



Director's Corner

Angela T. Baldree, MLS

We have some exciting news to share with you. Effective immediately, the Franklin County Law Library will **no longer be charging overdue fines**. So often, our patrons bring back overdue books and tell us how embarrassed they are. Trust us, there is no reason to be embarrassed. You should see our overdue fines at the public libraries. We want to welcome new and previous users to the law library, so if overdue fines cause any sort of embarrassment or if they deter anyone from using the law library, we're doing away with them! This doesn't mean you get to keep the books forever, though. If books are 3 months overdue, your account will become inactive and you will not be permitted to check out any more items. We will still charge a \$50 fee for items lost or damaged. Please come in and check out a book soon. We are constantly adding to our collection.



We have begun planning Brown Bag Lunch Programs for 2017. Do you have a skill or knowledge set that your colleagues would find interesting? We would like to extend an invitation to all of you to submit ideas for future programs. **Let us know about a program you'd like to lead or an idea you have that you'd like us to explore.** The 2017 Brown Bag Lunch Program flyer should be out soon.



Legal Websites and Apps

September's Brown Bag Lunch Program

Bring your devices in and come away with suggestions for new websites and apps that will help you with your legal research needs.

Join us **Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at 12:15**. Reservations for all classes are mandatory. Call or stop by the Circulation Desk to register. Participants should bring their own brown bag lunch to the class. Participants may receive one general CLE credit. [See our flyer for more information.](#)

Lexis Advance - Advanced Class

August's Brown Bag Lunch Program

LexisNexis' next generation of legal research has arrived at the law library. With even more options to personalize, analyze, and manage legal research, the Lexis Advance solution has reached another milestone on its path to transform legal research for its customers.

This class will build on the beginner class offered in March.

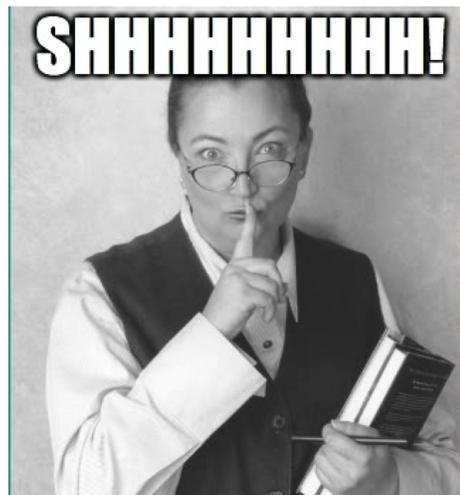
Classes will be offered on **Wednesday, September 21, 2016, at 10 am, 11:30am, 1pm, and 2:30pm**. Reservations for all classes are mandatory. Class size is limited to 8 participants. Call or stop by the Circulation Desk to register. Participants should bring their own brown bag lunch to the class. Participants may receive one general Ohio CLE credit. [See our flyer for more information.](#)

Law Library History: The Law Librarian

Jennifer D. Jones

When Ohio lawmakers passed the first statute promoting law libraries in 1872, Revised Statute § 2678, one of the provisions was that "upon the recommendation of the trustees of said association," the common pleas judges would appoint "a suitable person as special bailiff to act as librarian of such association" and fix his or her salary, which was to be paid from the county treasury (*Laws of Ohio* 69 v 165). However, at that time all statutory law library funding -- including funding for operating costs and the compensation of the librarian -- was contingent upon a city's population being at least 50,000 but under 150,000. Under the 1872 version of the statute, only Cleveland, with a population of nearly 93,000 at the time of the 1870 census, qualified (Cincinnati was too large at over 216,000 and Columbus was too small at just over 31,000 -- see [1870 Census Data](#)). By 1873, a supplement to the law included Cincinnati.

When the Columbus Law Library Association elected its first librarian in 1894, the statute had already changed several times and Columbus had grown. In 1894, association librarians in Hamilton, Cuyahoga, and Franklin Counties were all eligible for compensation from the county. Then, in 1904, the statute changed for the sixth time and eliminated restrictions based on population. The common pleas judges of "any county" that had or may in the future have a law library serving the courts and county officials were to appoint a law librarian and fix his or her salary. Also in 1904, though, the amended statute limited the law librarian's salary to no more than \$500 per year "in counties where not more than one judge of the court of common pleas holds regular terms of court" (*Laws of Ohio* 97 v 72). This salary restriction affecting smaller counties was in place for over 90 years; it was not removed from the law until 1996. However, beginning in 1957, law librarians were allowed to have up to two assistants who were also paid from the county treasury (see various versions of Ohio Rev. Code § 3375.48 from 1957-2009).



Even though Ohio statutes, it seems, had guaranteed that law librarians serving county courts and officials would be compensated for their services, law librarians sometimes faced financial challenges. For example, in 1895, the commissioners refused to pay the salary of the first librarian of the Columbus Law Library Association after his appointment (though the common pleas judges likely authorized payments later on). And in 1937, the Board of Trustees of the Columbus Law Library Association ordered "the Clerk and the President [of the Association]...to take up with the County Commissioners the matter of the restoration of the salary cuts heretofore put into effect as to Rudolph Wittenmeier," who was the second librarian of the Association from 1920-1947 (CLLA Minutes, January 23, 1937).

Revised Statute § 2678, which provided for law library funding and law librarians' salaries for over a century, was repealed effective December 31, 2009. On January 1, 2010, law library associations became county agencies and law librarians became -- officially -- county employees.

Importance of Conferences

Angela T. Baldree, MLS

Summer seems to be the time for library conferences. I spent a week in Chicago at the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) Annual Meeting. Conferences are a great way to reconnect with colleagues and get inspiration for future endeavors. One session hearkened back to a previous article I wrote on Presidential Libraries. Blair Kamin, the Architectural Critic for the Chicago Tribune, spoke about the preparations going into the Obama Presidential Library. Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects, a husband and wife partnership out of New York City, has been selected to design the library. John Laster, the Director of the Presidential Materials Division of the National Archives, also spoke. His division will receive every piece of paper, email, phone recording, etc. from the Obama Administration as soon as the next president is sworn in and then spends the next several years

cataloging them and getting them ready for the library.

Last month the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) met in Columbus. More than 5000 librarians from 145 countries gathered here. I was so proud the Franklin County Law Library, through the Columbus Law Library Association, could support this conference. I was also one of more than 400 volunteers for the program. Can you spot me in the photo? Look for the green circle.



During the program on Access to Justice, speakers from Nigeria, Croatia, and Turkey joined speakers from the U.S. to discuss the how law libraries, public libraries, and government entities need to work together to provide access to legal resources. The Director of the Singapore National Library Board shared during a session on Evaluating the Worth of the Library that the Singapore Government strives to have a library no more than 20 minutes from all of their 5.5 million citizens.

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