

NOCALL NEWS

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

November-December 2014

Volume 35, Issue 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Michele Finerty

Education Committee Chair, **Hilary Hardcastle**, and committee members **Dodi Levine**, **Tony Pelcynski**, and **Shannon Lynch**, are to be congratulated on the successful November 7, 2014, Fall Workshop. It was sponsored by **CEB, Continuing Education of the Bar, California**, and was held at Farella Braun + Martel in San Francisco. Guest speakers **Kim Clancy**, Managing Director of Hampton O'Bannon Partners LLC and **Heather Larrick**, Bay Area Office Administrator at Shearman & Sterling spoke on the all-important topic of strategies for handling salary negotiations. **Shannon Lynch's** report on the program content, as well as the PowerPoint are accessible on our website.

Among the helpful tips given by the speakers is, "(b)efore going into any salary negotiation, it's important to do your homework. Kim and Heather presented several ways of researching area salaries, including websites and talking to area recruiters, who have the inside scoop on what salaries people have successfully negotiated locally. Getting a job description, asking a manager for the salary range for the position, understanding how revenue is generated in one's organization and who controls the budget – all of these are important to know before going in and asking for more money." A lunch was served after the presentations, during which the discussion continued.

NOCALL is taking on two initiatives to support and serve its members. **Chuck Marcus**, chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, presented proposed Bylaws amendments to the Executive Board, which they approved. As required by AALL, Chuck then took the amendments before the AALL Bylaws and Resolutions Committee to assure that they are in accordance with Association guidelines.

The four recommended amendments will bring NOCALL into alignment with AALL and other chapters, updating membership eligibility and nomination guidelines. Upon approval from the AALL Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, the proposed amendments will be put to a vote before the NOCALL membership. Thanks to **Chuck**, who has done outstanding work on the proposed amendments.

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The second initiative in development is a chapter strategic plan to serve as a framework and building block for NOCALL's future. We are facing new challenges that directly affect law librarianship on many fronts, including the influence of the economy on law librarianship; the present business and management practices in law firms; and the current status of legal education. **Sherry Takacs** and I are developing a draft, which will then be taken before the Executive Board for comment and approval.

Be sure to mark **December 8, 2014** on your calendars. The holiday season is fast approaching and to celebrate its arrival **Julie Horst**, Networking Committee Chair, has arranged for the Holiday 4-Corners events. **Coral Henning, Bernadette St. John, Mark Masters, and Rachael Samberg** will soon announce the locations for events in Sacramento, the Peninsula, Fresno, and San Francisco. Join your fellow chapter members for hors d'oeuvres and merriment at the no-host bar in your region. Kudos to **Julie** for organizing the 2014 Holiday 4-Corners!

The January Business Meeting will be held at McDermott Will & Emery LLP in Menlo Park at a date and time to be announced. Thanks to **Eric Montes** for kindly agreeing to host it. We are in the process of planning an interesting program and will post a notice in the near future.

Ellen Platt's Nominations Committee has been diligently at work to provide a slate of candidates for the 2015/2016 Executive Board. The committee, comprised of **Kelly Browne, Caren Doyle, Julie Horst, Jaye Lapachet, Christine Luini, Deborah Maglione, Carolina Rose, and Jeremy Sullivan**, will submit the slate to the Executive Board by the December 15, 2014 deadline. Then **Jen Fell**, Executive Board

Secretary, will announce it to the membership early in January. Names of the nominees, as well as their biographies, will be included in the January/February issue of the NOCALL News. The online election will begin March 1, 2015.

In my last column, I noted that **Diane Rodriguez** was spearheading an effort to have the Alameda Superior Court make changes on their newly updated Domain Web service for easier access to court documents. Concerns included the inability to preview a document before purchasing it to determine if it is the right one and there not being a mechanism to pay for documents and create accounts on the website. Diane solicited and compiled comments from the NOCALL membership and submitted them to the Alameda Superior Court Administrator.

Recently, **Diane** was pleased to announce on our chapter discussion list that the concerns from NOCALL and others were heard, and the court's website now has a more user and business friendly system. The new implementations can be viewed at <http://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/Pages.aspx/DomainWeb>.

Spurred on by the initial issue of access to electronic court document for the Alameda Superior Court, the NOCALL GRC, including **Judy Janes**, chair, **Diane Rodriguez, Carolina Rose** and **Marlene Harmon**, are developing a survey to gather data to determine which California county courts provide electronic records for the public.

On January 9, 2015, three NOCALL members will speak at the San Diego Area Law Libraries (SANDALL) one-day conference on UELMA at the University of San Diego. **Judy Janes** and I will be on the panel entitled "Legislative History of UELMA in California,"

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.

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Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of the Northern California Association of Law Libraries.

and **AALL President Holly Riccio** will present closing remarks. **Diane Boyer-Vine**, California Legislative Counsel and 2012 recipient of the NOCALL Advocacy Award for her work on UELMA will give the keynote address. Conference participants will learn about best practices, authentication technologies, and advocacy efforts from state officials, government experts, and law librarians. Conference registration and program information are available at <http://www.sandallnet.org/2015-institute>.

As the days take us closer to the Holidays, I wish each of you a peaceful and happy time with your family and friends. I look forward to working with you in the New Year.

MUSINGS FROM MARK

Mark Mackler
California Department of Justice
San Francisco

YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS UP...Several readers told me how much they liked the *Keystone Media* decision in my previous column. Would you like another Federal Court decision? This one is by Judge Samuel Kent* of the Southern District of Texas. The case is *Bradshaw v. Unity Marine* 147 F.Supp. 2d 668. (2001). Ready? "Before proceeding further, the Court notes that this case involves two extremely likable lawyers who have delivered some of the most amateurish pleadings ever to cross the hallowed causeway into Galveston, an effort which leads the Court to surmise one plausible explanation. Both attorneys have obviously entered into a secret pact—complete with hats, handshakes and cryptic words to draft their pleadings entirely in crayon on the backsides of gravy-stained paper place mats in the hope that the Court would be so charmed by their childlike efforts that their utter dearth of legal authorities would go unnoticed. Whatever actually occurred, the Court is now faced with the daunting task of deciphering their submissions. With Big Chief

tablet readied, thick black pencil in hand, and a devil-may-care laugh in the face of death, the Court begins. At the end of the day, even if you put a calico dress on the pleadings and call them Florence, a pig is still a pig."

*Judge Kent was impeached by the House of Representatives and resigned on June 30, 2009. He was the first Federal judge to be charged with Federal sex crimes.

TEN YEARS AGO WITH NOCALL...In January, John Hanft of the Witkin Legal Institute spoke at the annual Business Meeting at the Marines Memorial Club. In March, Tina Dumas chaired the Arrangements Committee for the Spring Institute in San Francisco. In May, NOCALL's Installation of Officers took place in Sacramento: Jane Metz, VP/President-Elect; Julie Horst, Treasurer; and Mary Staats, Board member. Diane Rodriguez continues as Secretary. NOCALL plaques went to Ellen Platt and Dave Bridgman.

LET'S KILL THE BOOKS...By now, you've either read the *New York Times* story on the Kaye Scholer library or you've heard about it. In a nutshell, Kaye Scholer moved from Park Avenue to W. 55th Street. It left behind most of its law library's books. Nearly 95% of a library that numbered tens of thousands of volumes was discarded. "It tells you everything you need to know about law firm libraries," said Stephen Gliatta, a Kaye Scholer partner. "The whole move was a good exercise in forcing people to discard what they don't need any longer." What followed over the next few days was a thoughtful discussion on Law-lib on the role of print material in the modern law library. It's definitely worth reading, and it's worth thinking about.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Nora Levine

UNDER MAUI SKIES AND OTHER STORIES. by Wayne Moniz, Koa Books, 2009.

MAUI WIDOW WALTZ by JoAnn Bassett, 2011. Planning a Hawaiian vacation in Maui? While I was preparing to vacation in Maui for the first time, I decided to get some reading material about the people and the culture that went beyond the information found in the usual travel guide. After some "Amazoning" these two books ended up in my suitcase.

UNDER MAUI SKIES is a collection of short stories written by a native son. They have different themes: love, war, folktales, science fiction and even western. The stories give the reader an insight into the history of the island from the legends of the gods to the time the island was covered with sugar plantations. After the seven short stories, there are a few poems that further describe the author's feelings for the land of his ancestors. Each story brought new insight into Hawaiian culture and the history of Maui.

MAUI WIDOW WALTZ is a very different genre. It's a mystery and was a fun beach or pool-side read. It follows the adventures of wedding planner, Pali Moon, owner of "Let's Get Maui'd" as she helps a very high maintenance bride prepare for an unusual celebration on the island—a wedding with a missing groom. The action takes place in many parts of the island with descriptions of the landscape, roads and towns and includes some local customs, beliefs and attitudes about those of us who visit. It's a good mystery with a few twists and I enjoyed reading it one relaxing day and learning more about my destination.

Lauri Flynn

California Judicial Center Library

WONDER by RJ Palacio.

I really enjoyed **WONDER** by RJ Palacio, though I did have a love-hate relationship with the book. I thought the book was beautifully written and insightful, but the middle-school meanness was VERY hard to take. I

think it was a real and true depiction of how people, including 5th graders, respond to situations, but it was still painful. The protagonist, Augie, was a very brave boy and his parents, while almost miraculously supportive, did not come across as fake. I liked the depictions of his sister Via's varying emotional responses to her brother in the context of her move to high school. The ending was, perhaps, a little pat and expected, but appropriate as well.

Ed. Note: Recent interview with RJ Palacio at San Francisco Jewish Community Center:

<http://podcasts.jccsf.org/2014/10/wonders-rj-palacio/>

ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK by Piper Kerman.

I really liked this book. I didn't expect to and I only bought it because it was on sale. (I don't like to read books that everyone else is reading, because I never know if they are really good or if everyone is reading them because everyone is reading them.)

While it isn't great literature, it is well written and I really appreciated the mixture of personal insight and "today, thus and such happened." I also think that a book like this gives readers insight into people who are different.

It is a very compelling book and there were times when I couldn't stop listening.

Jaye Lapachet

CAN'T WE TALK ABOUT SOMETHING MORE PLEASANT? By Roz Chast

My sister and I are in the midst of figuring out what to do about our mother who is exhibiting signs of dementia. Trying to make sense of what we are seeing is difficult - even traumatic. Our mom has always been a strong, fiercely independent woman and now she is confused and unsteady on her feet. After a week of working together with our aunt who is visiting from New York and a Geriatric Care Manager (aka Medical Social Worker who specializes in elder care) to assemble a network of caregivers and other kinds of help around the house, I very much look forward to reading Roz Chast's memoir **CAN'T WE TALK ABOUT SOMETHING MORE PLEASANT?**

A reviewer calls this book a “memoir of a most wretched time in her life” but the grim subject is disguised in cartoons. I’ve had a hold on this book for a couple of weeks and now it’s my turn to read it. I can’t wait.

Ramona Martinez
UC Berkeley Law Library

STILL FOOLIN’ ‘EM by Billy Crystal (audio book/CD)

If ever you were to listen to a book rather than read it, this is the perfect selection! Billy Crystal is the narrator and his performance makes you feel you are in the audience at one of his shows. I can’t imagine reading the punch lines, considering his proper comic timing! Because Billy is a celebrity, it is assumed he’d be rubbing elbows with other talents, but his range far exceeds the stage and movie stars -- including high profile athletes. The chapters range from a glimpse into his childhood and his extended family, up to the realization he is now 65 years old/young. For a good laugh, and the chance to shed a few tears, I recommend this audio book.

Sherry Takacs
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

SWEET POISON: HOW THE WORLD’S MOST POPULAR ARTIFICIAL SWEETENER IS KILLING US - MY STORY, by Janet Starr Hull, c2013.

This book is an account of the author’s battle with health issues caused by the use of Aspartame. The medical community diagnosed her with Grave’s Disease as she had eleven of its twelve symptoms. However, excessive weight loss, not weight gain, as she experienced, was the twelfth Grave’s Disease symptom. The doctors wanted to remove her thyroid gland which would require her to take medications for the rest of her life. As a nutritionist, she decided to refuse this plan and sought help from a colleague. He studied her lifestyle and noticed that she had changed jobs and added a longer commute. She had added a stop at a local mart where she purchased a large diet soda every day. After she began to gain weight she incorporated more “low-cal” foods into her diet. The nutritionist found that Aspartame was the culprit which was causing the eleven symptoms of Grave’s

Disease and the weight gain. Ms. Hull goes on to give an account of her battle with her health issues, the medical community, and the FDA with regard to use of Aspartame, its effects on the body, and why the FDA refuses to remove it from the market.

This book convinced me to eliminate Aspartame from my own diet permanently. I have been Aspartame-free since February, 2014.

Cindy Beck Weller
Cooper White & Cooper LLP

PROFESSIONAL READING IN REVIEW

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

Feds warn first responders of dangerous hacking tool: Google Search. “Google dorking” warning from DHS and FBI calls out “advanced search” as a threat, by Sean Gallagher, *ars technica blog*, August 27, 2014. <http://arstechnica.com/security/2014/08/feds-warn-first-responders-of-dangerous-hacking-tool-google-search/>

Who knew? Users of advanced search techniques (i.e. ‘dorking’) in Google are hacking private databases for user names, passwords and otherwise exploiting weaknesses in public websites. So says an alert distributed by the Department of Homeland Security distributed to police, public security and other agencies this July. According to the article author, if you, too, use Google’s advanced search, you also are “behaving like a malicious cyber actor.” The article goes on to discuss other instances of dorking, the use of the Diggity Project to find and repair holes already discovered by Google and links to various sites related to dorking.

What About Reader Privacy? by Brandi Loveday-Chesley, *Asis Bulletin*, Oct/Nov, vol. 41, issue 1, 2014. <http://www.asis.org/Bulletin/Oct-14/OctNov14Loveday-Chesley.html> (Don’t log in if prompted. Close box and screen will clear and show article)

Reader privacy is an especially germane issue in this era of hackers and the Patriot Act. The subject

area itself is new in the legal field, the seminal case coming down in the 1950's from the U.S. Supreme Court when a bookseller refused to give a list of customers who had bought political reading. She also discusses the individualized data-gathering done by e-book sellers like Amazon as well as Google Books in which not only the titles are known by the vendor, but also how long a user has spent on a given page. The preservation of the freedom to read can well be threatened by the existence of such information.

Law Library Involvement in Law School Incubators, by bakerjam, *RIPS Law Librarian Blog*, Nov. 4, 2014. <https://ripslawlibrarian.wordpress.com/>

With the post-graduation job prospects for new attorneys as dismal as it has been, many law schools are creating "incubator" programs designed to bring the participants up to speed, often preparing them for life as sole practitioners. This article discusses the role of the academic law library in such a program. Under ABA standards, law libraries may have an obligation to support such programs, since many involve low cost legal services to the general public. The author supplies hot-links to the various sources quoted for those who want to follow up further.

Law is Code, by William P. Li, *et al*, *SSRN Working Paper Series*, September 21, 2014. http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2511947

Recognizing that the U.S. Code has become complex and unwieldy over the years, the authors attempt to take a quantitative, unbiased, software engineering approach to analyzing the evolution of the U.S. Code. Just as software engineers face the challenge of understanding and managing large, structured collections of instructions and directives, the authors attempt to adapt and apply their techniques to the code over time. The authors conclude that there are striking similarities between software and law and that creating less complex laws and simplifying the existing legal code would ensure more fair and equitable outcomes for all stakeholders.

NEW SUPERVISORS' DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

**Filiberto Govea
Ninth Circuit Library**

Last year, I participated in the New Supervisors' Development Program, an intensive year-long training opportunity for new federal-government supervisors and sponsored by the Federal Judicial Center, Washington, D.C.

The Program is structured in three tiers, and each one builds upon what was learned in the previous component. Tier one is self-directed and self-paced; it is designed to introduce "the management and leadership skills that you, as a new supervisor, need to be successful." During this first tier, new supervisors are paired with peer mentors who provide managerial guidance and support throughout the entire program. Each new supervisor is also assigned a faculty coach, who is experienced in court management and may come from anywhere in the country. Critically, coaches serve as key resources for the duration of the program; they help to guide and actualize the newly acquired knowledge together with the program participant. My faculty coach was Mr. Jeffrey P. Allsteadt, who is Clerk of the Illinois Northern Bankruptcy Court, and we connected extremely well from the start. (It helped that he is a baseball fan, as I am. This made for a very meaningful program and also made the program fun for me). To complete the initial tier, new supervisors must pass a "Foundations of Management" course. This entails 40 hours of independent study, and it focuses on a bibliography of selective materials on leadership and management principles. Tier-one completion also requires three tests, which serve as guideposts to evaluate personalized progress. The course offers really wonderful insights, as it covers basic management practices and principles. These include customer service, communication, effective management/leadership, managing/motivating employees, ensuring maximal employee-performance, and supervising a diverse workforce.

All of these are crucial in the journey to becoming a federal supervisor.

Tier two takes place in the nation's capital, Washington, D.C., and it is "an intensive, multi-day, in-person training." During this second tier, significant time and practice are devoted to small group activities—all led by faculty coaches. Topics covered during these small groups (and some plenary sessions, as well) include: supervisors' legal responsibilities, documenting performance, delegating, giving/receiving feedback, team building (based on particular strengths), and coaching /mentoring. For me, learning the importance of delegating and giving/receiving feedback are major program highlights, and I am already using these portions of the program here in our Ninth Circuit Library team.

The completion of tier three (and, consequently, the program) involves participation in three web conferences. This advanced coverage includes the timely themes of effective meetings, time management, and identifying/reducing decision-making biases. I then had three follow-up phone calls with my faculty coach (Jeffrey P. Allsteadt), met with my current supervisor (Julie Horst), and, finally, completed an online course in professionalism and business etiquette--offered by the Judiciary Online University.

I came home with a wonderful toolbox of new skills from this program--skills that will continue to serve me well in my role as Assistant Librarian/Ninth Circuit Docent Coordinator.

In closing, I would strongly recommend this experience to any qualifying member of our NOCALL community. The program lays a solid foundation to becoming an effective supervisor and provides valuable peer-mentorship opportunities, which will continue for many years to come. For more information or questions about this program, please feel free to contact me, Filiberto Govea, at: filiberto_govea@lb9.uscourts.gov.

TECH TALK: PUBLIC ACCESS REDUX – THE STATE SIDE OF THE ELECTRONIC COURT RECORDS ISSUE

Ramona Martinez

Berkeley Law Library, University of California

To follow my thoughts on PACER in the last issue, and in light of the recent changes to Alameda County's Domain Web system, I decided to do a very informal survey of electronic access to State court case documents. PACER, as you know, helps provide electronic access to Federal Court case filings. There is no such comprehensive search engine for State court cases. Each county provides some level of search and access if you can navigate your way to the right part of the court's website. I tried searching for case filings in all the local Bay Area counties. For purposes of comparison I searched for cases by personal name (my sample search was for the last name Martinez) and business name (my sample search was for Chevron). Following is what I found.*

Alameda County

This was the only county of those I searched that did not provide any search capability without registering for an account. In addition, even when I registered, I couldn't do any searching without any "credits" on my account.

<http://www.alameda.courts.ca.gov/pages.aspx/domainweb>

Contra Costa County

Free searching is available. I didn't find any cases where document images were available.

<http://www.cc-courts.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.ViewPage&PageID=1761>

San Francisco County

Free searching is available. I didn't find images for the cases I found by personal name but there were some images for the business name search.

<http://www.sfsuperiorcourt.org/online-services>

Santa Clara County

Free searching is available. I didn't find images for the cases I found by personal name. There were some links to "text" for the business name search but when I clicked on them only cryptic pop-up messages appeared.

http://www.sccaseinfo.org/pa6.asp?display_name=index_party

San Mateo County

Free searching is available. I didn't find images for the cases I found by personal name. The only case documents I could find for the business name search were minute orders from the court.

<http://openaccess1.sanmateocourt.org/openaccess/civil/>

Marin County

Free searching is available. I didn't find any images for either the personal or business name cases.

<http://www.marincourt.org/publicindex/SearchForm.aspx>

For determined researchers (usually investigative reporters), the California Open Courts Compendium provides a guide to the public's right to access court records here: <http://www.rcfp.org/california-open-courts-compendium>

For busy law librarians who have the budget resources to use them, there are commercial services that will pull court documents, i.e., LexisNexis CourtLink®, Thomson Reuters Document Research and Retrieval and Bloomberg Law.

For the rest of us, Berkeley Law Library's own Ellen Gilmore created a research guide to explain docket searching. <http://libguides.law.berkeley.edu/content.php?pid=310331>

What's the takeaway here? Those hoping to find electronic access to State court case filings will soon discover that not everything is online for free.

Anyone wishing to share thoughts and/or experiences on this topic, please contact me via email at rmartinez@law.berkeley.edu

*This was by no means a thorough or scientific study. Your results may vary.

**NOCALL AWARDS:
A TIME FOR RECOGNITION**

Jean Willis

NOCALL Awards Committee Chair, 2014/2015

There's no time like the present to consider potential nominations for the two NOCALL recognition Awards: Professional Development and Advocacy. Please review the Awards criteria on NOCALL's website and consider nominating deserving candidates.

Award for Professional Achievement

The purpose of the NOCALL Award for Professional Achievement is to recognize a member for notable and enduring contributions to the Chapter and the profession. The Award represents a cumulative evaluation of an individual's career and emphasizes local activity and leadership of an exemplary nature.

Award for Advocacy

The purpose of the NOCALL Advocacy Award is to recognize a member of the greater NOCALL community for notable and enduring contributions affecting law librarians, law libraries, and legal information patrons everywhere. The Award represents NOCALL's appreciation and encouragement to continue the valuable advocacy contributions of our colleagues.

Award Nominations are due by March 15, 2015, and more information, plus the two different nomination forms, is available on the NOCALL website Awards page. Award nomination forms should be sent to me at jwillis@saclaw.org, and please also contact me if you have any questions or feedback.

Spotlight on...

Jean Willis

Who or what has had the greatest impact on your law librarian career?

The person who had the greatest impact on me was my mentor, now deceased, Lynn Pollack. I had the great good fortune to work as a law librarian in Sydney Australia in the late '70s and early '80s. Lynn was the Director of the [Law Courts Library](#), which served the New South Wales State Supreme Court, as well the Federal Court of Australia. I was very honored when Lynn asked me to apply to fill in for her as Interim Director, when she took an extended leave. I applied for and got the job and worked as Acting Director of the Law Courts Library for over three years (and had the best office with the most amazing views that I have ever enjoyed!).

Lynn was, for me, the ultimate law librarian *nonpareil*. Lynn was a very early adopter and adapter of technology, utilizing new personal PCs (running on CP-M) to do creative newsletters, annual reports, financial calculations and budgets, etc. Lynn had a vision for how to push the boundaries with automating the Library to provide excellent and innovative services to her patrons, which included state and federal Judges, self-represented litigants, barristers, solicitors and law librarians.

I was lucky that during part of Lynn's sabbatical, she was still in Sydney and graciously mentored me through the daunting process of filling her very large shoes. Frankly, it was a huge challenge for me to step into this role, but Lynn believed in my capabilities, as well as my work ethic and prior experiences, and she felt I was capable to manage and run this large Court Law Library temporarily. Not only did I learn tremendously about library management, about offering new and relevant services to patrons, but

I also learned a lot about personnel management, including hiring and training staff.

Lynn continued to mentor me, even after I returned to the States in the mid-1980s and started working in US law libraries. We had to communicate via snail mail, sometimes even sending each other cassette tapes, where we "talked" to each other! Lynn's advice and suggestions, from afar, were invaluable and gave me much needed encouragement, support, ideas and suggestions.

Lynn's enthusiasm as a law librarian dedicated to visionary and creative services continues to provide me with guidance even after her too-early demise. Lynn had saved to retire early, so that she could dedicate herself to various non-profit projects, the most notable of which was her tireless efforts toward making amends to the indigenous Australian aboriginal communities. One of the projects with which Lynn was very instrumental was the development of Australia's [National Sorry Day](#), which annually commemorates and seeks to find healing and reparations for generations of Aboriginal children forcibly taken from their families to be "educated" to work for European Australians.

I am looking forward to a trip downundah in the near future, but I am also sad that Lynn is no longer with us. I will have a somewhat heavy heart returning to Sydney (best address on the planet) and not having Lynn to hang out and bend an elbow with. Not only was Lynn a mentor, but she was also a very good friend.

RIP, Lynn. I still miss you so much. Thanks for everything you taught me.

What do you see as the biggest challenge facing law libraries, law librarianship and/or legal publishing today?

The biggest challenge facing libraries/librarianship, in general, is the growth of digital/electronic and other online resources. There is a growing sense that libraries are no longer needed due to online resources. Today's consumers are somewhat more knowledgeable in that many can agree that not "everything is free on the Internet," but they do recognize that more materials and information are available online and often do not require an intermediary, such as a library, to provide access.

Yes, of course, often these materials are costly, may be difficult to locate and/or sort through what is valid, reliable and/or necessary for the user's needs. Nonetheless, more information is there, available and accessible for those who have the time, the capability, the hardware and money to locate and use them.

Those of us who work in public (law or general) libraries can make a case about the digital divide and the needs of our users for assistance or mediation or training or public equipment to access needed materials. Some citizens will listen and agree with this important issue and perhaps be willing to see public libraries continue to be funded and open for some years longer.

The bigger push to reduce libraries and library staff is already seen in special/private and academic libraries of all sorts. Although the US economy appears to be recovering slowly, the US workplace has changed radically and probably forever. US workers face stiff global competition, where our employers are ever willing to seek workers they can pay less. In a digitized world, it is easier than ever to locate educated workers in lower cost communities in the USA or elsewhere internationally. Competition is fierce. We can say that we provide better services, but many employers look, correctly or not, at the bottom line and act accordingly.

How US law libraries and librarians maintain our relevance is truly a huge, critical and urgent challenge. I wish had good answers, whether easy or demanding, but I don't. All libraries and librarians are wrestling with these challenges, seeking new and different ways to offer services, offer different types of services and reinvent ourselves and our libraries to remain relevant.

I know that our law library associations, AALL and NOCALL (amongst others), are striving to meet these challenges and answer these questions, too, along with providing relevant training. Among other initiatives, the AALL Executive Board appointed a committee to develop a report on the Economic Value of Law Libraries. Stay tuned to your law library organizations (and others, like the CA Library Association), as we benefit from the collective wisdom and efforts of the larger group.

If you were not working as a law librarian, what would you most likely be doing?

Perhaps leading adventure tours that include hiking in lots of different and interesting places. That said, I love my job and feel grateful every day that I work in the law library profession. It has been an interesting and rewarding journey.

What's the best advice you've ever received?

Don't take it personally! Really most of the crummy things that happen to us – and crummy things do happen – are not meant personally. Often when we are treated poorly, it usually is about the other person – and typically, it's a reflection of the other person's fears and insecurities. Definitely easier said than done, but it's been one piece of advice that I really strive to keep in mind when with dealing with life's vicissitudes.

The next best piece of advice is: breathe! Slow down, take a deep breath, stop for a moment, and breathe again. Deep breathing and taking a pause will do you a world of good, especially when faced with stressful situations.

What was the last book you read that you really enjoyed and why?

I read a lot (no TV). My main brain candy is mysteries, especially those from other countries. The Scandinavian police procedurals and mysteries are great but are somewhat suffering these days from their popularity. I've found some of the more recent novels to be written in haste and seemingly tossed together and not quite as good or well-written as earlier novels.

Although Henning Mankell's [The Shadow Girls](#) is about the serious subject of political refugees, he also satirizes the whole "scene" of Scandinavians all frantically writing murder mysteries to satisfy public demand, no matter what the quality. Not my favorite book but interesting, and I do enjoy Mankell's Wallender series, some of which have been dramatized by the BBC.

One recent novel that I found very intriguing – thrust on me by my sister who needed to discuss it! – was Julian Barnes' [The Sense of an Ending](#). The novel both infuriated and captivated me. Made me think about what really happened and why. It has a [touch of Roshomon](#) quality to it, even though the bulk of the book is told from the protagonist's perspective. What really happened and why it did is elusive and thought-provoking, as well as the concepts of how we choose to view our lives over time, how we choose to interpret past events, how we choose to define what we have done in the past and in our interactions with others. Are we really being truthful and factual? Or are we revisionists?

**PROPOSED
NOCALL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 23, 2014
Stanley Mosk Library and Courts Building
11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.**

The meeting and luncheon were sponsored by Carolina Rose of Legislative Research & Intent LLC.

Prior to the meeting, Marguerite Beveridge, Principal Librarian of the Witkin State Law Library, introduced Greg Lucas, the newly appointed California State Librarian. Mr. Lucas gave an engaging and informative talk on the various issues affecting libraries throughout the state, including funding, legislation, literacy programs, and the ways in which libraries continue to contribute meaningful and much-needed resources and services.

President Michele Finerty called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Preliminary Business

On behalf of the membership and the Executive Board, thanks were given to Carolina Rose of Legislative Research & Intent LLC, for her generous sponsorship of the luncheon; and to Marguerite Beveridge and the State Law Library for their accommodation of the September Business Meeting.

The Board and membership would also like to thank Mr. Lucas for sharing his time to speak with NOCALL about the issues affecting public and private law libraries in California.

SANDALL WINTER INSTITUTE

Join SANDALL at the University of San Diego for a one-day conference on January 9, 2015. Several states, including California, have enacted the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act. Learn about best practices, authentication technologies, and advocacy efforts from state officials, government experts, and law librarians. More information is available at <http://www.sandallnet.org/2015-institute>.

Michele announced that there would be docents available after the meeting to provide tours of the building, for those interested.

Old Business

The membership approved the May 22, 2014 Business Meeting minutes.

New Business

1. Upcoming Events & Issues

a. Spring Institute 2015: Next year's Institute will be held at the Portola Hotel & Spa at Monterey Bay on March 27-28, 2015. The Institute theme is "Librarians on Fire" and the program committee welcomes suggestions on potential topics and speakers.

b. Fall Workshop: The Fall Workshop is scheduled for November 7, 2014 from 11:30-1:30 at Farella Braun+Martel LLP, in San Francisco. The program will feature two guest speakers discussing salary negotiations for law librarians. There will be a \$10 registration fee, and a flyer will be sent out on the listserv shortly.

c. Review of Expenditures: To streamline costs, the Executive Board has been evaluating, and will continue to review, several areas of spending in the upcoming year, including the AALL VIP program and our current vendor for membership services. Sending a VIP to attend the AALL annual conference requires funds to cover registration and lodging, and the Board feels that a viable and more affordable option for 2015 would be a "VIP" invitation to attend the NOCALL Spring Institute.

2. Committee Cluster Report Highlights

Nominations Committee:

The Nominations Committee, chaired by Ellen Platt, will meet later this Fall to discuss potential candidates for the 2015 Executive Board election, held in March. Please don't hesitate to nominate NOCALL

members or yourself for an office. The following offices are open for nomination: Vice President/President (a 3-year commitment); Secretary (a 2-year commitment); and two Members-at-Large (1-year commitment).

Government Relations Committee:

Recently the committee has alerted the NOCALL Executive Board to important issues concerning FOIA and PACER, to which NOCALL has expressed its support. The committee is also currently examining the trend of superior courts in implementing fees to access court documents that historically have been free to the public. Some counties did not provide adequate or extended notification regarding the fee implementation, an oversight that has affected many NOCALL members and the patrons they serve. The committee is considering a white paper to highlight best practices if fees must be implemented to recoup court costs, among other issues.

Technology Committee:

The Technology committee is investigating alternatives to Memberclicks, the chapter's vendor for maintaining the online directory and processing member renewals, and has possibly found a solution in a program called Wild Apricot. The committee is also investigating new email forwarding services, as NOCALL's current service is going out of business.

3. Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Rachael Smith presented the 1st Quarterly Report. At the close of the quarter, we had \$1,936.74 in checking; \$6,395.64 in CD; \$3,974.47 in PayPal; for a total of \$12,306.85. This quarter's income was \$5,155.14 and our expenses totaled \$3,218.40. Rachael pointed out that the Board is looking into alternatives to the CD which only yields 3% interest.

President Michele Finerty adjourned the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jen Fell
NOCALL Secretary

NOCALL OFFICERS 2014 - 2015

President • Michele Finerty • president@nocall.org
Vice President/President Elect • Tara Crabtree, State of California, Court of Appeal, 5th District • vicepresident@nocall.org
Secretary • Jen Fell, Sacramento County Public Law Library • secretary@nocall.org
Treasurer • Rachael Smith, University of California Davis, Mabie Law Library • treasurer@nocall.org
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Member at Large • Sherry Takacs, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP • memberatlarge@nocall.org

NOCALL COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

ADMINISTRATION (Coordinator: Rachael Smith)

AALL Liaison • Donna Williams, University of San Francisco, Zief Law Library • aallliaison@nocall.org
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Placement • Mary Staats, Farella, Braun & Martel LLP • placement@nocall.org

OUTREACH (Coordinator: Jean Willis)

Government Relations • Judy Janes, University of California Davis, Mabie Law Library • govrelations@nocall.org
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Community Service • Tricia Lee, Kirkland & Ellis • community@nocall.org

RECOGNITION (Coordinator: Tara Crabtree)

Awards • Jean Willis, Sacramento County Public Law Library • awards@nocall.org
Grants • Cathy Hardy, Hanson Bridgett LLP • grants@nocall.org
Memorials • Mark Mackler, California Office of the Attorney General • memorials@nocall.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

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