

# NOCAL News

### Northern California Association of Law Libraries

A Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

May - June 2008

Volume 28, Issue 5

### President's Message

Thank you for a wonderful year!

My term has ended and I have handed over the reins to Kelly Browne. Kelly plans to continue to work on writing the strategic plan with the Strategic Planning Taskforce which consists of Kelly, Tina Dumas, Ellen Platt and myself.

I am so proud to have been a part of this year's educational and social events. Our membership is more vibrant and engaged than ever! Remember you get more out of an organization if you participate. There are countless committees with discrete tasks that won't consume all of your time. Check out the list of committees and their charges at nocall.org.

Thanks again to West for hosting our annual membership meeting at the Marines' Memorial Club. This event is always well attended and this year was no exception. It is fabulous to catch up over a nice lunch with colleagues and friends.

Mary Staats is the recipient of this year's professional achievement award! If you don't know Mary I know you recognize her name since she has been NOCALL's Placement Chair for many years. Mary is a tireless NOCALL member and an outstanding law librarian. Congratulations.

AALL is only weeks away! We need people to staff the NOCALL Chapter Table. Leslie Forrester has selected magnetic bookmarks as our giveway.

Have a wonderful summer and thanks again.

Coral

#### Inside this issue:

Musings from Mark	3
Professional Reading in Review .	3
What are YOU Reading?	4
Spring Institute Report	7
Membership News	10



#### 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.

#### Editor:

Mary Pinard, Sacramento County Law Library mpinard@saclaw.org

#### Committee Members/Contributing Editors:

Nora Levine Mark Mackler, California DOJ, San Francisco Elisabeth McKechnie, UC Davis Law Library Susan Llano, UC Davis Law Library

#### NOCALL News 2007-2008 Submission deadlines:

Sept/Oct - September 7 Nov/Dec - November 2 Jan/Feb - January 4 Mar/April - March 7 May/June - May 2



#### **MUSINGS FROM MARK**

Mark Mackler
California Department of Justice
San Francisco

I LOVE NEW YORK...The New York State Department of Motor Vehicles is offering drivers a "Love Your Library" license plate. The \$25 annual fee will be deposited into the Love Your Library Fund which supports New York's statewide summer reading program.

A RESPONSE TO STEVE JOBS... "For most of my lifetime, I've heard that reading is dead. In that time, disco has died, drive-in movies have nearly died, and something called the Clapper has come and gone in bedrooms across the nation. But reading? This year, about 400 million books will be sold in the United States. Overall, business is up 1% --not bad, in a rough economy, for a \$15 billion industry still populated by people whose idea of how to sell books dates to Bartleby the Scrivener."—Author Tim Egan, responding to Steve Jobs's comment that "people don't read anymore."

WHAT DO WE REALLY DO, ANYWAY?...I have been a longtime subscriber to "OPL" (One-Person Library), now in its final year of publication. Judith Siess, the editor, recently ran a statistical breakdown of the topics she has covered over the past ten years. The leading category? Marketing/ PR/Publicity. This should remind all of us how important these activities are.

AND FINALLY...In the next issue of NOCALL News, I'm planning to write about John Moore, the late Financial District Branch Librarian for the SFLL. As you know, this year's substantial NOCALL Grant for attendance at AALL has been named in memory of John. If you have memories and stories about John which you'd like me to share with readers of NOCALL News, please contact me. I'd appreciate hearing from you!

#### PROFESSIONAL READING IN REVIEW

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

"Competitive Intelligence Resources in Law Firms" by Kitty Schweyer, Searcher, volume 16, no. 4, April 1, 2008, 2008 WLNR 7091502

Competitive intelligence is increasingly becoming the task of law firm librarians, many of whom have no direct training in this area. In her article, Schweyer outlines the principles of competitive intelligence (CI) and reviews a variety of tools available to a firm librarian charged with this task. This article is heavy on graphical illustrations and, while readable in an ascii text version (aka Westlaw), it might be more easily followed in a PDF or actual journal copy.

"Unlocking the Secrets of Highly Successful Legal Writing Students" by Anne M. Enquist, St. John's Law Review, volume 82, page 609, Spring 2008.

For those academic librarians who also teach legal research and writing to law students, this survey takes a small sample, six students, and analyzes their progress through a law school legal research course, successfully predicting the level of success each student will have in the course. Through the use of student interviews, diaries and time sheets, the author tries to get at exactly what makes a law student a successful legal writer. Research and writing professors who discuss the study with their classes may be able to encourage many of their students to improve their performance in class by directing them to more concrete skills.

"Lawyers Open Their File Cabinets for a Web Resource" by Anne Eisenberg, New York Times, Novelties, April 27, 2008.

Although consumers have free web tools available to help them diagnose their ills or research their doctors, there hasn't been much available in the legal arena up until now. A new website, JDSupra.com, is posting examples of attorney work product, arranged by subject, so that site visitors with a legal problem can view samples of a law firm's work in that area. So far the site has signed up 255 firms who have deposited sample motions and other legal memoranda. Small firms like the service because it allows them to publicize their services equally with the larger firms.



"Banning Laptops in the Classroom: Is it Worth the Hassles?" by Kevin Yamamoto, Journal of Legal Education, Vol. 57, 2008 Available at SSRN: <a href="http://ssrn.com/abstract=1078740">http://ssrn.com/abstract=1078740</a>

In the wake of University of Chicago's announcement banning laptops from the classroom (read the article at <a href="http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/04/18/laptops">http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/04/18/laptops</a>) comes Kevin Yamamoto's article on his experience at South Texas College of Law in banning laptops from his classroom. His article details how he implemented the ban and his impressions of how this change affected his teaching and the classroom. Overall, his experiment was successful and his article offers encouragement to other faculty who may be considering the same thing. He contends that laptops in the classroom create distractions that interfere with learning and memory. Appendices at the end of the article include a list of ABA approved schools that require students to own a laptop.

Bottom of Form

"Getting on Scalia's Good Side" by Brent Kendall, Los Angeles Daily Journal, v.121, no.90, May 12, 2008, p.1. Coming on the heels of the series of videos of Supreme Court Justices that Bryan Garner recently released (see March/April 2008 issue of Nocall News Professional Reading Column, <a href="http://www.nocall.org/nocallnews/archive/">http://www.nocall.org/nocallnews/archive/</a> 2008AprMay.pdf), Garner has now co-authored a book with Justice Antonin Scalia. In Making Your Case, they offer straight-forward advice on briefing and oral argument. According to Kendall, the book is slim (just about 200 pages), but covers everything from core principles to advice that is quite entertaining. Justice Scalia's tip on avoiding Latin phrases? "Judges are permitted to show off in this fashion, but lawyers are not." The article includes excerpts from a Daily Journal interview with Justice Scalia and his thoughts on advocacy at the Supreme Court.

# WHAT ARE YOU READING? Nora Levine

### GIRLS LIKE US: CAROLE KING, JONI MITCHELL, CARLY SIMON. Sheila Weller

Well, maybe not just like us, these three brilliant women broke some barriers, had lots of ups and downs personally and professionally, and wrote some pretty good music along the way.

Girls Like Us interweaves the lives of these individual women and their times, including the early feminist movement. Carole King's "Will you still love me tomorrow?" recorded by the Shirelles in 1961 became a smash hit but

scandalized some radio stations with its female clear-eyed contemplation of pre-marital sex. To set it in context of the times, according to Wikipedia, it was preceded on the "Billboard Hot 100 Number One Single" list by "Wonderland by Night", artist Berk Kaempfert (where is Berk now?) and was itself bumped off the list by "Calcutta" by Lawrence Welk. Women artists who spoke their minds had a long way to go, baby! (Ironically, the proto-feminist lyrics to "Will you still love me tomorrow?" were written by her songwriting partner and husband, Gerry Goffin.)

Carole had a knack for choosing the wrong men, including Goffin, most of whom did not want to give her credit for her incredible talent. She was so anxious and nervous in performance she stayed in the background as a singer-songwriter far longer than she wanted. In her later years, she became an extremely vocal and contentious environmentalist and survived two weirdly bad marriages to wild west outdoorsmen.

Joni Mitchell had her own style, to say the least, and was never as popular on the charts as she was critically. She advanced a very personal vision of femininity and a unique take on how to live as a woman. Her songs and her life were never very far apart. She suffered her whole life from an act in her younger days which she regretted and which was only somewhat rectified in her later years.

The youngest, Carly Simon showed that women from all backgrounds were looking for new ways of living and loving. She was the upper-crust society girl of the three, Carole King being from a modest background in Sheepshead Bay in New York, and Joni Mitchell a descendant of Canadian farmers. Carly was known as the daughter of Mr. Simon of Simon & Schuster publishers. Mr. Simon was a distant father and for most of her youth she was out shadowed by far more "talented" sisters. Add to the mix a household which included live-in lovers of both her parents and we can start to see where Carly got her ideas of freewheeling sex and, and at the same time, her desire for a family that was not like her own.

There is plenty of gossip in the book from who never got over her affair with Jackson Browne to who had relationships with James Taylor. James Taylor Answer: all three, although Carole King's relationship was strictly platonic and musical. But the emphasis here is mostly on the music and I have found myself going to iTunes to record and remember some of those special times.

Claudia Cook Heller Ehrman



#### THE FORTUNE COOKIE CHRONICLES. Jennifer 8. Lee

This is an excellent book, written by a journalist, who used to cover the crime beat for the New York Times, and who is not actually a food critic. The book kept my interest because it both answers light-hearted questions like, "Where and when was the fortune cookie invented" (hint: closer to San Francisco's Chinatown than China), but also provides a fascinating history of the proliferation of Chinese restaurants in the United States and the immigration odyssey of today's Chinese restaurant workers. There is a lot in here that was eye-opening for me and the others in my book group. It's a fast and enjoyable read, and surprisingly informative. (Warning: reading this book will make you hungry for Chinese food. Read and eat with caution!)

Sara F. Dudley Severson & Werson, PC

# HISTORY LESSONS: HOW TEXTBOOKS FROM AROUND THE WORLD PORTRAY U.S. HISTORY. Dana Lindaman and Hyle Ward

The authors have chosen excerpts from non-U.S. textbooks to show the perspectives of other countries on events in U.S. history. I haven't yet finished the book (it is my "BART book"), but it has been fascinating to read what Zimbabwe and Portugal teach their students about the slave trade, and what Canada and Mexico teach about "Manifest Destiny." This book has been a good refresher course for me on U.S. history, and I'm eager to read the sections on WWI and II and the Cold War.

# THE LOST SUTRAS OF JESUS: UNLOCKING THE ANCIENT WISDOM OF THE XIAN MONKS. Ray Riegert & Thomas Moore, eds.

Who knew? Well, I didn't, anyway. In the 7th century a small group of Christian monks traveled the Silk Road from Persia to China to preach the gospel. They were received into the ancient city of Xian and allowed to build a monastery nearby, and then disappeared from history. Hidden for almost 1000 years, a cache of their scrolls was discovered at the turn of the 20th century and recently have gotten the attention they deserve. "The Lost Sutras of Jesus" reflect the changes the monks experienced as they lived in a Buddhist land and adapted their Christian teachings to include Zen wisdom. I found the sutras presented in this small volume beautiful and deeply moving. "...Contemplate the world as a place where the wealthy exhaust both their body and spirit accumulating treasure that cannot help them at the end. They are like small jars that cannot hold the rivers, lakes and seas they covet." Reading this small introduction makes me eager to study this bit of history further.

Janet Fischer Golden Gate University Law Library

# GREENFIRE; THE DEEP SACRED MYSTERY, AN INTUITIVE HISTORY OF THE FIFTH CENTURY IN CELTIC COUNTRY. Pamela Coy

The author tells a fascinating tale of a young woman, Seabhac, and her journeys through space and time as she matures into a leader of her Celtic tribe. Coy considers herself an intuitive historian, i.e. she travels to a location and "soaks in the clues" of historical events that occurred. The book is historical fiction and takes the reader into Celtic mythology. As a previous reviewer has written, the book is "...filled with details which enable the reader to picture the place, the people, and the happenings in one's mind and heart." Coy also includes chapters describing her travels to obtain the story. In one instance she arrives in London without further plans or reservations. On her arrival she takes the bus that is leaving for Reading, as she steps off the bus a train conductor yells that the train to Taunton is just leaving, so she continues on to that town. At the next stop, she needs to decide on whether to take a bus to Lynmouth or Minehead. The driver of a commuter bus has room for her and offers to aid her in her decision by polling the riders on his bus. They unanimously agree that she should go to Lynmouth.

I enjoyed following the author's adventures and misadventures in her travels and also being immersed in the story of Seabhac and her life in the Fifth century. Lauri Flynn

Gunderson Dettmer

#### A PIECE OF CAKE. Cupcake Brown

An 11-year old girl who found her mother dead one morning was forced into the foster home care system in California. What an oxymoron – there was no "care" and it sure wasn't a "home." The abuse in the foster homes where she was placed was sickening. She ran away repeatedly and became addicted to drugs and alcohol, anything to mask the pain on those nights when the fridge was chained and locked and she didn't have enough to eat.

From her gangster life in Los Angeles to her drug dealing in San Diego, I watched her spiraling downward. But there was hope between the lines of the pages. How she overcame her addictions, turned her life in a new direction and later went on to attend the University of San Francisco School of Law is an amazing and inspiring story. *Julie Horst* 

#### THE EYRE AFFAIR. Jasper Fforde

USF Law Library

I just listened to The Eyre Affair, published in 2001, which is the first novel by Jasper Fforde. It is the story of literary detective Thursday Next's pursuit of a master criminal through an alternative 1984 and through the pages of

continued on page 6



Charlotte Brontë's Jane Eyre. This is such an unlikely book for me as I don't care for fantasy/science fiction. But it was funny with puns and plays on words and literary references. I found out about it through Nancy Pearl's books, <u>Book Lust</u> and <u>More Book Lust</u>. I love lists of recommended books. And her books opened my eyes to lots of books I had never heard of.

#### MISS PETTIGREW LIVES FOR A DAY. Winifred Watson

I also just read Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day by Winifred Watson. I had seen the movie and was intrigued to discover the differences. The movie added a bit more plot and reassigned some of the characters, but all in all both the book and the movie are a great depiction of the day in the life of a down-and-out governess/gentlewoman. It is funny and sweet and hard-edged all at the same time. A lovely "coming into oneself" book from the 1930's. I am a knitter and read various knitting blogs. One of my favorites is <a href="www.yarnstorm.blogs.com">www.yarnstorm.blogs.com</a>. The author of this blog wrote about Persephone Books which reprints forgotten classics by twentieth-century (mostly women) writers. If you love English novels, this is the place to find all these books from between the Wars. They arrive in dove grey covers. Delicious.

Peg LaFrance Orrick

#### THE AGE OF DREAMING. Nina Revoyr

It's 1964 and a reporter comes to interview Jun Nakayama about his career in the early days of Hollywood. Although he was once a star in the silent film era, he hasn't discussed his exciting past - or thought much about it himself - in the decades since he stopped acting. The young journalist's visits bring up many memories for Jun about that era in movie making, especially the sense of exuberance one had of being part of a new medium. I learned about silent films (there are more subtle differences that just the fact that there is no sound) as the author mixes real silent film actors and directors into her cast of characters. In addition to her fascinating recreation of filmmaking in Los Angeles in the early 20th century, Revoyr also looks at the more personal secrets and mysteries of why this elegant gentleman left his craft, about anti-Japanese racism in the United States and about his lingering sadness and loneliness. (I know he's the wrong race, but I kind of picture an older Richard Chamberlain as the 1960's Jun.)

It reminded me of another really good novel, William Mann's The Biograph Girl, at least in the sense of being a fictionalized account of a reporter interviewing a silent film star about her career, many decades later, and the mixture of real people and fictionalized ones.

## THE COMMISSION: THE UNCENSORED HISTORY OF THE 9/11 INVESTIGATION. Philip Shenon

Shenon, a New York Times reporter, takes us on a behind the scenes look at the making of the 9/11 report and shows that compromises were made that in the long run prevented the Commission from producing a report that got at the whole truth. He shows us the Commission's often difficult task of examining government archives and files, their interviews with officials involved in anti-terrorism efforts and the specific events of 9/11, and the resistance of government officials to those inquiries. Were the commissioners, especially the co-chairs, in trying so hard to be bipartisan and please both Democrats and Republicans, resistant to pointing the finger at individuals in the Bush or Clinton administrations? Would a nonpartisan commission have prepared a less politicized and more informative report? Probably, but they wouldn't have had access to as many officials and files as this one did. Did the powerful Executive Director, with his ties to the Bush Administration, protect Bush officials and prevent staff from delving too deeply into certain areas? (The E.D. was a former State Department employee who authored a strategy paper justifying preemptive war, who co-wrote a book with Condoleezza Rice and who made many questionable phone calls to the office of Karl Rove.)

Just like the commissioners and staff, the reader will probably bring his or her political leanings to the book, but this shouldn't keep partisans of either party from enjoying a look at the research that went into preparing the report. How did they get access to classified documents or find documents that they hadn't even known existed? What political maneuvering did they go through to get Bush and Rice to testify? There are some wonderful scenes in the National Archives as the archivists realize a former high Clinton official has been removing documents from the reading room. How should they handle this delicate situation? Readers are there at the meeting between Henry Kissinger, Bush's initial chair of the Commission, and a delegation of 9/11 widows who ask him if he has any clients named Bin Laden. Kissinger resigned the next day.

Like All the President's Men, this is a newspaper reporter's look at the story behind the story and a good read.

Paula Lichtenberg Keker & Van Nest

#### **BRIDGE OF SIGHS. Richard Russo**

This is his first book since the Pulitzer winning Empire Falls and it is a worthy follow up. Russo tells the story of the Lynch Family, particularly Lou C. (Lucy) Lynch, denizens of the small town of Thomaston, New York. Although it is a small town story (like most of Russo's books), it has universal themes of family, childhood,

continued on page 7

love, loss, and changing times that are quite moving and engrossing. Russo is one of those writers who make the craft look effortless and his comfortable style lends itself to screenplay adaptation. It's no wonder that most of his novels have been made into successful films; at times I felt like there was a movie going on in my head while I was reading the book. Highly recommended.

Anthony McGrath O'Melveny & Myers

#### THE ALGEBRAIST. Iain M. Banks

As noted by Amazon: Banks pulls out all the stops in this gloriously over-the-top, state-of-the-art space opera, a Hugo nominee in its British edition. This is an enormously enjoyable book, full of wonderful aliens, a sense of wonder and subtle political commentary on current events.

Eric Montes Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP

TROY: LORD OF THE SILVER BOW TROY: SHIELD OF THUNDER

TROY: FALL of KINGS. David Gemmell I am not a big fan of fantasy that is about other worlds, but

I do enjoy reading novels that present other versions of familiar stories and myths. I just finished the third novel in the series on Troy, by David Gemmell, a noted fantasy writer. The events in the novel occur before and during a war with Troy that spans about three fighting seasons. All the usual suspects are there: Hector, Achilles, Priam, Agamemnon, Cassandra and Odysseus. The gods are invoked often, but are not involved in events as they are in the Iliad. Odysseus is as smart as we would wish and a great storyteller. He cleverly intersperses easily recognized episodes from the Odyssev into the tales of his adventures before and during the events of the Trojan War.

The two main characters are Helikaon, a Dardanian prince known to us as Aeneas and Andromache. If you took four years of Latin in high school like I did, you know that Aeneas is the only major character in Troy who escaped to even greater glory in the Aeneid, but Andromache was a surprise. The author cleverly finessed the tradition of her marriage to Hector and her fate after the fall of Troy into how she ended up with Helikaon at the Seven Hills, a small settlement he founded west of the Greek city states.

Gemmell died before the completion of the third novel, and his wife finished it based on his sketches and outlines. It was the least interesting of the three, missing the master's touch. Maybe I was just sorry to reach an end that I knew was coming.

Mary Ann Parker CA Dep't of Water Resources

#### **ORACLE BONES. Peter Hessler**

Oracle Bones is written by a journalist who has moved beyond reporting to a novel that mesmerized me with its the insights into China of today. Peter Hessler observes China as it is transforming itself into one of the most dynamic countries on Earth. Reading this book made me understand the Chinese political problems with the West, as well as with their own government. Now I can understand all the deaths from the recent tragic earthquake (rapidly built buildings with shoddy materials), as well as everyday life in China. If you have any interest in China, this book will hold you captive with a story about the ancient oracles and today's world.

Karen Trauthen Seyfarth Shaw LLP

#### **NOCALL SPRING INSTITUTE:** PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Bria O'Brien **Littler Mendelson** 

"It takes 3 positive comments to counter act 1 negative one. That is just in the workplace, at home it takes 5." Matthew du Plessis NOCALL Spring Institute 2008.

Buzzzz, Buzzz, Buzzz. I sit up in bed gasping for air. Where am I? What time is it? I look to my right and see that the alarm clock I set for 7:30 am is going off promptly at 5:30 am! Welcome to the NOCALL Spring Institute 2008, Meritage Resorts.

Later that morning I trot down the hallway from my room to start my day at the NOCALL Spring Institute. I walk by a cheerful fire in the signature open wood fireplace in the lobby. Check in is a breeze. Breakfast awaits us. Thomson West has generously sponsored a buffet breakfast. I help myself and head directly to the caffeine.

Armed with enough tea to get me through the morning I sit down to meet my fellow table mates. Chatting at such an early hour makes me realize how solitary my work is. On most days I go to work, say "Hi" to the few people I see on my way in, I get a cup of tea and I sit and work for hours, often uninterrupted. Today I sit next to Darcy Kirk, AALL secretary from the University of Connecticut Law Library. We discuss U Conn Basketball. The men lost to San Diego in the Men's Basketball Championship West Region First Round, but the women are going to the final four.

Promptly at 8:30 Kelly Brown greets us and introduces our speaker Matthew du Plessis. Matthew has a lot of energy for 8:35 am. He is an engaging and entertaining speaker.

continued on page 8



His lecture is broken into two sections. The first is about personalities at work and the second is about how to map project timelines.

Matthew starts by addressing the expectations employees have of team leaders. He throws out a list of words and asks us which we would find more important in a team leader:

Competent
Courageous
Imaginative
Honest
Straightforward
Forward-looking
Dependable
Intelligent

One woman in the front says "honesty", Matthew feigns surprise. He then lists in order of importance the four traits employees desire in a manager:

- 1. Honesty
- 2. Competent
- 3. Forward-looking
- 4. Dependable

Before we have time to reflect on what that might mean for us, we are moving on by taking a watered down Myers-Briggs test. Within 10 minutes we have all been placed into one of four personality traits and are examining the pitfalls of each. He diplomatically includes the caveat that we are all in some ways a combination of four categories.

	Action	Exuberant	Harmonious	Analytical
Needs	To win, to control, risk-taking	Approval, recognition	Harmony, Slow pace	To be right, time alone
Fears	Being taken advantage of	Being disliked	Conflict, disagreement	Being wrong
Response to stress	Micromanage	Impulsive, Rebellious	Indecisive	Withdraw

Matthew encourages us to think about the people that we work with and what their main personality traits are so that we can work with them knowing what their fears and reactions to stress are. Sound advice for any workplace.

Darcy and I look at each other. It is \*freezing\* in this room. Just when I think frostbite is setting in, Matt tells us to take

a break for 30 minutes. Kelly encourages us to talk to the vendors waiting at the back of the room.

Cookies are served. Vendors are waiting at the back of the room to show us their wares and answer wine country trivia so that we can enter a drawing for prizes.

After the break part two of the lecture starts. This is what Matt calls the math portion. Key word: Gantt Charts.

Example of plotting a project on a Gantt Chart:

Summer associate training project

Get a list of summer associates = A Create an outline of training = B

Find out when summers are available for training = C Find out when vendors can do their training = D

Reserve conference rooms or create webinars for training = E

Activity	Preceding Activity	Time	
Α		Day 1	
В		Day 1 &2	
С	Α	Day 2	
D	Α	Day 1	
E	C,D	Day 3	

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Α	1	XXXXXX		
В	2	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	
С	1		XXXXXX	
D	1		XXXXXX	
E	1			XXXXXXX

At least someone turned on the heater.

I can't help but think as I sit there plotting a Gantt chart; is this really how projects work in the library? There are a lot of contingencies in libraries. There are also a lot of projects that are somewhere between a task and project and sometimes you don't know that something is a project until you get half way through it and sometimes what you think is a project actually just turns out to be a short task. This is not to say there is not value in creating a timeline for a project, assigning tasks to different people, and generally outlining the whole project before you begin, but I am not sure how much use a library would get out of creating and following Gannt charts for every project.



After the math portion we break for lunch. Lunch is fancy and long. Darcy our AALL board representative gives a short update on the state of AALL. She tells us that there is going to be a Leadership Academy in October of 2008. The board is focused on members concerns over Vendor Relations. She also mentions that there was a Member Survey done in late 2007. The results are being discussed by the board now.

We are ushered back into the big conference room for the highly anticipated prize drawings. There are a lot of prizes and some going back and forth since there can't be multiple winners etc....

#### **Afternoon Break-Out groups**

We break up into our sections and gather at various sections of the room. My leaders are, Amy Wright from

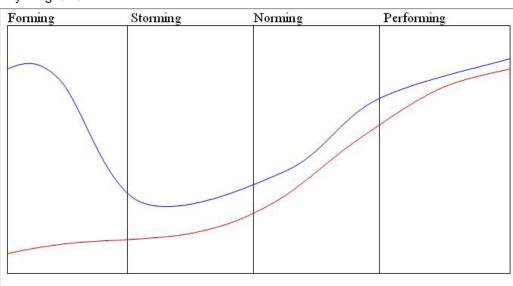
the University of San Francisco
School of Law, and Susan Nevelow
Mart from the University of California
Hastings College of Law. The
topic is Developing a "Bridge the
Gap" research seminar. I choose
this section because I have been
meeting with a group of academic
and firm librarians for the past year to
discuss the topic of how best to train
summer associates. The "Bridge the
Gap" project is something that has
developed from these meetings.

At first of course people are shy.
Amy and Susan do a great job of
explaining the purpose of the training
and are good leaders in that they
encourage participation. Before we
began Matt encouraged us to shed
our usual personality traits. If we

were "Action" people he encouraged us to sit back and listen. If we were "Harmonious" he encouraged us to speak up and be decisive. I am not sure how much we follow his advice. Of course it is hard to say because we didn't go over the kind of personalities we are before we started. Amy and Susan have an easel with big sheets of white paper. We start by brainstorming. Who is the audience of this program? What is the purpose? When will it occur? How long will it be? The "goal" is to create a SMART Goal.

Specific Measurable Agreed upon Realistic Time-Bound Someone asks who will cater it, but this is deemed as too granular for the level of creating a SMART Goal. In the end we come up with a SMART Goal. I am not sure how much we use all the material from this morning's lecture, but Matt's training did cause us to consider aspects that we might have overlooked.

Matt asks us to write down our SMART Goal on a transparency so that we can share them with our colleagues. He then gives us one last bit of valuable information to which I for one can relate. He shows us a graph of the "Execution Phase" of a project. It explains that interest is high when forming a project, but then dips dramatically. Eventually as the deadline looms interest is restored and work performed increases.



Blue/top line = interest in project/sense of team Red/bottom line = work performed

Overall I think the conference was a complete success. The location was close enough for both the Sacramento librarians and the Bay Area librarians to attend. The speaker was engaging. The afternoon breakout session was informative and challenging. As always, the company was grand.



#### NOCALL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008 12:45 to 1:05 p.m. Marines Memorial Club San Francisco, CA

#### PROPOSED MINUTES

#### Old Business:

1. Approval of Minutes

#### **New Business:**

- 1. Treasurer's Report
- 2. Induction of New Officers
- 3. Awards and Recognition:

Presentation of the Professional Achievement Award to Mary Staats

- 4. Highlights from the Committee Clusters
- 5. Member Comments?

#### **Old Business**

#### 1. Approval of Minutes

Coral Henning thanked West for their sponsorship of the luncheon and called the meeting to order at 12:45. There were approximately 60 people present. A motion to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2008 business meeting was made, seconded, and approved.

#### **New Business:**

#### 1. Treasurer's Report

Copies of the treasurer's report were available to all who attended the business meeting. Julie Horst summarized its contents with a poem, incorporating references to Dewey Decimal numbers for income items, the topics of educational workshops, and NOCALL merchandise.

#### 2. Induction of New Offices

The newly elected NOCALL officers for 2008-2009 were introduced: Diane Rodriguez, Vice President / President Elect; Julie Horst, re-elected Treasurer; and Members at Large Nina Porcella and Lee Ryan.

#### 3. Awards and Recognition:

Presentation of the Professional Achievement Award to Mary Staats

Prano Amjadi, Past President and Chair of the Awards Committee, introduced Mary Staats, the 2008 recipient of the NOCALL Professional Achievement Award. Prano noted that three separate groups had nominated Mary for the award, in recognition for her more than 20 years of service to NOCALL, AALL, and SLA. Mary, a charter member of NOCALL, was thanked for her service chairing

several NOCALL committees, as a mentor to new law firm librarians, for her current services as "Ms. Placement," and for her ability to weather change with grace and diplomacy.

In accepting the award, Mary noted how much she loved being a librarian and thanked the strong and supportive network of librarians who led to the founding and development of NOCALL. She encouraged members to participate in committee work and expressed her hope that the union list would once again be available, on the web.

#### 4. Highlights from the Committee Clusters

Coral then passed the gavel to Kelly Browne, the incoming NOCALL President, who presented Coral with a plaque and gift in appreciation for everything that Coral has done for NOCALL.

Wearing the pyramid shaped hat from the Spring Institute, Kelly summarized accomplishments by and plans for NOCALL committees, encouraging members to contact her if they were interested in serving on or chairing committees during the coming year:

The Spring Institute was held in Napa on March 28th, with Darcy Kirk, Secretary of AALL, as the VIP guest

**Public Relations:** The BASF Bulletin is now the third publication with a regular NOCALL column.

**Government Relations:** The Sunshine Week Program webcast and panel discussion was held on March 21st, in conjunction with SLA

**Social Committee:** The successful Bocce Ball tournament organized by Ellen Platt for the Spring Institute in Napa will be followed by another at AALL in Portland.

Placement: has posted 99 jobs during the year

**Education:** The Fall Workshop is scheduled for October 21st in Preservation Park, Oakland, with Jim Wagstaffe speaking on "Romancing the Room"

*Grants:* Will soon announce the recipient(s) of the grant to attend AALL in Portland

#### 5. Member Comments?

A motion to destroy the only paper ballot from the 2008 NOCALL election was made, seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Sexton NOCALL Secretary



#### **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

The names of members who have joined NOCALL since publication of the 2007-2008/2008-2009 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
227A Boalt Hall # 7210
Berkeley CA 94720-7210
Phone: (510) 643-2947
Fax: (510) 642-9122

Email: rmartinez@law.berkeley.edu

Directory Update: All current members should have received their directories by now! The mailing included the first cumulative supplement, so please check that for any new members or changes not listed in the main volume.

#### **New Members**

Deborah Maglione Senior Reference Librarian Howrey LLP 525 Market Street, Suite 3600 San Francisco, CA 94105 Phone: (415) 848-3365

Fax: (415) 848-4999

Email: maglioned@howrey.com

Suzanne Mawhinney Student

Student

Phone: (415) 722-9883 Fax: (415) 775-1058

Email: lawchiq@yahoo.com

Tricia Ross Library Assistant Gunderson Dettmer 155 Constitution Drive Menlo Park, CA 94025 Phone: (650) 463-3220

Email: tross@gunder.com

Maryjoe Sandoval Publications Manager Daily Journal Corporation 915 E. First Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 Phone: (213) 229-5300

Email: Maryjoe\_Sandoval@dailyjournal.com

Connie Smith
Firm Director of Library Services
Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP

**Continuing Members**\*\*Changes are noted in bold.

No changes to report

#### NOCALL OFFICERS 2007 - 2008

President + Coral Henning, Sacramento County Public Law Library + 916/874-6013 + CHenning@saclaw.org
Vice-President/President Elect + Kelly Browne, Sacramento County Public Law Library + 916/874-7427 + KBrowne@saclaw.org
Secretary + Mary Sexton, Heafey Law Library, Santa Clara University + 408/554-6938 + msexton@scu.edu
Treasurer + Julie Horst, University of San Francisco, + 415/422-2243 + jhorst@usfca.edu
Past President + Prano Amjadi, Heafey Law Library, Santa Clara University + 408/554-5320 + pamjadi@scu.edu
Member at Large + Susan Nevelow-Mart, Hastings College of the Law Library + 415/565-4759 + marts@uchastings.edu
Member at Large + Shannon Burchard, Dorraine Zief Law Library, USF + 415/422-2249 + burchards@usfca.edu

#### NOCALL COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

#### ADMINISTRATION (Coordinator: Prano Amjadi)

AALL Liaison • Donna S. Williams, California Court of Appeal, Sixth District • 408/494-2529 • donna.williams@jud.ca.gov Archives • Kate Wilko, Stanford University Law Library • 650/725-0806 • kmwilko@stanford.edu Audit & Budget • Kim Clarke, University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law • 916/739-7183 • kclarke@pacific.edu Constitution & Bylaws • Mary Hood, Santa Clara University Law Library • 408/554-2732 • mhood@scu.edu Nominations • Ellen Platt, Santa Clara University Law Library • 408/554-5139 • eplatt@scu.edu

#### COMMUNICATION (Coordinator: Kelly Browne)

Listserv + Joan Loftus, Morrison & Forester, LLP + 415/268-6958 + jloftus@mofo.com Newsletter + Mary Pinard, Sacramento County Public Law Library + 916/874-6011 + mpinard@saclaw.org Web Page + Janet Fischer, Golden Gate University School of Law Library + 415/442-7826 + jfischer@ggu.edu

#### EDUCATION (Coordinator: Julie Horst)

Education • Tibisay Turner, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer and Feld LLP • 415/765-9579 x49579 • tturner@akingump.com Spring Institute • Kelly Browne. Sacramento County Public Law Library • 916/874-7427 • kbrowne@saclaw.org

#### MEMBERSHIP (Coordinator: Susan Nevelow Mart)

Academic Relations + Amy Wright, University of San Francisco + 415/422-5112 + ajwright@usfca.edu Membership + Greg Fite, Bernard E. Witkin Alameda County Law Library + 510/272-6494 + greg.fite@acgov.org Placement + Mary Staats, Farella, Braun & Martel + 415/954-4451 + mstaats@fbm.com

#### OUTREACH (Coordinator: Shannon Burchard)

Government Relations • Michele Finerty, McGeorge School of Law Library • 916/739-7010 • mfinerty@pacific.edu Public Access • Mareth Wilson, Sacramento County Public Law Library • 916/874-6649 • mwilson@saclaw.org Public Relations • Diane Rodriguez, Hassard Bonnington LLP • 415/288-9800, x122 • DMR@hassard.com

#### RECOGNITION (Coordinator: Mary Sexton)

Awards • Prano Amjadi, Heafey Law Library, Santa Clara University • 408/554-5320 • pamjadi@scu.edu Grants • Teresa Dippery, Bingham McCutchen • 650/849-4829 • teresa.dippery@bingham.com Memorials • Mark Mackler, California Office of the Attorney General • 415/703-5786 • mark.mackler@doj.ca.gov

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**