

## Using Competitive Intelligence to Your Economic Advantage

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What law school dean wouldn't like strategic updates on his peer institution's best practices? What managing partner wouldn't like to know the pending cases of the firm next door? Competitive intelligence professionals seize these projects, and then collect and analyze the publicly available information to produce high-impact synthesized reports for these decision makers.

The recent instability of the economy has had an impact on all types of legal entities—from law firms to academic institutions to government agencies. As a result, these enterprises continue to look for ways to streamline their business practices and make smart management decisions. The use of competitive intelligence ("CI") is just one of the tools being used to transform this decision making process. CI has often been a cost center for legal organizations, but that doesn't have to be the case. It can and should be used to reap economic advantages for all professional organizations. With the insights gained from CI, firms, educational institutions, and even government agencies can make more cost efficient use of their resources.

So where do librarians fit in this endeavor to provide competitive business analysis for the benefit of their patrons? The Society of Competitive Intelligence Professionals (SCIP) claims its members have backgrounds in market research, government intelligence, or science and technology, but more and more librarians

are clamoring for the opportunity to actually engage in competitive intelligence activities. Just look at the recent programs presented at the 2009 AALL Annual Meeting. Law firm librarians are joining forces with the marketing department to produce trend analysis on emerging litigation, as well as intelligence on prospective clients and new hires. CI professionals can also monitor mergers and acquisitions, study the legal environment of a prospective location, track emerging practice areas or identify a specific locale for an expanding law school.

Librarians need to be proactive in identifying ways to use competitive intelligence as a cost savings method for their patrons. As the organization's chief information professionals, librarians must be conversant about CI when meeting with their superiors. CI need not be a costly venture today with the prevalence of valuable information available at your fingertips. A little bit of forethought, curiosity, and persistence can uncover a goldmine of information, while keeping database expenditures to a minimum.

It's important to understand that competitive intelligence is more than just locating the information, though. CI involves analyzing and distilling the facts into strategic research for the organization's decision makers. By coordinating with others in the office, librarians can work with marketers, human resource professionals, practice area leaders and the organization's

*continued on page 3*

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**FROM THE EDITOR**

# Welcome!

Sara Sampson, Head of Reference, Georgetown Law Library, [sas235@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:sas235@law.georgetown.edu)

Welcome to the first issue of Volume 53 of *Law Library Lights*. The theme is The Economy and Law Libraries. As the economic news got bleaker over the past year, librarians did what they always do in a time of crisis: they supported each other. AALL has created the wiki "Tools for Success in Today's Economy," to facilitate collaboration on economic issues. LLSDC members who were laid off created the Laid Off Librarians group to help each other. One law librarian who lost her job created the Law Librarians of Leisure blog (<http://lawlibrariansofleisure.com>). She posts links to job announcements and other resources

*continued on page 3*



## Deadline for Submissions

If you would like to write for *Lights*, please contact **Sara Sampson** at [sas235@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:sas235@law.georgetown.edu). For information regarding submission deadlines and issue themes, visit the LLSDC Web site at [www.llsdc.org](http://www.llsdc.org).

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# Table of Contents

## FEATURES

- Using Competitive Intelligence to Your Economic Advantage**  
*Margaret Krause* 1
- AALL Annual Meeting** 4
- Joint Session with Association of Legal Administrators a Great Success**  
*Reprint with permission of Legal Administrators Capital Chapter* 5
- AALL Conference Session Analyzes "The New Economic Reality"**  
*Julie Reynolds* 7
- Free and Low-Cost Online Legal Research Sources**  
*Todd Venie* 9
- The Accidental Archivist**  
*Billie J. Grey* 11
- AALL News** 21

## COLUMNS

- Editor's Column**  
*Sara Sampson* 2
- President's Column**  
*Cameron Gowan* 6
- Membership News**  
*Shannon O'Connell* 14
- Tech Talk**  
*Roger Skalbeck* 15
- Book Review**  
*Kasia Solon* 17
- Book Review**  
*Dawn Bohls* 20



for librarians who are job searching.

In this issue, we both explore the effects of the economy on law libraries and celebrate the collaborative spirit of librarianship. Margaret Krause writes about Competitive Intelligence and how librarians can use CI tactics to help our patrons make better decisions. Todd Venie writes about how the librarians at Georgetown Law are incorporating discussions of low-cost and free sources into library instructional programs and advanced legal research courses. Julie Reynolds reviews the AALL annual meeting program on the new economic reality of the business of law.

Dawn Bohls takes over our book review column from Kasia Solon, whose last review appears in this issue. Dawn writes about the *Legal Information Buyer's Guide & Reference Manual*,

a must have for the cost-conscious law librarian. (And who isn't cost-conscious these days?) Kasia writes about her trip to the D.C. General Counsel's office and its rare copies of police regulations from the 1930s and 1940s.

Billie Grey describes how a law librarian can become an "Accidental Archivist" and provides tips and resources available for law librarians who are asked to take on an archival project.

Roger Skalbeck reviews two new products, CoTweet & HootSuite, that make collaborative Twittering easier.

Putting together *Lights* is also a collaborative process. I'm confident that with the help of Ripple Weistling (assistant editor), our team of columnists, and librarian-authors, we'll all weather this economic storm together. If you'd like to be a part of *Lights*, please let me know. I welcome article ideas as well as offers to write an article. **LLL**

The theme of this issue of *Lights* is "The Economy and Law Libraries." As the economic news got bleaker over the past year, librarians did what they always do in a time of crisis: they supported each other.

## **Competitive Intelligence** *cont. from page 1*

management team to produce high level reports and recommendations. For example, as an organization begins the hiring process, librarians can research potential interviewees to supplement the resumes received. The hiring team can then make an informed decision and interview the candidates with the most to offer the institution. An informed hiring decision can prevent employee turnover, thus reducing costs to the organization.

To keep competitive intelligence expenses to a minimum, legal entities need to rely on the librarian's expertise in free and low cost legal, as well as nonlegal, resources. Subscribing to blogs, RSS feeds, Google or Yahoo alerts are a few simple, no-cost solutions offering constructive ways to monitor legal trends, new clients, pending litigations, prospective targets, and even direct competitors. Librarians are able to identify the best blogs to follow, while also pinpointing government, research organizations, or association websites which can be scoured for publicly available "intelligence."

A number of articles and websites already detail sources to use for competitive intelligence projects so I will not duplicate the recommendations of my colleagues, but in the sidebars, I've tried to consolidate some of the best starting points for those establishing a cost

*continued on page 4*

## **Bibliography of CI Articles**

- Ann Lee Gibson, *How to Create and Use Competitive Intelligence: 45 Tips for Law Firms*, 34 Law Prac. 47 (2008)  
Arthur Weiss, *Should I Spy With My Legal Eye – Or is there a Better Way? Lawful Competitive Intelligence for Legal Professionals*, 4 Legal Info. Mgmt. 13 (2004)  
Sally J. Schmidt, *Tips for Using Competitive Intelligence in Your Marketing Efforts*, 35 Law Prac. 58 (2009)  
Terry Carter, *Law Firms Use Public Data to Find Behind-the-Scenes Truths*, 91 A.B.A.J. 30 (2005)  
Wanda J. McDavid, *Competitive Intelligence: An Effective Tool for Law Firms*, 36 Colo. Law. 51 (2007), available at [http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/coall/articles/comp\\_intel.pdf](http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/coall/articles/comp_intel.pdf)

## **Useful Competitive Intelligence Websites**

- Competitive Intelligence—A Selected Resource Guide  
<http://www.llrx.com/features/ciguide.htm>  
Fee Fie Foe Firm: The Law Firm Search Engine  
<http://www.feefiefoefirm.com>  
Georgetown Law Library's Company Research Guide  
<http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/guides/companyresearch.cfm>  
(Many of these resources require a subscription, but the "Internet Resources" under each section are freely available for all to use.)  
Georgetown Law Library's Free and Low Cost Legal Research Guide  
<http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/guides/freelowcost.cfm>  
Got Competitive Intelligence: Tips, Tools, Techniques for the Savvy Marketer  
<http://www.llrx.com/features/gotci.pdf>  
Law Firm Competitive Intelligence Blog  
<http://www.ciblawg.com/>  
Society of Competitive Intelligence Professionals  
<http://www.scip.org/>

effective CI team in their legal organization. A recent survey conducted by NCPI of 77 NLJ's 250 top firms, indicates that 75% of respondents are performing some type of competitive intelligence, with 49% of the CI research activity reporting to the librarian.<sup>1</sup> These results are a sign that legal firms are curious and in the future, with the guidance of more astute librarians, hopefully will see the value of competitive intelligence operations. **LLL**

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<sup>1</sup>Competitive Intelligence in Law Firms Survey Results, August 21, 2009, accessed at <http://strategiclibrarian.com/2009/08/21/competitive-intelligence-in-law-firms-survey-results/> on 9/18/09

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## AALL Annual Meeting

Congratulations to the LLSDC members who participated in AALL programs and received AALL awards during the annual meeting in Washington, D.C. this summer.

### AALL Award Winners

Patrick E. Kehoe, American University, was honored with the 2009 Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award.

The Law Library of Congress was honored with the 2009 AALL Law Library Publications Award (nonprint division) for their publication *Global Legal Monitor (GLM)*

Richard J. McKinney, Federal Reserve Board Law Library received the 2009 Robert L. Oakley Member Advocacy Award.

### AALL Program Moderators/Speakers\*

Janice Anderson, Georgetown Law Library  
Mary Cornaby, United States Senate Library  
Len Davidson, Catholic University of America Dufour Law Library  
Jill Duffy, Supreme Court of the United States Library  
Clara Liao, Georgetown Law Library  
Richard J. McKinney, Federal Reserve Board Law Library  
Jennie C. Meade, George Washington University Law Library  
Yasmin Morais, University of the District of Columbia Mason Law Library  
Barbara Ridley Monroe, Georgetown Law Library  
Michael J. Petit, American University, Washington College of Law, Pence Law Library  
Sarah J. Rhodes, Georgetown Law Library  
Abigail Ellsworth Ross, Keller and Heckman LLP  
Sara Sampson, Georgetown Law Library  
Karen Skinner, Morrison & Foerster  
Cynthia Smith, McGuireWoods LLP  
Stephen Young, Catholic University of America

*\*This list does not include the many SIS sponsored programs. **LLL***

# Joint Session with Association of Legal Administrators a Great Success

Reprinted with permission from Association of Legal Administrators Capital Chapter. This article first appeared in the July 2009 issue of *Capital Connection*.

Over seventy members of the LLSDC and ALA attended the first ever joint educational session of the two groups. The meeting, a breakfast, was held at the offices of Jenner & Block, whose recently built out library space was one of the topics. A delicious breakfast was sponsored by Thomson Reuters Westlaw Court Express. The Director, William Barth, welcomed the group and thanked them for the opportunity to work with both organizations.

The topic of the meeting was “Research and Law Library Management in this Challenging Economy.” The premise was to have a Law Librarian and an Administrator talk about each of three different topics, exploring how they work together to survive and thrive in these economic times. The three topics were space, budgeting and contracts, and leveraging talent.

The first topic titled “Shifting in the Stacks: The Evolving Law Firm Library Space” was presented by Steve Mellin and Sabine Curto of Jenner & Block. They discussed how they worked together to design the library space in their new office they moved into last year. They detailed what worked, what didn’t and other tips they learned along the way. At the end of the meeting they offered a tour of the space to all participants.

The second set of speakers were Scott Bailey and Nancy Kronstadt from Squire Sanders & Dempsey. They discussed “Budgeting, Negotiation and Cost Recovery Strategy” and the importance of librarians working closely with the administrators. They detailed ways they have presented a united front when working with attorneys to trim collections, move to electronic media or increase chargeback rates.

The third topic, “Opportunities for Leveraging Talent: Library Staff Outside of Traditional Roles,” was presented by Ann Simpson of Paul Weiss. Ann presented alone as her administrator, Jill Berkowitz, was out of town on business. Ann explained her experiences over the years

provided support to the office by handling various duties, from managing paralegals to, in a pinch, running the Summer program. She stressed that librarians can make themselves more valuable to the firm by taking on additional duties when asked, but even more so when they see an unmet need and ask if they may fill it. **LLL**

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# Rollercoaster Ride

*Cameron Gowan, Library Manager, Groom Law Group, Chartered, [cgowan@groom.com](mailto:cgowan@groom.com)*

Recently, I spent some time in Los Angeles for a long weekend, and decided to do something I have not done in a long while—go to a theme park. For some reason, the thrill of a rollercoaster never gets old. Up, down, left, right. Hands up. Feet dangling. Wind in your face. As many times as you have been on a rollercoaster, the same feelings rip through your body as you whip about mid-air. And for a few minutes, there's nothing to do but to hold and resign yourself to the fact that you have no control. Only the knowledge that the platform will arrive in less than 60 seconds where you will be able to plant your feet back on solid ground comforts you. Oddly enough, when it is all over you find yourself exhilarated and ready to do it all over again.

While I would love to ignore the current economic state, I watch with interest the state of our profession as it reacts to challenges presented by current economic crisis. It has been one heck of a rollercoaster, hasn't it? And while it is not over yet, it is time to look forward. Look forward to the platform, that is, when we will be able to put our feet down on solid ground in a changed *and* more secure economy. Of course there have been challenges but I am optimistic about the future of LLSDC and the profession generally. As we work together in the coming months, I encourage you to play an active role in LLSDC and be more involved in our community. Whether you help plan an event or simply show up, the success of LLSDC is in your hands. Most importantly, our organization's members are committed to networking and helping each other through the hills, valleys and curves on this tumultuous stretch of track.

So after my day at the theme park riding roller-coasters for eight hours I decided that steady and stable ground is where I want to be—and what I wish for us all. Even though I loved the rush of adrenaline, it is always great to have two feet firmly planted on the ground. We have all experienced ups and downs in the past year, but with the support from one another within our community that is LLSDC, we should all be able to breathe a sigh of relief, knowing we have each other. As law librarians this environment has been a learning experience and will likely make us all more efficient.

The Board is diligently working to support the needs of its members and has many projects in the works that address our challenges and educational needs. The Sandy Peterson Memorial Lecture (held October 22) featured Nan Siemer from Breakers Consulting. She discussed negotiation strategies in the work place to create more value in this economy. We have co-sponsored an event with DC-SLA that featured Gary Price of ResourceShelf as the guest speaker. In addition, our Town Hall meeting will be held on March 29, 2010 and the AALL President Catherine Lemann will be our guest speaker. I hope that you will join us for the engaging events we have arranged.

I am both honored and energized to serve as LLSDC's President and look forward to meeting with familiar and unfamiliar faces over the course of my term. **LLL**

# AALL Conference Session Analyzes “The New Economic Reality”

Julie Reynolds, [julie.reynolds@gmail.com](mailto:julie.reynolds@gmail.com)

One of AALL’s “Hot Topic” programs at this year’s convention concerned the ongoing effects of the legal profession’s economic woes. The very well-attended session, “The New Economic Reality: Opportunity or Catastrophe?” looked at the problems of the private legal market and how the downturn has affected law firms. Held on Tuesday, July 28, the session was moderated by Elaine M. Egan of Mayer Brown LLP.

The presentation included concrete steps that law librarians can take, as participants in the legal profession, to assist their firms in adjusting to their clients’ new expectations. In addition to the ways in which firms will need to adapt their processes and strategies, the participants pointed out particular ways in which librarians can contribute to their firms’ survival and eventual success.

Frank (Rusty) M. Conner, III, managing partner of the Washington, D.C. office of DLA Piper, spoke very candidly about the forces driving drastic changes within the legal market. Put simply, the legal world as we’ve known it for the past several years doesn’t exist anymore. The balance of power between firms and clients, in terms of fee structuring, is now in the clients’ favor. Clients, in turn, have not been shy in demanding lower fees and more efficient delivery of legal services. Law firms have to create entirely new business models in order to remain competitive, satisfy their current clients, and court new ones.

Firms are, of course, only reacting to the changing nature of the business world. There aren’t as many financial transactions taking place, with the resulting reduction in the need for legal advice. With lowered demand for legal services, clients are showing greater particularity in their relations with firms. They want to deal with fewer firms and to have more pricing flexibility than the “unsustainable trend” of the billable hour, said Conner. Though some will be apprehensive about adopting the fixed price model, he added, many will be attracted by the possible cost savings. In short, clients are

rejecting the extravagance of past years and are looking for greater value and efficiency in their legal providers.

Conner predicted that, depending on the practice area, the current trend of associate layoffs will continue. As firms try to control costs and reform their financial structures they will try to make their processes as cost efficient as possible, particularly by reducing their greatest expense: staffing. Possible methods could include the use of flexible hours and increased outsourcing of services. Of particular interest to librarians, this trend will also likely include reduction of discretionary spending.

Several components of the law firm business model will need to change in order for firms to survive, Conner said. For example, firms will need to move away from traditional methods of operational funding, which was provided by partners or obtained by credit. When the economy softened, many firms found that they were overleveraged and required more capital to keep running. Some firms’ funding structures will become significant issues for them, observed Conner.

Conner also focused on processes that haven’t traditionally been implemented by law firms. He stressed the importance of knowledge management within a firm to bring to bear the firm’s collective expertise in assisting clients. Calling KM a “tremendous opportunity to make a strategic impact,” Conner observed that internal communication is an essential component of a law firm’s success. With the leadership of the management team, firms can use KM to engage their employees and offer the personal touch so essential to morale.

When asked what firms need from new associates, Conner emphasized that they must know substantive law, as well as progressively develop the professionalism necessary to be successful in the marketplace. In addition to the essential substantive knowledge, associates must be able to think clearly and systematically and to write

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As firms try to control costs and reform their financial structures they will try to make their processes as cost efficient as possible, particularly by reducing their greatest expense—staffing.

well. To meet these goals, the legal education community must do a better job of integrating with the realities of legal practice.

By the same token, law firm librarians must develop the same skills as any other professional. They must be creative and be good at solving problems and, in particular, have excellent communication skills. Because law firms haven't always recognized the value that librarians add to their practice, Conner pointed out that librarians must be assertive in showing their value to the firm management and demonstrating how their work benefits clients. Librarians must also prepare themselves by understanding what their costs are to the client and how the library offers the efficiency and certainty that clients desire.

James W. Jones of consulting firm Hildebrandt International echoed many of Conner's concerns. The legal profession's recent economic woes have been a particularly sharp wake-up call in light of the seven years of unprecedented growth until mid-2008. This economic upheaval has resulted in a fundamental shift in how clients look at legal services.

Law firms must respond to this challenge by changing their mindsets away from the constant drive for growth and expansion. Now, the watchword is efficiency in the delivery of legal services—something that has not traditionally been a priority for firms. The extent to which firms are able to make this adjustment will have dramatic effects going forward. As Conner indicated, the most significant change will come in pricing structures, away from the previously unchallenged billable hour to alternative pricing methods. This might include different pricing for transactional work and litigation, or "project pricing," which is more common in Europe and Asia.

Jones predicted that though there won't be a predominant pricing model in the future—and the billable hour won't disappear—a multiplicity of pricing schemes will be implemented. These models, in turn, will affect firms' accounting systems and how attorneys are evaluated and compensated. A shift in pricing models will result in changes to all law firm processes, including libraries.

According to Jones, greater efficiency will mean reexamining current work process in transactions and litigation. Clients increasingly demand unbundling of services; that is, paying

different rates for transaction work and litigation. Clients may also go to different firms for certain kinds of work.

One of the shortcomings of the current legal education, according to Jones, is its failure to ensure that all students have the opportunity to work with clients in a clinical setting, as medical students do. Law firms need associates who can work in teams and who have creative ideas.

Answering the questions of the role of legal education was Victoria Szymczak of the Brooklyn Law School Library. She pointed out that while law firms will need a few years to work out their preferred models, law schools will have to develop their own responses. A key point to remember is that law schools, by definition, have an academic mission and ultimately answer to the American Bar Association for accreditation. Input from the bar as to the kind of skills partners are looking for in law school graduates would also be helpful, she added.

Innovations in law school instruction will not happen quickly, she warned. Though changes will make their way through law schools, the mindset of faculty will need to be changed to include skills training as well as doctrinal instruction. "But we've been saying this for years," she said.

Linda-Jean Schneider of Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP offered as an example her own firm's unique approach to introducing new associates to legal practice. At Drinker, new hires spend their first six months training to work with clients without immediate billing pressure. Under this program, they learn how to work with clients and respond to real situations while building their practice skills. This apprenticeship is "a great opportunity for everyone," she pointed out.

Further, Schneider added, the firm is looking into partnering with law schools to help develop the skills of new lawyers. Such an initiative would be very beneficial to all parties. Information professionals can play a key role in this process of developing lawyering skills, she said, by providing communication and collaboration tools and providing the materials needed for success. **LLL**

**Law librarians must develop the same skills as any other professional. They must be creative and be good at solving problems and, in particular, have excellent communication skills.**



# Free and Low-Cost Online Legal Research Sources

Todd Venie, Reference Librarian, Georgetown University Law Library, [tmv22@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:tmv22@law.georgetown.edu)

In the current economy, it is more important than ever for law librarians to teach their patrons how to minimize legal research costs. At the Georgetown Law Library, librarians have attempted to incorporate discussions of low-cost alternative databases, as well as free online sources, into library instructional programs and our advanced legal research courses.

Three reference librarians (Catherine Dunn, Leslie Street & Todd Venie) developed a cost-effective legal research session and offered it to students in spring 2009. Materials from this session are available on the ALL-SIS Sourcebook for Teaching Legal Research (available to all AALL members). Many of the Georgetown librarians who teach advanced legal research courses have also incorporated elements of this session into their curriculum.

*The Free & Low Cost Legal Research Guide* (<http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/guides/freelowcost.cfm>) was developed, in part, because of the many questions about doing online research without Lexis or Westlaw we receive from our alumni patrons.

## Free Online Sources of Legal Information

There are several databases that provide access to primary source materials without any charge to the user. These sites can be generally divided into two groups: those that are jurisdiction-specific (usually official government sites); and those that compile materials from multiple jurisdictions (usually privately-run sites). These sites vary in terms of the types of materials collected, the scope of their coverage, and their search options. While most state materials are available on one or more of these free sites, we have tried to demonstrate these sites using those that focus on federal materials.

There is an abundance of free federal case law available online. Unfortunately, many of the editorial enhancements and finding aids that legal researchers are accustomed to are not available through these free sources. For example, these sources do not provide digests or head-

notes, which organize cases by points of law. Instead, these sources utilize browsing and keyword searching as the principal means of finding relevant cases. Researchers should be aware of these limitations and understand that keyword searching and browsing are not necessarily always the best way to find cases.

While there are several of these sites, we have identified PreCYdent as the best of the general sites (<http://www.precydent.com>). PreCYdent offers full coverage of U.S. Supreme Court case law as well as federal circuit court opinions since 1950 and district courts from 2004 to the present. PreCYdent also has a robust search engine that allows users to find cases by citation, party name, and keyword, and limit their searches by date, court, and authoring justice.

Several sites also carry federal legislative material. These sources usually contain only the most recent official version of the U.S. Code, which is published every six years. As a result, some individual code sections will be out-of-date and these sources need to be updated with session laws. As with case law, these sources provide only the statutes themselves, without including annotations or cross-references to related statutes or administrative regulations.

We have highlighted the U.S. Code provided by Cornell's Legal Information Institute (<http://assembler.law.cornell.edu/uscode>), which provides links to recent legislation so researchers can easily determine how a particular code section has changed since the last official publication.

Several types of legislative history documents are also available for free online, although mostly only for recent Congresses. Like other free online legal materials, legislative history documents are not usually annotated or linked to cases or enacted statutes. Researchers typically have to rely on document numbers or keyword searching to find relevant documents. It is also important to note that many of

*continued on page 10*

## Legal Research Resources

*continued from page 9*

these sources only provide selected documents, meaning they do not contain all documents for a particular time period.

For free legislative history research, the Thomas database provided by the Library of Congress is the most comprehensive (<http://thomas.loc.gov>). Thomas contains bills, committee reports, and text from the Congressional Record. Coverage is generally from the late 1980s forward, and users can find documents related to a particular public law, or use keyword searching.

### Low-Cost Alternative Databases

The free sources we have focused on contain a great deal of primary source legal material. They are, however, much more limited in terms of search options and finding aids than fee and subscription based sources. In particular, free sources rely almost exclusively on keyword searching and browsing to find cases, rather than headnotes and digesting, which are used in Lexis and Westlaw. For this reason, the free sources may ultimately be inadequate.

There are also several relatively inexpensive online legal research databases. These are described below in greater detail. While none of these sources contain all of the material on Lexis or Westlaw, lawyers may find that they provide most or all of the primary law sources they will need in their practice. The databases use a variety of search methods and finding aids, and we have tried to provide that information about each source along with an overview of its content and pricing to our students.

Virtually all of these databases provide a “citor” service. It is important to note, however, that these citators typically only provide a list of cases in which the citation appears. They do not include qualitative information, such as an indication that a particular case has received negative treatment. Westlaw and Lexis both provide this information through their Shepard’s and Keycite services, and those services are available through the lower cost lexisONE and Westlaw by Credit Card listed below.

#### Caselex (<http://www.caselex.com>)

Caselex provides selected coverage of case law from the European Union and individual European countries. Only cases with EU relevance

from individual countries are included. Caselex limits their coverage to cases involving selected subjects. National cases are provided from 2000 forward, and all dates are provided for EU cases. There are several licensing options and a 14-day free trial is offered.

#### Casemaker (<http://www.casemaker.us/>)

Casemaker provides unlimited access to the members of bar associations that join the Casemaker Consortium. A license fee is paid by each bar association and there are no additional fees to use the service. Currently, 30 state bar associations are members. Consult the member list (<http://www.casemaker.us/consortium-members>) to find out if your bar association is a member. Individual subscriptions are currently unavailable.

#### Fastcase (<http://www.fastcase.com>)

Fastcase offers two subscription plans: a premium subscription (\$95/month or \$995/year) and an appellate subscription (\$65/month and \$695/year). Both plans offer access to the Fastcase appellate case law library, as well as state and federal codes and regulations. The premium plan also includes trial level opinions, while the appellate plan does not. Fastcase also offers a free 24-hour trial and 30-day money-back guarantee. Subscriptions are also covered through some state bar associations.

#### lexisONE (<http://www.lexisone.com>)

lexisOne is a low-cost database that has recently added free access to some case law (all U.S. Supreme Court cases and the last ten years of other state and federal courts). lexisONE has a full collection of primary law for all U.S. states and federal sources. Several subscription packages are available at different prices. Users can purchase materials for individual states, federal law only, or comprehensive national coverage. Packages can be purchased on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis. A basic package consisting of one state’s primary law materials is between \$222 and \$264/month. A subscription to the Shepard’s citator service is \$120/month. A full list of legal packages and their prices is available online (<http://www.lexisone.com/lx1/specialoffer/getOffer?action=mainIndex>). Reduced prices are available for members of bar associations who have partnered with lexisONE. Consult the list of partners

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The free sources we have focused on contain a great deal of primary source legal material. They are, however, much more limited in terms of search options and finding aids than fee and subscription based sources.

## Legal Research Resources

*continued from page 10*

(<http://www.lexisnexis.com/partners/barassociations/>) to see if your bar association offers a discount. Users are required to register when purchasing a subscription and can pay by credit card.

### Loislaw (<http://www.loislaw.com>)

Loislaw offers extensive coverage of all types of primary legal materials from all 50 states and federal jurisdictions. Loislaw also provides access to treatises organized by subject or jurisdiction. Several different subscription plans are offered, with prices ranging from \$40 to \$250. See the list of subscription options (<http://www.loislaw.com/product/subscriptions/national.htm>) for coverage of specific sources.

### VersusLaw (<http://www.versuslaw.com>)

VersusLaw offers three pricing plans—standard, premium, and professional—which range in price from \$13.95 to \$39.95 per month. Coverage of materials varies widely by jurisdiction, but the library directory (<http://www.versuslaw.com/help/library/LibCatProfessional.aspx>) details coverage.

### Westlaw by Credit Card

(<http://creditcard.westlaw.com/welcome/frameless/default.wl>) Westlaw by credit card is a document retrieval service provided by West Group that lets you easily retrieve legal documents on Westlaw and check citations using KeyCite. You can use this service with a credit card or with your Westlaw subscription, if you have one. Prices vary but users are asked to confirm transactions before their credit card is charged. New users need to register in order to pay by credit card. **LLL**

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# The Accidental Archivist

Billie J. Grey<sup>1</sup>

**W**hen I applied to Catholic University of America School of Library and Information Science I had to describe my commitment to lifetime learning. Since I was nearer in age to the faculty than the other students, I figured that my commitment was apparent. Approximately twenty years after finishing that degree, I had another occasion to put that commitment into effect when I realized that I needed to use some archival techniques to do my job as a law librarian.

Law libraries and law librarians have four connections to archives. First, they require access to traditional archives to obtain needed materials. The procedures for research at archives were very well covered by Ms. Locke Davitt's recent *Lights* article. Second, law libraries include

traditional archival materials or materials that might be more useful with archival finding aids than traditional bibliographic control. The materials might be collections of legislative or organizational materials or the personal papers of significant persons. Beth Maser's article in *Private Law Library Perspectives* provides specific examples of how a law firm will discover that it has archives and need to learn how to both manage and use them. Third, law libraries may have case files from large litigation. Although the litigation may have concluded, the value of the materials continues. Fourth, various digital preservation issues and initiatives in law libraries include archival challenges.

The two professions are seen from outside as similar and are related. For example, the Federal civil service system lists librarian positions and archivist positions in the same category. There are differences, however, in the two professions. Just as law librarians come from two intellectual traditions, lawyers and librarians, archivists come from two intellectual traditions, historians and librarians. The portion of archives management

*continued on page 12*

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<sup>1</sup> I learned everything I know about archives management from the School of Necessity and the June 2009 Archives Management for Rare Book Librarians course at the Rare Book School at University of Virginia. Although I am currently the Law Librarian for the Board of Veterans' Appeals at the Department of Veterans' Affairs, all opinions expressed are my own and should not be attributed to the Board of Veterans' Appeals, the Department of Veterans' Affairs or any part of the Federal government.

In addition to using archives, law librarians can integrate archives management techniques.... Archivists would not be surprised or offended to find that law librarians had adopted or adapted some of their techniques.

## The Accidental Archivist

*continued from page 11*

developed by historians is sometimes different from that developed by librarians. Similarly aspects of law library management developed by attorneys are sometimes different from that developed by librarians. Thus a law librarian is crossing an intellectual double divide when approaching archives management.

But there is a recognized connection between law libraries and archives in library science education. Legal Bibliography is a Concentration Elective and US Government Publications is an Elective to Enhance Archival Studies in the Archival Studies Program offered in the Online Master's Degree in Library & Information Science at Drexel University.<sup>2</sup> Curiously, the Catholic University of America School of Library and Information Science specialization in Law Librarianship does not include their Archives Management course as core, specialty, or a course of particular importance.<sup>3</sup>

Fortunately, people in both the archives profession and the librarian profession have recognized the need for cross training. The Society of American Archivists had a Pre-Conference in August 2009 on Rare Books for Archivists. In June 2009, the Rare Book School at University of Virginia offered, for the second time, Introduction to Archives for Rare Book Librarians. See <http://www.rarebookschool.org/courses/libraries/l60/> for details.<sup>4</sup>

The American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. in July 2009 included programs with an archival connection. *The Thurgood Marshall Papers: A Case Study in Acquiring Significant Archival Donations* is the most obvious example. Several other programs, for example those on digital preservation, benefited from input from members of the archival profession.

There are two ways of defining archival materials. The traditional definition is that "to be archives, records must have been produced or accumulated to accomplish a specific purpose and must have values for purposes other than those for which they were produced or accumulated."<sup>5</sup> Thus, veterans regulations, written in 1919 but still used for the purpose of deciding veterans' claims are not archives. Those same regulations used for analyzing the history and development of federal administrative law, would be archives.

Alternatively, archival materials are defined by the approach rather than the nature of the materials. That definition has been codified in the OCLC Bibliographic Formats and Standards. So veterans regulations, of whatever year and used for any purpose, but organized using archival techniques that focus on their contextual relationships rather than their bibliographic details, would be archives.

The first definition is reassuring, because it means that I am not an archivist. The materials are being used for the specific purpose for which they were produced. However, it seems fairly clear that the contextual relationship, for example, which regulations governed a particular disability over a span of years, is more important than the bibliographic details of the publication. That is much less reassuring and suggests that at least, I am managing archival materials.

Apparently I am not alone. The Arthur J. Morris Law Library at University of Virginia includes the Dalkon Shield Claimants Trust Collection. Using either definition this collection is archival. The materials were transferred to the library by a court order in 2000. Taylor Fitchett, Library Director, states that the collection contains over 170,000 items documenting the successful resolution of a mass tort case. The case settled 218,000 claims between 1988 and 2000. Researchers are primarily interested in the workings of the trust, especially the assessment of claims and disbursements to claimants. Ms. Fitchett believes that

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.drexel.com/online-degrees/information-sciences-degrees/ms-di/curriculum.aspx>.

<sup>3</sup> <http://slis.cua.edu/MSinLS/coursesStudy/law.cfm>.

<sup>4</sup> I summarized my experience at Rare Books School in a previous *Lights* article. Billie Grey, Law Librarians as Rare Book Librarians, and UVA's Rare Book School at 20. Available at <http://www.illsdc.org/attachments/contentmanagers/32/LawLightsSummer2007.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> T.R. SCHELLENBERG, *MODERN ARCHIVES: PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES* 16 (2003 Society of American Archivists reprint) (1956). Available at <http://www.archivists.org/publications/epubs/ModernArchives-Schellenberg.pdf>.

## The Accidental Archivist

continued from page 12

more archival work is being done in law libraries because there are better on-line finding aids (<http://ead.lib.virginia.edu/vivaead/published/uva-law/viul00041.xml.frame>).

The Powell Archive at Wilbur C. Hall Library at the Washington & Lee University School of Law is an excellent example of the archive of personal papers likely to be found in a law library. The archival finding aids are available online and are linked to the integrated library system. Searching the library catalog or using a common Internet search engine, the researcher will find the online guide to the Powell Archives (<http://ead.lib.virginia.edu/vivaead/published/wl-law/vilxw100013.xml.frame>). The Powell Archives home page (<http://law.wlu.edu/powellarchives>) includes everything a visiting research will require, including directions and an explanation of the special rules which apply to Supreme Court papers.

John Jacob, Archivist Librarian at the Washington & Lee University School of Law, said, "In accepting personal papers, the ethical library of any stripe is committing itself, not just to preserving them, but also making them available to the researching public in a timely fashion, within professional guidelines concerning privacy and other considerations. This is a commitment of resources that goes beyond many university law libraries' primary commitment to serve their faculty and students. Indeed, while our faculty and students make use of the papers of Justice Powell, Congressman Butler and the other manuscript collections, at least 80% of users come from outside our university, from a variety of disciplines, and from most all of the states in the union and a number of foreign countries, as well. Thus, manuscripts, in this sense, could be seen as something of a luxury. This is less true today, I think, as libraries redefine themselves and emphasize what is unique in their holdings."

How are law librarians, who probably didn't take an archives management course in library school, supposed to know how to manage the archive-like materials in their collection? Fortunately there are excellent resources in several formats. To overcome the language division, the Society of American Archivists makes a glossary of terms available at [http://www.](http://www.archivists.org/glossary/index.asp)

[archivists.org/glossary/index.asp](http://www.archivists.org/glossary/index.asp). It can be searched online for no cost. Alternatively, it can be purchased from the Society of American Archivists Book Store, see <http://www.archivists.org/catalog/pubDetail.asp?objectID=1637> for details.

The archivists have, not surprisingly, documented their profession and techniques. *Starting an Archives* by Elizabeth Yakel, although published in 1994 is still in print and still considered the place to start. Since it is only 112 pages, including front matter, it is very accessible. Judith Ellis' *Keeping Archives* is more substantial, 512 pages, more recent, 2004, and includes an excellent glossary.

There are often materials prepared by an institution for its own use but available to others. *How to Proceed, a Procedures Manual for the Southern Historical Collection and General Manuscripts*, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was converted to a pdf in FY 2007/2008.<sup>6</sup> Since then it has widely circulated. It is going to be released as a wiki, which should make it more accessible to those outside who have come to rely on it.

The reading list for the Rare Book School course provides a thorough categorized bibliography for archives management. It is available online at <http://www.rarebookschool.org/reading/libraries/160>. The Archives Management for Rare Book Librarians course was offered in both 2008 and 2009 and was apparently full each year. Watch the RBS web site to learn if they will offer the course again next year. (<http://www.rarebookschool.org/reading/libraries/160/>) In fact, check their website for an extensive bibliography on any topic for which they offer a class.

Open source archives management software is available and very suitable for a law librarian with archival materials to manage. Until recently, Archivists' Toolkit and Archon presented a choice. However, the two are being merged. They offer tools to organize the structure for the archives and for creating descriptive records at the level appropriate to the collection. Collection descriptions and finding aids can be created using web forms. The document created can be exported in the proper format to be

continued on page 14

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<sup>6</sup>On file with the author.

## The Accidental Archivist

*continued from page 13*

input into various systems. This is especially useful for a law library that will include archives information in its integrated catalog.

In addition to using archives, law librarians can integrate archives management techniques. Archivists apparently mix standards and use what works in their management. They would not be surprised or offended to find that law librarians had adopted or adapted some of their techniques.

## Resources on Using and Managing Archives

Jennifer Locke Davitt, Research at the National Archives, *Law Libr. Lights*, Spring/Summer 2009, at 13 . Available at: [www.llsdc.org/lights](http://www.llsdc.org/lights).

Beth Maser, Law Librarians, Law Firms and Archives: How Could Preserving our Heritage Benefit my Firm? *PLL Perspectives*, Winter 2008, at 1. Available at: <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/pllis/newslett/winter08.asp#feature>.

Elizabeth Yakel, *Starting an Archives* (1994).

Judith Ellis, *Keeping Archives* (2004).

*Glossary of Archival and Records Terminology*, Pearce-Moses, Richard, A Glossary of Archival and Records Terminology, Society of American Archivists, 2005 [LLL](#)

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

*Shannon O'Connell, Reference/Interlibrary Loan Librarian, Williams & Connolly LLP,*  
[soconnell@wc.com](mailto:soconnell@wc.com)

### Congratulations!

Wilmer Hale's **Gary Cleland**, who completed his MLIS degree at the University of Alabama.

**Mary Kate Hunter**, who joined the staff of The George Washington University Law Library in September as a reference librarian.

### Upcoming LLSDC Board Meetings

Tuesday, December 8, 2009, at 9:00 a.m.

For details on the locations of the meetings, please click on "Calendar of Events" at the LLSDC homepage (<http://www.llsdc.org>). All LLSDC members are welcomed to attend the Board Meetings. To attend, simply send a message to [president@llsdc.org](mailto:president@llsdc.org). [LLL](#)

Roger V. Skalbeck, Associate Law Librarian for Electronic Resources & Services, Georgetown Law Library, [rvs5@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:rvs5@law.georgetown.edu)

## CoTweet and HootSuite: Two Options for Team Twitter Updating

For anybody considering an organizational Twitter presence managed by more than one person, take a look at HootSuite and CoTweet. These online services allow multiple authors to share Twitter account management and access. For example, a law firm may want a librarian and a communications director to manage firm news. Alternately, people working for separate organizations might want to manage a Twitter account for a committee or coordinated project.

CoTweet and HootSuite both allow shared Twitter management, including options for managing multiple accounts from a single site login. There are some drawbacks, but both services look promising in their early stages. Following is a quick overview, followed by ideas on improvements and service evolution we may see soon. Both services are in 'beta' format for now, but this often seems to be more of a marketing strategy than a warning of instability or incompleteness.

### CoTweet Overview

([www.cotweet.com](http://www.cotweet.com))

**Concept:** As the service name suggests, CoTweet is designed for coordinated Twitter management. Once you sign up for CoTweet, you can add multiple Twitter accounts, granting others access to one or more Twitter accounts you select. These users get basic access to post to Twitter, without having to know your actual Twitter login information. With a team assigned to an account, contributors can be On or Off Duty, as seen in this first image from the system.

CoTweet tailors the Twitter interface to look and act much like an email account. There is an Inbox, and Outbox and a section for follow-up. These are different views of the Twitter account activity, such as updates from followers (Inbox/Messages) and Outbox/Sent (Twitter updates).

**Features:** Whenever you post an update on the system, you can set a future date for

it to go online, and of course it can be done immediately.

Another feature allows you to create follow-up assignments. Here you flag a Twitter post so a team member (or you, yourself) can send a later update. For instance, if you see an item about a new research database, you might assign a fellow librarian to write about it on Twitter. This is good for flagging Twitter posts, but it won't work to assign stories from scratch, such as creating a 'to do' list or editorial coverage agenda from scratch.

**Comments:** One reassuring aspect of CoTweet is that it uses an access control method called OAuth to coordinate permissions between CoTweet and Twitter. As stated on the OAuth.net website, OAuth is "[a]n open protocol to allow secure API authorization in a simple and standard method from desktop and web applications." This means you can use a Twitter account on CoTweet without having to use your Twitter login credentials directly on the CoTweet site.

Creating a company name based on a specific service can be a curse and a blessing. On the one hand, anybody who knows Twitter can probably guess that CoTweet is for coordinated Twitter management. However, if they branch out to other networks like Facebook, the name could be too limiting for what the service later covers.

### HootSuite ([www.hootsuite.com](http://www.hootsuite.com))

**Concept:** HootSuite is a tool for a team approach to Twitter management. Going in a direction somewhat different than CoTweet, HootSuite seems as much focused on display customization and feature enhancements as they are on creating tools for shared Twitter access.

For any updates through the system, you can post them to an individual account or simultaneously to any accounts you manage. This

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CoTweet and HootSuite both allow shared Twitter management, including options for managing multiple accounts from a single site login. There are some drawbacks, but both services look promising in their early stages.

might be good if you use Twitter accounts with different followers or subject coverage, but it has the potential to be redundant or annoying if not used consciously.

**Features:** On HootSuite, you can create custom views of Twitter traffic, which appear as flexible display columns. For instance, your first column might be general updates (like your Twitter homepage), the second could be direct messages (Inbox), and the third could be a search you follow (perhaps “Library2.0” or a conference hashtag like #aall2009). You can also create a column to group people you follow. These features make HootSuite look and feel a lot like TweetDeck ([www.tweetdeck.com](http://www.tweetdeck.com)), which is a very popular desktop and iPhone Twitter application.

On HootSuite, you can integrate an RSS or Atom feed to automatically update any of your managed Twitter accounts. This way, any new post to your blog appears automatically as a Twitter update. Posts can also have a prefix like “XYZ Blog Post: “to differentiate these from your other updates. Thee feed integration is also found in the TwitterFeed ([www.twitterfeed.com](http://www.twitterfeed.com)) service. It’s nice to see it integrated with HootSuite, so you don’t have to have another service to manage this.

**Comments:** When you sign up for HootSuite, the default account is fairly limited. HootSuite made a smart marketing decision to let users upgrade to “HootSuite 2.0” by sending a Twitter update by completing a post that starts “I upgraded to #HootSuite 2.0 because ...” For mine, I said “it might work to manage multiple profiles. CoTweet’s another option <http://hootsuite.com/upgrade>.”

Most people who post to Twitter use a URL shortening service for posting links. HootSuite defaults to the Ow.ly (<http://ow.ly>) service, which they own. By selecting this in-house service, they can provide limited statistics for an entire account or for an individual link. One disadvantage to Ow.ly is that links are framed with a browser toolbar and the ultimate URL is obscured. For instance, when accessing the link <http://ow.ly/ktdW>, you see their domain name in the browser location bar, not a Google blog URL.

## Concluding Thoughts

Many organizations will find strong value in managing a Twitter using HootSuite or CoTweet. Here are three reasons for doing so.

- Create a Twitter account ‘team’ without having to share the Twitter password.
- Manage multiple Twitter accounts directly in the browser without any desktop application requirements.
- Schedule Twitter posts to target updates for a specific time period (online campaign, vacation, or just to space out updates).

## Possible Feature Enhancements

Neither CoTweet nor HootSuite lets you track activity for individual team contributors. It would be great to see who has sent updates to avoid duplication and track individual effort. Both services allow you to append Twitter updates with author credentials appended when a post is published. For the first service, these are called CoTags, and the second calls them “Auto Initial” signatures. Both services give you the option of turning this on selectively for each managed Twitter account.

Since Facebook has a status update feature similar to Twitter, it’s only a matter of time before a service like HootSuite or CoTweet adds Facebook integration tools. Yes, it’s possible to use another service to cross-post updates to Twitter and Facebook simultaneously. In fact, you can do this already with a tool like TweetDeck or the Seismic Desktop. HootSuite provides this integration with a service called Ping.fm, which looks like a service to integrate with everything from Flickr to Facebook to FriendFeed. This might be worth exploring more.

Predictably HootSuite and CoTweet could introduce other third-party integration for picture management (like TwitPic), a wider selection of URL shortening services, two-way RSS feed syndication, and perhaps other tools. Both services are stable and intuitive, and I’m planning to use one of them for shared library and committee Twitter management. **LLL**



Kasia Solon, Reference Librarian, University of Texas School of Law, Tarlton Law Library, [ksolon@law.utexas.edu](mailto:ksolon@law.utexas.edu)

**Police Regulations of the District of Columbia, amended to October 30, 1933** by Washington, D.C., Board of Commissioners; Government Printing Office, 1933, 170 pages.

As I have written earlier in *Law Library Lights*, I am taking a detour with this year's book review column to survey rare or archival material held by Washington, D.C. area law libraries and highlight a book from a local collection. For this issue, I had the chance not only to go to a local law library, but also to investigate historic local legal materials. Bonnie Morgan at the library for the D.C. Office of the Attorney General was kind enough to invite me and, upon my visit, I got to browse that library's wealth of D.C. specific materials. Among those items specifically relating to D.C. were some handbooks of police regulations spanning the years. The one from 1933 particularly caught my eye.

Since Barack Obama's election last November, we have all heard the media's constant refrain of how he has assumed the presidency during the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. Accordingly, Obama's first one hundred days have been exhaustively compared and contrasted with those of Franklin Roosevelt, who became president on March 4, 1933. But what was D.C. itself like during those first hundred days of 1933 compared to 2009? Perusing this book of police regulations for what was on the books in 1933 provides a glimpse into the capitol's past.

**Swirling Soot and other Hazards**

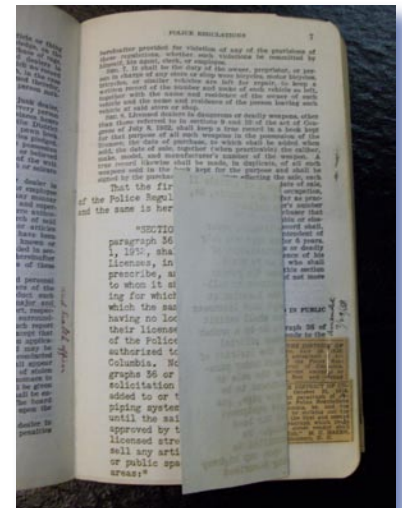
A couple regulations jumped out at me, including one entitled "Droves of Animals in the Street." What on earth were droves of animals doing in the streets? The regulation lays down the law: "No person shall drive or conduct sheep, swine, beeves, or other cattle in herds or droves through any improved city street . . . except as hereinafter designated . . ." That is not a typo—the regulation really uses the word beeves. What the heck are beeves, you ask? I wondered the same thing myself and looked it up in the *American Heritage Dictionary*. It is the plural of beef. The regulation goes on in this severe manner at some length. However, there is some leni-

ency displayed: "Horned cattle may be led singly by a rope or halter through any of the streets..." Thank goodness. After my initial amusement had worn off, I realized that here was evidence of D.C.'s agricultural past. In fact, probably every big city of a hundred years or so ago had farmers driving their stock into the center for sale or slaughter at venues like D.C.'s Eastern Market.

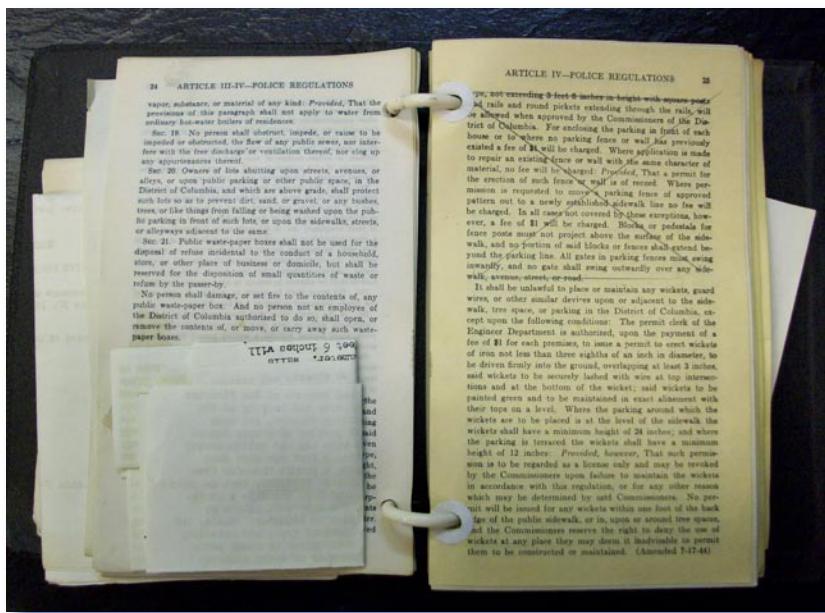
The other regulation that jumped out at me was "Deposits on Streets and in Sewers." This regulation does not have as catchy a title, but its specificity is amazing. Notably, the regulation has a lot to say about coal: "[C]oal must be made sufficiently wet before and immediately after being deposited to prevent any part of it being blown about. . . . Licensed vendors selling from stands or from push carts or other vehicles upon the streets or other public places shall attach to such stands or vehicles a box or other receptacle . . ." When you think about it, this regulation is really a forerunner of present day energy law regulation. Back in the day, people heated their dwellings by burning coal, inevitably leading to coal dust. Reading this regulation today, with its concern over coal waste, conjures up what life would have like in a coal heated city, with black soot threatening to swirl in the streets.

**Form Follows Function**

Aside from the fascination of these police regulations' content, there is also much food for *continued on page 18*



thought in deciphering how these books were constructed and used. Examining how these books were handled is of particular interest to us law librarians, for what one can glean bears witness to how the law operated in the past on a practical level. When it comes to these police regulations, the driving consideration seems to have been that form should follow function. How this 1933 book evidently fell short and prompted innovations in later editions is quite striking.



This 1933 publication of police regulations approaches handbook size, an indication that it was meant for daily reference. The particular copy that I examined appears characteristic in that it had a person's name hand written on the cover and spine, a sign that the Corporation Counsel (the precursor to today's Attorney General's Office) had enough staff that people needed their own copies. And the book is fairly no-frills, at least to the extent that the spine lacked any title, prompting the owner to hand-write "Police" on it. One can also gather that there was a confusing profusion of editions, since the cover also has handwritten on the top right corner, "Latest."

This concern with currency, something to which we law librarians can still relate, is evidenced throughout the book. The owner ensured the copy stayed current using multiple tactics. For instance, some regulations I saw had handwritten notes of case citations, making for

an unofficial annotated version. Often there were other handwritten notes in the margin, giving the date of amendments and crossing out outdated regulations. What I found most amazing though, was the systematic careful pasting in of new regulations, carefully typed out. Oftentimes, there were also notices of new regulations stapled in from newspaper cuttings. Who did such painstaking work? Was it the attorney himself or a secretary? Either way, some scrap-booking skills surely would have come in handy on the job in the 1930s until a new edition came out in 1940.

The pace of regulatory action must have reached such a point that, by 1940, the book design for these police regulations responded. Significantly, this later edition is held together with metal rings like a loose-leaf binder. Thus instead of the tedious work of typing, pasting, cutting, and stapling in changes, a user could simply open up the binder and insert new readymade pages of up to date text. But apparently there were some shortcomings in the execution of this improvement. As the insertion of a paper clipped memorandum from the DC Corporation Counsel illustrates: "Mimeographed sheets in Mr. West's books for these." Presumably, one had to stay on friendly terms with Mr. West to stay abreast of the regulations.

After looking at yet another edition that came out in 1944, one realizes that not only was the metal binder a sign of increased regulation, but also a sign of wealth. For in the 1944 release of police regulations, that metal binder with rings all up and down the center is replaced by a measly two, in cheap plastic. I suspect war rationing at work here. Metal must have been too precious during World War II to wind up in a mere bureaucrat's binder. For the first time as well, the quality of the paper seems to fluctuate throughout the volume. Again, I suspect war rationing led to lower, more variable standards in paper production. Taking all three editions together—1933, 1940, and 1944—gives us a microcosm of the evolution in legal printing, with the form of each edition adapted to how the law was functioning within the changing constraints of the day.

### FDR Was No Community Organizer

Now that I have provided a taste of what the police were supposed to enforce in 1933, what

*continued on page 19*

were they actually up to? Compared to the relatively peaceful city that Obama moved to in 2009, in 1933, D.C. had an uneasy relationship with its police force. Only the year before, a “Bonus Army” of thousands of destitute World War I veterans and supporters had marched to Washington demanding immediate payment of a bonus (to be received in 1945). After the police got an order to evacuate them, they wound up shooting and killing two. This prompted then-President Hoover to call in the U.S. Army for what turned out to be an even more violent affair.

Perhaps trying to strike a better note, the day after his inauguration in 1933, President Roosevelt granted permission for a march by unemployed African-Americans in the “communistic” Unemployed Councils of Washington.<sup>1</sup> However, when the District Commissioners denied a permit, a battle with police ensued. Roosevelt reportedly felt some indignation, but not enough over such incidents to make real change in D.C.’s city government.<sup>2</sup> He had other things on his plate, yet Roosevelt was indeed at a remove from the city around him. As David Brinkley writes in *Washington Goes to War* about D.C. during World War II, with Roosevelt’s “mobility restricted by both his handicap and the duties of his office, he had no real sense of the momentous changes occurring in the city outside.”<sup>3</sup> It sounds like there is some use in President Obama making forays into the city every now and again for hamburgers.

### **All Good Things Must Come to an End**

Over the past year, I have written columns that have allowed me to explore what it is that makes up a rare book. By focusing this time on a publication that is relatively new, I am reminding myself that a rare book is not necessarily old. I played with this topic before, when

I wrote my first column on a 2007 reproduction, *Processus Contra Templarios*. But still, that title was about the trial against the Knights Templar from 1308. In this case, I consider the 1933 edition rare largely because of its scarcity. According to WorldCat, only three other libraries own this, and only one of them is in D.C. (the Library of Congress). The holdings of the library at the D.C. Office of the Attorney General are not on WorldCat and there may be other hidden holdings in other libraries. So perhaps the title is not as scarce as it first appears. Yet another quality that makes this book rare is its association. Normally, this term means that someone famous owned a copy of a book, say Learned Hand. The association here with this book is more mundane, the D.C. Corporation Counsel. As opposed to an ordinary copy, the one at the D.C. Attorney General’s Office has the markings and annotations of the attorneys who worked for the city.

Thanks again to Bonnie Morgan for making this column possible and to everyone for their help this past year. This final review brings my year long survey of local rare law books to an end. I have certainly had fun writing this book review column and I hope you have enjoyed reading it. **LLL**

**Aside from the fascination of these police regulations’ content, there is also much food for thought in deciphering how these books were constructed and used. Examining how these books were handled is of particular interest to us law librarians, for what one can glean bears witness to how the law operated in the past on a practical level.**

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<sup>1</sup>200 *Parading Reds Clash with Police; 38 Persons Seized*, WASH. POST, Mar. 7, 1933, at 16.

<sup>2</sup>CONSTANCE McLAUGHLIN GREEN, WASHINGTON: CAPITAL CITY, 1879-1950 420 (1963).

<sup>3</sup>DAVID BRINKLEY, WASHINGTON GOES TO WAR 106 (1988).

There's really nothing else like Svengalis' book, which provides both an overview of the legal publishing industry and a compendium of available resources.

## BOOK REVIEW

Dawn Bohls, Reference Librarian, Bingham McCutchen LLP, [dawn.bohls@bingham.com](mailto:dawn.bohls@bingham.com)

Kendall F. Svengalis, *Legal Information Buyer's Guide & Reference Manual*, 2009 (N. Stonington, CT: Rhode Island Lawpress 2009).

When I heard that "The Economy & Law Libraries" would be the topic for the fall issue of *Lights*, I immediately thought of Ken Svengalis' *Legal Information Buyer's Guide & Reference Manual* as the obvious choice for the subject of my book review.

There's really nothing else like Svengalis' book, which provides both an overview of the legal publishing industry and a compendium of available resources. Svengalis' own description of his book summarizes its significance for anyone with responsibility for legal resource purchasing decisions:

This book remains the first serious attempt to provide consumers with the kind of information needed to make appropriate and cost-effective purchasing decisions and to bring the costs of legal information under control. The book's initial premise remains the same: that there is no one "right way" to buy legal materials and that economic concerns need to be balanced against professional needs. Accordingly, I have attempted to provide consumers with substantive and cost information which can form the basis for appropriate acquisition decisions. In addition, I have provided numerous cost-saving tips and strategies which can be utilized in a variety of circumstances and environments.

The first part of the book is the *Buyer's Guide* portion. The *Buyer's Guide* provides an overview of the history of legal publishing and a useful "how-to" guide for legal resource purchasers that covers a wide array of issues from building up core and subject area collections, to dealing with unsolicited shipments, to determining which resources should receive the regular supplement shipments (which can easily exceed the original purchase cost in just a single year).

The second part of the book is the *Reference Manual* portion. The *Reference Manual*,

which comprises the majority of the book, is broken up into three sections covering categories of legal publications, key treatises in various subject areas, and state resources organized by state.

The chapters on categories of legal publications include such product types as statutes, regulations, case reporters, digests, legal encyclopedias, and legal reference titles. For each title listed, Svengalis gives publication information, pricing (including supplementation, noting the increase in supplement costs over a period of years), a description of the resource's content, and often offers cost saving tips. For the legal encyclopedia sets *Corpus Juris Secundum* and *American Jurisprudence 2d*, which currently run around \$7,000 annually to supplement, he suggests buying second-hand sets and replacing them on a regular basis to keep the content relatively current. In this section, there's also a chapter on Computer-Assisted Legal Research that discusses the basics of LexisNexis and Westlaw contracts and cost-effective searching techniques, and also less-expensive database products such as Fastcase and Loislaw.com.

I've typically relied on the *Reference Manual* for its subject-area chapters, which I've frequently consulted when asked for a treatise dealing with a particular practice area, or when I'm seeking to supplement an existing collection with additional titles. Sixty-one subject areas are covered, from administrative law to Indian law to military law to zoning law. I know there have been a few times when a subject area I was looking into was not covered by Svengalis, but the only one I can think of at the moment is canon law. The coverage is not exhaustive, but it is extensive, both in terms of the particular subject areas covered and the titles listed within each subject area.

For each state and the District of Columbia, the State Legal Publications chapters list the codified and session laws, administrative codification, and sources for regulatory updates, court reports, and other state-specific reference materials and general treatises.

The book concludes with a series of helpful appendices, many of which summarize information that can be found elsewhere in the

*continued on page 21*

## Book Review *continued from page 20*

book. The appendices include a three-page list compiling Svengalis' cost-saving tips, used law book dealers and typical prices for used law book sets, and charts listing treatise costs. You'll also find a biography of Ken Svengalis, where you'll learn that he and his wife "spend their leisure time as a vocal and instrumental duo performing Swedish folk music"—an enjoyable little tidbit to conclude a volume otherwise packed with

great content but little entertainment value.

So, to conclude, at a cost of \$149 plus shipping, does the *Legal Information Buyer's Guide & Reference Manual* deserve a place in your collection (and more importantly, your library budget)? My vote would be an unqualified yes, although you may opt to follow Svengalis' own advice regarding numerous legal resources and only purchase a new copy ever other year or so. **LLL**

## AALL NEWS

### New Resources Available from AALL: Career Center, Learning Center (AALL2go) and Salary Survey

AALL recently launched a new and improved interactive job board, the **AALL Career Center**. Designed specifically for law libraries and legal information professionals, the AALL Career Center offers members and the profession at large a highly-targeted resource for online recruitment.

For job seekers:

- Post your resume for free—post confidentially or search anonymously by creating a Job Agent
- Browse jobs based on criteria that best match your career goals
- Set up a Job Agent to notify you via e-mail when jobs matching your criteria are posted

For employers:

- Post your jobs online; reporting provides job activity statistics to track each posting's return on investment
- Search for qualified candidates based on specific job criteria
- Create an online resume agent, which e-mails qualified candidates daily

AALL is proud to announce that **AALL2go**, AALL's new online learning center, is open for business! The new site offers you specialized continuing education programs designed specifically for law librarians. The convenient online format allows you to expand your knowledge base and gain new skills right from your desktop—no travel is required, and it's open 24/7. Also, AALL2go is fully searchable, so you can quickly find material targeted to your areas of interest.

The site now includes:

- audio recordings from the 2009, 2008, and 2007 AALL Annual Meeting and Conferences
- 14 free videos from the 2008 and 2009 AALL Annual Meeting and Conferences for AALL members only
- Archived webinars and more recorded continuing education programs from 2006 to present, including more than 50 free programs for AALL members

The AALL 2009 *Biennial Salary Survey and Organizational Characteristics* is now available to AALL members. This new edition is the only source for up-to-date information about salaries for law librarians and other law library employees who work in academic libraries; private firms and corporate libraries; and state, court, and county law libraries. The survey was carried out this summer in complete confidentiality by Association Research, Inc., a professional research firm in Rockville, Maryland, that works exclusively with nonprofit organizations.

Printed copies of the survey are available for purchase: \$110 for AALL members and \$175 for nonmembers (contact **orders@aall.org**). An online version of the survey results is available to AALL members for free on the Members Only Section of AALLNET. **LLL**



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