

VALL Newsletter

Virginia Association of Law Libraries

Volume 21, Number 4

Spring 2006

2005 – 2006 VALL Officers

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Marie Summerlin Hamm
Regent University Law Library
Virginia Beach, VA

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University of Virginia School of Law
Charlottesville, VA

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Hunton & Williams
Richmond, VA

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Williamsburg, VA

Ex Officio

Micheal Klepper
University of Virginia School of Law
Charlottesville, VA

VALL Website:

<http://law.richmond.edu/vall/>

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From the President Marie Hamm

Justice Felix Frankfurter once said that “gratitude is one of the least articulate of the emotions, especially when it is deep.” As I write my last message as VALL President, I understand the full import of his words. VALL is an amazing organization, filled to overflowing with smart, talented, funny, and fun-loving members. It has been an honor to serve as president and I thank each of you for the opportunity.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the members of the Executive Board--Evelyn Campbell, Cathy Palombi, Jeanne Ullian, Leanne Battle, Teresa Schmid, Fred Dingley and Micheal Klepper—for their collective wisdom and wit. Their suggestions, insights, and well-reasoned responses to my many emails were absolutely invaluable.

Chris Byrne, Femi Cadmus, Evelyn Campbell, Margaret Christiansen, Tim Coggins, Joyce Janto, Charles Oates, Caroline Osborne, Isabel Paul, Eric Welsh, and Gail Zwirner served as committee chairs. I am grateful for their efforts and so pleased that the committees were able to accomplish so much under their leadership. I am especially indebted to Micheal Klepper, both for his amazing performance as editor of the *VALL Newsletter* and for his willingness to take on the daunting job of redesigning and updating the VALL website; to Margaret Christiansen and the members of the Membership Committee for their work on the *VALL Directory*; and to Gail Zwirner, for coordinating the well-received librarian issue of the *Virginia Lawyer* and for her willingness to dedicate her time and attention to the 2007 Code Project Work Group.

I'd also like to extend special thanks to Paul Birch, VALL Webmaster; Terry Long, VLA Liaison, Gail Warren, Archivist, and Jennifer Sekula, Editor of the *VALL Chapter Leadership Handbook*.

Finally, I'd like to thank Donna Bausch and Jill Burr for encouraging me to undertake the VALL presidency, and Charles Oates, Gail Warren, Lyn Warmath, Tim Coggins, and Gail Zwirner, for allowing me the benefit of their collective experience.

Thanks to the efforts of Evelyn Campbell and the Program Committee, VALL has enjoyed another year of excellent educational programming. For our Spring Quarter meeting, VALL will join LLSDC at George Mason Law Library on Friday, May 19. Speakers Billie Jo Kaufman and Deborah Keene will get beyond your basic browser and explore technology trends, tricks, and tactics that can increase productivity. The Summer Quarter Luncheon Meeting will take place Tuesday, July 11, at *Kitchen K* in St. Lois, Missouri. Complete details and registration information for both meetings is available on the VALL website at <http://law.richmond.edu/vall/>.

Thank you once again for a wonderful year. I hope that each of you will be able to "meet me in St. Louie."

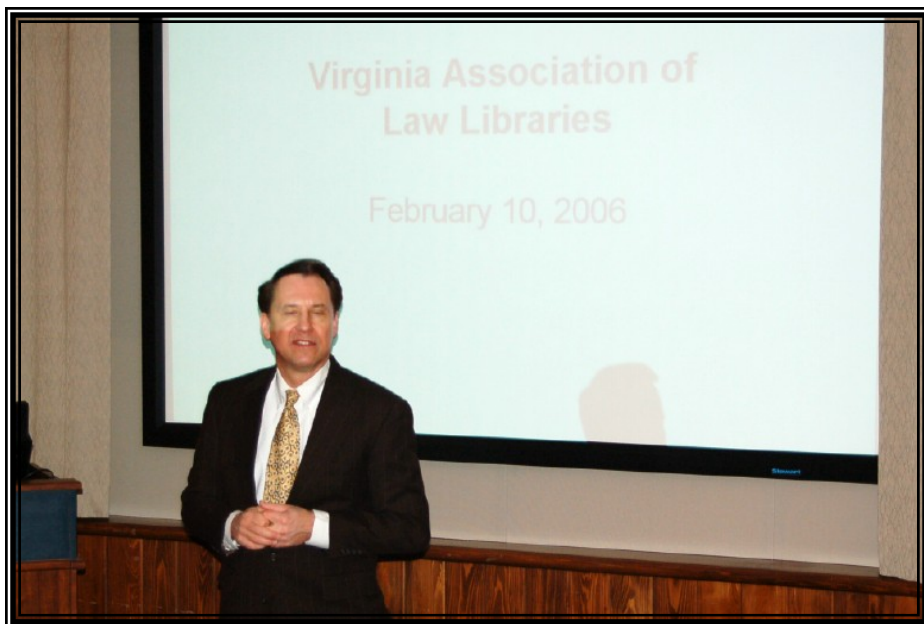
Marie

IN AND AROUND VALL



Remember to sign up for Committees

It's that time again -- we are putting together the committees for 2006-2007 and we need VALLers to sign up for committees. The form has been posted on the VALL website <http://law.richmond.edu/vall/> or send Evelyn Campbell (ecampbell@hunton.com) an email with your committee selection.



Robert N. Baldwin, Executive Vice President and General Counsel of the National Center for State Courts, welcoming VALL members to the Winter meeting which was held at the NCSC in Williamsburg on Feb. 10. Thirty-five VALL members attended the meeting.

IN AND AROUND VALL



VALL members listening very intently to speakers at the Winter meeting -- *Access to Court Records: Public vs Privacy Rights.*

Tom Carlson, Internet Communication Specialist, NSCS, leading VALL members in song to remember *Global Justice XML Data Model (GJXDM)*.



IN AND AROUND VALL



Rebecca Hulse, Adjunct Professor of Law, W&M Marshall-Wythe School of Law, and self-proclaimed law librarian groupie, giving VALL members an overview of the current practices and policies regarding public access to private legal information.

Long time VALL member and now library consultant, Jean Holcomb, speaking on the challenges and opportunities as court technology makes information more accessible.





MINUTES
VALL General Business Meeting
National Center for State Courts, Williamsburg, VA
February 10, 2006

Call to Order

Minutes – waived

Treasurer’s Report

No new deposits or withdrawals since Winter Newsletter Report

Checking account balance currently \$17,527.11

Received two support checks from LexisNexis

\$700 for luncheon at AALL Annual Meeting; \$675 to support printing of VALL Membership

Directory

Committee Reports

Grants

VALL will offer two grants to the AALL Annual Meeting

One for the VP (or a Board member if the VP doesn’t need it)

One for a general VALL member

VALL will offer two grants to the VALL Annual Meeting

One for a VALL member

One for a student



Application will be posted to VALL website

Received \$750 grant from LexisNexis

Legislative Awareness – no report

Membership

Reimbursed for directory XP

No change in membership since last directory

Some minor changes need to be made – may be made available via password-protected
area of VALL website

Newsletter

Deadline for next issue is April 1, 2006

Placement – no report

Program

Spring Meeting will be held May 19, 2006, at George Mason

Will be joint meeting with LLSDC

Public Relations – no report

Publications

Congratulations to Gail Warren on Virginia Lawyer issue with law librarian-written articles

Cited by Claire Germaine in Note from the President

Recruitment – no report



New Business

Currently drafting letter to Va. Chief Justice Hassell outlining VALL suggestions re: Code of Va. 2007

Thanks to Gail Warren and Gail Zwirner

AALL Chapter VIP

Need suggestions ASAP

AALL wants every chapter to have a VIP this year

Marie will send members list of past Chapter VIPs

VCOG membership renewal

Proposed to authorize Treasurer to renew VCOG membership on annual basis. Motion was made and unanimously approved.

VALL grants

Will be approved for two years in their current form, then we'll review

Bylaw amendments

Due to the need for further changes, vote on amending the bylaws has been postponed to the

May meeting

Ballot on constitutional amendments will include ballot for Executive Board candidates and proposed revisions to bylaws



Constitutional amendments

Article VII. Amendments.

It was asked whether the change in language would allow any form of electronic voting, not just the membership concluded that it would

Article VIII. Bylaws.

Some concern was expressed that the amendments seemed to make it easier to amend the constitution than the bylaws

Under proposed changes, bylaw amendments would still need to be voted on at a meeting

Constitution can be amended by print or electronic vote

It was decided to postpone voting on amendment to Article VIII until further revisions could be made

Ballot will be mailed to members asking to vote on proposed Amendment to Article VII of the Constitution. This ballot will also contain the list of candidates for Executive Board positions. The revised proposals for amending the Bylaws and Article VIII of the Constitution will be enclosed with the ballots, and will be discussed at the May meeting.



Suggestion was made to revise entire Constitution

President agreed to investigate this option further

New VALL Officers

President presented slate of nominees for open VALL Executive Board positions

Floor opened for other nominations; none made

Slate approved

VP/Program Chair – Margaret Christiansen; Secretary – Jane Baugh; Director – Femi Cadmus

VALL website re-design

Executive Board is working with Mike Klepper on content

Virginia Association of Law Libraries Program Summaries 2005 - 2006

Beyond 2007 : The Futute of Public Information in Virginia (VALL Annual Meeting, Nov 4 -5, 2005):

2007 Code of Virginia: The Implications of the Reorganization:

Cheryl Jackson, Library Manager, Virginia Division of Legislative Services; Brian Cole, Manager of Statutory Editorial Operations, Lexis-Nexis; Karl Findorf, Principal Attorney Editor, Thomson/West; updated VALL members on the progress of the reorganization of the code from the legislature's and publishers' perspectives.

The Future of the Virginia Public Records Act:

Lisa Wallmeyer, Executive Director of the Joint Commission on Technology, Division of Legislative Services, spoke about the history of the VPRA , its current position and where the act was likely headed.

Finding and Using Company and Business Resources:

Karen King, Library Director, Darden Graduate Business Library, University of Virginia, gave VALL members an exercise in using various resources to find business information.

Lawyers Helping Lawyers: A Way to Support Troubled Legal Professionals:

James E. Leffler, mental Health Services Coordinator, Lawyers Helping Lawyers, educated VALL members on the dangers of substance abuse and the help available in Virginia for not only lawyers but also law librarians.

Luncheon Speaker: Sally Holterhoff, AALL Vice-President/President Elect.

Access to Court Records: Public vs Privacy Rights (VALL Winter Meeting, Feb. 10, 2006):

Rebecca Hulse, Adjunct Professor of Law, William & Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law, gave an overview on current practices/policies regarding public access to private legal information.

Jim McMillan, Senior Court Technology Consultant, National Center for State Courts, spoke on the validation and verification of electronic information in the judicial and legal system.

Tom Carlson, Internet Communication Specialist, National Center for State Courts, introduced VALL members to Global Justice XML Data Model (GJXDM), a standard for information sharing among justice agencies.

Jean Holcomb, Consultant, spoke on the challengers and opportunities as court technology makes information more accessible and how law librarians can make sure that no new barriers are created for the public.

Joint VALL/LLSDC Spring Meeting (May 19, 2006):

Technology for the Non-Teches:

Billie Jo Kaufman, Associate Dean for Library & Information Resources, American University Washington College of Law, Pence Law Library, gave a presentation on current and emerging information technology relevant to the law librarian.

Beyond Internet Explorer: Alternative Browsers and Toolbars:

Deborah Keene, Associate Dean, Library and Technology, George Mason University Law Library, showed that in spite of Microsoft's Internet Explorer's dominance that there are now other alternative browsers that offer more advanced features, and that there are dozens of free add-on toolbars which enhance IE and other browsers.



SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

Have you: Attended a seminar? Published an article? Received an award? Been elected or appointed to an office or committee? Traveled out of the state or country?

TELL US ABOUT IT! WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE DOING!

WHO? _____

WHAT? _____

WHERE? _____

WHEN? _____

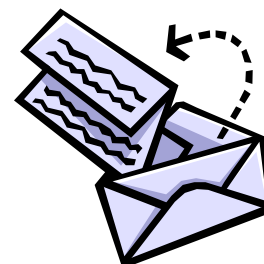
WHY? _____

HOW? _____

Submitted by _____

Library _____

Phone _____



Send your news to:

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