

# LLAM NEWS

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**LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND**  
A Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

## President's Message

As a member of the 1999 Annual Meeting Program Selection Committee, I have been given the unique opportunity to step back and view the overall or "big" picture of law librarianship. Reviewing program proposals submitted by AALL members nationwide and working closely with a national committee of law librarians from diverse backgrounds, has allowed me to "experience" the broad range of issues and concerns facing law librarians—academic, private, court, government, and/or corporate. Though each type of law librarian has a number of type specific concerns to address, most of the important, "big" issues affect all law librarians no matter what type of library they work in.

Technology, the legal publishing industry, professional status, and funding are examples of issues that concern and affect us all. As a law librarian, it's very easy to be consumed and overwhelmed by the day-to-day issues of running a law library-- performing online research, ordering missing looseleaf pages, deciphering invoices, etc.—and lose sight of the major issues involving our profession. Fear not. Your continued involvement with LLAM and AALL will help keep you abreast of the major issues affecting law librarianship and most importantly, give you information on how to anticipate, prepare, and respond to those issues.

To address the issue of technology, LLAM has created a new standing committee. The Technology Committee, ably headed by Melissa Harter, will keep our website updated, keep members informed about "hot" technology topics, and coordinate the MSBA\LLAM web site project. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Melissa. In addition, Steve Anderson, Program Chair, is planning a Legal Technology Fair for one of LLAM's spring programs. Stay tuned.

No matter what position you hold in a law library, the present state of the legal publishing industry is bound to affect your work. Endless mergers have complicated the librarian's tasks of locating, ordering, purchasing, and using legal publications.

President's Message, continued on page 3

### IN THIS ISSUE:

AALL Call to Papers	4
Did You Know ?	7
LLAM Vendor Support	7
Library of Congress – SLA	9
Member News	7
President's Message	1,3
Officers & Committees	2

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<b>Technology</b>		
	Melissa Harter	410-385-3680
<b>Newsletter</b>		
	Anne Morrison	301-952-3438

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Anne Morrison, Editor; P.O. Box 1696; Upper Marlboro, MD 20773-1696, or call 301-952-3438.

E-mail to [amorriso@clark.net](mailto:amorriso@clark.net).

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## Mark Your Calendars !

### December Meeting

December 7: Annual Holiday Tea  
At Government House  
1125-1129 North Calvert Street

### March Meeting

How to Plan National Library Week  
Events and Promotions  
With Kate Martin, AALL Board Member and  
Librarian at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius in DC

Spring Technology Seminar! See p. 9

### May Meeting

Annual "Spring Fling"  
(Watch for Details!)



## President's Message, continued...

A recent discussion on the LLAM listserv identified the need for LLAM to have some sort of unified voice, similar to AALL's CRIV, to respond to potential changes and/or changes in the legal publishing industry that affect our members. At the present time, rather than creating a special committee, the LLAM Board has decided that, where warranted, the Board will send a letter on behalf of LLAM to a particular vendor expressing LLAM's interest and/or concern about a particular product/service/situation. If you have any CRIV like concerns, please post them to the LLAM listserv or if you don't have email access call a board member or officer and have him/her post your concern. Listserv discussion will assist the Board in determining how to respond to your concern in a fair and constructive manner.

However, there are two sides to every story. Though legal publishing vendors may complicate our library lives from time to time, they also greatly enrich our lives. Through vendor support, LLAM is able to offer a greater range of benefits to its members. In response to the increased generosity of vendors, the LLAM Board has created a Vendor Support Statement to reflect LLAM's appreciation for such donations and clarify LLAM's position on accepting donations. The Vendor Support Statement is located on page 7 of this issue.

The 1999 AALL Annual Meeting "At the Crossroads: Legal Information Management, Technology, and Policy", will provide opportunities for LLAM members to improve their own particular professional status and the status of the profession as a whole. The Chapter VIP program provides two free registrations for LLAM to use to send two local VIPs (non law librarians who are in positions of influence, e.g. law school deans, judges, rainmaker partners, state legislators, etc.) to the conference. LLAM will only need to pay for transportation costs if necessary. This is a great opportunity for LLAM to gain recognition for its membership's talents, needs, and concerns.

Please send me VIP nominations via email ([bsandison@rocketmail.com](mailto:bsandison@rocketmail.com)) or phone me at 410-887-6042. The

Paraprofessional Forum, another program offered at the 1999 meeting, will give LLAM an opportunity to perform membership outreach to paraprofessionals in the Baltimore-Washington area. LLAM will be sponsoring a snack break at this daylong program. LLAM will also be holding a drawing for a registration grant for a paraprofessional from a LLAM member library to attend the July 19<sup>th</sup> event. To enter the drawing, please submit paraprofessional's names to me by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

As you can see from the above discussion, LLAM and AALL are working to help you navigate the wiles of law library land. So next time you feel stranded and alone in your library, remember the big picture. Look to your professional associations for ideas, inspiration and empathy.

Happy Holidays!  
Betsy Sandison

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### **AALL/Matthew Bender Call for Papers Competition**

Attention writers! The Call for Papers Committee seeks your original works of scholarship relating to law librarianship for the annual AALL/Matthew Bender Call for Papers Competition.

There are three categories of eligibility (and potential winners): Open Division (current AALL members who have been members for five years or more); New Members Division (current AALL members who have been members for less than five years); and Student Division (students currently enrolled in library school or law school, whether or not AALL members). Papers must be postmarked by March 1, 1999 and received by March 8, 1999 in order to be considered for this year's competition.

The Call for Papers Competition is a wonderful opportunity to share your work with others and to obtain recognition for your scholarly efforts. Winners each will receive a cash award of \$750 (generously provided by Matthew Bender) and will receive recognition at the AALL Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., as well as the opportunity to present their papers during one of the Annual Meeting programs.

Further information about submission requirements, along with the required application form, can be found on AALLNET (look under Member Services). The Call for Papers Committee looks forward to your submissions!

- Ellen McGrath

### **AALL ALLSTARS**

I've been lucky to have been involved in many AALL activities over the years and have gotten to know many of the members. I'm always amazed at how many talented professionals are in this group, people with true star quality. We all know stars and this is your opportunity to recognize these

stars either for their contributions to AALL or to the organizations where they work by nominating them for one of the following awards. The awards will be presented at the next annual meeting in Washington.

The **JOSEPH L. ANDREWS BIBLIOGRAPHICAL AWARD** recognizes a significant contribution to legal bibliographical literature. The nominated work may be a book, pamphlet, periodical contribution or publication in some other form. Only works published during the 1998 calendar year are eligible for consideration. The work need not be prepared by a law librarian or a member of AALL. Legal bibliographical literature is broadly defined and is not limited by the author's use or nonuse of the term "bibliography" in the title of the work. Submit as complete a description as possible (it is not necessary to submit a copy of the work). The deadline for nominations is February 1, 1999. Send nominations to Grace Mills, Chair, Andrews Award Subcommittee, North Carolina Central University School of Law Library, 1512 S. Alston Ave. Durham, North Carolina 27707 Fax 919-560-5321

The **MARION GOULD GALLAGHER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD** is presented in recognition of extended and sustained service to law librarianship, exemplary service to the Association, or contributions to the professional literature. Nominees are those who are or have been members of AALL and who are near or at the end of their careers. The Award may be given posthumously. Nominations should include either additional supporting letters or the names of other persons to contact for further information concerning the nominee. The deadline for nominations is February 1, 1999. Nominations with accompanying documentation should be sent to Carol Parris, Gallagher Award Subcommittee Chair, Reference/Research Services Librarian, University of Kentucky College of Law Library, 620 South Limestone, and Lexington, KY 40506-0048.

The **LAW LIBRARY PUBLICATIONS AWARD (LLP)** - The Law Library Publications Award honors achievement in creating in-house print or non-print library materials that are outstanding in quality and significance. Rissa Peckar, of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, received the print award for her