



Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin
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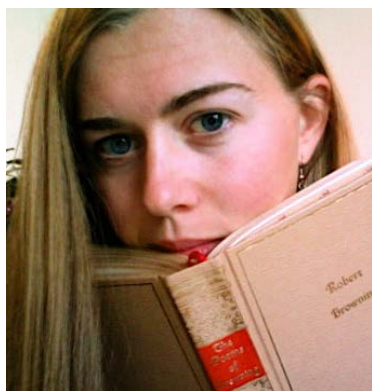
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President's Message

[Megan Wiseman, Weiss Berzowski Brady LLP](#)



Stump the librarian. It's a game we all tend to pull out around the time of National Library Week or whenever we feel that our gate count is getting a little low. In fact, one of the things I

love most about my job are the little "Gee, I don't know" moments. A break in routine from fetch-and-carry, an opportunity to learn - I get a kick out of the oddball questions, the ones that leave me flummoxed and treading deep water.

And, often, in these moments it's simply time to ask for help. Whether it's polling a listserv, reaching out to a friend on Twitter, or simply calling up the State Law Library Reference Desk (goodness, what do *they* do when they're stumped?) one of the other great things about this profession is the support system. Law librarianship is an admittedly small world and we've managed to get the knowledge management thing down to an art form. Oh, I don't mean we necessarily compare notes or have a sit-down with someone soon to retire. But we do pass on our knowledge - actively and passionately.

Maybe I am ruminating on this topic because of how quietly things have been of late. No major shakeups in the library world (though I, of course, worry about penning that sentence and jinxing

myself), still months off from the major conferences.... Funny how a librarian can be startled by how quiet the library really *can* get.

Oh wait, the Westminster Chime has struck the third quarter and I'm reminded that the sign of a well-oiled clock is its silence. "___ o'clock and all is well." That seems to be the theme in LLAW this year. Some great programs, productive meetings, the slow transition over of a few new board members and quiet growth of the membership to the point where I really might be honoring my earlier promise of cake at the 4th Quarterly General Business meeting.

The minute hand of progress has crept forward and we're now able to espy the coming of Spring. Season of growth, action. There are some exciting undercurrents stirring in LLAW, and for all its outward quiet, the Board has been working toward some pretty great developments of late. And it wouldn't be possible without the cheerful volunteer spirit that so sets the library profession apart.

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LLAW OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES 2012-2013

OFFICERS

President	Megan Wiseman	414-270-2559	mkw@wbb-law.com
Vice President/President Elect	Emily Koss	414-298-8510	ekoss@reinhartlaw.com
Secretary	Steven Weber	414-277-5882	steven.weber@quarles.com
Treasurer	Julie Baldwin	414-665-3656	juliebaldwin@northwesternmutual.com
Past President	Laura La Rose	414-298-8772	llarose@reinhartlaw.com

COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

ARCHIVES

Elana Olson (Chair)
414-288-1696
elana.olson@marquette.edu

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Mary Mahoney (Chair)
dakotamahoney@hotmail.com

GRANTS

Lisa Winkler (Chair)
608-266-4669
lisa.winkler@wicourts.gov

MEMBERSHIP

Katie Kvien (Chair)
414-298-8151
kkvien@reinhartlaw.com

NEWSLETTER

Lucy Kelly (Co-Editor)
414-202-5440
lucy.kelly@gmail.com

Aly Lynch (Co-Editor)

608-259-2629
alynch@staffordlaw.com

NOMINATING

Laura La Rose (Chair)
414-298-8772
llarose@reinhartlaw.com

PLACEMENT

Barbara Fritschel (Chair)
414-297-1698
barbara.fritschel@ca7.uscourts.gov

PROGRAM

Emily Koss (Co-Chair)
414-271-2560
ekoss@reinhartlaw.com

Connie Von Der Heide (Co-Chair)

608-267-2202
connie.vonderheide@wicourts.gov

PALI (Public Access to Legal Information)

Leslie Behroozi (Chair)
414-288-5770
leslie.behroozi@marquette.edu

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Carol Bannen (Co-Chair)
414-298-8253
cbannen@reinhartlaw.com

Mary Koshollek (Co-Chair)

414-273-5300
mkoshollek@gklaw.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

Sarah Bolgert (Chair)
414-271-6560
sbolgert@michaelbest.com

WEBSITE

Carol Hassler (Chair)
608-261-7558
carol.hassler@wicourts.gov

LIBRARY SCHOOL LIAISONS

UW-MADISON

Laura Olsen Dugan
laura.olsendugan@quarles.com

UW-MILWAUKEE

Laura LaRose
414-298-8772
llarose@reinhartlaw.com

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President's Message *(Continued from page 1)*

So, thank you one and all for your help this year - whether it was running for an Executive Board position, stepping into a Committee Chair role, writing, mentoring, or simply ensuring a robust turnout at one of our events - you've proven again the value of LLAW. It's a small library world - and it really is a great one!



Member News

Barb Fritschel's article on bankruptcy resources was published in the State Bar of Wisconsin's Inside Track:

<http://www.wisbar.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=InsideTrack&Template=/CustomSource/InsideTrack/contentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=114863>.

Lucy Kelly had a book review of *Cloud Computing for Lawyers* by Nicole Black published:

<http://www.wisbar.org/NewsPublications/Pages/General-Article.aspx?ArticleID=10568>.

Megan Wiseman's article, "Librarians: Go and Be Disorganized" was published in the AALL Spectrum:

<http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Publications/spectrum/vol-17/No-3/disorganized.pdf>.

**** New Member****

Michelle Wollmann, Reference Information Specialist at Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren, has joined LLAW.

Guess Who?

Can you identify this member of LLAW?

1. I am writing a screenplay.
2. In college, half my head was shaved and the other half was colored orange.
3. My first job was as a tour guide at a historic home of lumber baron.

If you think you know who this person is, e-mail Lucy Kelly (lucy.kelly@gmail.com) with your guess. The person who guesses correctly (or a randomly selected individual if we receive multiple correct entries), will win a \$10 gift card to Barnes & Noble. All entries are due June 1st. The winner will be announced in the next newsletter. Good luck!



Bev Butula, Manager of Library Services at Davis & Kuelthau, correctly guessed last quarter's Guess Who? subject. It was **Laura LaRose**. The clues were:

1. When I was a kid I got stuck in a tall pine tree in Yellowstone National Park.
2. I lived upstairs from my husband for an entire summer but didn't meet him until 3 years later.
3. I studied for a semester in Hamburg, Germany during college.

Library Technology Conference 2013

Carol Hassler, Wisconsin State Law Library

I received a professional development grant from LLAW's Grants committee to attend this year's Library Technology Conference, held March 20-21 in St. Paul, Minnesota. Many thanks to LLAW for helping make this conference affordable!

The Library Technology Conference in Minnesota caters to a variety of interests. I've found that I can pull

something useful from the speakers even when sessions veer towards a specific type of library or the implementation of specific products.

Wednesday's keynote speaker was Virginia Eubanks, cofounder of Our Knowledge, Our Power – an anti-poverty and welfare rights organization that coordinates programs called Popular Technology Workshops. Her

speech asked whether technology can serve social justice and she opened it with an overview of her book, *Digital Dead End*. In her presentation she talked about her realization that the digital divide didn't necessarily mean the absence of technology, since many of the woman she spoke with at a YWCA were employed in high tech industries – but for low wages. Her lessons for libraries offering technology training and access were to underlie their technology plans with a social justice framework, and to build connections with other community organizations that could fill in the gaps that mere access to technology could not. Eubanks discussed the increase in e-government services and how public libraries were often the only place to access such services. Outside of public libraries, she discussed how website accessibility must extend to providing access for poor web connections as well. As I listened to her speech, I thought about how these ideas could apply to a law library. Our branch libraries in Milwaukee and Dane counties frequently assist users in accessing e-government services needed to file for fee waivers and our website serves a number of users outside of Madison and Milwaukee. Beyond this, I drew parallels between access to technology and access to the law. While many primary legal sources and large repositories of case law are online, and many people in Wisconsin have access to the internet, few possess the legal knowledge to navigate and interpret the law. That is where law libraries can step in with education and guidance.

Thursday's keynote speaker was Kimberly Bryant who founded BlackGirlsCode, a program which introduces girls of color between the ages of 7 and 17 to a variety of technology and coding programs. She started her program after years of attending conferences as one of the only women as well as one of the only attendees of color. BlackGirlsCode has collected many honors in the past few years, with features on TV as well as winning prestigious awards, such as the Google R.I.S.E. Award. Her presentation covered the rise and fall of women in computer science professions and explained how those trends helped fuel her passion to teach young women

how to code. This popular program has now spread to several cities – and libraries are often partners when no other technology company will step forward to support it.

I attended sessions that focused on distance education, website usability testing, and library branding.

One distance education session I attended talked about issues in providing library services to distance students. As more colleges offer distance programs, libraries are trying to figure out how to offer full digital service to remote users – especially in academic tracks that may require archival materials or other items that cannot be shared remotely. I think a parallel could be drawn between these academic library issues and our libraries, which must help attorneys or the public from their home or office rather than our physical library location. Suggestions for reaching these students included posting videos for 24/7 instruction, reconsidering labels and library terms used on external websites or externally accessed intranets, test the website constantly for usability, offer a way to access content to library-location-only databases, and offer tutorials or library reference services during lunchtime or in the evening between 7 and 9 pm. This session also covered laws concerning e-reserves, distance education instructional resources, and interlibrary loan services.

Another session I attended focused exclusively on creating and providing access to instructional videos on the library website for a key target group of distance education users. This library's primary goal in creating instructional videos was to reduce anxiety about using the library. While videos on how to use popular databases are used by their students, their most popular videos were content-focused – videos on how to use different citation systems and the peer review process. This session covered everything from evaluating what content to create, video time limits and hosting systems, creation tools, and methods for tracking the efficacy and popularity of the videos once they were created.

Several times the issue of website usability came up. I attended one session specifically focused on the issue. In this talk, the presenters explained how their public library had partnered with a user experience class to do formal usability testing on different sections of their website. In the course of the presentation we learned about their process, as well as their specific assumptions and goals. From one of the presenters who had actually performed the usability testing, we got concrete examples of what went on in the usability tests, recommended sample sizes and goals, and tools for tracking issues that arose during the tests. The session finished with some recommendations for doing informal or iterative testing throughout the development and deployment of a website or online service.

Straddling marketing and statistical analysis of library performance, a session on library assessment tools gave a broad survey of open source software that could be used to analyze and organize library data. While low on

the how-to, this session provided some interesting leads on software that can be used to apply various statistical methods to a library's raw data. Several online resources were recommended for the creation of infographics and other marketing tools.

One intriguing session I attended was a case study of how a library had used an international design website to create a crowdsourced logo in just four weeks. The presenter discussed other libraries' approaches to logo creation and branding, providing a brief literature survey of some of the common issues of developing a brand, as well as a visual survey of common logo themes. He went on to deliver specific details about how his library set their goals for their logo, approached and worked with designers, and began to implement their new logo.

An archive of presentations and session descriptions can be found in the host college's digital commons: http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/libtech_conf/2013/sessions/.

AALL Announcements

April Webinar: How to Work Through Difficult Transitions

Change in the legal profession means change for law libraries. Are you prepared to lead your library through this time of transition? Join us for a new webinar, [How to Work Through Difficult Transitions](#), sponsored by the AALL Leadership Development Committee, on **April 24 at 11 a.m. CDT**. Three library directors will discuss the challenges change has brought to law libraries. The panelists will suggest strategies to lead libraries with modified missions and new resource constraints, offer tips and guidance, and describe methods to gain staff support for an altered vision.

If you are a library manager in any setting, this webinar is for you. More importantly, don't think that this webinar is solely for directors and supervisors; consider the leader in you - no matter where you fall on the organizational chart! With so much change on the horizon, how will you help your library in transition? [Registration closes April 19](#).

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!](#)



Recommended Readings

[Cindy May, University of Wisconsin Law Library](#)

Abilmouna, Ray. “Social Networking Sites: What an Entangled Web We Weave.” [Western State University Law Review](#) 39:99-127 (spring 2012)

This comment considers the methods by which lawyers may go about obtaining information from a party’s or witness’ profile at a social networking site (SNS) and offering that information into evidence. It concludes that the benefits to lawyers of using SNSs outweigh the challenges.

Carrier, Michael A. “Copyright and Innovation: The Untold Story.” [Wisconsin Law Review](#) 2012:891-962 (2012)

This article presents the results of a study of 31 CEOs, company founders, and vice presidents from technology companies, the recording industry, and venture capital firms. Based on in-depth interviews, it offers insights on the relationship between copyright law and innovation.

Cihak, Herbert E. and Howland, Joan S. "Temptations of the Sirens: Ethical Issues in Libraries." Law Library Journal 104:531-551 (fall 2012)

The purpose of this article is to challenge library staff to integrate ethical analysis into all aspects of operations and decision making. The authors discuss approaches to developing a realistic framework of ethical principles acceptable to all and able to be integrated into institutional culture.

Cunningham, Nina. "Leveraging the Assets of the Law Library." LJN's Legal Tech Newsletter (February 2013) <http://www.altmanweil.com/LibraryAssets/>

Fritschel, Barbara. "Bankruptcy Law Practitioners: Internet Resources Aren't Just for Consumers." LegalTrac (January 2, 2013) <http://www.wisbar.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=InsideTrack&Template=/CustomSource/InsideTrack/contentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=114863>

Johnson, Andrew. "Down with the DMCA." SMU Science and Technology Law Review 15:525-553 (fall 2012)

This comment focuses on copyright law involving peer-to-peer file-sharing. It examines current approaches and possible alternatives to piracy law enforcing and analyzes the weaknesses of specific provisions of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act as applied to developing technology.

Kaczorowski, Monice and Lapachet, Jaye A.H. "Attitude, Creativity, Collaboration, and Tech: the New Success Formula for Law Librarians." AALL Spectrum 17(3):22-24 (December 2012)

The authors discuss the importance for law firm librarians of positive attitudes, branding, creative use of technology, and new roles, such as "embedded" librarians with in-depth knowledge of specific areas of law.

Lambert, Greg. "[Are IT and Library 'Logical Partners' in Leveraging Library Assets?](#)" 3 Geeks and a Law Blog (February 14, 2013) <http://tinyurl.com/bjbbagd>

Le, Avery. "Offering More Than Just Casebooks." Computers in Libraries 33(1):12-16 (January/February 2013)

The author highlights the advantages of tablets over smartphones and laptops for law library uses, reviews some legal apps appropriate for tablets, considers the use of the tablet as an e-reader, and discusses adding tablets to what can be borrowed from the law library circulation desk.

Mattson, Ingrid and Schneider, Linda-Jean. "Negotiating and Complying with Electronic Database Licensing Agreements." AALL Spectrum 17(4):9-12 (February 2013)

The authors presented programs on database licensing at two recent AALL Annual Meetings. Here they incorporate tips and tricks from those programs as part of a broader conversation about understanding your users so that you can effectively ensure license compliance.

Stouffer, Christine and Ertin, Umit. "Survey Savvy." AALL Spectrum 17(4):21-24 (February 2013)

The authors take a look at what law firm librarians need to know about the increasingly popular law library benchmarking survey. Their analysis focuses on the law library sections of the Price Waterhouse Coopers and American Lawyer Media law firm surveys.

Wiseman, Megan. "Librarians: Go and Be Disorganized." AALL Spectrum 17(3):12-14 (December 2012)

<http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Publications/spectrum/vol-17/No-3/disorganized.pdf>

Zillman, Marcus P. "Knowledge Discovery Resources 2013 - An Internet Annotated Link Dataset Compilation." LLRX (January 26, 2013) <http://www.llrx.com/features/knowledgediscovery2013.htm>

Zillman, Marcus P. "New Economy Resources 2013." LLRX (February 23, 2013)

<http://www.llrx.com/features/neweconomyresources2013.htm>

For the full list of recommended readings, [click here](#).

LLAW Meeting Minutes and Reports

Meeting minutes will be published in the next newsletter.



Events Calendar

2013	
June 9-11, 2013	<u>SLA</u> , San Diego, CA
July 13-16, 2013	<u>AALL</u> , Seattle, WA
October 22-25, 2013	<u>WLA Annual Conference</u> , Green Bay, WI
October 28-30, 2013	<u>Internet Librarian</u> , Monterey, CA
<u>Future AALL Annual Meetings</u> July 12-15, 2014 San Antonio, TX July 18-21, 2015 Philadelphia, PA July 16-19, 2016 Chicago, IL	
<u>Future SLA Meetings</u> June 8-10, 2014 Vancouver, BC, Canada June 14-16, 2015 Boston, MA	
<u>Future WLA Meetings</u> November 4-7, 2014 Wisconsin Dells	

**The deadline for submitting
articles for the next**

LLAW BRIEFS

is

June 1, 2013

Submit articles to

lucy.kelly@gmail.com and
alynch@staffordlaw.com

