

Minnesota Association of Law Libraries Annual Report 2011-2012

During the past year the MALL Executive Board worked on selecting a new website vendor for the chapter. The Web Committee Chair, Janelle Beitz, was tasked with reviewing options for organizational websites. The top four choices, their pros and cons and features were presented to the Executive Board and the membership. The board selected Wild Apricot. Implementation of the new website will take place over the next year.

The Education Committee offered several programs during the year. In the fall the program was "Disaster Planning/Preparedness for Your Library". The winter meeting featured Margie Maes as the speaker. She spoke about her role as AALL Vendor Relations Liaison. The Spring Conference, MALL's all-day annual meeting, provided several program tracks on a variety of topics, including e-filing and computer forensics.

This year MALL put on its biennial Legal Research Institute. The program lasted for 9 weeks, with a course being held each week. Seventeen continuing legal education credits were approved for attorneys who attended. The program resulted in over \$5000 in revenue for the chapter.

In addition to chapter meetings, MALL has smaller groups that meet. Downtowners is a group of law librarians who work in downtown Minneapolis. They meet monthly in rotating locations. MALL also has a Technical Services Special Interest Group, which met three times. Sarah Yates spoke to the group about her recently published *Law Library Journal* article about the creation of *Black's Law Dictionary*. The group also hosted an ALA-sponsored webinar, called "Cataloging Law Materials with RDA". The final meeting of the year featured three people from small or solo law libraries who spoke about their workflow.

MALL had two social events this year. In August, MALL's first annual summer picnic was held. Many members brought their families and some brought pets. It was a successful gathering and there are plans to do it again in 2012. In December, MALL partnered with SLA for the holiday party. It was well attended by each organization. A silent auction was held to raise money for SLA students to attend their national conference.

MALL participated in two volunteer efforts this year. A group of MALL knitters got together over the course of four months to knit hats for the Twin Cities Hats for the Homeless project. The group donated eighteen hats. In addition, at the Spring Conference, MALL members donated books to Everybody Wins, a local children's literacy group. Forty-nine children's books and ninety-five dollars in cash were given to the group.

Several local law librarians were presented with the Unsung Legal Heroes Award, sponsored by the publication *Minnesota Lawyer*. The 2011 recipients were Nancy Evans, Mary Ann Archer,

Pat Cummings, Shawn Swearingen, Michele DesRosier and Stephanie Thorson. In addition, Anne Grande was awarded (posthumously) the AALL Hall of Fame Award.

The MALL Executive Board consisted of: Liz Reppe, President; Doris Dingley, Vice President (May 2011-March 2012), Karen Westwood (April 2012-May 2012); Abby Walters, Secretary/Treasurer; Neal Axton, Member-at-Large.

Submitted by Liz Reppe, MALL President, 2011-2012