

HALL Quarterly

HOUSTON AREA LAW LIBRARIANS

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Next Meeting:

**2019
Annual Business
Meeting**

Wednesday
May 8
11:45 a.m.
at the
Fred Parks Law
Library,
South Texas College
of Law Houston

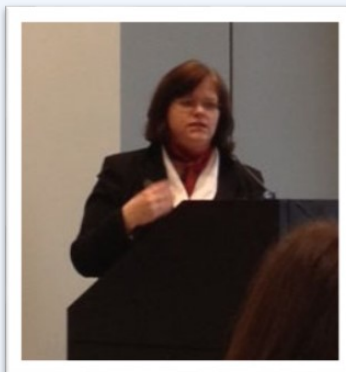
Message from the President

I would like to thank everyone who volunteered or served on a Committee or the Board this year! I would also like to thank those who came to meetings and answered your fellow members' needs on the listserv. All these commitments and efforts make HALL vital and useful.

In the fall, we started our education series with the AALL Recap from Patti Curtis. We learned about the continuing trial and tribulations of some of our members' libraries from Harvey One Year Later. Brandi Hester, Applications Development Manager for Hunton Andrews Kurth discussed Emerging Technologies and Innovation for Attorneys and our own Saskia Melhorn, U.S. Director of Knowledge Services at Norton Rose Fulbright talked about the Robot Librarian, giving examples of tools already in use that incorporate AI technology.



President Colleen Manning



Saskia Melhorn

December was marked by our annual HALL-iday Party. This year we closed down Massa's South Coast Grill in a lovely fashion.

In February, our volunteers successfully packed 375 breakfast bags for the Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston Meal on Wheels. Apparently, we were very organized (imagine that? J) and finished well ahead of the scheduled timeframe. Thank you to Mary Ann Wacker for arranging our volunteer event!

Also in February we hosted Jean Willis, who currently serves on the AALL Executive Board as Treasurer. She was delighted by the number of

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Message from the President

members who enthusiastically attended her AALL Update. While in Houston, she toured the Harris County Law Library, BlankRome LLP, and the Fred Parks Law Library. She ended her day by enjoying dinner with several HALL members at Andalucia Tapas Restaurant.

In March, I hope you were as inspired as I was by the Cash-Bail Reform presentation from Judge Darrell William Jordan, Harris County Criminal at Law No. 16. Judge Jordan fit our March meeting into his busy schedule to talk about the strides that have been made recently in cash-bail reform and how much there is left to do in Harris County and across the country.

The Board met several times this year to preform work behind the scenes, including reaffirming the membership's commitment to the adoption by Texas of the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA). Also, thank you to Richard Guajardo who worked with the Board to continually update our website.



HALL members having fun at the HALL-iday Party.

As the year (and this article) draws to an end, I think back to how it started. In July, we had record attendance at the HALL/SWALL/DALL/UNT reception in Baltimore, and of course, a good time was had by all. I hope to see many of you at this event in Washington, D.C. in July.

- Colleen Manning

HALL President

The *HALL Quarterly* is the official publication of Houston Area Law Librarians. The purpose is to communicate information to its members. Send contributions, comments and news items to Dan Donahue, Editor, at newsletter@houstonarealawlibrarians.org.

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Membership dues are \$40/year. For membership information, please visit the [HALL Membership page](#).

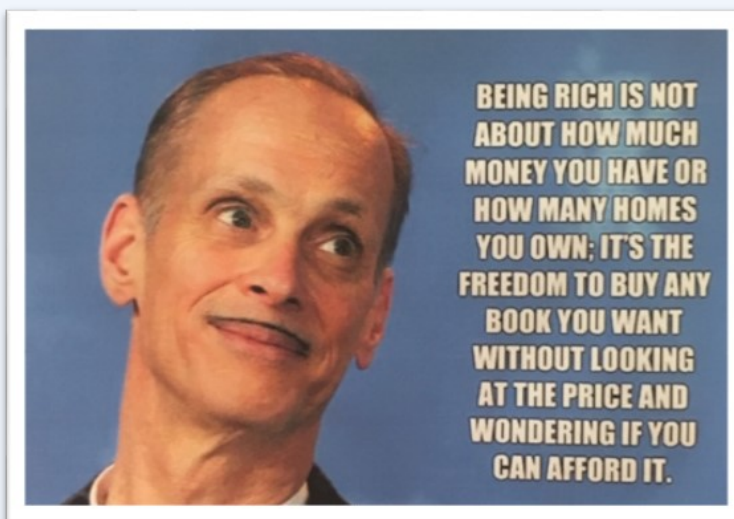
AALL 2018: A Rich Experience

By Heather Holmes

As summer approaches and we all prepare to register for the 2019 AALL Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, I'm taking some time to reflect on last year's conference in Baltimore. For starters, the weather was lousy, but the seafood was great! Every menu in town offered crab cakes, often paired with the locally produced craft brew, Raven Beer, a Baltimore favorite inspired by the city's native son, Edgar Allen Poe. I didn't imbibe the hometown suds, but I and those in my company did overindulge in the local shellfish. After four days of crab delicacies, we cried "Nevermore!"

Edgar Allen Poe wasn't the only famous Baltimorean to leave his imprint on my memory of last year's AALL Annual Meeting. The presence of John Waters, the inimitable artist, writer, filmmaker, and raconteur who is perhaps best known for his movies (Crybaby, Female Trouble, Pink Flamingos, Polyester, Serial Mom, and more) never felt far away. The opening day kicked off with an unforgettable, if irreverent, keynote presentation by Mr. Waters at the Baltimore Convention Center. Not much of what he discussed can be repeated here but suffice it to say that his address was

not the usual. His opinions were strong and his language was salty, but above all, the word I'd use to describe the incomparable John Waters keynote address is bawdy. It was full of caustic gems not appropriate for polite company, so I will point instead to a pearl of wisdom I saw posted on the shelf of a great little bookstore located just blocks from Johns Hopkins University. It said: "Being rich is not about how much money you have or how many homes you own; it's the freedom to buy any book you want without looking at the price and wondering if you can afford it." Agreed. That's what I call a healthy and reasonable aspiration. I still look at price tags when I shop for books, but I'm happy to support small, local businesses, especially those that promote the works and words of John Waters. I didn't buy any plastic pink flamingos, but I did select a book (Not a Crime to Be Poor by Peter Edelman), inspired by the educational content of the programs I attended at the conference.



Keynote Speaker John Waters

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Several programs addressed issues surrounding access to justice, especially for low-income Americans. My favorites were the following:

- *Modern-Day Debtors' Prisons: The Criminalization of Poverty and Those Who Profit From It*
- *...And Justice for All: Three States and Three Approaches to A2J Outreach*

I also attended sessions that covered the use of technology in law libraries, including

- *25 Free Technologies for Law Libraries*
- *Technology Competence in Legal Practice: Where Do Libraries Fit In?*
- *What's in the Black Box?: An Inside Look at the Algorithms for Westlaw, LexisNexis, and Fastcase*

Perhaps the best experience I had was in connecting with colleagues, those from near and far, and those familiar and new. Before joining the team at the Harris County Law Library, I was away from law librarianship for a couple of years. That short absence gave me a fresh perspective and an even greater appreciation for AALL, SWALL, and HALL. Law librarians are terrific folks who truly care about building connections, sharing resources, and helping anyone with an information need find what they're looking for. In thinking about how much I truly love law librarians and law librarianship in general, I am reminded of another John Waters gem: "Real wealth is never having to spend time with [people you don't like]." So, although I still check the price tags on potential book purchases, and by that measure, I am no financial tycoon, I am wealthy beyond

measure when it comes to spending time with colleagues I really like and who believe in the mission of law librarianship. I am so grateful to HALL for providing a generous AALL registration grant to make my attendance at last year's conference possible. I am indeed wealthy.

Oh! And Harris County Law Library won an award! I was excited to accept the award, along with HCLL colleague, Elizabeth Bolles Watson, on behalf of the library. It was a special honor to receive the award from Saskia Mehlhorn, Grants Committee Chair for PLLIP-SIS, the Special Interest Section that selected Ex



Heather Holmes (left) with Saskia Melhorn (right) and the AALL-PLLIP Blog of the Year Award (the glass star).

Libris Juris as AALL PLLIP-SIS Blog of the Year. We were all thrilled and so grateful to be recognized!

- Heather Holmes

Harris County Law

The 2019 HALL Spring Seminar: *Cybersecurity Habits for Legal Professionals*

Thank you to everyone who joined us on April 10 for the 2019 HALL Spring Seminar – *Cybersecurity Habits for Legal Professionals*. We had entertaining, engaging, and knowledgeable speakers present on best practices for legal professionals, and outline those professionals' roles of in bolstering cybersecurity. Our speakers were a diverse group of presenters that included a Law Librarian, a Computer Scientist, and a Forensic Consultant. We want to thank Casetext, the company behind CARA, the 2017 AALL New Product of the year, for their generous donation in sponsoring the Spring Seminar.

-Andre Davison

HALL Vice President



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Data Privacy Legislation: Impact on HALL Members

By Sabrina Davis

A wave of data privacy legislation has hit the United States, following in the wake of the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which took effect on May 25, 2018, and the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), which was signed by the governor on June 28, 2018 and becomes effective January 1, 2020. So far in 2019, 15 states have introduced legislation relating to information privacy in general, and 10 states have introduced bills relating to biometric data privacy. These numbers do not even include health information, workplace, or school privacy bills, among others.

This wave has led to two developments related to HALL members: (1) the creation of the HALL Ad Hoc Data Protection Committee to address the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) instruction to chapters regarding compliance with privacy regulations; and (2) the introduction of the Texas Privacy Protection Act in the legislature on March 8, 2019. Both developments are discussed in further detail below.

HALL Ad Hoc Data Protection Committee

The Committee's first meeting was held on March 20, 2019. Its initial charge was to create a privacy notice for the HALL website. At the meeting, members determined the first two steps before drafting the privacy notice would be: (1) to figure out what data HALL collects and (2) the purpose(s) of the data collected. The

committee will reconvene in one month to review this information and determine its next steps.

Committee Members: Karen Kronenberg (Chair); Sabrina Davis; Trisha Petitt; Mary Ann Wacker

Overview of the Texas Privacy Protection Act (H.B. 4390)

Although the Texas Privacy Protection Act provisions would not apply to HALL itself, it is important for us as law librarians in Texas to be aware of its potential ramifications for our employers and clients. So, who does it apply to? Under the introduced version of the bill, it applies to for-profit entities that meet the following conditions:

- Does business in Texas;
- More than 50 employees;
- Collects personal identifying information for more than 5,000 individuals; and,
- Either has an annual gross revenue exceeding \$25 million or derives at least 50% of its annual revenue "by processing personal identifying information."

The law would not completely prohibit the collection and use of personal information, but it would impose certain conditions on businesses who do so. There are two requirements with regard to collecting the information. First, collecting the information must be "relevant and necessary to accomplish the purpose for which the information was collected." [Author's personal note: I hope the

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circular nature of this statement is clarified in future renditions of the bill.] Second, the purpose for collecting the information must be “specifically disclosed.”

A separate section addresses the “processing” of personal information, as opposed to collecting it. This section imposes three conditions: (1) relevance to purpose for processing the information; (2) specific disclosure of the purpose(s); and (3) “the information is processed only to the extent necessary to achieve one or more of those purposes.” The bill contains additional provisions related to processing personal information.

The bill also contains detailed notice and privacy policy requirements, as well as a section regarding deleting personal information after an individual no longer has an account with the business collecting or processing the data. Finally, the bill provides for enforcement by the attorney general.

Conclusion

In sum, cybersecurity and data protection are currently hot topics that have the potential to affect us all. In fact, the topic of this year’s HALL Spring Institute is “Cybersecurity Habits for Law Librarians,” It will be held Wednesday, April 10, from 9 am – 12 pm at the Harris County Attorney's Office Conference Center, Harris County Law Library, 1019 Congress Street, Houston, Texas 77002. If you are planning to attend the Institute and are interested in writing a review for the HALL Newsletter, or if you have ideas for other articles, please e-mail me at sabrina.davis@nortonrosefulbright.com.

- Sabrina Davis

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HALL Meeting Minutes - February

HALL MEETING MINUTES

February 13, 2019

South Texas College of Law Library

The February HALL Meeting was called to order by President Colleen Manning at 12:00 p.m.

The November meeting minutes were approved.

Old Business: None

New Business:

The HALL board recommitted its support for UELMA in the Texas Legislature with an updated resolution in support of the bill.

The March meeting will be on March 20.

There will be no meeting in April, as the Spring Institute will be taking place.

AALL has requested that our website be brought into compliance with its new data privacy policies. We will need an updated privacy notice and an ad hoc committee will be formed to accomplish this. Colleen Manning requested volunteers for the committee.

Committee Reports:

Archives: Heather Kushnerick requested contributions for the archives.

Bylaws: Please suggest any bylaws changes you feel would benefit the group.

Community Service: The February community service project with Meals on Wheels was a great

success due to enthusiastic and organized participants.

Continuing Education: Andre Davison reports that our next meeting will be on March 20. The Spring Institute will take place on April 10. The theme of the program will be cyber security.

Government Relations: Joe Lawson expressed thanks to the board for passing the UELMA resolution. HALL has agreed to sponsor another voter registration CLE with the City Attorney's Office on March 27 from 10-12, at the Harris County Attorney Conference Center.

Membership: The committee welcomes new member Amanda Marshall from BakerHostetler.

Nominations: no report

Placement: no report

Public Relations: Please send announcements to Heather Holmes for the Facebook page, website, and newsletter.

Vendor Relations: no report

Website: no report

Announcements:

A research attorney position is open at Jackson Walker's Dallas office.

There will be a Happy Hour tonight at the House of Blues to welcome our AALL visitor, AALL treasurer, Jean Willis.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 pm.

HALL Treasurer's Report

HALL Treasurer's Report

HALL Treasurer's Report - March 20, 2019

Balance Forward		
6/1/2018		\$10,300.68
	Income	Expenses
2018-2019 Dues	\$3,031.38	
Luncheons/Receptions/ Seminars	\$2,496.72	\$2,793.82
Scholarships/Grants		
Administrative (Wild Apricot, Brinkster, Insurance)		\$635.77
Total	\$5,528.10	\$3,429.59
3/20/2019		\$12,399.19



P.O. Box 61648
Houston, Texas 77208

For the promotion of:

- Ideas
- Sharing
- Education
- Cooperation
- Resources
- Networking

Houston Area Law Librarians is a chapter of the American Association of Law Librarians.

Our monthly meetings are held at the South Texas College of Law.

We present a half-day seminar in the Fall and a full-day seminar in the Spring on legal topics. However, meetings are subject to change. Visit the [HALL Website](http://houstonarealawlibrarians.org) for more information.

There are close to 100 members of HALL. We are librarians in firms, law schools, and courts as well as vendors and Library School students.

HALL Officers

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Archives:

Heather Kushnerick

Continuing Education:

Andre Davison

Government Relations:

Joseph Lawson

Membership:

Karen Kronenburg

Community Service:

Mary Ann Wacker

Nominations:

DeCarlous Spearman

Vendor Relations:

Colleen Pincumbe

Placement:

Candice Kennington

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Richard Guajardo

Public Relations:

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