

SOUTHEASTERN Law Librarian

Official newsletter of the Southeastern Chapter of A.A.L.L.

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SPRING 1995

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with great pleasure that I write my final President's Column because it gives me an opportunity to do something that I truly enjoy, giving thanks.

First, I want to thank **Joyce Manna Janto** and the **Program Committee** for presenting an outstanding array of educational programs and for making a special effort to showcase our members as speakers. I also want to extend a bouquet of thanks to **Terry Long** and the **Richmond Local Arrangements Committee** for their excellent planning to make us comfortable and well entertained during the Annual Meeting. The evening at the Virginia Museum was delightful and quite impressive!

A distinct note of thanks is in order for **Frosty Owen** for soliciting the vendors who supported the Annual Meeting. The exhibits area was well-staffed and well-attended, and I hope that this feature will continue to be mutually beneficial to the vendors and SEALL. I am very pleased to report that with careful planning and budgeting, and the sponsorship of the vendor exhibits, the Annual Meeting will turn a substantial profit this year. Also, I wish to thank those members who recommended potential delegates for SEALL to sponsor at the National Conference to be held in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Annual Meeting. (The delegates selected by the Executive Board are listed in the Secretary's Report.) Please support this innovative idea of one of our own, AALL President **Carol Billings**, by attending the National Conference and making a special effort to network with our special guests.

It was a wonderful surprise for me to see **Tim Coggins**, whom I consider to be a mentor and special friend, receive the Service to SEALL Award for continuous dedicated service to the Chapter and the profession of law librarianship. As documented

by **Mary Smith Forman**, chair of the Special Committee on Service to SEALL, our chapter has benefited for several years from Tim's intellect, humor and tireless efforts to enhance our profession.

Thanks also are extended to **Reba Best** for assuming the chair of the Articles and Bylaws Committee with little notice; **Tim Coggins** for taking the work of the Government Relations Committee to new heights; **Hazel Johnson** for her herculean efforts to revise the SEALL Handbook, and to everyone who has assisted her in this task; and **Paula Tejada** and the **Membership Committee** for proactive efforts to find new members and to **Paula** for helping me in countless other ways.

I also want to thank **Bea Citron** for volunteering to help plan the joint SEALL/ SWALL meeting scheduled for March 28- 30, 1995 in Austin, Texas; **Sally Curtis Askew** and the **Scholarship Committee** for their astute and efficient

continued on p.16

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EDITOR'S NOTE

SEALL at Richmond was my favorite SEALL meeting so far. I think it's because I felt like I knew people when I met them. If there are those of you out there who haven't volunteered to help with a SEALL Committee, I want you to know that it makes a big difference when you attend an annual meeting! Gail Warren kindly arranged for the Newsletter Committee to sit together at dinner, so I got to talk with the very wonderful people who get all the copy together for each issue. And Judy Meadows joined us and had great suggestions.

Please take a look at the financial statements on the next page, especially the one for the fiscal year. The newsletter could benefit from a little income, so if you can think of vendors who might want to reach our readers, please let Gail Warren know: gwarren@leo.vsla.edu (internet); 804-786-2075 (phone); 804-786-4542 (fax).

SEALL NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Summer - July 24, 1995
Fall - October 23, 1994
Winter - January 23, 1996
Spring - April 19, 1996

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Submissions should be sent in both hardcopy and electronic format. Direct transmission via electronic mail is preferred, but all standard size diskettes are acceptable, if delivered in IBM based WordPerfect or plain ASCII format.

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Financial Statement

February 1, 1995 - March 31, 1995

OPENING BALANCE	\$ 9,693.48
ADD INCOME	
Dues	\$ 110.00
Interest	34.26
Mailing Labels	25.00
1994 Institute Speaker	382.30 ¹
1995 Meeting/Institute Registrations	5,529.00 ²
TOTAL INCOME	6,080.56
	\$15,774.04

DEDUCT EXPENSES

1994 Institute Speaker	\$ 382.30
1995 Meeting/Institute	5,529.00
Corporate Report	130.00
Scholarships (6)	1,730.00
Newsletter	
Printing (1)	527.31
Postage (2)	191.22
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$8,489.83

CLOSING BALANCE

Cash at bank \$ 7,284.21

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy S. Heberer
Treasurer

¹ A reimbursement check originally issued to one of the 1994 Institute speakers never cleared the bank. The original check is written off here. A replacement check was cut. We have received confirmation of the receipt of the replacement check.

² VALL is handling all receipts for the 1995 joint meeting/institute. A check was cut to VALL equal to the amount of registration fees already deposited by the Southeastern Chapter.

Financial Statement

April 1, 1994 - March 31, 1995

OPENING BALANCE	\$49,118.95
ADD INCOME	
Dues	\$ 10,110.00
Interest	171.58
Mailing Labels	25.00
1994 Meeting/Institute	494.50
1995 Meeting/Institute Registrations	5,529.00 ¹
TOTAL INCOME	\$16,330.08
	\$65,449.03

DEDUCT EXPENSES

1994 Meeting/Institute	\$4 4,768.89
1995 Meeting/Institute	5,529.00 ¹
1994 AALL	2,096.29
Scholarships (9)	3,015.00
Newsletter	2,342.67
Bulk Mail Permit	75.00
Corporate Report	130.00
1994 Election	207.97

TOTAL EXPENSES \$58,164.82

CLOSING BALANCE

Cash at Bank \$7,284.21

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy S. Heberer
Treasurer

¹ VALL is handling all receipts and disbursements for the 1995 joint meeting and institute. A check was cut to VALL equal to the amount of registration fees already deposited by the Southeastern Chapter.

An Objective Account of the Advantages and Disadvantages of a Neutral Citation System

by Kelly Browne,

Reference Librarian, University of Tennessee College of Law

The debate over the pros and cons of a vendor/media neutral citation system began to heat up about the same time I entered law librarianship--I started at the University of Tennessee on January 1, 1994, the same day the Sixth Circuit adopted a parallel electronic citation system--but I have yet to see what I thought was a balanced presentation of both sides of the real issues involved. In fact, the "flames" on Law-Lib have caused some people I know to delete, without reading, any message on that list that mentions citation reform. So, I thought I'd try my hand at an objective account. I will first try to explain what a vendor/media neutral citation system is and why its proponents think it is necessary. I will then try to summarize the main objects to a vendor/media neutral citation system, and address them if I can. Then I will let you make up your own minds.

Before I begin, however, I should reveal my biases --I was an intern at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock/Pulaski County Law Library in the summer of 1993 and so have a great admiration for Lynn Foster, who is the director of that library and the Chair of the AALL Task Force on Citation Formats. This does not mean, however, that I blindly follow my director (you may get current confirmation of this from Bill Beintema!). I have also accepted (and will continue to accept, if offered) food, t-shirts, stuffed polar bears, sports bottles, and other items from West Publishing Co., which I also greatly admire (if anyone from West reads this, I would really like to go on that tour of your headquarters; I've heard it's great).

What is a vendor/media neutral citation format? A vendor neutral cite is one that does not refer to any one vendor. For example, the citation "1 Ark. 1" is vendor neutral because the publisher of Arkansas Reports is designated by the government and can change over time. All official reporter cites are vendor neutral. "1 S.W.2d 1", on the other hand, refers to a specific vendor's product--in this case, a West Publishing Co. Product. A media neutral citation does not refer to any one medium, such as print. "St. John 3:16" is a media neutral cite because the information referred to could be in

either print or electronic form. "1 Ark. 1" is not a media neutral cite because it refers to a volume and page number, items endemic to print but not naturally found in electronic media.

Why do its proponents think a vendor/media neutral citation system is necessary? The proponents of a neutral citation system think it is necessary for three basic, and related, reasons, as far as I can determine. Not all proponents agree on all three reasons, nor do they phrase them in exactly the same way. The three reasons are: 1) The government is responsible for keeping a permanent official record of its judicial opinions; in other words, the public should "own the law," 2) It takes extra, what should be unnecessary, work to cite electronic media in traditional Bluebook format; and 3) West's copyright claims on the internal paging of its National Reporter System make it difficult, if not impossible, for small electronic vendors to enter the market.

The government should keep a permanent official record of its judicial opinions; in other words, the public should "own the law." Currently the only official permanent record of final judicial opinions in some jurisdictions (Wisconsin and the federal appellate courts, for example) is in commercial publications. These commercial publications are not equally accessible to everyone because of the cost involved. Many believe that there should be a definitive source of final judicial opinions in case of a conflict of wording and that since it is the state that expects its citizens to live by its judicial opinions the state should be the one to provide them, equally, to everyone. It is this publicly-owned database that people should cite to, not one maintained by a commercial entity.

It takes extra, what should be unnecessary, work to cite electronic media in the traditional Bluebook format. Much caselaw appears first in electronic form and many practitioners are using CD-ROM or other electronic products for the majority of their caselaw research today. They are

also downloading cases directly from the courts' electronic bulletin boards (BBS). Because CD-ROMs and BBSs do not usually contain page numbers, attorneys who use these products and Bluebook citation format must take the extra step of finding the cases in print so they may cite them correctly. If there were just one citation system for both electronic and print media, those who use electronic media, who as I understand it are mostly sole practitioners whose clients are least able to bear the extra cost of additional research, would not have to do that extra research, and the cost of legal research would go down.

West's copyright claims on the internal paging of its National Reporter System make it difficult, if not impossible, for small electronic vendors to enter the market. In 1986 the Eighth Circuit held that LEXIS could not use the page numbers from West Publishing Co.'s National Reporter System without violating copyright law. *West Publishing Co. v. Mead Data Central, Inc.*, 799 F.2d 1219 (8th Cir. 1986). It is questionable whether this is still good law [see *Feist Publications, Inc. v. Rural Tel. Serv. Co.*, 499 U.S. 340 (1991) (telephone book white pages cannot be copyrighted because they lack sufficient originality)], and some are litigating the point as we speak (Matthew Bender has filed a suit for declaratory judgment asking to use West page numbers in a CD-ROM product), but for now anyone who wishes to use West's page numbers in an electronic product so that their customers will not have to do extra research to cite cases according to the Bluebook must obtain a license from West to do so. It is my understanding that such a license is prohibitively expensive for most small vendors. If, however, more vendors were able to enter the market, competition would increase and the cost of accessing legal information would go down.

Who has done what so far? As previously mentioned, the Sixth Circuit adopted an optional parallel electronic citation format on January 1, 1994. The form is: *Smith v. Jones*, 1990 FED App. 0322 at 12 (6th Cir.), where 1990 is the year, 322 is the 322d opinion issued that year, and 12 is the cited page of the slip opinion. Louisiana has a "public domain" citation format that also went into effect January 1, 1994—*Smith v. Jones*, 93-2345 p.7 (La. 7/15/94) means that 93-2345 is the docket number of a case decided by the Louisiana Supreme

Court on July 15, 1994 and that I am directing your attention to page 7 of that slip opinion. The Colorado Supreme Court issued an order in May 1994 that all its decisions be numbered by paragraphs and that these paragraph numbers are acceptable alternative pinpoint cites to the official Pacific Reporter page numbers. The Wisconsin Supreme Court held a public hearing on March 21, 1995 on a petition from the State Bar of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Judicial Council to change Wisconsin citation form to: *Smith v. Jones*, 1996 Wis. 123, 15, where *Smith v. Jones* would be the 123d case decided by the Wisconsin Supreme Court in 1996 and I am directing your attention to the 15th paragraph of that case. A decision is expected shortly.

The AALL Executive Board voted to accept the recommendations of its Task Force on Citation Format (the "Task Force") as reflected in the Task Force's March 1, 1995 report (the "Final Report") to the Executive Board. The *Final Report* recommends a citation format like that proposed in Wisconsin, where pinpoint citations are to paragraph numbers. AALL members may receive one copy of the report free of charge from AALL Headquarters. Address your requests to Steve Serpas at (312) 939-4770 ext. 20 or sserpas@orion.depaul.edu.

What are the main objections to a vendor/media neutral citation system? There are many objections to a vendor/media neutral citation system. I only have room here to summarize ten main groups of objections. I am leaving out objections that, in my view, are only tangentially related or not relevant, like objections to perceived motives of proponents of citation reform. I am also leaving out objections that are in my opinion untenable, like the statement that courts don't require West National Reporter System cites. There are, however, plenty of objections that make sense, and the more I read the more I understand the objections. So here goes. Where I have read or can think of a direct counterpoint to an objection I will relate it; otherwise I will just relate the objection.

The market works well, so why change it? No one has done a factual analysis showing any changes are warranted. There are, supposedly, over 700 sources of state and federal caselaw published by at least 175 providers. Ninety-eight per cent of attorneys in Wisconsin use

print research and over half use print research exclusively. Who is complaining? Has anyone ever done any studies to show traditional citation form is frustrating its users or increasing the cost of legal information?

I think the fact that no studies have been done, if true, is a compelling argument for waiting at least long enough to do a study before suggesting any changes. Who would fund such a study, though? Certainly not West! On the other hand, several CD-ROM products have entered the market and prices are coming down in Louisiana, supposedly as a direct result of their public domain citation system.

I don't want the government in charge of information. They are hopelessly slow and inefficient. Besides, I worry about the politicization and censorship of controversial court decisions. The government is hopelessly slow and inefficient. I wouldn't want to rely upon them as the only source of final judicial opinions. Maybe since they will be archiving cases in electronic form rather than publishing them, though, the public archives won't be so out-of-date. I don't know how to address the politicization and censorship issue. Has this ever happened before in the United States, say with the U.S. Reports?

The vendor/media neutral cite does not refer to an actual physical source. How do I know where to look to find it? Which source did the author use? It seems like this will cause many additional research steps for National Reporter System users. Opponents of citation reform say they will not know where to look for a case cited in a vendor/media neutral format. They say they can make "educated guesses" only. I can't tell you how many times a day someone comes to the reference desk with a vendor/media specific cite and I can't even make an "educated guess" about where it is! I have to look the abbreviations up in Bieber's and then look the title up in the catalog. Of course, I don't have to do that with any of the state or federal judicial opinions because I know what books carry those jurisdictions and I only have to look up an abbreviation in Bieber's one or two times before I remember it. I hope it will be that way with vendor/ media neutral citation, too.

I'm not sure we know which source an author uses now, especially with parallel citations. Does it really matter? The only people I've ever seen care are law review cite checkers. And if they can't find what an author has said in any version of his or her cited source, they just change what the author said! But seriously, if you are an author and you suspect people might have trouble finding your vendor/ media neutral cite you could always include a parallel vendor/media specific cite.

Citation reform will cause a lot of extra trouble for the National Reporter System (NRS) and some extra trouble for its users, though. The NRS, instead of labeling its volumes with numbers, will have to label the spines with years and opinion numbers, e.g., "1996 Wis. 501-999." It would be difficult to put multiple courts in a single reporter because there would not be enough room on the spine for a different numbering system for each court whose opinions are printed in that volume, unless the print on the spines was very, very small. The NRS, and another vendor such as Shepard's, will probably have to come up with conversion table volumes. This will entail additional research for the NRS user.

If every court system adopts a different citation system, how many systems will we have to learn? A lot. Of course, we already have to learn a lot because each court cites its opinions a different way as it is. Since the basic vendor/media neutral citation system is easy to grasp, i.e., cases and paragraphs in chronological order, I'm not sure it would be that much more difficult. Unless I am absolutely positive, I always look up the abbreviation of a court in the Bluebook anyway.

Who will assign paragraph numbers to opinions? Court clerks are overburdened already. What makes a paragraph? Are headnotes included? Most proponents of citation reform assume court clerks will assign paragraph numbers to cases using a word processing macro. The Task Force recommends that numbering begin with the first paragraph of an opinion, not counting headnotes unless they are an official part of the opinion, as in Ohio, and that indented quotations and footnotes not be individually numbered. This does sound like a lot of work. In fact, the original proposal in Louisiana was for paragraph rather than slip opinion page numbering, but the court clerks

thought it would be too much trouble. I know that the Court of Military Appeals and the Supreme Court of British Columbia number the paragraphs in their cases; but I think that the official publishers (West and Carswell, respectively), actually do the numbering, not the clerks.

Who will assign case numbers to the cases that come out of different courts in states that do not have a centralized clerk of court office like Wisconsin? Wisconsin has a centralized Clerk of Courts office. Its staff spends about 20 hours a week preparing opinions for publication and, if the vendor/ media neutral citation system and public archive proposal is adopted, they anticipate reallocating this work to one full-time position. But what about jurisdictions like Texas and the Federal Courts of Appeal that have no central Clerk's office. How will they coordinate the numbering of all the opinions?

How can taxpayers afford a government archive of opinions? First, let me make it clear that only in Wisconsin is, at this time, anyone proposing such a thing. And they don't think it's going to be expensive because they are just going to keep their opinions on their electronic bulletin board forever instead of deleting them after a few months. But the issue is integrally related to citation reform. Some believe that you must have a physical database to cite to with vendor/media neutral cites and others believe that it is the government's responsibility to make the law freely available to all and that the government may fulfill this responsibility by mandating a vendor/media neutral cite so no one commercial entity will have an undue advantage in the marketplace. Still others believe that the government itself has a responsibility to make the law available to everyone, along with a fancy search engine, for free. I don't think a government database is necessary for a vendor/media neutral citation system; I don't see why we have to be referring to a real, physical object when we cite to an idea. I guess I think the government does have a responsibility to keep and make available public records, although I hope commercial publishers will continue to index, abstract, and otherwise add value to and publish case opinions. A federal district and court of appeals decisions database would be nice, since the only final official copy is now in West's Federal Reporter. But I would rather take care of the hungry and homeless first.

The proposed citation system is incompatible with print publishing and will discourage print publishing. Without page numbers, print volumes would have to be organized by sequential opinion number so that the opinions could be found. Currently, cases are printed in the order their edited version is approved by the judge, not in the order the judge decided them. If the opinions are published in the order they are decided, however, print publishing could be delayed for weeks or months because opinion no. 10 could not be published until after opinion no. 9, which could be held up in editing by a judge. This delay would put print products at a competitive disadvantage with CD-ROMs and on-line products.

If unpublished and published opinions are number sequentially with the unpublished decisions designated with a "U," as the Task Force recommends and as is proposed in Wisconsin, it would be hard to put out a print product in a jurisdiction with a large number of unpublished opinions because of the gaps in published opinion numbers and insufficient space on the spine of a volume. For example, the spine of a volume that contains unpublished New York opinions would read something like "1996 N.Y. App. 4,296-2,298; 5,423; 6,798-7,000..."

How will we cite older cases without vendor/ media neutral cites? It would make things very complicated to have to memorize several different citation forms for each court. The Task Force recommends either going back and renumbering old cases and requiring a parallel cite to a print source or using a print reporter citation and numbering the paragraphs for pinpoint cites. This sounds complicated, too.

Parsing cases into paragraphs will change the way cases are written and read—it will change the nature of caselaw. This is the most intriguing argument against citation reform that I have heard, and if it is a fact, the most compelling reason for not making any changes (unless, of course, the nature of caselaw is changed for the better). I am not sure I understand it, but here is my attempt at summarizing it: If propositions in cases are cited by paragraph rather than page number, individual paragraphs will take on a whole new importance in relation to the rest of the case.

If authors know that their work is going to be cited by paragraph number, they will write so that no one paragraph can be construed as being any more important than another. The counterargument to this is that paragraphs are natural units of thought, and it is more accurate to cite to a paragraph or series of paragraphs which contain a thought than to a page or pages, which do not necessarily contain a thought, that increased accuracy in citing caselaw is a good thing, and that of course when you are referring to a specific proposition the portion of text that contains that proposition will be more important to you than the rest of the text. When you cite to a specific section of a code for a proposition, you do not ignore the rest of the code. Instead, you read it and if anything else in the text contradicts your point, you cite that, too.

So what do you think? The AALL Executive Board wants to know. Write with your opinion to Carol Billings or any other member of the Board at: American Association of Law Libraries, 53 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 940, Chicago, IL 60604.

St. Thomas Receives Full Accreditation from ABA

On February 14, 1995, the American Bar Association bestowed full accreditation on the St. Thomas University School of Law. Founded in 1984, the school has had provisional accreditation since February 9, 1988. St. Thomas, the only Catholic law school in the southeastern United States, embraces the duties and obligations of the Judeo-Christian ethic and endeavors to instill the values and ethics of that tradition and of the Catholic Church in its students.

St. Thomas's Ambassador Nicholas H. Morley Law Center is located on the main campus of St. Thomas University in northern Dade County and includes a moot court amphitheater, a student activity center, faculty and administrative offices, classrooms, and a multilevel library. St. Thomas University Law Library, under the direction of Bardie Wolfe since its inception, has been a member of the Southeastern Florida Library Information Network (SEFLIN) since 1989. Its staff members are active in various SEFLIN committees as well as those of AALL, SEALL, South Florida Association of Law Libraries and the Dade County Library Association.

The library's collection has an integrated format of on-line, microform, and print material and contains approximately 235,000 volumes and volume equivalencies with 32,000 titles. Students and faculty have access to over 40 CD-ROM titles through TOMNet, the library's network, with over 80% of the material loaded onto 20 gigabytes of the hard drive storage loaded on the network server.

St. Thomas Law School provides quality legal education, in an environment of social awareness through value-centered and ethical legal instruction, for students from diverse social, cultural and economic backgrounds and has a 32% minority student population. The school is responsive to the social and cultural needs of the community through its Immigration Clinic, pro bono representation of indigent clients on appeal, law clinic in an economically depressed neighborhood, VITA program providing free tax assistance to persons unable to obtain paid assistance, and the adopt-a-student program which links practicing Catholic lawyers with students to increase their awareness of their obligation to provide "pro bono" services. The Law Library provides support which is essential to these programs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Government Relations

The following article was submitted to the SEALL Government Relations Committee by SEALL and VALL members Susan Tulis (University of Virginia Law Library) and Donna Bausch (Norfolk Law Library). The SEALL Government Relations Committee thanks Donna and Susan for sharing their experiences.

A Painful Civics Lesson

The Virginia Association of Law Libraries and the Virginia Consortium of Public Law Libraries sought legislation in the 1995 session of the Virginia General Assembly designed to meet three goals: 1) to assure a predictable source of public law library funding not subject to diversion by competing interests (i.e. court-house and jail construction and renovation); 2) to broaden the base of law library writ tax funding to include criminal and traffic cases (we are funded presently by civil filing fees only);

and 3) to raise the ceiling in civil filing fees for law library use from \$4 to \$6 per civil filing.

A bill drafted to meet two of the three objectives was drafted in cooperation with the Governor's office. This bill, cosponsored by six delegates, Republicans and Democrats from all areas of the Commonwealth, was introduced in the House of Delegates but killed in the Appropriations Committee. Unfortunately, this Committee had approved another bill which would result in the writ tax increases for the benefit of sheriffs' offices. Thus, the law library bill was viewed as the straw which would break the camel's back and was defeated.

A Senate bill which was drafted to address the first objective breezed through the Senate Courts of Justice Subcommittee, Committee, and the Senate floor, only to face defeat on the House floor on the last day of the 1995 legislative session. The House floor debate characterized the bill as a tax increase, anathema to elected officials in this era of unparalleled political "courage." Given the hostile political climate in Virginia where there is a conservative Republican Governor and a Democratic General Assembly whose members are all up for election in November, even this minor measure proved too controversial to pass. It is our hope that in 1996, a non-election year, a bill of a similar nature can be passed.

Virginia's public law libraries have been funded at the \$4 per civil filing fee level since 1988. As a result, we are all strained for funds. The Code provision which places a joint cap on law library fees and courthouse renovation and maintenance has resulted in some of Virginia's localities instituting reductions in law library fees to satisfy the fervor for more jail cells. Failure to pass legislation this session permits continuation of this robbing of Peter to pay Paul.

It is a challenging time to be a public law librarian in Virginia. The most positive aspect of this endeavor was the process itself. Virginia's public law librarians worked closely on this project. Many Board members from public law libraries were involved and attended committee and subcommittee hearings and testified where permitted. We are confident that we can succeed next year. We have no choice but to try.

Nominations Committee

The slate of officers for 1995-96 is: Billie Jo Kaufman, Nova Southeastern University and Jim Heller, William & Mary for Vice- President/ President-Elect; and Richard Boaz, Jackson & Kelly, and Jim Gates, University of Florida for Treasurer.

We appreciate the time and energy that each of the nominees has committed to SEALL for the coming year. The Nominations Committee worked very hard this year to provide a slate of candidates that reflect the diversity between court, firm, and law school members. The Committee found that many court and firm librarians did not feel that they could run due to lack of support from court and firm administrators. If you have any suggestions about what SEALL could do to positively affect change in this situation, the members of the Nominations Committee would like to hear from you. Contact Steve Thorpe, Univ. of Tennessee, Donna Bausch, Norfolk Law Library, Ed Edmonds, Loyola, Eugenia Minor, University of Mississippi, or Lisa Williams, Parker, Poe, Adams & Bernstein to relay your suggestions. Again thank you to the four excellent candidates for their willingness to serve.

COSELL Technical Services Roundtable

by Karin Den Bleyker, Mississippi College Law Library

Moderator Karin Den Bleyker who chaired the roundtable for Ladd Brown opened the meeting with general introductions. The following librarians were in attendance: Felice K. Lowell, U. of Miami; Sally Wambold, U. of Richmond; Mary Paige Smith, Nova Southeastern U.; Jack Bissett, Washington and Lee; Ismael Gullon, Mercer U.; Haibin Hu, College of William and Mary; Meera Kashyap and Kwei-Yuei Hung of Howard University; Karin Den Bleyker, Mississippi College.

The first topic, extensively discussed, focused on new technology or procedures in each participant's library. Very quickly it became evident that most of us were using Innovative and were overall pleased with the system's performance. Jack Bissett pointed out that some librarians experienced problems with light pens. Some circulation staff

reported that these pens can be taken apart and cleaned. We didn't discuss the process step by step; however Jack mentioned that it is tedious. On the other hand, if the pens are not cleaned, barcodes can be rendered useless because of the unusual pressure applied to them to make them readable. The conversation then turned to the placement of barcodes. It appeared that just about every library placed the barcode in a different spot. Karin Den Bleyker reported that her library places the barcodes in the upper left-hand corner of the books to facilitate scanning at inventory time. This lead Jack Bissett to mention that his library will be using Innovative's inventory module this summer. Hopefully, he'll report next year on that experience.

Ladd Brown had suggested to approach the topic of how to catalog internet sources. The general consensus was to wait until a good strategy can be developed. Someone suggested to add a note which gives internet instructions to existing cataloging records. Felicia Lowell mentioned the practice of scanning or typing in content notes and indexes to make the information key word searchable. Several librarians in the group were already doing this with selected materials. Other suggestions put forth concerned the exchange of workflow patterns and brief instructional commands for specific tasks to make training of new personnel easier. It was decided to contact Ladd Brown to see if he will be willing to check out the possibilities.

After commenting one more time on the beautiful surroundings, the room offered a spectacular view of the river and its environs, the meeting was adjourned.

**Southeastern Chapter of the
American Association of Law
Libraries
Business Meeting
Richmond, Virginia
April 8, 1995**

Welcome and Introductions

President, Carol Avery Nicholson called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m. The 1995 SEALL Executive Board was then introduced.

Secretary's Report

Rhea Ballard-Thrower reported that the minutes of the last business meeting (held in Seattle) were published in the Southeastern Law Librarian (vol. 19, no. 4). She also mentioned that the 1995 SEALL biographical sketches and ballots will be mailed to members on May 1, 1995.

Financial Report

The financial report was presented by Carol on behalf of Kathy Heberer who could not be at the meeting.

President's Report

Carol announced that Paula Tejada agreed to be the registered agent for SEALL, since Mary S. Forman will no longer be a SEALL member.

During its conference call "meeting" held on March 27, 1995, the Executive Board selected five professionals to be SEALL delegates to AALL's National Conference on Legal Information Issues. A total of \$1500 was appropriated for the sponsoring of delegates. The delegates are: Judge Dan O'Hanlon (6th Judicial Circuit, Huntington, VA), Kimberly J. Korando (a North Carolina attorney), James Nelson (Kentucky Commissioner of Library and Archives), and Marilyn Yarbrough (Law Professor, University of North Carolina). SEALL members from Atlanta, Florida, New Orleans, North Carolina, and Virginia announced that their chapters were also sponsoring delegates.

In regards to the year ahead, Carol mentioned that the committee volunteer forms will be mailed with the dues notice. Vice-President Joyce Manna Janto urged everyone to volunteer for a committee.

Lastly, Carol stated that if any member wants CLE credits for attending the SEALL meeting, it is up to him/her to pursue that issue further with his/her bar association.

Report from AALL

Judy Meadows, AALL Treasurer graced the SEALL chapter with her wit and charm. She reminisced that she too used to be a Virginia law librarian. In the early 1980's, she was one of four law librarians who met in Virginia to network and develop closer ties.

The rest of Judy's presentation involved various aspects of AALL: the importance of AALL chapters, the Mission Statement, the supportive staff at Headquarters, the Washington Representative, the new Financial Plan, the citation format issue, the Board's request for a dues increase, the Coalition for the Fair Use of Legal Information, getting involved in AALL at the local, regional or national levels, and encouraging attendance at The National Conference on Legal Information Issues.

Vice President's Report

Joyce announced that SEALL should make a profit on the meeting. There were a total of 170 registrants -- 149 (full), 20 (day), and 1 (student). The profits will be split between VALL (25%) and SEALL (75%).

Local Arrangements:

Richmond

Carol extended a hearty thank you to Terry Long and her committee for a job well done.

Austin

Beatrice Citron announced that the arrangements for the joint SEALL/SWALL meeting are well under way. The meeting will be held on March 28-30, 1996 at the Austin Stouffer hotel. Volunteers and exhibitors are needed.

Tallahassee

It was announced that the 1997 SEALL meeting will be held in Tallahassee. More details will be presented at the business meeting in Pittsburgh.

Committee Reports

Service to SEALL Award

Mary Smith Forman gave a few hints as to who was this year's recipient. The dead give away was the clue about meeting the attractive blond colleague and marrying her. The Service to SEALL Award was presented to a very deserving Tim Coggins.

Article and Bylaws

Reba Best announced that there are two proposed changes to the Bylaws (dates of the SEALL fiscal year and date of SEALL elections) and one proposed change to the Articles (adding D.C. members

as full SEALL members). The proposed changes will be mailed with the election ballots. Voting will occur during the business meeting in Pittsburgh.

Education

Karin den Bleyker reported that 20 members attended the Institute, 'Life in Your Organization.'

Government Relations Committee

Tim Coggins reported that the Committee will begin drafting a SEALL government relations policy, as well as a "how to lobby" brochure.

Internet Coordinator

On behalf of the members, LEXIS was thanked for the use of their offices for the Internet room, while Hunton & Williams was thanked for the use of their computer equipment.

Membership

On behalf of Paula Tejada, Beatrice Citron announced that 33 new members joined this year. Also, for this meeting 4 members agreed to participate in the mentor program (2 mentors and 2 mentees). Carol expressed that she was a bit concerned by the low number of participants and encouraged more newer and veteran members to participate.

Newsletter

Mary McCormick encouraged every member to write articles and secure ads for the newsletter, the Southeastern Law Librarian.

Nominations

Donna Bausch announced the slate for 1995-96: for Vice-President/President Elect, the candidates are Jim Heller and Billie Jo Kaufman. For the office of Treasurer the candidates are Richard Boaz and Jim Gates.

Placement

Deborah Mayo Jefferies reported that there were 21 resumes and 31 job announcements on file.

Publications

Hazel Johnson reported that the Membership Directory will be updated next year. Carol then thanked Hazel for her hard work on creating the Chapter Handbook.

Publicity and Public Relations

Carol reported on behalf of Amy Osborne who could not be at the meeting. The "What is a Law Librarian" brochure has been distributed at various library conferences. If members would like a copy, please contact Amy at (606) 255- 2424.

Scholarship

Sally Curtis AsKew announced the names of the nine scholarship recipients -- four were newer members and five were veterans. Recipients will write articles for the Southeastern Law Librarian.

Unfinished Business

Carol explained the idea behind amending the Articles to include D.C. members as full SEALL members. Several librarians from D.C. have expressed a desire for this change to various members of the Executive Board. (Currently, D.C. members can vote, but cannot hold SEALL offices.)

A two-thirds vote of the SEALL members attending the Pittsburgh business meeting is required for passage.

New Business

1998 Meeting

What place has been called the foreign country located in the United States, the home of Creole Cuisine and Cajun dishes, and the future site of the nation's largest casino? New Orleans-- site of the 1998 SEALL meeting. Ya'll come!

1999 Meeting

It was suggested that the 1999 SEALL meeting be held in Tennessee. A firm commitment has not yet been established.

Announcements

National Conference

Carol Billings mentioned that she was very pleased that SEALL agreed to sponsor delegates to the National Conference on Legal Information Issues. Everyone who attends the AALL Annual Meeting is automatically a participant in the National Conference.

Carol also urged the members to read the Citation Format report, which is available on ALLANET and at AALL Headquarters. At it's first business meeting, the AALL Executive Board will vote on

whether to adopt the report. So, if you have any questions or comments, please forward them to a member of the AALL Executive Board.

SEALL Pittsburgh Events

The next SEALL Business Meeting will be held on Monday, July 17 from 6:15 - 6:45 p.m. The SEALL reception will immediately follow at 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Be there, or miss a great time to renew acquaintances!

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Rhea Ballard-Thrower,
SEALL Secretary

New SEALL Members

Melinda D. Davis, Cataloger, Assistant Professor,
University of Tennessee Law Library

SEALL E-Mail Update

Please check your entry carefully. These entries supplement those listed in the previous issues of Southeastern Law Librarian. Send me any changes/additions, thanks. Pam Williams
email: lawpam@nervm.nerdc.ufl.edu

Michael J. Petit petitm@law.georgetown.edu
Margaret A. Hawkins mhawkins@luna.cas.usf.edu
Jose R. Pages jrpages@uga.cc.uga.edu
Katie Kerr kkerr@pepperdine.edu

How Rhea Ballard-Thrower Used Her Lucile Elliott Scholarship: A Quiz

1. On Wednesday, April 5, Rhea celebrated her birthday by:
 - a) having a wild party
 - b) driving to Richmond
 - c) wondering where all the years went
2. On Thursday, April 6, Rhea did the following:
 - a) attended the SEALL Institute
 - b) had a wild day-after-her birthday party
 - c) waited five hours at the Midas Muffler shop to get new brake pads and rotors on her car.
3. Rhea needed a SEALL scholarship because:

a) she spent all of her allocated travel funds at the AALL meeting in Seattle

b) her state employer would rather spend its funds on construction for the Olympics, rather than the professional development of its law librarians.

c) she spent all of her allocated travel funds on her honeymoon in Paris and is hoping no one finds out.

4. Rhea agreed to be a speaker for the program "Connections for Survival" because:

a) she loves to hear herself speak, especially in public

b) Donna Bausch threatened to say ugly things about her if she didn't participate

c) she thinks it is a great idea that academic and firm librarians work together to teach law students the importance of good legal research skills.

5. Rhea was surprised the most by:

a) how Dan Roberts, the luncheon speaker, made the topic, "The Failed Thirteenth Amendment", so interesting.

b) the lack of yellow pollen on the cars, sidewalks, etc.

c) the number of country radio stations between Atlanta and Richmond.

6. Rhea listened to the following during her drive back to Atlanta:

a) an AALL Annual Meeting cassette -- "Preserving the Memories"

b) Seal (the singer, not the AALL Chapter

c) numerous country music radio stations

7. Rhea enjoyed this the most about the meeting:

a) the local arrangements

b) she got to visit with some of her favorite colleagues

c) she got a SEALL scholarship

Answers: 1(b), 2(c), 3(a), 4(c), 5(a), 6(b), 7(all)

SEALL Briefs Column

Compiled by Carol A. Watson
The University of Georgia Law Library

If you have items you wish to include in the SEALL Briefs column, please e-mail:

cwatson@uga.cc.uga.edu.

ALABAMA

The University of Alabama Law Library celebrated National Library Week with a cookie and punch reception in the library. Students, faculty, and other members of the Law School community were invited to treats baked by library staff members. Additionally, Jill Jones, Assistant Catalog Librarian, U. of Alabama School of Law Library, designed a display of "favorite books at the law school." Faculty and staff submitted the title of their favorite books with several sentences describing why and how the book had affected their lives. The display of the responses (titles ranged from children's books to legal-related titles) was interesting reading for law students and others at the Law school.

FLORIDA

Rosalie Sanderson, Assistant Director for Computer Information Services, U. of Florida, College of Law Legal Information Center, has been selected as a recipient of the 1995 West Excellence in Academic Law Librarianship Award. The award, established to recognize academic law librarians who distinguish themselves in managing and providing effective access to information, is made available by West Publishing. Rosalie is the first non-Director to receive the national award. Rosalie Sanderson has also been promoted to the faculty rank of Librarian at the U. of Florida, the highest Library Faculty rank at the University.

Jim Gates, Assistant Director for Technical Services, U. of Florida, College of Law Legal Information Center, has been awarded tenure by the U. of Florida.

Bob Munro, U. of Florida, College of Law Legal Information Center, recently completed a Fall term sabbatical at Jesus College, Cambridge U., England. One focus of his study was a comparative bibliographical analysis of the Public International Collections of Oxford, Cambridge, the U. of Florida, and the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (U. of London).

Kathy Dulaney, Library Assistant in the Circulation Department, U. of Florida, College of Law Legal Information Center, is leaving the Legal

Information Center to join the staff of the Duke Law Library. Kathy, who has handled document delivery, ILL at Florida since 1989, recently completed her MLS at Florida State University.

The U. of Florida, College of Law Legal Information Center recently moved 20, 15 ft. long fully loaded bookstacks within the Library to accommodate an upcoming remodel of a Library reading room. The move, contracted to Professional Movers of Orlando, was made in a matter of hours with the assistance of the moving company's "stack jacks," a set of pneumatic lift jacks on wheels. It was a "moving" experience.

GEORGIA

Edna Dixon is the new Catalog Librarian at Georgia State U. College of Law Library. Edna obtained her MLS from Clark/ Atlanta University.

The U. of Georgia Law Library offered optional legal research mini-courses for second and third year law students, April 10-13, on the following topics: Legislative History, Administrative Law, Federal Tax Research and Short Cuts.

The Emory U. School of Law is pleased to announce the availability of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals cases via the Internet. This service is provided by Information Technology Services (ITS), a division of the Law Library. For the first time ever, anyone with Internet access will be able to access full-text versions of 11th Circuit cases shortly after those decisions are handed down. In cooperation with the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, ITS has taken cases beginning November 1994 and converted them into Internet standard Web format. The cases are then published through a Web server which, in turn, is accessible from all over the world. In order to aid researchers, ITS has made the cases completely key word searchable and indexed them by date and title. The cases can also be down-loaded in Rich Text Format (RTF). To access the 11th Circuit's cases, simply launch any World Wide Web browser and open <http://www.law.emory.edu/11circuit/index.html> to see the main menu. This information is provided free to the Internet community as a public service by the Emory U. School of Law Library. For more information please contact: William Morse, ITS, Emory School of Law Library, wmorse@law.emory.edu.

NORTH CAROLINA

The Duke University School of Law and Law Library dedicated its new addition on April 8th. The dedication was attended by alumni, faculty, and students followed by a luncheon and tours of the facility. On April 28th, the library is hosting a reception for colleagues from Duke and law librarians in the area.

Carol Nicholson, Technical Services Librarian, U. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Law Library, has been elected to the AALL Executive Board.

SOUTH CAROLINA

From the University of South Carolina, Marsha Baum, Director of the Coleman Karesh Law Library, spoke on "Copyright Considerations for Electronic Information Transfer" at USC's College of Library and Information Science Information Conference on April 7th.

The Library has recently installed a SCSI Express CD-ROM system. In addition to providing access to the Law School community, this system is being used (on a small scale) as a test project in a study of the feasibility of an electronic law library for state agencies.

Mary McCormick, Reference Librarian, presented a section of "Attorneys and the Information Superhighway, the 1995 Zachert Scholarship Workshop" at USC's College of Library and Information Science on March 17. Mary also participated in the 3rd National Legal Research Teach-in with her training sessions entitled "Federal Government Information on the Internet" and "Finding Information about Specific Areas of Law on the Internet" during the week April 9-15, 1995.

Rebecca Anderson, Catalog/Media Librarian, and Michael Brantley, both of USC Law Library, have attended the Novell training courses at Midlands Technical College, "Installing Netware 3.12," designed for managers of networks. Michael Brantley has a new title, Reference/Computer Services Librarian.

The Library is preparing for the implementation of the NOTIS circulation module for the law collection. Barcoding has commenced.

Julie Luppino reports from Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart in Greenville that she marked National Library Week (April 10-14) by inviting everyone in her firm to drop in for "Coffee break with a twist" during that week. She had quizzes with trivial and serious questions for which she awarded prizes. The "twist" was that people brought their own coffee, while she provided goodies during the "break." Quite a PR effort!

Jack Hurd reports from Nelson, Mullins, Riley and Scarborough in Columbia that his firm has really embraced CD-ROM

VIRGINIA

The Virginia Association of Law Libraries (VALL) has recently published *An Index of Printed Virginia Trial Court Opinions Between 1850 and 1928* by W. Hamilton Bryson, Professor of Law, University of Richmond School of Law. The cost is \$35.00 per copy, plus 4.5% sales tax and \$5.00 shipping and handling. To order a copy, send your check made payable to "VALL" to: Gail Zwirner, Reference Librarian, Hunton & Williams, Riverfront Plaza, East Tower, 951 E. Byrd St., Richmond,

VA 23219. If you have any questions, call Gail at 804-788-7268.

John C. Jeffries, Jr., author of *Justice Lewis F. Powell*, (Scribner's Sons, 1994) visited Washington and Lee Law School on March 30. He toured the Lewis Powell Archives, delivered a talk on Powell and his papers, and signed copies of his book. Leah F. Chanin, Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law, District of Columbia School of Law, Pamela J. Gregory, Law Librarian, Circuit Court for Prince George's County Library, and Sarah K. Wiant, Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law, Washington and Lee University School of Law, have co-authored *Legal Research in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia* (William S. Hein, 1995).

Mary Cooper Gilliam, foreign and international law librarian at the University of Virginia Law Library, resigned May 1st. Mary will remain in Charlottesville, as owner of Franklin Gilliam Rare Books. Mary's business address and telephone number are: 218 South Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902 (804 979-2512).

SEALL/SWALL JOINT MEETING

Information and Volunteers Needed for Local Arrangements in Austin

The SEALL/SWALL Joint Meeting is scheduled for Austin, Texas on March 27-31, 1996 at the Stouffer Hotel. The local arrangements committee needs to know if you plan to attend, in order to estimate rooms, etc. that will be needed. We also need volunteers to help with local arrangements planning, publicity and fund raising. You do not need to live in Austin to help. We in SEALL will help the SWALL Local Arrangements Committee with planning activities that do not require Texas residence to accomplish. Please complete the bottom of this page and return it to Bea Citron, St. Thomas Univ. Law Library, 16400 N.W. 32nd Ave., Miami, FL 33054; FAX 305-623-2337; Phone 305-623-2339.

Are you planning to attend the SEALL/SWALL Joint Meeting in Austin?

Yes No Maybe (Circle One)

Check which of the following activities you wish to sign up for:

___ Fundraising and contacting exhibitors ___ Publicity ___ Letter writing ___ Name tags

___ Registration/Information Desk at Conference ___ Hospitality Suite ___ Breakfast Business Meeting

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

President's Column, continued from p.1
selection of scholarship recipients; **Deborah Jefferies** and the Placement Committee for their efforts to match potential employees and employers; **Steve Thorpe** and the Nominating Committee for recruiting another excellent slate of candidates; **Amy Osborne** and the Publications Committee for distributing our brochures; **Karin Den Bleyker** and the joint Education Committee for presenting a timely and useful Institute on managing our professional lives; and **Mary McCormick** and the Newsletter Committee for keeping us well-informed

on a timely basis through the publication of this newsletter.

Last, but not least, I want to thank each of you for your active support of the Southeastern Chapter in countless ways. I especially want to thank you for your support during my term of office and for helping to elect me to the AALL Executive Board. I promise to do my very best to carry on the fine tradition of excellence in leadership that SEALL members have carried on at the national level.

Carol

SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN
c/o Mary M. McCormick
Coleman Karesh Law Library
University of South Carolina
Main and Greene Streets
Columbia, SC 29208

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