

March 14

Tour of Julia Ideson Building

At Houston Public Library

11:45 a.m.

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HALL Newsletter

VOLUME 29, NUMBER 1

JANUARY FEBRUARY 2012

From the President

While you are looking at the first issue of *HALL Newsletter* for 2012, the new year is already in full swing with two successful meetings behind us.

In January, we had a wonderful turnout at this year's community service project organized by Catherine Whitney. At the January 14th Urban Harvest Annual Fruit Tree Sale, HALL members helped out. The following week Mark Juedeman from Urban Harvest came to our monthly meeting to speak about the organization and its goals for 2012. In February, we enjoyed a lively presentation by Joyce Janto, AALL Immediate Past President and heard about goals and initiatives of AALL.

We hope you will be able to join us in March for a field trip to the newly renovated Julia Ideson Building and a tour of the archives – hope to see you soon!

-Saskia



HALL President
Saskia Mehlhorn

Continuing Education



HALL Vice-President
Patti Curtis

These first two months are going by quickly! In January, Catherine Whitney, our Community Service Chair, brought in Mark Juedeman from Urban Harvest to discuss their involvement in urban gardens, farms and orchards throughout the City. We also had a great time at their Fruit Tree Sale.

Most recently, we had our AALL visit by Joyce Janto, Immediate Past President. Joyce is definitely a good sport! She put up with some bad bowling – well, bad on my part. Even though I came in third, and yes there were only three bowlers, it was still a lot of fun. I did reach my goal of knocking down more pins than my age!!! Joyce, thanks for all of the information on what's going on at AALL and I'll buy you a drink when we are in Boston.

Coming up:

- In March, we will be touring the new Julia Ideson wing at Houston Public Library. More details to follow.
- In April, our topic will be, "Generational Diversity and Teambuilding" and our speaker will be Elizabeth Campbell. Please note, the meeting will be held on Thursday, April 12 at Andrews Kurth.
- May is our annual business meeting!

-Patti

HALL Service Project—Urban Harvest!



On a bright clear January 14th, HALL members gathered to assist with the Urban Harvest Annual Fruit Tree Sale on the campus of the University of Houston. There was a large variety of trees and plants available, everything from lemons to kumquats to blackberries. HALL helped mostly with cleanup, taking down temporary fencing, sweeping, and loading plants into trucks. Catherine Whitney and Patti Curtis did a great job organizing! Thanks to them both for their fine efforts, and for the great snacks!



A wonderful time was had by all! Clockwise from top left: Emily Lawson; (l-r) Patti Curtis, Dan Baker, Catherine Whitney, Saskia Mehlhorn, Helen Boyce, Mary Lippold; Helen Boyce; (l-r) Heather Waltman and Mary Ann Wacker; Mary Lippold; (l-r) Riva Laughlin and Saskia Mehlhorn; Tebowing with Joe Lawson and Mary Ann Wacker (photos courtesy of Patti Curtis)



HALL Member Spotlight: Alice Fosson

I did not have to go far to interview this month's Member Spotlight—just outside my door! I have spent nine years working side-by-side with Alice Fosson and she is easily one of the most talented and hardest-working librarians I know. I have learned so much from her!

Alice grew up here in Houston and graduated from Aldine High School. In her pre-librarian life, Alice worked for Gordon's Jewelers as a watch buyer for their United Catalog stores (native Houstonians might remember that store) and worked downtown in the home office. She also

worked in Gordon's stores during busy times like Christmas. She said she still notes what brand of watch people wear.

One night after work at the mall, she noticed a handsome man with his friends in a sporty blue Camaro and decided to go for a drive with them. That man, Robert, and Alice have been married for 38 years now!

Encouraged by an attorney friend, Alice decided to change careers and attended paralegal school in the evenings while at Gordon's. When she had completed the course, she realized she needed to go back and finish her bachelor's degree. By this time Alice and Robert had a son, James, born in 1981. Robert was able to take care of James so Alice could return to school at the University of Houston Downtown and finish up her studies.

Alice worked for five years at the Harris County Law Library, and came to Bracewell in 1990. While at Bracewell, Alice was part of the first-ever Library School program offered by North Texas in the Houston area—one of her classmates was Elizabeth Berry. Once Alice finished her Master's Degree, she was given the position of Reference Librarian and has been here ever since!

Alice is very proud of her career and even had license plates on her car that read "TXJUR." She was featured in a *Texas Lawyer* article about vanity license plates in the legal profession ("Vanity Flair" 2/23/2004). Alice is quoted as saying, "I'm proud of my job and I wanted to make a statement about being a law librarian." She said our job is "never, never boring" and she enjoys learning something every day. Alice helped Connie Pine years ago when Connie and Carolyn Kormas created the Legal Division part of SLA. Alice contacted publishers and asked them to be sponsors for the Division and to advertise in the newsletter.

Robert and Alice live in the Spring area with their cat Jake. Alice relishes her newest role-grandmother-to 20-month old Mark.

Sadly for me, Alice is retiring on September 28th. She is counting down the days (and hours and minutes!). After 21 1/2 years at Bracewell, it's well-deserved. She and Robert plan on purchasing an RV and will travel around the Western part of the United States April through October of each year. First stop this fall is Oregon. They will spend the other part of the year on their property between Palestine and Frankston so she can keep some of her belongings from their home, which they plan on selling.

Alice loves being in nature and is looking forward to spending more time outdoors while they travel. She has enjoyed past trips to the Grand Canyon and Bonneville Dam. Alice loves to read, and also plans on doing more embroidery also during retirement. Another goal: taking lots of photos to put in scrapbooks/notebooks and post on Facebook. So be sure and "friend" Alice to follow her adventures!



Three generations of Fosson men: Robert, James, and Mark



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HALL Meeting Minutes January

HALL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Jan. 18, 2012

South Texas College of Law

Meeting called to order: at 12:10 p.m.

Minutes approved: as printed in the Newsletter

Treasurer's Report: On tables. Because there has been a change in treasurer, we will need to audit books.

Saskia will send a request to HALL-L asking for suggestions of an accountants to do the audit.

OLD BUSINESS: HALL-iday party was fantastic.

NEW BUSINESS: HeinOnline vendor forum is coming up.

- The first meeting of the HALL book club will meet on Feb. 24 at noon, F&J. We will be discussing *The Invisible Gorilla*.
- Mary Lippold has been approached about the Face to the Name project. Vietnam Memorial wall (DC) - want to put a face (photo) with every name on Wall. The Memorial folks can provide the name, DOB, casualty date for the service member. Volunteers will try to find pictures (from yearbooks, family members, etc.) Photos can upload directly to database by the volunteer or the family. Anyone interested in helping, contact Mary and she will send a list of 10 names to start with.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Archives: none

Bylaws: none

Continuing Education: Feb. AALL visit go to Lucky Strike; March - trip to Bush library at A&M

Community Service: today's presentation by Urban Harvest

Government Relations: none

Library School Liaison: none

Membership: new password for the HALL directory. Call if you need it.

Nominations: none

Placement: Research Services position available at Greenberg

Newsletter: none

Publications: none

Scholarships and Grants: deadline April 1

Vendor Relations: HeinOnline Jan. 19

Website: none

Meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

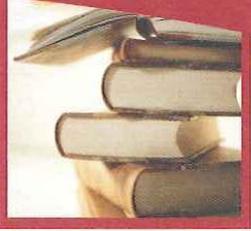
-Submitted by Riva Laughlin, HALL Secretary

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HALL Board Meeting Minutes February

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL
HALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Feb. 3, 2012
Fulbright and Jaworski

Meeting called to order at 12:05 p.m.

In attendance: Riva Laughlin, Patti Curtis, DeeDee Mulligan (by phone), Saskia Melhorn, Nanette Collins, Sarah Gutierrez

Minutes: approved

Treasurer's Report: We're still looking for someone with accounting (for non-profits) experience to help with the audit of the books.

OLD BUSINESS: We sent a fruit basket to Trisha Pettitt in sympathy for the death of her mom, Violanda Fabugais, a long time member of HALL prior to her retirement.

We sent a fruit basket to Jessica Alexander for get well wishes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Plans for the March bus trip to the Bush library in Bryan have fallen through. Patti will try to work out a half day seminar/visit to see the improvements to the Julia Ideson building and the downtown branch of Houston Public Library.
- The April meeting on diversity will be on Thursday, April 12 at Andrews, Kurth. We may extend an invitation to the HBA for this one.
- Our website hosting contract expires in 18 months. Keep watch with AALL to see if they will support what our site needs by then. Would like to move site to AALL hosting if possible.
- Ask Richard Guajardo we can have a blog on the website.
- Something to consider - if firm/company/school doesn't cover expenses for HALL meetings for VP and Pres., have those expenses covered by HALL.
- Approved purchase of new box for storing treasurer records. Current box is pretty ratty.

Meeting adjourned: 12:30 p.m.

-Submitted by Riva Laughlin, HALL Secretary

KEEP IT CURRENT

Library Update Service



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HALL Meeting Minutes February

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL
 HALL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
 Feb. 8, 2012
 South Texas College of Law

Meeting called to order: 12:05 p.m.

Saskia welcomed Joyce Janto, AALL Immediate Past President

Minutes approved: as corrected

Saskia called for a moment of silence in remembrance of Violanda Fabugais.

Treasurer's Report: on the tables. Looking for someone to help with our audit.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: Book club meeting, Feb. 24, Fulbright & Jaworski. We will be discussing the book *The Invisible Gorilla*.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Archives: none

Bylaws: none

Continuing Education: March meeting - Bush library cancelled. Half-day planned to tour HPL

Community Service: none

Government Relations: none

Library School Liaison: none

Membership: none

Nominations: none

Placement: none

Newsletter: deadline Feb. 17

Publications: none

Scholarships and Grants: deadline Apr. 1

Vendor Relations: none

Website: info re: Vietnam Memorial is on website.

Announcement - March 23 - South Texas will be offering a day long seminar on Camp Logan riots. \$20 includes 6 hours CLE and lunch.

Patti and Catherine did a great job setting up volunteer opportunity at Urban Harvest.

Meeting was adjourned 12:15 p.m.

-Submitted by Riva Laughlin, HALL Secretary

Learn How to Make Your Voice Heard in State Advocacy

In the midst of state budget cuts that threaten the very existence of public law libraries and a growing number of state governments looking to eliminate print legal resources in favor of online-only, now is a critical time for law librarians to speak up for the important issues that affect the profession.

Join the free webinar, Making Your Voice Heard: Your Role in State Advocacy, on **March 20 at 11 a.m. CST**, to learn practical skills and strategies to make a difference in your state. You'll hear the latest and most effective ways to influence decision-makers and come away prepared to advocate for the enactment of the *Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA)* to ensure authentication and preservation of electronic legal material in your state. Register by March 13. This webinar is free for AALL members and chapter members.

<http://www.aallnet.org/Home-page-contents/Events/Making-Your-Voice-Heard-Your-Role-in-State-Advocacy.html>



Visit from Joyce Janto



(l-r) HALL Vice-President Patti Curtis, AALL Past President Joyce Janto, HALL President Saskia Mehlhorn (photo courtesy of Mary Ann Wacker)

AALL Immediate Past-President Joyce gave us an overview of what is going on with the AALL Board:

- Volunteer for a Committee!
- Leadership/Management academies
- Grants for Education—only conditions are: used for educational programs and anyone who is a member of AALL can attend for same price
- Report of the “Velvet Chainsaw” consulting group for changes to Annual Meeting format
- AALL’s role in creating Uniform Law for certification of electronic documents
- Vendor Relations—create uniform practices for invoices
- Legislative Action Center—on AALLnet, an easy way to communicate with Congress
- AALL is doing much better financially—Philadelphia meeting a success, good investments
- Board is very open/transparent—members can see everything the Board sees



Mary Lippold, Associate Director for Administrative Services at South Texas College of Law, is the new Management columnist for *TSLL*, a quarterly publication of the Technical Services Special Interest Section and the Online Bibliographic Services Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/tsll/>.

You can see her inaugural column in the latest issue on the *TSLL* website <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/tssis/tsll/37-02/37-02.pdf>.

The HALL Newsletter, published 6 times a year by the HALL Publications Committee, is the official publication of the Houston Area Law Librarians. The purpose is to communicate information to its members. Send contributions, comments, news items, or advertising queries to Mary Ann Wacker, Editor, maryann.wacker@bgllp.com.

All contributions submitted for publication are subject to editorial review. HALL does not assume responsibility for the statements of contributors. Views or opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of Houston Area Law Librarians. The HALL Newsletter is not copyrighted, however, permission should be sought from the authors and credit given when quoting or photocopying material from this publication.

Membership dues for HALL are \$25/year. For membership information, please contact Jeannie Mazzone at jmazzone@stcl.edu or 713-646-2908.

Membership form is available here: <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/hall/dues.pdf>

Registration for the 2012 AALL Annual Meeting is Now Open!

Designed by law librarians, for law librarians, the AALL Annual Meeting is an event you look forward to every year. Join nearly 2,000 of your colleagues from across the country to find out what they are doing in their libraries.

This year in Boston, July 21-24, you can look forward to:

- Keynote speaker Richard Susskind
- Nearly 100 educational sessions
- A bustling Exhibit Hall featuring about 100 vendors
- The return of the Association Luncheon
- Connecting with the people who understand the issues you face every day



Make sure your plans for 2012 include the No.1 educational conference for legal information professionals – you can't afford to miss it. Registration will open February 13. <http://www.aallnet.org/conference>



AALL2go Picks of the Month

The Five-Minute Strategic Plan: When You Don't Have the Time or Resources to Do It Perfectly

<http://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=952235>

Strategic planning is one process for setting goals and priorities. What we do and how we do it contributes to what we want to achieve in the long term. However, it is easy to become distracted by unwieldy and repetitive processes, jargon, and arguments over whether something is a goal, outcome, principle, or strategy. Learn a simple, proven model that translates strategic planning into four basic steps (plus one repeating step). It allows for effective design and execution when time is short and you need to move ahead quickly – without driving yourself and other people crazy.

This program is presented by **Pat Wagner** of Pattern Research, Inc. Wagner's entertaining programs are well-known for offering specific, practical skills and strategies that can be applied immediately to real problems.

The New Generation of Legal Research Databases: Eighteen Months Later

<http://www.softconference.com/aall/sessionDetail.asp?SID=250810>

In January 2010, WestlawNext and Lexis for Microsoft Office were unveiled at the Legal Tech trade show in New York. Both products, with their natural language and Google-like search capabilities, promised simplified research and workflow collaboration for attorneys, paralegals, law students, and law librarians.

At the 2011 AALL Annual Meeting, a panel of law librarians convened to discuss the results of their survey of WestlawNext users and share their experiences using the next generation of legal research databases (due to the delayed debut of Lexis for Microsoft Office and Lexis Advance, only WestlawNext was discussed). The panel used a “lessons learned” approach regarding database strengths and weaknesses, pricing, generational differences among users, and training. This session provides an excellent overview for any law library that is considering WestlawNext or already using it but wants to compare it with other database options.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall

Dear HALL Members,

There are more than 58,000 names on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in DC, over 300 of them are from the Houston Area. The "Virtual Wall" is a database that includes a profile for each of those individuals. Less than half include a picture. One of the goals of the EDUCATION CENTER AT THE WALL is that every profile includes a picture. In addition to being included on each soldier's profile, these photos will also be displayed in the Education Center once it is completed.

Recently I was talking with the founder of the OPERATION AMERICAN HEROES FOUNDATION who himself was a Green Beret in Vietnam. He had been contacted to help find photos for the Houston soldiers. He was talking about asking some veterans' groups for help when I interrupted him and told him what he needed were librarians, this is what we are really good at! He sent me the spread sheet that had been given to him. It contains the name, date of birth, date of casualty, city, rank, service branch and whether they have a photo yet. We hope to make sure there is a "Face for Every Name" for all those from the Houston area!

If you would like to help with this project, email me and I will send you 10 names and the info that I have. How you go about finding the photos is up to you, but may include contacting their descendants, high school, church, local newspapers, etc. Some people already have obituary, memorial or genealogy pages of their own that have pictures .

You or those you find who have the pictures can upload the pictures directly through the link below. There are a couple of webpages from where you can upload pictures, but the link below is the newest one and the most comprehensive. Of course, if people would rather send you (or me) the picture or scan, we would be glad to upload it for them. A lot of the information it asks for in the submission form can be found on the soldier's profile in the Virtual Wall database. Let me know when a picture is uploaded so I can update the spread sheet.

Thank you for all your help. Let's show them what librarians can do!

Mary

Mary Lippold
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Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund

<http://www.vvmf.org/>

The Virtual Wall

<http://www.vvmf.org/thewall>

The Education Center at the Wall - Put a face with the name

<http://www.buildthecenter.org/join-the-campaign/pafwan.html>

How to Submit a Photo

<http://www.buildthecenter.org/join-the-campaign/pafwan/submit-a-photo.html>



Houston Area Law Librarians

P.O. Box 61648
Houston TX 77208

- Ideas
- Sharing
- Education
- Cooperation
- Resources
- Networking

Houston Area Law Librarians is a chapter of the American Association of Law Librarians.

Our monthly meetings are held at the South Texas College of Law. We present a half-day seminar in the Fall and a full-day seminar in the Spring on legal topics.

There are close to 200 members of HALL. We are librarians in firms, law schools, and courts as well as vendors and Library School students.

<http://www.houstonarealawlibrarians.com/>

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