

# Southeastern Law Librarian

Volume 33, Issue 1 Winter 2008 SEAALL Home: <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall>

## KEN'S PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

**Ken Hirsh**, President



Since this is my last column as president, I thought I would review what my immediate predecessors wrote in their last columns, seeking to draw inspiration from them. (Don't tell Amy, but next issue marks the debut of "Past Presidential Ponderings.") Some have written thanks to members, some have summarized their year as president, and nearly all have encouraged attendance at the upcoming annual meeting. I will not depart from this tradition.

First, thanks to our committee chairs and the committee members for their hard work. Committees do the bulk of the work for any organization such as SEAALL. Your committee chairs this week have done a tremendous job, and I want to especially recognize Jennifer Sekula (Scholarship), Christine Sellers (Government Relations), Lisa Smith-Butler (Newsletter), Pedro Pedilla-Rosa (Nominations), and Amy Osborne (Program). Our committee chairs will be submitting their annual reports prior to the annual meeting, and I encourage you to review those reports when the SEAALL chapter annual report is posted to our web site later this year.

Next, thanks to the members of our executive board: Amy Osborne, Sally Wambold, Paula Tejada, Nancy Adams, and Grace Mills. Each has done a terrific job fulfilling her responsibilities. In addition to meeting the responsibilities of their particular offices, all have contributed to spirited discussion among the board members as we faced challenges and addressed issues. Grace resigned from the board in December as she accepted a position out of the SEAALL region. Following the election, I will appoint the newly elected board member-at-large to the remaining few weeks of Grace's term.

Finally, thanks to each of you. SEAALL depends on the active involvement of each member to make it an outstanding chapter of AALL. And a personal note of thanks for the opportunity you have given me to serve you as your president. Organizing the program at the Baton Rouge meeting and serving as president this year have been rewarding highlights of my career.

Looking forward, Amy Osborne, Billie Jo Kaufman, Abigail Ross and Rhea Ballard-Thrower have been working very hard to plan an exciting joint meeting with LLSDC in Alexandria, Virginia at the end of March. And we will soon welcome our Maryland colleagues as SEAALL members. I hope to see many of you at the annual meeting next month, and I wish each of you a wonderful year.



## **SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN**

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Submissions may be sent in hardcopy or electronic format. Direct transmission via electronic mail is preferred, but all standard size diskettes are acceptable, if delivered in IBM-based Wordperfect, Word, or plain ASCII format.

Newsletter Deadlines are:

Winter	January 30, 2007
Spring	May 15, 2007
Summer	July 31, 2007
Fall	November 30, 2007

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# SEAALL BRIEFS

compiled by **Karin Den Bleyker**

Email: [dbleyker@mc.edu](mailto:dbleyker@mc.edu)

## FLORIDA & GEORGIA

### Eleventh Circuit Library

The Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals Library is pleased to welcome our newest librarian, **Kelly Devlin**. Kelly is the Librarian at the U.S. Courts in Jacksonville. In addition to her Masters in Library Science degree from Simmons College, Kelly earned a JD from Suffolk University Law School and her BA in Communications (Journalism) from Purdue University. She is also a member of the Massachusetts Bar.

Kelly has worked as a librarian for fifteen years. Previously she was Director of Library Services at a New England regional law firm and has also worked in government law libraries in Massachusetts. A frequent attendee of the AALL Annual Meeting, you may have met her already! Please welcome her to the SEAALL chapter.

Kelly replaces **Kevin Hourihan** who has relocated to open and maintain the new Orlando branch for the Eleventh Circuit. Kevin's library is in a beautiful new courthouse that opened in Fall 2007.

### Florida A&M University

**Grace Mills** is now the Law Library Director & Associate Professor at Hamline School of Law Library in St. Paul, MN.

### Florida Coastal School of Law

After serving our country in Afghanistan for the last year, **Joey Hernandez** has returned to the states. Joey will be returning to civilian life duty as a Reference Librarian at Florida Coastal School of Law later this spring. Welcome home Joey!

### Nova Southeastern University

**Deborah McGovern** will join the NSU Law Library & Technology Center in March as the Reference/Electronic Services Librarian. Deborah received her J.D. from the University of Florida and her M.L.S. from Florida State University. Deborah is moving to Ft. Lauderdale from Jacksonville.

### University of Florida

In January, **Jessica de Perio-Wittman** joined the library faculty of the Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center as electronic services specialist. Jessica is tasked with assisting the college's entry into distance education/online learning era. She earned her J.D. at the Seattle University School of Law and Masters in Library Sciences at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

## MISSISSIPPI

### Mississippi College

**Tiffany Paige** has joined the law library as new acquisitions librarian. She received her J.D. from Mississippi College School of Law and is presently working on her MLS degree at the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Southern Mississippi.



## VIRGINIA

### University of Richmond

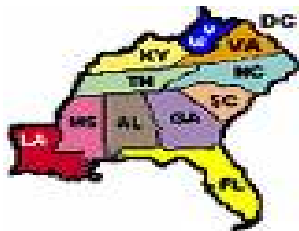
**John Barden** resigned his position as Head of Reference Services at the University of Richmond Law School library effective December 31, 2007. John has accepted the position of State Law Librarian for the state of Maine. He began his new duties in Augusta in January, 2008.



### FROM THE EDITOR

As always, I'm looking for articles, photos, suggestions, and feedback. Many thanks to all of you who have contributed. Let us know what you'd like for the upcoming year. Join! Submit articles and photos. Share interesting projects and ideas from your library and your librarians. This is our newsletter so help make it count.

Send your submissions to Lisa Smith-Butler @ [smith-butlerl@nsu.law.nova.edu](mailto:smith-butlerl@nsu.law.nova.edu) .





## LLSDC/SEAALL 2008

### Alexandria ... Here We Come!

Incorporated in 1749, Alexandria has a history intricately linked with the founding of America. It was Captain John Alexander, a Scotsman, who for 6000 pounds of tobacco purchased and named the land now known as Alexandria. As a major colonial trading center, it was five Royal Governors of the colonies who set the Revolutionary sentiment in motion. In 1755, they recommended to the British Parliament that the British could benefit from the new wealth in Alexandria. Subsequently, the first colonial tax was levied over the objection of several soon-to-be-well-known Americans. In 1774, local leaders, including George Washington and George Mason, approved Mason's *Fairfax Resolves* which recommended ending trade with England and culminated with America's War of Independence with the British.

As with trade, military strife is also an integral part of Alexandria's history. During the period leading up to the Civil War, Alexandria had the now regretful distinction of being home to one of the largest slave trading companies. In 1861, the day after Virginia seceded from the Union, Federal troops occupied Alexandria. Located only 6 miles from the District of Columbia, Alexandria became a significant base for Union army operations. Until the end of the Civil War, Alexandria had the distinction of being the longest occupied territory of the Union army.



Today, Alexandria is populated by approximately 130,000 people who primarily work for the federal government or (serve in) the U.S. military. Although home to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the national headquarters of the Salvation Army, Alexandria is now probably most well known to some for the depiction of T.C. Williams High School in the 2000 movie, *Remember the Titans*, starring Denzel Washington as legendary football coach Herman Boone.

So, from March 26 – 29, 2008, be sure to attend the LLSDC/SEAALL 2008. Join your law library colleagues where you can relive history in Old Town Alexandria, as well as learn the latest intellectual property advances at the USPTO.

We look forward to hosting you.

The LLSDC/SEAALL 2008 Annual Meeting Planning Committee

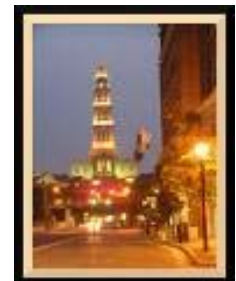
Billie Jo Kaufman, SEAALL Co-Chair

Rhea Ballard-Thrower, SEAALL Co-Chair

Abigail Ross, LLSDC President

Frances Brillantine

Mike Petit





## PACER Pilot Project

Carol Yecies, Nova Southeastern University

The Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center, Law Library & Technology Center is pleased to announce that we have been selected to be part of the FDLP/PACER Pilot Project. “The goal of the pilot project is to determine if Federal depository library no-fee access to PACER expands usage to those who currently do not have it available to them or would be inhibited by going to a court house to use the service.”<sup>1</sup> The aim of the pilot project is to promote the use of PACER to the general public.

“**P**ublic **A**ccess to **C**ourt **E**lectronic **R**ecords (PACER) is an electronic public access service that allows users to obtain case and docket information from Federal Appellate, District and Bankruptcy courts, and the U.S. Party/Case Index via the Internet. [Links](#) to all courts are provided from this web site. Electronic access is available by [registering](#) with the PACER Service Center, the judiciary’s centralized registration, billing, and technical support center.

Each court maintains its own databases with case information. Because PACER database systems are maintained within each court, each jurisdiction will have a different URL. Accessing and querying information from each service is comparable; however, the format and content of information provided may differ slightly.

PACER is a service of the United States Judiciary. The PACER Service Center is run by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.” This information was provided by Cynthia Etkin, Sr. Program Planning Specialist for the Government Printing Office. Available information on PACER includes:

- A listing of all parties and participants including judges, attorneys, and trustees
- A compilation of case related information such as cause of action, [nature of suit](#), and dollar demand

- A chronology of dates of case events entered in the case record
- A claims registry
- A listing of new cases each day
- Appellate court opinions
- Judgments or case status
- Types of documents filed for certain cases
- Imaged copies of documents

Normally, there is a fee connected with using PACER, but for purposes of this Pilot Study, fees are being waived. 16 libraries were chosen for the project. The federal depository libraries participating in the pilot are:

Alaska State Court Law Library, AK

Lee College, TX

7th Circuit Court of Appeals Library, IL

Rutgers Law Library, NJ

San Bernadino County Law Library, CA

State Library of Ohio, OH

University of Michigan School of Law, MI

Fordham Law School, NY

Sacramento County Public Law Library, CA

Wayne State University, MI

University of Tennessee College of Law, TN

Rogers State University, OK

Nova Southeastern University Law Library, FL



Portland Public Library, ME

New Mexico Supreme Court Law Library, NM

Northern Kentucky University, KY

More information about PACER is available at <http://www.pacer.uscourts.gov/>.

## GO GREEN SEAALL Members!

Nichelle “Nikki” Perry, Reference/Electronic Services Resources Librarian, Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill & Margaret “Maggie” Hall, Reference/Student Services Librarian, Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Want to put all those old AALL and SEAALL bags to good use? Just say no to plastic bags. According to *The Wall Street Journal*, the U.S. goes through 100 billion plastic shopping bags annually. An estimated 12 million barrels of oil is required to make that many plastic bags.

Those SEAALL and AALL bags are not just fashion statements to let everyone know that the librarians have landed in town! They actually can help you go green. Each high- quality reusable bag you use has the potential to eliminate an average of 1,000 plastic bags over its lifetime. Do the math. Librarians could help save the planet with the tote bags we get from our meetings. Just put all the bags in your trunk and take them shopping!



Many stores are now offering cash back for every bag a shopper reuses. Whole Foods Market, a leader in environmental initiatives, is even eliminating the use disposable plastic grocery bags by Earth Day, April 22, 2008.

Fellow librarians, it is easy to be Green. You know we are already the biggest tree killers...so let's give a little something back!



# SEAALL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## SEAALL Financial Statement

December 2, 2007 - February 2, 2008

**Opening Balance** **\$63,130.94**

**Income**

Membership Dues \$850.00

**SubTotal** **\$63,980.94**

**Expenses**

Reimbursement to Paula Tejada  
for Quickbook Upgrade \$243.95

**Closing Balance** **\$63,736.99**

**Investments**

Bank of America CD \$3,510.40

Fidelity \$6,710.79

**Total Assets** **\$73,958.18**



## 2008 COSELL Grant

### Trina Holloway, Georgia State University College of Law Library

The COSELL Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the availability of the COSELL Grant. The purpose of this Grant is to sponsor the “registration” for an individual to attend the 2008 LLSDC/SEAALL Institute. This year the amount of the grant is \$200. A total of three scholarships may be awarded.

Award recipients will be required to attend the LLSDC/SEAALL Institute and then be the “discussion leader” for the COSELL Roundtable, held later that day. The discussion leader will be responsible for providing a recap of the Institute.

#### *Qualified Candidates:*

To qualify for the COSELL Grant, all applicants must be from a member institution and in good standing with his/her employer. Preference will be given to COSELL members who are newer law librarians.

#### *Application Process:*

A complete application will include:

1. a completed application form (see page 2 of this document)
2. a personal statement outlining how the institute will be helpful to you, your institution and COSELL
3. a letter of recommendation from your supervisor. The letter must be submitted in email AND as a signed .PDF attachment or as a fax
4. a copy or your resume or curriculum vitae

The application deadline is February 22, 2008. Applications submitted via e-mail are preferred. Be sure to write “COSELL Grant” in the subject line of

the e-mail sent to the address below. Print or faxed copies are also acceptable, but must be received (not postmarked) by the application deadline. Please send applications to:

Ms. Karen A. Nuckolls

University of Kentucky Law Library

Lexington, KY 40506-0048

Fax: 859-323-4906

[kanuck2@uky.edu](mailto:kanuck2@uky.edu)



Consortium of South Eastern Law Libraries





## SEAALL Government Relations Update

### Christine Sellers

The following updates are provided by Mary Alice Baish, AALL Washington Affairs Office.

#### TAKE ACTION NOW

#### Calls and Letters Still Needed for the Presidential Records Act

#### Amendments of 2007

#### UPDATE:

On January 22, the “Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2007” (H.R. 1255; S. 886) was held up in the Senate by Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL). Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) brought H.R. 1255 to the floor under Unanimous Consent during the evening of January 22, which would have allowed the bill to quickly move through the Senate. Senator Sessions objected without explanation. If you live in Alabama, please ask Senator Sessions to lift his hold! You are also still encouraging you to write to your Senator to co-sponsor the bill. See below for more information.

#### BACKGROUND:

The “Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2007” would restore standards for the timely release of Presidential records and nullify Executive Order 13233, which President Bush issued in 2001. The Bush E.O. gave current and former presidents and vice presidents broad authority to withhold presidential records. The legislation would reverse the Bush E.O. by establishing a deadline for the review of records, limiting the authority of former presidents to withhold

records, requiring the president to make privilege claims personally, and eliminating the ability for Vice Presidents to assert executive privilege claims over vice presidential records. You can read more about the Presidential Records Act in our Issue Brief.

#### TAKE ACTION!

There are two things you can do to help this bill move through the Senate:

1. If your Senator is **not** a co-sponsor, send him or her an email to request he or she consider co-sponsoring to show support for the bill. S.886 cleared the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs (HSGA) this summer, but it is stalled in the Senate and Committee members need to hear from you. Only Committee Members Lieberman, Obama, and Sununu have signed on to co-sponsor. See a sample letter below in our Action Alert. In addition, if your Senator is already a co-sponsor, send him or her a thank you note! If you live in Alabama, write to Sen. Sessions to ask him to lift his hold. See a sample letter below in our Action Alert.
2. If you prefer to call your Senator, may use the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121 to call your Senator’s office. Tell the staffer you are a constituent, and either ask that your Senator sign on to co-sponsor the “Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2007” or thank your Senator for co-sponsoring.



If you hear back from your Senator, please let the AALL Government Affairs Office in Washington know! You may send a copy of his or her response or just send a note to Emily Feldman, [efj33@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:efj33@law.georgetown.edu).

### **Chapters Write to Senators in Support of Presidential Records Act Amendments**

Several AALL chapters wrote letters to their Senators in support of the Presidential Records Act. The Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries (ORALL), Southeastern Chapter of the Association of Law Libraries (SEALL) and Virginia Association of Law Libraries (VALL) wrote letters to Sens. George Voinovich, and Mary Landrieu, and John

Warner, respectively. The chapters wrote to ask their Senator to sign on as co-sponsor of the bill. SEALL also wrote to Alabaman Senator Jeff Sessions to ask him to lift his hold on the bill.





## SEAALL COMMITTEES 2008-2009

### Articles & Bylaws

Kenneth J. Hirsch, Duke University School of Law  
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Amy Osborne, University of Kentucky Law Library  
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Scott Deleve, University of Mississippi Law Library  
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Karen Nuckolls, University of Kentucky Law Library  
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\*

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Janet Hirt, Alyne Queener Massey Law Library,  
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janet.hirt@law.vanderbilt.edu 2008

Ray Lytle, American Justice School of Law  
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