Virginia Association of Law Libraries
Annual Report 2017-2018

Executive Board: The Virginia Association of Law Libraries (VALL) 2017-2018 executive board consisted of Lara Dresser, President; Andrew Winston, Vice President/President Elect; Dana Deseck-Piazzon, Secretary; David Knight, Treasurer; Doris Morgan, Alexis Fetzer Sharp, and Evelyn Campbell (ex officio), Directors; and Patricia Petroccione, Past President.

Meetings/Programs: VALL again hosted educational meetings in the fall and spring, with programs aimed at providing useful information on topics of interest to its members. The 2017 fall meeting was held as a joint meeting with the Virginia Library Association (VLA) at the VLA’s annual conference, at The Main hotel in Norfolk, Virginia. Topics presented by VALL included programs on funding professional development for those working in law libraries and how to research federal and Virginia legislation and regulations, as well as a session on diversity by then Immediate Past President of AALL, Ron Wheeler, who served as Chapter Visitor at that meeting. Attendees could also take advantage of the numerous other programs on library topics at the VLA conference and visit exhibitors in the exhibition hall.

The 2018 spring meeting was held at the University of Virginia School of Law in Charlottesville and included sessions on using metrics in law library operations and management, mindfulness, and serving on a public library board. Members of the Virginia Special Libraries Association (VSLA) were invited to attend the spring meeting, and a number of them did. VALL also hosted a social happy hour at the 2017 AALL Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas.

VALL members in the Richmond area also continued to hold informal monthly dining events in conjunction with the VSLA. The invitations were extended to all area library professionals.

Publications: VALL members contributed articles to the Virginia Lawyer, the magazine of the Virginia State Bar, for its “Law Libraries” column. These articles covered legal research topics such as researching and staying up to date on Medicare and Medicaid, Virginia legal classics, recently revised construction law resources, and researching in the era of social media.

Committee Reorganization: VALL reorganized its committee structure, combining the public relations and communications committee and discontinuing several committees that were formed for specific purposes that had been fulfilled or were deemed no longer necessary.

Grants: VALL awarded a grant to attend the 2018 AALL Annual Meeting and a grant to attend the VALL fall meeting held jointly with VLA, described above.

Best wishes go out to VALL’s 2018-2019 executive board: Andrew Winston, President; Chris Vassey, Vice President/President Elect; Megan Scanlon, Secretary; David Knight, Treasurer; Alexis Fetzer Sharp, Liz Schiller, and Evelyn Campbell (ex officio), Directors; and Lara Dresser, Past President.