

BRIEFS

Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin
Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin

A Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

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President's Message

Megan Wiseman, Weiss Berzowski Brady LLP



For those of you who don't know, I am quite the enthusiastic "geek." Recently, a post was bouncing around amongst the Doctor Who fans on Facebook. The game went thus: Your job is now your Time Lord name, the

last digit of your phone number is your current regeneration, the last person you texted is your current companion, and your most favourite word is now your catchphrase. Needless to say, I was more than a little thrilled to be able to say "Ello, they call me The Librarian."

Why am I bringing this up? Well, lately, I've found myself pulled into various conversations about the profession, specifically the stigmas that accompany the increasingly old-fashioned term "librarian." In my own job I regularly perform tasks outside of the traditional library role, so much so that I recently formalized that wearing-of-the-marketing-hat with a separate business card. But within my library role, I am still known as a librarian, a title that my patrons seem to hold tight to with particular relish.

But my situation is unusual. Many of us have limited or no traditional library space. Many more have titles that reflect the changes in the profession, titles that better describe what we do in an increasingly digital world. Even I, who clings to the past (and is currently today debating the purchase of an antique Victorian top hat), even I have abandoned the term "reference" in my office, substituting the more accessible term of "research."

Since I'm waxing poetic on diction today, I'd like to point out the use of the word "traditional" in the previous paragraph. As I sit here today and write, when I'm not thinking about the aforementioned top hat, I'm thinking of a roast turkey and gravy as the holiday lights on Wisconsin Avenue twinkle on the street below. It's the time of year where we make our own warmth here in cold and snowy Wisconsin and we do it mainly through the concept of tradition. Ok, maybe librarians don't make everyone go all soft inside like the thought of a home fire burning on a cold winter's night, but I'm hoping you see the parallel.

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President's Message (Continued from page 1)

So, call us what you will, what are we and what do we do? AALL's proposed Bylaw amendments passed earlier this fall, changing membership categories for the national association and signaling that this question is being asked all over. The New Year approacheth. Personally, all titles aside, I am declaring this year the "Year of the Librarian." At the risk of putting us in the same category as romantic reminisces, hipster dreams, and kitsch, I would like to point out that, regardless of title or location, librarians are trendy right now! This year I will dare to plant a foot on both sides of the river, I will attempt to be an innovative traditionalist. I will learn a new programming language and possibly buy that top hat. And each of these things will be recognizably librarian-y things to do!

Member News

Mary Koshollek had the article "A Review of Free Fastcase Mobile App" published in the State Bar of Wisconsin's InsideTrack.

Carol Bannen's article, "<u>Use Elists to Expand Your Network and Meet Subject-Matter Experts</u>" was also published in the State Bar of Wisconsin's InsideTrack.

Carol Hassler has published "Changing Your Domain Name in 25 Nail-Biting Steps" in the November 2012 issue of Computers in Libraries. You can see a <u>brief blurb</u> about it in this month's Wis. State Law Library newsletter and can read the <u>entire article</u> on EBSCO.

Kris Turner has been appointed to the Reference Technology & Services Librarian position at the UW Law Library. He received his Masters in Library and Information Studies from UW Madison and is also a new LLAW member.

** New Members**

Katie Kvian, Information Specialist at Reinhart, Boerner Van Deuren s.c., received her MLIS degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and previously worked as a Research Librarian at the American Society for Quality. In her free time, she enjoys movies, walking, cooking and baking, board games, and spending time with her pet cat, Chewy.

Kris Turner, Reference Librarian at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law Library, received his MLIS degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and previously worked in circulation at his present library, and at the Madison Public Library. In his free time, he enjoys traveling, reading, trivia, and attending concerts.

Guess Who?

Can you identify this member of LLAW?

- 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.

If you think you know who this person is, e-mail Lucy Kelly (<u>lucy.kelly@gmail.com</u>) 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 March 1st. The winner will be announced in the next newsletter. Good luck!

Lisa Winkler, Reference Librarian at the Dane County Legal Resource Center, stumped everyone in the Fall 2012 Guess Who contest. No one guessed it was her. The clues were:

- 1. I have four older brothers, no sisters, and ten nieces and nephews.
- I was recently interviewed by the Wisconsin Access to
 Justice Commission and featured in a video they created
 to promote awareness of the need for affordable civil legal
 services in our community.
- 3. This summer I took a fantastic voyage down Pacific Highway 1 to LA and the Grand Canyon. It was an unbelievable once-in-a- lifetime trip, and my favorite part was biking across the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco.



AALL Announcements

Management Institute to be Held March 7-9

Registration is now open for the <u>2013 AALL Management Institute</u>, which will be held March 7-9, 2013, at the Palomar Hotel in Chicago.

Managers today need skills that will help them manage effectively and produce results. The AALL Management Institute will provide new and aspiring managers the opportunity to build management skills, collaborate with colleagues from different types of libraries, learn in a small group setting, and develop techniques to manage with confidence. Space is limited to 50 participants. Registration is first come, first served, so don't wait—register today!

2013 Day in the Life Photo Contest Opens January 1

It's that time again - the AALL Day in the Life of the Law Library Community Photo Contest will begin accepting

submissions starting **January 1**. Through February 28, AALL members are invited to take a wide range of photographs of law librarians working, meeting, teaching, and doing all that law librarians do in a given day.

Entries will be judged online through membership voting in April. Winners will be recognized on AALLNET, in the July issue of *AALL Spectrum*, and during the AALL Annual Meeting in Seattle.

As in past years, the contest will be conducted on <u>Flickr</u>, which will allow you to see submissions as they are posted by other members. Visit the site for complete contest rules.



AALL2go Pick of the Month



AALL's Continuing Professional Education Committee presents the AALL2go pick of the month— <u>Leadership Skills: Developing the Library Leaders of Tomorrow</u>.

This one-hour MP3 recording features **Wendy Reynolds** of the Ontario Workplace Tribunals Library as moderator and **Vicki Whitmell** from the Ontario Legislative Library as

speaker. In the recording, Whitmell asks various questions regarding leadership in law libraries and in our professional organizations, including who is next, what does it mean to be a leader, how can we become leaders (or better leaders), and where do we need to demonstrate leadership? She then goes on to answer each of these questions, frequently calling upon her personal experience and the responses she has received from library students over the years. Whitmell discusses who our law library leaders are, where they are found, and how they are created. She acknowledges how difficult it can be to keep up strong relationships but states that good leaders are those who work at these relationships.

Whitmell then goes on to discuss how we recognize leaders in law libraries and how we develop them. She offers insight into the issues that current leaders should be considering, such as strategic and succession planning, and what qualities are needed in developing leaders, such as being forward thinking and having excellent customer service skills. Whitmell ends with the question of who is next? Her answer is that everyone has a role to play where leadership in law libraries is

concerned, be it big or small. Listening to this recording may help you begin to identify your role and begin planning how to develop it.

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

Ball, Stephanie J. "The Competitive Advantage." AALL Spectrum 17(1):20-22 (September/October 2012)

Law firm library director Ball describes ways in which law firm librarians, experts at mining for information, can engage in competitive intelligence research to assist their companies in achieving successful client relationships and discovering business development opportunities.

Bannen, Carol. "Use Elists to Expand Your Network and Meet Subject-Matter Experts." <u>InsideTrack</u> (November 7, 2012) http://www.wisbar.org/am/template.cfm?section=insidetrack&template=/customsource/insidetrack/contentdisplay.cfm&contentid=114559

Black, Nicole L. "Internet Research Tips and Tricks for Lawyers." <u>LLRX</u> (October 21, 2012) http://www.llrx.com/features/researchtipsforlawyers.htm

"Blawg 100." ABA Journal 98(12):34-45 (December 2012)

This alphabetical list of blawgs is categorized by icons representing subjects, with stars for "Hall of Fame" blawgs. Each entry includes a brief description of the blawg and why it was chosen. While most target practicing lawyers, many would be useful for law librarians as well, and one is written specifically for law firm librarians: "Dewey B Strategic," at deweybstrategic.blogspot.com.

Garvin, Peggy. "Tracking Congress 2.0." Searcher 20(8):36-39 (October 2012)

This article reviews useful, free online resources for following/tracking federal legislation and legislator activity, including THOMAS, GovTrace, OpenCongress, and Scout.

Hassler, Carol. "Changing Your Domain Name in 25 Nail-Biting Steps." Computers in Libraries 32(9):13-18 (November 2012)

Hassler, Carol. "Organizing County Legal Information in Wisconsin." <u>AALL Spectrum</u> 17(1):24-25 (September/October 2012)

This article focuses on the origins and maintenance of the State Law Library's County Legal Resources database, and plans for its future.

Herther, Nancy K. "Content Curation Tools: A Look at Some of the Best." Searcher 20(8):27-35 (October 2012)

In the past five years, content curation has begun to be proposed as a solution for managing Internet information overload. This first part in a series of articles focuses on some of the content curation products that are available, as well as some curation-related issues that remain unsettled.

Koshollek, Mary J. "A Review of Free Fastcase Mobile App." InsideTrack (December 5, 2012)
http://www.wisbar.org/AM/Template.cfm (Pecember 5, 2012)
http://www.wisbar.org/AM/Temp

Schindler, Lindzey. "Skirting the Ethical Line: The Quandary of Online Legal Forms." <u>Chapman Law Review</u> 16:185-209 (spring 2012)

This comment summarizes the practices of online, do-it-yourself legal products, considers applicable ABA Model Rules and ABA Formal Opinion 10-457 on the ethical use of websites, and proposes legislation to address concerns of both lawyers and non-lawyers regarding the online practice of law.

Scibelli-Bouthilet, Nancy. "Law Firm Articles: A Great Way to Track Changes in the Law, But How Do You Find Them?" InsideTrack (October 3, 2012)

 $\underline{http://www.wisbar.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=InsideTrack\&Template=/CustomSource/InsideTrack/contentDisplay.cfm\&ContentID=113842}$

Zillman, Marcus P. "New Economy Web Guide 2013 Under Obama." LLRX (December 2, 2012) http://www.llrx.com/features/neweconomy2013.htm

Zillman, Marcus P. "Statistics Resources and Big Data on the Internet." <u>LLRX</u> (October 7, 2012) http://www.llrx.com/features/statisticsdataresources.htm

For the full list of recommended readings, click here.

LLAW Meeting Minutes and Reports

Meeting minutes are available in PDF by clicking the links below.

- 2012-2013 Second Quarterly Executive Board Meeting, October 30, 2012, Quarles & Brady LLP, Madison and Milwaukee, WI
- 2012-2013 Second Quarterly Business Meeting, November 15, 2012, Joey Buona's, Milwaukee, WI



Events Calendar

| 2013 | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| June 9-11, 2013 | SLA, San Diego, CA | |
| July 13-16, 2013 | AALL, Seattle, WA | |
| October 22-25, 2013 | WLA Annual Conference, Green Bay, WI | |
| October 28-30, 2013 | Internet Librarian, Monterey, CA | |
| Future AALL Annual Meetings | | |

July 12-15, 2014 San Antonio, TXJuly 18-21, 2015 Philadelphia, PAJuly 16-19, 2016 Chicago, IL

Future SLA Meetings

June 8-10, 2014 Vancouver, BC, Canada June 14-16, 2015 Boston, MA

Future WLA Meetings

November 4-7, 2014 Wisconsin Dells

The deadline for submitting articles for the next

LLAW BRIEFS is March 1, 2013

Submit articles to

<u>lucy.kelly@gmail.com</u> and <u>alynch@staffordlaw.com</u>

