



# LLNE News

*Newsletter of the Law Librarians of New England*  
Volume 29, Issue 2, 2010

## *Colorado's Majestic 14ers and You*

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Colorado owes much of its beauty to its majestic mountain ranges, almost all of which boast peaks exceeding 14,000' above sea level. Coloradans and mountaineers call these peaks "fourteeners," and climbing them is a popular pastime.

Colorado has 53 "official" fourteeners, and several "unofficial" fourteeners. To "officially" qualify, the

cated. However, if two peaks both exceed 14,000' but are not separated by a 300' change in elevation at the connecting saddle, then only the taller of these peaks is an "official" fourteener; the other is "unofficial"—but no less destination-worthy! Mount Wilson (the "official") and El Diente Peak (the "unofficial"), near Telluride, exemplify the saddle rule; they also are universally recognizable from the Coors beer logo.

Numerous fourteeners are accessible day-trips from Denver. Colorado's tallest fourteener, Mt. Elbert



(14,433'), and second-tallest, the aptly-named Mt. Massive (14,421'), tower over the Sawatch range by Leadville. Also nestled deep in this range is semi-secluded Huron Peak, a gem of a mountain. To reach Huron requires driving a washboard dirt road through an abandoned town.

fourteener's summit must both rise above 14,000' and be 300' higher than the low point of any connecting saddle to a nearby, taller fourteener. Thus, if a fourteener stands alone—like dynamic Mt. Sneffels near Ouray—the "saddle rule" is not impli-

Another popular destination—and former pilgrimage site for devout Christians—is Mt. of the Holy Cross, which displays a snow-filled "cross"-couloir. Be

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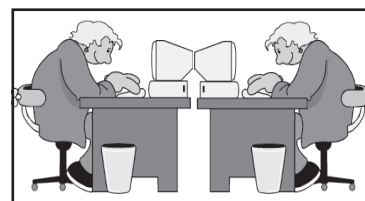
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<http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llne/LLNENews/index.htm>

or keep up to date on all LLNE news at the LLNE Blog, <http://llne.blogspot.com/>



## Editors' Note

### *From the Editors*

Happy summer and welcome to another addition of the LLNE Newsletter! We have some great articles to offer this issue. Our guest columnist this issue is Kathryn Croco Michaels, a Law Librarian Fellow at the University of Denver. She has great insight into the majestic mountain ranges of Colorado—a great day trip for AALL! We are also re-introducing book reviews to the newsletter. Roger Lemire has written a review “The Checklist Manifesto,” by Dr. Atul Gawande.

This issue of the newsletter also continues our regular favorites such as Miss. Nomer, Access Points, and a continuation of the series “Agents for the Books” – now in glorious Technicolor!

Lastly, we have some great news from one of our members (and regularly contributing LLNE News author), Stephen Salhany. We are happy to announce that Evelyn Rae Salhany was born May 28 at 11:43 AM. 6 lbs, 14 oz, 21 inches long, to Steve and his wife Danielle. All are doing well! Congratulations to the Salhany family!

### *Your Editors*



# *President's Message*

Greetings from Boston where the Scooper Bowl has just finished its annual appearance. The days are getting muggy and the vacations are planned - if not already taken.

AALL is in Denver this year and I look forward to seeing many of you there at the Educational Sessions, in the Exhibit Hall and at the receptions and other opportunities to network and connect with new and old friends. A teaser to some of our members' presentations can be found on page 5.

I also hope to see many of you at the LLNE Luncheon at AALL. This is when we'll be having our annual business meeting and will be voting in our new officers. The 2010 Nominating Committee whose members are Joan Shear, Chair; Elaine Apostola and Betsy Swan, has submitted the following candidates for office:

Vice President/President Elect:  
Katherine Coolidge  
Buckley, Richardson and Gelinas, LLP  
Springfield, MA

Treasurer  
Barbara Schneider  
Berkshire Law Library  
Courthouse  
Pittsfield, MA

Education Director  
Liz Peoples  
LexisNexis  
Boston, MA

In addition Christine Hepler will be installed as your new president for the upcoming year.

The Spring LLNE meeting was a great opportunity to mix, mingle, sample the wonders of Portsmouth, NH and learn a great deal about how libraries are working with Web 2.0 technologies. "The Technology Changes, Our Commitment Remains the Same" was a great program that showed us how social networking has a powerful role in the educating of lawyers, the practice of law and the structure of library catalogs. We also had a splendid visit from Janet McKinney, AALL Board Member who gave us a great update on all things AALL. Thank you to everyone on the Program Committee who made this possible: Kathy Fletcher, Melanie Cornell, Priscilla Byfield, Jon Cavicchi, Judith Gire, Kathie Goodwin, Matthew Jenks and Cynthia Landau

Soon after attending this great program we heard about the death of a longstanding colleague and mentor, Edgar Bellefontaine. Edgar was a legend in the law library community both in Boston and nationwide. Please join us in reminiscing about Edgar's historic career and read the memorial service held at the Social Law Library on May 11th on page 7.

Thank you everyone who participated in the LLNE Education Survey! This survey was very helpful and will give us feedback on how to structure future program. Congratulations to Anne Peters, Social Law Library, Grand Prize winner (\$100 American Express gift card); Alfreda Russell, Northeastern University Law Library (\$50 American Express gift card); Scott Akehurst-Moore, Suffolk University Law Library (\$50 American Express gift card). Thanks to the committee members for creating the survey. They are Diane D'Angelo, John Nann, Cathy Breen, Liz Peoples, and Amanda Merk for taking this opportunity to communicate with the LLNE Members on what is working and what is not and what you'd like out of your regional organization.

Cont. on next page

Also, a quick update on the AALL Massachusetts Working Group to Ensure Access to Electronic Legal Information. This group has been working on a survey of primary sources of Massachusetts Law and where they are published (both in print and electronic). This work will be valuable on its own but together with the other states inventories it will be used to get a more complete picture of publically available resources and provide a basis to help advocate for freely accessible electronic documents, identify items to be preserved and authenticated as well as other uses as they develop. As always, the group is looking for a few good volunteers, especially to review the Massachusetts Inventory to ensure that all resources have been "caught" in the research net. I want to thank you all for the wonderful opportunity to serve as President of LLNE for this past year. It has been a great experience and I have had the privilege of working with some wonderful folks. Thank you to all of the board members, committee chairs, committee members and LLNE members. I am grateful for all of the effort you all put forth to pitch in to make sure that we keep this organization moving forward. Thank you to all!

*Susan Dusko Hago*

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## **LLNE Member Presentations & Previews at AALL**

### **AALL TS-SIS Hot Topic Program: New Faces of Resource-Sharing: SkyRiver and USS, just to name two!**

July 11th, 12:00-1:15p.m., CCC-Room 109

LLNE Speaker: Tracy L. Thompson-Przylucki  
(NELLCO)

The creative team from Innovative Interfaces has introduced a new bibliographic utility, [www.theskyriver.com](http://www.theskyriver.com), to compete with OCLC and, once again, offer libraries a choice for cooperative cataloging. The New England Law Library Consortium (NELLCO) has developed the Universal Search Solution (USS) - a master index of material, including participating library OPACs, web-based free and subscription-based material, local electronic content and other e-content that its participating libraries wish to make discoverable to researchers. The USS can also be used as an acquisition and copy cataloging tool. It's not your mama's bibliographic landscape anymore!

### **C4: Communicating with Patrons-The Best of the Best**

July 11th, 4:15-5:15PM @ CCC-Room 205-207

LLNE Speakers: George Taoultides (Harvard Law) and Stefanie Weigmann (BU Law)

Communicating with students is a challenge academic law librarians face daily. Our competition is the students' downtime, lunchtime, web time, and time with friends. What's the best way to reach them? What works beyond the lure of free food? Does e-mail work? A Facebook posting? A web product? A snappy presentation in a common area in the library? Outside the library? The ALL-SIS Student Services Committee held a "contest," asking members to submit examples of their successes in communicating with students. Presented as an informal poster session, this program lets you meet the librarians who submitted the six "best of the best," learn about and see their projects, pick their brains, and take away ideas that you can implement at your library. Stop by and check out your colleagues' winning ways in communicating with patrons!

warned, though, a hike to Holy Cross is no picnic!

If you have time, the southern Sangre de Cristo range and the southwestern San Juan range provide unparalleled natural beauty. The Elk range, near Aspen, is especially well-known for the iconic Maroon Bells, which are the most photographed vista in America.

Along your hike, expect majestic views of surrounding peaks, basins below, and distant ranges, as well as ample evidence of Colorado's mining history. Many mountains in the state once were rich in gold, silver, zinc, and other precious minerals. Stay alert on the trail, though: lingering hazards such as concealed mine shafts and fragile buildings remain.

Two fourteeners, Mt. Evans and Pikes Peak, do not require the physical exertion of steep hiking at oxygen-thin elevation to get that summit panorama. Both summits are accessible by car - or, for Pikes, by cog railway.

Pike's Peak, the inspiration for "America the Beautiful," is located an hour and a half south of Denver. If you choose the railway, plan ahead: the roundtrip takes over three hours, and tickets sell fast. While the train works its way up Pike's steep flanks, you will see cascading streams, dense forest, and waterfalls. Mount Evans is an hour from Denver off I-70. Visitors drive on North America's highest paved road starting from 8,700' at the interstate exit to 14,240' at the summit. You will see lakes, forests, all types of weather, and most uniquely, life above treeline. On the summit, you will appreciate the Rockies from a new standpoint and possibly even see wildlife like Bighorn sheep. Before you go, bone up on mountain driving, including how not to ride your brakes on steep grades or take curves at break-neck speeds.

If extreme elevation is not for you, there are numerous lower-altitude hiking opportunities near Denver. For example, Rocky Mountain National Park, in

Estes Park, is about two hours away and runs the gamut of natural sightings, and Chataqua Park in Boulder provides stunning views of the Flatirons. Hikes range from less than a mile to more than six. Consult area guidebooks for details.

Amped to get to the top of your first fourteener or just conquer that short hike? Most mountains have multiple routes that offer varying distances and elevation gains. Generally speaking, the shorter the route, the steeper the hike (especially on fourteeners)! Enjoy yourself, but remember that mountains can be dangerous and you must take precautions when venturing into the Colorado backcountry.

Hiking requires a significant amount of planning and gear. If you are considering climbing a fourteener, consult a book on mountaineering safety, know your route, and bring more than you anticipate, including a map of the area, navigation (GPS or compass), warm clothes, sunscreen, and plenty of water. Many visitors experience altitude sickness and dehydration.

Start early, as weather changes fast and storms frequent spring and summer afternoons. Remember: it can be 90 degrees in Denver and only 40 degrees on the exposed, windy summit of these mountains, but the sun's rays—the radiation index—are strong in both locales. Finally, when hiking, respect the land and leave the wilderness as you encountered it. Take your time, plan accordingly, and you will enjoy a great day and some true wonders of this landscape!

Fourteeners information: [www.14ers.com](http://www.14ers.com)

Pikes Peak Cog Railway information:  
[www.cograilway.com](http://www.cograilway.com)

Mount Evans information: [www.mountevans.com](http://www.mountevans.com)

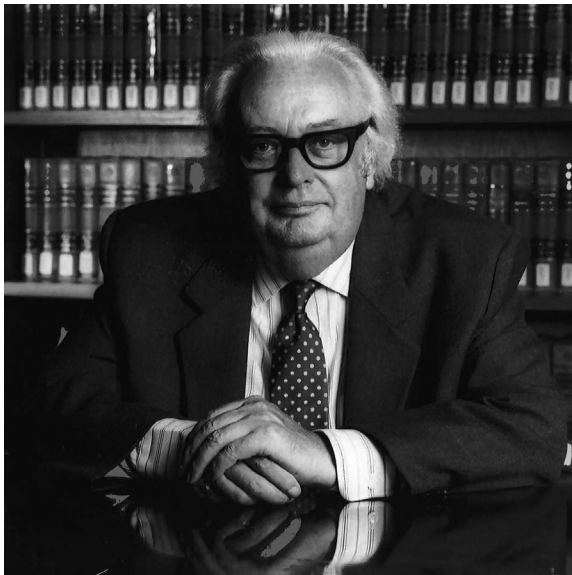
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## **EDGAR J. BELLEFONTAINE, ESQ., REMEMBERED**

The Trustees and staff of the Social Law Library are greatly saddened by the death of Edgar J. Bellefontaine. As Librarian from 1961 to 1998 Mr. Bellefontaine was the guiding force behind the Library's many improvements and innovations. He kept the Library's primary focus squarely on the patrons who depend on its resources and services. He guided the Library's adoption of new technologies, forged a commitment to historic preservation, and encouraged nearly four decades of energetic development. He never forgot that the Library was founded as a "social" organization to foster a sense of professionalism and community among the members of the bench and bar. He was brilliant, enterprising, engaging and forever innovative. Made up of equal parts Maine and Metropolitan Boston, he was a much loved and gifted custodian of the law.

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Edgar Bellefontaine's dedication to new and improving technologies, combined with his respect and thoughtful preservation of the past, created a unique period in the Library's two hundred year history—an information renaissance—and made the Social Law Library a leader among the nation's law libraries. The Library "firsts" realized during his tenure present a chronology of Social Law Library automation and advancement: The installation of a coin operated copier (1963) and microfilm reader (1972); construction of a micro-fiche production laboratory (1974); production of microfiche editions of the Supreme Judicial Court and Appeals Court Records & Briefs (1975); the Colonial Court Records Program, the nation's first-ever program for the restoration, preservation and indexing of colonial court records (1975); installation of West Publishing Company's computerized legal research system WESTLAW (1976); creation of the Copy Center (1984); first endowed book fund established (1984); LEXIS/NEXIS



membership group program debuts, one of the first library-based LEXIS subscription services in the country (1986); first organization in the nation to publish state agency information on CD-ROM with publication of Mass. Administrative Law Library (1989), followed by publication of Mass. Substantive Law Library (1992); automation of the Social Law Library catalog with installation of the VTLS Library System (1993); introduction of the Social Law Library Website, [www.sociallaw.com](http://www.sociallaw.com) (1995); and creation of the TechCenter, providing public computer terminals for online research (1995). As a service to solo and small firm patrons challenged by the high cost of "going digital," SLL in 1996 became an Internet Service Provider (ISP), and offered email services as well as Web-

page design and hosting services (1996). Throughout these years and since, visiting judges, educators, practitioners and librarians have come from throughout the world to learn about the American system of law and the use of technology in legal research.

A graduate of the University of Maine and the Boston College Law School, Mr. Bellefontaine was an extraordinary citizen of the scholarly, legal and law library communities. His published scholarship was on the subject of court rules and on early Massachusetts legal history. His publications include "Post-conviction Remedies under the Rules of Criminal Procedure" (1981); "The Early History of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court" (1990); "Chief Justice Francis Dana: Patriot and Federalist" (1992); "Waitstill Winthrop" (1995); "Honorable Isaac Addington: Fervent Public Servant and Reluctant Chief Justice" (1996); and "Samuel Sewall: The Last Puritan Justice" (1998). He served twenty-two years as a member of the Massachusetts Judicial Records Committee, and was founding Director of the Supreme Judicial

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## Online Baseball Bib

By Stephen Salhany, University of Maine School of Law Library

Summer is finally here, and in New England that generally means beach, travel, and baseball. As a diehard fan of the local baseball team and the sport in general, I thought I would put together a small internet bibliography on some of the best places to find insightful baseball information. I visit each of these websites nearly every day; they are treasure troves of knowledge and resources. Enjoy!

Baseball Reference:

<http://www.baseball-reference.com/>

Founded by former math professor Sean Forman, and funded by contributions from fans to sponsor team and player pages, this site is the comprehensive baseball website available today and should be the first stop in any type of baseball research or to settle old arguments. Every stat, every year, every player, every award ever given, every manager, every league, every postseason...the amount of sheer information on this website is absolutely mind-blowing. If you want to know what the box scores were from the 1959 World Series, the number of double plays Hank Aaron grounded into over the course of his career, or what number Kip Gross wore for the

Red Sox in 1999, B-Ref has it.

Retrosheet: <http://www.retrosheet.org/>

Begun by Dr. David Smith as an effort to collect the box score of every game ever played in major league history, and based off the previous work of noted baseball sabremetrician and writer Bill James, Retrosheet has the box scores of every major league game played since 1871, and is currently engaged in an effort to provide the play by play data for every game in history as well. An extensive postseason game database is included as well. The play by play data is the most fascinating part of the site, as providing such provides the picture of how an individual game played out instead of merely a

box score and a result.

The Hardball Times:

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

THT is a straightforward article-based website that talks of current issues around baseball and provides interesting yet accessible analysis to both the hardcore and the casual fan. The topics are unusual and informative ("The Worst Team Hindsight Can Buy," "The Curse of the Big Papi") and the site is updated nearly every day.



Cont. on next page.

Fangraphs: <http://www.fangraphs.com/>

This more advanced baseball website combines interesting daily discussion articles (“Appreciating Adrian Beltre,” “Mauer Power redux”, for example) with more advanced baseball analysis. You’ll quickly learn what BABIP, UZR and WAR mean and how they are applied to today’s players. The concepts are easy enough to understand once the initial unfamiliarity wears off. The most interesting part of this site is the provision of graphs for each game showing which plays in the game had the largest effect on the outcome of the contest. It’s fascinating if initially confusing stuff, but a little bit of effort to read about their methods provides a great deal of context and makes the whole site much more useful.

Sons of Sam Horn: <http://sonsofsamhorn.net/>

Maybe you’ve already heard of this place. Formerly a quiet little message board dedicated to discussion of the Red Sox by a reasonably-sized group of its fans, SoSH blasted into the local sports consciousness in November 2004 when pitcher Curt Schilling logged into the site in the wake of his trade to Boston in order to talk to some of the fans and get a sense of both the sports environment and the expectations here. Membership to the site exploded in the wake of the news that Schilling had been on the site, and today there are more than 2000 active members and 35,000 “lurker” (read but not post) accounts on the site. You won’t find a more dedicated and better run team discussion site on the internet today. Chats are frequently held with well-known sports figures; recent chatters have included Doug Glanville, John Dewan, and Rob Neyer. Membership is restricted (a section called the Sandbox has been set up for new posters to cut their teeth before being “promoted” to the main section of the site); while controversial at first, this policy has ensured that the quality of discussion on the site has consistently remained high. It’s funny, it’s informative, it’s very active, and one of your favorite law librarians helps run the place. What’s not to like?

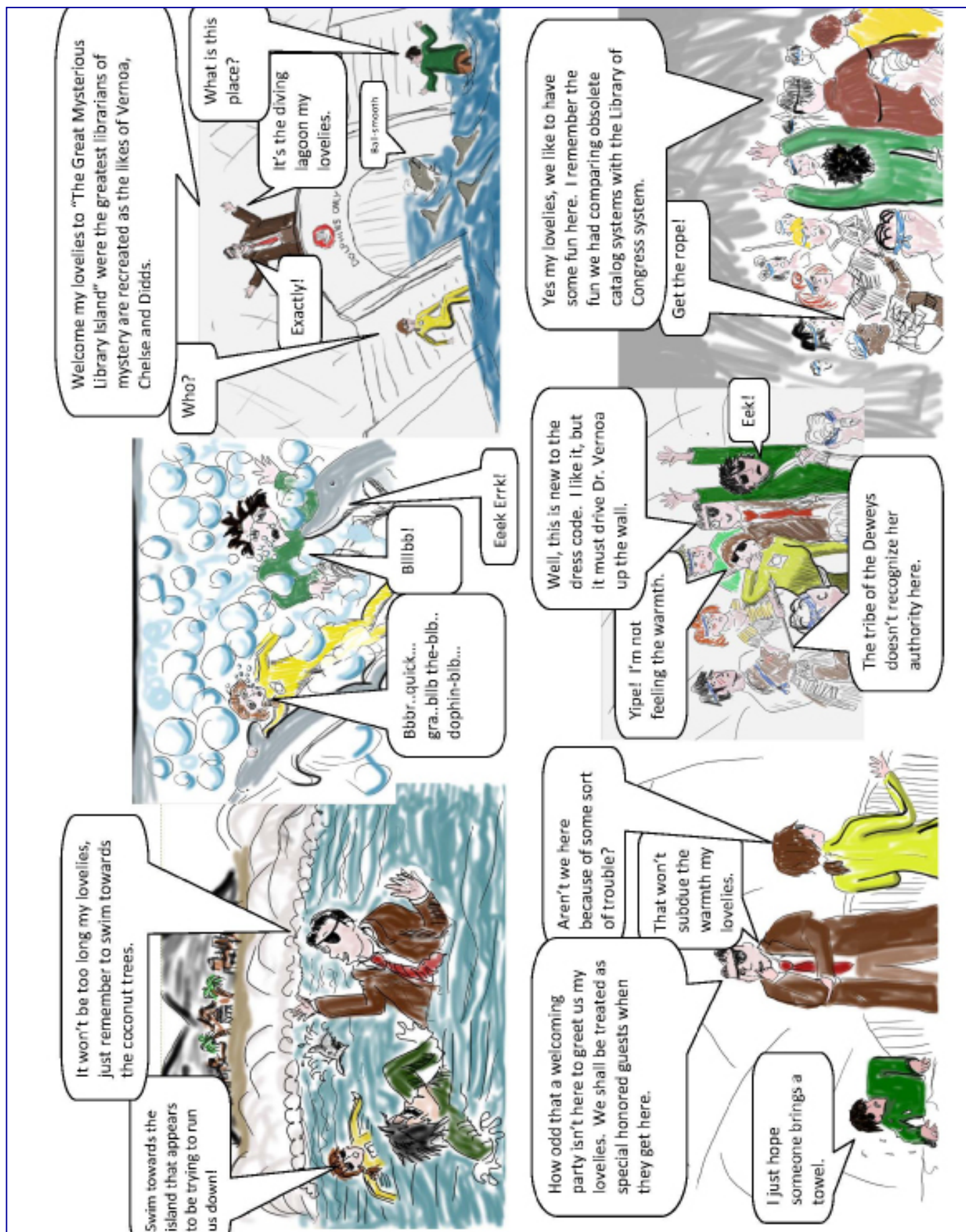
Court Historical Society.

In the mid-70’s he served as Reporter for the Massachusetts Judicial Conference Criminal Rules Project and as a Reporter for the Federal Speedy Trial Planning Group for the District of Massachusetts and the District of Rhode Island.

He is a former President of the New England Law Library Consortium and the American Association of Law Libraries’ (AALL’s) State, Court & County Law Libraries Section. He also served on the Law Library Microform Consortium Executive Committee and on a number of AALL special projects and committees. He was also a former member of the Boston College Law School Alumni Council and recipient of its Daniel G. Holland Lifetime Achievement Award.

In 1999 he received the highest distinction bestowed by the American Association of Law Libraries, the Miriam Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award. In addition, in 1996, in Edgar Bellefontaine’s honor, the Law Librarians of New England created and awarded him the inaugural Edgar Award for Innovation, Excellence and Dedication to the Practice of Law Librarianship. Other awards and recognitions extended to him include the AALL-SCLL’s Bethany J. Ochal Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession, West Publishing Company’s Excellence in Government Law Librarianship Award, the Henry C. Lind Award of the Association of the Reporters of Judicial Decisions, and the Chief Justice’s Award for Distinguished Service to the Judiciary.

Founded more than two centuries ago, the Social Law Library is a cornerstone of the Massachusetts legal community—the “level playing field” of legal research essential to the administration of justice. For thirty-seven years, Edgar J. Bellefontaine’s extraordinary leadership transformed and advanced the institution. The Social Law family mourns his passing and sends their condolences to Edgar’s family and many friends.

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# This Issue in Vermont History

(We will feature other New England States every issue)

July 8, 1777 - The Constitution of the Vermont Republic was adopted at a tavern in Windsor now known as the Old Constitution House.

July 8, 1777 - The name of the Vermont Republic was changed from the “Republic of New Connecticut” to “Vermont” from the French for Green Mountains, les Verts Monts. The name change was suggested Dr. Thomas Young, a Boston Tea Party leader.

On July 31, 1790 - United States Patent Number One, signed by George Washington, was issued in 1790 to Samuel Hopkins of Pittsford, Vermont for a process he developed for making potash out of wood ashes.

July 30, 1609 - French explorer Samuel de Champlain claimed the area of what is now Lake Champlain, giving to the mountains the appellation of les Verts Monts (the Green Mountains).

August 18, 1920 – Edna Beard was the first woman to run in the Vermont general election and won a seat in the Vermont House.

September 11, 1814 - Commodore MacDonough’s fleet is victorious against British in Battle of Plattsburgh, saving Vermont from certain invasion.

September 14, 1941 - Vermont Legislature declares war on Germany in order to make sure the Vermont military servicemen are paid a wartime pay bonus.

October 3, 1828 - William Lloyd Garrison begins publishing Journal of the Times, an abolitionist paper, in Bennington, Vermont.

October 19, 1864 – “St. Albans Raid.” Confederate soldiers attacked citizens, stole a total of \$208,000 from the banks in St. Albans, and fled to Canada. The raid was the northernmost land action of the Civil War, taking place exclusively in St. Albans, Vermont.

October 22, 1763 - Daniel Chipman, the first reporter of Vermont Supreme Court decisions is born in Salisbury, Conn.

November 3, 1838 – Legislature abolishes law that requires any imprisonment for financial debts

November 17, 1825 – Vermont State Library created

December 18, 1880 - Women were first allowed to cast a vote in Vermont in school district elections.

# Dear Miss Nomer

Dear Miss Nomer:

I know about “blogging,” but what is this “vlogging” buzz about? I’m gunning to catch the current craze at <http://mylawlibraryrocks.blogspot.com/>.

Boston Blogger

Dear BB:

*Miss Nomer shoots, she scores, she blawgs the wave for all you bloggerati in the blogosphere, and explains in A-Z fashion the latest trendy terminology in ‘logging.*

*alogging - “alogging we will go, alogging we will go, hi ho the merrio, alogging we will go,” sing library blogger elves, blazing their trails of digital delights*

*blogging - blah, blah, blahing blurbs of every description for everyone in this brave, new world, where silence is never golden*

*clogging – coalescing two or more colleagues clutched like corralled cattle in front of your work area to yak away hours relieving you from doing any real or unreal work*

*dlogging - ditching deader than doornail blogs languishing in cyberspace since last updated on the day of their creation*

*elogging - electronically tracking in binary code the number of postings and visits to your blog*

*flogging - facing down members of the staff who pompously proclaim, “Let’s do a library blog!”*

*glogging - gulping gargantuan quantities of energiz-*

*hlogging - hitching your blog to each and every blog related to your area to create one humongous tumbleweed of a blogroll*

*ilogging - identifying items about you and your library at other blogs*

*jlogging - jaywalking across blogs cutting and pasting items for your blogging*

*klogging - kicking with both shoes anyone who corners you with “Have you seen my blog today?”*

*llogging – linking the same information in more than one digital outlet in the name of information literacy*

*mlogging - marketing your blog with bookmarks, brochures, flyers, pamphlets, press releases ... in hopes that someone out there tunes in your memes*

*nlogging – nulling and voiding thoughts of human contact when actively logging*

*ologging – organizing logs in stacked info packets beginning with captain’s blawg on blogdate*

*plogging – permalinking references like [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plog](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plog), where “A plog is term most often used for to mean a PROJECT LOG website or blog.”*

*rlogging – rss (really simply silly, think, KISS,) feeding output of others into your blog making you look more technologically savvy and busier than you are*

*slogging – slurping coffee, Miss Nomer swears she is not making this up: “Slog - v. to social network and blog. The activity of social networking and blogging together in a combined environment. This is the natural progression within the recent growth of social networks and blogs. With the rapid development of blogs (e.g. Blogger, Xanga, TypePad) and social networks (e.g. Friendster, Orkut, LinkedIn), the next step is the combination of both into one environment. Some early-stages of slogs are AlwaysOn, a high-tech community, and 1UP.com, a video gamers’ community.” [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slog](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slog) “Shakespeare, Shakespeare, where for art thou?” shrugs Miss Nomer.*

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*tlogging - tossing trackback and forth thoughts of sleep while you and everyone else are keeping up to date on your blog while avoiding trolls at all costs*

*ulogging – ukuleling yuletide cheer ‘round OAJsters roasting in an open url*

*vlogging - videobroadcasting pictures when thousands of words will not do, or, as in the words of [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vlog](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vlog): “A vlog is a weblog which uses video as its primary presentation format. It is primarily a medium for distributing video content. Vlog posts are usually accompanied by text, image, and additional meta data to provide a context or overview for the video. Vlogs or videoblogs are created by vloggers or videobloggers, while the act itself is referred to as vlogging or videoblogging.” Everyone could use a good vlogging now and then; Miss Nomer knows it’s true since she saw it on the Internet.*

*wlogging – wondering where would Miss Nomer be without [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WLOG](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WLOG) to explain the phenomenon of WYSIWYG: “Without loss of generality or simply WLOG is a frequently used expression in mathematics. The term is generally used where there is some kind of symmetry that allows the situation or situations described to be trivially generalized to all needed situations.”*

*xlogging - “x”ing marks the blogspot of blogs to imitate*

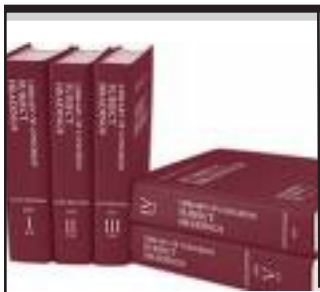
*ylogging - “y not logging?” asks Miss Nomer who cashes in greatly with marvelous merchandise at [missnomeriakesitin.blogspot.com](http://missnomeriakesitin.blogspot.com)*

*zlogging - zeroing in on the loss of hours snoring from exhaustion through tirelessly keeping up with googolplexplus blogs*

*There you have it: Blogology 101. Watch for Miss Nomer’s timely treatment on HDTV broadcasting in the legal profession and why you too must get on the bandwidth wagon before librarianship becomes extinct. Miss Nomer’s podcast will be coming soon.*

*Miss Nomer welcomes your comments at <http://llne.blogspot.com/>.*





*Introducing a new column with a cataloger's point of view...*

# ACCESS POINTS

## ***Launch of the RDA Toolkit***

by Stephanie Hudner and Laura Hartnett  
Northeastern University School of Law Library

In June 2010, the publishers of Resource Description and Access (RDA) launched the online RDA Toolkit. It includes the searchable text of both RDA and AACR2, as well as other cataloging tools. A free trial period for the RDA Toolkit is available through August 31, 2010. Instructions for creating a solo or institutional trial account are available at <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/openaccess>.

The RDA Toolkit features full-text keyword searching of RDA that can be limited by media type, content type, and core elements. In addition, the Toolkit includes helpful MARC to RDA bibliographic and authority mappings, which list MARC 21 field tags with hyperlinks to corresponding RDA rules. Another helpful feature is a search function that enables the user to type in an AACR2 rule number and retrieve corresponding rule number(s) in RDA. A future enhancement to the Toolkit will include RDA hyperlinks embedded within the text of AACR2.

Subscribers to Cataloger's Desktop may add RDA to their list of resources so that any searches they conduct include RDA rules. Instructions for adding RDA to Cataloger's Desktop are available at <http://www.loc.gov/cds/desktop/training/6-RDA.pdf>. After the trial period ends, subscribers to Cataloger's Desktop must purchase a subscription to the RDA Toolkit to maintain access to RDA through Cataloger's Desktop.

Pricing for the online Toolkit is available at <http://www.rdatoolkit.org/pricing>. For those who choose not to subscribe to the Toolkit, a print version of RDA with an index will be published. Pricing will be announced in July 2010.



### **D3: What Is It You Do Again? Marketing the Patron Services of the Traditional to the Nontraditional Librarian**

July 12th, 8:45 - 9:45 AM @ CCC-Room 201-203

LLNE Speaker: Meg Kribble (Harvard Law)

People often get in a rut when marketing their services to their patrons. This program will expose the audience to the marketing of services at a variety of libraries. The format for the program will be a round robin/poster session. As the audience enters the room they will receive a number or color that designates their beginning station. Each station will have one librarian who will present the marketing of services performed at their library. Each presenter will also create a poster that will add to the information they provided in their short presentation. There will also be a few minutes for questions or browsing of the poster after each presentation. Next, each group moves on to another station. As the moderator my job will be to keep time and announce that it is time to move to the next station. After the session is concluded, we will set up the posters in the exhibit area or in a separate room for viewing.

### **D5: Starting Off on the Right Track: Avoiding Mistakes Common to New (and Not-So-New) Instructors**

July 12th, 8:45 - 9:45AM @ CCC-Room 601-603

LLNE Speakers: Joan Shear (BC Law) and former LLNE member Kate Irwin-Smiler

"Lecturing about Legal Research is as effective as telling someone how to ride a bike." Many new instructors of legal research and other disciplines fall into the trap of lecturing to communicate their course content, despite research showing that lecture is an inefficient form of instruction. Using volunteers as model students, speakers will engage the audience in these active learning exercises. This program will demonstrate several alternative teaching techniques, which have been used in legal research classes, and analyze their effectiveness.

### **I1: Ten Things Every Law Librarian Needs to Know About Copyright**

July 13th, 10:45 - 11:30AM @ CCC-Room 102-106

LLNE Speaker: Joan Shear (BC Law)

Come be a part of our studio audience for this week's Copyright Corner radio broadcast, as host and noted

Legal Issues columnist for *Information Today*, George Pike, welcomes our special guest, James Heller, author of *The Librarian's Copyright Companion*. Mr. Heller will share ten things every law librarian needs to know about copyright, while the copyright players illustrate some important dos and don'ts regarding copyright issues that might arise in your law library. Members of our studio audience and listeners from home will have an opportunity to ask Mr. Heller about their real-life copyright dilemmas.

### **J2: Going Mobile: New Tools to Keep Your Library's Information Moving**

July 13th, 2:15 - 3:15PM @ CCC-Room 108-112

LLNE Speaker: Meg Kribble (Harvard Law)

According to a 2008 report by the Pew Internet and American Life Project, "the mobile device will be the primary connection tool to the Internet for most people in the world in 2020." Chances are, many users already use these devices to access websites and catalogs. All types of law libraries must begin meeting the demands of mobile technology, whether by delivering information to an attorney's Blackberry or by enabling students to access library resources by iPhone. This session will introduce attendees to the world of mobile applications. We will evaluate applications of interest to law librarians and their users. The live action demonstration of popular mobile applications will prepare attendees to implement effective mobile interfaces. We will explain the technology behind mobile applications and the steps required to create your own - whether you decide to do it yourself or outsource the project.

### **Cataloging & Classification Roundtable**

July 12th, 5:30-6:30 p.m @ Hyatt-Capitol Ballroom 5-7

LLNE Speaker: John Hostage (Harvard Law School)

The transition from AACR2 to RDA, especially with the vagueness of cost, timing, implementation strategies and time lines from ILS vendors, and compatibility of new MARC fields with their uses in current bibliographic databases poses a tremendous challenge. Law librarians who work in technical services are in a unique position. Their collections are specialized and the clientele is broad-based. Plans to move with the rest of the library community are necessary. Come to this program to explore options for how to achieve this change.

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## Checklists for the Reference Function?

By Roger Lemire, Bingham McCutchen LLP

When I first heard about Atul Gawande's recent book, *The Checklist Manifesto*, a book that examines the usefulness of checklists in a complex environment, a few thoughts crossed my mind, interesting was not one of them. We have all used checklists at some time in the past. While useful, their format implies rote learning, routine activity, an old school approach to work, not the interactive web 2.0 world of today's reference librarian.

In any case, I expected an intensely dull text. Then I discovered that the author was a surgeon, and my interest grew. Unexpectedly, I found myself unable to put the book down. With an easy-flowing style, Dr. Gawande examines the use of checklists from a variety of professions ranging from surgery and engineering to investing and airline piloting. In one chapter Gawande points out how the famous "miracle on the Hudson" was orchestrated by the heroic actions of Captain Sullenberger and his crew making methodical use of checklists.

Librarians may find it interesting since Gawande explains how the use of checklists have made investors far more efficient in their use of research resources. One investor notes that through the use of their checklists they are able to see within days rather than weeks which companies are not worth investing in.

Clearly checklists are useful in a variety of environments. So how can these be applied to the work of the reference librarian? Like many of the situations described in the book, many of our research requests can become quite complex. While our work may not

involve life and death scenarios, it can affect the outcome of deals worth millions of dollars or the livelihood of a large number of people. I recently had to address a situation in which a simple research step was overlooked. In this case tasked with obtaining news items for a potential client, a librarian consulted the usual sources but failed to perform a simple Internet search as well. Unfortunately by neglecting this step, the librarian overlooked an important news item that the client later found on their own. A major miss on what should have been a routine search, illustrates

where checklists can provide a helpful reminder not to overlook the basics.

The development of a checklist is in many ways a simple process and needs to cover only the basic steps for a job. For reference librarians the type of checklists that can be useful for us are determined by our environment. For example, if our work is litigation oriented, it may be useful to have a checklist on finding docket sheets in both federal and state courts. For antitrust research, it might cover such things as the review process or industry research tools. As Gawande suggests, each checklist should only be one page so it is very easy to use and has the flexibility to be useful in multiple situations. The possibilities are endless.

Dr. Gawande's book provides numerous talking points and guidance for developing some basic checklists for our jobs whether they are in technical services, or as in my case in the research area. I highly recommend this book as Gawande provides a road map for applying an old school tool for the web 2.0 world in which we work.



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