Do you know how to get a mortgage, balance your checkbook, compare prices at the grocery store, what a credit score means and why it is important? All of these questions have to do with something called “Financial Literacy.” Financial literacy is one’s ability to use knowledge and skills to manage financial resources effectively. The amazing thing is that such skills were not routinely taught in school. Higher education systems often pushed students out into the world with little practical knowledge of how to balance a checkbook or keep track of their own finances.

Tough financial times such as the past few years bring to light the importance of understanding finances on both personal and business levels. Efforts are underway to improve financial literacy at local, state and national levels. Many high schools now offer some form of financial literacy courses. The federal government has established the U.S. Federal Financial Literacy Education Commission. Other agencies such as the FTC and the FDIC have also set up educational websites. Banks offer web applications that help you monitor your account balances, pay bills and move money from savings to checking.

Why is financial literacy important for law librarians? Law school students are saddled with tremendous amounts of debt by the time they finish their education. Better financial skills can help them manage their debt and budget their money so it does not overwhelm them. As new attorneys, they are responsible for learning the firm’s billing system and how it fits into the larger business model. Law librarians are well-positioned to provide law students and new associates with useful tools for expanding their financial literacy skills.

Running a library is a business, with a budget and a set of goals to be met each year. Budget cuts or flat-line budgets present a challenge for library managers. Making the staff aware of, and part of, the budgeting process allows them to be stakeholders in the overall working of the library. An upcoming AALL Annual Conference program, “Library Finances 101,” will explain the benefits of a workplace financial literacy program, and how such a program can be implemented in your library.
Spring has finally sprung in Western Pennsylvania! Having survived the many days of frigid cold, we now look forward to the arrival of tender green shoots in the flower beds (even if they are a fresh crop of weeds).

Just as spring signifies growth in the plant world, it is also a time for growth in the professional world. Educational opportunities are beginning to populate the upcoming calendar months. It is time to clear off the desk and open our minds (and schedules) to new challenges, skills and opportunities.

This issue touches upon many aspects of personal as well as workplace growth. Our cover story offers resources for growing our money by improving financial literacy. (This is a nice segue to an upcoming AALL conference program on library finances, and the recently released AALL report on The Economic Value of Law Libraries.) Another article describes how to view a major workplace change as an opportunity for personal growth (see “Life after a Merger”). You can also read about ways to grow with the new generation of “Millennials” entering the workforce, and the imaginative names sprouting up in the workplace for the many skills we ascribe to that all-encompassing title of “librarian.”

As you explore new ways to grow this spring and summer, please consider sharing your experiences with fellow WPLLA members by contributing an article or photograph for the next (fall) issue of the newsletter.

Enjoy!

_Sallie Smith is Cataloging/Systems Librarian, University of Pittsburgh Barco Law Library._

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2015 WPLLA Spring Banquet

The WPLLA Spring Banquet will be held Tuesday, May 12 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Caffé Amante, Fifth Avenue Place, in downtown Pittsburgh. The event will include dinner and cash bar. Ann Unger and the Programming Committee are busy with the final arrangements. AALL Executive Board Member Amy Eaton will be the banquet’s featured guest, speaking on the Board’s work and the future of law libraries. Ms. Eaton is the Seattle Library Manager of Perkins Coie LLP, and a member of AALL-SIS Private Law Libraries. Many thanks to LexisNexis for their sponsorship of the event. Watch for an upcoming invitation from Ann Unger to RSVP for the banquet.
What resources are available to help you grow your personal and workplace financial literacy? Here is a short list of some free websites – in no particular order:

$ **MyMoney.gov** [http://www.mymoney.gov](http://www.mymoney.gov) provides information and links to resources on five key topics to help you manage and grow your money (developed by the Federal Financial Literacy and Education Commission).

$ **360 Degrees of Financial Literacy** [http://www.360financialliteracy.org](http://www.360financialliteracy.org) offers tools and information on personal finances for every stage of your life (sponsored by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants).

$ **Money Smart** [https://www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/moneysmart/](https://www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/moneysmart/) is a financial education program that offers instructional modules for various categories of banking consumers (provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation).


$ **Smart investing @ your library** [http://smartinvesting.ala.org/](http://smartinvesting.ala.org/) provides ideas and resources to start a library financial literacy program (developed by the American Library Association).

$ **Feed the Pig** [http://www.feedthepig.org/](http://www.feedthepig.org/) is aimed at the 25-34 year age group with tools and resources related to education, career, marriage, and building a nest egg (by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants).

$ **AARP Money** [http://www.aarp.org/money/](http://www.aarp.org/money/) offers information and money calculating tools for those mid-life and older.

*Kate Frey is Fiscal Services Manager at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.*

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**Communicating Your Library’s Value**

*The Economic Value of Law Libraries* is a recently released AALL research-based study to help legal information professionals effectively communicate the return on investment they provide to the organizations they serve. The report details research and best practices for measuring and reporting value standards to enhance visibility among decision makers, and guidance for determining how best to align services with the organization’s mission. The project was a collaborative effort of AALL’s Economic Value of Law Libraries Special Committee, and HBR Consulting. The 46-page report is available at: [http://www.aallnet.org/mm/Publications/products/economicvaluelawlibraries.pdf](http://www.aallnet.org/mm/Publications/products/economicvaluelawlibraries.pdf).
For those of us who have worked a number of years in law firms, we have experienced many changes in the profession and in the law firm environment. One of the trends over the last decade has been the increasing number of firm mergers.

A little over a year ago, my law firm merged with another and everything changed in my professional world. I like to compare a merger with inheriting in-laws. You are all one family, but you were raised by different parents. A lot of adjustments and compromises must be made.

Most of us resist change at some level. Change takes you out of your comfort zone. With a merger, it is easy to focus on the negative aspects of change. In my case, the firm name changed, management was no longer localized, almost everything took longer to complete, and there was the sense of losing that personal touch.

However, a merger also presents an opportunity for personal growth and new challenges. My professional world grew to include many more cities and many more people. An environment that is always changing and growing can be frustrating. I will admit that, on occasion, I have been tempted to run away from my work world. But I don’t have time to dwell on the past, and change, for the most part, has been a good thing.

The merger provided an opportunity for me to sharpen skills that I had not used in a while, as well as the chance to meet and work with a new group of people. (Some of that has been positive and some, not so much!)

If you find yourself faced with a merger or reorganization in your firm, try to maintain a positive outlook and embrace the challenges that come. We work in the changing world of information and we are all well aware that the pace is not slowing. The best choice for remaining relevant in our profession is to be willingly swept along with those changes.
Digitization for Law Librarians

Many of us have in our libraries collections of photos or documents that don’t get seen or used very often but that would make interesting and useful digital collections. But we don’t necessarily feel equipped to tackle the whole process of digitization.

Last month the Legal Information Preservation Alliance (LIPA) presented a free online webinar for law librarians titled Digitization Is Possible: Identifying & Overcoming Barriers. (LIPA is a non-profit consortium of academic, federal, state and public law libraries working on projects to preserve print and electronic legal information).

The speakers were law librarians who have worked on digitization projects for their institutions and who wanted to share their expertise with others. The purpose of the program was to dispel 4 common myths about digitization:

Myth #1: Digitization is too complicated.

Myth #2: Digitization is too expensive.

Myth #3: We don’t have the resources.

Myth #4: Our stuff isn’t that interesting/important/significant.

The presentation went on to “bust” these myths with discussions of real-life examples of law library digitization projects. The speakers explained that digitization can be simplified using the right approach; it doesn’t have to be expensive; you don’t have to do everything by yourself; and your collections may have value of which you’re not aware. Best of all, they provided an online Tool Kit on the LIPA website that has links to guidelines, instructions, and specifications for digitization project. For ambitious projects, the presenters also discussed the possibility of getting public funding for historic and/or important collections.

Throughout the webinar, there was a chat window open so that attendees could ask questions in real time with Melissa Bernstein, Director of the S.J. Quinney Law Library at the University of Utah, fielding comments. LIPA polled attendees during and after the webinar to find out what information was most needed, and to help them plan future webinars on advanced topics.

The Digitization Webinar and Tool Kit are available on the LIPA website at http://lipalliance.org/resources/digitization-webinar

NOTE that the webinar uses Adobe Connect as software:
Webinar: http://marriott-library.adobeconnect.com/p10k0t1dxiq
Slideshow: https://lipalliance.files.wordpress.com/2015/02/digitization_webinar_slides.pdf
The term “Millennials” or “Generation Y” generally refers to those individuals born between 1981 and 1996. This generational segment of the population is considered to have certain characteristics different from those of prior generations (e.g. Baby Boomers of 1946-1964 or Generation Xers of 1960’s to 1980’s).

There are numerous publications and assertions about this 20 to 34 year old age group, and how they respond to, or are affected by, the political climate, the economic environment, and digital technology. Some describe millennials as narcissistic trophy kids who delay the transition to adulthood. Others say they are optimistic team players, digital natives, practical idealists and successful multi-taskers.

Millennials represent the new workplace generation, comprising more than one-fourth of today’s workforce. How can an institution provide a workplace environment that successfully balances the unique characteristics of millennials with those of a more tenured (older) workforce?

Millennials are described as being collaborative. They appreciate spaces to meet for learning and training, but they also value spaces that allow them to think and concentrate. Millennials are accustomed being coached, and they appreciate frequent feedback and instruction via meetings and email. As team players, millennials want to understand workplace goals and assessment criteria. They want an environment in which to contribute without fear of being criticized. Finally, as digital natives, millennials appreciate technology that enables them to accomplish their work seamlessly in and outside of the office.

In order to attract, motivate and retain a talented workforce, employers should strive to provide a well-balanced office that accommodates all generations of workers. The environment should offer a healthy mix of independent focus workspaces, meeting areas and supportive technology for virtual and face-to-face collaboration, as well as facilities and a workplace culture that promote employee socialization. When people understand each other, then we all learn and grow -- so make way for Millennials!


Sallie Smith is Cataloging/Systems Librarian at the University of Pittsburgh Barco Law Library.
WPLLA has been a terrific chapter since its inception. It has given me personally so much – the opportunity to learn from the best and most knowledgeable law librarians, the chance to develop leadership and communication skills, and, probably the most valued – the comradery and collegiality of a group of terrific people. There are few of us in the world, who do what we do. I am proud to call myself a law librarian and to have had the opportunity to serve as your President.

I would like to thank those who volunteered to accept tasks and provide their guidance this year, especially the members of the Executive Board. A huge round of applause goes to those leaving the Board. Stosh Jonjak, our Past President, continued to serve amidst his busy work and blogger schedule. Amy Gillin, our trusty Treasurer, was always ready with a balance and advice on our money matters. Sue Megarry, dependable Member-at-Large, redefined the meaning of “active in an organization” with her “virtual” (phone) presence at EVERY board meeting. Thanks to Vice-President Ann Unger for her advice and her Committee’s work to provide us with excellent programming. Kudos to Sallie Smith for being the promptest Secretary in the World by writing up meeting minutes in a flash, and to Member-at-Large Donna Kielar for her logical advice.

In addition to the mentoring program begun this year, I appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to revise and improve our website. Liz Whittington is leading that effort and you will hear some news shortly about her Committee’s plans. Thanks to Liz for filling in as Webmaster during Linda Tashbook’s sabbatical, and thanks to Liz and Rita Young Jones for handling the listserv duties.

The Board has decided against holding our annual legal research program this year. The Board feels we need to reexamine the program’s audience and focus. I will be calling for volunteers soon to serve on a Committee to make recommendations on the type of legal research program we should offer in the future.

We will be ending our year on a high note. Past President Stosh Jonjak has put together a fantastic slate of candidates for the Executive Board elections. Ballots will be distributed in April. A huge thanks to Stosh for his work and to all the candidates that have agreed to devote their time and energy to our organization over the next few years.

Our annual banquet will be held at Caffé Amante on May 12. AALL Executive Board member Amy Eaton will be our guest speaker. She will be addressing the future of law librarianship and the recent work of the AALL Executive Board. I hope to see many of our members at this event. It is always a great beginning to the summer months.

Ann Unger and her Committee have arranged two final programs that you will not want to miss. “Local Business Research – Past, Present and Future” will be presented in April, followed by our “Annual New Technology Roundup.”

WPLLA is chock full of talented individuals, and I would like to challenge members to volunteer those talents to WPLLA. To those younger members, this is your opportunity to develop and show off your talents! To long-term members, this is your opportunity to leave a legacy behind! Let’s speak up and show off!

Best,
Cindy

Cindy Cicco is 2014-2015 WPLLA President and Librarian at Pepper Hamilton LLP.
Fall 2014 Roundtable on Management

Rob Duncan, Pittsburgh Library Manager at K&L Gates LLP hosted and led the November 18, 2014 WPLLA Roundtable Discussion, “So You Want to Manage a Law Library? Advice from Rookie and Veteran Managers Alike.” Rob shared advice and some of the hard lessons learned as a law library manager, followed by discussion among the aspiring and veteran managers in attendance. In his presentation, Rob emphasized three key points -- Get Help, Improve your EQ (Emotional Intelligence Quotient), and Get Out of Your Office!

Under the “Help” category, ask if your human resources department offers helpful management training, such as how to conduct performance evaluations or handle conflict resolution. Make an effort to identify, observe and cultivate role models that can guide you in your career. Ask someone to be a mentor. Learn to identify duties that can be delegated, and set aside time for managerial tasks. Seek out professional and nonprofessional reading material that provides useful managerial insights.

Next, improve your emotional intelligence so you can better guide your thinking and behavior. Embrace your strengths and find ways to exercise your “management muscle.”

Finally, get out of your office and look for ways to develop political capital, or goodwill, among key stakeholders. Find proactive ways to market yourself and your library beyond delivering great work product when called upon.

Discussion points from attendees focused on fostering strong relationships with lawyers and building your own personal set of management skills. One suggestion was to listen and watch how the leaders you admire conduct themselves in meetings. Another suggestion was to build relationships with management peers in other departments and to establish regular meetings with them. This allows you to learn about your organization from different perspectives, and to expand those leadership skills that are universal and span across department lines.

Fall 2014 Brown Bag on ACLL Services

Allegheny County Law Library (ACLL) Director Joel Fishman hosted and presented the October 30, 2014 WPLLA Brown Bag program. The Allegheny County Law Library is a free, public law library open to legal professionals and the general public. The information session reviewed ACLL services, both old and new, as a reminder of how the ACLL can be useful to WPLLA members and their patrons.
A Call to Arms:
Books Without Indexes or Other Finding Aids
By Sue Megarry

On February 5, 2015, WPLLA President Cindy Cicco and I participated in a telephone conference call with Margaret Maes, Executive Director of Legal Information Preservation Alliance and Liz Reppe, Minnesota State Law Librarian and Chairman of the AALL CRIV Committee. We discussed a growing problem we have seen in the legal publishing business. Namely, print books are being published without indexes and other finding aids.

Complaints from members of the Pennsylvania County Law Librarians group have identified three publishers who recently issued editions of major print materials all without indexes. Thomson Reuters published a 2,127 page Interim Update (September 2014) to Purdon’s Pennsylvania Statutes Annotated without an index or popular name table. A mere one-half page, cursory table of contents was included. The Pennsylvania Association for Justice recently published the loose-leaf, third edition of, Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Insurance: An Analysis of the Financial Responsibility Law, (a 5-inch thick binder) without the benefit of an index. Furthermore, two publications by ALM/Legal Intelligencer, Library of Pennsylvania Family Law Forms and Library of Pennsylvania Personal Injury Forms, were published without indexes. I would like to point out that all of these publications are voluminous and not what you would call inexpensive.

During our phone conversation about this troubling trend in print publications, both Margaret Maes and Liz Reppe suggested that WPLLA contact the publishers to make them aware of the problem and to request that they issue indexes with the next updates. It is our hope that the publishers will resume publishing the desired indexes and finding aids in the future. If that effort fails, we can revisit the problem with AALL and the CRIV Committee.

I am currently working on draft letters to the three publishers in question, and will present these letters to the WPLLA Executive Board for approval. If other WPLLA members have had similar problems with publications, please let me know and I will include that information as well.

Sue Megarry is WPLLA Executive Board Member and Butler County Law Librarian.

PacerPro Live Webinar

On February 10, 2015 WPLLA members joined a live webinar on PacerPro. PACER is the federal courts’ system for electronic access to records. PacerPro https://www.pacerpro.com/ is a clean, modern interface to the PACER system providing enhanced functionality for searching, docket navigation, and document management. Webinar participants were invited to do some advance exploring using the company’s press release to link to several articles about the service. WPLLA member Stosh Jonjak is among the cited authors/bloggers commenting on PacerPro’s features. If you missed the webinar, you can still view a summary of key features and video tutorials on the PacerPro website.
Upon her retirement from the Beaver County Law Library, March 13, 2015, I asked Bette Dengel how long she had been a librarian. Bette’s response was as follows:

6 months at Carnegie Free Library, Beaver Falls, PA
2 years as middle school librarian in Vineland, NJ
2 years as elementary school librarian in Steubenville, OH
2 horrible years as elementary school librarian in New Bethlehem, PA
3 great years as children’s librarian in Lima, OH
6 months as reference librarian at B. F. Jones Memorial Library, Aliquippa, PA
31.75 years as the law librarian at the Beaver County Law Library

= 41.75 Years as a professional librarian!

It was Bette Dengel who first welcomed me as the new Butler County Law Librarian over 21 years ago. She was always generous with her time and help with reference questions or budget problems. Her advice was always welcomed and well-taken. Her wise counsel and editorial skills were a godsend to me. Bette started the Pennsylvania County Law Librarians group. We now have our own listserv and we meet twice a year to discuss mutual problems and issues confronting county government law librarians. For solo librarians, this kind of camaraderie is vital in order to be successful at our jobs. I will miss Bette’s pithy posts and sage advice.

Bette, we wish you 40 more years to enjoy your travel adventures and to continue your botanical drawing. Keep us posted about those art shows and awards. Enjoy this new phase of your life. May you live long and prosper!

Bette Dengel (seated, center) was recently honored at a retirement reception. She is pictured with The Court of Common Pleas of Beaver County Judges Hon. Deborah A. Kunselman (left), Hon. Harry Knafelc (right) and President Judge Hon. John D. McBride (standing).
Library skills can be applied to a broad range of non-traditional professions and career sectors. Unfortunately, many employers - unfamiliar with today’s field of librarianship - hold on to an outdated librarian stereotype and fail to imagine the many roles that library professionals can play in the workplace.

While the term “librarian” may not appear in a job description, librarian skills may be exactly what they are seeking. When job hunting, library professionals should not be limited to the “librarian” term or other traditional library descriptions. Library school graduates easily possess the requisite skills for various non-traditional roles.

Job descriptions worth considering may instead feature such titles as knowledge manager, research specialist, data analyst, document specialist, information consultant, system administrator, digital archivist, taxonomist, project manager and information architect. Position descriptions may highlight such skills as analytical thinking, strategic planning, consulting, client orientation, collaboration, data analytics, quality assurance and information technology.

When library professionals are looking for employment, they may need to reevaluate their approach to job research, networking, and interviewing. They should highlight their abilities to provide in-depth research, personalized service, quality instruction and information access. And, they must demonstrate how these skills lend themselves to “liaison” roles that support the management and exchange of information between working groups.

There are many roles for librarians in today’s marketplace. Finding the right position for you involves aligning your specific skills and interests with the many non-traditional opportunities that are evolving for librarians and information professionals.

Samantha Cabo is Reference Assistant at the Barco Law Library and an MLIS student at Pitt’s iSchool.

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**Library Superhero**

**Stosh Jonjak**’s librarian Twitter handle @iLibraryGuy was mentioned in the *AALL Spectrum*, December 2014 “Member to Member” responses to the question: Who is your library superhero? [http://www.aallnet.org/mm/Publications/spectrum/Archives/Vol-19/No-3/m2m.pdf](http://www.aallnet.org/mm/Publications/spectrum/Archives/Vol-19/No-3/m2m.pdf).

The submitter said his handle, among others, evoked images of a comic book superhero. We’ll see if Stosh shows up at the next WPLLA meeting wearing a cape! Stosh and John DiGilio co-author the blog iBRaryGuy [http://www.libraryguy.com/](http://www.libraryguy.com/).

**Recently Published**


Chris is the Director of Library Programs and Services at the Northern Marianas College in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI). He is also president of the CNMI Association of Archives, Libraries and Museums (CAALM) and Director of the CNMI Archives.
WPLLA Executive Board Minutes

October 22, 2014

Present: Cindy Cicco, Amy Gillin, Stosh Jonjak, Donna Kielar, Sue Megarry (phone), Sallie Smith, Ann Unger.

Minutes: The September 24 minutes were approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Amy Gillin reported a checking account balance of $5,215.19. After a check clears for the Annual Business meeting lunch expense, the balance will be $5,006.81. Dues are still outstanding for two members; Amy will send a final reminder before removing them from the membership list.

Website Redesign: Cindy Cicco will draft a charge for the redesign and ask the Executive Board for approval prior to sending it to Liz Whittington, who is heading the project.

Programming: Ann Unger is meeting with her committee next week, and is working to finalize Robert Duncan’s November Roundtable. She will contact vendors to solicit support for the holiday party. Various venues were discussed. A tentative date of Dec. 3 was set for the gathering, with hors d’oeuvres, at one of the law firms. Donna Kielar volunteered to schedule a room at Clark Hill.

Facebook Page: The Board discussed what information is appropriate for posting to the Facebook page. Stosh Jonjak will draft a purpose statement for Executive Board review prior to distributing to the membership. He also wants to clarify that any member can post to the page with the approval of an administrator.

Promotion of WPLLA and law librarianship: Cindy Cicco reviewed Pitt’s ischool website and curriculum for possible contacts regarding law librarianship. She will also contact two AALL groups that may provide guidance on promoting law library careers (Recruitment of Law Librarianship Committee, and Council of Library Educators). Cindy will also solicit information from the Council of Chapter Presidents, to see what other chapters are doing in this area.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10 a.m.

November 19, 2014

Present: Cindy Cicco, Amy Gillin, Stosh Jonjak, Donna Kielar, Sue Megarry (phone), Sallie Smith (phone), Ann Unger.

Minutes: The October 22 minutes were approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Amy Gillin reported a checking account balance of $5,041.81.

Mentoring: Cindy Cicco reported on the mentoring initiative. Four new members need mentors. Lori Hagen, Joel Fishman and Linda Tashbook have volunteered as mentors. Another for-profit mentor is still needed.

Programming: Ann Unger reported the holiday celebration would be Wednesday, December 3 at Clark Hill. She is finalizing vendor support with West and catering with City Gourmet. There was discussion on how much to charge members and quests. Also discussed was a donation jar for Reading is Fundamental contributions, bringing cookies to share, and recognition of member milestones. For 2015 programs, Ann is investigating a AALL Webinar and programs on historical research, reference/research tips, technical services, and vendor presentations. She will share a programming survey from GPLLA that could be used to solicit additional ideas.

Website Redesign: Cindy Cicco presented her charge to the Website Committee for the redesign. She will send it to Liz Whittington, who is heading the project.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10 a.m.

Upcoming WPLLA Program

Local Business Research – Past, Present and Future will be the topic of an April 29 WPLLA lunch meeting, 12 to 1:15 p.m., at Dickie McCamey & Chilcote PC, Two PPG Place, Suite 400, in downtown Pittsburgh. Featured speakers will be Scott Pyle, Business Librarian at the Carnegie Public Library Downtown Branch, and David R. Grinnell, Reference and Access Archivist, University of Pittsburgh. Details will be forthcoming from Ann Unger, Programming Committee.
WPLLA Executive Board Minutes

January 21, 2015


Minutes: The November minutes were approved.

Newsletter: Sallie Smith announced a mid-March deadline for the spring (April 2015) issue.

Treasurer’s Report: Amy Gillin reported a checking account balance of $5,102.85. The CD matures in March and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Programming: Ann Unger is planning a January webinar on Pacer Pro, a February/March program on current and historical research on local companies, and an April “Technology: Year in Review” program on law library software by Stosh Jonjak. Ann is finalizing a $500 Lexis sponsorship for the spring banquet. Ann plans to survey the membership on future program topics and formats, such as: low-cost legal research, marketing, presentation skills, project management, government websites, user statistics, eDiscovery, budgeting.

Advocacy Request: Sue Megarry requested Executive Board support of a letter to AALL and CRIV expressing dissatisfaction with publisher elimination of indices/finding aids. The Board voted unanimously to contact AALL on this issue. Cindy Cicco will investigate how to proceed.

Website Redesign: Cindy Cicco said Liz Whittington is planning a February committee meeting.

AALL Excellence in Marketing Awards: Cindy Cicco plans to nominate the WPLLA Newsletter for recognition of public relations efforts in the newsletter category.

WPLLA Chapter Visit: Cindy Cicco will schedule AALL Board member Amy Eaton’s visit for May, and will suggest talking points on the future of legal education/law librarianship.

Service Award: The Board discussed initiating an award to recognize member achievements, such as a lifetime achievement award and/or excellence in law librarianship.

Upcoming items: Cindy Cicco will email members announcing that chapter nominations are due March 15 to Stosh Jonjak; Grants/scholarship will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10 a.m.

February 18, 2015


Minutes: The January 21 minutes were approved.

Newsletter: Sallie Smith announced a March 16 deadline for the April issue, and will ask members to submit news/announcements.

Treasurer’s Report: Amy Gillin reported a balance of $5,102.85. A $500 Lexis sponsorship for the spring banquet will bring the balance to $5,602.85. The Board voted to renew the maturing CD for 13-months.

Programming: Ann Unger is planning a program on current and historical business research. Stosh Jonjak will present an April program on new technology tools. Ann wants to survey members for future program ideas. AALL Executive Board member Amy Eaton will speak at the May banquet. Cindy Cicco suggested her visit could include lunch with Board members, library tour(s), and a gift basket. Ann Unger asked about speaker honorariums. Cindy Cicco will investigate chapter policies.

Website Redesign: Liz Whittington will coordinate with AALL about the redesign. She will use WordPress and will need to decide what template to use.

Publisher Indexing Advocacy: Sue Megarry is compiling a list of editorial contacts for titles that have eliminated useful indices/finding aids.

AALL Excellence in Marketing Awards: Cindy Cicco submitted a nomination.

Nominations: Nominations are due March 15 for WPLLA Vice-President, Treasurer, and one Executive Board Member. Stosh Jonjak heads this committee.

Grants/Scholarship: The Board discussed the possibility of funding Vice-President participation in AALL leadership training and other programs. Cindy Cicco will see what programs/funding are provided by AALL for Chapter officers, then the Board can determine what additional support might be offered.

Legal Research Program: The Board decided not to conduct the summer program this year after discussing the need to restructure the program. Cindy Cicco will ask Karen Shepard if a survey was done last year. The Board will discuss revamping the program and will recruit volunteers to help with the process.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10 a.m.
WPLLA Executive Board Minutes

March 24, 2015


Minutes – The February 18 minutes were approved.

Newsletter – Sallie Smith said the spring issue is almost ready, pending last minute items from Board members.

Treasurer’s Report – Amy Gillin reported a checking account balance of $5602.85. The CD, which matured in March at $3766.14, was renewed for 12 months at 0.2%.

Website Redesign – Elizabeth Whittington presented a proposal to use WordPress for the WPLLA website. Disadvantages of the current website are that it requires HTML knowledge and it is time-consuming to make additions or changes. WordPress.com offers easy to use templates, a search engine, and site hosting and backup. With WordPress, WPLLA could also have its own domain name. Liz surveyed AALL chapters: 9 use WordPress, 6 use other systems, and 15 are hosted on aallnet.org. Liz emailed 4 of the chapters using WordPress; all are pleased with the results. GPLLA offered technical support and recommended a book for working WordPress. Stosh Jonjak made a motion to move the WPLLA website to WordPress and to purchase the book; the vote was unanimous.

Nominations – Stosh Jonjak announced the 2015-16 WPLLA Board slate: Vice-President/President-Elect Patricia Roncevich; Treasurer Elizabeth Whittington; Member-at-large Sarah Steers. The ballot will be distributed to members with a May 1 voting deadline.

Programming – Ann Unger is planning an April 29 program on current and historical business research featuring speakers from the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh downtown business branch and the University of Pittsburgh Archives. Stosh Jonjak will present program on new technology tools, date pending. The spring banquet will be held May 12 at Caffè Amante. AALL Executive Board member Amy Eaton will speak on the future of law libraries. Cindy Cicco will investigate other activities to schedule for her visit. Cindy suggested that Ann work with the incoming Vice-President on a membership survey for 2015-2016 program ideas.

Grants/Scholarship – The Board considered three issues: 1) How often should a travel grant be offered and in what amount, 2) Should the travel grant be offered in combination with the AALL grant every 3 years, or kept as it has been in the past; 3) Should support be offered to the incoming VP to attend annual AALL leadership training. Board members offered various opinions and suggestions, and generally supported funding for VP training. However, the overarching question was why there is so little interest in applying for grants. Cindy will assemble some questions to try to determine the reason(s) for the lack of interest.

Honorariums – Cindy Cicco surveyed other chapters about offering honorariums to speakers. Board members discussed when to offer honorariums, to whom, and in what amount. Sallie Smith moved to give $10 gift cards to WPLLA members who are program speakers. The vote was unanimous. Cindy Cicco moved to give honorariums to non-WPLLA speakers, the amount to be determined on a case-by-case basis. The vote was unanimous.

Legal Research Program – The Board discussed what to do about the Legal Research Program. The Board previously decided to restructure the program, but questions remain as to audience, format, and scheduling. The Board agreed to create a special committee to study the issue.

Publisher Indexing Advocacy – Prior to the meeting, Sue Megarry distributed drafts of three letters to publishers citing the absence of indexes/finding aids. She will revise the drafts, incorporating Board member suggestions, and redistribute the letters for final approval.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Please contact WPLLA Board Members if there are matters to bring to their attention.

Unless otherwise noted, 2014-2015 WPLLA Executive Board Meetings were held at Pepper Hamilton.

Minutes submitted by Sallie Smith, WPLLA Secretary.
Donna Kielar and Clark Hill PLC hosted the WPLLA Annual Holiday Celebration on December 3, 2014 at their Oxford Center offices. Chapter members gathered in the early evening to enjoy hot appetizers and camaraderie. Attendees were invited to donate books and contributions to *Reading is FUNdamental (RIF) Pittsburgh*, a non-profit program that provides children with the resources, motivation and opportunities to develop a life-long love of reading. Kathryn Heffernan, RIF’s Assistant Director of Communications and Development, presented an overview of RIF activities that encourage literacy development through access to books, self-selection, motivational environments, and family involvement.

Several WPLLA members were recognized for achieving career milestones. **Marc Silverman**, Interim Director, Barco Law Library, University of Pittsburgh and **Gwen Vargas**, Director of Library Services, K&L Gates each celebrated 35 years at their employers/institutions. **Amy Lovell**, Manager of Database Systems, Center for Legal Information, Duquesne University, marked 15 years of service. **Hong Yu**, Library Specialist, Barco Law Library, University of Pittsburgh and **Yan Yu**, Librarian, K&L Gates, each celebrated 10 years at their employers/institutions.

WPLLA members extend a very special thanks to Thomson Reuters for its generous support of this function, and the staff who helped to coordinate the funding: Devon Whiteford, Account Manager, who was able to join in the festivities, Debra Pfeiffer, Account Representative, and Kim Hurley, Library Relations Manager.
One Man's Quest to Unmake Monsters:
The Legacy of Thomas Dent Mütter
By Sallie Smith

Planning to attend this year’s AALL Annual Meeting? Be sure to include the Mütter Museum http://muttermuseum.org on your list of Philadelphia places to explore.

The Museum’s namesake is Dr. Thomas Dent Mütter (1811-1859), an innovative physician whose compassion-based philosophies and surgical techniques clashed with the conventional ideas of the time. Through an agreement with the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Mütter donated his extensive personal collection of unusual medical specimens and pathological marvels for the creation of the museum following his death at the young age of 47. The collection of medical oddities had served as teaching tools for Mütter’s popular lectures as a professor of medicine. The goal of the Museum is to help visitors understand the mysteries and beauty of the human body and appreciate the history of diagnosis and treatment of disease.

To learn more about the man behind the museum, read Dr. Mütter’s Marvels: a true tale of intrigue and innovation at the dawn of modern medicine, by Cristin O’Keefe Aptowicz (Gotham Books, 2014). This book is the fascinating and well-researched account of a remarkable man who was instrumental in revolutionizing American medicine. The volume chronicles Mütter’s rise from a sickly, orphaned boy of limited financial means to a charismatic, respected professor and surgeon renowned for his innovative \textit{les operations plastiques}. In these pages, we learn of Mütter’s successful efforts to “unmake monsters” of matchstick factory girls with “phossy jaw,” patients with cleft palate deformities, and women with faces scarred from cooking fires (the corrective surgery still known today as the Mütter flap). We also learn of Mütter’s early advocacy for transparent and compassionate patient care, aseptic measures in surgery, and inhalation anesthesia.

Enriched with photographs, drawings and excerpts from Mütter’s lectures and writings, this book offers a fascinating glimpse into the life of an extraordinary man and the evolution of American medicine.

For more on visiting Philadelphia: http://www.visitphilly.com/things-to-do/
Sallie Smith is Cataloging/Systems Librarian at the University of Pittsburgh Barco Law Library.
Visit the WPLLA website:
http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/wplla/

For directions on subscribing and posting to the WPLLA listserv:

Remember to check WPLLA’s Facebook page
www.facebook.com/wplla for information on events and communications from our members.

**WPLLA Committee Membership 2014-15**

**President**
Cindy Cicco

**Vice President**
Ann Unger

**Secretary**
Sallie Smith

**Treasurer**
Amy Gillin

**Members-at-Large**
Donna Kielar
Sue Megarry

**Immediate Past President**
Stosh Jonjak

**Bylaws**
Joel Fishman, Chair

**Newsletter Committee**
Sallie Smith, Chair
Pat Roncevich, Layout
Dawnlyn Diehl
Kate Frey
Stosh Jonjak
Catherine Song
Kristy White

**Programming Committee**
Ann Unger, Chair
Catherine Song
Sarah Steers

**Public Relations**
Jayme Gardner
Lori Hagen

**Recruitment/Mentoring**
Stosh Jonjak
Linda Tashbook
Liz Whittington

**Archives**
Pat Roncevich, Chair
Patricia Horvath
Catherine Song
Sarah Steers
Kristy White

**Grants/Scholarship**
Karen Shephard, Chair

**Nominating Committee**
Stosh Jonjak, Chair

**Upcoming AALL Webinars:**

**Security Issues in Law Libraries**
*Date: April 23, 2015; 11 a.m., Central time*
*Cost: Free for AALL Members; Non-AALL Members - $60*
http://www.aallnet.org/mm/Education/webinars

**User-Friendly Library Websites Writing Content for the Web**
*Date: April 30, 2015; 11 a.m., Central time*
*Cost: Free for AALL Members; Non-AALL Members - $60*
http://www.aallnet.org/mm/Education/webinars

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**Calling all Writers!**

Do you have ideas for an upcoming newsletter?
Please contact
Sallie Smith, sas67@pitt.edu, with suggestions for the Fall 2015 issue.