



January 1, 2019

Director's Corner

Angela T. Baldree, MLS

Soon several local politicians will peacefully transfer power to someone who bested them in a hard-fought race or someone who will fill their vacant position. It is one of my favorite parts of this democratic experiment of ours. One such person vacating his position is Judge Charles Schneider. Judge Schneider has been a tireless advocate for all of Ohio's county law libraries, but especially the Franklin County Law Library, for years. In July, 1981, he became the Secretary/Treasurer of the Columbus Law Library, a position he still holds today. He is also Chair of the Franklin County Law Library and the Chair of the Statewide Consortium of Ohio County Law Libraries.

On a more personal note, he is the reason I am Director of the Franklin County Law Library. I was happily serving as the Director of the Lake County Law Library for 12 years when I was asked by Judge Schneider to consider moving to Columbus. I politely said, "No thank you." But I learned one does not say "No" to Judge Schneider. He said, "Just come and meet the board." That meeting led to a complete upheaval in my life, but one I am so glad I made. The day after I scheduled that meeting with the board, my father passed away unexpectedly. One week after his funeral, I had that meeting and accepted my new position. I am convinced that Judge Schneider changed not only my professional life but also my personal life. By being forced to get off the couch, find tenants for my house, find an apartment in Columbus, and get packing, I was able to move through my grief and thrive with a new experience - one for which I know my father would have been proud.

While he will be missed on the bench, I am happy to know Judge Schneider will continue to work for and with Ohio's county law libraries and most especially the Franklin County Law Library. Thank you, Sir, for all you do.

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Please accept my apology for the typo in last month's newsletter regarding the Working with Sovereign Citizens Brown Bag Lunch program. The correct date for the program will be **WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019**, from 12:15 until 1:15. Several people have already registered for the program, so if you're interested in attending, you should contact us

soon. A complete list of programs for the months January through June can be found [here](#).



Law Library Closures

December 31, 2018 - New Year's Eve

January 1, 2019 - New Year's Day

January 21, 2019 - Martin Luther King, Jr Day

Setting up a Network for Small Law Offices

January's Brown Bag Lunch Program

Steve Stultz, owner of SQ Systems, will give information on setting up and maintaining your own network. ABA RPC 1.6(c) addresses the efforts attorneys should make to prevent inadvertent disclosure of client information. Creating and maintaining a secure network is the way to do that. Steve will talk about equipment and software necessary to fulfill this need. These skills will also help the attorneys safe-keep client information and/or property that might be stored on their computers (Rule 1.15).



Join us on **Wednesday, January 9, 2019**, from 12:15 until 1:15. Class size is strictly limited to 24. Reservations are required. Anyone without reservations may be turned away. Participants may receive one general CLE credit.

Law Library History: Lou Celebrates 30 Years

Jennifer Jones



On December 14, 1988, the Board of the Columbus Law Library Association unanimously approved a motion to purchase a life-size skeleton and name it Lou in recognition of a retiring board member, Louis Gerber. Many of you have been greeted by Lou as you enter the library, but you are probably not aware of how controversial such purchases were for law libraries before the 1980s.

In 1977, the board received a proposal from a local attorney who wanted to organize a committee to arrange the purchase of trial aids for the law library's collection; however, "the Board concluded the expenditure of law library funds to provide trial aids such as skeletons, cadavers, etc. was not an authorized activity" (minutes of May 11, 1977). At that time, under Ohio Revised Code §3375.54, law libraries' public funding was to be expended on "lawbooks and in maintenance of such law library association." Because the statute explicitly mandated that the law library was to purchase books—and not other materials such as tapes, computers,

visual aids, etc.—the library was hesitant to purchase trial aids.

Effective January 15, 1981, Ohio Revised Code §3375.54 was amended to include computers, microform, various audio and visual resources, and the equipment associated with those resources. Yet the board was still hesitant in their approval of certain purchases, questioning whether the purchase of “various demonstrative evidence aids for lawyers to be used in trial” was “proper for the Association” (minutes of July 6, 1983).

By the end of the 1980s, the board was no longer hesitant to make such purchases, as indicated by the addition of Lou to the collection. Overall, throughout the 1980s, law libraries were making resources available in multiple formats and introducing computerized research. For many of us, the 1980s signified increased access to various electronic resources; however, the decade also marked the increased availability of trial aids. As a result, the Franklin County Law Library now has several anatomical models available to attorney patrons.

Franklin County Law Library

369 S. High Street, 10th Floor

Columbus, OH 43215

614.525.4971

info-fcll@franklincountyohio.gov

lawlibrary.franklincountyohio.gov

