

LLAM eNews

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Law Library Association of Maryland
A Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

President's Message



By Mary Jo Lazun
Head of Collection Management
Maryland State Law Library

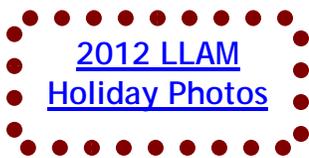
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 President's Message
- 2 Time for Bylaw Change
- 2 Current LLAM Leadership
- 3 Proposed LLAM Committee Structure
- 4 5 Tips for Success as a New Librarian
- 5 Public Libraries and E-Government
- 6-7 LLAM Events
- 8 On the Radar
- 9 Member News
- 10 eNews Submissions

As I write this message the holiday season is drawing to a close and a new year, with all those pesky resolutions are on the horizon. It is also a time to take a look back at what we have accomplished.

I am very proud of the work the Board has done this year. We have put in motion changes to our bylaws and standing committees as you will see in related articles. The LLAM Scholarship Committee now has formal guidelines for choosing the recipient of the AALL Annual Meeting scholarship. Catherine McGuire did an amazing job of researching how other AALL organizations makes scholarship awards and based on that research Sara Witman and Mark Desierto put together a selection criteria that will make the work of this year's (and future years) scholarship committee easier.

Thanks to Tonya Baroudi, we had two excellent programs this Fall. In October, A Slice of Full Disclosure featured many LLAM members who participated in the full conference in March. LLAM was honored to have Jean Wenger, AALL President, participate in the event as part of her chapter visit. Sara Witman and I wrote an article on our experience running the full conference last March "[In Just 15 Minutes](#)" which appeared in the September/October 2012 issue of AALL Spectrum. And in November, Charlotte Harrington, Legal Research Specialist, provided us with a look into the new world of Bloomberg Law as enhanced by the Bloomberg BNA Content. LLAM continues to give back to our community by serving dinner at the Ronald McDonald House. Jean Hessenauer organized the event and I am still amazed that the only item we ran out of was broccoli. We also made over \$500 at our silent auction at this year's Holiday Party at the National Electronics Museum. Half the money will go to the Crisfield Relief Fund and the other half will fund our scholarship to the AALL Annual Meeting. This year's party was one of our best--great venue, fabulous food, and even a special tour of the museum. Thank you Tonya!



Electronic archives of LLAM news are available on the LLAM web site at <http://llamonline.org/newsletter/>

LLAM will start 2013 with it first breakfast for new members. I think this is a great way for us to start the year on a positive note with an eye to the future. Happy New Year to all.

Time for a Bylaw Change

Mary Jo Lazun, Maryland State Law Library

LLAM's current bylaws require that changes to the bylaws receive a favorable vote of 2/3 of those present at our Annual Meeting. The same is true for the establishment of LLAM's standing committees. This means that changes to how LLAM functions can 1) only happen once per year and 2) are made by those who are able to attend the Annual Meeting, known to most of us as the Spring Fling. The Board proposes to modify our bylaws to end the annual in-person vote and replace the current process with a simple majority vote of membership that can take place when needed.

Ironically, to make these changes requires one final in person vote at this year's Annual Meeting. The Board is working with Jim Gernert, who previously served on the AALL Bylaws Committee, to draft language for a vote by members at the next Annual Meeting in early May.

Once the language is approved by the AALL Bylaw Committee, the proposed changes will be posted on the LLAM web site for review by the membership prior to a formal and final vote by membership at our Annual Meeting in May 2013.

LLAM

Board of Trustees 2012-2013

LLAM

Standing Committee Chairs 2012-2013

President - Mary Jo Lazun
 Vice-President/President Elect - Tonya Baroudi
 Immediate Past President - Sara Whitman
 Secretary - Sara Thomas
 Treasurer - Bijal Shah
 Elected Board Member - Mark Desierto
 Elected Board Member - Kate Marton

Archives Committee - Katherine Baer
 Government/Vendor Relations - Joan Bellistri
 Membership Committee - Pat Behles
 Mentor Committee - Mary Jo Lazun & Sara Witman
 Placement Committee - Mary Rice
 Program Committee - Tonya Baroudi
 Public Relations Committee - Catherine McGuire
 Publications Committee - Maxine Grosshans
 Newsletter Committee - Katherine Baer
 Technology Committee - Jenny Rensler

Proposed LLAM Committee Structure

Mary Jo Lazun, Maryland State Law Library

The LLAM Board took a bit of time to review our current committee structure and decided some changes were needed. One of the big changes is all Board Members (with the exception of the President) will also serve as a liaison to one committee. Below is the Board's proposal for Standing Committees what will be voted on at the Annual Meeting this coming May. Assuming there is a favorable vote, this structure will go into effect for the 2013/2014 year.

Technology Committee: This committee handles the planning and day-to-day management of LLAM's online presence, communication with members, and management of accounts and passwords. The committee will also investigate and evaluate how evolving technology can be harnessed to better serve LLAM members and assess and implement new initiatives.

Communications: This committee provides outreach to LLAM members, future LLAM members, and law library stakeholders. The committee keeps LLAM members aware of upcoming events, achievements by LLAM members via LLAM website and newsletter. The committee reaches out to library schools to promote law librarianship and market the integral role law librarians have in law firms, courts and law schools as well as with attorneys and paralegals.

Membership: This committee is responsible for recruiting new members and maintaining current members. Member relations works with webmaster to ensure information about LLAM membership is accurate and membership renewal is convenient for LLAM Members. Member relations is also responsible for providing services to LLAM members in particular keeping track and email and posting to the web site local job opportunities. Member Relations also encourage LLAM members to particulate in AALL. Member relations will host an annual event to new members and potential members to highlight the benefits of joining LLAM.

Programming: The Programming committee schedules both educational and social programs for LLAM members. Events will be scheduled throughout Maryland. Social programs will include a holiday party in December and a "Spring Fling Annual Meeting in early May.

Archives: The Archives Committee identifies, acquires, arranges, preserves and publicizes materials relating to the history of the Law Library Association of Maryland and makes these materials available to its members.

Government and Vendor Relations: Monitors and informs members of pending state and federal, legislative, executive and judicial activities affecting law libraries and libraries in general; to highlight our contributions, increase our visibility and promote libraries in the eyes of all branches of state government. The Committee also monitors LLAM relations with vendors, spot and solve problems that occur, and educate our membership on new materials and formats presented by vendors.

5 Tips for Success as a New Law Librarian

Stephanie Bowe, University of Maryland Law Library

You made it through library school and clutching your new master's degree, you set out to find a job. It's not necessarily an easy thing to do. But after many applications and perhaps a relocation, you've done it. Now what? Below are five tips that I have learned as a new Law Librarian at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law.

When starting a new position do not expect to know how to do everything on your first day or even in your first month, so don't worry if you haven't gotten everything down in the first few weeks. Often you will be filling a position which your predecessor held for many years. That person had years to learn and build up the position around them. You need to take the position one day at a time. Learn new tasks, new procedures as they come. In approaching a new position in this way you won't feel so overwhelmed when just starting out.

Learn about your organization. I'm sure you investigated the library before your interview but it is now time to go more in depth. Study documents such as the library's strategic plans and collection development policies. These will help you understand what your library's focus is. Very few law libraries stand alone. So whether attached to a school, law firm, or court, these organizations also have strategic plans that should be studied. Understanding if your organization is more focused on research or transitioning to electronic resources or certain areas of practice will give you a better idea of how the library fits into that plan. Look for ways to fit and grow your position into these overall goals.

You should also ask questions. When facing something new, ask colleagues or your boss how it is done. You don't have to figure things out on your own. You need to first understand how a process or situation is handled and why it was done that way. Approaching this with new eyes and different experiences, you may have insight in how to improve these things going forward.

Finding a mentor is very beneficial. A mentor can be your supervisor, a colleague, or someone in a similar position at a different institution. This person has experience and institutional knowledge which can help guide you in your career path and help you better understand your own position within your organization. A mentor can also help you get involved in library communities either locally or nationally. When you are given a new project, bouncing ideas off someone will help you gain new perspective. A mentor is a great help in starting out your career.

Finally, be sure to get involved in your community. There are often committees within your organization which will help both you and your library get noticed. If your library is part of a consortia there are groups within it that will help you stay informed, both on what is happening in the library field and opportunities within the consortia. There are also the larger library organizations such as AALL or ALA. Their size can be intimidating but you can find your niche within them through committees, round tables, or local chapters (like LLAM). There are plenty of leadership and writing opportunities in these local sections. Librarians are very welcoming people and love to have new members join their groups.

Good Luck in your new position!

Public Libraries and E-Government

Catherine McGuire, Maryland State Law Library

While public law libraries have a particular subject focus, they function under similar concerns to general public libraries. Training and information sessions aimed at providing assistance to public librarians are often found to contain gems for law librarians as well. Last Fall, a session on e-government turned out to be just such a gem. The University of Maryland's Information Policy & Access Center (iPAC, at <http://ipac.umd.edu/>) recently led an information session focusing on the impact of e-government on public libraries. The presentation, along with a training session on using their new information website, was held at the Centreville Branch of the Queen Anne's County Free Library on November 5, 2012. A general summary of the program is available on the iPAC website at <http://libegov.org/forum/19/199?goto=199>. The iPAC presentation team included Paul Jaeger, co-director of iPAC, and two graduate students in the program, Ursula Gorham-Oscilowski and Natalie Green-Taylor.

Jaeger expounded on "the massiveness" of e-government. E-gov, he explained, includes all the things that libraries have been expected to handle relating to government services, amounting to an unfunded mandate on public libraries. Government agencies have been directing the public to their local libraries for years, but with the advent of the internet and the explosion in the number of government services for which internet access and use in applying for services is either an option or fully required, the amount of time and effort a public library must invest in assisting the public with government services has grown exponentially.

Jaeger also discussed the digital divide, illustrating with survey results and statistics that internet access is not as universal as is often assumed. In particular, rural areas have difficulty getting internet access to individual homes, so public libraries become a key connection point for government information. Jaeger broke down into three categories the reasons for patrons coming to their libraries for assistance: (1) they have no access; (2) they don't have sufficient access (some websites require faster connections, etc.); and (3) they need content access - need more information or explanation than the site itself provides.

The iPAC's Libraries & E-Government program has designed and is piloting a website that is intended to assist public libraries with this issue. The program (and its site) aims to aggregate information and resources, and to establish cooperative efforts.

The iPAC's Libraries & E-Government website, LibEGov.org, has been established to provide librarians with an overview of common e-government topics, together with best starting points for information and referral resources to be used in handling reference requests. The site is focusing first on information in the areas of immigration and taxation. The team hopes to add a Social Security section in the future.

The iPAC team described the history of the site, gave attendees a walk-through of the information site, and then broke attendees into groups to do hands-on examples.

They are hoping the site will grow naturally, but they also have plans in place to assist in its growth, including building a requirement into the iSchool's E-government specialization program for practicum and contribution work. At some point in the future, the site will be turned over to ALA, to be part of their e-government toolkit, at <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/federallegislation/govinfo/egovernment/egovtoolkit> .

Libraries can register with the site. Registration then allows for bookmarking specific sections of the site. Registration also enables participation in the forum.

LLAM Events Calendar

February 6

Author Talk

In 2011 and 2012, Mr. Andrew Jezic, co-author of *Maryland Law of Confessions*, now in its eighth edition from Thomson/West, was recognized as a *Super Lawyer*, an accolade that goes to only the top 5% of attorneys in Maryland. In 2012, Mr. Jezic received another honor by appearing in *Washingtonian* magazine as one of the best defense attorneys in the area. LLAM is pleased to have Mr. Jezic as a guest speaker on February 6, 2013 in which he will shed light on his experience with the publisher and the relevancy and connection of this resource and libraries.

Beverages & desserts provided. Please RSVP by COB Thursday, January 31, 2013. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you on February 6, 2013.

Wednesday, 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Maryland State Law Library Conference Room
361 Rowe Boulevard
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 13

Maryland Legislative Day

8:00 a.m. Breakfast (provided by LLAM) and Legislative Briefing in the Anne Arundel County Public Law Library, Anne Arundel County Circuit Court, Rm 303

9:15 a.m. Library Day Proclamation in the House, followed by the same in the Senate, followed by visits to county delegations

12:00 - 1:30 LLAM's Lunch and Learn

Catherine McGuire, Outreach Librarian at the Maryland State Law Library and Pamela Craig, Instruction/Reference Librarian at the Library of Congress. They will provide a refresher course on Maryland Legislative History and an orientation on the new features and search techniques for Congress.gov, the successor to THOMAS.

Feel free to bring your lunch. Dessert and Beverages provided.

RSVP: Tonya Baroudi at tebaroudi@co.pg.md.us.

5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Reception to honor the Governor, LT. Governor and Maryland Legislators in the Senate Office Building, President's Conference Room

Directions and Parking Directions to the Courthouse and parking information:
<http://circuitcourt.org/directions-topmenu-51> (Parking in the Knighton and Park Place garages is recommended even though the daily parking rate has increased to \$10. There is a free Circulator Trolley that will bring you right to the Courthouse.) Contact Joanie Bellistri with questions. joan.bellistri@gmail.com

March 20

The Future of Publishing

Come to Annapolis and listen to Rock Toews; long-time book dealer and owner of Back Creek Books talk about the changes to and future of the world of publishing. The talk will be held at the coffee shop [49 West](#).

Wednesday, 3:00 to 4:00
49 West Street
Annapolis, MD

May 4 - Save the Date!

LLAM Spring Fling

Bring the whole family to Kinder Farm Park in Severna Park, MD,
<http://www.kinderfarmpark.org/> More details to follow.

Saturday, 12pm -5pm

On The Radar: What's New in the Library World?

James Durham, Deputy Director of Maryland State Law Library

This selection of upcoming events and opportunities has been gleaned from library organization discussion lists, blogs, websites, and conversations. What looks good to you...?

- **E-Books: Where are We Now and What Does the Future Hold?** Friday, January 25, 2013 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the George Washington University Law School. Sponsored by the Education Committee of the Law Librarians' Society of Washington, D.C. (LLSDC). For more information, visit <http://www.llsdc.org/en/cev/406> or contact the event coordinator, Mary Kate Hunter at mhunter@law.gwu.edu.
- **American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meeting.** January 25-29, 2013 in Seattle, Washington. For more information, visit <http://www.ala.org/>.
- **Global Legal Research - International Law.** Tuesday, January 29, 2013, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Central). AALL President Jean Wenger and Lyonette Louis-Jacques, Foreign & International Librarian at the University of Chicago, will present Part II of a two-part webinar series, which will focus on international legal research. For more information, visit <http://www.aallnet.org/ViewAllEvents>.
- **Big Data and Big Challenges for Law and Legal Information: A Symposium in Celebration of 125 Years.** Wednesday, January 30, 2013 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Georgetown University Law Center. Registration is free and open to all. A complimentary lunch will be provided for registered attendees. Space is limited. "This conference will examine the public good and collective harms associated with the large-scale aggregation of information from public and private sources. During the course of the day, panelists will also discuss how scholars, researchers, and information professionals use very large or complex data sets to distill meaning and develop public policy." Visit the symposium website at <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/library/about/125/symposium>.
- **Manage with Confidence and with Strategic Intent: AALL 2013 Management Institute.** Thursday, March 7 through Saturday, March 9, 2013 at Hotel Palomar, 505 North State Street, in Chicago, Illinois. This conference "will provide new and aspiring managers the opportunity to build management skills, collaborate with colleagues from different types of libraries, learn in a small group setting and develop techniques to manage with confidence." Registration deadline is February 9. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.aallnet.org/ViewAllEvents>.
- **State Library Resource Center (SLRC) Spring Meeting.** Tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 20, at the Enoch Pratt Public Library in Baltimore. For updates, visit the SLRC website at <http://www.slrc.info/>.
- **Computers in Libraries 2013** will be held from April 8-10, 2013, at the Hilton Washington in Washington, D.C. The conference focuses on "technology and its applications in today's libraries." Details soon will be posted at <http://www.infotoday.com/cil2013/>.
- **Forging New Paths - Radical and Relevant: MLA / DLA Annual Conference.** May 8-10, 2013, at the Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel, 10100 Coastal Highway, in Ocean City, Maryland. Details soon will be posted on the website of the Maryland Library Association (MLA) at <http://www.mdlib.org/>.

Member News

LLAM at Ronald McDonald House

On November 26th, Jean Hessenauer, Mary Jo Lazun, Stacey Digan, Pat Behles, Kathie Sweeney and Sara Thomas volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House in Baltimore. They made dinner for the whole place.



For membership inquiries, please visit the LLAM Membership page at www.aallnet.org/chapter/llam/membership.htm or contact Membership Committee Chair Pat Behles by email at pbehles@ubalt.edu.

Requesting Submissions for LLAM News

The LLAM Newsletter Committee welcomes submissions from LLAM members on a variety of engaging topics, including but not limited to legal research tips, member news, and local events. Submit your contribution by April 15 for inclusion in the Spring 2013 issue!

LLAM News is a quarterly publication of the Law Library Association of Maryland, a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries. LLAM members are the most important part of this newsletter. The articles appearing herein are by us and for us. We encourage all members to submit articles to LLAM News. The editor will be glad to assist with the process of bringing your ideas to print. Send articles, letters to the editor, news updates, advertising inquiries, photographs, comments, and suggestions to the Newsletter Committee, preferably via email.

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