

ORALL NEWSLETTER

OHIO REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

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President's Column – Beau Steenken

My fellow ORALLians,
As I write this, my second presidential column for the ORALL newsletter, primary voters across the country head to the polls as Super Tuesday unfolds.¹ The resulting constant media coverage of politics has prompted me to reflect on the political challenges of our era and the role that law librarians can play in meeting those challenges. Specifically, Americans are losing faith in their government, a trend that appears to be growing over time.² The problem is exacerbated by the rise of technology enabling “deepfake” videos,³ and the active and ongoing interference in our society by foreign actors.⁴ Law Librarians can help combat the trend, not only by deploying our information literacy skills, but by actively supporting the adoption of UELMA by as many states as possible.

[The Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act \(UELMA\)](#)⁵ could contribute to faith in government by assuring citizens that the legal materials they find online are indeed valid sources of law and not the product of hostile-ish foreign intelligence services messing with us.

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¹ Apologies again to ORALL's indefatigable editor, Paul Venard, who by this first line can no doubt tell that I am writing this several days after the deadline he assigned me. Sorry, Paul!

² See *Trusts, Facts, and Democracy*, PEW RESEARCH CENTER, <https://www.pewresearch.org/topics/trust-facts-and-democracy/> (last visited Mar. 3, 2020).

³ See Grace Shao, *What Deepfakes Are and How They May be Dangerous*, CNBC, <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/10/14/what-is-deepfake->

[and-how-it-might-be-dangerous.html](#) (last updated Jan. 17, 2020).

⁴ See, e.g., Matthew Rosenberg, Nicole Perlroth, and David E. Sanger, *'Chaos is the Point': Russian Hackers and Trolls Grow Stealthier in 2020*, N.Y. TIMES, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/10/us/politics/russia-hacking-disinformation-election.html> (Jan. 10, 2020).

⁵ UNIF. ELEC. LEGAL MATERIAL ACT (UNIF. LAW COMM'N 2011).

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Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries

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Newsletter

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Profile

ORALL is a 3-state chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries [Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky]. It was formed in 1949 "to further the development and usefulness of law libraries and to stimulate a spirit of mutual helpfulness among law libraries of this region." An annual conference is held each fall. ORALL publishes or sponsors the following publications: *Core Legal Collection* [bibliographies for Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan], ORALL Membership Directory, ORALL Newsletter, Ohio Legal Resources Annotated Bibliography & Guide 3rd.

President's Column *continued*

[The Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act](#) (UELMA)⁶ could contribute to faith in government by assuring citizens that the legal materials they find online are indeed valid sources of law and not the product of hostile-ish foreign intelligence services messing with us. Thus far, twenty-two states, including Ohio, have enacted UELMA into positive law.⁷ ORALL played a part in Ohio's enactment of UELMA, and it would be great if we could get the process going in Kentucky and Indiana as well. Happily, AALL provides a handy [tip sheet for initiating the UELMA legislative process](#) as part of [their UELMA Resources page](#). I encourage everyone (especially those of us living in Kentucky and Indiana) to take a look at it and consider supporting this important effort.

While ORALL features an excellent Government Relations Committee, grassroots movements to enact law require the participation of more than individual committees, even when they speak on behalf of a larger organization. It would be great if we could mobilize our membership (and ideally all of our members' friends and relations) to get UELMA enacted throughout our chapter's region!

* * *

A Short History of Robert's Rules of Order **by Maureen Anderson, University of Dayton Law Library**



How many times have you been at a meeting and things are in chaos? Everyone has assembled to work on a collective problem, but people are constantly interrupting each other and wasting time on issues that take the group away from the original reason the meeting was called. Essentially, nothing is getting done and everyone may walk away with a different understanding on what was ultimately agreed to.

Parliamentary procedures are the rules and customs that have evolved for dealing with these issues. The basic concept originated in the English Parliament. Although derived from this English idea, the evolution of parliamentary procedure in the United States was established in a slightly different fashion. In the U.S., Henry Martyn Robert was fundamentally responsible for the development of the rules that direct how meetings are run.

⁶ UNIF. ELEC. LEGAL MATERIAL ACT (UNIF. LAW COMM'N 2011).

⁷ *Electronic Legal Material Act*, UNIFORM LAW COMMISSION, <https://www.uniformlaws.org/committees/community-home?CommunityKey=02061119-7070-4806-8841-d36afc18ff21> (last visited Mar. 3, 2020).

General Henry Martyn Robert (1837-1923), the author of Robert's Rules of Order - *Pocket Manual of Rules of Order for Deliberative Assemblies (Robert's Rules of Order)*, originally published the guide in February 1876 at his own expense. "He had been turned down by New York and Chicago publishers, and finally published 4,000 copies after agreeing to be financially responsible for publication and to give away the first 1,000 copies to interest.⁸ It must have worked because the remaining 3,000 copies sold by May 1876. Robert repeatedly revised his original 1876 version. By 1892, the second edition was printed 21 times with 140,000 copies in circulation.

Having never given much thought to General Robert's background, this author was pleasantly surprised to learn more about the origins of *Robert's Rules of Order* and General Robert's connection to Ohio in general, and Dayton in particular.

Born in South Carolina, Robert's family moved to Ohio when he was 4-years-old because his father, Reverend Joseph Thomas Robert⁹, did not support slavery. After researching Robert's Ohio connection further, it appears that his family bounced back and forth between Ohio and South Carolina several times over the course of about 15 years. In 1841, his family moved to Lebanon, Ohio, living there for 5 years. They then returned to South Carolina for two years, returning in 1848 to Portsmouth, Ohio where he would live until he received his appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, from which he graduated in 1857. While he was at West Point, his family lived in Zanesville, Ohio and then moved to Iowa.

In 1860, Robert married Helen Marie Thresher in Dayton, Ohio. The couple had five children. Thresher was the daughter of Ebenezer Thresher, a well-respected Daytonian, who founded a company that manufactured railroad cars.

In 1862, while recovering from a tropical fever he contracted in Panama, Robert, a devote Baptist, was asked to chair a meeting of the local Baptist church. Even though he graduated fourth in his class from West Point and served his country well, he was not ready for what happened at the assembly. He later wrote, *One can scarcely have had much experience in deliberative meetings of Christians without realizing that the best of men, having wills of their own, are liable to attempt to carry out their own views without paying sufficient respect to the rights of their opponents.*" Embarrassed by his experience in leading the meeting, Robert sought guidance on parliamentary procedures so that this would not happen again. He was surprised to find little direction.

⁸Arthur Edson, "Tribute Paid Man Who Wrote Rules of Order," Daytona Beach Morning Journal. August 27, 1954.

²Baptist minister and teacher who later became the first president of Morehouse College

From 1867-1871, Robert served as chief engineer of the Military Division of the Pacific and lived in San Francisco. He also served on the Board of Trustees of the First Baptist Church and the Board of Directors of the YMCA. His service in these positions solidified in his mind the need for some sort of parliamentary authority.

Robert and his wife initially began writing a 16-page parliamentary guide for the societies, but realized that a more generic guide was necessary. His work was delayed by a transfer to Milwaukee in 1873 to supervise construction of lighthouses on Lake Michigan. During the harsh winter of 1873-1874, Robert drafted the first part of the rules. It was completed in 1875. He thought it might run about 50 pages, but by the time the first edition was published, it was 176 pages. After publication, Robert received hundreds of letters asking for clarification on parliamentary issues that had not been addressed in the book. In response, Robert revised the manual and the second edition was published with 16 additional pages in a larger typeface. The manual is now in its eleventh edition, with the twelfth edition scheduled for publication in 2020.

Helen Thresher Robert died in 1895. Six years later, Robert retired from the military and married Isabel Livingston Hoagland in New York where he continued to revise the Rules of Order. In May 1923 at the age of 86, Robert died. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery. His son, his widow, and his daughter-in-law all carried on his work after his death. Robert's grandson, Henry Martyn Robert III, remained a senior member of the authorship team until his death in January 2019.

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Report of the Nominations Committee

Submitted by Rob Myers (chair), Susan deMaine, and Christopher Galanos

The Nominations Committee respectfully submits the following candidates for this year's ORALL Executive Board offices. We are fortunate to have two outstanding candidates running for each position this year. The Nominations Committee expresses its gratitude to all who stepped forward to run. We and the membership appreciate your willingness to give of your time and energy. With so many great candidates, we are assured to have strong leadership no matter who wins. Stay tuned for more information regarding the upcoming election.

Candidates for Vice President/President Elect: Ashley Ahlbrand and Amelia Landenberger

Ashley Ames Ahlbrand

Ashley is currently serving as Interim Director of the Jerome Hall Law Library at Indiana University Maurer School of Law. Prior to serving in this interim position, she was hired as the Educational Technology Librarian in 2012, then promoted to Assistant Director for Public Services in 2017. In this capacity, she manages the Law Library's social media presence, supervises the reference and circulation departments, and engages in a number of technology-related projects to support the Law Library and the Law School's program of legal education. She has had increasing responsibility in legal instruction over the years, having co-taught and developed online and traditional courses in Advanced Legal Research and Introduction to Law. She is currently working with a colleague to reenergize and revamp IU-Bloomington's dual degree program in law and librarianship.

Ashley received her B.A. in English literature from the College of William & Mary in 2007, her J.D. from William & Mary School of Law in 2010, her M.L.S. from Indiana University School of Library & Information Science in 2012, and a Graduate Certificate in Instructional Systems Design from Indiana University School of Education in 2018.

Ashley has played an active role in ORALL over the past several years, including service on a number of committees, such as Grants (chaired), Education, Internet & Social Media, and Publications. She has provided a number of presentations at past ORALL meetings, including a presentation with Sara Sampson on modern legal scholarship citation issues in 2015, and the "Researching ORALL States" presentation series with several fellow ORALLians in 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019. While she enjoys the controlled chaos of the AALL Annual Meeting every year, she admittedly most looks forward to the ORALL Annual Meeting, where you have more of a chance to get to know one

another and mingle with librarians from a variety of library types; relatedly she is very excited to host everyone in Bloomington this October!

Amelia Landenberger

Personal Statement:

I am running for the position of VP/President Elect of ORALL because I want to give back to ORALL and promote our continued success. Because of my geographic range, I have had the opportunity to go to a number of other regional conferences of law librarians, and I think that ORALL is the best. ORALL was the first organization which made me feel like a part of a larger community of law librarians. I attended my first ORALL conference in the fall of 2014, just two months before I completed my MLIS. Since then, I've only missed one annual meeting, even though I had to fly in from Colorado and Boston, and I look forward to attending many more.

I feel welcomed, connected, and supported within ORALL, and I know that our continued greatness depends upon the volunteer efforts of the committee members, chairs, and board members. With Marissa Mason, I initiated a CONELL-style program to welcome new members to ORALL at the annual conference, to try to ensure that our membership stays vibrant and engaged. I have presented many times at the annual conference. I have served as the Chair of the ORALL Grants Committee and the Nominations Committee and as a member of the ORALL Grants Committee and ORALL Membership Committee. I would be honored to serve as the VP/President Elect of ORALL.

Bio:

Amelia Landenberger is a Legal Information Librarian at Boston University. Prior to that, she worked at the University of Kentucky and the University of Colorado, Boulder. Her Ohio roots run deep: she has a B.A. from Case Western Reserve University, a J.D. from The Ohio State University, and an MLIS from Kent State University. Her first experience in law librarianship came from student employment at The Ohio State University and a practicum at The Ohio Supreme Court Law Library. She has served as the Chair of the ORALL Grants Committee and the Nominations Committee and as a member of the ORALL Grants Committee and ORALL Membership Committee. She also once had the honor of winning ORALL's Annual Meeting Euchre Tournament.

Candidates for Secretary: Shara H. Parkomaki and Stephanie Ziegler

Shara H. Parkomaki

Shara received an Associates of Applied Business in Legal Assisting Technology in 1990 and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1992 from the University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio.

She worked as a paralegal for more than twenty years in the legal field in law firms and as a freelance paralegal.

For the past five (5) years she has been the Law Librarian and Director of the Ashtabula County Law Library and serves as the Chief Administrator of the Ashtabula County Law Library Resources Board.

Shara became an instructor in an adult workforce program in 2019 where she teaches evening classes in a Business Office Specialist program at the Ashtabula County Technical and Career Campus (Atech) in Jefferson, Ohio.

Shara is the current ORALL Secretary and a past chair and vice chair of ORALL's Special Interest Group (SIG). She is a board member of the Statewide Consortium of Ohio County Law Libraries and also serves her local community as a member of the Zoning Board.

Stephanie Ziegler

Stephanie Ziegler is a reference librarian at the Moritz Law Library at the Ohio State University. She provides reference services to faculty, students, and the public and teaches Legal Analysis and Writing I, Advanced Legal Research: Litigation and ADR and Ohio Legal Research. Stephanie has also worked at Marquette University Law School, Indiana University School of Law, and at public libraries in Wisconsin and Michigan. She received her B.A. with a double major in English and history from Smith College, her J.D. from Indiana University School of Law and her M.L.I.S. from the University of Wisconsin.

Stephanie has presented at several ORALL Annual Meetings, on such subjects as voting laws in ORALL states, teaching legal research and writing to 1Ls, and finding things that have "disappeared" online. She has served on the AALL Law Library Journal Article of the Year Award Jury, the AALL Spectrum Article of the Year Award Jury, the ORALL Education Committee, the ORALL Grants Committee, and the ORALL Local Arrangements Committee when the Annual Meeting was in Columbus. She was an ORALL Executive Board Member from 2015-2017.

Candidates for Member-at-Large: Benjamin Keele and Sarah Starnes

Benjamin Keele

Benjamin Keele is a Research and Instructional Services Librarian at the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law. He teaches legal research and

provides research support for faculty and students. He has presented at two ORALL annual meetings and served on the ORALL Education, Bylaws and Guidelines, and Publications Committees. He has served as Chair of the AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee and AALL Copyright Committee. He is currently on the Law Library Journal Editorial Board and chairs the MAALL UELMA Enactment Committee. At Indiana University, he serves on several faculty committees and is the parliamentarian for the campus faculty council.

He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, his JD from Indiana University Maurer School of Law, and his MLS from Indiana University.

Sarah Starnes

Sarah Starnes works at the University of Akron School of Law as an Assistant Law Librarian. She teaches advanced legal research, legal analysis, writing, and research (LARW), and legal drafting. She is passionate about the growth of distance education in law schools and has created and currently teaches both first and second semester asynchronous online LARW courses. She was on a panel at AALL in 2019 regarding the subject. She was also on a panel at ORALL 2019 about librarians teaching both writing and research. She is interested in the growth of artificial intelligence in the legal field and has published and spoken on the topic. She is a frequent contributor to the ORALL Newsletter, writing articles on a variety of topics.

She's been a member of AALL since 2014 and a member of ORALL since 2015. She currently is member of AALL's Excellence in Community Engagement Jury, and is an active member of AALL's RIP-SIS and ALL-SIS, including serving on RIP-SIS's programs committee from 2018 until present. She has served on several committees for ORALL, including the internet and social media and newsletter committees. She served as the chair for the AALL Arrangements committee for the 2019 AALL annual meeting in Washington D.C., and will reprise the role for the 2020 AALL annual meeting in New Orleans. She is also excited to serve as the local arrangement chair for ORALL 2021 in Akron, Ohio.

* * *

A Request from Your Newsletter Editor

I write this not as a means to elongate the newsletter, but rather in the hopes that more people will be intrigued by a "request" rather than a "note".

With that being said, last issue in the notes I mentioned the possibility of running a picture contest in the newsletter; with your help that possibility can come to fruition.

Here's what I need from you: a picture of your pet (dog, cat, crocodile, ostrich,

whatever) without you or an identifying person in the photo e-mailed to pvenard1@udayton.edu. I will post these pictures in one (or both) of the next newsletters. I have not yet decided if it will be a matching thing or a fill-in-the-blank (but feel free to let me know your preference).

At the Annual Meeting in October, the answers (and winner(s)) will be revealed. I am still working with the Board on what the prize may be.

But without your participation, this will all be moot.

* * *

A Note from Your Newsletter Editor

Thanks to all who contributed once again this quarter. Not a plethora of content like last quarter, but still some interesting and important information.

We are always open to new ideas for the newsletter. Anything you think will make it more readable, fun, inviting or just plain better.

Our next newsletter will be published June, 2020

If you ever have any questions, concerns or ideas, please e-mail me at pvenard1@udayton.edu.