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Georgia Library Association - Atlanta Emerging Librarians

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*People, Libraries
and Agencies* **IN THE NEWS**

Georgia Library Association Atlanta Emerging Librarians



ATLANTA EMERGING LIBRARIANS

It's been another busy year for the Atlanta Emerging Librarians (AEL), a sub-group of the Georgia Library Association's New Members Round Table. Under the leadership of this year's planning committee, Elizabeth Christian, Kat Greer, Ashley Hoffman, and Ruth Rowell, AEL sought to provide a diverse array of events from formal presentations to library tours to informal social meet-ups. Events have brought together librarians and speakers from a wide spectrum of library types, including academic, public, and special libraries.

The group got the year off to a great start with an informal mingle at La Parilla Mexican Restaurant in west Atlanta. Over chips and salsa, the group discussed possible events for the upcoming year as well as various topics of interest to the members.

In April, AEL hosted a presentation entitled "The Extroverted Introvert: Public Speaking and Library Instruction for the New Librarian." This

event featured presentations by Casey Long, user education librarian at Agnes Scott College, and David Minchew, reference and instruction librarian at Georgia Gwinnett College. The presenters discussed strategies and tactics to overcome reservations about public speaking and how to improve one's presentation voice.

The group next met at the beginning of summer. The planning committee decided to do something fun and non-traditional, so the group went to watch an Atlanta RollerGirls' roller derby bout at the Yaarab Shrine Center in Midtown. The fun continued after the bout at Atlanta's very own Manuel's Tavern, where the group discussed the rest of the year's plans.

Later in the summer, AEL hosted the now annually-occurring "Special Library Tours." This was by far the highlight of the summer. The afternoon began with a tour of Emory's beautiful Hugh F. MacMillan Law Library, led by law librarian and former attorney Elizabeth Christian. In addition to the unique ship-like architecture of the library itself, Ms. Christian's tour covered the basics of legal reference work

and providing service to law school students. The tour culminated with a look into MacMillan Library's rare book collection with cataloger Jason LeMay, who delighted the group with an example of a fourteenth century "chained book." After the tour at Emory, AEL went on to visit the Stephen B. Thacker Library at the



AEL in March 2015

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The tour was led by reference librarian Rick Colbert, who spoke to the group about the mission of the CDC library and its role in the work of researchers and scientists. The memorable afternoon concluded with an informal mingle at Tin Lizzy's Cantina.

In October, AEL hosted their second presentation of the year, "Library Tech Notes: Updates in the Field," at the Buckhead Branch of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System. For the presentation, eight speakers were invited to share a technology tool or service using the lightning-talk format. The speakers included law librarian Sarah Mauldin (Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP), visual resources librarian Courtney Baron (Lamar Dodd School of Art), marketing content manager Jennifer Bielewski (LYRASIS), library director Mary Ann Cullen (Georgia Perimeter College), systems librarian Christina Yau (Georgia Perimeter College), medical

librarian Elisia George (Northeast Georgia Health System), academic librarian Emily Thornton (University of North Georgia), and Director of Georgia Libraries for Accessible Statewide Services Pat Herndon (GLASS). After the presentations and Q&A concluded, the

group migrated to Fado Irish Pub for lunch and socializing.

AEL's final event of the year will be the annual "Mingle with the Admins" at Manuel's Tavern in Poncey-Highland. The date of the Mingle is currently set for Thursday, December 10, 2015. This traditional event will give new

librarians and MLIS students the opportunity to network with peers and library administrators as well as gain insight and advice about job hunting, interviewing, and the library profession. A call for next year's planning committee will also go out in December. Please join AEL in December and into 2016!



AEL at the CDC in July 2015