

# SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

*Newsletter of the Southeastern Chapter of A.A.L.L.  
VOLUME 27 NUMBER 3 Summer, 2002*



## **RAMBLINGS BY YOUR PRESIDENT**

As always AALL's annual meeting was worthwhile. It was good to have the opportunity to get together, though briefly, with fellow SEAALL members. I hope those of you who were able to attend AALL found the programs edifying and the networking beneficial.

Speaking of programs, Nancy Johnson and her program committee are in the process of finalizing the SEAALL educational offerings for the 2003 meeting in Lexington, KY. They are planning a one-day institute on presentation skills and are hoping to bring in a nationally known speaker. Because of the expense involved the committee hopes she will also present a program for us the next day; thereby, spreading out the costs.

I mention the money thing because I want all SEAALL members to be aware that our registration charges have not gone up in years, yet expenses for the meetings have increased. Everyone wants technology for his or her presentation, but technology costs! And, as you well know vendor support is dwindling, as there is more consolidation in the legal information industry. Meeting in Orlando, the SEAALL Executive Board discussed the future of registration fees and it is our hope to hold down the cost this year if at all possible.

There is a great educational offering by AALL's Professional Development Committee at Wake Forest University, "Boot Camp for Teachers of Electronic Research", on October 17-18. AALL is offering two scholarships to SEAALL members. One will be given before the course and the second will be given at the end of the program. In other words, all SEAALL members in attendance will have their names put into a hat and the name drawn will receive a refund of the tuition. Inside this newsletter is the information from the Scholarship Committee on the process for awarding the pre-Boot Camp scholarship.

Put on your thinking caps. The Nominating Committee headed by Joyce Janto will soon be soliciting nominations for next year's officers. If you know someone who would be a good candidate for member-at-large, treasurer, or vice-president/president-elect discuss the possibility with the person, and also let someone on the committee know of their willingness to be nominated; or, maybe you would like to be considered as a candidate. The committee members are: chair, Joyce Janto, Iris Lee, Susan Szymula and Karin Den Bleyker.

*(Continued on page 2)*

**SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN**

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*(Continued from page 1)*

Remember to mark your calendars and set aside funding for the 2003 SEAALL meeting in Lexington, KY, April 10-12. We're commemorating our 50<sup>th</sup> year. Not only will it be educational, it will be fun.

**TERRY**

## SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

### **Editor's Note —**

*We're moving forward and have a new series starting with this issue. **Rebekah Maxwell** writes about members and what brought them into librarianship and their thoughts on the future. Let us know if you have an interesting person who is willing to share their thoughts. Also **Karin Den Bleyker** has taken over the SEAALL Briefs. Remember to send her your news and pass along pictures to me (please include name and photo ids). Thanks to **Sue Burch** for her photos of the AALL conference. As always, we look forward to hearing about your thoughts on the newsletter.*

**2001-2002 Newsletter & Public Relations Committee:** Micheal Klepper (University of Virginia); Ed Beltz (University of North Carolina); Karin Den Bleyker (Mississippi College); Mary Johns (Louisiana State University); Ann-Marie Berti (University of North Carolina); Beth Adelman (Georgia State University); Martin Cerjan (Vanderbilt University); Teresa Teague (Campbell University); Robert Jacoby (University of South Carolina)

*Southeastern Law Librarian* (ISSN 0272-7560) is the official publication of the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries.

It is published quarterly and is distributed free to all SEAALL members.

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Submissions should be sent in electronic format. Direct transmission via electronic mail is preferred, but diskettes are acceptable, if delivered in Wordperfect or MSWord.

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### **Table of Contents:**

President's Message	page 1
SEAALL in Orlando	page 4
SEAALL Briefs	page 5
SEAALL Minutes (Ft. Laud.)	page 8
Inside Glimpses	page 11
Life Membership Procedures	page 13

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINES**

Winter	January 30, 2003
Spring	April 30, 2003
Summer	July 31, 2003
Fall	October 30, 2002

**SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN**

***SEAALL at Orlando 2002***



## SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

### **SEAALL Briefs**

Compiled by Karin Den Bleyker

#### **Florida**

##### **University of Miami**

**Emerita (Emma) Cuesta** is the new Assistant Director of Public Services and Acquisitions Librarian at the University of Miami Law Library. Emma started her professional career at UM Law as Circulation Librarian, then moved to Hofstra University in Long Island as where she spent nine years in various positions, including Assistant Dean of Access Services, and Assistant Dean of Library Services and Resources. She says she's very happy to be back to the law library world, especially at UM.

#### **Florida**

##### **University of Miami**

**Helen Wohl**, formerly Reference Librarian at the University of Miami School of Law, has moved to the position of Associate Library Director for Collection Development and Special Collections. Her phone, fax and e-mail haven't changed.

#### **Louisiana**

##### **University of New Orleans**

**Warren M. Billings**, Distinguished Professor and Chairman of the Department of History at the University of New Orleans will be Visiting Williams Professor of Law at the University of Richmond for the fall 2002 term. He will offer a seminar in the literature of early American law to the law students, and he will teach a lecture course on seventeenth-century Virginia to history undergraduates. Dr. Billings was also recently appointed a member of the board of directors of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, which is the nation's oldest organization devoted to historic preservation.

#### **Mississippi**

##### **Watkins Ludlam & Winter Stennis, PA.**

**Maurine Mattson** will retire August 6<sup>th</sup> and move to Winona, Mississippi to enjoy her retirement. Before serving as firm librarian, Maurine held the position of reference librarian at Mississippi College School of Law Library.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

*(Continued from page 5)*

### **North Carolina**

#### **Duke University**

**Dick Danner**, Senior Associate Dean for Information Technology at Duke University School of Law received two awards at the AALL annual meeting in Orlando. Dick received the Frederick Charles Hicks Award from the Academic Special Interest Section for his "outstanding contributions to Academic Law Librarianship".

Dick also was awarded a Presidential Certificate of Merit from President Barbara Bintliff "for lasting contributions to the Association through the establishment of the strategic planning process, and for his continuing contributions to the profession through his encouragement of research in topics relating to law librarianship".

Duke Law School will be hosting the CALI meeting in June 2003.

### **North Carolina**

#### **Wake Forest University**

**Mary Lou Corbett**, long time Assistant Director for Technical Services and Administration, of the Professional Center Library, retired at the end of this June. Mary Lou had been with the Library for over 15 years and previously held library jobs aboard a cruise ship, in Maine and in Virginia, at William and Mary's law library. Mary Lou will continue to be an ardent supporter of all things Wake Forest, and the Professional Center staff look forward to seeing her at University events.

**Alan Keely** is now the Assistant Director for Collection Services and Systems. Alan started at the Professional Center Library 7 1/2 years ago as the Catalog/Automation Librarian. In 1999, after seeing the Library through the installation of two automated systems, Alan became the Technology Services Librarian.

The Professional Center Library welcomes **Shannon Gilreath** to the staff as Reference Librarian. Shannon, a recent graduate of Wake Forest School of Law and a 1998 graduate of Lenoir-Rhyne, will start this August. For the past two years, he has been a teaching assistant for the LLM program at Wake, and he recently sat for the North

*(Continued on page 7)*

## SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

*(Continued from page 6)*

Carolina Bar.

**Howard Sinclair**, reference librarian at the Wake Forest Professional Center Library for the past two years, has departed to take a job at the Washington, D.C. branch of Kilpatrick, Stockton. While the PCL staff was sorry to see him go, we are pleased that Howard remains within SEAALL's "jurisdiction."

### **South Carolina**

#### **University of South Carolina**

**Joseph R. Cross**, Associate Director of the Coleman Karesh Law Library, retired on June 30, 2002 after 24 years of service. He came to the law library after 3 years at the Thomas Cooper Library, the undergraduate library at the University of South Carolina. **Diana Osbaldiston**, Head of Cataloging at the Coleman Karesh Law Library, also retired on June 30, 2002. She had been at the law library for 25 years. Prior to joining the staff at the University of South Carolina, Diana was a medical librarian at Yale for 2 years. Their friends and colleagues at the Coleman Karesh Law Library wish them well in their retirement.

### **Virginia**

#### **Appalachian School of Law**

A note from **Lisa Blackwell**.

"Thank you very much for your sincere and generous gifts given for my children's scholarship fund. I am touched by the support and concern shown by our SEAALL members. I thank you all so much.  
Lisa Blackwell"

### **West Virginia**

#### **West Virginia University**

Just in time for her second child to be born a "Sooner", Ann Walsh Long left West Virginia for Oklahoma where her husband, Alex, will be on the faculty of Oklahoma City University School of Law. The WVU College of Law Library will certainly miss her but we wish Ann and her family the best of luck in their new adventure.

**SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN**

**SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF LAW LIBRARIES  
MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Friday, April 12, 2002**

President Herb Cihak called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. He introduced A.A.L.L. Board Member Sarah G. Holterhoff, who was attending the S.E.A.A.L.L. Annual Meeting as one of her chapter visits.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

Secretary, Georgiana Wellford:

Georgiana moved that the 2002 election ballots be destroyed. It was seconded and voted on in the affirmative. The minutes of the S.E.A.A.L.L. Business Meeting held in Minneapolis, Minnesota last July were printed in Southeastern Law Librarian, Vol. 26, Number 3. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer, Deborah Jefferies:

The closing balance reported was \$78,937.94. The report was approved as printed.

**REPORT OF THE 2002 ANNUAL MEETING (FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA)**

**CHAIR:**

Billie Jo Kaufman thanked everyone who served on the Local Arrangements Committee. She also thanked the following vendors for their support: Hein, West Group, and Lexis. The President thanked Billie Jo and her committee for their work on this annual meeting.

**REPORT OF THE 2003 ANNUAL MEETING (LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY) CHAIR:**

Amy Osborne reported that the 2003 Annual Meeting will take place on April 9th - 12th, 2003. The Annual Meeting Hotel is the Hyatt Regency. The Local Arrangements Committee is looking into having events at Spindletop, Keeneland, and The Headley-Whitney Museum among others.

**2004 ANNUAL MEETING:**

The 2004 Annual Meeting will take place in Richmond, Virginia from March 24th - 27th. It will be held at the Omni Hotel.

**2005 ANNUAL MEETING:**

The 2005 Annual Meeting will be held in Montgomery, Alabama. No date has been set.

**2006 and 2007 ANNUAL MEETINGS:**

The 2006 Annual Meeting will be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and the 2007 Annual Meeting will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina.

*(Continued on page 9)*



## SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

*(Continued from page 8)*

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Articles & Bylaws- Catherine Lemann reported that there were no changes.

Membership - Rebekah Maxwell reported that the committee finalized documentation of the paperwork associated with the Life Membership Award. The Committee increased outreach to potential student members by contact with regional law schools and library schools. A full-time mentoring program for new members was instituted. Rebekah requested that requests be sent to Loretta Price. A regular contribution in the S.E.A.A.L.L. Newsletter was initiated in which featured S.E.A.A.L.L. members are interviewed about their jobs, professional philosophies, and visions. Rebekah thanked her committee for their work this year. She introduced Loretta Price as the incoming chair of this committee. Rebekah also thanked Connie Matzen for agreeing to coordinate this year's nominations for Life Membership, and Michael Klepper for his assistance with the Newsletter.

Newsletter - Herb Cihak reported that the Executive Committee had approved publishing the newsletter as a web version with the next volume in 2003.

Nominations - Donna Baush thanked those who ran for a S.E.A.A.L.L. office this year and thanked her committee for their hard work..

Placement - Elizabeth Moore reported that there were eight library postings for nine positions.

Program - Terry Long thanked this committee for their work this year. The Institute's topic this year was the Invisible Web, with Diana Botluk as the speaker. Fifteen programs were presented at the Annual Meeting.

Scholarship - Maureen Eggert thanked her committee for their work this year especially for short, turn-around time on some issues. The Scholarship Committee awarded the free registration given to a S.E.A.A.L.L. member to attend the "Applying Copyright Law in Libraries" program at Stetson University, that was held on September 10, 2001, to Gigi Panagotacos, Reference Librarian and Instructor at Florida Coastal School of Law. Terry Long, Assistant Law Librarian, Virginia State Law Library; Valerie Weis, Reference Librarian, Duke University Law School Library; and Luis Acosta, Reference Librarian, Howard University Law Library; were awarded Lucille Elliott Scholarships to attend the S.E.A.L.L. Annual Meeting. Tisha Zelner, Collection Management Librarian at the National Center for State Courts, was awarded the free registration given by AALL to attend the AALL Annual Meeting in Orlando.

Service to S.E.A.A.L.L. - Connie Matzen reported that the Service to S.E.A.A.L.L. Committee met and selected a recipient of the award. However, because the recipient was not at the meeting, they would not make the announcement at this time.

*(Continued on page 10)*

## SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

*(Continued from page 9)*

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Iris Lee, Collections Services Librarian at the Jacob Burns Law Library, George Washington University, was chosen by drawing to receive the free registration for the West program, "Life in the Fast Lane," to be held at the AALL Annual Meeting in Orlando.

Justice Catherine Kimball of the Louisiana Supreme Court, will be the S.E.A.L.L. V.I.P. at the AALL Annual Meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

The S.E.A.A.L.L. meeting at the A.A.L.L. Annual Meeting in Orlando will take place on Monday, July 22nd from 6:15-7:15 as a combination meeting and reception.

Terry Long and Nancy Johnson announced the formation of the S.E.A.A.L.L. Golden Anniversary Committee. Jim Heller will serve as chair of this committee. The committee members are Terry Long, Nancy Johnson, Bill Beintema, Carol Billings, Tim Coggins, Hazel Johnson, and Rhea Ballard-Thrower.

Herb Cihak reported that S.E.A.A.L.L. sent flowers to the Thomas Blackwell family and \$250 was sent to the Thomas Blackwell Scholarship Fund at Appalachian School of Law. At this Annual Meeting, information about the Blackwell Children's Scholarship was included in each registrant's package. Attendees could make a donation to this scholarship at the registration area. This was done in lieu of a community service initiative in Ft. Lauderdale by the organization.

Diana Osbaldiston requested that the Association consider S.E.A.A.L.L. scholarships for people attending law school or library school since S.E.A.A.L.L. had a well-padded treasury. Herb explained that the \$78,937.94 closing balance was misleading since this did not reflect payment of expenses for this Annual Meeting.

### **INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS:**

Outgoing President, Herb Cihak, thanked Hope Breeze, outgoing Executive Board Member, and Georgiana Wellford, outgoing Secretary for their service. They were given "Spirit of S.E.A.A.L.L." awards.

The following new officers were then installed: Terry Long, President; Nancy Johnson, Vice-President/President-Elect; Maureen Eggert, Secretary; and Anne Klinefelter, Member-at-Large.

Herb Cihak turned the gavel over to Terry Long. Terry Long thanked Herb for his service to S.E.A.A.L.L. and presented him with a gift. Terry Long adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Georgiana G. Wellford, Secretary

## SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

### Inside Glimpses

*Our guest for the very first column is Margie Axtmann, Associate Director for Information Resources at the University of St. Thomas School of Law Library in Minneapolis. She spoke with Rebekah Maxwell about her professional experiences, vision of the future, and the challenges of developing the collection at St. Thomas.*

R: How did you get interested in librarianship in the first place?

M: Gee, I hate to admit this, but I've been interested in libraries since I was about 2 years old. I started working in a public library when I was in high school and stayed there all through college. I was planning to be a French teacher, but one day I realized that the library was what really gave me satisfaction. By the time I went to library school, I had spent time in every department in the main library, helped out in branch libraries, and driven the bookmobile to rural locations.

R: What drew you to law libraries as a specialty?

M: I went to library school at the University of Denver. I needed to work while I was in school, and the law school library had an opening for a cataloging assistant. I didn't know anything about legal materials or law libraries, but I had done the kind of work the job required. Al Coco was the library director, and he taught legal research and law librarianship courses at the library school. I took the courses to learn more about what I was doing, and that gave me another career option. I graduated at a time when law firms in Denver were beginning to hire librarians, so that's where I started in the profession.

R: What do you see as the best part of your job?

M: The opportunity to build a collection from scratch, especially at a time when the resources and technology offer so many new possibilities. Because we don't have a large print collection already in place, I have the freedom to license electronic resources without worrying about duplication and cost. At the same time, I have the pleasure of acquiring a strong treatise collection, selecting both current and retrospective monographs. It's really a chance to be creative.

R: What do you see as the biggest challenge in doing your job?

M: The rapidly changing technological environment, along with the proliferation of legal information resources and formats. We are committed to creating the right balance between print and electronic resources, but sometimes it is really hard not to make traditional choices. The "right balance" will change as we grow and as our mission and strengths solidify. I hope we can maintain our commitment to giving

*(Continued on page 12)*

## SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

*(Continued from page 11)*

equal consideration to access and ownership when we evaluate information resources.

**R:** Describe the changes in the legal information environment that have struck you as the most notable or important.

**M:** Legal publishing has turned upside down in the last 10 years. The consolidation of the industry has led to rapidly rising prices, diminished quality control, and poor customer service. But the development of new information resources and services, combined with rapid changes in technology and methods of delivery, also make this an exciting time. Small independent publishers can still find a niche with the right product. Librarians and publishers are working together to improve information systems. The next decade might be just as volatile, but I think we're learning to cope better.

**R:** What sort of things have you learned in starting up the St. Thomas library that you didn't know before and that will help you in the future?

**M:** I've learned so much in the past year that it's hard to know how to answer this question. I've learned that I didn't know as much as I thought I did about some things -- including the importance of certain legal resources, the way people do legal research, the state of legal publishing, the value of second-hand books, and working with vendors. I've learned that everything takes more time than you think it will take. I've learned how much I missed all those years when I didn't have much contact with law students. I've learned how much we take for granted about our collections, services, policies and procedures. I've always thought I was pretty flexible, but I've learned to be more flexible. These are all humbling life lessons.

**R:** How do you see the future of legal information, and of us as providers?

**M:** Society will always have a need for legal information. Librarians will continue to find ways to provide legal resources, train consumers, deliver information cost-effectively, and preserve our legal heritage. We might have additional roles in information technology, instructional media, web and digital publishing, or designing information products, but we will continue to acquire and deliver legal information to users.

**R:** What would you say to a person considering a career in law librarianship?

**M:** I recently spent two hours talking to library school students at a professional associations fair. I told them about the discipline of law, the variety of law libraries, the explosion of electronic resources, the world of legal publishing, and the possibilities for an interesting career path. I told them that it's a great profession with a bright future.

## SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

### **New Life Membership Procedures are Finally in Place**

Several years ago, at the request of the SEAALL Executive Board, the Membership Committee drafted a revision of our bylaw on life membership. The Board and the Committee aimed to make the life membership harder to achieve and a more significant representation of thanks for years of hard work and participation in SEAALL, but not an equal to the Service to SEAALL award. At the same time, it was intended to take the actual decision out of the hands of the members in attendance at a business meeting, in order to avoid the potential embarrassment of public discussion of the nominee's qualifications for the award.

The bylaw now reads, "The Chapter may at any regular meeting by a vote of two thirds of those present elect to life membership those who have been members of the Chapter for at least ten years, who have reached the age of fifty-five years, unless retirement was due to health reasons, have retired from full time active library work, and have a record of substantial service to the Chapter."

The new procedures assume that it is the membership committee that is approving any nominations (with final approval in the Board's hands), and that it is the membership which will be ratifying that approval. These procedures allow for any discussion about a nomination to be kept within the committee.

Here are the highlights:

1. The nomination will be sent to the Membership Committee chair (the Form is on the SEAALL web site:  
[http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/life\\_membership.htm](http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/life_membership.htm)), and must be received at least 90 days prior to the next business meeting in order to give all members of the committee time to review the nomination and make a recommendation to the Executive Board, so that members can vote at the next business meeting.
2. Documentation must include biographical data and significant contributions to the chapter. Suggestions for supporting evidence are documents; testimonials; news stories; a list of SEAALL activities, offices, or honors from the Chapter Handbook History Section; or other supporting evidence.
3. The Committee will review the nomination, keeping in mind such considerations as (a) How active has the nominee been? Refer to the Chapter Handbook for a list of activities and awards, if these are not

*(Continued on page 14)*

## SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

*(Continued from page 13)*

included in the nomination. (b) Consider recent activity as well as earlier activity. (c) Is the nominee currently a member of SEAALL.

4. The Committee will forward their recommendation to the Executive Board, with supporting documentation, and notify the nominating member of their decision. If the nomination is approved, then at the next general business meeting the chair will make a report and under New Business offer a motion that the recommendation be accepted.
5. The new Life Member, if in attendance at the meeting at which her or his nomination is ratified by the membership, will be presented with a certificate. If not present, he/she will receive the certificate and congratulatory letter by mail.
6. The new life member will be invited to attend the next Annual Meeting of SEAALL, registration fee waived.

The Membership Committee hope these procedures will fairly and efficiently assist SEAALL members to award life memberships to deserving retired members. Please watch for updates to the Life Membership information on the SEAALL web site.

**Connie Matzen and Jack Bissett, Membership Committee**

### SEAALL in Orlando 2002



## SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN

### FREE REGISTRATION: Boot Camp for Teachers of Electronic Research

October 17-18; Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC

In recognition for all SEAALL's assistance in publicizing AALL's program, "Boot Camp for Teachers of Electronic Research"\* SEAALL has been given a free registration (worth over \$290) for one of its members. The Scholarship Committee will be selecting the lucky recipient and must have selected the winner by SEPTEMBER 27TH. Please take a look at the application process below. Do not let the requirements scare you off! The first 3 questions will only take a couple of minutes to answer and a short paragraph or a bulleted list is sufficient for responding to the last 3 questions. If you are not going to apply, please pass this along to a SEAALL member who might be interested.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN APPLYING, please send (e-mail, snail mail or FAX) me the following information:

- 1) your name and contact information;
  - 2) your institution/firm's name;
  - 3) the number of years that you have been a SEAALL member;
  - 4) any contributions (writing articles, serving on a committee) that you have made to the law library profession;
  - 5) the amount of financial assistance (or lack of) that you can expect from your employer;
- and
- 6) how this program will assist you in performing your job and/or in your professional development

Applications must be received (NOT postmarked) by SEPTEMBER 13th.

#### SEND TO:

Helane Davis  
Howard University Law Library  
2929 Van Ness St. N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008  
FAX: 202-806-8412  
hdavis@law.howard.edu or helaned@yahoo.com

\* see [http://www.aallnet.org/prodev/event\\_bootcamp.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/prodev/event_bootcamp.asp) for more information



50th Anniversary Celebration Committee  
Planning for Lexington—2003 Annual Meeting April 9—12, 2003

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