Greetings to each of you! It is an honor to be serving as SCCLL Chair for the 2013-2014 AALL year.

As I begin this column, I would like to take a moment to thank Barbara Fritschel for her outstanding service as last year’s Chair. She is an invaluable and wonderful mentor and has left a strong legacy that I hope to continue this year, before handing off the symbols of office to Maryruth Storer, next year’s Chair.

I also want to take a moment to thank our outgoing Board Members; Rita Dermody, Holly Lakatos and Amy Hale-Janek for their outstanding service to our membership. Their dedication in performing their duties and serving the SCCLL membership deserve our most sincere gratitude and each of them has our best wishes as they move on to other endeavors.

I would like to thank each of our current Board members for offering to step up and serve the membership this year. In addition to Barbara and Maryruth, I would like to thank Jennifer Murray, James Durham, Coral Henning and especially Betsy Vipperman, who agreed to fill an unexpired term, for their willingness to serve. Their willingness to serve is deeply appreciated and I look forward to working with them this year. Thanks, too, to those of you who have stepped up to serve on our various committees. It is through your work that the SIS continues to work on behalf of our membership.

Volunteering to serve the section is always crucial. However, I would suggest that in the current environment, volunteering is even more critical to the success of our SIS and its members who serve as agency, court and government librarians.

Volunteering to serve the section is always crucial. However, I would suggest that in the current environment, volunteering is even more critical to the success of our SIS and its members who serve as agency, court and government librarians.
View from the Chair, continued

Larry Meyer, Chair

resources SCCLL can offer and together these benefits reinforce the value of our SIS membership.

Does any one of us have all the answers? No. But together we might be able to come up with solutions that will make our section and each of us stronger and a stronger force within our organizations and our profession. With the help and support of each of our SIS members, the Board and our committees will work towards finding solutions this coming year. Please feel free to reach out to myself or any of our Board members with your thoughts and ideas on what we might do to accomplish that goal.

From The Editor’s Desk

Holly Gerber, Tarrant County Law Library (TX)

As the new SCCLL year begins, we reflect on programs and events from the Annual Meeting in Seattle and look back on 40 years of SCCLL with highlights from the 1970s-era newsletters. Also included in this issue: Alameda County shares their success in cooperating with the local public library to improve access to legal information, the Ohio County Law Library in West Virginia closes, and the State Law Library of Montana recently welcomed a new Director.
AALL Announcements

Vote for the Future Leaders of AALL: Election Opens November 1

Candidates' statements and bios for the 2013 AALL Executive Board election are now available on AALLNET. The elected members of the board represent you and your interests as law librarians. It's important to make an educated decision and we encourage members to learn more about the candidates by visiting the biographies & statements page on AALLNET before voting.

Online voting for the next AALL vice president/president-elect, secretary, and Executive Board members opens November 1 and runs through 11:59 pm EST on December 1.

Register for Trademark Basics for the Law

Registration is open for the November webinar, Trademark Law Basics for the Law Librarian. Trademarks surround us on a daily basis - whether it is the cereal we eat, the clothes we wear, or the products we use. Considering the omnipresence of trademarks, how many people know there are different types of trademarks?

Join us for this webinar on November 14 at 11 a.m. CT when Anthony Fletcher, senior principal in the New York office of Fish & Richardson, will provide a broad overview of trademark law, including what trademarks are, how they are protected and infringed, and how library research fits into the picture. By drawing on his years of experience and noteworthy court victories, Fletcher will provide an insightful and engaging look at trademark law and how it impacts our lives.

AALL2go Pick of the Month

AALL’s Continuing Professional Education Committee presents the AALL2go pick of the month: Recharge: The Look of Leadership Today: What It Is – and What It Isn’t.

Effective leadership can have a profound impact on libraries of every kind. This presentation encourages librarians to think about leaders in a new way and to challenge common myths of leadership. The presenters use an entertaining and energetic approach to engage the audience and demonstrate why everyone in an organization should be viewed as a potential leader.

Find this and more than 100 other free continuing education programs and webinars for AALL members on AALL2go!
40 years and counting...Highlights from the 1970s

Barbara Fritschel

The group that would become known as the SCCLL SIS started in 1973 in Seattle. As we celebrate this year, I thought I would share some excerpts from the newsletter over those 40 years. From the first issue:

“State and Court Law Libraries was conceived as, and is, a means whereby libraries that serve state and federal government and courts, and particularly such of those libraries that are members of the AALL, may exchange information and cooperate with each other and with other organizations in the interest of themselves and those they serve. Although making no charge for membership, SCLL in 1973 received contributions totaling $32 from nine members. “

Several information reports were included in that first issue including: Depository Libraries for the Highest State Appellate Courts; Availability of Federal Funds-LEAA; Use of Salary and Job Description Surveys in Hiring Library Personnel; Prison Law Libraries—Response to Younger v. Gilmore.

Most of the newsletters from the 1970s include a lot of articles about getting the group organized. However, some other highlights include:

“Our library recently received the following letter for a local county humane society:

Gentlemen:

I would like to know if there are any law or laws pertaining to having as a pet a lion, tiger or large imported snakes. Is it legal to chain a lion, tiger, jaguar, leopard etc. in the open without a muzzle or where they are a danger to children or adults? There is a lion being kept chained in the front yard of a person in this county. It has attacked two persons already. Any laws sent to me pertaining to domestic or wild animals or animals shipped here from foreign countries would be greatly appreciated. Please respond quickly.”

And this timely piece could have come from almost any decade in our existence.

“We are constantly being asked to account for ourselves and our law library either to raise our funding or to seek additional personnel.
40 years and counting..., continued

Barbara Fritschel

Using the principles of good sound business administration we can identify our problems and look for ways to solve them...Some suggestions:

- Think of your library as a business and your services as your products.
- Do an annual report
- Keep business records
- Be sure to use statistics to justify your programs.”

It seems that over 40 years we have made much progress, yet some of the issues are as timely as ever.

2013 AALL Travel Grant Essay

Julie Jones, U.S. Courts Library, Second Circuit – Hartford Branch

I am so grateful to have been awarded a SCCLL grant to attend the AALL Annual Meeting in Seattle. To the SCCLL Board and Grants Committee, I extend my sincere thanks for making this opportunity available and investing in my professional development. The programming at this year’s meeting was excellent and I’ll focus on a few highlights here.

SCCLL had their breakfast meeting early Sunday morning. It was an historic event, celebrating the group’s 40th anniversary. I had a chance to speak with incoming AALL President Steven Anderson about his initiative to study how best to represent the value of libraries using Return on Investment (ROI) data modeling, and look forward to those results.

Washington Supreme Court Chief Justice Barbara Madsen opened the conference with great praise of libraries and librarians, before David Weinberger, Harvard senior researcher at the Berkman Center, gave the keynote address. Networks amplify value, he said, but the value of libraries is not now represented in the Internet. To remedy that, he suggested that libraries work to become knowledge platforms that allow others to create apps that capitalize on our data and metadata, which can then boost our value to the public. As co-director of the Harvard Library Innovation Lab, he gave a number of examples of this, including Stack View, DPLA, and the Awesome Box. The entire session is available to view here. Certainly a lot to ponder.

“I would like to know if there are any law or laws pertaining to having as a pet a lion, tiger or large imported snakes. Is it legal to chain a lion, tiger, jaguar, leopard etc. in the open without a muzzle or where they are a danger to children or adults? There is a lion being kept chained in the front yard of a person in this county.”
2013 AALL Travel Grant Essay, continued

Julie Jones, U.S. Courts Library, Second Circuit – Hartford Branch

Technology featured high in this year’s programming. Responsive Web Design panelists discussed taking a “mobile first” approach to web design, building in scalability to various screen sizes, and eliminating the administrative nightmare of having duplicative web sites. The primarily academic panel concurred that approximately 5% of their website access is via mobile devices, though an audience member remarked that 25% of legal aid websites are accessed via mobile devices. According to a 2012 ABA Tech Survey, 89% of attorneys use their smartphone for work. My major takeaway was that to boost library value, websites (and intranet sites) should be optimized for all devices.

More on mobile technology, I was fortunate to be invited with my colleague, Adriana Mark, to speak on a panel discussing iPad usage in court, academic, and law firm settings. With esteemed librarians Deborah Ginsberg, June Liebert, and Karen Helde, we discussed popular uses in our three work environments, favorite apps, administrative issues, and pilot program challenges and successes. It was an honor to participate in the programming.

Seattle weather cooperated with AALL’s schedule and we had clear skies and warm temperatures the entire meeting, perfect for attending the many evening receptions at local hot spots, though I have to say the Ninth Circuit Library had the best view by far and a beautiful library. It was wonderful to reconnect with friends and colleagues and make new acquaintances.

I greatly appreciate the generosity of SCCLL for making this professional development possible. I returned to my work with fresh ideas ripe for implementation, and a wider network of connections with colleagues.

Mecklenberg Jackson Takes Over Reins at State Law Library of Montana

A familiar face to some SCCLL'ers who have been around for awhile, Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson has been hired by the Montana Supreme Court as the new Director of the Montana State Law Library in Helena, MT. Lisa was very active in SCCLL in the late 90's and early 2000s as she was the editor for the SCCLL News, headed up several SCCLL Committees, and produced several of SCCLL's Resource Guides. Lisa has a JD from the University of North Dakota and a Masters in Law Librarianship from the University of Washington. She served as the Electronic Services Librarian at the State Law Library of Montana from 1997
Mecklenberg Jackson Takes Over Reins at State Law Library of Montana, continued

to 2001. In 2001, she became Montana's Legislative Librarian, then became a Legislative Attorney in 2006. In 2010, Lisa's family relocated from Helena, MT to Missoula, MT. In Missoula, Lisa was the PR and Reference Librarian at Missoula Public Library and spent the last year working as in-house counsel for a private business in Missoula. Lisa is very excited to return to her law librarian roots and hopes to become as involved in SCCLL as you'll let her be! If you need to reach Lisa, she can be e-mailed at lisameckjack@gmail.com.

Public Library Partnership Improves Access to Legal Information

Emily Bergfeld, Alameda County Law Library (CA)

To improve access to legal information in eastern Alameda County, the Alameda County Law Library recently partnered with the Alameda County Public Library to establish the Legal Resource Collection @ Dublin Public Library. Intended to support the needs of self-represented litigants, the public, and local attorneys, the collection features a large selection of California practice guides, formbooks, legal self-help books, and free legal database access.

An Underserved Region, A Library Partnership

The mission of the Alameda County Law Library is to provide all Alameda County residents access to current legal information. The law library presently operates from locations in Oakland and Hayward, but has lacked a physical presence in eastern Alameda County. Alameda County covers a geographically large area of almost 740 square miles. In recent decades, the suburban and rural communities of Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore have witnessed significant growth. The combined population of these cities now exceeds 200,000. The region also has a large and active legal community that is dominated by solo and small firm attorneys. There are currently no law libraries or legal aid organizations operating in eastern Alameda County.
Public Library Partnership Improves Access to Legal Information, continued

Emily Bergfeld, Alameda County Law Library (CA)

Recognizing the importance of improving access to legal information in this underserved region, the Alameda County Law Library secured an LSTA grant from the California State Library to establish a satellite collection of essential print and electronic legal materials at the Dublin Public Library. With the support and cooperation of the Alameda County Public Library, the law library began developing the Legal Resource Collection @ Dublin Public Library, purchasing a targeted selection of practice guides, legal self-help books, and database subscriptions capable of providing meaningful access to legal information.

California Practice Guides

The Legal Resource Collection @ Dublin Public Library includes a strong selection of California practice guides, treatises, and formbooks published by Rutter Group, Thomson Reuters, Matthew Bender, and Continuing Education of the Bar. Practice materials reflect the major practice areas of local attorneys, and include publications on family law, estate planning and probate, real property law, debt collection, employment law, landlord-tenant, and civil litigation.

Additional practice guides can be accessed electronically through legal databases purchased for the Legal Resource Collection. California Forms of Pleading and Practice is available in full-text, electronic format through the library’s LexisNexis subscription. Likewise, library visitors can use the OnLaw database to access the complete collection of over 140 practice guides and Action Guides published by Continuing Education of the Bar.

Legal Self-Help Materials

For the general public and self-represented litigants, the Legal Resource Collection offers a wide variety of legal self-help books published by Nolo Press, many of which can be checked-out of the library. Written to help non-attorneys resolve minor legal problems and complete simple legal transactions, Nolo Press books explain legal concepts and procedures in plain English. Many titles include form templates, as well as step-by-step instructions for completing, filing, serving, and recording legal forms. Books on divorce, landlord-tenant issues, estate planning, probate, bankruptcy, and small claims court will help local residents contend with routine legal matters.

With the support and cooperation of the Alameda County Public Library, the law library began developing the Legal Resource Collection @ Dublin Public Library, purchasing a targeted selection of practice guides, legal self-help books, and database subscriptions capable of providing meaningful access to legal information.
Public Library Partnership Improves Access to Legal Information, continued

Emily Bergfeld, Alameda County Law Library (CA)

Free Legal Database Access

The LSTA grant enabled the law library to purchase site licenses to several popular legal databases for the Dublin Public Library. Library patrons can access legal databases LexisNexis, OnLaw, Fastcase, HeinOnline, NoloEBSCO, and Dissomaster Support Software free of charge on two dedicated legal research terminals. These computers also feature links to California Judicial Council forms, case information, and reliable legal self-help websites. Patrons who bring their laptops, tablets, or smart phones to the library can connect to OnLaw, Fastcase, HeinOnline and NoloEBSCO directly through Dublin Public Library’s wireless network, and download content from these services free of charge.

Conclusion

Public library partnerships help county law libraries maintain a presence in outlying areas of the regions they serve. By providing free and convenient access to authoritative legal materials, the Legal Resource Collection @ Dublin Public Library will support the needs of local legal practitioners and facilitate access to justice for self-represented litigants in eastern Alameda County.

The Legal Resource Collection is available to Dublin Public Library visitors during the library’s normal business hours. For more information about the Legal Resource Collection @ Dublin Public Library, please visit our website at http://calcountylawlib.libguides.com/dpl.

This project was supported in whole or in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.
Ohio County (WV) Law Library Turning Law Books Into Paper Towels

Greg Lambert, Jackson Walker LLP

Ohio County, West Virginia, has finally emptied out the county law library and has given away, or sold, the old state Supreme Court regional collection in the Wheeling, WV branch. According to the Herald Star, some of the collection will be recycled into pulp and eventually turned into products like paper towels.

I'm going back and forth on the idea that a county would close a number of law libraries and essentially give away the 75,000 books housed there for decades. However, reading a little bit further into the story, it does seem to make sense, even if it causes a law librarian's stomach to churn a bit while running down the list of facts behind the closings:

- A three-month study of the Huntington library showed not one person used the library (it was shut down)
- Lawyers were not using it and seemed to be happy with purchasing their own collections or using online resources
- The Parkersburg, Beckley, Clarksburg, and Martinsburg branches had already been closed
- Total cost of running the branch libraries was estimated at $110,000.00 per year
- The main law library in Charleston will remain open
- Space is at a premium, and it seems that many of the decision makers wanted to open up that space for their own departments

County law libraries are unique. Perhaps they have undergone the most change of any type of law library due to the fact that the customer base has shifted almost completely away from supporting the local bar members, to being almost completely a resource for pro se litigants and the incarcerated. The even trickier part is that those that run the county law library (usually a Board of Directors) are usually made up of members of the local bar and members of the local government. So, the leadership is comprised of people that may have used it at one time, but no longer do, or have competing interests that may influence them into viewing the space occupied by the library as wasteful (and would be much better used by whatever department they happen to run). Perhaps this is an oversimplification of the situation, but having lived this, I can at least anecdotally back it up.
Ohio County (WV) Law Library Turning Law Books Into Paper Towels, continued

Greg Lambert, Jackson Walker LLP

County law libraries have a tough situation on their hands. Some are adjusting to the shift in the customer base and are attempting new business models. Travis County, Texas, for example, has created a very successful Pro Se self-help clinic, and seems to be moving away from traditional methods of supporting the bench and bar through the collection, to supporting them in other ways by reducing the demand placed upon the courts and bar by unrepresented litigants. I think that this is the type of thinking that successful county law libraries are adopting to survive.

No longer should the library be about the linear feet of National Reporters. It must be about the service to the community, finding ways to reduce the stress on the courts, and finding ways of engaging with the bar members beyond the idea of having books available for them to read. If county law libraries do not adopt these new methods, many more will see their collections broken down into pulp and turned into paper towels.

Scenes from the Business Meeting at AALL

Swearing in of the 2013-2014 board by the Honorable Keith D. Davis

Past SCCLL Chairs
Scenes from the Business Meeting at AALL, continued

Jean-Paul Vivian presenting the Bethany J. Ochal Award to Judy Meadows

Jean-Paul Vivian presenting the Bethany J. Ochal award to Marcia Koslov
Scenes from the Business Meeting at AALL, continued

Barbara Fritschel, 2012-2013 Chair, at the podium

Barbara Fritschel at the podium with group in front
# SCCLL Officers & Board Members 2013-2014

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<th>Role</th>
<th>Chair Name</th>
<th>Vice Chair/Chair Elect Name</th>
<th>Past-Chair Name</th>
<th>Secretary/Treasurer Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Lawrence Meyer</td>
<td>Maryruth Storer</td>
<td>Barbara Fritschel</td>
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<th>Role</th>
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<td>(2013-2014)</td>
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## Advocacy
- Chair: Pauline Afuso
- Brian Huffman
- Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson
- Liaison: Larry Meyer

## Awards
- Chair: Liz Reppe
- Emily Carr
- Catherine Lemann
- Jean-Paul Vivian
- Liaison: Jennifer Murray

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- Liaison: Barbara Fritschel

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- Laura Orr
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- Alexa Lee
- Nancy Adams
- Liaison: Coral Henning
The Back Page

Member News & Announcements

Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson has been hired by the Montana Supreme Court as the new Director of the Montana State Law Library in Helena, MT.

Holly Gerber was hired as the new Director of the Tarrant County Law Library (TX) in August.

Jon Brenner is the new Law Librarian of the Marion County Law Library (OR)