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

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President's Message

Fall is here, the leaves are changing colors, the rain has arrived, and NOCALL is going strong! NOCALL members are hard at work on events, learning opportunities, networking, and forging ahead in this wonderful profession of law librarianship.

I want to thank Kelly Browne of the Sacramento County Public Law Library and Andrea Weaver of McDonough, Holland & Allen PC for organizing and hosting a lovely September business meeting. I also want to thank our speaker Carolina Rose, of Legislative Research Inc. (LRI), for her wonderful presentation on California legislative history and ethics.

NOCALL members continue to make a difference on the national front. Two NOCALL-sponsored programs have been accepted for the AALL 2010 Annual Meeting in Denver, CO. "Looking Up From the Bottom: Bankruptcy Law & Research", a program offered at our 2009 Spring Institute with NOCALL members Shannon Burchard, Leslie Ann Forrester & Diane Rodriguez; and "Creating Your Own Breadcrumb Trail: Motivating Employees in Unique Library Settings" with NOCALL members Holly Lakatos & Coral Henning, were both accepted. Holly Riccio, of O'Melveny & Myers, LLP, was selected to attend the AALL Leadership Academy in Chicago. NOCALL was pleased to assist Holly with a travel grant. Holly will share her experience with us in the near future.

As I write this I am looking forward to our fall workshop in Oakland: Marketing Uses of Social Media in the Law Library. Terry Richards and her committee, including Claudia Cook, Emily Bergfeld and Maria Cervantes, have a wonderful panel lined up to give us some insight into this exploding area of technology and culture. CEB is generously sponsoring lunch and a tour of their facilities. It promises to be a great day of learning and networking!

I am very pleased to announce that the Board has approved a new committee, the Community Service Committee. The charge of this new committee is to identify appropriate areas for community service and coordinate opportunities for NOCALL members to



volunteer time or make donations to worthwhile organizations. Our new Chair, Holly Riccio, has exciting plans to show our NOCALL spirit in our local communities. Do you have a favorite charity you would like to help? Are you interested in giving back? Holly needs committee members so please consider joining in!

The NOCALL Networking Committee is busy planning our Four Corners of NOCALL Holiday Socials. NOCALL members are organizing holiday social gatherings in Sacramento, Fresno, the South Bay, and San Francisco/East Bay. All gatherings will take place on Thursday, December 10, 2009 after work. More to follow soon as plans and locations are confirmed. Last but not least, the 2010 Spring Institute planning is going full throttle. Mark your calendars: "From Pillaging on the High Seas to Plundering the Net: Piracy on the Barbary Coast" will take place March 26-27, 1010. Chair Shannon Burchard and her committee have secured the Starlight Room at the top of the Sir Francis Drake hotel for our 30th anniversary party. The piracy programs are falling into place and the hotel information will come shortly. GRC Chair Greg Fite and his committee will host a pre-institute presentation of Sunshine Week programming on the morning of March 26th.

NOCALL thrives because of you, so get involved!

NOCALL News

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

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

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PROFESSIONAL READING IN REVIEW Elisabeth McKechnie and Susan Llano UC Davis Law Library

"Libraries Explore Big Ideas to Overcome Small Budgets: Tough Times are Taking a Toll but Spurring Innovations in Handling Collections," by Jennifer Howard, *Chronicle of Higher Education*, November 22, 2009, Available online to subscribers at http://chronicle.com/article/Libraries-Explore-Big-Ideas/49227/

The economy is having the effect of eating away at staffing levels and collections budgets in law libraries of all sizes. This article discusses methods used by smaller and larger law libraries to maintain levels of service and research materials despite budget cuts. Methods include forming consortia with neighboring law libraries so that materials can be quickly borrowed by other members and to selectively cancel materials already carried by fellow consortium libraries.

"The Transformative Nature of Blogs and Their Effects on Legal Scholarship," by Steven Keslowitz, 2009 *Cardozo Law Review de novo*, 252, http://www.cardozolawreview.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=ar ticle&id=127:keslowitz2009252&catid=18:other-de-novoarticles<emid=20

This article, opening with a vignette from The Simpsons animated show, discusses the general usefulness of "blawgs" as a means for the legal community to converse about legal issues with the general public, acting as places where new ideas can be exposed and developed by the legal community. Since lawyers are increasingly using blawgs as research tools, the research arena has largely expanded beyond academe.

"Fear of Falling: The Effects of U.S. News and World Report Rankings on U.S. Law Schools," by Michael Sauder and Wendy Espeland, *Law School Admission Council*, Grants Report 07-02, October 2007, available at the LSAC website http://www.lsac.org/

This study just released by the LSAC was conducted by two sociology professors who interviewed more than 200 law school administrators, faculty and prospective law students and confirmed what many have suspected all along, that the U.S. News and World Report rankings influences the way schools are managed and how they spend their resources. In addition, the report provides interesting details about some of the methods some schools employ to improve their ranking. The study findings conclude that "what the rankings have done is create an incentive system that pressures administrators to make decisions directed toward improving rankings, decisions they might not otherwise have made had they relied exclusively on their professional judgment about what is best for their school." To read the entire report, follow the link above to the LSAC website, click on "Research Data," then "LSAT and Legal Education Research Publications" and finally to "Research Grants."

"Trying to Save the Web's Shortcuts: Project Seeks to Preserve Links Behind Services That Shrink Internet Addresses," by Andrew Lavallee, *Wall Street Journal, Technology Journal*, November 25, 2009, p.B5, http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704779704 574555671910508970.html#articleTabs%3Dcomments

This article discusses the efforts by the Internet Archive and more than 20 Web companies to preserve the historical record of shortened Internet addresses that get passed around on services such as Twitter, Facebook and other networking sites. Since the use of these shortened URLs has proliferated, the concern is that if any of the companies that create the URLs (some of them are start-ups) were to go out of business, the links they created would be dead. The archiving project is called "301 Works" and the companies participating in the project periodically record the short addresses generated along with the original sites they point to and this information will be stored at the Internet Archive.

WESTPAC IS COMING TO SAN FRANCISCO!

WestPac, the Western Pacific Chapter of AALL, will hold its 2010 conference in San Francisco. Mark your calendars for October 14-16, 2010. Speakers, events, library tours and registration information will be posted later in 2010. NOCALL members are invited to join WestPac for all or part of the conference. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Janet Fischer Chair, Local Arrangements Committee WestPac 2010 jfischer@ggu.edu

WHAT ARE YOU READING? Nora Levine

SHOOT THE MOON, by Billie Letts.

This was a fascinating tale about Mark Albright, Beverly Hills veterinarian-to-the-stars, who finds out that he was adopted, a secret the only parents he knew kept from him while they were alive. Mark travels to the town where he was born to meet and talk to his birth-mother and find out about his father. He uncovers a town mystery about his mother's situation and his disappearance 30 years ago from De Clare, Oklahoma. He slowly works to unravel that mystery through research and by talking with many in the town. The town's characters are charming and seem very authentic. The story is very intriguing as Albright, neé Nicky Jack Hargrove, discovers his heritage.

Lauri Flynn

THE GEOGRAPHER'S LIBRARY, by Jon Fasman.

It has been compared to other "suspense thrillers" like "The DaVinci Code." The book starts with a real person from history, Al-Idrisi, a Spanish-Muslim philosopher, cartographer, linguist, and scholar who served in the court of King Roger of Sicily in Palermo in the year 1154. In his old age Al-Idrisi starts to travel the world and that is where the story begins. While traveling, Al-Idrisi's house is robbed. We never learn why he left behind all of these valuable items but we do learn about their estimated value and subsequent owners. We also learn that alchemy is another interest for Al-Idrisi. There is a second story that weaves through the first one. The second story involves a reporter, Paul Tomm, working for a local paper in a small Connecticut town. While working on an obituary of a local professor he finds more guestions than answers. For instance why was the mysterious professor still at the college when he didn't teach classes, why did he receive a salary of \$1/year, and why did he exhibit bizarre behavior like shooting guns on campus? I liked all the elements of the story, and yet for me the whole seemed somehow lesser than the sum of the parts.

THE LAST POPE by Luis M. Rocha

This novel is in the same genre as "The Geographer's Library." The author suggests there was a conspiracy around the death of Pope John Paul I who was only pope for 33 days. The book involves secret societies within secret societies. The drama comes from a young woman who receives an odd letter from an old friend of her father's. Immediately her life is in danger. Her father tells her to go to a certain place in London where someone will find her and protect her. She makes it to the place, but has no idea who to trust. A mysterious stranger appears who may be the

person sent to help her, or may not be. There are of course chase scenes, flights across the globe and secret codes. If you liked "The DaVinci Code" you may like this as well.

Cathy Hardy Hanson Bridgett

THE GLASSBLOWER OF MURANO by Marina Fiorato

I have been fascinated by Murano glass since I saw a chandelier made out of it on a trip to Venice. This is the story of a woman who changes her life by going back to her roots - roots she knew barely anything about. A sudden turn of events in Nora's life, which, thankfully, the author deals with quickly and succinctly, leads her to Venice and a new life following in the footsteps of her ancestors. In Venice, Nora returns to her given name, Leonora, and with it a whole new life. This story isn't written in a straight line and there are twists and turns along the way. One of the appealing aspects is the reach back to the past, using a flashback style. In a way this method is like reading two stories at once. I liked that the author dealt with the mistakes that people made.

This book has a great tone and the characters seem real -not the perfect robots that seem so frequent in some fiction lately. This is definitely a book I would like to read again.

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

HARDBALL by Sara Paretsky

This is the thirteenth V.I. Warshawski mystery and one of the best. In the course of trying to find out what happened to a man who disappeared in 1967, V.I. finds herself immersed in the racial turbulence that hit Chicago during that summer. The violence and tensions of the times split not only the city, but her family. Very evocative of the '60s. A must for Paretsky fans.

MURDER LOVES COMPANY by John Mersereau

This is a reprint of a book that was first published in 1940. If you collect or read mysteries extensively, you should check out the web site of the publisher Rue Morgue Press (www.ruemorguepress.com) and read about their company, which sells mystery novels online and publishes forgotten mysteries. Mersereau's book takes place at the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition. The protagonist is a professor of horticulture at Berkeley and he has planted olive trees at the fair. He and an ace "girl" reporter witness a murder while they are driving on the Bay Bridge and off the mystery proceeds. Okay, it's dated (rather sexist), but there is an innocence to it and a cluelessness about what

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is to befall the country. I kept wanting to warn them! It's an interesting glimpse at a much different Bay Area. And if you're interested in the GGIE, Rupert Holmes's "Swing: A Mystery" also covers much of the same ground (the fair, U.C.). Holmes has written a far superior book, but each is interesting in its own way.

Paula Lichtenberg Keker & Van Nest LLP

PEOPLE OF THE BOOK: A NOVEL by Geraldine Brooks

I was immediately captivated by the story of the Sarajevo Haggadah. Dr. Hanna Heath, an Australian book restoration expert, travels to Sarajevo to preserve this beautiful manuscript. Through her documentation of what she finds during the restoration process (an insect's wing and a wine stain among other things) we travel back in time to discover how each of the book's various components come together over time to create a priceless museum piece. Why does this Jewish prayer book have exquisite illuminations when ornamentation is against Jewish beliefs? How did the book survive the Spanish Inquisition? These and many other questions are answered. We also explore Hanna's relationship with her mother and uncover some behind-the-scenes intrigue along the way. There is a lot going on in this book, and that could be its downfall. The author just scratches the surface but I found my imagination filling in the gaps.

Ramona Martinez Boalt Law Library

HIVE FIVE, by Janet Evanovich

Fifth in a series of Evanovich's Stephanie Plum novels. It is hysterical and has great local Jersey color and cast of characters. Stephanie, after losing her job as a lingerie buyer, takes a job as a bond enforcer for her cousin Vinnie, who runs one of Trenton NJ's bail bond operations. In book five, Stephanie's Uncle Fred disappears, and she has to apprehend a wily FTA (Failure to Appear), and has to track down Uncle Mo, local candy and ice cream purveyor and beloved figure of the Berg (neighborhood in Trenton). However, there seems to be something much more sinister below the surface of Uncle Mo's ice cream cones.

Lori Ruth Winston & Strawn

"Atlas Shrugged on my iPhone because I didn't want to carry a 1200 page book on my commute."

Kurt Shuck Foley & Lardner

WE NEED YOUR NEWS!

If you or your staff members have attended a seminar, published an article, received an award, or if you have done anything interesting, personally or professionally, please let us know!

Submit articles of any length to Mary Pinard at mpinard@saclaw.org

Deadlines for submissions are: September 5 November 7 January 9 March 6 May 8

MEMORIAL NOTICE FOR PROFESSOR DAN F. HENKE Linda Weir U.C. Hastings College of the Law

Professor Emeritus Dan Henke passed away at his home in Orinda on September 8, 2009. He had been in failing health for the last few months. Dan Henke was Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law at U.C. Hastings College of the Law from 1970 until his retirement in 1991.

Dan Henke earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Foreign Service in 1943 and his J.D. in 1951 at Georgetown University, following his World War II military service. He earned his Master's Degree in Law Librarianship in 1956 at the University of Washington, Seattle. His first law librarian position was as an assistant to the legendary Professor Marian Gould Gallagher, Director of U. W.'s School of Law Library. From Seattle, he moved on to executive positions as head of the New Jersey Bureau of Law and Legislative Reference, legal educator and law librarian at the University of California, Berkeley and then, Hastings. He was a consultant to law firms, bar associations, courts and law schools on library development, automation and facilities construction. He was co-founder and president of the Western Pacific Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries.

Henke's California Law Guide (1976) and its predecessor, California Legal Research (1971) were among the first state legal research guides to be published and considered models for the type.

In 1997, Professor Jenni Parrish, Director of the Hastings Law Library, wrote a wonderful tribute to Dan Henke that was published in the Hastings Law Journal (48 Hastings L. J. 1091) and is also posted at the law school's website at the following link: http://uchastings.edu/about/history/henke. html

Dan Henke was a true leader and a generous, big-hearted man. His memory brings a smile to those who had the good fortune to know and to learn from him.

JOIN ME IN VOLUNTEERING FOR NOCALL! Tom Eyres, Member

I recently did some volunteer work for NOCALL. I had so much fun I'm going to ask for more!

As part of a volunteer project, I got in touch with about two dozen fellow members. There was a nice mix -- people from law schools, little firms, big firms, counties, and courts. Some of them were leaving the world of law libraries to accept jobs in new places; they were sad to leave the NOCALL family, but excited to enter new fields. A couple souls were retiring soon. Others were folks I'd worked with in the past but had lost touch with -- it was neat to find them again and catch up!

One of the things about volunteering for NOCALL is that the people you will be assisting -- the officers, committee chairs, and others -- are volunteers themselves, and put in many, many hours serving NOCALL, but they can't do it all. So if you volunteer, you will be helping to share the load.

There are projects for people who can travel, and projects for people who can't leave their desk. If you can spare a few hours, want to add variety to your routine, meet old friends, make new ones (also known as "networking!"), and do some good, then please consider volunteering.

CALIFORNIA AALL CHAPTER GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRS MEET IN LOS ANGELES TO FORMULATE STATEWIDE STRATEGY Greg Fite Bernard E. Witkin Alameda County Law Library

Esther Cho, law librarian at Loyola University School of Law, Los Angeles and head of SCALL's Government Relations Committee called a statewide group of GRC representatives and other involved persons to discuss issues of statewide interest in the hope of fostering a healthy discussion and developing unified positions on issues important to California law librarians and the people we serve. This was the first time in many years AALL chapters had held such a meeting, and it was closely watched by the Washington Government Relations Office of AALL.

In attendance for NOCALL were Susan Nevelow Mart, our Washington Liaison, Greg Fite, NOCALL GRC Chair, Esther Cho, SCALL GRC Chair, Tina Jagerson, GRC Chair from SANDALL, and attending by phone, Anne Bernardo, Legislative Chair of CCCLL representing 58 county law libraries.

Attendees discussed several issues of general importance. First up was the upcoming contract renewal (after 2010) for publication of the California Code of Regulations. This process has been opaque, and everyone present expressed concerns about the timely publication of the CCR, the need to make it universally available in an authenticated version, expansion of the depository libraries who would receive free print editions, the need for better indexing, and a more open contract vetting process. We also want to include all of the provisions of Title 24 (building codes) in the freely available versions of the Code if not otherwise barred by copyright. All chapters will work with Larry Meyers, director of the San Bernardino County Law Library, who has been spearheading this project Anne - Larry submitted an early inquiry to OAL re. authentication, but did not agree to lead the project, instead he recommended a unified response to the OAL from the 3 chapters and CCCLL).

Attendees discussed the recently emerging issue of transparency at the Administrative Office of the Courts. Members discussed what kinds of information should be included in the countywide filing fee income reports generated by the AOC. Members also called for much better disclosure of how the AOC spends its money. One particularly concerning issue was how much the AOC is spending on its revamped computer system, especially in light of court "furlough" days and massive layoffs that in some counties have resulted in 20% staff reductions. Everyone agreed that the state and its citizens need to exercise better oversight of the court bureaucracy. CCCLL, which has a lobbyist in Sacramento, will continue to monitor the state courts, who meet December 15, 2009 to decide whether or not to implement the new proposed Rule 10-500.

Attendees discussed the recently passed S.B. 113 that modernize and update the code sections for county law libraries. Members also discussed the California Statutes, last published in print in 1997. It was agreed that they need to be published in an authenticated version online so people can view a court-ready version of California's session laws. Most law librarians have been keeping West's or Deering's California legislative service on their shelves to fill the long gap of print publication. A vendor like HeinOnline might be a good third party to carry out the digitization, although we all agreed the Statutes should be free for all to view. Other issues discussed included digitization and protection of unique California legislative history materials housed only at the California State Archives, one flood away from destruction. We blue-skied about the ideal digitization process and how it would greatly help researchers in the future by making these rare and hard to view historical materials available to everyone. There is no political will in California to archive the materials digitally at this time, but members felt we should explore how it can be done and how it could be funded. In a related discussion, members also talked about the production and availability of California appellate briefs, which are presently being produced by Thomson/CRS. (West took over Court Record Services in Philadelphia a few years ago, and they manage the filming of CA briefs. This is an ongoing project retrospective to 1972. Four California law libraries have the fiche and/or printed briefs, as well as dedicated online access: The State Law Library, Los Angeles County Law Library, San Diego County Public Law Library, and the Alameda County Law Library.)

Esther sent everyone the minutes of the meeting and will help us keep in touch as we act on the California issues. She also sends SCALL members the Washington Blawg, so everyone who attended the meeting agreed that our statewide advocacy posture is ready to meet present and future challenges.

SPECIAL PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT "SUNSHINE WEEK" IN SAN FRANCISCO:

NOCALL GRC will be presenting the annual Sunshine Week event, with local panelists, at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel the morning of March 26, 2010 immediately preceding the NOCALL Spring Institute and Thirty-Year Bash. Don't miss this wonderful event! Make a whole day of it and attend the Openthegovernment.org event first, then have lunch and join NOCALL for a wonderful Spring Institute and party in the heart of San Francisco!

Member News

Susan Nevelow Mart has a new article on SSRN.

Mart, Susan Nevelow, Reining in the Results: The Use of Human Indexing and Computer Algorithms in West's Headnotes & Key Numbers and LexisNexis's Headnotes & Topics as Tools for Finding Relevant Case Law (September 14, 2009). Available at SSRN: http://ssrn.com/abstract=1473554

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The names of members who have joined NOCALL since publication of the 2008-2009/2009-2010 NO-CALL 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

The new directories have arrived!! Give me some time to get envelopes and print labels and they will be delivered to all current members. Thanks for your patience..

New Members

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Continuing Members **Changes are noted in bold.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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