

SCCLL News

A Newsletter of the State, Court and County Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries

View from the Chair

Larry Meyer, SCCLL Chair

Wow!!! Seems like just yesterday, we were getting ready for last year's Seattle meeting and I was preparing to chair the SIS. Twelve months later, I am preparing my last column as chair and am reminded that it is time to prepare for another wonderful AALL Annual Meeting in San Antonio, a city with a unique history and attractions. I hope to see many of you at the meeting. There are a number of scheduled educational programs of interest to our members. We also have two great events scheduled: the Sunday morning breakfast/business meeting/silent auction and the Monday evening reception. Gail Warren has worked diligently on preparing for what promises to be a great auction, and Maryruth Storer has secured a wonderful reception venue and delightful menu for the reception.

It is also time to thank each of you for the tremendous honor of being elected as your chair. It has been a busy, and I dare say productive year. We have continued endeavors from previous years, added new initiatives and celebrated our forty years as an organization.

The year has been productive due to the wonderful work of so many of you, our members. Words cannot adequately explain how thankful I am for all those who have assisted in promoting the SIS and its activities this past year. I am truly amazed and gratified by the many that have devoted so much time and energy in furthering our mission. Each one of you deserves thanks from your SIS for a job well done. Special thanks go to the hardworking and always responsive SCCLL Board (especially those members who are leaving the board), the many committee chairs who did so much of the leg work, the members of the committees, AALL staff, and the staff and Board of Directors of the San Bernardino County Law Library. Without the time, commitment, and support of each one of those mentioned, much less would have been accomplished!



"Many of our members continue to work with inadequate funding (and performing what approaches a miracle). With the assistance of our members, we will continue to advocate for adequate funding for materials, staffing, and quarters."

Inside this issue:

AALL Announcements	3
Highlights from 1980s Newsletters	4
Call for Committee Volunteers	5
Silent Auction Information	6
Retired SCCLL Members	7
Longevity Awards	8
SCCLL Reception at AALL	8
DALL Spring Institute	9
Equal Justice Conference Report	10
Case Studies in Collaboration	12

View from the Chair, continued

Larry Meyer, Chair

As I wrap up my thank-yous, special thanks go to four individuals. Three served as SIS officers this past year and one served as our fantastic newsletter editor. Of the officers, Barbara Fritschel, served as immediate past chair and will be leaving the board. Barbara is undoubtedly one of the best individuals one can be fortunate to follow as chair. She is one of the most hard-working, easy to work with persons I know. Her quiet counsel and memory were both extremely helpful to me this year. Like Barbara, Jennifer Murray, who served as secretary/treasurer, was a most frequent rock and font of advice during the year. Maryruth Storer, our vice chair and next year's chair, like Barbara and Jennifer, served as a wonderful sounding board and worked tirelessly on a number of projects, including the wonderful reception planned for San Antonio. Holly Gerber, our newsletter editor, also deserves my special thanks. She spent the past year in a new job in a new location and continued to put out an excellent and informative product, and at times, patiently waiting for my column to finish an issue.



Where do we go from here? While much has been accomplished this year, there is much more that we, as a group can do. Many of our members continue to work with inadequate funding (and performing what approaches a miracle). With the assistance of our members, we will continue to advocate for adequate funding for materials, staffing, and quarters. Prices for many of our products continue to go up at an alarming rate. Many past and present members of the Board will be meeting with vendors during the San Antonio meeting to discuss our concerns and possible solutions.

While many of our members face what appears to be a trying future, I look forward to the next year under the leadership of Maryruth, knowing that while much has been accomplished in the past, the future holds even greater promise.

■

SCCLL News is published three times a year (Fall, Winter/Spring, and Summer) by the State, Court and County Law Libraries SIS. **The deadline for the next issue is September 19th, 2014.** Please contact the Editor, Holly Gerber, at hlgerber@tarrantcounty.com with questions, comments, suggestions and submissions.

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.

From The Editor's Desk

Holly Gerber, Tarrant County Law Library

As the Annual Meeting in San Antonio is almost upon us, this issue focuses on news and events related to the conference, SCCLL member news, and reports from members who recently attended institutes and conferences of interest to SCCLL members. The issue concludes with an intriguing article on case studies in collaboration from two of my fellow Texas county law librarians. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to the newsletter this year. ■

AALL Announcements

Live, from San Antonio...

Even if you can't make it to San Antonio, you can sample some of each day's offerings with live webcast programs:

- Opening General Session/Keynote Speaker - Sunday, July 13, 9-10:30 a.m. CDT/10-11:30 a.m. EDT
- CI Essentials: Pushing Research Boundaries - Monday, July 14, 1-2 p.m. CDT/2-3 p.m. EDT
- Emerging Issues in Copyright: What You Need to Know - Tuesday, July 15, 2:30-3:15 p.m. CDT/3:30-4:15 p.m. EDT

If you can't watch the programs live, archived webcasts of the programs will be available after the conference on [AALL2go](#), your online center for professional development. Whether you're attending our conference in San Antonio or tending to your job back at the office, you can be part of the audience!

Submit Questions for the Members Open Forum in San Antonio

The AALL General Business Meeting will be held July 14 at 4 p.m., followed immediately by the Members Open Forum, which will adjourn no later than 5:15 p.m.

During this year's Members Open Forum, President Steve Anderson and



AALL Announcements, continued

other officers will be available to respond to member questions regarding AALL and its programs and activities. In addition to asking questions from the floor, members are able to submit questions in advance.

To submit a question in advance for this year's Open Forum, email ambusmtg@aall.org.

■

Family Feud – 40 Years of SCCLL as Seen through the Newsletters

Barbara Fritschel

Family Feud? Don't recall a lot of fighting in SCCLL in the 1990s? Not that kind of feuding. I'm talking about the game show Family Feud, where two families try to figure out the top responses to surveys in order to win money. When I read through the newsletters I was struck by the similarity of the newsletters to the game shows. So for the fans of the show...

1. Survey says.... Almost every issue of the newsletter in the early 1990s had either a survey or a report of survey responses. Surveys included tech services surveys, strategic plan surveys, CALR surveys. Not surprising since the web was not used in the early 90s, email was cumbersome and not everyone had accounts so the newsletter was one way to get needed information.
2. Good answer. The late 1990s saw the development of several specialized columns including one for "Lone Librarians" and the start of Charlie Dyer's column.

I'd love to carry the analogy further but I'm not sure I can. But other highlights from the 1990s include:

Technological developments:

It is amazing to see how many articles, round tables and discussions revolved around CD-ROMS—their value as a resource, networking, and licensing. SCCLL also developed their first list serv and for the first time, color photos appear in the newsletter.



Family Feud -- 40 Years of SCCLL as Seen through the Newsletters, continued

Barbara Fritschel

Summer reading

It has been a long, cold winter in the Midwest this year and so I'm looking forward to summer and great reading. Two of my favorite articles from the 1990s were written by the same person, Beverly Rubenstein. In Winter 1996's "City of Eagan, State of Confusion," Beverly talks about getting Westlaw for her library. How can you not love an article that references *Animal Farm* and Handel's *Messiah*, as well as others, in its subheadings?

The Fall 1997 article, "Librarian Attacked by Sharks," will make anyone reconsider volunteering to be the annual conference newspaper editor.



Call for 2014-15 Committee Volunteers

Maryruth Storer, SCCLL 2014-15 Chair

Our Section's work is accomplished throughout the year by its committees. To function effectively, committees must have members, and SCCLL members need to volunteer for the coming year as soon as possible. In an email posting, I invited members to volunteer by June 13. Please don't interpret that as "well, it is now [a date later than June 13], so I can't volunteer." Your contributions ARE needed! Please let me know as soon as possible if you'd like to participate on any of our committees: Advocacy, Awards, Bylaws, Education, Grants, Membership & Mentoring, Newsletter, Nominations, Publicity & Public Relations, Pro Bono Partnership, Standards, Strategic Planning, or Technology.



Contact me at mstorer@ocpll.org. I look forward to hearing from you soon!



SCCLL 2014 Silent Auction

Gail Warren, Grants Committee

[SCCLL Silent Auction Website](#)

This year's auction opened for bidding Monday, June 23, 2014 – and continued until we suspend the online bidding on Tuesday, July 8th at 5:00 pm (Central Daylight Time). The auction will resume "live" on Sunday, July 13, 2014 at the SCCLL Breakfast and Business Meeting in the Marriott Rivercenter.

As of Friday, June 13th, we have eleven (11) nice items ready for bidding, including:



We need your donations to make this one of our most successful years ever! Have YOU ever been the beneficiary of one of our travel grants to attend AALL or the Equal Justice Conference? If so, please consider donating an item to our auction as a way of “paying it forward” for your colleagues in state, court, county and government law libraries! Items donated do not have to be expensive or elaborate; as a matter of fact, small inexpensive items that easily fit into suitcases and travel totes are some of our most popular items each year.

Need ideas? Perhaps you or someone you know likes to knit, crochet, cross stitch, throw pots or do bead work? Perhaps there are items unique to your home city and/or state? Jewelry, scarves, books, cards and food (chocolate!!) are always popular items.

SCCLL 2014 Silent Auction, continued

Gail Warren, Grants Committee

Once you've collected your items for donation, send a *separate* email message for each item to

gail.warren.56@comcast.net

Include the following In your message:

1. a picture of the item
2. brief description
3. the value of the item
4. the opening bid

If you prefer that the item be designated as "Online Only" (especially if you are unable to attend the AALL Meeting this year, but still want to participate), let me know that too. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at the above email address!

Happy Bidding!

■

SCCLL Member Retirements since the last Annual Meeting

Barbara Fritschel

Mark Linneman, State Law Librarian of California

David Lockwood, Federal Circuit Library

Alice McCreary, Jenkins Law Library

Mariann Storck, US Attorney's Office, Denver CO

Marnie Warner, Massachusetts Trial Court Libraries

■



SCCLL Longevity Award Recipients

Kathy Carlson, Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is proud to recognize the following individuals with their longevity awards. These SCCLLers have been members of AALL for twenty years and associated with SCCLL for ten of those years.

Please congratulate: Anne R. Bernardo, Kelly Browne, Emily Carr, and Deborah Patterson. They will be acknowledged and their certificates and pins awarded at the SCCLL Breakfast and Business Meeting.

SCCLL Reception at Annual Meeting

Maryruth Storer

Please plan to join your SCCLL colleagues on Monday, July 14 for our annual reception during the AALL Meeting. It is 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., which will leave you plenty of time to get to the Thomson Reuters and AALL Member Appreciation Event. Our SCCLL reception is generously sponsored by Thomson Reuters.

Our reception is at the Cos House (418 Villita Street) in the La Villita Historic Arts Village, adjacent to the Convention Center. La Villita, Spanish for “little town”, is the original settlement of Old San Antonio. Built before 1835, the Cos House was the location where General Cos signed the Articles of Capitulation on December 9, 1835.

For planning purposes, please email me (mstorer@ocpll.org) to let me know that you plan to attend. See you there!



DALL 2014 Spring Institute

Kathleen Bransford, Denton County Law Library

Friday, April 25, 2014, I rode the light rail from Denton to Dallas to attend the Dallas Association of Law Libraries' Spring Institute at the UNT Dallas College of Law. The day could not have been more perfect. Virginia Eldridge, Law Librarian from Grayson County, was also able to take the light rail from Plano (she drove to Plano from Sherman, Texas) and we met at the St. Paul Station and walked a few blocks to the UNT Dallas College of Law. There we were greeted by Assistant Dean Edward Hart in the newly renovated Law Library on the 6th Floor.



Dean Hart gave us a video tour of the many transformations the space had gone through and a walking tour of the library. Natural light floods from the many windows highlighting still empty shelves bookended by tables with lamps and a large circulation desk. Many of us took pictures of the coffee tables made from stacks of old Texas Cases books.

After a delicious Tex-Mex Buffet, we gathered in a lecture room within the library and proceeded with an excellent program featuring something for everyone. The Honorable W. Royal Furgeson, Jr. welcomed us as an inaugural class. Several librarians attended from out of state. Kathleen Brown, J.D., M.L.I.S., Associate Dean for Library Services, Charlotte School of Law, and an Executive Board Member of AALL, engaged us for a look into the future of Law Schools. Jennifer Laws, Vice-President/President Elect of the Southwestern Association of Law Libraries and the Electronic Resources Coordinator at the University of New Mexico School of Law flew in for the day's event.

Karen Dibble from the Dallas County Law Library and Ginger Fearey from the Underwood Law Library at Southern Methodist University presented "The Big Tent: How Academic and Court Libraries serve the Legal Community."

Blythe McCoy, J.D., M.L.I.S., Library Relations Manager from Thomson Reuters gave a spirited presentation with her "Marketing Research Services in the New Normal" causing much discussion within the group. Greg Lambert, J.D., M.L.I.S., Director of Library and Research Services at Jackson Walker, LLP in tandem with Donna Bostic, M.L.S., Library Manager of

DALL 2014 Spring Institute, continued

Kathleen Bransford, Denton County Law Library

Strasburger and Price, LLP discussed “Solo Provider: Weighing the Pros and Cons” as many laws firms are choosing one preferred provider over all others.

My appreciation and thanks to Thomas Reuters and the UNT Dallas College of Law for their support of an educational and entertaining mini-conference. I personally thank Candace M. Cathey, President of DALL, along with Charlotte Thomas, First Vice President/President Elect/Program Chair of DALL, former President Donna Bostic and the entire DALL Executive Board for all of their hard work and collaboration with UNT Dallas College of Law to hold this Spring Institute. Thanks also to Yvonne Chandler for attending and being the “glue” that holds all librarians, in attendance or not, together.

My first visit to DALL was an exceptional experience and I encourage all who visit Dallas to stop by the UNT Dallas College of Law and the Law Library located at 1901 Main Street, Dallas, Texas, 75201.



A Newbie at the Equal Justice Conference

Maryruth Storer, Orange County Public Law Library

I’ve heard enthusiastic reports about this annual conference from fellow law librarians for several years. They reported that it was an excellent forum to promote to the broader legal community the services public law libraries provide to both individuals, particularly those who are self-represented, and legal services providers. The conference is presented by the ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service and the National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA.)

In recent years, my work for my employer Orange County Public Law Library has involved much more outreach to both the general public and to other programs and agencies, e.g., Superior Court Self Help Centers, Federal District Court Pro-Se Clinic and Legal Aid. I thought it would be beneficial to learn about programs in other locations and then work to use that information to try to develop programs with other legal providers. Looking ahead to my upcoming year as SCCLL Chair, I’m also thinking about ways we can get out the message about the value of public law libraries. So I figured this was the year to attend the

“An upcoming trend to watch is the Incubator Programs, where new attorneys are trained and provide pro bono assistance; there may be ways for public law libraries to collaborate in these programs.”

A Newbie at the Equal Justice Conference, continued

Maryruth Storer, Orange County Public Law Library

Equal Justice Conference. Of course this is also the year that the Library's budget is getting much worse, so money to attend wasn't going to be available there. I was fortunate to be selected for a SCCLL grant to attend the 2014 Conference in Portland, Oregon.

Around 800 people attended the full conference, lasting 2.5 days. The conference was well planned, with an outstanding Keynote Speaker, Jeffrey Robinson, and an interesting Closing Plenary Session, with a panel discussing how poverty impacts so many aspects of life and society. Each program slot had 9 to 12 sessions as options; some dealt with details of Legal Services Corporation funded programs, some discussed technology options in managing legal services programs, and some were on specific legal topics (immigration, domestic violence, elder mistreatment, debt collection, veterans, etc.) Random networking during breaks and the food truck lunch provided opportunities to promote public law libraries as partners in providing access to justice. An upcoming trend to watch is the Incubator Programs, where new attorneys are trained and provide pro bono assistance; there may be ways for public law libraries to collaborate in these programs.

The most valuable part of the program for me was actually the full day pre-conference workshop of the Self Represented Litigation Network (SRLN). I think there were 9 law librarians there, and we spoke up so much that by the end of the day, speakers were saying "and include the law librarians of course"! I've just recently joined the SRLN Law Librarians' Working Group, and this group reported on the extensive survey conducted in 2013. 81 libraries in 33 states reported on how they assist SRLs. Many operate a Self Help Center in the library and others partner with various organizations. Other sessions emphasized the necessity of judicial engagement for the success of SRL services and innovations, why forms are the cornerstone of self-help, the Self Help Center 2013 Census' revelation that the weakest link may be that Self Help Centers often don't have effective referral mechanisms to Limited Scope unbundled services, and innovations in new types of positions (the New York "navigator" and the Washington "limited license legal technician").



A Newbie at the Equal Justice Conference, continued

Maryruth Storer, Orange County Public Law Library

That day ended with a session “Sharing the Knowledge & Telling Our Story: Voices for Civil Justice”, reporting on public opinion research on civil legal aid in 2013. This new coalition, Voices for Civil Justice (voicesforciviljustice.org), is a “nonpartisan communications hub advancing fairness in America’s legal system. We raise awareness in the media of the vital role of civil legal aid in helping people protect their livelihoods, their health and their families.” The survey leaders asked “what story needs to be in the media that isn’t?” VCJ is committed to putting those stories into the national pipeline, noting that “3 items makes a trend.” The speakers noted that the term “community based legal aid” polls better than “Legal Services.”

The 2015 Equal Justice Conference is May 7-9 in Austin, Texas. Start thinking about whether you’ll be able to join the law librarian contingent there, and remember that SCCLL offers at least one grant to attend.



Briefing the Case: Case Studies in Collaboration

Joseph Lawson, Harris County Law Library

Diane Roberts, Collin County Law Library

In an era of constrained budgets, diminishing space, and increased need for services, public law libraries may sink or swim based on their ability to form partnerships and collaborate with local organizations. As such, any attempt to map the New Normal—the theme of the 56th Annual SWALL Conference—will necessarily include a discussion of substantial and ongoing collaborative efforts between law libraries and other community resources. During our conference program, titled “Collaborating Locally: Expanding Services through Community Resources,” we sprinted through several collaborative efforts we have implemented in our respective counties involving public libraries, local bar associations, legal aid organizations, and local government entities. Although the program met our goal of providing an

Briefing the Case: Case Studies in Collaboration, continued

Joseph Lawson, Harris County Law Library

Diane Roberts, Collin County Law Library

overview of possible collaborations, we realize it might also be useful to provide more detailed information as well. As such, we have selected three examples of our collaborative efforts and present them as case studies below.

Case Study #1: Collaborating with a local Legal Aid Organization and a County Bar Association for Patron Workshops

In an effort to expand services to indigent patrons filing for divorce in Collin County, the Collin County Law Librarian met with representatives of Legal Aid of Northwest Texas and attorneys from the Family Law and Law Practice Management sections of the Collin County Bar Association to discuss a potential monthly workshop to assist self-representing litigants with completing their divorce petitions, responsive documents, and final decrees.

Members of the local Bar Association stated that if the financial status of a patron was verified in advance, the Bar Association could provide volunteer attorneys to assist patrons with completing standardized forms available from the Texas Law Help website. Logistical issues such as where and when to hold the workshop, how to “advertise” the workshop, how to verify financial status of patrons, and what services would be offered during the workshop were considered.

Some of the answers to these questions included:

- Identify potential participants through the legal clinics offered twice monthly by Legal Aid;
- Verify indigency through the county collections office using the Affidavit of Indigency available through Texas Law Help’s website;
- Schedule the workshop one evening a month for drafting the petition for divorce, related forms, and the final decree of divorce.
- Pro bono family law attorneys provide explanation of terminology and guidance in completing forms; and
- Schedule final prove-ups so that they can be done by a Judge that same evening.

“Members of the local Bar Association stated that if the financial status of a patron was verified in advance, the Bar Association could provide volunteer attorneys to assist patrons with completing standardized forms available from the Texas Law Help website.”

Briefing the Case: Case Studies in Collaboration, continued

Joseph Lawson, Harris County Law Library

Diane Roberts, Collin County Law Library

Some of the issues considered were:

- Location of the workshop: the best location for the workshop would be the Law Library as forms, computers, copiers, and work space is available for free. As the Law Library is in the Courthouse and the workshop would be held in the evening, security issues would have to be resolved; and
- Concerns that other non-indigent self-representing litigants would also want to participate in the workshop: the local Bar Association made it very clear that volunteers would only be provided if the participants' indigency had been verified. If other patrons hear about the workshop, they may be upset that a service is being offered to some patrons and not others.



Some of the benefits considered were:

- Providing hands-on experience for new attorneys in family law;
- Helping patrons with children draft better decrees with appropriate conservatorship, visitation, and child support provisions; and
- Helping to alleviate congested Courts by having final pro se prove-ups done in the evening once a month.

Although the program has not yet been implemented, it has opened a dialogue between the Law Library, Legal Aid, and the Bar Association as to the unique issues faced with the growing pro se population and the need for collaboration among community associations. It also provided information on workshops being conducted in other counties by groups such as the Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program.

Case Study #2: Offering Educational Opportunities with the Fort Bend County Bar Association

The Fort Bend County Bar Association provides a variety of useful services to its members, including networking events, news and information resources for the local legal community, and advocacy on matters of interest to local attorneys. Additionally, it is an important source of CLE credit for the local

Briefing the Case: Case Studies in Collaboration, continued

Joseph Lawson, Harris County Law Library

Diane Roberts, Collin County Law Library

bar. The Bar Association hosts monthly luncheons featuring a variety of speakers, from local attorneys, to State Bar of Texas officers, to appellate justices. Like many professional organizations that provide educational programs, the Bar Association is often in need of speakers to fill its CLE calendar, which is announced at the beginning of each year. Additionally, it often needs stand-in speakers when scheduled presenters are unable to attend the luncheon.

In late 2013, the Bar Association approached the Fort Bend County Law Librarian about the possibility of speaking at a monthly luncheon about resources at the Law Library. This was not necessarily breaking new ground—the Law Librarian had participated in a monthly CLE before, but as one of several speakers. As the sole speaker, the task of creating a program that would be worth the time and expense for attendees, as well as sufficient to meet the State Bar of Texas’s Accreditation Standards for CLE Activities, became a more significant undertaking. The presentation was scheduled for the October luncheon—the last CLE of the year with holiday parties to follow—which, in theory, was plenty of time. Nevertheless, the Law Librarian offered to speak at an earlier event if another speaker cancelled. The Bar Association appreciated the offer and by late January, the February speaker had cancelled and the Law Library program was up next.

Now under time constraints, it became imperative to give the people what they wanted. The title of the program was taken from a suggestion made by a Bar Association officer— “Hidden Gems of the Law Library.” In that spirit, the program included discussion of new and lesser-known resources that would be of particular interest to local attorneys. For example, rather than speaking at length about the availability of case law, the basics of the Law Library’s WestlawNext subscription were briefly touched on and the Law Librarian moved quickly to a discussion of jury verdict research and accessing Texas Form Finder. The pattern was repeated for three categories of resources—titled Productivity, Staying Current, and Tech Savvy—which were geared toward practicing-attorney interests. The presentation was supported by a screenshot-laden PowerPoint and a single-page handout. It was

“As the sole speaker, the task of creating a program that would be worth the time and expense for attendees, as well as sufficient to meet the State Bar of Texas’s Accreditation Standards for CLE Activities, became a more significant undertaking.”

Briefing the Case: Case Studies in Collaboration, continued

Joseph Lawson, Harris County Law Library

Diane Roberts, Collin County Law Library

approximately 45-minutes in length with an additional ten minutes for questions. Additionally, it was recorded to create a podcast that was made available to members on the Bar Association's website.

All in all, the reaction to the program was positive and attendees expressed a combination of interest and pleasant surprise at the breadth of resources. During the question and answer period, several attendees inquired about specific resources that were not part of the presentation, but which were also available. Following the program, several attorneys visited the Fort Bend County Law Library—some for the first time—and mentioned that they attended the program and were interested in a particular resource. Finally, Bar Association officers and directors were generally pleased with the presentation and expressed interest in having the Law Librarian speak at other events.



Case Study #3: Collaborating with Other County Offices to Facilitate Proper Procedure

In addition to the forms provided by the Law Library, the District Clerk and County Clerk also provide standardized forms for use by county residents. To consolidate efforts and assist in facilitating the submission of the correct paperwork, the Collin County Law Librarian has met with representatives from the District Clerk's and County Clerk's offices to discuss the services they provide to patrons. By communicating with the District Clerk's office, the Law Library now includes the following forms in their family law packets:

- Local Rules
- Standing Orders
- Mandated Civil Case Information Sheet
- Child Support Account Set Up Form
- Information on Suit Affecting the Family Relationship

As these forms are updated, the District Clerk will send notification to the Law Library and will provide copies as needed.

Briefing the Case: Case Studies in Collaboration, continued

Joseph Lawson, Harris County Law Library

Diane Roberts, Collin County Law Library

After meeting with the County Clerk, the library staff can now accurately field questions regarding obtaining a marriage license, informal marriages, amending birth certificates, and recording documents. This saves patrons time as they are not being bounced around to different departments to answer simple questions or find specific information.

In addition to establishing relationships with the District Clerk's and County Clerk's offices, the Law Librarian has also met with the District Attorney's Victim Advocate Attorney to discuss best practices for protective orders filed *pro se*. By working with the District Clerk's office and the District Attorney's office, the library now offers confidential protective orders to patrons as well as the standard protective order paperwork promulgated by the Texas Supreme Court. The Victim Advocate Attorney was also helpful in updating a useful handout that explains the differences between the different types of emergency relief and different methods of obtaining assistance.

As an outgrowth of these relationships, when local law enforcement brought up issues with the protective order paperwork and the accompanying data entry form for the Texas Crime Information Center, a representative from the District Clerk's office, the Law Librarian, the Victim Advocate Attorney, and law enforcement representatives were able to meet and discuss the issues, coming up with a viable solution to the problems. In the instance where the District Attorney's office is unable to assist with obtaining a protective order for a patron, the reference librarians can provide more thorough guidance to the individual on preparing the paperwork for filing on their own.

Understanding what services other county offices offer and interfacing with the staff provides a rich resource for collaboration. Once relationships are developed with various departments, the Law Library has a point of reference and names of contacts for speedy resolution of problems as they arise.

"Understanding what services other county offices offer and interfacing with the staff provides a rich resource for collaboration. Once relationships are developed with various departments, the Law Library has a point of reference and names of contacts for speedy resolution of problems as they arise."

Briefing the Case: Case Studies in Collaboration, continued

Joseph Lawson, Harris County Law Library

Diane Roberts, Collin County Law Library

Conclusion

Collaboration between law libraries and other entities has the potential to be beneficial for all parties involved. In the case studies above, we have described efforts that turned out positively for patrons and stakeholders alike. However, these are just a few of the many ways collaborative efforts might take shape. Whether or not the same programs will work in other settings or the considerations we have described are useful for different endeavors, we hope the preceding information will help spur collaborative efforts in a variety of settings.



■

SCCLL Officers & Board Members 2013-2014

Chair	Vice Chair/Chair Elect	Past-Chair	Secretary/Treasurer
Lawrence Meyer (909) 885-3020 larrym@sblawlibrary.org	Maryruth Storer (714) 834-3002 mstorer@ocpll.org	Barbara Fritschel (414) 297-1698 Barbara_Fritschel@ca7.uscourts.gov	Jennifer Murray (602) 506-3464 murrayj006@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov
Board Member	Board Member	Board Member	Board Member
(2013-2014)	(2012-2015)	(2013-2016)	(ex-officio)
Betsy Vipperman (585) 530-3263 bvipperm@courts.state.ny.us	Coral Henning (916) 874-6013 chenning@saclaw.org	James Durham (410) 260-1436 james.durham@mdcourts.gov	Holly Gerber (817) 212-7228 hlgerber@tarrantcounty.com

Advocacy

Pauline Afuso, Chair
Brian Huffman
Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson
Liaison—Larry Meyer

Awards

Liz Reppe, Chair
Emily Carr
Catherine Lemann
Jean-Paul Vivian
Liaison—Jennifer Murray

Bylaws

Kent M. Milunovich, Chair
Liaison—Maryruth Storer

Education

Rosanne Canny, Chair
Catherine McGuire
Adriana Mark
Mary Matuszak
Liaison—James Durham

Grants

Ted Smith, Chair
Sandra Marz
Leslie McGuire
Gail Warren
Liaison—Jennifer Murray

Membership & Mentoring

Kathy Carlson, Chair
Cornell Winstong
Liaison—Barbara Fritschel

Newsletter

Holly Gerber, Chair/Editor
Jenn Dalglish
John Barden
Sonja Simpson
Liaison—Barbara Fritschel

Nominations

Jessie Wallace Burchfield, Chair
Donna Bausch
Crata Castleberry
Liaison—Larry Meyer

Pro Bono Partnerships

Jessica Van Buren, Chair
Joan Bellistri
Claudia Beth Jalowka
Liaison—Larry Meyer

Publicity/Public Relations

Sharon Borbon, Chair
Gretchen Hornberger
Jenn Dalglish
Liaison—Betsy Vipperman

Standards

Joel Fishman, Chair
Georgia Chadwick
Liaison—Betsy Vipperman

Strategic Planning

Sara Galligan, Chair
Joan Hoolihan
Laura Orr
Liaison—Coral Henning

Technology

Kate Fitz, Chair
Alexa Lee
Nancy Adams
Liaison—Coral Henning