

# The Move

An Update & The Low Down From LFVA  
*Spring 2013*



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## LFVA Booth and Cocktail Party at ALA National Convention

The LFVA was one of hundreds of exhibitors at the ALA National Conference & Exposition held April 14-17 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center at National Harbor in Oxon Hill, MD. Attendees from across the country stopped by to say hello and inquire about our organization.

We also hosted a cocktail party Tuesday night for all of the local ALA Capital Chapter members and attendees. The highlights of the party were the spectacular sunset over the Potomac and the extra-large, extra-tasty, shrimp cocktail. It was great to enjoy the waterfront room and patio of the lovely Old Hickory Steakhouse inside the Gaylord. Below is a photo of a few of the LFVA members in our booth and photos of guests and LFVA members caught in the act of enjoying the evening.



At the LFVA Booth, LFVA Members, Left to Right: Matt Logan /Office Movers, Inc., Carla Enterline-Heger / Fahrenheit, LLC, Joe Alvarez / National Office Systems, & Joanna Davis / Legal Placements, Inc.

## President's Message



As the Cherry Blossoms and the beautiful warm weather returns, we all are excited for another wonderful spring in Washington!

Spring brings changes and new excitement. We bid farewell to an outstanding ALA Chapter leader Paul Sicari and welcomed new President, Dot Mooney at the ALA "Change of the Gavel." Dot promises to bring the three "E's": Energy, Education & Enjoyment.

Later in the spring, Washington DC hosted the National ALA conference at the Gaylord Hotel. The event was very well attended and it provided an opportunity for the LFVA members to spend time with our friends and clients and the opportunity to meet some new ones.

At the convention, the LFVA held a drinks & dinner event at the grand Old Hickory Steakhouse restaurant. The evening was perfect: great food, a wonderful venue, and we were fortunate enough that the weather was beautiful and permitted all of us to spend time on the terrace. Many commented that the beautiful sunset over the river was the perfect ending



Left to Right: Paula Leber / Antonelli Terry Stout & Kraus, LLP, Lori DeCesare / Legal Placements, Inc., & Diane Norris / BOYNECLARK LLP.



Left to Right: Jane Robinson / DLA Piper & George Nicholson / Outsource IT.



A view of the lovely patio at Old Hickory Steakhouse.



to the evening.

Lastly, following to tradition of giving back to the community LFVA officially sponsored "Banding Together 2013" where 16 bands representing DC Law Firms will compete to raise funds for DC's homeless population.

I look forward to continuing our partnership with the law firm community as 2013 keeps rolling.

All the best,  
Joe

Joe Alvarez, President  
Law Firm Vendors  
Association

## ALA Capital Chapter Announcements

### ALACC Foundation Fundraiser

May 8, 2013

6:00pm -10:00pm

The Hamilton Live

600 14th Street, NW

Washington, DC 20005

Performance by world

renowned Capitol Steps

\$75. in advance / \$100.

at the door

### Lawyers Have Heart

June 8, 2013

6:00am - 10:30am

Georgetown Harbor

Man a water station,

followed by breakfast at

Old Glory on M Street in

Georgetown

Free to members &

A view from the patio as the sun is setting.

## Interview with Dot Mooney, ALA Capital Chapter President



Left to Right: Joe Alvarez / LFVA President and Dot Mooney / ALA Capital Chapter President

**LFVA:** What part of the ALA National Conference did you most enjoy?

**DM:** Aside from the educational sessions the most enjoyable part of the conference is the networking opportunities with peers and business partners. I find that both the educational sessions and networking opportunities are important to my professional growth.

**LFVA:** How many ALA National Conferences have you attended?

**DM:** I have attended five National Conferences and four Regional Conferences.

**LFVA:** What is your vision of the Capital Chapter during your presidency?

**DM:** The 3 E's - "Energize, Educate and Enjoy the Ride." I want to energize our membership and provide opportunities for all members to get excited about our profession. We are starting to recover from a downturned economy where many firms lost employees, merged or fell apart. Those Firms that did survive are moving forward and Administrators are required to do more with less. We have to give members opportunities to get excited again;

sponsors

## Red, White, Blue and You!

June 27, 2013

4:30pm - 8:30pm

Location: TBD

Duck Tour & Barbecue  
Free for members;  
sponsors by invite only

For further information on any of the above events, contact [Paula Serratore](mailto:Paula.Serratore@lfva.org) or call 202 419-1538.

## Additional Announcements

### Banding Together 2013

June 20, 2013

7:00pm

The Black Cat

1811 14th Street, NW  
Washington, DC

Rock out to the sounds of 16 bands representing DC law firms, joining together to help the homeless.

For further information contact [Walt Loman](mailto:Walt.Loman@lfva.org) or visit [www.gfth.org](http://www.gfth.org)

### Spotlight on Kristine Miller, LFVA - ALA Scholarship Winner



To show its support, LFVA awarded a scholarship for one ALA member to attend

hence, the 40 scholarships to attend the Annual Conference in April. The excitement was palpable and encouraged participation at many Chapter events. It is important for our Chapter to recognize the financial difficulties of our members and their firms and provide relevant educational opportunities for professional growth. Continuing to ask our members what they need in terms of education and working to provide it to them is of the utmost importance. Finally, I want everyone to Enjoy the Ride. We have to enjoy what we do and who we do it with - Period! So I encourage an environment of friendship, mentoring and reaching out to one another. We should enjoy volunteer opportunities and social events where we can relax with others who understand what we do every day. I am fortunate to serve with a very strong executive and leadership team who share the same vision of my "3 E's" and will work hard for our membership.

**LFVA:** What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the Capital Chapter right now?

**DM:** The biggest challenges facing the Capital Chapter are engaging the new members and keeping the long tenured members interested and involved. We have to be able to engage and excite our members. The leadership strives to create new opportunities and provide relevant educational programs to reach our membership. We need to ignite the passion within and provide opportunities for members to understand the benefits of membership. We have 390 members, but I bet only a third of them actually participate in an event whether it is a networking, social, or educational event. I want to challenge our membership to attend one event: a webinar, educational program, monthly educational meeting, business partner event, quarterly networking event, etc... - pick one - and participate this year.

**LFVA:** On a more personal note, what was your first job?

**DM:** Waitress at a steakhouse outside of a NASCAR speedway. There are stories. I was extraordinarily shy and I learned that I had to talk to people and engage them in pleasant conversation in order to make any money. So I overcame my shyness and the rest is history.

**LFVA:** How long have you been an administrator and what made you choose that career path?

**DM:** I have been a Legal Administrator for 11 years. I went to college to be a Psychiatrist and it has served me well. I work with lawyers and I understand them! My career path has had lots of twists and turns. I was a military spouse and held numerous jobs that never lasted more than a year (we were moving all the time) and then we were stationed in Maryland. I wanted to put down roots after traveling the world for years raising the kids while



the ALA Annual Conference & Exposition. Kristine Miller with Sughrue Mion was our lucky winner!

Kristine leads Sughrue Mion's Post Grant and Issuance Department. She manages a large team of coordinators, administrators and specialists while also monitoring and maintaining budget, database and workflow information pertaining to clients intellectual property portfolios. Kristine has over 20 years of experience in the legal industry. She is a mother, a student and an active member of ALA.

Congratulations again, Kristine!

Dad got to play Army. It was the early 90's and I kept seeing advertisements for Paralegal studies. I researched legal careers, took my first paralegal course at the local college and I got bit by the bug. I loved the legal world. That and the TV show "LA Law" was exciting - especially the elevator scene (those who know the TV show know exactly what I am talking about). So, I received a paralegal degree and moved up within the law firm world working as a legal secretary, paralegal, secretarial manager and then legal administrator.

**LFVA:** What is your biggest obstacle as an administrator?

**DM:** The biggest obstacle for me as an Administrator is trying to find enough time to take on all of the tasks. I am in a small firm with 40 employees. Everyone wants a piece of you -- yesterday -- and it is troubling when I cannot be all things to everyone all of the time.

**LFVA:** Who or what inspires you?

**DM:** My children and my husband are my greatest inspiration. Each one has taught me a valuable lesson about myself and they love and support me unconditionally and accept my faults. They make me want to be a better person. My life is GREAT with them and I strive to be the person they deserve.

**LFVA:** Outside of work, what are your passions?

**DM:** I have many passions, but I would list boating, traveling and adopting Labrador Retrievers as my passions.

## LFVA Member Highlight

### The Kane Furniture Bank

In late summer, 2011, nine members of Office Movers, Inc. formed an internal "Green Initiative" team to address the growing interests and concerns with environmental issues surrounding our company and industry. Changes were already underway with the increasing use of recyclable plastic moving crates; purge campaigns to shred and recycle mountains of unneeded files, documents, reports and publications; an increasing emphasis on alternative fuel vehicles; energy efficient lighting in warehouses; and LEED education and certification, just to name a few. What the office moving industry wasn't addressing very well was the overwhelming increase in the volume of excess furniture. Good quality and usable, but no longer needed.

In the past, law firms had arranged to sell or give the excess furniture to used furniture dealers. When that option was no longer viable, they tried leaving it behind in hopes of outfitting a new tenant. And later, when downsizing or "densification" became the norm, they asked us to dispose of it and take it to the local landfill. But none of these options took into account the hundreds of charitable organizations in our area who were struggling to operate on a shoestring budget, badly in need of office furniture. This need gave birth to the Kane Furniture Bank.

at no cost.

On the second Saturday of every month the Kane Furniture Bank opens its doors in our Rockville, MD warehouse to any and all registered charities and not-for-profit organizations and gives away clean, lightly-used office furniture. Office Movers, Inc. supplies the labor and area law firms (and other willing corporate participants) provide the desks, chairs, bookcases and tables. Non-profit representatives arrive in pickups and vans, line up as much as an hour before the doors open, and walk through in an orderly fashion calmly marking the items they wish to use in their office. There is absolutely no charge to these organizations - they are welcome to select the furniture and we help them load it - totally free.

Since the program's inception in late 2011, the Kane Furniture Bank has given away the equivalent of 125+ tractor-trailer loads of good quality used office furniture. This is furniture saved from the ignominy of the landfill, helping local organizations do what they do best, without having to worry about their chairs falling apart beneath them.

To learn more about Office Movers, Inc. and the Kane Furniture Bank, please contact James H. Durfee at 301.577.1400 or [jdurfee@kanecompany.com](mailto:jdurfee@kanecompany.com)



About Kane Company and Office Movers, Inc.:

Office Movers, Inc. and the Kane Company is the #1 commercial moving company according to the Washington Business Journal Book of Lists, and the overwhelming choice of DC's legal community. Office moving; library reconfigurations; storage of excess furniture; careful handling of desktop computer equipment; asset inventory services; packing and moving artwork; the largest supplier of plastic moving crates in the Washington, DC area; document destruction; records management; responsible and secure recycling.

James H. Durfee

*President / Kane Information Security*

**Check Us Out!**

View our photos on [flickr](#)

**LFVA Newsletter Committee**

Lisa Rubino/fahrenheit LLC; Meghan Dunn/ADC Corp.; Joanna Davis/Legal Placements, Inc.; George Nicholson/Outsource IT; Ed Green/HITT Contracting, Inc.