President’s Message

By Joan Bellistri

Law Librarian, Anne Arundel County Public Law Library

I would like to begin my last column by saying that the best part about this year as president was the time spent with other LLAM members. Looking back, I have to ask: are we more visible, as I envisioned in my first column? I believe the answer is yes.

LLAM members Anne Morrison, Janet Camillo, and I worked together and contributed the Maryland state-specific list of legal resources for the LISP Public Library Toolkit.

The LLAM Web page, newsletter, and placement brochure are great public awareness vehicles, as evidenced by inquiries I have received from those who have come across information about LLAM and law librarianship through them.

LLAM submitted written testimony in support of continued funding for the library and librarian position in the Department of Natural Resources to the Maryland House Transportation and Environment Subcommittee. (The funding and librarian position were reinstated in the DNR budget.)

This year LLAM nominated LLAM member Mike Miller, soon-to-be retired Director of the Maryland State Law Library, for AALL’s Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award, which will be awarded to him at the annual meeting this year.

All of these events are evidence that LLAM has been visible and active in promoting the value of law librarianship to those within the library community and the community at large. Each is, perhaps, only a step in the right direction, but progress nevertheless. Sometimes, though, it is just a matter of perspective. We can just look at the many projects LLAM has accomplished over the years and realize how they demonstrated LLAM’s ability to promote the profession to others.

LLAM, through member Pam Gregory, soon-to-be retired director of the Prince George’s County Circuit Court Law Library, nominated the online Maryland People’s Law Library for AALL’s Public Access to Government Award. The People’s Law Library will receive this award at this year’s annual meeting as well.

Most recently, two boxes of books were collected at this year’s SpringFling for donation to the Village Learning Place in Charles Village, a community-supported center with library.

(Continued on page 2)
President’s Message, continued

(Continued from page 1)

With this year-end reflection on what we have accomplished, I find myself thinking of many issues and projects that could have been taken on. One issue that has arisen over the year in different ways is that of going electronic for the business of running LLAM. We have seen the introduction of electronic voting in AALL and many of its SISs and chapters. Many chapters and SISs have opted for solely electronic delivery of their newsletters. A bylaw change for the SCCLL provides for the board to vote by phone or email.

Consideration must be given to the benefits of cost, efficiency, convenience, reliability, and intimacy (or lack of personal contact) provided by technological or traditional methods of communication.

These are just some thoughts of what may or may not be on the agenda next year. Whatever LLAM will be doing, be sure to volunteer and get involved with the business of LLAM. Just show up and good things can happen.

# The Election Results Are In!


- **President**: Scott Stevens
- **Vice-President/President Elect**: Patricia Behles
- **Secretary**: Janet Camillo
- **Treasurer**: Kathleen Sweeney
- **Elected Board Member**: Trevor Rosen

Congratulations to all of the officers!

# Board of Trustees

**2004-2005**

- **President**: Joan Bellistri
- **Vice-President/President Elect**: Scott Stevens
- **Secretary**: Errin Roby
- **Treasurer**: Kathie Sweeney
- **Immediate Past President**: Jim Gernert
- **Elected Board Member**: Carol Mundorf
- **Elected Board Member**: Janet Camillo

# Standing Committee Chairs

**2004-2005**

- **Archives Committee**: Beverly Rubenstein
- **Membership Committee**: Jean Hessenauer
- **Newsletter Committee**: Susan Herrick & Jenny Smith
- **Placement Committee**: Kirstin Nelson
- **Program Committee**: Scott Stevens
- **Public Relations Committee**: Catherine McGuire
- **Publications Committee**: Maxine Grosshans & Ricky Adams
- **Standing Committee on Technology**: Kevin Vrieze
Pamela J. Gregory
Selected Highlights of Almost Three Decades in Her Company

By Mike Miller
Director, Maryland State Law Library

Memories have a way of playing tricks on most of us at one time or another, yours truly included. When I sat down to outline my nearly thirty years of remembrances of Pam Gregory, who will be retiring at the end of June, it all came back to me, both vividly and without hesitation. That’s because, above all else, Pamela has a track record as a professional and a human being that has been consistently crystal clear.

Here are just a few of the terms that do her justice and describe some of her strongest qualities – an unchallenged work ethic; a person who always lets you know where she stands, on any topic; an impassioned advocate for the under-represented in our legal environment; an extraordinary mentor for novice law librarians, pro-bono legal professionals, beginning readers; never bashful about sharing her expertise on numerous topics (a frustrated teacher above all else); as politically savvy as they come (critically important trait around the courthouse); never rests on her laurels; visionary and trailblazer, on and off the job; out in front recognizing the value and careful implementation of legal information technology; multi-tasker to the max; a remarkable sense of humor; and, above all, a brilliant leader. The kudos continue on into the sunset.

Three particularly significant events where Pam’s qualities became obvious occurred in 1992, 2001, and more recently, for a continued period of time over the past few years. The first, and only, National Conference on State Court Libraries was sponsored by the National Center for State Courts in Columbus, Ohio, in November, 1992. Pam, her Circuit Court library judge Larnzell Martin, and I were the Maryland representatives to this conference. We spent a delightful seven hours in my Toyota driving, through the pouring rain, from Gambrills, Maryland to this two day confab. Talk about a captive audience! I guess each one of us turned out to be both speaker and audience during this sojourn. The next uninterrupted event where we rubbed shoulders stretched on for a couple of months in 2001-02. As a member of a Maryland Circuit Court Library Study Committee created by Chief Judge Bell to investigate and recommend improvements for the management and funding of our county law libraries, Pam immediately took on the role as a crucial “bridge-the-gap” player on a committee composed of judges from all three court levels, court administrators, clerks of circuit courts, law librarians, and practicing attorneys. The latest and probably most notable leadership achievement has been Pam’s unshakeable support for and educational contributions to the Maryland Legal Assistance Network’s Maryland People’s Law Library Web site effort.

A benchmark of her contributions to the end user of law library services becomes apparent when reviewing Pam’s long term commitment to partnering with sister legal institutions/organizations to better serve the bench, bar, and public.

Three cheers and thousands of kudos to a commando legal researcher, customer service aficionado, and all around wonderful human being, who, I’m sure, will continue to make notable contributions to the law library profession. Congratulations on your retirement, Pam!!

Your friend and comrade-in-service to our customers,

Mike Miller
The End Of a Law Library Era

By Anne Morrison
Assistant Law Librarian, Prince George's County Law Library

If you search through a thesaurus for the word “dedicated,” you will find synonyms such as enduring, fixed, persevering, stable, steady, unbending, unmovable, unwavering, unyielding, and wholehearted. Here’s one more suggestion for Mr. Roget: Pamela Gregory.

It is quite unusual in present day careers to see an individual stay in one job for any significant amount of time, yet Pamela Gregory has been Director of the Prince George's County Law Library since 1971. During the past thirty-four years, she has been actively involved in professional organizations at both the local and national level and has always served as an example of an outstanding law librarian.

Pamela Gregory is a Past-President of LLSDC, and served as an Executive Board Member for LLAM. A longtime member of AALL, she has made significant contributions to the profession nationally. She was a founding member of the State Court & County Law Libraries SIS. (An aside for you LLAM trivia buffs out there: Pam was one of just three law librarians from Maryland who were considered “founding members”; the other two were Nelson Molter, then Director of the Maryland State Law Library, and Michael Renshawe of the Baltimore Bar Library!)

In 1981, Pam served as a “pioneer” of sorts within the law library profession, making the Prince George's County Law Library one of the first law libraries in the country to offer computer assisted legal research services to a local bar association through subscription. (Ask her about her original Westlaw connection, with the modem where you needed to insert the phone receiver to “hear” the computer tones.) Throughout the past thirty years, she has continued to stay on the “cutting edge,” being actively involved with the law library profession, and sharing her knowledge with her colleagues and mentoring them on numerous levels. Pamela Gregory has served as both a friend and as an inspiration for many in the law library profession.

Pam has often reached beyond the law library community to share her talents as well. She has served as a delegate to numerous national conferences, which covered topics such as Public Trust and Confidence in the Courts and Gender Bias in the Courts. She has served on numerous boards, including that of the National Equal Justice Library at American University Law School. Pamela currently serves as a Board Member for the Law Foundation of Prince George's County, which provides legal assistance to low-income individuals.

Some of her most rewarding work has been done recently: Pam worked closely with the Maryland Legal Assistance Network in the development of the People’s Law Library Web site (www.peoples-law.org). This Web site provides legal and self-help information on Maryland and federal laws affecting low and moderate-income people and their families. Pam hopes to continue working with MLAN when she retires.

Pam, congratulations on your retirement. Enjoy!
Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Awards For 2005

From the Desk of:
Victoria K. Trotta - AALL President

I am pleased to announce the 2005 recipients of the Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award. This award recognizes extended and sustained service to law librarianship, exemplary service to the Association, or contributions to the professional literature. This year we honor three colleagues who have worked tirelessly in service to law librarianship and the legal profession. There is no way to adequately summarize the contributions of these three individuals. Watch for the article in the upcoming June issue of AALL Spectrum, which will provide a fuller picture of our award winners.

**Charles R. Dyer**, director of libraries at San Diego County Public Law Library, is honored for his career as an advocate for county law libraries and for his efforts to make California county law libraries more accessible to the public through innovative education and outreach programs.

**Roy M. Mersky** is the Harry M. Reasoner Regents chair in law and director of research at the Jamail Center for Legal Research, University of Texas at Austin. He is honored for his mentoring of many law library directors; his legal research textbook, now a standard; and his numerous contributions to AALL.

**Michael Miller**, director of the Maryland State Law Library, is a leader in promoting public access to the law and state government information. He was instrumental in the development of the Maryland People's Law Library Web site, which exists to provide easy to understand legal information for low and moderate income residents.
Maryland State Law Library Director Appointed

On behalf of the Maryland State Law Library Committee, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Steven Paul Anderson as the new Director for the State Law Library located in the Robert C. Murphy Courts of Appeal Building in Annapolis. Mr. Anderson, who begins his new position on June 13, 2005, will be succeeding Michael S. Miller, who will retire on June 30th, after 28 years of service as the library’s director.

Mr. Anderson holds a Master of Arts in Library Science from the University of Arizona, a Juris Doctor from the University of Maryland School of Law, and a B.A. in Political Science and Ethnic Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. He has accumulated significant law library, knowledge management, and teaching experience as the administrator of a large Baltimore law firm library and earlier as a public services librarian at the Baltimore County Circuit Court Library in Towson.

Most recently Mr. Anderson has been elected to serve as a member of the American Association of Law Libraries Executive Board, where his term of office begins July, 2005. He has been actively involved in both local and national law library organizations and has written and spoken extensively on utilizing technologies to enhance legal research and the organization and management of legal knowledge.

When the opportunity arises, please extend your welcome to Steve and wish him the best of luck in his new position.

Robert M. Bell, Chief Judge
Court of Appeals of Maryland

Grant to AALL Annual Conference Awarded

by Jim Gernert
Information Management Librarian, University of Baltimore Law Library

Every three years, AALL makes grants available to a number of regional chapters for registration at its Annual Conference. The year 2005 was once again LLAM’s turn to offer the grant to one of its members, and, after soliciting applications from the membership, the Board was pleased to make the award to Trevor Rosen. AALL’s main criteria is that the award go to one of the newer members, and Trevor certainly fit that requirement, having become a member of LLAM and AALL just over a year ago.

Although he is one of our newer members, Trevor has already been active in LLAM. In March he was co-presenter, along with Harvey Morrell, on a program on Web logs called “Law, Logs, and the Power of Blogs.” He has also contributed a number of articles to the LLAM News, and most recently agreed to run for LLAM’s Board. Trevor is planning to write an article for the LLAM News about his experience in San Antonio, so we can look forward to hearing how attending the Conference has helped him in his nascent career in law librarianship.
Getting the Most Out of the AALL Meeting & Conference

By Catherine McGuire
Outreach Services Librarian, Maryland State Law Library

So here it is, Springtime, and the AALL Annual Meeting & Conference is rolling around again. For those planning to attend, whether for the first time or the tenth or the “don’t ask me how many years I’ve been coming to this” time, reviewing the number of activities, programs, side-trips, casual dinners, vendor parties, etc. can be mind-boggling.

Most of us are well aware that attendance at the Conference is a privilege. With budgets always tight, there is rarely enough funding for simple professional development items such as membership in associations. Reimbursement for attendance at far-away conferences is a dream for some people, and is hard-won by almost every attendee. Some attendees pay for expenses out of their own pockets; some are there on grants; some had to fight tooth-and-nail with their higher-ups in order to attend. However one gets there, it seems obvious that all want to make the most of those four or five days.

But how does one make the most of the time available at the Conference without going crazy? An organized schedule of events is highly recommended. Without one, it is nearly impossible to remember all of the times, places, and events. After culling through articles and thinking back over my own experience, I have the following advice for making your Annual Meeting the “best ever”:

Well before leaving, make up a neat calendar that is readable on the run. Note on the calendar the event, the time, the location and any other pertinent information (such as “ticket needed!”)

Keep in mind that the Conference offers a multitude of different events in addition to educational programs. A combination of all types of events makes up the amazing professional experience that is the AALL Annual Conference. Make sure you check out all the possibilities when making up your calendar. Each type of event has distinct advantages. Don’t forget to weigh the benefits of the following:
- Educational program
- SIS business meetings
- Workshops
- Roundtable discussions
- Exhibit hall
- Vendor parties
- Dine-arounds and other casual dinners
- Keynote addresses
- Vendor parties (of all sorts)

Make sure your calendar is flexible, and list alternatives to your first choices. If you have scheduled yourself to attend a program, and five minutes into it you find that it really isn’t saying what you were expecting or it isn’t grabbing you (admit it - sometimes a speaker just doesn’t connect with you), have a second choice listed and head straight for it. You won’t have missed a significant amount of the second presentation, and if your calendar is easily readable “on the run,” you won’t have wasted more time trying to figure out what to do with yourself. One caveat: make sure you leave the first program and enter the second one quietly - please don’t let the door slam!

If there are overlapping programs you’d really like to see, consider splitting your time between two sessions. This is done all of the time. Alternatively, if you have a colleague also attending who is similarly interested in both, arrange to meet immediately after the programs and give each other a rundown and copies of any handouts. Although you can purchase the tape from AALL later, sometimes the actual events or immediate first impressions give more color to the presentation than a simple recording, and sometimes there are handouts at the program that are not online or in the printed program materials book available from AALL.

Make sure when making up your calendar that you allow for the time spent going from place to place. Use common sense. If a program you’d like to attend starts at 4:00, and a tour you want to be on is supposed to end at that time, there’s almost no way you’ll be able to do the tour AND attend the full program. Similarly, if your hotel is several blocks away from the conference center, either don’t count on going back to your room to drop things off, or block out time to get from the center to the hotel and back. When

(Continued on page 8)
Getting the Most Out of the AALL Conference, continued

An organized schedule of events is highly recommended.

(Continued from page 7)

you make your hotel reservations, keep this factor in mind.

Attend some programs that are unrelated to what you actually do. It’s a great chance to learn fascinating information that you otherwise might not be exposed to.

Set up informal breakfasts and lunches with colleagues from other cities. If possible, do this before you actually get to the Conference. These informal meetings give you more time to chat than if you just bump into each other at meetings and programs, when usually one or both of you is rushing off to another event. Impromptu chats are an integral part of the Conference, and part of what makes the time so much fun, but if there are people you really think you’ll want more than five or ten minutes with, schedule it! Also, the message board at the Conference is handy for contacting colleagues, but there is no guarantee that the person you are trying to reach will in fact get the message in time, or even remember to check for messages! Pre-scheduling eliminates this problem.

Make some time to see the host city. If you can’t go on any of the tours because they don’t fit in with the programs you want to attend, make sure you have a really good city map and information on public transportation, and just wander. I also recommend, before wandering, that you visit the hospitality booth. You can learn more about what the city might offer from people who actually live there. Many cities have tiny museums, libraries, or shops that don’t get a lot of publicity.

Make time for yourself! No matter how excited you are to attend the many scheduled events, remember that being on your feet all day (essentially, even though you get to sit at the programs) is exhausting, both mentally and physically. If you like to work out, check ahead of time to see if your hotel has a gym or pool and bring appropriate clothing. If you like to curl up and read, give yourself an hour or so a day to relax in your hotel room with a new book. A little downtime means you’ll head into that next meeting with a clean perspective and enough energy to participate.

Last but not least - REMAIN FLEXIBLE! Your calendar can change for many reasons. A program might be cancelled; the weather might not cooperate for that outdoor tour; a colleague you planned to meet might have an emergency and not make it to the Conference; you might see all you really ever wanted to of the vendor hall on the first day…Have in mind a few alternatives, and if all else fails, find a nice coffee shop.

Below are some sources that contain more advice about attending the AALL Annual Meeting. Also included in this issue is a copy of my own “Type A Personality” Calendar from Boston (see page 9). Keeping the above advice in mind - I didn’t attend exactly what is on the calendar. But I came very close!

Bibliography
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In just five days. Catherine McGuire, SCCLL Newsletter, Vol. 30, No. 3 (Fall 2004).
Why I need to go to the AALL Annual Meeting this year. Lucy Curci-Gonzalez and Christine Graesser, AALL Spectrum, Vol. 9, No. 4 (February 2005).
Getting the Most Out of the AALL Conference, continued

Catherine’s Type A Personality Calendar, Boston 2004

AALL Annual Meeting and Conference    Boston, July 2004    Schedule of Events

Saturday - 10th  Sunday - 11th  Monday - 12th  Tuesday - 13th  Wednesday - 14th

7:00 - 7:15  7:15 - 7:30  7:30 - 7:45  7:45 - 8:00  8:00 - 8:15  8:15 - 8:30  8:30 - 8:45  8:45 - 9:00  9:00 - 9:15  9:15 - 9:30  9:30 - 9:45  9:45 - 10:00  10:00 - 10:15  10:15 - 10:30  10:30 - 10:45  10:45 - 11:00  11:00 - 11:15  11:15 - 11:30  11:30 - 11:45  11:45 - 12:00  12:00 - 12:15  12:15 - 12:30  12:30 - 12:45  12:45 - 1:00  1:00 - 1:15  1:15 - 1:30  1:30 - 1:45  1:45 - 2:00  2:00 - 2:15  2:15 - 2:30  2:30 - 2:45  2:45 - 3:00  3:00 - 3:15  3:15 - 3:30  3:30 - 3:45  3:45 - 4:00  4:00 - 4:15  4:15 - 4:30  4:30 - 4:45  4:45 - 5:00  5:00 - 5:15  5:15 - 5:30  5:30 - 5:45  5:45 - 6:00  6:00 - 6:15  6:15 - 6:30  6:30 - 6:45  6:45 - 7:00  7:00 - 7:15  7:15 - 7:30  7:30 - 7:45  7:45 - 8:00  8:00 - 8:15  8:15 - 8:30  8:30 - 8:45  8:45 - 9:00  9:00 - 9:15  9:15 - 9:30  9:30 - 9:45  9:45 - 10:00

Flight to Boston

SCOLL Breakfast & Business Mtg

SR-SIS: Services to Inst Res
End of Meeting

End of Breakfast Meeting

Exhibit Hall (G - 5)

C.4. Appellate Justices
End of Program

E.5. E-Newsletters
End of Program

H.4. Protecting Networks
End of Program

A-S: Let Me "Educate" You
A-S Ends

F.2: Let's Make a Deal
End of Program

End Workshop

Registration (to 8:00 p.m.)

Assocation Luncheon

West SCOLL Luncheon
End of Luncheon

End of Program

I.5. Marketing the Law Library
End of Program

Harvard Law Library Tours
End of Program

(End at 4:30)

Members Open Forum
End of Open Forum

End of Program

G.3. Blog Phenomenon
End of Program

LISP-SIS Business Meeting

LISP/RIPS: Pro Se & Prisoners
End of Roundtable

End Meeting

End of Program

CUA Alumni Reception

West SCOLL Reception
End of Reception

Flight to Baltimore

End Opening Event

Opening Event - Dessert

End West Event

End west Event

SCOLL Dinner

LLAM Dinner 7:00 p.m.
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By Mary Rice  
Law Librarian, Charles County Circuit Court Law Library

To celebrate National Library Week, the Maryland State Law Library (MSLL) presented two excellent workshops on legislative history research. On Wednesday, April 13 and Friday, April 15, 2005, Mike Miller, MSLL Director, gave a PowerPoint presentation on researching legislative history in Maryland. Catherine McGuire, MSLL’s Outreach Services Librarian, covered federal legislative history research on Thursday, April 14.

The Maryland presentation was offered on two days because of the large number of sign-ups. There were about 33 attending the Wednesday lecture, and the audience was made up of law clerks, attorneys, law librarians, and state government employees, including Frank Broccolina, the State Court Administrator. A similar audience attended Catherine’s presentation on Thursday, April 14.

Having spent many long hours doing Maryland legal research over the past twenty-three years, I thought I had a decent grasp of the legislative history component, but quickly discovered that I didn’t know the half of it! Mike gave all of us a great parting gift with his presentation. He began his talk by referring to a “Vision of the Communal Roles of Libraries,” a vision statement from the 2004 Salzburg Seminar, Librarians in the 21st Century, that was posted on the LAW-LIB Listserv earlier in the week:

The library is a place where knowledge and information freely dwell to define, empower, preserve, challenge, connect, entertain and transform individuals, cultures and communities. The dwelling place, whether physical or virtual, is the product of collective reflection, aspiration, commitment, expertise and organization. It is both a byproduct of civil communities and a catalyst for cultural progress, inspiration, expression and exchange. Its absence in this new century would not only deprive many individuals of important resources, but also, more significantly, such loss would deny humanity an essential portion of its shared identity and entitled liberties. The library can never be fully replaced by information technologies. For the essence of its communal role is not the technological mastery over knowledge and information, but rather the provision of sanctuary for human thought and expression in any medium.

As most of you know, Mike, who will be retiring in June after 28 years as MSLL Director, is widely considered to be the leading expert on Maryland legislative history. Both Mike’s command of the subject matter and his trademark humor were in evidence in his excellent presentation. In about ninety minutes, Mike covered at least ninety different rules, tips, and pointers on doing legislative history research in the state of Maryland.

Mike gave a great summary of the ins and outs of this often difficult quest: discerning “legislative intent.” He provided succinct definitions and rules to guide the research effort, as well as apt quotations from various sources. Throughout his talk, Mike stressed that the most important thing is to maintain a sense of history and of what was going on in the world at the time a statute was enacted or amended, because the legislature is usually addressing or reacting to a current societal problem or issue when it drafts, debates, and passes legislation.

To that end, it is necessary to find out the exact date,
section and subsection at issue before beginning the research. Mike also suggested looking at the history line and editorial notes for several years prior to the date the language was added, because legislation is usually not passed on the first try. He emphasized that the Legislative Drafting Manual prepared by the Maryland Department of Legislative Services is required reading in order to understand the legislative process. The Manual is published annually, and is available on the DLS Web site at http://dls.state.md.us/index.html (Those of us lucky enough to have a special sticker on the underside of our chairs received a print copy of the Manual.)

On Thursday, April 14, Catherine gave another excellent, fact-packed PowerPoint presentation on the ins and outs of researching federal legislative history. Before becoming Outreach Services Librarian at the Maryland State Law Library, Catherine spent 14 years as a law librarian at a law firm in Washington D.C., where she gained her expertise in federal legislative research.

Catherine stressed that understanding the process by which a bill becomes a law is the key to understanding which documents to look at when doing federal legislative history research. Being currently in the throes of building an addition to her house, Catherine used a building metaphor for her presentation, which was very effective, both verbally and visually. Catherine explained the different steps involved in passing legislation, defined important terms and titles, and took the workshop attendees through the long and often torturous process by which “just a bill, up on Capitol Hill…” becomes a federal law.

The presentation was filled with substantive factual information as well as practical pointers and tips about how to go about doing this research and where to find certain pieces of information. One important tip: the daily Congressional Record is the single most important resource to use when doing federal legislative history research. In addition, you can use the U.S. Code Classification Table to find out the current Code citation from the P.L. numbers.

According to Catherine, "Federal legislative history material, like Elvis, is everywhere." And though there are free sources for most of this material, such as the GPO (for paper), and GPO Access and the Library of Congress' Thomas Web site (for electronic sources)

Catherine recommended using the commercial sources such as BNA, CCH, West and Lexis whenever possible.

One of the most interesting things about both presentations was the emphasis that both Catherine and Mike placed on becoming aware of the political and cultural environment, as well as the legislative background of a piece of legislation. For both speakers, doing effective legislative history research requires more than just mastering the details of the process and the paper trail left behind. Equally, or even more, important is an understanding of the seminal events and issues at the time a bill was being introduced, studied, written, debated, and passed by the legislators. A key element in discerning legislative intent is finding out “what they knew and when they knew it.”
LLAM April Preservation Program

By Janet Camillo
Assistant Librarian, Montgomery County Circuit Court Law Library

Anne Morrison and I recently presented a program on preservation for LLAM. This topic had been on our minds lately because of near disasters in some local libraries; also, I wanted to share what I had learned at the workshop on book repair and preservation last July at AALL.

The program was divided in three parts: a general discussion of preservation, then two breakout sessions on book repair and computer file protection. The discussion on preservation covered disaster prevention and planning, collection security and protection, library environmental issues, and the challenges of reformatting, conversion, and storage. I introduced two heroes of preservation for all of us to use as role models: Alia Mohammed Baker, the librarian of the Iraqi National Library in Basra, Iraq, who saved her library from the war by personally moving the books; and Barney, the mold sniffing dog, hero of the toxic mold disaster in the Howard County Courthouse.

We then broke up into mini sessions where Anne covered computer file preservation and provided sources for on-line preservation planning. She also discussed the fire in the Prince George's County Courthouse. I covered simple book repairs that I do in my library such as hinge tightening, repairing torn pages, end cap repair, and repair of leather bindings. I also showcased information on setting up a book repair program and the proper handling of books and other library materials.

A big thanks should go out from LLAM to Carol Mundorf and her firm for hosting the lunchtime program once again and also to Lexis for providing a wonderful lunch.

WANTED: Program Topics

NEEDED: Vibrant, fun, informative program topics for good listeners & interested library workers. Seeking a full schedule of meetings at convenient times.

Prefer a breakfast meeting? typical brown-bag? We can make it work. Want to talk to vendors? Maybe a half-day program with different reps? Who do you want to meet? Know a speaker or a place? Have an interest or expertise to share?

Contact Pat at pbehles@ubalt.edu or 410-837-4583.
Not a record rainfall, unexplained gridlock, and the resulting late arrival of the extra wine, nor even a fire, could stop LLAM members from having a great time at the Annual Meeting and SpringFling.

This year’s end of the year party was held on May 20 at the 4 East Madison Inn Bed & Breakfast in Baltimore’s Mt. Vernon Cultural District. Jim Gernert and Pat Behles should be congratulated for finding this charming spot. The beautiful but comfortable setting was perfect for getting together with fellow LLAM members. Though the rain and cold kept us from sitting in the garden as planned, it was lovely to view from the window. Those that took advantage of the tour were able to see the nicely appointed guest rooms upstairs and learn a bit of the history of the house.

The formal meeting consisted of the annual “passing of the lamb” to Scott Stevens, LLAM’s new president for 2005-2006, and the recognition of the board members and committee chairs for all they did this year. Once that was done, time could be devoted to eating the delicious food and visiting with old friends.

Everyone was relieved that both the current and future directors of the Maryland State Law Library did not go up in flames when the dried flowers placed among the candles caught fire in the fireplace at their backs. We only had to brush the ashes from their jackets.

The evening ended with a champagne toast to LLAM’s retiring members, Pam Gregory, Director of the Prince George’s County Law Library, and Mike Miller, Director of the Maryland State Law Library. Each received a LLAM mug with a lamb inside as a memento of LLAM membership and as a sign of appreciation of all they have done as members over the years. We wish them well but hate to say good-bye. They will be missed!
SpringFling 2005 Remembered
AALL Public Access to Government Information (PAGI) Award

By Pamela Gregory
Director, Prince George's County Law Library

LLAM is pleased to recognize the accomplishment of the Maryland Legal Assistance Network (MLAN) in producing and maintaining the Maryland People's Law Library. Ayn Crawley, Director of MLAN, will accept the coveted Public Access to Government Information (PAGI) Award of the American Association of Law Libraries, on Monday, July 18, 2005.

LLAM members Michael S. Miller and Pamela J. Gregory have collaborated on the People's Law Library as stakeholders since 1997. Sara Kelley, formerly Research Librarian at Thurgood Marshall Law Library of the University of Maryland (presently at Georgetown University Law Center), contributed the excellent Legal Research section of the People's Law Library Web site, and continues with its updates. Ayn Crawley has implemented the ABA Best Practice Guides for Web Sites for the Maryland People's Law Library. Collaboration with law librarians throughout the state has made for a most successful and well structured site.

The PAGI Award was established in 1998 to recognize people and organizations that have made significant contributions to protecting and promoting greater public access to government information. Past winners have included: the University of Georgia Libraries; Senator Joseph Lieberman; the U.S. General Services Administration Government Printing Office; and the Library of Congress. The AALL awards committee felt that the Maryland People’s Law Library site was a model for the nation. LLAM extends its heartiest congratulations to Ayn Crawley for her excellent pioneering work in the design, implementation, and maintenance of this important Web site for Maryland's citizens, and to all who have contributed to its ongoing vitality.
By Pat Behles
Government Documents and Reference Librarian,
University of Baltimore Law Library

Several issues dominated the library world this past year. Various messages were forwarded to the LLAM listserv to keep members informed on these issues.

In Maryland, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Library was threatened with closing as a cost-saving measure. Proposed alternatives included staffing the library with volunteers; raising private funds to subsidize the library; and relying on the Internet. As the current president of the Maryland Library Association, Raineyl Coiro, pointed out, none of these solutions were workable. As she testified before the Transportation and Environment Subcommittee of the Maryland House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday, March 9, 2005: “…to the serious researcher looking for valid and credible information, the Internet is only a superficial research tool. The Internet does not have the knowledge, experience, and communication skills of the trained librarian or the credibility of a library’s scholarly texts that are essential to scientific research. A research-based institution like DNR needs its library and its librarian…”

LLAM President Joan Bellistri added her voice in testimony submitted to the same hearing. On behalf of the LLAM membership, Joan testified: “There is a general consensus among members of our organization that the closing of the DNR Library would not only be a great disservice to the legal profession that we serve but to all citizens of Maryland. …The collection is considered to be excellent and one that cannot be replaced. Access to the information, both the print and especially the electronic, at this library requires the expertise of a librarian.” With the support of this testimony and other letters and e-mails, funding for the library and the librarian’s position was restored. The DNR librarian, Cecilia Petro, expressed her thanks for all the support that the library received and is currently looking for a replacement librarian.

On the federal scene, there is still concern about aspects of the Patriot Act and its impact on libraries. Hearings were held in May that may affect some of the Act’s provisions.

There has also been discussion by the Government Printing Office about changes to the Federal Depository Library Program that are of concern to our community. The Government Printing Office has proposed producing more and more publications in an electronic format. There is concern, however, that material that is more suitable to paper will not be as useful in an all-electronic world, or be accessible to all people. Some commitment has been made for a “select” group of essential titles to remain available in paper. Concern remains as to how many titles and which titles would be part of this “select” group. There are also requests for information on potential partnerships with the private sector. Some fear that this would mean charges to libraries and less information available to the general public.

AALL Action Alerts sent to the membership are urgent requests for members to support the advocacy efforts of AALL by the Washington Affairs Office. For more information, see the Web site of the Washington Affairs Office at http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/aallwash/. Sign up for AALL Action Alerts and other listservs for more information on legislative advocacy.

For those that want to be more involved, there is a half-day Legislative Advocacy Leadership Training at the AALL Annual Meeting in San Antonio on Saturday, July 16th. To register or to get more information, contact Mary Alice Baish [baish@law.georgetown.edu], AALL’s Associate Washington Affairs Representative.

Consider getting involved! As we saw in the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Library matter, the involvement of concerned librarians has an impact.
Support the AALL Social Responsibilities SIS Annual Book Drive

The Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section (SR-SIS) is coordinating the 7th Annual Children’s Book Drive in San Antonio. The theme this year is Fiesta of Books!

This year’s efforts will benefit the San Antonio Independent School District’s most needy schools: Carvajal Elementary, Herff Elementary, Margil Elementary, Pershing Elementary, and W. W. White Elementary. These schools have high numbers of at-risk children, and most of their populations identify both as ethnic minorities and as economically disadvantaged.

Think about how you would like to donate this year. It is easier than ever! You can go to Amazon to choose from the Book Drive Wish List (click on the "Wish List" link and then search for "AALL" or "Fiesta of Books") and your donation will be shipped directly to the Book Drive Team. Other options include bringing your donation with you to the Conference and donating at the SR-SIS table or sending your donation check made out to AALL:

Fiesta of Books c/o Barbara Lah
University of New Mexico School of Law Library
MSC 11-6080
Alburquerque, NM 87131-0001
lah@law.unm.edu

Going to San Antonio?
You Need the Local Advisory Committee Site

Paula E. Howe
ExxonMobil Law Library

A visit to the Local Advisory Committee (LAC) web page can simplify and enliven your trip to San Antonio for this year’s conference. The page contains "Essential" information plus tips on how to “Enjoy San Antonio.” Either go directly to the LAC page (www.stcl.edu/aall/local.htm) or click your way there from AALL's homepage (start at www.aallnet.org, click on Annual Meeting, General Information, Local Advisory Committee Page).

Under “Essentials” are photos of the Conference hotels, a guide to booking a room, and options for transportation from the airport to your hotel. “Enjoy San Antonio” contains guides written by LAC Committee members to help you pack the most fun into your visit. These guides include nightlife, shopping, live music, museums and galleries, bookstores, music stores, libraries, LGBT, fun for families and kids, internet access, excursions, outdoor activities, fitness centers and spas, and places of worship. The guides are available in printer-friendly versions so that you can easily bring the ones you want with you.

The LAC page also contains volunteer forms so you can assist the various committees (don’t forget that volunteers get perks), a link to the Dine Arounds, a list of the Local Advisory Committee members in case you need to contact one of them, and the conference registration form.
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Advertisement removed.
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 August 15 for inclusion in the September 2005 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. Please share your experiences and your insights into our profession. 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 e-mail. Photographs and print-only materials are also welcome by post mail.

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LLAM News is distributed by mail as a benefit of membership. Electronic archives are available on the LLAM Web site.

For membership inquiries, please visit the LLAM Membership page or contact Membership Committee Chair Jean Hessenauer by e-mail at: jhessenauer@tydingslaw.com.

Deadline Issue

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LLAM is on the Web! www.aallnet.org/chapter/llam/