

ORALL NEWSLETTER

OHIO REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

MARCH, 2021

VOLUME 2021, NUMBER 1

President's Column – Lisa Wernke

Half-empty? Half-full? Refillable.

One year ago, we were living our best lives – having lunch with coworkers, chatting less than an arm’s length from each other, enjoying staff meetings around a table...and then we were sent home. Now we “see” each other online in meetings or speak very loudly across the room to each other. We are approaching the one-year anniversary of something that none of us could have predicted would last this long or change our lives so much. Through it all, though, our profession perseveres and serves. Our new normal keeps us present to our students, faculty, bench, and bar. Some of us are busy working from home, some are working flex schedules, and others are in their respective libraries full-time. And while many of us never want to hear the words “WebEx” or “Zoom Meeting” ever again, both tools are keeping us in touch with each other, our students, and patrons.

Tools of the trade have made our presence relevant during this pandemic. We are filling research requests, teaching classes and workshops,

collaborating on committee work, and meeting with students like “normal.” While online resources are in high demand, print copies of books are still needed and being circulated. Our library is still filling interlibrary loan requests, OhioLink requests, and local holds on a regular basis. We have students coming in to use our library as study space, as well. My world seems to be in flex – I am remote, but I am present (literally and figuratively since I am in the library three days a week) and I think we all feel this in some way.

I see reminders in my email, both work and personal, about self-care and work-life balance. It is important to be mindful of your health, especially when looking at your workspace at home vs. in the office.

...continued on page 3

In This Issue...

President’s Column	1
ORALL Diversity and Inclusion Committee	3
Report of Nominations Committee	4
Report of the Government Relations Committee	5
A Note From Your Newsletter Editor	6

ORALL

Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries

ORALL Officers

Lisa Britt-Wernke, Vice-President University of Cincinnati	513-556-0156	brittls@ucmail.uc.edu
Ashley Ames Ahlbrand, Vice-President Indiana University Mauer School of Law	812-855-6613	aaahlbra@indiana.edu
Shara Parkomaki, Secretary Ashtabula County Law Library	440-576-3690	SHParkomaki@ashtabulacounty.us
Susan Azyndar, Treasurer University of Notre Dame, Kresge Law Library	574-631-5993	sazyndar@nd.edu
Ken Kozlowski, Exec. Board Supreme Court of Ohio Law Library	614-387-9650	ken.kozlowski@sc.ohio.gov
Sarah Starnes, Exec. Board University of Akron	330-972-5291	sstarnes@uakron.edu
Beau Steenken, Exec. Board University of Kentucky College of Law	859-257-1578	beau.steenken@uky.edu

Membership

Members: 285

Dues: \$20 per year

Contact: Susan Azyndar

**University of Notre Dame, Kresge Law Library
2303 Biolchini Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556**

Unsolicited contributions are encouraged; contributions submitted for publication are subject to editorial review. For extra copies, contact the editor.

Deadlines for submissions: Feb. 28, May 30, Aug. 30, and Nov. 30

Advertising (per issue) : \$150 for full page, \$90 for half page, \$55 for quarter page, and \$35 for eighth page.

Newsletter

The ORALL Newsletter is the official publication of the Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries. Published quarterly in March, June, September, and December.

**Editor: Paul D. Venard, Zimmerman Law Library
Univ. of Dayton Schl. of Law, Dayton, OH 45469,
937-229-4151, pvenard1@udayton.edu**

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 transition from one to the other can be difficult, but there are a lot of resources to help with stretching and helping work out those sore spots you have. Two that I have used lately are "[15 Simple and Quick Office Stretches to Boost Work Efficiency](#)" and the App "Stretching Sworkit." While keeping yourself physically healthy is important, it is important to give yourself mindful breaks and be intentional with relaxing and recharging. A Google search will provide you with numerous results and here a couple that I have used and found helpful: "[51 Things to Do When You Need a Break from Work](#)" and the free App "InsightTimer."

As our world starts to return to normal and our seasons change from Winter to Spring, there is hope that we will indeed see each other soon. Will we ever take for granted the three small words "see you soon" again? This past year has certainly been unprecedented in so many ways, but our world still rotated every day and we have made one full revolution around the sun whether we were at home or in the office. There were many days when we may have thought our cups were half-empty or half-full during the pandemic. As we approach this one-year anniversary, though, let us refill our cups and toast the promise of Spring and seeing one another soon.

* * *

ORALL Diversity & Inclusion Committee

by Maureen Anderson, Chair, University of Dayton Law Library

Workplaces are diverse and becoming more so every day. Creating an inclusive environment involves more than just bringing individuals from different groups and backgrounds together. In order for everyone to share their perspectives, each individual must feel that they are being included and treated with fairness and equity. In an effort to more actively and consciously broaden our perspective as an organization, ORALL has established the Diversity & Inclusion Committee, to ensure that everyone feels they are a valued member of this Chapter and that their voice is heard.

The Committee will identify issues relating to the promotion of diversity, equity, and inclusion within ORALL membership and the profession. The committee will promote diversity-related activities and resources and raise awareness of diversity-related issues. The committee supports ORALL's diversity, including but not limited to racial diversity, sexual and gender diversity, cultural diversity, religious diversity, and diversity of ability.

The formation of this Committee is the first step in addressing our goal of being known as a Chapter that is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in our membership, programming, and culture.

The Committee will begin working on a bibliography of diversity, equity, and inclusion resources that will be hosted on the ORALL website. Keep an eye out for that in the coming months. In the meantime, AALL has a comprehensive diversity & inclusion resource guide that can be accessed [here](#).

I look forward to working with the Committee and making ORALL a welcoming place where members feel safe, respected, and comfortable in being themselves and expressing all aspects of their identities.

RETRIEV-IT
an information retrieval company
www.retrieveit.com

Fast and Reliable Document Delivery

- Journal Articles
- Newspaper Articles
- Conference Proceedings/Abstracts
- Book Chapters
- Interlibrary Loans
- Dictionary Terms

Specializing in various fields:
MEDICAL | ENGINEERING | BUSINESS | LEGAL

Fast, same day service, sometimes within minutes
Forward your citations to my email or submit requests on our website

Steve Wasserman
(310) 850-0022
steve@retrieveit.com

* * *

Report of the Nominations Committee

Submitted by Rob Myers (chair), Kimberly Mattioli, and Shara Parkomaki

The Nominations Committee respectfully submits the following candidates for this year's ORALL Executive Board offices. We are fortunate to have great candidates running for each position again this year. The Nominations Committee expresses its gratitude to all who stepped forward to run. The membership appreciates your willingness to give of your time, energy, and ideas. With so many great candidates, we are assured strong leadership no matter who wins. Biographies of each of the candidates will appear in the June issue of the

ORALL Newsletter along with additional information regarding the upcoming election.

Vice President/President Elect:

- **Brian E. Cassidy**, Student Services Librarian, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University
- **Sarah Starnes**, Assistant Law Librarian, University of Akron School of Law

Treasurer:

- **Susan Azyndar**, Associate Director, University of Notre Dame Law School

At-Large Executive Board Member:

- **Amelia Landenberger**, Legal Information Librarian, Boston University School of
- **SaraJean Petite**, Reference and Government Documents Librarian, Case Western Reserve University School of Law
- **Sara Samson**, Assistant Dean for Information Services & Communications, Director of Law Library, and Senior Lecturer, Moritz College of Law, The Ohio State University (Self-nominated)

* * *

***Report of the Government Relations Committee
Submitted by Margaret Maes (chair)***

Last year the Government Relations Committee drafted and proposed a revised charge, which was approved by the Executive Board in October. The newly expanded charge is as follows:

The Government Relations Committee is composed of members from each state actively represented in the Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries. The committee monitors legislative, regulatory, and judicial developments that affect the membership of ORALL and/or the practice of law. This includes, but is not limited to, the following areas: access to public records, freedom of information, privacy/confidentiality, dissemination of government information, state depository library programs, telecommunications, intellectual property, funding for law libraries located within the region, and censorship.

Tasks include:

- Monitor executive, administrative, and legislative action bearing on libraries in Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio.

- Act as an information clearinghouse on state and local issues pertaining to law libraries, including those developments listed above.
- Report to the ORALL membership through the ORALL Newsletter and/or the ORALL listserv on governmental matters pertaining to law libraries.
- Provide legislative advocacy resources to the membership.
- Forward information about pertinent state law developments to the AALL Government Relations Committee.

The current committee has been working to monitor library-related legislation in our states and to develop methods of tracking judicial and regulatory developments. The committee also monitors general information policy issues being addressed by AALL as well as other national developments. We will report regularly to the membership on all of these issues.

Current GRC members are Patty Alvayay, Ben Keele, Amy Kurlansky, Emma MacGuidwin, and Margie Maes (Chair). Please contact us if you have questions or resources to share.

* * *

A Note from Your Newsletter Editor

Thanks to all who contributed once again this quarter. A nice selection of reports of new and previously existing committees to help us keep track of the activities of ORALL.

Please consider contributing to our next newsletter (to be published June, 2021) as this newsletter cannot exist without our members' input. Feel free to suggest new types of content or, better yet, submit the type of content you would like to see. This newsletter is always new ideas and becoming what our members want to read.

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