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From The President

As most of you realize, this is my first letter to the chapter as its president. Before sharing with you a few thoughts concerning our chapter and law librarianship. I would like to take one more opportunity to thank publicly Kay Todd our past president, Ed Edmonds our past secretary/treasurer and Carol Billings our past editor of the SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN. For many a moon each of these people has served the chapter; in fact, one must go back over two years not to find each of them mentioned on the masthead of the SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN. Personally and as a group we owe many many thanks to them and the chapter members who served on committees this past year or assisted them in their tasks these last two years. Many thanks to all of you for a job well done.

My first task as chapter president has been to appoint committees. This is noted elsewhere in the newsletter; I hope I have remembered to appoint to committee preferences each of you that volunteered. If I haven't, please feel free to drop me a line or give a call so that I can correct that omission. Dick Danner (Duke) and his Program Committee of Susan English (U. of Richmond) and Peggy Martin (Kilpatrick & Cody) are already hard at work planning our spring meeting scheduled for March 7-9 in New Orleans. Dick and the Program Committee will appreciate greatly any suggestions you may have.

If you would indulge me a few moments I would like to share some more personal thoughts with you. What are we? What are Law librarians? In a sense we must be all things to all peoples.

We are INFORMATION SPECIALISTS. We aren't limited by the four walls of our libraries; ours is to acquire the information whether in our collections or elsewhere.

We are BUDGET AND FINANCE OFFICERS; we are PLANNERS. We set the goals for our

(Continued on Page 3)

EDITOR'S CORNER

In the following pages you will find the results of our efforts to produce a newsletter.

It has been hectic and time consuming but so (dare we say it?) fun! The year promises to be exciting and we are starting it off with a new column, ONLINE UPDATE, and a couple of timely articles. The ONLINE UPDATE column is aimed at those of you who have too much to read but still try to keep up with the ever changing databases. If anyone would like to supply information on BRS, DOW JONES or NEXIS, please contact us. Don't forget to supply our chief correspondent, Tim Coggins, with S.E.A.L.L. BRIEFS. PLACEMENT information should be sent to Cherry L. Thomas at the University of Alabama. DON'T FORGET the newsletter when you have a job opening. We have a standing committee for Placement so let's use it effectively.

In our next issue, you can look forward to some more good articles and information on the chapter meeting coming up in New Orleans in early 1985. Remember the deadline for the next issue - November 15.

Mary S. Bourget
Hazel L. Johnson



SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER A.A.L.L. OFFICER & COMMITTEE CHAIRS 1984-85

PRESIDENT

Edwin M. Schroeder
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL

VICE PRESIDENT/ PRESIDENT-ELECT

Richard A. Danner
Duke University Law Library
Durham, NC

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Margarette M. Dye
Powell, Goldstein, Frazer &
Murphy
Atlanta, GA

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Steven R. Thorpe
Mercer University
Macon, GA

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

Elizabeth Kern
Law Library of Louisiana
New Orleans, LA

MEMBERSHIP

Patricia G. Strougal
Alston & Bird
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NEWSLETTER

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Jacksonville, FL

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University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA

PLACEMENT

Cherry L. Thomas
University of Alabama
University, AL

PROGRAM

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SCHOLARSHIP

Sara M. Straub
U.S. Court of Appeals,
11th Circuit
Atlanta, GA

From The President

By the time you read this the holiday season will be upon us or may have already come and gone. Regardless of the timing I hope that each of us enjoys the peace deserved by persons of good will now and throughout the year.

Listed below are the persons whom I have asked to serve on committees for 1984-85. I have tried to distribute committee memberships by type of library and geographicaly. In most instances I believe I have succeeded.

In addition to SEAALL committees, I have asked Michael Lynch of the Florida State University Law Library to serve as SEAALL liaison to the 1984-85 AALL Public Relations Committee. In addition, I need volunteers from each of the states represented by SEAALL to assist the AALL AD HOC COMMITTEE in updating the Recommended List of Collections for Prison and Other Institution Law Libraries. Interested persons should contact me. Anyone wishing to work on the General Collection list of the Ad Hoc Committee should contact Richard E. Ducey (Thurgood Marshall Law Library, University of Maryland School of Law) directly.

Planning for the March 7-9 meeting in New Orleans continues. The program being developed by Dick Danner and his committee will include multiple topics and deal with both substantive and procedural matters. Betty Kern and her "no name" committee members are developing local arrangements with a creative flair that will be hard for future planners to repeat. A separate mailing scheduled for January will contain full information about the meeting. MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

Lucile Elliott Scholarship. Elsewhere in the newsletter you will find information regarding the Lucile Elliott Scholarships. All members are encouraged to apply, especially newer members.

Placement Information. Libraries with open positions are reminded to call these openings to the attention

THE HOW AND WHY OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

Continued from Page 3

offer is more likely to be favorably acted upon if you make a telephone call or write a letter. People in organizations who need the help of others for committee work or whatever are usually pleased to know who is interested. I would also suggest that you tell the appointer something about yourself—other organizational skills, the kinds of things you are interested in, the kinds of chores you have the time and the talent to do, etc. All too often I hear people say, "I just don't know who to ask. I don't know anyone who has these skills." Even though you offer to help on a certain project, if the appointer does not know your particular abilities, you may not be selected.

We all know the person whose only real interest in participating in an organization is for self-aggrandizement. This person simply wants to get ahead for visibility's sake, not because they have any real desire to contribute their time and effort to the organization. This personality type is quickly identified and, in my experience, is rarely given the opportunity to actively participate. So if your motive in offering help to an organization is strictly a one-sided affair, you may be disappointed. A good organization needs lots of workers, not egos.

Thirdly, once you are appointed, do a good job! To avoid getting in over your head be sure you know before you say yes what your respon-

of both the SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN editors and the chair of the Placement Committee.

Florida State University Law Library Dedication. I hope you will be tolerant of my exercising a personal privilege. You are all invited to attend the dedication of the new Law Library building at the Florida State University on January 25 and 26. On the 25th there will be an all day program: morning - library planning, afternoon - NOTIS/FOCUS, an introduction. If you are interested in coming, let me know.

sibilities will be and what time frame you have. Find out specifically what you are supposed to do and then do it well and on time. Your abilities are on the line and your chances of being asked to participate again are very high if you do good work the first time.

If you are disappointed and your offer is not accepted, do not give up! Perhaps your timing was wrong. Was the last committee member just put on board? Did you offer too early? Did you forget to tell the appointer what your skills are and specifically how you could help? Did you ask the wrong person? Please remember that every person is not equally talented for every task. So don't be disappointed. Try again!

If you really want to work within an organization, you will be able to do so. But remember, you are not likely to be asked out of the blue. You may have to make the first move. Learn about the organization. Who makes the decisions? It doesn't have to be who you know, but realistically it is part of the equation. Would you ask a complete stranger to do a job for which you were responsible? Make an effort to introduce yourself to law librarians you do not know. Get to know them. Put yourself in a position so you have the opportunity to be asked to participate. If you think organizations are run by snobby cliques, perhaps you had better take another look.

Most organizations are run by well-meaning people spend a lot of time trying to do the things they think you want. And since those leaders may not know everyone in the organization they may well appoint their friends and acquaintances to committees and special projects. Wouldn't you? The clique is probably always there to some extent, but it is up to you to see that it's not impenetrable. It is your responsibility to offer your services and abilities to those who need your help. You are the organization. Be an active, participating member. The rewards are worth the effort.

(Reprinted from the November 1984 issue of LAW LIBRARY LIGHTS with the author's permission.)

From The President

These thoughts consists of a jambalaya that I would like to share with the chapter's members.

First public thanks must be stated in writing to all who partook in any way in the New Orleans meeting. The joint efforts of the Southeastern and the New Orleans Chapters of AALL could be outdone in only one way, that is by having the annual meeting of AALL in New Orleans at the earliest possible opportunity. Dick Danner, Susan English and Peggy Martin (with assistance from Carol Billings) put together a program that will be hard to follow. The mixture of substance and procedure held the attention of those present from start to finish. I felt like I had really come home when I heard Max Nathan's remarks about the "Code Napoleon" and "jurisprudence constante." Each speaker thereafter, from Claire Germain to Jim Derbes, came with something to say and left having created a spark of real interest on topics about which some of us may not have previously thought. Those present and the entire membership of the Chapter owe all a debt of gratitude for maintaining and expanding upon the standards set over the years in programs sponsored by the Southeastern Chapter.

Betty Kern and an endless list of dedicated members of NOALL/SEALL take second place to no one. They showed hospitality as only New Orleanians can and then threw in a little lagniappe to boot. I only repeat my previous question, "WHEN IS AALL GOING TO MEET IN NEW ORLEANS?"

Several committees have been active. The Scholarship Committee named four Lucile Elliot Scholarship recipients and one recipient of Smith & Hulsey. Many thanks to both. Perhaps others could be encouraged to emulate the example of Smith & Hulsey.

The Membership Committee has identified some 139 AALL members living in the southeast who do not currently belong to SEAALL. They will receive recruitment literature

from the Committee encouraging them to join our chapter. At the New York meeting the Committee expects to announce an even more ambitious recruiting effort. What about all you SEAALL members, do all of you hold AALL membership? Do you SEAALL members know persons who should be encouraged to join both SEAALL and AALL?

The Placement Committee is concerned about the placement process. We seem rarely to utilize the services of the SEAALL Placement Committee. All recognize the fact that vacancies don't always occur just before the printing deadline of the next SEAALL or AALL newsletter. The committee, however, is interested in exploiting the existent procedures and especially in developing new more efficient ones. Your input will be most appreciated by the committee.

On recommendation of Southeastern Law Librarian Co-Editors Mary Bourget and Hazel Johnson the Board approved the acceptance of business card advertisement to help defray some of the cost of the Newsletters. Editors Bourget and Johnson would welcome articles for inclusion in the Newsletter.

Lastly the Nomination Committee nominated Carol Billings and Hazel Johnson for the position of Vice-President/President elect. It's a shame that we will have to chose between two such dedicated talented persons. We appreciate greatly their willingness to serve.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find notices concerning the New York meeting. Remember that you must respond to the breakfast inquiry by June 1 if you wish to benefit from the partial subsided provided by the Chapter. In any event we need to know how many plan to attend the breakfast meeting to assure that proper facilities are provided.

Finally both Dick Danner and I hope that you will take the time to fill out the 1985-86 Committee Membership form. It will assist Dick greatly when he makes next year's appointments later this summer.

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Sara M. Straub
U.S. Court of Appeals,
11th Circuit
Atlanta, GA

MINUTES:

March 9, 1985

The meeting of the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries was called to order by Edwin Schroeder, Florida State University College of Law, at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 9, 1985 at the Monteleone Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Edwin Schroeder extended the thanks of the Southeastern Chapter to Betty Kern and the local arrangements committee for the work

From the President

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I look forward toward seeing a large number of you in the Big Apple come July 7th.

Ed Schroeder
President
SEALL

EDITORS CORNER

Echoing our President, the SEALL/NOALL meeting in New Orleans was a great success. In between our educational sessions, which are summarized in this issue, and our two-hour lunch, however, some issues of importance to the future of the SOUTHEASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN were decided. With Executive Board approval, we will begin accepting business-card size ads for the Summer issue which is scheduled for publication in June. Our printing costs are sky-rocketing and with the ads we hope to keep our costs down. But we need your help. We need a volunteer to serve as Advertising Manager. You would need only to solicit the ads, and coordinate their placement in each issue. Advertising rates have already been set and we are ready to go. Please let us hear from you.

The second decision affecting the Newsletter is that after this issue, individuals who have not paid their dues for the current year will be dropped from the mailing list. So be sure to get those dues in if you haven't already. We'd really hate for you to miss a single issue.

Hazel L. Johnson
Mary S. Bourget

they had done for this meeting.

A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes of the meeting held on July 2, 1984, in San Diego, California as printed in the Chapter's newsletter, the *Southeastern Law Librarian*, Vol. 10, No. 1. Secretary/Treasurer Margarette Dye, Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker, gave the financial report. The balance at the time of the last report (June 27, 1984) was \$5,627.16. The amount of additional dues is \$3,140.00 and interest on the association's account is \$142.10. The debits covering the check order and printing and postage for the newsletter totalled \$1,667.85. This left a balance, as of January 31, 1985, of \$7,241.41. It was noted that the association had the expenses for the scholarships and the next newsletter still outstanding.

Martha Rush, College of William and Mary, gave the report for the Membership Committee. The committee would like to develop a brochure for SEALL and also plans to send letters to all AALL members in the Southeastern region who are not members of SEALL.

Mary Bourget, Akerman, Senterfitt & Edison, announced that the newsletter will begin accepting advertising effective with Vol. 11, No. 1. She also announced that if you do not pay your dues you do not get the newsletter.

Edwin Schroeder gave the report for the Nominations Committee. The nominees for the Vice-President/President-Elect, 1985-1986, are Carol Billings, Law Library of Louisiana, and Hazel Johnson, Smith & Hulsey.

Cherry L. Thomas, University of Alabama Law Library, gave the report for the placement committee. Using the SEALL newsletter for placements is not effective as it is issued on a quarterly basis. Creating a network of placement officers is being investigated.

Larry Wenger, University of Virginia Law Library, announced that the 1986 meeting will be held in Charlottesville, Virginia, April 18th through April 20th. He solicited comments on holding sessions through Saturday afternoon instead

of adjourning at noon.

Kathy Stokes, University of Miami Law Library, announced the recipients of the Lucille Elliott Scholarships: Mary Cooper, University of Virginia Law Library; Mark Evans, Florida State University; Kathy Heberer, Akerman, Senterfitt & Eidson; Jane Needham, Julius C. Markham Library and the University of North Carolina, and Randy Owen, Law Library of Louisiana. She also extended thanks to the law firm of Smith & Hulsey for their donation of \$300.00 for the fifth scholarship. Edwin Schroeder added that if the recipients were not able to use their scholarships for this meeting they would be able to hold it for later use. The Smith & Hulsey donation was used this year to encourage similar donations in the future.

Edwin Schroeder made the following announcements: (1) The cost of the SEALL breakfast at the AALL meeting in July in New York will be \$11.00 if paid by June 1st. After that date the full cost of \$16.00 will be charged; (2) Helen Burwell, Hutcheson & Grundy, Houston, Texas, is chairing a meeting on LEXIS pricing and would like your comments; (3) Rick Ducey, New England School of Law Library, Boston, Massachusetts, is soliciting comments on recommended books for prison libraries; (4) Mary Anthony, Supreme Court Library at Syracuse, Syracuse, New York, wants contributions on state and local documents developments for the newsletter JURISDOCS; (5) the SEALL Executive Board is soliciting bids for the Chapter's 1987 meeting. A formal proposal is needed by the June meeting in New York.

Ed Edmonds, College of William and Mary, is working on an article updating the history of the Southeastern Chapter and wants information and/or archival material.

Ed Schroeder then introduced Jacquelyn Jurkins, the President of AALL, who talked about the relationship between the chapters and AALL and what the national association is currently doing.

A motion to adjourn was made and carried. The meeting was adjourned.

From The President

It is difficult to realize that this is my last note to members of the Chapter as its president; it seems like only yesterday I was asking Mary Bourget and Hazel Johnson if I could have an extra day or two to get those words of wisdom to them for the Newsletter. *La plus ca change; la plus c'est la meme chose.*

Many of us are busy winding down our fiscal year, trying to bring in the balance as close to "zero" as is humanly possible. Each committee chair is drafting a report for submission at the meeting in New York. They are also drafting brief procedural statements for inclusion in the Chapter's procedures manual being compiled by Pam Graham of the Georgia State Library. Hopefully this will give our successors some guidance as to "critical dates", procedures and other important chapter or committee information.

Today you should have received your ballot for the office of Vice President/President-Elect. We had to choose between two outstanding colleagues, Carol Billings and Hazel Johnson. We thank both of you for allowing your names to be submitted for nomination. You also received your 1985-86 dues invoice; I hope you will return that at the earliest possible opportunity. I hope you will make copies of the invoice to encourage colleagues who are not members to join.

I would remind you that Dick Danner needs your expression of interest in serving on an SEAALL committee and that Margarette Dye needs to know whether you will be joining us for the Chapter breakfast meeting in New York on Monday, July 8. Both responses have a June 1 due date.

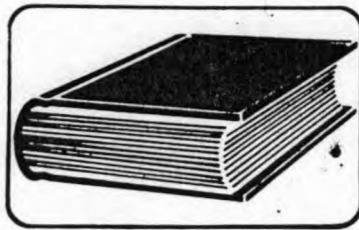
Lastly, I want to thank all of you for the help you gave to the Chapter and to me during the last year. The Chapter is successful because of all its members, not just one or two. Everyone, my fellow board members, our committee members and you the members of the

EDITORS CORNER

Our first year as co-editors is drawing to a close and it has certainly been a learning experience. We have learned to never underestimate the ability for our jobs, families, and the newsletter to demand equal time at the same time! But we have survived and enjoyed the year. Mary Cooper of the University of Virginia has graciously volunteered to serve as Advertising Coordinator for the newsletter. We have deferred commencement of the advertising program until the Fall issue (volume 11, number 1) in hopes that our advertisers will sign up for entire year (four issues) at one time.

Dick Danner's letter has given us a lot to think about in terms of the geographic size of our group and the various vehicles used to inform and educate our members. The newsletter doesn't come out often enough to contain much "news". So what we need from you is *any* information you want to share with the membership. The editors don't write the newsletters — you — the members are the writers. The editors merely edit what you submit. Don't be shy!

Mary S. Bourget
Hazel L. Johnson



Southeastern Chapter, each of you plays a vital role in the Chapter. We are a widespread and diverse Chapter but we are a Chapter that is second to none. Its members make the Chapter what it is. Thank you, all of you, for all that you have done.

Ed Schroeder
President
SEAALL

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From The President

I have been privileged for the past couple of years to serve on our national association's Special Committee on the Future of AALL. The Committee is chaired by one of our chapter members, Sally Wiant of Washington and Lee Law Library; its report is reaching the final drafting stage.

Early in its existence, the Committee mounted a major effort to obtain member input as to the future direction of the Association. A survey was published and distributed, and the Committee members fostered discussions of the issues at chapter meetings and in other forums. My own experience during the information-gathering phase of the project made clear to me the extent to which we all look to our professional associations on all levels to provide meaningful continuing education. Many people feel that an organization as large and wide-spread as AALL is ineffective in reaching those in our profession who cannot attend national programs and institutes. Perhaps the same thing can be said about regional associations as large as SEAALL. The need for professional contact and the opportunity for educational experiences are certainly reasons for the successes of thriving local chapters such as those in Atlanta, New Orleans, and the South Florida area, as well as those of less formal gatherings throughout the region.

I believe that the Southeastern Chapter must do more to meet the educational needs of librarians on the local level. We are concerned with increasing membership in our Chapter, but to do so we must provide real benefits for joining SEAALL. We must offer more than an annual educational program requiring significant commitments of time and expense. Meeting the need for professional education on the local level is crucial to the continued growth and vitality of the Chapter. How best to meet this need is the challenge we face.

To explore the issue, I am requesting your help in two ways. The first is by asking you to send me your

ideas on what the Chapter can do to better serve the educational needs of members who cannot regularly attend national or regional meetings. Should we sponsor locally-developed programs? Should we develop traveling workshops? What other responses seem appropriate?

Secondly, I would like to ask for volunteers to serve on a committee to develop a plan to meet our membership's educational needs over the next decade. The Committee's charge would be to study the issue, find out what other chapters are doing, perhaps formally survey our membership, and report on its findings.

Please write to me with your ideas for improving our educational programs, and let me know if you are interested in serving on this committee. I look forward to hearing from you.

Dick Danner
President
SEAALL

EDITOR'S CORNER

Welcome to volume 11 — four more issues of excitement and fun that you don't want to miss. And you will miss them if your haven't renewed your membership. The deadline for renewals was August 31st. If you forgot to send yours in, this will be the final issue of the *Southeastern Law Librarian* you will receive. So hurry and return your dues statement to our Secretary/Treasurer Margarette Dye before she begins editing the mailing list.

We call your attention to the first advertising to be accepted for the newsletter. Our heartfelt thanks to those vendors who have placed ads. Please patronize our advertisers and encourage your favorite publishers to support Southeastern. One quarter and one eighth page ads are acceptable and we encourage placing the ads for an entire volume (four issues). Mary Cooper of the University of Virginia is the Advertising Manager and should receive any requests for further information.

In this issue, you'll find articles

Continued on Page 3

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& Walker
Atlanta, GA

PLACEMENT

Cherry L. Thomas
University of Alabama

PROGRAM

Carol Billings
Law Library of Louisiana

SCHOLARSHIP

Constance Matzen
Smith, Anderson, Blount,
Dorsett, Mitchell & Jernigan
Raleigh, NC

From The President

By the time this note appears we will be about halfway through the fiscal year for those of us who have to measure time by July to June budgets, halfway through the academic year for law school librarians, halfway between AALL national meetings, and halfway through the Southeastern Chapter's business year. Recently I filed the chapter's mid-year report with AALL Headquarters.

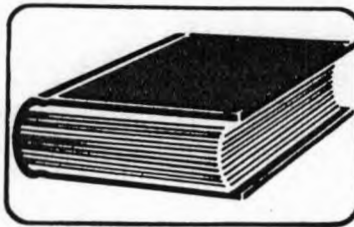
While I will not bore you by repeating the text of that report, writing it does remind me that when the year is complete, we should be able to look back at it as a successful one for the chapter. As usual, foremost among our accomplishments will be the spring meeting of the chapter, this year to be held in Charlottesville, Virginia on April 17-20. The timing is a bit later than usual, but was chosen for convenience and to take advantage of spring in Virginia. All of us who attended the AALL institute Larry Wenger and the Virginia Law Library staff sponsored in 1981 have fond memories of the local arrangements activities. The pre-planning this year indicates that the SEALL meeting should be very bit as good. We also can look forward to an excellent professional program planned by Carol Billings and the program committee. Bob Berring will be in attendance, and I hope that as many chapter members as possible will be there as well.

By the time of the spring meeting, I hope to be able to announce further plans for the special committee on educational needs that I wrote about in my last column. (Volunteers and ideas are still welcomed.) We should also receive reports at that time about proposed amendments to our constitution and bylaws, and on the membership committee's progress in developing a brochure and new membership directory. The scholarship committee already has revamped its application form, and is now soliciting applicants for this year's awards.

I am hopeful that the rest of this

year will see further progress on projects to improve our chapter and its service to us as law librarians. Ultimately we will only be successful to the degree that everyone participates. You can do that by coming to Charlottesville and by becoming active in the chapter's committee work.

Dick Danner
President
SEAALL



EDITOR'S CORNER

It doesn't seem possible that we are halfway through another volume year. Our tenure as editors will be up in two more issues and Vice President/President-Elect Carol Billings will be seeking volunteer(s) for this challenging, rewarding (and fun!) committee. If you've never been involved with a newsletter but think you might like to, give either of us a call and we will be happy to discuss the details with you.

This issue contains a preview of the 1986 Chapter meeting program. The April meeting in Charlottesville promises to be educational and entertaining. Make plans now to attend. The Lucile Elliott Scholarship application also appears in this issue. Fill it out and return it promptly so that the Scholarship Committee will have ample time to review your application. Many other items of interest appear in this issue and our thanks go to those who have contributed.

We both wish you happy holidays and a healthy and prosperous 1986.

Mary D. Smith
Hazel L. Johnson

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Orlando, FL

Hazel L. Johnson
Smith & Hulsey
Jacksonville, FL

NOMINATIONS

Kay M. Todd
Paul, Hastings, Janofsky
& Walker
Atlanta, GA

PLACEMENT

Cherry L. Thomas
University of Alabama

PROGRAM

Carol Billings
Law Library of Louisiana

SCHOLARSHIP

Constance Matzen
Smith, Anderson, Blount,
Dorsett, Mitchell & Jernigan
Raleigh, NC

From The President

I hope that we will have a substantial turnout of the membership at the Spring Chapter meeting in Charlottesville at the University of Virginia, April 17-20. By now you all have received advance information on the program and local arrangements for the meeting, and are anticipating enjoying the results of the hard work of Carol Billings and Larry Wenger. The spring meeting is the Chapter's major organizational and educational activity of the year, and provides our best opportunity to share common concerns and to get to know other members of this large regional chapter. Let's have a big turnout.

We will also have items of business to transact at the Charlottesville meeting. There will be reports from the Chapter's standing committees on their activities for the year, including news on scholarships, placement, nominations, membership, and proposed changes to the constitution and bylaws. The proposed amendments to the constitution and bylaws have been mailed to all members. If adopted, they will make significant changes in the Chapter's executive committee and election processes. There will be time for discussion and debate on the proposals in Charlottesville, and a vote will be taken at that meeting. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposals who cannot attend the meeting should forward their comments to Ed Edmonds, Chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, so that their views may be considered at that meeting.

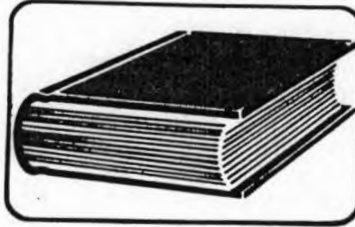
The Chapter will next meet in Washington this summer during the annual meeting of AALL. As is traditional, we will have a breakfast meeting. Details are provided elsewhere in this issue of the *Southeastern Law Librarian*. I hope that many of you will be able to attend. If you wish to share breakfast, please return the form in this issue to Margarette Dye so that we have an accurate estimate of how many will attend.

Looking further ahead, our next spring meeting will be held in

Charleston, South Carolina, with local arrangements coordinated by Bruce Johnson of the University of South Carolina Law Library. At this time, we have not designated a location for the 1988 spring meeting. Suggestions and volunteers are welcomed.

In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you all in Charlottesville.

Dick Danner
President
SEAALL



EDITOR'S CORNER

In this issue, you will find a variety of articles, including Mike Lynch's response to the proliferation of publicity on laser disk technology and Mary's thoughts on moving gleaned from experience and from the AALL winter Institute. Thanks go to both of them for sharing with us. Since my firm moved in February, I can personally vouch for the usefulness of Mary's comments. Too bad I didn't have them a year ago.

We continue to add to our collection of court directories. If your state has not been represented with a directory, we would encourage you to send one to us. You don't need to wait for us to call you. Also, there are still a few states for which a Practice Materials Bibliography is lacking. If we are to update and publish these items for more extensive distribution, we need to complete the series.

We hope each of you is having a wonderful spring and are anxiously awaiting the annual meeting of the Southeastern Chapter in Charlottesville in April. The program looks to supply "something for everyone". Hope to see you there. For the next issue, we want to provide a brief summary of each of the programs. Please be responsive if we request that you write a little something

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SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER A.A.L.L. OFFICER & COMMITTEE CHAIRS 1985-86

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Duke University

VICE PRESIDENT/ PRESIDENT-ELECT

Carol Billings
Law Library of Louisiana

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Margarette M. Dye
Paul, Hastings, Janofsky
& Walker
Atlanta, GA

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Edmund P. Edmonds
College of William & Mary

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

Larry Wenger
University of Virginia

MEMBERSHIP

Michael Chiorazzi
Duke University

NEWSLETTER

Mary D. Smith
Akerman, Senterfitt & Eidson
Orlando, FL

Hazel L. Johnson
Smith & Hulsey
Jacksonville, FL

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From The President

The Chapter's spring meeting in Charlottesville was a great success. The local arrangements were splendid, the accommodations superb, and the programs all excellent. We continue to be fortunate in the Southeast to have a fine group of active members, willing to put in the time and do the work necessary to stage annual meetings of consistently high quality. We are indebted this year to Carol Billings, Larry Wenger and everyone else who worked on the program and local arrangements.

The Charlottesville meeting provided an opportunity to note the importance of active involvement at all levels of professional association. There are many professional membership options available to us as law librarians. In addition to our existing regional and national law library associations, there are the three active local chapters in the region as well as less formal groupings on the state and local levels. There are also the state and local associations of special librarians, the national Special Libraries Association, state library associations, the American Library Association (and its multitudinous sections and divisions), and the Association of Legal Administrators to name only some of the options available. Clearly there is much to be gained from active involvement both in associations of law librarians and in those of diverse membership.

With choices available, why does membership in a large regional chapter such as SEAALL remain important? I have already alluded to one reason, the Chapter's tradition of fine educational programs and meetings. Additionally, I think that the regional chapters occupy an important place in the hierarchy of professional organizations. Despite the size of the Southeastern region, there remain many areas of commonality among the libraries within the region, and among the Southeastern states. Service to a large chapter also provides an opportunity for professional activity that is good preparation for work within the national association. Despite its

geographic extent, the Chapter is small enough in membership that it is easy to volunteer and be active, and to meet people with shared professional interests.

So, for those reasons, and because of the people that you will be associated with, I urge you all to remain active and to become more involved in the affairs of the Chapter. Carol Billings needs your help during the coming year for committee work; Hazel Johnson needs your ideas and assistance putting together next year's program in Charleston.

As I end my term as president and prepare to pass on the gavel to Carol in Washington in July, I want to thank everyone who helped during the past year and with the 1985 spring program. I look forward to another year on the Chapter's executive committee and to continuing to serve the Chapter in the future.

See you in Washington.

Dick Danner
President
SEAALL

EDITOR'S CORNER

We really had no idea what was in store for us when we volunteered to become newsletter co-editors while attending the Chapter meeting in Nashville in the spring of 1984. Well, now we know — and the experience has had an impact on us, both professionally and personally. We have become acquainted with many of our Chapter members who we never really knew before. We have also become familiar with all of AALL's other chapters and their newsletters. The professional contacts alone have been well worth the experience. Personally, neither of us will pick up any newsletter ever again without having a profound appreciation for what the editor and staff went through to produce it.

Serving all types of law librarians with informative and substantive material has been our primary goal. Our hope is that this issue and the previous seven which we edited have provided you, the Chapter member

Continued on Page 3

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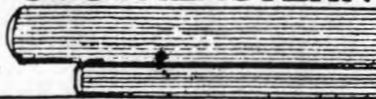
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Raleigh, NC



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

MICROCOMPUTER NEWS

From The President

Carol Billings
Law Library of Louisiana

Calling one's self a member of a profession carries an obligation not only to strive constantly to learn more about one's field, but also to help foster the general welfare of the profession and those who are a part of it. Participation in AALL and its chapters is surely the best means that most have for fulfilling the double obligation. At various stages in professional lives the proportions of receiving from and giving to colleagues are likely to shift considerably, and that is as it should be. Novice law librarians are more likely than members of some other professions to rely upon mentors and more experienced co-workers or colleagues for tutelage since formal programs in law librarianship are the exception rather than the rule. Institutes, programs, and publications sponsored by AALL and its chapters are undoubtedly among the most significant examples of that process.

After each of us has spent a few years gaining experience in the profession, it is natural to share the things that we have learned with our colleagues. The national organization can appear large and intimidating for a newcomer, thus becoming active in a regional or local chapter is the perfect way of break into professional association life. Serving on a committee introduces you to interesting people and permits you to use your talents to accomplish something worthwhile.

(continued on page 3)

by
J. Wesley Cochran
University of Mississippi

One might question why the Southeastern Law Librarian needs a column on microcomputer hardware and software news. After all, aren't there plenty of microcomputer columns in other newsletters? I thought so, until I started looking for something that would help me with information on practical applications of hardware and software in my library.

When I volunteered to write it, I envisioned this column as a source for news of hardware and software applications in law libraries in the Southeast, but that ~~will~~ depend greatly on you. If your library is trying new things with microcomputers, I want to hear about it. Please send me a note; I promise a quick response.

One of the first things, but one of the hardest, to do when beginning a professional activity is selecting appropriate literature. If your library, like mine, is starting to experiment with microcomputers in library operations, you might be looking for some appropriate sources of news and developments. The literature which we selected for the University of Mississippi Law Library falls into three categories: 1) general microcomputer news and developments; 2) microcomputer applications in libraries and, 3) new technology applications (including micros) in libraries. Because of our hardware configuration, the literature which we selected is biased towards MS-DOS-based personal computers, but other computers are covered in several of the titles.

(continued on page 6)

My previous experience as a chapter officer has been with the New Orleans Chapter--one of AALL's newest and smallest. As one of NOALL's charter members, I remember fondly how we groped to define our purpose, establish our committees, and figure out what they should be doing. The Southeastern Chapter served as the model, but it seemed so venerable and stable compared to our unsophisticated efforts. Nevertheless, enthusiasm ran high, and we still have mixed feelings of surprise, pride, and relief everytime we successfully accomplish a program or project.

Now that I am one of the group of people responsible for making things

happen in SEAALL, I realize that being perceived as venerable and stable can be even more difficult than being young and inexperienced. During 1987, we will commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the North Carolina Law Librarians, the organization that evolved into SEAALL. As we look back over the roster of our distinguished predecessors, it would be tempting to think complacently that we can just drift along on the strong reputation that they established for SEAALL.

But!! It is part of our professional obligation to flourish and make our own mark. Because Southeastern is the oldest chapter and because so many of our members are movers and shakers in our profession, it is our obligation to lead and to innovate. Dick Danner took an important step in that direction this past year when he established the new Education Committee. I have just appointed members to two additional new standing committees, Publications and Publicity and Public Relations. During this year the officers and members of the three new committees will be defining their duties, exploring needs, and setting goals.

To give you an idea of kinds of things they will be considering here are a few examples of possible projects and duties:

(1) Education Committee: Considering institutes, symposia, staff exchanges, grants for special projects, special interest sections; sharing of educational tapes and materials outreach programs, and consulting services.

(2) Publications Committee: Advising the newsletter editor on policy and management matters; facilitating the publication of works emanating from or of special interest to chapter members, such as bibliographies, procedures manuals, statistical studies, surveys, regional legal history papers, etc.

(3) Publicity and Public Relation Committee: Serving as a liaison to the AALL Public Relations Committee; preparing and/or submitting news items about SEAALL and its members to the AALL Newsletter, Council of Chapter Presidents Newsletter, bar journals and other legal and library media within the region, and local newspapers; encouraging members in the various states to use the AALL Public Relations Booth at bar, judicial and library conferences in their area; generally heightening awareness of the profession and its work in the legal and library communities.

All three of these committees need your ideas about what their roles should be. If you have a project in mind that appropriately falls within their purview, contact the chair. Perhaps the committee can assist you in bringing it to fruition.

The Southeastern Chapter has both a strong reputation and an exceptional store of talent. We have the ~~wherewithal~~ to make things happen. I'm grateful that you have given me an opportunity to be a part of that effort, and I encourage you to jump in and speak out! You'll never meet a more terrific bunch of people. Best wishes for a fruitful year! ..

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From The President

As the pre-holiday panic sets in, and we wonder how we are ever going to get the annual report or next year's budget request drafted on time, to say nothing of how we are going to accomplish the gift shopping when there is no time for a real lunch hour, thoughts of Charleston in the Springtime have been relegated to the bottoms of our infamous heaps. Only members of the SEAALL Program and Local Arrangements Committees lie awake at night with visions of concurrent panels and plantation conviviality dancing in their heads!

But, do you realize that a mere three months after New Year's Eve we will convene for our SEAALL annual meeting? It is, therefore, time to arrange NOW to be there. The previews of the program by Hazel Johnson in this issue and the hard-work of the other Johnson (Bruce) on local arrangements for Charleston should provide sufficient temptation to send every member of the Chapter running to the nearest travel agent. I realize that, in these parlous financial times, many SEAALL members have serious trepidations about approaching their bosses to request travel funds. Regardless of the type of library, the people in control of the purse strings seem unusually parsimonious these days. Many SEAALL members who want to attend the national AALL meeting feel that they have no choice but to pass up the chapter convention. I urge you not to make that assumption without trying every possible approach. Going to the SEAALL meeting is well worth the extra effort!

First, consider applying for a Lucile Elliott Scholarship. This year, Claire Engel's Scholarship Committee has consulted with the Executive Board and agreed upon a new set of guidelines for the

awards. Essentially, more people will be eligible. Even if you have won an AALL grant more than three years ago or if you are a veteran rather than a new SEAALL member, you now qualify for an Elliott. Service to the chapter and the profession will be taken into consideration in the selection process. AND the best news of all - the number of scholarships will increase, most likely to six.

Secondly, never assume that your employer will not consider HELPING to send you to SEAALL without presenting a convincing proposal. Offer to pay a portion of your expenses as a sign of commitment, and you may be surprised. Give your boss the announcement about the program in this issue of the Newsletter, and indicate what you specifically hope to get from the programs. This year's program is so rich and varied - offering concurrent sessions - that I cannot conceive of a law librarian who would not profit significantly. Every past program chair will report that some members claim nothing of interest to them was available on the program. But, I assume you that those members are short-sighted. The session that you attend this year on tax research or copyright or the tidbit that you glean from a discussion on the library as a profit center or marketing online research service may turn out to be of tremendous benefit to your patrons and your employer next month or next year.

Another less specific, but probably even more important reason for making every effort to participate in the chapter convention is the valuable "cross pollination" of ideas. Our national meetings are large now and there seems to be a tendency to "stick with our own kind" - academic, firm, or government librarians. When I think back, I realize that some of the most

MICROCOMPUTER IDEAS:
COMPUTER LABS AND SOFTWARE
UNION LIST

J. Wesley Cochran
University of Mississippi

useful things I have learned have been in both formal and informal gatherings intended primarily for firm or academic librarians. SEALL's relatively small size throws us all together, and we are enriched tremendously in the process.

If this all sounds like a sales pitch, that's because it is. SEALL is a quality product, and I think it's well worth selling to your firm or institution and well worth contributing to yourself. Consider it an investment in your professional development. As I step down from my soapbox, I wish you a happy and refreshing holiday season. I will expect to see you in Charleston next April.

Best Wishes,

Carol Billings
Law Library of Louisiana

Shortly after the last issue of the Southeastern Law Librarian went to press, Meckler Publishing Company announced that one of its periodicals, Public Computing, would merge with Small Computers in Libraries, another of its publications. Presumably, Small Computers will now include regular features concerning public access to microcomputers.

I was somewhat disappointed in this development because librarians need information concerning public access to library microcomputers. A small number of academic and public law libraries now have some form of public access to computers, and I believe that the number will increase dramatically in the next several years.

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“My dear, the noise, the people!”



From
The President

A BELATED VALENTINE

As I write this, the stores are filled with hearts and Cupids, prompting me to deliver a Valentine that I acquired a few months ago. The editorial page (page 28) of the November 20, 1986 Wall Street Journal contained an article by Donald G. Smith. Smith, a writer from Sunland, California, entitled his article "Rating Occupations on a Civility Scale." His one-to-ten scale, prominently displayed, sentences Department of Motor Vehicles employees to the cellar with an embarrassing 0.2 score. Because "a judge's working conditions should place this occupation way above a par rating, but this is rarely the case," the writer assigns judges a sorry 2.3 rating. Teachers, veterinarians, and barbers fare more favorably with 8 to 9 points. BUT -- are you ready? -- the champs, sitting politely on top with a 9.5 rating, are librarians! Having now spent twenty years working side by side with them, I concur wholeheartedly with Mr. Smith that "as a class, librarians are very nice people," who make

their libraries "such pleasant places."

Aside from the gloating value (I could not wait to show our library's neighbors in the Motor Vehicles Department), Mr. Smith's little essay serves to remind us what precious qualities courtesy and consideration have become in our society. The cover of last week's TIME (February 2, 1987) pictured a desperate American consumer pleading, "Why is service so bad?" The horror stories of uncaring salespersons, bumbling repairmen, overbooked airplanes, and computer foul-ups were all too familiar. In many "service businesses," the needs of the consumer have taken a back seat to the mechanics of a job. "Cashiers must typically type a multidigit inventory code into a computer just to sell a \$.50 birthday card."

I do not think librarians have reached that point yet. Unlike "some computer-buff managers [who] tend to impose technology almost compulsively, whether it is appreciated or not," librarians have kept the patron's interest their first priority. But because so many of us work within the restrictions of too little money, too few staff members, and too little time, the siren song of technology tempts us to hurry away from the patron at the reference desk and get back to our computer terminal or whatever task we are attempting to complete. We all realize that the new information technology is a powerful set of tools which we must master in order to serve our patrons faster and more completely. But we must not forget that it is the personal qualities of the librarian -- courtesy,

(continued on next page)

conscientiousness, and a genuine desire to satisfy the patron -- that have given us our good reputation.

In keeping with the hopes of our friend Donald Smith, it is our duty to try to raise the "societal median" on the civility scale.

Carol

Carol Billings
Law Library of Louisiana

ONLINE UPDATE

Sallie Irvin
Wake Forest University

One of the newest additions to WESTLAW is designed to assist law offices in the management of large amounts of in-house information. A law firm or other WESTLAW subscriber may load any amount of textual information into a Private File at WESTLAW which is then accessible to every member of the firm using regular WESTLAW search techniques. Access between the Private Files and the other WESTLAW databases is achieved in the same manner as changing databases, i.e., use the command "s db xxx."

The Private File function provides easy retrieval of a firm's documents and may be more cost-effective than an individual law office document retrieval program. The initial cost of the database may be less and in addition, most lawyers are familiar with WESTLAW search techniques, which cuts additional training required to access the files. There is also the question of security. Paper files are infinitely less secure than online files which are only accessible through the firm's own computer equipment and password.

The initial database creation fee is \$1500. Data entry fees range from \$1.00 for scannable hard copy to \$1.83 for date which must be re-entered at WESTLAW. The search fee is \$60.00 per hour and a \$15.00 per month per million characters storage fee is charged starting with the second year. (The average 8 1/2 X 11 page is 1000-1200 characters.)

Some other resources are now available on WESTLAW. Law firms and other subscribers, except law schools and Administrative Offices, may now access Index to Legal Periodicals (8/81 to present) and Legal Resources Index (1/80 to present). Contact WESTLAW for file pricing.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

At the Annual Meeting in Charleston, the Nominating Committee will place in nomination for the office of Vice President-President Elect the following names: EDMUND P. EDMONDS and MARY D. SMITH. Under article III, Section 1.b. of the Chapter By-Laws, any member may make additional nominations provided that the nominations are made in writing to the President. The Vice President-President Elect will be elected by mail ballot in May.

J. Wesley Cochran, Chair
Nominating Committee

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