

# NOCALL NEWS

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

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we launch NOCALL's New Year, we can look at once to NOCALL's past and future. As we look ahead, I challenge you to do two things. First, if you haven't joined a Committee, what are you waiting for? We need you! I will say more in a moment about this opportunity. Second, consider how NOCALL can better advance our mission and better serve you. What ideas do you favor? Don't keep them a secret! Please feel welcome to contact me, any Board member, or any Committee Chair.

We can gratefully acknowledge contributors to NOCALL's success in the past year, and across the years. To honor their exemplary dedication and service, NOCALL recently gave Marlene Harmon and Les Forrester our Advocacy and Professional Achievement Awards, respectively. Marlene has had a distinguished career of advocacy for increased access to legal information and government documents. She has served for a number of years on the AALL Government Relations Committee, and since 2014 on NOCALL's Government Relations Committee. She has alerted us to important developments in Congress and the state legislature, and has led us in letter-writing campaigns. Her work includes an indispensable opposition letter to de-funding of Fdsys, a key repository of federal government documents. Her letter helped prevent the de-funding. She has been to all of us a role model for effective advocacy.

Les has been inspiring NOCALLers for more than 30 years. Among her contributions, she has served on many of our Committees, including as our first webmistress and Chair of the Technology Committee. She has reviewed our article submissions to legal newspapers and BASF publications, and authored her own articles. At AALL Annual Meetings, she has prepared our tables in the Membership Services and Activities Area of the Exhibit Hall. She is well known for her imaginative themes and popular giveaways at the NOCALL table, raising our profile among AALL members. She has touched many of us with her creativity, humor, and grace.

Over the past year, many of you dedicated your time and talent to NOCALL. As Vice President, I was privileged to work with a fantastic Board and to learn from current and past Presidents, including Ellen Platt, Michele Finerty, Jean Willis, Coral Henning, and Holly Riccio.



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Consider also the accomplished record of our Committees, whose initiatives and successes include:

- (1) a Sunshine Week workshop on “Delivering Data For Open Government,” organized by Marlene and Diane Rodriguez of our Government Relations Committee, and the SLA SF Bay Region Chapter;
- (2) a successful Institute at Santa Clara University, organized by an amazing Institute Committee;
- (3) introduction of an Institute Twitter hashtag by Networking Committee Chair Bernadette St. Johns, resulting in tweets reaching 1000-2000 readers, and in numerous retweets;
- (4) rollout of a less expensive system for online membership renewals and meeting registrations, overseen by Membership Committee Chair Tina Dumas and Technology Committee Chair David Holt;
- (5) increased accuracy in tracking - and increased ease of use in reporting - NOCALL’s income and expenses, achieved by Audit & Budget Committee Chair Jean Willis, working closely with Treasurer Coral Henning;
- (6) increased income and reduced costs, with a net gain since last year of over \$15,000 - an outcome made possible, in part, by David’s and Tina’s work, the Institute Committee, and the generosity of our Institute sponsor, Santa Clara University Law;
- (7) Participation by Holly Riccio in a digital forum to SJSU library students, with support from Board Member Jackie Grossman, who led our effort to revive the Academic Relations Committee;
- (8) use of Stanford Law School’s ArchiveIt subscription to preserve NOCALL web materials - an initiative undertaken by Archives Committee Chair Rachael Samberg and continued by the new Chair, Sarah Wilson; and
- (9) a new NOCALL News column by Jourdan Corbitt to highlight Committee activities - see Jordan’s column on the Grants Committee and its latest grant awards.

We owe a special thanks to Marguerite Beveridge and Eric Montes for hosting our Business Meetings at, respectively, the Stanley Mosk Library and Courts Building and McDermott, Will & Emery LLP.

Finally, the Spring Institute Task Force and Mary Sexton have made valuable contributions. The Task Force issued a survey and recommendations - approved by the Board - to support Institute planning at a time of increased financial constraints. Mary has just stepped down as our webmistress. She held that position for the last several years, not only enhancing the website and keeping us posted of current activities, but also enlisting her extraordinary editorial skills to create and revise our Institute and other NOCALL web pages.

I am excited about our prospects for the forthcoming year. At our May Business Meeting, we not only recognized Marlene and Les with awards, but inducted a new slate of officers: yours truly, as President; Ramona Martinez, as Vice-President/President Elect; Mary Pinar Johnson, as Secretary; Rachael Samberg, as Treasurer; outgoing President Ellen Platt, as Immediate Past President; and our two At-Large Board members, Leslie Hesdorfer and Jessica Brasch. In addition, I am pleased to extend our congratulations to several new Committee Chairs: Julie Horst, who succeeds Mary Sexton as our webmistress; Jodi Collova, who recently became our Academic Relations Committee Chair; Diane Rodriguez, who recently became our Nominations Committee Chair; and Bernadette, who recently became our Networking Committee Chair.

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### 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.

Please consider joining these Committees - Jodi, Diane, and Bernadette would love to hear from you! - or indeed any Committee that matches your interest. Committee participation will not only benefit NOCALL, but will also enrich your professional life as you learn from your colleagues and have fun at the same time. Are you ready to chair a Committee? Of course you are! Please consider chairing the Education Committee or the Public Access Committee. You are welcome to contact me even, or especially, if you are just thinking about this opportunity. You do not need past experience! In addition, we hope to recruit a Networking Committee member who can focus on organizing social events, including holiday parties.

Let's our congratulate several of our colleagues for AALL's recognition of their professional achievements. Alameda County Law Library Director, Mark Estes has been nominated to AALL's Hall of Fame this year. Among his accomplishments, Mark has served on AALL's Board as VP/President/Past President, as Editor of *Spectrum*, and as a leader of the California Council of County Law Libraries. Sarah Lin was one of this year's winners of the Emerging Leader Award. Recipients have made "significant contributions to the Association and/or law librarianship and ... have demonstrated potential for leadership and continuing service." Sarah has distinguished herself for her contributions as a technical services librarian, having presented related programs at AALL (and NOCALL!), published articles, and assumed leadership positions with AALL SIS Technical Services.

"Time flies like an arrow," Groucho said, and "fruit flies like a banana." The time has almost arrived for the AALL Annual Meeting. If you plan to attend, I hope that you will join us for the Joint Pacific Coast Chapters reception on the evening of July 16th, hosted by LLOPS. Les will again aid our outreach at the Exhibit Hall and represent us at CONELL.

Here's to another great year for NOCALL! Remember to renew your membership!

P.S. Congratulations to Membership Committee Chair Tina Dumas on her profile in the latest issue of the AALL *Spectrum*. Way to go, Tina!

## MUSINGS FROM MARK

Mark Mackler

California Department of Justice, San Francisco

**A WOMAN PRESIDENT? WHAT'S NEXT?...**Well, how about a woman on the FBI's *Ten Most Wanted Fugitive* List? That's right, fans. Brenda Delgado of Dallas, Texas (Texas, of course, of course) arranged to bump off Kendra Hatcher because Kendra was dating Brenda's ex-boyfriend. Brenda hired two people to carry out the murder, which they did quite well. Brenda had told them that she was connected with a drug cartel and could provide them with a steady source of drugs if they carried out the killing. Unfortunately, they were later apprehended. And what about poor Brenda? She was caught in Mexico and now faces extradition to the United States. Brenda was only the ninth woman to be placed on the List since its creation back in 1950.

**"KILPATRICK TRANSFORMS LIBRARY INTO MODERN COLLABORATION HUB—WITH LATTE"**...This was the headline in Atlanta's *Daily Report*. Kilpatrick's "little-used" library has been transformed into a high-tech collaboration space---3,100 square feet of space with zones for casual conversations, private meetings, work pods, and a state-of-the-art espresso machine. (For you latte lovers, their machine is a Nespresso Aguila.) Asked if she ever used the old library as a workspace, partner Tina McKeon said she was once asked to attend a meeting in the library, but didn't know where it was. "I asked around and nobody knew," she said. "When I started out, I knew where every book in the library was. It's all electronic now," said the firm's chairman, J. Henry Walker IV who joined the firm in 1986 as a first-year associate.

It wasn't long before Greg Lambert in *3 Geeks and a Law Blog* opened fire at the snarky story. His concern was that law firm leaders would read the story and conclude that the library, as a service, is irrelevant. It would have been nice if the *Daily Report* article had pointed out that modern law librarianship is about information and service and people, and not square footage. "Law librarianship is not about the number

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of books on the shelf. It is not about turning shelves into collaboration spaces or coffee bars. It is about positioning the firm in a manner that aligns resources, internal and external, human and information, in a way that puts the firm on a better competitive footing."

**WHO'S UP FOR WEEDING?...**The April 26 *New Yorker* blog features a story called "Weeding the World's Worst Library Books." It highlights the work of Mary Kelly and Holly Hibner, two Michigan librarians who have created a blog called "Awful Library Books." Kelly and Hibner came to value weeding when they worked at a library in Detroit in 2008. "Most people who come into a library are looking for a new job, or they're facing a financial crisis, or they're trying to do research on a medical problem. Unfortunately, the library's career and medical shelves were cluttered with outdated material. People were picking up books from the seventies on how to find a job. We would go to the career section and find books that told readers to always put your height, weight, and marital status on your resume. We couldn't give this stuff to people!" When Hibner and Kelly worked together, they had a goldfish named Ranga, after the Indian scholar S.R. Ranganathan, whose "Five Principles of Library Science," first proposed in 1931, are still frequently cited today. Some of Kelly and Hibner's favorite weeded titles? [Vans--the Personality Vehicle](#) and [Be Bold with Bananas](#).

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## EREADER LIBRARIAN'S DIGITAL BOOK REVIEW

Elisabeth McKechnie

UC Davis School of Law, Mabie Law Library

Since I was given my first e-reader (a Kindle Touch) four years ago, I have become addicted to this new format for reading. A natural cheapskate, I have discovered a variety of sites where it is possible to download e-books that are free or low cost. By low cost, I mean \$4.99 or less. Along the way, I have found self-published gems and forgotten classics that I

would like to share with you. By the way, I am now up to 3 Kindles and two iPads!

I do have a blog about, no surprise, e-books and e-reading although this column isn't going to overlap. Come visit me at <http://www.ereaderlibrarian.com>!

\*Book prices will be listed where available; All prices are accurate as of writing date and may have changed by the time this column goes to press.

**When Patty Went to College** by Jean Webster

Available at Project Gutenberg: <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/21639>

Published: 1903

Price: Free

This book, written by the niece of Mark Twain, was actually one of her lesser works. She is known more for her novel [Daddy Long Legs](#). Just the same, the family sense of humor rings through this book. As a character, Patty is surely an ancestor of Ferris Bueller. Patty's school exploits include inventing a fictitious student, faking illness to get out of a pop quiz without actually lying and 'helping' the freshmen in their studies so much that they're all sure they're flunking. Reflecting Jean Webster's own education at Vassar in the early 20th century, it remains a light-hearted romp sure to entertain women of the 21st.

**Plague Ship** by Andre Norton, writing as Andrew North

Published: 1956

Available at Project Gutenberg: <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/16921>

Price: Free

Dane Thorson is a young cargo master apprentice on the Free Trader spaceship the Solar Queen. Free Traders are small independent businesses that ship and sell cargo in areas of space that the big conglomerates have no interest in. Unfortunately, when the Solar Queen sets down to trade on the planet Sargol, they find a corporate competitor determined to drive the independents out. Adding

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to Thorson's worries is his discovery that the catnip he'd thoughtlessly added to their sale items turns out to be a wildly popular intoxicant for the natives and apparently proscribed under interstellar law. Can Dane and the crew of the Solar Queen outwit their competition and make some good sales?

### **Catalog from Belcher Mosaic Glass, Co.**

Published: Belcher Mosaic Glass Co. New York, 1886  
Available (PDF) at The Public Domain Review: <http://publicdomainreview.org/collections/catalogue-from-belcher-mosaic-glass-co-1886>

Price: Free

Talk about art glass and Louis Tiffany springs to mind. However, Tiffany had competitors and this full-color stained glass catalog features many beautiful examples of the wares of the Belcher Mosaic Glass Company. Because it's out of copyright, color prints can be made, used, circulated or just framed to decorate your office. Look at these prints on your Kindle or iPad to get the full stained glass look. Also, explore the Public Domain Review website to see other coffee table books rendered into electronic format.

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## **COMMITTEE CORNER**

### **Jourdan Corbitt, LAC Group**

*Welcome to the first installment of a new series highlighting the important work and sharing the exciting announcements of our various NOCALL committees. Have committee business you'd like to share with the community? Please email Jourdan. Corbitt@LibSource.com.*

NOCALL's Grant Committee would like to announce the recipient of its AALL Grant for 2016. Ramona Martinez, librarian at the University of California Berkeley Law Library, will receive \$300 toward the costs for attending the 2016 AALL Conference in Chicago this July. Previously, Mary Staats, reference librarian at Farella Braun + Martell LLP, was the committee's Spring Institute Grant recipient. She received \$75.00 toward the cost of registration to the NOCALL Spring Institute in March.

The Grants Committee is currently co-chaired by Sherry Takacs, senior reference librarian at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, and Cathy Hardy, library services manager at Hanson Bridgett LLP. Janice Kelly, solo librarian at Constantine Cannon LLP, and Sandra Marz, retired, are both also committee members. Grants help those individuals who might need financial support to be able to participate in our profession's activities. This gives them the opportunity to network, learn, participate and develop in areas critical to their job and the library community at large. The committee has also given grants to library science students to help expose them to the legal library field.

The number of grants and the total amount awarded depends on the allocation budgeted to the Grants Committee through NOCALL's Board. Memberships and extra monies generated from events play a role in how much is allocated. The Grants Committee primarily supports the NOCALL institutes and workshops, as well as the AALL annual conferences. In the past, AALL has awarded chapter grants for which the committee oversaw selection of the designated recipients.

The criteria for receiving a grant was developed before the current committee took office and is posted on the NOCALL website. To help determine the amount to award each person, the committee created a worksheet where applicants indicate their estimated expenses and how much grant money they will need in order to attend. Based on that worksheet, the committee determines who and how much each requestor will receive. Sometimes there are difficult choices to make when they are unable to financially support all of the requests – especially during downturns in the economy when there is a heavy demand for funding.

The Grants Committee suggests, as a kind gesture for the funding support, that grant recipients contribute in the form of writing an article for the *NOCALL News* about their event experience. Doing so helps spread the wealth of knowledge to those members who could not attend.

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For more information on criteria and applications, please visit the Grants page of the NOCALL website at <https://nocall.org/officers-committees/grants/>. Anyone who is interested in learning more or becoming involved with the Grants Committee can contact the co-chairs at [grants@nocall.org](mailto:grants@nocall.org).

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## WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Nora Levine

### **Bruno, Chief of Police** by Martin Walker

It's almost time for summer vacations. If you planning a stay-cation, you can still visit southern France with Martin Walker's mystery series starring Bruno, Chief of Police. (That's the title of the first book, too.) The scenario is similar to Peter Mayle's mysteries, but I like the Bruno books better. Bruno is charming, as are his hometown and the local residents. Walker gets in some digs against the EU and weaves in current events. Some of the later books get carried away with cooking descriptions, but I'm still looking forward to the next adventure.

*Joanne Block*

*Jackson Lewis P.C.*

### **Think Like a Freak** by Steven D. Levitt and Steven J. Dubner

This non-fiction work was written by the same two gentlemen who wrote *Freakonomics*, published in 2009. For an idea of what this new book covers, here's an excerpt from p.22-23: "Think about some of the hard issues that politicians and business leaders face every day. What's the best way to stop mass shootings? Are there benefits of fracking with the environmental costs? What happens if we allow that Middle Eastern dictator who hates us to stay in power? Questions like these can't be answered merely by assembling a cluster of facts; they require judgment, intuition, and a guess as to how things will ultimately play out. Furthermore, these are multidimensional cause-and-effect questions, which mean their outcomes are both distant and nuanced."

*Mari Clark*

*MLIS Student*

### **Neurotribes** by Steve Silverman

My book club read this recently. Fascinating subject but at over 500 pages, it's a slog at the end. It covers people of significant accomplishment throughout history, who during their time were considered eccentric or mad by contemporaries and who now would be diagnosed with autism; the battle of scientists over diagnosis and treatment; and the current community of autistics who wish to be considered "neurotribes." Read it in small chunks and you will be rewarded.

*Claudia Cook*

*Alameda County Law Library*

**Moby-Dick; Or, The Whale** by Herman Melville  
DON'T SKIP OVER THIS REVIEW! O.K., now that I have your attention. Yeah, you've probably heard things about this book and maybe even attempted to read it in school. Frankly, I think it is a book which needs to be read later in your life -- once you have a few years under your belt. While it is often tossed around as THE GREAT AMERICAN NOVEL, I think of it as a fun (and often funny) read. The language will seem old and flowery to younger readers and will require attention to catch the humorous nuances throughout which Melville peppers the novel. However, it is well worth the effort. In addition to strongly recommending any edition which includes the wonderful illustrations by Rockwell Kent, there is also a terrific annotated version online which can be referenced when you are unsure of the terminology: <http://www.powermobydick.com/>.

I first read it about 20 years ago when I determined it would be the book I took on flights and would only be allowed to read on those flights. Yes, it took me two years to complete, but it was always a treat to know I would be diving into the 19th century once the plane lifted off. I did not get most of the humor during that first reading, but I appreciated what Melville accomplished in making this combined narrative about an industry (whaling) and a captain's descent into madness.

Now, rereading *Moby-Dick*, I have gained an appreciation for the author's playfulness. One example

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of this is Melville's discussion of the whale man's place among seafaring peoples:

"Pirates and Man-of-War's men, and Slave-ship sailors, cherish such a scornful feeling towards Whale-ships; this is a question it would be hard to answer. Because, in the case of pirates, say, I should like to know whether that profession of theirs has any peculiar glory about it. It sometimes ends in uncommon elevation, indeed; but only at the gallows. And besides, when a man is elevated in that odd fashion, he has no proper foundation for his superior altitude. Hence, I conclude, that in boasting himself to be high lifted above a whale man, in that assertion the pirate has no solid basis to stand on."

So, cast aside your preconceived ideas about what this book may be like and dive in!

*Edward Hosey*  
*9th Circuit Library*

### **Brooklyn** by Colm Tóibín

This is a nice book where a nice girl does what her family thinks she should do. The problem is that she never learns to understand what she wants and when the time comes to make a decision, she isn't prepared. I enjoyed this book. I think the writing is well done and the characters are fleshed out well. I also think Eilish grows during the story, which I like. This story is a good example of how people can immerse themselves in a place and forget how it feels to be in another spot, even if that other spot is home. I felt this way when we visited Hawaii. It is almost like being in a trance.

I was kind of annoyed at the ending, but after I thought about it, I thought it was a good ending; appropriate. If the author had continued, it would have been like a whole additional story starting.

### **The Haunted Season** (A Max Tudor Mystery, #5) by G.M. Malliet

I was predisposed to liking this book. The foundation of the story took about two hours (audio version) to lay. Then, I was surprised and pleased to recognize one event in the story because I was reminded of

another book, [His Majesty's Hope](#) by Susan Elia MacNeal, which I read recently, and I felt a connection between the two. This interesting coincidence was immediately followed up by a reference to a book on my list called [Brat Farrar](#) by Josephine Tey. Two characters discuss this book at length, which makes me want to read it sooner rather than later. I love it when authors refer to other books, even if unwittingly. It makes me feel like I am peering into a parallel world where the characters of all my favorite books live.

The ending was really odd. It was quite unexpected and confusing. The murder wasn't really resolved satisfactorily and the author blew up Father Max's M5 past without giving tons of detail. I am not 100% sure what is coming next in the series but think it will take a definite detour

### **Life Reimagined: The Science, Art, and Opportunity of Midlife** (Audio CD) by Barbara Bradley Hagerty

This book has stuck with me, even when I didn't think it would. I keep thinking about various points the author discusses and telling my friends about the book. I am not a big non-fiction reader and I got this book by accident. I wasn't sure why I reserved it, but it came quickly to my digital downloads file at the library, so I listened. I think, overall, that this is a book definitely worth reading for women 40+. Much of the information is relevant to other ages and genders as well. There is a lot of research presented and those sections get a little tedious, but the overall book has really great messages. I did find that the tedious research sections helped to understand the overall message of the book.

Takeaways: you live longer and are healthier if you: exercise, have a purpose, have meaningful relationships with others. Pivot, don't re-invent. There is life after 50. Give back.

While many of the things on the above list are well known, I was not aware of the specifics and the sections about research are informative. The research really provides a foundation to the rest of

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the book; I just wish it could have been presented in a more engaging way. Nonfiction is hard and this is an important topic that I think should be revisited again. I don't think I will listen to this book again, but I plan to buy a copy and mark it up.

Currently, I am reading **The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society** by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. I read this book when it first came out, but got it on audio recently and am listening. The epistolary style is fantastic and very engaging with different voices. The characters are very well described and I am enjoying this book very much. It feels fresh and new again.

*Jaye Lapachet*  
*J8 Consulting*

**The Yoga Store Murder: The Shocking True Account of the Lululemon Athletica Killing** by Dan Morse

If you are into true crime and forensic storytelling, you will enjoy this non-fiction title that provides background and details to uncover the full true story of the murder that occurred inside the Lululemon Athletica retail store in Bethesda, Maryland. Written by a crime reporter from *The Washington Post* who covered this story from the start, this horrific crime was also detailed in Episode 14 of the "Snapped" television series on Oxygen.

*Robyn M. Moltzen*  
*Sacramento County Public Law Library*

**The Neapolitan Novels** by Elena Ferrante

This is a series of four novels set in Naples. (At least the first one has been on the bestsellers list.) It is a wonderful and rich story of the rather unusual friendship between two girls, and the stories and relationships between the people from their neighborhood. The books follow the lives of the two women from early age to late adulthood and are filled with beautifully drawn details and a lot of information on the modernization of Italy and its politics from after WWII to recent times. I read one after the other without a break – they were addicting. The titles are: [My Brilliant Friend](#), [The Story of a New Name](#), [Those Who Leave](#) and [Those Who Stay](#), and [The Story of the Lost Child](#).

**The 44 Scotland Street** series by Alexander McCall Smith

A much more lighthearted and delightful series by Alexander McCall Smith (he of the [Number One Ladies' Detective Agency](#) fame) about a group of people living in present day Edinburgh. It's written with warm and great humor and the characters are, for the most part, quite interesting. My favorite one is the 6-7 year old Bertie and a dog named Cyril who has a gold tooth and a habit of winking at comely ladies. The titles are numerous and you can easily find them on Amazon or at your local independent bookseller.

*Yaroslava Odvarko*  
*Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart*

**The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid** by Bill Bryson

Bill Bryson is one of my favorite authors who specializes in humorous travel books such as: [A Walk in the Woods](#) about attempting to hike the Appalachian trail or [A Sunburned Country](#) about his travels in Australia.

This novel is a funny, sweet memoir about his childhood days in 1950's Des Moines, Iowa. I broke up publicly a couple times while riding BART or taking the ferry, because Bill Bryson has such a great sense of humor.

I highly recommend you read this or any other Bill Bryson book if get a chance!

*Richard Schulke*  
*San Francisco Law Library*

**The Nightingale** by Kristin Hannah

I love historical novels. I especially enjoy novels about World War II, a time when it is important for all of us post war babies to be reminded of what it is like to live in a war torn country, and of what Europe and Japan suffered right before we were born, before the 1950's. I recently read [The Nightingale](#) by Kristin Hannah. This takes place in France as the Germans moved in and took over. The focus is on a young French woman, her husband, her young daughter, her sister and their estranged father. The husband is drafted

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into the French army, and the family members are eventually sent to German work camps. The petulant younger sister, appalled by the way the French seem to be rolling over for the Germans, leaves to join the resistance. The older sister believes everything will soon work out in this war and that life will return to normal. The novel focuses on life in France over the next three years, and how it changes everyone.

The novel is very well written-- so well written, I couldn't put it down. The characters are well delineated and very human faults and deficiencies are treated with compassion. Most of the characters are not Jewish. They are French gentiles who see their dearest friends hauled away for no understandable reason. Speaking up does no good and usually spurns more brutal treatment of those left behind.

As they entire story is told by a 90+ year old woman looking back, there is an interesting twist at the end.

*Mary Staats*

*Farella Braun & Martel*

And two quick last entries...

I'm actually listening to "**My Southern Journey: True Stories from the Heart of the South**" by Rick Bragg. I love his writing, but it is a pleasure to hear him read his work. It makes it so much more enjoyable.

*Harriet Zook*

*McGeorge School of Law*

**Lake County History** by Gene Paleno

Gene Paleno is a resident of Witter Springs and a columnist for the *Record-Bee*. He has published fifteen books, fiction, non-fiction and short stories, on a wide range of topics. He decided it was time to write about the place he calls home. This is a fascinating book which documents Lake County citizens, including the Syphax family, who are direct descendants of Martha & George Washington! There is a great chapter titled "Words on Paper" on his love of books in print. Click on the title above for an interesting interview with the author.

*Casse Forczek*

*Lake County Law Library*

## PROFESSIONAL READING IN REVIEW

Elisabeth McKechnie, U.C. Davis Law Library

"**The Secret History of the Bluebook**" by Fred R. Shapiro and Julie Graves Krishnaswami, 100 Minn. Law Rev. 1564 (2016)

The Harvard Law Review has produced the Bluebook (aka "A Uniform System of Citation") for so many years that most of us assume they invented it. In fact, the folklore, mostly generated by Harvard Dean Erwin Griswold, says that they did. The truth is something entirely different, as explained in this article. In point of fact, the then-editor of Yale Law Review, Karl N. Llewellyn put together the initial single page of citation instructions in 1920. It and its descendants were bound in Yale blue covers, a custom which continues today. How Harvard became involved and the further history of the Bluebook, is set forth in this article.

"**Timbuktu's 'Badass Librarians': Checking Out Books Under Al-Qaida's Nose**" by Evan Schneider, NPR Book Review, heard on *All Things Considered* April 23, 2016, Article available at <http://www.npr.org/2016/04/23/475420855/timbuktus-badass-librarians-checking-out-books-under-al-qaidas-nose>

This article, ostensibly a book review, actually gives a good description of the efforts made by the librarians of Timbuktu to hide classic works of culture and scholarship from the Islamists who would destroy them. Beginning in 1984, Abdel Haidara travelled throughout Mali, ferreting out hidden manuscripts, at first lodging them in big libraries. But later, after the 2011 Arab Spring, he realized that the libraries would be targets for looting since most of the books expressed liberal values. He organized the effort to remove the materials into hiding. The book certainly sounds like worthwhile reading, and the article reviewing it is fascinating.

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**“A Creative Idea That Might Actually Help Close Tech’s Gender Gap: Librarians”** by Lauren C. Williams, *ThinkProgress*, April 1, 2016

<http://thinkprogress.org/economy/2016/04/01/3763088/librarians-can-fix-tech-pipeline-problem/>

Tech companies continually bewail the lack of qualified workers to fill jobs for web developers and computer system analysts. Female workers or workers of color seem especially scarce. The idea proposed by this author is that, since librarian skillsets are very similar to those needed in tech work, Silicon Valley should hire and train librarians for these jobs. Then the author points out that (Wow! What a coincidence!) librarians tend to be low-paid women who already have college degrees and computer skills. Of course, we all know what the rest of the world seems ignorant of, that librarians are pretty darned skilled workers. Hopefully some tech CEO’s have read this article, can see past the stereotypes and get a clue about the resource they’re missing out on.

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## TECH TALK: A TOUR OF LAW AND TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH CENTERS

Ramona Martinez, Berkeley Law Library

Intellectual property issues touch on many areas of librarianship in all the various types of libraries where NOCALL members work. Law schools are focusing more and more research effort on IP as evidenced by the explosion in law and tech research centers across the country. The Berkeley Center for Law and Technology, in the words of one of its fellows, “was the first of its kind and Boalt is consistently ranked the #1 IP program among law schools in the country, so everybody followed Berkeley’s lead.” What follows is something of a guided tour of just a few of the research centers I found, highlighting an interesting tidbit from each.

**Berkeley** Center for Law and Technology <https://www.law.berkeley.edu/research/bclt/>

Get an idea of BCLT’s research output by accessing the

Research Portal here: <https://www.law.berkeley.edu/research/bclt/research/law-tech-research-portal/>

**Stanford** Center for Internet and Society <https://law.stanford.edu/center-for-internet-and-society/#slsnav-featured>

See how Stanford makes its privacy policies digestible and understandable here: <https://cyberlaw.stanford.edu/about-us/privacy-policy>

**Santa Clara** High Tech Law Institute <http://law.scu.edu/hightech/>

Santa Clara offers free CLE courses such as this recent one: <http://law.scu.edu/high-tech-law-institute/monetization-of-ip/>

**(Harvard)** Berkman Center for Internet and Society <https://cyber.law.harvard.edu/>

Thanks to Buzz Feed, everyone has a list. <http://berkmanlessons.net/>

**(Duke)** Center for Innovation Policy <https://law.duke.edu/innovationpolicy/>

This conference on a 21st Century Copyright Office shows cooperation among various law and tech centers. <https://law.duke.edu/innovationpolicy/copyright>

**(William & Mary)** Center for Legal and Court Technology <http://www.legaltechcenter.net/>

The center offers consultation services to local courts. <http://www.legaltechcenter.net/consulting/completed-projects/>

**(Syracuse)** New York State Science and Technology Center <http://law.syr.edu/academics/centers-institutes/new-york-state-science-and-technology-center-technology-commercializatio-la/>

This NY center specializes in helping take new technology from the lab to the market. <http://nysstlc.syr.edu/>

**(Penn)** Center for Technology, Innovation and Competition <https://www.law.upenn.edu/institutes/ctic/>

Find recorded sessions of the Privacy Conference series here: <https://www.law.upenn.edu/institutes/ctic/events.php>

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**(Yale)** Thomson Reuters Initiative on Law and Technology at the Yale Information Society Project (ISP) <http://isp.yale.edu/node/4936>  
Informal Ideas Lunches spark discussion. <http://isp.yale.edu/node/6014>

**(UW)** Center for Advanced Study & Research on Innovation Policy <https://www.law.washington.edu/casrip/>

Both CLE and networking available in July here: <https://www.law.washington.edu/Casrip/summit/>

**Georgetown** Center on Privacy and Technology <https://www.law.georgetown.edu/academics/centers-institutes/privacy-technology/>

This center is well-situated to “bridge gaps between the academy and policymakers.” <https://www.law.georgetown.edu/academics/centers-institutes/privacy-technology/in-the-media/index.cfm>

**(NYU)** Engelberg Center on Innovation Law and Policy <http://www.nyuengelberg.org/>

Aha! So this is where our own Jason Shultz ended up. <http://static1.squarespace.com/static/528679bee4b0fb796a381814/t/562862dfe4b052473f4c921e/1445487327403/Engelberg+Center+Publication+Oct+2015.pdf>

*Spotlight on...*

**Michael Ginsborg**

***How did you choose law librarianship as a career?***

I began to reconsider an academic career while pursuing a PhD in philosophy. I wanted to teach, but found poor prospects for tenure-track positions. At a loss for alternatives, I was immediately attracted to my Dad's suggestion of librarianship. What better way to earn a living, I thought, than to match people and their questions with the right books? Admitted to a library science program, I was seeking practical experience, and I happened to see an ad in the Washington Post for a reference librarian at Baker & McKenzie's D.C. Office. I had little idea what the work entailed. But I was curious enough to apply and fortunate enough to be hired. This opportunity launched my career.

***What have you enjoyed the most from being involved with NOCALL?***

I recently had the privilege to chair the Spring Institute Committee. When I started, I was far from confident that I knew what I was doing. I had one key reassurance - that I could enlist NOCALL colleagues for help. No professional rewards in my career surpass those of supporting the combined skills and efforts of Committee members. It was incredible to see such a wide array of talent engaged as they organized every aspect of the Institute. Their dedication was equally inspiring, as they balanced competing demands on their time to make our Institute a success. And they were fun to work with! Serving on a Committee represents a great way to appreciate just how special your colleagues are.

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

I would attend law school, possibly with the idea of representing plaintiffs in elder abuse litigation. In 1983, I was a volunteer at nursing homes in Santa Monica, and found what looked like systemic instances of neglect. Elder abuse has by far outpaced needed legal assistance to address it.

***What is your favorite legal book and why?***

A literary masterpiece exercised a seminal influence on my youthful development - Plato's Apology. Plato observed Socrates' trial, and scholars agree that he accurately represented the spirit of Socrates' defense. ("Apologia" means "defense.") "The unexamined life," Socrates said, "is not worth living." For questioning ignorance and seeking truth, he was charged with heresy and corrupting the youth. He was fearless, preferring to die over his pursuit of the examined life than to beg for mercy (though he somewhat disingenuously appealed for sympathy on behalf of his family.) Socrates' courage teaches me candor in acknowledging what I do not know - an asset to any librarian.

***Is there anything that most people don't know about you that you would like to share?***

Do not aske me to sing Janis Joplin's "Mercedes Benz," because I will have to afflict you with the worst singing imaginable.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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