Newsletter of the State, Court & County SIS of the American Association of Law Libraries

State, Court & County Law Libraries **NEWS**



Volume 31, Number 2 Spring 2005

THOUGHTS FROM RETIRING SCCLL MEMBERS

It has come to my attention that several SCCLL members are retiring this year. I asked the group retiring in 2005 to share a few sentences about what belonging to and volunteering for SCCLL/AALL has meant to them and also to list an accomplishment or two in law libraries, AALL or their personal lives. Before I share their responses with you, I would like to note that Jean Holcomb and Susan Menagh are not retiring and Judy Brown, Shirley David, and Alice McKenzie retired in late 2004. The group retiring in 2005 includes: Charley Dyer, Carolyn Dulude, Pam Gregory, Rich Iamele, Marilyn Josi, Mike Miller, Mary Mills, Pat Pfremmer, Delsie Stavner and Cecile Taylor. I was planning to use a few sentences from what each one wrote in my article but I don't think I can improve on what they had to say. Thoughts from the following are listed below in alphabetical order: Charley Dyer, Pam Gregory, Rich Iamele and Mike Miller. Best wishes to all of you; you will be missed. Sandy Marz

FROM CHARLES R. DYER, SAN DIEGO COUNTY PUBLIC LAW LIBRARY

Volunteering for SCCLL SIS was, for me, a real eye-opener. I had

(Continued on page 2)

We are a practical people who devote our resources to those who need it most.

Inside this issue:

Charley's Corner 8

Court Security Summitt

Ohio Funding update

King County Fundraising

Internships 22

Family Justice Cen- 24

come from academia. While certainly dedicated to librarianship and access to legal information, I had not previously seen the utter unselfishness, the deep concern for both regular citizens and the legal community, and the ability to think beyond the usual bounds that I found among the members of the SCCLL SIS. SCCLL SIS has been in the forefront of leadership in AALL, well beyond our numbers, with such major breakthroughs as open membership, legislative advocacy, and social responsibility. We are practical people who devote our resources to those who need it most, and we are decent people who revel in our colleagues' success. Nearly all the externally focused initiatives of AALL either originated in SCCLL SIS or were carried strongly by it. It is no wonder to me that seven of the last twelve Gallagher Award winners have come from our SIS, and I greatly suspect that I would not have been so fortunate as to be so honored had I not been in public law librarianship and learned my job from my fellow SIS members. You will hear enough about me in the next two months, so I gladly leave room for other retirees to list their considerable accomplishments. You have made my vocation into an ethical calling, and I thank you greatly for it.

FROM PAMELA GREGORY, CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

My happiest memories of the profession have come from the many friends and colleagues I made in AALL. The programs I participated

in, and the seminars and workshops through the years made such a difference in this library and to the people we serve. Just to know that someone had tried solutions to the same problems was worth the dues every year. My accomplishments and leadership skills were ones I learned from AALL activities and include three library moves in three locations for the court in a thirty year time frame, being one of three of the first Westlaw public terminal users (Jenkins and Social Law did it with us at the same time in the early 80's), and I enjoyed being chair of both SCCLL and also then Contemporary Social Problems. My greatest personal accomplishment was in teaching a 52 year old woman to read over a five year time frame. Having her breakthrough come with the use of a computer taught me that technology can be used to bring great power to lives. Teaching Martha led me to collaborate with Mike Miller, Sara Kelley and other law librarians to shape the People's Law Library, which work I hope to continue in days ahead.

RICHARD IAMELE, LOS ANGELES COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

Belonging to AALL and SCCLL has been a very enjoyable and beneficial experience. The programs that I attended have been very rewarding, and I have always returned to the Library with more ideas than I could ever put into effect. But the most important benefit was having the opportunity to interact with so many bright and energetic people. I have always thought that the interaction with other librarians, and the "how do you do it in your shop" exchanges are the most important benefit from AALL membership. In addition, we are a very congenial group and I will miss

(Continued on page 3)

the opening receptions, Association luncheons, West parties, closing banquets, etc. (and for those of you old enough to remember, the Hein sing-a-longs).

As for personal accomplishments: going to law school at night while working full-time at the Library as a cataloger and then a reference librarian; passing the California bar exam on the first try; working with other California county law librarians to get an important filing fee bill passed in 1990, then passed again in 1991 after the first bill was vetoed.

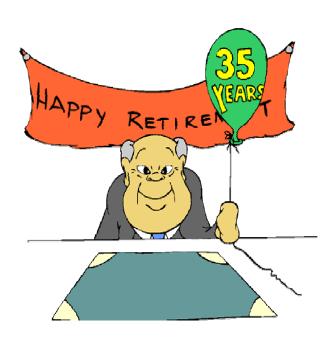
MICHAEL MILLER, MARYLAND STATE LAW LI-BRARY

My whole mindset as a law library manager has always been geared toward customer service (internal and external) and everything else would flow from that. I've been proven right over the almost 40 years I have been in this profession. For guaranteed survival as a vibrant institution, public law libraries need the unabashed support of the organization it finds itself a part of – this means a never-ending marketing of the library's resources and services and active participation in the management of that parent organization. These are not just clues to success, it is how it actually works!

A couple of gut responses to your question below:

- 1. I have learned that family is "numero uno" thank God for discovering the woman (Connie) I have been married to for over 36 years!
- 2. My two sons, and now a grandson and another on the way, and their beautiful wives.
- 3. My Dad who is still dating at 92, my three siblings and my wife's family.

- 4. Being a teacher (adjunct faculty) of legal research and writing for eighteen years.
- 5. Having had the opportunity to become a more complete professional by "catching the spirit" from countless peers in AALL & SCCLL get yourself to the Annual Conferences, however you have to do it, and learn (it's easy) to share hopes, dreams, visions for fulfilling the collective missions of our libraries.
- 6. Success at re-introducing the value of public law libraries to the judges, court administrators and public in our State that we have an important role to play in the continuing challenge of winning the public's trust and confidence in our judiciary.



SCCLL Executive Board

Chair Vice Chair/Chair Elect Sandy Marz Barbara Golden (775) 328-3250 (651) 297-2089

smarz@mail.co.washoe.nv.us barb.golden@courts.state.mn.us

Past Chair Charles Dyer (619) 531-3904 cdyer@sdcll.org

Secretary/Treasurer **Marcus Hochstetler** (330) 740-2295 mlladir@mahoninglawlibrary.org

Board Member (2002-2005)

Sara Galligan (651) 438-8080 sara.galligan@co.dakota.mn.us **Board Member (2003-2006) Anne Morrison**

(301) 952-3045 admorrison@co.pg.md.us **Board Member (2004-2007)**

Terry Long (804) 786-2075 tlong@courts.state.va.us

SCCLL Committees for 2004-2005

Awards Anita Anderson, Chair

Donna Bausch Fran Jones Jason Raymond **Bylaws**

Anne Matthewman, Chair

Joan Bellistri Georgia Chadwick **Jacque Jurkins**

Education

Marcus Hochstetler, Chair **Edward Carroll**

Coral Henning Pat Lopez Kristie Randall Grants

Scott Burgh, Chair Dan Cordova **Regina Smith** Patti Worl

Membership and Mentoring

Cossette Sun, Chair **Charles Dyer** Tammy Hinderman **Cathy Lemann**

Jeffrey Meyerowitz **Bob Riger**

Cornell Winston Barbara Zaruba

Newsletter

Barbara Fritschel, Chair

Dan Campbell Charles Dver Anita Shew

Nominations

Anne Grande, Chair Ann Fessenden Gail Warren

Publicity/Public Relations

Frank Liu, Chair **Kevin Clanton** Michele Finerty Pam Gregory Claudia Jalowka Dawn Kendrick Lu Nguven Valerie Railev

Standards Mary Ruth Storer, Chair

Martha Campbell Jane Colwin Mike Miller Joe Stephens

Silent Auction Judy Meadows, Chair **Strategic Planning** Barb Golden, Chair Barbara Fritschel Sara Galligan **Charles Dver Marcus Hochstetler** Terry Long

Anne Morrison Sandy Marz

Sourcebook

Shirley David, Chair **Carol Collins** William Ketchum Anita Postvn Rebekah Maxwell Pat Parker

Longevity Awards Kathy Carlson, Chair

Trustee Development Sara Galligan, Chair

Gretchen Van Dam

Lisa Rush Anita Anderson **Technology Committee**

Joelle Gresham, Chair Bonnie Hill, Webmaster Kim Ositis, Asst. Webmaster

Amv Hale-Janeke Karla Gedell

Tiffany Keagy **Mary Pinard Roseanne Shea** Janice Shull

Marketing Special Committee **Marnie Warner Maureen Wells** co-chairs

Resource Guide: Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, Chair, Shirley David and Jean Holcomb

FROM THE EDITOR:

Barbara L. Fritschel, Editor 5th Circuit Satellite Librarian Beaumont, TX

Emma, a dear elderly friend confined to a wheel-chair by Parkinson's, use to say "I must be special. I have all of these smart people visiting me." When you look at all of the awards members of this special interest section have won, we must be special people. Even though we represent a diverse group of libraries, making legal information more accessible seems to be a higher priority for us than for some other categories of libraries. This service attitude not only helps our patrons but helps the profession at large as well.

As Sandy notes, many of the long time leaders of this SIS are retiring but the issues which law libraries are facing are not decreasing. New leadership needs to come forward to address the issues. Every newsletter carries the list of those who have agreed to be on committees. I hope I will be adding your name to one of those committees for the next news-

SCCLL List

To subscribe, follow the instructions at: http://www.aallnet.org/sis/sccll/membership/listserv.htm

To send a message to everyone on the list, send e-mail to: sccll-sis@aallnet.org

letter.

This issue has been blessed with several thought provoking and helpful articles. I would like to call special attention to Kim Ositis' article on the King County Law Library's fundraising campaign. One of the speakers at Computers in Libraries noted that while the need for print materials will not disappear, public funding for all types of libraries will continue to decrease. The article offers several useful suggestions and the campaign video won the Law Library Publications award for nonprint materials. The article starts on page 17.

SCCLL News

Is published three times a year (fall, winter, and spring/summer) by the State, Court and County Law Libraries SIS

The deadline for the next issue is September 15, 2005

Articles and forms should be submitted via electronic mail to:
Barbara L. Fritschel, SCCLL News Editor
5th Circuit Satellite Librarian, Beaumont, TX
Email: 5SatLib-Beaumont@ca5.uscourts.gov

The State Court & County Law Libraries SIS does not assume any responsibility for the statements advanced by the contributors in this newsletter. The opinions expressed in SCCLL News are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SCCLL SIS.

2005 SCCLL Connie E. Bolden Publications Award Recipient – Dr. Joel Fishman

Established by the State, Court, & County Law Libraries Special Interest Section, this award is bestowed every third year.

Past Recipients

2002

Gail Warren, for her development of the "Court Library Management" course notebooks for the Institute for Court Management from 1999 through 2001

1999

Kendall F. Svengalis, for his book <u>Legal Information Buyer's Guide & Reference Manual</u> **1996**

Charles R. Dyer, in recognition of his work on Sourcebook for Law Library Governing Boards and Committees

1993

Kendall F. Svengalis, in recognition of his work on The CRIV Sheet.

This year, **Dr. Joel Fishman**, Assistant Director for Lawyer Services for Duquesne University Center for Legal Information/Allegheny County Law Library is the recipient of the Bolden Publications Award. Dr. Fishman was Director of the Allegheny County Law Library, from 1977 to 1999. At Seton Hall Law School, he was Evening Reference Librarian from 1973 to 1974 and Assistant Law Librarian for Acquisitions from 1974 to 1977.

According to his local colleague and nominator, Ann Orsag, Director of Library Services at Klett Rooney Lieber & Schorling: "With a local law professor, he co-authored a major treatise on the Pennsylvania constitution. With local judges, who respect and admire his work, he has compiled family-law decisions, discovery opinions, and zoning cases. His biographies of county judges and legislative histories of major Pennsylvania statutes have filled noticeable gaps in county and state resources. His bibliographies and indexes, too numerous to list, have helped private, county, and state law librarians to develop their collections and to access invaluable sources. Pennsylvania Legal Research Handbook (co-author), a basic tool for Pennsylvania law librarians, has undoubtedly helped law librarians beyond our borders, as has his Searching the Law (co-author), a one-volume bibliography of legal sources.

"Dr. Fishman has contributed chapters on practice materials, OCLC, and the Pennsylvania constitution, among a wide range of topics, to scholarly books. His periodical articles range from a legal history of local road systems and a history of state statutory compilations to "The Reports of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania". Readers of legal newspapers and professional

newsletters have been influenced by his articles on microform, networking, county law library standards, budgets and citators. As a professional historian, he enriches Western Pennsylvania genealogy publications. His book reviews have appeared not only in Law Library Journal, but also in the Oxford Companion to American Law and the American Journal of Legal History.

"Unbelievably productive and prolific, he currently is working on five books including a new Searching the Law (co-author) and the first index-digest of Pennsylvania attorney-general opinions, two chapters including one for the Yale Biographical Dictionary of American Law, three articles including one on the dissenting opinions of a notable past Pennsylvania judge. His scholarly interest embraces the cutting edge; he has with a co-director created a Pennsylvania constitution web site and is developing (co-director) a Legal Biography Index web site and a site for the Index to the American Journal of Legal History.

"His achievements leave those of us working as law librarians breathless, but we are grateful for his scholarship, meticulous results, inspiration, and teaching."

Joining the accolades, Regina L. Smith, Director of the Law Library, Jenkins Law Library, wrote: "For many years, Dr. Fishman has recognized the importance of ready access to information and he has made life easier for Pennsylvania attorneys and law librarians by publishing bibliographies, indices, articles, book reviews and legislative histories in both print and electronic format. He has worked with others to produce a sizeable body of legal publications. Reviewing Dr. Fishman's publications, one can readily see that he has written on topics of interest to the judiciary, practicing attorney, law librarian, genealogist, and scholar. I believe that Dr. Fishman has definitely made a scholarly contribution to the profession through his writings and is a worthy recipient for the Bolden Award."

His extensive and varied bibliography of scholarly and useful writing made the committee's decision an easy one. Dr. Fishman will receive the Bolden Award Sunday, July 17, 2005 in San Antonio at the SCCLL-SIS Breakfast and Business Meeting.

SCCLL Awards Committee Anita Anderson, Chair Donna Bausch Fran Jones Jason Raymond

Charles Dyer and Mike Miller win the Gallagher Award

Two retiring SCCLL SIS members and past chairs have been selected to win the prestigious Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award.

Charles Dyer, San Diego County Law Library, is honored for his career as an advocate of county law libraries and for trying to make them more accessible through innovative education and outreach programs.

Mike Miller, Maryland State Law Library, is honored for promoting public access to the law and state information as well as the Maryland Peoples' Law Library Web Site.

We need <u>you</u> for SCCLL 2005-06 Committees

As you know, the AALL theme for this Annual Meeting is "Strategize! Values, Visions, Vistas." But you don't have to go to San Antonio to be a part of SCCLL's vision. SCCLL committee work keeps you connected and you can do it long-distance.

Committee descriptions are at http://www.aallnet.org/sis/sccll/about/committees.htm. We need volunteers for Awards, Bylaws, Grants, Membership and Mentoring, Newsletter, Nominations, Publicity/Public Relations, Standards, Trustees Development (including the Sourcebook subcommittee), Technology (Website/Listserv), and Marketing. There will also be a special Centennial Planning Committee.

Come one, come all.

If you're currently on a committee and would like to continue, email me.

If you are new to the SIS and want to get involved, email me.

If you've been around awhile and would like to re-connect, email me.

I have a committee just for you.

Please contact me at mailto:barb.golden@courts.state.mn.us.

It'll be great to hear from you.

Barbara Golden

SCCLL Vice Chair/Chair Elect

Charley's Corner: Some Observations on Points of View

by Charles R. Dyer, Director of Libraries, San Diego County Public Law Library Nothing in this column represents the view of my Library or its Board of Trustees. These are just my personal opinions.

This issue's column doesn't really have a point or moral; just some anecdotes that show how we humans have different points of view. If anything, a public law library is certainly a fascinating place to observe humanity. As I continue to plan for my retirement and movement into my next phase of life, I'll have to remember what it was like "in the lab."

At one of the San Diego County Public Law Library's Law Week events, Judge David Gill, the longest tenured member of the San Diego Superior Court, held a discussion with a small, but very receptive, audience. The topic was the American jury system. Among the many interesting things he noted was the need now for judges to disavow juries of the notion that the evidence to be presented will be anything like what they see on "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," the television program that shows how crime labs discover physical evidence. Most of the time, there is little, if any, DNA evidence, and other trace evidence is often not available.

Indeed, I have often wondered how the discov-

(Continued on page 9)

ery of some random piece of fiber in an open area, such as the side of a road, can be said unequivocally to link some poor defendant to a crime, just because he managed to have the same fiber among one of his pieces of clothing. Actually, if you watch "CSI" closely, they rarely if ever show the evidence actually being used in a court of law. Rather, such evidence is used by the lead investigator to tell the defendant that they have narrowed down the suspects to him alone and that he had better confess. In effect, its use is not much different from the outright lies, such as "Your partner has already confessed," that the police tell suspects in such shows as "Law and Order" in order to solicit confessions or admissions.

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that such trickery is legitimate when conducting a criminal investigation. What mostly happens as a result of duping a defendant that way is that the defendant screws himself up sufficiently that he eventually accepts a plea bargain or simply confesses. So these cases rarely go to trial. The cases that do go to trial are the ones wherein the defense disputes the facts. If the defendant is wise enough to keep his mouth shut, he may well have a good enough case to make it worthwhile to go to trial.

Yet another comment from Judge Gill was also noteworthy for this discussion: Juries often tend to think that a defendant does not testify because he is guilty, when, in fact, the reasons are usually something else. It may be that

the defense wants to avoid having the prosecution bring up the defendant's prior convictions. Or the defendant is not well spoken and would come off badly compared to the police and lab technicians, who are well practiced at testifying. Or the defendant is a member of a gang, and juries may simply think, "Well, he must be guilty of something." Judge Gill noted that it is a judge's solemn duty to admonish the jury not to prescribe any guilt based solely on the defendant's refusal to testify.

Nevertheless, in the midst of this, Judge Gill stated that the one thing that a jury member really has to offer is his common sense. That common sense is to be used to determine which witness is telling the truth—truth being not what the witness believes but what seems actually more likely to be the case. Credibility of the witness is part of it, but so is the plausibility of the testimony. Would you sooner believe the school teacher who claimed to see the defendant in the dark from 50 feet away, or the fellow gang member who claimed that the brother was with him in a club on the other side of town?

Don't be so quick to make that choice. Each of us comes into a case with our own prejudices that come from our culture and experience. Should a defendant be found guilty just because none of his alibis evoke a strong sense of credibility? The numbers of mis-identified defendants, as shown by the several innocence projects in this country, is staggering.

(Continued on page 10)

I just saw a review of a new book called *The* Future of Religion, written by Richard Rorty and Gianni Vattimo (Columbia University Press, 112 pages, \$24.50). Rorty is a neo-pragmatist, now considered America's most influential philosopher, and Vattimo is Italy's most prominent philosophy professor, who happens to be both a believing Catholic and a leader of the Italy's gay rights movement. Each of the authors wrote a lengthy essay for the book, then engaged in a dialogue that is also included. While the material is from 2002, the timing of the book could not have been more fortuitous, with the death of Pope John Paul II and the election of Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger as Pope Benedict XVI.

> The very thing that tells me that there are no absolute truths is that we have so many of them.

Rorty's point for some time has been that men cannot divine ultimate truths, that we must do the best with what we know that is directly pertinent for deciding ethical acts, and that religion, or even an over-reliance on science, gets in the way by seeming to make ultimate truths that cannot justifiably be used to rule society. Another way to say it is that he believes religion should stay out of politics. Rorty suggests that religion is unobjectionable only when it stitutional limits. The very thing that tells me there is "privatized."

Vattimo, employing his own postmodern

thought, proclaims that "Christianity introduces into the world the principle of interiority, on the basis of which 'objective' reality gradually loses its preponderant weight." He believes the church should abandon the "literalism" it adopted in the 18th and 19th centuries, and return to embrace an idea closer to Jesus, a "call to practice" the "truth of love, of charity."

Cardinal Ratzinger, in his previous role as defender of the faith, had warned against the loss of values in the modern world. He even used the phrase "the dictatorship of the relativists," which to me is an oxymoron, but it is at least representative of his strident concern that the loss of some notion of absolute truth would somehow lead a person or a society to a path of degradation and sin.

So here we come to the crux of the matter (pun not intended). Some worry about the evil created when men surrender their powers of intellect and possibly their power to do good to pursue faith blindly, as when the Catholic Church condemns the use of condoms in HIV-infested Africa, not to mention the succor given by religion to terrorists. Others worry that, without strict guidelines, we all will fall victim to temptation we must have limits.

I will venture the thought that this modern tug of war between the theists, the rationalists, the foundationalists, on one side, and the critical thinkers, the postmoderns, the pragmatists, on the other, is not dissimilar to the tug between legislation and conare no absolute truths is that we have so many of them. (Are you aware that, as you watched St. Pe-

(Continued on page 11)

ter's Square fill with people who wanted to see the new Pope, there is an annual Hindu celebration in India that brings 20 million pilgrims together at one time, vastly outdoing the purportedly "huge" gathering at the Vatican.) Yet, without some laws, some order, some organization, would we not fall apart.

Lastly, our library has been struggling with the problem of delusional schizophrenic patrons, especially those who believe they have some authority over us in our role as librarians. One believes he is a "U.S. Consul Administrator," appointed by the President, who, having been denied his office in the federal building down the street, believes he has the power to co-opt space in the library for his permanent use. Another, who believes her daughter has been kidnapped by the CIA, continues to "file" papers with the circulation desk staff as if she were filing pleadings with a court clerk—and the papers themselves are full of bizarre ramblings. She keeps asking when her case will be docketed. Another believes that he is being followed by various agencies and the library itself is bugged, and he lets out a stream of epithets to complain about noise every time he visits. And there are a couple others as well.

We have the usual posted rules and procedures for kicking out disruptive patrons for a day, but these guys never learn. They simply come Several of my staff are rightly concerned that any one of these could become violent, and this reasonably placed fear now is a workplace safety issue. But, without a direct threat or act, can we exclude the person based on his status as a suspected delusional mentally handicapped individual. (I did get a restraining order against one several years ago, but he had shoved one of my librarians.) We easily tolerate a couple of quieter ones who appear to be harmless, but we are not qualified to make psychological analyses of our patrons and judge who shall stay and who shall be banned.

> Can we keep the scary ones out, just because they are scary?

This is in contrast to one of our patrons who simply insists on talking about his case at the top of his lungs to anyone who will listen. This guy is obviously not mentally ill, just obnoxious. We continually kick him out of the library, so he makes his case to that day's friend by speaking on the sidewalk, and I can hear him through my window. He is not considered a threat, but he, too, does not seem to learn to behave better. (We have a couple of attorneys who also go outside to argue loudly. I wonder how they think they are maintaining client confidentiality when they do that.)

My reference staff has been editing a draft of a request for a county counsel opinion for some time. Can we keep the scary ones out, just because they are back the next day and repeat their strange behavior. scary? How would we do that? The most of what I am learning is the considerable difference of opinion among my staff about what to do and who should be included in the group to whom we will do it.

Atención! Judge Lora Livingston to Address San AntonioTrustees Luncheon

Hola Mis Amigos. Your annual trustees luncheon speaker this year is Judge Lora Livingston from Travis County, Texas. Not only does Judge Livingston have a remarkable background as a member of the Texas Access to Justice Commission, but she is also our SIS's first official VIP (Valued Invited Participant). Many trustees and law librarians will enjoy hearing Judge Livingston speak about her experiences. For those fortunate chapters who will send their own VIPs to San Antonio, don't overlook this luncheon opportunity for your guests. They will enjoy the chance to meet VIPs and trustees from around the country—and Judge Livingston is sure to describe important issues that we all have in common.

Prior to becoming a judge, Judge Livingston worked with the Legal Aid Society of Central Texas in Austin. She also worked in private practice with a law firm prior to becoming Associate Judge for the District Courts of Travis County, Texas in January 1995. After a successful election, she was sworn in as judge of the 261st District Court in January 1999. Judge Livingston was Chair of the ABA Standing Committee on the Delivery of Legal Services. She created the pro se forms committee in Travis County, which eventually led to the development of pro se forms (para los que se representan) for Travis County litigants and the Travis County Law Library's reference attorney program.

The State Court and County SIS is proud that Judge Livingston has also accepted our invitación to be our

numero uno SIS VIP. Earlier in the year, the SIS developed a list of criteria (see below) to assist in VIP selection. AALL's goal with the VIP program is to establish new relationships or augment existing ones with members of our local legal and information communities. The individual(s) chosen should be influential within our area's legal, governmental or information community. As our first VIP, Judge Livingston fulfills AALL's goals and also affirms the interests of our particular section with her support of her county law library.

Por favor, see the AALL preliminary program for the registration form and trustees luncheon registration details. You must register for this luncheon when you register for the annual meeting. The Trustees Luncheon takes place on Sunday, July 17 from 11:45 AM to 1:15 PM.

Hasta luego!

Sara Galligan Dakota County Law Library

SCCLL VIP Selection Criteria

The following selection criteria were proposed in 2005 and reflect input from members.

As it now stands, these are the VIP criteria for future VIP selection. However, revisions are possible if changes need to be made.

- 1. Since we regularly invite a court speaker to our trustee's luncheon, the speaker would be one of the first candidates we would invite as our VIP (they also tend to be in the area, thus minimizing travel and lodging expenses)
- 2. Other related VIPs would be any SCCLL program speakers (this would broaden the group to judges and other public officials; it's more likely, though, that travel and lodging expenses would apply).
- 3. Trustees for SCCLL members who will receive awards at the annual meeting.
- 4. Trustees in general who attend the annual meeting who are not already sponsored by a chapter (other expenses apply).
- 5. Other public officials with an interest in SCCLL or who can benefit by the AALL conference.
- 6. Individuals who are advocates for county law libraries

2005 SCCLL Elections Results

The results of the first ever electronically held SCCLL election are in. Catherine Lemann, Assistant Director, Law Library of Louisiana has been elected Vice Chair/Chair Elect and Lisa Rush, Law Librarian, Travis County Law Library has been elected Member-at-Large (2005-2008).

The election cycle ran from April 1-25th, 2005. This online election format began when AALL held its first online election in November 2004 and subsequently made the process available to special interest sections this spring. This service is being provided at no charge and will save our section \$300.00 per year.

Members responded well with a needed Bylaw change mail ballot in March to accommodate this election format. Of those completing the online survey, an overwhelming majority rated voting online as excellent. As the comments below indicate, the process was smooth and without too many wrinkles. Comments included: Best and fastest e-ballot I've seen. Very easy and quick. Thanks so much for the pictures! Everything was great, the bios, the ease of voting, the whole process. Quick, easy and good time use for the busy person. A vast improvement over paper ballots. This is a wonderful benefit for members! On behalf of all SCCLL-SIS members, many thanks to all who made this possible.

Suggestions for future improvements include indicating you need to log on with your AALLnet

(Continued on page 14)

password, placing candidate photos on the first page with links to biographies and some clarification about the process including that you have the opportunity to review the ballot before it is actually cast. Congratulations and thanks to Marcus Hochstetler and all who made this process possible.

National Summit on Court Safety & Security

By, Terry Long, Assistant Law Librarian, Virginia State Law Library, Richmond, VA and SCCLL Executive Board member

The National Summit was convened in Washington, D.C. on April 21, 2005 at the Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center. I went as an observer for SCCLL. Among the groups represented were court administrators, sheriffs, justices, judges, a few lawyers, court clerks, and a few from the academic sector. The National Center for State Courts organized the summit thanks to a grant from the Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance.

The program began with two panel discussions. The first panel was made up of four people who had experienced violence in the courthouse or were threatened; they told their stories. The next panel featured court administrators and a Federal judge who spoke of the challenges of securing courthouses.

We then broke into three groups, each discussing an assigned topic:

- Facility and operational security needs
- 2) Organization, planning and response
- Audit, control, threat and risk assessment

My group discussed organization, planning and business continuity. In the afternoon all three groups came together to report out our conclusions. They were:

- Facility and operational security needs
 - Form a working group that would bring together all the standards developed by various security organizations/ government agencies and massage them
 - Each state supreme court along with the agency that provides security for the building needs to develop a plan to convene groups on local level to discuss and make a security plan
 - Secure funding
 - Develop staffing standards for those who provide security
- 2) Organization, planning and response
 - Establish an emergency management governance chief justice needs to do this must have acceptance of all parties

(Continued on page 15)

involved

- Establish models and best practices
- Need a central repository for information on courthouse security, best practices and models
- 3) Audit, control, threat and risk assessment
 - Courts need to collaborate with security agencies in their state to share information
 - Cooperate with those entities needing funds for security
 - Be creative in getting money for security needs
 - Create a national consortium of similar interest groups to come up with a plan for gaining funds – need to be proactive

What does all this mean for court law librarians? We need to keep or open communication with those responsible for security in our building. Those who allow public access to your libraries need to work closely with security. The public still needs to have the ability to use your collection, and you may have to stand up for that right even more in this security conscious world, but you also must be more conscious of a user who may be a threat to your security and how to handle and report problems.

Another angle we must pursue is that our libraries should be the first place administrators and security personnel go for finding information on security issues – what best practices are currently available, who are the experts, funding sources. We are profes-

sionally trained to find information. This is a prime opportunity for us to demonstrate our skills beyond the people using us for legal material. Until there is a central repository for the information on security - and even then - we can be the first stop for filling the need.

A few times in my small group I mentioned that public law librarians needed to be considered in the issues of security. Also, when they would spoke about the need for a central clearinghouse for information, I mentioned that perhaps the National Center's library could provide that service. After the summit was adjourned, I spoke to Mary McQueen, director for the National Center about the clearinghouse issue and suggested if the center did not want to be the sole resource, there could be regional libraries providing the needed materials.

There will be follow-up meetings to continue discussions and share information. The National Center gave each participant a notebook; one of the items in it is a bibliography of articles, books and web sites concerning court security prepared by the National Center library staff.

If you would like more information on the conference – I took copious notes, please contact me at <u>tlong@courts.state.va.us</u> or <u>tlong@infionline.net</u> (I have problems sometimes with my courts address) or call, 804-786-2075.

Ohio Funding Crisis

Marcus Hochstetler Librarian Mahoning Law Library Association

When I attended my first AALL annual meeting in Minneapolis, the subject of funding always seemed to work its way into any conversation when discussing county law library issues. Upon revealing that Ohio county law libraries are funded primarily through a percentage of fines and forfeitures relating to the traffic laws, the reaction was uniform "Wow! I wish our funding was tied to traffic fines." Most would relate their source for funding as linked to a portion of filing fees for civil and criminal cases.

While you will be hard pressed to find a Ohio county law librarian who will state that ours is the best system for funding law libraries, it has worked for many years. However, the level of funding depends on the number and extent of state highways running through one's county. Never knowing the amount of the monthly check from the county auditor and various municipalities makes the budget process more of an "art than a science."

Since 1990, county law librarians in Ohio have attempted to have legislation introduced that would smooth out the irregularities in the funding structure. These attempts were vigorous and yet the political will on the part of legislators was lacking. That is until this year, when the State Budget bill was introduced in the Ohio House of Representatives. The current language was offered up by the County Commissioners of Ohio to alleviate pressure on decreasing county budgets. These two pages of

text (lines 29580-29697 and 80319-80356) in House Bill 66 will significantly alter the way Ohio county law libraries operate into the future. The bill also creates a 13 member task force appointed by House and Senate Majority and Minority leaders, the Judicial Conference, the County Commissioners of Ohio, and the Ohio State Bar Association. Three law librarians will be a part of this task force, which will have from September 1, 2005 until June 30, 2006 to make a report to the House, Senate, and Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court.

...Many of us were wondering if members of the Ohio legislature or other parties caught wind of Florida's move to save money for their counties.

Currently, the salaries and benefits of a Librarian and up to two assistant librarians are paid from the county treasury.(O.R.C. 3375.48)

The county commissioners are also responsible for providing "suitable" space, bookshelves, and utilities for each county law library.

(O.R.C. 3375.49) This budget bill forces law libraries to assume the above costs through successive 20% increases from 2007 to 2011 until the commissioners are released from their responsibilities to fund county law libraries. The net result will be that for some law libraries such as the Cleveland Law Library Association, which serves over 9000 attorneys, their

(Continued on page 17)

available budget may be cut in half by 2011. Kathy Sasala, Director of the Cleveland Law Library Association, notes on her HB66 update website http://clevelandlawlibrary.org/Public/Misc/HB66.html, "It is no exaggeration to say that the Law Library could not absorb such drastic cuts without significantly reducing the valuable legal services and materials we provide and upon which patrons have come to rely."

After recent funding battles waged on behalf of county law libraries in Florida, many of us were wondering if members of the Ohio legislature or other parties caught wind of Florida's moves to save money for their counties. We may never know for sure and as of this date the lobbying effort is only heating up for us. We do have the support of the Ohio Judicial Conference in removing the language from the bill at this point. The Governor must sign a budget bill by the end of June 2005, so our struggle is to be continued...

NOTE: An update on the progress of Ohio House Bill 66 will be provided at the *Legislative Advocacy Leadership Training: Challenges, Opportunities and Strategies for Success* during the AALL annual meeting in San Antonio,TX on Saturday, July 16th, 2005, 8:30-12:00 pm. If you are interested in attending please contact Mary Alice Baish at baish@law.georgetown.edu by June 15th, 2005.

Of Painted Walls and Persistence: King County Law Library's 85th Anniversary Campaign

Kim Ositis, Reference Librarian King County Law Library

The first thing I tell people about the newly renovated King County Law Library is that we have colored accent walls. Others might not think this so important but for those of us who work in county law libraries, custom paint color is a BIG DEAL. The story of how our walls, or at least some of them, came to be painted a very pleasing shade of pale green begins in the Summer of 2003.

Earlier that spring, we moved out of the King County Courthouse over to the Administration Building for what would eventually be a 18-month stay in temporary quarters while our space in the Courthouse underwent seismic retrofitting. We knew that while our space was empty, we would have a once-in-a-lifetime chance to make the Library vastly more comfortable, accessible, and functional. During the summer of 2003, we worked with a volunteer from Callison Architecture, Inc., one of Seattle's premier architecture firms, to assess the Library's space needs and develop a plan for our return. We soon realized that in order to fulfill the vision of what we hoped our Library would look like, we needed money. Knowing that it was unlikely that we would become the unexpected benefactor of a recently deceased patron, our Board embarked upon a fundraising campaign in December of 2003.

Or rather, the Board said, "Yes, let's raise some

(Continued on page 18)

money" and put our director Jean Holcomb in charge of figuring out all those pesky details. I remember quite distinctly the weekly staff meeting where Jean with the look of a first-time diver on the ten-meter platform - announced that we would be doing "fundraising." The first order of business was to decide how much money we wanted to raise. As a happy coincidence, 2004 was the 85th anniversary of the enabling statute that provided a funding mechanism for county law libraries in Washington, so we decided to coin our fundraising drive the "85th Anniversary Campaign" and set a goal of raising \$85,000. After much discussion, we decided on the following giving levels: Millennium (\$20,000 and above), 85th Anniversary Circle (\$8,500 to \$19,999), Century (\$1,000 to \$8,499), Decade (\$250 to \$999) and Supporter (up to \$250.) We asked two well-known community members to serve as our honorary co-chairs of the Campaign: Norm Maleng, King County Prosecutor, and Llewelyn G. Pritchard, a partner at the Seattle law firm of Helsell Fetterman LLP.

The Campaign began in earnest during National Library Week in April of 2004. Part of the preliminary work included designing a Campaign logo and letterhead, creating a Pledge Card and FAQ Sheet and implementing a gift database to track donations (more on that later). The Library is not a non-profit corporation so we requested an opinion from our legal counsel at the King County Prosecutor's Office as to whether or not donations to the Campaign would be tax-deductible. Upon receiving word that we qualified as a political subdivision under 26 USC (c)(1), we felt confident about putting that language on our Pledge Card and FAQ Sheet.

We identified different spheres of influences, including large firms, judges, solo practitioners, and members of Law Librarians of Puget Sound (LLOPS) and developed a plan for targeted marketing activities for each of these audiences.

The Video

By far the most ambitious Campaign marketing activity we embarked upon was the Library's documentary video, entitled "Without access to information, there is no justice." The video project began when a recent University of Washington iSchool graduate, Aaron Louie, contacted us in December of 2004 about doing some volunteer work. We decided to work on a multi-media presentation for the Fundraising Luncheon, which would be the kick-off event of the Campaign. Over the next three months, Aaron and I worked together to videotape interviews with 8 different members of our stakeholder populations, including a judge, a solo practitioner, a law firm librarian, and two pro se citizen users. We were able to keep the total budget of the project to less than \$500 by using



Jean Holcomb, Director, King County Law Library, with the donor wall. (Continued on page 19)

borrowed and rented equipment. We edited and burned the video as a DVD using iMovie and iDVD, two programs from Apple's iLife suite (available for less than \$50.) My husband, Ryan Ositis, created an original soundtrack for the video using GarageBand, another iLife program.

The video was screened for the public at the Fundraising Luncheon. It was particularly effective in this situation, as we were able to tell the Library's story to an audience unfamiliar with our Library and the diverse populations we serve. Other public viewings included the King County Council's Committee of the Whole. It was broadcast live on the Internet and on King County's cable access channel. We also posted high and low-resolution copies of the video on the Library's website.

If you plan to set a fundraising goal for a specific target population, be sure to make that very clear.

Large Firms

We hoped to raise the majority of the funds from donations by the large firms. We sent out invitations to the twenty largest firms in Seattle - to a Fundraising Luncheon on April 21st, 2004. Lane Powell Spears Lubersky LLP graciously agreed to host the event, as state law prohibited us from using public funds to pay for food. King County Executive Ron Sims accepted our invitation to be a speaker at the Luncheon.

Subscribers

In May of 2004, we sent out a large mailing to all law firm members of the Library's subscriber program. The mailing included a two-page letter signed by the Campaign co-chairs, a Pledge Card and the FAQ Sheet. We also targeted our subscribers, and members of the Bar in general, by placing an ad in the June 2004 issue of the *King County Bar Bulletin*. In addition, the April 2004 edition of the *Bulletin* featured a front page story about the Campaign, "Insurance for Justice: A Good Law Library" written by our director, Jean Holcomb.

Judges

Two members of our Board of Trustees are Superior Court judges - this posed a unique challenge when it came to our fundraising efforts. The judges asked the Administrative Office of the Courts for advice and received a special opinion outlining specific parameters for their involvement in the Campaign. The Board members in question attended the Luncheon, but they had to leave before the "Ask" portion of the event. Our Board president, the Honorable Catherine Shaffer, appeared in the video but she didn't specifically ask for donations.

The Board set a goal of 100% participation and \$5,000 from the King County Superior Court judges. We sent a packet to each judge that included the Campaign letter, Pledge Card, and FAQ Sheet and the Board followed up with reminder emails.

(Continued on page 20)

LLOPS Members

We wrote an article about the Campaign in the Spring 2004 issue of *LLOPSCited*, the Association's quarterly newsletter. http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llops/committees/newsletter/spring04.pdf. We also screened the video for the membership at the June 2004 LLOPS Business Meeting.

In-House Marketing

The Library publishes a quarterly electronic-only newsletter called KCLL eNews. The Campaign was the lead story of the Spring 2004 edition. http:// www.kcll.org/aboutus/publications/KCLLeNews/ spring2004enews.pdf We added a page about the Campaign on the Library's website and included .pdf copies of the Pledge Card and FAQ sheet. http:// www.kcll.org/aboutus/news/ fundraising campaign.html I designed two different bulletin boards for the Campaign. The first described the Campaign and featured examples of the new furniture we hoped to buy. The second bulletin board was the old-fashioned "fundraising thermometer" with a library twist: I marked the progression of the Campaign by stacking clip art of books – one book equaled \$5,000. We also had copies of the Pledge Card and FAQ Sheet readily available at the Reference Desk for walk-in traffic.

Gift Database

We developed a Microsoft Access database in-house to track donor mailings and gifts to the Campaign. We decided to allow donors who were making a pledge of more than \$1,000 to pay in installments

and we also gave donors the option to make their gift in honor or in memory of another individual. We had to send out invoices to donors who had sent a pledge but no check and we also sent thank you letters to each donor as the checks were received. We tracked these details in the Gift Database.

Donor Recognition

On October 28th, 2004, the Library hosted the 85th Anniversary Celebration and Open House to celebrate our move back to the Courthouse and the success of the Campaign. In preparation for the Open House, we investigated several different options for a donor recognition wall or plaque. We chose a local company to build a permanent 3' by 4' donor wall of limestone tile with maple trim. For the Open House, we had a full-size copy of the text for the donor wall printed out and displayed. The program for the Open House listed all of the donors to the Campaign, including the 75 donors on the Supporter level whose names do not appear on the donor wall.

Lessons Learned

The Campaign officially ended on December 31st, 2004. As of that date, the Campaign has raised \$55,717. With that money, we were able to make significant improvements to the Library. We had the aforementioned walls painted, purchased a new circulation and reference desk, bought twenty study carrels and chairs, and six casual seating chairs. We also purchased the hardware necessary

(Continued on page 21)

to make the Library a wi-fi "hot spot" and paid for five new flat-screen monitors when we realized that our old CRT monitors would not fit in the new carrels.

As with all projects, we learned many lessons along the way. We had originally hoped that each of the law firms would give \$8,500, but we did not reinforce this in either the mailing or at the Luncheon and only one firm gave at that amount. If you plan to set a fundraising goal for a specific target population, be sure to make it very clear. For example, in the emails sent to the Judges, the Board explained about the \$5,000 goal and asked that each Judge give \$100. We had almost 100% participation from the judges and were able to meet the goal of \$5,000 from that group.

It is important that all staff members who will be involved in the project be part of the design for the database.

In several instances, we had to send multiple copies of our original Campaign letter as it was misplaced on the journey to the partners from the mailroom. As each letter to the large firm partners was a custom document created in Microsoft Publisher, I started saving each file as an original document and even made .pdf copies that could be quickly sent via email to replace "lost" letters.

For the initial mass mailing to the subscribers, we used Crystal Reports to take data from our subscriber database to created customized letters. This meant that one of our long-suffering technicians had to call

over 250 different law firms to find out to whom we should address the letter. We also did a follow-up mailing in August of 2004. We copied the Pledge Card onto colored paper so as to better track the effectiveness of this second mailing.

We found that our *Bar Bulletin* advertisement, which had cost over \$500, only received a handful of responses, affirming that this marketing strategy was not an effective use of our limited Campaign planning budget.

We also learned several valuable lessons in regards to the design of our gift database. It is important that all staff members who will be involved in the project be part of the design for the gift database. For example, in my design of the Pledge Card, I put in an area for the donor to note that the gift was being given in memory or honor of someone else. The staff member designing the gift database was not told about this, so there wasn't anywhere in the database to note this information. The option to remain anonymous was another detail that I added to the Pledge Card but was not initially included in the Gift Database. We also learned that once the database is designed, have the fewest possible number of people doing data entry and have documented steps (i.e. written instructions!) for how this is to be accomplished.

Final Thoughts

The 85th Anniversary Campaign was a success for our Library through the hard work and dedication of every member of our staff and Board of Trus-

(Continued on page 22)

tees. We learned that you don't need a huge budget or expensive consultants to have a successful fundraising drive. Our total budget for the Campaign was less than \$2,000. However, the old axiom of "It takes money to make money" definitely holds true. You should be prepared to spend money and staff-time to make your campaign a success. I know it has all been worth it when I see patrons come in the door for the first time and say, "Wow!" And I'm always sure to point out the for it. Even though Powell, 18, wants to be a high paint.

Campaign video "Without Access to Information, There is no Justice" wins award. The video developed for the King County Law Library fundraising campaign has won the Law Library Publications award for the non-print category. Congratulations to Kim Ositis and all who helped with its' production. The video, as well as all the fundraising campaign documents will be at the PR showcase in the Exhibit Hall at the San Antonio annual gathering.

Legally speaking: Intern program helps inner city vouth

By Munira Syeda, Staff Writer

Cal State San Bernardino student Blair Powell learned about the Inner City Youth Internship Program through an acquaintance last year and applied school math teacher when she graduates, the Rancho Cucamonga resident went for the internship. "I am interested in trying out different things," she said.

Last summer, Powell was one of the first interns assigned to a site in the Inland Empire- the Law Library for San Bernardino County on D Street. Among it three branches - the other two are in Rancho Cucamonga and Victorville - the law library boasts some 135,000-140,000 volumes of law journals, law reviews and other legal documents, plus microfiche and electronic databases.

Southern California Association of Law Libraries began this internship for youth in inner cities after the Los Angeles riots broke out in 1992 as a way to bring the community together. Through the program, interns learn the workings of a law library. The idea is to encourages them to seek the legal profession as attorneys, paralegals or office managers.

In the process, the interns develop higher selfesteem, earn a letter of recommendation and receive mentoring and guidance in the profession,

(Continued on page 23)

said Brian Keefe, co-chair of the internship program and head of public services at the University of La Verne College of Law Library. "You hope that along the way, the students will, as the U.S. Army says, 'Be all that you can be." Keefe said.

Larry Meyer, director of the San Bernardino Law Library, said his staff doesn't give out legal advice, only information. "Our mission is to serve the legal needs of the county," he said.

Another student, Daisy Duarte, took up an internship at Best, Best & Krieger, LLP in Riverside last summer. She is currently a part-time accounting clerk there.

In the past, participating institutions mostly included Los Angeles locations such as the Los Angeles City Attorney's office, Los Angeles County Law Library, University of Southern California Law School Information Technology Center and Law Library, and the Los Angeles Superior Court, among others. Keefe said that the internship committee wants to expand the program and include more interns as well as law firms and law libraries.

Between 1993 and 2003, 97 high school students completed internships at 30 different sites. Seventeen interns were eventually hired by the institutions.

As for Powell, she said she picked up new skills. As an intern at the San Bernardino law library, she acquired good office skills such as answering the phone and imputing data. She also learned to file legal information accurately.

Laws change on a daily basis, and as the new informa-

tion becomes available, it has to be filed in the appropriate law journals, frequently in what are called pocket parts attached to the inside cover of those journals.

"The experience was really beneficial. I learned a lot of things that I didn't know." Powell said.

The unique thing about the San Bernardino Law Library was that it provided its own funding for Powell's stipend. Generally, SCALL provides funding for the interns' stipends, ranging from\$1,852.75 to \$2,035.99 for eight weeks, through its own budget or donations. Meyer said even with the facilities shrinking budget, "we worked (the position) through our budget."

The law library receives funding from civil court filing fees acquired through divorce proceedings, family court, lawsuits filed in small claims court and the like. Last year's budget was about \$1.4 million, while this year's budget is estimated at \$1.3 million, Meyer said. Despite budget concerns, the San Bernardino Law Library will take on its second intern this summer.

Remembering Powell, the law library's first intern, Meyer said, "I don't think we could have picked a better person. We had an extremely positive experience."

Copyright (2005), The San Bernardino Sun. Reprinted by permission.

<u>Family Justice Centers: National</u> <u>Domestic Violence Grants Stream-</u> <u>line Victim Assistance</u>

by Ellie Slade, M.L.I.S., MS.Ed. Reference Librarian San Diego County Public Library

Imagine a domestic violence victim coming to the county law library's reference desk seeking the resources that will provide legal protection from the abuser. Also envision the reference law librarian giving this desperate patron a lengthy bibliography of public agencies and telling the victim she would have to visit some thirty two local agencies to report the injury, get a restraining order, obtain a medical exam, receive counseling and make alternative living arrangements. Although the librarian might try to provide a strategic short list (the police, the district attorney's office, and family courthouse) to cope with the circumstances, in all likelihood, the victim, without necessary support systems, would become so overwhelmed that she/he would inevitably return to her unsafe, but familiar territory. In some cases, despite the victim's valiant efforts to visit the different agencies, she/he would be inevitably discovered in transit by the abuser and attacked again. Until October of 2002, San Diego County domestic violence victims were often caught up in this web of weaving their way through various agencies scattered about the county.

Fortunately, as of October 2002, the San Diego City Attorney's office, in conjunction with the local police, the courts, Sharp Hospital medical forensics, counseling/chaplain services and other agencies

opened up a comprehensive "one-stop-shop" domestic violence center called the "Family Justice Center" (FJC) to alleviate the victim's burden of traveling from agency to agency. In addition, the FJC also instituted an expansive law enforcement program that required an "aggressive mandatory arrest policy on all probable cause felonies and pro-arrest policy on all misdemeanors." At the time the FJC opened it was inevitable they would "get busy" since San Diego County was reporting 25,000 domestic violence calls per year including eight cases of homicides.

Now all the necessary legal, law enforcement, medical services, food/shelter/housing agencies and on-site services for children are provided in one single professional office building that does not look like a public service agency. Among the forty agencies offering on-site assistance at the Family Justice Center are: Adult Protective Services, Home Start, Kids in Court, San Diego Deaf Mental Health Services, San Diego Police Domestic Violence and Elder Abuse Units, San Diego Volunteer Lawyers, Chaplain Services, Military Advocate Victim Services, Traveler's Aid, the Union of Pan Asian Communities, Teen Services, San Diego State Foundation WIC Program and Sharp Healthcare. The salaried employees from the San Diego District Attorney's office, local police, medical staff and counselors are remunerated by the individual department's budget. The FJC also relies heavily on federal and foundation grant money as well as trained, specialized volunteer services. At last, convenience, confidentiality and coherence have replaced the old chaos of navigat-

(Continued on page 25)

ing one's way through thirty two county agencies.

In the first thirteen months since opening the FJC served over 5,700 victims, filed 11,368 police reports, investigated 22,000 cases and set 712 cases for trial. Within the first two years of operation, the FJC began to show significant gains in reduction of domestic violence related crimes. For example: within the first year of opening the FJC, domestic violence homicides in San Diego County dropped from thirteen to nine. This is a significant change from 1985 when San Diego County was reporting thirty domestic violence homicides per year and was without specific services and personnel dedicated to assisting with these types of crimes.

In October of 2003, President George W. Bush honored San Diego City Attorney, Casey Gwinn and other local officials from the Center at the White House. At that time, President Bush pledged funding through the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women for creating an additional twenty centers with \$1.5 million dollars for each new center. At present, similar family justice centers have opened, or are being created, in Alameda and Riverside counties in California, Hennepin County in Minnesota, Erie County in Pennsylvania, St. Louis and Indianapolis among other locations. As of July 26, 2004 some 200 national groups have had applied for twenty grants funded by the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Violence Against Women and modeled after the San Diego's Family Justice Center's one-stop confidential approach.

In Phase I, the FJC offered all aspects of legal, medical, social and counseling services for do-

mestic violence victims. Now in Phase II, the FJC also addresses child/juvenile abuse, elder abuse, sexual assault cases and related teen issues. Unlike other domestic violence centers that might have a sterile atmosphere, the FJC is decorated like a home with a front porch receiving area and comfortable furniture. The FJC also has on-site play rooms, books, counseling, art programs and overnight camps for children from domestic abuse families. In addition, the FJC keeps track of the victim's progress over a two year period rather than just the immediate explosive conflict phase. Thus, in the short and long term, the FJC offers the domestic violence victim a convenient and coherent path to recovery rather than the chaos of negotiating one's way through a maze of county agencies.

When I attended the FJC's monthly volunteer training, I was amazed at the diversity of participants. Several judges, attorneys, police officers, attorneys, students, psychologists, clergy members and corporate donors attended the two-hour tour. Visiting participants from other California counties and courts attended the training with the hope of setting up similar Family Justice Centers within their own locale.

To find out more information about setting up a Family Justice Center grant through the U.S. Department of Justice see: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo/pfjci.htm. In addition, the California Judicial Council offers a self help webpage for domestic violence victims at http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/protection/dv/. Also, the Institute for Women's Law is another great spring board for other

(Continued on page 26)

domestic violence law and includes a victim's self evaluation checklist at http://www.womenslaw.org/more_info.htm. Alternatively, interested parties can also check with California State University at Fullerton webpage dedicated to domestic violence resources at http://guides.library.fullerton.edu/domviolence/#STATISTICS. Finally, law librarians researching national and state issues regarding domestic violence would find the National Criminal Reference Service's publications at p://virlib.ncjrs.org/vict.asp? category=50&subcategory= a very useful source for further research.

Editor's note: The footnotes for this article did not convert into MS Publisher. If you would like a copy of the Word Document, please send me an email.

Going to San Antonio? You Need the Local Advisory Committee Site.

A visit to the Local Advisory Committee (LAC) web page can simplify and enliven your trip to San Antonio for this year's conference. The page contains "essential" information plus tips on how to "Enjoy San Antonio." Either go directly to the LAC page or click your way there from AALL's homepage (click on Annual Meeting, General Information, Local Advisory Committee Page).

Under "Essentials" are photos of the conference hotels, a guide to booking a room, and options for transportation from the airport to your hotel. "Enjoy San Antonio" contains guides written by LAC committee members to help you pack the most fun into your visit. These guides include nightlife, shopping, live music, museums and galleries, bookstores, music stores, libraries, LGBT, fun for families and kids, internet access, excursions, outdoor activities, fitness centers, spas and places of worship. The LAC page also contains volunteer forms so you can assist the various committees (don't forget that volunteers get perks) and a link to the Dine Arounds.

Paula Howe, ExxonMobil Law Library, Houston, TX Local Affairs Committee,



SCCLL Grant Recipients to attend AALL Gathering in San Antonio

Heading to San Antonio are the following SCCLL grant recipients:

Tammy Hinderman, State Law Library of Montana Miriam D. Childs, Law Library of Louisiana Kimberly A. Ositis, King County Law Library Ellie H. Slade, San Diego County Law Library

Tricall grant recipient:
David McCusker, Sacramento County Public Law Library