President’s Message
Elizabeth Rhodes, University of Baltimore Law Library

Happy Holidays LLAM Members! I hope this season finds you and yours safe and well. As this is our first newsletter in some time, there’s a lot of catching up to do. LLAM’s 2001-2002 Board Members and Committee Chairs took office in June, 2001.

Happily, my first task as LLAM’s twentieth President is to acknowledge those who’ve gone before. We are all indebted to those who had the vision, courage and commitment to found this organization. They, and those who followed them worked hard and persistently to create and maintain an organization that serves law libraries, law librarians and their patrons. Sincere and well-deserved gratitude to all who played a part!

Let me specifically extend appreciation to last year’s Board Members and Committee Chairs. Their vision, hard work, and many accomplishments, were outstanding. To name just a few, LLAM’s bylaws were revised, LLAM’s web page was significantly enhanced, a procedures manual for board members was begun, the groundwork for teaching a legal research workshop was laid, and we welcomed Barbara Bintliff, the incoming President of AALL as our Spring Fling speaker.

While attending the AALL conference in Minneapolis, (when, after all, they could have been riding the roller coaster at the Mall of the Americas), many of this year’s Board Members and Committee Chairs attended workshops designed to help them better perform their jobs for LLAM. Added to their expertise, we now have that of Mary Ann Redman and Betsy Sandison as Newsletter Committee Co-Chairs, and Bill Grady as Chair of the Special Committee on Bylaws.

LLAM became an AALL chapter in July of 1982. Ruth Hodgson, Vice President/President Elect and Program Chair, is well on the way to planning a Spring Fling worthy of LLAM’s 20th Anniversary. Those of us who have been lucky enough to attend other programs Ruth has planned know the high quality of her work, and look forward to

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Program News
Ruth Hodgson, Vice-President/Program Chair

As this year’s Program Committee Chair (via VP/President-elect) it was my role to prepare a slate of nine program meetings for our members. In order to begin this task I prepared and sent out a survey questionnaire to all members soliciting information regarding the types of educational and professional development programs that they would like to see. This survey also requested information on opinions of what LLAM does best and could do even better.

The results of the survey are as follows:

Question: What do you see as the challenges in the next 2 years for law librarians?

Response: Library closing

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2001—2002

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The LAW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND NEWS is published quarterly in September, December, March, and June. Chapter dues, which include a subscription to the Newsletter, are $20.00 annually.

Send Newsletter items and advertising inquiries to: Mary Ann Redman, Co-Editor, LLAM News, c/o Miles and Stockbridge, P.C., 9881 Broken Land Parkway, Suite 400, Columbia, MD 21046.

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New Technologies
collection management
budget cuts
pro se patrons

**Question:**
What do you think LLAM does best?

**Response:**
Monthly program meetings and also LLAM’s Listserv.

**Question:**
What do you think LLAM could do better?

**Response:**
Increase membership and reach out to non-Baltimore members.

**Question:**
What type of educational programs do you want?

**Response:**
Lunch meetings with speakers
1 to 2 hour programs on legal issues and library topics
Some full-day programs but no weekend programming

**Question:**
Rating topics as to how likely would attend

**Response:**
Financial management skills
Collection “rebalancing” in light of new technologies
Business research on the internet
Pro se Patrons
Electronic access to court records
Legal research skills
Web design
Joint meetings with SLA and for MLA to network

**Question:**
How could the following existing LLAM services be enhanced?

**Response:**
More Newsletters!!!!!!
I therefore took my cue from these responses in planning this year’s meetings.

So far this year we have had the following programs:

On September 25th there was a brown bag lunch program held at Piper, Marbury, Rudnick and Wolfe in Baltimore entitled “Welcome to the Fascinating World of Web Page Design”. George Hopkins who operates his own computer graphics company, Geo Graphics, Inc., spoke about technical considerations for producing effective electronic design on the Web. He touched on types of software packages available and guidelines that should be followed. Mr. Hopkins then demonstrated some of his work and distributed a sample Microsoft Frontpage 2000 trial disc.

The October 17th meeting, “Mastering Assertive Communication Skills”, was co-sponsored by LexisNexis Librarian Relations Group. Deidre Payne and Linda Hutchinson of LexisNexis lead the workshop in examining passive-aggressive-assertive communication styles, identifying your own communication style and discussing ways to adapt these styles to work more productively with others. The workshop objective was to increase your communication effectiveness.

LLAM took a field trip to the Maryland State Archives on November 19th. Dr. R.J. Rockefeller, Director of Reference Services at the Archives, gave us a guided tour of the Archives “Most Wanted” collections online and how to access them from our offices. We also got a quick tour of the building and a peek into the inner workings of our state's repository for records of the state, county and municipal governments.

The LLAM Holiday Party will be held this year on December 13th from 4:30 to 7 p.m. in the Camden Warehouse at Oriole Park. In addition to celebrating the season and meeting with old and new friends we will be having a Silent Auction. How much fun can we stand!

LLAM will be trying something new in 2002. On January 8th, LLAM will be sponsoring “Legal Research Institute: Introduction to

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The LexisNexis™ Librarian Relations Group...

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you know you can count on us.

The Librarian Relations Group.

It's how you know

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— your knowledge partner understands the pressures and challenges of delivering in today's complex, changing legal market.

The Librarian Relations Group. It's how you know.

LexisNexis™
Librarian Relations Group
Maryland State Law Library Heightens Access to Its Services for the Deaf, Hearing and Speech Disabled

What does it mean for a library to be truly accessible? Realizing that open access to information is a lot more than just throwing open the door to the courthouse law library and saying, "Come on down", the State Law Library in Annapolis, MD, has gone the extra mile and now utilizes assistive technology to open its information and reference services to the deaf and hearing and speech disabled populations.

A review of recent statistics compiled on MDTAP's (Md. Technology Assistance Program/Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities) tells us that there are over 28 million Americans considered deaf or hearing disabled and that there are roughly 242,000 Marylanders with a serious hearing disability and 52,000 afflicted with speech disorders.

Accessibility to the courts in our State is one of the major tenets of Robert M. Bell, Chief Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals. Public law libraries are stakeholders in this vocal mission, and now the State Law Library has taken a major step forward in providing more meaningful and direct access for this special population of citizens who also have a need to find more information about the law and their government.

Breaking down barriers to access by employing technology is making our jobs increasingly more productive and relevant. The system in place at the library as of November 15, 2001 is the TeleSonic Communication System, an interactive system allowing callers with a TTY (tele-typewriter), TTD(text telephone), or a computer, to talk directly to library reference/research staff and communicate directly in a "conversation" on the PC. This system, similar to instant messaging on a computer, gives customers privacy by eliminating the intermediary used by traditional relay systems. Callers can access the service by entering a toll-free in-State number 1-877-233-3871, or at (410)260-1571. Hearing disabled visitors to the library can also use two public access workstations to communicate directly with Information Desk staff.

The library's biggest job initially was getting the word out that this new service is available. Inquiries about the service should be forwarded to Shirley Aronson or Mike Miller at the library at (410)260-1430.
FROM THE LLAM ARCHIVES

LLAM TAKES ITS FIRST BABY STEPS

In 1982, after a controversy over whether Maryland law librarians should form a new chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries or should wait a year to consider the implications of this step, the Law Library Association of Maryland was born. Because she had remained impartial during this give and take, Kai-Yun Chiu was unanimously elected president of the new association. Loretta Yaller became vice-president/president-elect, Sally Miles was the secretary/treasurer and Jean Hessenauer, Michael Miller and Nina Ogden were members-at-large.

Launching a new organization is an enormous undertaking. Everything both large -- writing by-laws -- and small -- designing a membership application -- must be done from scratch. At the first board meeting on June 30, 1982, Kai-Yun began by reporting on the AALL business meeting at the annual meeting in Detroit -- there were changes in the definition of a student member, a request for meeting proposals for the 1983 meeting in Houston, a question as to the antitrust implications of self-administered wage surveys and a question about advertising in newsletters. In light of the brouhaha surrounding the formation of the Maryland chapter, it is interesting to note that a topic of discussion in the Chapter Presidents’ meeting was the formation of new chapters. To the questions “would too many chapters weaken the whole” and “would they water down the existing chapters” the consensus was a resounding “no.”

Committee assignments were announced at the first board meeting and committees immediately went to work. The Program Committee, chaired by Loretta Yaller, presented four programs that first year: Document Retrieval at the Department of Legislative Reference Library followed by a walking tour of Annapolis led by Sally Miles’ mother; Medical Collections and Sources at the Health Sciences Library; General Reference Tools at the Enoch Pratt Free Library; and an all-day session on library automation hosted at the Marshall Law Library. The Membership Committee, chaired by Natalie Paymer (Ellis), designed a membership application and determined that the dues would be $5.00/year. At the beginning of the year, there were 46 members; by the end, there were 78.

The Publications/Newsletter Committee, chaired by Maureen Walsh David, published four issues of the LLAM News, which, in addition to articles, lists of recent publications, questions and answers on legal research and highlights from AALL, contained ads placed by four publishers. The Committee also updated the Maryland County Publications List. The Public Relations Committee, chaired by Sally Miles, placed a photo taken at the first meeting in the Annapolis Evening Capital and an article by Yvonne Harris, entitled “LLAM is Born” in the Baltimore Barist. In addition, they asked students at the Maryland Institute of Art to design a logo. The Public Relations Committee was also given the charge to develop a Consultation Committee and provided volunteers on Law Day to field questions on legal reference at a program sponsored by the Baltimore Bar Association and the Enoch Pratt Free Library.

A holiday party was held that year at the new University of Baltimore Law School Library with guests bringing the food. The President of the Greater Philadelphia Law Library Association suggested a joint wine-and-cheese reception at the 1983 AALL annual meeting. Very kindly, she wrote “I would like to re-assure you that we are not overly concerned with the involved costs; we realize that a novice group does not have large financial resources! We are mostly concerned with exchanging information with librarians from another Chapter, to ‘expand our horizons.’” A good thing, too, as LLAM had $109.92 in the treasury.

By the end of the year, Kai-Yun was able to report on a long list of achievements while passing on a list of projects for her successor: the publication of a membership directory, the incorporation of the chapter and the acquisition of tax exempt status, the development of consultation guidelines and the preparation of various union lists. Does this sound familiar? She listed as chapter concerns the need to get members involved in chapter activities and the need for imaginative and innovative public relations programs.

The election resulted in the following officers for 1983-1984: Yvonne Harris, Vice President/President Elect; Dwight King, Secretary/Treasurer; Marva Belt, Joyce Donahue and Lynda Davis; Members-at-Large.

Beverly Rubenstein
LLAM Archivist
News of Members

LLAM would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Gail Bartlett, Piper, Marbury, Rudnick & Wolfe
Richard Bishop, West Group
Kathy Hampton, Piper, Marbury, Rudnick & Wolfe
Clement Chu-Sing Lau, University of Baltimore Law Library
Margaret McBurney, Paley, Rothman, Goldstein, Rosenberg and Cooper
Jeannine McKeever, Piper, Marbury, Rudnick & Wolfe
Zhanita Sheshi, Piper, Marbury, Rudnick & Wolfe
Maureen Stellino, Baltimore County Circuit Court Law Library

Dee Van Nest, Maryland State Law Library
Barbara West, University of Maryland Law Library
Rosie Williams, Venable, Baeljter and Howard
Andrew Zimmerman, Hogan & Hartson

Maureen Stellino is the new Associate Law Librarian at the Baltimore County Circuit Court. She was formerly the Library Director at Verne, Liipfert, Bernhard, McPherson and Hand in Washington, DC.

Steve Anderson writes a “quasi-regular” column in Legal Information Alert and recently taught an NBI Seminar entitled “Internet Basics for the Maryland Attorney”

Maryland State Law Library Paid Internship Program

The Maryland State Law Library, located in the Courts of Appeal Building in Annapolis, MD., announces the creation of a paid Internship Program for students enrolled in graduate degree programs at Library/Information Science schools in the surrounding jurisdictions. Currently, two contractual positions have been funded which are available annually, either during the Spring, Summer, or Fall semesters. It is anticipated that these internships will extend for a twelve week period covering 32 hours/week. Minimum pay rate is anticipated at $10.00 per hour. During a twelve to fourteen week paid semester long program, interns will engage in one or more of a variety of library/knowledge management activities - which may include local reference and research, Maryland historical research, web enhancement, indexing and editing, cataloging (original and copy), public relations, customer identification and needs assessment, and conservation, to name a few. Interns will be paid on a bi-weekly basis. Deadline for application for the Spring 2002 internship is December 14, 2001. For more details concerning the internship program, including applications, see our web site @ www.lawlib.state.md.us. You may also make inquiries to Mike Miller @410-260-1430 or mike.miller@courts.state.md.us.
Career Spotlight
Karen Smith, Montgomery County Circuit Court Law Library

Karen Smith, born in Cumberland, Maryland, moved to Montgomery County in 1954. Except for the time her father was in law school at Washington and Lee in Lexington and during her college years in Iowa, Karen has been a Maryland resident.

Little did she realize in 1950 while she spent countless hours at the Washington and Lee Law School Library, watching her father study, that she would one day be a law librarian. The librarian at W & L was one of a handful of female law professors and law librarians in the country at the time and must have had an influence on Karen.

On January 7, 1967, by County Council Resolution, Karen became the first, and so far only, official law librarian for Montgomery County’s Sixth Judicial Circuit. At that time, there were four Circuit Court Judges, by next year there will be eighteen. The county had less than three hundred attorneys and now there are almost three thousand. Karen presided over a library with a very limited collection, four tables, a manual typewriter, one rotary dial telephone and no copy machine. The Atlantic Reporter cost $9.00 per volume. Now of course there are many thousands more books, on-line services, CD ROMs, several copiers, fax machines and the Atlantic Reporter costs $90.00. Karen was the first library in the county (public or private) to have Westlaw and CD ROM’s. The library networks over one hundred legal publications to the judiciary, courthouse staff, state’s attorney and all county agencies.

Over the past three decades Karen has developed her other interests. She has flown small aircraft, enjoyed the thrill of riding motorcycles, has been a room mother, coached cheerleading, became interested in Dalmatians and has recently become a mother-in-law. She is known for dressing her dog in "chic" attire, always being ready to listen to others and being able to use her artistic talents to make the library both homey and beautiful. As a single parent and successful professional she has been an inspiration to many of the professional women who know her.

When asked how she has stayed interested all these years she responded, "I enjoy what I do each day. I am proud to have the continued trust, confidence and support to be able to develop the Law Library as one of the best in the State. Assisting the judiciary and other library patrons is a never-ending challenge that has produced endless personal rewards for me." Her advice to other librarians is to always maintain a sense of humor and to do work that you love.

Written by Janet Camillo

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Editors’ Corner

Welcome back to the LLAM News! After a year long hiatus, the newsletter is up and rolling again! To keep this momentum going, we need the membership’s continued support. Please continue to send us articles, article ideas, product news, member news, and any announcement that would be of interest to LLAM members. Don’t wait for the next newsletter deadline to roll around; we will gladly hold your submission for the next newsletter. A lot of diverse content translates into a newsletter that truly benefits the entire membership!

In this issue, a new regular column debuts, Career Spotlight. This column, the brilliant idea of Janet Camillo, will spotlight LLAM members who have had and continue to have very distinguished careers in law librarianship. We know that you will find their stories inspiring and informative.

Please let us know if you have an idea for a regular column or any other feature for the newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Happy Holidays!
Mary Ann Redman
Betsy Sandison
AALL News and Announcements

World Trade Center Tragedy September 11, 2001

For Immediate Release
September 14, 2001

Message Sent on September 14, 2001
AALL President Barbara Bintliff, the Executive Board and staff would like to express their immense concerns for the law librarians who worked in the World Trade Center and surrounding areas. We extend our deepest condolences and sympathy to everyone affected by this despicable crime.

It is our hope that law librarians in Washington, D.C. and New York will keep the Association informed as news about law librarians becomes available. Please contact Executive Director Roger Parent if you have information about law librarians and law libraries in these two cities. He may be reached directly at rparent@aall.org or at 312/939-4764, extension 11.

We are all struggling with an overwhelming sense of sorrow and helplessness. Sharing concerns and thoughts seems to be one way to cope with and overcome the trauma of this terrible tragedy.

On behalf of AALL, I want to express our sincere and heartfelt sympathy to members of the LLAGNY and LLSDC chapters and all other law librarians in both New York and Washington, D.C. I know how inadequate words can be; I hope you understand that we are grieving with you. Although we feel helpless to deal with this tragedy from afar, one thing we can do is join together as a community to offer comfort, support, and whatever assistance you need in performing your jobs under these trying circumstances. Please let your members know that their colleagues in AALL and law librarianship stand ready to assist however possible. Please call on us. We want to help.

Sincerely,
Barbara Bintliff
AALL President

Message Sent on September 13, 2001

2002 AALL Annual Meeting/Workshop Grants

Deadline: April 1, 2002
The AALL Grants Committee is now accepting applications for grants for the 2002 AALL Annual Meeting/Workshops. The AALL Grants Program provides financial assistance to law librarians or library school 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 cover registration costs at either the Annual Meeting or Workshops. Preference is given to newer, active members of AALL or of its chapters.

For additional information, including the application form, see http://www.aallnet.org/services/grant_application.asp. The deadline for applications is April 1, 2002.
President’s Message (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

the Spring Fling with great anticipation. The Board has met a number of times to discuss issues of importance to the organization. To survive in these uncertain times LLAM must be financially viable. While support from vendors always has been, and still is, much appreciated, the Board has decided to limit the amount of vendor contributions it will accept for any event. It is not prudent, nor even fair, for LLAM to be dependent on vendor contributions in order to conduct its activities. The goal is financial self-sufficiency. The board would like to see LLAM be able to accept vendor contributions, but not rely on them. In order to move toward that goal, prices charged for events may need to be increased slightly.

Distinctions between, and the rights and privileges of, various categories of LLAM membership are additional topics before the Board this year. A review of LLAM’s dues structure is planned.

The Legal Research Institute 2002, will be taught by LLAM members Steve Anderson, Anna Cole, Valerie Diamond, Jim Gernert, Maxine Grosshans, Mike Miller and Anne Morrison. Most of the planning for this event was done by Co-Coordinators Pat Behles and Jim Gernert. This event is scheduled to take place January 8, 2002, with a snow date of January 11, 2002. I hope to see many of you there.

As part of your holiday celebrations, please join your fellow LLAM members at the holiday party.

Elizabeth