

ORALL NEWSLETTER

OHIO REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

MARCH 2004

VOLUME 2004, NUMBER 1

President's Column – Suzanne Young

A CHAPTER BY ANY OTHER NAME...

Why change? Why should we consider a new name for our chapter?

There's something about a long, cold, gray Ohio winter that makes me feel cooped up and anxious for Spring to arrive. This year, while perusing cable television in my "free" time, the makeover phenomenon has caught my attention. I thought we could explore a possible *Trading Spaces* theme, where we get two willing libraries to switch and re-do some aspect of each other's space. Imagine: "we ripped out your old microfiche cabinets and replaced them with a cozy reading area, complete with comfy furniture and wi-fi access."

On the chapter level, we could do an *Extreme Makeover*, having our chapter nominated by well-meaning friends for a little TLC from some marketing professionals with a huge budget. Would we have "the reveal" at the Annual Meeting?

Putting the daydreams aside, I return to my original question. If you attended the Business Meeting at the ORALL gathering in October, you'll remember that the idea of re-naming our chapter

was raised. Our present designation, the Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries (ORALL) has served us well for over fifty years. The question arises - does it really describe our chapter? What is the Ohio Region? Ohio and its contiguous states? Well, no. All of the states touched by the Ohio River? No. Other chapter names which include the name of a city or state actually represent the location named (CALL, VALL, LLAGNY). Truly regional chapters, such as Law Libraries of New England, provide a context for their chapter location. The Ohio Region designation is not really representative of our chapter, which consists of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky

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Membership

Members: 311

Dues: \$15 per year

Non-member subscriptions: \$10 per year

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Newsletter

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Profile

ORALL is a 4-state chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries [Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan]. It was formed in 1949 "to further the development and usefulness of law libraries and to stimulate a spirit of mutual helpfulness among law libraries of this region." An annual conference is held each fall. ORALL publishes or sponsors the following publications: *Core Legal Collection* [bibliographies for Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan], ORALL Membership Directory, ORALL Newsletter, Ohio Legal Resources Annotated Bibliography & Guide 3rd.

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President's Column continued from Page 1

What name would be more descriptive of our chapter? A few informal suggestions were made at the Business meeting. Some of the off-the-cuff suggestions were: OINKALL (Ohio-Indiana-Northern Kentucky Association of Law Libraries), ORVALL (Ohio River Valley..., with possible corporate sponsorship solicited from Indiana-based Orville Redenbacher), MEALL (The Mid-East Association of Law Libraries) and ONALL the Old Northwest Association of Law Libraries. Personally, I like the idea of the last one, ONALL, except the boundaries of the historic "Old Northwest" did not include Kentucky, and did include Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, in addition to Ohio and Indiana!

Our Internet committee looked into the unfortunate fact that someone else (a cybersquatter?) has established ORALL.com as a pornography website. It was decided that the fiscally prudent course of action would be to educate our membership about our correct web address, ORALL.org, rather than undertake the expense of protracted litigation. Obviously,

changing our acronym might help to alleviate that problem, provided that whatever we choose as a replacement would not have double-entendre connotations.

Enscorced in all of that verbiage are two possible reasons for changing the name/identity of our chapter. The first reason is the opportunity to be more descriptive and inclusive of our entire geographic area. The second reason is the chance to obtain an acronym which is free from possible domain name confusion. Perhaps you can think of other reasons as well. If you have a strong feeling about this topic, please consider joining me in a task force to explore a possible name change for ORALL. Board members Sarah Lynch and Marcus Hochstetler have already agreed to serve on the name change task force, but all three of us are Ohioans. We would be especially grateful to have some participants from Indiana and Kentucky! Please let me know of your interest by email or phone by April 15.

* * *

George A. Strait Minority Scholarship Endowment

You may be aware that ORALL made a chapter contribution to the George A. Strait Minority Scholarship Endowment in 2003. ORALL was one of nine chapters to make a contribution at the donor level (\$1000). The February 2004 issue of the AALL Spectrum featured a cover story on the Endowment, and I encourage you to read that if you want more information on the creation of the award, the fund-raising efforts for the endowment, or the profiles of students who have been past recipients. I would like to call special attention to a small article on page 14 of the issue, by Marvin Anderson and Joan Howland, co-chairs of the Endowment Campaign: "Support Diversity in Law Librarianship — \$7 is all it takes."

As the title implies, if every member of AALL would contribute just \$7 to the fund, the campaign would reach its goal. Seven dollars does not buy much today - just a couple of premium coffee beverages or a few pages of a looseleaf supplement. If you would consider supporting the effort to help diversify our profession, please visit <http://www.aallnet.org/services/strait-br.asp>, and click on the link to make a contribution, or send a check with a cover letter indicating that it is a contribution to the Strait Fund to the Executive Director, Susan E. Fox at AALL headquarters.



Cleveland-Marshall Celebrates A Half Million Volumes*

By Leslie A. Pardo, Circulation & Faculty Services Librarian



Author Scott Turow

On February 4, 2004, Dean Steven H. Steinglass, Associate Dean and Law Library Director Michael J. Slinger, the Law School community, and best-selling author Scott Turow added the landmark volumes 500,000 and 500,001 to the Ohio's second largest legal collection during a ceremony in the College of Law's Joseph W. Bartunek III Moot Court Room. The 500,000th volume placed into the collection was *The History of Law School Libraries in the United States: From Laboratory to Cyberspace* by Glen-Peter Ahlers, Sr., Associate Dean for Information Services and Director of the Law Library at Barry University in Orlando, Florida. Glen-Peter Ahlers' book was selected as a tribute to the work of all Law Libraries. The 500,001st volume placed into the collection was author and attorney Scott Turow's latest work *Ultimate Punishment: A Lawyer's Reflections on Dealing with the Death Penalty*. Following the ceremony, Mr. Turow delivered the law school's third Criminal Justice Forum lecture of 2003-2004 Confessions of a Death Penalty Agnostic.

The ceremony included a symbolic passing of the 500,000th and 500,001st volumes into the collection. Representatives from the law school faculty, law library and law school staffs, the law school SBA president, the Alumni Association President, Glen-Peter Ahlers, Sr. and Scott Turow all participated in the book passing.



Dean Steven Steinglass and faculty member Adam Thurschwell with the 500,000th and the 500,001st volumes.



Law Library Director Michael Slinger and 500,000th volume contributor Glen-Peter Ahlers.

* All photographs are the property of and are reprinted by permission of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Library.

In addition to the book passing, a dynamic multimedia program was presented chronicling the history of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Library. The presentation was produced in-house by members of the Law Library staff. The Law Library staff presented a plaque to Law Library Director, Michael J. Slinger to mark the event. The Law Library was also honored with a Proclamation from the Cleveland City Council

In a speech during the ceremony Law Library Director, Michael Slinger said, “the Number that we are celebrating today is indeed impressive. A Half Million of just about anything seems almost unimaginable to most of us. But you know, when it comes right down to it, the important thing we are celebrating is not really the number itself, it is what that number represents and what it allows us to accomplish as a Community.”



The ceremony was attended by hundreds including the law school community, alumni, representatives from area law schools, and the general public. A well attended reception followed. It was a great event that marked a milestone for the hundred year old Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and its Law Library. If you would like to know more about the Half Million Celebration or read about the history of the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Library, please see the Celebration web site:

<http://www.law.csuohio.edu/lawlibrary/HalfMillionCelebration.html>

* * *

REMINDER: Celebrate National Library Week!

April 18-24, 2004

Supreme Court of Ohio Moves to New Location

By Ken Kozlowski, Director of the Law Library, Supreme Court of Ohio

The Supreme Court of Ohio's move to its own building (officially the "Ohio Judicial Center") a few blocks from its old location consisted of more planning than D-Day. The moving company was to start on Friday, February 13 at 5 p.m. and be finished Sunday night. The next day, President's Day, was to be used as a "float" day to finish up anything that may have been missed. Well...best laid plans and all of those other clichés reared their ugly little heads. As I sit writing this on Thursday, February 19th, furniture and boxes are still making the two block trek over from the Rhodes State Office Tower. Phones, computers, fax machines, and copiers are still being installed. The court was up and running on Tuesday the 17th, just without a few of its pieces.

Now for the library. The general contractor for the renovation subcontracted out the tearing down of shelving from our old space and its re-assembly in the new building. The problem? Where do the books go in the interim? Starting on January 7th, the library book movers (a separate entity from the shelf movers) were to fill up new shelving on the new building's 14th and 15th floors, box some other books, and use library moving carts for others. We started running into difficulties after a few days. It was either the shelf people complaining that they couldn't tear down shelving because the book movers hadn't created any space, or the book movers complaining that the shelf movers hadn't built any shelving at the new building so they could move some books over. Six weeks later, we still have hardly any books in their proper locations. We have boxes and shrink-wrapped book carts all over the place, and I believe some books are still back at the Rhodes Tower. Oh, and one other thing, we also had about three thousand small bankers boxes filled with books that had been sitting over at our old location since we moved out of a storage facility last August. The movers had contracted to re-integrated those books into our existing collection. Needless to say, there are a lot of books sitting around our Library that need to be "de-boxed."

Other than the above, everything went well. No kidding. Really. Everybody loves our new spaces. There are plenty of windows for all staff members. The courtroom looks fantastic. We're looking forward to having everyone visit and tour the new building along with the Library. Just give us a few more weeks...please.

For pictures and additional information see the Ohio Supreme Court web site:

<http://www.sconet.state.oh.us/move/>

* * *

Tech Talk -- Library Renovation

By Deborah Dennison, Case Western Reserve University

Case Law Library is in the planning stages of a renovation project that will take place over the next few years. The renovation will impact all areas of the library space and operation. As one might expect, in addition to all the construction and building issues, renovation activities create a myriad of ancillary library projects. The ripple effects throughout the library of such a vast project are always more considerable than one anticipates.

In fact, the renovation provides a great opportunity to address several “someday” projects. For example, lack of space: space concerns and libraries tend to be synonymous these days; with the impending renovation, our librarians now have the impetus to do a thorough collection review. Librarians have been reviewing assigned subject areas in the library to determine which materials might be sent to a permanent storage facility, using criteria such as age of the material, usage statistics, etc. Similarly with the materials in our rare/archive area: why not take the extra steps to reevaluate and reorganize that collection while reconfiguring the space?

Extensive onsite remodeling will affect how our patrons access some of our materials. However, we will make every accommodation to provide our regular services. During construction we expect to have all Ohio materials, selected federal materials, and loose-leaves on site. Collections in areas temporarily affected by the construction will be housed in a nearby annex, and accessible in a timely manner via library staff.¹ For those materials moved to permanent storage, items will continue to be accessible and retrievable upon patron request via EuclidPLUS, our online catalog. We expect to continue our interlibrary loan and OhioLINK lending as well.

At this time, there are no firm construction dates for renovation activities, although we are projecting August 2004 for the start of construction. As we know more, we will inform all of our ORALL partner libraries with up-to-date information.

* * *

Travel Grant To Attend the AALL 2004 Annual Meeting In Boston

The AALL Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section's Standing Committee on Lesbian & Gay Issues is offering a grant to travel to the 2004 AALL Annual Meeting in Boston. The grant is funded by a special bequest to the Standing Committee from former Ohio State University Law Library Director Alan Holoch, who died in 1991. The Alan Holoch Memorial Travel Grant is to assist individuals with travel expenses for the purpose of attending the Annual Meeting. An applicant must be a member of the Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section at the time of the submission and review of the application. Completed applications must be postmarked, faxed, or e-mailed by May 1, 2004. To obtain a copy of the application form, please visit the Standing Committee on Lesbian & Gay Issues' web site, www.aallnet.org/sis/srsis/lgbt/ or contact the Chair of the Standing Committee, Scott Fisher at 732-855-6160 or sfisher@wilentz.com.

¹ For example, journals which are typically referenced by a specific citation.

*Professional Development Opportunity!!!!
Apply by April 16 for one of these great scholarships*

The theme of this year's AALL Annual meeting is "Boston to Mumbai: The World of Legal Information". The Program Announcement describes an exciting array of educational sessions!

The ORALL Board encourages members to attend the AALL Annual Meeting if possible. To ensure this possibility for several ORALL members, the ORALL Board is pleased to announce that four \$500 scholarships are available for application by the ORALL membership to attend the AALL Annual Meeting in Boston, MA!

Three of the \$500 scholarships are aimed at newer ORALL members (members of ORALL for three years or less). If one or more newer members apply, up to three of those newer members will be given this scholarship. In addition, ORALL has received one full registration from AALL for the Boston meeting to be awarded to an ORALL member, specifically targeted to a newer member. This award may be made in conjunction with the \$500 ORALL scholarship, or awarded to a fourth newer member recipient.

The fourth \$500 scholarship is aimed at veteran members who have been with the association for more than three years. If one or more veteran members apply, one of them will be given this scholarship.

A maximum of four \$500 scholarships and the full registration from AALL will be awarded. If fewer than three newer members apply, the additional "newer member scholarships" may be awarded to veteran member applicants. If no veteran members apply, the "veteran member scholarship" might be awarded to a newer member applicant.

The ORALL Board encourages application for these scholarships no matter the type or size of your organization.

Complete this form and return to:

Cindy Spohr
LexisNexis
1617 Wood Moor Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
Fax: 260-436-0653

Applications must be received by **April 16, 2004**.
All applicants will be notified by May 3, 2004.

If you would like to receive the application form in an electronic version, please e-mail Cindy at cindy.spohr@lexis-nexis.com

ORALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Submit by April 16, 2004

I am applying for the (please check one):

New Member scholarship

Veteran Member scholarship

1. Name: _____

2. Organization Name: _____

3. Address: _____

4. Phone (include area code): _____

5. E-mail address: _____

6. Employment in Law Librarianship (include dates and places; if currently a student please indicate school): _____

7. Other recent employment: _____

8. Education: _____

9. Professional Activities and Committee Memberships: _____

10. Member of ORALL since: _____ Member of AALL since: _____

11. What percentage of your expenses will your employer pay for you to attend this meeting?

12. Have you previously attended AALL or ORALL meetings? If so, when?

13. Please describe your responsibilities in your current position:

14. Please attach a summary of your career goal and a statement of how you will benefit from attending this meeting.

15. Please include one letter of recommendation from a person familiar with your work, potential and need of this scholarship.

The AALL Mentor Project Wants You!

The AALL Mentor Project:

- Provides an informal, personal source of information for newer members
- Provides an avenue by which experienced law librarians may meet promising new members of the profession
- Provides a network for members who are contemplating a move to another type of library

Who should participate?

- All experienced law librarians willing to share their time and wisdom
- All enthusiastic newer members
- AALL members considering a move to another type of library

2003 mentees benefit from guidance and support:

- *While I have yet to meet a law librarian who wasn't willing to offer advice when asked, it is great to have someone who specifically wants to be asked. My mentor was also great fun to be around at the conference. She has continued to help me since, providing local introductions when I moved to San Francisco. – Monica Donovan, Information Specialist, Jackson Lewis LLP.*
- *My experience with my mentor has been great. We are both in similar situations and I know that I can always turn to her for advice and encouragement. – Sarah Mauldin, Director of Library Services, Lionel Sawyer & Collins*

2003 mentors recommend the experience:

- *Working as a mentor provides an opportunity for reflection and analysis about what's going on in law libraries and it makes you appreciate how much you have learned in your own career path. It's not rocket science and there's no right or wrong way to make it work. Even if your only time together is at the annual meeting, you have nothing to lose by trying it but, potentially, a lot to gain. – Suzanne Thorpe, Associate Director for Faculty, Research, and Instructional Services, University of Minnesota Law Library*
- *I have been a mentor at the last two AALL conferences, and it was a great experience. In addition to sharing my knowledge and experience with others, I believe that I can always learn something new by listening to my colleagues, regardless of their level of experience. I find it refreshing to hear how other libraries approach common issues. Moreover, frequently we come to law librarianship after many years in other professions. Often these new librarian colleagues have experience and knowledge of their own that enriches me. Finally, I enjoy teaching and helping (that is, after all, why I do what I do for a living!), want to give back to the profession what I can, and never pass up the opportunity to network. – Barbara Traub, Head of Reference Services, Rittenberg Law Library, St. John's University School of Law*

- *For the past two years, I have had wonderful mentees who are interested in foreign, comparative and international law librarianship. As many times a newer FCIL librarian is the only subject specialist at his or her workplace, a mentor and professional connections are vital.* – Stephanie Burke, Senior Reference and International Law Librarian, Pappas Law Library, Boston University School of Law

How can you join the Mentor Project?

To learn more about the AALL Mentor Project and to become a mentor or mentee, visit our website at: http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/mentor_project.html

Mentors and mentees will be matched as closely as possible based on submitted applications.

* * *

Supporting New Professionals: the AALL Annual Meeting Grants

By Iris Lee, AALL Grants Committee Chair

The AALL Grants Program provides financial assistance to law librarians or graduate students who hold promise of future involvement in AALL and the law library profession. Funds are provided by vendors, AALL, and AALL individual members. Grants are awarded to cover the Annual Meeting registration fee or the registration fee for workshops presented at the Annual Meeting. Preference is given to applicants who are new to the profession and active in AALL or one of its chapters.

The AALL Grants Program began in 1952 and is one of the oldest and most successful AALL programs. More than 1,000 librarians have received funding to assist them in attending AALL educational activities. Many of those recipients are leaders in the profession today. For additional information, check out the application on the Association=s web site.

<http://www.aallnet.org/committee/grants/grants.asp>

In 2001, the Minority Leadership Development Award was created to assure that AALL's leadership remains vital, relevant and representative of the Association's diverse membership. The Award provides up to \$1,500.00 toward the cost of attending the Annual Meeting, an experienced AALL leader to serve as the recipient's mentor, and an opportunity to serve on an AALL committee during the year following the monetary award. For additional information, check out the application on the Association=s web site. http://www.aallnet.org/about/award_mlda.asp

Applications for both AALL Grants Programs must be received at the Association=s headquarters by **April 1, 2004.**

RESEARCH GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Research Committee of the American Association of Law Libraries is accepting applications through April 12, 2004 for grants from the AALL Research Fund. The Committee will award one or more grants totaling up to \$5,000 to library professionals who want to conduct research that affects librarianship.

Established with an endowment from LexisNexis in July 2000, the annual grants fund projects that create, disseminate or use legal and law-related information. The AALL Research Agenda offers suggestions for research projects that cover the profession of law librarianship, law library patrons, law library services, legal research and bibliography, legal information resources and law library facilities.

However, projects are not limited to those described in the Agenda; the Committee will consider all applications and research projects. To review the AALL Research Agenda, please go to:

<http://www.aallnet.org/committee/research/agenda.asp>

To apply for the grants, all applicants must provide resumes and statements of their qualifications for carrying out their projects. The applications must demonstrate experience with research projects and an understanding of the dissemination and use of legal and law-related information. Priority will be given to practicing law librarians and AALL members, working individually or in partnership with other information professionals. The grant application and complete guidelines are available at:

http://www.aallnet.org/about/grant_application.asp

The submission deadline for applications is **April 12**. Grants will be awarded and announced by July 1. Allocation of the research grants will be at the sole discretion of the AALL Research Committee. For more information, please contact Ellen McGrath, chair of the AALL Research Committee, at emcgrath@buffalo.edu

The members of the AALL Research Committee are:

Ellen McGrath, chair, University at Buffalo

Scott Childs, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Edwin Greenlee, University of Pennsylvania

Michael Jeffrey Slinger, Cleveland State University

Trina Tinglum, University of St. Thomas

Susan Tulis, Southern Illinois University





WE NEED YOU! Volunteer in Boston

The Annual Meeting Local Advisory Committee needs you! Join the wonderful group of dedicated people volunteering their time to help make the 2004 AALL Annual Meeting in Boston a success.

The Committee needs volunteers for a variety of activities at the Annual Meeting. Meet new people and re-connect with old friends while working at the Registration Desk. Scoop stories and write articles for *The Hub*, the daily conference newspaper. Collect tickets and seat people at the Association Luncheon and Closing Banquet. If you plan to be in Boston early, help stuff the conference tote bags on July 9 or set-up booths and visit with attendees' children at the Family Social Hour on July 10.

Volunteers make the conference run smoothly – and they have fun. Thanks in advance!

For more detailed descriptions of volunteer opportunities at the Boston AALL Annual Meeting, check the Volunteer Form available on the AALL Web site at <http://www.aallnet.org/events/> Please fax, mail, or e-mail the completed Volunteer Form available on the AALL Web site or in the Preliminary Program by **June 4** to:

Judy Gire, Volunteer Chair
Franklin Pierce Law Center Library
2 White Street
Concord, NH 03303
Phone: (603) 228-1541 ext. 1129
Fax: (603) 228-0388
Email: jgire@piercelaw.edu

* *Clip Art courtesy of Boston Clip Art*
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