

NEWS FROM ORALL

GRALL
News file

JULY 1974

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our Spring Meeting in Toledo. The program received enthusiastic participation, and I hope all of you will be in Indianapolis this fall for an even better meeting.

Thanks also go to people who have contributed to the newsletter. Please send to me news about your area libraries-- law and otherwise. And each of you have your own projects-- please share them with us! Use the special page at the end of the newsletter.

Toledo Report

---Business Meeting Highlights - from Secretary Anita Shew's Minutes

Carol Bratton reported for the Model Bibliography Committee noting that the updating project for Ohio will continue and eventually other states will be included in this kind of project.

Jim Bailey, Treasurer, reported that as of May 8, ORALL had \$3,826.84 in the treasury. He put \$2,000 in Certificates of Deposit as authorized last fall. The quarterly interest payments are \$15 making an additional income of \$120 for the C.D.'s. Gifts from publishers amount to \$750. Treasurer Bailey reminded the members that only the 171 some paid members would be included in the Membership Directory to be revised after the May meeting.

Oscar Trelles, Union List Committee Chairman again solicited genuine interest from the group for the proposed union list. Although two of the largest university libraries declined to contribute, the consensus of the group was to continue with this

project. Eleven law school libraries and numerous small libraries responded to the idea of beginning with periodicals.

Anita Shew, Guidelines Committee Chairman, expressed hope that the guidelines, now distributed, were clarifying duties for committee chairmen, and asked for reactions from committee members and chairmen.

Because of time and distance factors, Jim Bailey, Finance Committee Chairman, reported that he has been unable to call a committee meeting to set up specific guidelines and goals for the newly created committee. He again mentioned the ever present problem of soliciting funds from publishers and suggested the committee might more effectively handle this situation. This and other matters he said the committee will review at its upcoming meeting.

President Dianne Witkowski asked for ideas for the newsletter and reminded members about the archives at Ohio State University Law Library where all minutes, newsletters, and committee reports are preserved.

In summarizing her 42 page Constitutional Committee report and in bringing the ORALL Constitution in line with actual practice, Nancy Miller, Chairman, proposed the following changes. She moved to delete the Committee on Cooperation with Other Professional Organizations and to include the Legislative Committee as a Standing Committee. She moved to include the Finance Committee as a Standing Committee and also moved to include the Placement Committee as a Standing Committee. These committees had been created, Nancy said, but had not been formally added to the Constitution. All motions were passed.

In other constitutional changes, Chairman Miller recommended deleting prorating of dues. To strengthen the Treasurer's process of receipt of dues, Nancy and her committee moved to change Article V to read:

"The annual dues of the Association shall be five dollars (\$5.00) for individual members. Life members do not pay dues. Notices of dues shall be sent to members by the Treasurer in January. A second notice of unpaid dues shall be sent in May. Members who have not made full payment by the end of the annual fall meeting shall be suspended from membership without notification. Suspended members may be reinstated at any time upon payment of the full current year's dues."

Chairman Miller moved to reword also Article VI Sec. A as follows:
"All officers shall assume office on January 1 after their election
at the annual Fall meeting." All motions presented were passed.

In an action of support following the highly informative
AALL Task Force Committee report given by Carol Bratton and Roger
Jacobs, it was moved and seconded that ORALL should encourage and
support the work of the AALL Task Force Committee and that members
should be kept abreast of any developments that will affect ORALL.

---Program Highlights

County law library representatives attended their "work-
shop" portion of the meeting chaired by Art Hohlmayer. Art's
report follows:

THE COUNTY LAW LIBRARY IMAGE.

Past - Present - Future.

What Can We Do About It?

While this workshop was captioned as an Ohio Law Library
Workshop as we are working with the Ohio Bar Association and Law
Library Committee, the comments and problems are not restricted
to Ohio and most of our problems are faced by county law librarians
throughout the nation.

I am not sure if I were to approach this in a critical,
condemnatory mood to get under your skins to promote action; or
should I be jovial, laugh it off and sweep it under the rug. I
decided to face the issue and tell it as it is or at least as I
see it and let each of you make your own conclusions.

To set our stage Simon Goren addressed us on "Our Law and
Its Sources. A General Overview to Those Without Legal Background."

Then, to get a rounded out picture of our duties and
functions, our failings and weaknesses, we had Judge DeWeese of
Miami County give us the County Law Library Story from the viewpoint
of a Judge and the Courts.

Evelyn Bachman, a Trustee of the Woods County Law Library,
covered our situation and responsibilities through the eyes of the
Library Trustees. Betty Busch then tackled the problem from the law
librarians' angle.

Oscar Trelles addressed the AALL last July in Seattle regarding Library Insurance. He adapted his remarks to the County Law Library Insurance problem for us as we have some very peculiar complications that must be considered.

We found out more about the ORALL Ohio Model Bibliography. Particularly, how we as a group, can best use it, from Carol Bratton.

Incidentally, we accumulated and had on display over 75 exhibits of forms, manuals, reports, etc. and on request are willing to supply you with copies of same for your use.

Under the leadership of Evelyn Bachman, we spent considerable time discussing County Law Library Salary Structure or the lack of it.

Our salaries are controlled by the Ohio Revised Code 3375.48 which was passed in 1957 or about 17 years ago. It is no credit to our state, ORALL or County Law Librarians that there has been no change or adjustment made since that date.

The above law limits certain Law Librarians to an annual income of \$500.00. How much longer are we as librarians and ORALL as an organization going to permit us to be so downgraded. Even the custodian, who works possibly an hour or two at the most, is making more than this. Do you wonder that some of us don't have more initiative and the services in the library are minimal? What can anyone expect today from somebody who has a \$10.00 per week compensation? Representative Hughes of Bellefontaine, Ohio, has introduced a bill to outlaw this section but it has not been printed or acted upon.

It would seem a disgrace for the great state of Ohio to limit 7% of those Law Librarians reporting to only \$500.00 maximum salary. It is interesting to further note that 44% of those reporting had salaries ranging from \$500 to \$2000.00 and 7% from \$2,000 to \$5,000.00. This means per the survey 58% of those reporting had incomes of \$5,000 or less.

1974 would seem a good time to set the wheels in motion to get into the county law library salary set up and review the overall situation and the code to get proper legislation started.

We discussed the need and use of a County Law Library Manual and the possibility of a manual for the County Law Library

Trustees. Here again we need action--someone to be authorized to complete overall manuals for county law libraries.

Lefty Dolch, a Toledo State Examiner, told us the other side of the "audit" problems. It is their desire to help us and while most of us accept them as a necessary evil they do have a job to do.

We were fortunate in having representatives from the West Publishing Company, Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., and The Law Abstract Publishing Co. talk to us regarding their books: how to properly use them; and how they relate to each other. This seems to be another "first" in our history.

It is good to remember that William Roalfe, who is a Life Member of ORALL, said years ago in his book "Libraries of the Legal Profession", "They not only constitute the second largest group but . . . more lawyers look to them than to any other type to supplement the sources of the private collections."

Jacqueline Jurkins in her 1968 Law Journal article on Development of County Law Libraries (see Exhibit #62) points out "The simple fact the growth and development of County Law Libraries in the U. S. has been uneven, without patterns or standards, not only in a state to state basis but on a county to county basis within a particular state.

In 1968 the AALL Directory of Law Libraries listed a total of 976 libraries. Of these 416 were county law libraries . . . 161 had collections ranging from 10,000 to 19,999. 153 were under 10,000 volumes." Since Ohio has 88 counties it can be assumed that we rank high on the list in quantity and quality.

Considering all things our past was built on a very solid foundation and has stood the tests of time. We have inherited a real mint - a storehouse of knowledge. Let us hope we leave our successors an even richer inheritance.

About a year ago, Joe McGraw, Chairman of the Ohio Library Committee and Trustee of the Belmont County Law Library did not like what he saw in the future about county law libraries. Not so much what was happening but rather what was not happening. As I reported to you at Lexington, he asked me "What can ORALL do to help?" This workshop is the beginning. We spent the day assessing ourselves and trying to determine our weaknesses and more important --what to do in the future.

Jim DeWeese, who is now the OSBA Library Committee Chairman, is a real supporter of this workshop. I am sure if we want action, he will be with us all the way. He recently stated that the time is past when county law librarians are hybrids--doing anything and everything no one else in the court house wants to do.

THIS IS THE REAL CHALLENGE FOR THE FUTURE.

The Library of the future should be a friendly, active place offering a wide range of important services, not only the printed word.

A quote from the April issue of the Saturday Review for National Library Week:

"Progress is a reflection of changing needs, but the giant's share of credit goes to the talented, imaginative attitude and energetic effort of today's hard-working, highly trained, more aware librarians dedicated professionals who serve as custodians of our expanding culture . . . who don't always receive the support, recognition and appreciation they deserve."

The future of the Ohio County Law Libraries is in our own hands--yours and mine. The need is here. We now have the support. Posterity will be our judge and I hope her verdict will be good.

We have a real challenge here. Are we going to meet it or will we miss it?

Tapes of the entire workshop as well as exhibits are available from Art at the Springfield Law Library, Springfield, Ohio.

Law librarians from "private" libraries were responsive to discussions on the indexing of legal memoranda and cataloging or classifying a private collection. Led by Jim Shelar and Lorraine Kulpa, the group found the mutual sharing via a "workshop" led to many hours of worthwhile discussion.

Simon Goren led the workshop session for university law libraries under the theme of the tasks involved in newly heading a law library.

Tapes of both of these are available--please contact Dianne Witkowski, Schiff Hardin & Waite, Chicago, Illinois.

Committee News

The following report of the Microform Committee is very important to all Ohio Regional law libraries. Please support Art's two years of hard work.

Recommendations of ORALL Concerning Reproduction of Microform Copies of Records and Briefs of Reported Cases Decided by the Ohio Supreme Court.

At the Saturday morning session of the spring meeting of ORALL, held in Toledo, Ohio, on May 11, 1974, the Chairman of the Committee on Microform Feasibility, Arthur Fiske, reported that Information Handling Services, Denver Technological Center, Englewood, Colorado, had offered to provide microfiche copies of records and briefs of reported cases decided by the Ohio Supreme Court for the years 1963-73 (substantially all of the cases reported in Ohio State Reports, Second Series) and 1,000,000 pages of records and briefs of reported cases decided by the Ohio Supreme Court, starting with 1962 and moving backward to 1858 (a substantial part, if not all, of the cases reported in Ohio State Reports, First Series) on cartridge microfilm . Two 3M reader-printers were to be provided, one for microfiche and one for microfilm. Total cost of the complete package: \$9,555.00.

Microfiche copies of records and briefs of reported cases decided by the Ohio Supreme Court for 1974 and future years would be provided, under the proposal, for approximately \$150.00 per year.

The Chairman expressed the appreciation of the Committee for the interest and perseverance of Mr. William Shannon, Systems Manager for Information Handling Services, who had developed the proposal, but urged that the program be offered to interested librarians in separate, independent parts, which would permit subscriptions to microfiche copies of the records and briefs of currently reported cases, only; or to such papers for cases reported in Ohio State Reports, Second Series (1963-73), only; or to 1,000,000 pages of such papers for cases reported in Ohio State Reports, First Series, only.

Offering multiple, independent parts of the program, as outlined above, would provide flexibility and permit librarians to subscribe only to those parts of the complete program which were required, and could be funded, by interested libraries, without the necessity of oversubscribing to materials not required, or which could not be financed by the library. Although the separate parts are units of the complete program, they would be of sufficient magnitude as to be financially profitable to the producer.

Information Handling Services objected that the starting cost of the program would require a minimum of fifteen subscribers to the complete package at \$9,555.00 per package. Thereafter, separate parts of the package could, and would, be offered to future subscribers, as the Chairman had suggested. Moreover, Information Handling Services expressed confidence that the minimum fifteen subscribers to the complete program could readily be obtained.

The members of ORALL expressed their support of the offer of Information Handling Services and directed the Chairman to write a report of the meeting for inclusion in the next ORALL Newsletter, urging interested librarians to support the program offered by Information Handling Services, and to encourage their subscription to the program by writing Mr. William Shannon, Systems Manager, P. O. Box 1154, Englewood, Colorado 80110.

Fall Meeting

Mark your calendar now!

-----Thursday - Saturday
October 24-26

Atkinson Hotel, Indianapolis

Local arrangements - Jim Bailey
Indianapolis Law School Library

Program - Polly Richter, Activities Committee
Geauga County Law Library
Chardon, Ohio

Note of Warning!

All reservations for this meeting must be returned as promptly as possible when they are mailed to you this fall. Because we are having such large turnouts, reservations will have to be made in advance. You will have to register in advance for all functions--we will only be able to have registrants up to 48 hours before the meeting.

NOTICE TO ORALL MEMBERS ABOUT POTENTIAL OFFICERS

Please consider the following criteria in suggesting candidates for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one Executive Board member to be elected at the October meeting:

1. Previous ORALL service.
2. Law Library experience.
3. Present geographical location.
4. Type of library.
5. Leadership and time to fulfill responsibilities.

If necessary, consult the ORALL Guidelines available from officers and committee chairmen for specific duties of each office.

Nominations are also being taken now for Life Members. Life Members are those who have been active members of ORALL but are now retired from law library work.

Anyone having suggestions for officers or life members please contact soon either Anita Shew, Nominating Committee Chairman, 809 N. Broadway, New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663 or Paul Fu, Ohio State Supreme Court Law Library, State House Annex, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

AALL HIGHLIGHTS

St. Paul, Minnesota was the location of the 67th Annual AALL Meeting and was attended by some 700 AALL members. Our chapter breakfast held on Wednesday, June 26 was most enjoyable. We had some 30 ORALL members attend and as always we were glad to see some new faces in the group. Members were brought up-to-date about our fall meeting in Indianapolis as well as the status of microform

Ohio Supreme Court records and briefs. Your chapter President was treated to a surprise in the form of a birthday card signed by everyone at the breakfast.

As usual at conventions we all had the chance to see our many friends and compare notes on the activities of the year. There are several AALL committees that are doing a fine job because of the active work by many of our chapter members. ORALL has an excellent reputation in the profession as was discovered at the Council of Chapter Presidents. This group, which is open to any chapter members, is replacing the old chapters committee. The council will be headed each year by the Vice President/President elect and will be the communicating group between chapters and AALL.

Note: The new AALL Directory of Law Libraries is available to non-members for \$5.00. Write to AALL Headquarters, 53 Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

-----Bill James, formerly of the University of Tennessee Law Library staff, is to be the new Law Librarian at the University of Kentucky.

-----Charlotte Levy of Chase Law School Library is studying at Cambridge, England this summer and heading the Squire Law Library's American collection.

-----John Zimmerman, has assumed the position of reference librarian at Dayton's University Law Library. He was formerly with the Court of Appeals in Missouri.

-----Olavi Maru, of the Cromwell Library, American Bar Foundation, reports the ABF's interest in pursuing literature assistance for law firm libraries. They hope to prepare a simple and concise manual for the very small law library.

-----Life Member Bethany Ochal authored a 57 page article on County Law Libraries in the May, 1974 issue of the "Law Library Journal." The same issue has an article entitled "Corporate Law Libraries - A Profile" by Lorraine Kulpa.

Please contribute any news, ideas, problems, etc. for
our next newsletter. What is going on in your city? County? State?
Please share it with us. Send by September 1st to:

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