



# LLNE News

*Newsletter of the Law Librarians of New England*  
Volume 24, Number 2, 2004

## ***LLNE Spring Meeting In Freeport a Rousing Success: No Black Flies, No Tourists, Just Sunshine and Substance.***

LLNE members arrived at the beautiful Stone House Conference Center in Freeport, Maine for their spring meeting well before Freeport's annual influx of blackflies and tourists. Our Maine hosts arranged for perfect weather amid an idyllic setting, and a slate of engaging and interesting speakers.

### **Improving Your Search Effectiveness with the Right Strategy, the Right Tool**

*Sharon Persons, Faculty Research/Legal Instruction Librarian, Northeastern University School of Law*

Ran Hock, from Online Solutions, gave a lively presentation on improving online research effectiveness. According to Hock, the three elements of effective searching include choosing the right tool, knowing and using basic search engine strategies, and having a basic collection of Web reference tools.

To choose the right tool, Hock suggests searching in Teoma.com to quickly find a resource guide (a type of specialized directory) on your subject to lead you to a collection of relevant websites. The basic search engine strategies consist of "throwing the main terms" into a search box, seeing what happens and using simple narrowing techniques, such as adding concepts, or phrases, and limiting to title words or particular sites, as needed. Hock also suggests using the advanced search pages and periodically reading these pages for updates and changes in search options.

On such advanced search pages, Hock advocates that the intrepid explorer follow the rule "click everywhere" and its corollary "pull down the pull-down menus." He also gives the advice to click on everything labeled "help" and "what's new." Advanced features of search engines allow one to limit the domain, choose file formats, language or country, or search numeric ranges of numbers. (For example, I'd like to find a feather boa in the price range \$30-\$100).

He also mentioned relatively new developments in some search



**Ran Hock, Online Solutions**

engines. For example, Yahoo has begun indexing RSS feeds (not currently in Google) and now has cached material. He also mentioned Bill Gates' new search engine to appear in the fall.

Hock reminds researchers to examine the results and then use the Boolean operator "or." He notes that "and" is usually already taken care of by search engine algorithms and "not" is seldom needed. In addition, look carefully at what else the results page gives you, he advises. For example, Yahoo provides ads, a summary of results and the cache summary, clustering of results pages, related topics and images. Google offers definitions of underlined words with a link to dictionary.com. (Note: Also on Google, searching for a term after the word "define:" (e.g. define: RSS) leads to pages with glossaries. It can be particularly useful for new or technical terms.)

Make your virtual library a complement to your physical library by having a collection of basic Web reference tools. Use your bookmarks or create your own web page, which you can use from any Internet accessible computer. As examples, Hock demonstrated using encyclopedias and dictionaries in many languages, Google's reverse phone number directory, the historical atlases at the University of Texas Library Online, and acronym and quotation finders.

*Continued on page 7*

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## **CO-EDITORS' NOTE**

April showers have brought May flowers, and there is some great information blooming in this issue. In addition to coverage of the Spring Meeting in Freeport, Maine, we have tons of information about the upcoming AALL annual meeting in Boston this July, including your votes in our recent "Best of Boston" poll of local favorites. We also have a couple of technology-related articles on some useful tools to help you stay current and organized in cyberspace.

With this issue we welcome Kim Dulin (Harvard Law School Library) as layout editor. We also say goodbye and thanks to Sue Zago (formerly Sue Drisko), who had been our previous layout editor (and co-editor before that).

We look forward to seeing all of you in Boston, particularly at the LLNE Luncheon.

Michelle Pearse and John Pedini  
Co-Editors





## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

My thanks go out to Lynn Randall, Christine Hepler and Maureen Quinlan for all their work in planning a great LLNE Spring Meeting program. The program, *Finding the Information Needle in the Haystack*, was held on April 30 in Freeport, Maine. Approximately 100 members were in attendance and were treated to beautiful weather, a glorious setting, great shopping opportunities and interesting and informative speakers. You could not ask for much more! I am grateful that Ran Hock from Online Solutions, Karen Calhoun from Cornell University and Jim Henderson from the Maine State Archives were able to take the time to share their knowledge and experiences with us. These fellow information professionals brought us up-to-date on improving our Internet search skills, the latest models and tools for electronic resource access and issues facing the preservation of electronic information - timely and essential topics for all of us. I hope you can take the time to view their program presentations available on the LLNE web site at <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llne/resources/spr04/index.htm>.

Nina Platt, AALL Executive Board member, also attended our Spring meeting. She updated members on AALL projects and administrative issues being addressed by the AALL Executive Board and national headquarters. She had the opportunity to sit in on the LLNE Executive Committee meeting. She was impressed by the breadth of activities and issues that the Chapter addresses. Of course our Chapter's greatest contribution this year is all the work performed by the Local Advisory Committee in preparation for the AALL Annual Meeting and Conference here in Boston. Thank you in advance to all members who have volunteered their time to help at the annual meeting.

In this issue of the newsletter, you will find the announcement of the 2004 slate of nominees for LLNE offices. I thank Joan Shear, Michael Hughes and Diane Frake for their selection. The election will take place at the Joint LLNE/SNELLA lunch on Tuesday, July 13. Please attend and participate in the election of the new Vice President/President Elect, Secretary and Education Director. My last President's Message will appear in the next issue of the newsletter. I will share with you a summary of the important accomplishments and issues addressed by our Chapter over the last year. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing many of you in Boston!

## **Executive Committee**

**2003 - 2004**

### **President**

Susan Sullivan

### **Vice-President/ President-Elect**

Raquel Ortiz

### **Past President**

Michael Hughes

### **Secretary**

Jeannine Uppgard

### **Treasurer**

Juliana Hayden

### **Educational Directors**

Sue Zago

Maureen Quinlan

## **Calendar of LLNE Meetings**

### **Fall 2004**

Mirck O'Connell (Worcester), Bowditch & Dewey and the Worcester Law Library - Massachusetts Trial Court Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, MA Friday, October 15, 2004

### **Spring 2005**

Harvard Law School Library

### **Fall 2005**

Roger Williams University School of Law Library

## **LLNE Fall Meeting 2004**

Combine professional education and pleasure at the next meeting of LLNE. The fall meeting will be held on Friday, October 15, in historic Old Sturbridge Village (<http://www.osv.org>) at the height of the New England foliage season. Presented by the law librarians of Worcester, Massachusetts, "Yankee Ingenuity: Doing More With Less" will focus on ways to stretch those increasingly scarce library dollars. Rooms will be available for both Thursday and Friday nights at The Lodges at Old Sturbridge Village (<http://www.osv.org/pages/lodges.htm>) at a group rate of \$95 per night. The rooms will be held until September 23 and can be reserved by calling the lodges at 508-347-3362 and identifying yourself as an LLNE member.

## **LLNE Area Library News**

The Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries will soon be fully automated under one integrated system. Dynix has been selected as vendor for the new system.

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## LLNE Member News

**Sue Zago**, formerly known as Sue Drisko, is the new Associate Director of Northeastern University School of Law Library. Sue was previously the Head of Reader Services at Northeastern.

**Ginny McVarish** (Widener Library, Harvard University) has won an AALL annual meeting grant (sponsored by West). She also won a scholarship from LexisNexis.

**Mary Liz Brenninkmeyer** (Harvard Law School Library) and **Kate Dixon** (Western New England College School of Law Library) won West Excellence in Law Librarianship scholarships.

**Deanna Barmakian** (Harvard Law School Library) has been elected Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of the Research Instruction and Patron Services (RIPS) Special Interest Section of AALL.

**Stephanie Burke** (Boston University, Pappas Law Library) has been elected vice-chair/chair-elect of the FCIL.

**Raquel Ortiz** (Boston University, Pappas Law Library) has been appointed chair of the AALLNet Advisory Committee.

**Michelle Pearse** (Harvard Law School Library) has been appointed chair of the AALL Placement Committee.

**Sandra Lindheimer** retired earlier this year from her position as Middlesex Law Library's Head Law Librarian after 27 years of service. We are grateful to have had Sandy's drive and commitment to the TCLLs for these many years.

Do you have news to share? Check out page 2 for the member contact for your region.

## LLNE Bibliography

There's still time to contribute to the member bibliography. The deadline has been extended to June 15, 2004. The bibliography will be posted to the LLNE website in July and copies will be available at the events table at AALL. Don't miss out on this great opportunity — the entire LLNE community benefits when we share our unique research accomplishments and legal/library know-how. For submission guidelines go to <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llne/committees/memberbib.htm>

If you have any questions at all or need an extension on the deadline, contact Diane D'Angelo, Reference Librarian, Suffolk University Law Library, [ddangelo@suffolk.edu](mailto:ddangelo@suffolk.edu).

Thanks to everyone who has already submitted!

## LLNE Slate of Nominees

The LLNE 2004 Nominating Committee of Diane Frake, Michael Hughes, and Joan Shear presents the following slate of Officers for Election at the 2004 Annual Meeting:

For the office of **Vice President/President Elect**

*Michelle Pearse*  
Bibliographer for Anglo-American Law  
Harvard Law School Library

For the office of **Secretary** (two-year term)

*Kathleen D. Fletcher*  
Cataloging Librarian  
Franklin Pierce Law Center Law Library

For the office of **Education Director** (two-year term)

*Kelly Browne*  
Head of Reference  
University of Connecticut School of Law Library

In addition, **continuing on the LLNE Board** are:

President

*Raquel M. Ortiz*  
Head of Reference Services  
Boston University - Pappas Law Library

Past President

*Susan Sullivan*  
Public Services Librarian  
Boston College Law Library

Treasurer

*Juliana Hayden*  
Satellite Librarian  
U.S. Court of Appeals Satellite Library, Concord, NH

*Education Director*

*Susan Zago*  
Assistant Director of the Law Library  
Northeastern University School of Law

*Submitted by Joan Shear for the Nominating Committee*

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## LLNE Librarians' Outreach in Connecticut

by Rebecca Engsburg, Quinnipiac School of Law Library

Three LLNE members recently represented our profession on a visit to a Connecticut library school. Denise Jernigan (Connecticut State Library) and Sandra Phillips (Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries—Hartford) joined me on April 6, 2004 at Southern Connecticut State University Career Night.

At the conclusion of the Connecticut State Librarian's brief remarks on employment, the audience gathered into smaller groups designed for interaction with librarians who represented library specialty areas—academic, law, public, school, and YA services.

Denise, Sandi (an SCSU alumna) and I represented the area of law librarianship. About ten audience members joined us in an informal question and answer session. Some of the questions these library students raised included:

- What can I do to enhance my job application?
- I know little about law librarianship, but I'm interested. How can I determine if I want to pursue it as a career path?

Over 40 library students attended the hour-long event in Buley Library on the SCSU campus in New Haven, CT. The three of us felt that it was a worthwhile event and were glad to represent LLNE and our profession.

## LLNE Service Committee Walks for Hunger

For the third year in a row, the LLNE Service Committee took part in Project Bread's Walk for Hunger. The event was organized by Ginny McVarish, Widener Library. Along with 40,000 other walkers, Margaret Cianfarini and Michelle Pearse (both of the Harvard Law School Library) completed the 20-mile course. The LLNE team raised \$896 for Project Bread. Thanks to all LLNE members who contributed. For more information about Project Bread, including the Walk for Hunger, visit <http://www.projectbread.org>.

## Local Law Librarians Present for LLNE

Several local law librarians (most of whom are LLNE members) presented an MCLE program entitled "Conducting Massachusetts Legal Research." The panel was chaired by Mary Ann Neary (Boston College Law Library). Other panel members were: Joan Shear (Boston College Law Library), Brian Harkins (Social Law Library), Karin Thurman (Mass. AG's Library); Raquel Ortiz (B.U. Pappas Law Library) and Mark Defrancisco (Appellate Tax Board). There were approximately 40 registrants.

## LLNE BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 30, 2004

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Susan Sullivan thanked everyone involved in preparing the successful spring meeting. This includes the program committee members from the University of Maine School of Law Library and the Maine State Library, speakers and sponsors including LexisNexis, Thompson West and the William S. Hein Co.

Susan introduced Nina Platt, AALL Executive Committee member, visiting the chapter. Nina spoke briefly about the work of the Executive Committee including the Fair Business Practices and Career Development Committees. She commended Susan Fox, the new Executive Director, on her fine work in leading the organization and encouraged everyone to try to meet her at the annual meeting.

### UPDATES

The procedures manual is being revised and should be ready for the July meeting.

A nominating committee has been appointed: Joan Shear, Chair, Michael Hughes and Diane Frake. Nominees will be announced in June with the election taking place at the July meeting.

The joint LLNE/SNELLA luncheon will be on July 13th. Susan Scoville from SNEALLA is coordinating the luncheon.

Juliana Hayden, Treasurer, gave a brief summary of the chapter's finances. Membership renewal forms will be mailed shortly and if someone has not received a renewal form by October, they should contact Juliana.

Maureen Quinlan reported for the Education Committee that upcoming meetings are scheduled for Old Sturbridge Village, fall 2004; Harvard Law School, spring 2005; Roger Williams University Law School, fall 2005; University of Connecticut School of Law, spring 2006 and Boston College Law School, fall 2006.

Michelle Pearse announced that a new issue of the Newsletter is currently available. The deadline for the next issue is May 12, 2004. Kim Dulin is the new layout editor.

Stephanie Burke reported that the Service Committee is involved with Earth Day projects, Walk for Hunger and the SIS book drive. She is also working on a possible project with the Perkins School for the Blind. The Service Committee would like to hear from anyone with ideas for projects outside of the Boston area.

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## LLNE Executive Board Approves New Committee Charges

The LLNE Executive Board approved the following committee charges at its meeting on April 30, 2004 in Freeport, Maine.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

- The Public Relations Committee consists of a chair and such additional members as the President shall designate.
- Promotes the value of law librarianship and LLNE membership.
- Works with committee chairs to help publicize all LLNE events and programs.
- Keeps track of all noteworthy accomplishments and publications of LLNE members and ensures that this information is publicized in appropriate trade journals, newsletters, websites and discussion lists.
- Identifies and develops promotional opportunities and makes recommendations to the Executive Board.
- Communicates with LLNE members via the LLNE website, newsletter and discussion list.

#### **PR Committee Chair**

- The Committee Chair reports on committee activities at LLNE executive board meetings. In the event that the Chair is unable to attend a scheduled executive board meeting, the Chair will provide a report to be given by the Communications Committee chair or any other appropriate proxy.
- The Chair also reports on committee progress at the LLNE business meeting or via LLNE News and submits content for the official annual report of the Communications Committee, to be submitted to the executive board for the LLNE annual report.

### **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

- The Committee shall consist of a chairperson and members of the Newsletter, Internet, and Public Relations subcommittees as appointed by the LLNE President.
- The Communications Committee actively supports LLNE's goal of promoting law librarianship in the legal and library communities. The committee strives to heighten public awareness about the field of law librarianship; collects, organizes and disseminates relevant information and makes this data available to members; acts as a promotional clearinghouse for all LLNE activities; and works with committee chairs to help publicize various events and programs.
- Promotes LLNE to newer law librarians at institutions in the LLNE geographical area.
- Periodically updates the LLNE Brochure for distribution.
- Works with the Membership Development Committee to promote law librarianship via events at local library schools.
- Obtains photographs and other content for the discussion list, newsletter, and website.
- Communicates with LLNE members via the LLNE website, newsletter and discussion list.

#### **Communications Committee chair**

- The Committee Chair presides at the committee meetings and reports on committee activities at LLNE executive board meetings. In the event that the Chair is unable to attend a scheduled executive board meeting, the Chair will provide a report to be given by one of the subcommittee chairs.
- The Chair also reports on committee progress at the LLNE business meeting or via LLNE News and writes an official annual report of the committee's activities to be submitted to the executive board for the LLNE annual report.

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In keeping up to date, Hock recommends searchenginewatch, Gary Price's site Resource shelf, Tara Calishain's Research Buzz, RSS feeds, and google news alerts.

When asked, "How do you respond to the question, 'let's get rid of the physical library,'" Hock says he'll say that some tools are easier to use in print, that many indexing and abstracting tools cannot be found on the internet, and that only a few years worth of information is available on the Web.

A short outline of Hock's presentation can be found at his website <http://www.onstrat.com/LLNE>. By far the most valuable page, however, is his "Collection of Basic Reference Tools" at <http://www.onstrat.com/LLNE/lawlibnsfne2.html>. He is the author of *The Extreme Searcher's Guide to Web Search Engines: A Handbook for the Serious Searcher* (2nd ed., 2001) and *The Extreme Searcher's Internet Handbook* (2004). See <http://books.infotoday.com/> for more details.



**Karen Calhoun, Cornell University Library**

## **Managing E-Resources: An Elephantine Job**

*By Sue Zago, Northeastern University Law Library*

It was a beautiful spring day on April 30, 2004, and I was lucky enough to spend it in gorgeous surroundings at the Stone House Conference Center in Freeport, Maine. About 100 law librarians attended the 2004 LLNE Spring Meeting. "Finding the Information Needle in the Haystack," hosted jointly by the University of Maine School of Law Library and the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library.

"It essentially takes the grace of an elephant to cope with the myriad elements of e-resources," said Karen Calhoun, Associate University Librarian for Technical Services, Cornell University Library. Calhoun educated us all on the types of e-resources, and how to access them in her talk entitled "Lists, Catalogs and Portals: Models and Tools for E-Resource Access."

Calhoun's comprehensive talk was aided by her detailed PowerPoint presentation which includes not only the slides but also her notes on each slide. The PowerPoint has been loaded onto the LLNE website at <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llne/resources/spr04/index.htm>. I have tried to hit the highlights of her talk but for more information please refer to the PowerPoint slides.

E-resources may include electronic journals, subscription databases, and free databases. If you are familiar with the Invisible Web, then you are entering yet another realm called the Deep Web. The Deep Web is a world of licensed resources, free and licensed electronic journals, authoritative websites and free resources. End users want to harness this wealth of information, but they want it to be easy to use and they want it to be available wherever they are working: on campus or at home. To the undergraduate, if it is not online then it does not exist because "essentially they rely exclusively or almost exclusively on electronic materials." Student and faculty members "expect the ease of 'Google' with resources presented to them and to get seamless linking from one information object to another." Online catalogs, listings of e-journals and independent web portals are being used as ways to deliver the information to the user. Calhoun cited Ex Libris, Innovative Interfaces products, Serials Solutions, TD-Net and homegrown systems as ways libraries are trying to organize and provide access to the Deep Web.

Calhoun discussed developing a research portal as an effective way to promote authoritative electronic materials to faculty, students and staff in an easy-to-use and easy-to-understand format. As many libraries' e-resources are underutilized,

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expensive to provide and to maintain access to, and are complicated to promote to the correct user group, she said that librarians must use tools such as *aggregators*, *federated searching* and *reference linking* to provide a seamless environment for electronic research.

An aggregator is a collection of publications in electronic form. Federated searching is the process of providing users with a way to search multiple resources simultaneously; this is done without the user identifying which electronic resource might have the information they need.

Calhoun speaks from experience. When the Cornell libraries were about to combine an existing product, “Find Databases” with a new product, “Find Articles,” they wanted to study how their users actually used these two research tools. Through the study, the librarians found that the “Find Databases” was not used well and that the “Find Articles” portion of their portal was the most used e-resource as it represented the way users expect information to be presented.

A federated search system like this one relies on a complex infrastructure behind the scenes that knows how to send the user’s query to each electronic resource behind the scenes. When the results come back, the system gathers and collates them into an orderly result that makes it seem like just one big database is being searched—where actually the resources being searched are scattered all over the Web, indexed in many different ways, and reside on many different servers.

In Reference Linking, the standard of the OpenURL initiative is used to provide sets of hyper-links which are presented to the user to lead to the end result (the article, report or document). A seamless environment is achieved by using a link-resolver which accepts metadata (an OpenURL) from a source and presents links based on criteria created and administered locally by the library. It can provide choices and can mediate the access to materials as it knows from the user’s profile exactly what the user is authorized to access. In short, these systems rely on “knowledge bases” that contain three important pieces of information: Where articles “live” on the web; how to link to those articles and to which articles the end-user has access.

Reference linking and federated searching are both still in their infancy and have some limitations. Calhoun cited “what’s missing” from federated searching as: slow response time; practical limits to the number of databases searched at one time; may retrieve incomplete search results; the search has a lack of control over what is returned in the search results sets; and the order of the search results may not always be manipulated to the preferences of the searcher. She then identified the limitations of the reference linking which included: incorrect or inaccurate knowledge base; bad or inconsistent

metadata within a database or across databases; varied application or non-use of citation standards; library’s electronic holdings do not conform to what the user needs; full text availability lags behind citation availability; and there may not be an alternative to “get full text” presented.

Essentially Calhoun advised the librarians to continue to persevere. We must collaborate with each other (with other staff and with other libraries) to overcome these limitations and try to find workable and perhaps creative solutions.

## **Electronic Archives Preservation and Access**

*By Michelle Pearse, Harvard Law School Library*

Maine State Archivist Bill Henderson gave the final presentation of the LLNE Spring Meeting, “Electronic Archives: Preservation and Access.” Any librarian who handles records would have benefited greatly from his presentation. It was an excellent overview of the various complex issues in this area. While this article provides the highlights of his presentation, you may find his complete PowerPoint presentation at <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llne/resources/spr04/henderson.ppt>.

Henderson discussed the various challenges involved in maintaining archives (in any form). His presentation focused on the basics, including the issues of selection, accession, preservation, documentation and access. It soon became clear just how overwhelming the task can become in light of the complexity and variety of formats, as well as the vast amounts of information that can fit in small physical formats. It was also quite clear that the obsolescence of formats (or systems to run those formats) is one of the biggest problems facing those with responsibility for these records.

### **Selection**

Just as we face in building our traditional library collections, the threshold issue in archives is determining just what an institution will collect. Sometimes institutions do not have clear guidelines to exclude things. Thus, it might be wise to develop a clear policy, delineating the types of materials to be considered. One must also decide if it is desirable to solicit materials actively. If so, you consider informing potential donors of what the types of things they need to do when providing materials.

Henderson mentioned several considerations in developing standards for choosing materials. Is it essential to the institution’s mission? Is it convenient to its users? What are the maintenance costs involved, considering any requirements of technical expertise, media/format obsolescence, and space? (One must almost amortize what it would cost to keep the material for over 200 years.) Are alternatives accessible, or is there another place that could deal with it? (For example, the Maine State Archives contracts out for film and audio.)

Mr. Henderson stressed the significance of the fact that once an organization takes an item, it takes on the obligation to maintain it (including preserving and providing continued access to it). As such, it is important to be able to handle a variety of formats and understand just what challenges or concerns might arise from trying to meet its obligations.

Once an institution agrees to accept an item, there is the challenge of documenting the metadata. It is important to understand who gave it and what rights were acquired with it in order to know what can be done with it. (For example, can it be published on the web? Will the heirs care what is done with it?) Also, look at its provenance or history. The record must be documented with standard accession terms, the condition, format and media and dates, places and persons. A finding aid must also be considered.

### Preservation

There are several considerations in securing or preserving a record: physical safety (theft, fire, water); preserving its integrity (concerns about erasure or corruption), establishing versions (original/master/archival, duplicating and user copies) and disaster planning. There should be back-up media, and back-ups should be placed in different physical locations.

Slowing deterioration is often a significant physical problem. General concerns include the importance of environmental controls, as well as pest control and mold/mildew treatment. There are also special deterioration concerns. Moreover, in the digital environment, there is the problem of the variety of formats and the type of media itself. For example, some CD's and DVD's, become unreadable over time (as little as a couple of years) or by a particular type of computer. Delamination/warping may also occur. Slow deterioration can be caused by handling, short and long-term storage, formats and physical characteristics such as dyes. He mentioned some helpful tips such as using only the highest quality formats and only CD-R or CD-RW, read only for CD's. The following considerations are also important: a cool, dry, stable environment, low light and UV in sunlight and florescent light. Some suggestions for handling include handling by edges and center holes, avoiding scratches or fingerprints, using center-supported jewel cases and avoiding adhesives and pens. It is also important to inspect and test. (A list of resources on slowing deterioration is also available in his Powerpoint presentation.)

Mr. Henderson raised several issues in maintaining access to digital formats. There is the propriety and reliability of the format itself and how risky it is. There are few standards and they are changing. Some media, such as magnetic, are also unreliable. There are challenges in providing access to older formats/media and migrating to new formats/media. Using proprietary formats is risky. He suggested that choosing something that can put into a vanilla text, such as Microsoft Access where one can create a common delineated text output.

### Documentation

The order in which one receives materials can be significant because it can suggest how it was used. It is difficult to ask people not to disturb it and hard to go through it. Unlike a published article, one must think about *how* people use it. In looking at documentation detail, one must consider content by level (collection, series and items levels). In considering electronic additions, one must look at system requirements, program requirements, file formats, and scheduling for inspecting, copying, migrating and reformatting.

### Access: The Preparation; On Site and/or Remote

First, one must prepare for access. Master copies must be protected (including physical segregation, password protection, regular backups, and duplicating masters and user copies). Records must be located, including an inventory, logical arrangement and finding aids, indexes with a web-based standard. Knowledgeable people are also important. On site access raises concerns of equipment, identification/registration, copying by users and supervision. Remote access raises concerns of distributing physical copies, website issues (indexes, what to post, download options, context provision, etc.) and issues raised by e-mail such as request and delivery. (See <http://www.mainememory.net/>.)



**Bill Henderson, Maine State Archives**

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## To Digitize or Not to Digitize...What Are the Questions?

It seems that people are eager to digitize today, yet microfilm is still a viable (and sometimes preferable) alternative. Mr. Henderson provided guidelines on how to determine when to convert to microfilm and when to convert to digital images. (See his PowerPoint presentation for helpful charts to determine when to use each format.) He also reviewed what could be wrong reasons to scan/digitize. One wrong reason to digitize would be the need for more storage space. It could actually be easier (and less expensive in the long run) to store in a warehouse, particularly if it is being retained because "someone might need it." The desire alone "to organize records" is not the right reason because one must document each image. (One cannot necessarily OCR handwriting.) Finally, scanning to preserve the records is not the right reason. Once one scanned, one would have to keep doing it. It would be better to microfilm for preservation only. He also went through the specific pros and cons of microfilm and scanning, as well as other considerations such as size and layout, the condition of the media and the clarity of content and the special needs of the materials/institution (e.g. keyword searching of record content). It seemed that while scanning still provides flexibility for access, microfilm is still preferred for preservation. He mentioned that the Maine Registry of Deeds scans and then microfilms the scanned image.

The Maine State Archives will only handle original material. As of now, they are not doing websites per se. They focus on records affecting legal rights. Indexing is done at the broad level (not the item level)(e.g. just records or policies of the Department of the Environment). There is a provision in the Maine law that if an agency is required to keep something and the archives schedules it as archival, they have to keep it. For more information about the Maine State Archives, see <http://www.state.me.us/sos/arc/> and Archives Interactive at [http://www.informe.org/sos\\_archives/](http://www.informe.org/sos_archives/).

*Note: For another interesting presentation on the future of digital, see Rebecca Engsburg's report at last year's LLNE Spring Meeting: "The Future of Microforms in a Digital Age" by Jerry DuPont. (See page 1 of <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llne/LLNENews/PDF/2003v23n2.pdf>.)*

## Other Conference News

### Special Libraries Association (SLA) 2004 Conference Nashville, Tennessee

The Special Libraries Association (SLA) recently had its 2004 conference in Nashville, Tennessee. For those of you who are interested in what happened, you might want to take a look at some materials that have been made available on the Web.

Check out <http://www.infodayblog.com/> for a blog of conference activities.

Genie Tyburski also has some materials from the conference on her Virtual Chase website. Check out <http://www.virtualchase.com/tir/> for "Tools for Investigative Research" from the conference's 2004 Web Tools presentation. She also has a list of resources from her "60 Sites in 60 Minutes" presentation with Jenny Kanji.

For more information about the SLA conference, visit <http://www.sla.org/nashville2004/index2.htm>. Some contributed papers are available at <http://www.sla.org/nashville2004/contributedpapers.htm>.

### American Library Association (ALA) Orlando, Florida

The American Libraries Association will be having its 2004 annual conference in Orlando, Florida, June 24-30th. For more information, see <http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/an2004/home.htm>

Copies of past issues of its conference newspaper (*Cognotes*) are available at <http://www.ala.org/ala/confservices/cognotes.htm>.

### North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG) Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG) will be holding its annual conference June 17-20, 2004. For more information, see <http://www.nasig.org/conference/nasig04.html>

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## Annual Meeting Local Advisory Committee (2004)

Committee web page:

<http://www.aallnet.org/events/local04/>

Cathy Breen (Catherine.Breen@usdoj.gov) and Darcy Kirk (dkirk@law.uconn.edu),  
Co-Chairs

### Subcommittees

Association Luncheon, Karen Moss (karen\_moss@ca1.uscourts.gov)  
Closing Banquet, Gina Lynch (gina.lynch@bingham.com)  
Daily Newspaper, Stephanie Burke (sjburke@bu.edu) and Michelle Pearse (mpearse@law.harvard.edu)  
Excursions and Library Tours, Deanna Barmakian (barm@law.harvard.edu) and Mary Rogalski (mrogalski@choate.com)  
Exhibits, Joan Shear (joan.shear@bc.edu)  
Family Social Hour, Kelly Browne (kbrowne@law.uconn.edu)  
Hospitality and Restaurant Guide, Anne Acton (aacton@nesl.edu) and Raquel Ortiz (rmortiz@bu.edu)  
Publicity, Marlene Alderman (alderman@bu.edu), Michael Hughes (michael.hughes@quinnipiac.edu) and John Pedini (jpedini@sociallaw.com)  
Registration, Bonnie Koneski-White (hairstripes@aol.com)  
Volunteers, Judy Gire (jgire@piercelaw.edu)



## Annual Meeting News and Events

### Association Luncheon

The Association Luncheon on Monday, July 12, will follow the international theme of the meeting and provide a wonderfully fragrant taste of the Middle East.

The theme will carry to the table centerpiece as well. We've joined with the Social Responsibilities SIS, and are asking luncheon attendees to bring along a book to add to the basket in the center of each table. These books will be donated to the "ReadBoston" program, which addresses problems in early childhood literacy. Their goal is to have the children of Boston reading by the third grade.

We are asking you to select a book, appropriate to grades K-3, whose story or main character is from another country or culture. Softcover or hardbound books are appropriate. Borders, Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com or your local book store will be happy to help you find the perfect selection. Your contribution will help us show our appreciation to Boston, and make this project successful.

***Remember your book for "ReadBoston"!***

### Simmons College GSLIS Reception

This year's reception will be held 6:30-8:15pm on Sunday, July 11, 2004. For more information, contact Stephanie Burke (sjburke@bu.edu) or Raquel Ortiz (rmortiz@bu.edu).

### Educational Program Handout Materials

Remember—Educational program materials will no longer be included in your registration bag. You can download and print materials at the link provided in your registration confirmation. Should you so desire, you may purchase a bound book of program materials from AALL.



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## LLNE Members and Other Local People Presenting at the 2004 AALL

### W1: Quick Start Basic Legal Reference

*Joan Shear, Coordinator, Boston College Law Library*  
*Stephanie Burke, Boston College Law Library*  
*John B. Nann, Yale Law School, Lillian Goldman Library*  
*Mary Ann Neary, Boston College Law Library*  
*Mark Sullivan, Boston College Law Library*  
*Susan C. Sullivan, Boston College Law Library*  
*Christine H. Swan, New Hampshire Law Library*  
*Karin Thurmin, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of Attorney General Library*

### W-2: Shopping in the Global Marketplace: Information Sources for International Trade

*Mark D. Engsburg, Coordinator, Yale Law School, Lillian Goldman Library*  
*Sara A. Dillon, Suffolk University Law School*  
*Daniel L. Wade, Yale Law School, Lillian Goldman Library*

### W-4, Share Your Library with the World: Grant Writing Basics and More

*Jeannette Bastian, Simmons College, Graduate School of Library and Information Science*

### W-5 Taking the Law into Your Own Hands: Establishing an In-house Book Repair Program

*Ethel Hellman, Harvard University, Widener Library*  
*AnnMarie Ostrowski, Harvard University, Widener Library*  
*Kate Rich, Harvard University, Widener Library*

### A-3 Passport to the World of Legal Information: Foreign and International Legal Materials on the Web

*Jeannette Yackle, Harvard Law School Library*

### B-5 Envisioning New Possibilities for Research Training and Collections for Foreign-Trained Students and Lawyers

*Cynthia Flamm, Boston University Center for English Language and Orientation Programs*

### C-6, What in the World Do They Know? Information Literacy and Today's Law Students

*Stephanie Burke, Boston University, Pappas Law Library*

### D-4, Creating and Maintaining Legal History Collections: Collections Development and Analysis Issues for the Law Librarian

*Karen Beck, Boston College Law Library*

### F-2, Let's Make a Deal: Strategies to Avoid Paying List Price

*Diane F. Frake, Vermont Law School Library*

### F-5, New Horizons for the Future of AACR

*Ann Girona Sitkin, Coordinator and Moderator, Harvard Law School Library*  
*John Hostage, Harvard Law School Library*

### F-6, A Current Appraisal of Chinese, Japanese and Korean Legal Research

*William P. Alford, Harvard Law School*  
*Nongji Zhang, Harvard Law School Library*

### G-5, Legal Information Microform Materials: The Gold Standard for Legal Collections, Research and Preservation

*John W. Pedini, Social Law Library*

### H-2, "Parlez-vous le droit?": Collecting Legal Materials in Foreign Languages

*Daniel W. Wade, Moderator, Yale Law Library*

### H-5, Hijab, Jihad, Riba and Huhud: Islamic Law in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

*M. Lesley Wilkins, Harvard Law School Library*  
*S. Nazim Ali, Harvard Islamic Finance Information Project*  
*Christina Jones-Pauli, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University*  
*Frank Vogel, Islamic Legal Studies Program*

### H-6, Exploring the New World of Digital Preservation Initiatives

*Bonnie Collier, Coordinator, Yale Law School Library*  
*Harry S. Martin III, Moderator, Harvard Law School Library*  
*Mackenzie Smith, MIT Libraries*

### I-4, Unravel the Mysteries of the Required SEC Filings of Foreign Companies

*Mary Ames, Coordinator & Moderator, Edwards & Angell*

### I-6, Two-Stepping with Technology Returns

*John B. Nann, Coordinator and Speaker, Yale Law School, Lillian Goldman Library*

### J-2, Around the World in 30 Minutes: Or, a Whirlwind Tour of International and Foreign Law Web Sites

*Mark D. Engsberg, Coordinator and Speaker, Yale Law School, Lillian Goldman Library*  
*Tracy L. Thompson, NELLCO*

### J-5, Electronic Law Journals: The Invisible Literature

*Deanna Barmakian, Coordinator and Speaker*  
*Harvard Law School Library*

*J-6, What's Happening at ALA? CC: DA and SAC Reports*  
*Elizabeth Whitehead, Yale Law School, Lillian Goldman Library*



**Make Way!  
AALL 2004 Book Drive  
Spring is almost here! Help a child blossom by donating a book today!**

The Social Responsibilities SIS is coordinating the 6th annual children's book drive in Boston. The theme this year is "Make Way!" based on Boston's beloved children's book "Make Way for Ducklings" by Robert McCloskey (The Viking Press, New York, 1941).

This year's efforts will benefit Read Boston - a city education support initiative.

"Helping kids learn to read is everyone's job -not only parents and educators but also civic and religious leaders, medical professionals, business people, friends, neighbors, you and I." These words spoken by Mayor Thomas M. Menino during our "Book Bonanza" are what ReadBoston is all about. In Boston, close to 50% of third graders do not read at grade level. It is the mission of ReadBoston to ensure that all children in Boston are fluent readers by the end of the third grade. <sup>1</sup>

The program includes: the Family Literacy Program which provides books for classroom libraries and teacher training; the Reading Trail, a family-focused reading program which allows families to borrow books; and the Storymobile which lends books to kids camps and summer programs.

Think about how you would like to donate next year. Donating is easier than ever! Beginning in March 2004 you will be able to go directly to Amazon.com to view the Book Drive Wish List and your donation will be shipped directly to the Book Drive team! <sup>2</sup>

Other options include bringing your donation with you to the conference, donating at the Association Luncheon or by sending your donation or check made out to AALL to:

*Make Way! Book Drive*  
c/o Annette Demers  
Harvard Law School Library  
1545 Massachusetts Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
1-617-495-4531  
ademers@law.harvard.edu

<sup>1</sup> Quotation courtesy the City of Boston website. <http://www.cityofboston.gov/bra/ReadBoston/JCSRB.asp>

<sup>2</sup> Go to Amazon.com - Click on top link for "Wish List". Search for AALL Book Drive or Read Boston.

## What Is All the Hub-bub?

"The HUB," the daily newspaper for the 2004 AALL annual meeting in Boston, will be YOUR hub for up-to-date information throughout the 2004 AALL Annual Meeting. Published Sunday through Wednesday, The HUB will feature articles of interest to the profession, highlight the accomplishments of scheduled speakers, keep you up to date on SIS and Committee meetings and special sessions. Humorous anecdotes, historical tidbits, photos, and even original cartoon submissions are all welcome and encouraged. Trying to find your way around the Hub? You will also find articles about the Boston area, including local activities and sites of interest, tourist attractions, cultural events, and dining.

If you are interested in submitting an article or other information to the Daily prior to the convention, kindly send items to the Co-Editors, Stephanie Burke and Michelle Pearse at the addresses below. E-mail submissions are strongly encouraged. The deadline for publication in the Sunday, July 10th edition is Monday, June 14th. During the convention, the submission deadline for the Monday through Wednesday

editions is 1:00 p.m. of the preceding day. The HUB office will be located Room 305 of the Hynes Convention Center.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Stephanie J. Burke  
Senior Reference and International Law Librarian  
Pappas Law Library, RM 332  
Boston University School of Law  
765 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, MA 02215  
617-353-8853 (voice)  
617-353-5995 (fax)  
sjburke@bu.edu

Michelle Pearse  
Bibliographer for Anglo-American Law  
Harvard Law School Library  
1545 Massachusetts Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
617-496-2102 (voice)  
617-496-4409 (fax)  
mpearse@law.harvard.edu

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## LLNE Members' "Best of Boston"

The votes are in...LLNE members had some great suggestions for their top spots in the Boston area. Be sure to check out the Local Advisory Committee web page at <http://www.aallnet.org/events/local04/> for more suggestions.

Read what your fellow members offered as suggestions.

### *Ginny McVarish, Widener Library*

**Atasca**, a Portuguese restaurant with 2 locations in Cambridge - 279 Broadway (smaller and more intimate) and 50 Hampshire Street. Great food, wonderful service, our favorite "Special Occasion" restaurant. Prices are quite reasonable.

A women's clothing store called **JMiles**, located at 340 Huron Ave. in Cambridge (on the 72 bus line, and a short walk from the Fayerweather St. stop on the 74 and 78). It's a smallish store and definitely not cheap, but if you need to be as appropriately dressed as if you were wearing a tailored suit but hate tailored suits, this is the store to shop in. If you have an interview coming up, they will suggest outfits (if you wish) that will make a great impression. They have more casual clothes too. I love everything I've bought there.

### *Carolyn Michaud/ Bristol Law Library*

I love **Finale's Restaurant** in the theater district for amazing desserts. It has mirrors installed so that patrons can watch the chefs as they create their masterpieces. Prices run fairly high, but it's worth it for flavor and entertainment value!

For a review, see Bradman's Business Travel Guides, <http://www.bradmans.com>

### *Tracy Thompson, Executive Director of NELLCO*

For people-watching over a ridiculously expensive martini and observing the hospitality industry at its finest, the **bar at the Four Seasons** is a perfect spot. Oh, and they have a **spa**, too, if you're feeling particularly decadent.

The Four Seasons  
200 Boylston Street  
Boston, MA 02116  
(617) 338-4400

Just down the street is **The Women's Union**, a store featuring items made by women craftspeople, artists and entrepreneurs. All proceeds benefit The Women's Union, an organization dedicated to securing social justice for all women.

The Women's Union  
356 Boylston Street  
Boston MA 02116  
Tel: 617-536-5651

Then, even if you've seen them before, round out the day with a **Blue Man Group** performance of Tubes at the Charles Playhouse. You can never get enough interactive performance art!

Chareles Playhouse  
74 Warrenton St.  
Boston, MA 02116  
617-931-2787

### *Ellen Walsh, Mintz Levin*

Best Mexican  
**Sol Azteca**  
914A Beacon Street, Brookline

Best used bookstore  
**Boston Book Annex** (go after sangria, buy more)  
906 Beacon Street, Brookline  
<http://www.rarebook.com/bba.htm>

Best hamburger  
**Mr. Bartley's Burger Cottage** (go hungry)  
<http://www.mrbartleys.com/main.html>

Best selection of remainders  
**Harvard Book Store** (go after a burger, you will need your strength)  
<http://www.harvard.com/>

Best paper selection  
**Paper Source**, their motto is, "do something creative everyday."  
<http://www.paper-source.com/>

Best source for fun, inexpensive, last minute gifts  
**Black Ink**  
101 Charles St.  
Boston, MA 02114-3226  
Phone: 617-723-3883

Best source of knowledgeable, friendly people to talk to about fountain pens:  
**Bob Slate Stationer**  
63 Church Street, Cambridge, MA  
617-547-7181

### *Mary Rogalski, Choate Hall Stewart*

The **Bostonian Society Library and Museum** Located in the Old State House, the Museum is on the Freedom Trail at the corner of State and Washington Streets in downtown Boston. Dwarfed by the surrounding skyscrapers of Boston's Financial District, the Museum is a delightful gem. Accessible via the Orange or Blue lines of the T, both of which have station stops underneath the building ("State Street" stop), as well as via the Green Line (and a short walk down School Street). The Museum is also across from the National Park Services' Information Center, which offers tours of the Freedom Trail.



**Michelle Pearse, Harvard Law School Library**

Best ice cream close to the convention center  
**JP Licks Ice Cream**  
852 Newbury Street

Best Italian food outside the North End  
**Maggiano's**  
4 Columbus Ave.  
(If you go with a group, consider ordering "family style.")  
<http://www.maggianos.com/locations/detail.asp?sid=001%2E025%2E0139>  
Green Line, Arlington or Boylston stops

Best seafood  
**No Name Restaurant**  
(great good, cheap prices---cash or check only)  
15 Fish Pier Street  
See review at <http://www.boston.com/dining/restaurant/342>

Best "cheap" place to grab something simple to eat near the convention center  
**The Pour House**, 909 Boylston Street

Nearby supermarkets:  
**Trader Joe's**, 899 Boylston Street (right across from the convention center)  
**Shaws**, 53 Huntington Ave.

Best places for clothes shopping  
**Marshall's**  
500 Boylston Street  
**Filene's Basement**  
Downtown Crossing

**Stephanie J. Burke, Boston University**

The **Helmand** restaurant (143 1st Street, Cambridge, 617-492-4646) near the Cambridge Side Galleria and Lechmere T stop. Afghan cuisine. Very large vegetarian menu as well as lamb and beef dishes. Comfortable atmosphere, not too loud. Good service too.

**Exhibit Hall**

Want a preview of the vendors that will be in the Exhibit Hall? Check out [http://www.aallnet.org/events/04\\_exhibitors.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/events/04_exhibitors.asp) for a preliminary list.

**Need to check on a meeting date/time?**

Use [http://www.aallnet.org/database/meeting\\_annual\\_events.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/database/meeting_annual_events.asp) for a sortable list of meeting dates/times at the conference.

*It's almost here . . . are you ready? Let the excitement begin!!*

**William S. Hein & Co., Inc.'s 22nd Annual  
FUN WALK & RUN**

Hosted by William S. Hein & Co., Inc.  
Race Director: Dick Spinelli, V.P. of Sales & Marketing

Pre-Registration is encouraged -

All entries must be received by Friday, June 11, 2004. Register online at [www.wshein.com](http://www.wshein.com), e-mail us at [marketing@wshein.com](mailto:marketing@wshein.com), or call us at 1-800-828-7571 and we'll mail you a registration form.

WHEN: Sunday, July 11, 2004 at 7:00 a.m.

WHERE: Boston, MA - Along the scenic Charles River

The Fun Walk & Run will begin at the foot of the Massachusetts Ave. Bridge and Storrow Drive.

HOTEL PICK-UP: Buses will be at The Sheraton Boston Hotel at 39 Dalton St. beginning at 6:15 a.m. to shuttle runners to the race site. Last bus leaves the Sheraton at 6:30 a.m. sharp!!

REGISTER TODAY! More information to follow in your Fun Walk & Run registration packet.

**Dine Around Deadline**

The deadline for Dine Arouns the night of the Opening Reception is July 2nd. For more information, see <http://www.aallnet.org/events/local04/dinearounds.htm>

**Placement Service at the Annual Meeting**

Looking to recruit or be recruited? Registration forms for Placement Services at the Annual Meeting are available at [http://www.aallnet.org/events/04\\_placement\\_services.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/events/04_placement_services.asp).

**Excursions Registration due June 16th**

Plan to join one of the many wonderful excursions planned in Boston? Check out [http://www.aallnet.org/events/04\\_excursions.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/events/04_excursions.asp)

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## Please Join Us in Boston!

(Check final Program for room location)



## LLNE/SNELLA Joint Chapter Luncheon

Tuesday, July 13, 2004 from 11:45 am – 1:00 pm  
Sheraton Hotel

### Menu

New England Clam Chowder  
Tri-Colored Pasta Salad with Pesto  
Balsamic Roasted Vegetable Salad  
Grilled Chicken Caesar Wrap  
Tuna Salad with Celery and Onions on a Large Croissant  
Baked Ham and Swiss on Focaccia Roll  
Oven Roasted Turkey and Havarti Cheese on a Sesame Bulkie  
Assorted Spreads, Chips, Pretzels  
Selection of Miniature Pastries  
Freshly Brewed Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee, Tea, Water, Soda

\$30.00 per person

**Please send the form below and a check payable to SNELLA by June 10, 2004 to:**

Susan Scoville  
Library  
Pepe & Hazard LLP  
225 Asylum St.  
Hartford, CT 06103

**Please also email [library@pepehazard.com](mailto:library@pepehazard.com) that you will attend.**

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Yes, I'll see you at the LLNE / SNELLA Joint Chapter Luncheon in Boston

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Shopping in the Global Marketplace: Information Sources for International Trade**  
**One day AALL Pre-Conference Workshop**  
**Friday, July 9, 2004**

-Are your attorneys asking questions about doing business in the EU?

-Are the law students and/or faculty at your institution asking for help researching issues related to China's accession to the WTO?

-Do you have attorneys looking to identify information sources for the client selling goods in Asia and Latin America?

-Have you been asked to teach a seminar session on international trade?

-Are you drifting amidst the sea of acronyms: OECD, ALADI, ASEAN, EFTA?

If requests like these are filling up your in box, professional help is on the way.

Shopping in the Global Marketplace: Information Sources for International Trade is a one-day workshop on Friday, July 9, 2004. The venue for the workshop is the modern, convenient, and lovely Suffolk University Law School. The expert panel of speakers will address the importance of international trade, how to find trade resources, the World Trade Organization, antitrust

and competition law, and the ins and outs of regional trading systems - EU, OAS, and APEC, to name a few.

The workshop is sponsored by the FCIL-SIS and features a fine slate of speakers, including Professor Sara Dillon, author of *International Trade and Economic Law and the European Union* (Hart 2002), Professor Uche Ewelukwa, a noted expert on international competition law and a 2003-04 Carnegie Council Fellow, and many extremely cool law librarians with expertise in international trade and related issues. This event is appropriate for librarians new to foreign and international law; it is also appropriate for seasoned librarians who want to update or expand their knowledge of this vital area.

Space is still available for the workshop. The registration fee of \$135.00 includes the full-day program, handout materials, continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshments. Additional information is available on page 29 of the preliminary program.

Even if you are unable to attend the entire AALL conference, consider spending one day to sharpen your trade law research skills!

We look forward to seeing you in Boston!

Mark D. Engsborg, JD, PhD, MSLIS  
Program Coordinator, International Trade Workshop  
International Law  
Librarian and Lecturer in Legal Research  
Lillian Goldman Law Library  
Yale Law School P.O. Box 208215 New Haven, CT 06520  
Phone: (203) 432-7371

*continued from page 6*

Diane D'Angelo announced that the Public Relations Committee is developing a bibliography of member publications and presentations which will be available on the web site and at the chapter table at AALL. Members are encouraged to send information to Diane.

Ed Hart, Government Relations Committee, is looking for a New Hampshire representative.

Margaret Cianfarini announced that Sue Drisko and Sharon Persons received scholarships for the spring meeting. A decision about scholarships for AALL will be made soon. The committee is also seeking suggestions for other types of scholarships that could be considered in addition to those related to chapter and AALL meetings.

Darcy Kirk, co-chair of the AALL local arrangements committee, announced that volunteers are still needed for the upcoming meeting. There are about 100 volunteers so far and it is anticipated that approximately 200 will be needed. The Opening Reception on Sunday will be a dessert reception preceded by dine-arounds in various Boston restaurants. Tours of Boston libraries and other city and area attractions will be available.

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## RSS to the Information Overload Rescue

*Susan Vaughn, Suffolk University Law School Library*

In the last issue of the LLNE newsletter, I wrote about the 2004 *Computers in Libraries* conference in Washington D.C. At the conference there was a considerable amount of buzz about blogging and RSS. Many of the presenters focused on, or mentioned, these technologies. I attended one session at which panelists were discussing, among other things, RSS. After the panel discussion, during the question and answer period one woman finally asked, "What exactly is RSS?" and the audience erupted in applause (one of those *it isn't just me* moments). So if you feel like you keep hearing about RSS, aggregators, and feeds but don't really know what everyone is talking about, you are not alone.

### *What is RSS and why should you care?*

There is no consensus on what the acronym RSS stands for exactly. The choices are: Rich Site Summary; RDF Site Summary; or Really Simple Syndication. Basically, RSS is a technology used to syndicate updates to web pages and blogs. The behind-the-scenes XML code that is generated using RSS is generally referred to as *feed*. The delivery of this feed allows you to receive breaking news right on your computer, just like you receive the daily paper right on your doorstep. It can be a great time saver for the information professional, eliminating the need to search multiple web sites to keep current on breaking legal news.

### *Give RSS a Test Drive*

The best way to experience the power of RSS is to give it a test drive. In order to try it, you will need an **RSS reader** (also know as a *news reader* or an *aggregator*), which will allow you to subscribe to a web site's RSS feed. Once you subscribe to a site, your RSS reader will automatically pull the latest information in from all the sites to which you subscribe, presenting the information together in one place. An added bonus is that currently when you view content via RSS there are no annoying ads.

There are many RSS readers out there and each works a little differently. They all allow you to subscribe to sites that provide RSS feeds, organize content, and view feeds. Instead of providing the whole article, you usually receive a headline or a headline and summary of the article. An RSS reader can be either web-based or client software residing on your computer. There are many options in terms of features and look. The following are just two examples of commonly used aggregators:

#### *Bloglines*

<http://www.bloglines.com/>

Bloglines is a free (for now) web-based aggregator. This means you can access it from home, work, or while away on vacation. It has an integrated search engine that allows you to find RSS feeds using keyword queries. (Bloglines is my current aggregator of choice).

#### *NewzCrawler*

<http://www.newzcrawler.com/>

Are you an outlook express user? Then you might want to try NewzCrawler. NewzCrawler is an aggregator with an Express-like user interface that you download onto your computer. You can try NewsCrawler free for fourteen days.

If you want to set up an RSS reader in under ten minutes, here are two online tutorials you could use to get started.

#### *LawLibTech's Bloglines Tutorial*

<http://www.lawlibtech.com/archives/000129.html>

This is part III in a well-written series of tutorials that outline how to use RSS. This part explains how to manage a bloglines account, including adding feeds, basic navigation, and keyword searching.

#### *Ernie the Attorney's FeedDemon Tutorial*

[http://www.emietheattorney.net/ernie\\_the\\_attorney/rssxml/index.html](http://www.emietheattorney.net/ernie_the_attorney/rssxml/index.html)

This tutorial gives detailed instructions to set up a FeedDemon account and includes an OPML file with 44 legal news feeds to help get you started.

If you want some more information about particular RSS readers, the following links provide annotated lists.

#### *Open Directory Project Annotated List of Newsreaders*

[http://dmoz.org/Reference/Libraries/Library\\_and\\_Information\\_Science/Technical\\_Services/Cataloguing/Metadata/RDF/Applications/RSS/News\\_Readers/](http://dmoz.org/Reference/Libraries/Library_and_Information_Science/Technical_Services/Cataloguing/Metadata/RDF/Applications/RSS/News_Readers/)

#### *Peter Scott's RSS Readers Page*

<http://www.lights.com/weblogs/rss.html>

Great annotated list of available RSS readers notes special features, platform requirements, and gives web links.

### *How do you find feeds?*

Once you have installed your RSS reader, you will want to add feeds of interesting, content-rich web sites. There are several ways to find useful feeds: look on the pages of your favorite web site for an RSS icon; your reader may have a built in search that will let you find feeds; check the blogrolls (list of blogs) of sites that you read regularly; find a list of legal feeds; or use a RSS directory or search engine to find feeds of interest.

If you are browsing a site that you like look for a feed icon (    or ) or text that says "Syndicate this site," "XML," or "RSS".

If the site has text like this or an icon, simply click on it. You will see a page that is coded in XML. Don't worry if the page is unreadable to you, just copy the URL and add it to your RSS reader to subscribe.

The aggregator I use, blogline, has a built in search feature. By putting in keywords, I can find RSS feeds on topics of interest. I am able to preview the blog or news site and add the feed into my aggregator in a few easy steps. Additionally, Bloglines has a feature, "My Recommendations," that recommends additional feeds based on the ones to which I have already subscribed.

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Why recreate the wheel? The Virtual Chase's News Feeds for Law ([http://www.virtualchase.com/resources/rss\\_law.html](http://www.virtualchase.com/resources/rss_law.html)) provides a list of not to be missed resources that focuses on current legal news. For the RSS feed address, right click the XML icon  and copy the shortcut.

You can also find feeds by using a RSS directory or search engine. NewsIsFree (<http://www.newsisfree.com/>) is a directory, RSS search engine, and an aggregator, all rolled into one. The directory lets you browse topics like *business* or *alternative medicine*. You can also search feeds and, if you purchase the premium features, save your search as an RSS feed.

If you have not found enough feeds to keep you busy or you want to search for specialized topics there may be an RSS search engine in your future. One of the top RSS search engines for law librarians is bLAWg SEARCH (<http://blawgs.detod.com/>). This is a search engine designed specifically for law-related blogs. It has an advanced search page that allows the equivalent of Boolean *and*, *or*, *not*, and *phrase* searching. You can subscribe to the search by clicking on the XML icon  and saving the URL in your RSS reader. The company that designed this search engine is looking to sell it but it is still be up and running at this point (reviewed 5/12/2004).

Another popular RSS search engine is Feedster (<http://www.feedster.com>). Feedster indexes over 1,000,000 weblog posts crawled on an hourly basis. Like bLAWg SEARCH you can save your search as an RSS Feed. For more RSS tools, take a look at the FaganFinder list of blog and RSS search tools located at: <http://www.faganfinder.com/blogs/>.

### ***The Future of RSS - Customizable Feeds***

Once you start receiving your news updated throughout the day in your RSS reader, you might get greedy. You might want not just headlines and articles selected by editors and bloggers but updated responses that answer your own search queries. So how do you go about creating a feed that is customized based on your search topic?

Right now there are a few customizable RSS search tools out there. I mentioned some blog search RSS feeds that are available through the NewsIsFree premium (fee) service, bLAWg SEARCH, and Feedster. Another similar service is PubSub (<http://www.pubsub.com/weblogs/>). You create a PubSub subscription by putting in keywords and the results of your subscriptions will be delivered as an RSS file you can view on the web or in an RSS reader. With PubSub you can create a search for weblogs, newsgroups, or SEC/Edgar filings.

One way to get semi-customizable news through an RSS feed is to subscribe to subject category feeds provided by Moreover.com. It provides a large list of feeds ([http://w.moreover.com/categories/category\\_list\\_rss.html](http://w.moreover.com/categories/category_list_rss.html)), for example, law news, mergers and acquisitions news, and, for you Xbox aficionados, video game news.

One of the first commercial information providers to offer customizable RSS feeds, is a legal publisher. Recently, Westlaw announced changes to its IntraClip service that include RSS feeds. IntraClips are similar to Westclips. You can run a terms and connector search in many databases, for example federal cases, legal newspapers, or the federal register; and, now, you can

have the results automatically updated and delivered to your RSS reader. There is no charge to access IntraClip or to view the result but choose to view the full text of an article or document on Westlaw, charges will accrue. To create an IntraClip, visit West's Integration Solutions (<http://westintraclip.westlaw.com/>).

In 2002, people generated five exabytes of information, the equivalent of a half-million new libraries the size of the Library of Congress. (See, Lyman, Peter and Hal R. Varian, "How Much Information", 2003. Retrieved from <http://www.sims.berkeley.edu/how-much-info-2003> on March 22, 2004.) RSS technology is one attempt to relieve the ever increasing pressures of information overload. I have found it to be an indispensable tool in the current awareness arsenal.

### ***Other RSS Resources***

*Peter Scott's RSS Readers Page*  
<http://www.lights.com/weblogs/rss1.html>

A list of RSS resources including: RSS readers, articles on RSS, and links to RSS search engines.

*Lockergnome RSS and Atom Resources*  
<http://channels.lockergnome.com/rss/resources/>

A list of resources including: an RSS Quickstart Guide; an article on the importance of RSS and Atom; a list of news aggregators; and a long list of feeds.

*Unleashing the Power of RSS*  
<http://www.sls.lib.il.us/infotech/presentations/2004/cil-rss.pdf>

Jenny Levine's fabulous *Computers in Libraries'* presentation on RSS.

### ***Beyond RSS: Is There a Blog in Your Future?***

Okay, now you are an RSS expert. You have set up your RSS reader and are grabbing feeds left and right. Some of these feeds are probably web logs created by your fellow librarians, like Sabrina Pacifica, author of beSpacific ([www.bespacific.com](http://www.bespacific.com)). If you are wowed by the incredibly useful information provided on blogs like beSpacific or were intrigued after reading "Blogs in Law Libraries" in the May edition of the *Spectrum*, I have a question for you. Would you be interested in joining in a multi-authored blog for New England law librarians? I am thinking about starting a New England law librarian blog focused on reference librarianship and am looking for like minded bloggers. If this appeals to you or you are already blogging on a similar topic please contact me at: [svaughn@suffolk.edu](mailto:svaughn@suffolk.edu).

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Editor's note:  
See also

Christina K. Pikas, *Trends in Blog Searching*  
(<http://www.llrx.com/features/trendsblogs.htm>)

Bob Strepo, *News on Demand*, PC World (July 2004)(<http://www.pcworld.com/reviews/article/0,aid,116018,pg,1,00.asp>  
(last accessed June 10, 2004)

## Have a Thirst for Organization? Got FURL?

By Michelle Pearse, Harvard Law School Library

For those of you who have tons of individual web pages or content that you want to keep organized and accessible, FURL might be a useful tool for you. Currently available in BETA for free at <http://www.furl.net/index.jsp>, this service allows you to create a "virtual file cabinet" by storing and organizing articles and web pages in a searchable format. You can categorize them by topic and provide ratings, comments and clippings. By installing a button to your browser (or installing the entire FURL toolbar), you can easily save pages with a couple of clicks. (See <http://www.furl.net/buttonHelp.jsp> for instructions.) FURL saves the page and allows you to keyword search it later. Do you want to be able to share this information with others? They can visit your public archives or subscribe to your archives and receive e-mail messages of the items/links that you find. They can also post comments. Excited about RSS after reading Susan's article? FURL also allows you to create RSS feeds so that people can receive that. Do you have things that you would prefer not to share? You can also pick the level of security of your items so anything can be "private" and for your reference only.

While it seems clear that FURL will most likely go to a fee-based service, it is worth checking out for now. You might discover that you like it so much, you would not mind paying a reasonable fee for it. I have found that the service has been fairly reliable except for one brief service outage. Sometimes there are also problems with pop up blockers, but pressing the control key when you hit the FURL button should do the trick. If you have problems saving pages from password-protected websites, try downloading the tool bar instead of just the button.

As the FAQ's point out (<http://www.furl.net/gaq.jsp>), while bookmarks (and bookmark managers) are useful for storing locations and general resources on the Internet, they can be lacking for storing specific pages of information within a website. FURL provides one useful, flexible solution to managing the masses of information we now collect in web-based form.

## What Is a Bookmarklet?

You may have seen the term "bookmarklet" used? Just what is a bookmarklet? It is a java script application that can be stored as a URL in a bookmark in most browsers or within hyperlinks on a web page. They can be used for a variety of functions such as changing a page's appearance, jumping to run a search in a different search engine, or obtaining data from a web page. Check out the following resources to learn more about bookmarklets.

Wikipedia

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bookmarklet>

(provides explanation of bokmarklets and their applications)

Greg R. Notess, Search Engine Boomarklets

<http://www.searchengineshowdown.com/bmlets/>

Greg R. Notess, Bookmarklets, Favelets and KeyMarks:  
Shortcuts Galore

Online, July/August 2003

Available at <http://www.infotoday.com/online/jul03/OnTheNet.shtml>

Bookmarklets.com

<http://bookmarklets.com/>

Jesse Ruderman's Bookmarklets

<http://www.squarefree.com/bookmarklets/>



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## Notes from NELLCO – May, 2004

*Submitted by Tracy L. Thompson, Executive Director*

When the academic year winds down, many of us experience a momentary false sense of serenity. We imagine that we'll finally get that breathing room to clear our desktops, decorate our workspace, write that piece for LLJ, finish project X. And then reality slaps us in the face. Sure, it's the end of the academic year, but it's also the end of the fiscal year and the start of a new one. It's time to review the budget and make those last minute purchases we had hoped we would have room for. It's time for all of those renewals that kick in on July 1. It's time to focus on AALL and the programs we proposed those many months ago thinking we had the luxury of time. So with the ebb of another academic year comes the surge of the summer calendar.

Things are just as busy at NELLCO. A year of strategic planning activity, outlined in the last LLNE newsletter, has finally culminated in the adoption of the 2004-2009 strategic plan. The plan passed by a unanimous vote at the Board of Directors meeting held April 28-29 in Freeport, ME. You'll find a link to the plan on the NELLCO website under the *About* dropdown menu. While the plan sets our course for the next five years, a big part of the plan is to continue to plan. Having celebrated 20 years as an active consortium in 2003, it's important for NELLCO to continue to look to the horizon to see where we might be 20 years hence. The growth of the organization needs to be carefully considered and thoughtfully charted. With the addition of 40 affiliates in 2003 and more in 2004 (as of this writing we will be welcoming Seton Hall, Rutgers and the University of Maryland Law Libraries as new affiliate members in the new fiscal year), NELLCO is poised for change. That change should be well orchestrated and should reflect the needs of the membership rather than the direction of the prevailing winds. So one important element of the plan calls for the Executive Board to be proactive and develop a comprehensive plan by fall of 2005 to map out the long-term growth of the organization.

By the time you read this column NELLCO will also have launched the new NELLCO website! Many of you will recall that Bernard Piccione, formerly of the Social Law Library, gifted Diane Klaiber with a new look for the website when she retired in 2001. You might also recall me at every meeting since then saying "the new site is forthcoming!" Well, the new look Bernard designed has finally been honed and married to content to create the new site. The site is intended to be much more dynamic and interactive. Members can manage their own IP information. Members can post news items or note events on the shared calendar to alert colleagues to hot topics or timely opportunities. Members can join interest group list-servs to share ideas and information with like-minded colleagues. We hope to add even more functionality in the next few years. Please take some time to look around the new site, and e-mail me at [tracy.thompson@yale.edu](mailto:tracy.thompson@yale.edu) with any ideas, concerns or suggestions you may have. And don't forget, staff members from NELLCO libraries must register on the new site and create a unique password in order to access all that the site has to offer.

NELLCO will be busy in Boston, too! On Sat. July 10 from 5:00-7:00pm at Suffolk Law School, NELLCO will host our annual meet and greet for all staff from all full and affiliate member libraries. Please plan to come out and enjoy a few hours with your NELLCO colleagues before the hubbub of the Annual Meeting begins. If you are a member and have not received the e-mail invitation from NELLCO please contact me at [tracy.thompson@yale.edu](mailto:tracy.thompson@yale.edu) and I'll send it out to you. I hope to see many of you there!

### **NELLCO Pilot Internship and Personnel Exchange Programs 2004-2006**

*by Stephanie Burke, Boston University Law Library*

The NELLCO Internship and Personnel Exchange Task Force is pleased to report that its proposals for pilot internship and personnel exchange programs within NELLCO member libraries were approved at the recent NELLCO Directors' meeting in Maine.

#### Background

The NELLCO Internship and Personnel Exchange Task Force (the Task Force), established in November of 2003, was charged

with investigating the establishment of internship and personnel exchange programs within the NELLCO member law libraries.

The Task Force members include Sue D. Zago and Sharon Persons of Northeastern University School of Law, Elizabeth Lambert and Kim Dulin of Harvard Law School Library, Kristy Moon, David Bachman, Stephanie Burke (Task Force coordinator) and Raquel Ortiz, all of Boston University School of Law, Barry Shanks of Franklin Pierce Law Center, Simon Canick of Columbia Law School and Rebecca Engsborg of Quinnipiac University School of Law.

NELLCO Internship Pilot

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There is well-documented interest in this program from both law school and library school students. Recent examples of the appeal of such a program include Franklin Pierce Law Center where 22 of 500 law students came to information session on law librarianship as career choice); and recent LLNE coordinated visits to New England library schools, which were very well attended.

The Task Force believes that establishing an internship program will benefit NELLCO and its constituent libraries in many ways, including: as a tool to recruit new staff; providing experience for the interns, leading to a pool of skilled law library job applicants; attracting new librarians to law librarianship; placing NELLCO at cutting edge of law libraries, creatively addressing the impending shortage of law librarians; serving the profession by mentoring new recruits; and, building professional relationship with new entering law librarians.

The Task Force undertook a review of existing law library internship, fellowship and residency programs. From these existing programs, the Task Force compiled a list of qualities and drafted a proposal. Some important internship features include no "busy work" (i.e. tasks intern undertakes must add to his/her education and training as a potential law librarian), the opportunity to rotate through different departments, among others. Some key elements of NELLCO's role include acting as clearinghouse of opportunities in member libraries, with the Task Force providing support for interns and host libraries.

In late summer and early fall 2004, the Task Force will begin a public relations campaign, solicit volunteer hosts, contact library and law schools, make trips to law and library schools, host brown bag lunches, promote at LLNE LIS visits, contact student organizations, and develop a section of the NELLCO website for posting internship opportunities. The Task Force hopes to place interns for Spring and Fall 2005 terms, then collect feedback from hosts and interns in Spring 2006 and report to Directors on pilot project in Spring 2006. The Directors will then decide whether or not to continue the NELLCO Internship project.

#### NELLCO Personnel Exchange Pilot

The NELLCO Internship and Personnel Exchange Task Force (the Task Force) also researched library personnel exchange programs. Though there were not many existing personnel programs, the Task Force reviewed existing programs and compiled a list of important issues related to personnel exchanges.

The Task Force believes that establishing a personnel exchange program will benefit NELLCO and its constituent libraries in several ways, including benefiting individual NELLCO libraries, placing NELLCO at the cutting edge within the law library community; and benefiting individual librarians.

Timed to commence after the Internship pilot is up and running, the Task Force will set up a pilot personnel exchange program for summer 2005, with a public relations campaign starting in Winter 2004/Spring 2005. The exchange program will begin modestly, with only one or two exchanges. As with the Internship Pilot, the opportunities will be listed on a section of the NELLCO website. The libraries participating in the pilot will be located in the same geographical area to avoid some of the more daunting logistical issues such as housing and travel. Eventually, the Task Force hopes to be able to facilitate exchanges between different geographic areas. After pilot exchanges, the Task Force will collect feedback, and produce a report for the Directors. The Directors will then decide whether to continue with the personnel exchange project.

### **NELLCO Collaborative Web Site**

*by Irene Good, Boston College Law Library*

Several NELLCO member librarians are currently working on a proposal to build a collaborative legal research web site that covers state sources. The idea is to have libraries with unique knowledge about state specific resources build the research pages for those states. The links will be annotated and the research pages will have a uniform look and feel for easy navigation among the resources. It is expected the site will also provide definitive information with respect to whether some content is even available on the Internet for free.

For example, if you are looking for the Massachusetts Rules of Court these are not available on the World Wide Web. This site would explained that the Massachusetts Rules of Court are not available for free and recommend the legal researcher go to a local law library. The site would contain links to the library catalogs participating in creating and maintaining the site. We will refer researchers back to our libraries for unique sources unavailable online.

The present proposal offers to create research pages covering the following states: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The following individuals are working on the proposal and hoped to proceed with the planning this summer.

Diane D'Angelo, Suffolk University Law Library, Massachusetts  
Tina DeLucia, Quinnipiac University Law Library, Connecticut  
Jeff Dowd, Connecticut Judicial Branch Library, Connecticut  
Sue Zago, Northeastern University Law Library, Massachusetts  
Rebecca Engsborg, Quinnipiac University Law Library, Connecticut,  
Irene Good, Boston College Law Library, Massachusetts  
Sandy Lamar, New England School of Law Library, Massachusetts

If you are interested in more information, please contact Irene Good at [irene.good.1@bc.edu](mailto:irene.good.1@bc.edu).

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## WHAT ARE YOU READING?

*Edited by Hilary Frye, Connecticut State Law & Legislative Reference Library*

### **Triangle: The Fire that Changed America**

by David Von Drehle

One hundred and forty-six people lost their lives when a fast-moving fire swept through the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory on March 25, 1911. This book chronicles the fire and the emergence of worker safety as a national concern in its aftermath. The author includes not only the events surrounding the fire itself but also vividly evokes Greenwich Village of 1911. The fatalities are not just statistics but people you feel you know because you know their homes, their families, their work, and their dreams. I found the description of the trial of the factory owners riveting. Although the owners were acquitted, the work of a legislative investigating commission led to the passage of new laws, “entirely recasting the labor law of the nation’s largest state.” (p. 215). The Triangle Shirtwaist Company disappeared quietly from the corporate rolls a few years after the fire, but it will not be forgotten.

*Lynn Randall, Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library*

### **Dark Tide: The Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919**

by Stephen Puleo (Boston, Beacon Press, 2003).

In the afternoon of January 15, 1919, a fifty-foot-tall steel tank filled with 2.3 million gallons of molasses collapsed on Boston’s North End waterfront, killing 21 people, seriously injuring dozens more, causing hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage and commencing the largest class action suit of its day in the United States. And yet, it is a disaster that is scarcely remembered locally, at least not on a scale with other disasters, such as the Great West End Fire or the Coconut Grove Fire. Perhaps it was the status of the community, mostly Italian immigrants with no connection to local politics. Maybe it was the fact that America was touting big business, and corporate integrity was never to be questioned. Or maybe it was the fact that it was molasses, a seemingly innocuous substance that could not be vilified as something threatening. In *Dark Tide*, author and historian Stephen Puleo brings the entire story into perspective, relating personal experiences of the victims and the witnesses, taking great care to establish the political, industrial and legal tenor of the times and weaving all into a masterful account of a terrible tragedy that could have and should have been avoided—before it would eventually pay out almost \$700,000 in damages in 1925. United States Industrial Alcohol, owner of the tank, had known about the leak before the disaster. They decided to hide the molasses leak by painting the steel a dark brown.

*John Pedini, Social Law Library*

### **The Fringes of Power: the 10 Downing Street Diaries**

by John Colville.

Did you ever want to be a fly on the wall? Read *The Fringes of Power: the 10 Downing Street Diaries*, by John Colville. It’s the forbidden diary of Winston Churchill’s principal private secretary during the World War II period. Was it written with an eye to publication? Perhaps, but I think not. The observations are trenchant and the preface includes an apology to Winston’s daughter, Mary Soames. “Jock” Colville became a close personal friend of Winston Churchill and his family, but the initial encounters were not promising. Colville notes in his diary that Churchill was considered by most of the power structure as “a half-breed American” and that his wife, Clementine Churchill, was rather too fond of “setting people straight.” Aside from the gossipy bits, this book is an important historical record of World War II. Colville’s “fringe” title is too modest—he was there when some momentous decisions were made and he may have written some of them! Colville was won over by the wit, audacity, magnanimity and courage of Winston Churchill. This book is as easy to read as the Harry Potter fiction series, and as hard to put down! That’s due to the level of writing and to the hero of the story, Winston Churchill. And what a story! Led by Churchill, the British stood alone for 18 months. The Battle of Britain is every bit as dramatic as Harry Potter’s encounters with Lord Voldemort. Unlike Harry Potter, Churchill was often irascible and inconsiderate and that is all in the book. Long after the war, Queen Elizabeth was reminiscing about Winston Churchill. They were coming up the Thames into London [in the Royal Yacht, of course]. To her the river was very utilitarian and rather dreary with docks and dredges and things, but Churchill saw the river as the “glittering thread that wound through British history.” The Queen commented that Churchill was a very romantic, literary gentleman. Colville’s diary provides a record of how this eloquent visionary ran a war and inspired a nation.

*Hilary Frye, Connecticut State Law & Legislative Reference Library*

If you have read something that you recommend, send Hilary Frye ([hfrye@cslib.org](mailto:hfrye@cslib.org)) the author, title, and a few sentences about why you recommend it. It can be a book, magazine, or



article of any genre.

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## ***SCENES FROM THE SPRING LLNE MEETING....***



For additional pictures from the LLNE Spring Meeting, check out the LLNE website at <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llne/pictures/Spring04/index.htm>