

Editorial Staff

Jacob Sayward
Jennifer Wertkin

Co-Editors

Maureen Moran
Taryn Rucinski

Copy Editors

Ellyssa Kroski

Art Director

Bacilio Mendez II

Original layout design

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For membership information, contact Sally Munson at smunson@dl.com or Rosalinda Rupel at rosalinda.medinarupel@cliffordchance.com.

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President's Message

- Caren Bieberman

As I sit here writing this column, my year as LLAGNY president is drawing to a close. On July 1, 2012, at 12:01 a.m., I turn the gavel over to Bill Mills.

I want to take a moment to ask each and every LLAGNY member to seriously consider volunteering to serve on a committee next year. Since LLAGNY is strictly a volunteer organization, we need our members to submit program ideas, to speak to students about what it's like being a law librarian, to talk to vendors about sponsorship of LLAGNY programs and events, to consider grant and scholarship applications and choose who will receive them, to write articles for Law Lines, to help work special events, to suggest people to run for or to agree to run for LLAGNY offices, and a myriad of other tasks that don't get done without your help.

Our annual dinner will be on June 5th at the Trump Soho and I am pleased to announce that we will be honoring Gitelle Seer at this event and her election to life membership in LLAGNY. I have decided not to invite an AALL representative to speak at this year's dinner because we want to focus on honoring Gitelle and also reminiscence about LLAGNY members that we lost this year.

Today I sent out an email announcing that applications are open for three \$1000 LLAGNY grants for regular or student members to attend the AALL Conference. We are also giving out four \$250 grants for attendance at the PLL Summit or an AALL Workshop. I urge anyone who wants to attend the conference, the summit or a workshop to apply. There are very few requirements and we are truly fortunate to be able to offer these grants. Please apply! I want to thank Bloomberg Law, Bloomberg BNA and LexisNexis for providing

us with the funds to make these grants possible.

We have a few upcoming programs I would like to mention. On May 1st at 6 pm at the offices of Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP, LLAGNY will be presenting a program on *Hot Topics in Library Employment: What ARE Employers Looking For?* Our speakers will be Donna Conti (Career Resources, Inc.), Diane M. Goldstein (BST America, LLC) and Jerneeka Sams (InfoCurrent).

And on May 9th at 9 am at Thomson Reuters, 3 Times Square, we will be presenting a program entitled *Walking the Tightrope Between Licensed Data Restrictions and User Access*. We have Linda Jean Schneider of Morgan Lewis and Loretta Orndorff of Cozen O'Connor coming from Philadelphia to present this program.

I hope to see many of you at one of these programs or at the June dinner.

Caren

Editors' Letter, Winter 2012

- Jennifer Wertkin & Jacob Sayward, Co--Editors

Greetings,

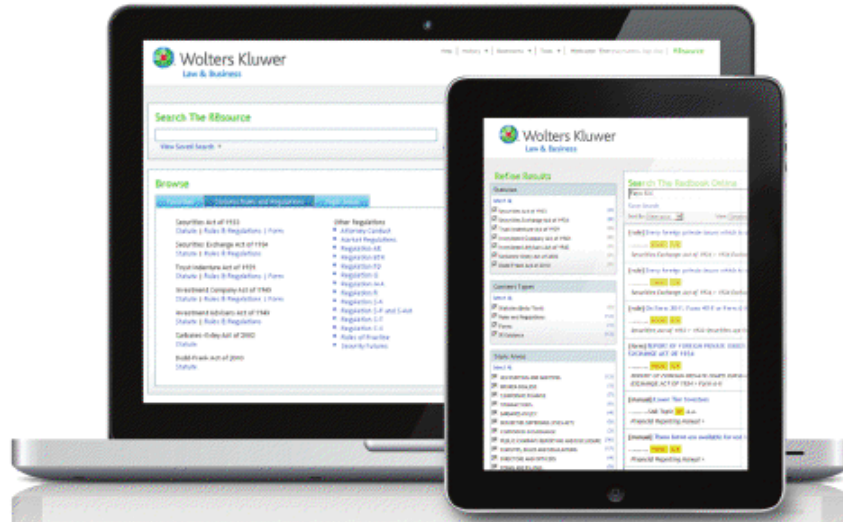
Our winter issue of Law Lines contains a wide array of interesting articles that span the various sectors of the LLAGNY community. We are delighted to have several articles written by new(er) LLAGNY members! Alison Sherwin has written a piece on her journey as a student returning to graduate school after a long break. Jenelle Blevins contributes an interesting piece on law librarianship in her native Australia. Deborah Heller lets us know why Shepard's in print still matters (and it does!). Regular Law Lines contributor Rachael Moller describes her firm's recent move and what that has meant for the library's role in the forward-thinking technology of the firm. Jacqueline Cantwell and Deborah Melnick of LLAGNY's Government Relations Committee provide us with information on how the New York Bar Association has included libraries in their report on budget cuts in the court system. We also have some regular features. Karen Gruska provides us with a restaurant review and Gayle Lynn-Nelson continues her rundown of "sixty sites." Trezlen Drake interviews LLAGNY Chair-elect, Bill Mills. There are also several photographs from the Winter Meeting by our fabulous photographer, Barbara Schubeck, a crossword puzzle on technology by Emily Moog, and Major Milestones of LLAGNY members.

Much of this issue, however, is dedicated to long-time LLAGNY member Anthony Burgalassi

who passed away this year. Mary Matuszak has compiled a lovely tribute to Tony from LLAGNY members who knew him well. Additionally, we include a bibliography of Tony's work. Tony became a lifetime member of LLAGNY last year and the LLAGNY community mourns his loss. On behalf of the Law Lines Committee, we send our heartfelt condolences to his family.

Thank you to all of our contributors.

Best,
Jennifer & Jacob



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Major Milestones

PROFESSIONAL

Jean Davis is currently serving as Interim Library Director of Brooklyn Law School Library. She and the staff look forward to working with incoming Law Library Director and Associate Professor of Law Janet Sinder in summer 2012.

Sandra Deane, Reference Librarian at Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, states that she is reaching a Major Milestone in her career as a librarian: "I am moving to Florida in March 2012, and wanted to thank all the very kind and generous librarians who helped me during my 15 years as a professional in the field. Some I worked with and others I met through LLAGNY/SLA. As I end my professional career as a librarian, I just wanted to say a special thanks to the few prominent ones who helped me to make it in this field: Mary Matuszak, Paulette Toth, Eric Kaufman, Alison Alifano, Catherine Burke, Ann Lewis, Liz Ohman, Paula Prudenti, Robin Traylor, Ralph Caiazzo, Francesco Gagliardi, & Patricia Renze. Thank you all and God bless you!"

Elaine M. Egan has recently joined Shearman & Sterling LLP as their Information Center Manager. Elaine is a long standing member of LLAGNY having served both on the Board and the Sponsorship Committee. She is also a member of the Thomson Reuters Practice Innovations Board, SLA, ARMA and the Financial Women's Committee. Lisa Fricker has been promoted to Senior Research Librarian at Dickstein Shapiro LLP.

Sara Gras, Reference Librarian and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Law, Brooklyn Law School, ob-

tained her M.L.S. from the Queens College Graduate School of Library and Information Studies and is a welcome new addition to Brooklyn Law School Library's reference staff. This semester, Ms. Gras is co-teaching both Advanced Legal Research and Intensive Online Legal Research for Foreign-Trained Lawyers.

Elizabeth Keizner (nee Elizabeth Yates) is now an Information Advisor in the NY office of Linklaters LLP.

Emily Moog, Law Librarian at Carter Ledyard & Milburn LLP, received a 2011 Perfect Attendance award from the firm.

The ZRG Blog (<http://zimmermansguide.wordpress.com/>), which posts changes to the Zimmerman's Research Guide, thanked **Emily Moog** of Carter Ledyard & Milburn, for contributing a source for NY State Department of Labor Opinions: <http://www.labor.ny.gov/legal/counsel-opinion-letters.shtml> <<http://www.labor.ny.gov/legal/counsel-opinion-%20%20%20%20%20letters.shtml>>

Sheryll Rappaport is the new Director of Library Services at McCarter & English, LLP in Newark, New Jersey. After many years working as a Law Librarian in Florida, Native New Yorker Sheryll is thrilled to be back in her home area where she is enjoying a respite from the heat. She looks forward to meeting everyone and being an active part of LLAGNY.

H.C. Sing, Acquisitions and Serials Librarian, Brooklyn Law School, retired in January 2012. Mr. Singh joined Brooklyn Law School in 1989; he assisted

former Directors Sara Robbins and Victoria Szymczak in building Brooklyn Law School's extensive collection.

Anna Smallen, Reference Librarian at New York County Lawyers Association, retired on February 2, 2012. She will greatly miss everyone in the library community she worked with during the past thirty five years.

PERSONAL

Congratulations to **Kathleen Darvil**, Reference/ Access Services Librarian and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Law, Brooklyn Law School, and her hus-

band **Ben Darvil** who welcomed a second son to their family on December 13, 2011. Sean Robert Darvil weighed in at 5 lb. 15 oz. Mother, Father, older brother D.J. and baby Sean are all doing well.

Elizabeth Yates of Linklaters and Anthony Keizner were married in October 2011 in St. Michaels Maryland.

Member Photos, Winter Meeting



Benjamin Toby, Suki Scott



Kathleen Pritz, Sarah Warner

Member Photos, Winter Meeting




Maureen Cleary, Gregory Sargeant, Rebecca Newton, Cecilia Curran



Andrew White, Bill Mills, Mary Matuzak



Neil Callaghan, Melissa Vigilante



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In Their Own Words: LLAGNY Members Pay Tribute to Anthony Buralassi, 1945-2012

- Compiled by Mary Matuszak



Anthony's passion and true dedication to his work always inspired us. We realize how cherished he was as a co-worker, friend, and mentor through the numerous stories and memories that you have all shared with us. We appreciate all of the thoughts and prayers from those of LLAGNY.

Nanette, Elizabeth, Christopher, and Jessica Buralassi

Anthony Buralassi was a colleague and personal friend of mine for almost 30 years. He was the quintessential gentlemen. The most good natured, witty, entertaining and colorful individual that I ever had the privilege to know. His special flair for preparing regional Italian dishes made from scratch, and having a story to tell about their origin, was truly an experience.

My earliest recollection of Anthony was when he was the go-to reference librarian at the NYC Bar Association Library. Back then he was

widely known as Tony B simply because library patrons had trouble pronouncing his name, much less be able to spell it correctly. In later years, when he worked in private law firms, he finally felt comfortable using his full name.

My having the same first name, whenever we spoke on the telephone our conversations always began with the same hilarious ritual greeting: "Hello Anthony, this is Anthony. ...Hello, Anthony."

I will always cherish Anthony's friendship.

Anthony D. Cocuzzi, Director of Library & Research Services, Milberg LLP

As colleagues, but more importantly, friends of Tony we were all hoping that he would recover and feel better and enjoy retirement. I received such a beautiful Christmas card from him, a serene view of a country church. In fact, the NYPL at Lincoln Center had a Christmas show of 4 Laurel and Hardy silents with live accompaniment on Dec. 10th, and I sent him the program plus a picture of L & H saying "Quiet please, this is the New York Public Library!" I know Tony was a real Stan and Ollie fan.

I never met a gentleman who loved Christmas more than Tony, and who spread as much cheer all year round! His research expertise plus his calm perspective made every business day a joy. And, as we all know, he was a legend at LLAGNY.

His presence could light up the room, and his off-the-cuff quips made us collapse in laughter. He was a devoted family man, friend of both humans and canines, a devout Catholic, multilingual, and a world traveler.

His generosity was amazing. He was always bringing goodies into the office, buying rounds of drinks at conventions, and when I left Rosenman he threw me a wild party. However, as generous as he was he only gave us 66 years. It wasn't enough.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family and with all of us, his friends. I know the pearly gates were open wide for his arrival, and he now has the angels in hysterics!

Megan T. D'Errico, Reference Librarian, Proskauer Rose

When I received Tony's resume for the position of reference librarian that was open in Rosenman & Colin, I jumped at the opportunity to get one of the premier reference librarians on

the staff. That was one of the better decisions I've made as Rosenman had the services of a librarian par excellence and I had the friendship of an usual man. We went through years of joy, tears, frustration and absolute happiness together.

Tony was a Renaissance Man. He maintained the Old World values, though he tended to interpret them as it suited him. He refused to understand the "youth of today", maintained that chivalry was lost, loved the traditions of the holidays and couldn't understand why using certain terminology at work wasn't appropriate. He loved the camaraderie of his friends and was always in for a good time.

Tony loved everything Italian, the country, the traditions, the food – OH, THE FOOD. He loved to cook, as many were the beneficiaries of that love and talent, and refused to alter his diet when it was necessary for his health – "If I can't eat it that way, why bother?!" He was so proud when his daughter traveled with him to Italy and even that was surpassed when she majored in Italian. He didn't stop crowing about that! But then, she was his daughter. His love and pride in Elizabeth and Chris had no bounds. Each day, week had another story, always ending in "The're my children, I love them". His love for them was reflected in the devotion they showed him when he was sick. Tony was also a very religious man. As he moved around, he always became active in the parish church, in their school and, of course, the choir. How proud he was when he was asked to sing a solo! I saw Tony a number of times after his retirement, when he could no longer travel (though he did make the exception for the LLAGNY Annual dinner) and not being able to participate in the choir was one of his devotions he missed the most.

I know the angels are covering their ears as Tony gives his assessment of the world today, but also beaming serenely as his baritone voice fills the heavens as he sings their hymns.

I think of Tony often and miss him. May you rest in peace, dear Tony. May your soul rest in the peace it so well deserves.

**Rochelle Cheifetz, Director of Libraries,
Dechert LLP**

Just a few weeks ago I was delighted to receive a Christmas card from Tony. Despite his ill health he would always take the time each year to ask how my kids were doing. When I checked my work email on Saturday I was deeply saddened to read Patricia and Anthony Cocuzzi's notes about Tony's passing. Tony was a mentor to me when I started working at the City Bar in 1972. Despite his young age he was already a seasoned veteran. He was the kindest and funniest person I had ever met. After leaving the City Bar five years later I would make a point of keeping in touch with Tony. I was thrilled when I was offered the opportunity to work at the City Bar again in 1981 (Thanks to the great Ray Jassin) and was honored to sit beside Tony at the reference desk for many years. You would be hard pressed to find a better law librarian to learn from than Tony B. Tony and I quickly became the dearest of friends and when he asked me to join him filing loose-leaf services "on the side" it began a journey I would never forget. We worked four nights a week, Saturdays and sometimes Sundays. On weekends Tony would drive in from his home on Long Island at 5 or 6 in the morning, after each of us had about an hour or two of sleep, and pick me up on the L.I.E. (he would slow down put his flashers on and I would quickly hop in the car. It must of looked awfully weird for anyone driving behind him) I still cringe at the memory of having to file 40 sets of the Standard Federal Tax Reporter at Baker and McKenzie in one day.

I have so many fond memories of Tony. I will treasure each and every one of them. At yesterday's wake I arrived a little early and was able

to spend time with his wife and children talking about our days working side by side and the crazy times we shared.

I will miss Tony dearly and will never forget all that he did for me -

**Richard Tuske, Director of the Library, New
York City Bar**

Even from the time I first entered the profession, Anthony Buralassi was a legend in the New York law librarian community. Early in my career, I can remember seeing him at events and being in awe of his ponytail. (This was the uptight 80s, after all. I didn't even wear pants to the firm until the late 90s.) Unfortunately, I didn't get to know him until the June Dinner Boat cruise in 2005. We found ourselves on the top of the boat looking at the Statute of Liberty and enjoying a New York moment. He was the unofficial LLAGNY photographer that night and I think he took a few shots of me. I remembering thinking that I finally made a connection with the famous Tony B. When he became ill in 2010, I sent him a get-well card. Well you know, he sent me a thank you card back! After that we developed a bit of an email exchange. As a former LLAGNY President, he reached out to me frequently with a friendly and encouraging email during my Presidency. Despite ill health, Anthony attended last year's June dinner to the delight of so many of his friends; and was very appreciative when LLAGNY voted him a Life Member in 2010. To me, Anthony was a true gentlemen, and I will always remember him that way. -

**Patricia Barbone, Director of Library Services,
Hughes Hubbard & Reed**

One thing I learned in the early 80's when I was new to the field, was that Tony was always so willing to help in any way that he could. I am

not surprised that so many people express the same sentiment. Most people probably don't know that he graciously served on the Board of Directors of the New York Legislative Service, Inc. from 1983 to 1996. His support and recommendation continued until the end. It was so great to see him one last time at the June dinner!

Laird Ehlert, Executive Director, New York Legislative Service, Inc.

When I came to work as a librarian at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York I had been a member of the New York State bar for a couple of years. But, I neither went to a New York law school, nor practiced in New York, so I needed a good deal of help with many areas of research that involved more than

McKinney's. Tony Buralassi was the magisterial occupant of the newly redesigned reference desk at the Bar Association, and a fantastic guide to all things New York. Also to all stories about library exploits in years gone by, to the most helpful (or most fun) law librarians in town, and to the best places for happy hour in midtown. During my 1985 to 1989 tenure there were other impressive librarians at the Bar Association - Director Frederic Baum, the illustrious Tony Grech - but Tony B. and Richard Tuske, now Library Director, were the most

helpful (and entertaining) of them all. They worked hard, helped countless lawyers and knew how to have a good time away from the marble halls of 44th street.

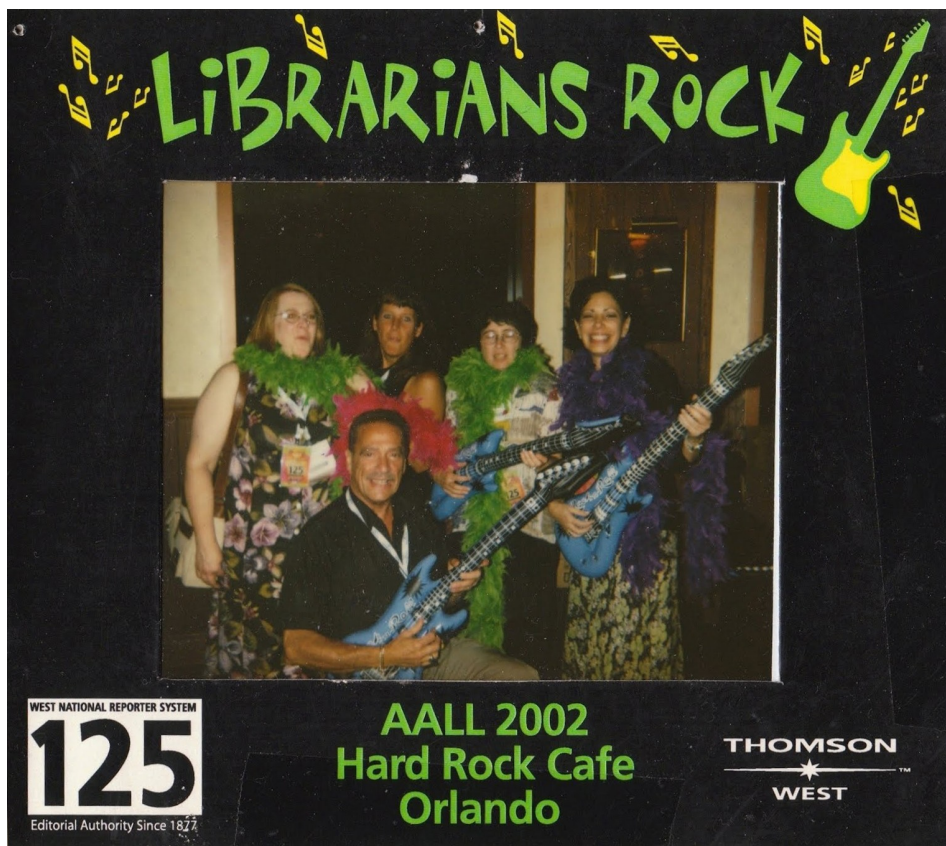
Linda Corbelli, Research Librarian, Supreme Court of the United States

I remember when I first started working at the New York Bar Association back in 1988. Tony was one of my mentors. I was a college kid just

starting out and he helped me begin this journey I am still on today as a Librarian. It didn't take long for me to realize that Tony was a jokester, but he knew his stuff when it came to his work. I remember thinking,

"This guys

is crazy.....I like him". Most of you know what I mean when I say that. I also had the pleasure over the years to see Tony in an environment not everyone has....at home.....with his family. I have vivid memories of the summer barbeques he would invite me to. Seeing him in a social setting, away from work, was beautiful to see. His love for his family was so evident. I remember when his children, Elizabeth and Christopher, and their friends were tiny they would jump off my shoulders in his pool for hours. At his wake when I approached



Nanette she immediately remember me and said, "We were just talking about you!!! The kids were asking where is that tall guy we used to use as a diving board when we were little?". Tony would just laugh and smile as the kids took turns jumping off my shoulders over and over..... and of course snapping pictures constantly. I will never forget seeing him in that light. The glow on his face. He was always the gracious host, but his love for the family was very clear. Same was true of Christmas. We all have our fond memories of Tony. I still often find myself thinking of him and cannot help but smile and sometimes I laugh out loud when I think of some of the jokes he pulled on people. I was deeply saddened by the news of his passing. Over time that sadness has given way to joy, knowing he is in a better place and no longer suffering. I will miss my friend Tony very much, but I am grateful for having known him and having the opportunity to know his family. He is gone, but will never be forgotten.

Kevin Couch, Supervisor of Copy Services, Association of the Bar of the City of New York

In Memory of Anthony Buralassi. The Man, the Myth, the Legend!: I owe all I have today to Tony. My profession, my knowledge and skill of law librarianship, but most importantly, Tony helped me find the love in what I do and by helping others. I met Tony in the summer of '85 when I started working at the ABCNY. Tony became my mentor and immediately took me under his protective wing. He was always there to answer any of my questions and to lend a guiding hand. He readily and freely shared with me all he knew about being a librarian, researching the law, keeping it simple, and ways to inject humor in what we do. But always, it was about being a true professional. Thank you Tony!

Eric M. Kaufman, Head of Research Services, Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP

Tony was the perfect librarian. When you needed his peerless experience and knowledge, he was there. When you needed someone with whom to commiserate, he was there. And when you needed a laugh – off-color or not – he was certainly there. I had the pleasure of sitting next to Tony at his last LLAGNY June Dinner downtown, and, while sharing laughs, I had the feeling that I might not see him again. Sadly, that proved to be true. It is now the responsibility of those of us who knew and loved Tony to make sure that the memories and great stories endure. The easy part will be that no account will have to be embellished; the truth will do just fine.

Timothy J. Hanley, Research Librarian, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

I first came across Tony Buralassi when he was at the Association of the Bar. I thought the building would collapse when I learned he had left.

Later, I had the pleasure and the privilege to work with him at Rosenman & Colin and its successor, Katten Muchin Rosenman. Fortunately, I was a grown woman who wasn't offended by his often ribald sense of humor. I did my best to go right back at him with comments unacceptable for this venue.

When he was thinking of getting a dog, I suggested the ASPCA where I had successfully adopted my cat. He was doubtful but I persuaded him. We saw a cute little dachshund in an office crate who became his beloved canine companion Luca.

It was sad to see Tony's health decline. I miss him.

Caren H. Rabinowitz

I first met Tony when, as a volunteer and new LLAGNY member, I arrived at the Bar Association for a LLAGNY committee meeting back in the mid 1970's. My first impression was that Tony's curly head of hair concealed a quick wit.

When I became the Cataloguer at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, replacing Ann Reddy after 32 years, it was Tony B (as he was known) who made me feel welcome. He was a great help in explaining the collection and all the fine points about the New York materials that the Association owns. He was a fantastic Reference Librarian and a living catalogue.

Throughout the years, he remained a good friend and supportive colleague. We used to meet for lunch when he took a Director's position at a law firm not far from the Bar Association. He loved his family, his dogs, and singing in the church choir.

I was privileged to sit with him at the past LLAGNY June dinner in 2011. As always, he smiled through the pain of a long illness and kept his sense of humor. He truly was "one of a kind" and will be remembered and missed by the many colleagues and friends he helped in his lifetime.

Phoebe Ruiz-Valera, Catalog Librarian, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP

I had the privilege of working with Tony Buralassi at the Association of the Bar. I was attending library school when I was assigned to the reference desk. This was the late 80s. The legal market was in overdrive, Lexis and Westlaw were in their infancy and print was king. Lawyers and Librarians alike actually came to the library.

Tony taught me three very important things, reference, customer service, and how to have fun while still remaining professional.

Reference – As someone who was new to the profession, I thought Tony knew everything! He generously shared his knowledge. He wrote a column for the Record of the Association of the Bar. Most often these columns were recommended resources. Not only did I keep these columns, I memorized them. Twenty years later and I still use them.

Customer Service - Tony knew everybody! He said hello to everyone who walked through the doors and if he didn't know them, he made every effort to get to know them. He knew what area of law they practiced and what their interests were.

Fun - Since I learned of Tony's death, Linda Corbelli, Helen Kostelas and I have been reminiscing about the good times we had with Tony. Do you remember the time we went to Tony's house?.....What about the time we went to a bar in Queens and Tony was dressed in an ape suit?

I'm grateful for the time I spent with Tony!

**Mary E Matuszak, Director of Library Services,
New York County District Attorney's Office**

Selected Writings of Anthony J. Burgalassi

- Compiled by Mary E Matuszak and Kevin Couch

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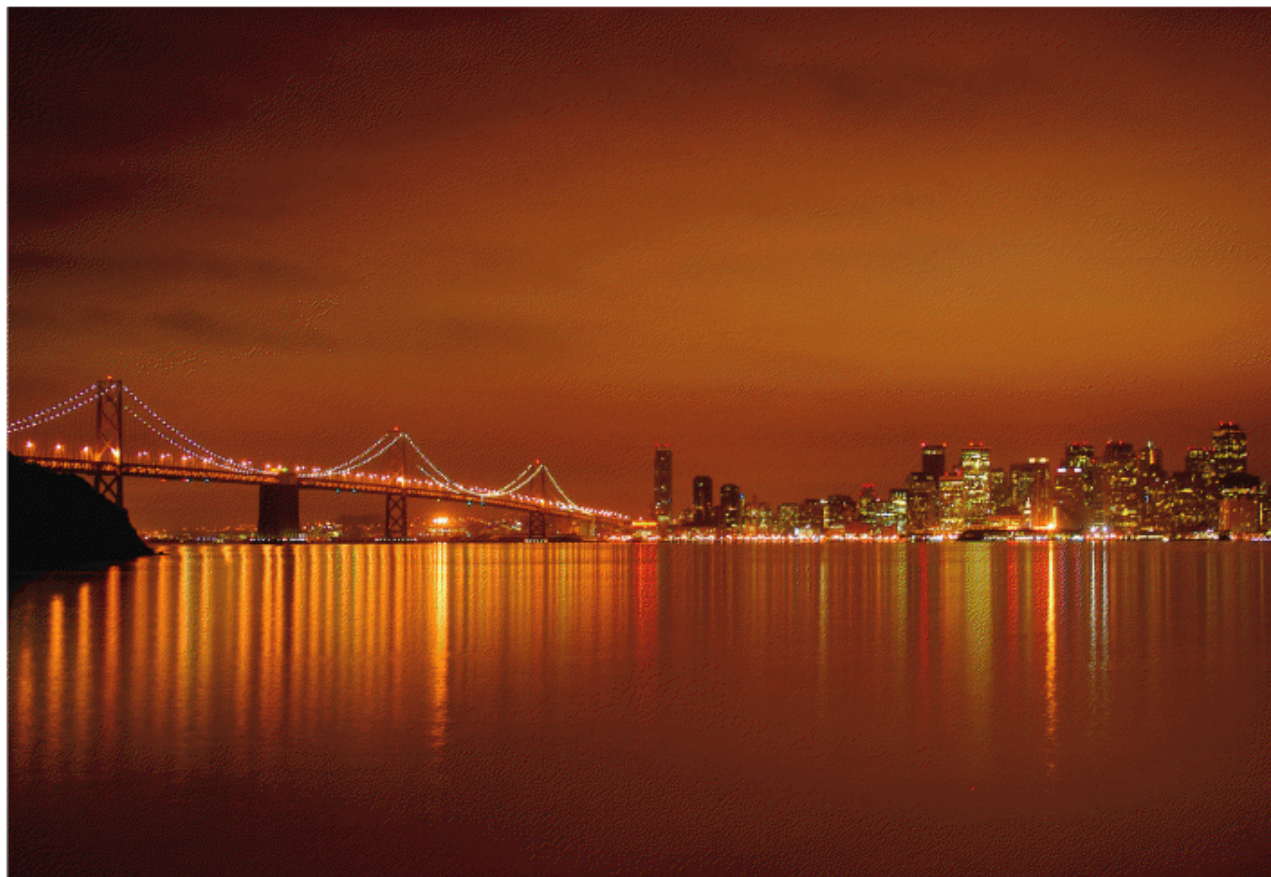
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Law Lines Interview with William R. Mills

President-Elect LLAGNY

- By Trezlen Drake

How did you get into law librarianship? I was working for law firm before I went to library school. That firm put me through library school. I was a math major at Stony Brook. When I graduated I didn't know what to do. My only experience was working in Stony Brook's library. I knew how to shelve books. That was the experience I had when went to Wilkie, Farr and Gallagher.

I was hired by a man who I'm not sure had a high school degree. My supervisor worked there 40 years and had no sick days until he retired. He died soon after that. I then worked for other professional librarians and eventually became the head librarian. But when I started I was nothing but a "glorified clerk" at-

tached to the library. No shame in it. Everyone who worked there who wasn't a lawyer was a clerk of some form or other. They were sufficiently impressed with me that they paid my tuition at Columbia Library School. I did it in three years part-time. I then worked there a little longer because I felt that I owed it to them.

Why did you go to law school after you got your library degree? I went to law school at Fordham because I was young and single and hadn't paid anything for my education. I had saved up money.

I decided I either wanted to progress in library field if I had a law degree or become a lawyer. Tuition was \$10,000 a year and I got a 3% government loan to attend law school. It seemed like a good deal. I worked during the day at Willkie Farr; I tried to go to Fordham part-time at night. After the first semester I decided I wasn't cut out for that; daytime work and nighttime law school was

just too much. I left Willkie Farr, got a part-time job and switched to full-time day program. And, since Fordham didn't have any kind of summer school I had to catch up with credits to be able to finish in three years. I took two courses at NYLS during the summer. I did it to enhance my career in one way or another. I realized that I was more comfortable being a librarian even though I practiced as a summer associate in a worker's comp firm.



Why did you decide to go into academic law libraries after working in law firms? At the time the job was becoming less interesting because either the law or practice was changing such that I was less of a law librarian and more of a SEC documents retrieval librarian. Getting documents faster and faster became tedious after a while. It was not as interesting as it had been and as academic librarian seemed to be.

In academic law libraries, one could be a law librarian, find legal things, arrange legal collections,

facilitate access to real legal materials, rather than retrieve endless streams of 10Ks. Also, it seemed that firm librarians would never be seen as anything but a hired hands, glorified clerks. In an academic institution, you inherently are a part in what the institution is doing: education, support of curricular activities. Really partnering with the whole process rather than just handling the administrative side of things. So, I aspired to this.

What keeps you motivated as a law librarian?

Everything changes so much. All the time. Mostly technology. It has turned the tables on the technical services/public services divide. I've got to admit, I used to look down my nose at technical services librarians.

Actually, I guess I never did. I appreciated what they did, but it seemed kind of dry to me. It didn't seem like the kind of thing to keep me interested. I think the tables have turned now on reference. No offense! The more interesting challenges are getting technology to work for you rather than making it so that you have to work for technology. That's a day-to-day challenge here and everywhere. And the technical services and systems side of it (which didn't even exist when I was coming up) is what produces the greatest challenge. It's getting technology to work; finding the right balance of technology. It's interpreting what a library and a library's program is for the people who provide the technical and systems side of technology. That's what keeps me challenged, constantly having to run around and worry about technology. What is this week's crisis?

Not everything is a crisis. Sometimes it's "Oh boy! Google is offering 'blah'!" So what? What use is it in this particular thing? There are classes of librarians who get excited about every single thing, but if it doesn't really pertain to here, it's a waste of your time, constantly having to figure out what people are so excited about. And every once in a

while I'll find "Yeah, that's exciting!" But most of the time it doesn't pertain to what this class of users at this particular institution need. It may be great for certain purposes but it doesn't fit here.

What's your day-to-day job? What's the essence of your responsibilities and your quintessential title?

Administrator. To be an admin you have to at least stick your finger in everybody's job without being consumed with doing people's jobs for them. I'm happy to do two hours of reference a week. It keeps my reference skills from becoming dull. I get to experience reference and see how various systems in reference are working or not working. I won't know that if I'm not doing reference. The same with technical services.

It's something that I sort of had to learn as I went in. And I constantly have to argue with technical services librarians who come from the perspective that you don't get what they are trying to do. I have to remind them that they are not just doing this for themselves but that they are doing this for everybody and I have some insight on what might be necessary for everybody. But at least they should hear my point of view and explain it to me. We can get to a happy medium on why they want to proceed in a certain way.

You were a Board Member in the late 1970s and again in the 80s. How have LLAGNY and the Board changed throughout these eras? How has its focus shifted?

When I was first on the Board, it seemed to be more sociable than educational to me. Most of the Board's efforts seemed to be in planning parties and facilitating networking. People's roles seemed to be better defined: Library directors, aspiring administrators and clerks. And there were salespeople, but they were never represented on Board; only intermingled in sales. There are now expanded roles of vendors and salespersons. We are all in the association together. Now there are lots more business relationships

going on rather than social packrats of librarians gathering. There is less the us/them division.

We are more concerned about how we look to legal profession. What librarians do? How do we let everyone know how important we are? It's become much more of a worry. We are worried

that if we don't do something the legal profession will find someone else to do what we are doing and not give a care about us. That was never a worry when I first got involved in the association. And it's played itself out in arguments about who should be members. Should vendors representatives be members? Full members? Associate members? Should they vote? Chair committees? All of these questions bubble around and never get fully solved. I don't remember that being such a care when I first got started. It was where are going to have the June Dinner, what hors d'oeuvres are we going to order, let's make sure the flyers get sent out. It was really a sociable little group.

I remember that my third boss, Paul Gloeckner, who was very sociable and very good at mentoring. He didn't take me to meetings, but he introduced me to people. One of his friends, Sophie Fabian, was on the LLAGNY Board and she liked me so she suggested that I run for the Board. And, that's how I got on the Board for the first time. I was Bill Mills. I was 28 years old in 1978; still

just a young pup. People liked me. Many thought I would come up in the association. I said, "What else have I got to do?" I was young. I had time to do stuff. When you are young you can do all sorts of crap.

Why did you run for Vice-President/President-elect last year? I like people in the association and I'd like to think I have something to contribute. And I guess I feel as though this is as good a time as any to take a shot at it. I'm sort of at a place in my career where I'm sitting on a comfortable plat-

eau and have time to devote to this. And people kept asking me. Not every year, but this is like the 6th or 7th time I've been asked to run. I'm not conceited. It's just that people kept asking me.

What particular skill set do you bring to LLAGNY as the President-elect? I've got a historical perspective on what the association is all about. I hope I'm reasonably smart, relatively easygoing and I get along with people. And, looking at the association, I like to think that I can come up with one or two opinions about how things might run better and how the association might improve itself. You've only got a year to do it really. So really all you can do is take one or two of your ideas, the ones that are most achievable and run with those ideas and keep everything else going, the way a president has to keep everything else going. I can get along with people and can persuade people that some of my ideas are reasonable ideas and that they should come along with them.

Name: William Ruby Mills.
(It's a family name)

Education:

- SUNY Stony Brook, B.S. 1971
- Columbia, M.S.L.S. 1978
- Fordham, J.D. 1982.

Current position: Professor of Legal Research & Associate Librarian for Information Services, Mendik Library, New York Law School. Joined the library Staff in 1989.

Previous Experience:

- **1983-1989** Head of Public Services CUNY Law School
- **1982-1983** Reference Librarian Seton Hall Law School
- **1971-1979** Legal clerk to Library: Manager Willkie Farr & Gallagher

What perspective do you bring as an academic librarian who has also worked in a law firm?

Good perspective I hope. I've done both of them. It's been so long since I was a law firm librarian that I don't necessarily think I can represent that I am very skilled, that what I know now of being a

firm librarian pertains too much to what the firm librarians' real concerns are now. But having worked both sides I think I've learned as much about firm librarianship from conversations with firm librarians as I might bring to it from having been a firm librarian myself.

Firms are groups of lawyers who have the usual back and forth and intrigue. And everyone wants their own thing. There are certain egos that you have to cater to. And, there are good people and bad people and sons of bitches, and things like that. But they all have a say. At least the partners do because they are partners. And all of the associates walk on eggshells trying to make it or just discover that they are not partner material and don't give a hoot after a while. So there's all that going on.

There's less of that in academia, but there's still a certain amount of that in academia. But these are the people who we serve. With any luck it has sunk into my brain about how to provide service that these various classes of people will value, in a way that really is effective for them.

What is your leadership style?

I don't know because I haven't been a leader yet. I'm waiting to be a leader. Sort of laidback. When you are president or trying to guide an association like LLAGNY, you have to keep in mind that no one who works for LLAGNY is being paid a dime to work for LLAGNY.

The first thing you can do to motivate people who are there in LLAGNY is to understand that they are

not being paid. Really everything they are doing for you as their leader, they are doing as a favor. You can't fire people. It's ridiculous to think about but you can't fire people if they sign up to do something in LLAGNY and they don't do it. So, you constantly have to think about "How can I per-

suaude this person that what they are doing is not only valuable to the association but also somehow valuable to them?" Professionally. Personally. Somewhere you have to find a way of communicating the value of what their doing a good job for LLAGNY would mean.

And that's easier for some people than others. So that's going to be a big challenge because I have to persuade more people to volunteer and become active and it just sounds so hackneyed. "Oh yes, oh yes! Volunteer and become active in LLAGNY." How many times have you heard that? As the song in "Gypsy" goes, "I've gotta get a gimmick." "Gimmick" is too harsh a word. You have come up with a fresh approach. You have to get people's attention in a positive way so that they will not only pay attention to you but will say, "Oh I haven't heard it that way before." So, that's my leadership style.

What is your agenda for the upcoming year?

Make things run more efficiently. If I had one big criticism about the way the Board has run is that too much time is wasted on trivial stuff. Either we should be confronting big things or we should not be spending so much time meeting as a Board. We've got oth-

Professional organizations:

Bill has been active in LLAGNY since the mid-1970's and AALL soon after that.

Coffee: "I'm a Gemini so this emphasizes the dual nature of my approach to life and my approach to coffee. When I'm at home I put coffee in a glass with a little bit of sugar and some whole milk and lots of ice and I drink it iced. But when I'm on the job I drink it black. No sugar. I guess I feel when I'm at home on a weekend I'm in a more relaxed atmosphere I can sit and drink coffee without it necessarily being the kind of a drug that you need to get you going in the morning. Black coffee here just picks you right up."

er things to do. We've got continuing things to move on with. We've got to constantly work at getting a good educational plan. We've got to provide nice events for people. We've got to go out and meet the next generation of librarians and make sure that they are anxious to come in and

be law librarians. Help them understand what the profession is and what role they can play. All of that is being served by existing committees and all I can hope to do is keep those activities running at a high level. And I hope that we can find, as a Board, more interesting things to talk about than whether we should meet at a downtown club or a midtown club and what kind of hors d'oeuvres we should have.

I remember the first time I was on the Board. At the second or third meeting they distributed a list of possible hors d'oeuvres that could be served at the June Dinner. And I was sitting there dying. [Hors d'oeuvres] is my metaphor for the trivial stuff that the Board still gets involved in.

I'd like to transfer more responsibility, rather encourage committee chairs and committee members to understand that they have the power to make the decision and we are relying on them to make the decisions on the various aspects of the association that they are involved in. And the Board isn't going to sit there and try to micromanage everything they do. I'd really like to persuade the people who I have as my committee chairs to undertake more and what I can promise them if they do is that they won't have the Board coming back saying, "Oh no! We don't like that," if I can avoid it. That's cut of the same cloth as eliminating trivi-

al stuff. They are the responsible people and they keep the association going in their particular spheres of expertise as much as I do. So, let them do their jobs and sit back and be happy.

What is your first order of business as President?

I don't know. The very first order is to greet everybody at the June Dinner. That's the first thing the president does. I'm thinking about how to greet the group.

One horrible weakness I have, and I don't know how anybody who has this particular horrible weakness can be president, I'm horrible with names. And, not that great with faces. And, so I'm really, really going to have to work very hard meet new people. Well, it's easy for me to meet new people. The hard part is for me to remember that I've met the new people and remember who they are the next time I see them. Some people find that very easy and most people find it easier than I do. And there must be some trick to it. And so I'm just going to have to spend the next year and a half trying to get better at it.

At the June meeting I meet everybody, I welcome everybody, I gotta get a "gimmick", say something to get their attention and express long true ideas in a new

way that gets people's attention and gets them thinking about what they have to be doing to support LLAGNY and that's the first thing the president does at the June Dinner.

In a year's time, what do you hope to have ac-

Where he learned the art of drinking black coffee: "I sort of learned to when I was I between my junior and senior year of college; I spent my summer in Finland. I stayed with a Finnish family and while I was there I learned how Scandinavians approached coffee which was that only little girls drink coffee with milk and sugar. And the Fins and Scandinavians in general are just obsessed with coffee and a man never put anything in his coffee; he always drank it black. So I was 21 years old and I said, "I'm not going to put that crap in my coffee. I'm going to drink it black no matter how terrible tastes." And I got used to drinking black coffee. It was part of your *savu*, which is [similar to] *machismo*."

completed as President of LLAGNY? There is already meeting a bylaws committee. All of the people who Janice Henderson put on the committee are past LLAGNY Presidents and current Board members. Part of the way we can make the Board run more efficiently and relieving us of trivial things is to make sure that the bylaws don't require us to do trivial things. So, I'm going to try to influence the bylaws committee, if there are proposed amendments to the bylaws, I want to make sure that that happens.

Here at NYLS, something that I've appreciated, is something called a "consent agenda". A consent agenda is stuff that the, in the case of NYLS it's the faculty and in the case of LLAGNY it would be the Board, medium level stuff that the Board feels that it should at least know about but doesn't have to rise, in most instances, to a debate or a discussion.

So these things are presented to the Board, during the course of, between one Board meeting and another and they are put on the consent agenda saying, "Here read this. It's on the consent agenda." Unless you object to it, we will pass the consent agenda first thing at the next meeting and it will be. And that's my idea of a nice efficient way to proceed. To say, "Yes the Board considered this and yes the Board approves of it."

But one thing that we are confronting is that the bylaws were amended in 2006 to accommodate electronic balloting. We are tethered to AALL for so many things including elections. AALL will not do more than one election [a year] as a chapter. We've only got one shot. So, for example, if there's a tie in the vote, the bylaws say you're supposed to have another ballot. But, if AALL will only have one ballot for us, we don't have any other way to do a ballot. What do you do? So we've got to work on that in the bylaws. There are a couple of other things such as membership,

what should membership be, membership categories. There are lots that should be done to the bylaws. But if we can get that done, make things more efficient, to work out these kinks I'll be a happy clam.

Are there places within LLAGNY where you would like to see greater member involvement?

Everything. We've just come through a few years when not only that, but people losing their jobs or people who haven't lost their jobs but working twice as hard because other people have lost their jobs and they are doing the work of those people as well. And, they are stressed. And they're looking over their shoulder and worried about the budget of their firm. Will they merge? Fold? There's been a lot of drop-off in member ability to devote lots of time and attention to the things that LLAGNY needs. With any luck we are starting to come out of that a little bit. People shouldn't be so worried, I hope, in the next year. That's probably one of the things I'll say at the June dinner. Happy days may not be here again, but happier days than 2009. And so maybe firms are hiring more librarians and people who have lost their jobs are finding jobs. And if you are just in a situation where you've just found a job you aren't going to be able to devote lavish amounts of time to LLAGNY. You'll want to prove yourself in your next job but it's a job.

We need more member involvement and I'm hoping that I get lucky and the economy improves. An improving economy gives me the opportunity to say that LLAGNY got more librarians involved in what we are doing. But, I can't think of a single individual place where we need people in terms of Committee A versus Committee B. Just broad-based more involvement and I hope it can be done.

What do you see in the future for law librarianship in New York and nationwide? OR even

worldwide? We gotta get better at technology. We have to accept the fact that technology changes everything constantly and we have to be flexible enough to maintain our place in it, in the center of it which is where we have to be. Just staying on top of technological stuff. Like Mendik Mobile here [at NYLS].

Trying to embrace the good parts of technology fast enough, intelligently enough to make the people who run things say, "Hey we wouldn't have had that if we didn't have a librarian arguing for it. And now it's a major benefit and we couldn't live without it." And we, librarian A, B and C, did that.

When I went to library school we had one course with this crazy professor who was some kind of aerospace librarian. He was interested in teaching us machine language, underlying computer language. I never understood why he thought it important that librarians know that, but maybe we did need it. We have got to grapple with technology. We have to get beneath the surface enough to know whether it's good, whether it's bad and whether it will help the people who are your clientele.

What advice do you have for those who are sitting on the fence about joining or getting involved in LLAGNY? If you're only going to be a librarian and not be involved in LLAGNY, you're going to be bored. You're just going to be a pencil pusher. Socializing with your fellow librarians is the only way you are ever going to understand what the profession is about. You could join SLA or something like that but, it's the only way you're going to understand. It's the key, the entryway to understanding the bigger picture.

Going in to work 9-5 and doing what little things are assigned to you and going home at night, if you are satisfied with that kind of job, and don't

want anything more than that, then there's not need to join LLAGNY and it's probably just as well. Your employer probably doesn't want you to be that way. Your employer wants you to grow and understand more and, thus, do your job better. And just from the point of view of personal growth, if you are on the fence about joining LLAGNY, then you are probably on the same fence about whether you want to be a librarian or an information professional at all. And that's a personal decision. But if you want to be a librarian or at least have the opportunity to be a librarian in the real sense or an information profession in the real sense, you've got to join. And you've got to be active.

What advice do you have for younger librarians?

That's a tough one because you can't answer, except in the hackneyed old way: "Get involved! Come to meetings!" It's the usual stuff. Just find a different way to say it. The usual thing that they tell you in career services offices. Be interested. Don't go home at night and just turn on the television. Spend time reading professional literature. Come to a LLAGNY education program even if you're not sure that it has anything to do with you. Five years from now you might say, "Oh, I'm called to do something that I learned about at that professional meeting that I finally decided to go and attend instead of watching "30 Rock" or something!"

Returning to Library School

- Alison Sherwin

I went back to school for an MLIS six years after graduating from law school and embarking on first career as a corporate lawyer. Having enjoyed law school, I wasn't worried about the challenge of returning to school as a "grown-up" -- at least until I started. At times, I found the year I spent earning my degree to be a greater challenge than I expected; at other times, I found myself surprisingly well served by my prior education and work experience. This column will briefly discuss what it was like returning to library school after a long absence from the classroom.

Homework: Going back to school full-time, I knew I was going to be busy, but I quickly discovered that library school was going to be a lot of work. While law school involved more reading, there were hardly any assignments to hand in, and even fewer due before the end of the semester. In library school, however, there were myriad homework assignments to hand in each week. While the work may not have been as challenging as law school, it took as much (or more) time. After six years as a lawyer, I had trouble completing these assignments without double and triple checking the work, as though I had lost the ability to complete an assignment without obsessing over it.

To finish my homework and still get some sleep, I made a few adjustments to my approach. Doing a law library concentration, I had originally envisioned that all of my papers and projects would relate to law librarianship. Nevermind -- I was going to work with what I knew. As an English history buff, I created a pathfinder on the many wives of Henry VIII; while reading a biography of author Roald Dahl, I made a concept map on his life; and while trying a new recipe for homemade naan, I

created a controlled vocabulary for Indian food. And when my grandmother complained about the "smuttiness" of a recent book club selection, I wrote a research paper on readers' advisory for older adults. Ultimately, I discovered that it didn't matter -- I needed to learn the underlying concepts of librarianship, and the topics selected weren't as important.

Technology: I may have taken notes on a laptop in law school, but classes were held in person and papers were handed in on actual paper. In library school, I quickly discovered that nearly everything -- course assignments, class discussions, and especially turning in projects -- could be done online.

I never felt as comfortable with the online classes as I did with in-person classes. Without a set class session each week, my online classes lacked the natural rhythm of an in-person class. I also found that I didn't get as much out of the online "commenting" process as I did from an actual class discussion. Online discussions became unwieldy very quickly, and with twenty students in a class, you could spend a lot of time replying to others and worrying about whether there are "replies" to your comments that you need to address. I learned to set a limit for myself; I was going to make X number of comments and X replies. Having hit that number, unless the professor directly asked me a question, I was not going to worry about the extended conversations.

The amount of homework and the online environment were my biggest challenges at library school. However, in many ways, I felt much more confident about knowing what I needed to do outside of class to round out my education. At my law firm, I had

interviewed many job candidates and could easily distinguish between a student who had no idea why he or she was in school or what he or she wanted to do with the degree and a student who had the practical experience to know what his or her goals were. I wanted to be the latter.

Asking for Help: I'm not certain I ever went to a professor's office hours in law school. This time, I wasn't afraid or intimidated to ask for help and create relationships. I went to office hours and asked for clarifications on projects. I met with my (incredibly patient) web design professor when my website was misbehaving. And I asked for help finding internships and volunteer opportunities. With some experience in the real world, I knew what I wanted to get out of school -- a degree and a job -- and that I could ask for help and advice in doing so.

Practical Experience: To get a job these days, you need more than a degree -- you need experience. Knowing that, I decided that I wasn't going to simply bury my head in the books. I was going to volunteer anywhere someone would take me, so I could figure out exactly what I wanted to do with this degree and gain the experience I lacked. After a few phone calls to the New York Public Library, I found myself updating patron records, conducting readers' advisory, requesting inter-library loans, and classifying new bibliographic records at the Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library. Each time I went I was completely astounded that they were letting me do this, with no experience and -- when I started -- no library school credits. What I did have was an incredibly generous and patient head librarian, who took the time to answer my questions and ask me what experiences I wanted while volunteering.

With the confidence gained from Heiskell, I also volunteered (and later interned) at the New York Law Institute. There, I gained experience directly

related to what I hoped to be doing after graduating: reference, collection development, copyright compliance, and cataloging at a law library. Working at NYLI made me realize that I was going to enjoy working as a law librarian. It also provided me with practical experience in law librarianship to add to my resume and talk about at interviews.

Networking: Everything I read about searching for a job in the current economy emphasized the importance of networking. This was something I had never done as a practicing attorney and it's not something that came naturally to me. Forcing myself to get over my nervousness, over the course of the school year I attended LLAGNY meetings, free training sessions, and other programs. Early on, a librarian told me how small the law librarian community is -- and happily, I found that to be true. At each event, there were more people I recognized, either from classes or NYLI or other events. By the time I attended AALL in Philadelphia, I was amazed at the number of people I knew and the connections that I had made. When it came time to interview for my current job, I had already met several of the people with whom I was interviewing.

Before library school, I didn't think returning to the classroom after six years of working would have been such a dramatic change. I never got over my concern that the homework assignments were taking me much longer than they should, but by the end I had figured out how to leverage my existing knowledge and interests to complete my assignments, mastered some new technology, and had my degree -- and the knowledge that I was going to like my new profession.

Law Librarianship in Australia

- *Jenelle Blevins*

As a former Australian who now calls New York home, I still find myself keeping up with library news and happenings in Australia. So with that, I thought it might be interesting for you to read about what your fellow Law Librarians are up to over the other side of the world.

The Australian Law Librarians Association (ALLA) is the Australian equivalent to AALL/LLAGNY. ALLA is a national association with state divisions. These divisions run a variety of training events and networking opportunities for members, with an E-list that generates some lively discussion. The Association also produces the Australian Law Librarian Journal. Each year, ALLA run a conference that is well attended and always offers an interesting perspective on relevant issues in our industry. If you would like to do some travel later this year, the 2012 ALLA Conference will be held in Brisbane. Overseas librarians are welcome to join ALLA and also subscribe to the E-list.

The Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) is the main? highest? body overseeing all library and related professionals. With state chapters and special interest groups catering to the many different streams of librarianship, members are able to participate in the Association, whatever their professional interest or workplace. No matter where you are in the world, if you are a new librarian, check out the fantastic New Librarians Symposium websites. The first symposium was held in 2002 as an initiative by the ALIA New Graduates Group. Since then, it has grown to be a much anticipated event and presents amazing opportunities for any new library

professionals. The symposium has a special focus on first time presenters and those new to the profession. For myself, even after being in our industry for a lot longer than a traditional new graduate, I still follow the happenings of the symposium as it is still relevant in so many ways, especially when focusing on career development.

If you are interested in the tech side of things, I encourage you to check out VALA (what does this stand for?) - Libraries, Technology and the Future. As a state based association, the biennial VALA Conference has become one that has a truly national focus for developments in library technologies across all sectors and is a great way to find out more about the practical applications of technology in libraries. Members of VALA come from all streams and this makes for a fantastic opportunity to have a sneak peek at what other libraries are doing and the technological challenges they face.

The library industry is a relatively small one in Australia; there are only approximately 15,000 librarians and other information professionals in the workforce. As a result, a natural crossover occurs across the different library sectors and it is normal for professional activities to take place whilst including more than just one sector.

While volunteering across many professional association groups, I have been blessed to have worked with a range of librarians, from public libraries, school libraries, college libraries and other special libraries. This has been advantageous, mainly due to gaining a real understanding of the issues faced by our colleagues every day – no mat-

ter what field they work in. It also gave me the opportunity to create professional relationships outside my usual legal comfort zone. Through working with those in other disciplines, it became quickly evident that we all share more similarities than differences.

The small but thriving profession is very active in social media – through blogs and other outlets, you can find active participation from our Australian colleagues. I have found that Twitter use amongst librarians in Australia is growing and is fast becoming part of their everyday professional networking. It now seems that many are using Twitter as a major part of their Personal Learning Network (PLN). Professional development opportunities via social media have helped shrink the physical limitations of time and distance, especially in such a vast country as Australia is. The Libraries Interact blog was established to provide for a collaborative space to discuss issues within the Australian library industry, and it is a good place to start if you would like to read about some of the different happenings in Australia. You could also use this as a starting point to branch off to find your own Australian PLN!

Links to visit –

A snapshot of librarianship in Australia - <http://joboutlook.gov.au/Documents/2246.pdf>

ALLA <http://www.alla.asn.au/>

ALIA - <http://www.alia.org.au/>

VALA - <http://www.vala.org.au/>

Libraries Interact Blog- <http://librariesinteract.info/>

Australian Law Resources - <http://www.aph.gov.au/library/intguide/law/auslaw.htm>

Conferences to follow -

ALLA 2012 Conference - <http://alla2012.com.au/>

ALIA Biennial Conference - <http://conferences.alia.org.au/alia2012>

ALIA 6th New Librarians Symposium & ALIA Information Online 2013 – To be held in February 2013

60 Sites—Abridged: 4 Sites This Newsletter

-Gayle Lynn-Nelson, LexisNexis

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

RESEARCH AND REFERENCE



Presentation Zen

<http://www.presentationzen.com>

This is the go-to resource for people who want to create better looking and more informative presentations. There are lots of tips and step-by-step instructions, as well as great discussion of various schools of presentation styles. Here is what Garr Reynolds – the owner of this site has to say about himself:

I'm a former "salaryman" (Osaka), former Apple employee (Cupertino), jazz musician, branding enthusiast, communications specialist, and design evangelist currently working in Japan as a fulltime marketing professor for a local private university. I'm also director of a Japanese design group and love living here in Japan.

He is quite unique, as is his website.

TECHNOLOGY



LegalTechTrainer2

<http://legaltechtrainer.com>

Here we find technology tips and tricks focused on legal topics/issues from Anita Evans, technical trainer at Baker & McKenzie. You will see a picture of Anita as well as the search box to type in your question. She is actually quite funny and has a good sense of humor.

As she gained experience in training legal professionals, she identified a gap between attorneys' use of technology and their understanding of these tools to practice law. She says she has seen many great legal minds not competent or capable of using the technology tools given to them. Frequently, attorneys try to work around the functionality. This distorts the natural flow of the software itself. Additionally, technology training in law firms is not mandatory because it is not billable. The preference is learning just in time, usually during a time crunch. This insight gave rise to the idea that ALL legal professionals, especially attorneys, need instruction on the use of technology in their profession and thus was born Legal tech trainer.



Techmeme

<http://www.techmeme.com>

Instead of wasting time visiting several tech sites to learn what the latest news is, just go here. It aggregates.

When I was researching to buy and iPad I used this site. I also like the fact it lets you know how long

ago something is posted. I think that is very cool. I subscribed so that this shows up when I open Google.

At this moment, the must-read stories in technology are scattered across hundreds of news sites and blogs. That's far too much for any reader to follow. Fortunately, Techmeme arranges all of these links into a single, easy-to-scan page. Story selection is accomplished via computer algorithm extended with direct human editorial input. Their goal is for Techmeme to become your tech news site of record.

FUN



Courtroom/Deposition war stories

<http://www.texasbar.com/saywhat/weblog>

Judge Jerry Buchmeyer's wonderful collection of courtroom and deposition war stories lives on, even though the good judge passed away in 2009. This is worth bookmarking and exploring. While it comes under my fun category it actually has some really good information.

Why Shepard's in Print Still Matters

- Deborah L. Heller

When I began law school in the summer of 2005, it marked a shift in teaching legal research. Research was taught using print and online materials. While I received a cursory introduction to print materials, nearly all of my instruction was regarding the use of online materials such as Lexis and Westlaw. During law school, I never received instruction on how to use Shepard's in print. This was because the print version essentially became outdated as soon as it was published, making the online version far more efficacious to use. Based on the course of my legal research education, I automatically discounted the idea of using Shepard's in print and could not even understand why libraries continued to receive updates.

I did not even look at a copy of Shepard's in print until I received an assignment at work requiring me to review the different titles to determine which materials could and could not be found on Lexis.com. When I opened the book, I missed the colorful red stop sign and yellow caution signal that would instantly let me know if a case is still good

law. My eyes only saw row after row of citations, which did not help to endear me to Shepard's in print. I began looking at the Shepard's United States Citations. Everything in those volumes could be found online, which did not surprise me since I had Shepardized a Supreme Court case many times before. This only reaffirmed my initial idea that Shepard's in print did not seem necessary.

My perceptions began to change as I worked my way through more Shepard's titles. One of the most glaring differences between the print and online versions relates to the coverage of the Statutes at Large. The Shepard's Federal Statute Citations in print includes a section with those statutes not codified into the United States Code. The online version of Shepard's currently lacks the capacity to Shepardize statutes that have not been codified. Although the distinction between the Code and the Statutes at Large may be difficult to explain to first year law students, legal scholars and law librarians know that the Statutes at Large form an important part of the law in the United

States. The inability to Shepardize all laws online, whether codified or not, makes Shepard's in print still relevant.

The inexplicable oversight of including the Statutes at Large on Lexis.com forms the most common argument for maintaining parts of the Shepard's collection in print. However, it is not the only difference between the two formats. Some of the other differences may seem insignificant, but insignificances become highly important when a particular point of law requires urgent research.

Shepard's in print allows users to Shepardize sections of the United States Code from previous years. For instance, the 1928 Code provisions are separated from the 1958 Code provisions. The online version of Shepard's does not allow users to Shepardize by edition of the Code. Therefore, Shepard's in print may prove more useful for retrospective research.

The ability to Shepardize various Court Rules differs between the print and online versions. The Shepard's Federal Rules Citations volumes detail the rules in the individual District and Circuit Courts as well as a variety of more specific courts. Interestingly, the coverage in the online version of Shepard's is not uniform among the different courts. The print volumes often contain the current rules of a District or Circuit Court as well as previous versions. Some of these previous versions of rules may be available online and some may not; availability depends entirely on the individual courts. The same can be said for the availability of criminal rules and civil rules. For instance, it is possible to Shepardize online the District of Connecticut Civil Rules 1985 but not the District of Connecticut Criminal Rules 1985.

Little features of Shepard's in print also provide more value. For instance, the Shepard's Labor Arbitration Citations volumes contain a case name table. The Shepard's Federal Occupational Safety and Health Citations volumes also provide some

quick reference tools. For example, in these volumes cases are listed by docket number and fiche number. This provides another method for finding case information if the party names are unknown.

The different nuances between Shepard's in print and online are fascinating. This does not necessarily mean that every set of Shepard's in print should remain in today's law libraries. It does mean that every library should understand which materials are online and which remain only in print. The needs of the library's patrons should be considered along with this information to make an informed choice about the future of the Shepard's collection. Shepard's in print might still matter and should not be discounted in collection development without careful consideration.

New York State Bar Association Includes Court Libraries in its Report on the Impact of Funding Cuts in the Courts

- *Jacqueline Cantwell and Deborah Melnick, LLAGNY Government Relations Committee*

In fiscal year 2011-2012, the New York State Judiciary budget was provided \$170 million less than requested to operate the state's court system. As the last quarter of this fiscal year draws to a close, the New York State Bar Association published a report (<http://www.nylj.com/nylawyer/adgifs/decisions/011912nysba.pdf>) on its studies of the impact of this \$170 million reduction. The report summarizes assessments in each of the thirteen districts as to the effects felt throughout various court operations. The New York Law Journal article, "Report Finds Budget Cuts Result in Substantial Harm to Courts," (1/19/12) (http://www.newyorklawjournal.com/PubArticleNY.jsp?id=1202538708860&Report_Finds_Budget_Cuts_Result_in_Substantial_Harm_to_Courts&slreturn=1) summed up the New York State Bar Association's findings.

Of particular interest to LLAGNY members may be the Report's statements pertaining to the public libraries of the Unified Court System and the state of New York citizens' access to justice. The Executive Summary finds:

[A] disadvantage for pro se litigants is that library services have been limited in terms of number of staff, open hours, and research materials.

First, there are fewer librarians to help pro se litigants (as well as lawyers) with their research. Many of those who remain have insufficient time to complete their workloads, and morale is low amid concern that the libraries will close down completely. Second, the libraries in the courthouses are open for fewer hours each day due to limited courthouse access.

Third, fewer research materials are available. For example, there is no budget for supplementing some collections of written legal reference materials, and access to some online reference materials has been restricted.

These statements are further explained in the Report's Appendices that consist of the District summaries.

Several of the comments from the districts about other court departments and operations can also be attributed to similar impact upon libraries and librarians. For instance

- increased caseloads
- reduced access to courthouses
- loss of experienced employees
- extra hours of attorney time on cases leading to increased fees to clients
- potential employee error due to stress and increased workload or unfamiliarity with reassigned positions
- reduction of knowledgeable back-office and courtroom staff with resultant strain in accomplishing collaborative work
- inability to maintain innovated technological systems due to poor training and lack of time
- reduction in the availability of supplies such as paper and toners for printers or photocopiers

The Districts also present "Resulting Innovations and Proposed Solutions," that have overcome or may alleviate funding constraints. Repeatedly, the increased transition to online legal research is mentioned as the solution or actual action taken to combat cuts to library staff, services and resources. Certainly this has been a trend within the last dec-

ade and many of us would find this more palatable than simply closing libraries.

Shifting funds from court library functions may be a short term solution - the expectation that online legal research will provide a satisfactory long term substitute for staff, services and all resources is troubling. Districts do vary in their assessments in regard to online legal research as more than a temporary way of coping. For example:

- “Attorneys also have noted that layoffs of law librarians mean that trial lawyers and pro se litigants who would rely on them have nowhere to turn”
- “Court representatives reported that there is a greater reliance on online research to make up for the loss of law librarians”
- “There is no longer a budget for written legal reference materials. Although reference materials are available online, budget constraints restrict access to the types of materials that are available...This amounts to a large loss of legal research materials that are available to both attorneys and the public[.] ...While online legal research has many advantages, there are many people who prefer using books. In addition, not all publications are available online in their entirety. Self-represented litigants now have even fewer opportunities to receive assistance or do research at supreme court law libraries”
- “On-line legal research provides sufficient resources so that funding for actual books no longer should be necessary.”

If New York State’s fiscal situation as noted in the referenced New York State Bar Association Report continues, libraries will not see the funding levels of the past, staffing will not improve, and the escalation in the costs of print legal materials will continue to push the transition to online legal research materials (especially information produced by the government itself), court libraries and the researchers who use them face even greater issues for the future.

The court law libraries within New York State serve its citizens. As the New York State Bar Association’s Report indicates, decreased funding has directly affected collections, staffing and available services. The total conversion to online legal resources may be a partial solution to saving money; but must be pursued realistically (see our future discussion on the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act). Ensuring “access to justice” for people within the state requires continuing development of the public court law libraries.

The LLAGNY GRC invites comments and further discussion among members on this subject of the NYS Bar Association’s Report, public court law libraries, and/or the state of online primary legal information within New York State. Send to Jacqueline Cantwell jcantwel@courts.state.ny.us; or dmelnick@courts.state.ny.us.

Moving Forward

- Rachael H. Moller

Last year Proskauer relocated its New York office to Eleven Times Square. Based on the layout of the new building, the library was asked to consolidate its collection into a smaller space. This sparked all sorts of questions amongst the librarians about how best to maintain the physical collection and continue to deliver a high level of service. The move was a challenge and an opportunity to re-make the library into a more valued firm asset.

It was clear that we needed to pare down the print collection. We eliminated almost all of our statutes, reporters, digests, legal encyclopedias, periodicals and other large sets. These materials were readily available online and in all honesty, mostly used online. These were the easier choices. The main collection was much more difficult to weed. It consisted mostly of treatises and thousands of separate titles. Weeding fell to me, and my colleagues gave me the nickname of "chief chopper" for a brief period of time. But how could I decide what the firm needed? Proskauer is a large firm with many practice groups. I set up a system that allowed for a review process. I would pull all books that had not been signed out in five years onto a book cart. I would then attach a note to the cart with all of the librarians' initials. When a librarian reviewed the book cart if there was any book that the librarian thought should not be weeded then it was shelved; when they were done reviewing the cart they then crossed off their initials. When all had crossed off their initials then the cart headed over to technical services to be removed from the catalog and thrown away. The availability and usability of sources online continued to aid our weeding of the collection. We looked title by title at the resources offered in LexisNexis, Westlaw, CCH IntelliConnect, RIA Checkpoint, Bloomberg BNA other databases that we already subscribed to and free authoritative

sources online (mostly government websites), to see if we could discard materials duplicated in print. We added licenses to two HeinOnline databases to cover some large sets for which we no longer had space. Nonetheless, we had to discard many unused out of print titles to save space for materials that were being used. Thus, we transitioned the function of the library away from a repository and an archive of firm practice. We had to recognize that this is what the firm was asking us to do: support current practices now.

This move toward electronic resources is in-keeping with Proskauer's ongoing firm vision. As a tool to increase productivity and communication, Proskauer provided iPad2s to all attorneys¹. Our new office is in a brand new building with many high tech and environmental features² and we have our name over Times Square. Proskauer went through a re-branding process in which we shortened our name to the more iconic Proskauer (from Proskauer Rose), updated the look of our website and Intranet pages, and changed the look and feel of all of our written and visual communications³. These changes are Proskauer's way of re-making itself into an environmentally friendly and forward-looking law firm. They also reflect changes in the legal marketplace and the values of our particular client base.

The library has played a role in all of these changes. Not only did we adjust the size of the physical collection to fit into a smaller space with the move, but our whole online presence has changed in the re-branding process with the new Intranet pages. Our new look is more streamlined and allows pictures and icons. The library's homepage, called Research Tools, has library contact information, links to major databases, the Copyright Clearance Center link (to check for rights) and a link to our

catalog. Our goal was to enable users to find the answers to most of their questions within the first page. We created an icon to represent our catalog that makes it more prominent on the page, and not surprisingly more people are finding and using it. The library had also accumulated over 1400 practice specific links that we had organized into separate web pages in the old Intranet. In the new Intranet these links are all in a sort-able list on the second tab called Research Links. These links can help attorneys find information on the web more efficiently. There is a third tab, called Research Guides, where guides authored by Proskauer librarians can give an attorney a topic specific starting point. Topics include practice areas like bankruptcy and research types like federal legislative history. These guides typically include both web and print resources.

Since the move, we have had remarkably few requests for materials that we no longer own. We have, however, had to show attorneys how to access materials online more often. The weeding of the print collection focused it on the current practice of law within Proskauer and the collection continues to be heavily used. Going forward, the library's growth will be focused on electronic resources. The library has had increasing requests for electronic access to resources on varying electronic devices: PCs, laptops, mobile phones and now tablets and e-book readers (largely iPads but also Kindles and other ebook readers). In response, the library has increased our electronic holdings and worked with vendors to have their databases available on different devices. We are currently working on the possibility of migrating to electronic deskbooks for attorneys, creating records and links in the catalog to electronic resources, continually presenting new databases to attorneys, provide training on existing electronic resources and finding a place on the Intranet for some quick reference widgets now that vendors have developed them. The library has been and will continue to be active in the knowledge management initiatives of the firm but that is another story. We are busier

than ever with research requests. That the firm continues to rely on us for their research needs and development of future resources demonstrates our continued value in the midst of all of these changes. Needless to say at this point, it is an exciting time to be a librarian at Proskauer.

References:

- ¹ *Proskauer Provides iPads to Lawyers Firmwide*, Proskauer (Apr. 20, 2011), <http://www.proskauer.com/news/press-releases/april-20-2011/proskauer-provides-ipads-to-lawyers-firmwide/>.
- ² Craig Kellogg, *Uncommon Law*, Interior Design (Oct. 1, 2011, 2:00 AM), http://www.interiordesign.net/article/544248-Uncommon_Law.php.
- ³ *Proskauer Named Tops in Law Firm Marketing and Communications by Marketing the Law Firm Magazine*, Proskauer (Nov. 3, 2009), <http://www.proskauer.com/news/press-releases/mlf-50-november-3-2009/>.

Minutes of the November LLAGNY Board Meeting

- O'Melveny & Myers, November 9, 2011

In attendance: Caren Biberman, William Mills, Janice Henderson, Heidi Bliss, Karen Provost, Patricia Barbone, Jacob Sayward, Nancy Rine

The meeting convened at approximately 6:10pm.

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting – Motion to approve the minutes from September 19, 2011. Approve (Barbone). Second (Mills).

Student Relations – Karen Provost submitted two LLAGNY FAQs that the Student Relations committee had been working on for approval:

- Membership Dues and Volunteer Opportunities
- Benefits of Student Membership

These FAQs will be distributed at local library schools and student events.

Vendor Fair & All day LLAGNY Program – Caren Biberman discussed creating an all-day event for LLAGNY members that would include a vendor exhibit hall, an afternoon of educational programs for all areas of law libraries, and an opportunity for networking. The date will be towards the end of May 2012.

Listserv and Website policies – Motion to change “site” to “listserv” in the Discussion Forum Rules and Conditions. Approve (Bliss). Second (Rine).

Approval of flyer for Advanced Google program – Motion to approve the flyer for the November 16th Teaching Advanced Google program. Approve (Barbone). Second (Henderson).

Winter Meeting – The Board looked over the

proposals submitted by the Special Events Chair for the 2012 Winter Meeting and approved Planet Hollywood for Wednesday, January 11th. The cost to members will be \$30. Approve (Barbone). Second (Mills).

BTG Report – Discussion was held on the Recommendations from the Bridge the Gap Special Committee. It was moved to adopt the recommendations one to three, with the exception that the Board will defer the decision on whether LLAGNY should apply for approved provider status until after the Committee has completed the required CLE programs. Approved (Sayward). Second (Mills).

Further discussion was held on Recommendation four. It was the consensus of the Board that there was no need to formally approve the recommendation as it falls within the original charge of the Committee.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Provost, LLAGNY Secretary

Minutes of the December LLAGNY Board Meeting

- Cahill, Gordon & Reindel LLP, December 7, 2011

In attendance: Caren Biberman, Heidi Bliss, Bill Mills, Ellen Kaufman, Jacob Sawyard, Janice Henderson, Karen Provost, Sadys Espitia

Approve (Bliss). Second (Espitia).

The meeting convened at approximately 6:10pm.

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting – motion to approve the minutes from November 9, 2011. Approve (Mills). Second (Henderson).

PLL Summit and Additional AALL Grants – Caren updated the Board on the activities of the PLL Summit in Boston. The Board is considering additional Grants for the Summit and the Annual Conference. The Grants Committee will make recommendations for how much they may need and for which events.

Treasurer's Report – postponed until the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:20pm.

Bylaws Committee – Caren discussed the need to create a special committee to examine LLAGNY's current Bylaws and update them if necessary.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Provost, LLAGNY Secretary

Motion to approve the creation of a special Bylaws Committee to review each Bylaw and make recommendations for changes to the Board. Approve (Bliss). Second (Mills). Janice Henderson was appointed Chair of this committee.

Appointment of Nominations Committee Chair – the Board discussed several candidates for Chair of the Nominations Committee. Caren will contact our nominee.

HeinOnline and LawLines – With the recent creation of a new database for AALL chapter newsletters in HeinOnline, Jacob Sawyard discussed adding LawLines to this database. He will follow up with the Board at a future meeting.

There was also a motion to allow the LawLines and Technology Committees to investigate options for an alternative site for our newsletter.

Minutes of the January LLAGNY Board Meeting

- Planet Hollywood, January 11, 2012

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

The meeting convened at approximately 5pm.

Approval of Minutes of last meeting – motion to approve the minutes from December 7, 2011. Approve (Bliss). Second (Patricia).

Nomination of Gitelle Seer for Life Membership – Motion to approve the nomination by Patricia Barbone. Second (Mills). Motion approved.

Treasurer's report was provided to the Board. Any questions will be addressed at the next meeting.

Educational Committee updates – Heidi Bliss brought a motion to allow Caren Biberman to proceed with the Greg Castanias program with a budget to be determined at a future meeting. Second (Barbone). There will be a reception following the speech and all participants will be encouraged to bring their Library Partner, Executive Directors, COO's, etc.

Upcoming programs may include talks on Digital Licensing and Social Media Monitoring.

Reporting on the Grants and Scholarship Committee, Sadys Espitia discussed several options with the Board. These included simplifying the application process, setting up an additional "general interest" grant, earmarking specific grants and scholarships for court and other non-law firm librarians, and distributing grants for travel or registration fees.

Outreach Committee – Janice Henderson updated the Board. Specific topics for the program will be set up to discuss at the next Meeting. The Committee is planning to hold the CLE programming in June.

Special Bylaws Committee – the first meeting of the Bylaws Committee will be held in late January. Members of the Committee include Heidi Bliss, Sadys Espitia, Janet Accardo, Martha Goldman and Liz Evans. They will give their recommendations by May 2012.

Patricia Barbone brought a motion to approve **a template for PLI Briefings** so that new programs could be posted on the LLAGNY website without Board approval. Second (Sayward). Motion approved.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Provost, LLAGNY Secretary

Restaurant Week at the Palm in Tribeca

- Karen Grushka

As a group of nine, we ambled down West Broadway, our faces red from a midday winter's wind. We strolled in a staggered formation along the city's wide sidewalks, a cheerful procession of hungry librarians.

Restaurant Week in New York draws diners from all over the city to enjoy prix-fixe lunch and dinner menus at otherwise cost-prohibitive establishments. For us, at New York Law School, Restaurant Week meant a leisurely lunch on a Thursday afternoon at the Palm Restaurant (206 West Street) in Tribeca.

From the outside, there is nothing remarkable about the Palm. Its palm-tree-painted window and venetian blinds are reminiscent of my childhood - winter holidays with my grandmother in Florida, early-bird specials and all-you-can-eat buffets in yellow-lit restaurants. The Palm, of course, from the inside, is far more distinguished than the eateries in Fort Lauderdale.

From the vestibule, we can see the large expanse of The Palm. Waiters in stiff, white aprons carry themselves with remarkable posture and congeniality. The restaurant's walls are covered in photos, paintings and caricatures of the many Hollywood superstars that the restaurant has fed (I recognize some, but not all, and realize that while I am scurrying about the library, nabbing books from the shelves, wrapped in a frenzy of packing tape and shipping labels, there is a whole world of fame and fortune passing me by).

We nine, who have an unapologetic taste for gourmet cuisine, sit among other diners arranged in small, careful groups, and dressed in suits and buckled brown shoes. The waiter, whose bald head gleams brilliantly below the high white ceilings, is supernaturally pleasant when pressed for details on the daily dishes, smiling humbly and graciously. So much so, that I almost forget my inclination for impatience, my ineptitude for sitting still, my

wonderment at the time it takes to place our drink orders, to wait for our drink orders, to place our appetizer, entree and dessert requests, to watch other patrons' plates go in and out in and out in and out of the kitchen (all this waiting does provide time to note, however, the large number of "half and half" plates --- cottage fries and friend onions -- - returning from table to dishwasher; I steer clear of the "half and half" during the course of the meal).

Finally, post bread basket (a delicious selection of sourdough slices with fruits and nuts, white rolls with onion, and packets of crunchy breadsticks), after much feigned patience and a few form pleasantries (I use these to mask gnawing hunger and a twitching leg), our appetizers arrive. I have ordered a mixed green salad with a vinaigrette, tomatoes and other assorted vegetables. Others have ordered an oyster chowder, an impressively thick-looking soup in extra-large bowls.

My salad is flavorful, but somewhat over-dressed and over-salted, neither of which is so offensive that I do not finish everything on my plate. My co-workers slurping the oyster soup all proclaim the deliciousness of the dish, and I can only assume by their empty bowls that they were either as hungry as I, or particularly satisfied with their food.

For an entrée, I eat the daily special, a baked filet of Atlantic salmon with sliced and fried plantains, and a green, cilantro-based chimichurri sauce. My colleague orders the not-so-special daily special: a pan-seared Atlantic salmon filet, sitting idly in a puddle of creamy, red pepper sauce, not a speck of green on the plate. My own fish is slightly tough and over-cooked, and the chimichurri serves more as a garnish than as part of the flavor profile. As a side, I request the baked squash with cherries; this too is overcooked, and bathed in butter and salt, so that each hungry bite makes me question whether another is worthwhile.

The others at the table order the steak, a 10-oz aged black Angus, with a peppercorn gravy and mashed potatoes. I can see the look of pure delight on the faces of my co-workers as they savor the tender meat and drink its thin, red juices. They seem less delighted with the family-style “half-and-half” (described above), a mountainous and perturbing combination of deeply fried yet deeply soggy root vegetables.

Dessert, usually the most redemptive part of any meal, is a choice of key-lime pie, or flourless chocolate cake with whipped cream and raspberries. I opt for the pie as a sort of ascetic gesture, since I have a mild obsession with chocolate. Again, I am disappointed; the key-lime is too sweet, and conceals the graceful acidity of the citrus. The flourless

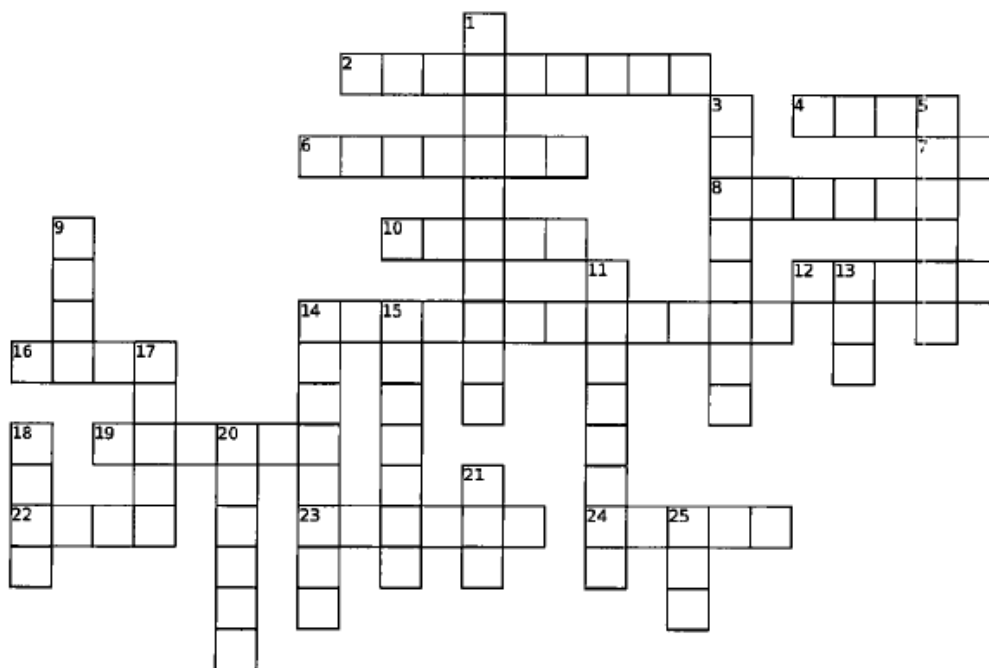
chocolate cake, however, ranks higher, but again, is too rich, too heavy, too eager to impress.

It is unlikely that I will revisit the Palm Restaurant (unless, of course, I renege on my years of vegetarianism) in the near future. At close to \$26 before tax and tip, the menu, I believe, is overpriced; it is unclear whether the food fares better during non-Restaurant weeks, but I suppose I will never know. Not, at least, until I find my picture hanging on the walls of the Palm, next to Madonna, or maybe even Cher.

Law Lines welcomes restaurant reviews from across the City. If you want to share about a restaurant near your office or around town, please contact us.

Reading, the Electronic Way....

by Emily Moog



ACROSS

- 2 Germ. printer
- 4 type of corner
- 6 Lt. Comm. Data was one
- 7 pad,phone,pod
- 8 S.A. river
- 10 one of the 5 senses
- 12 forbidden fruit
- 14 pre 1900 pubs.
- 16 a billion
- 19 part of pdf
- 22 8 bits
- 23 author Djuna
- 24 Rousseau's savage

DOWN

- 1 New Yr's promise
- 3 Ancient Greek or Roman works
- 5 twigs, newspaper, e.g.
- 9 Look, no wires...
- 11 part of pdf
- 13 English watering hole
- 14 part of pdf
- 15 recently closed store
- 17 mud bricks
- 18 Inventor, 1955-2010
- 20 Felines' B'way Showstopper
- 21 Charlotte's creation
- 25 binary digit

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