

*From  
the President...*

*Mary Ann Wacker, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP*

I am thrilled to announce that Elise McCutchen has been elected as HALL's new Vice-President/President Elect! Catherine Whitney had to step down as a voting member of the HALL Board as a result of her return to Westlaw Business/GSI. Catherine will kindly assist Elise in planning the rest of this year's HALL meetings and the Spring Seminar as a member of the Continuing Education Committee. Elise and Catherine, your commitment and service to HALL is greatly appreciated.

I got a number of responses to my e-mail regarding the new HALL Special Committee on Community Service. Heather Waltman called me almost immediately and expressed much enthusiasm and excitement, so she will be serving as the first Chair of the Committee!! We spoke at length about our inaugural project which will take place in the Spring of 2008.

Please join us for the always-festive HALL-iday luncheon which will be held this year at VIN Restaurant in Bayou Place. It's a gorgeous new restaurant with wonderful food. The lunch is being partly underwritten by a very generous grant from Thomson Scientific/Dialog (many thanks to our wonderful rep Joan Strickler!). ALL HALL Members are welcome at the lunch – it will be Wednesday, December 12th at 11:30am.

The full-day Spring Seminar is coming up in March! We are planning an all-day bus trip to Austin to visit the Austin History Center and our old friend Mark Lambert and possibly the Legislative Reference Library, watch librarian-themed movies on the bus, and enjoy the bluebonnets. It really sounds like fun.

Best wishes for a blessed holiday season

**Continuing Education**

- December 12     *HALLiday Luncheon*  
Vin Restaurant, Bayou Place, 11:30am-1:00pm  
Announcement on [page 10](#) and on the HALL website <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/hall/Meeting/HALLiday07.pdf>  
**RSVP Deadline: Mon. Dec. 10, noon**
- January 9        *Boomers and Their Parents*  
Marilyn Drane, a Certified Senior Advisor and President of CareTemps
- February         *AALL Board Representative Visit*
- March             *Spring Full-Day Seminar*  
Austin Field Trip – Austin History Center with hosted by former HALL member, Mark Lambert, another Austin location, and library-themed movies on the bus
- April              *TBA*
- May                Annual business meeting and elections

Catherine Whitney has accepted a position with Westlaw Business/GSI and has stepped down from the HALL Board. At the HALL meeting in November, Elise McCutchen was elected to fill the remainder of Catherine's term as Vice President/President-Elect, but Catherine will assist Elise and continue as a member of the Continuing Education Committee.

If you have any ideas for the April meeting, please forward them to Elise at [emccutchen@winstead.com](mailto:emccutchen@winstead.com)

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## KEEP IT CURRENT

Library Update Service



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## HALL Board Establishes New Committee

*Mary Ann Wacker, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP*

At the October Board meeting, we discussed the possibility of creating a new special HALL Committee, a Community Service Committee.

We could start with one project a year and see how it goes. We were thinking of a Saturday project such as helping at the Houston Food Bank, serving lunch at Star of Hope mission, working on a Habitat for Humanity house, serving food/water at a charity fun run, etc.

It would be wonderful to contribute to our community by helping those in need, and fun to get to know each other better – outside of asking for ILLs and HALL monthly meetings. Spouses and other family members would be welcome at the service project.

Heather Waltman volunteered to serve as the first Chair of this new Committee. If you have ideas, please contact Heather at hwaltman@stcl.edu. Watch for announcements in the spring for our first service project!

## Vendor Relations

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

### Notes of Thanks

I would like to extend a gracious thank you to Laura Angle, State Bar of Texas Legal Education Consultant, for the delightful presentation she gave to HALL Members in October as she showcased new online enhancements and State Bar services.

Everyone enjoyed a very tasty lunch while Laura explained to us the “services and solutions” available for the first time at the State Bar. Again, a very special thanks to you, Laura, for coming all the way from Austin to visit us and bring the latest and greatest from the State Bar of Texas to Houston law librarians.

Additional special thanks to Caren Luckie and Katy Bock at Jackson & Walker for hosting the October HALL Vendor Forum and hopefully many more to come!

## November Meeting Speaker Reminder

*Mary Ann Wacker, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP*

Yesterday's HALL meeting was so much fun! Mary Flood of the *Houston Chronicle* charmed all of us with her quick wit and humor.

Here is a link to Mary's blog so we can see what she is working on (even if we are not touching the paper)  
<http://blogs.chron.com/legaltrade/>

When we were walking back from the meeting, she said she forgot to say to let her know of any exciting news scoops at your firms! You can reach Mary at mary.flood@chron.com.

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 Laura Edstrom, Accounting Assistant, 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>

## HALLiday Greetings

From

## The Executive Librarian Team

**Monika Miura**  
**Patricia Easley**  
**Megan Zambas**  
**Saskia Mehlhorn**  
**Pat Davion**  
**Renee Miura**



## Member News...

**Sherry Adams**, Library Manager, *Houston Chronicle*, retired after 33 years at the *Chronicle*. In a farewell email, Sherry wrote, "You have been so generous in helping me with the law/legal questions that I just didn't have the resources or knowledge to answer. I hope that once in a while, I was able to help you, too, with questions about *Chronicle* material."

**Catherine Whitney**, Research Librarian, Thompson & Knight, has accepted a position at Westlaw Business/GSI.

## TRIPLL Applications Due

The Teaching Research in Private Law Libraries (TRIPLL) Conference application is available through Friday November 30.

The Teaching Research in Private Law Libraries (TRIPLL) Conference, sponsored by the LexisNexis Librarian Relations Group, will be held April 11- 13, 2008 in Dallas, TX. The mission of the 2008 Conference is "It's a Brave New World Reengineering Training for Today's Law Firm."

Additional information, and the application to attend, can be found at <http://www.lexisnexis.com/triplapp>. The deadline for application submissions is November 30, 2007.

## Portal to Texas History

*Heather Waltman, South Texas College of Law*

The Portal to Texas History <http://texashistory.unt.edu/> is a good resource and a terrific digital project – lots of digital documents about Texas court houses, historical Texas cases, Gammel's Laws of Texas – the portal emphasizes primary sources, and has digital reproductions of photographs, maps, letters, documents, books, artifacts, and more.

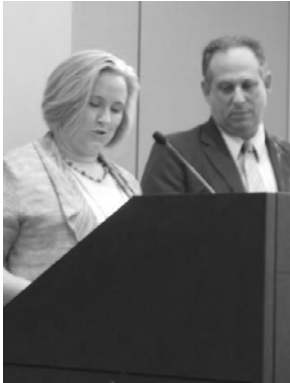
The portal is maintained by the University of North Texas Libraries' Digital Projects Unit.

There is an entire section on "Government and Law" [http://texashistory.unt.edu/browse/subject/Government\\_and\\_Law/](http://texashistory.unt.edu/browse/subject/Government_and_Law/), currently containing over 1200 records. The subsection "Texas laws and regulations" is particularly relevant.

The portal allows the user to browse by subject, collection contributor, era, and county, offers both a basic and an advanced search to find materials.

## HALL Fall Seminar

Mary Ann Wacker, *Bracewell & Giuliani LLP*



(l-r) Guest speakers Laura Walters and Mark Gediman.  
— photo by Catherine Whitney

Our annual HALL Fall Seminar was held October 18<sup>th</sup> at the South Texas College of Law. The topic was “Competitive Intelligence Research in Law Libraries.” Our special guests were Mark Gediman, Director of Information Services at Best, Best, and Kreiger in Riverside, California, and Laura Walters, Client Development Specialist at Bracewell & Giuliani, LLP. We had several non-librarian attendees from marketing departments at the various firms.

During the first session, the speakers defined Competitive Intelligence. “Information ethically gathered and analyzed with the purpose of making the firm more competitive and profitable in an ever-changing marketplace.” (Mark’s definition.)

The speakers stressed the idea of the Library and the Marketing Department collaborating on CI projects, as we have complimentary skills and knowledge. Marketers are familiar with the RFP process, prospective clients, and the wants and needs of the pitching partner; the Library understands the reference interview, knows the Firm’s research capabilities, and the Library is the logical place for the attorneys to look for information. It’s the commonly held view in the law firm Marketing community that librarians aren’t participating in CI projects.

Mark presented a diagram describing the various facets of CI:

**Market:** market share, topical news monitoring, legal business events

**Business:** internal client metrics and analysis, firm-specific speeches, branding, articles

**Client:** client feedback and satisfaction, cross-marketing opportunities, client service teams

**Competitors:** fees and rates, legal services agreements, competitor client lists

CI also factors in the firms’ strategic planning efforts. This involves looking at what other firms are doing; do we have the right mix of practice groups; are our rates competitive; should we merge; who should be our next lateral hire; identifying any threats lurking out there.

The second session focused on research tools. HALL’s Greg Lambert of King & Spalding participated in this portion of the seminar. Mark and Greg spoke at length about the differences, strengths, and weaknesses of West’s Monitor/Firm 360 suite of products and LexisNexis’s AtVantage service. Mark also described the internal newsletters prepared by his Library. These cover new legislation or news affecting various sections of the

firm (such a municipal law). He also discussed how tools we are all familiar with (Dun & Bradstreet, court dockets, analyst reports, patent records etc) are sources of CI information.



(l-r) HALL member Greg Lambert and guest speaker Mark Gediman  
— photo by Catherine Whitney

In the third part of the seminar, Mark wowed us with the CI deliverables produced in his Library. Greg and Mark both stressed the importance of the analysis portion of the research. We should never just stop with the “data dump” but always add value by including key facts, conclusions, and a summary gleaned from our research. At Mark’s firm, they produce “Briefing Packs” with a table of contents, an executive summary of the trends and issues regarding the target company, statistics displayed in the most meaningful format possible (pie charts, graphs), and key articles – all in a very polished and professional-looking format.

All in all, it was a very interesting and helpful seminar. Thanks to our speakers and Catherine for all their hard work!



HALL members enjoy box lunches during the third session of the fall seminar.  
— photo by Catherine Whitney



## Placement News...

*Pamela Jenkins, Conoco Phillips*

**Reference Librarian**, Bracewell & Giuliani, LLP, Houston, Texas.

**Requirements:** Master's Degree from an ALA accredited school; Significant law firm library experience; corporate finance research or business – research experience a plus; Strong analytical skills; Ability to focus and a commitment to accuracy and thoroughness in work product; Exceptional online research skills (Lexis, WestLaw, Internet, various electronic resources); Strong interpersonal and customer service skills; Superior communication skills (verbal and written); Strong technology and database skills; Strong aptitude for detail work; Low error rate in keyed data; Effective organizational and time management skills; Ability to work effectively under pressure; Ability to work both independently and as an effective team member.

**Responsibilities:** Primary – Work with the Firm's Librarians and staff in all offices to meet the information resource needs of attorneys in all offices; Respond to requests for legal, business, financial, and factual information and research; Provide assistance to users of the Library's physical collection and electronic resources; Participate in firm wide orientation and training programs; Work with staff of other departments to support their programs; Promote the services of the Library. Secondary – Develop content for the Firm's Portal; Develop current awareness materials for distribution to attorneys/clients; Identify, test and evaluate products as needed; Develop documentation and training materials for research instruction and electronic resources demonstrations; Participate in collection development and collection review; Provide copyright guidance and assist in obtaining permissions; Travel to other offices as needed; Perform data entry for client billing; Maintain other records entry as required; Other duties as needed.

**Reports To:** Director of Knowledge Resources

**Salary:** Competitive

**Contact:**

Helen Lilienstern  
Director of Human Resources  
Bracewell & Giuliani LLP  
711 Louisiana Street, Suite 2300  
Houston, TX 77002-2770  
Helen.Lilienstern@bgllp.com

**Research Librarian**, Thompson & Knight L.L.P., Houston office.

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

**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 Houston office; Maintains library mail check-in and cataloging databases for the Houston office; Assists with interlibrary loan requests from all offices; Develops research training materials; Develops 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 Houston 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 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

*Placement listings continued next page*

### ***Just a reminder!***

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

|                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| January/February  | 1/15/2008  |
| March/April       | 3/15/2008  |
| May/June          | 5/15/2008  |
| July/August       | 8/1/2008   |
| September/October | 9/15/2008  |
| November/December | 11/15/2008 |

## Placement . . .

*continued from previous page*

**Assistant Librarian**, Office of the Circuit Librarian - Fifth Circuit Library United States Court of Appeals, Houston Satellite Library. Full-time, 40 hours per week, three-person library.

Job Announcement 2008-1-USCA5LIB  
Court Personnel System Classification Level CL-27

**Requirements:** M.L.S. degree or equivalent from an ALA-accredited library school; Applicant must be a United States citizen or eligible to work for the federal government; Ability to travel as needed. **Preferred:** Two years law library experience; Demonstrated skills in reference and legal research using print and electronic resources; Ability to prioritize demands from multiple judges and/or attorneys; Experience with an Integrated Library System; Skill in the use of Windows-based personal computers and basic office applications software; Skill in the development of web-based delivery systems for information services; Aptitude for performing functions requiring a high degree of accuracy and careful attention to detail; Experience working with people at all levels; effective oral and written communication skills; Ability to handle occasional moderate to heavy physical activity.

**Representative Duties:** Using print and electronic sources, performs legal and non-legal research and reference services for judges and their staffs, and other court personnel in Houston and Galveston, TX; Provides education and training to court staff on Lexis, Westlaw, the Internet and other research sources, develops training materials, library promotional materials, and research guides; Develops and maintains court archives; Works as a team member in coordinating services with other Houston librarians; Performs interlibrary loan transactions for court personnel; Assists with collection development, acquisitions, and inventory control activities for the library; Utilizes integrated library system to manage acquisitions, perform serial control and prepare management reports; Represents the Fifth Circuit library system at local, regional, or national meetings.

**Salary Range:** Expected starting salary range: \$47,577-\$71,305, depending on experience and qualifications.

### *Benefits and Other Information*

Federal court employees are not included in the government's civil service classification. However, they are entitled to the same benefits as other federal employees and some additional benefits. These include: paid annual and sick leave; automatic enrollment in a retirement plan and in direct deposit of earnings; and optional enrollment in health benefits, life insurance, tax-deferred savings, long-term care, and long-term disability programs. Court employees are required to use Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) for payroll deposit. New selectees are subject to a background check as a condition of employment. The Court of Appeals is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**Closing Date:** Consideration of applications begins on November 6, 2007. Those applications received before November 20 will receive full consideration.

**Application Process:** Please submit cover letter and resume to (email submission is acceptable):

Attn: Tina Ting  
515 Rusk Ave. Room 6311  
Houston, Texas 77002  
Email: Tina\_ting@ca5.uscourts.gov  
Fax: 713 250-5091  
U. S. Courts Library Phone: (713) 250-5696

## AALL "Call for Papers" Has Begun!

Have you been thinking of writing an article of interest to law librarians? Need a push to get started? Well, here it is.

The AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee is soliciting articles in three categories:

**Open Division:** for active and retired AALL members and law librarians with five or more years of professional experience;

**New Members Division:** for recent graduates and AALL members who have become law librarians since July 1, 2003.

**Student Division:** for students in library, information management or law school. Participants in this division need not be members of AALL.

The winner in each division receives \$750 generously donated by LexisNexis plus the opportunity to present the winning paper at a program during the AALL Annual Meeting in Portland! Winning papers are also considered for publication in the Association's prestigious Law Library Journal.

A list of previous winners is available at the Call for Papers web site [http://www.aallnet.org/about/award\\_call\\_for\\_papers.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/about/award_call_for_papers.asp). This list can give you an idea of the range of topics that law librarians have chosen. The web site also has additional information about the competition, including information on how to submit your entry and an application form.

Articles in the Open and New Members Division must be submitted by March 1, 2008.

Articles in the Student Division must be submitted by April 15, 2008

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee:

Chair, Joseph Gerken, gerken@buffalo.edu;  
James Donovan, jdonovan@uga.edu;  
James Heller, heller@wm.edu.

Good luck!

## General Meeting Minutes

### Houston Area Law Librarians

#### September 12, 2007

### South Texas College of Law Library

Mary Ann Wacker called the meeting to order at 12:05pm.

The August minutes were approved.

*Treasurer's Report:* Mariann Sears distributed the Treasurer's Report.

**Old Business:** No old business.

#### **New Business**

HALL welcomed new member Lauren Schroder.

**Moves:** Dina Dreifuert is now with Bracewell. Maxine Asmah accepted a job in Lubbock and Rosie Wilson will resume her role as Member-at-Large.

Friends of the Public Library will be available after meeting for those interested in supporting their sale.

#### **Committee Reports**

*Archives:* No report.

*Bylaws:* No report.

*Continuing Education:* Thanks to Blythe/Thomson West for presenting today's program and for providing lunch.

#### *Continuing Education:*

October 18 – HALL ½ day Seminar

November 14 – Mary Flood's, JD, Journalist "Legal Trade: A Blog about Lawyering"

December 12 – HALLiday Luncheon at Vine Restaurant

January and April – possibilities

a) Elder Law Program

b) Justice of the Peace Dave Kochanski

February 2008 – AALL representative scheduled visit

March 2008 – HALL All day seminar

May 2008 Business Meeting

*Library School Liaison:* No report.

*Membership:* No report.

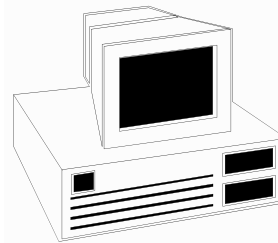
*Nominations:* No report

*Placement:* No report.

*Publications:* Barbara Szalkowski reported that the next newsletter deadline is September 16, 2007.

*Scholarship and Grants:* No report

Meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.



## *Editor's Comments...*

I enjoyed our guest speaker, Mary Flood, at the November meeting. She brought a fresh approach to the concept of news and trends and how all of it gets to us and how we can access it. If you missed Mary's excellent (and humorous!) presentation, you have another chance to catch her at next year's SWALL cruise – she will be one of the speakers and available during the cruise to blog, perhaps on "Law Librarians Go Wild on 'Ecstasy'!" (Credit goes to Monica Ortale for that double-edged headline.) More details about the SWALL cruise are on [page 9](#). Or, as Mary Ann Wacker pointed out on [page 2](#), you can read Mary's blog every day, or her column in the *Chronicle* – online or in print.

Thanks to all the HALL members who produced this issue – Mary Ann Wacker, who not only writes a column every month, but also contributes additional articles like this month's fall seminar recap; Catherine Whitney for the fall seminar photos and the continuing education information; Dee Dee Mulligan's excellent minutes; Mary Ann Sears's Treasurer's reports; Colleen Pincumbe's Vendor Relations column; Pamela Jenkins for the Placement news; Heather Waltman for always contributing something; our regular advertisers, Jeanne Harris with Keep it Current, and Monika Miura with The Executive Librarian. And all of the members who offer encouragement and feedback – the *Newsletter* would be nothing without all of you!

—*Barbara Szalkowski*

### **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 Treasurer's Report (unaudited)  
September and October 2007**

|   |               |                 |                    |
|---|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <b>Balance forward 08/31/07</b>   |               |                 | <b>\$19,398.03</b> |
|   |               |                 |                    |
|   | <b>Income</b> | <b>Expenses</b> |                    |
|   |               |                 |                    |
| Dues  | 1,300.00      |                 |                    |
|   |               |                 |                    |
| Newsletter  |               |                 |                    |
| Ads   | 20.00         |                 |                    |
| Postage   |               | 96.96           |                    |
|   |               |                 |                    |
| Luncheons/Receptions/Seminars   |               |                 |                    |
| Beverages for September-November 2006 meetings and February-April 2007 meetings |               | 287.00          |                    |
| DALL reimbursement for 2007 HALL/DALL/SWALL Reception at AALL                   | 316.42        |                 |                    |
| August Meeting  | 225.00        |                 |                    |
| September Meeting—\$500 sponsorship by Thomson West                             | 0.00          | 190.64          |                    |
| October Seminar   | 805.00        | 706.15          |                    |
|   |               |                 |                    |
| Administrative  |               |                 |                    |
| Texas Secretary of State  |               | 6.00            |                    |
| Chapter Liability Insurance   |               | 131.00          |                    |
| Bank fees   |               | 30.00           |                    |
| Office Supplies   |               | 35.25           |                    |
|   |               |                 |                    |
| <b>Balance 10/31/07</b>   |               |                 | <b>\$20,581.45</b> |

Mariann Sears, Treasurer  
October 31, 2007



## Law Library Holiday Hours

Harris County had not yet determined their holiday hours at press time, but will post their holiday hours via HALL-L.

### South Texas College of Law The Fred Parks Law Library

Monday 12/10/2007 ..... 7:30am-midnight  
 Tuesday 12/11/2007 ..... 7:30am-10:00pm  
 Wednesday-Friday 12/12-12/14/2007 ..... 7:30am-9:00pm  
 Saturday 12/15/2007 ..... 8:30am-9:00pm  
 Sunday 12/16/2007 ..... Closed  
 Monday-Thursday 12/17-12/20/2007 ..... 7:30am-9:00pm  
 Friday 12/21/2007 ..... 7:30am-6:00pm  
 Saturday 12/22/2007-Tuesday 1/1/2008 ..... Closed  
 Wednesday-Friday 1/2-4/2008 ..... 7:30am-9:00pm  
 Saturday 1/5/2008 ..... 8:30am-9:00pm  
 Sunday 1/6/2008 ..... Closed  
 Monday-Friday 1/7-1/11/2008 ..... 7:30am-9:00pm  
 Saturday 1/12/2008 ..... 8:30am-9:00pm  
 Sunday 1/13/2008 ..... Resume Regular Hours  
 Sunday 1/21/2008 ..... Closed (Martin Luther King observance)

### Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law Library

Friday 12/7/2007 ..... 7:00am-5:00pm  
 Saturday-Sunday 12/8-9/2007 ..... Closed  
 Monday-Friday 12/10-14/2007 ..... 8:00am-5:00pm  
 Saturday-Sunday 12/15-16/2007 ..... Closed  
 Monday-Friday 12/17-21/2007 ..... 8:00am-5:00pm  
 Saturday 12/22/2007-Tuesday 1/1/2008 ..... Closed  
 Wednesday-Friday 1/2-4/2008 ..... 8:00am-5:00pm  
 Saturday-Sunday 1/5-6/2008 ..... Closed  
 Monday 1/7/2008 ..... Resume Regular Hours  
 Monday 1/21/2008 ..... Closed (Martin Luther King holiday)

### University of Houston School of Law O'Quinn Law Library

Saturday 12/15/2007 ..... 9:00am-5:00pm  
 Sunday 12/16/2007 ..... Noon-6:00pm  
 Monday-Friday 12/17-21/2007 ..... 8:00am-6:00pm  
 Saturday 12/22/2007-Tuesday 1/1/2008 ..... Closed  
 Wednesday-Friday 1/2-4/2008 ..... 8:00am-6:00pm  
 Saturday 1/5/2008 ..... 9:00am-5:00pm  
 Sunday 1/6/2008 ..... Noon-6:00pm  
 Monday-Friday 1/7-11/2008 ..... 8:00am-6:00pm  
 Saturday 1/12/2008 ..... 9:00am-5:00pm  
 Sunday 1/13/2008 ..... Noon-11:00pm  
 Monday 1/14/2008 ..... Resume Regular Hours  
 Monday 1/21/2008 ..... Closed (Martin Luther King holiday)

## SWALL Preliminary Program

The SWALL preliminary program is now available on the SWALL website <http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/swall/meeting2008/preliminaryprogram.html>. The SWALL annual conference, aboard the Carnival Cruise ship, "Ecstasy," will provide 14 hours of educational programming. Here are some highlights.

#### Cruise Ship law

Michelle Rigual, Law Librarian and Assistant Professor of Law Librarianship, University of New Mexico Law Library

#### Library Portals

Susan Spillman, Computer Librarian/Portal Manager, The Fred Parks Law Library, South Texas College of Law

#### Weather Law

Professor Marsha Baum, University of New Mexico School of Law

#### National Security Law

Professor Geoffrey Corn, South Texas College of Law

#### NAFTA

Rhonda Keaton, Librarian Relations Consultant, LexisNexis

#### Diversity and the Law: Gender Equity in the Workplace

Dean Herman Totten, University of North Texas School of Library and Information Science

#### Virtual Reference

Blythe McCoy, Librarian Relations Manager, ThomsonWest

#### SWALL History and Future

Sharon Blackburn, Faculty Services Librarian, Texas Tech University School of Law Library

The cruise also includes a day in Cozumel, Mexico.

Registration deadline is December 10, 2007. Registration is risk-free – deposits are fully refundable any time before February 1, 2008. Rates are:

Interior Stateroom – \$499  
 Ocean View Stateroom – \$599  
 Balcony Stateroom – \$899  
 Suite – \$999

Cabin prices include conference registration, all food, taxes, tips and gratuities (cabin & table and wait staff only), and port charges.

To receive the SWALL rate, you must book through Cruise and Travel Partners (800) 856-8826 or register online at <http://www.cruiseandtravelpartners.com>.

Please Join the Houston Area Law Librarians  
For our Annual **HALL-iday Party**  
Wednesday, December 12, 2007

11:30 a.m. - Festive (Non-alcoholic) Drinks  
And Hors d'Oeuvres

12:00 Noon - Seated Luncheon

Choice of SOUP OR SALAD

ENTRÉE - Choice of:  
Special Pasta with Chicken  
Poached Salmon Salad  
Vegetarian Sandwich

DESSERT - Choice of VIN's Signature Tiny Desserts



**Vin Restaurant, Bayou Place**  
Texas @ Smith - Valet parking available for a fee  
(between Mingalone's and Hard Rock Café)

Price is \$15 per member. Please RSVP by **Noon, December 10** to  
Mariann Sears by email only - [mariann.sears@tklaw.com](mailto:mariann.sears@tklaw.com)  
*(You will make your menu selections at the event.  
No need to preselect!)*

*Special Thanks to Thomson Scientific/Dialog  
for Their Generous Underwriting Gift!*

*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 bszalkowski@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**

## Houston Area Law Librarians

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