



NOCALL *News*

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

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President's Message

Hello Everyone!

I've just returned from our Spring Institute in Sacramento, Fruitful Endeavors: Meeting and Exceeding the Challenges of the New Normal. It was a terrific event put on by Vice President Jean Willis and her committee. The Institute featured programs on EBook vendors, audiobooks on devices in the Sacramento Public Library, and libraries using demand-driven acquisitions. We learned about the law, history and art of the Sacramento Delta and the tools of the media-savvy Librarian Activist. We heard about creating our online identity from a social media guru, the science of beer brewing and complexities of wine law. To top it off, there was a social event at the CalExpo Harness Racing Track where the sixth race was named in honor of NOCALL! It was great to see so many of our members at the Institute. If you have any photos from the Institute that you would like to share, please post them on the NOCALL Facebook page.

Congratulations are due to the newly elected Board members: Vice President / President Elect Michele Finerty from the Schaber Law Library at McGeorge School of Law, Board Members at Large Judy Heier from Farella Braun + Martel, and David Holt from the Heafey Law Library at Santa Clara Law School. Continuing on the Board are Treasurer Sean Kaneshiro of the Stanford Law Library, and Secretary Jen Richter of the Sacramento County Public Law Library. Thank you are due to Nominations Committee Chair Shannon Burchard and her committee for putting together the slate of candidates, Secretary Jen Richter for running the election, and to all of the candidates who agreed to run for the Board this year.

Next up on our agenda is the May Business Meeting. It will be held at Scala's Bistro in San Francisco on May 29th. I'll be sending a save the date reminder and RSVP info to listserv very soon, so mark your calendars! NOCALL will be presenting the following awards at the Meeting: Award for Professional Achievement to Prano Amjadi – Librarian and Director of Public Services, Heafey Law Library, Santa Clara Law School; and the Award for Advocacy to Marcia Bell -

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Director, San Francisco Law Library and Mary Hays – Assistant Director, San Francisco Law Library.
I sincerely hope you can join us.

106th AALL Annual Meeting will be held in Seattle on July 13-16 this year. The theme is Rethink your Value. Cathy Hardy and the Grants committee will soon be announcing this year's grant recipients.

Incoming President Jean Willis will soon be working to appoint new committee chairs and calling for volunteers. Volunteering for a NOCALL committee is really rewarding-- it is a great way to connect with people who are professionally involved in the world of legal information (and people who are a lot of fun to hang out with). We are especially looking for volunteers to join the NOCALL Technology Committee. If that's not to your interest, please take a look at the committee charge information on the NOCALL web site. There are all kinds of opportunities for volunteers, even those with limited time to commit. Feel free to contact me president@nocall.org if you need more information.

Best,

Chuck Marcus
NOCALL President

NOCALL News

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MUSINGS FROM MARK

Mark Mackler
California Department of Justice
San Francisco

THE DANGERS OF E-MAIL...By now, you probably know about the DLA Piper client billing fiasco. The Firm sued a disgruntled client, the disgruntled client filed a counterclaim, and in the discovery process a bunch of internal Firm e-mails saw the light of day. "I hear we are already \$200K over our estimate--that's Team DLA Piper." "DLA seems to love to low ball the bills." "Churn that bill, baby!" "That bill shall know no limits." So, here is another lesson to us all: Never put anything into an e-mail that you wouldn't want your mother to see.

FIFTY YEARS AGO IN "LAW LIBRARY JOURNAL"...

Publisher's Weekly reports that while book prices increased more than two-thirds since the base year of 1947, the increase in the cost of law books far exceeds that. An average-price law book which cost \$4.76 in the base year 1947-1949 now costs \$10.60, an increase of 119%.

BOOKS INC...Even if you don't purchase books at Books Inc., you should read their monthly newsletter. Last month they highlighted Chitra Banerlee Divakaruni, whose new novel *Oleander Girl* is a coming-of-age tale about a young woman who leaves India for America on a search for her own identity: My first year in America was a dark one. I was ready to give up and go back home when books--and a person who loved books--saved my life. It happened on a freezing evening in Chicago when the bus I was on broke down in front of a library. As I walked into the building--mostly to keep warm--it struck me that I hadn't been in a library ever since I'd arrived in America. I hadn't read a single book. I walked to the front desk and asked the woman sitting there--a tag pinned to her cardigan said A. Berenson, Librarian--if I could borrow a book. She asked me if I had identification. I produced it. She typed out a card with my name on it. It was that simple. When I asked her how many books I could borrow, she said, "As many as you can carry out! What are you looking for?" There was such genuine interest in her voice that I was emboldened to confide to her the dream that seemed to be slipping further from my grasp every day. "I want to go to graduate school and study American literature," I whispered.

**GOOGLE DECLARES RSS DEAD –
 LONG LIVE RSS!**

David Holt
Heafey Law Library, Santa Clara Law

Those of us in libraryworld may have noticed that Google has announced an end to its RSS reader, Google Reader, coming this July. In their blog post (<http://googleblog.blogspot.com/2013/03/a-second-spring-of-cleaning.html>) they referred to this product as one used "to follow your favorite websites" whose "usage has declined." The subsequent reaction from the technology community was overwhelming with many scrambling to find viable alternatives (some 3 million Google users quickly signed up for Feedly) – hardly an expected reaction for a "dead" technology whose "usage has declined."

It is perhaps understandable, however, why Google has decided to declare war against RSS. RSS feeds from blogs rarely contain the ads from which Google derives much of its revenue. The problem, of course, is that RSS feeds are not used exclusively to follow blog content. As librarians, we frequently use RSS feeds for a number of different tasks: doing mash-ups, embedding a news/search query into a libguide, following court opinions, legislative and regulatory changes, and etc. It is troubling that Google, with its massive influence, would declare a thriving format to be dead when there appears to be no viable alternatives. In the past, the technology community would direct its ire against Microsoft for challenging open-source formats but at least they always offered an alternative in its place.

In response, this column will go over some of the alternatives to Google Reader for those that are preparing to make the switch this July:

1. Feedly (<http://feedly.com/>)

This is frequently mentioned as the most compelling alternative to Google Reader. I have been using it for over a week now and I am quite pleased. The web-based interface is clean and useful and the feeds from Google Reader migrate over very nicely. Right now, the service is syncing with Google Reader itself but Feedly is promising a new syncing engine will be available before Google shuts it off. One thing I particularly liked about the feed migration was that my folder structure remained intact. I have over 400 feeds in my current Google Reader and they are all divided into a number of folders. Losing these folders really impairs by ability to keep the feeds organized. Another positive is that there are already mobile apps for this service. One negative I have noticed is that the site is quite slow but I believe this is because so many users are in the process of migrating.



2. The Old Reader (<http://theoldreader.com/>)

This is a nice clean and simple web-based RSS reader. There are currently no mobile apps for this service but the developers are promising that one is coming soon. As with Feedly, you can easily migrate RSS feeds from Google Reader or any other application that uses OPML.

3. NetVibes (<http://www.netvibes.com/en>)

NetVibes is widely known among librarians as a portal service. Our reference desk here at Santa Clara Law is currently using NetVibes as a portal for our staff calendar, desk statistics, Facebook page, etc. It also has a nice RSS reader application. This may be a great option if you are already using NetVibes for other purposes.

PROFESSIONAL READING IN REVIEW

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

“Sham Journals Scam Authors,” by Declan Butler, *Nature*, v.495, issue 7442, March 27, 2013, available at <http://www.nature.com/news/sham-journals-scam-authors-1.12681>

Not only are people subject to identity theft, but apparently journals are vulnerable too. In this article, the author describes how scammers created counterfeit websites for two scholarly journals and the websites were so “good” that they fooled not only authors who sent in manuscripts, but also Thomson Reuters! It seems one of the imposters convinced Thomson to include a link to the counterfeit journal in its list of indexed publications. Thomson quickly removed the link once the scam was uncovered, but the editors of the authentic journals are still trying to undo the damage done by the fake journals. They feel their reputations have suffered and although the fake sites were discovered last year, as of the writing of this article, cyber-crime police units were no closer to finding the scammers.

“Shodan: The Scariest Search Engine on the Internet,” by David Goldman, *CNN Money Tech*, April 8, 2013, available at <http://money.cnn.com/2013/04/08/technology/security/shodan>

Shodan may sound like the monster for a new movie and, in the search engine world, the description is close. Shodan has been described as a kind of ‘dark’ Google because it doesn’t search the public areas of the internet, but rather

the dark alleyways. It’s the search engine of choice for hackers and spies as well as security professionals, academic researchers and law enforcement agencies. It looks for servers, webcams, printers, routers and other devices that make up the internet, many of the devices unintentionally connected to the web like home security systems, remote control door locks and one city’s entire traffic control system. To cut down potential chaos, Shodan will only allow 10 results per search unless the user pays a fee and subscribes to the service.

“The Quest for Client Savings in Legal Research: WestlawNext v. Westlaw Classic,” by Emily Marcum, *Legal Reference Services Quarterly*, v. 32, pages 142-159, April 2013, Available at

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0270319X.2013.766490>

Which service is cheaper? WestlawNext or Westlaw Classic, if you can hang onto it. Emily Marcum, who works for the law firm Lightfoot, Franklin and White, LLC, set up two studies to find out the answer.

She notes that online legal research is so expensive that it can affect a firm’s bottom line, often totaling the equivalent of a staff member’s yearly salary for just a month of online use. She set up two different studies, using herself as the guinea-pig researcher. She has both MLS and JD degrees, but only three years’ experience as a librarian. She regards herself as a WestlawNext beginner since this version of Westlaw was not available to students at her law school.

Which is cheaper? Her conclusion is that “...under a pricing plan with a percentage off retail, WestlawNext transactional is twice as expensive as Westlaw Classic transactional under the old pricing scheme regardless of whether a real-world experiment is employed or artificial questions are generated. Expert materials are an exception to the rule, however. WestlawNext under simplified pricing is cheaper than Classic for primary law materials, like cases, statutes, and newspapers, as well as expert materials, but more expensive than Classic for verdicts and treatises.” The major pricing differentials that Emily found allegedly do not exist, according to Westlaw. She also points out that her experiments do not determine which of the two services is the best.



RIVERSIDE COUNTY LAW LIBRARY ANNOUNCES NEW DIRECTOR

Board of Trustees selects long-time County resident for top law librarian position



Riverside, California, March 28, 2013 -

Victoria Williamson has been selected as the new Director for the Riverside County Law Library. Victoria began her career in Riverside with Best, Best & Krieger LLP where she ultimately became Director of Library Services. She went on to acquire positions as

a Reference Librarian at the University of LaVerne College of Law, Assistant Director of Public Services, and later Assistant Director of Strategic Directions & Development at the San Diego Law Library. With over 22 years of experience, she has returned to Riverside ready to lead the Law Library in living up to its mission of providing free and open access to the law for all in the County.

When asked about the future of the library Victoria said, "I envision the library to be well known for being a dynamic resource that enables everyone to perform the highest level of legal research and practice." In Victoria's latest role as Assistant Director with the San Diego Law Library, she was Chair of the Marketing Committee that served as a catalyst for marketing initiatives that enhanced the library's visibility and increased community engagement through library re-branding and integrated use of social media in its public relations efforts.

On her first day, met with the challenge of relocating the Indio Branch, Victoria has taken charge of selecting a temporary facility, moving out of the Larson Justice Center, and setting up a full service law library branch in less than eight weeks.

At the March 1st Board of Trustees Meeting, Board President Hon. Michele Levine said "We are so fortunate to have been able to secure Victoria as our new Law Library Director. Not only does she have the background and experience to ensure quality service to our community, but she also brings a longstanding commitment and dedication to Law Libraries as a public institution. Victoria understands the importance of providing a welcoming place for legal research and study to ensure meaningful

access to legal institutions and remedies. As we embark on a new era in law library services in terms of the way we access information, we have no doubt that Victoria and our incredible library staff will find innovative ways to enhance the services provided by Riverside County's Law Library."

Victoria studied law at the University of Santo Tomas in the Philippines; she later took those fundamental concepts of law and utilized it in her work in the US. She also has a Certificate of Legal Assistantship from the University of California, Riverside and her Master of Library and Information Science from San Jose State University. An active member of several professional associations including American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) and Council of California County Law Librarians (CCCLL), Victoria served as President of the Asian American Law Librarians Caucus (AALLC) and was awarded the prestigious "Rohan Chapter Service Award" by the Southern California Association of Law Libraries (SCALL). A fan of travel, music, dance, and an avid reader of leadership and personal development literature, Victoria holds a hidden desire to be the first law librarian to be on the popular television show "Survivor."

About the Riverside County Law Library

The Riverside County Law Library is open to the public and provides free access to current legal materials, educational programs and professional staff to help with legal research. It is a County Special District effectively functioning as an independent public agency organized under the Business & Professions Code. Governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees made of community judges and attorneys, the law library is primarily funded from a small portion of the County's civil court filing fee. It has two branch locations, Riverside and Indio, as well as a satellite branch in Temecula. Visit www.rclawlibrary.org for locations and hours.



NOCALL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 30, 2013
Stanford Law School - Room 190
Stanford CA, 94305

Rachel Samberg introduced Ron Tyler, Associate Professor of Law and Director of the Criminal Defense Clinic at Stanford. Ron's research focus is on wellness in the practice of law, and wellness practice in general. From Ron, meeting attendees learned helpful techniques for reducing work-related stress and promoting a peaceful and connected professional environment.

President Chuck Marcus called the meeting to order at 12:54 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the September Business Meeting held on September 27, 2012, were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report

Sean presented the Treasurer's report and notes that the 2012-2013 budget has been incorporated into the report. Total assets, including checking, CD, and PayPal account are \$25,973.81. The AALL VIP expense was carried over from 2012.

NOCALL Calendar / Upcoming Events

- Congratulations to Holly Riccio for her election to AALL Vice President/President Elect!

NOCALL Election Slate

Executive Board Candidates for the 2013-2014 term are:

- Vice President / President Elect: Michele Finerty
- Secretary: Jen Richter
- Member at Large (2): Lori Ruth, Judy Heier, and David Holt

NOCALL Awards Nominations

The committee will send out the call for nominations during the last week of January. They plan on holding to the official 3/15 deadline, and invite members to submit ideas for the Professional Achievement and Advocacy awards.

Committee Cluster Reports

Administration

- **AALL Liaison:** Jean Willis reports that there will be a AALL exhibit table at the Spring Institute.
- **Archives:** Hein has agreed to update the archives twice per year.
- **Constitution and Bylaws:** Mary Hood reports that the committee is looking at the member bylaws for

possible changes to requirements by member type.

- **Nominations:** Shannon Burchard presented the slate of board candidates for this year's election. See above for candidates.

Communications

- **Newsletter:** Nothing to report at present.
- **Technology:** The committee is keeping the website up-to-date and reviewing the archives.

Education

- **Education:** Nothing to report at present.
- **Networking:** Julie Horst discussed using Survey Monkey to determine what types of events members would be interested in. Shannon Burchard also mentioned that they have a potential sponsor for a networking event at the AALL Annual Meeting. Shannon will pass that information along to Julie. Upcoming networking events include a gathering at the SOMA StrEAT Food Park at 5:00 pm on February 8, 2013.
- **Spring Institute:** Jean Willis reports that vendor registration packets were emailed in early January. Several vendors have expressed interest in exhibiting and sponsorship. Jean will send the vendor registration info to Jaye, who is scheduled to meet with Bloomberg in the future. Jean and Jessica Trenary have begun work on the brochure. Member registration should be ready to be sent out soon. There are several good programs scheduled, some with an emphasis on technical services.

Membership

- **Academic Relations:** Marc Lampson will distribute flyers and post information about NOCALL to his students in the SJSU SLIS program.
- **Membership:** Tina has implemented the new database. There has been a slight decline in membership. She is still in the process of moving members who did not renew to inactive status. Reminders about renewing will be sent out before they are taken off the listserv. Tina is also looking for committee members and asked for us to be on the lookout for people who enjoy working with spreadsheets.
- **Placement:** Mary Staats continues to email notices.

Outreach

- **Government Relations:** The AALL Government Relations Committee is seeking nominees for the Public Access to Government Information (PAGI) Award, and the Robert L. Oakley Advocacy Award (information will be posted to the NOCALL discussion list shortly, but worth mentioning). This year the virtual training will replace the annual chapter leadership government relations training at the 2013 Annual Meeting in Seattle. It is scheduled for Wednesday, January 30, at 9 am pacific. Topics will include



advocating as a public librarian and how to effectively introduce legislation in the state house. Also, Michelle and Chuck spoke with SLA about Sunshine Week, but there are conflicting commitments. We are committed for 2014.

- **Public Access:** The committee is still seeking volunteers.
- **Community Service:** Nothing to report at present.
- **Public Relations:** The committee is looking for writers for the Recorder column.

Recognition

- **Grants:** Past grant recipients have been added to the Wiki page, and the committee plans to update the grant application.
- **Memorials:** Jenny Kanji's memorial was hosted by Lexis this past December.
- **Awards:** The committee will send out the call for nominations during the last week of January. They plan on holding to the official 3/15 deadline, and invite members to submit ideas for the Professional Development and Advocacy awards.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Bernadette St. John, a consultant from St. John & Associates, volunteered to work on a consulting committee.

The meeting was adjourned by Chuck Marcus at 1:20.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Richter
NOCALL Secretary



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR 2013 ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

The AALL Annual Meeting and Conference is the premier educational and networking event for legal information professionals. Dive into three days of member-requested programming, including the Monday Morning Recharge, designed to give you a mid-conference boost and ways to rethink your professional development. Stay tuned for more details about these expert-led sessions. Register today!

AALL2GO PICK OF THE MONTH: PERSONAL EFFECTIVENESS



AALL's Continuing Professional Education Committee presents the AALL2go pick of the month: Personal Effectiveness.

Personal Effectiveness is an area in which we can all strive for improvement, both in our professional and personal lives. In this engaging presentation, Michael Saint-Onge discusses social and personal skills, or “soft skills,” which allow us to use our technical abilities and knowledge effectively. When used well, these skills—such as communication, time management, and initiative—can help us to excel in all aspects of our lives.

The presentation addresses myths related to soft skills and the effect of personal choices. In addition to discussing personal and interpersonal skills, the speaker also addresses what he calls extrapersonal skills, which deal with branding and promoting yourself or your department.

Find this and more than 80 other free continuing education programs and webinars for AALL members at AALL2go!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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