

VALL Newsletter

Virginia Association of Law Libraries

Volume 22, Number 2

Fall 2006

2006 – 2007 VALL Officers

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Evelyn M. Campbell
Hunton & Williams, LLP
Richmond, VA

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Regent University Law Library
Virginia Beach, VA

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Marshall-Wythe Law Library
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Woods Rogers PLC
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Marshall-Wythe Law Library
Williamsburg, VA

Femi Cadmus
George Mason University Law Library
Arlington, VA

Ex Officio

Micheal Klepper
University of Virginia School of Law
Charlottesville, VA

VALL Website:

<http://law.richmond.edu/vall/>

In This Issue

VALL Committee Chairs	3	St Louis Roundup	7
Secretary Report	4	Financial Statement	9
In & Around VALL	5	2006 Program	14



From the President Evelyn Campbell

This summer has been a tumultuous one for our little association. It was with deep regret that we accepted the resignation of the vice president/president elect, Margaret Christiansen. We wish her all the best as she battles her health issues and we look forward to having her participate in VALL activities again very soon. We are grateful that Kevin Butterfield was brave enough to say "yes" when we came calling and I am looking forward to the fresh new perspective and ideas Kevin will bring to this position. It will be an exciting new year for VALL.

I hope that you will all take advantage of the publishing and marketing ideas from the upcoming annual meeting on Nov. 3 - 4, the theme of which evolved from suggestions and ideas from various committee chairs and members of VALL.

Once again VALL members took up the challenge of putting together programs under a very tight deadline created by circumstances beyond anyone's control and they rose to the occasion. Thank you all for your hard work!

Come one, come all, and enjoy fall in Richmond.

Evelyn



VALL at St. Louis with the AALL Birthday cake. With so many high rollers in VALL, they let us keep the cake. Well I guess they did, Gail and Joyce were wheeling it out.

Evelyn, Gail, Leanne, and Theresa surround Merrill Chertok, late of the Alexandria Public Law Library.



VALL Committee Chairs 2006 - 2007

By-Laws: Marie Hamm	Grants: Marty Rush
Legislative Awareness: Terry Long	Membership: Michele Gernhardt
Newsletter: Micheal Klepper	Nominating: Nancy Loewenberg
Placement: Femi Cadmus	Public Relations: Jean Holcomb Leanne Battle
Publications: Gail Warren	Preservation: Patricia Petroccione
Programs: Margaret Christiansen	Recruitment: Anthony Ikwueme

Administrative Positions 2006 2007

Archivist	Gail Warren
Chapter Leadership Handbook Editor	Jennifer Sekula
Postmaster	Terry Long
VLA Liaison	Alyssa Altshuler
Webmaster	Paul Birch

VALL Spring Quarterly Meeting
Kitchen K, St. Louis, MO
7/11/06

Call to order: Evelyn Campbell

Minutes: Change in minutes from second quarter meeting. Jennifer Sekula and Robert Weber should have been listed as members of the Program Committee. The minutes were approved with the corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of 7/1/06, \$18,275.94. The membership voted to give \$300 to the Virginia Library Association for their legislative efforts.

Grants Committee: The application form for the grant to attend the Annual Meeting is now available on the website. The grant for the AALL annual meeting will be posted next spring.

Membership Committee: It's still renewal time, and memberships are still being added and renewed.

Nominating Committee: The Gentle Persuaders look forward to members' willingness to serve VALL when asked.

Public Relations: The Public Relations Committee has 2 initiatives for this year:

- 1) They are developing a form for nominating a chapter VIP, emphasizing the return on the investment for VALL. Members are urged to look for VIPs with whom we can build a relationship or an understanding;
- 2) They have written a model press release to announce members' achievements. Send them your news, and they will send the press release to the appropriate outlet.

Handbook Editor: An interim version of the VALL Handbook is ready, and will be on the website soon. If you see changes that need to be made to it, please let Jennifer Sekula know as soon as possible.

Website Redesign: Micheal Klepper is waiting to coordinate suggestions made at last Board meeting. Marie Hamm is working on the secondary content, much of which is out-of-date. Volunteers are welcome to help with the design or to critique drafts.

New Business: The VALL pre-party will be at 5:45 on July 12 in room 1745 of the Renaissance Grand. Joyce Janto handed out tickets for the VALL table.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15.



It's been a busy summer for VALL members! For those who are leaving the state and law librarianship, we wish you all the best, and for those who are changing places of employment, we look forward to seeing you at VALL events.

1. After ten years as Director of the Alexandria Law Library, Merrill Chertok, has moved on to a new position as Manager of Site Libraries for Microsoft Corporation. During her first year, she will help design a new library facility at the company's headquarters in Redmond, Washington, while managing the activities of three satellite library sites spread across the country. She and her husband are very excited about moving to the beautiful Pacific Northwest region, but will miss the sunshine! Although she is moving to a corporate environment, Merrill plans to remain active in law librarianship by attending and speaking at professional meetings, and hopes to meet up with all of her VALL colleagues at the annual luncheon.
2. Former VALL President, Bobbie Denny, has left the Fairfax Public Law Library to pursue other interests.
3. Theresa Schmid who was with the Richmond Public Law Library has moved to the Virginia Legislative Reference Center as research associate.
4. Eileen Meagher formerly of the Chesterfield County Public Law Library is now the library assistant at Hirschler Fleischer in Richmond.
5. William Perkins, who was automation/reference librarian at the Richmond library of Hunton & Williams has moved across the street to the Federal Reserve Bank where he is senior library information analyst.

<p>2007 Spring Meeting Location: Lynchburg, VA Host: Liberty University Law Library Date: May 11 - 12 Theme: What is/Are Lawyering Skills?</p> <p>2007 Spring Meeting Location: Lynchburg, VA Host: Liberty University Law Library Date: May 11 - 12 Theme: What is/Are Lawyering Skills?</p>	<p>2007 Annual Meeting Joint VLA/VALL Meeting Location: The Homestead Date: Nov. 1 - 2 Theme: Has not been set yet Keynote speakers: David Baldacci & Roy Tennant</p>
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**From: Heather H. Buchanan
Suffolk Law Library**

Suffolk's Law library opens its doors to all

Allison T. Williams Don't come expecting legal advice. But users of the Suffolk Law Library can expect to find a wealth of resources at their fingertips that will enable them to better understand and, perhaps resolve, their own legal issues.

Tucked away in a corner of the third floor of the Mills E. Godwin Jr. Courts Building, the law library has more than 1,000 volumes of law books and legal periodicals available to the public and law community.

For more of this story, click on or type the URL below:

<http://www.suffolknewsherald.com/articles/2006/06/13/news/news2.txt>

In the count me in for the other ticket award.....

For attending the LexisNexis Litigation Service suite of product demonstrations at the AALL Annual meeting exhibition, **Jane R. Baugh**, Information Services Director at Woods Rogers PLC in Roanoke, VA, won a cruise for two to the Bahamas and Nassau aboard Royal Caribbean's Majesty of the Seas. Bon Voyage, Jane!

And Congrats to:

The LexisNexis/John R. Johnson Memorial Scholarships and the LexisNexis Academic & Library Solutions/James F. Connelly Scholarships ensure more AALL members will reach their educational goals. These scholarships are named for LexisNexis visionaries who strongly believed in the value of law librarians-and in their potential as the legal profession evolved.

A 2006 scholarship recipient from VALL is:

Michele Gernhardt

St. Louis Roundup

Cynthia L. Smith

McGuireWoods LLP

Traveling to AALL this year felt a little different. For the first time, I was a speaker and not just an attendee. I am not normally nervous about presentations, but the idea of a national audience was causing a few twinges. Since our program was scheduled for Tuesday afternoon, I had plenty of time to imagine all the worst case scenarios. I also had ample time to attend seminars, “network”, browse the vendor hall and see a bit of St Louis. Here are some of the things I enjoyed most.

Program highlights:

And You Thought Gadgets Were Only for the Kitchen>Returns: current gadgets

I had heard praise of previous presentations and looked forward to seeing the “show”. VALL’s own Roger Skalbeck and friends presented a lively program highlighting the latest technology gadgets. Two particular items are now on my wish list. First is the PowerSquid <http://www.powersquid.net/>. With its wide-spreading tentacles, PowerSquid eliminates the hassles of traditional power strips by allowing easy access to all sockets and high level surge protection. Features vary by model, but this product is both functional and cool looking. What more could you ask! The second item that caught my attention was the Swiss Army knife with USB flash drive <http://www.thinkgeek.com>. This is such a strange combination of items (also includes a red LED light, ballpoint pen, knife, scissors, file with screwdriver) that I feel compelled to buy one for that perfect combination of novelty and practicality. As someone mentioned during the session – if it only had a corkscrew!

Survey Skill: asking the right questions

In part one of this program, Ronda Fisch discussed the use of surveys as an effective tool to gather feedback on the quality of service we currently deliver and to assist in planning future services. Much of the discussion focused on determining what to ask and how to present the questions most effectively. Part two was led by Stephanie Fox and focused on how to create surveys using free or low-cost survey software. Tools like Survey Monkey and Zoomerang allow users to easily create professional-looking electronic surveys. These tools also offer several ways to collate and analyze your results.

Exhibit Hall notables:

All of the usual suspects were in the exhibit hall this year, hawking the traditional wears. A couple of new products stood out for me.

Casesoft (<http://www.casesoft.com/>) has developed software that many litigation teams would appreciate. CaseMap allows you to analyze and connect the facts, events, key players and issues in your case. Companion software, TimeMap allows you to quickly create simple and intricate visual time lines for your projects. While they have been around for a while, the company was recently

acquired by LexisNexis.

Contour Design (see <http://www.contourdesign.com>) also had an intriguing computer product, but not a program. This company produces the Roller Mouse. This ergonomically designed device replaces the traditional mouse thereby eliminating some of the typical shoulder and wrist strains. While the website is informative, this product *feels* so different that only an actual demonstration can really convey how great this product. This is also on the wish list!

Best quote of the conference: "Everyone is entitled to their own opinions, everyone is not entitled to their own facts." *Missouri Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Wolff during his presentation on Trends in Legal Education and in Law Practice*

Must see in St. Louis: Everyone should see the Botanical Gardens and take the obligatory ride to the top of the Arch.

As for my earlier twinges, no worst case scenarios occurred. Tim Chinaris, Charles Oates and I presented a program many of you may have seen at a VALL or SEAALL meeting in the past – *Pioneering Professionalism: the journey begins with ethics*. The PowerPoint worked, Tim and Charles were great, I remembered most of the points I wanted to make and we had great audience participation. As I say after every presentation - Over Equals Success!

I left St Louis feeling better informed and better connected to my colleagues and my profession.



OK then, what better way to connect with your colleagues..... Jeez , those are some rosy cheeks.



VALL

Virginia Association of Law Libraries Financial Statement

GENERAL SUMMARY: May 1, 2006 - October 12, 2006

RECEIPTS

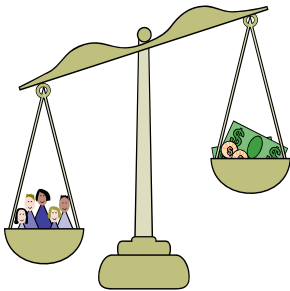
Sponsorship	
Membership Dues:	\$ 2,085.00
Meetings:	\$ 3,558.02
Newsletter:	
Donations:	\$ 750.00

Total: \$ 6,393.02

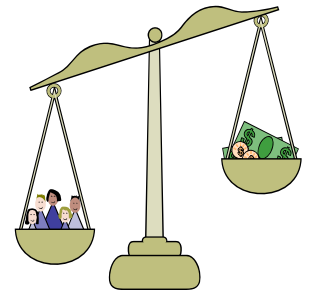
EXPENDITURES

Membership:	
Meetings:	\$2,918.47
Newsletter:	
Grants:	\$1,000.00
Supplies:	\$180.83
Post Office Box:	
Postage:	\$132.58
Donations:	\$300.00
VALL Memberships:	\$110.00
Educational Sponsorships:	
Miscellaneous	\$5,188.90

TOTAL: \$9,830.78



BEGINNING BALANCE:	\$18,475.94
RECEIPTS:	\$ 6,393.02
EXPENDITURES:	<u>\$ 9,830.78</u>
ENDING BALANCE:	\$15,038.18



For the full report, contact Jeanne Ullian at jullian@williamsmullen.com

Treasurers Report
Jeanne Ullian

Recent disbursements include \$110 for our annual membership renewal to the Virginia Coalition for Open Government (VCOG), \$300 for our annual donation to the Virginia Library Association (VLA) Legislative Fund, and \$130 to renew our liability insurance through AALL.

Kevin Butterfield, our new VP/PE has been busy signing SunTrust forms granting him full rights over all of our financial accounts. With two approved signatures we were finally able to transfer \$5000 from the VALL checking account into a 13-month CD, which is earning interest.

Our treasury continues to grow due to membership renewals and good budgeting by our meeting planners. The efforts of Michele Gernhardt, membership chair, will soon be evident in the publication of our 2006/2007 Membership Directory. However, I have advised the IRS through Form 990 that we are still below the minimum amount that requires sharing any of our funds with them!

For those interested in what the \$300 to VLA goes toward:

**Virginia Library Association
Approved Legislative Agenda 2007**

Funding—In Priority Order

Infopowering—Electronic Resources Through *FIND IT VIRGINIA!*

Find It Virginia provides a core electronic database collection of full text reference works, magazines/newspaper articles for all public libraries, K-12 and Community Colleges. VLA is requesting \$6M for FY 2008 to renew and expand these resources. Expanded resources are needed to support the current SOL's in the areas of literature, science and history. These funds will provide additional resources to all Virginians including after school homework help for students.

Without additional funding in FY 2008, it will not be possible to maintain the current resources due to price increases.

State Aid for Public Libraries

In the current FY07/08 budget, State Aid was funded at \$17.7M or 73% of full funding (\$24.2M) and represents a \$1.3M increase per year over FY 06 funding. As a result of this action, no additional funding will be requested at the 2007 General Assembly session. VLA will resume its efforts towards full funding for State Aid at the 2008 General Assembly session.

Library of Virginia

The Library of Virginia provides vital assistance to libraries throughout the Commonwealth. It also serves as Virginia's library, housing records and documents of importance to all citizens. VLA strongly supports the budget request of the Library of Virginia to the Virginia General Assembly for FY 2008.

Internet Access

Public Internet access in public libraries is regulated through locally developed and approved acceptable use policies. VLA strongly supports this existing policy.

VLA will support the legislative activities of the following:

VIVA
Virginia Educational Media Association
Virginia Association of Law Libraries

Treasurer's Report

Jeanne Ullian

Fiscal 2005/2006 Final Report

Since my last report our major expenditures have been: \$110 for VCOG 2005/2006 annual dues, \$72 for PO Box Renewal, \$132.58 for the mailing of ballots (with copying costs underwritten by LexisNexis), and \$48.25 for new checks. We received a check from West for \$1070.38 to cover catering expenses at the Winter Quarter Meeting.

With a Beginning Cash Balance of \$13,360.31 and an Ending Cash Balance of \$18,475.94 we end the 2005/2006 year on a positive note. Our balance increase is primarily due to vendor underwriting of: the directory; quarterly meeting catering expenses, grants, and printing costs. Annual membership dues are another important contribution as well as decreased costs as we move more of our communications to electronic format.


In addition to our checking account we have a Savings Account, which shows a balance of \$2082.00 as of May 5, 2006.

On May 5, 2006 our checking account and savings account at SunTrust were converted from a Personal Account (grandfathered in under our EIN to function as a Business Account) to a true Business Account. We now have checking plus interest and I am looking into moving some of our funds into CDs. The Business Account will greatly simplify the "signature issue" as our officers change from year to year.

This is also the last year that we will be reporting on a May 1 through April 30 "fiscal year." For several good reasons the Treasurer Excel spreadsheets were set up with these dates. However, according to our bylaws our fiscal year runs from June 1 through May 31. To facilitate this change I am moving our records into Quicken, which will also make it easier to pull out reports that overlap the fiscal year.

Fiscal Year 2006/2007 Report (based on May 1, 2006-May 31, 2007 FY)

Our checking account balance as of June 13, 2006 is \$19,825.07. This increase is due primarily to 2006/2007 membership renewals. Cynthia Smith was awarded the 2006 VALL Grant for \$1000 to attend AALL. LexisNexis funded \$750 of this amount with the remaining \$250 from VALL funds.





SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

Have you: Attended a seminar? Published an article? Received an award? Been elected or appointed to an office or committee? Traveled out of the state or country?

TELL US ABOUT IT! WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING!

WHO? _____

WHAT? _____

WHERE? _____

WHEN? _____

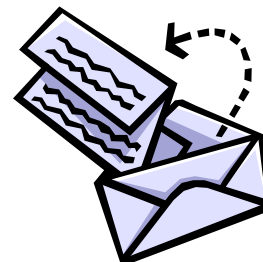
WHY? _____

HOW? _____

Submitted by _____

Library _____

Phone _____



Send your news to:

Micheal Klepper

Email Address:

mtk@virginia.edu







2006 VALL ANNUAL MEETING

Nov. 3 - 4, 2006

Hunton & Williams, LLP

951 E. Byrd St.

Richmond, VA 23219

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

Lunch (check one) for Sat. Nov. 4:

All lunches served with chips and a gourmet cookie:

- Curried Chicken** with lettuce on flaky croissant
- Veggie** with lettuce, tomato, onion, sprouts, cucumber, cheddar on whole wheat
- Turkey BLT** with bacon, lettuce, tomato on jalapeno & cheddar bread
- New Yorker** - corned beef with swiss cheese & spicy mustard on caraway rye
(Lunch is sponsored by the LexisNexis Librarian Relations Group)

NAME: _____

INSTITUTION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____ E-mail: _____

Publishing and Marketing Initiatives

Friday, Nov. 3:

1 - 1:45 p.m.: Registration : 20th Floor Foyer

1:45 - 2 p.m.: Welcome

2 - 3:00 p.m.: *It was a Dark and Stormy Night ...*

Ever been stuck like Snoopy and never quite getting past those first few words? This program will jump start your writing gears and offers tips on how and what to write for publications such as the Virginia Lawyers Weekly and The Journal

Speakers:

Deborah Elkins, Esq., Executive Editor, Virginia Lawyers Weekly.

Valerie M. O'Brien, Director of Communications and Public Affairs, Virginia Trial Lawyers Association.

Theresa "Terry" L. Dolson, Faculty Development Specialist, Center for Teaching Learning & Technology, University of Richmond.

Moderator: **Gail Warren**, Publications Committee Chair.

3 - 3: 15: Break

3:15 - 4:15 p.m.: *The Past, Present and Future of the Virginia Supreme Court Digital Records & Briefs Project.*

On Feb. 23, 2004, Jim Heller sent this message out to the Virginia law school library directors and to the state law librarian, Gail Warren: *"I'm wondering how many of you have and currently receive the Va. S.Ct. Records and Briefs. If the answer is everyone, or mostly everyone -- I think GMU, Richmond, W&L, UVA and W&M have them, but there might be others -- I'm wondering if this is a good use of our respective shelf space. If the answer is "maybe not," I'm wondering if it would make sense if 1 or 2 of the Va. law school libraries might agree to be repositories of the records and briefs, and circulate them to the others as requested."*

This message led to a unique undertaking -- the creation of the Virginia Law Libraries Digital Collections Consortium and a partnership with the Wm. S. Hein Co. to digitize the Virginia Supreme Court briefs. In this program Jim and Hein's Scott Fiddler tell the tale of the past, present, and future of the digital briefs project.

Speakers:

James Heller is the director of the law library and professor of law of the College of William & Mary's Marshall-Wythe School of Law. Jim has also served as president of the Virginia Association of Law Libraries, the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries and the American Association of Law Libraries.

Scott Fiddler is vice president of sales & marketing for William S. Hein & Co.

Moderator: **Kevin Butterfield**, Vice President & Program Committee Chair

4:15 - 5:15: **Tea Time** -- Enjoy an assortment of cakes and pastries and tea.

Saturday, Nov. 4:

9 - 10 a.m.: **Continental Breakfast** -- muffins, pastries, juices, coffee, tea.

10 - 11 a.m.: ***Marketing 101: From Ignorance to Bliss in Five Simple Steps.***

If you've ever thought to yourself, "Who has time for a 'real' marketing plan?" then this is the program for you. We'll cover five simple, practical steps you can take to make marketing 'real' in your firm. It's not as difficult to get a marketing program underway as you may fear -- but it does help to have an approach in mind before you begin. We'll cover the essentials and offer some examples of key events

you can take advantage of throughout the year, to help you get started.

Speaker:

Cindy Carlson is Thomson/West's librarian relations manager for Virginia and DC. Cindy has over 20 years of library experience, most recently as electronic resources librarian for Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson, LLP in Washington, DC. She has specialized in online research and legal research training and has presented programs at AALL. Cindy coordinates the Legal Research Training Focus Group for the Law Librarians' Society of DC, and has written several articles for Law Library Lights. She has also written extensively for LLRX.com

Moderator: **Evelyn Campbell**, President.

11 - 11:15 a.m.: Break

11:15 - 12:15 a.m.: ***Writing 21st Century News Releases***

Why are 98 percent of the news releases submitted to newspapers, radio and television stations never used by the media? How can you ensure that your news release is one of the two percent that gets used? This program will answer those questions and more by helping librarians prepare an effective news release that will beat the odds and secure media coverage. You will examine how the media define "news." You will learn how to write a release that contains "news," and you will be better equipped to handle media relations.

Speaker:

John W. Campbell, Jr. is director of public information for the Virginia Department of Forestry where he is responsible for media relations, policy advice, internal and external communications, publications, conservation education, special events, speech writing, photography and the agency's web site. He also taught public relations at Virginia Commonwealth University and Christopher Newport University. John holds a master's degree in media management, a bachelor's degree in public relations and an associate's degree in photojournalism.

Moderators: **Leanne Battle & Jean Holcomb**, co-chairs Public Relations Committee.

12: 15 - 1:15 p.m.: Lunch (Sponsored by LexisNexis Librarian Relations Group)

1:15 - 2 p.m.: VALL Business Meeting.

Restaurants in Shockoe Slip

Shockoe Slip is the city's oldest mercantile district and was once the site of the State Capitol building. This area has been a bustling hub since the 17th century. Though the earliest buildings here were destroyed during the Civil War, original cobblestones and structures dating from 1868-1888 make this beautiful and historic area a perfect place for sightseeing.

Richbrau Brewery

1214 E Cary St , Richmond, VA

Phone - (804) 644-3018

Sam Miller's Warehouse

1210 E Cary St , Richmond, VA

Phone - (804) 644-5465

La Grotta, Inc

1218 E Cary St , Richmond, VA

Phone - (804) 644-2466

Tobacco Company Restaurant

1201 E Cary St , Richmond, VA

Phone - (804) 782-9555

Kobe Japanese Steak & Sushi

19 S 13th St , Richmond, VA

Phone - (804) 643-8080

Hana Zushi

1309 E Cary St , Richmond, VA

Phone - (804) 225-8801

Peking Restaurant

1302 E Cary St , Richmond, VA

Phone - (804) 649-8888

Sine's Irish Pub

1327 E Cary St , Richmond, VA

Phone - (804) 649-7767

Hard Shell

1411 E Cary St , Richmond, VA

Phone - (804) 643-2333

For more restaurant listings: <http://www.richmondriverfront.com/restaurants.shtml>

Hotels

There are several hotels in the Shockoe Slip area and the ones listed below are within easy walking distance of Hunton & Williams. The prices quoted are from the hotels' own sites. You may get better deals through travel sites such as Expedia.com, etc.

Omni Richmond Hotel

100 South 12th Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219

Phone: (804) 344-7000, Fax: (804) 648-6704

<http://www.omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/Richmond.aspx>

Hotel Rate: \$139 for a double room

The Berkeley Hotel

1200 E. Cary Street, Richmond, VA 23219

804.780.1300

<http://www.berkeleyhotel.com/eathere.html>

Hotel Rate: \$190 for standard continental

Crowne Plaza Hotel Richmond Downtown

555 E. Canal St.

Richmond, VA 23219

Hotel Front Desk: 1-804-7880900 | Hotel Fax: 1-804-7887087

http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/hotel/riccs?_requestid=156220

Hotel Rate: \$99.95 for a double room