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DEDICATION

The Patent & Trademark Depository Library Association dedicates this issue of the Newsletter to all of our colleagues in the Patent & Trademark Depository Libraries and the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office who were instrumental in the founding and expansion of the Patent & Trademark Depository Library Program, as well as the PTDLA. We acknowledge and deeply appreciate all the people who have created and nurtured the PTDL Program and the Annual Training Conferences/Seminars over the last twenty-five years. After a year like 2001, we all deserve to celebrate a happy milestone!

The first conference was held April 18-20, 1977. According to the May 18, 1977 issue (no. 259, p. 3) of PATENTTALK, the USPTO Employee Bulletin, Commissioner C. Marshall Dann welcomed the participants, speaking "of the importance the PTO attaches to the role that Depository Libraries play in the dissemination of patent information." The PTDL Representatives found their conference as useful and interesting as we do today:

"The reactions of those attending the meeting were very favorable. Mr. Marmor [Alfred C. Marmor, Administrator for Documentation] in commenting on the meeting said 'This meeting was a very important one in that until now, Depository Libraries have not had the recognition they deserve. This meeting has served as a first step in what will be a series of steps of the PTO's assisting Depository Libraries in becoming more effective in providing services for searching patent information. It may be the first meaningful step to the realization of satellite search centers in the 1980s.'"

Here we are, twenty five years later, providing services and attending training seminars. All this and trademark information, too!

Happy 25th!
PTDLA Officers 2001 - 2002

President: Claudine Jenda, Auburn, AL (June 2001 -)
Julia Crawford, Stillwater, OK (March-June 2001)
Vice President/President-Elect: Claudine Jenda,
Auburn, AL (March-June 2001)
Secretary: Tom Melvin, Newark, DE
Treasurer: Jean Porter, Raleigh, NC
Past-President: Jane Running, Springfield, IL

Regional Representatives:
Region 1: Ann Poulos, Providence, RI
Region 2: Tom Melvin, Newark, DE
Region 3: Natalie Rutledge, Morgantown, WV
Region 4: Jan Comfort, Clemson, SC
Region 5: Peter Spyers-Duran, Orlando, FL
Region 6: Brian Carpenter, College Station, TX
Region 7: Robin Gray, Cleveland, OH
Region 8: Charlotte Erdmann, West Lafayette, IN
Region 9: Nan Myers, Wichita, KS
Region 10: Donna Hanson, Moscow, ID
Region 11: Tom Turner, Tempe, AZ
Region 12: Peter Warhit, San Francisco, CA

PTDLA President's Report

My term as PTDLA President started earlier than expected, in June 2001 following the departure of Julia Crawford, PTDLA President March 2001-June 2001. I completed my two-year PTDLP Fellowship assignment at the USPTO in May 2001, and resumed working at my home institution, Auburn University Libraries in September 2001. I used the effective period of September 2001 to March 2002 to attend to association business. In my opinion, it was important that we attend to PTDLA items which the PTDLA Executive had formulated during Julia's term. These included working on PTDLA Affiliate Membership; investigating the need for incorporating PTDLA; investigating the possibility of PTDLA acquiring a web site with top level domain access at www.ptdla.org; assisting and facilitating PTDLA's hosting of the 25th Anniversary Celebration Banquet; investigating the need for a PTDLA Mentoring Program; planning and coordinating a PTDLA Presentations Program during the Annual PTDL Training Seminar; overseeing, planning and coordinating the PTDLA at ALA Program; and conducting further work on the new electronic PTDLA journal, Intellectual Property (IP) Journal of the PTDLA and move the journal along towards publication.

I relied heavily upon the expertise, help, support, and cooperation of several PTDLA members, PTDL and PTDLP staff in carrying out these duties. I am most grateful to everyone who has offered me and the Association help and advice whenever I called upon them.

PTDLA Affiliate Membership: A need exists for PTDLA to increase its membership by making it possible and easier for people to become PTDLA affiliate members. We need procedures in place that allow former PTDL Representatives and staff and former USPTO staff to continue their participation in the Association as affiliate members. The Association, in turn, will benefit from the continued participation of experienced, knowledgeable information professionals rather than lose their expertise. We also envisage extending PTDLA affiliate membership to all other librarians and information professionals whose work involves responding to users requiring patent/trademark information. Jean Porter spearheaded all the work on this subject and produced a draft document which Deb Leary, the Bylaws Chair, used to formulate the desired bylaws changes needed to implement this suggestion. We expect to take a vote on this issue at the PTDLA Business meeting in March 2002.

Incorporating PTDLA: To protect PTDLA members from litigation, given the increased professional activity of the association at ALA and SLA professional meetings and with the start of the new Association journal, a need exists for incorporating the Association. Esther Craw-

(Continued on page 3)
(Continued from page 2) ford led the study of this issue. She gathered information on this subject, which will allow the Association to make a better-informed decision. The PTDLP Office provided additional sources of information which the Association is studying. PTDLA members will be given a status report of this item at the March 2002 PTDLA Business Meeting.

www.ptdla.org: It is desirable for the Association to have top-level domain access and visibility. Esther Crawford again helped with the data gathering and study of this item to help the Association make a better informed decision. Because the Association currently maintains a website at Rice University, there may be no urgent need to subscribe to commercial services for the purpose of establishing another website. Data gathering on this topic continues. PTDLA members will have the opportunity of providing their input on this issue at the next meeting.

PTDL Co-Hosting 25th Anniversary Celebration Banquet: PTDLA will help to host the 25th Anniversary Celebration Banquet at the 2002 Annual PTDL Training Seminar in March. With PTDLP staff, PTDLA members and PTDL staff were called upon to assist with various roles to prepare for the banquet. Fund-raising was one of the areas where PTDLA and PTDL staff played an active role. I would like to acknowledge the tremendous effort that PTDLP staff are putting into this undertaking, especially with the onsite planning and local arrangements in Washington D.C. Jane Running, Jean Porter, Carol Giles, and Billie Connor have all been most helpful with the fund-raising efforts. We are also most appreciative to sponsors and to all who have provided contributions towards the banquet. I am also especially grateful to Betsy Lowther, former PTDL Representative of the Free Library of Philadelphia, for the help, coaching, suggestions, support and encouragement she provided with the fund-raising efforts.

PTDL Mentoring Program: PTDL and PTDLA members pointed out a need for establishing a PTDL Mentoring Program. This program would help first time seminar attendees feel better included in all the PTDL seminar and PTDLA activities. The PTDL Mentoring Program would also facilitate the sharing of expertise among PTDL staff. I appointed a PTDL Mentoring Committee to study this issue and explore ways of implementing some of the suggestions, starting at the March 2002 Annual PTDL Training Seminar. Committee members are: Robin Gray, Chair; Brian Carpenter; Angela Bailly; Robert Klein; and Charlotte Erdmann.


PTDL Presentation Programs at the 25th Annual PTDL Training Seminar: Based upon evaluations from past seminars, PTDLA and PTDL staff requested a return of the PTDL Best Practices Roundtable Presentations and Discussions that promote the sharing of experiences and expertise among PTDL staff. A call for papers was made. We have a line up of wonderful PTDL speakers for the PTDL Best Practices session. Please see the seminar program for details. PTDLA has again invited some outside guest speakers with expertise on topics of interest to its members for the benefit of PTDL staff and their users. I would also like to acknowledge the help I received from Charlotte Erdmann and Valerie Sherman who served on the PTDLA Conference Planning Committee.

PTDLA @ ALA Program: PTDLA is again hosting a program on the "Effective Use of Patent and Trademark Information" at the ALA Annual Meeting in June 2002 in Atlanta. I would like to acknowledge the work of the PTDLA@ALA Planning Committee made up of Jan Comfort, Chair and her committee members. I also want to thank Esther Crawford who represented our association at the ALA Affiliates Meeting at ALA Midwinter in New Orleans this year.

Intellectual Property (IP) Journal of the PTDLA: Kevin Harwell, Brian Carpenter and I continued to do some pre-planning work for the launch of this new PTDLA Journal. Kevin Harwell is exploring the possibility of Penn State helping with the hosting of web site for this journal. Brian Carpenter coordinated the review process for manuscripts that have been submitted to the journal. We all hope to unveil the mock-up of the first issue of this journal at the 2002 Annual PTDL Seminar in March. The journal should be in operation soon after the March seminar.

Outstanding Items: Not much work was accomplished on a couple of items that are important to PTDLA members and PTDL staff such as:

1. Producing an electronic searchable full-text database of pre-1971 U.S. patents. Further discussions with the USPTO/PTDLP are needed.

2. Producing a PTDLA Bibliography of information sources on patents/trademarks.

3. Finding a way to provide patent search assistance to patent/trademark searchers who access the USPTO web site on their own without help from PTDL staff.

4. Providing content for the PTDLA website at Rice University.

Farewell: Several PTDLA members and PTDL staff left the network or retired last year, such as Jane Running, PTDLA Immediate Past-President; Donna Hanson, PTDLA Past President; and Julia Crawford, PTDLA President, March-June 2001.

Thank you for providing me with this opportunity of serving you and PTDLA in this capacity.

- Claudine Jenda, PTDLA President
Pre-Seminar Treasurer's Report - February 2002

Balance as of January 31, 2001 $1868.89
2001 Deposits $6290.00
Total $8158.89

2001 Withdrawals - $5163.66
Balance as of February 25, 2002 $2995.23

Detailed Deposits
2/01/01 Reg./T-shirts $ 790.00
2/08/01 Registration $ 260.00
2/22/01 Registration $1150.00
3/02/01 Registration $1080.00
3/08/01 Registration $ 660.00
3/19/01 Reg./T-shirts $1050.00
3/22/01 Reg./T-shirts $1000.00
6/27/01 Reg./T-shirts $ 300.00

Detailed Withdrawals
3/6/01 Postage for Materials Sent to ALA $ 13.70
(Julia Crawford)
3/9/01 Service Fees $ 50.00
(Replacement Statements)
3/22/01 PTDLA Reception Expenses $ 105.00
(Jane Running)
3/23/01 Hotel Expenses $3895.00
(Marriott Hotel)

6/24/01 Newsletter Expenses $ 848.75
(Chris Byrne)
12/19/01 ALA Equipment for Presentation at Annual Conference $ 251.21
$5163.66

89 PTDLA members 2001-02

-Jean Porter, PTDLA Treasurer

Editor's Message

As you can see, I experimented with the format this year. Let me know what you think. I just thought I would try something new.

Thanks to everyone who submitted articles for this year's Newsletter. You all help to make it happen!

Remember to visit the PTDLA Homepage (created and maintained by Esther Crawford, Houston PTDL):

http://www.rice.edu/fondren/go/ptdla/

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the events and aftermath of September 11, 2001. Many more eloquent speakers and writers than I have expressed condolences, thoughts, wishes, memories, hopes and pleas. All I will add is:

In Memoriam ...
PTDLA Executive Council Meeting - Minutes (2001)

Sunday, March 18, 2001, Crystal City Marriott

Present: Jane Running, Julia Crawford, Jean Porter, Brian Carpenter, Dave Morrison, Kevin Harwell, Jackie Shane, Peter Warhit, Charlotte Erdmann and Kathy Taylor [visitor]

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

I. Items for Discussion:

   Jane had three items for discussion:
   i. Gift acceptance by the Association – An anonymous gift was sent to the Association (approx. $300.00) to help establish a scholarship for librarians in need of money for travel to the Training Seminar. This scholarship is to be established in memory of Eric Mayer (Buffalo NY PTDL). The problem is that the Bylaws do not have a mechanism that allows for formal acceptance of gifts. Donna Hanson (Moscow ID PTDL) has been asked to draft this change. This addition to the Bylaws will allow the Association to formally accept monetary gifts so as not to jeopardize our 501c3 status and a vote on this change will be conducted via E-mail.

   ii. Membership term clarification – The current Bylaws are not clear on terms for membership generally. A clarification will be proposed at the Business meeting which states that membership in the Association is from the last day of the current seminar to the last day of the following year’s seminar. A ballot will be sent to all members after the seminar so that they can vote on this clarification.

   iii. Jean Bishop (Butte MT PTDL) is now on half-time status at her institution. Jane asked that the PTDLA archival materials now held at Springfield IL PTDL be turned over to Dave Morrison, Salt Lake City UT PTDL, who has volunteered to take on the job of Association Archivist.

II. Outline for the Business Meeting

   a. Congratulations to Wes Gewehr, Martha Crockett Sneed and Amanda Putnam on their job promotions

   b. Minutes of the last PTDLA Business Meeting, Tuesday, March 21, 2000
      Dispense with the reading of the minutes (move that they be accepted as published)

   c. Treasurer’s Report – Jean Porter

   d. Election Committee Report – Cheryl McCoy

   e. Bylaws Committee Report – Donna Hanson

      i. Mechanism for allowing formal acceptance of gifts

      ii. Clarification on term of association membership

   f. Report on Program at ALA Annual in San Francisco – Julia Crawford

   g. IP Journal of the PTDLA – Claudine Jenda, Kevin Harwell and Brian Carpenter

      Status report

      1. Name of the journal
      2. Call for additional papers
      3. Journal plan – ISTL Model?

      4. Author copyright issues

         a. SPARC model – exclusive right to publish article first but not for republishing of the article
         b. Exclusive rights given to author
         c. Exclusive rights given to the publisher
         d. Hybrid copyright agreement

   h. Old Business

      Recap of minutes regarding historical indexes and current data that has been captured on the historical patents - Jane Running

   i. New Business

      Jane noted two times for issues to be publicly presented to the USPTO staff

      1. Tuesday afternoon open forum
      2. Informal lunches held with USPTO staff during the week

   j. Announcements

      i. SLA Continuing Education Pre-Conference – Kevin Harwell

      ii. Representative to the PIUG meeting – Jane Running

         1. Jim Miller, College Park MD PTDL will be our representative to the meeting

III. Discussion of the IP Journal of the PTDLA

   a. Dave Morrison suggested name “Intellectual Properties and Libraries”

   b. Julia Crawford suggested following model of ISTL Journal business plan and following SPARC’s copyright agreement model.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Brian Carpenter, Secretary, PTDLA
PTDLA Business Meeting Minutes (2001)

Tuesday, March 20, 2001, Crystal City Marriott

Meeting was called to order at 1:36 p.m.

I. Congratulations to Dave Morrison, Wes Gewehr, Martha Crockett Sneed and Amanda Putnam on their job promotions.
   a. Jane Running presented Dave Morrison with a gift for his efforts as President of PTDLA (1999-2000).
   b. Wes Gewehr, cited by Jane as the "best friend for us in the PTO" and praised for his inspection/visits of PTDLs nationwide, was presented a congratulatory gift on his recent promotion.
   c. Martha Crockett Sneed, noted by Jane as "such a stalwart person" in the PTDL Program Office, was also presented a gift in recognition of her recent promotion. Martha expressed her gratitude for the gift saying that the PTDLs are an "incredible network" and that "librarians are the key to [providing patent information] making that happen and when you provide that information you make someone [inventor, patent researcher] happy."

II. Minutes of the PTDLA Business Meeting, Tuesday, March 21, 2000
   a. The minutes of the last PTDLA Business meeting, held on Tuesday, March 21, 2000 were published on page 4 of the PTDLA Newsletter, March 2001.
      Donna Hanson (Moscow, ID PTDL) made a motion that the minutes be accepted and Rob Williams seconded the motion. The vote to accept the minutes was unanimous. Jane noted that next year's minutes will be posted on the PTDLA web site.

III. Treasurer's Report
   a. Jean Porter (Raleigh, NC PTDL) noted that this year's Treasurer's report appeared on page 3 of the PTDLA Newsletter. The only correction to this was a change in the date of the beginning balance to February 29, 2000. The ending balance for the PTDLA budget was $1,868.89. Jane reminded everyone that those who have not already paid for this year's conference need to do so. Receipts will be written for those who need them, and those joining this year will receive a membership card. Dues and registration for this year's seminar $65 for members and seminar registration for non-PTDLA members, $75.

IV. Election Committee Report
   a. Cheryl McCoy (Tampa, FL PTDL) reported that the election process went smoothly and that conducting the voting via E-mail was undertaken with few problems. She highly recommends that this procedure be followed again next year and that she is willing to be Election chair again next year.

b. Election results

   i. Odd numbered regions
      Region 1 - Ann Poulos, Providence, RI
      Region 3 - Natalie Rutledge, Morgantown, WV
      Region 5 - Peter Spyers-Duran, Orlando, FL
      Region 7 - Robin Gray, Cleveland, OH
      Region 9 - Nan Myers, Wichita, KS
      Region 11 - Tom Turner, Tempe, AZ

   ii. Vice President/President-Elect: Claudine Jenda, Auburn, AL

   iii. Secretary: Tom Melvin, Newark DE

V. Bylaws Committee Report
   a. Mechanism for allowing formal acceptance of gifts - An anonymous gift was sent to the Association (approx. $300.00) to help establish a scholarship for librarians in need of money for travel to the Training Seminar. This scholarship is to be established in memory of Eric Mayer (Buffalo, NY PTDL). The problem is that the Bylaws do not have a mechanism that allows for formal acceptance of gifts. Donna Hanson noted that because we are a tax-exempt organization, she would like to get legal interpretation on the wording of this change. She cited Article 11 of the Bylaws as her reasoning for this problem. Donna also presented a gift in recognition of her recent promotion.
   b. Clarification on term of association membership - The current Bylaws are not clear on terms for membership generally. A clarification is proposed which states that membership in the Association is from the last day of the current seminar to the last day of the following year's seminar. Donna cited Article 3, section 2 of the Bylaws as the section needing to be revised. A ballot will be sent to all members after the seminar so that they can vote on this clarification.

Note: When questioned why Bylaw changes cannot be done at the current meeting, Donna cited Article XIII, section 2 of the Bylaws, which state that changes to the Bylaws must be sent to all members via mail or electronic mail and that the ballot to vote on these changes must also, be sent via mail or electronic mail. Therefore, all proposed changes would need to be voted on by the membership by ballots sent out through the mail.

(Continued on page 7)
VI. Report on Program at ALA Annual in San Francisco

a. Julia Crawford (Stillwater, OK PTDL) reported on the status of our first moderated program at the Annual American Library Association Conference to be held this year in San Francisco. Julia noted that this program would not have been possible if not for Jennifer Paustenbaugh's efforts to our affiliation status with ALA established and Dave Morrison's original idea to provide a presence at the Annual Conference by presenting a program. She noted our program is listed on page 148 of American Libraries under the Information Access Track. The moderated panel will be held on Monday, June 18, 2001 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

b. Out of the nine proposals received, four were accepted by the program committee, which consisted of Jan Comfort (Clemson, SC PTDL), academic librarian; Wilson Plunkett (San Antonio, TX PTDL), a public library librarian, and Brent Miller (Sacramento, CA PTDL), a special libraries librarian.

c. The presenters include: Tom Melvin, Newark, DE; Cokie Anderson, Stillwater, OK; Charlotte Erdmann, West Lafayette, IN; and Donna Hopkins, Rensselaer-Troy, NY. Jan Comfort will be the moderator for this program.

VII. IP Journal of the PTDLA

a. Status report [Claudine Jenda (Auburn, AL PTDL), Kevin Harwell (University Park, PA PTDL) and Brian Carpenter (College Station, TX PTDL)]

i. Call for additional papers and purpose and scope of the journal

1. The editors of the association journal [Claudine, Kevin and Brian] made a call for additional papers. Papers will be accepted through the end of August.

ii. Journal plan – ISTL [Kevin Harwell]

1. The draft journal plan for the association journal was presented to the association. The plan is based on the journal plan for Issues in Science and Technology Libraries.

iii. Author copyright issues

1. Kevin and Claudine noted that the association journal could adopt the SPARC model – exclusive right to publish article first but not for republishing of the article. After some discussion, it was decided the journal editors would review this issue.

iv. Mockup of the journal

1. Brian & Claudine unveiled a mockup of the journal and asked for feedback regarding improvements or any changes the association would like to see made to the journal.

Jane summed up the efforts of the group calling it a sign that "shows the maturity of the organization [PTDLA]."

VIII. Old Business

a. Recap of minutes regarding historical indexes and current data that have been captured on the historical patents. A grant proposed was not completed and the USPTO does not have any plans to fund an indexing project. She notes however, that historical patent information is heavily used and applauds the efforts of Orlando PTDL and Orono PTDL to create historical indexes for their regions.

IX. New Business

a. Sign up sheets for committees will be posted in the Hospitality Suite. Those who are interested in being involved with PTDLA committees should put their names on the sign up sheets.

X. Announcements

a. Special Libraries Association Continuing Education Pre-Conference – Tom Turner announced that he, Kevin Harwell and Michael White will be presenting Continuing Education Pre-Conference workshop entitled, "Patents 101: Introduction to Patents for the non-patent librarian"

b. Representative to the PIUG meeting – Jane Running announced that Jim Miller (College Park, MD) will be the Association's representative to the meeting.

The Business meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m. to allow a break before the beginning of the PTDLA Program.

XI. Presentation by Richard J. Apley, Director, Office of Independent Inventors' Programs

a. Mr. Apley first recognized his staff members; Kathy Kirk, Corine Gore and Carolyn Bush. He then began his program discussing the mission and goals of the Independent Inventors Program and how their purpose is to help steer the independent inventor in the right direction. To a PTDL if they need help searching a patent or trademark or to the correct USPTO office if they are filing for patent and/or trademark protection.

b. The Independent Inventor Program also has a website that can be used to help inventors needing information. The address is: [http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/iip/index.htm](http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/iip/index.htm)

c. He also noted that his office could direct independent inventors to local Small Business Development Centers, independent inventor groups and other organizations as necessary.

d. In addition to helping independent inventors, Mr. Apley also noted that his organization can work with a local PTDL to provide Saturday presenta-
(Continued from page 7)

tions for a USPTO sponsored independent inventor workshop. These Saturday programs have been successful in enticing inventors to come to their local PTDL who might not otherwise come.

e. Last year, a dozen of these jointly sponsored "road shows" were held and as of March 2001, six have been held. Besides providing information for independent inventors, he noted these programs show legislators how PTDLs provide vital services for independent inventors and that not all of this work can be done through the Internet as is so often claimed.

f. Finally, in addition to all these efforts, the Independent Inventor Program is also including its brochure in mailings that are sent to people requesting information from the USPTO.

The program ended at 4:00 p.m.

- Respectfully submitted Brian Carpenter, Secretary, PTDLA

Message from the PTDL Program Office

On the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of Patent and Trademark Depository Library Seminars, I extend warm wishes to all of you in PTDLA. This is a remarkable milestone, especially in these days, when so much communication is instantaneous and businesses come and go with stunning rapidity. A few of you reading this newsletter were here in Crystal City back in 1977 for the first Patent Depository Library Conference, as it was known then. And others of you, as Ebony Minter from PTDL's front office staff reminds me, were not even born yet! I suspect a majority of us fall somewhere in the middle.

I hope you take pride and pleasure in being part of a program that really makes a difference to people and has been doing so for a quarter of a century. One thing I miss from my days as a Reference Librarian at the University of Delaware is daily contact with inventors. Yes, some required a considerable bit of care and feeding, but they all shared an enormous enthusiasm for inventing and patenting and it was contagious. You have the opportunity to routinely come in contact with these creative folks. Thanks to the work that you do assisting your patrons, new inventions are revealed and products are named every day. Enjoy your part in it!

As you reflect on this anniversary, keep in mind all that has come before. The relationship between your libraries and the USPTO is far different than it was twenty-five years ago. At this year's seminar, some of those that were here at the beginning will be sharing their experiences of how it was then compared to how it is today. Also remember those special people who are no longer with us.

The 25th Anniversary of Annual Training Seminars is also a wonderful opportunity to look ahead. What will USPTO be issuing patents on in 2027? Will there be any paper involved or will all transactions be electronic? Trademarks will surely still be important company assets. What will patent and trademark librarians be doing? I believe that training users will continue to be a major part of our activity. The public will still need information, and guidance on how to use it effectively, no matter how much is delivered to them on their desktops. We will continue to work together to find the best ways to accomplish the various kinds of training that will be needed.

I am pleased to let you know that the PTDL staff is still evolving. As a result of a reorganization, Jim Arshem has returned to the PTDL fold. Also Tom (Continued on page 9)
Turner, formerly of the Tempe PTDL has become a permanent member of PTDLP serving as the Partnership librarian. They along with all of the rest of the PTDLP staff look forward to seeing you in Crystal City on March 17-23. Can't wait to see you.

- Amanda (Mande) Putnam, Manager, PTDL Program

PTDLA Program at ALA Annual Conference

The PTDLA had its first ever program at an American Library Association conference last summer during the annual meeting in San Francisco. The program, entitled "Patents: Not Just For Inventors Anymore" was held on June 18, 2001 and marked the first event that the Association has presented at an ALA conference since becoming an affiliate member.

The program was divided into four separate presentations, each concentrating on how patents can be used by non-inventors as a valuable resource for information. The goal was to make other information professionals aware of the resources that are now available via the USPTO Web site and how these resources can be used for a wide variety of information needs. The participants were Donna Hopkins (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute), Tom Melvin (University of Delaware), Charlotte Erdmann (Purdue University) and Cokie Anderson (Oklahoma State University). Each person spoke for approximately 20 minutes and the program was moderated by Jan Comfort of Clemson University.

Donna’s presentation was entitled “Using Patents to Plot Business Trends”. She spoke about how one can use the USPTO Classification system to accurately track the ebb and flow of developments in specific technologies. This can be accomplished by identifying the class and subclass of the area of technology that you are interested in and then simply counting the number of patents issued in that area on a regular basis. Alternatively, data on a particular company’s, or group of companies, interest in a particular technology can be tracked by searching by the company as an assignee, count the patents in each class and subclass, and then graph the results.

Tom spoke on using patents as resources for historical information. He presented a number of different scenarios in which people researching a historical topic have used patents to assist them in their research. Students from the Winterthur Museum in Delaware often come to the library to locate patents issued to artisans that they are researching, such as silver smith designs and decorative religious artifacts. Other examples included a person who was researching the history and development of treadle scooters and people attempting to use patents as part of their genealogical research. The most unusual case he had encountered involved a person doing restoration on the toilets at Fort Delaware, a Civil War era fort located in the Delaware River. This person needed to manufacture a replacement part for the toilets and needed a copy of the original patent so he could use the drawing as a guide for the replacement piece. The talk also concentrated on what resources to use when trying to locate older patents.

Charlotte’s talk was entitled “Finding Your Way

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Through the Information Maze: How to Find Background Information in Patents and Trademarks.” She described research methods used to find background information in patents and trademarks on individuals, universities, and companies. Charlotte showed a case study of Stephanie Kwolek who invented Kevlar as well as other examples. She spent time going over the resources that were used including the Patents and Trademarks Databases on the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office web site as well as specialized print indexes.

Cokie’s talk was “Patents on the Web: A Rich Resource for Social Scientists” and it discussed information relevant to sociology, anthropology, political science, and women’s or ethnic studies that can be found in the patent literature. What was being invented at a given time tells you much about that society. For example, at the time women began to enter the work force in greater numbers, there was an increase in the number of laborsaving devices patented.

The attendance was over 100 people and everyone agreed that the program was a great success. We made sure to leave some time for questions at the end of the presentations and spent over 45 minutes answering and discussing some insightful questions and comments with the audience. The majority of attendees where from public libraries and their questions revealed a need for us as patent professionals to find ways to help them deal with their lack of expertise in this area. This inspired us to think of a program for this years conference that will concentrate on educating public librarians in the use of the resources that are available from the USPTO Web site so that they can be of more assistance to patrons who come into their libraries needing help with basic patent questions.

A special thank you should be extended to PTDLA Past President Julia Crawford for all of the time and effort she put forth to make this program a reality. Hopefully we will be able to use the ALA conference more vehicle for spreading information about patents and trademarks to both the greater public and other information professionals.

- Tom Melvin, Newark, DE

News from the PTDLs

Akron, Ohio
Akron-Summit County Library

It has been a busy year here at the Akron Summit County Public Library. The biggest news or change is that our whole library has moved to a temporary site (an old DIY warehouse) while our new main library is being built. This project is the result of a levy passed several years ago to renovate our library system. We will be in our temporary location for about 2 and a half years. It is a big change, but we are all adjusting to our warehouse setting!

The patents and trademarks are located in the Science and Technology department. We are still able to provide a variety of services, including document delivery, and have a designated place to do patent and trademark searches. We also continue to give what we call our “patent classes.” These are one-hour classes in which we introduce people to the classification system, enabling them to do a complete patent search. We follow the excellent seven-step process recommended by the PTO!

Our PTDL staff continues to be myself, Valerie Sherman, Cheryl Luck and Hillary Miller-Folb. Valerie, who is our new PTDL representative, will be attending the 25th Patent and Trademark conference this spring.

- Curtis Bower
Albany, New York
New York State Library

Albany has a new Patent and Trademark Depository Library representative! His name is Bill Schilling, and he comes to us with many years of reference experience at our city library, Albany Public. Bill also has responsibilities for business reference. Although he recently joined us, his willing attitude, and excellent reference skills were instantly appreciated!

We have continued to periodically incorporate patent and trademark workshops into our "tool tutorials" training classes with moderate success (perhaps our lack of current parking has something to do with this?) Those that do attend however, are enthusiastic!

We also featured patent material during the NYS Library tour arranged for the benefit of attendees to the New York Library Association annual conference held in Albany in October. We had several "stations" along the tour highlighting various aspects our collections and speakers knowledgeable in each area. Examples of patent and trademark materials complimented the presentation.

Former representative Mary Woodward has taken on training and outreach responsibilities at the Library. I know that she will miss terribly the representatives she came to know at the conference, as well as the wonderful PTDL program staff. Please welcome Bill - he'll be a great asset to the program!

- Mary Woodward

Amherst, Massachusetts
Physical Sciences and Engineering Library, University of Massachusetts

Selma Etter is now the designated representative. Eric Esau, the representative since the depository was established, was reassigned to another department (Collection Development) in late May. The depository is housed in the Physical Sciences and Engineering branch library of the university libraries. This library has been a depository since 1984.

In the year 2000, Cindy Spell attended the PTDL conference from this library. Since the spring of 2001, other staff members have begun to help patent and trademark searchers. Larry Feldman, the new head of the science branch libraries as of May, 2001, has begun learning how to use Cassie and the online searching tools. Joanne Clapp, the new-tiered reference assistant, has begun learning about patents and trademarks.

Selma Etter has again appeared before an appreciative 4th grade audience and enlightened them about the perils of patenting. Selma Etter also spoke before a local retired group about the history of patents and found in the audience two people who knew two famous 20th century inventors.

This past August, with the help of the kit from Inventors' Digest, a small inventing display was mounted.

- Selma Etter

Does parking (or the lack thereof) effect attendance at your training sessions? Does lack of parking effect usage of your PTDL? Do searchers still visit your library?
Anchorage, Alaska
Z.J. Loussac Public Library, Anchorage Municipal Libraries

The Anchorage PTDL has noticed a bit of an increase in the use of our patent and trademark collections and use of our patent and trademark workstation. We purchased a new storage cabinet at the beginning of the year and have completed a shift of all the CD and DVD-ROM products so they are located adjacent to the microfilm collection. The relocation of the patent and trademark workstation and printer last week completes the move to consolidate the collection and the workstation and make them more accessible for our patrons.

An inventory of the collection was taken in January 2002. It isn't surprising that patents and trademarks information and the equipment used to access that information takes up a tremendous amount of space. Our PTDL has never had paper copies of utility and design patents, but we do have bound paper copies of the Official Gazettes from 1880 to present with only a few missing issues. We are contemplating offering all but the current 20 years to the OPTDLP so they can find another home for the collection that requires 400 linear feet of storage space.

PTDL representative Robert Williams will present a brief program and a tour of the PTDL during the annual conference of the Alaska Library Association March 9, 2002.

The Anchorage Municipal Libraries will also be looking for a new municipal librarian. Municipal Librarian, Tim Lynch, announced his resignation and retirement effective August 1, 2002. A nationwide search for his replacement is planned.

- Robert Williams

Ann Arbor, Michigan
Media Union Library, University of Michigan

The Ann Arbor, MI PTDL is located in the Media Union Library at the University of Michigan. From the name it sounds like a Media Library, but in reality it houses the Art & Design, Architecture & Urban Planning and Engineering Collection.

Leena Lalwani has been the PTDL representative since January of 2000; she took over from Terry Lee who retired at the end of 1999. Leena is also the Coordinator for Engineering Collections. Other reference staff who help out PTDL users with patents are Jim Ottaviani, Rebecca Price, Bob Tolliver, David Carter, Paul Grochowski, Phillip Edwards, Laura Tatum and Janet Yoder. We have been a PTDL for almost the last 20 years, since 1983. We have moved 2 times during this period. In 1992, all the way across campus, and in 1996, diagonally across into a new building called the Media Union.

In the past year we have worked on updating our web pages. Patrons walking into the library have dropped. We do have an increase in email and phone questions on how to do searches.

- Leena Lalwani

Atlanta, Georgia
Georgia Institute of Technology

The Atlanta Patent and Trademark Depository Library at the Georgia Institute of Technology has been recognized as a Patent Depository Library since 1946. I am Joanne Tobin and have been in this department since 1996. I am currently the PTDL Representative. I've worked with patent and trademark materials for almost 13 years. Working with me in the Atlanta PTDL are four Library Assistants (Cathe Cannon, Joyce Craft, Vincent Thorpe and Christian Wanamaker). The depository is housed in the Technical Resources Department of the Georgia Tech Library, which is a reference point for standards, government sponsored research reports, society papers and more, along with the patents and trademarks.

In personnel changes, Vincent Thorpe was hired as a Library Assistant I and has been upgraded to a Library Assistant III. In August, Mary Frances Panettiere, our long-time, (Continued on page 13)
(Continued from page 12)

extremely capable Head, Technical Resources, left to become Assistant Head of the Library’s Information Control and Management Department. Greg Raschke came from the Reference Department to become Acting Head of this Department until his resignation March 2001. I have functioned as Interim Head of this department since Greg’s departure.

Our library was one of the original 22 PTDL’s. Georgia Tech librarians Barbara Walker, former Patents Librarian, and Richard Leacy, former Head, Special Collections Dept., attended the first PTDL Conference. Jean Kirkland headed our Patents Dept. from 1982-1993, followed by Mary-Frances Panettiere from 1993 – 2000. Barbara fondly remembers Safford Harris, our Maps and Patents Librarian prior to that first PTDL Conference. Safford was considered to be an outstanding librarian in the patent field at a time when Georgia Tech was the only PDL in the Southeast.

Our library has been busy this year with a major reorganization of our collection and reference services in anticipation of the creation of an information commons where we will provide reference and computer technology assistance on a 24/7 basis. Our Cassis System will move into this area.

On May 16, Joanne gave a patent presentation to 130 gifted elementary school students in grades 1 – 5. Students were instructed on how to search on the USPTO website to find information. Students had fun examining a local inventor’s patent for a water gun called the Supersoaker®. The students had just completed a unit on inventions and brought their own inventions to the presentation. Students were given a fun trademark game, chip clips, and PTDL magnets, courtesy of Mande Putnam, Manager, PTDL Program.

David Talbott, Robert Bahr, et.al. were on campus on June 28 and June 29 to present the Patents Customer Outreach 2001 Program. The eighty-six attendees appreciated their informative presentations.

On Aug 27th, Ron Hack, Deputy Director for Information Technology visited our PTDL and toured our library facilities.

On August 28, 2001, at the request of the professors, I conducted a patent presentation to 3 classes of Industrial Design students utilizing PowerPoint®, the U.S.P. T.O. website, and our library GTEL databases. The students asked many astute questions during the Q & A session, proving that not all off them slept during the presentation.

Independent Inventor, Wally Sumner, stopped by last August, to thank our staff for helping him with his patent research. He was proud of his new patent, number 6,253,785 issued July 3, 2001, an automatic leak shutoff device.

On October 23, 2001, at the request of Professor Andrea Tone of the History of Technology and Science Department, I conducted an introduction to intellectual properties class. Emphasis was placed on tracing the history of inventions particularly through cited patent references. Tracing the history of the laser was used as an example. Professor Tone has written a successful book on the history of contraceptives, Devices and Desires: A History of Contraceptives in America. While doing research for her book she frequented our PTDL searching patents on the subject, and she did a photo shoot here in our department, which was used to promote her book.

On Feb. 14, 2002, Joanne teamed with our Mechanical Engineering Information Consultant, in the presentation of patent information to 150 mechanical engineering students.

On February 18, 2002, Joanne gave a patent presentation to 60 management students taking a New Product Development Class. They were also introduced to the business sources useful in completing their assignment of choosing a patent and then writing a market development plan.

On Saturday, Feb. 23, 2002, John Calvert of the Office of Independent Inventors will present a patent workshop. Additional guest speakers include Jeff Sanford, Director of the SBDC Program Development and Quality Assurance Office and a speaker from the Inventors’ Associates of Georgia, Inc. (IAG).

- Joanne Tobin

6,253,785 Automatic Leak Shutoff Device
Carlis L. Shumake, Jr. (Powder Springs, GA), Wallace M. Sumner (Marietta, GA); Issued July 3, 2001
**Auburn, Alabama**

Ralph Brown Draughon Library, Auburn University

I have been patent representative for most of the past 3 years, and Auburn has been a PTDL library since 1983.

Over the past year we have completed the move of almost all of our Patent Collection, except for the patents on microfilm. For the first time since I started working at Auburn, all of the print Patent and Trademark Reference materials are now located in one area on one floor, with the *Cassie* III station. This took place as part of a comprehensive shift of the library’s collections.

After the shift of the libraries collections Patents can best be described as part of the Auburn Reference Department. However, while I am the Patent and Trademark Representative, I am also the Engineering Librarian.

In the past year there have been several major changes. Along with moving all 2.6 million volumes in the library around as part of a reorganization, we also got Claudine back from her Fellowship, where she now is the reference librarian to the patent reference librarian!

Over the past year patents got combined closely into the History of Industrial Design course where the assorted patent databases are a major resource. I have learned that the USPTO cannot offer a comprehensive index to the whole patent collection soon enough. This point was drummed in violently when I had to try and find the original patent for the Kodak Instamatic camera. The *Gazettes* saved the day on that question.

- Andrew Wohrley

**Austin, Texas**

McKinney Engineering Library, University of Texas at Austin

The McKinney Engineering Library announced three new tutorials this year. Of particular interest to this group is our new patent tutorial: Patent Searching: Tutorial and Guide to Online Resources. This is part of our move to provide "just-in-time" reference help to our users where ever they are.

Other tutorials include: Information Excavation, advice for engineering graduate students, and our technical writing tutorial which is undergoing some exciting additions. Many of our students do not speak English as a first language and have little library or research experience, therefore we are currently adding voice-overs in Spanish, Chinese, and Korean. The text will continue to be in English but a voice will explain what the user is seeing.

We feel strongly that the Internet is our future, and we must provide both access and instruction. Any PTDL may point to these--let us know so we can notify our administration--we all need credit.

- Susan Ardis

**McKinney Engineering Library Tutorials:**

- Patent Searching: Tutorial and Guide to Online Resources

- Information Excavation

- Technical Writing Tutorial
  [http://www.lib.utexas.edu/engin/usered/index.htm](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/engin/usered/index.htm)
My name is Jason Martin, and I am the Patents and Business Librarian at Louisiana State University. LSU was named a PTDL in 1981. I, on the other hand, was named a Patent Librarian just a few days ago on January 16th when I started working at the Middleton Library. I had previous experience working with patents and trademarks while I was a Graduate Assistant at the University of South Florida, but I soon realized how much more I needed to learn about patents and trademarks. I was fortunate enough to be able to attend a USPTO workshop held at the library, and I will be attending the USPTO conference in March. Bambi Hernandez plays a vital role in the library by cataloging and filing all items pertaining to patents and trademarks located in both the Government Documents and Reference areas of the library. She and Philip Polito, who formerly maintained the Cassis workstation, have greatly helped me to get started and find my way in the world of patent librarianship. Since I was not here at the time, I can not tell you what happened last year, but as for this year, we have some big ideas in mind. Our goal is to try and reach out to the community and hold workshops on finding patents and trademarks. A personal goal of mine is to learn as much as possible about patents and trademarks so I may better assist library patrons, and somewhere along the way, make the other librarians at Middleton Library unafraid to answer a patent or trademark question. Once you get the hang of it they really are kind of fun.

- Jason Martin

Boston, Massachusetts
Boston Public Library

Science Reference has finally moved into its permanent post-flood location. The move, which was 3 1/2 years in the making, took place in November. We are happily situated on the second floor of the McKim Building, in two spacious and recently renovated rooms. We have 9 thin-client terminals with networked printers, two standard PC's, and Cassis for the public, and two thin screen computers for the staff. Best of all, we have two offices on stack 4 - fairly close to the Reference Desk, but far enough away for quality off-desk activities. We all have computers and desks, and windows too. (No more muffin-warming drawer stories from my office). We did not have space for all of our collection, so patent microfilm, ANSI standards and SAMS photofacts are stored in various locations within the Copley Square building, but may need some advance notice to retrieve. We continue to do more telephone reference than in-person help with patents and trademarks. We often do a trademark search together with the patron while they are on the phone, and we are both connected to the USPTO web site.

The Trademark Commissioner visited Suffolk Law School in the winter and was welcomed by Uma Murthy. Jim Baillie arranged a book signing event with Richard Levy, inventor of the Furby®. One hundred and twenty people came to hear his engaging talk which was co-hosted by Emerson College.

"You know, you could have just called us when your invention was finished."

- Marilyn McLean

©Scott McCullar 2001/2002
Burlington, Vermont
Bailey/Howe Library, University of Vermont

Lots of questions and inquiries have been coming in from the mountains and valleys of Vermont. Our users are becoming more sophisticated but they still need our help. I have had a number of contacts with fledgling inventor groups. I think that outreach will be important over the next year. Meetings with other librarians and small business development groups will hopefully provide us with an opportunity to provide useful information.

- Scott Schaffer

Butte, Montana
Montana Tech Library of the University of Montana

Twice annually, the Butte PTDL librarians give a patent and trademark Internet demonstration at the Butte Business Center. This presentation is given during the marketing research segment of a class for student entrepreneurs who are planning on starting new businesses in the area.

After the 2001 PTDL Conference, Jean Bishop gave several instructional sessions to the Montana Tech Library staff. The PTDL Book Bag that was given out at the conference was used as a door prize. Each staff member could enter their name each time they attended a session to win the bag. Topics covered were: American Inventor’s Protection Act, PARR (patent application retrieval system), EFS (electronic filing system), E-Pave (electronic patent application), E-TEAS, PrinTEAS, Trademark Electronic Application System (TESS), Trademark Application Information Retrieval (PAIR), Trademark Electronic Search System (TESS), Trademark Electronic Application System (TESS), and the patent classification system.

An instructional session was also given to a business class at Montana Tech emphasizing the new business methods patents.

- Ann St. Clair

Cheyenne, Wyoming
Wyoming State Library

In early 2001, the Natrona County Public Library’s PTDL was transferred to the Wyoming State Library, and in August of 2001, I was brought on as the Intellectual Property Librarian. It has been a busy time as we have been setting up the new collection and organizing the transferred materials. Fortunately, Wyoming has a statewide online catalog, WYLD_CAT, which has made transferring documents' cataloging records easier. I have also been keeping the acquisitions department busy ordering books and journals for the new collection.

We have created a new PTDL brochure and a monthly listing of Wyomingites who have received patents that we offer for reproduction to newspapers around the state. I have made several presentations on intellectual property, including one at the annual Wyoming Library Association conference. We are also preparing for our Open House, which will take place May 20-21 in Cheyenne.

(Continued on page 17)
Thanks to excellent assistance from our Systems Librarian, Desiree Saunders, and Electronic Resources Librarian, Erin Kinney, the searchable Wyoming Inventors Database (http://cowgirl.state.wy.us/inventors/) went live in January. Currently, the database coverage is from 1970 to present, but I will be doing a lot of data entry in the future to include all patents issued to inventors within the present-day boundaries of Wyoming. The oldest Wyoming patent I have found was issued to an inventor in Cheyenne, Dakota Territory (Pat. No. 81,414). Use of Micropatent's PatSearch Fulltext has been very valuable. However, it has required that I sift through thousands of patents since it seems every state has or had a city or county of Wyoming. I have used Micropatent in conjunction with the Official Gazette’s Geo-

- Dawn Rohan

**Cincinnati, Ohio**

Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

The past year has been a stable but busy one for our PTDL. With no major staff changes and a relatively calm Cassis workstation, we have had a year of steady service to our community. Among this year's highlights:

**PROGRAMS**

**From Dreams to Dollars: Protecting and Marketing Your Invention**

In November we hosted a program for independent inventors, called “From Dreams to Dollars,” which brought together the expertise of the PTO and the experience of the local community. Richard Apley, from the Office of Independent Inventor Programs, was the key speaker, offering practical advice to the group and one-on-one help to interested inventors. Mr. Apley endured travel glitches that included cancelled flights, fog delays, and added security hassles to provide a wonderful opportunity for over 65 of our local inventors to have their PTO questions answered. Joining him on the program were a local IP attorney, two marketing consultants, and three local inventors with their stories of hard work and success.

**Power of Patents**

We continued to offer our bi-monthly "Power of Patents" program, an introduction to intellectual property and patent searching. With continual changes in laws and products, we updated our PowerPoint presentation for each program. Over 60 local inventors attended this program in 2001.

**Music Copyright**

In March our department hosted a program on the music business, "Who Wants to Be a Music Millionaire?" which included a presentation on music copyright by a local intellectual property lawyer who specializes in proprietary rights in the entertainment business. The program was well-attended and will be repeated this spring.

**COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT**

**Design Patent Drawings on Microfilm**

This year we purchased 23 rolls of design patent drawings on microfilm from the National Archives. The coverage and quality of these drawings enhance the drawings available online and through USA-Pat, and we are happy to have them in our collection. A record has been added to our OPAC.

In 2001 we also added local catalog records for our British patent journals, continuing our effort from the previous year to provide some presence for our patent collection in our catalog. We hope to provide more thorough coverage as our library moves toward an integrated system with a web-based catalog.

(Continued on page 18)
Second Workstation

As a federal depository library, we adjusted our selection profile to receive a second copy of the *Cassie* products. We now can offer patent searching at two workstations.

OUTREACH

Young Inventors

In response to a November newspaper story about local 6th graders who were using grant money to build their inventions, we called the teacher who had spearheaded the project and invited the class to our department to find out about patents. We organized the visit into 3 learning stations on historical patents, a PowerPoint presentation on patent basic Q&A, and a visit to a 'patent examiner' who compared each student invention with a patent for a similar product. Over 80 student inventions were examined and each student received a 'Certificate of Invention.' In January two department staff members visited the school to see the inventions on display.

Inventors' Council

Our local Inventors' Council has been prospering under new leadership and attendance at its monthly meetings here at the Library has grown markedly. One highlight this year was a presentation by Ron Docie, author of *The Inventor’s Bible*, which drew over 45 people. The Council has also proved invaluable in advertising our services and programs, and we have noticed increased use of our PTDL since the fall.

Questionnaire

We have often wondered about the success of our local inventors in getting patents and the part our PTDL plays in their patenting experience. To explore this question and to gather information to help us plan future programs, this month we sent out a questionnaire to over 200 local inventors. We are just beginning to receive returned questionnaires and are hoping for a good response.

- Tracy Koenig

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Clemson, South Carolina

R.M. Cooper Library, Clemson, University

Greetings from the Clemson University PTDL. We are a part of the Reference Unit, and my responsibilities include all Government Documents. We are the sole PTDL for the state of South Carolina, and so we serve a wide variety of patrons: anything from golf clubs and fishing lures to prosthetic hips and nonwoven fibers. It has been a relatively quiet year, although we always see an increase in traffic in January. Could it be all of those New Year’s resolutions? We have also noticed an increase in phone calls. Many people are eager to use the Internet tools, but they still seem to need the encouragement that only a Patent Librarian can offer. I have also spent some time this year with historians who are preparing an exhibit on the Laurens Glass Works company. Many thanks to Jim Miller for tracking down design patent 7,1907 - a glass bottle decorated with an embossed pattern of dice which is the only patent known to be assigned to the company.

Over the Christmas holidays our library experienced a power outage that temporarily took out our *Cassie* workstation. At the time, we did not have an uninterrupted power source (UPS), so we were very lucky that there was no permanent damage. Many thanks to Mike and Brookie for giving me the confidence to re-ghost without blowing up anything!

2002 marks the 9th anniversary of our PTDL. I’ve just begun planning the big anniversary party, and you are all invited to attend!

- Jan Comfort

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Des. 71,907 Design for a Bottle

Frank Deitrick (Laurens, SC); Issued January 25, 1927
Cleveland, Ohio
Cleveland Public Library

The PTDL of the Cleveland Public Library is housed in the Government Documents Department, also a Federal Depository Library. Two librarians, a Library Assistant, and two clerical staff staff the PTDL. It has been a PTDL for 25 years.

This year the Cleveland PTDL was busy with several programs and activities. In May 2001 it hosted the USPTO's eGovernment program for patents in a two-day workshop. About 200 attorneys, their support staff and independent inventors, attended the workshop. The Cleveland Intellectual Property Law Association and two local law firms provided funding for refreshments and helped get the word out about the program to their colleagues.

The Library applied for continuing Legal Education credits for this program, which was a huge plus to the attorneys that attended.

In August, Richard Apley, Director of the Office of Independent Inventor Programs, presented a Saturday Seminar to a group of inventors and interested attendees. The Cleveland Connection, a local inventors group, printed a notice of the program in its newsletter. Mr. Apley graciously provided all interested attendees with a fifteen-minute private session as he shared his more than 30 years expertise as a patent examiner, answering their questions and advising them when he could.

An exhibit focusing on Patents, Trademarks and Copyright was on display for National Inventor's month. The display featured exhibit pieces from the National Inventors Hall of Fame in Akron, Ohio and material from the PTDL. Lu Lariccia, information specialist at the National Inventors Hall of Fame, visited the Library for a tour and left with valuable information that would help her with research for the Hall.

Cleveland Public Library PTDL staff and administration wish the PTDLs all a happy 25th anniversary.

- Robin Gray

College Station, Texas
Texas A&M University

We continue to work on our PowerPoint user guides for patent and trademark searching. The patrons like these because they give examples of how the databases can be searched. We are now at work on a guide showing how to do quick and dirty searches on different foreign patent databases and a guide for using CASSETT databases for patent and trademark research. A draft version of the foreign patents guide will be shown at this year's Training Seminar.

I presented revised versions of the patent and trademark guides at the American Library Association Conference in San Francisco, where they and the information on how to create them generated lots of interest from the people attending the ALA poster sessions.

In late July, I was invited by the Texas A&M University System Technology Licensing Office and the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM) to present the Seven Step Patent Strategy at the AUTM Conference in Knoxville, TN. The presentation itself had about 30-35 attendees.

Some you may know that I have begun my research for my doctoral thesis which focuses on Texas patents and inventors from the 1840s to the 1920's. One of the most exciting finds is some of the older patents for inventors from the Bryan-College Station area. So far, I've found three from the 1869-1873 period. (I know that's not much, but consider the size of town at that time). They are: patent no. 89,144 granted on April 20, 1869 for a Gang Plow; patent no. 95,338 granted on September 28, 1869 for a Cultivator; and patent no. 142,687 granted on September 9, 1873 for a Fence-post socket.

This year I am pleased to announce that Kathryn Taylor has begun to work with me on a regular basis on intellectual property projects. She joins Ron Hambrick and Tod Walters who help start patrons on preliminary searches when I am not available.

Finally, Intellectual Property News Monthly (some of you are subscribers) is sent to 250 to 300 people each month, keeping them apprised of issues and news on copyright, patents and trademarks.

- Brian Carpenter

(Continued on page 20)
Ohio State had fewer in-house users and more users choosing to go to the web, a wonderful resource for PTDL’s and potential inventors alike. Inquirers from the Dayton area now have a PTDL closer to home (Wright State University) and can save themselves a 4 hour drive (and probably another hour just looking for parking!). The Inventors Network of Columbus donated two books to our miscellaneous collection of general interest patent / trademark books and a few of their members attended a workshop sponsored by the Cincinnati PTDL. Users continue to greatly underestimate the time and effort they should invest in the search process as well as overestimate the assistance we can provide (hoping for advice related to fees, legal issues, and procedural details.) As evidenced by questions sent to the listserv, questions from history and genealogy buffs are popular everywhere and continue here at pretty much the same pace.

- Mary Jo Arnold

My name is David Sturges and I joined the reference staff at the New Hampshire State Library in 1997. Since that time, I have provided direct assistance to patrons, with all Patent and Trademark questions. Diana Degen of the Electronic and Government Information section coordinates the program and acts as our PTDLP representative. Our walk in traffic has continued to decline over the past year, but we have seen a slight increase in phone calls requesting assistance with online searching. The majority of walk-in and telephone requests seem to be for historical Patent and Trademark searching. A few patrons conducting genealogy research have used our facility to track down inventions patented by their ancestors. I gave two Patent and Trademark related presentations this past year. In February, I gave a short talk on patent searching at the NH Independent Inventors Association Winter meeting. During the summer, I gave a presentation to the Franklin Pierce Law Center’s Summer Institute. The presentation covered patent searching using CASSIS and the USPTO website.

- David Sturges
Dallas, Texas  
Dallas Public Library

Hi everyone! It's been another busy year here at Dallas Public.

The kickoff celebration for Dallas Public Library's 100th birthday celebration took place at the Central Library in April. It included a book sale and a street festival with booths, programs, contests, State Fair-type foods (corny dogs, ice cream, cotton candy, nachos, etc.) and a wide variety of activities. 1,500 Centennial Fest attendees visited the Government Information Center Booth. The wide variety of free government handouts available and 2 contests, one of which tested patent and trademark expertise, generated a lot of interest.

In May, the PTO came out to Dallas to present a different version of their AIPA workshops, with one day devoted to trademarks and independent inventors and the other day devoted to the EBC and using EFS. We had many lawyers as well as inventors come out for this event.

Robert Frantz, our ever-faithful patent agent, has been conducting patent workshops for us since 1998. This year he introduced a new workshop entitled “Taking the Mystery Out of Provisional Patent Applications: A Step-by-Demonstration for Independent Inventors.” It’s had great response. We’ve also been lucky enough to have Lars Jensen, another patent agent, for our one-on-one twenty-minute free question and answer sessions. I’ve been involved with the Texas Inventor’s Association. The Association is run by 2 independent inventors and is a really good opportunity to meet more of the inventors as well as professionals here in the Dallas area.

We created some new search guides for our patrons: a quick guide illustrated with PTO web screen shots for patent searches, one for trademark searches, and a bibliography of patent, trademark, and copyright resources available at the library. Patent and trademark searchers seem to find them helpful.

Well, sorry I’m not able to be there this year, but I’m sure you all don’t mind my replacement.

- Rob Martindale

Dayton, Ohio  
Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University

This was our first full year as a PTDL. We had our opening reception on January 31, 2001, with Mr. Ronald Hack, Acting Chief Information Officer, attending for the USPTO. Invitations mailed to local inventors and political and business leaders drew approximately 200 people to the opening. Among these was Marion Wright, wife of the late Wilkinson "Wick" Wright, grand-nephew of Orville and Wilbur Wright. The PTDL collection is housed in the Reference and Instruction Department of the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library.

During the year, I gave presentations to the Small Business Development Center in Springfield, Ohio (with George Pierce, President of the Inventors Council of Dayton) and the Wright State University Information Technology Research Institute Seminar regarding the PTDL collection and reference services of the University Libraries.

I am presently scheduling quarterly workshops -- two basic patent research and one trademark research -- for the University community. Faculty, students and staff have attended, with most of them working on their own inventions.

Local response to the PTDL has been great. Every month the number of inventors researching the patent collection increases. All in all, it was a good start for the PTDL in Dayton, Ohio.

Victoria Montavon, University Librarian, left Wright State and became the Dean and University Librarian at the University of Cincinnati in September. Stephen Foster of Central Michigan University has accepted the University Librarian position here at Wright State and starts in July.

- Ran Raider
Detroit, Michigan
Great Lakes Patent and Trademark Center, Detroit Public Library

I am going to plunge in and say hallo to everyone.

Exactly a month ago, I joined the Great Lakes Patents and Trademarks Center team of Carla, Hillary and Joyce. I come from a completely different background, so this is all new and fascinating.

Although the Detroit Public Library has been a Depository since 1871, the Center was created in 1995, one of only two such partnerships with the Washington office. This being a very high patent area, the greater convenience and accessibility are indeed appreciated. The videoconferencing equipment has permitted direct training from Washington.

I am looking forward to the annual conference in March. I hope to meet many colleagues and am especially interested in outreach strategies.

- Marilena Gahman

Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Broward County Main Library

Hi Readers!

My name is Eileen Fischlschweiger (formerly Eileen Pernicone), and I've been the Fort Lauderdale PTDL Representative for five years and have worked at the PTDL in the capacity of Patent and Trademark Librarian for seven. I have a Bachelor of Science degree with a double major in Chemistry and Physics, a Master's degree in Communications and a second Master's degree in Library Science.

The Fort Lauderdale PTDL has been housed at the Broward County Main Library in Downtown Fort Lauderdale since its inception in November 1984. Originally part of the Government Documents Department, it is currently a part of the Business, Law, and Government Department since the reorganization in November of 1996.

Wedding Bells

PTDL Representative Eileen Pernicone and Tom Fischlschweiger became engaged on June 22, 2001 and were married on November 16, 2001. We are both very much in love and very happy together.

2001 Highlights

- Chris Marhenke did an Intellectual Property presentation for the University of South Florida Government Documents class in October 2001.
- Chris Marhenke also worked on producing a Florida patents list for the years 1790-1873 using the Subject Index of Patents for Inventions 1790-1873.
- After a successful set of AIPA workshops in December 2000, the USPTO was back on February 3, 2001 to provide a Workshop at the Inventor's Society of South Florida meeting. Richard Apley from the Office of Independent Inventor Programs spoke, and I gave a ½ hour presentation on the PTDL facilities at the Broward County Main Library and on how to do a patent search.
- Our PTDL had a book display for National Inventors' Month in August 2001 featuring our patent and trademark materials. We used the information sheets and posters that we received from Inventors' Digest to decorate.
- Several new staff joined our department this year. Judy Li and Wayne Draper joined within the past few months. Also, Eileen Setton is retiring on February 15, 2002.
- Eileen Fischlschweiger developed and delivered a workshop for an antiques class on how to use patent and trademark materials when doing antiques research.
- Eileen Fischlschweiger is working on creating a new copyright form choice list with a brief line followed by the detailed information on when to use which form rather than the current one line list.
- A successful and exciting Invent Broward 2001-2002. Hundreds of invention models from Bro-

(Continued on page 23)
(Continued from page 22)

ward County area elementary schools were brought in for display on the sixth floor of the Main Library. Diana Leitner, the new programming coordinator at the Main Library, has done a great job in putting together this program, which includes a showcase of the inventions and a reception for participating students and their parents and teachers. Eileen Fischlschweiger spoke at the reception and led the children in the traditional inventors cheer. Staff from the Children's Department also did a Story Hour for the children and spoke to them about accidental inventions, such as fudge.

- Eileen Fischlschweiger

Grand Forks, North Dakota
Chester Fritz Library, University of North Dakota

The Grand Forks PTDL found stability this year. In 2000, there were changes in the positions of PTDL Representative, Department Head, and Director of the library. The consistency has been a relief to our patrons.

Angela Bailly, the PTDL Representative, has learned even more information this year. She's also come to realize that there will be no end to the learning process in the world of patents and trademarks.

In January of 2001, North Dakota has its first Inventor's Congress in our state capital. Over 150 inventors and business people attended seminars on patent searching, marketing and the patent process. The second annual NDIC happened this past January in Grand Forks. There were over 250 people in attendance. The NDIC is held in conjunction with our state's Marketplace of Ideas. Marketplace is an enthusiastic exploration of the opportunities for North Dakota's future.

Our PTDL participated in the event with a booth that was a very popular "stopping" point for attendees, partially due to the 1970's box of Mr. Bubble sitting on the table. The creator of the product was a well-loved North Dakotan.

The PTDL also participated in two Marketplace for Kids events in 2001. Similar to a science fair, Marketplace for Kids is an exploration of invention ideas from fourth through sixth grade students. They are held in six regions of our state. Grand Forks will have its first this year. The PTDL has a booth for information and teaches at least two classes on patents and trademarks. Angela makes a serious attempt to avoid sounding boring. Maybe she should bring samples of Mr. Bubble.

- Angela Bailly

Hartford, Connecticut
Hartford Public Library

A feature story about the Hartford PTDL appeared in the Nov. 19, 2001 issue of the Hartford Business Journal. Entitled "Hartford Public Library is a source for hopeful inventors," Diane Weaver Dunne's article provided an overview of the PTDL system and included comments by HPL's PTDL librarian Bob Chapman. Chapman noted that "patent research is time consuming and labor intensive." "You are building something that looks like a mousetrap, but it is not designed to catch a mouse," Chapman hypothesized. "Maybe it's designed to catch a cat." The only way to verify this new invention will not legally impede on other inventors' claims is to review other patents, he explained. "The Patent Office goes through every application with a fine toothcomb," Chapman emphasized. "It must pass muster with their intellectual property attorneys. They don't mess around because too much is at stake." The article included a sidebar that listed the seven-step approach to conducting a patent search. It also included a link to the USPTO web site.

The same issue of the Hartford Business Journal contained an article called "Valuing intellectual property," by Chuck Coyne, ASA, managing director of Valuation Strategies. "Intellectual property, such as patents, trademarks and copyrights, may need to be valued for several reasons, including settling damages in an infringement case, or buying and selling intellectual property," Coyne wrote.

- Robert Chapman
Honolulu, Hawaii
Hawaii State Library

Aloha from warm and sunny Honolulu.

The Honolulu PTDL is part of the Federal Documents Section of the Hawaii State Library which is the main branch of the Hawaii State Public Library System, the only statewide public library system in the United States. We became a PTDL in December 1989. The current staff includes Jan Tawarahara, Section Head Librarian and PTDL Representative since 1992; Stewart Chun, Librarian; John Bank, Librarian; Amelia Silva, Library Assistant; and two student helpers.

Stewart Chun was a first-time attendee at the 24th Annual Patent and Trademark Depository Library Training Seminar, March 18th to the 23rd. Stewart received a Friends of the Library of Hawaii continuing education grant to attend the seminar and he was inspired by his experience to create displays to raise public awareness of our PTDL resources.

Jan Tawarahara served as a judge for the Hawaii Department of Education Invention Convention. One of the entries was a cart for library books to be used by patrons in public libraries to transport their load while in the library.

We purchased U.S. Design Patents microfilm from 1842 through 1948 to complete our design patents backfile.

We were happy to receive more U.S. Patents on DVD-ROM and look forward to replacing all U.S. Patent on CD-ROM with their space-saving DVD-ROM versions.

- Jan Tawarahara

Houston, Texas
Fondren Library, Rice University

Fondren Library, Rice University is celebrating its 25th year as a patent and trademark depository library. We first became a patent depository library on July 28, 1977 under the direction of Barbara Kile. Barbara fostered a strong working relationship with Houston area independent inventors and the Houston Inventors Association that continues today. In the past year PTDL staff members Fannie Haynes, Esther Crawford, and Denise Arial taught 35 patent searching classes to approximately 250 participants. In September we were pleased to host PTDL staff member Michael Hydorn who offered a workshop on “Tips and Pointers from the United States Patent Office for Individual Inventors”. Martha Crockett Sneed and Mande Putnam also visited the PTDL and SCIPPR services this fall. With considerable regret, Rice University made the decision to close the fee-based services offered by SCIPPR effective December 31, 2001. Although the Fondren Library will no longer be a PTDL Partnership library, we will continue as a PTDL.

- Esther Crawford

Kansas City, Missouri
Linda Hall Library

Hello from Linda Hall Library

This past year we had our lovely built-in, wood-paneled card catalog removed and that area was remodeled into a new “room” for the OPACs. The construction work took about 5 months. The area is just a few yards from the reference desk. There were many times when the wearing of earplugs was necessary.

But now that it is done, it looks very nice and we believe patrons are enjoying it quite a bit also. In-house use of patent and trademark materials, down over past few years, but sort of leveled off. When they do come in, they still manage to all come in on the same day! I have to confess we aren't using Cassis very much, even though I think it is actually quite user-friendly. But with the web stuff, it becomes too many interfaces for our average patron. We are really enjoying the USAPat discs.

- Shannon Stipe
Lincoln, Nebraska
Engineering Library, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The Engineering Library at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln houses the PTDL for the state of Nebraska. It was established in January 1978 and has its own dedicated search room. The Engineering Librarian, Virginia (Ginny) Baldwin, is in her second year as a PTDL librarian. Staff member, Donna Koch, who attended the annual training seminar with the last year, has been doing most of the trademark search assistance. Donna began working with the local inventor organization and invited them to the library for a presentation and tour of the facilities. Virginia has been incorporating patent searching information into her library instruction for engineering classes and has scheduled a session that will include patent searching information to other library faculty and staff at UNL.

Using funds obtained primarily from providing copies of patents to patrons, the library purchased a new computer for use in the patent room for Internet access to the USPTO web site. This has been immensely valuable, not only in showing patrons how to use the USPTO web site, but also in retrieving auxiliary information (especially classification definitions) from the web site while the patron is using Cassie2 and the print products in the same room.

Newly hired University Libraries’ Development and Public Relations Librarian, Joan Barnes, is working with us to produce a brochure that advertises our resources and services. Joan’s expertise has been valuable in determining targeted distribution of the brochure. One of the goals of the brochure is to advertise our own expertise and the value that we can add to USPTO web site searching.

- Ginny Baldwin

Little Rock, Arkansas
Arkansas State Library

2001 was a year of change for the Arkansas State Library. Immediately after Seminar, Debbie Hall, who has been involved with the PTDL for many years moved from Reference to be the Coordinator of Grants and Research. Debbie was dedicated to the success of the PTDL and her knowledge of intellectual property along with her friendly, outgoing personality are missed in State Library Services. She is still available to assist us as needed. We wish Debbie great success in her new position and welcome two new staff members to the area. Veronica Stewart joined Ola Flucas and Elizabeth Danley in Reference Services, and Robert Black returned to the State Library as the Associate Director for Library Development.

The PTDL continues to work with the Small Business Development Center in conducting workshops on Intellectual Property. Mary Leckie, Coordinator of State Library Services; Elizabeth Danley and Ola Flucas, Reference Librarians, have each attended and/or been presenters at one of the workshops. Two SBDC staff members came to the state library for a tour and to go through the patent search process. Ola and Elizabeth instructed them in the use of the standard tools and the PTO web page.

In addition to our staff changes, this has been a quiet year at ASL. We are addressing more questions concerning the use of the PTO web page and accessing patent and trademark information on the Internet. September 11 brought changes in access to our library. Since we are located behind the state capitol, we entered into a “lock-down” situation. We now have only two entrances to the building and visitors must sign in and out, which has contributed to a decrease in our walk-in traffic.

With a complete and dedicated staff, a supportive administration, and assistance from local attorneys and the SBDC, we are exploring ways to develop programs to encourage the use of our PTDL resources.

- Mary Leckie
Louisville, Kentucky
Louisville Free Public Library

2001 was LFPL’s 13th year as a PTDL. We started out as one reference department and then split into a general information desk (covering Dewey numbers 000 to 600 and federal government publications) and a business information desk (covering all business reference materials and patents, trademarks, and copyright information). In 2002 we will become one big reference station-again and planning for this move has been quite a challenge.

On a more positive note, 2001 was a year of innovation in the patents and trademarks department. I publicized “The Librarian Is In” program, where inventors and people seeking trademarks are able to book me for a 45-minute session on the topic of their choice. I was also successful in getting my independent inventors to enroll in not only my two-hour Patents and Trademarks Lab Class but also my two-hour Business Research Online Lab Class. In Business Research Online we can concentrate on such issues as marketing, financing, industry profiles, identification of manufacturers, and consumer purchasing behaviors. I’ve also been very happy with the increased advertising coverage I’m getting from being listed in the Computer Learning Center monthly class list.

The good news is that both Ford plants in Jefferson County have continued to call me in to do continuing education classes for their staff, and I’ve found a new referral partner with the Louisville Minority Business Development Center. Of course I’ve grown quite fond of my inventors. Memorable design and utility patent searches this year have included tables built from bourbon barrels, self-cleaning barbecue equipment, coal conveyor belts, hospital beds, and panty hose. I understand the coal, bourbon, and barbecue. Hey, welcome to Kentucky.

- Rae Shepherd-Shlechter

Lubbock, Texas
Texas Tech University Library

In addition to myself, Tess Trost, I have two other people who work with the Patent and Trademark collection, Lorraine Bingham catalogs much of the material, and Tom Rohrig helps with patron queries. I have been a PTDL Representative for three years and am about to attend my fourth PTDL Seminar. Our PTDL is housed in Government Documents in its own office with the Casis computer and another computer with network connections. Texas Tech has been a PTDL since 1994.

In the Spring of 2001, I received a grant from Texas Tech to visit patient libraries within the Big 12 Conference. I was able to visit with Julia Crawford at Oklahoma State and Brian Carpenter at Texas A&M and gained useful information from both places. Observing another PTDL was helpful in terms of what was in their collections and how they served their patrons.

Our library is currently speaking to a potential donor who wishes to give us a run of OG’s from 1849-1930. This gift would expand our holdings by 25 years on the front end and fill in gaps that exist. Plus, he claims his OG’s are in better condition than ours, which I believe.

- Tess Trost

Madison, Wisconsin
Kurt F. Wendt Library, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The Kurt F. Wendt Library serves the departments of Engineering, Computer Science, Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences, and Statistics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Patents staff include Sarah Calcese, our PTDL representative and Head of Resources. Patents/Reports Librarian Nancy Spitzer, and Reference Librarian Anne Vandenburgh. This year Sarah will be attending the patent seminar in Washington.

The UW libraries are just starting up a live reference “chat” service and we hope to assist users with their patent questions through that mode, along with the usual communication through email and phone reference. Requests for patent appointments from the general public have continued this year at a steady but low rate. Wendt librarians and patrons are enjoying greater access to patents through the USPTO databases, the USAPat DVDs, and expanded keyword searching through espacenet.

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One ramification of the shift to electronic was the administrative decision to de-accession all our paper patent volumes covering the years 1921-1960. During the summer, Sarah directed a team of students to pack 7000 hefty volumes into 1300 boxes for shipping to their new home in the Iron Mountain National Underground Storage facility in Boyers, Pa. The PTDL Program Office provided much-appreciated assistance with the boxing and shipping expenses for the project. Through this major effort, Wendt Library cleared off 2400 linear feet of shelving, providing more open space for student study and tutoring.

For the first time, Wendt Library participated in a patenting seminar that the College of Engineering requires for students who enter the competition “Brainstorm: The Schoofs Prize for Creativity” (first prize $10,000!). As a result of the seminar, we saw more students come to the library for individual help with their patent searching.

Wendt patent librarians also gave workshops for undergraduate and graduate students in Library Science, Biological Systems Engineering (for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences) and a one-credit course called Technical Information Resources for Engineers.

- Nancy Spitzer

Miami, Florida
Miami-Dade Public Library

The patent and trademark collection of the Miami-Dade Public Library System, a PTDL since July 25, 1984, is housed in the Business & Science Department of our Main Library. Robert Klein has been the representative of the Miami PTDL since 1990. The other librarians on our staff who provide patent and trademark information to our patrons are John Heim, Ausra Echeverri, Murray Wilcox, Efren Alfonso, Charles Whittaker, and Naila Nshaiwat, who will be our 2002 Seminar attendee.

We have made major changes in our patent searching class this year to reflect the evolution of the USPTO website and Cassis. Normally taught on the first Tuesday of each month, the class provides an introduction to the tools and techniques used in performing a search of the U.S. patent literature.

- Robert Klein

Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Milwaukee Public Library

Milwaukee's Central Library is the headquarters for the Milwaukee Public Library System and its twelve branches. It also houses the Milwaukee County Federated System, which is composed of 14 suburban libraries in addition to the Milwaukee Public Library System.

MPL has been a Patent Depository since 1949, but it was only in the late 70's that a close association was formed between the Library and the Patent and Trademark Office. At that time, Ethan Hurd and Carol Shores of the PTO called the Library for a conference and tour. It was the start of a long relationship, and early in the 1980's, the PTDL Association was established to advise the PTO of the Patent Depository user needs. The year 1990 was special to me because I was the Chairperson for the PTDL Association. During this year, the Cassis and CD-ROM technology made great advances. It is most gratifying to see complete U.S. Patent and Trademark collections in each Patent and Trademark Depository Library.

As part of a complete renovation of the 102-year-old Central Library, the Business, Technology and Periodicals Room has been updated to offer improved access to information, materials and resources through new technology and services. A major benefit is the public's increased access to technology, an essential component of today's library service. The room has 30 computer stations with Internet access, more than double the previous number. An adjacent new computer lab offers additional 17 computers, a SMART Board and other state-of-the-art equipment for public instruction.

The Business/Science/Technology area includes reference materials in pure sciences, health, technology, business information, patents, trademarks, statistics and census materials. Many customers use the collection to research existing companies or to find information on starting a business.

In essence, we have streamlined our collections in order to incorporate resources that are only available in electronic format. These additions complement an already comprehen-
Having a complete collection of U.S. Patents and USAMark for Trademarks has pulled together the entire Cassie project. Using today's technology has made our service to the public more efficient. The combination of the Cassie microcomputer workstation, USAPat and USAMark on DVD-ROM, and many other files made available by Cassie2 provides a means for the public to conduct a proper and effective search, review patents and trademarks or obtain copies in a very timely fashion. Patrons are really happy not to handle paper copy or deal with microfilm machines. The digital output from USAPat and USAMark is clear to read and drawings are crisp and sharp. This improved technology has caused many individuals to express thanks to the PTO for making this fine system available at the Milwaukee Public Library.

On behalf of the entire Milwaukee Public Library Staff, I would like to thank the staff of the U.S. Patent Office for providing Cassie/Cassie2 (CD-ROM and DVD-ROM) and Internet electronic searching capabilities. The Cassie products have improved and kept pace with new technology as it developed. This is a very important advantage when helping the public access patent and trademark information on a daily basis. The results are beneficial in many ways that cannot be adequately described by words. The end-user objectives and goals of the partnership between the PTO and PTDLs have been met in all respects through the PTO Depository Program. Cassie technological development and the input from PTDL Association have provided a patent and trademark product that we all are proud to own and use. I have one item on the MPL wish list and that is to see in Cassie DVD-ROM format a list of patentees taken from the Official Gazette or Annual Indexes and the “Commissioner of Patent – Reports” back to 1790.

- Ted Cebula

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**Morgantown, West Virginia**
**Evansdale Library, West Virginia University**

On Saturday February 2nd, 2002, the Patent and Trademark Depository Library at West Virginia University and the WVU Discovery Lab, under the department of Industrial Engineering, co-sponsored a day-long conference on Intellectual Property.

Total attendance was 79 including two inventors from Ohio and two from Virginia. The speakers were a West Virginia patent attorney and Anthony Knight, PTO Supervisory Patent Examiner for Art Unit 3626.

The speakers worked well together covering patents, trademarks, copyrights and trade secrets. The audience felt free to ask questions and during the break periods, long lines formed at the front of the room to talk to both of the speakers. In the late afternoon about a third of the audience moved next door to the library’s electronic classroom for a patent searching class. The conference was a BIG success. All of the evaluations were positive and we have strong support for making this an annual event. Thanks to the generous support of both the PTDL office and PTO Office of Independent Inventors, each attendee departed for home lots of new information both in their personal notes and in the PTO folders stuffed with useful PTO handouts.

-Natalie Rutledge
Moscow, Idaho
University of Idaho Library

The most significant event that occurred in 2001 at the University of Idaho Library PTDL was the retirement of Donna Hanson. Donna has been the PTDL representative from the UI Library since its designation as a PTDL on November 3, 1983. Karen Hertel, new reference librarian on the block, agreed to take over as Patent & Trademark Librarian and spent 2001 trying to "absorb" as much of Donna's accumulated wisdom and knowledge as possible. She's starting to feel somewhat on board after handling patent appointments and teaching several classes to students and librarians. Donna's not completely giving up her passion for patents however, as she plans to continue working on a project listing all the historical patents from Idaho.

- Karen Hertel

Newark, Delaware
University of Delaware Library

The past year saw a number of significant developments at the Newark PTDL. We finally completed the transfer over to the Casis 2 software and offered a number of classes on using it for both library staff and the public. Most people appreciated the improvements, especially the inclusion of abstracts back to 1988, but as with all changes there were a few patrons who wished that we'd stuck with the old system. The system has been very reliable so far and is still being used on a regular basis, although there are more people migrating over to the Internet version all the time.

We've had a reduction in the number of people coming in to learn how to do searches over the past two years, and I can only attribute this to the availability of the information from the PTO web site. Searchers will often show up after attempting to do a search by themselves on the web site and discovering that there is more involved than they anticipated, but I'm sure that there are a lot of people out there that aren't getting the information they need and one of my greatest concerns is finding a way to get to those people who need help but don't know it yet.

To help with this problem, I've been attempting more out reach then I have in the past. My greatest success has been through a number of presentations with the Delaware Small Business Development Center. I've done presentations on how to perform basic patent searches as well as shorter programs on what materials we have available through the Depository program at the Library and what services we can provide. I've also been using the SBDC publications as a vehicle for getting information out about the PTDL program and how it can help inventors. The reaction has been positive, and I'm glad that I've been able to get a little publicity for the program out to the public.

-Tom Melvin

Newark, New Jersey
Newark Public Library

The Business, Science and Technology Division is home to the patent and trademark collection at the Newark Public Library. The PTDL representative is James Capuano, assisted by librarians Dale Colston, Simone Galik, Curt Idrogo, Maureen Ritter and Wilbert Stevens.

On May 9, the library held a Statewide Services meeting to highlight several of our collections. Over 100 librarians attended, and James Capuano spoke to the group about the U.S. Patent and Trademark collection. The emphasis of the presentation was on the assistance that patrons could receive by coming to the library for patent and trademark research. Another topic was a comparison of the web vs. the PTDL holdings.

The PTDL sponsored classes for librarians from around the state on October 15 and November 26. These classes were held in the Technology Training Center at the library – with Dale Colston as the instructor. Included in the classes was an introduction to the USPTO web site, an overview of the Newark Public Library patent and trademark holdings, and a look at Casis.

During the year the PTDL received a gift that will add significantly to its print patent and trademark collection: the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Patents 1852-1871.

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First floor will be renovated— including reconfiguration of the main entrance and circulation service areas. Expanded ADA accessibility will be a part of this renovation.

- James Capuano

Orlando, Florida
University of Central Florida Libraries

Greetings from the University of Central Florida (UCF), home to the Orlando PTDL. UCF is a leading metropolitan research university with enrollment of over 36,000 students.

This past year was very eventful for the Orlando PTDL. On June 25-26, 2001, UCF hosted the USPTO Customer Outreach Seminar (AIPA Workshop). This Florida Bar accredited event attracted over 100 attendees. On February 9th, 2002, UCF hosted an Independent Inventor Workshop with the USPTO Office of Independent Inventors. John Cabeca, a USPTO supervisory patent examiner, gave an excellent presentation and fielded questions from the 32 attendees. All had a good time.

- Peter Spyers-Duran

Orono, Maine
Raymond H. Fogler Library, University of Maine

The University of Maine has hosted the PTDL for Maine since 1983. It is part of the Science and Engineering Center, and I am the new PTDL representative. I joined the Fogler Library staff in March 2000 and then immediately attended the PTDL Training Seminar. That was a wonderful way to learn about the PTDL services and collection, and I continue to learn new things each week.

I assisted over 60 persons the last 10 months and the most interesting of these investigations involved searching for historical patents. One person wanted to rebuild an apple cider press from the parts he had purchased at an auction, and the Maine Maritime Museum wanted the specifications to rebuild a jigsaw used in ship building at the turn of the century.

I gave a presentation to a group of artists and business owners last September. This session focused on trademark and copyright issues that they must address in producing and selling their artwork and crafts. This required extensive reading and investigation on the copyright laws and fair use guidelines. Many of the users here are very small business owners that need a great deal of assistance. I will attend some small business owners’ shows in the spring that are sponsored by the Cooperative Extension Service of the University.

I would like to do more outreach with the College of Engineering here at the University of Maine. We continue to upgrade our web site and make more patent and trademark guidebooks available.

The PTDL program is very much appreciated by the inventors and business owners I have met.

- Lois M. Nase
Piscataway, New Jersey  
Library of Science and Medicine, Rutgers University

In April of 2001, Rutgers University Library of Science and Medicine participated in the United States Patent and Trademark Office Customer Outreach program by hosting two full days of educational workshops. Presenters from the USPTO Search and Information Resources Administration (SIRA) and Patent Examination Policy Division explained the new systems for filing, tracking, and conducting patent business transactions online. Registrants were able to sign up for the customer numbers and digital certificates required for using EBC and EFS. Changes in patent practice brought about by passage of the AIPA were also addressed. The seminar program, which was held at the Scholarly Communication Center of the Alexander Library in New Brunswick, was booked to capacity (over 100 participants) on both days.

Connie Wu was invited by the State Intellectual Property Office of China to conduct a two-day workshop on patents in September. The workshop took place in Beijing, China. Her trip was supported by a financial grant from the United Nations. On the first day of the workshop, Connie discussed patent resources available on the Internet and patent search strategy. On the following day, she gave lectures on the United States patent classification scheme, including comparisons of the United States and international classification systems. Her lectures were well received by the audience of over 200 people.

In October, the Library of Science and Medicine received visitors from the Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of China. Shu-Houng Yu, Director of the Department of Information Service of the IPO, and Kao Tso-Liang, Senior Technical Specialist, stopped by for a tour of the Piscataway PTDL. This was one of many stops they had scheduled in New Jersey, before continuing on their way to the USPTO in Crystal City. We enjoyed meeting them both, and showing them the resources the USPTO makes available to participating depository libraries.

- Ellen Calhoun

Raleigh, North Carolina
D.H. Hill Library, North Carolina State University

A major event in my life and in the life of the Raleigh PTDL was my retirement on August 31, 2001. Since becoming a depository in late 1977 at the NCSU Libraries, I was the only PTDL rep the library had had. I wish to express my gratitude to all those who helped me over the years and taught me so much about patent and trademark information. My association with the PTDL program, the PTDLA, and the many other PTDL librarians has been a highlight of my career. Best wishes to all and continued success to the PTDL.

During the five months that I was at the NCSU Libraries following last year's seminar, I was able to assist at least 86 clients using patent and trademark information. A few clients are still keeping me informed of the status of their applications. Prior to my retirement there was a big push for staff training. Fortunately, the PTDL at the NCSU Libraries had an experienced person to take over the duties of the PTDL librarian, Mr. Jack McGeachy. Jack worked with patent and trademark information when he and I worked together in the Documents Department of the NCSU libraries prior to the merger with the reference. I was happy to be on call after my retirement if the need arose, but Jack was able to handle most situations. Currently the NCSU Libraries is looking for two people who will work with the patent information. One is the Textiles and Engineering Librarian located at the Centennial Campus in the Textiles Library. This person will assist patrons in the intricacies of the U.S. patent searching system. There is also a vacancy in the Research and Information Services Department of the main library for a Government Information Services unit head. This person will administer the PTDL at the NCSU Libraries.

-Jean Porter  Enjoy “Retirement,” Jean!

Raleigh, North Carolina - Part 2

Jean Porter retired from North Carolina State University in September 2001. She had been the PTDL representative since the D.H. Hill Library was named a Patent and Trademark Depository in 1977. Jean was tireless in her efforts to promote the patent depository program. She served for fifteen months as a Fellow in the Patent and Trademark Office. In an interim capacity, Jack McGeachy is serving as the PTDL representative from the D.H. Hill Reference department. NC State is redefining the patent position, merging that responsibility into a reference position in the Engineering Library located on the University's developing Centennial Campus.

-John A. McGeachy
**Reno, Nevada**  
University Library, University of Nevada-Reno

Our patent/trademark depository collection and services are located in the Business & Government Information Center of the University of Nevada, Reno Libraries. Many patent and trademark information users in and around Reno now rely heavily on the PTO web site to meet their needs. Thus, our Cassie workstation is no longer as busy as before, and we have less walk-in, telephone and email contact with users about patent & trademark matters than before. Nevertheless, we still get walk-in searchers and people requesting assistance remotely, so it remains necessary for us to maintain and update our knowledge. Our PTDL’s outreach to the local public schools in 2000 was described in a paper by John Kleppe, "Teaching Invention, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship to Northern Nevada High School Science and Math Teachers," published in the Proceedings of the 2001 ASEE/IEEE Frontiers in Education Conference.

Reno will not have a representative at the PTDL seminar this year.

- Patrick Ragains

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**Rochester, New York**  
Central Library of Rochester and Monroe County

The Central Library of Rochester and Monroe County has housed a PTDL since 1999, and I have been the representative for all these many years. The PTDL is part of our Science, Technology & Health Department. Our staff consists of Jeff Levine, Jay Osborne, Lydia Watt, Mary Seebach and me. We also have a marvelous clerk, Elizabeth Rivera, who enjoys filing the plant patents and has developed real skill at putting security tags on the USAPat discs.

This has been a busy year for us. Although the PTDL is my responsibility, it is not the only thing that I do, and I am always wishing that I had more time to do programs. We have a constant waiting list of folks who want training in how to do patent searching. I did 3 programs this year, as well as some staff training in our department. My goal for next year is to do regular bi-monthly sessions for the public, and to promote them more widely. I’m also planning to work on developing an online tutorial. We continue to have far too many people visit us after they’ve given their first $800 to an invention promotion firm, so there is also a need to get the word out that we are here to help.

I continue to be amazed at how wonderful the network of PTDL people is. I mentioned to Angela Bailly (Chester Fritz Library at the University of North Dakota) in an email that I needed to develop a PowerPoint® presentation, and she sent me hers! Having it to work from saved me hours in preparation, plus I learned some new PowerPoint tricks. She’s clever, that Angela. The work that some of you have done on the web is absolutely inspirational!

One of my favorites is the online tutorial at the McKinney Engineering Library of the University of Texas at Austin. Wow - if you haven’t seen it go there now:

http://www.lib.utexas.edu/engin/patent-tutorial/patenttutorialframeset.htm

And then there are all the times that I’ve called the PTDL office with dumb questions. You are all wonderful, and I’m grateful to have an opportunity to be part of the PTDL program.

- Deborah Leary
Salt Lake City, Utah
Marriott Library, University of Utah

Hi, everyone! My name's Dave Morrison, and I am the PTDL Representative at the Marriott Library of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. I came to the library as documents librarian and PTDL representative in 1987, and have been here ever since. From 1996 to 1998 I was the Patent Fellowship Librarian at the PTDL Office in Crystal City - what a great experience! - and I served the PTDL as Chair from March 1999 to March 2000.

The Salt Lake City PTDL, located in the Government Documents and Microforms Division of the University of Utah Marriott Library was designated a PTDL while under the direction of Head of Documents Juli Hinz in 1984. I was then hired to be the PTDL Representative and one of four documents librarians in 1987. The Marriott Library has also been a GPO depository since 1983, a depository for the US Department of Energy, and a depository for the United Nations, European Union, World Trade Organization, UNESCO and the State of Utah.

This year we have a new Head of Documents and Microforms, Jan Robertson, who first came to the Marriott Library as my temporary replacement while I was on leave in Washington. All our division staff - five librarians, three senior staff, and five student assistants - provide basic patent and trademark reference services to our patrons. I handle most of the more specialized patent and trademark reference questions, and contribute to U.S. documents reference services.

The major event during this past year for the Salt Lake City PTDL has been, without a doubt, the 2002 Winter Olympics. Although many Olympic events have been distributed around the Salt Lake City area, up in the mountains, and in some nearby communities, the Opening and Closing Ceremonies featured on network broadcasts were held in the Rice-Eccles Stadium, literally across the street from the Marriott Library. In addition, the Olympic Village complex, which housed the athletes, was the renovated Fort Douglas military base up on the eastern bench of the University of Utah campus. As a result, our activities in the library have been highly affected throughout February 2002 and many preceding months. The Marriott Library sponsored the most significant historical exhibit in Utah on the history of the Olympics, a multimedia presentation on the Nazification of German sport during the 1936 Summer Olympic Games. I put up a small display of skiing-related patents from Utah inventors that was viewed by many local patrons and out-of-state visitors who came to the Marriott to see the highly promoted Nazi exhibition. Parking, of course, was compromised on many days, and all-but-nonexistent on some! Luckily for us university employees, the entire campus was shut down on the two most difficult days we faced.

As in the last few years, Documents and Microform Division staff continue to report an increasing amount of patent and trademark reference by phone. Typically, our patrons start out on the USPTO Web pages and U.S. Web Patent database, and call us for reference assistance, or help in navigating through the USPTO's web pages to specific resources. Often I'll talk callers through the installation of the AlternaTIFF software on their home computers, so they may view the patent images as well as text.

Our experiences with phone reference requests are a reminder of one of the significant aspects of PTDL librarianship in the western and rural parts of the U.S. - the large, and sometimes remote, geographic distances we cover. In the future, the Salt Lake City PTDL might try to initiate specialized PTDL reference services for a limited number of hours per week using the 24/7 reference software currently used for the Marriott's online reference desk.

For me personally, fifteen years as a PTDL representative, PTDLA officer and Chair, and Patent Fellowship Librarian have been the single most rewarding facet of my career. To the many people who fought to create a patent depository program twenty-five years ago; or worked in the PTDL Program Office to provide support and training to me and my colleagues; or supported the PTDL Program Office from other positions throughout the PTO - THANK YOU SO MUCH! And congratulations on your 25th Anniversary!

- Dave Morrison

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©United States Olympic Committee

USA*2002

VOLUME 14 NEWSLETTER PAGE 33
San Antonio, Texas
San Antonio Central Library


Our PTDL Collection is housed with the Government Documents Department at the San Antonio Central Library. We have been a PTDL since March 2000.

Most of our PTDL training takes place in one-on-one sessions, though we did have our first Basic Patent Searching Workshop on January 26 of this year.

For National Inventors Month in August 2001, Rhonda Davila set up a wonderful exhibit in the Central Library's showcase window. The exhibit featured San Antonio inventors. The display space is about 16 X 30 and 10 feet high and right at street level. It was filled with successful products and prototypes from local inventors, as well as patent images. The exhibit was mirrored by a display within Government Documents containing additional local patent images and information on the Patent process. The exhibit was very successful thanks to the assistance and loan of inventions we received from the Technology Advocates of San Antonio's Special Interest Group for Inventors and Entrepreneurs, our local inventors' group. Additional displays in Government Documents, during the past year, focused on Copyrights and Trademarks.

As PTDL Representative for San Antonio PTDL, I have served on the Special Interest Group for Inventors and Entrepreneurs Advisory Board since February 2001. The inventors' group is very active with monthly meetings/training sessions. We are starting two exciting programs this year. The first, which kicks-off in March, will be taking one step of the invention & marketing process each month, having a speaker talk about it, then applying that step to a product which the group, as a whole, will take through each step of the process. We are currently in the process of identifying the invention we will work on from submissions of SIG members willing to sign over their idea to the organization. The second program is a monthly session where an inventor gets an hour to discuss his idea with and receive feedback from a group of 3 or 4 individuals (all of whom have signed non-disclosure agreements) and which will always include a patent attorney as well as people familiar with the area of technology and marketing.

-Wilson T. Plunkett

San Diego, California
San Diego Public Library

The San Diego Public Library PTDL is part of the Central Library's Science and Government Publications section. Section staff includes four librarians, two library assistants and 1.5 clerks. During the past year we were able to add three library technicians to our staff and begin our long-anticipated project of including our 1.7 million item government publications collection in the Library's catalog (we've been a federal depository since 1892).

The trend of decreasing in-house use of patent and trademark materials has continued. We are fielding a lot of phone calls and doing a lot of real-time reference assistance for patent and trademark searchers. We find that many in-house patrons, offered the choice between doing an optical disc or Internet search, choose the Internet. As we plan for a new building our current plan is to merge the documents service point with the PTDL collection.

Our extended PTDL staff was increased by one in August, 2001 with the birth of Isaac Espinoza to our Librarian Ceci Espinoza!

-Nora Brooks
San Francisco, California
San Francisco Public Library

The San Francisco Public Library has been a PTDL for 7 years. We're located in the Government Information Center on the fifth floor of the New Main Library. We have a separate room devoted to patents and trademarks located a short distance from the Government Information Center desk with 3 computers dedicated to the PTDL homepage, one computer that displays full text patents from 1974-1993 using the Derwent product "Patview", and the PTDL CASSIS computer.

Our patent walk-in business has really dropped over the last few years. We still get a fair number of people doing trademark searches. We have a subscription to the State Trademark Scan CD-Rom from Dialog that allows patrons to search all fifty state trademarks simultaneously. This CD is published monthly and is usually about 6 weeks behind.

I teach a bimonthly patent searching class. As class participants clamor for more web searching of patents, I will be focusing more of my class on searching the PTO web site. During this past year we had two displays in the Patent and Trademark Center. The first was a compilation of noteworthy California patents of the 20th century. Some of the inventions included were the first radio beacon system, the first video recorder, the magnetic tape, the electric baseboard heater and perhaps the most useful in my day to day life, permanent press (patent #2,974,432.) The second display was of strange and unusual patents. My favorite invention in the group is patent #560,351 which is entitled a "Device for producing dimples" and was patented on May 19, 1896.

- Peter Warhit

560,351 Device for Producing Dimples
Martin Goetze (Berlin, Germany); Issued May 19, 1896

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTIN GOETZE, a subject of the King of Prussia, Emperor of Germany, residing at Berlin, in the Kingdom of Prussia, German Empire, have invented new and useful Improvements Relating to Apparatus for the Production of Dimples on the Human Body, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention consists of a device which serves either to produce dimples on the human body or to nurture and maintain dimples already existing.

In order to make the body susceptible to the production of artistic dimples, it is necessary, as has been proved by numerous experiments, that the cellular tissues surrounding the spot where the dimple is to be produced should be made susceptible to its production by means of massage. This condition is fulfilled by the present process as well as by the apparatus by which the process is worked, and which is represented in an enlarged form in the accompanying drawing.

M. Goetze.
DEVICE FOR PRODUCING DIMPLES.
No. 560,351.
Patented May 19, 1896.
Seattle, Washington
Engineering Library, University of Washington

Well, 2001 is thankfully over... that's how we view things here at the Engineering Library!

The Nisqually Earthquake of February 18, 2001 kept most of our building inaccessible until April 6, 2001. We utilized expedited document delivery and ILL services to try to obtain materials. University Facilities Services did some emergency response work and contractors came in to upright the stacks and install various types of braces and supports to provide temporary reinforcement for our damaged, leaning shelving. We then received clearance for library staff to go amongst the stacks to retrieve materials. We set up a paging system and a retrieval schedule. Paging was very time consuming, but luckily, April 6 arrived before our sanity was severely compromised.

The “temporary” braces and support structures are still in place. In the curtian budgetary situation, we are uncertain when the shelving will be replaced. Various scenarios involving the University, the State and FEMA are in process.

I will be talking about our earthquake experiences and recovery efforts during the PTDL Best Practices Roundtable session. I'm bringing lots of pictures! A small selection of photos is available on our website at http://www.lib.washington.edu/Engineering/photos.html

2001 was also a difficult year for Engineering Library staff. We lost one of our librarians, Kay Denfeld, who passed away in June 2001 in a kayaking accident. Kay was an expert kayaker and passionate about whitewater kayaking. We miss Kay terribly, but we take some comfort in the fact that she died doing what she loved best – on the river.

Needless to say, I have been spending the past year in perpetual catch-up mode. We finally filled our two vacant classified staff positions, and we are fully staffed for the first time in a while. Our new staff members are Julie Hoon and Thomas Leahey.

2002 marks our 25th Anniversary as a PTDL. The Engineering Library became a Patent & Trademark Depository Library in August 1977. Twenty-five years have brought changes in staff, PTDL Representatives and configurations of our PTDL section resulting in our current spacious PTDL Research Area. However, the most striking change that occurs to me has happened over the last several years: the transition in patent and trademark search tools from the old online, dial-up system to Cassie to USAPat to DVD to Cassie 2 and to trademark and patent databases on the web. All of this has changed the public’s access to and use of patent and trademark information. Where will we be after the next twenty-five years?

Finally, I am looking forward to this year’s seminar, since I was unable to attend in 2001.

- Christina Byrne

St. Louis, Missouri
St. Louis Public Library

Outreach characterizes St. Louis Public Library's (SLPL) activities in this year's PTDLA Newsletter Report. In December 2000, I spoke to the Inventors Association of St. Louis (IASL) about patent resources at the library. In March 2001, SLPL and IASL collaborated. SLPL was the site for a presentation by Richard Apley, recently retired Director of the Office of Independent Inventors. IASL President Robert Scheinkman invited Mr. Apley to speak to area inventors on how to avoid invention fraud and on how to write claims for patent applications.

SLPL also hosted a two-day Patents Customer Outreach 2001 Workshop in June for area patent attorneys, their support staffs, and inventors. Mary E. Small, Senior Systems Analyst and Robert J. Spar, Director of the Office of Patent Legal Administration, discussed “Electronic Filing with the United States Patent and Trademark Office” (USPTO) and “The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999.” Many thanks to the USPTO for sharing their very talented and personable staff with us. All of the speakers and presentations were very favorably received.

In September 2001, Jane Running and I spoke at the Mid-America Inventors and Entrepreneurs Conference. This was the Third Annual Conference sponsored by the Illinois Innovators and Inventors. We discussed the services of Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries (PTDL) and the value of conducting preliminary patent searches at PTDLs.

Young inventors remain a focus of SLPL outreach efforts. In February 2001, nine fifth and sixth grade gifted students, three teachers, and
(Continued from page 36)

one parent came to the library to
learn about the role of patent
searching in the invention process.
On February 26, 2002 I spoke to 36
first and second grade students
about inventing. Among other
tools, I used the book titled Imagin­
ative Inventions by Cherise Harper
to read to them about roller skates
and marbles. One more inventors
presentation is scheduled
before the March 2002 PTDLP
Training Seminar.

In a more unusual use of patents, I
nominated a St. Louis area neuro­
surgeon for a 2001 St. Louis Scienti­
tist of the Year Award. The nomi­
nation in­
cluded brief
descriptions of the patents
he holds for
neurosurgical
devices. The
descriptions
were chal­
 lenging
to
write but in
April he won
the James B. Eads Award for
"innovatively applying computer
technology to brain surgery to im­
prove treatment of disease." The
award is sponsored by the Acad­
emy of Science of St. Louis and
has four categories. 2001 was the
first year an award was given in
the James B. Eads Category. In
accepting it he noted that his pa­
tients are the reason for the work
he does. One of his patients was
my late brother so it was a delight
to have played a part in his win­
ning this award.

- Carol Giles-Straight

Stillwater, Oklahoma
Edmon Low Library, Oklahoma State University

Julia Crawford, Patents Librarian
at the Oklahoma State University
Library PTDL, left in July in order
to follow her husband north to Sa­
rina, Kansas. Because of this move,
and to solve other logistical prob­
lems, the OSU PTDL was moved
from the Center for International
Trade Development to the 5th floor
of the University Library (Edmon
Low Library), to be housed with the
Documents Department. Suzanne
Holcombe, Documents Librarian,
who had been working with Julia
for several years, has taken over the
patent and trademark responsibili­
ties, ably assisted by Madeleine
Hounslow, Senior Library Staff, and
headed by John Phillips. We are
gradually updating our Web site.
See <http://www.library.okstate.
edu/patents/> for new location and
contact information.

- Suzanne Holcombe

Sunnyvale, California
Sunnyvale Center for Innovation, Invention and Ideas - Sunnyvale Public Library

Greetings from Sc[i]^ the Sunnyvale
Center for Innovation, Invention
and Ideas. The last part of 2001
was very busy for our staff. We had
to plan and pack for a move a block
away at the Sunnyvale Public Li­
brary. The move went very
smoothly and gave us a chance to
purge lots of old
files etc.

One of the great­
est benefits of the
move is that we
are now open for
walk-in and tele­
phone reference
for 68 hours per
week. Chris
Kitchens and Tom
Turner of the
PTDLP came to
train our reference staff. We have
also streamlined our services. We
no longer supply copies of U.S. and
foreign patents to our customers but
still deliver Office of Public Record
documents such as file wrappers. We
continue to provide expert fee­
based patent and trademark
searches.

Friends of Sc[i]^, a tax-exempt
foundation, has been estab­
lished to solicit contributions
from the public for the further
support of Sc[i]^, including its
continuing development of new
classes and services for the
support of the broad IP com­
 munity.

We have now developed over
forty different seminars and
presented 126 sessions in fis­
cal year 2000/2001. We have 3
brand new seminars planned for
April on Patent Portfolio Devel­
opment and Uses, Employed Inven­
tor Rights, and Creating Patent Draw­
ings with a Computer. Our video­
conference equipment is also avail­
able for Board of Patent Appeals and
Interferences and Trademark Tri­
al and Appeal Board hearings as well
as general business needs.

On the staff front, many of you may
already know that Librarian Dave
Hall passed away last September.
We really miss him, his I.P. know­
edge and wry sense of humor. After
years of spearheading the ever­
evolving Sc[i]^, Mary Clare Sprott
retired in August and has since trav­
elled in Latin America. Mary Walsh

(Continued on page 38)
(Continued from page 37)

was given the daunting task of not only supervising the day-to-day operation of Sc[i] but also overseeing the move. She performed this task admirably and with many donuts! Dottie Hamilton also retired, and her position has been filled on a provisional basis by Judy Lawrence. Jeannette Passaglia has been helping with seminars. Marjory Cameron, Dom Gavino and Janet Berkeley are still here after more than 10 years. We are also fortunate to have a core of volunteers, including an advisory group, whose dedication to Sc[i] continues to amaze us.  

- Janet Berkeley

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Toledo, Ohio
Toledo/Lucas County Public Library

Things were hopping at the Toledo PTDL this past year. Our expansion/renovation project was finally finished for our Grand Reopening in August 2001. We were closed for 2 weeks in order to move departments and materials to their final locations. We now have, in addition to our other departments, a Pop/Teen Library with bestsellers and young adult materials, and a Technology Center which now houses most of our computers. We also have a Rare Book Room and a Labor History Room. Our Children's Room has been especially well received with lots of interactive displays, etc.

Our materials in remote storage have begun (slowly) to return with our government documents and fiction coming back first. Hopefully, the rest of the materials remaining will do so by later this year. However, Toledo is joining other PTDLs who do not have hard copies of the patents. The decision has been made that our bound patent volumes are not coming back from storage, except for Plant Patents. We do not have any time frame but eventually hope to offer the volumes to the other PTDLs. We also hope to continue filling in the holes in our patent microfilm collection.

The Business-Technology Department celebrated its first full year as a merged department from the Business, Science-Technology and Social Science departments. PTDL Representative Jill Gregg Clever continued to keep busy with her small business and intellectual property duties. She is celebrating her third year as the official PTDL Representative. Our Government Procurement Center closed at the end of February, and Jill pulled out of the local Inventors Group in September after failing to get members to take over responsibility for the group (at this writing the group has reorganized and is still alive!).

Due to the amount of outreach done in the small business community by Jill, the library has not had much in the way of intellectual property seminars yet for the public. We have continued one-on-one training.

Our department manager did one talk at a school, and the Inventors Council hosted someone from the Independent Inventors office at one of their meetings. Hopefully, in the near future more programs can be done. Jill did update our Intellectual Property brochure but at this writing we are waiting for it to be finished by our Marketing Department.

Things have gotten a little sticky budget-wise for Toledo and other Ohio libraries after our 'education' governor and the rest of the legislature decided to cut back our monies received from the state. It turned out not to be as bad as first thought but our materials budget has been cut significantly, and we currently have a hiring freeze.

In spite of the budget cuts, now that our building project is completed things at the Toledo PTDL should continue to return to more normal operations.

- Jill Clever
West Lafayette, Indiana
Siegesmund Engineering Library, Purdue University

Purdue University Libraries continues to make patents and trademarks information available to the university, inventor, trademark, and collector community. Purdue joined the PTDL program in 1991 with financial support from the campus Technical Information Service. Suzanne Ward, manager of TIS, was instrumental in purchasing the patent microfilm that goes back to 1950. The Siegesmund Engineering Library is the service point for the PTDL. The staff includes three librarians and 10 library assistants. The reference staff helps clients find information on the CASSIS system and the PTO’s patent and trademark databases. The circulation staff is responsible for supplying microfilm and CD/DVDs.

Charlotte Erdmann has been the PTDL Representative for most years. Jean Poland had the responsibility in 1993. Leslie Reynolds served as representative in 1998-1999 while Charlotte was the Fellowship Librarian (Patents) at the Program office. Sheila Curl, a former PTDL representative from Arizona State University, became head of the Engineering Library in 1996. Amy Van Epps joined the library staff in 2000. Leslie Reynolds moved to Vanderbilt University Libraries in 2000. The reference assistants include: Gerald Dillon, Frances Christian, Patrick Fidler, Carol Pazoldt, and Casey Palmer-Ryan.

Patent classification training sessions this year have included university classes in Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering Technology, and Management as well as new employees of Purdue’s Office of Technical Commercialization. This spring an eight-hour sequence of classes on patents and trademarks were offered for Purdue University Libraries staff. This may lead to future programs in other programs at Purdue.

Information queries come from completely different areas of the community. Students in design classes are some of our typical clients. Advice has been sought from people interested in jobs and internships at the Patent and Trademark Office. As a result, a recent Ph.D. graduate has started his job as a patent examiner. A request from an inmate at a state prison was forwarded to the PTDL Program Office. A retired veterinarian and collector of hames has used the West Lafayette PTDL extensively in the past two years and printed more than 1,000 patents. Thanks goes to the University of Wisconsin PTDL who originally helped the collector.

Charlotte joined colleagues at the 2001 annual conference of the American Library Association in San Francisco and presented a paper, "Finding Your Way Through the Information Maze: How to Find Background Information in Patents and Trademarks." The paper emphasized searching inventors, trademark owners, and assignees. One of the examples used was Stephanie Kwolek who invented the material trademarked as Kevlar®. Information on inventors and assignees was rewritten for a journal article that will be published soon in Documents to the People (DttP).

- Charlotte Erdmann

Wichita, Kansas
Ablah Library, Wichita State University

The highlight of 2001 for the Wichita State University PTDL was a two-day CenTENnaal Celebration on October 23 and 24, 2001. The Celebration offered special exhibits and three public events over the two days, as WSU Libraries celebrated 100 years of participation in the Federal Depository Library Program and 10 years in the Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program. Thus the use of "CenTENnaal" as our theme word! The two-day celebration kicked off on October 23 with a dessert reception and keynote speech by Francis J. Buckley, Jr., Superintendent of Documents of the U.S. Government Printing Office. His address was titled: “The future of public access to government information: How is the role of the Federal Depository Library Program changing?”

An all-day Patent and Trademark Workshop was held on October 24 in collaboration with the Small Business Development Center and the staff of the U.S. PTDL. We were pleased to host presenters Amanda Putnam, Michael White, and James Miller of the PTDL. A special guest speaker was Thomas E. Mosley, Jr., author of Marketing Your Invention. Tom lives in Tulsa and was a terrific addition to the workshop.

Also on October 24 at 1:00 p.m., the WSU Libraries held a Birthday Party in honor of both depository libraries in the foyer of the Library.

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Mande and I hurried back over to the Library from the Workshop in order to participate in the birthday party festivities. There were remarks from Fran Buckley, Mande Putnam, our University President, our Library Dean, and a representative from the office of Todd Tiahrt who represents the 4th Congressional District (Wichita) in Congress. We had enough cake and punch for the first 400 students or visitors who came in the doors.

During the fall, the staff in my office prepared two displays in the main corridor of the Library: one for National Inventor's Month and one titled "The Best 100 Documents of the Century." The Special Collections Department mounted two exhibits in their area: a display of WWII posters, dramatizing the importance of self-sacrifice on the home front; and "The Exploration of the Trans-Mississippi West," supported by maps, illustrations and books from the documents collection.

The CenTENnial was six months of hard work in the making, but it came off very smoothly and certainly garnered a great deal of positive publicity for our University, the PTDLP and the FDLP. The committee deserves a lot of credit. In addition to myself and Jo Gregg (a 10-year Library Assistant II working in documents and patents), the committee consisted of both Library faculty and paraprofessional staff, a professor from the History Department, and an ad hoc member, the Libraries' Dean.

- Nan Myers

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### Intellectual Property News

**Brian Carpenter, College Station, Texas**

The world of intellectual property continues to grab headlines in the media. Included in this year's column are some of the big issues which have people talking.

**Who Owns the Hyperlink?**

<http://www.idg.net/ic_732742_1794_9-10000.html>

A U.S. federal court in New York may soon decide whether or not British Telecommunications PLC (BT) owns the hyperlink. BT claims it holds a patent (U.S. 4,873,662) for the technology. (See the next page for information about this patent.)

The case of British Telecom (BT) claiming to have created hyperlinking has been drawing a lot of interest of late. In the following copyrighted articles from Reuters via Wired and CBS News, learn more about this controversial patent and its impact.

Wired, 02/07/02, Linking Patent Goes to Court
http://www.wired.com/news/business/0,1367,50283,00.html

"History Of The Hyperlink?" CBS News
<http://www.cbanews.com/now/story/0,1597,329034-412,00.shtml>

Source: Meg Carpenter, Records Analyst, Texas A&M University Libraries

(Continued on page 41)
Supreme court agrees to hear DMCA

In a copyrighted story from CNN, the Supreme Court has agreed to step in and determine the fate of copyright on the Web.

For more on the story, go to:


Source: Cynthia Banicki, Technical Information Specialist, Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program Office

Check These Out ...

*New York Times Magazine* does a section called Endpaper. In the December 9 issue, the cartoonist Knickerbocker illustrated some of the patents that were granted in 2001. Listed below is a sample of what was found in this cartoon.

Disposable standing trash bag 6315143
Sleep-inducing device D445,901
Bottle-rocket launcher 6,315,629
In-bed exercising machine 6270445
Toothbrush for false teeth 6,308,365
Refrigerated beverage mug 6,266,974


Editor’s Note: Two patents from the above list are excerpted below for your viewing pleasure.

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6,4873,662 Information Handling System and Terminal Apparatus Therefor
Desmond J. Sargent (Felixstowe, England); Issued October 10, 1989

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6,270,445 In-Bed Exercise Machine and Method of Use
Robert C. Dean, Jr. (Norwich, VT), Solomon Diamond (Cambridge, MA), Elizabeth K. Deneen (Tunbridge, VT), Amanda G. Heermans (White River Junction, VT), Gayle B. O’Neil (Grantham, NH), David S. Smith (Meridian, NH); Issued August 7, 2001

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6,308,365 Toothbrush for False Teeth
Cheng-Ho Huang (Taipei Hsien); Issued October 30, 2001
Trademarks, Trustmarks, Lovemarks

At the Eastern Meeting of the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM), one of the topics this year was the importance of trademarks. Ms. Suzanne Shelton, of the Shelton Communications Group, stressed that this importance has taken the form of branding and trustmarks. Branding is the traditional use of trademarks to distinguish between different vendors' goods and services.

Shelton noted several companies have been able to expand beyond just distinguishing themselves from other companies by claiming and enforcing certain qualities about their businesses through their trademarks. For example:

- **Maytag** "The dependability people®" Claim quality
- **Motel 6** "We'll leave the light on for you®" Claim they are the only place for budget travelers
- **Intel** "Intel inside®" logo Claim co-op support

Each of these companies work hard to maintain the image their trademarks present. Because these companies made it clear what they represent, they are well known. She stated that if a clear, defined reason exists for people to do business with you, that's good for your business.

The brand loyalty that is created leads to a reoccurring stream of profit from repeat and referral sales and these can reduce cost of sales by as much as 90%. This increased trust in a particular brand can be capitalized on by enforcing the trademark's philosophy. This action establishes a level of trust between a consumer and a vendor. Trademarked goods or services that engender trust and are known as "trustmarks." If a good or service continues that trustmark for a long enough period of time, they become "lovemarks."

Trustmarks and lovemarks have different dynamics than trademarks. For instance, you may physically own your trustmark, but you can't just alter the product or service just because you want to. Coca-Cola® found out about this when they tried to introduce New Coke to replace the original formula. Those who had grown to trust and love Coca-Cola saw the change as a betrayal of their trust. Doing damage to these trustmarks means apologies have to be made, or they will lose their loyal customers.

Ms. Shelton sums up by stating that trustmarks are a mystery to their owners. A delicate balance must be maintained. If too much information is provided, that can kill the public's relationship with that product or service. On the other hand, these same marks offer their entire history. They also rely on iconic characters which we have become familiar with over the years. These characters, such as McDonald's® corporation's Ronald McDonald® immediately convey a trustmark.

Source: 2001 Central Regional Meeting, Association for University Technology Managers, July 29-31, 2001

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**An Intellectual Property Quiz:**

**How Good Are You?**

One of the people who I correspond with regularly uses these to test her staff's reference skills. Let's see how well you do...

Name the year these three received trademark protection:

1. Apple Jacks® cereal
2. Star-Kist® tuna
3. Nabisco® crackers, wafers, baked products

**BRAIN TWISTERS**

4. What popular "people's car" was granted a trademark in 1955?
5. What Alfred Hitchcock movie was registered with the Copyright Office in 1934?
6. For what kind of machine did Ronald McFeely obtain a patent? HINT: They're good for walking
7. What American standard was registered by Katherine Lee Bates on July 23, 1906?
8. Daniel Chester French registered the model of what famous resident for a memorial on July 21, 1916?
9. What date in July 1870 was the first copyright entry for a travel book? Bonus: What place was described by the book?
10. What popular Beatles song was registered on August 30, 1968?
11. What famous show starring character Cliff Huxtable was registered on August 9, 1985?
12. William's last name is the same as one of our Presidents from the early 20th century. What is his last name and when did he obtain a patent for the X-ray tube? Date hint: I'm a "Yankee Doodle Dandy"
13. Raising sunken vessels has long been fascination for people. Name the woman who received a patent for just such an invention. Bonus: Can you guess the year? Hint: 100 years after the date America declared its independence.
14. She obtained a patent for a particular type of bed in 1885. What was her name and as a bonus, for what type of bed did she receive her patent?
15. What famous cartoon bunny's saying was registered as a trademark on July 5, 1988? For what article of

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(Continued from page 42)

clothing?

16. What famous Detroit, Michigan team registered their logo on July 15, 1975?

17. Which of the big three automakers received a trademark on August 10, 1909 for "explosive-engines and their parts"?

18. One of Dr. Martin Luther King's most famous speeches was registered for copyright protection on October 2, 1963. What is the name of the speech?

19. On December 2, 1969 Marie V.B. Brown was granted patent #3,482,037 for this. Hint: peace of mind.

BONUS QUESTIONS

20. His name is synonymous with garden and farm equipment. Name the gentleman who received a patent for ploughs on February 21, 1865.

21. What song was registered on February 27, 1905 as "An Arizona Home" but we know it better by its popular refrain?

Answers on page 44.

PTDLA Events at the 25th Annual Training Seminar

Sunday, March 17
PTDLA Reception
5:15pm - 7:30pm
More information on the Reception available at Seminar Registration. Come and meet all your colleagues who are also attending the 25th Annual PTDL Training Seminar, in an informal setting.

Tuesday, March 19
PTDLA Business Meeting & Program
2:00pm - 3:30pm & 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Friday, March 22
PTDL Best Practices Round Tables
9:30am - 11:30am
Answers to the Intellectual Property Quiz

ANSWERS
1. Apple Jacks® 1966
2. Star-Kist® 1953
3. Nabisco® 1931
4. Volkswagen®
5. "The Man Who Knew Too Much" was registered on December 9, 1934.
6. Ronald McFeely received patent protection for his "shoe making machine" on December 11, 1900
7. America the Beautiful was registered by Katherine Lee Bates.
8. The model of Abraham Lincoln for the Lincoln Memorial.
9. July 10, 1870; San Domingo.
10. "Hey Jude," was registered by John Lennon and Paul McCartney.
11. "The Cosby Show."
12. William Coolidge obtained patent for the X-ray tube on July 4, 1933.
13. Emily Tassey obtained patent for an apparatus for raising sunken vessels on July 25, 1876.
14. Sarah Goode obtained patent for a folding cabinet bed on July 14, 1885.
15. Bugs Bunny's immortal saying "What's Up Doc?" as trademark for T-shirts, was registered on July 5, 1988
16. The Detroit Tigers® logo was registered as a trademark on July 15, 1975.
17. Ford Motor Company received trademark protection for their Ford® brand "explosive engines and their parts".

How Did You Do on the Intellectual Property Quiz?

Number of Correct Answers:
1-5 Heard about IP
5-10 Know about IP
10-15 Bright about IP
15-20 Intellectual Property Guru
20+ Intellectual Property Genius


and

Calendar of U.S. Patent, Trademark and Copyright Trivia, USPTO Kids’ Pages
http://www.uspto.gov/go/kids/kidcalendar.htm

3,482,037 Home Security System Utilizing Television Surveillance
Marie Van Brittan Brown and Albert L. Brown (Jamaica, NY); Issued December 2, 1969.
Membership Information
Patent & Trademark Depository Library Association

The Patent and Trademark Depository Library Association was established in 1983 for those employees of Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries (PTDL) who work with the patent and trademark depository library collections. PTDLA's objectives are “to discover the interests, needs, opinions, and goals of the PTDLs, to advise the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in these matters” and “to assist the USPTO in planning and implementing appropriate services.”

Regular PTDLA membership is open to any interested person employed at a Patent & Trademark Depository Library. Regular members may vote on PTDLA business, and may hold elective offices or appointive positions. Affiliate membership is open to anyone associated with the PTDL Program who is not eligible for regular membership. Dues for membership remain a bargain - just $25 per year.

Our membership fees make up the vast majority of PTDLA's operating budget. They pay for Seminar expenses, printing and mailing of our newsletter, gifts, stationery, and other needs. In the recent past, many of these costs were borne by generous individuals and libraries, until the members voted for an annual membership fee to ease that financial burden. If you are proud of your Association and the services it provides to you as a patent and trademark information professional, please support us with your membership dues.

Dues cover membership from the current Seminar to the end of the next year's event. Only individual memberships are permitted; there is no provision for institutional or group memberships.

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Jean Porter, PTDLA Treasurer
c/o PTDL Program Office
Crystal Park 3, Suite 481
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231
(Continued from page 42)

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"What Alfred Hitchcock movie was registered with the Copyright Office in 1934?"

@Nabisco, Inc.

Star-Kist

@PROMARK INTERNATIONAL, INC

Answers on page 44.

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Meet, Greet, Network, Learn, & Participate
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17. Ford Motor Company received trademark protection for their Ford® brand "explosive engines and their parts".
18. Dr. Martin Luther King registered his "I Have A Dream" speech.
19. Marie V.B. Brown received patent protection for a home security system. ***Editor's Note: See below & Pg. 45***

BONUS ANSWERS
20. John Deere, famous for his trademarked Green and Yellow farm tractors and lawn equipment
21. "Home on the Range" is the popular refrain to this well known western standard.

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