Interview with Vija Doks

FEATURES:
• LLAGNY members reminisce about Gitelle Seer
• Hot Topics in Library Employment
• Golf Law to the Fore
• Spotlight on Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher
• LLAGNY Members at AALL
President’s Message

This is my last President’s letter. A big thank you to Jacob Sayward and Jennifer Wertkin, our Law Lines editors who did a phenomenal job with our newsletter. They also had the unenviable task of bugging me unmercifully for the President’s Letter when I missed every single deadline. Sorry Jacob and Jennifer!

I don’t think I realized just how much work went into being LLAGNY President. So to those who have gone before me, I salute you. And to Bill Mills who will succeed me on July 1 at 12:01 AM, good luck and let’s go for drinks (you will need to fortify yourself)!

But seriously, it’s been rewarding, challenging, and never a dull moment. I want to thank all of you who have served on Committees and all of my Committee Chairs. LLAGNY would not exist without your work. A few special “thank you’s”:

To Tom Eikenbrod who has chaired our Special Events Committee for quite awhile, Tom you are absolutely, positively amazing and I can’t thank you enough. To Lisa Spar, our Student Relations chair, thank you for taking this on: Job well done. To Rochelle Cheifetz, our Corporate Sponsorship Chair, you are persistent and amazing. Thank you. To our members, please consider volunteering to serve on a Committee.

To all of our vendors who provided us with support so that we could hold programs and events, thank you.

Finally, thank you to all of the Board Members; it was a pleasure working with you this year. A special thank you to Patricia Barbone (Past president) for all of her excellent advice and to Bill Mills (Incoming President for keeping us on track.

-Caren

105TH AALL ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE
Date: Saturday, July 21, 2012 to Tuesday, July 24, 2012
Time: 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM - Eastern Time
Event Days: Monday, Tuesday, Saturday, Sunday
Location: Boston, MA - John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center

The AALL Annual Meeting and Conference is an essential learning and networking opportunity for legal information professionals.

The conference features approximately 100 educational programs and workshops, nearly as many vendor exhibits, abundant social opportunities, an onsite Career Center, and more.

The four days of valuable educational programming cover topics that include managing library costs, improving efficiency, and getting noticed as the professional you are. Go home inspired and energized with innovative techniques and strategies to benefit your library and users. Find the latest updates here, and register today.

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-Caren
Editor’s Letter

Greetings

It is Spring and that means that the Annual AALL Meeting is right around the corner. Because so many LLAGNY members participate in the Meeting – organizing presentations, sitting on panels, creating posters, hosting roundtables, etc. – we have provided you with their information so you can come out and support them! For those of you who cannot make the conference, we hope to have write-ups and pictures in our next issue of Law Lines.

In this issue, we do have a review of a LLAGNY program, “Hot Topics in Library Employment,” by Janice Henderson. We hope, in the future, to have more reviews of these excellent LLAGNY education and outreach programs for those of you who are unable to attend.

Jill Gray and Sally Munson have put together a beautiful tribute to Lifetime LLAGNY Member Gitelle Seer. Read the lovely words that other LLAGNY members have shared about Gitelle.

Spring is the time of year when we hear a lot about golf (both professionally and from those of you who just like to play). Debbie Melnick has written an interesting and informative golf law bibliography (who knew?).

Thanks to Mary Matuszak for describing the NYC’s online version of the Greenbook. We always love Gayle Lynn-Nelson’s “60-sites” feature, and, as always we thank Emily Moog for compiling Major Milestones and drafting a fun crossword puzzle.

Finally, we want to thank Bacilio Mendez, Il for his incredible work as the Art Director of Law Lines over the past two years. He truly raised the standards of our little newsletter. Welcome to Ellyssa Kroski, our new Art Director.

Best,

Jacob and Jennifer

Major Milestones

by Emily Moog

Professional

Karen Kasny is now a Reference Librarian at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP.

Ellyssa Kroski (http://www.ellyssakroski.com) has joined the New York Law Institute as their new Manager of Information Systems. The latest 10 titles in her 20-book cutting-edge technology series, The Tech Set were published by the American Library Association in May 2012 as The Tech Set 11-20. Kroski won the ALA’s 2011 Greenwood Publishing Group award for the Best Book in Library Literature for The Tech Set 1-10. She will be speaking about mobile technologies in June at the LIBER Annual Conference in Estonia and moderating at the PLL Summit in Boston in July.

Nathan Aaron Rosen will be presenting at the upcoming SLA conference at the program titled “Evolving Role of Competitive Intelligence in Legal Marketplace” sponsored jointly by the Competitive Intelligence Division and the Legal Division. Nathan has recently taught Advanced Legal Research at St. John’s University Master of Library Science degree program and “How to Conduct Bankruptcy Research” at LLAGNY’s Bridge the Gap program. His book reviews have been featured in the AJL Review and Legal Information Alert.

Personal

Monica and Sadys Espitia are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Anna Cecilia. Anna was born on March 1st, and weighed 8lbs and 5 ounces. Sadys is a Research Librarian at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP.

Emily Moog, Suzanne Martin and Carol Moller formed the winning “Triple M Team” in the 2012 “Know It All Bowl” Staten Island History Trivia Contest. Sponsored by the Staten Island Museum, the winners received a Collectors Trophy on display at the Museum. Emily Moog is a Law Librarian at Carter Ledyard & Milburn LLP.

Nathan Aaron Rosen has been elected to the Lincoln Square Synagogue Board of Governors for a three year term.

Karen Kasny is now a Reference Librarian at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP.

Ellyssa Kroski (http://www.ellyssakroski.com) has joined the New York Law Institute as their new Manager of Information Systems. The latest 10 titles in her 20-book cutting-edge technology series, The Tech Set were published by the American Library Association in May 2012 as The Tech Set 11-20. Kroski won the ALA’s 2011 Greenwood Publishing Group award for the Best Book in Library Literature for The Tech Set 1-10. She will be speaking about mobile technologies in June at the LIBER Annual Conference in Estonia and moderating at the PLL Summit in Boston in July.

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Michael Roth has been promoted to Library Manager for Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman’s New York and London libraries.

Taryn Rucinski is now the full time Reference/Environmental Law Librarian at Pace University School of Law. Taryn has also recently had an article published titled An Environmental Legal Practitioner’s Guide to the EPA’s Website, 42 Envtl. L. Rep. 10416 (2012).

After almost four years as the Head of Reference at the Fordham law School Library, Karin Johnsrud is leaving to become the Assistant Librarian for Research Services at the United States Supreme Court Library. She is very excited about the opportunity and is looking forward to the challenge. For a life-long New Yorker, however, the idea of leaving is strange, although it will be fun to be able to explore Washington DC and learn a new city.

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This month we will focus on one blog, one resource, two research and reference sites, and one technology site.

**Blog**

Royal Pingdom: [http://royal.pingdom.com](http://royal.pingdom.com)

This is a blog by the team at Pingdom about the Internet, web development and tech, and of course their own services. Pingdom offers services to monitor the uptime and performance of websites and servers on the Internet. This is something you might want to share with your IT departments. If nothing else it lets them know you are on their wavelength, and thinking of them and how to make their job easier.

**Resource**

Bed Bug Detection: [http://bedbugger.com](http://bedbugger.com)

I do not know about the rest of you, but this really creeps me out. Working in NYC and knowing what a problem bed bugs are has made me totally neurotic. Researchers at Rutgers University in New Jersey (my alma mater for my library degree) have created a homemade bedbug trap using a plastic cat-food dish, an insulated jug and some dry ice pellets. This device was mentioned on this site and here is what one reader had to say: “Dude, I am so going to try this once a month or so.” Anything and everything you want to know about bed bugs is on this site. There is a lot of talk about the infestation in NYC.

**Research and Reference**

E-Discovery Decisions: [http://bowtie.law.wordpress.com](http://bowtie.law.wordpress.com)

This is actually a blog, but I wanted to include it under this category. It is a great blog to keep up to date on e-discovery decisions. It is entertaining and engaging but most of all very informative, thus the reason I wanted it included here.

Joshua Gilliland, Esq., the blog creator, is a California attorney and has conducted over 100 Continuing Legal Education seminars on e-Discovery from Miami to Anchorage. Josh is the Professional Development Manager for D4 LLC. Josh creates educational marketing, CLEs and consulting for D4. Josh was at CT Summation where he did Professional and Business Development, planned webinars with Magistrate Judge John Facciola and e-Discovery experts, conducted mock depositions and organized mock trials with experienced e-Discovery attorneys.

Openregs: [http://openregs.com](http://openregs.com)

OpenRegs.com provides all the same information one can find in the federal register and to some extent regulations, gov, but in a much more user-friendly format. The most important feature is that it tells, to the day, when comment periods for regulations will close. The site also incorporates Web 2.0 technologies in the form of blogs and discussion forums, but so far it appears few people have taken advantage of these features.

**Technology**


Tekzilla feeds your tech hunger! Revision3 is the leading television network for the internet generation. They say they create and produce all-original episodic community driven programs watched by a super-committed and passionate fan base. Their hyper-connected audience gets the vast majority of its entertainment, information and social connections through the internet.

The company was founded in 2005 by technology visionaries, because they couldn’t find anything they wanted to watch on traditional television, and is now led by Internet TV pioneer Jim Louderback. They develop, nurture and discover the shows that sit at the center of these new dynamic and rabid communities.

**OpenRegs.com**

hosts are experts, not actors, with tremendous influence over their audiences. They have professionally produced HD shows which run from under a minute to over an hour, and are watched anywhere, anytime, on any device and through any service – from handheld iPhones to notebooks and PCs, all the way up to home theaters and HDTVs. Their shows are viewed through their own website, along with more than 40 distribution partners including TiVo, iTunes and YouTube.
Gitelle Seer recently retired as the Director of Library & Research Services of Dewey & LeBoeuf after 40 plus years with the firm and its predecessor Dewey Ballantine. She started her career with the firm in the late 1960’s as the tax librarian. After a short break for the birth of her first child, she returned to run the library for the remainder of her career. She is a consummate professional and a true leader in the field of law librarianship. Some of her colleagues agreed to share their recollections below.

**DONNA GRIFFIN**
I met Gitelle Seer in 1982 when I applied for a clerical position in the library at Dewey, Ballantine, Bushby Palmer & Wood. We impressed me right away. I remember thinking that I wanted to be just like her. Gitelle was a walking font of knowledge and still is today. I thought she was a wise older person, even though she was not much older than me. She encouraged me to pursue my education and I went back to school and received an MLS. Gitelle mentored me and groomed me. She brought me from the young girl I was in 1982 to the professional woman I am today.

**JANET ACCARDO**
Gitelle was an early bird. I would frequently pass her going to work at 7:30 am when I was arriving or leaving my fitness center. I know she worked out at the end of the day. She accomplished more in a day than three people combined. I never saw her when she wasn’t upbeat and displaying a sense of humor, even when facing challenges at work. She was a trailblazer and knowledge manager who familiarized herself with new information resources and technology. I had immense respect for her and valued her as a friend and colleague.

**TELLY WRENN**
Many “old timers” might remember the Father Guido Sarducci episode at AALL (1985 I think!), it was priceless! He did his “comedic shtick”, which was passing for funny at the time, and he pinpointed her as the target of his stand-up act that evening. Gitelle has always been “grace under pressure” as you know; even if it was a joke in front of 3000 AALL members and she took it in her customary gentle stride. Others might recall more specifics, but for those of us LLAGNY members in the audience watching, it was a high and low of the dinner – all at the same time.

**BARBARA GABOR**
(Gitelle) was of course an incredible law librarian and I know her staff was completely loyal to her as she respected them. I would have liked to have worked for her.

I first met Gitelle when I was working in Proskauer in LA. What continued to impress me over the years (and it’s quite a few) was her ability to remember her last conversation with you no matter when or where it took place. We could have spoken about law librarianship, staff, family, she remembered. It made you feel that you mattered, even someone who was just an acquaintance.

**JILL GRAY**
I started working for Gitelle in September 2000 as the Assistant Corporate Librarian. In June of 2001 we attended the SLA conference in San Antonio, Texas, together. At the Legal Division luncheon, Gitelle and I were sitting together listening to the annual reports for the roundtables. I made a casual observation that the Legal Division did not have a corporate roundtable. The next day Gitelle mentioned that she had spoken with Legal Division Chair about starting a Corporate Roundtable and that she had volunteered to be its moderator. Moderating a roundtable was not a commitment that I had been expecting to make so early in my career. But Gitelle encouraged me to take on the responsibility. She gave me her full support as well as access to the firm’s resources to ensure the roundtable’s success. She always encouraged her staff to get involved in the professional associations because she understood the advantages of doing so could have on one’s career. It was an area where she led by example right up until her retirement.

**SALLY MUNSON**
I recently had an interview in which I was asked to describe the ideal supervisor. Without thinking, I listed qualities such as supportive, decisive, communicative, knowledgeable, sense of humor. Afterwards, I realized that I had described Gitelle to a tee. These qualities were never more in evidence than during challenging times such as the Dewey Ballantine – LeBoeuf Lamb merger, or while planning the multiple library moves that followed it. It was my recollection of her steady, calm character that I drew on during the last few months of my tenure as head of reference at Dewey & LeBoeuf. No matter what the situation, or how uncertain the future, Gitelle always kept her composure, managing to keep everyone calm. Gitelle Reference Desk and I could hear all that went on out there. All of a sudden I heard Gitelle say to someone on the phone “I’ll have to call you back”. Then this certain cantankerous tax partner who had a well-deserved reputation for being a nasty unhappy fellow slammed a book down on Gitelle’s desk and said, loudly enough of course for everyone on the entire floor to hear “This binding job was done wrong…” this volume doesn’t match the other volumes on my shelf…” I want this done right….how could anyone be so stupid as not to notice the difference…who do you have working here anyway?” And then he stormed away. I’m sure there were more words of vituperation but you get the idea.

Anyway, this was my first professional library job, Gitelle had hired me as Cataloger when I was a student at Columbia School.
of Library Services, and hired me full-time upon graduation. And binding was one of my responsibilities! My heart skipped a beat. I could see in my mind’s eye Edna Baquill and Rosemarie Lautella thinking “uh, oh” — they probably said ‘uh oh’ when they saw him storm into the Library. Because he rarely came to the Main Library, limiting his nastiness to the Tax Library on another floor.

A few minutes later, Gitelle walked into the back room and deposited the book on my desk and quietly said “Dan, Mr. **** the 3d, would like this volume rebound to match the others on his shelf.” And that was it! I was so impressed with the equanimity of her reaction. And relieved of course! Even before that particular incident I had been impressed with Gitelle’s knowledge and professionalism. But in that one moment I was convinced that her style was one I wanted to emulate. I’ve not always been successful in that regard, as many of my former and maybe current employees will attest. But then I’ve always had a hard act to follow! I worked for Gitelle for about 7 years and we’ve continued our friendship and professional association ever since – it’s been 35 years. She’s always been there with words of advice, insight and support. Both in professional and personal matters.

It’s quite an achievement to run the library at a NYC Wall Street firm, bringing library services to a one office firm that grew into a behemoth (obviously in retrospect, they should have listened more to long time employees like Gitelle) and raise a family at the same time. Many library directors do it, but few also manage to be so professionally active too! Gitelle loved what she did and has always shared her knowledge and experience with her colleagues. She deserves all the honors and accolades being rendered. I’m sure everyone who has known and worked with her join me in saying “Hat’s off to Gitelle and best wishes, you’ve made our work so much more meaningful and rewarding.”

Gitelle Seer Continued
Bess Reynolds

The PLL/SIS Technical Services Group meeting
Monday, July 23 at 5:45 pm to 6:30 pm
Sheraton-Fairfax B
Co-Chair Janet Peros and myself will host an informal discussion of RDA in private law libraries.

PLL-SIS Program: Technical Services by the Seat of Your Pants
Presenters:
Bess Reynolds
Christine Korytnyk Dulaney
Kurt Carroll
Monday July 23, 2012 8:30am - 9:45am @ HCC-Room 201
Target Audience: Librarians who are handling technical services for the first time or who would like to learn more about this function of the library

David Badertscher

AALL Program
David Badertscher, retired, State of NY Unified Court System Library
Program E-1 State Advocacy Strategies:
Time: Monday 10:45
Although much of my focus will be New York public access libraries I will also be covering many areas with more general application and interest.

Janice Henderson

AALL presentation Part of the PLL Summit
Title: 20/20 Vision for Library Services
Date: July 21, 2012
Time: 9:15 - 10:30 am

Sarah Jaramillo

Sarah Jaramillo, Fordham Law School Library
AALL Poster - The 10 Most Common Errors in Pro Se Complaints
As public law library resources become scarcer, the need to promote efficient reference services is all the more vital. Pro se litigants are a large and needy patron base of public law libraries. Furthermore, pro se litigants lack of familiarity with legal issues and the legal system hinders their communication with reference librarians. One way to make interactions between reference librarians and pro se patrons more productive and time-effective is for librarians to tailor reference interviews to help pro se patrons avoid making common mistakes that lead to dismissals or other unfavorable rulings. Unfortunately, no empirical analysis of the reasons pro se litigants have been dismissed or otherwise received unfavorable rulings exists. This poster seeks to bridge that information gap, in part, by presenting through various visualizations, the 10 most common errors in pro se complaints. The analysis is based on data from a random sampling of federal complaints collected from either Pacer or Bloomberg Law.

Ellyssa Kroski

Ellyssa Kroski, New York Law Institute
PLL Summit Track 3: Leveraging Technology for Better Services, Collaboration, and Organization - Moderator
Saturday, July 21

AALL Poster - Implementing an E-book Collection in a Circulating Law Library
PLL Summit

SUMMIT III THE PATH TO 2020: A VISION FOR CHANGE

Saturday, July 21, 2012
Boston, MA
Marriott Copley Place

The PLL Summit is a venture by the private law library community to explore ways to embrace change, demonstrate value and learn about leading edge trends. Originally begun as a two-year project, the Summit is now in its third year and continues to be a leading force in empowering private law firm librarians to be change agents within their organizations. Summits are held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries.

The Summit seeks to enable private law firm librarians to understand the trends, structure and pressures of the law firm environment so that they can be prepared to take leadership roles as the practice of law goes through a time of radical change. Sessions are designed to develop best practices and practice models for new law firm requirements through research and consensus. We offer learning opportunities on how to use tools that will keep the library/research center at the forefront of law firm service. Above all, we seek to inform the debate for how law firm libraries should operate and meet new challenges in this new environment.

The 2012 program is a one-day session, beginning Saturday morning, July 21, at 8:00 a.m.

Jordan Furlong, Partner at Edge International, will be our PLL Summit keynote speaker. Mr. Furlong is a lawyer and consultant to law firms on strategic and tactical issues. An award-winning blogger, he has been writing since January 2008 at Law21: Dispatches From A Legal Profession on the Brink, where he chronicles the extraordinary changes underway in the legal profession. He will talk to us about:

- The legal market upheaval
- How law firms can respond
- Opportunities for law librarians and knowledge professionals to respond and thrive

Following the keynote speaker, we will have a panel presentation entitled, “20/20 Vision for Library Services.” The panelists will look to the future and answer a series of questions: What will library services be like in 2020? How will your administration view library services and what could administration think library services will be in 2020? What can librarians do now to plan for these services? How can librarians get the support of administration for implementing new services in this new economy? What technology will libraries have to plan for?

These and more questions will be answered during this extremely informative session. The panelists are:

- Stephen Abram, MLS, FSLA, Vice President, Strategic Partnerships and Markets, Gale
- Sandra Campbell, Library Director, North American Region, Baker & McKenzie LLP
- Steven D. Wingert, Executive Director, Marshall, Gerstein & Borun LLP, ALA President-Elect (2011-2012)

Our second panel will feature three library partners: Greg Castanias, Partner, Jones Day, Eric Charlton, Partner, Hiscock & Barclay, and Brian M. Gaff, Partner, Edwards Wildman Palmer LLP.

These law firm decision makers will discuss the value proposition librarians bring to the table and how they see our roles evolving. If you attended last year’s Summit, you may remember Mr. Castanias’ rousing luncheon speech on librarians, vendors and service versus place.

Your Summit registration includes lunch. Our luncheon speaker is Congressman Billy Long. Congressman Long will give us a humorous take on how a bill becomes a law. Following the luncheon will be a series of concurrent programs organized in four tracks. Each track will offer programming during three time slots.

- Track 1: Embracing the Changing Business of Law — Insights and Ideas for a Stronger Tomorrow
- Track 2: Proactively Managing Your Career: How To Build Your Professional Toolkit
- Track 3: Leveraging Technology for Better Services, Collaboration, and Organization
- Track 4: Tracking through Technology: Is This “Walk About,” a want to see, or need to see?

Just to whet your appetite, I will share with you a few of the programs:

**Track 2: Releasing Your Inner Writer**

Speaker: Jesse Katz, O’Melveny & Myers

Of all the tools in a professional’s toolkit, writing may be the most crucial—and elusive. Everyone is called on to write, whether it be an e-mail, memo, proposal, report, article, or blog post, yet few of us are writers. Pulitzer-winning journalist and O’Melveny & Myers editor Jesse Katz offers advice for cutting through the jargon and clutter that blight everyday discourse—for discovering our authentic voice and writing clearly, no matter the format or audience.

**Track #3: Leveraging Technology for Better Services, Collaboration, and Organization**

Stacy Hinkel, DLA Piper Coordinator; Ellyssa Kroski, New York Law Institute, Moderator

As more and more libraries move to electronic formats to deliver articles, documents, and other digital assets to their patrons, Electronic Resources Management becomes more a part of the everyday business of libraries. This panel will discuss the concepts behind ERM as more than an ILS tool but a philosophy or workflow process. Speakers:

- Stacy Hinkel, DLA Piper

**Training Technologies**

In a time of ubiquitous computing, lawyers work everywhere. How can libraries deliver training and educational opportunities to attorneys regardless of location? This session will discuss options for creating on-demand training opportunities using new and emerging technologies such as e-books, Web conferencing applications, podcasting software, and more. Speakers:

- Sarah Stephens, Chief Knowledge Officer at Sutherland
- Cindy Chick, Manager of Information Resources - Knowledge Systems at Latham & Watkins LLP

Electronic Resources Management (ERM) in Law Firms

As more and more libraries move to electronic formats to deliver articles, documents, and other digital assets to their patrons, Electronic Resources Management becomes more a part of the everyday business of libraries. This panel will discuss the concepts behind ERM as more than an ILS tool but a philosophy or workflow process. Speakers:

**Track 3: Leveraging Technology for Better Services, Collaboration, and Organization**

Stacy Hinkel, DLA Piper Coordinator; Ellyssa Kroski, New York Law Institute, Moderator

For a detailed list of the concurrent programs, please check out the full Agenda on the PLL Summit blog. The PLL Summit is $145 and the fee includes a reception Friday night, continental breakfast, lunch and a day full of exciting programming. Not a private law librarian? We would still love to see you and you may find that understanding the issues we face in our world will better help you work with your clients, whether they are students, professors, judges or the public. Register now.
Spotlight on Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher

by Nathan Rosen

All of our libraries are experiencing change extremely rapidly and each of us are naturally curious about how our fellow LLAGNY members are adapting to these changes in titles, space, reporting, services, budget, and nearly every facet of our professional life. This column will provide a glimpse into the libraries of other LLAGNY members.

Twenty years ago, Law Lines published 16 Spotlight on You columns over a period of five years. Now, with all the rapid changes that we all are experiencing it is the perfect time to understand how other libraries are coping with those changes. Generally each Spotlight will focus on one library and their reporting, relationship with KM & Marketing, Intranet, billing, space, ILL resources, online databases, services, and other unique features.

Recommendations as to libraries to be profiled are welcome. Please email your suggestions to nathan.rosen@rcn.com.

Spotlight on Gibson, Dunn & Cutcher

Gibson Dunn (www.gibsondunn.com) has just recently completed a total redesign of its library having renovated the 48th floor at 200 Park Avenue.

Rankings:

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<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Firmwide revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st (1,096)</td>
<td>Firmwide size</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Profit per partner</td>
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<td>29th (288)</td>
<td>NY City office size</td>
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<td>Number of offices</td>
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<td>Number of offices with libraries</td>
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The library reports to the Executive Director (who also manages the Marketing Department). The New York office’s library staff is made up of Steven Raber (Research Manager), Spencer Scott and Carla Edwards (Research Analysts), with assistance of Records Update (outside filing service who comes once every two weeks). This summer Gibson employed 44 Summer Associates (nearly the same number as previously).

The library’s redesign reduced the library square footage by about 50% (from 3,500 to 1,270 square feet) and linear footage by about 60% (from 4,571 to 1,872 linear feet), introduced compact shelving, eliminated all of the reporters, transfer binders, most newspapers, magazines, and superseded materials, along with substantial weeding of the treatise collection. The librarians bill out at $210 per hour as “Research Analysts.” No reference tracking system is used and the library’s Intranet is run by Research and Information Management Department.

The library is in the process of rolling out both WestlawNext and Lexis Advance with usage about equally split. Other databases used by the librarians include: Intelligize; PLC; BNA; HeinOnline; Law360; and a Bloomberg terminal (but not Bloomberg Law). The library routes materials in both paper and electronically and uses EOS as their electronic catalog and Inmagic for routing. Checkout of books is through traditional bookcards located in each volume. The library uses the West LMA to reduce expenditures and simplify renewals (but not Lexis/Matthew Bender’s LMA).

The library has implemented an Intranet which includes library description, catalog, and links to Westlaw Find & Print, Lexis DocPull, Matthew Bender elibrary, Westlaw elibrary, LLP library and RIA for Tax, along with several others. The New York library is shelved completely in compact shelving, with one open stack for Ready Reference. A comfortable leather coach and seating with conference table are located in the library. All the library staff are located in the library with Steven’s office having a large window looking out toward the library. The firm pays for professional memberships in LLAGNY, SLA, and AALL as well as conferences on a rotating basis. No evening or weekend reference service is provided. The library uses several different vendors for document retrievals, primarily: Research Solutions; Westlaw CourtExpress; and Tempus IP. The library supports the legal staff and the firm’s marketing efforts as the Marketing Department does not have it’s own researchers.

Requests primarily come in to a central email box, but they still get a good amount of requests individually, and to a lesser extent phone and walkup. Research has increased for all types of work, especially more in-depth research, international law & business requests and IP work.

They are becoming more of a global research center. Requests are now regularly coming in from their European, Asian, and South American offices. The largest numbers of requests come from the litigation department, with the most time consuming requests coming from the Securities litigation and the intellectual property litigation groups. From a reference point of view, the greatest change has been the substantial increase in the types and variety of requests for complex corporate information.

Thank you Gibson Dunn & Crutcher and Steven Raber for allowing us a glimpse into their new renovated library and services.
What Are Employers Looking For?

Since 2008 the economy has made it difficult to find law librarian positions for the employed and unemployed. This seminar, the first in a series of employment-based seminars, gave the attendees information and tips on what employers are looking for. The speakers: Diane Conte, Owner of Career Resources, Inc.; Diane M. Goldstein, Managing Director of Recruitment Services for BST America, LLC and Jerneeka Sams, Recruiter for InfoCurrent, all with several years of experience, gave the attendees a lot of information to help them on their job search. Those tips ranged from:

• Making sure not to have more than 15 years worth of job experience listed on your resume;
• Ensuring you know the qualifications on the job post so that you can emphasize that during an interview;
• Customizing your resume for each position you are applying for;
• Preparing your talking points on paper and practicing them before an interview;
• Familiarizing yourself with the most popular ECM (enterprise content management) products employers want you to know. These are Microsoft Sharepoint, Adobe, EMC Documentation, FileNet, and Oracle for content management. Learn these products if you can. One way to learn them is to contact the vendor sales department to ask for an overview of the database. Ask them what are the challenges for the product and why would you use this product instead of another. Also ask them about training. You may have to pay but it's part of the things you need to do in order to keep yourself informed and obtain the correct skill set;
• Not paying anyone to write your resume because that service or individual does not understand what we do. Writing a resume takes 40 hours. You should update your resume every six months;
• Getting a second degree will take you out of the job market;
• Not negotiating salary specifics in a cover letter. When a potential employer asks you to state your salary requirements in advance, tell them you'd rather wait until you can find out all of what the job entails. Once you give a salary quote, or a quote for a salary range, you may be stuck with what you quoted;
• Keeping your cover letter to three paragraphs: job description, why you are a good match for the job, and best way to reach you;
• Reaching out to the employer's HR department after sending a resume by calling before 9 a.m. or after the normal work hours.

by Janice Henderson

Law Lines VoL . 35 no. 3

LLAGNY Seminar Report: Hot Topics in Library Employment
Vija, I remember you telling me a story about a new associate coming into your office and asking, “How come you get to have a portrait of Baker in your office?” and you responding “Well, because I painted it”. It is obvious from this story that your two lives are intertwined. So, I want to start this interview by asking you: how did law librarianship influence your art?

Well, fine. I suppose it has made me more organized and I tend to do series. Tell me about your current series.

I am working on a series of 48 portraits of famous women as a response to Gerhard Richter’s 48 portraits from 1971 that just featured men. Actually, I am looking for a famous law librarian. This is one of my more structured series. I started out alphabetically by using women mentioned in the American Heritage Dictionary, 4th ed. c2000.

What other series have you done?

I did a black and white series on animals, a Latvian cartoon cookbook, a series of small works based on those cartoons, a Latvian calendar, scary attorneys…

Wait a minute, really? Tell me more about your scary attorney series. It was more of an exercise than a series. Yearly, I try to paint 100 paintings in 24 hours. So it’s like automatic writing but it’s automatic painting. When Coudert went out of business and the New York office was taken over by Baker & McKenzie, this was the series of paintings that flowed naturally from my brush. It was not even a conscious decision. It was definitely a coping mechanism to relieve the stress and it came as a real surprise to me. That year was quite a successful exercise; some years I do not make it through 100 paintings.

Painting Baker was also part of that transition. Coudert Brothers took the portraits of the Coudert founders from the New York library. An IT trainer said “Vija, you’re an artist, you should do a Baker portrait to replace the empty walls.” I said, “OK, I will” and I did.

Finally, I wanted to reverse the original question and ask you how do you think being an artist has helped you as a law librarian?

It certainly has helped me with my frustrations. I can take it out in my art rather than as a law librarian. I also know a lot more about art resources. Since we are all living longer, two careers are doable. I like to refer to myself as a law librarian by day and an artist by night.
Battery. Other than the rules of the game, there is no “golf law” per se.

Case anthologies comprise the primary book resources for specific discussion on the law applied to the game of golf and the locations in which it is played. ALR annotations, legal periodicals and law reviews contribute depth to select areas. NY Jur2d indexes under the entry “Golf and Golf Courses referring to topical sections within negligence, buildings, civil rights, deeds, highways, parks, counties and unemployable. Key numbers in Westlaw subdivide for example from the broad topic such as 272 Negligence to 272X for injury incurred in operation of golf cart. (ANNUAL, 1998). Otago Law Review, 9, n2, 373-398.


Dawson, Deirdre M. Counseling the lender on cross-easement agreements in shopping center and golf course developments (with forms). (March, 1998). The Practical Real Estate Lawyer, 14, n2, S91(17).


DeVoto, Louis J. Injury on the golf course: Regardless of your handicap, escaping liability is par for the course. (Summer, 1993). The University of Toledo Law Review, 4, n4, 859-882.


Holliday, David M., J.D. Liability to one struck by golf ball. 53 ALR 4th (1987).


Lang, Robert D. Lawsuits on the links: Golfers must exercise ordinary care to avoid slices, shanks and hooks. (July/August 2000). New York State Bar Journal, 72, 10.


Lilienthal, Christopher. Player has no duty to warn in golf course injury: Injured golfer was familiar with the course and assumed the risk of injury. (May 26, 2003). Pennsylvania Law Weekly, 26, 21, 5 col. 1.


Peterson, Boyd J., J.D. Liability to one struck by golf club. 63 ALR 4th 221 (1988).


For the first time since its inception in 1918, the Green Book is now available on NYC.gov/greenbook as a searchable, digital application. New Yorkers may search for personnel and government office information at City, County, and State levels.

The Green Book contains information about city and state agencies supplied by those entities. A typical entry will have the contact information (physical address, phone number and sometimes a URL), the name and titles of agency executives. The salaries of top officials only are included.

Unlike the older print editions, the online version does not include information on federal agencies in New York City. Licensing information can be found on NYC.gov’s homepage.

Why is this book one of my favorite reference sources? It has helped me answer many questions throughout the years. In connection with a homicide investigation, an ADA called asking for the temperature, salinity and current information for the East River. I panicked but told the attorney, I’d get back to him. I picked up the Green Book and started flipping through it until I found the appropriate agency. I got on the phone, called the agency and viola, was able to call the attorney and ask him, “Do you want that hourly, daily, weekly or monthly?” He was flabbergasted.

Thanks to the New York Law Institute for posting it on their website and to Julieann Eum of the New York Attorney General’s office who emailed me with the announcement!
Board Meeting Minutes

FEBRUARY 13, 2012
Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP

In attendance: Caren Biberman, Bill Mills, Janice Henderson, Patricia Barbone, Jacob Sayward, Ellen Kaufman, Karen Provost

The meeting convened at approximately 6pm.

1. Approval of Minutes from last meeting – motion to approve the minutes from January 11th with corrections. Approve (Barbone). Second (Mills).

2. Treasurers Report – postponed until next meeting. It was noted that the taxes have been filed already.

3. Recap of Winter Event at Planet Hollywood: Total cost = $15,000 Payment from volunteers to give out member gifts – the Trump Soho will hold a CLE program. Approve (Barbone). Second (Mills). Motion to approve from last Board meeting – motion to approve the flyer for this program. Approve (Mills). Second (Barbone).

4. Approval of Flyer for City Hall Law Library Program – Motion to approve the flyer with minor changes (Mills). Second (Kaufman).

5. Approval of Flyer for the Trump Soho – The Board approved a budget of up to $500 to be added to the additional $500 if they do not. Approve (Mills). Second (Sayward).

6. Discussion of options for the June Dinner – The Board discussed three options for the June Dinner and approved the Trump Soho. Since sponsorship for this event is already full, it was agreed that the membership cost will be the same as last year.

7. Report from Grants/ Awards Committee – The report from this Committee will be given at the next Board meeting.

8. By-Laws Special Committee Update – Janice Henderson gave an update on the Bylaws committee and the Board discussed separating LLAGNY’s website from AALL. A motion was brought to charge the Technology Committee with exploring and recommending multiple options for a non-AALL website. Motion (Sayward). Second (Kaufman).

9. Outreach Committee Update – the Committee will hold a CLE program for law students in June.

10. Approval of Flyer for March 27th program “Adding Value to Your Law Firm” – Expenses for this program will be higher than originally predicted. There was a motion to approve a budget of $7,500 for the program. Motion (Mills). Second (Henderson). The flyer was approved with changes. Motion (Barbone). Second (Sayward).

11. KM Workshop – Patricia Barbone will speak with Steve Lastres to get more information and details about this potential program.

12. Update on Outreach Committee CLE Program – Janice Henderson updated the Board on the Outreach program scheduled for June 22nd. The Board has approved four topics. Approve (Mills). Second (Rine).


14. The Ballots from the Winter Meeting have been counted and Gitelle Seer has officially been appointed with Life Membership to LLAGNY. The Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15pm.


16. Motion to approve the Trump Soho program. Approve (Barbone). Second (Kaufman).

17. KM Workshop – Patricia Barbone will speak with Steve Lastres to get more information and details about this potential program.

18. Grants & Scholarships Committee report – the Board approved 1 $750 Travel Grant and 3 Summit/ Workshop Grants of $250. The Board will issue an additional ap reapproved Travel Grant if they receive funding from more sponsors. Approve (Bliss). Second (Kaufman).

19. Update on June Dinner – The June Dinner will be held at the Trump Soho on Tuesday, June 5th. With additional sponsorship, the cost to members will be $30.

20. Volunteer and Member gifts – the Board approved a budget of up to $500 to purchase gifts for the volunteers to give out at the June Dinner. Approve (Barbone). Second (Bliss).

21. AALL Table/New LLAGNY Banner – the Board discussed replacing the LLAGNY banner used at special events and at the AALL table.

22. Update on Outreach Committee CLE Program – Janice Henderson updated the Board on the Outreach program scheduled for June 22nd. The Board has approved four topics. Approve (Mills). Second (Rine).


24. Grants and Scholarships – the Board made changes to the application forms for the AALL Conference and PLL Summit/Workshop. Motion to approve the changes to the application forms by simplifying them, removing the request for references, and not requiring a personal statement. Approve (Barbone). Second (Henderson).

25. The Board also approved 3 $1000 conference travel grants. Approve (Rine). Second (Kaufman). The Board approved 4 $250 grants for the PLL Summit or other workshop with the understanding that the sponsors will allow a workshop if necessary. LLAGNY will add the additional $500 to the sponsors if they do not. Approve (Mills). Second (Sayward).

For the Scholarships, at least 2 Type 2 scholarships are to be granted and language will be added to the forms to allow candidates to be considered for both types. The following scholarships were approved and the deadline was extended to May 15th:

2 Type 1 = $5,000
2 Type 2 = $2,000
Approve (Sayward). Second (Rine).

The Board also agreed that current Board members would be allowed to apply for the grants and scholarships.

4. June Dinner – The flyer for the June Dinner was offered with small changes. There was a motion to form a special committee to honor Gitelle Seer at the Dinner. The committee consists of C.Biberman, P.Barbone and E.Kaufman. Approve (Sayward).
Board Meeting Minutes

Second (Espitia).
5. Volunteer Gifts – C.Biberman showed the Board a sample of the gifts to be given out at the Dinner. There was a motion to approve a budget of up to $800. Approve (Barbone). Second (Rine).

APRIL 17, 2012 Conference Call
In attendance: Caren Biberman, Bill Mills, Janice Henderson, Patricia Barbone, Jacob Sayward, Sadys Espitia, Karen Provost, Nancy Rine, Ellen Kaufman, Heidi Bliss
The meeting convened at 5:30pm.
1. Application forms for Grants and Scholarships – Motion to approve the three revised application forms. Approve (Mills). Second (Sayward).
2. Election Results – The LLAGNY Election ended on April 13th. As was done in the past, the Board agreed not to publish the election tallies in Law Lines. Ralph Monaco, the Nominations Committee Chair, will contact the winners. An email to the membership will be sent once that is complete.

APRIL 20, 2012 Conference Call
In attendance: Caren Biberman, Bill Mills, Janice Henderson, Patricia Barbone, Jacob Sayward, Sadys Espitia, Karen Provost, Nancy Rine, Ellen Kaufman, Heidi Bliss
The meeting convened at 9:03am.
A meeting was called to discuss the results of the LLAGNY election. The winner of the 1-year Board Member position and one of the 2-year Board Members did not receive a majority of the votes. The Board considered how to handle this. A motion was made to charge the Nominations Committee to first contact the candidates seeking these two positions and ask if they would be interested in participating in the run-off. They will be given the tally of votes. Approve (Barbone). Second (Rine).

The meeting adjourned at 10:05am.
Respectfully submitted, Karen Provost, LLAGNY Secretary

The meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.
Respectfully submitted, Karen Provost, LLAGNY Secretary

6. LLAGNY table at the AALL Conference – A special committee was appointed to be responsible for the LLAGNY table at the AALL Conference in July. Responsibilities include obtaining a new banner. The committee consists of B.Mills, J. Sawyard and K.Provost. Approve (Rine). Second (Kaufman).

7. PayPay – N.Rine discussed setting up a PayPal account to accept payments for LLAGNY’s special events and CLE programs. Although there would be a small additional fee to accept credit cards using PayPal, it would allow more people to participate in our programs. A motion was made to have Nancy set up the account. Approve (Barbone). Second (Mills).

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.
Respectfully submitted, Karen Provost, LLAGNY Secretary

APRIL 24, 2012 Conference Call
In attendance: Caren Biberman, Bill Mills, Janice Henderson, Patricia Barbone, Jacob Sayward, Sadys Espitia, Karen Provost, Nancy Rine, Ellen Kaufman, Heidi Bliss
The meeting convened at 5:30pm.

ACROSS
5 Botticelli’s painting
7 Post Laureate quoted here
11 Crevetus month
14 Last leg of Racing’s Triple Crown
15 Familiar tree
16 Grade & Dad’s month
19 Be true of this March one
21 Ask Rover
22 Sun crosses the equator
23 “__ runs .”

DOWN
1 In like a lion, out like a lamb
6 6:14 is not day
2 Starting in 1970, day for de Grens
4 Related to an occurring in Spring
5 This sport begins in Spring
9 IRS April Deadline
10 Ask Resurrection Sunday
12 Flower that is a first sign of
13 Churchill Downs State
14 Young ones choose June
15 Ask Pesach
18 NYS Bowler
19 “__ a young man’s__.”
20 “__ thoughts of__.”

Note: For a fee, you can use Crossword Weaver to print a nice copy of this puzzle (one that doesn’t look like a web page). You can check it out for free by downloading the demo from www.CrosswordWeaver.com.
Reading, the Electronic Way....

by Emily Moog