

*From  
the President...*

*Bethany Bletsch, ExxonMobil Law Library*

Happy New Year to each of you! I hope that you and your families had a wonderful holiday season. For me, each new year marks a beginning, with new opportunities and challenges. It is exciting to look at this time as a chance to start fresh and renew enthusiasm for the future months. There are plenty of opportunities for working in the HALL organization – especially if one of your resolutions is to get more involved with professional organizations. Please let me or any of the other Board members know if you are interested in assisting with some of the HALL activities. Elizabeth Berry has also given us some opportunities for assisting with the HBA activities. Please see her article in this newsletter.

2004 will be a busy year for HALL members as we work toward hosting the SWALL meeting in March. Already, Monica Ortale and Elizabeth Berry, are involved with the planning and logistics. I know that Monica has been working on the location of the meeting for over a year. Through her efforts, SWALL will be held at the new Magnolia Hotel, which looks wonderful! In addition, the opening reception will be at the Downtown Aquarium complex, which should be an experience in itself. The SWALL meeting will be a *great* opportunity for all of us to participate in a larger professional conference. With budgets the way they are now, it is not always possible to attend one of the national conferences. By hosting the meetings in Houston, more of us should be able to participate. There are some great programs in the making!

Trisha Fabugais arranged an interesting program for our January meeting. John Edwards from Jackson Walker spoke on cameras in the courtroom. I enjoyed hearing his comments, as counsel for some of the media outlets, about some of the high-profile Houston area cases, including the ones for Andrea Yates, Clara Harris, and Robert Durst. It was also nice to see colleagues again.

**Upcoming HALL Meetings**

The February 11 general meeting will feature AALL Board Representative, James Duggan who is Director of Information Technology and Professor at Southern Illinois University School of Law Library, a position he has held since 1998. Prof. Duggan holds a BA in Education from Virginia Tech, a JD from the University of Mississippi School of Law, and an MLIS from Louisiana State University School of Library and Information Science. He has an extensive list of publications and professional activities, but also apparently has a great sense of humor (see his biography and statement in the December 2000 issue of *Spectrum* beginning on page 24, which is available on AALLNET [http://www.aallnet.org/products/pub\\_sp0012.pdf](http://www.aallnet.org/products/pub_sp0012.pdf) ). In addition to working in the law school library, he has also worked in a public library.

In addition to Prof. Duggan’s appearance at our meeting, there will likely be an opportunity for a more informal gathering in the evening during his visit here in Houston, as is our custom. Watch HALL-L for further information about this additional opportunity to get to know a little better one of the leaders of our national professional organization.

In March, HALL takes a hiatus from our usual monthly meeting to co-host the SWALL/HALL annual meeting to be held at the Magnolia Hotel, March 25-27. Monica Ortale and Elizabeth Black Berry have been hard at work handling all of the local arrangements which include an opening reception at the Downtown Aquarium and a reception at South Texas. Many of the meals and events are included in the registration, so all HALL members should make sure to include this important conference in their professional development plans. Registration materials should go out later this month.

**Inside This Issue**

Vendor Relations Forum / Member News .....	2
Placement .....	3
Scholarships/Grants Committee / Local Bar Leaders .....	4
January General Meeting Minutes .....	6
Treasurer’s Report .....	8
South Texas Court Exhibit / Houston Public News .....	9
Dallas Alliance for Response .....	10
Nominations Committee .....	12

## Vendor Relations

Colleen Pincumbe, Thompson & Knight L.L.P.

### Coming to You Real Soon...The Lexis Total Search and West KM Program "Systems Overview"

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 25th from 11:30am-2:00pm to attend a brown-bag presentation at Thompson & Knight L.L.P where you can view and compare these two systems. Librarians are encouraged to bring an attorney or IT person from your firm or company to view these products as they are primarily geared toward the interfacing and retrieval of the firm's internal documents such as motions, pleadings, memos or briefs while the user is accessing and working in Lexis or Westlaw doing legal research. A lot of us have already heard of both of these products and have even received detailed information on each of them but it's time to take a look and see the real thing folks!

Due to a limited amount of space it is also encouraged that only 1 librarian from your office or company attend if in fact you will be bringing one of the two aforementioned individuals from your office. While Lexis & Westlaw will be providing appetizers and dessert you will be responsible for bringing your own lunch as this forum will be a true-to-form brown-bag event. A reminder will be sent to you all via email, of course, with a few more details like names of presenters and an RSVP date in the early part of February.

### A Note of Thanks

I know it was last year but I wanted to take this opportunity to extend very special thanks to our very own Catherine Whitney for her thorough and informative GSI presentation, "How to Find Company Information Using LIVEDGAR" along with new details on "SEDAR Canadian Securities Filings on LIVEDGAR" on October 31st. Having this forum on (of all days) Halloween was just pure luck for those of us who attended as Catherine not only provided lunch and tasty trick-or-treat goodies for us but donned a "costume" as well during her presentation that was not only funny but extremely witty as she incorporated it into her dialogue and content – you'll just have to imagine that one!

Attendees did their share as well by either dressing in their trick-or-treat outfits (oh, yes, folks believe it!) or by bringing some fun toys to play with. Those of you that couldn't attend, you missed it, and it was great. Again, thank you Catherine for contributing your time and efforts to inform, feed and entertain the HALL members!

**Deadline for the next issue  
(March/April 2004):  
Monday March 15, 2004**



### Member News...

**Mark Lambert**, South Texas College of Law, has published "The Trinity University School of Law, 1873-1878, and the Jurisprudence of Texas," 41 *Houston Lawyer* 34-41 (November/December 2003). The issue also includes an article entitled "Houston's Law Schools in 1963," for which Mark performed most of the research for the section on South Texas, pp. 18-19, using materials in the Special Collections Department.

**Spencer Simons** took up his new position as Director of the O'Quinn Law Library at the University of Houston Law Center on Monday, January 12. Welcome, Spencer!

**Mary Ann Wacker**, formerly Research Librarian at Andrews & Kurth, L.L.P., is now Reference Librarian at Bracewell & Patterson, LLP.

### Welcome New Member!

Jen Van Ness, Librarian/Paralegal, Phelps Dunbar LLP

The *HALL Newsletter*, published 6 times a year by the HALL Publications Committee, is the official publication of the Houston Area Law Librarians. The purpose is to communicate information to its members. Send contributions, comments, news items or advertising queries to Barbara Szalkowski, Editor, The Fred Parks Law Library, South Texas College of Law, 1303 San Jacinto, Houston, Texas 77002-7000; fax: (713) 659-2217; email: szalkow@stcl.edu; or call (713) 646-1724.

All contributions submitted for publication are subject to editorial review. HALL does not assume responsibility for the statements of contributors. Views or opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of Houston Area Law Librarians. The *HALL Newsletter* is not copyrighted, however, permission should be sought from the authors and credit given when quoting or photocopying material from this publication.

Membership dues for HALL are \$25.00 a year. For membership information, contact Susan Spillman, Computer Instructional Services Librarian, The Fred Parks Law Library, South Texas College of Law, 1303 San Jacinto, Houston, TX 77002-7000.

HALL home page: <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/hall>



## Placement News...

*Pamela Jenkins, ConocoPhillips*

### **Reference Librarian, Andrews & Kurth L.L.P.**

*Requirements:* Library teamwork, strong interactive skills, and flexibility. Legal/corporate library experience a must. A Masters Degree in Library/Information Science from an ALA accredited library school is required. Extensive research experience could be considered in lieu of a Masters.

*Responsibilities:* High-profile Reference Librarian position available in large law firm in downtown Houston. Opening requires in-depth knowledge of computer-assisted legal and business research sources. Librarian must coordinate multiple ongoing projects; provide reference and research using the collection, fee-based databases, and free electronic sources; develop the firm's Intranet; advertise and customize library services to practice areas' needs; schedule vendors' training, free-time, and CLE sessions; develop and maintain professional networks with librarians in other firms for interlibrary loan exchanges; provide library orientation and training; perform special projects as assigned by Library Manager.

#### *To apply:*

E-mail resumes to [hrdept@akllp.com](mailto:hrdept@akllp.com). Enter "Reference Librarian" in the subject line.

### **Research/Technical Services Librarian, Thompson & Knight LLP (Austin office).**

*Requirements:* MLS or equivalent from ALA-accredited library school; Appropriate reference and research experience, law firm library experience preferred; Strong interpersonal, communication, and customer service skills; Strong online research skills and technological proficiency; Strong organizational skills, detail orientated and strong time management skills; Ability to work effectively under pressure and time constraints.

*Responsibilities:* Provides legal and nonlegal reference and research services; Provides assistance to all users of the library's resources; Processes incoming mail; Routes current awareness materials within the Austin office; Maintains library mail check-in and cataloging databases for the Austin office; Assists with interlibrary loan requests from all offices; Develops research and product training materials; Produces library promotional materials and research guides; Participates in firm wide orientation and training programs; Evaluates and tests new products; Participates in collection development and review, acquisitions and inventory control activities; Maintains library records and reports as requested by the Library Manager;

Maintains lists for routing and desk copy reference titles for the Austin office; Reshelves books daily and shifts collection as necessary; Coordinates with publishers regarding missed or incorrect shipments; Assists filing service with looseleaf filing; Files looseleaf supplements and pocket parts; Performs other primary duties as assigned by the Library Manager.

*Reports to:* Library Manager

*Salary and Benefits:* Competitive

#### *Contact:*

Mariann Sears

Library Manager

Thompson & Knight LLP

333 Clay Street, Suite 3300

Houston, TX 77002-4499

(713) 951-5845 (direct phone)

(832) 397-8047 (direct fax)

[mariann.sears@tklaw.com](mailto:mariann.sears@tklaw.com)

### **Senior Catalog Librarian, Texas Tech University Law Library (Requisition No. 01909).**

*Requirements:* Master's degree in library science from an ALA-accredited institution; at least five years' work experience in cataloging; substantial knowledge of and experience in cataloging and classification policies, practices and tools; familiarity with bibliographic utilities and electronic information resources; knowledge of traditional legal bibliography; strong service orientation, ability to work well independently and with others as a team; and excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

*Responsibilities:* The Senior Catalog Librarian catalogs, classifies, organizes and processes the Law Library's materials in all formats. The position also participates in systems management, reference, instruction, collection selection, and other duties. (A detailed description of this position is available at <http://www.law.ttu.edu/lawlibrary> .

*Salary and Benefits:* Minimum salary is \$43,000 per year. Salary is commensurate with qualifications. Benefits include health and dental insurance, paid vacation and sick leaves, employer contributions to retirement plans, and strong support for professional development.

*Application and Starting Date:* Applications are being accepted now. The position is available immediately and will remain open until filled.

*How to Apply:* Applications must be submitted online via Texas Tech University Employment Website at <http://jobs.texastech.edu> (click on Search Postings and enter Requisition No. 01909). If you need help applying online, please call the University Personnel Department at (806) 742-3851, or e-mail [employment@ttu.edu](mailto:employment@ttu.edu). Texas Tech University is an EEO/AA/ADA employer.

For additional information, contact:

Robert Hu, Associate Director

(806) 742-3990 x286

e-mail: [robert.hu@ttu.edu](mailto:robert.hu@ttu.edu)

*continued on next page*

## Placement

*continued from previous page*

**Access Services Librarian.** Texas Tech University Law Library (Requisition No. 02197).

**Requirements:** J.D. and M.L.S. degrees from the ABA/ALA accredited institutions. A minimum of three years' experience working at a law library. A minimum of two years' supervisory experience. Strong service orientation, ability to work well with others, and excellent interpersonal skills.

**Responsibilities:** Coordinates and supervises circulation, reserves, interlibrary loan service, document delivery, stacks maintenance, and library exhibits. Hires, supervises and evaluates staff. Participates in reference, collection development, teaching, and other duties. (A detailed description of this position is available at <http://www.law.ttu.edu/lawlibrary> .

**Salary and Benefits:** Salary is commensurate with qualifications. Benefits include health and dental insurance, paid vacation and sick leaves, employer contributions to retirement plans, and strong support for professional development.

**Application and Starting Date:** Applications are being accepted now. The position is available immediately and will remain open until filled.

**How to Apply:** Applications must be submitted online via Texas Tech University Employment Website at <http://jobs.texastech.edu> (click on Search Postings and enter Requisition No. 02197). If you need help applying online, please call the University Personnel Department at (806) 742-3851, or e-mail [employment@ttu.edu](mailto:employment@ttu.edu). Texas Tech University is an EEO/AA/ADA employer.

For additional information contact:  
Robert Hu, Associate Director  
(806) 742-3990 x286  
e-mail: [robert.hu@ttu.edu](mailto:robert.hu@ttu.edu)

### The Executive Librarian

(Legal and Tax Library Filing and Maintenance Service)



**Monika Miura**

3510 Kiamesha Drive  
Missouri City, Texas  
77459-4413

office (281) 437-2135 [mmiura@houston.rr.com](mailto:mmiura@houston.rr.com) pager (713) 720-8214

## HALL Participates in Local Bar Leaders Meetings

*Elizabeth Black Berry, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP*

Every quarter, the Houston Bar Association (HBA) hosts a Bar Leaders' Brown Bag Meeting at their offices. Approximately 30 local area bar associations and legal-related associations are invited to send a representative to hear about what the HBA is doing in our community and what each of the local area legal associations is doing. HBA President Michael Connelly encourages all bar leaders to stay in touch with one another and work together with the HBA to present programs and participate in community projects.

I have represented HALL at two of these meetings, October 8, 2003 and January 8, 2004. On both occasions, I described our organization and told the group about various programs that we have presented, including our Fall CLE Seminar and our upcoming HALL/SWALL Meeting March 25-27, 2004 at The Magnolia Hotel.

Most of the bar associations (Asian American Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, Fort Bend Bar Association, Association of Women Attorneys, to name just a few) assure their members some Continuing Legal Education, along with providing social functions and community service projects. Some of the worthwhile projects in which the HBA participates, along with other local bars, are as follows:

- Year of Giving: a legal community blood drive
- Fall & Spring Clothing Drives
- Habitat for Humanity
- Gender Initiative Task Force
- Book Drive
- Lawyers Against Waste

If you are interested in participating in one of these Community events, or in getting HALL involved in one or more of the events, please contact Bethany Bletsch at (713) 656-6770 or [bethany.bletsch@exxonmobil.com](mailto:bethany.bletsch@exxonmobil.com) .

## Scholarships and Grants Applications Available

The HALL Scholarships and Grant criteria and applications are now available. HALL has funds available for members to attend library school, law school, and or the AALL annual meeting, this year in Boston in July. The criteria and forms for each scholarship and grant are available on the HALL website at <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/hall/grants.htm> . The forms are available on the "Members Only" section of the website. Contact Susan Spillman at [spillman@stcl.edu](mailto:spillman@stcl.edu) if you need the login and password.

All applications must be submitted to the HALL Scholarships/Grant Chair, Judith Jackson, by April 1, 2004. (No foolin' .)



# General Meeting Minutes

## Houston Area Law Librarians

### Jan, 14, 2004

## South Texas College of Law

### Minutes Subject to Correction and Approval

Bethany Bletsch called the first meeting of 2004 to order at 12:05pm. The September and November minutes were approved and new members from University of Houston Law Library and Vinson & Elkins were welcomed.

Caren distributed the Treasurer's report and reported that we have \$2000.00 more at this time this year than the previous year.

### Old Business

Monica Ortale and Elizabeth Black Berry reported on the upcoming SWALL/HALL seminar, which will be held March 25-27, 2004, at the Magnolia Hotel. The opening lunch will be sponsored by West Group and the opening reception will be held at the Aquarium, with rides included, sponsored by LexisNexis. On Friday evening, CIS publishers and South Texas College of Law will co-sponsor a reception on the 6th floor of The Fred Parks Law Library. Registration will be \$185.00 and more information, including registration forms will be forthcoming.

### New Business

Elizabeth Berry has been appointed the Houston Bar Association (HBA) / HALL liaison. She has attended several HBA meetings along with 30 or more representatives from other legal organizations. She encourages HALL to participate in community events and projects sponsored by HBA and thanked HALL for their participation in the recent book drive.

Bethany reported that she would have liked to nominate HALL's spring and fall seminars for the AALL Professional Development Award, however, we are ineligible because our seminars lacked evaluation forms. Bethany poses we develop a committee to arrange for and create evaluations. Jessica Alexander has volunteered to look into this and assist.

We are currently looking for a volunteer to update the HALL brochures. Bethany will post our plea to HALL-L. Ideally we'd like to have the new brochures ready for the SWALL/HALL meeting.

Blythe McCoy announced that the next Advanced Westlaw Mastery Class will be held on Friday, February 6th from 1:00-4:00pm. Additionally she would like to start conducting professional development classes on areas of interest to us. The first of these classes will focus on html and will be held on February 17th from 10:00am-12:00 noon. Look for additional information soon.

### Committee Reports

*Bylaws:* No report.

*Continuing Education:* Trisha Fabugais reported that James Duggan, a board member of AALL, will be at the February 11th meeting.

*Membership:* Susan Spillman reported that we currently have 164 paid members. Also she is updating our membership directory to include the Interlibrary Loan and Reference numbers that were previously omitted.

*Nominations:* No report.

*Placement:* No Report.

*Publications:* The next newsletter deadline is January 15th. Barbara asked the organization if there were any comments or concerns pertaining to our electronic version of the newsletter. As of 2004 the newsletter will be in electronic format only. This has been well received thus far.

*Scholarships /Grants:* Judith Jackson now chairs this committee. Application forms and additional information were included in the Nov./Dec. 2003 issue of the newsletter. There is also a link on the website.

*Vendor Relations:* Colleen Pincumbe has scheduled our next brown bag lunch for February 25th. This will feature the West KM and Lexis Total Search programs. Details to follow.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30pm.

## AALL Publications Online

*[Editor's Note: This information was provided in a posting to the AALL Discussion List on Member Publications, a week-long special discussion list sponsored by the AALL Special Committee on Member Publications the week of January 11-17. The information about HeinOnline was posted by Frank Houdek, the current editor of Law Library Journal, and the information on the other AALL publications links was provided by Sarah Reneker Andeen, Director of Research, Greenberg Traurig, Phoenix.]*

AALL Members can now access *Law Library Journal* on HeinOnline whether or not they or their institutions subscribe to HeinOnline. Go to the "Members Only" section of AALLNET, the Association's website (requires the member to login with a password), and click on the blue "Law Library Journal" button on the right-hand side of the page. This will take you to a page that briefly describes this "member benefit" and provides a direct link to HeinOnline. That link will access just the part of HeinOnline that includes the full run (except for the current year, as for all other HeinOnline titles) of *Law Library Journal*.

In addition to having the full run of *Law Library Journal* available via HeinOnline in the Members Only section, you can also access some of the back issues for free on the open section of AALLNET at [http://www.aallnet.org/products/pub\\_journal.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/products/pub_journal.asp) as well as being able to access issues of *Spectrum* at [http://www.aallnet.org/products/pub\\_spectrum.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/products/pub_spectrum.asp).



# HOUSTON AREA LAW LIBRARIANS

## Treasurer's Report

### Jan. 14, 2004

**Balance forward 5/31/03** **\$7,447.28**

	Income	Expenses	
Dues	\$2,950.00		
Newsletter			
Advertising	\$1,020.00		
Postage/Printing		\$2,405.48	
Software		\$ 91.95	
HALL/DALL/SWALL Reception		\$1,536.75	
Jones McClure sponsorship	\$ 500.00		
DALL/SWALL	\$ 691.16		
Meetings			
April 2003 lunch	\$ 92.50		
May 2003 lunch	\$ 260.00		
August 2003 lunch	\$ 448.00	\$ 435.17	
Sept. 2003 lunch	\$ 356.50	\$ 352.12	
Nov. 2003 lunch	\$ 399.50	\$ 327.97	
Dec. 2003 HALLiday Party	\$1,000.00	\$1,573.03	
[*GSI sponsorship		\$ 246.88]	
Jan. 2004 lunch	\$ 82.25		
Fall Seminar (Oct. 2003)	\$2,250.00		
MCLE fee		\$ 100.00	
Breakfast/lunch/drinks		\$ 619.71	
Administrative			
Paper, labels		\$ 41.28	
Gifts		\$ 128.93	
Jon Schultz –AALL exh.		\$ 100.00	
Memorial Gift		\$ 50.00	
Insurance		\$ 244.50	
Check redeposit fee		\$ 2.00	
New checks		\$ 16.00	
Scholarship contribution		\$ 27.00	
<b>Balance 1/14/2004</b>			<b>\$9,499.30</b>

\*not yet received

## Court Exhibit at South Texas

Mark Lambert, South Texas College of Law

“A Texas Century of American Justice: The Centennial of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas,” is on display in the lobby of the Fred Parks Law Library, South Texas College of Law, from January 7th, 2004 until March 28, 2004.

The exhibit is available for viewing by the public each Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 6:00pm, Saturdays 8:30am to 6:00pm, and Sundays 10:00am to 6:00pm. The Library is easily accessible, located just 2 blocks off of the new light rail line on San Jacinto between Clay and Polk. You will have to check in at the security desk, and then proceed past the security desk to the lobby of the Fred Parks Law Library.

Ever since its creation in 1902, the Federal District Court for the Southern District of Texas has been making judicial history. Starting from one judge in 1902, the court now has 19 district judges currently serving, as well as 6 bankruptcy judges, fourteen magistrate judges, and over 200 deputy clerks. The court's second district judge, J. C. Hutcheson, Jr., was one of the founders and first dean of South Texas College of Law.

The court has dealt with such diverse cases as those arising from our border troubles with Mexico, the Civil Rights Movement, the War on Drugs, and the current Enron scandal. Historic events of the Southern District of Texas include appointment of the first Hispanic federal judge in the United States, Reynaldo Garza in 1961; in 1967 boxer Cassius Clay (later Muhammad Ali) was found guilty of refusing induction into the United States Army (his conviction was later set aside by the U.S. Supreme Court); and in 1979, Gabrielle Kirk McDonald became the first African-American appointed to the federal court in Texas, as well as the first woman in the district.

For more information on the exhibit, please contact Mark Lambert, Special Collections Librarian, Fred Parks Law Library, South Texas College of Law, 1303 San Jacinto Street, Houston, Texas, 77002-7000. Phone: (713) 646-1720; E-mail: mlambert@stcl.edu .

**KEEP IT CURRENT**  
Library Update Service

**Jeanne Harris**  
Owner

PO Box 1047  
Austin, Texas 78767-1047

Phone: 512-474-8108  
Fax: 512-474-8108  
E-mail: kic4jharris@hotmail.com  
Houston Phone: 713-862-5370

## Houston Public Celebrates 100 Years of Service

Jim Hundemer, President, Friends of HPL  
submitted by Caren Luckie, Jackson Walker L.L.P.

### Upcoming Events at HPL

#### One Hundred and One Big Party

Houston Public Library invites you to the kick-off event for a year-long celebration commemorating our 100th birthday. The “One Hundred and One Big Party” will be held on Saturday, January 24, noon-4:00pm at the Central Library Julia Ideson Building. There will be an Official Texas Historical Marker dedication, storytelling, face painting, crafts, games, tours, and entertainment for everyone.

For additional information, call 832-393-1384 or visit [www.houstonlibrary.org](http://www.houstonlibrary.org) .

#### Empowering Houstonians for 100 years, 1904-2004

In 2004, Houston Public Library celebrates Empowering Houstonians for 100 years: 1904-2004. The Centennial Celebration Committee would like to invite you to join the celebration now by participating in the “Share Your Memory Campaign.” Share your memories of the Library with us: funny stories, anecdotes, and other memorable events. These memories can go as far back as 1904 or be as recent as yesterday. We just want to know how the Houston Public Library has positively impacted your life! Visit [http://www.houstonlibrary.org/hpl/newsroom/news\\_centennial.html](http://www.houstonlibrary.org/hpl/newsroom/news_centennial.html) for additional information and the online form.

#### Buy a brick for the John P. McGovern-Stella Link Branch Library

Where can you find great books, met with friends and neighbors, work on school projects, and enjoy a mocha latte? At your new branch library! A trip to the John P. McGovern-Stella Link Branch Library will seem more like visiting the comfortable home of a book-loving friend than a public library. This new branch is scheduled to open in 2004 and will offer an extensive selection of books and materials, and the latest in technology in its 20,000 square feet.

You can help build a great new library! Buy a brick, paver, bench or tree and help the Houston Public Library lay the foundation! Your gift will help keep collections of books and materials up-to-date, buy new computer equipment and software, provide exciting educational programs and so much more. Plus you will leave a lasting memory of your generosity. Bricks and pavers may be inscribed with your name, or purchase one or more in honor of loved ones and friends. Buy a bench or tree, and your gift will be recognized on a special plaque. Whatever your budget, you can help and your donation is 100% tax deductible. For more information call (832) 393-1368.

## Dallas Alliance for Response Event

Mark Lambert, South Texas College of Law

On November 14, 2003, a unique cultural resources event was held at the Dallas Museum of Art. Alliance for Response, a Forum on Cultural Heritage and Disaster Management, was the first of four regional meetings to be held in the United States concerning disaster planning and response. This event brought together cultural resources collection caretakers, emergency managers and emergency "first responders" (emergency services personnel, i.e. fire, police, and emergency medical personnel).

Other regional meetings are to be held in Boston at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston on November 17, 2003; in Cincinnati at the Cincinnati Art Museum on December 12, 2003; and in New York City in early 2004. The stated goals of the event were to provide education on local disaster management issues and protocols; to raise awareness of the need to protect cultural and historic resources; to encourage disaster planning and mitigation; and to develop strong networks to facilitate effective local response.

These events are viewed as a way to start a dialogue between cultural resources professionals and emergency personnel, whom the cultural resources collections community found were so important in helping save cultural resources collections after the terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001.

This important collaboration was recently highlighted in a report issued entitled *Cataclysm and Challenge*, which described the cultural resources collections lost, and saved, in New York and Washington in the aftermath of 9/11. This 32-page report can be found on the web in pdf format at <http://www.heritagepreservation.org/NEWS/Cataclysm.htm>.

The Alliance for Response events are being sponsored by the Heritage Emergency National Task Force, best known for their creation and distribution throughout the United States of the Emergency Response and Salvage Wheel. The local institutional sponsors of the Dallas event were Amigos Library Services, and the Dallas Museum of Art. The corporate sponsors for the Dallas event were Fidelity Foundation; BMS Catastrophe, Inc.; and Belfor USA.

The core planners for the Dallas meeting were: Steve Brown, Director, North Richland Hills Public Library; Megan Bryant, Registrar, The Sixth Floor Museum, Dallas; Terry Colley, Deputy Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission; Gregg S. Dawson, Emergency Preparedness Programs Director, North Central Texas Council of Governments; Chris LaPlante, Texas State Archivist, Austin; Shelby Sanett, Manager, Imaging and Preservation Services, Amigos Library Services, Dallas; John Smith, Director, Records Management Program, National Archives and Records Administration, Fort Worth; Cindy Smolovik, Archivist, NARA Southwest Region; and Gabriela Truly, Director of Collections Management, Dallas Museum of Art.

There were approximately sixty-five attendees, including library and museum professionals, government officials, as well as police, fire and other emergency services personnel, mostly from the North Texas Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

Speakers at the event included F. Lawrence Oaks, Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission, who talked about the "unrealized partnership" of emergency management personnel and the cultural heritage community needed to preserve our cultural resources; Wilbur Faulk, Executive Vice President, Contemporary Services Corporation, who talked about an extreme situation in cultural resources protection, having just returned from a cultural resources collections consulting trip to war-torn Iraq; and Bill Bunting and Gary Woodall of the National Weather Service, Fort Worth, who both talked about the extreme weather that can be found in Texas, and the services of the National Weather Service available to the public.

Greg Lambert, Amigos Library Services Project Director, University of Houston Law Library Disaster Recovery Project, talked about the steps and alliances taken so far to return the UH Law Library to pre-Tropical Storm Allison condition. James A. Hunter, Marketing Manager, Public Entity/Scholastic Division, Arthur Gallager & Company, talked about the insurance industry and its policies covering cultural resources collections during natural and man-made disasters; and Jo Anne Martinez-Kilgore, Chair, New Mexico Preservation Alliance, talked about the fledgling alliance she helped create to protect cultural resources collections in her state.

Other speakers included Jane Long, Director, Heritage Emergency National Task Force; Keith Wells, Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator, Fort Worth-Tarrant County Emergency Management; and Kyle Mills, Chief, Public Assistance Branch, FEMA Region VI Office, Denton, Texas.

More state meetings are being planned for Texas, with the first one slated for February 6th, 2004, in Arlington, Texas. Amigos Library Services is the organizer of this event. It is hoped that Houston will also host a regional meeting at a later time, so that the cultural resources professionals in Houston can get to know and form alliances with the emergency services personnel in our area.

### *Just a reminder!*

Publication deadlines for the  
**HALL Newsletter** are:

March/April	3/15/2004
May/June	5/15/2004
July/August	8/1/2004
September/October	9/15/2004
November/December	11/15/2004
January/February	1/15/2005

## AALL Mentor Project Wants You!

*Connie Lenz, Member, AALL Mentoring Committee*

### The AALL Mentor Project

- Provides an informal, personal source of information for newer members
- Provides an avenue by which experienced law librarians may meet promising new members of the profession
- Provides a network for members who are contemplating a move to another type of library

### Who should participate?

- All experienced law librarians willing to share their time and wisdom
- All enthusiastic newer members
- AALL members considering a move to another type of library

### 2003 mentees benefit from guidance and support

While I have yet to meet a law librarian who wasn't willing to offer advice when asked, it is great to have someone who specifically wants to be asked. My mentor was also great fun to be around at the conference. She has continued to help me since, providing local introductions when I moved to San Francisco.

*Monica Donovan, Information Specialist,  
Jackson Lewis LLP.*

My experience with my mentor has been great. We are both in similar situations and I know that I can always turn to her for advice and encouragement.

*Sarah Mauldin, Director of Library Services,  
Lionel Sawyer & Collins*

### 2003 mentors recommend the experience

Working as a mentor provides an opportunity for reflection and analysis about what's going on in law libraries and it makes you appreciate how much you have learned in your own career path. It's not rocket science and there's no right or wrong way to make it work. Even if your only time together is at the annual meeting, you have nothing to lose by trying it but, potentially, a lot to gain.

*Suzanne Thorpe, Associate Director for Faculty, Research,  
and Instructional Services, University of Minnesota  
Law Library*

I have been a mentor at the last two AALL conferences, and it was a great experience. In addition to sharing my knowledge and experience with others, I believe that I can always learn something new by listening to my colleagues, regardless of their level of experience. I find it refreshing to hear how other libraries approach common issues. Moreover, frequently we come to law librarianship after many years in other professions. Often these new librarian

colleagues have experience and knowledge of their own that enriches me. Finally, I enjoy teaching and helping (that is, after all, why I do what I do for a living!), want to give back to the profession what I can, and never pass up the opportunity to network.

*Barbara Traub, Head of Reference Services, Rittenberg Law  
Library, St. John's University School of Law*

For the past two years, I have had wonderful mentees who are interested in foreign, comparative and international law librarianship. As many times a newer FCIL librarian is the only subject specialist at his or her workplace, a mentor and professional connections are vital.

*Stephanie Burke, Senior Reference and International Law  
Librarian, Pappas Law Library, Boston University  
School of Law*

### How can you join the Mentor Project?

To learn more about the AALL Mentor Project and to become a mentor or mentee, visit our website at:

[http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/mentor\\_project.html](http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/mentor_project.html)

Mentors and mentees will be matched as closely as possible based on submitted applications.

## Supporting New Professionals AALL Annual Meeting Grants

*Iris Lee, AALL Grants Committee Chair*

The AALL Grants Program provides financial assistance to law librarians or graduate students who hold promise of future involvement in AALL and the law library profession. Funds are provided by vendors, AALL, and AALL individual members. Grants are awarded to cover the Annual Meeting registration fee or the registration fee for workshops presented at the Annual Meeting. Preference is given to applicants who are new to the profession and active in AALL or one of its chapters.

The AALL Grants Program began in 1952 and is one of the oldest and most successful AALL programs. More than 1,000 librarians have received funding to assist them in attending AALL educational activities. Many of those recipients are leaders in the profession today. For additional information, check out the application on the Association's web site at <http://www.aallnet.org/committee/grants/grants.asp>

In 2001, the Minority Leadership Development Award was created to assure that AALL's leadership remains vital, relevant and representative of the Association's diverse membership. The Award provides up to \$1,500.00 toward the cost of attending the Annual Meeting, an experienced AALL leader to serve as the recipient's mentor, and an opportunity to serve on an AALL committee during the year following the monetary award. For additional information, check out the application on the Association's web site.

[http://www.aallnet.org/about/award\\_mlda.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/about/award_mlda.asp)

Applications for both AALL Grants Programs must be received at the Association's headquarters by April 1, 2004.

## Grant for AALL 2004 Now Available

*Scott Fisher, Chair, 2003-04 SR-SIS Standing Committee on Lesbian & Gay Issues*

The AALL Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section's Standing Committee on Lesbian & Gay Issues is offering a grant to travel to the 2004 AALL Annual Meeting in Boston. The grant is funded by a special bequest to the Standing Committee from former Ohio State University Law Library Director Alan Holoch, who died in 1991. The Alan Holoch Memorial Travel Grant is to assist individuals with travel expenses for the purpose of attending the Annual Meeting. An applicant must be a member of the Social Responsibilities Special Interest Section at the time of the submission and review of the application. Completed applications must be postmarked, faxed or e-mailed by May 1, 2004. To obtain a copy of the application form, please visit the Standing Committee on Lesbian & Gay Issues' web site, [www.aallnet.org/sis/srsis/lgbt/](http://www.aallnet.org/sis/srsis/lgbt/) or contact the Chair of the Standing Committee, Scott Fisher, at (732) 855-6160 or [sfisher@wilentz.com](mailto:sfisher@wilentz.com).

**AALL Board Member Visit  
Wednesday February 11, 2004**

## Research Grant Funds Available for 2004

*Eloise Vondruska, Chair, AALL OBS/TS Joint Research Grant Committee*

The Online Bibliographic Services/Technical Services Joint Research Grant, to provide support for technical services law librarians to perform research that will enhance law librarianship in service to our clients, is available each year. Applicants must be members of AALL, and must show evidence that the research will benefit technical services law librarianship. The goal of the Joint Research Grant Committee is to award grants in a single year ranging in amount of no more than \$1,000. The deadline for applications is June 15, 2004.

Additional general information about the grant is available at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/obssis/research/researchinfo.htm>.

The agreement form for grant recipients can be viewed at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/obssis/research/agreement.htm>.

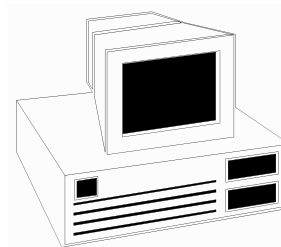
Grant recipients will be announced at the annual AALL meeting. Award amounts will be mailed to successful grant recipients as soon as final approval is received by the JRGC Chair. For additional information, please contact this year's chair of the committee, Eloise Vondruska, by e-mail at [e-vondruska@law.northwestern.edu](mailto:e-vondruska@law.northwestern.edu) or, by phone at (312) 503-7369.

## HALL Nominations Committee

The HALL Nominations Committee is soliciting names of members who are interested in serving in elected positions on the HALL Board. The most important position available is Vice President/President-Elect, a 3 year commitment. The first year, the Vice President chairs the HALL Continuing Education Committee and plans all of our meetings, speakers as well as catering. The second year, the President presides at all of the HALL general meetings and furnishes a column for each issue of the newsletter. The third and final year, the Past-President continues to serve on the HALL Board.

Other positions which will appear on the ballot are: Secretary (1 year commitment), Treasurer (1 year commitment), and Member-at-Large (2 year commitment).

If you are interested, or would like to nominate someone for an office, please contact the Chair of the Nominations Committee. Please discuss your intention to nominate a member with that member before contacting the Committee.



## Editor's Comments...

Spring is always a busy time and there are a lot of opportunities for you to get involved! Elsewhere in this newsletter is information on the SWALL/HALL annual meeting, the HALL Nominations Committee, and the HALL Scholarships/Grants Committee. Other opportunities for getting involved include redesigning the HALL brochure, and creating evaluation forms for our seminars so that we can qualify for an award. Contact President Bethany Bletsch if you are interested in either of these opportunities.

And, of course, I'm always looking for a few good paragraphs for the newsletter. No experience necessary, there's no application forms to fill out nor criteria to meet. Just send your thoughts and paragraphs to me at [szalkow@stcl.edu](mailto:szalkow@stcl.edu), and you're published!

—Barbara Szalkowski

## The Late List Law Reviews That Are Running off Schedule

*Patricia Huntsman, Vinson & Elkins, L.L.P.*

<http://www.blueblanket.net/Blawgreview/late.html>

There is a section of the *Blawg Review* which is an issue-by-issue listing of "law reviews that have published (within the last 6 months) untimely issues"; "law reviews that were more behind but are now catching up"; and, "law reviews that have recently caught up or have almost caught up".

*Send us your news, please!*

This is a reminder to all members, the HALL Newsletter needs your news. When you or your staff members have attended a seminar, published an article, received an award, been elected to an office, or done anything interesting, personally or professionally, please let us know! We also need to know any innovative programs you may have developed, special events you are working on or achievements you are proud of. Give Barbara a call at (713) 646-1724, fax her at (713) 659-2217, or email her at szalkow@stcl.edu , or just take a minute to complete this fact sheet.

**Who?**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**What?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Where?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**When?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Why?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**How?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Library: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to:**

**Barbara Szalkowski, Editor  
The Fred Parks Law Library  
South Texas College of Law  
1303 San Jacinto  
Houston, Texas 77002-7000**



A Publication of  
**Houston Area Law Librarians**  
Barbara Szalkowski, Editor  
The Fred Parks Law Library  
South Texas College of Law  
1303 San Jacinto  
Houston, Texas 77002

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**