President’s Column, by John Adkins

Gentle Reader:

Since last we met in January, we have had some excellent programs and the board has been enjoying hearing from our committee chairs about what is happening in their committees, and what they see as important for the future of SANDALL. The Social Responsibility committee has had a rousing start, and continues to find new ways for all of us to reach out to others, volunteer our time, or in some way make a difference in someone's life. The Government Relations Committee has been very active in providing our members with the latest updates in legislative activities related to libraries and information access. Grants have been granting, the Archives are archiving, and Programs are programming right along. We have such a committed and industrious group of volunteers. Aren't we lucky?

Speaking of lucky, I have had the great privilege of listening to focus groups of SANDALL members willing to talk to me about the 10 Things I Want To Ask Our Members (see Issue 1, back in September 08.) The feedback is helpful in shaping the future direction of our chapter. I am looking forward to speaking with many more of you in the months to come. For those who cannot make it to the scheduled meetings, please send me your thoughts. I welcome everyone's input.

Congratulations to our own San Diego County Public Law Library on its 50th Anniversary at its present downtown location. A swell party was held complete with fifties outfits and décor. We wish them many more years of continued success…but maybe with a remodel or two?

The SCALL Institute in La Quinta is later this month. All about ADR, I am looking forward to learning more about relevant resources, research tips, and getting the latest word on what has become as relevant in legal teaching as litigation and transactional work. And on top of that, there is the special bonus of getting together with our SCALL colleagues. It should be quite a treat, and I hope many of you will join me. I will give you a full report next time.

Our nation’s unhappy financial strait is the subject of our spring workshop, "Getting it Done in a Down Economy," being held at the Legal Research Center here at the University of San Diego. A joint program with our friends at SLA-SD, it will be very informative and should get everyone thinking about ways to get through this time -- and it could be a long time -- with a reasonable outlook, an eye toward alternative incomes, and ways to reach out and help those in need. Our own profession has been hit hard already; SANDALL members have reported layoffs, downsizing, and more and more work for those who are left on the payroll. Take the time to get in touch with your friends and colleagues; find out how they are faring. It helps to know that we all have moments of anxiety and our friends are there for us.

(Continued on page 2)
In this issue you will find those very admirable SANDALL members who will be running for elective office. I must tell you how fun this year has been for me, Betsy, Sheila, Gina and Leigh, and we aren't even done yet. Anyone who runs for office has more than my admiration, though. They have my pledge of support. Holding office is a service role of the highest order to continue the good work of previous boards, and also to push our chapter to go farther, higher, faster…well, you know what I mean. They are all volunteers, folks, and support and appreciation go a long way.

My great thanks to those willing to serve, and I look forward to working with those who are elected next year in my capacity as past president.

Tools for Success in Today’s Economy

In response to the U.S. recession and its impact on law libraries, AALL has created a wiki of Tools for Success in Today’s Economy. On the wiki you will find:

- Tips for operating your law library with a tight budget
- Advice on negotiating contracts with vendors
- How to interview effectively for your next job
- Resources for professional development
- And much more

Any AALL member can add material to the wiki, so we encourage you to use the tools and share more resources that will help our friends and colleagues in AALL.

Wiki link: http://aallnet.pbwiki.com

$50 AALL Member Appreciation Discount for 2009 Annual Meeting & Conference

AALL wants to help during these tough economic times. Members who register by March 31 will receive an additional $50 Member Appreciation Discount off the already reduced early registration rate. Register by March 31 and save up to $150!

(Registration link: www.aallnet.org/events/09_registration.asp)

Do you have a bright idea?
Apply for an AALL/BNA Continuing Education Grant.

- Chapters, SISs, member institutions, and individual AALL members are eligible to receive funding for educational programming outside of the Annual Meeting.
- Guidelines for proposals and the application form are available online at www.aallnet.org/prodev/grant_program.asp.
- The deadline for the fourth round of proposals is May 7, 2009.

$50 AALL Member Appreciation Discount for 2009 Annual Meeting & Conference

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(Registration link: www.aallnet.org/events/09_registration.asp)
Officer Slate for 2009 SANDALL Elections

The SANDALL Nominations Committee would like to present the following slate of officers for 2009/2010:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Candidate</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Bob Richards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Betsy Chessler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Saad Ali, Kim Laru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Benita Ghura, Owen Smith</td>
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</tbody>
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**Candidate for President:**

Bob Richards

Bob Richards was born in New York City…the borough of Manhattan, to be exact. He received his MLS from Rutgers. Rutgers library leadership was technologically savvy, and they were the first to computerize their card catalog. Bob’s first law library position was with the Jesuits in their theological library in Manhattan, and then moved on to Brooklyn Law School. After three months there he fled to Beverly Hills to Kaplan, Livingston, et al. After 9 years there the firm closed, and his next job also ended in the firm closing as well. After a stint in the City Attorneys Office in San Diego, he worked as the librarian for McGinnis, Fitzgerald, et al. for 9 years until they were acquired by Higgs Fletcher & Mack. Then he went to Luce Forward where he has had the best questions he’s ever had as a law librarian!

**Candidate for Vice-President:**

Betsy Chessler

Betsy Chessler is senior associate librarian with the law firm of Morrison & Foerster LLP. She is currently SANDALL’s Vice President and chair of programs. She is also a member of the San Diego chapter of the Special Libraries Association, and has coordinated many activities with our sister organization. Before moving to San Diego, she was a law librarian at Perkins Coie in Seattle. She has always been involved in AALL activities, and was a member of the Internet committee and programs committee for LLOPS (Law Librarians of Puget Sound) before joining SANDALL in 2004. She never says no to a presentation, and has given talks on Google, eBooks, public records, PubMed, Second Life, and librarian job trends, among other topics. She has published articles in AALL Spectrum and AALL’s PLL Newsletter. Betsy previously worked as an academic librarian at the University of Washington and as a geek and Internet trainer at one of the earliest Internet Service Providers in the nation, NorthWestNet. She also worked as a paralegal for a number of years, doing primarily insurance defense work, with a little bit of municipal code enforcement work thrown in. She earned both her B.A. and Master of Librarianship at the University of Washington.

As SANDALL’s VP I will continue to strive to offer interesting and informative programming that connects us as a community and keeps our skills sharp.

(Continued on page 4)
Candidates for Secretary:

Saad Ali

Saad Ali has been working (off and on) at California Western School of Law for about 20 years, the last 4 years in Technical Services. Saad has a degree in Physics, is the lead tutor for K-12 after school programs; and is a licensed real estate agent for Century 21 Award. Saad is married, has a son, and his hobby is soccer, which he loves to play. Saad has attended many SANDALL events, and has been a member for 4 years.

Kim Laru

When Kim Laru I first moved to San Diego from New York, she worked for San Diego County Water Authority as solo librarian for 12 years, during which time she obtained her MLIS from SJSU-SLIS in Fullerton. Highlights: created library from scratch, preserved historic documents and artifacts, participated in public speaking engagements.

Kim then worked for the Chula Vista Public Library (Civic Center Branch) for 6 years, serving as Adult Services Librarian. She wrote a successful "One Book, One City" grant, led adult book discussion group, and earned the library Friends several thousand dollars in selling unused Reference books to a Hollywood movie production.

Kim is currently employed as the Head of Circulation Services at the San Diego County Public Law Library.

Candidates for Treasurer:

Benita Ghura

J.D. in Law, Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, May 2005.

Benita Ghura has nine years experience in the legal field in the area of immigration law, securities litigation and patent law as well as three years experience as a reference librarian for the San Diego County Public Law Library. Benita is also an active membership in AALL (The American Association of Law Libraries) and SANDALL (San Diego Area Law Libraries) since 2008.

Owen Smith

Owen Smith has worked at the University of San Diego’s Legal Research Center for the past 11 years. Prior to that, he served as a satellite librarian in the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Owen lives in North Park with a Cornish Rex cat, two Italian Greyhounds, and his valentine of 25 years. Having served a previous term as SANDALL’s treasurer, Owen would love another opportunity to serve SANDALL members as treasurer; he hopes you will give him that opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

The Nominations Committee
Carmen Brigandi, Chair
Chris Pickford
Duties of SANDALL Officers:

**SANDALL President**

- Calls, arranges and chairs at least 4 board meetings during the year. Creates agenda for each meeting and for the year ahead.
- Appoints all committee chairs; finds replacements when there are resignations; stays in regular contact with chairs by phone and email to assist in mentoring, encouragement, and support. Must ensure that the work of the committees is being attended to responsibly; and that the treasury is in sound condition.
- Writes 5 newsletter columns during the year.
- Heads all chapter functions; gives short speeches of thanks and introduction at SANDALL events; hosts President’s Dinner at the Fall Workshop for board and guests; does outreach to vendors to thank them for their participation.
- Attends as many SANDALL functions as possible during the term of office; represents SANDALL at community events, SLA-SD events, and other professional activities.
- Announces events and functions on list, sends out reminders and appreciation to members.
- Serves as welcome wagon to all new members, reaching out to them to make sure they are included.
- Brainstorms with board members about chapter needs, positions, issues, programs, and strategic directions; leads the chapter in its annual mission/vision.
- Serves as contact to AALL: ensures chapter presence at annual meeting through registration tables etc. Every fifth year is charged with handling the All-Pacific AALL Chapters reception; handles communications from AALL to chapter; writes Chapter Annual Report to AALL.
- Mentors other board members, as needed; assists Vice President in programs duties; reviews and authorizes all chapter communications, marketing, PR, etc.
- Encourages and supports others throughout the chapter; deals with any chapter issues regarding bylaws, elections, nominations, social responsibility, etc.
- Chairs the annual business meeting and provides an overview of the previous year; administers the oath of office to the incoming board members; safeguards the Chapter President’s ship wheel and passes it to the next president.
- Must serve a second year as Past President chairing the Long Range Planning Committee: taking the lead on whatever is assigned by the board, calling a committee, and ensuring the work is completed.

Time estimate: 5 hours per week, except during high profile events (e.g., workshops and socials), which will take several hours of delegation and preparation, and a full day at the event itself.

**SANDALL Vice-President**

Term runs June through June.

**Duties:**

**Programs.** The VP is the chair of the Programs Committee and is in charge of all programming for the year. The SANDALL bylaws require that there be at least 4 regular business meetings per year. This requirement has been met by holding monthly educational “brown bags”, where new business is discussed, new members introduced, and any SANDALL announcements are made. Typically held at lunch time at members’ firms or schools, topics have ranged from Animal Law to Sports Law to Web 2.0 tools for librarians.

In addition, SANDALL hosts more in-depth fall and spring workshops, and holiday and spring socials. A typical year’s programming follows:

- June. Annual business meeting. New board members appointed.
- July- August. No programming. Attend AALL Conference in July.

*(Continued on page 6)*
September. Fall Workshop. Day long workshop. Vendor appreciation award announced at this time.

October. Brown bag presentation.


April. Spring Workshop. Half day workshop. Often scheduled midweek, but in 2009 to be held Saturday morning.

May. Spring Social/Picnic. Typically held on Sunday. Held in private yard or park.

Board Meetings. The VP attends all board meetings. The SANDALL bylaws require at least four meetings of the executive board per year. In a new tradition, the February meeting includes all committee chairs, in addition to the board, and is a celebration of the committee chairs’ work. Board meetings are typically rotated between board members’ workplaces. Meetings last 1.5 - 2 hours. The VP reports on programs at the board meetings. The VP also submits an annual written report of programs activities at the June business meeting. Though completely optional, the VP in the past has composed and recited a poem at the June meeting that encapsulates the year.

Time commitment: The VP does a lot of work, but I have found it very rewarding. I spend about 3 hours a week on SANDALL activities, and more prior to workshops. The key is to delegate. For example, appoint one person to be in charge of each brownbag. That person finds the speaker, arranges the conference room, sends out the announcement to the SANDALL mailing lists, handles RSVPs, introduces the speaker, etc. I was responsible for the workshops and socials, but brought in colleagues as needed. The VP has a great opportunity to orchestrate programs that are really exciting and make a difference for our members. The position requires energy and organization, but is a great avenue for professional growth and a great way to get to know other members and library information professionals.

SANDALL Secretary

Send out the Board Meeting Agendas to the membership. Attend all Board meetings and take the minutes. Submit the minutes to the Board for review and make any corrections. Once the minutes are approved by the Board, send them out to the Membership and to the Web Chair for posting to the SANDALL Website. Also, participate in Board discussions via email/phone in between Board meetings.

Submit SANDALL events to AALL Chapter News for posting on the AALL website.

As Newsletter Chair, stay in close contact with the Newsletter Editor and help as needed. If the Newsletter Editor cannot fulfill his or her duty, step in and take over as Editor and/or recruit members to help. Write articles for the Newsletter. Recruit members to write articles. Submit updates to the Board regarding the Newsletter at Board meetings.

As Newsletter Chair, recruit members to act as judges for the Annual Best Article of the Year Award. Coordinate the judging, create award and purchase gift for winner, announce winner at Annual Board Meeting.

Attend all major SANDALL events (Fall Workshop, Holiday Party, Spring Workshop, Spring Social) and help set up and clean up. Also, attend as many Brown Bag events as possible to show support for the organization.

Any duties as requested by other Board members. For example, help the Treasurer call members and remind them to renew their memberships, help the Vice President scope out venues and caterers for events, call vendors to solicit donations for events, help recruit speakers for events, etc. If attending AALL, act as ambassador for SANDALL and help staff SANDALL table in exhibit hall.
Time commitment as Secretary: I estimate that I spend approx. 60 hours fulfilling my duties as Secretary. I think this will vary from year to year depending on the level of activity of the Board.

**SANDALL Treasurer**

Duties
- Prepare and distribute an annual treasurer’s report to the membership at the Annual Business Meeting in June.
- Maintain accurate financial record of SANDALL, including payment of debts and receipt of income.
- Fulfill all approved check requests in a timely manner.
- Make all deposits to SANDALL bank accounts in a timely manner.
- Attend all board meetings.
- Prepare financial reports for the board at each of its meetings.
- Remit the annual payment for Chapter liability insurance.
- Keep the bank signature cards current.
- Process requests for W-9 forms, and prepare any tax reporting documents.
- As Membership Chair, solicit membership renewals and applications for membership.
- Maintain the official membership database.
- As Membership Chair, publish the annual SANDALL Membership directory, and send membership updates to the webmaster.
- Prepare and mail new member welcome packets.
- Attend all major SANDALL events and help set up and clean up. Attend as many Brown Bag events as possible to show support for the organization.
- Any duties as requested by other board members.

Time estimate
0-3 hours per week, except during membership drive which can require several hours per week for a short time and while preparing membership directory. Also, extra time required surrounding events, during which more time is spent on financial coordination and assisting other board members.

**SANDALL Past-President**

Duties:
- Serve as a resource for past Board decisions
- Participate in Board decisions
- Chair the SANDALL Long-Range Planning Committee
- Accept other committee leadership roles and other responsibilities from the President as needed
**Member Profile**

**Debra Morse**  
Reference Librarian  
San Diego County  
Public Law Library

**Where were you born? Where did you go to school?**  
Born in the Eastern U.S.; got my undergrad from the University of Maine, my MA from National University, and my JD from the University of San Diego

**What brought you to San Diego?**  
Many years ago my then-husband and I moved here to escape the Maine winters.

**What are some of your primary responsibilities at SDCPLL?**  
I provide Reference Services at the North County branch.

**What make you decide to become a librarian?**  
A desire to surround myself with books. I’m a lifelong bibliophile.

**What motivates you in your day-to-day job?**  
The realization that if it weren’t for the county law library, many people, both lay public and the solo practitioner, would have no access to legal materials.

**You are a writer?? Wonderful! I’ve heard you are also published … Can you tell us about that?**  
To date I’ve been published in magazines, newspapers, and on the web; the books are still in the works.

Some fun examples: I was the West Coast correspondent for *PugTalk Magazine* a few years ago, and have written numerous articles for specialty newspapers, eg a feature article: “Who Should Pay for the New Gluttony” for *The Espresso*. I write a monthly column for *North County Lawyer Magazine*, and am on the Editorial Committee for that same magazine. I write website copy for several companies. I ghostwrite for two celebrity blogs (ssssshhh!).

**Hobbies?**  
Reading, writing, yoga, dance, gardening.

**Pets?**  
Two beautiful cats, sharp clawed and fine.

**Family?**  
I am blessed with an extensive extended family, some blood relation and most not. Our family is who we invite to be our family.

**Favorite book or author? What are you reading now?**

(Continued on page 9)
I’ve always got several books going. Right now they are: Kim Harrison’s *White Witch Black Curse*, Barbara Simila’s *Watermarks*, and Ashok Banker’s *The Prince of Ayodha*. Am eagerly awaiting the April release of Reza Aslan’s *How to Win a Cosmic War*. My favorite authors are usually authors I have befriended.

**Anything else about yourself that you want to share with the membership?**

In seeming incongruity to my linear legal practice and library career, I am a crystal healing and gemstone therapy practitioner. It’s an amazing scientific art that has tremendous benefit. It’s related to reiki. This grew out of my nursing career – oh yes, did I mention I’m an RN? That was my first career – I practiced nursing for twenty years prior to becoming an attorney, and typically filled Director of Nursing roles. As an attorney I continue to practice civil prosecution of elder abuse claims. (there really is a thread in all of this, if you look).

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**The U.S. Housing Crisis: Options to Avoid Foreclosure:** Presented by Gary Laturno, article written by Benita Ghura, SDCPLL

On February 11, 2009, guest speaker, Gary Laturno gave a presentation entitled “The U.S. Housing Crisis: Options to Avoid Foreclosure” at the San Diego County Public Law Library. The presentation was informative and insightful in identifying and discussing different options available for homeowners in distress. In today’s economic climate, becoming a well-informed, financially literate homeowner is important to be able to understand the complex financial procedures to buying a home and in avoiding financial difficulties later on. The current housing crisis further emphasizes financial literacy as key goal for all homeowners, if they want to be able to avoid expensive mistakes. As Mr. Laturno stated: “life is a learning experience.” However, mistakes in the housing market have resulted in many losing their homes to foreclosure proceedings. These days, a new foreclosure proceeding is initiated, at the alarming rate, of every 13 seconds in America, which amounts to 100,000 foreclosures a day, according to Mr. Laturno, an experienced realtor, broker and President of Laturno Kuick Realty.

To avoid losing your home to foreclosure, Mr. Laturno recommends first ensuring that you are able to afford the home you purchase because refinancing later down the road may not be a viable option and you may end up owing twice as much as the original value of your home. For example, Mr. Laturno counseled a homeowner who originally purchased a home for $375,000 but ended up owing over $600,000 because of multiple re-financing options, a very expensive option for some. Mr. Laturno also cautions homeowners to carefully read their loan documents to ensure that they are receiving loan terms they can afford, many homes are subject to foreclosure because the homeowner did not understand the loan document they were signing or were prey to predatory lenders who knowingly sold loans to people who could not afford them. There are also other websites to help you determine how much home you can afford, as follows:


After purchasing a home, a homeowner’s next concern is being able to keep their home by paying the monthly mortgage payments. However, life is unpredictable and there may come a time when a homeowner is unable to pay the mortgage. Mr. Laturno strongly recommends that as soon as a homeowner begins struggling with their mortgage, they should immediately contact their lender to find a solution or to negotiate new terms. According to Mr. Laturno, in today’s climate of rising foreclosures, lenders are more likely and more willing to negotiate with a homeowner and as Mr. Laturno states it never hurts to ask for more favorable terms to your loan

(Continued on page 10)
agreement.

For some individuals, loan modifications may be an option to reduce your monthly mortgage payments. Choosing this option however, according to Mr. Laturno, does not reduce the principal amount of the loan and for some loan modifications may be a temporary fix. Mostly loan modification plans have failed to stop foreclosure proceedings but for some people this may be the best solution.

For others, filing for bankruptcy may be the best possible solution. However, Mr. Laturno cautions that if you do decide to file for bankruptcy, both the bankruptcy filing and the foreclosure will be reported on your credit report and you may not be able to purchase a home for another 7 years.

A short sale is another option for homeowners but with the rise in foreclosure proceedings, realtors are dealing with a huge inventory of listings and a short sale may actually be a long process or as Mr. Laturno phrases it a “long sale.” In San Diego County alone, there are over 15,000 listings for homes (Fox Channel 5 News, 02/16/2009). If a homeowner does choose the short sale option, Mr. Laturno states this one advantage for the homeowner is that the mortgage loan is reported as debt settled to the credit bureau and therefore, your credit report is not harmed.

Mr. Laturno also discussed other creative options to avoid foreclosure. For example, one homeowner earned a net monthly income of $3,500 but his monthly mortgage payments were $4,500 a month. In order to be able to pay his mortgage, this homeowner deed half his house to his cousin and also rented out 2 rooms, thereby reducing his monthly mortgage payments to $1,000 a month. According to Mr. Laturno it was better for this person to own half a house, than to have no home at all.

For additional assistance, homeowners may call 1-888-995-HOPE for free help. Other websites also provide assistance and help for struggling homeowners as follows:

- California Housing Finance Agency – Foreclosure Avoidance Information: [http://www.calhfa.ca.gov/foreclosure/foreclosure-other.htm](http://www.calhfa.ca.gov/foreclosure/foreclosure-other.htm)
- Saving Your Home From Foreclosure by Consumer Action: [http://www.housing-information.org/articles/saving_your_home_from_foreclosure](http://www.housing-information.org/articles/saving_your_home_from_foreclosure)
- Tips for Successful Homeownership: [http://www.housing-information.org/articles/keeping_your_home](http://www.housing-information.org/articles/keeping_your_home)
March 10, 2009 – The San Diego County Public Law Library celebrated its 50th Anniversary of having its own building. When the Law Library moved into its present location, it was only the second public law library in the country with its own building. In honor of this anniversary, the library hosted a party for nearly 100 guests in its Federal Reading Room.

The party featured a variety of displays about the history of the Library and its unique holdings. Prominent among the displays were architectural renderings of the proposed Library remodeling. Staff members spent hours researching and crafting the other displays. Each creator stood by their work and answered questions during the party.

Gina Catalano created a display about the holdings of the Library dealing with disputes over water rights in California. The Library has an extensive collection of materials from the series of Arizona v. California cases which have litigated the rights to the water of the Colorado River. The materials include briefs, displays, testimony, and decisions of the United States Supreme Court. Also, the display had material about various aspects of water policy within California. This included biographical profiles of William Mulholland and Fred A. Heilbron, known as Mr. Water in San Diego for his efforts to bring water to the city.

Benita Ghura made a display of several of the Library’s books which dealt with criminology. There were a wide variety of books. There was a profile of Judge Roy Bean, Vinegarroon, who escaped from jail in San Diego. Howison’s Criminal Trials of Virginia from 1851, is a resource not just of the criminal trials of the day, but also of Virginia society. A third unique book was Edmund Pearson’s Studies in Murder, which was one of the first popular books of true crime reporting. When asked about what had the most impact on her from her research, Ghura responded “(The Library has) a fascinating selection of criminology literature and criminal justice materials that discuss forensics, police investigations and the legal process for prosecuting a criminal in an easy to read format without the struggle to comprehend legalese terms. I think this shows our library can cater to a wider audience group then just the legal community.”

Amanda Lanthorne displayed several of the Library’s rare holdings. The oldest item was a papal bull from 1151 handwritten on sheepskin. Also, there were several items of English legal history. These include an Eighteenth Century copy of Blackstone’s Commentaries and Sixteenth Century copies of the Magna Charta and Coke’s Commentaries.

Chris Pickford prepared several pieces on the history of the Library. He created a timeline of memorable events including the various buildings where the Library has been housed and when the different branches were created. Also, he provided a list of the Library’s directors and their terms of office. Pickford created a display of photographs showing the Library when it moved into its current building back in 1958. Lastly, he made a chart showing the growth of the Library’s catalog since its founding in 1891.

Amanda Quist created a display detailing the writings of longtime Library Director Leland Stanford and the artistic endeavors of Marion Bressette. Quist found numerous sketches Brisette made of the Library, its Librarians, and her travels for the Library. Also on display were several of Stanford’s publications about the legal history of San Diego. These included Footprints of Justice and San Diego Lawyers You Should Have Known.

Also, the party provided an opportunity to display the redesigned third floor meeting room. The room is now named The Colloquium. The new name was selected from over 60 entries in a contest. The winning name was submitted by Isabel Eustaquio.

All photos courtesy of Tim Botsko.
How to Beat Those Down-in-the-Dumps Economy Blues:  
Alternatives to a San Diego Spa Resort — From Home! By John Adkins, USD-LRC

Walking around town I am seeing more and more marketing ploys for locals to stay in San Diego hotels and enjoy what our county has to offer -- beach, sun, and fun -- using the now ubiquitous term "staycation."

I like to call these types of respites "close to home" or "at home" vacations. There are lots of advantages in staying close to home. No kennel fees, no fear of returning to a garden fried to a crisp because your friend forgot to water, no lost baggage.

What about trying some of the following ideas to help make your close to home vacation as glamorous as going to a world class spa retreat? Well. Would you believe almost as glamorous? Check these out for starters:

- Pick a different beach for each day of your freedom from work and take an invigorating morning stroll with your favorite cup of coffee in hand. Think of it: one morning you can start at the Silver Strand, the next day work your way up through PB, the next sunrise at La Jolla Shores, and continue along to Leucadia, Cardiff by the Sea, Encinitas. What a way to start the day! [http://www.sandiego.org/article_set/Visitors/5]
- Or pick just one beach and really explore it, going back each day to examine the cliffs, the shore, and all the rest. Now that's zen! Try [http://www.niwa.org/display/home.asp] or [http://www.yogananda-srf.org/temples/encinitas/]
- Pick one part of your body for a soothing massage for each day of your vacation. This requires a partner, of course, but if you are single, you can partner with a friend. Having a foot massage one day, shoulders the next, and so on, allows you to experience that special spa experience without you or your partner feeling exhausted at the end. Trust me, a ten minute foot rub with chardonnay in hand, soft music -- in the comfort of your own home -- is a treat not to be missed. [http://www.care2.com/greenliving/top-ten-massage-techniques.html]
- Get a menu off the Internet for one of those pricey luxury resorts you have always wanted to try. Then plan out the week’s meals using that menu. You will be surprised at how delicious and easy -- and good for you! -- these spa resort meals are. Fresh fruit and an egg white omelet one morning, a refreshing seafood and mandarin orange salad for lunch, and a lovely roasted chicken and rice pilaf dinner are easily made using fresh ingredients and a dash of flair. Finish it off with a nice smooth amaretto or brandy and you're set! [http://www.boulders.com/pdf/Latilla_Dinner_Menu.pdf]
- Find out what day has your local Farmer’s Market and plan to browse and shop for that evening’s meal. The finest produce and handmade foods and other goods can be had for good prices. They are usually held during the week in the middle of the day – when you never can go. Take advantage of it while on vacation. [http://sdfarmbureau.org/BuyLocal/Farmers-Markets.php]
- Join the free yoga classes at locations like Mount Helix or Balboa Park; feel the serenity of the sky, earth, wind and sun. You are whole again. Try [http://www.sandiegomeditationnetwork.com/] or [http://www.ajoyfulmovement.com/ClassOfferings/balboapark.htm]
- If you are partnered, each one pick an evening to treat yourselves to a luxurious bubbly sponge bath. What a nice way to end the day!
- Go to one of those rent-a-hot tub places that rent by the hour. They have massage beds and showers too. An hour of bliss cavitoning in the bubbles of fun …
- With your partner or friend, each of you take on the role of concierge-for-a-day: plan a special day filled with the other’s favorite things. What a treat not to have to think about what to do for a change!
- Flowers: a fresh beautiful flower from your garden or the local market can do more to lighten a mood than most anything…except chocolate! Try [http://www.aztecflowermarket.com/]
- Chocolate…chocolate…chocolate; but in small, deliciously decadent amounts. Buy from the very finest chocolatier enough unbelievable goodies to sample each day of your close to home vacation. Wrap each one individually and place it on your pillow. Voila! What luxury! Try, for example [www.chuaochocolatier.com] or [www.chocolatsandiego.com] or [www.dallmannconfections.com]
- The big splurge: a new bathrobe. You know those thick, luxurious robes at the deluxe hotel or spa that you just wanted to take with you. but didn’t dare? Think ahead and order a good one from Overstock.com or another good place for seconds with negligible stitching issues. Have it ready for your vacation – and don’t cheat! You aren’t going to wear it until the first day of your stay…er, at-home vacation. [www.overstock.com]
- Inner focus: think of a different spot every day where you would like to spend the sunset in quiet meditation. You might like one place so much that you go there again and again. It could be at a park, the beach, a hillside near home. Heck, in
San Diego it could be in your own backyard. http://www.sandiegomeditationnetwork.com/

- Outer beauty: it doesn’t cost much to get a manicure or pedicure at the local hair salon; this goes for you men, too! Having your feet soaking in a warm soapy tub and worked over by experience hands is priceless, and you don’t have to pay big bucks.
- Make-up: if you have to do the full beauty thang, go down to Nordstrom’s or Sax and hop onto a stool at the makeup counter. The salesperson will give you a whole new look. You might even end up liking it! http://shop.nordstrom.com/C/2377897/0~2377897
- Take advantage of having the weekdays free by using the local municipal pool, tennis courts, you name it. The only reason we never think of using them is because we usually have only 2 hours free on Sunday morning. There’s an empty court – go grab it! http://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/
- Check out a meditation tape or relaxation tape or self-help tape from the library. Listen to bits of it each day and try to incorporate it into your routine. http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/locations/

So…you have several full days in a row to concentrate on you – and with a little planning and preparation, you can give yourself quite a treat just staying in your own backyard.

Librarian’s Guide to Washington, D.C., by Betsy Chessler, Morrison & Foerster

It’s all happening in D.C. this summer...

This year, SLA and AALL both host their conferences in Washington D.C. In honor of the occasion, SLA and SANDALL members met over pizza at Cal Western School of Law on February 18, 2009, to hear Bobbi Weaver give her insider's tips on the nation's capitol.

Bobbi Weaver is now Foreign & International Law Reference Librarian at Cal Western School of Law in San Diego. But Bobbi worked and lived and went to library school in D.C. for many years and even sighted Bill and Hillary Clinton a few times. She also went back to the city for Obama's inauguration in January, bundled up and braving the crowds! She gave her spin on what's fun in Capitol City, accompanied by short videos (and one longer very funny non-librarian's tour of the Library of Congress!). In case we can't get a tour of the White House, Bobbi also provided us with a video virtual tour. For those of us that would like to see local college libraries, Bobbi provides a list. Be forewarned - some are harder to access than others! Bobbi also suggests some good eats and watering holes. See her great suggestions below.

GETTING AROUND
Washington Metro Rail and Bus System
http://www.wmata.com/

VIDEOS ON DC
Washington D.C.: Up-close & Personal
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNKlZbfFVro&feature=related

White House Tour
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nHcOacXsCNs

Library of Congress tour - what I learned
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ppOa1ROVpb0

(Continued on page 14)
White House Revealed (2009) clip (Smithsonian Channel)
http://www.smithsonianchannel.com/site/smithsonian/home.do

--Available for purchase from the Smithsonian Channel at http://www.smithsonianchannel.com/site/smithsonian/home.do
--Available for rental from Netflix

THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO DO IN DC

Popular Sites

White House
Visiting the White House
http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/tours/
--Tours are available to groups of 10. Requests for tours must be made through a member of Congress. Senator Barbara Boxer can be contacted through her web page at http://boxer.senate.gov/. Senator Diane Feinstein can be contacted through her web page at http://feinstein.senate.gov/public/. To locate your congressional representative, go to the following web site: http://www.house.gov/. Requests can be made up to six months in advance of your intended visit, so the earlier you contact your representatives, the better.

White House Virtual Tour
http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/whtour/360index.html
-If you can’t arrange an in-person tour, a virtual tour of the rooms of the White House is available online.

The Capitol Building

Visiting the Capitol
http://www.aoc.gov/cc/visit/index.cfm
Tours are free and offered Monday-Saturday. However, you must have a pass in order to tour the Capitol building. Passes can be obtained at http://www.visitthecapitol.gov/Visit/. You can obtain the passes by contacting your Senator or Representative, or clicking on the link to book a tour yourself online at http://tours.visitthecapitol.gov/.

Libraries

Library of Congress Tours
http://www.loc.gov/visit/tours/
Tours do not require advanced tickets. Information on where tours meet and when is available from this web site. Information about visiting the Law Library of Congress is available at http://www.loc.gov/law/visit/

Catholic University of America
Links to the various special libraries (excluding the Law Library) are available at http://libraries.cua.edu/about/collecs.html. The School of Library and Information Science web site is at http://slis.cua.edu/. Visitor information for the CUA, Law Library is available at http://lib.law.cua.edu/home/libinfo/libinfo.htm. The CUA campus can be accessed via Metro on the Red Line (Brookland-CUA stop). While you’re on the campus, check out the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception with its Byzantine art work.

George Washington University
[NOTE: GWU libraries are closed to the general public. Please contact the individual libraries about special tours. GWU campus is accessible on Metro—Foggy Bottom station (Orange/Blue Line)]

Burns Law Library

(Continued on page 15)
http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Pages/Default.aspx

Gelman Library [general research library]
http://www.gelman.gwu.edu/

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library
http://www.gwumc.edu/library/

American University [Metro Red Line: Tenleytown-AU station]
Main Library: http://www.library.american.edu/
Law Library: http://library.wcl.american.edu/

George Mason University Law Library, 3301 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA (Orange Line—Virginia Square/GMU)
Law Library Web Site: http://www.law.gmu.edu/library

Arlington County Public Library—Central Branch--1015 N. Quincy St. (Orange Line—Ballston or Virginia Square stop)
http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/Libraries/about/LibrariesAboutCentral.aspx
This branch has a special collection of business resources.

RESTAURANTS & BARS

Friends of Animals' Washington DC Vegan Restaurant Guide

B. Smith's Union Station
http://www.bsmith.com/restaurant_dc_home.php
--I ate at this restaurant several years ago. The decor is nice, and the cuisine is sort of sophisticated Southern.

Big Hunt
http://www.thebighunt.net/
--Great bar in Dupont Circle area of DC. Good selection of beers including many microbrews.

Fado's Irish Pub
http://www.fadoirishpub.com/washington/
--Irish pub near the D.C. Convention Center. Site of the West Coast Chapters Reception for SLA

Ireland's Own (Alexandria, VA)
http://www.pattroysirishpub.com/
--Great place in the Old Town section of Alexandria for authentic Irish food and drink.

Restaurants in Adams Morgan
http://www.adamsmorgan.net/restaurants/
--Adams Morgan is a neighborhood in DC known for its diverse ethnic restaurants. This web site lists several of the restaurants, some with links to web sites.

Restaurants in Clarendon (Arlington, VA)
--I actually lived in Arlington while I worked in DC. Clarendon is a popular place for restaurants in the DC suburbs. At one time, the annual Taste of Arlington benefit event took place in this area, and many of the Clarendon restaurants are still featured at this event. This web site lists the restaurants, addresses, and links to reviews from other diners.


**SANDALL Spring Workshop**

Getting the Job Done in a Down Economy

SANDALL/SLA Spring Workshop 2009

Saturday April 18, 2009

9:30 a.m.— 1:30 p.m.
University of San Diego
Legal Research Center, Room 132
5998 Alcala Park

**Directions**: http://www.sandiego.edu/lrc/about/usdmap.php

**Online Registration**: http://www.sandallslaspring2009.eventbrite.com

**Registration deadline**: April 15, 2009

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**Food Drive at Spring Workshop**

Benefiting San Diego Food Bank

When arriving at the Spring Workshop, please bring an item from the list below. You can make a difference!

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<th>Special Diet Goods</th>
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Government Relations Committee Update
by Tina D. Jagerson, GRC Chair
tjagerson@sdcpll.org

This update provides valuable information on several events to attend, including Sunshine Week, Library Legislative Day and Day on the Hill training. Some of the issues being closely watched include free access to PACER, release of presidential records, state secrets privilege, whistleblower protection and more. Here’s your chance to catch up on all the latest law librarian advocacy news you may have missed since the last newsletter.

“Sunshine Week 2009” Webcast on March 20th
Sponsored by AALL & OpenTheGovernment.org

This year marks the 4th annual Sunshine Week sponsored by OpenTheGovernment.org and AALL. The webcast, “Opening Doors: Finding the Keys to Open Government,” will be webcast on March 20th from 1:00 – 2:30pm EDT for free from the Center for American Progress in Washington, D.C. and to host sites around the country. As of this writing, there are no host sites in San Diego. The closest ones are UCLA and San Bernardino.

The following is a list of California host sites as of Wednesday, March 11th. For the most up-to-date list, visit their website.

Registered Sites - 2009
The following sites have agreed to be included in the online directory of sites:

CALIFORNIA
Location: Los Angeles - UCLA Young Research Library [Room 23167YRL]
Contact: Kristine Kasianovitz
Contact email: krisk at library.ucla.edu
More information on the UCLA Library's webpage

Location: Sacramento - League of Women Voters of Sacramento County (in conjunction with Access Sacramento and California Common Cause)
Contact: Roseanna Torretto
Contact email: president at lwvsacramento.org

Location: Sacramento - Pacific McGeorge School of Law; Gordon D. Schaber Library (local registration required; please contact local organizer)
Contact: Michele Finerty
Contact email: mfinerty at pacific.edu

Location: San Bernardino - California State University, San Bernardino Pfau Library (in conjunction with the League of Women Voters - San Bernardino)
Contact: Jill Vassilakos-Long
Contact email: jvlong at csusb.edu

(Continued on page 18)
Library Legislative Day

If you’re going to be in Sacramento on April 15, 2009, or can get there, register to meet with your state Legislators and/or their staffs in their Capitol offices during Library Legislative Day.

Sponsored by the California Library Association (CLA), the California School Library Association (CSLA), and the California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners (CALTAC), Library Legislative Day is the perfect opportunity for library staff and supporters to meet with their state Legislators and/or their staffs in their Capitol offices.

Registering is a 2-step process:
Register with CLA.

A small registration fee will help offset the costs of this event. An important briefing providing current information will begin promptly at 8:30 AM - please make travel arrangements to ensure you are there on time. You will need to make your own arrangements for accommodations if required.

Go to www.legiday.net.

This website will provide appointment dates and times and allow you to add your name to the appointment list for specific legislators. At the login screen, enter:
Account name: member
Password: member

After you hit enter you will be taken to a new screen. Click on "legiday" to enter the database. This will take you to the Home Page for the Legislative Day 2009.

Click on "Legislators." This will take you to a listing of all legislators in the database. Legislators are listed in district order by default. By clicking the headers of the columns you can sort the list by individual field.

Complete information for this event is available on the CLA website.

AALL Day on the Hill:
Legislative Advocacy Leadership Training 2009

Friday, July 24, 2009 • 8:30 a.m. – 5:00pm
Washington, D.C.

Contact Emily Feldman by June 15th to register for this year’s Legislative Advocacy Leadership Training presented by the AALL Government Relations Office and Government Relations Committee. This one-day workshop takes place the day before the annual AALL conference starts. Best of all, it’s FREE to AALL members.

You’ll learn how to become a more effective advocate, learn about the legislative goals AALL set for the new Congress, such as free access to PACER, public domain citation system for legal information, the “Orphan Works” legislation allowing libraries to digitize and make public unknown copyright owners’ works, and the repeal of USA Patriot Act Section 215 – the “library” provision.

Stephanie Vance, the “Advocacy Guru,” will provide tips on how to improve your advocacy skills to benefit your library. Then, you’ll have a chance to meet with your Congressional delegation on Capitol Hill. How much more exciting can you get?
(Continued from page 18)

Senator Lieberman Expresses Concern over PACER Fees and Access

As head of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, Senator Joe Lieberman (ID-CT) sent a letter on February 27th expressing concern about the Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) fees and access. He directed his inquiries to U.S. District Judge Lee H. Rosenthal of the Southern District of Texas in Houston, who is chairwoman of the Rules Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States.

Sen. Lieberman stated, “I am writing to inquire if the Court is complying with two key provisions of the E-Government Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-347) which were designed to increase public access to court records and protect the privacy of individuals’ personal information contained in those records.”

His letter questioned why the federal judiciary continues to charge the public, including public law libraries, for access to PACER documents, even though there is a $150 million surplus in the Judiciary Information Technology Fund, and charging is no longer mandatory. Also, many of these documents contain personal identification information. Recent studies found that private information is not always being redacted before documents are made public.

The PACER system provides access to federal court records. The courts charge a fee to the public for the time spent searching records and $.08 per page for all documents downloaded. According to the National Law Journal, as of 2004, “more than 15 million cases were on the electronic filing system, and 100,000 lawyers had filed documents via the Internet to the courts.”

Free access to PACER is one of AALL’s legislative goals for 2009, and an issue of concern for SANDALL and law libraries everywhere. We applaud Senator Lieberman for bringing this important issue to the foreground and are hopeful significant changes will be made.

The 10 Most Wanted, Publicly-Available Government Documents, Reports or Data Sets

OpenTheGovernment.org and the Center for Democracy & Technology set up a website to collect the name(s) of the top 10 government documents the public wished to see available online. The top three most sought after documents include: 1) CRS Reports, 2) Bailout Funds, and 3) Department of Justice Patriot Act Usage and Rationale from Judicial Branch.

To see the entire list and learn more about the project, visit their website at showusthedata.org. AALL originally reported about the endeavor in their Washington Blawg on February 11th, which includes links to two previous “Most Wanted Documents” surveys you can review.

GPO’s New Federal Digital System Up and Running

The Government Printing Office (GPO) recently launched its “public beta” version of the Federal Digital System (FDsys). This site will eventually replace GPO Access later this year. FDsys provides users with a comprehensive, easily searchable site to find “authentic, published government information” and lets the GPO manage information from all three government branches.

The GPO is the “Federal Government’s primary centralized resource for gathering, cataloging, producing, providing, authenticating, and preserving published information in all its forms.” The new site currently includes the Congressional Record, Congressional Hearings, publications of the Office of the Federal Register, such as the Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents, and more.

AALL is behind the GPO in its development of FDsys. May Alice Baish testified before the House Committee on Appropriations’ (Continued on page 20)
Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch supporting the request to fund the GPO’s new system. The site even includes one of AALL’s suggestions of allowing users to search by citation. Read AALL’s original posting on their Washington Blawg.

Federal Bills that AALL Supports and Opposes
From AALL Washington’s February E-Bulletin

**AALL Supports:**

*Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2009 (H.R. 35)*
President Obama issued Executive Order (E.O.) 13489 on Presidential Records. This bill would restore standards for the timely release of Presidential records and nullifies former President Bush’s 2001 E.O. 13233. Bush’s executive order gave current and former presidents and vice presidents the expanded authority to withhold presidential records indefinitely.

**Status:** Passed the House on January 7, 2009; Referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on January 8, 2009.

*Reducing Over-classification Act of 2009 (H.R. 553); Over-Classification Reduction Act (H.R. 854)*
Both bills would require increased oversight and training to reduce over-classification and set up processes by which employees can challenge original classification decisions. H.R. 553 would apply only to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and H.R. 854 would apply across the federal government.

**Status:** H.R. 553 passed the House on February 3, 2009; H.R. 854 was ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote by the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on February 11, 2009.

*State Secret Protection Act of 2009 (H.R. 984); State Secrets Protection Act (S. 417)*
These bills would provide guidance to federal courts considering cases in which the government has asserted the state secrets privilege. Just before these bills were introduced, Attorney General Eric Holder issued an order to review all government claims invoking the State Secrets privilege. That same day, the Department of Justice invoked the state secrets privilege before the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in Mohamed v. Jeppesen, in which plaintiffs are suing Boeing for its role in extraordinary rendition.

**Status:** On February 11, 2009, H.R. 984 was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary and S. 417 was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

*Legislative Branch Appropriations in the Omnibus Appropriations Act (H.R. 1105)*
The House Appropriations Committee released a $410 billion omnibus bill to wrap up work on the FY2009 appropriations bills. The Omnibus Appropriations Act, H.R. 1105, includes funding for 2009 Legislative Branch appropriations. This includes $141 million for the Government Printing Office (GPO), the FDLP received an 11% increase over the FY 2008 and FY 2009 Continuing Resolution levels, and funding has also been increased for cataloging and other modernization efforts.

**Status:** The House passed H.R. 1105 on February 25, 2009.

When Mary Alice Baish testified before the House Committee on Appropriations’ Subcommittee on Legislative Branch in May 2008, she focused on increasing funding for FDsys. The funding for FDsys in the omnibus reflects her statement.

On February 24, 2009, AALL joined 21 organizations and individuals on a letter to Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and House Appropriations Committee Chairman David Obey to ask that they post the omnibus spending legislation and the 2010 appropriations bills online in a machine-readable format.

*Passage of Whistleblower Protections in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (H.R.1)*
The final version of the stimulus bill included “best practices” anti-retaliation rights for contractors, grantees, and state and local government employees who work in programs that receive stimulus funding. Whistleblower protections were not extended to federal government workers as proposed in a bi-partisan amendment by Representatives Chris Van Hollen (D-MD-8) and Todd Platts (R-PA-19), which would overhaul the Whistleblower Protection Act and give needed protections to
federal government employees who speak out against waste, fraud, and abuse. AALL supported this amendment.  
  
  Status: President Obama signed H.R. 1 (P.L. 111-5) into law on February 17, 2009.

Newly-appointed Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), Neil Barofsky, recently wrote an encouraging letter to whistleblower advocates, in which he states that he, “is committed -- even beyond obligations under the relevant provisions of law -- to build a robust whistleblower system that will both encourage individuals to come forward and protect those individuals once they have done so.”

AALL opposes:

Fair Copyright in Research Works Act (H.R. 801)

This bill would effectively reverse the public access policy at National Institutes of Health (NIH), and prevent similar policies at other agencies.

Status: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on February 3, 2009.

On February 13, AALL, along with nine other groups, sent a letter to Members of the House Committee on the Judiciary to ask Committee members to oppose the bill.

For additional details and all the latest news, visit AALL’s Government Relations Office website and their Washington Blawg. Thanks to Emily Feldman, Advocacy Communications Associate at AALL Washington, for keeping me informed, so that I can keep SANDALL members up to date.

Please send any questions or comments you have about this Update to tjagerson@sdcpll.org.

(Continued from page 20)

SANDALL Board Meeting

2/25/09
Held at USD Alumni Building.
Meeting commenced at 12:01 p.m.
[Many thanks to John Adkins for setting up this meeting and for arranging lunch.]

This meeting focuses on, and celebrates, the work and dedication of our committee chairs.

Present: Sheila Corman (Past President), John Adkins (President), Betsy Chesser (VP), Deb Morse (Social Responsibility Chair), Carmen Brigandi (Nominations), Amy Moberly (Newsletter), Maggie McDonald (Archives), Tina Jagerson (Govt. Relations), Brent Naritomi (Grants), Carol Hyne (Website & Listserv)

Absent: Arnold Josafat (Employment), Gina Catalano (Secretary), Leigh Inman (Treasurer), Vicki Williamson (PR), Kelly Keach (Library School Liaison), Isabel Eustaquio (Bylaws).

Secretary: Betsy served as secretary in Gina’s absence.

(Continued on page 22)
John reviewed “authentic leadership” principles based on AALL presentation he attended.

Treasurer’s Report

John reviewed report in Leigh’s absence. See attached. 115 current members. 15 new members in FY 2008-09. We are in the black.

Old Business

Officer Updates

President: John has been doing focus groups of ten groups of ten (or thereabouts). The most recent focus group was at Cal Western. Everyone loves the newsletter and keeping informed via the newsletter. All members read the newsletter, as not everyone has need of listserv and/or can attend brown bags.

John is working on creating a Wiki for the board to make transitions between officers easier. It is good for continuity to record what worked well and save those great organization ideas. Each officer will have their own page. Password protected and just for board members. Central discussion forum for the board.

VP: Betsy described our last several programs, including a presentation on elder abuse litigation by Deb Morse, our Fall Workshop, and our successful holiday party at the Mingei Museum in Balboa Park.

New Business

Vendor Appreciation Award

Vendors provide money and support for SANDALL and should be recognized. Other chapters have this award. Sheila moved and Betsy seconded we create vendor appreciation award. Motion passed. Criteria would be individual rep’s support for SANDALL. Personal involvement of vendor would take precedence over money donated. A few candidates were mentioned for the award during the meeting. John will ask for nominations via our listserv as well. Once the candidate is selected by the board, the VP (or her delegate) will present the award at either the Spring or Fall Workshop (with the Fall Workshop being the preferred venue). Winner will be presented with a certificate and/or plaque. No monetary prize.

SANDALL as a support network

Our members are being laid off or their staff cut back. How can SANDALL support these members? A start is to have an expanded list of jobs posted on SANDALL listserv to include paraprofessional positions, and greater geographic area (all of US). Will include nontraditional jobs too. Arnold will post jobs more frequently. Already have links for SoCal region. We should check if we need to update that. Job listings link on every SANDALL page.

Support internships. The idea would be that SANDALL would help match interns with jobs. It was suggested that the Employment Liaison form a committee to investigate this. Need more details and plan that can be brought to board. Need guidelines. Need to do survey to see if there is interest in formalizing support for internship. Needs board approval. SCALL has a program, and we can model our program on this. John will approach Arnold about forming a special committee to look into this further and report back to board.

Committee Reports

Govt Relations Committee (Tina) - Now tracking more bills. Working on policy, which is mix of AALL and NOCALL/SCALL policies. Will present to board when done. Tina very active in publicizing new laws that affect law librarians and John thanked her for that. Tina is sole member of committee. Some legislative offices will set up alerts for you. Tina has lots of keywords that she is using now.

Public Relations (Tina reporting on behalf of Vicki Williamson): Looking for volunteers for SANDALL table at AALL conference in July. Have a few members scheduled for table right now, including Melissa Fung, Vicki and Tina, Charles Dean, Carmen Brigandi, and (hopefully) John Adkins. Hope to bring archival information to table. Vicki has SANDALL keychains. Hand out pretzels or other salty or fruity snack. Edible sand dollars were suggested as well.

Tina suggested selling SANDALL logo’d material, such as mugs and t-shirts. Sell at all SANDALL events to raise $ for grants. NOCALL and SCALL sell such stuff to raise funds.

(Continued on page 23)
Would be nice to do Survey Monkey on who will attend AALL conference and then share names. Maybe John could send out note to listserv on this in April?

Social Responsibility (Deb) - New committee. Goal is to go out and do good. Great proactive committee. Did book drive over holiday, and gathered 129 books for children. Sheila and Gina Catalano and Benita Ghura and Steve Corman participated in walk at Equestrian Center at Mission Trail for the Heart Transplant Center at Rady’s Children’s Hospital. Lots of fun. The committee hopes to do a quarterly event. Would like to come up with a yearly major project as well. Perhaps we can do joint project with SLA. Sheila suggested adopting a family over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays to provide food, goods, school supplies, etc. Another suggested activity was to clean up beaches and rivers. Carol did team building exercise of clearing brush at Mission Trails. Okay to focus on community at large. Betsy suggested focus be on library related services. If we work as a team, it would be great to have t-shirts for this purpose.

Archives (Maggie) - Archives are now in boxes while a reorganization of the USD Legal Research Center archives is in progress. USD is creating a new Rare Books room where the archives can be housed. Maggie will reorganize and file material. John has material as well. Includes first officers photos. We are asking for donations of SANDALL event photos. Amy would prefer digital versions. Suggestion: Use digital photo frame to show off photos at our SANDALL table at the AALL Conference this July.

Newsletter (Amy) - Renewed interest in publication. Great layout. Amy has been putting out newsletter 8 years now! Went digital a year and half ago.

Grants (Brent) - Sent out announcement for SCALL grants. Will send out announcement for Spring workshop shortly. Arnold Josafat, Bob Richards, Tom Champagne and Brent are on committee. In the past the committee has tried to give grants to newer members, but as more members lack conference funds, the grants are now open to anyone, and especially those members who have never applied for a grant before. Still discussing what is covered by grant. Is it just registration, or travel and lodging expenses as well? Will conclude discussion on SCALL grants by next week. Will offer 10 grants for Spring Workshop. There are two grant applicants for SCALL conference so far.

Nominations (Carmen B.) Chris Pickford and Carmen are on this committee. Have one person per slot. Will have names to board by Friday. Carmen said she didn’t know much about new members. Would love bios of members to help with nominations process. Membership directory will be expanded in 2009, be sorted by institution, zip, and will also now include job title. That should be some help. We can also step up profiling new members in newsletter. Board can feed Amy names of new members. Could do article in newsletter on benefits of serving on the board as well. John thinks personal approach works best. Tina suggests publicizing job descriptions. Board members could write up their job descriptions in the newsletter so members can understand what each position does and perhaps be more open to running for office themselves. Unique among AALL chapters, the SANDALL VP does not have to move up to President, so it technically only a one year commitment. The biggest hurdle seems to be that people don’t know what time commitment is required for each position.

Long Range Planning (Sheila) - Members: Sandra Dawson, Heather Phillips, Judith Lihosit, Brandon Baker, Michelle Schmidt, Sheila Corman. Reports due a week from Friday. Will then vote on top ten ideas and send top ten items to board, and then sent to membership. Sheila tried to pull members from different sectors. John says he wants to address brownbags because attendance seems down. Tina likes the idea of lunchtime Webinars. Many members are far away, and this would be more convenient.

Website and Listserv (Carol) - Carol has been the SANDALL Webmaster for 9 years! She’s currently working on password protection for the member directory and plans to have that up by Easter. Otherwise, she tries to keep everything up to date and post announcements quickly. The SANDALL Web pages are hosted by AALL. AALL is moving to new servers and asking all Webmasters to review their sites. Carol has reduced the SANDALL site to 70 files and she tries to link to site directly instead of repeating information on a new page. She hopes to have stats in the future on which pages are viewed most frequently, as the current statistics are not accurate. In particular, she doesn’t know if the resource pages are being viewed. She would like to update the resources page and would like a volunteer for this. She last re-formatted the site in 2004. Maybe it’s time to change the look, make it fresher. Carol is looking for help with this and other potential projects. She is the sole committee member and would like help for individual projects. Anyone helping her can submit material in Word format and Carol will convert it to HTML. Listserv software has been updated. Fewer false drops. New subscribers must receive confirmation via email to activate listserv. Carol was getting
~50 spammers a day, so this alleviates this problem somewhat, and AALL has also installed a spam catcher. John says focus groups are very pleased with the SANDALL website.

**Programs** (Betsy) - Our March brownbag will be on gadgets and Web 2.0 databases such as LinkedIn and Twitter. Date to be announced. Speakers will be Brandon Baker, Barbara Glennan and Charles Dean. The Spring Workshop, on Saturday, April 18th at USD, will focus on “Getting the Job Done in a Down Economy”. This is a joint workshop with our colleagues at the San Diego Chapter of Special Libraries Association. This workshop will be an economical $10 for SLA and SANDALL members and will include breakfast and lunch. Speakers will include economics professor Alan Gin and various librarians on budget cuts, alternative careers and volunteerism. The Spring Social will be a picnic in Mission Bay on Sunday, May 17th, and will include a raffle and limited auction items. This will be a potluck, with a $5 charge to cover beverages and cake. We need volunteers to handle silly games, the auction, set up, decorations, etc. Betsy will solicit volunteers.

**Employment** (Arnold Josafat) - Arnold was unable to attend the meeting today. He submitted the following report 2/25/09, to John Adkins. It is reprinted here.

From June 2008 to February 2009, 13 open law library or law library-related positions were advertised on the SANDALL listserv and posted on the SANDALL jobs webpage. This total not only is less compared to the same period from the previous year (i.e. more than 15), but currently reflects what’s available in California only. Starting in March 2009, more open positions will be listed weekly as the employment search will be expanded nationally and to any library-related position per the SANDALL’s president instruction. In the absence of any advertised open positions, an employment-related article will be posted.

In terms of issues to address for the future, below are a few to consider:

- Will documentation outlining the charge and duties of the employment chair liaison be available for revision and for use by future SANDALL members?
- Should a committee of volunteers be created to assist the employment chair liaison in gathering job leads and researching employment articles?
- How does the separation of the employment chair liaison from the SANDALL executive board help it with the organization’s future goals and directions? Is it better to incorporate this position with another SANDALL position, such as Secretary, public relations chair or membership chair?

The board tabled discussion of these questions to a later time when all members could be present.

The Library School Liaison and Bylaws Committee chairs had nothing to report at this time.

John Adkins closed the board member meeting by thanking all the committee chairs and handing out valentine chocolates. Thank you John!

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.
SANDALL 2008-2009 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name:______________________________________________ ________________________________________

Organization:______________________________________ ___________________________________________

Mailing Address:___________________________________ ____________________________________________

City:____________________________________ State:_______________________ Zip:________________

Telephone:_______________________________ Fax:________________ Email:_________________________

Send Fee and Form to:
Leigh Inman
Thomas Jefferson School of Law
2121 San Diego Avenue
San Diego, CA 92110

Membership Fee: $20.00 ($15.00: students)
Make checks payable to: SANDALL

Current Member: Yes____ No_____  Student?: Yes_______ No_______

Changed address, email address, fax number, etc.? Please check your directory listing and note any corrections here.

Updated data:________________________________________________________

Are you a member of AALL? Yes______ No________

Do you want your name address & email to be listed on the SANDALL WWW directory page?

Yes__________ No__________ Other________________________________________

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