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President's Message

—*Patricia Barbone*

Since our childhood days, the Fall has always been a time of new beginnings. New friends, new classes, new activities. If you are a librarian in a law school or law firm, this sense of starting anew in September has carried over into your work culture. I, too, feel a rising sense of anticipation which is heightened this year with my new duties as LLAGNY President. Although this newsletter is the Summer 2010 issue, it will be read well into September and in what I like to call LLAGNY ‘season.’ Our Fall Soiree, the new members reception, will be on October 19th. Details will be announced via email. Our first educational program will be on September 29th and boasts of an exciting new partnership with Practising Law Institute.

What are my goals for the coming year? I have three basic goals for my term. The first is to devote as much energy as possible to Education Programs. Many of you may not be aware that LLAGNY gets its not-for-profit status based on our educational mission. We are trying to use a longer time line to plan for programs. Some of our initiatives will not take place until 2011 and beyond, but we are structuring it so that we always have programs in the works. We will also explore the idea of proposing programs to AALL as a chapter. We are entering into an exciting new relationship with the Practising Law Institute to bring educational webinars to LLAGNY members. Vice President Caren Biberman is beginning plans for educational programming that will partner with other library organizations. As always your feedback is important, and you don't have to be involved in order to contribute your ideas. Just funnel them to the Committee or me. On the other hand, the door to getting involved is always open. If you have a limited time, consider volunteering for one Educational program.

The second goal is communication. You will see me posting a lot more on the llagny listserv and send more messages via llagny-

announce. For those of you that attended the June Dinner, you know that I have established a LLAGNY Twitter Account and we also have a LLAGNY LinkedIn page. Our Public Relations Committee has been charged with promoting LLAGNY in new and different ways, and one of those ways will be to create press releases announcing noteworthy LLAGNY news.

The third is planning. You will see me setting dates for key events well in advance. For example the date and location of the June Dinner has already been set! (Wednesday, June 1, 2011). Every time we finalize a date, we plan to include it on the Calendar of Events listed on LLAGNY’s website. Successful planning is the key to getting things done, and things always take longer than you think.

As we begin the Fall, there is some good news on the horizon. Despite the uncertainty in the economy, we are seeing more positions returning to the listservs and websites that post library jobs. I hope that trend will continue. We are also seeing more vendors approaching LLAGNY to sponsor events. They know that LLAGNY has the target audience to showcase their products, and have seen that a successful partnership with us is a win-win.

Although it seems with the Fall things are just beginning, our new and returning Committee Chairs have been hard at work behind the scenes all summer long. In closing I would like to welcome our new Chairs and Co-Chairs: Megan Scanlon and Tracy Paler, Corporate Sponsorship; Jacob Sayward and Jennifer Wertkin, Law Lines; Rosalinda Rupel, Membership; Yasmin Alexander, Outreach Committee; and Patricia Kasting, Public Relations. I encourage you to join our new and returning Chairs and get involved in LLAGNY activities. They can be contacted via our website. Volunteering is a wonderful way to develop and energize your career. ■



New Format, New Editors

—Margaret (Meg) Butler

Associate Director for Public Services

Georgia State University College of Law Library

I am very excited about the current issue. The team of Law Lines continues to grow, with new editors joining the ranks. I am sorry that, due to my new job in Georgia, I will not be able to participate more regularly with Law Lines, but I am confident that the new editorial staff will continue to reach out to the community of law librarians in the greater New York area and include their contributions in our publication.

First, I would like to thank and welcome Jacob Sayward, Serials Librarian at Fordham University Law Library, and Jennifer Wertkin, Reference Librarian at Columbia Law School's Diamond Law Library, as the co-editors of Law Lines. Though the theme for this issue was decided before they graciously agreed to take on the mantle of editor, they have done a great job--meeting with writers, offering encouragement, and planning for the next issue!

I would also like to recognize our new art director: Bacilio Mendez. A recent graduate of Pratt, Bacilio is now a first-year law student at New York Law School. He has brought his tremendous design skills to LLAGNY.

Though I will not be participating actively as a regular writer, I plan to seek out the issues as they are announced! ■



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Major Milestones

PERSONAL

Marjorie & Ray Jassin, of Law Library Management, Incorporated, became first time grandparents with the birth of Colin Michael Comi on November 6, 2009.

PROFESSIONAL

Caren Biberman, Director of Library and Information Services at Cahill Gordon & Reindell LLP, has been appointed to the PLL Education Committee. Caren has also become a Contributing Editor to the Law Librarian Blog .

Christina Rosas has been promoted to Director of Client Relations at Portfolio Media, Inc. In this role, Christina will have the responsibility for all sales and customer service related to subscriptions. Christina, who is nearing her five-year mark with Portfolio Media, started in a part-time customer-service position and earned her way up the old-fashioned way: through dedication, professionalism and hard work. She is looking forward to working with all law librarians again on a broader spectrum!



Nancy Rine, Fried Frank; Patricia Barbone, LLAGNY President; and Lucy Curci-Gonzalez, Kenyon & Kenyon at The Ritz-Carlton, Battery Park.

Member Photos, Annual



Lisa Watkins, Davis Polk; Audrey Evans; Davis Polk; and Joe Florio, Davis Polk at The Ritz-Carlton, Battery Park.



Jill Gray, Dewey LeBouef and Joann Doria, Proskauer Rose
at The Ritz-Carlton, Battery Park.

LLAGNY Dinner, The Ritz-Carlton

—John Lai, Shearman & Sterling LLP



Justine Kalka, DLA Piper; Carol Barra, LexisNexis; Janice Henderson, Lovells;
and Susan Hesse, Wachtell Lipton at The Ritz-Carlton, Battery Park.



Library School Perspectives:

To work or not to work while pursuing an MLS, that is the question. A very liberal taking from our friend W. Shakespeare, but that is definitely my dilemma in library school. With a wide variety of students from a wide variety of backgrounds, the “working class” covers the gamut: from unpaid part-time internships to career-making, full-time jobs. And what are my concerns? I am enjoying my classes and being able to focus solely on my studies, yet still guilt-ridden over quitting my job in January so I could attend library school full time. So I torture my classmates with questions galore in the hopes that I can find some peace of mind over my decision. I watch as my credit score creeps down each time I apply for my student loans and I try to coax more money out of my bank account, which just laughs at me, and I wonder whether the networking trade-off and focused studying is worth the zero bank balance. Particularly when I look at a can of cat food and wonder if I can give half to my cat and eat the other half myself? My husband rolls his eyes when I mention the fiscal responsibility in splitting food with the cat.

But...I thoroughly enjoyed my Medical Informatics course this summer. I have learned something from every course I have taken in school. While I may never be a medical

... can I
reconcile
taking the
1½ years
off from
working so
that I can
get my
master's
degree?



A View from the Classroom

—Johanna Blakely-Bourgeois, Pratt SILS

librarian, I realized that I absolutely loved learning about infectious diseases and I had a glorious chance to relive my microbiology teaching days from college. Even better, we had no group projects. Yay!

I like many of my classmates at Pratt and I love to hear about their art/music/curator/archive librarianship dreams. But it begs the question: In a high-paced world like ours, can I reconcile taking the 1½ years off from working so that I can get my master's degree? There are definite plusses to a student's schedule: no rush hour commutes, leisurely coffee at a café, meeting a classmate for lunch. The minuses are glaring, of course: no money and no routine or colleagues, which, I must admit, I miss as well. With federal loans in place, I am far from destitute. But at this age, it is an odd feeling to be a student once again, having to pinch pennies. I remember when I eagerly left those years behind and enjoyed my first years of professional growth and earning money while I carved out a career. Now, in the midst of my career transition, I am still coming to terms with feeling like a temporary financial burden on my family.

I listen to my peers, some of whom are working in restaurants and bars in the evenings while working unpaid internships or graduate assistant positions, others who are

working full time in libraries already (those lucky few!) and are given a flexible schedule to accommodate classes. Many of these students are essentially "part-time", and the trade off is that it will take them longer to get their degree. So the equation boils down to this: part-time work but longer school time for the master's degree, or full-time studies and shorter school time for the master's degree. Since I am the "pull the band-aid off in one yank" kind of person – let's get it done and move on – the best solution for me is the one I chose: full time student, if poor again, with the goal of graduation by May 2011. I admire the students who are working full time, and I especially envy those who are already working in the library of their chosen field (although those are few), but I am relishing the few months I have to focus my studies, explore librarianship options, and talk to my classmates about all the different kinds of fields that are open to us now, not just in libraries, but also in information technology fields. And if these student-focused days are a brief respite from reality, they are rich in interaction with the creative arts world, learning new technologies, and reacquainting myself with presenting my work in front of an audience. I don't mind walking by the Coach store and . . . window shopping . . . for the moment. ■

meeting, and TimeBridge will send out emails to your attendees, asking them to indicate their availability on the TimeBridge site. Once everyone has responded TimeBridge schedules the meeting and sends out a confirmation email. The service also integrates with your Outlook or Google calendar.

RESEARCH WEBSITE

SearchEngineColossus
<http://www.searchenginecolossus.com>



Search Engine Colossus is an international directory of Search Engines, and it can be looked upon as an effort to give the internet “structure”. This WWW roadmap allows surfers to efficiently gain access to the far reaches of the net!

It is hoped that visitors will have an infor-

60 Sites — Abridged

This month we will continue our survey by focusing on one organizational tool, one research website, two travel sites and one site that is strictly for fun.

ORGANIZATIONAL TOOL

TimeBridge
<http://www.timebridge.com/home>



TimeBridge is a web application that makes it incredibly easy to schedule and lead great meetings—and to follow up after you meet. Think of this tool as your calendar-wrangling, agenda-making, note-taking, team-motivating secret weapon in the battle against workplace inefficiency.

TimeBridge makes it simple to schedule a meeting with others. Just select a few dates for your

mative, fascinating internet surfing experience as they gain better understanding of their fellow world citizens.

Search Engine Colossus first went online in April 1998, and it bills itself as a one-stop website that lists popular search engines in over 300 countries and territories around the world. This is beneficial, as research is becoming more international.

Search Engine Colossus originates from Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada.

TRAVEL SITES

FlightStats.com
<http://www.flightstats.com/go/Home/home.do>



This website has a wealth of information for travelers including flight delays, security

line wait times, shortest scheduled flight duration between most airports, and much more.

I know this is one my brother-in-law uses frequently along with FareCast on Bing (<http://www.bing.com/travel>). He is always asking me if I have checked here.

FlightStats is a product of Conducive Technology Corp., a leading provider of worldwide flight on-time performance information to the global travel and transportation industries. The platform delivers real-time and historical flight information designed to lower travel-related costs and improve the travel experience. With unique products that can deliver value at each stage of a travel transaction, to both business and consumer audiences, FlightStats is poised to benefit as travel management evolves.

Its roots trace back to 1993, with the formation of Sight and Sound, a web company that enjoyed a long-term relationship with American Airlines. This relationship resulted in the development of numerous Web-based travel applications, in-

traveling disasters. The site also includes reviews of cruises, cruise ships, etc.

FUN

SITE

RetailMeNot

<http://www.retailmenot.com>



I do not know about the rest of you but when I buy something on the internet I really dislike passing over that “enter coupon code here” and leaving it blank -- I wish I could get a discount on my online purchase. Now with RetailMeNot you can enter a coupon code at just about any retail site you visit. Just enter the name of the site (Amazon, Victoria’s Secret, Papa Johns Pizza, etc.) and you will get a listing of recent codes that will give you discounts on certain types of orders. It is a great way to save money on your online purchases. ■

5 Sites Per Newsletter

—*Gayle Lynn-Nelson, LexisNexis*

cluding the reservation engine upon which the American Airlines website was built. The knowledge gained at American was translated into the BookSmart booking engine, which was deployed by major airlines such as Air Canada and Aer Lingus. In May 2000, Sight & Sound was acquired by Dublin-based Datalex plc.

TripAdvisor.com
<http://www.tripadvisor.com>



I love this website and use it all the time when I am planning a vacation. It is one of the best websites to find up-to-the-minute travel information, not from the airline itself, but from fellow travelers. I especially like their “real-person” reviews of hotels, which have saved me and my husband from several

... try to
leverage
your
current
skills and
experience
to work
in a
different
type of
library ...

Every law library environment has its special skill set requirements. "Able to leap tall buildings in a single bound" is not usually on the published list (although the hiring person may be thinking it loudly), but there are usually some criteria that reflect the venue along with the specifics of the job. Law firms tend to want reference people who can juggle multiple tasks, prioritize well, work under pressure while maintaining civility, and complete assignments relatively quickly. Academic law libraries tend to be more interested in people who hold J.D.s or other subject graduate degrees, and who can publish and contribute to professional organizations as well as handle their library duties.

Every law library has people doing a variety of job tasks. Some librarians spend all their time in front of computer screens adding information to databases and others spend time searching for information in databases and some do both. Some librarians spend a lot of their time on the phone, talking to vendors or to library users or to other administrative departments in the same organization. Many librarians spend lots of time in meetings. Many spend time every day teaching--either in a group setting or one-on-one. Some librarians do it all everyday.

No matter what we do and where we do it, we librarians tend to share some kind of organizational bent combined with an appetite for finding answers or

... And Now For Something

devising solutions. Exactly how we go about the finding or devising has varied over the years, but a lot of what we do requires an understanding of how relevant information is generated, how various systems receive, organize and publish it, and then how our constituents are likely to need and use it. As we gain experience and knowledge, we discern patterns and links that may not be obvious to others that help us find our answers or solutions. So in our line of work, there's a real bonus to exploring different types of information territory, even when the effort doesn't seem to apply to an immediate need. We are still 'just in case' people, even though much of our society has moved to a 'just in time' information-seeking model.

You may have decided that you like what you do and the kind of library in which you do it. If so, that's great! But I'm here to tell you not to get too comfortable; things can and will change. Your work environment may change in a way that the work you do is no longer valued, or it may disappear altogether. From a career standpoint, the more varied your experience and skills in your skill set, the more attractive you are likely to be to employers, and the more career options you will have. If we are truly 'just in case' people, then all the more reason to be exploring alternate library jobs and venues. Law Lines is about to help you do that by offering some "Day in the Life" features this year.

In the meantime, as someone with decades of varied law library experience in different types of libraries, my advice is to regularly push yourself to get outside your comfort zone; it's rarely fun, but it's often rewarding. If nothing else, you learn more about your own interests, values and capabilities, which will help you, make better career decisions in the future.

If asked to take on a new area of responsibility about which you know little, DO IT. Chances to grow your position may not come along everyday. You may like the new role. If not, you have still added to your skill set and to your resume.

Anytime you have a chance to learn a new skill--even if not directly related to your job responsibilities right now--DO IT. You never know where it might lead you later on.

When the time is right, try to leverage your current skills and experience to work in a different type of library or perform different information tasks.

If there are no prospects for adding skills or responsibilities in your current job and you need to stay in it for economic reasons, think about volunteering some time to LLAGNY and develop new skills that way. Network with your colleagues and find out about their libraries and their jobs. Or you can do it vicariously by reading the 'Day in the Life' articles to come.

What you will probably discover is that we are the same, only different. ■

Completely Different! (Not!)

—Kit Kreilick

Temporary Reference Librarian, Brooklyn Law School Library

An Inside Look at My Summer Fieldwork at the New York County District Attorney's Office

—*Timothy Gallina*

Dun-Dun.

With the familiar sound of Law & Order racing through my head, I stepped into the office of the New York County District Attorney (“DANY”). But this was more than a visit to the real-life setting of one of my favorite television shows: I would be spending the next three weeks working as an intern at the DANY library. I was not quite sure what to expect, but I was confident that it would be an eventful summer.

My journey to the DANY library began nearly 3,000 miles away in Seattle. As a library school student at the University of Washington, I needed to complete a directed fieldwork project as part of my degree requirements. Having spent my entire life in the Tri-State area prior to my West Coast relocation, New York City was an ideal destination. The opportunity to work at the DANY library appealed to me instantly. I felt it would be an exciting and interesting challenge to learn about the inner workings of a government institution before beginning my career as an academic law librarian. After completing my coursework in

Seattle (as well as an illuminating visit to the AALL conference in Denver), I headed to the Big Apple to start my fieldwork. I was eager to work on some non-traditional research projects and, on this front, the DANY library exceeded my expectations.

In a bustling metropolis like New York City, district attorneys are faced with numerous sophisticated criminal enterprises. Effective and efficient access to all relevant information is paramount to building compelling cases against defendants. The DANY library monitors many potential avenues of information, including emerging social media. During my first week at the library, I explored multiple social media platforms, ranging from the well established (Twitter, Facebook) to the up-and-coming (Blippr), to determine if they could be of value to the office’s investigations. In addition to providing an insightful glimpse into the future of information sharing, this assignment helped me gain a greater understanding of the potential of social media. This knowledge will be particularly pertinent in the world of academia, where law libraries are rapidly increasing their social media presence.

After completing my initial project, I spent the remainder of my fieldwork tackling a diverse array of research questions. One morning, a request for information on littering regulations led me into the Byzantine world of the New York City Health Code. An afternoon was spent assisting with preparation for a criminal justice symposium that featured an all-star cast of law enforcement officials, including New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., New York City Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly and retired Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals Judith Kaye. Other research topics included illegal street vending at Ground Zero, background information on expert witnesses and predicate felony convictions for out-of-state crimes. I also sat in on a series of CLE lectures on important topics such as evidence presumptions and the use of confidential informants. At the end of each day, I had learned something new about the criminal justice system.

Although I enjoyed each assignment, one particular project stood out above the rest. Prior to his testimony in a murder trial, an expert witness for the prosecution requested informa-

tion on notorious serial killer Richard Speck. Working with Mary Matuszak, the Director of the DANY library, I helped gather a number of articles and video clips on Speck and was even able to find a television special about his crimes on YouTube (social media strikes again!). After locating the requested information, I ventured into the courtroom to watch the expert's testimony. My ears immediately perked up when the witness referenced some of the information that we had assembled. I continued to follow the case to its conclusion – a guilty verdict. As I left the courtroom, I felt a sense of satisfaction from seeing our research applied in the setting of an actual criminal case.

While my time at the DANY library was brief, the experience that I gained will serve me well as I embark on a career in law librarianship. There is no substitute for practical experience, and during my fieldwork I was able to research a wide variety of legal topics. I was also fortunate to receive helpful guidance from my co-workers – Mary Matuszak, Alexa Robertson and Amy Anstett. Moving forward, I can use the valuable lessons learned at the DANY library to confront the unique challenges that I will encounter as a new librarian. ■

When the Law Lines committee decided to devote an issue to tattoos, one of my colleagues remarked that in his day, "tattoos were associated with criminals." He is right. The Greeks and Romans tattooed slaves and criminals to prevent their escape¹. Similarly, prisoners transported from Britain to Australia were often tattooed as a way of shaming them. In 1720, the Japanese stopped amputating the ears and noses of criminal defendants and began tattooing them instead.. Even today, the average Japanese associates tattoos with the Japanese mafia². These days tattoos are associated with the Russian mob as well. Tattoos are no longer relegated to the fringes of society, however. Doctors, lawyers and, yes, librarians have them too. In 1936, Life Magazine estimated that 6 percent of Americans had one or more tattoos. In 2000, National Geographic increased that estimate to 15 percent. By 2006, the Academy of Dermatology found that nearly 24 percent of Americans

between the ages of 18 and 50 had at least one tattoo³.

Even though tattoos are now more mainstream, they frequently play a part in the outcome of criminal cases. For instance, the presence of tattoos has been held to constitute probable cause for arrest. Thus, in People v. Parker, 50 A.D.3d 603 (1st Dept. 2008), officers observed that an individual they had detained had a tattoo that appeared to match that of a wanted robbery suspect. And, in People v. Spruill, 299 A.D.2d 374 (2nd Dept. 2002), evidence of the alteration of a tattoo was used to show consciousness of guilt.

Most commonly, tattoos are relevant in cases that turn on identification of the defendant. Thus, courts have found that it was proper for the People to introduce records containing a description of a defendant's tattoos (People v. Marrero, 23 A.D.2d 546 [1st Dept 1965]), and have allowed a witness to testify that the defendant had a scar on his cheek and a tattoo on his arm. People v. James 90 A.D.2d 920 (3rd Dept. 1982).

Defendants have argued that a witness's failure to include tattoos in a description of the perpetrator can be used to disprove identification. See e.g., People v. Jiminez, 36 A.D.3d 962 (3rd Dept. 2007) (defendant maintained that because the witnesses to the robbery failed to observe tattoos on his hand and neck, he could not have been their assailant). In People v. Diaz, 53 A.D.2d 587 (1st Dept. 1976), the defendant won a new trial where the officer's description of the perpetrator included a tattoo on his

right arm, but failed to mention tattoos on the chest and left arm – that were evident on the defendant. In People v. Jiminez, 22 A.D.3d 423 (1st Dept. 2005), lineup photos showed that the defendant and the fillers all wore a band-aid under their left eye, providing additional proof that the identification was not based upon the defendant's distinctive under-eye tattoo.

Frequently, a defendant will seek to exhibit his tattoos to the jury, as in People v. Brown, 44 A.D.3d 965 (2nd Dept. 2007) where the defendant

A Brief Overview of Tattoo Law

Mary Matuszak

sought to do so for the purpose of disproving identification. There, court denied the application since the defendant had offered no proof that he had such tattoos on the date of the crime. Similar circumstances led to the identical result in *People v. Rodriguez*, 64 N.Y.2d 738, 741 (1984) and *People v. Miles*, 8 A.D.3d 758, 760-761 (3rd Dept. 2004).

Photographs of a defendant's tattoos can be admitted as part of the People's case to show the defendant's physical appearance at the time of the incident or at the time of arrest. See *People v. Baez*, 131 A.D.2d 687 (2nd Dept. 1987).

In that case, one of the complainants and the arresting officer testified that the perpetrator had numerous tattoos on his arms and torso. A photograph of the defendant, taken after his arrest, was offered to show the defendant's appearance at the time of the robbery.

Tattoo evidence is also used in court to prove motive and intent. Thus, in *People v. Lyons*, 106 A.D.2d 471, 472 (2nd Dept. 1984), the prosecution argued that the defendant sold drugs to pay for a tattoo. In *People v. Washington*, 9 A.D.3d 499, 501 (3rd Dept. 2004), a tattoo was probative of the defendant's membership in a gang,

his relationship with the murder victim who was also a gang member, and his level of commitment to the gang. In *People v. Slavin*, 1 N.Y.3d 392, 394-95 (2004), the Court allowed photographs of the defendant's white supremacist tattoos as evidence of a hate crime in the beating of two Mexican day laborers. And, in *People v. Wagner*, 27 A.D.3d 671 (2nd Dept. 2006), the court found that that type of tattoo was relevant as to motive and intent to commit harassment. For an in-depth discussion of tattoo evidence as a means of establishing motive and intent, see the appellate briefs to the Court of Appeals in *People v. Slavin*, *supra*⁴.

As with other types of evidence, courts must balance the probative value of tattoo evidence against its potential for unfair prejudice to the defendant. Thus, in *People v. Suarez*, 298 A.D.2d 218 (1st Dept. 2002), the defendant argued that the tattoo reflected in a proffered photograph unduly prejudiced him because jurors could recognize it as a symbol of criminality. The court denied Suarez's request on the ground that it was speculative to assume the jurors would so determine. In *People v. Herr*, 203 A.D.2d 927

¹ www.tattoo-gallery.org/history-of-tattoos.html

² www.artelino.com/articles/japanese_tattoo_art.asp

³ Tattoo INC., Arizona Republic *7/14/10

⁴ 2004 WL 3464588

Law Librarian Ink

—James Nastasi, Librarian with Kelley Drye & Warren LLP
and Jenna Wanamaker, Library Assistant with Paul Hastings



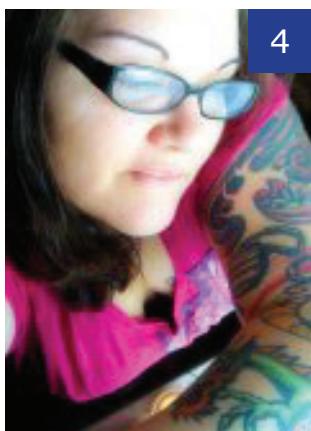
1



2



3



4

1. As a librarian, I felt some pressure to have at least one in the "literary" column, hence the So it goes from Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse 5*. That's on the inside of my left forearm. Whenever I meet someone who knows the quote, there's an instant (nerdy) connection. Last week, a bookstore clerk told me it was her senior quote under her high school yearbook picture.

2. There's the elephant on the inside of my right forearm, which is in memory of my Grandmother. She collected elephant statues, sculptures, & figurines. It was tough to walk through her house without stubbing your toe on one or knocking one off a shelf. It's the only one my Mom likes.

3. The phoenix is on my left shoulder. It's my only color piece, and probably the only "impulse" tattoo I have. I just loved the drawing.

4. Jenna Wanamaker

WHY DON'T YOU COVER UP? —Jenna Wanamaker

At the age of thirty-two, you would think that I'd have the majority of my life figured out and a game plan set into action for my future endeavors. That is so far from the truth and actuality of things, that I truly believe every adult I knew while growing up was simply "winging it" and merely "getting by." As I sit here, thinking of what I should divulge, I've come to realize that I have more artwork on my body than that which hangs on the walls of my apartment. While most of my friends have ventured off to travel the world, find their dream career, or start a family, I have just now decided to go back to school, focus on a career, and still not start a family.

The past thirty-two years have taught me much more than I could have imagined, much more than I was prepared for, and a lot of things that I have tucked away, hoping to forget. I felt the exhaustion that I only witnessed on my parents faces, I felt the heartache that one endures when love fails, I began to understand what people meant when they said "life happens," and I came to find what agony and grief felt like when one bears a great loss. Thirty-two years in and I'm still learning, I'm still unprepared, and yet I still eagerly await the next chapter.

Getting back to point, as you can imagine, I am often stopped by the usual stranger that questions my tattoo, or one of the fifteen. Sometimes I am condemned for my choice of body art with a mere glance of a complete stranger, or see parents point at me, as to warn their children what not to do to their own body. All of which make me scratch my head in the disbelief that we are living in the 21st century and the choice of decorating my skin is still as taboo as the Roe vs. Wade case, or Rosa Parks's defiance in 1955. One would think that we have come a long way in what is deemed socially acceptable and what is not. Alas, that is far from the truth, as people are still judged based on appearance, more so than their moral fiber, values, personality, or intelligence. I find it disheartening that I am judged based on what is on or in my skin, rather than in my head.

Most employers don't allow you to blatantly display your body art (i.e., piercings, tattoos and the like) in the office, so for the most part I have learned to hide behind sweaters and long sleeve blouses. Yes, even in the summer months when the humidity is 110% and the temperature is above 90. So when I do venture out of the office, I am usually eager to shed as much of my clothing as permitted, thus leaving me open to the often asked question of why I don't cover myself? To which I reply; "why don't you?" I was never the one to hold her tongue and often I offend, but if someone were to indirectly offend me, why am I not allowed to directly offend them? Situations such as these leave me wanting to scream "I WAS COVERED UP! ALL DAY," but then they are only asking out of curiosity and ignorance, not spite. Of course it's uncomfortable; of course it's aggravating, and yes, its discrimination. I do believe that just because I choose to decorate my body with vibrant colors, does not make me less capable of doing my job. It does not leave me incapable of social interaction. And it definitely does not make me less of a human being.

I have decided to mark my body with reminders of crucial events that have made me the woman I am today. With every obstacle conquered, another tattoo came. With every loss or heartache, another tattoo came. And when an accomplishment occurred that I never expected to achieve, another tattoo came. Before I knew it, I had a myriad of little reminders. My emotional scars and greatest accomplishments became vibrant designs that have been captured forever. Instead of digging through a box and searching for a photo or letter, I simply look in the mirror and smile. I take pride in being the furthest from typical and relish in being utterly unique. ■

My Conference Experience:

The 2010 Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado, provided me with wonderful opportunities and experiences. This year I focused on developing my pedagogical skills—I was inspired by my participation in the Boulder Conference on the Pedagogy of Legal Research, which I attended just prior to the Annual Meeting. LLAGNY's travel grant supported my attendance at the Conference and the Annual Meeting, and I am hoping to share some of the things I learned.

The program D-5, Starting Off on the Right Track: Avoiding Mistakes Common to New (and Not-so-New) Instructors, was particularly useful. It addressed common mistakes made by new teachers and suggested

alternatives and practices that would remedy those mistakes. In their program, the speakers modeled their suggestions. For example, the speakers suggested asking students for interim feedback during the semester. This enables students to communicate aspects of the class that are working well for them, and it enables the instructor to identify areas of improvement—while the students may still benefit. The speakers modeled one strategy for soliciting feedback by having the audience note three things that worked about the presentation and three things that could be improved.

LLAGNY member Sarah Valentine joined two other Boulder Conference participants and summarized the work of the Boulder Conference participants in the workshop E2: The Boulder Statement: Creating a Signature Pedagogy for Legal Research Education. At the first Boulder Conference, the participants developed the Boulder Statement. The second Boulder Conference participants began creating a

“Signature Pedagogy” for legal research instruction. This is an ongoing process that we are still discussing that will hopefully reflect the values of the community of professional librarians teaching legal research.

I spoke on program G-1: Navigating Your Way to the Classroom with the goal of helping those who are hoping to propose new legal research courses. My portion of the program addressed considerations when preparing a syllabus and generating teaching goals for students. The G-1 program materials that are available on the AALL2Go site convey the information that I presented during the program. The program materials included even greater detail than I was able to include in my presentation, including a list of electron-



Boulder and AALL, 2010

—Margaret (Meg) Butler

Associate Director for Public Services

Georgia State University College of Law Library

ic resources that would help a new teacher develop a new course. The other speakers in the program described their own experiences in the classroom and

Ryan Harrington coordinated a helpful program about teaching legal research in the context of law school clinics. The speakers described the ways that a librarian can participate in a course management system and addressed the complexities that may arise when helping students who are concerned about client confidentiality. One speaker had been a student at a clinic, and her contributions about the student experience, including the amount of time and the number of clients that she assisted during her clinical experience, added to the knowl-

edge I took away from the panel. If you are an academic librarian interested in developing relationships with clinics, the suggestions offered would be helpful.

The program Extreme Makeover: PowerPoint Edition included a number of helpful suggestions for those who use the program when teaching or presenting information. The presentation was especially useful because the presenters—who tag-teamed fluidly—showed example slides of ‘bad’ presentations and modified (‘improved’) slides. The presenters also raised questions for the audience, reminding that handouts other than the slide show may be more effective for use in teaching than simply providing students with the slides. ■

AALL 2010 Diary

—*Jean-Paul Vivian, Nassau County Supreme Court Law Library*

I left for Denver on a Friday afternoon to attend the annual AALL conference. Usually I don't leave until Saturday but the flight schedule would not have allowed me to arrive in time to attend the opening reception. It didn't take long for me to start meeting fellow law librarians once I arrived in Denver. As I waited for my shuttle van to my hotel I saw Tom French from Syracuse University Law School. Unfortunately for him I got the last seat on that particular van. It was 11 PM local time by the time I made it to my hotel, which meant my body thought it was 1 AM, so I was very tired and promptly went to sleep.

The next morning I awoke with a slight headache and was told this could be a result of altitude sickness. Nevertheless, I walked to the convention center to register. Of course, I ran into many of my acquaintances and re-

networking. I so enjoy getting together with old friends and new friends at the various outings and functions that are available at the conference. I also enjoy going to places that I have been before. I truly enjoyed the city of Denver and would love to return sometime in the future. The State, Court, and County Law Libraries SIS event was at a local brew pub, and the West party was held at INVESCO Field at Mile High, home of the NFL's Denver Broncos. Obviously, I might have gone to the brew pub on my own, but I would have never been able to see the stadium to the extent that I did if not for the West party.

Now, lest you think that I did not attend any of the education sessions I had better tell you a little about the ones that I attended. Being a court librarian I am primarily interested in programs that deal with service to the public. The Nassau County Supreme Court Library is the designated public access law library in Nassau County so naturally I wanted to see what other libraries were doing to serve the public. Two states in particular, California

ceived suggestions on how to treat my possible malady. After that I decided to explore the area around the convention center.

While in Denver, I had the opportunity to see some interesting sights. One of the places I visited was the Denver Firefighters Museum. Of particular interest were the American LaFrance Fire Trucks. These were older models and had been manufactured in Elmira, New York, where I once lived before moving to Long Island. Later, as I made it back to my hotel, I was able to explore the pedestrian mall, where I found a drug store to purchase some aspirin to treat the aforementioned headache. After a little rest it was time to go to the opening reception.

As usual, the reception was nice and I got to see many people that I knew and others that I didn't know. I will freely admit that one of things I enjoy most about the conference is the

and Minnesota, seem to lead the way with innovative services. I was relieved to find that New York is not so far behind, and we do provide much of the same services. Another session I attended dealt with managing union and/or tenured employees, a topic relevant to me since my library is a state operation. Frankly, what I discovered in this session is that I feel I am doing a pretty good job. Much of the discussion dealt with trying to make employees, who don't have a lot of room for career advancement, feel relevant in their positions. Some of the suggestions were ones that I have already implemented. Overall, I was very happy with the sessions that I attended.

I would recommend the AALL conference to anyone who is able to go. The combination of networking, educational programs and travel experiences makes it a very worthwhile endeavor for a law librarian. ■



New Developments In New York Case Law Research

—Mikhail Koulikov, New York Law Institute

For any New York law librarian, the go-to resource for questions and answers on any aspect of New York legal research should be William Manz's justly award-winning Gibson's New York Legal Research Guide, 3rd Edition (2004). And its Chapter VII, 'Court Records and Case Finders' includes a succinct and to-the-point explanation of the process for locating and retrieving records and briefs filed in the New York Court of Appeals and the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court. This volume, however, is a hard-bound monograph, and like most other hard-bound monographs, became obsolete to a degree from the day it was published. Manz has since authored a pair of updates – in the February 2007 issue of the New York State Bar Association Journal, and in the Summer 2007 Law Lines – but inevitably, both of those are now outdated as well. The purpose of this guide, thus, is to update Mr. Manz's work, and to instruct the New York legal and legal research community on new developments in accessing the records and briefs of the New York State court system.

ELECTRONIC ACCESS

In terms of getting online access to either the briefs or the record for a given case, very little has changed since Manz's most recent articles. The Appellate Division's Second Department (which covers the ten counties of Richmond, Kings, Queens, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Dutchess, Orange, Rockland, and Putnam) is the only court that offers free electronic access to briefs through a link on its website, <http://www.nycourts.gov/courts/ad2>. A rudimentary search engine (protected by a CAPTCHA) allows retrieving specific briefs by case number (i.e. docket number) and the names of the parties, though there is also

an option to search the full text of all available briefs. The scope of the database is billed as covering 2004 to approximately six months before the present date, but this is clearly out of date, and briefs from at least as early as the mid-1990's can be located and retrieved. There is no way to browse the contents of the database, and while the results are presented in PDF format, they are re-formatted from the originals, although there is star pagination to allow for correct citing.

Westlaw's "top-level" coverage of New York briefs is in the NY-BRIEFS-ALL premium subscriber database, of which NY-COA-BRIEFS (for the Court of Appeals) and NY-APP-BRIEF (for the Supreme Court, Appellate Division) are subsets. Its chronological scope spans from 1992 to the present (from 1995 to the present for Appellate Division briefs), although a note mentions that select "earlier documents may be included in this database," without specifying either the range or the criteria for inclusion. Even within the scope, coverage is not wall-to-wall, so not every case is included, and the case records are not available at all. The coverage on LexisNexis, in the NYMTBR file, is even more limited, going back only to 1998. While HeinOnline's New York Court of Appeals library's scope note indicates a 1 NY3d start, the most recent list of the actual titles contained in this library starts with record and briefs filed in 96 NY3d 1 (2002), continuing forward to essentially the present. Of course here, as with the other HeinOnline libraries, the content is composed of actual original page-images, with all formatting and pagination preserved.

MICROFICHE AND PRINT

What this means, then, is that digital versions of New York records and briefs are only avail-

able for those filed over the most two or so decades. More importantly, these materials, even though notionally available in an electronic format, may not necessarily be easy or cost-effective to access. Therefore, physical, pre-digital formats remain important.

The New York State Library in Albany and the various libraries of the individual Appellate Division departments and trial-level courts each maintain a collection of records and briefs. So do the libraries of the New York City Bar Association, the New York County Lawyers' Association, and the independent New York Law Institute. The records and briefs for cases until roughly the mid-1960's usually exist as actual bound volumes only. More recent cases are on either microfilm or microfiche. The scope of specific holdings is commonly indicated on library websites, such as <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/recbrief.htm> for the New York State Library and <http://www.nycourts.gov/library/brooklyn/briefs.shtml> for the Law Library of Brooklyn.

Generally, all that is needed to request access to the briefs and record for a Court of Appeals case is the case's official (New York Reports) citation, since they are usually arranged in sequential order by citation. Access to the same materials for an Appellate Division case, on the other hand, is much more complicated. Starting in 1984, these have been distributed on microfiche only. A single case can take up anywhere from one fiche card to over twenty. However, rather than being filed by official citation, the fiche are filed in sequential order by the argument date, with each case being issued a unique fiche ID number. Several libraries still retain actual print indexes, with entries organized by both citation and party name, for cases from 1984 to around 1992. Access to anything more recent, though, requires using – and becoming a skilled user of – another database.

The main point of entry for access to all print and other resources held by the libraries of the New York State courts is the Uniform Court System Trial Court Law Libraries website, which launched earlier this year at <http://www.ucsils.nycourts.gov>. For the purposes of this article, the most important part of the website is the Index to Appellate Division Records and Briefs, accessible either through a link from that website, or through <http://www.olicm.nycourts.gov/Presto/home/Default.aspx>. The index is very much a work in progress, but

even what is there now represents a major new development in access to legal information in New York State. It allows searching based on a number of different criteria, including the case's official citation, party names, case number, and decision date. Most importantly, full browsing functionality is currently in development for the database. Full browsing access is already available for several years over the last decade, and when what appears to be the first stage of this development is complete, users will be able to browse all records and briefs filed between 1995 and 2007. The caveat, of course, is that this is still an index – all it can retrieve for a given case is a fiche ID number, and the document itself must then be requested directly from a library. And perhaps the bigger problem is that here again, the database's current stated scope ("1st - 4th Departments 1984, 1988 - 2007; 1st, 2d, 3d Dept. 2008") is essentially aspirational, and there are numerous, entirely unpredictable gaps in coverage. When a case falls within the scope of the database, but is not included, the only way to get the fiche ID number is to contact the New York State Library. Of course, if a user is willing to incur a cost, all records and briefs can be retrieved directly from the Appellate Division and trial-level courts using a specialized legal research and document delivery service such as Docutrieval Information Services, <http://docutrievalinfo.com/>.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

For years now, a user looking to gain access to New York State court records and briefs was necessarily limited to either immediate access to whatever limited materials were available electronically, or more time-intensive methods of retrieving records and briefs in book form, on microfilm, or on microfiche. This, however, may very soon change. Since the beginning of 2009, the New York Law Institute and the New York City Bar Association have been contributing a significant portion of their New York State Records and Briefs collection to a major digitization project being conducted by Google Books and the Law Library Microform Consortium (LLMC). The exact scope of this project is not yet clear, but there is every indication that by some time next year, a significant percentage of the records and briefs filed in New York State courts in the 20th century will be available freely available online. ■

Minutes of the

In attendance: Sadys Espitia, Mikhail Koulikov, Jill Gray, Patricia Barbone, Caren Biberman, Emily Moog, Nancy Rine and Ellen Kaufman

In attendance via teleconference: Jeff Buckley and Rebecca Newton

The meeting convened at approximately 6:07 pm.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of May 3rd with changes. Approve (Moog) Second (Biberman). Motion Approved.

Motion to approve the minutes of May 13th. Approve (Barbone) Second (Biberman). Motion Approved.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Pauline Webster presented the treasurer's report.

Assets (As of June 23, 2010)

Cash – Checking \$ 51,164.62

Transactions May 4, 2010 – June 23, 2010

See Table below.

* This amount may need to be adjusted by \$160 based on information from the bank.

3. REPLACEMENT BOARD MEMBER

Motion to approve Victoria Szymczak as a replacement board member. Approve (Barbone) Second (Biberman). Motion approved.

DESCRIPTION	INCOME	EXPENSES
Advertising	1,500.00	0
Bank Fee	0	5.02
Bank Interest	0	0
Education – Bridge the Gap	1,500.00	633.99
Election Fee	0	125.80
Membership	285.00	0
June Dinner(Thompson)	10,000.00	0
June Dinner(members)	9,080.00*	0
June Dinner(Ritz Carlton)	0	33,950.56
Membership	0	0
Placement	150.00	0
Post Office Box	0	0
Scholarship (Lexis)	2,400.00	0
TOTALS	24,915.00	34,715.37

LLAGNY Board Meeting

— Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP
June 23, 2010

4. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

AALL Grant

The Board awarded two \$500 grants to attend the AALL conference. The grants were awarded to William R. Mills of New York Law School and John Paul-Vivian of the Nassau County Supreme Court.

Election Results – Anthony Burgalassi

The ballot to appoint Anthony Burgalassi to a lifetime membership was passed by a vote of the members at the Annual Meeting. The ballot yielded 126 in favor, none opposed and one blank ballot.

Election Results – 2010 Election

Vice President/President Elect:

Caren Biberman

Patricia Kasting

Treasurer:

Magalie Desince

Nancy Rine

Director – 2 years:

Ellen Kaufman

Sadys R. Espitia

Victoria Szymczak

Megan Scanlon

Write in: Anthony Burgalassi

Director – One Year:

Mikhail Koulikov

Leslie Lanphear

AALL Table

It was confirmed that LLAGNY has scheduled a table at the AALL conference. LLAGNY is still looking for volunteers to help with the set up.

Law Librarian Blog

It was noted that Caren Biberman is now a contributing editor to the Law Librarian Blog.

Union List Refund

A request for a refund related to the 2008 Union List was made to the Board. The Board asked a member of the firm to reconsider given the length of time between the payment and the request for refund (two years.)

Member List

Discussion was heard regarding the possibility of selling our membership list again. The current board would like to look into the reasons behind the decision to stop selling our member list.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Rebecca Newton, LLAGNY secretary





Fall Soiree & New Members Reception

"Perhaps the two most valuable and satisfactory products of American civilization are the librarian on the one hand and the cocktail in the other"
- Louis Stanley Jast

Please join us in welcoming our Newest Members

At

Bubba Gump Shrimp Co- Times Square
1501 Broadway

bet Times Square and 43rd Street
(212) 391-7100

Tuesday, Oct 19th 2010

6:00 - 9:00 P.M.

Closest subway stop Times Square 42nd Street Train 1,2,3,7, N, Q, R
Enjoy passed Hors D'Oeuvres and
OPEN BAR featuring a to-be-unveiled 'LLAGNY Signature Drink'

Sponsored by



Please RSVP by October 15th 2010 to:

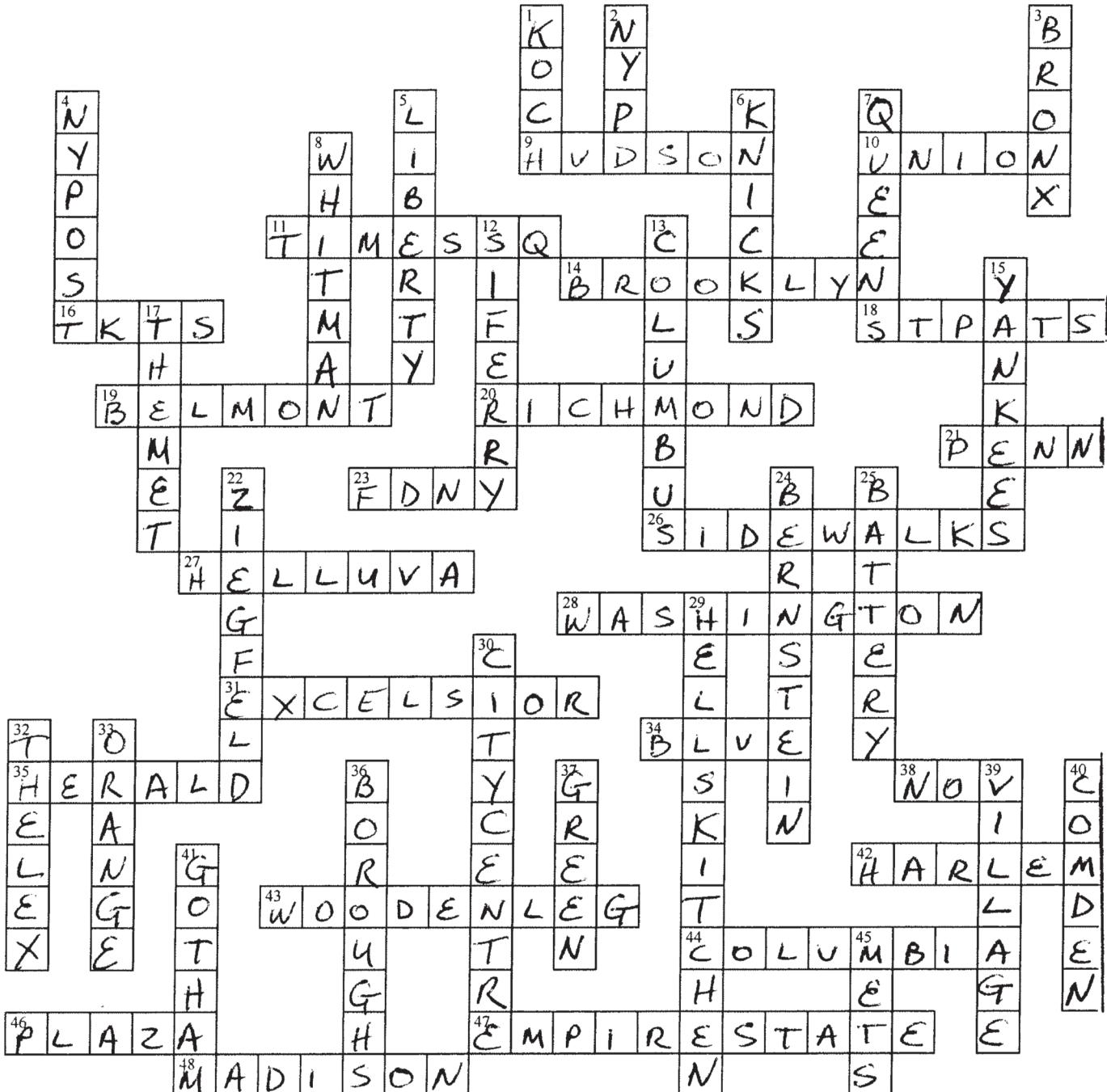
Tom Eikenbrod teikenbrod@shearman.com

* Please indicate if you are a new member

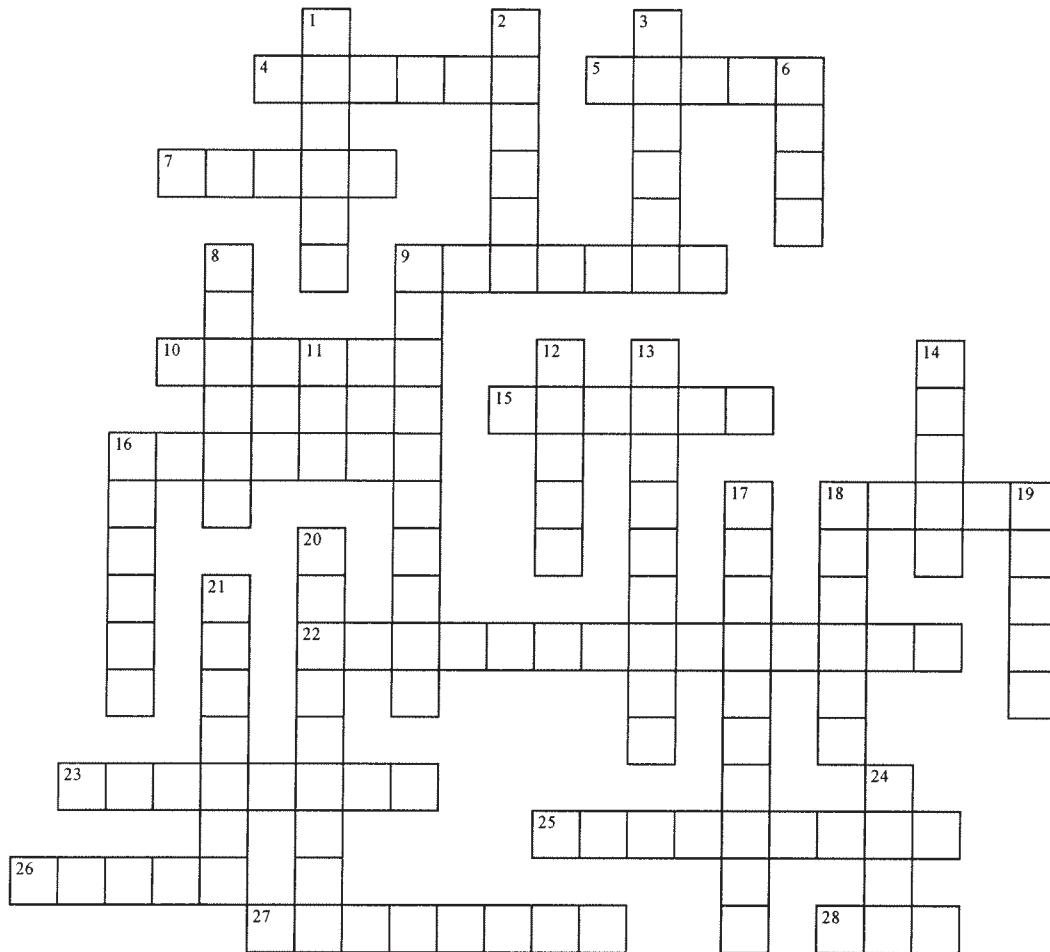
** Please travel light, there will be no coat check

LLAGNY members welcome at no charge

"New York, New York" by Emily Moog



"Tattoo" by Emily Moog



ACROSS

- 4 Residence of the incarcerated
- 5 Can be lost or broken
- 7 Jets & Sharks, e.g.
- 9 Semper Fi group
- 10 Creator of them
- 15 Once, was Johnny Depp's forever
- 16 Drives the 18 wheeler
- 18 Jolly Roger one
- 22 Bradbury's novel "The _____"
- 23 Melville's harpooner
- 25 Disease associated with
- 26 Spoiler of Eden
- 27 Lucky one
- 28 Maternal one

DOWN

- 1 St. George slew one
- 2 Popeye's
- 3 To be threaded
- 6 Nickname for
- 8 Big Top's location
- 9 Vehicle associated with
- 11 Liquid used
- 12 Schultz's rumored Princetonian one
- 13 Monopoly's Park Place partner
- 14 Ecce Homo one
- 16 Word origin comes from this country
- 17 Tennessee Williams' play "The..."
- 18 Season where you see the most
- 19 Groucho's lady who sported quite a few
- 20 City of the Royal Military Tattoo
- 21 Common foreign letters used
- 24 Now, is Johnny Depp's forever