The City of Chicago has had its more than its share of murder, mayhem and disaster. All of these happenings attracted national attention; a few resulted in regulations that have improved health and safety.

This is a listing of some of the most well-known Chicago tragedies. You might want to visit some or all of these places during your time in Chicago. Several of these are located within walking distance of the AALL Annual Meeting. Some others can be reached via public transportation. Be aware that not all of these locations are open to the public.

**Federal Regulations Gone Awry: The Sinking of the SS *Eastland***

**Chicago Riverwalk between LaSalle and Clark Streets**

The SS *Eastland*, a popular Chicago-based excursion boat, was launched in 1902. Known for its speed, the vessel had a design flaw that made it top-heavy. The problem was worsened following the passage of the Federal Seamen’s Act in 1915. The act, adopted in response to the RMS *Titanic* disaster, required the retrofitting of a complete set of lifeboats on the *Eastland*. The additional weight made the unstable ship even more dangerous.

On the morning of July 24, 1915, the ship was loaded to capacity for a company picnic. While the ship was still tied to the dock, many of the passengers moved to the river side of the vessel, causing the unstable *Eastland* to roll onto its port side. A total of 844 passengers and crew were killed in the disaster. Many of those who died were children. It was the worst loss of life ever in a Great Lakes’ shipwreck. Ghosts of the victims were said to have haunted the nearby Harpo Studios during the filming of the Oprah Winfrey Show.

The *Eastland* was later raised and sold to the United States Navy. Rebuilt and renamed the USS *Wilmette*, she served as a gunboat on the Great Lakes until after the Second World War. President Franklin Roosevelt spent time sailing aboard the ship in 1943.
The Haymarket Incident
175 N. Desplaines Street

The Haymarket Incident, also called the Haymarket Massacre or the Haymarket Riot, occurred on May 4, 1886. It began as a peaceful rally in Chicago's Haymarket Square in support of workers striking for an eight-hour day. Someone—it has never been determined who—threw a bomb at police as they acted to disperse the crowd. Seven police officers and four of those attending the rally were killed by the blast and the gunfire that followed. Many others were wounded.

Eight men were tried for conspiracy following the incident. Despite the lack of evidence as to who had thrown the bomb, all were found guilty with seven of the men being sentenced to death. Four were executed, a fifth man committed suicide. The remaining three were later pardoned by incoming governor John Peter Altgeld, a critic of the trial.

The selection of May Day as International Worker’s Day is said to have been as a result of the Haymarket Incident.

A public sculpture by Mary Brogger marks the location where the incident occurred. In addition, the Haymarket Martyrs’ Monument can be found at the nearby Forest Home Cemetery in Forest Park.

Transportation Woes: The Pullman Strike
Pullman National Monument, Cottage Grove and 112th Street

The Pullman Palace Car Company, builder and operator of the Pullman sleeping cars, constructed a company town in Chicago to house its workers. The community and adjoining factory were located between Lake Calumet and the Illinois Central rail line south of Chicago. A model town, the homes included indoor plumbing, unusual for the day. However, it was a paternalistic community; company president George Pullman prohibited town meetings and cleanliness inspectors regularly entered homes. A business slowdown in 1893 lead to decreases in wages without a corresponding reduction in rents, leaving workers on starvation pay.

A strike broke out at the Pullman factories on May 11, 1894. The company refused to make any concessions to the American Railway Union (ARU), so the union took the strike to a national level, boycotting of the handling of Pullman cars by all ARU workers. The boycott crippled rail traffic.

The delivery of US mail was disrupted by the strike, causing the Federal government to intervene. Citing the Sherman Anti-Trust Law of 1890, the government obtained an injunction against the union and sent thousands of US Army troops to Chicago. Fighting between the military and workers at rail yards in the Chicago area killed dozens and left many more wounded. ARU leader Eugene Debs, along with other union leaders, were arrested, weakening the ARU and the strike. The strike officially ended on July 12, 1894.

George Pullman died in 1897. Afraid that his body would be stolen, his lead-lined casket was buried in an eight-foot deep concrete pit and covered with asphalt, steel rails and concrete. The grave is at Graceland Cemetery, located at Clark Street and Irving Park Road in the Uptown area of Chicago.
A Low Point for Sports Fans: The 1919 Chicago Black Sox
333 West 35th Street

Comiskey Park was the home of the Chicago White Sox from 1910 through 1990. More than 6000 regular-season Major League baseball games and four World Series were played at Comiskey Park. The old stadium was demolished in 1991; the White Sox now play at U.S. Cellular Field, built next to where the Comiskey Park stood.

Chicago lost the infamous 1919 “Black Sox” World Series to the Cincinnati Reds five games to three in a nine-game series. The Sox lost three of the four games that were played at Comiskey Park. Several players later admitted that they took money to throw the series.

Comiskey Park’s home plate is marked by a marble plaque on the sidewalk next to U.S. Cellular Field. Most of the old stadium is now a parking lot; the old ballpark’s foul lines are painted on the lot.

The Chicago World’s Fair of 1893: The White City
Jackson Park, South Lake Shore Drive

The Chicago World’s Fair, officially known as the World’s Columbian Exposition, was held in Chicago to mark the 400th Anniversary of Columbus’s arrival in the Americas. The Fair attracted thousands of visitors from around the World to Chicago. The Fair’s white buildings earned it the nickname “The White City” and served as the inspiration for the City Beautiful Movement.

The fair did have a dark side. H.H. Holmes murdered as many as 200 people, primarily young blonde women, at his World’s Fair Hotel. Arrested, tried and found guilty, he was hung on May 7, 1896. The hanging was botched and he died a slow death from suffocation. His body reportedly twitched for almost 20 minutes before he was pronounced dead.

The Palace of Fine Arts, today the Museum of Science and Industry, and the World’s Congress Building, today the Art Institute of Chicago, are the only major building that survive from the Chicago World’s Fair. A ticket booth from the Fair now stands in the garden of Frank Lloyd Wright’s DeCaro House, 313 N. Forest Avenue.

Long after the Fair, the Jackson Park lagoon became the final resting place of famed attorney Clarence Darrow, who died in Chicago in 1938. His ashes were scattered in lagoon from what is now the Clarence Darrow Memorial Bridge, located east of 60th Street.

Meat Inspection: The Chicago Stockyards
Exchange Avenue at Peoria Street

In 1906, muckraker Upton Sinclair published *The Jungle* in which he described the unsafe working conditions and unsanitary practices in the American meatpacking industry. The book shocked the American public and lead to the adoption of the Meat Inspection Act and the Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906.

The Union Stock Yards, where animals were brought into the city for processing, closed on June 30, 1971. Few remnants of Chicago’s meat-packing industry survive. However, the Union Stock Yard Gate has been preserved. The gate was designed by John Wellborn Root around 1875.
Chicago Crime: Site of the St Valentine’s Day Massacre
2122 North Clark Street

On February 14, 1929, seven men—six members of the Bugs Moran gang and one bystander—were gunned down by members of the Al Capone gang. The victims were shot against a brick wall of the SMG Cartage Company Garage.

The Garage was demolished in 1967. What remains of the wall is now on display at the Mob Museum in Las Vegas.

The site of the Massacre is now owned by a nearby nursing home. A line of trees can be seen on the property; the center tree marks where the wall once stood.

More Chicago Crime: Al Capone’s Favorite Bar
Green Mill Jazz Club, 4802 North Broadway Avenue

What is now the Green Mill Jazz Club, located in Chicago’s Uptown neighborhood, was a speakeasy during Prohibition. The club was then operated by members of the mob, including the man suspected of being the primary gunman in the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre, Jack “Machine Gun” McGurn.

When he visited the bar Al Capone would sit in the booth across from the side door on Lawrence Street where he had a clear view of all the entrances. When necessary, a trap door behind the bar and tunnels provided emergency exits from the building. The tunnels are not open to visitors.

Even More Chicago Crime: The Biograph Theatre
2433 North Lincoln Avenue

On July 22, 1934 gangster John Dillinger, accompanied by a lady in orange (contrary to legend she did not wear red) attended a showing of the movie “Manhattan Melodrama” at Chicago’s Biograph Theater. Dillinger was shot and killed by FBI agents while exiting the theater.

The lady in orange who tipped off the FBI, brothel madam Ana Cumpănaș, was later deported to Romania.

Now used for live theater, the facade of the Biograph was restored to its 1934 appearance in 2009.

The Perfect Murder: Leopold and Loeb
5052 South Ellis Street

In 1924, wealthy University of Chicago students Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb attempted to commit the “perfect murder,” kidnapping and killing 14-year old Bobby Franks. Their criminal trial captured national attention with Clarence Darrow representing the defendants.

Escaping the death penalty, each received a life sentence plus 99 years. Loeb was murdered in prison in 1936. Leopold was released from prison in 1958 and died in 1971.

The Franks Residence, located at 5052 South Ellis Street, was recently restored. Richard Loeb lived nearby at 5017 Ellis Street. The Leopold mansion, located at 4754 South Greenwood Avenue, was destroyed in the 1960s.
A Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight: The Great Chicago Fire of 1871
The Chicago Fire Academy, Site of the Origin of the Great Chicago Fire, Dekoven and Jefferson Streets

The Great Chicago Fire started on October 8, 1871. According to legend the fire started when a cow owned by Patrick and Catherine O’Leary kicked over a lighted lantern. That has never been confirmed, but it is known that the fire started in or around a barn owned by the O’Leary family at 137 Dekoven Street on the city's southwest side. The flames were not brought under control until October 10th. More than 300 people were killed in the fire and 100,000 were left homeless. Over 17,000 buildings in the largely wooden city were destroyed.

A bronze sculpture entitled "Pillar of Fire" was erected at the point of origin of Chicago fire in 1961. It was created by sculptor Egon Weiner.

One of the few buildings to survive the fire was the 154-foot Chicago Water Tower, located downtown on Michigan Ave.

Another Tragic Fire: The Iroquois Theatre
24 West Randolph Street, between State Street and Dearborn Street, now the location of the Oriental Theater

On December 30, 1903, during a packed matinee performance of the musical “Mr. Bluebeard,” a defective arc light ignited a curtain. The resulting smoke and fire resulted in the death of at least 602 people. It was the deadliest theatre fire in American history.

Said to have been one of the most beautiful theatres in the nation, Chicago’s Iroquois Theatre was a disaster waiting to happen. Exit doors to the theatre opened inward. Some exit doors were kept locked, other doors were ornamental and led nowhere. There were no exit signs and no emergency power. The fire curtain was defective. The overflow crowd the day of the matinee had some patrons sitting in the aisles.

Firefighters found that corpses were piled ten high around the doors and windows. Because it was a matinee performance, many of those killed were children. Outward-opening exit doors and crash bars became standard following the fire.

A bronze memorial to the disaster by sculptor Lorado Taft can be found in Chicago’s City Hall near the LaSalle Street entrance. A second memorial can be found on the grounds of Montrose Cemetery, where many of the victims were buried.

The Iroquois was repaired and reopened as the Colonial Theater. The building was demolished in 1926 to make way for the Oriental Theater.

Yet Another Tragic Fire: Our Lady of the Angels School
909 North Avers Avenue

On Monday, December 1, 1958, shortly before classes were to be dismissed in the afternoon, a fire broke out at Our Lady of the Angels School. Operated by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago, the elementary school had an enrollment of approximately 1600 students. The fire, smoke and heat killed 92 pupils and 3 nuns who were trapped in their classrooms. Others were injured while jumping from windows.
Originally built in 1910, grandfather provisions in the law did not require that the school be retrofitted to meet current Chicago and Illinois fire codes. The building had only one fire escape, no automatic fire alarm and no fire-resistant stairwells. While the exterior of the building was brick, the interior was almost entirely wooden.

After the fire, school fire codes were changed nationwide. Older school buildings were brought up to code.

What remained of the school was torn down in 1959 and a new school was constructed. Closed in 1990, that building is now the Galapagos Charter School.

"Shrine of the Holy Innocents," a monument to the victims of the fire, is located at the Queen of Heaven Cemetery, 1400 South Wolf Road, Hillside.

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Greetings from the Chair!

I’m looking forward to seeing you in Chicago—and I hope you have a chance to attend the wide array of LHRB events at the annual meeting in Chicago. Here is a preview:

**Saturday, July 16**
- **CONELL Marketplace**: tell any new AALL members you know to stop by LHRB’s table!

**Sunday, July 17**
- **12:45-2:00pm: Morris L. Cohen Student Essay Competition**
  
  This year’s winner is Jillian Slaight, a doctoral student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Come hear her engaging talk about the research and writing behind her winning essay, “Seductive Arguments: Law, Elopement & the Erosion of Parental Authority in Pre-Revolutionary France.”
  
  Sponsored by Gale Cengage.
  
  - **5:30-6:30pm: LHRB Business Meeting.**
  
  - **7-9pm: LHRB reception at Quartino’s** (https://www.quartinochicago.com/).

  Just a short walk north of the Hyatt Regency.

  Separate registration fee: $10 (fees help cover about 40% of the cost of the reception).

  If you didn’t pre-register for the reception when you paid AALL for your conference attendance, please email me (kcristobal@law.utexas.edu) to attend!

**Monday, July 18**
- **9:45-10:45am: The Once and Future Presidential Library: From Lincoln to Obama** (SIS-sponsored program).

  These two presidents from Illinois have become indelibly linked. How will their physical legacies compare?
This features a panel of wonderful speakers, including NARA Presidential Materials Division head John Laster & Pulitzer Prize winning architecture critic Blair Kamin.

- **3:30-4:45pm: Host City History Roundtable**

  Come join AALL members Mike Maben and Scott Burgh for a whirlwind tour of Chicago legal history, including the 1919 Black Sox Scandal, the 1880 stolen aldermanic election in the 14th Ward, and the Haymarket Executive Clemency Campaign.

- **5-6:30pm: Archives Roundtable**

  New this year—compare notes with fellow LHRB members about any archival issues.

- **5-6:30pm: Rare Book Cataloging Roundtable**

  Come swap stories and exchange ideas in an informal environment.

**Tuesday, July 19**

- **8:30-9:30am: Roman Law, Roman Order, and Restatements**

  This FCIL-sponsored program should also be of interest—join Professor Emeritus (and LHRB member) Timothy Kearley as he describes the fascinating story of discovering papers and work on Roman Law and Latin translation undertaken by Justice Fred Blume in the early 20th century.

  After you’ve returned home from Chicago, please take a moment to review the programs when AALL sends their email surveys. Positive reviews help LHRB convince the Annual Meeting Program Committee (AMPC) that legal history and rare books related programming is worthy of a timeslot.

**Budget**

And what Chair’s column would be complete without talk of money . . . Despite being involved in LHRB in one way or another for several years now, I examined LHRB’s budget with fresh eyes as chair and I want to relay some concerns. There’s no dire emergency, but despite the Executive Committee’s efforts over the last few years to save money in the face of rising costs, LHRB continues to spend more per year than it takes in. As a result, LHRB has regularly been spending some money out of its reserves, which of course will inevitably lead to . . . no reserves. And even despite tapping its reserves, LHRB still doesn’t have enough funds for fairly basic annual expenses, such as honorariums for speakers, and forgoes items it might otherwise cover, such as a projector for what has now become an annual tradition of a host city history roundtable.

Accordingly at this year’s SIS business meeting, I’m going to propose doing away with the SIS reception so that those funds can be used for substantive programming instead. I’ve always enjoyed attending the receptions, but I feel like there are some equally good, if not better, alternatives. For my part, I favor a general, open LHRB roundtable at some point during the conference, where members can meet up at and rotate through different tables to talk about archives, rare book cataloging, and whatever else is of interest. Additionally, after the business meeting, interested members could simply head out to a restaurant for an informal gathering rather than a full blown reception. I welcome other ideas of course, so I look forward to hearing other people’s suggestions at this year’s business meeting.
**Farewell and Thanks**

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve as LHRB Chair this past year; thanks to all the LHRB members who helped me along the way. Here's to another great year and I wish Karen Wahl all success as the next LHRB chair!

Kasia

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**From the Editor**

Mark Podvia

At the LH&RB business meeting last summer I announced that I would be stepping down as editor of *LH&RB*. I thought that I had someone lined up as my successor, but that individual later withdrew. However, I can now announce that our outgoing Chair, Kasia Solon Cristobal, will be taking over as editor beginning with the next issue.

Unfortunately I will not be at AALL in Chicago. I instead attended Mike Widener’s excellent Rare Book School class, Law Books: History & Connoisseurship. Much as I will miss AALL, I had a great time at RBS! If you have not yet done so, I encourage you to take Mike’s class the next time it is offered.

I hope that you will all enjoy the Windy City. If you have time make sure to stop by Portillo’s and have an Italian beef or a Chicago dog for me! Chicago does have some great local microbrews, Finch’s, Goose Island and Haymarket among them.

While editing this newsletter has sometimes been frustrating—nothing is worse than having 50 pages ready to go only to watch them sail off into cyberland—it has also been an enjoyable experience that has allowed me the opportunity to work with many wonderful people. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as editor for these past 16 years!

Mark

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**Recent Acquisitions**

Linda Tesar

Boston College Law Library recently acquired a heavily annotated first edition of Richard Burn’s *The Justice of the Peace and Parish Officer* at Boston College Law Library, by Laurel E. Davis, Legal Information Librarian & Lecturer in Law/ Curator of Rare Books, Boston College Law Library.

First edition of Richard Burn’s *The Justice of the Peace and Parish Officer* is the most popular ever written on justices of the peace. This particular copy can provide researchers with great insights into how manuals like this were actually used. Our copy contains some 75 additional blank pages, most of which have been used as an appendix, adding cases and statutes under the headings from the book. There are also extensive marginal notes. Some are additions that the owner found useful to supplement the original text, while others are updates that refer to laws enacted after the time of publication.
The extensive notes probably were written by Richard Hopton of Canon-Frome, Hereford, whose bookplate appears in the front of both volumes. The Hopton family occupied a country house in the county of Herefordshire for centuries. Hopton himself was a lawyer in the area and would have been practicing at the time of publication.
New Additions to the French Collection at the George Washington University Law Library, by Jennie C. Meade, Director of Special Collections, Jacob Burns Law Library, George Washington University

The Jacob Burns Law Library continues to add early customary law to its French Collection. The three most recent additions – two sixteenth-century titles and one from the early eighteenth century – are:

Coutumes du Comté et Bailliage de Mante et Meullant (Paris, 1558) http://jacob.law.gwu.edu/record=b1745795~S2

Les Coutumes Anciennes de Lorryz (Bourges, 1597) http://jacob.law.gwu.edu/record=b1745253~S2

Recueil de Plusieurs Placarts Fort Utiles au Pays de Hainau (Mons, 1701) http://jacob.law.gwu.edu/record=b1745277~S2

The French Collection is the largest component of Special Collections at the Law Library, spanning the fifteenth through nineteenth centuries. It includes not only coutumes, but French legal codes, trials, materials documenting the conflict between church and state, incunabula, and a large collection of French Revolutionary materials, including a large pamphlet collection. The French Collection received a substantial jumpstart in 2001 and 2002 with purchases from two major European auctions, and since that time the collection has grown steadily thanks to help from donors, overseas and domestic rare book dealers, and auction houses. The Law Library especially seeks out early coutumes, which to date number more than 1600 volumes.
Though none of these coutumes is widely held, the Mantes coutumier is perhaps the most scarce of the three, noted only in the holdings of the Berlin State Library, the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, and Harvard Law. It is the first edition of the customary law of the castellanry of Mantes and the county of Meulan, a politically consequential region in northern France due to the instability of Normandy, especially during the 1140s and 1150s. The coutume of Mantes and Meulan was situated in the middle of a nest of independent coutumes between Normandy and Paris; its jurisdiction straddled the Seine from Blaru on the Norman border to Triel near Poissy. The coutume applied to the castellanry of Mantes, the county of Meulan, and the lordships of Rosny and Blaru. The only apparent commonality in the twelfth century between Mantes and Meulan was the allegiance pledged by their viscounts to the count of Meulan. It is believed that the coutume developed under the stewardship of the count of Meulan’s courts and deputies, and that perhaps the enterprise was aided by the reality that from the 1130s to 1160s, the viscount of Mantes was simultaneously the viscount of Meulan.


Please visit GW Law Library’s Special Collections at https://www.law.gwu.edu/special-collections.

**Riesenfeld Rare Books Research Center acquires notable titles**, by Ryan Greenwood, Curator of Rare Books and Special Collections, Riesenfeld Rare Books Research Center, University of Minnesota Law Library.

The University of Minnesota Law Library recently acquired several notable titles. One is a copy of Den Norske low-bog (Copenhagen, 1604), containing the first printing of medieval Norway’s "Magna Carta." The text, known as Magnus Lagabøters landslov (or the law code of Magnus the Law-Mender) was promulgated by King Magnus VI of Norway in 1274. One of the earliest and most comprehensive national law codes in medieval Europe, the Landslov remained in force in Norway for over four centuries. Currently a team at the University of Bergen, led by Professor Jørn Øyrehagen Sunde, is working to prepare a new critical edition of the text, based on a large and complex manuscript tradition.

The Library also recently purchased a copy of the Lieber Code of April 24, 1863 (General Order No. 100), written by Francis Lieber and signed into law by Abraham Lincoln for use by Union soldiers in the Civil War. The Lieber Code became a highly influential manual on the conduct of war, which influenced The Hague Convention of 1907 and subsequent international law. Two other works related to Lincoln, war and slavery were also acquired: a unique pamphlet decrying the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, and Taney’s opinion in the Merryman case (1862). For more, see: http://riesenfeldcenter.blogspot.com/2016/02/new-rare-titles-on-us-constitutional-law.html.

Additionally, this spring the trustees of the estate of Raymond and Ruth Reister donated a collection of 94 titles on wills, trusts and estates in Anglo-American law. Mr. Reister, a prominent local attorney who was active in the community, developed a notable collection, ranging from Swinburne’s A Briefe Treatise of Testaments and Last Willes (London, 1590), to works by Bacon and Blackstone, to humorous 20th-century books on eccentric last wills.
Highlights of the Yale Law Library’s Spring 2016 Acquisitions, by Mike Widener, Rare Book Librarian, Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School

Among the most significant and unique recent acquisitions for the Yale Law Library’s Rare Book Collection are the following:

• Laurea della signora M. Pellegrina Amoretti cittadina d’Oneglia (Pavia, 1777), commemorating perhaps the earliest known award of a law degree to a woman, in this case a doctorate of law to Maria Pellegrina Amoretti (1756-1787) by the University of Pavia. The book includes Signora Amoretti’s theses, her portrait, and many poems lauding her learning and achievements.

• 60 items relating to the Tom Mooney case, such as court briefs, flyers for rallies (including two headlined by James Cagney), a book by Upton Sinclair, a pamphlet by Theodore Dreiser, and fundraising ephemera.

• A manuscript guide to procedure in Italian courts, “Direttorio de modo di litigare” (1740?).

• Fifteen titles for the Italian Statutes Collection, including a 17th-century manuscript compilation of Florentine criminal statutes and three which are the only North American copies in OCLC: Statuta communitatis Levanti (1549), Costituzione degli Stati Uniti delle Isole Ionie (1817) and Statuta civitatis Aquarum (1618).

• A prayer book for litigants, Jacques de Camp-Ront’s Psalterium iuste Litigantium (1597), the only North American copy in OCLC.

• For the Blackstone Collection, a subscriber’s copy of the first American edition of Blackstone’s Commentaries (1771-72), and a manuscript order to show cause (1773), signed by Blackstone.

• An 1823 letter from Thomas Day, who for half a century reported the decisions of the Connecticut Supreme Court of Errors, asking one of the judges for copies of opinions and briefs.

• For the Juvenile Jurisprudence Collection, three illustrated Japanese books: Osaru no Tomasu keiho wo shiru [Thomas Monkey learns the criminal law] (2014), Usagi no Yasuhiko kenpo to deau [Yasuhiko Rabbit encounters constitutional law] (2014), and Risa to nakamatachi minpo ni idomu [Risa and her mates tackle the civil law] (2015).
From the Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School:

“Law and Authority in the Most Serene Republic: Illuminated Manuscripts and Printed Books from Renaissance Venice”

Using the Yale Law Library’s rich collection of Venetian law books and illuminated manuscripts, the exhibit will examine Venetian government, law, and criminality during the long sixteenth century when the Venetian Republic was at the height of its power. The exhibition will also include drawings and medals on loan from the Yale University Art Gallery.

Law and Authority in the Most Serene Republic, curated by Michael Widener (Rare Book Librarian, Yale Law Library) and Christopher Platts (Art History, Yale University), will be on view in the Rare Book Exhibition Gallery, Level L2, Sterling Law Building from September 8 – December 15, 2016.

From the Harvard Law School Library:

“What (Not) to Wear: Fashion and the Law”

Though law and fashion may not initially seem like overlapping domains, given the central nature of each of these fields it is no surprise that they do have an impact on one another. Over the years, fashion has been important to decisions about how jurists visually demonstrate their expertise and law has served to circumscribe how fashion is created, distributed, and consumed.

This exhibit looks at some of these intersections of fashion and the law from historic laws setting strict class distinctions for fashion to modern intellectual property law’s approach to protecting those who design and create fashion.

What Not to Wear: Fashion and the Law, curated by Mindy Kent, Meg Kribble, and Carli Spina, is on view in the Harvard Law School Library Caspersen Room daily 9am-5pm through August 12, 2016.

Several LHRB-SIS members have won 2016 awards from AALL.

• Laura J. Ax-Fultz (Dickinson School of Law, Pennsylvania State University) won the Law Library Journal Article of the Year Award for “Igniting the Conversation: Embracing Legal Literacy as the Heart of the Profession,” 107 Law Library Journal 421 (2015).

• Joel Fishman (Duquesne University Law Library & Alleghany County Law Library) won the Connie E. Bolden Publications Award from the Government Law Libraries SIS for his series of indexes, including: Index to J. of Supreme Court History (1976-2015), Index to the PA Bar Association Quarterly (1929-2015), Index to the PA Family Lawyer (1980-2014) and The Bibliography of Library History (2000-2013).


• Mike Widener (Yale Law Library) won the Best Video Award from the AALL Day in the Life contest for “Putting Together a Book Exhibit,” produced with his co-curator Mark Weiner for the

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Recent publications from LHRB-SIS members include:


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Joel Fishman retires on June 30, 2016, ending a 39-year tenure as the head of the Allegheny County Law Library, the last 15½ years also as the Duquesne University Law Librarian. During his long career, Joel served as chair of four AALL special interest sections, including chair of LHRB-SIS in 2000-2001. Joel has served as book review editor of both the LHRB-SIS Newsletter and Unbound [even at one point from his hospital bed!], and has been a speaker on many annual meeting programs. We are happy to hear that Joel is not retiring completely: he plans to continue teaching at Duquesne University and to complete several more writing projects.

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Mike Widener (Yale Law Library) taught his Rare Book School course, “Law Books: History & Connoisseurship,” for the fifth time June 5-10, 2016, at the Yale Law School.

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Brandon Nichole Wright has joined the Law Library of Louisiana as a fulltime Library Associate. Brandon’s paper, “The Prison Law Library: A Fourteenth Amendment Necessity”, will be published in Advances in Librarianship: Perspectives on Libraries as Institutions of Human Rights and Social Justice, forthcoming from Emerald Group Publishing Limited. She received her J.D. from Loyola University in December 2015 and began studies for her M.L.I.S. at Florida State in January 2016. She is on the Newsletter Committee for the Government Law Library SIS.
There are many great programs and activities for Legal History & Rare Books SIS members at the AALL Annual Meeting in Chicago. Our events start on Sunday, July 17th, with the LHRB-SIS Morris L. Cohen Essay Presentation, 12:45pm-2pm, in the Hyatt-Soldier Field room. Jillian Slaight, our 2015 Morris Cohen Essay Contest winner, will present the winning paper Seductive Arguments: Law, Eloquence & the Erosion of Parental Authority in Pre-Revolutionary France.” Feel free to bring a brown-bag lunch, and enjoy this annual recognition of emerging legal historians. At the end of Sunday’s programs, the LHRB-SIS Business Meeting is 5:30pm-6:30pm, in the Hyatt-Toronto room. This is where you can get the latest information on our projects and activities. Your comments are very important for helping to keep our SIS on track with member needs. Also, maybe you’ll feel inspired to get more involved in our SIS activities. Following the Business Meeting, the LHRB-SIS Reception is 7pm-10pm, at Quartino (626 North State Street; about 8 blocks away, across the river, at North State & East Ontario). Don’t know about you, but I’m looking forward to relaxing with everyone at this Italian restaurant and wine bar. Monday, July 18th, is a busy day. Our LHRB-SIS Independently-Produce Program is The Once and Future Presidential Library: From Lincoln to Obama, 9:45am-10:45am, in the Hyatt-Columbus EF room. Speakers will be our 2015-16 LHRB-SIS Chair Kasia Solon Cristobal, Reference Librarian at the University of Texas Jamail Center for Legal Research; Olivia Mahoney, Senior Curator at the Chicago History Museum; Blair Kamin, Chicago Tribune Columnist and Architecture Critic; and John Laster, Director of the National Archives and Records Administration Presidential Materials Division. The LHRB-SIS Host City History Roundtable is 3:30pm-4:45pm, in the Hyatt-Columbian room. This will be a whirlwind tour of the Windy City's colorful legal history, from the 1919 Black Sox Scandal to the Haymarket Executive Clemency Campaign. Winding up Monday's programs, two more LHRB-SIS Roundtables take place 5pm-6:30pm – Archives will be in the Hyatt-Dusable room, and Rare Book Cataloging will be in the Hyatt-Skyway room 272. Finally, on Tuesday, July 19th, LHRB-SIS members will be interested the FCIL-SIS program Roman Law, Roman Order, and Restatements, 8:30am-9:30am in the Hyatt-Columbus EF room. Be sure to review the final conference program to confirm rooms and times, as well check our Web site, for more details on LHRB-SIS activities at the 2016 AALL Annual Meeting.

Special thanks again to the coordinators, speakers, and organizers of our programs and activities at the 2015 AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. Sung Yup Kim presented her winning paper, “Those Innumerable Litigations of a Civil Nature Arising among the Lower Sort,” Justices of the Peace and Small Debt Litigation in Late Colonial New York., at our Morris Cohen Essay Presentation. Our Host City History Roundtable featured Regina Smith, Executive Director of the Jenkins Law Library, and John Van Horne, Director Emeritus of The Library Company of Philadelphia. The LHRB-SIS and FCIL-SIS Roman Law Interest Group held a fascinating discussion of Researching the Corpus Juris Civilis. Our LHRB-SIS Independently-Produced program, Voices from the Past: Using Rare and Antiquarian Books in the Modern Practice of Law, was presented by Mark Podvia, Head of Public Services and Instruction Librarian, West Virginia University College of Law; Michael von der Linn, Antiquarian Book Department Manager, Lawbook Exchange, Ltd.; and Charles E. Shields, III, Attorney-At-Law, The Law Office of Shields and Houck. Finally, everyone enjoyed our Reception at McGillin’s Olde Ale House.

Let’s do it all again – hope to see you all in Chicago!

Laura E. Ray, MA, MLS

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