

ORALL Newsletter

Ohio Regional Association
of Law Libraries

April 1989

Volume 1989, No. 1

« « PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE » »

I am drafting this column on a very mild February day, which atypically, is typical of the winter weather we have experienced this year throughout the ORALL region. Can we fairly speculate that someday South Bend might become the Miami Beach of the Midwest? Forgive me for my digressions but this weather reminds me it is nearly Spring and in Spring a young man's fancy turns to...Toledo and the ORALL Spring meeting. Vice-President, Brenda Woodruff and Local Arrangements Chair, Ted Potter have been working long, hard and creatively toward their goal of providing us with an outstanding meeting. Much more news concerning this meeting will follow in the near future.

This issue of the Newsletter also brings to light a matter that I believe deserves discussion and serious

deliberation on the part of all ORALL members. Should ORALL reduce its meeting schedule to one per year? There are legitimate pros and cons on this issue. We are fortunate that two of our Past-Presidents, Al Podboy and Paul Richert offer opposing opinions on this topic, which can be found elsewhere in this Newsletter. An opportunity to discuss this issue will also be a part of the Toledo meeting. Let me reassure all of you that, at this point, we are merely discussing the issue. In the words of Davy Crockett, "I never saw an idea so dangerous that it could not be talked about."

On another subject, I am pleased that our membership has approved our incorporation by a nearly unanimous vote.

(Continued on page 2)

Officers

President:	Michael Slinger
Vice-President/ President-Elect:	Brenda Woodruff
Secretary:	Janis L. Johnston
Treasurer:	Euth A. Long
Executive Board:	Paul Richert (Past-President)
	Thomas L. Hanley
	Mary G. Persyn
	Ellen M. Quinn
Newsletter Editors:	Deborah L. Bobinets Ellen M. Quinn

Calendar

May 17-19:	OBALL Spring Meeting-Toledo, OH
May 29:	Newsletter Copy Deadline-2nd Issue
Jun. 13-16:	Summer Institute on Legal Research Sacramento, CA
Jun. 14-17:	Summer Institute on Space Planning Lake Tahoe, CA
Jun. 18-22:	AALL-Reno, NV
Jun. 24-29:	ALA-Dallas, TX
Jul. 31:	Newsletter Copy Deadline-3rd Issue
Aug. 3-10:	ABA-Honolulu, HA
Oct. 26-28:	Midwest Regional Conference of Law Librarians, Chicago, IL

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

As I mentioned in my letter accompanying the ballot, incorporation will go a long way toward protecting our association and officers in the event that legal action is ever brought against us. Virtually every AALL chapter is now incorporated or is in the process of incorporation.

This is also the time of year that ORALL Committees are appointed. Committees are crucial to ORALL's success in fulfilling its fundamental functions of education and service to its members. Elsewhere in this newsletter is a list of committee appointments. Unfortunately, the spirit of volunteerism among our membership appears to be, for the most part, woefully lacking. Only about six percent of our members returned committee preference forms. I have as yet been unable to fill the Chair's slot on the Education Committee. I think the Education Committee should be an important and active factor in ORALL. We need a volunteer. I hope that one of you will respond to this request and contact me so that we can get this committee moving along. To those of you who have previously volunteered for ORALL committees, thank you. To those who did not, please consider serving in the future.

Finally, we will have an opportunity to show our ORALL pride by participating in an inter-chapter talent show sponsored by West Publishing. More details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Perhaps the ORALL players can develop an extravaganza. In any case, best wishes to all and I will see you in Toledo.

Michael Slinger
ORALL President

WELCOME TO TOLEDO

The ORALL Spring Meeting is scheduled for May 17-19, 1989 at the Toledo Marriott-Portside. The program centers around labor law as it relates to law libraries. We will hear from attorneys, professors and some of our colleagues. In addition, we will be discussing the possibility of meeting only once a year. That program promises to get some fireworks started!

Don't think your time will be completely dominated with meetings. We have a number of fun outings scheduled, including a night at our local dinner theater on Wednesday, a trip to the famous "Tony Packo's" for the Thursday night banquet and breakfast on Friday morning overlooking the Toledo skyline and the Maumee River. Plenty of shopping is located at the Portside Festival Marketplace, the site of our opening reception on Wednesday. With the library tours, all of the events already mentioned, and a band at Tony Packo's, how can you go wrong?

Please plan to join us for a fun-filled, as well as educational meeting here in Toledo! More information will be included in your registration packet. We're looking forward to having you all here.

Theodore A. Potter
Local Arrangements

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee requests written nominations for life membership, distinguished members and the service awards from the ORALL membership prior to the Spring Meeting, May 17-19.

ORALL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS 1989

ACTIVITIES

Brenda Woodruff, Chair
Theodore A. Potter
Martha P. Esbin
Melvia A. Scott
Mary G. Persyn

CONSTITUTION

Merlin Whiteman, Chair
Jan Ryan Novak
Thomas G. Spaith

EDUCATION

Carol Ebbinghouse
Marcia K. Siebesma
Kyle Passmore
Carmela Kinslow

MEMBERSHIP

Judith P. Rodgers, Chair
Thomas L. Hanley
Sue Gall
Jacqueline M. Orlando
Ruth A. Long

NOMINATIONS

Alvin M. Podboy, Chair
Paul Richert
Anita K. Shew
JoAnn Fisher
Sarah Holterhoff
Carol B. Allred

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Jan Ryan Novak, Chair
Timothy Hammond
Terri Ross
Carol Bredemeyer

CORE LEGAL COLLECTION

Carol Meyer, Chair
James Leonard
Janet Smith
Melanie Kaminski Putnam
Donna S. Bennett
Lucy Payne

NEWSLETTER

Ellen M. Quinn, Co-Editor
Deborah L. Bobinets, Co-Editor
Theodore A. Potter
Carol A. Suhre
Anita K. Shew
Rose J. Brown
Joanne R. Beal
Carol Bredemeyer

PLACEMENT

Lynn Miller, Chair
Sandra Hyclak
Robert Keith Ashelman

PUBLIC SERVICES

Anne McFarland, Chair
Sharon Merklin
Susan Miljenovic
Lorelle R. Brown

UNION LIST

Tim J. Watts, Chair
Karen Wilhoit
Elizabeth Hagemeyer

RENO CHAPTER BREAKFAST

Mary G. Persyn, Chair
Carol A. Suhre

WHY ORALL NEEDS TWO MEETINGS A YEAR

The chief reason ORALL needs to continue to meet twice a year is to provide opportunities for professional development and interaction every six months. This is vital for most of our members who work in one or two person law libraries. We all benefit from getting to know other librarians and maintaining relationships based upon frequent face to face contact.

Educational programming is vital to the continued professional development of law librarians and the maintenance of modern law libraries. Because of the large geographic area our chapter covers and the relatively low density of law libraries in any given part of the area, professional education is best done in conjunction with our twice yearly meetings. Workshops taken around the whole area do not seem to be successful.

No matter how diligently one reads professional literature this does not substitute for interaction with other similarly situated professionals. One can get the idea from reading that your operations are hopelessly antiquated or that the writer's point of view is the only one possible. Talking to others gives one a sense of what the world of law libraries beyond your library is really like. Certain concerns and problems are not found in the literature and sometimes one would not even want to ask a stranger. Here the development of close personal relationships fostered by meeting several times a year allows each of us to talk about some of the more difficult problems we face in law libraries.

Another advantage of meeting twice a year is that when organizational or personal business prevents you from attending one of the meetings you do not have to wait a whole year for the next meeting. It appears personal business will prevent me from attending the Spring meeting in Toledo. I will have the chance, however, to meet many members this fall in Chicago and will not have to wait one year.

A major purpose of the ORALL meetings is to provide a small informal gathering of colleagues. The national AALL meeting does not serve this purpose. One often finds it difficult to see many of our members there. It would be hard to develop close ties with librarians from our region just from meeting them at AALL.

In addition, particularly in small libraries, the opportunity to get away from the day to day routine is useful to gain perspective and to recharge one's energy.

In the Ohio county law libraries, the opportunity to meet at the same time as the state bar association law library committee may allow several members to come to that meeting who would not be allowed to come to an annual meeting at some other location.

It is for these reasons that I favor retention of two meetings a year.

Paul Richert
Past-President

MEETINGS? MEETINGS?

Old traditions die hard, not as hard as the terrorists in the recent Bruce Willis movie Die Hard, but it is nevertheless painful to let go of familiar old ways. I should know. I still have my first pair of track shoes. Although I've replaced them numerous times, I just can't bear to part with these tried and true old friends. The same is true of organizational behavior. Those of us who have been involved in organizations know the old refrain "we did it that way--last year--before--always--etc."

Simply because we have done something one way before doesn't mean that we should never, ever change it in the future. The sign of a dynamic, living organization is the ability to change as the times require. A sign of ORALL's continuing vigor is the dialog that President Slinger has asked Paul Richert and me to undertake in these pages.

The fact that we can examine this issue demonstrates that we care about the future of ORALL. The issue is whether the organization would be better served by one meeting a year rather than two. I know this is an issue that can excite the membership. I know it because I have discussed it with many of you in the past. I also know how I feel, and I feel we can succeed as an organization with one meeting a year.

The ORALL Constitution, Article V, provides "There shall be an annual meeting...fixed by the Executive Board..." The Bylaws further state that "...unless otherwise provided by the Executive Board the Annual Meeting will be held in October of the year." It's obvious that constitutionally speaking we can get by with one meeting a year.

The next question is why? Why should we consider changing our long-standing two meetings per year policy? First and foremost is the cost of going to two meetings a year. While we have successfully held down ORALL meeting costs, for most of us going to two ORALL meetings a year usually precludes opportunities to attend other worthwhile programs such as SLA, AALL, ALA, or PLI. As law librarianship gets more technologically sophisticated, it becomes more difficult to miss other sister organizations' programs. The cost is not only monetary, but also includes the time we are away from our families and jobs.

The two meetings requirement also means that the officers must be able to attend both meetings and often must also meet national obligations. This in turn affects our election process by limiting the selection to those individuals who can meet these requirements.

Another problem with our current arrangement is building two strong programs a year. As activities chair, an individual needs twice the speakers, twice the program, twice the local arrangements and twice the hotels in half the time. While this is not an impossible task (we've been doing it for years), it does lead to a hectic schedule. It also puts extra pressure on our vendor support. Our vendors must fund two programs per year. In the past they have shown us total support but we cannot guarantee that this will continue in the future.

Finally, the Spring meeting bumps uncomfortably into the annual AALL meeting in the Summer. I personally dislike having to submit two expense reimbursement requests in such close proximity. However, with our present meeting structure it is unavoidable.

(Continued on page 6)

Meetings? Meetings?

(Continued from page 5)

While constitutionally our executive board can adopt the one meeting forum, ORALL is, fortunately, a democratic organization. Thus it is up to you, the members, to let our leaders know your feelings on this issue.

*Alvin M. Podboy
Past-President*

**COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES
SIG MEETING**

The Spring meeting of the County Law Librarians will be held Wednesday, May 17th from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Marriott Portside in Toledo. Information as to room location will be available at the registration desk.

The speakers will be Al Podboy, Director of Library Services, Baker & Hostetler, Cleveland, who will be reporting on activity concerning the proposed court reorganization in Ohio and how it will affect our funding.

Also, Tom Schweyer, Corrections Librarian and Jack Shuba, Director of Legal Research Program of the Lucas County/Toledo jails will discuss their efforts in assisting prisoners pro se.

Visitors are welcome to this interesting meeting.

COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES SIG

County law librarians are encouraged to attend the Ohio State Bar Association law library committee meeting to be held Friday, May 19, 1989 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 306, Seagate Center, Toledo. Seagate Center is easily accessible from the Marriott-Portside.

OFFICER CANDIDATES

Pursuant to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries the Committee has evaluated and selected the following members for nomination as candidates for office:

Vice-President/President-Elect:

Mary G. Persyn
Valparaiso University Law Library

Treasurer:

Thomas G. Spait
Ohio State University
College of Law Library

Executive Board:

Mary Tekancic
Lorain County Law Library Association

Further nominations may be made by written petition to the Secretary. See Bylaw IV of the "Bylaws of the Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries."

- Alvin M. Podboy, Chair*
Carol B. Allred
JoAnn Fisher
Sarah Holterhoff
Paul Richert
Anita K. Shew

DUES REMINDER

Please be sure and pay your 1989 ORALL membership dues before August 15, 1989. Members who have not made full payment by that date will not be eligible to vote in the election of officers and shall be suspended from membership without notification. A full membership includes the ORALL Newsletter and Directory, voting privileges, notification of meetings and a listing in the ORALL Directory. The cost is \$15.00 per person. For more information on the status of your membership, contact Ruth A. Long, ORALL Treasurer, 894 Fawnhill Drive, Edgewood, KY 41017.

**ORALL
TREASURER'S REPORT
February 28, 1989**

BALANCE ON HAND, NOVEMBER 30, 1988.....\$2,878.52

INCOME:

Dues.....\$2,495.00
 Meetings.....155.00
 Miscellaneous (refund).....11.85
 Interest.....45.46
 Donations.....498.80

TOTAL INCOME:.....\$3,206.11

TOTAL BALANCE ON HAND & INCOME:.....\$6,084.63

EXPENSES:

Mailing labels.....\$ 75.00
 Meetings.....486.00
 Miscellaneous (refunds,
 contribution to AALL
 for ad in American Lawyer).....222.20

TOTAL EXPENSES:.....\$ 783.80

BALANCE ON HAND, FEBRUARY 28, 1989.....\$5,300.83

C.D.'s.....\$2,376.27
3,141.05
5,203.13

TOTAL C.D.'s.....\$10,720.45

*Ruth A. Long
Treasurer*

**WEST'S TALENT SEARCH
IN RENO**

Monday evening, June 19, 1989 in the Ziegfeld Theatre at Bally's in Reno, NV there will be an unprecedented opportunity for ORALL to distinguish itself.

This year, West publishing Company is sponsoring the first Law Librarian Talent Search to be held at Bally's Reno. There will be individual and small group competitions in areas such as music, humor, dance, etc. The highlight of the evening will be the Inter-Chapter competition among local AALL chapters.

A significant cash prize will be awarded in each category, including the Inter-Chapter competition. In the judging, special consideration will be given to routines/acts that relate in some way to law librarianship. With respect to the desirable level of creativity, however, virtually "anything goes," anything, that is that you can fit into five minutes.

More details will be available later. If you have questions contact Shelia DeRosier, the West Services Convention and Seminar Coordinator at (612) 228-2406.

FROM THE EDITORS

Contributions submitted for publication in the Newsletter can be sent to us through the mail, or, to save time, they can be faxed! Our fax number at Cleveland State is (216) 687-6881.

Another time saver is to send your submissions on either 5¼" or 3½" computer disk, alleviating the need for rekeying. We can accept computer disks with ASCII, XyWrite, or Wordstar files. Please send a printed copy along with any computer disk submissions.

Ellen M. Quinn, Co-Editor
Deborah L. Robinsons, Co-Editor



Navigating the 90's: Resource Strategies

SUPER-REGIONAL MEETING

"Navigating the 90's: Resource Strategies," is the theme of the Midwest Regional Conference of Law Librarians super-regional meeting to be held in Chicago this October.

Law librarians are invited to make Chicago their home, October 26-28, 1989, for the first Midwest Regional Conference of Law Librarians. Join librarians across the Midwest for a unique opportunity in professional development.

The opening reception will be held at the historic Newberry Library in Chicago. Guest speakers will include Herbert White, Dean of Indiana University's Graduate School of Library and Information Science, and Jim Edgar, Illinois Secretary of State and State Librarian.

Program topics will include time management, the philosophy of reference, international business: U.S. and Canada, automation: ergonomics and work stations, computers in technical services, acquisitions and ethics and marketing a law library.

Chapters participating the program are the Mid-American Association of Law Libraries, Chicago Association of Law Libraries, Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries, Minnesota Association of Law Libraries, Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin and the Michigan Association of Law Libraries.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Kathryn R. Brenneman
Squire, Sanders & Dempsey
Cleveland, OH

Barbara J. Davis
Taft, Stettinius & Hollister
Cincinnati, OH

Rand J. Diamond
Cleveland Law Library Association
Cleveland, OH

Stephanie Harklan
Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff
Columbus, OH

Naomi Jacobs
Squire, Sanders & Dempsey
Columbus, OH

Libby Kaup
Richland County Law Library Association
Mansfield, OH

Kate Kennedy
Squire, Sanders & Dempsey
Cleveland, OH

Kathryn Kerchof
Ice, Miller, Donadio & Ryan
Indianapolis, IN

Nanette Moegerle
Ohio State University
College of Law Library
Columbus, OH

Tom Pappas
Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Arronoff
Cleveland, OH

Rebecca Testerman
Capital University Law Library
Columbus, OH

Beverly Williams
Capital University Law Library
Columbus, OH

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

The ORALL Executive Board recently approved the inclusion of free job announcements in our Newsletter. The text should be less than 100 words and may be edited due to space constraints.

LAW LIBRARIAN: MLS for 130 attorney Miami, FL law firm. Must be interested in cataloging and automation of library procedures. Duties include supervision of staff and reference assistance including online database sources. Exceptional opportunity for professional growth. Salary \$24,00--\$27,00. Send resume to June Berger, Director of Library Services, Steel Hector & Davis, 4000 SE Financial Center, Miami, FL 33131.

CATALOG LIBRARIAN: Kresge Library, Notre Dame Law School. Requirements: ALA accredited MLS; relevant cataloging experience using AACR 2, LC subject headings and classification, MARC formats and OCLC, RLIN or WLN is required. Law library/NOTIS experience is preferred. Experience with retroconversion projects, online cataloging procedures, supervision and personal computer applications is desired. Duties: original and complex copy cataloging in all formats; development of procedures, policies and workflow for cataloging activities; staff supervision; participation in technical services policy making and automation planning. Librarians receive standard faculty benefits. Salary is competitive. Available immediately. Applications received by March 31, 1989 will be given first consideration. Send resume with names of three references to Janis L. Johnston, Associate Director for Technical Services, Kresge Library, Notre Dame Law School, P.O. Box 535, Notre Dame, IN 46556, (219) 239-5922. The University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

ACQUISITIONS/SERIALS LIBRARIAN: Indiana University School of Law Library. Requirements: ALA accredited MLS. Prefer candidates with experience in acquisitions, spreadsheet applications and OCLC union list record creation. Cataloging experience helpful but not required. Duties: heads acquisitions and serials functions. Supervises two full time clericals and about three student assistants. Salary: \$20,945. Fringe benefits equivalent to nearly 30% of salary. Tenure track, library faculty position. Deadline February 1, 1989 but later received applications considered until position is filled. Send application, resume and three references to: Professor James Frances Bailey III, Director of the Law Library, Indiana University School of Law, Indianapolis, IN 46202. Tel. (317) 274-4027. I.U. is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

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The ORALL Newsletter is the official publication of the Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries (ORALL), a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL).

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Dues: \$15 per year
Non-member subscriptions: \$10 per year

The ORALL Newsletter is published four times per year: March, July, September, and December. For extra copies write to: Ellen M. Quinn or Deborah L. Bobinets, Co-Editors, Cleveland State University, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Library, 1801 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, 44115.

For membership information contact: Judith P. Rodgers, Baker & Hostetler, 65 East State Street, Suite 2200, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

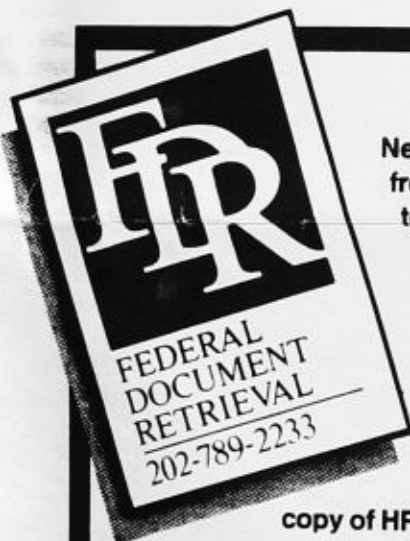
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Commercial Advertising:

<u>1/2 page, 2 formats:</u>	
7 1/2" wide x 4 1/2" high	\$80.00/issue
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ORALL-MICH/ALL BREAKFAST AT AALL IN RENO

The annual joint chapter breakfast for ORALL and MICH/ALL will be held on Monday, June 19, 1989, from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Reno Bally’s. Please register by Friday, May 19. Send a check or money order for \$11.00 along with the following registration form to:

Colleen Hickey, SSJ
University of Detroit Law Library
651 E. Jefferson
Detroit, Michigan 48226

The planning coordinators are Byron Cooper, for MICH/ALL, and Mary G. Persyn, for ORALL. We look forward to joining you for a breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns, danish, and other goodies.

ORALL-MICH/ALL BREAKFAST REGISTRATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

TOTAL NUMBER: _____

Make checks payable
to

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$ _____

MICH/ALL.