coral Henning

Coral and Kelly mentioned plans to distribute a survey, similar to the one distributed at the May Business meeting, to obtain a wider sampling of member opinion about future meeting topics and locations.

6. Plans for Spring Institute: Kelly Browne:

March 28th, Cesar Chavez Day, is a possible date for the Spring Institute, but this may present problems for parents of school children (holiday, spring break). Unexpected business closures may also present difficulties.

Potential locations are Napa or the Hayes Mansion in San Jose.

A potential topic is project management. Discussion noted the importance of attracting law firm librarians. One suggestion was to define "project" with multiple examples, such as writing for publication, collection analysis, etc., and to plan breakout groups for librarians with shared interests.

A tentative schedule is noon Friday to noon Saturday, preceded and followed by Lexis and Westlaw pre-/post-sessions.

7. CrossOver Meetings

At about 3:45, groups divided into clusters, with current and former committee members discussing committee responsibilities and procedures. These small group meetings concluded at about 4:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Sexton
NOCALL Secretary

**NOCALL FALL WORKSHOP
"THE ART OF NEGOTIATION"
PRESENTED BY PAT WAGNER**

**Tuesday October 23rd, 2007
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Nile Hall, Preservation Park
Oakland, CA**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS
OCTOBER 16TH.**

Do you want more money, more space, more staff? Do you want to change the strategic goals of your information center or your place in the organizational chart of your institution? Do you want your bosses to say "yes" to you more often?

Negotiation is about getting what you want when you don't have power or authority to ensure the outcome. Great negotiation skills also build successful workplace relationships. Earning the trust and respect of your colleagues, employees, and executives is more than doing a great job as a law librarian. Learn the influence model and some of the tricks professional negotiators use successfully, even when the other person is a lawyer!

Topics include:

- The three steps of influence: rapport, information, and action
- Why ethical politics is not an oxymoron
- How to create and maintain your political base at work
- The mistakes that even smart people make when trying to sell an idea

About the speaker:

Pat Wagner has been working with special libraries as a consultant and trainer since 1978. She is a frequent visitor to regional and national library conferences as well as consulting for individual libraries and librarians on topics such as conflict management, strategic planning and marketing.



Member Publications

“Documents, Leaks and the Boundaries of Expression: Government Whistleblowing in an Over-Classified Age,” by Susan Nevelow-Mart. 35 DttP 30 (2007), reprinted in llrx.com, July 27, 2007.

“I Need a Form off the ‘Net - Meeting Patrons’ Expectations for Finding and Creating Court Forms Online,” by Mareth Wilson. Daily Journal, page 7, August 30, 2007.

Pleased to Meet You - Making Connections That Count,” by Shannon Burchard, Diane Rodriguez, Julie Horst & Coral Henning. CA Legal Pro, pages 12-13 September 17, 2007.

“Keeping Current With Federal Tax Research, A Guide to Free Resources,” by Chuck Marcus. Daily Journal, page 7, September 17, 2007.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The names of members who have joined NOCALL since publication of the 2004-2005/2005-2006 NOCALL Directory and since the last newsletter 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
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NEW MEMBERS

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AALL Member?: Yes

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 NOCALL Status: Active
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 AALL Member?: Yes



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 AALL Member?: No

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 AALL Member?: Yes

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 AALL Member?: Yes

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 NOCALL Status: Active
 AALL Member?: Yes

Continuing Members

****Changes are noted in bold.**

Folks,

It was way too overwhelming to try to get all the changes into this column. You should have, however, received your September 2007 supplement to the directory. Please look for any recent changes in there. Supplements were sent to all current members by e-mail.

Thanks for understanding.

NOCALL OFFICERS 2007 - 2008

President • Coral Henning, Sacramento County Public Law Library • 916/874-6013 • CHenning@saclaw.org
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NOCALL COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

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OUTREACH (Coordinator: Shannon Burchard)

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Memorials • Mark Mackler, California Office of the Attorney General • 415/703-5786 • mark.mackler@doj.ca.gov

UPCOMING EVENTS

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