

AALL Spectrum

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AALL Spectrum Submissions

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Errata:

In the June 2009 issue of AALL Spectrum, on page 3 of the "Washington, D.C., Survival Guide," the address for Stitch D.C. is incorrect. The correct address is 731 8th Street SE. AALL Spectrum apologizes for the error.

from the editor

Parable of the Cups

The house shook with the raucous energy and laughter of grandchildren at play with their friends. Suddenly, Grandfather called them all into his study. There, on a board, he had tacked a number of carefully lettered slips of paper. Each slip listed a job or chore around the house. He explained the rules: choose a chore, complete the chore, and return in two hours for your pay.

Each child selected a task based upon his or her personal preferences: an inside job, an outside job, one that looked easy, one that kept them clean, one that got them dirty, or one they thought would earn them the most money.

At the end of the appointed time, they returned to Grandfather's study. On his desk, they saw stacks of coins and bills; some with just pennies, others quarters, and still others with one- and five-dollar bills. Grandfather covered each pile with a cup and shuffled the cups. Then he told the children one at a time to choose a cup for their payment for completing their chores.

Some children got coins, and some got bills. One child complained, "If I'd known I would have only earned a nickel, I would have taken a job I wanted."

Grandfather replied, "You never know what the final reward will be, so always choose carefully a task that you want to do."

In tough economic times, choosing money and security over joy seems easiest and wisest. It may be, but don't fixate on that aspect. Instead, choose what you want to do and take steps to make that happen. (Thanks to Raul Campos, husband of Martha Campos, manager of library services for the San Francisco Alto & Palo offices of Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP, for the parable.)



By Mark E. Estes

In this issue, Dodi Levine reports on how some New York City law firm librarians chose to

deal with their economic challenges (page 22); Patricia Garvey shares a checklist for libraries facing a merger, acquisition, or dissolution (page 10); from the other coast, Jaye Lapachet and Andrea Rubin write about using Facebook in a law firm library (page 20); in her public relations column, Eugenia Minor describes some of the necessary steps in executing a successful library move (page 13); Michael Robak takes an in-depth look at the citation function of Bloomberg Law (page 24); Susan Lyons discusses the access vs. privacy tension surrounding PACER (page 30); and Steve Anderson encourages us to map our future by submitting educational program proposals for the 2010 Annual Meeting (page 19).

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