

NEWSLETTER

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Welcome your new newsletter

In September 2021, FAFLIG launched its Member Engagement Survey. The Executive Committee learned not only about where members were coming from (federal, military, retired, or student) but also where you would like to see the group go. This “for you, by you” quarterly newsletter is a result of the latter.

In this edition, you will find information about members of the FAFLIG Executive Committee, facts about FAFLIG’s history, and a Museum & Library in Chicago.

Meet Ben, FAFLIG Secretary



NOTE: The author is acting in his personal capacity. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Congressional Research Service or the Library of Congress.

Ben Leubsdorf is currently a Reference and Digital Services Librarian in the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC. He has been a federal employee for three years and a member of FAFLIG for two. Librarianship is his second career, previously working as a newspaper reporter.

He says, “As a federal librarian, I get to serve my country while doing something I love.” He values

FAFLIG for the opportunities that it provides to connect to other federal and military librarians and develop professionally.

Meet Adria, FAFLIG Awards Committee Chair

Adria Olmi works for the U.S. Army as the Army Logistics University (ALU) Library Director in Fort Lee, Va.

She has worked in federal service for over a decade. She was not only drawn to military libraries because of the opportunities for career change and advancement but also because members of her family have served in the armed forces. “Federal/military libraries allow me to serve a specialized population, and to assist users with accessing information that is not often generally available elsewhere... I have an opportunity to serve users, similarly situated to my extended family and friends, and to assist them access information.” *[continued on next page].*



FAFLIG is a common forum for library staff working in U.S. federal agencies and the U.S. armed forces.



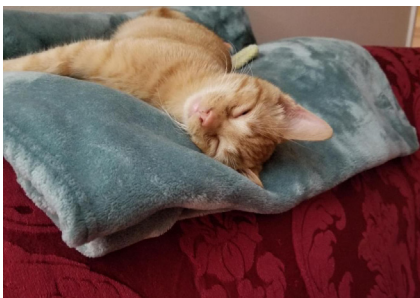
The FAFLIG Executive Committee invites you to get involved!

Submit your stories for the next edition to faflig.ala@gmail.com by 4/10/2022.

Volunteer as the Federal Representative and/or on one of our six committees. Contact: Joan Blaylock, FAFLIG Chair, joan.b.blaylock.civ@army.mil.

Join us at our next meeting on **March 23, 2022, at 7 PM EST** via Zoom.

She originally was a member of the Association of Specialized Government and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASGCLA), but once it dissolved in late 2020, she continued with FAFLIG. “Remaining in FAFLIG was a way to meet other professionals in the federal workforce and to remain engaged at a different level than the silo of a single organization. RUSA’s focus on user services is central to my idea of a library – connecting people to information and resources is exciting work.”



Adria is the proud parent to Cosimo d'Olmi, an orange tabby domestic short hair kitten [pictured above].

Pritzker Military Museum & Library

Located in the heart of downtown Chicago, the Pritzker Military Museum & Library stands at the forefront of military history, military affairs, and national security.

The FAFLIG Executive Committee would like to thank Julie Arrighetti (Chief Librarian of the Ralph J. Bunche Library, U.S. State Department) and Julius Jefferson (Head of Research and Library Services, Congressional Research Service) for their presentations in September and November 2021 respectively.

In 2021, the Museum & Library launched its current exhibition, *Drawn to Combat: Bill Mauldin & The Art of War*, which covers two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Bill Mauldin’s work about our nation’s time of war, civil rights, and social justice. Building on the success of this project, the Museum & Library released a compelling virtual tour offering highlights of 100+ works that cover Bill Mauldin’s life and work.

Look ahead to March 31st for the beginning of the annual *On War Military History Symposium*. This year’s symp-



Famous 1963 cartoon drawn by Bill Mauldin following the Kennedy assassination, showing Lincoln grieving. (Chicago Sun Times).

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roundtable discussion featuring an exciting list of scholars and historians focusing on the current state of military history and the role that museums and historians play in its commemoration.

In May, a stirring new exhibit will explore the reality of life as a prisoner of war, the aftermath recovery of being captured, and answer the questions of what these men experienced and what those experiences tell us about the perseverance of citizen soldiers.

Visit pritzkermilitary.org to learn more about this institution.

Submitted by Teri Embrey, Director of Library Services, Pritzker Military Museum & Library, 104 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60603.



FAFLIG FACTS: Did you know...

...that FAFLIG can trace its ancestry back to 1944, when ALA’s Division of Public Libraries established a Service Librarians Section?

...that military and federal libraries were represented by separate ALA round tables until 2001, when they merged to form the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table (FAFLRT)?

...that the FAFLIG Manual charges the group’s leadership with the responsibility of upholding “the spirit of public service” and “the ideals of the Republic?”