

AALL Spectrum

Editorial Staff

Director of Publications and Managing Editor
 Julia O'Donnell
 jodonnell@aall.org

Editorial Director
 Mark E. Estes
 mark.estes@hro.com

Copy Editor
 Graphic Designer

Robert B. Barnett Jr.
 Kathy Wozbut



**2007–2008 Law Library Journal and AALL Spectrum
 Editorial Board and Advisory Committee**

Chair Beth DiFelice

Members
 Therese A. Clarke Arado Deborah L. Rusin
 Carol D. Billings Jason R. Sowards
 Crata Castleberry Mark E. Estes (ex officio)
 Joseph A. Custer Kumar Percy Jayasuriya (ex officio)
 John D. Edwards Janet Sinder (ex officio)
 Hazel L. Johnson James E. Duggan (board liaison)
 Matthew Morrison

2007–2008 Executive Board

President Ann T. Fessenden
 Vice President/President-Elect James E. Duggan
 Secretary Darcy Kirk
 Treasurer David S. Mao
 Immediate Past President Sarah G. Holterhoff
 Executive Director Kate Hagan
 Members
 Steven P. Anderson Jean M. Wenger
 Janice E. Henderson Cornell H. Winston
 Lyonette Louis-Jacques Sally H. Wise

AALL Spectrum (ISSN: 1089-8689) is published monthly except January and August with combined September/October by the American Association of Law Libraries, 53 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 940, Chicago, IL 60604. Telephone: 312/939-4764, fax: 312/431-1097, e-mail: aallhq@aall.org. Periodicals postage paid at Chicago, Illinois and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *AALL Spectrum*, 53 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 940, Chicago, IL 60604.

Writers wanted — contribute to your Association's magazine. For guidelines, visit www.aallnet.org/products/pub_spectrum.asp or contact Editorial Director Mark E. Estes at mark.estes@hro.com.

AALL Spectrum Submissions

Article ideas for the following issues must be approved by the editorial director by the following dates:

2008	Issue	Approval Deadline
Vol. 13 No. 3	December	August 10
No. 4	February	October 10
No. 5	March	November 10

AALLNET: www.aallnet.org

Advertising Representative

Innovative Media Solutions
 320 W. Chestnut Street
 P.O. Box 399
 Oneida, IL 61467
 Telephone: 309/483-6467
 Fax: 309/483-2371
 E-mail: bill@innovativemediasolutions.com

AALL Spectrum is a free benefit of membership in the American Association of Law Libraries. Of each year's dues, \$42 is for one year of *AALL Spectrum*. Nonmembers may subscribe to *AALL Spectrum* for \$75 per year. For membership and/or subscription information, please contact the American Association of Law Libraries at the address above.

AALL Publications Disclaimer

This publication is provided for informational and educational purposes only. The American Association of Law Libraries does not assume, and expressly disclaims, any responsibility for the statements advanced by the contributors to, and the advertisers in, the Association's publication. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of the Association or of its officers, directors, staff or representatives. All advertising copy is subject to editorial approval. The Association does not endorse or make any guarantee with respect to any products or services mentioned or advertised in the publication.

All content copyright 2008 by the American Association of Law Libraries, except where otherwise expressly indicated. Except as otherwise expressly provided, the author of each item in this issue has granted permission for copies of that item to be made for classroom use or for any other educational purpose, provided that (1) copies are distributed at or below cost, (2) author and *AALL Spectrum* are identified, and (3) proper notice of copyright is affixed to each copy. For items in which it holds copyright, the American Association of Law Libraries grants permission for copies to be made for classroom use or for any other educational purpose under the same conditions.

Errata

In the May 2008 issue of *The CRIV Sheet*, the article, "Library Maintenance Agreement, period 2," incorrectly stated the author of the May 2007 *CRIV Sheet* article, "West's Library Maintenance Agreement," as Lucy Rieger. The correct author is Catherine Lemann. *The CRIV Sheet* apologizes for the error.

Expect the Unexpected

by Mark E. Estes, mark.estes@hro.com

Heart-to-the-throat adrenalin rush.

I'm riding my bicycle to work, rolling along the path and enjoying the day, approaching a steep and partially obscured underpass ramp. I nod hello to a cyclist standing just off the bike path. He seems to be waiting for someone to catch up. He looks back over his left shoulder. Now I can see over the crest of the ramp and who he awaits. Ohmygawd—a youngster, maybe eight years old, is on a bicycle less than 20 feet away. And, the little one is struggling up the ramp directly in my path! I slam on the brakes, control the skid, and roll slowly by.

So much for a "typical commute." Bicycle or motorcycle commuters expect the unexpected. Law librarians also expect the unexpected—we know that the best laid plans get interrupted by something urgent. Successful commuters (and law librarians) cope with the emergency, the urgent request, and take a breath to focus on the important, long-term issues in their work: customer/client service, law librarianship principles, aligning with the employer's strategic goals, and having fun.

If we're not having fun, we do a disservice to our employers, our customers, our profession, and, most importantly, ourselves.

This issue of *Spectrum* illustrates the joy of law librarianship through "A Day in the Life of the Law Library Community" photo contest entries (page 12). See especially the best picture overall and the most humorous photos. Continuing the graphical presentation, we celebrate 100 years of *Law Library Journal* in a timeline (page 26).

Rich Leiter recommends a book for us to read, *Educating Lawyers*, and challenges us to develop a vocabulary of research to prove the importance of research skills (page 22).

Carl Yirka poses a provocative question: What can we stop doing in order to do other higher priority things? Helpfully, he includes examples that should resonate with all law librarians (page 28).

Mareth Wilson explores public law libraries as agents of social capital, and she exemplifies the benefits of asking questions about how and why we do things in our libraries (page 8).

Professional development activities like reading *Spectrum*, *Law Library Journal*, and *Harvard Business Review* and attending meetings of AALL and your local chapters help energize me. Sometimes, "something completely different" does the trick. I recommend reading the 2007 National Book Award Winner, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, by Sherman Alexie, which chronicles the experiences of a contemporary Native American high schooler. Visit www.nationalbook.org/nba2007_ypl_alexie.html to read about the book and the award.

Have fun, watch for surprises, and focus on the long term.

I hope to see you in Portland. ■