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President's Message by John Christensen

MAALL at AALL in New Orleans

By now you should have received the preliminary program for AALL and noted that the MAALL luncheon and business meeting are slated for Monday, July 16, from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We are currently scheduled to have our meeting in the Belle Chasse Room of the New Orleans Hilton Riverside Hotel.

Please be aware that this is the first year that I recall that there has NOT been a general opening luncheon on Monday. I used the "Meetings and Events" index in the AALL Preliminary Program to look for potential conflicts with our MAALL luncheon meeting since the MAALL Executive Board will be responsible for making appropriate arrangements. I suggest that all MAALL members take time NOW to determine their personal schedules for that Monday, July 16, 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. While our hope is that every MAALL member would plan to attend the luncheon, we realize that unavoidable conflicts may prevent some from participating who otherwise would do so. Since we will need to provide a preliminary head count for food purposes by May 15 and a final count by June 17, it would be helpful if you would determine in advance your availability to participate with us.

The Board is inclined to authorize a subsidy from

MAALL funds to help defray the cost of the meal to attendees. But we should all realize that the cost of hotel meals at professional meetings continues to rise. We hope to run a well-organized meeting so that there will be plenty of time to socialize with one another. Committee chairs should begin thinking about a brief WRITTEN report to be submitted in advance of our meeting at AALL. A member of the MAALL Executive Board will contact you with more details.

MAALL Annual Meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska, Nov 1-3, 2007

It is not too early to begin planning for the annual meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska, Thursday noon to Saturday noon, November 1-3, 2007. Rich Leiter, chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, recently gave me a progress report.

We will be housed in a newly refurbished Holiday Inn Downtown in the historic Haymarket district of Lincoln. We will be meeting at the hotel for programs on Thursday and Friday. On Thursday evening we will be treated to a reception at the remarkable State Capitol (tours will be available). On Friday, tours of the Joe Christensen law review production facility will be available (about 80% of the law reviews at U.S. law schools are produced here). Twelve excellent restaurants are within

short walking distance of the hotel and will be featured in a "Dine Around" on Friday evening.

On Saturday, programs will be held at the law school, which completed an addition and renovation project in 2005. Breakfast will be in the library's reading room. Sack lunches will be ready so attendees can "grab and go" as their travel schedules require. Look for a more detailed report at the MAALL meeting in New Orleans. The Houchen Bindery, used by a number of libraries in our region, is located in Utica, Nebraska, about 48 minutes and 40 miles west and north of Lincoln. The Local Arrangements Committee is obtaining information so that interested individuals may arrange tours.

The Education Committee is busy reviewing program proposals for the 2007 MAALL Annual Meeting. Seventeen programs have already been accepted and several more are in the works. If you have an idea for a program, NOW is the time to submit a proposal. Information is available at: <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/maall/pgproposals.htm>.

Committee Work

Speaking of committees, work is going on behind the scenes, and as president I wish to express appreciation to all those who are taking

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President's Message *(continued from page 1)*

precious personal time to serve our association. If you have not been contacted about serving on a committee and have a desire to do so, don't hesitate to contact me (e-mail: john.christensen@washburn.edu, phone: 785 670-1658).

Barbara Ginzburg, chair of the Library School Relations Committee has need for a volunteer with interest in the University of Missouri-Columbia library school.

David Gay, chair of the Government Relations Committee, has need for a volunteer with interest in the state of Iowa. Recall that at the annual meeting in Tulsa last fall, Mary Alice Baisch of AALL, conducted training and consulted with us about reinvigorating our Government Relations Committee. Every state but one is now represented on the GRC. Several months ago this committee alerted the MAALL Executive Board about Illinois SB 1682 (regulation of social networking sites). They researched and recommended that MAALL join AALL, CALL, Illinois Library Association and other library groups in opposition. The MAALL Board considered and adopted the recommendation which was communicated to John Doyle of the Illinois Library Association.

Mike McReynolds, chair of the Nominations Committee, will, in the near future, oversee the important work of identifying members of our association willing to serve as members of the Executive Board. I'm sure he would be pleased to receive any suggestions you might have for colleagues you believe have the ability, interest and willingness to serve.

MAALL Executive Board Using Vemics

I am pleased to work with an energetic Board whose members speak their minds. They come with varied experience and diverse backgrounds. We meet twice a month using the Vemics videoconferencing service so we can see as well as hear each other. In the first one or two meetings we experienced some technological difficulties but now the meetings are routine. Through the courtesy of the Mid-America Law Library Consortium (MALLCO) this technology is available for use by MAALL committees and others interested in exploring the use of collaborative technologies. Contact me if you have interest in using Vemics.

I look forward to seeing each of you in New Orleans and/or Lincoln!

From the Vice-President by Lee Peoples

Report from the AALL Management and Leadership Institute

Thanks to the generous support of a grant approved by the MAALL Board I was able to attend the AALL Management and Leadership Institute in Tuscan Arizona, March 5-8. The institute was lead by Maureen Sullivan, a librarian and long time professional management consultant who has worked with various law libraries around the country. The institute was attended by 34 other law librarians from academic, firm, and court and county law libraries. Several MAALL Members were in attendance including Andrew Evans from Washburn and Phill Johnson from UMKC. The small number of attendees allowed for lots of networking and interaction, much like at a MAALL Annual Meeting.

The substantive content of the Institute was divided over four days. On the first day we explored the principles, practices, and competencies of management and leadership. In covering this material we went beyond the nuts and bolts basics covered in library school and explored some practical applications of theories to challenges confronted in today's libraries. Some of my favorite concepts from this first day were:

- Drucker's idea of "planned abandonment," which asks what are we doing today that if we quit doing wouldn't be missed. This theory is particularly applicable in libraries today where we are often asked to do more with less. Too often we hang on to old services or practices, that we could plan to abandon and spend our time where it is most needed.
- the twenty bad habits that many managers and leaders should identify and abandon immediately, as discussed in *What Got You Here Won't Get You There: How Successful People Become Even More Successful* by Marshall Goldsmith.

The second and third days were devoted to developing interpersonal relationships and juggling the art and science of management, respectively. The material on interpersonal relationships explored concepts like self-awareness and active listening. The third day was perhaps my favorite because we were given the theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary to run meetings effectively, to conduct strategic planning, and to plan and implement a budget.

The final day was devoted to transforming libraries and personal career development issues. Mike Chiorazzi, Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law at the University of Arizona College of Law, lead a discussion on law librarianship as a lifelong career. The conference allowed me to examine my own leadership and management skills and style. I hope to apply what I learned during my term as Vice President / President Elect of MAALL.

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MAALL Markings is published in electronic format in January, April and August by the Mid-America Association of Law Libraries.

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Those wishing to submit items should contact the editor for policy and format information.

Frank G. Houdek: In Appreciation by James E. Duggan

In June 2007 Frank G. Houdek will become Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Southern Illinois University School of Law, leaving his position as Director of the Law Library after 22 years of truly exemplary and dedicated service to the law library, MAALL, AALL, and the law librarianship profession.

I first met Frank over nineteen years ago on a cold, overcast January afternoon when he picked me up at the small Williamson County Airport in southern Illinois. I had flown to Carbondale from Baton Rouge, Louisiana (where I had just finished my MLIS degree at LSU) to interview for a reference librarian position at SIU Law Library, and was nervous about making a good impression. Frank immediately put me at ease with his engaging sense of humor, his obvious concern for my comfort (the small plane had flown from St. Louis through a short hail storm), and his travel-worn (some would say beat-up) 1980's blue Honda Accord, in which he drove me to the local motel. I thought, "here was a Director that I could work for...someone who was down-to-earth and would pick up a librarian candidate himself." Fortunately, the interview went well, and I got my wish to work for Frank, starting at SIU Law Library a little over a month later. It was the best decision I ever made.

A native Californian, Frank received all three of his degrees (BA, JD and MLS) from UCLA. After passing the California Bar, he first became a part-time reference librarian at Southwestern University School of Law Library in Los Angeles before becoming a full-time reference librarian at the Los Angeles County Law Library. After four years he decided to gain library experience at a law firm, and in 1979 was hired as Librarian at Lawler, Felix and Hall, a seventy-five attorney LA firm. He returned to academia in 1982 as Associate Law Library Director at the University of Southern California, and in 1985 was appointed as Director of the Law Library at SIU. In addition to his library work, Frank has often been the "go-to-guy" for getting things done at SIU, chairing two separate ABA Inspection Self-Study Committees, chairing the Dean Search Committee, and serving as faculty advisor to the SIU Law Journal.

I call Frank a "law librarian's librarian." He is always working on something, and many times is still in his office after the rest of us have gone home. He married a law librarian, Susan Tulis, and they count as friends law librarians from all over the country. He has authored, co-authored or edited over twenty books and written nearly fifty articles in law and bar journals. He has been a moderator, organizer, or speaker on nearly sixty programs. He also teaches two sections of legal research in SIU's Lawyering Skills program, and co-teaches two sections of Advanced Electronic Legal Research with me. Like many busy people, Frank seems to accomplish the impossible. You can always count on Frank.

Professionally, Frank has done it all: President of AALL, Editor of Law Library Journal, Chair of the Academic Law Libraries SIS, President of SCALL. Frank has chaired five AALL Committees, including the Committee on Relations with Information Vendors (CRIV), and the Special Committee on Fair Business Practices. He was founding coordinator of the Council of Chapter Presidents and was AALL's first Public Relations Coordinator. The recipient of two AALL Presidential Certificates of Appreciation, Frank also received the Frederick Charles Hicks Award for Outstanding Contributions to Academic Law Librarianship from ALL-SIS in 2001. Frank is the official historian of AALL, having written several articles on AALL history, and is the author of "AALL Reference Book: A Compendium of Facts, Figures, and Historical Information About the American Association of Law Libraries." Frank has served as Chair and Secretary of the Mid-America Law Libraries Consortium, and been an active member of MAALL for over twenty years. In October 2006 Frank received a MAALL Recognition Award from the Executive Board "for sustained and significant contributions and leadership in MAALL since 1985."

I've had the privilege of presenting several times with Frank over the years at various AALL and MAALL meetings. We've done everything from showcasing the image of librarians (in film and television clips) to game shows ("Law Library Jeopardy" and "The Price is Mutually Agreeable"). Two of my favorite images of Frank include his turn as Phil Donahue (in white wig with over-sized microphone) in "Donahue Looks at Library Images," and "Microfiche Man," a unique public relations persona (in which he wore a coat and headdress made entirely out of microfiche). We would often drive the "Saluki-mobile" (usually a University-issued Chevrolet Cavalier without a working radio) to the various far-flung MAALL meetings, mainly because Carbondale is centrally located near nothing, and it would be cheaper to drive for eight hours than fly the two of us from the closest major airport, St. Louis. On those long trips we would often listen to cassette tapes of AALL Annual Meeting programs, a practice that I would usually complain about, but I always learned something I didn't know.

Despite Frank's new role as Associate Law School Dean, he will always be a mentor, advisor, and friend. I doubt that nearly twenty years ago I thought that I would still be in Carbondale, working in any job that long. Frank made that possible, and is responsible for my career as a law librarian. Please join me in wishing Frank Houdek all the best in his new career.

Member News

Iowa

Drake University

On February 1st, the Drake University Law School celebrated the founding, history, and accomplishments of the National Bar Association (NBA), and the transfer of the NBA archives to the Drake Law Library from the Des Moines Public Library. The NBA was founded in Des Moines in 1925 by a group of twelve African-American lawyers. At the time, the American Bar Association did not accept African-American lawyers as members. Today NBA membership includes some 40,000 judges, lawyers, educators, and law students. For more details on the archives dedication, and to access podcasts from the event, go to <http://www.law.drake.edu/calendarNews/newsDetails.aspx?eventID=nbaArchives>.

In her work with the AALL Access to Electronic Information Committee, Circulation/Reference Librarian Karen Wallace created a model response and wrote the Iowa and Nebraska sections of the recently released State-by-State Report on Authentication of Online Legal Resources (available at http://www.aallnet.org/aallwash/authen_rprt/AuthenFinalReport.pdf). Thanks to fellow MAALL member, Patrick Charles, for his assistance with the Nebraska response.

Reference Librarian Susan Lerdal will be serving as chair of the AALL Research Committee for 2007-08. She also recently took on the job of Webmaster for the Iowa Chapter of the Special Libraries Association and is continuing as newsletter editor for the Chapter. Sue is also serving a two year appointment on an ad hoc Website Review Committee for the Iowa Library Association.

Oklahoma

The University of Oklahoma, Donald E. Pray Law Library

Lisa Bowles and Jennifer Gerrish attended the 22nd Annual Computers in Libraries Conference on April 16-18 in Arlington, Virginia.

Lauren Bardgett is a new member of MAALL. She was named the Acquisitions and Government Documents Librarian beginning in February 2007. She received her MLIS from the University of Oklahoma Library School. She will be attending her first AALL meeting in New Orleans this summer. Welcome, Lauren!

University of Tulsa College of Law, Mabee Legal Information Center (MLIC)

The MLIC is gearing up for a nearly complete carpet replacement starting immediately after May graduation. The existing 7 year old carpet is being replaced with carpet squares in the same Southwestern tone as the previous carpet, but with an attractive linking pattern. It will make the MLIC, which opened in January of 2000, once again look new and fresh. Carol Arnold is chairing the task force to manage the logistics with the carpet installers, staff and patrons. Compared to our remodel and expansion in 1999, this will be a piece of cake!

The new course in Advanced Legal Research taught during Spring 2007 by Melanie Nelson and Courtney Selby is back by popular demand for Fall 2007, when the instructional team led by Prof. Rick Ducey will also be teaching the first year Introduction to Legal Research class.

Melanie Nelson and Dan Bell designed a student survey this spring and intentionally posed the same questions asked a decade ago. We discovered that, though a decade apart, students' attitudes converged. The results were virtually the same for the 1997 and the 2007 students on satisfactorily finding material they needed and how they rated (high!) reference, circulation and ILL for helpfulness. Interestingly, students are using the library more, not less, than a decade ago, up from 1-2 hours a day to 3-4 hours daily per visit. Perhaps jumping from 2 to 13 group study rooms and from 485 to 715 patron seats and from 32,849 square feet to 52,458 square feet has something to do with that! After asking what was of the most assistance to them in using the collection, we were gratified that the top answers were the Introduction to Legal Research class and the reference librarians.

Soon the traveling Lillie Goldstein Judaica Collection from Touro Law School will be packed up and moving along to another law school. The collection made possible the first course in Jewish law ever offered at the University of Tulsa College of Law, and it inspired a series of Jewish Law lectures which began with Touro's Associate Library Director Beth Mobley's talk and a ribbon cutting of the collection during the MAALL/OKLL meeting October 20th.

Faye Hadley was elected president of the Oklahoma Law Librarian's group, which meets quarterly.

News From Other Chapters

LLAM (Law Library of Maryland)

LLAM News <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llam/members/llamnews0207a.pdf>

Volume 25, Issue 2, February 2007

Trevor Rosen gives an overview of the Maryland Court Watcher blog which he deems as a quality Web site worthy of consideration for its unbiased summaries, alert service and search features. The Chapter is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year so noteworthy events are listed in an anniversary timeline and Natalie Ellis, one of the founding members of LLAM, is profiled.

LLAW (Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin)

LLAW News <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llaw/publications/newswinter07.pdf>

Volume 24, Number 2, Winter 2007

This issue has an extensive list of recommended readings, many of which are authored by members.

LLNE (Law Librarians of New England)

LLNE News <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llne/LLNENews/PDF/2006v26n2.pdf>

Volume 26, Number 2, 2006-2007

Kyle Courtney writes of the new features and improvements on THOMAS in “‘Googlizing’ THOMAS: The Beta Test and the Single Search Box.” A post on their blog points to the new Legal Research Engine at Cornell.

LLOPS (Law Librarians of Puget Sound)

LLOPSCited <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llops/committees/newsletter/vol17n3.pdf>

Volume 17, Issue 3, Spring 2007

Without realizing it, Katie Drake developed a fine marketing tool for her firm when she took on the project of organizing the firm history documents and photographs. See “Graham and Dunn’s Flickr Account.” Part detective and part researcher, Kate Stockert describes an interesting project in “EPA Closures from a Government Documents Perspective.” She and her colleague examined multiple government documents, some conflicting, to assess the decisions made in closing EPA libraries. In “Marketing Matters: Marketing and the Solo Librarian,” Jennifer Hill gives tips to effectively make the most of your time and resources.

LLSDC (Law Librarian’s Society of Washington D.C., Inc.)

Law Library Lights http://www.llsdc.org/lights/pdf/50_2.pdf

Volume 50 #2, Winter 2007

The theme of this issue is A Day in the Life of a Law Librarian. Alison Shea writes of “The Very Busy Life of a Joint Degree Student,” Leanne Battle asks “Which Hat Shall I Wear Today?” and Cindy Carlson tells of her transition “From Electronic Resources to Librarian Relations.” The spotlight shines on life at the reference desk, in technical services, as a solo, as a library clerk, at the World Bank, and at George Mason Law Library.

MALL (Minnesota Association of Law Libraries)

MALL Newsletter <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/mall/news334.pdf>

Volume 33, Number 4, January/February 2007

Rebekah Anderson covers the significant implications for litigants, law firms and law libraries in “E-Discovery: New Rules Present New Challenges and New Opportunities.” In “Law Library Service to Prisoners,” Susan Trombley describes the unique program servicing correctional institutions, jails and state hospitals in Minnesota. Regina Watson finds value in “Teachable Moments: Vendor Instructors Define Key Role.”

SCALL (Southern California Association of Law Libraries)

The SCALL Newsletter <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/scall/newsletter.htm>

Jan./Feb. 2007 Volume 34 Number 3

Jim Robinson, President of JurisPro Expert Witness Directory, discusses “How to Find and Research Experts on the Internet.” Hugh J. Treacy and Mark A. Pernotto compare their library school experiences from 1977 and 2005 in “Library School. . . Then and Now.” Malinda Muller discusses strategies for “Resilience” that she developed after being hit by a car while bicycling.

SEAALL (Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries)

The Southeastern Law Librarian <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/newsletter.htm>

Winter 2007 Volume 32 Number 1

Meg Kribble discusses Second Life (www.secondlife.com), a virtual world that has now been the site of a Harvard Law School course and hosts a number of other educational institutions. Brian Huddleston describes best and worst movies about New Orleans.

Meet MAALL Members

Meet...Candle Wester-Mittan

By Stefanie Pearlman

Candle and I met when she was a law student here at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. We were all excited to hear that she was choosing a career in law librarianship. Candle made the decision to become a law librarian because she enjoys research, libraries and the study of law. Candle went to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to obtain her degree in Library and Information Science. After receiving her M.S., she accepted a position as Access Services Librarian and Assistant Professor at Southern Illinois University. Candle's law librarianship interests are wide and include reference services, access services, legal education, legal research and writing, intellectual property, alternative dispute resolution, employment law and labor law.

Candle became a member of AALL as a student and has recently become a member of MAALL. She is planning on attending the MAALL annual meeting in Lincoln, especially since she will be able to visit old friends and Lazlo's (a local restaurant). When not working, Candle enjoys reading Jane Austen novels and listening to a wide variety of music, from Top 40 to alternative to classical.

New Orleans Movies

Eager to come to the 2007 AALL Annual Meeting in New Orleans? Or disappointed because work responsibilities prevent you from attending? Either way, you can get a taste of New Orleans through watching some of the local law librarian's favorite movies made about the Crescent City. I've written a brief survey of some of the best (and worst) New Orleans movies, available on my web page at: <http://www.loyno.edu/~bhuddle/NOLAMovies/>.

At the very bottom is a link to my master list of New Orleans movies that has reviews of any of the nearly 200 New Orleans movies that my research has uncovered. Enjoy!

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