



S FALL NEWSLETTER

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South Florida Association of Law Libraries

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- Chapter announcements
- Handy member directory
- SFALL by-laws
- Useful research links
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- Listserv information
- Job listings

President's Message

Janet Reinke, University of Miami Law Library

Hi Everyone,

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at our program on Florida legislative history in April at Greenberg Traurig. I hope each of you who attended learned something of value to take back to your library.

As you could probably tell from my last President's Message, I am occasionally frustrated by the way our employers and the public view our profession. I would, however, like to reassure you that I am by no means disillusioned with the profession. In fact, I am fascinated by the types of experiences that we have as law librarians and the ways in which our lives are affected by our chosen profession.

For starters, as law librarians we encounter wonderful, interesting people every day. For the most part, the patrons of law libraries are well-educated and articulate, with diverse backgrounds and challenging requests. I've met a number of my personal friends while working in law libraries. When you work in a law library that has a large patron base, you can often feel like a celebrity. Many of the patrons know you, some even know you by name, but you may not necessarily know them. The job offers great people-watching opportunities and the chance to encounter fascinating people with compelling stories to tell, legal and otherwise.

In addition, law librarians never lack intellectual stimulation. We field challenging questions all the time, and the learning process is never-ending. On those occasions when we already know the answer to a patron's question, we have the opportunity to teach,

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Annual Luncheon

Don't miss our Annual Luncheon and special SFALL 25th anniversary celebration!

Date: Friday, June 7, 2002
Time: Noon until 2:30 pm
Location: University of Miami Faculty Club
1550 Brescia Ave.
Coral Gables, FL
Price: \$25.00 in advance \$30.00 at the door
Guest speaker: Maryruth Storer
AALL Executive Board Member
R.S.V.P. by June 4: Janet Reinke
305-284-4264
jreinke@law.miami.edu



See page 4 for details and directions.



SFALL Calendar

June 7, 2002	SFALL annual luncheon Noon - 2:30 p.m. University of Miami Faculty Club, Coral Gables
June 13-19, 2002	ALA annual conference Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, Exhibition June 15-18
July 20-24, 2002	AALL annual conference Orange County Convention Center, Orlando
April 9-12, 2003	SEAALL annual meeting Hyatt Regency Hotel, Lexington, KY
July 12-16, 2003	AALL annual conference Washington State Convention and Trade Center, Seattle, WA

SFALL Officers 2001-2002

President	Janet Reinke	jreinke@law.miami.edu
VP/President-Elect	Lisa Smith-Butler	smith-butlerl@nsu.law.nova.edu
Secretary	Pat Pardo	ppardo@whitecase.com
Treasurer	Diane Altimari	altimarid@nsu.law.nova.edu
Immediate Past President	Terry Seale	sealet@gtlaw.com

SFALL Committee Chairs

Archives	Linda Datko	linda_datko@ca11.uscourts.gov
Membership	Doug Jones	douglas.jones@lexisnexis.com
Newsletter	Liz Chifari	echifari@hkllaw.com
Nominations	Clare Membiela	cmembiel@law.miami.edu
Placement	Robin Schard	rschard@law.miami.edu
Programs	Monica Wilson	mwilson@steelhector.com
Public relations	Clare Membiela	cmembiel@law.miami.edu
Web page	Robin Schard	rschard@law.miami.edu

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Editor	Liz Chifari
Graphic design	Fred Karrenberg
Computer consultant	Andy Chifari (age 15)
Editorial assistant	Stephanie Dooley

President's Message

(continued from page 1)

always a satisfying experience. I love the challenge of taking a complex legal research concept and explaining it in a simple and interesting way that the patron can understand. It's rewarding to see a person who came in befuddled with a research request confidently walking away with a clear understanding of the issue.

A law library is definitely a problem-solving environment. If you like the administrative and managerial aspects of the job, you are aware of the many types of problems that need to be resolved in a positive way on a daily basis. Sometimes there are problems with difficult patrons. Other times we grapple with computer or technology issues. Sometimes we struggle with issues surrounding collection development or cataloging. Other problems can involve personnel, budgeting, scheduling, vendor-relations, and publicity – a veritable smorgasbord of management issues.

I also love libraries because of the chance to stumble on something unexpected and fascinating. Admittedly, legal materials may not be as interesting on the whole as the novels, travel books, best-sellers, and general nonfiction found in public libraries. If you browse the shelves in a law library, however, you are sure to come across something odd and compelling. Additionally, the sheer vastness of the information available to law librarians through such services as Lexis and Westlaw is thrilling.

Recent studies show that 49% of Americans are dissatisfied with their jobs. I like to think that librarians – and particularly law librarians – are among the satisfied 51% because of the intellectual satisfaction that our jobs afford us.

I hope to see you all at our June 7 luncheon, when we will be honoring 25 years of SFALL. Come celebrate the profession!

Best,
Janet

Annual Luncheon and Anniversary Celebration

Please send your check for our annual luncheon (\$25 payable to SFALL) to Diane Altimari, Nova Southeastern University Law Library, 3305 College Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314.

The menu for the lunch will be a festive buffet prepared by the outstanding UM Faculty Club chef.

Salad	Chicken
Soup	Vegetables
Pasta	Potatoes
Meat	Rice
Fish	Beverages

Dessert selection

Key lime pie
Oreo cheesecake
German chocolate cake
Angel food cake

The guest speaker will be **Maryruth Storer**, who is currently serving a three-year term on the Executive Board of AALL. Maryruth is the AALL board liaison to the Council of Chapter Presidents, the Grants Committee, and the Advisory Committee on the Indexing of Periodicals.

Maryruth is currently the Director of the Orange County (California) Law Library. She received her B.A. in history from Portland State University and her J.D. from the University of Oregon. She then earned a Master of Law Librarianship degree from the University of Washington. She was admitted to practice before the Oregon Supreme Court that same year. Before heading the Orange County Law Library, Maryruth worked as Law Librarian at the University of Tennessee Law Library and Law Library Manager at O'Melveny & Myers in Los Angeles.

At our luncheon, Maryruth will discuss current AALL activities and benefits available to members.

Directions to:

University of Miami Faculty Club
1550 Brescia Ave.
Coral Gables, FL

Take U.S. 1 (S. Dixie Hwy.) to SW 57th Ave. (Red Road).

If you're heading south on U.S. 1, turn right onto Red Road. (If heading north, turn left.)

Make a right at the second traffic light onto Brescia Ave.

Drive into the first entrance on the right. The Faculty Club is the larger of the two buildings. Free parking is available in front of the building.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

The President's Message in the spring 2002 issue of the SFALL Newsletter posed questions that should spark lively discussion among the membership. Madame President asked, "What has been your experience being a librarian? How do people treat you?" These questions have been a topic of discussion among more librarians than I can count, comparing our frequently comical, but all too often frustrating, experiences with the public perception of the role of a librarian. I won't rehash the stereotypes; we all are painfully aware of them.

I would, however, like to take a moment to convey my experiences and thoughts as a new law librarian. I have worked in a law library for over 10 years but have been a librarian for only the past year and a half. My experience at the office where I work has been very positive. The attorneys and staff with whom I work have nothing but appreciation for the work the library does. My decision to become a librarian (or as I prefer, Information Goddess) is validated daily in the expressions of thanks I get from my co-workers.

Reactions outside of the office are another story. When I told my family that I had decided to attend library school, almost all of them responded with the comment "You have to go to school for that?" I soon came to the shocking realization that librarians are not universally appreciated for the job they do. This was absolutely unbelievable to me. I have worked with librarians for many years and I appreciated what they did, so why didn't everyone else? After some reflection, I concluded that this is partly because so many people simply do not know what a librarian does. When I explain what I do, I inevitably get a comment like "I had no idea librarians do that!" If we, as librarians, are discontent with the perception that exists about our profession, then we need to do all we can to change our image and show the world just how valuable we are.

Perhaps part of the problem is that we are tethered to a name that denotes the negative stereotypes we are trying to dispel. The label "librarian" conjures images of frumpy, middle-aged ladies with glasses, hair neatly tucked into a bun with a pencil strategically placed for quick retrieval, shh-ing people, stamping books while standing in sensible shoes, all the while on the lookout for illegal food items being sneaked into study rooms or books being smuggled out without being properly discharged. (Hmm . . . I may have just described myself!) It seems that many people think librarians are nothing more than the keepers of dusty, old books. I find that when I introduce myself as a "librarian," I get the predictable eye-rolls and glazed-over looks. When I tell someone I am a "researcher," however, I am bombarded with comments and questions like "Wow, that is so cool!" or "What kind of research do you do?" Having their attention gives me an opening to gently explain the worth of the role of librarian. It is not until I have them hooked that I tell them we are actually called librarians! Thus, my suggestion for bucking the image is to pull the old bait and switch: bait them with "I am a researcher" and then sneakily switch to the term librarian. Heck, they may not even catch on to what you have done.

For me, the lack of appreciation that is sometimes expressed when I tell people I am a librarian is not bothersome. I know I am appreciated by the people I serve and, more importantly, I am happy doing what I love. When people ask me why I became a librarian, I stand tall and tell them that I had no choice; I know too much to be confined to a single subject. That usually shuts them up.

Stephanie Dooley, Holland & Knight LLP

Legislative History Presentation Report

By Stephanie Dooley, Holland & Knight LLP

Legislative history. These words can strike fear in the heart of even the most experienced legal researcher. Although compiling legislative history is not always helpful, when we find that tiny shred of information that explains the legislature's intent in enacting a statute, it is like winning the lottery. Compiling legislative histories does not have to be a traumatic experience if you are organized and have a clear idea of what you are looking for. Connie Beane of Florida Information Associates spoke about legislative history research at the last SFALL meeting. In an effort to make our experiences with legislative history less painful, Connie offered tips and shortcuts that she has learned from years of experience. If you prefer to avoid the process entirely, the staff at Florida Information Associates will compile your Florida legislative history for you. If, however, you choose to undertake what can be an oftentimes daunting task, following are some of the highlights from Connie's presentation that may make it easier.

- Try to obtain, as narrowly as possible, the exact section of a statute that is in question. The more specific you can be, the less complicated the task will be.
- Allow yourself plenty of time to compile the information. This is usually not a straightforward process.
- Remember that only the most recent histories are available online and coverage is not complete.
- Always use a checklist to make sure you have covered your bases. Connie handed out a comprehensive checklist.

In addition, Connie provided a list of "problem laws," listed by number. This list reflects laws that can be difficult to research because of volume, disorganization, and so on. Other indicators of laws that may prove difficult are (1) a very long law, (2) a source bill that contains several bill numbers, (3) a source bill that contains several committee substitutes, and (4) laws passed during special session, which are often poorly documented.

Connie has generously offered to provide the handouts she distributed at the presentation to those who were unable to attend. She may be reached at Florida Information Associates, Inc., P.O. Box 11144, Tallahassee, FL 32302, phone (850) 878-0188. She will also be happy to discuss the company's services, pricing, and turnaround times.



Member News

Diane Altimari from Nova Law Library will be the Coordinator of the program "Connecting with Law Librarians by a Licensing Agreement" at AALL on July 23. **Lisa Smith-Butler**, also from Nova, and **Julie Bozzell** from Greenberg Traurig will be among the speakers at this seminar.

Roy Balleste from Nova Law Library will have an article in the June 2002 issue of *AALL Spectrum*. The article is entitled "Virtual Personalities in Law Libraries: Today's Technology, Tomorrow's Education."

Julie Bozzell, Research Applications Specialist for Greenberg Traurig, presented an online seminar on May 21 entitled "Selecting an Integrated Library System: What You Need to Know." The seminar was sponsored by InMagic, Inc.

Rhonda Gold of Nova Law Library spoke at the program on "Foreign and International Law on the Internet" at the SEAALL conference in Fort Lauderdale in April.

Billie Jo Kaufman, Law Library Director at Nova Southeastern University (NSU), was awarded the Spirit of SEAALL Award at the SEAALL Conference in April. She has also been nominated by NSU as Administrator of the Year.

Billie Jo Kaufman and **Roy Balleste**, both from Nova Law Library, and **Gordon Russell** from St. Thomas Law Library will all be speaking on June 20 at the 2002 Conference for Law School Computing in Chicago, sponsored by the Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction (CALI). Their topic will be "Virtual Technology and Artificial Intelligence: The Next Step for Law Libraries."

Lisa Smith-Butler participated in a play at the SEAALL conference in April in the seminar "Student Workers: Love 'Em, Hate 'Em, Fix 'Em."

Helen Wohl has been promoted to Assistant Library Director for Collection Development and Special Collections at the University of Miami Law Library. One of Helen's first projects will be to draft the library's collection development policy.

Law Lib Interrogatory

What is your favorite aspect of being a law librarian or working in a law library?

I don't have a minimum yearly billable . . . lower stress. – *Anthony Box, Bilzin, Sumberg*

I love when attorneys think I can do the impossible. My favorite line, which comes along with many of the research requests I receive, is “See if you can work your magic.” – *Liz Chifari, Holland & Knight*

Searching through the legislative history of a federal law and finally finding out why Congress added or removed text still provides my greatest satisfaction. Sometimes you just have to grab the question and shake it until the answer falls out. – *Linda Datko, Federal Courts Library*

I really like the degree of insight this field has given me regarding the extent of knowledge that professionals have. My experience has been primarily in law, but I can extrapolate to other fields. My father always assumed that professionals (doctors, lawyers, etc.) knew everything there was to know about their field. I was raised to believe the same thing. It was not until I got into this line of work that I discovered the degree of learning that takes place on the job and, many times, on the spot. This revelation has given me a different view of the world. – *Sid Kaskey, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius*

Working in a peaceful area, away from the frantic and noisy work areas of the lawyers and office staff. – *Rita Kalil, Allen Norton & Blue*

My favorite aspect is all the interesting people I meet. – *Janet Reinke, University of Miami Law Library*

My favorite aspect is having the good fortune of being in a position to “rebuild” a library. It is particularly satisfying to watch the changes and growth brought about by this process. – *Bob Riger, Miami-Dade County Law Library*

I enjoy seeking out information that will be of value and assistance to someone. In the process I also like the independence in utilizing my expertise and in exercising my professional judgment. – *Katherine Rosin, Shook, Hardy & Bacon*

I like that my job is always changing, so I never get bored with what I am doing. I love that people say “thank you” even if I cannot find exactly what they need (which I hope does not happen too often). I think it is great that law librarianship uses all the problem-solving and creative thinking skills I can muster. Finally, I love educating others about the process of research, particularly when I see the light bulb come on in their mind and suddenly everything makes sense to them. – *Robin Schard, University of Miami Law Library*

The variety of experiences that I encounter every day. – *Lisa Smith-Butler, Nova Southeastern University Law Library*

My law library experience is in private law firms and one corporate legal department. There I find the nicest aspect of being in this profession is working with well-educated, highly motivated people in an intellectually challenging atmosphere. – *Jean Snyder, free-lance law librarian*



SEAALL Session Summary:

Hot Issues in Immigration Law/Teaching Techniques for Immigration Research and Everglades Evermore?

by Linda Datko, Federal Courts Library

For those unable to attend the SEAALL conference held in Fort Lauderdale in April, I wanted to share my notes from two outstanding sessions, one in the area of immigration law and one on law relating to the Everglades.

Speaking to a very attentive audience, Ira Kurzban offered an overview of current immigration law, as well as his opinions on recent changes in the law. Since the year 2000 there have been 12 major changes in immigration law and a change in philosophy at the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Over the last seven or eight years the INS has been dealing with detention, inspections, and investigations. In the past several months the INS has started arresting people with Final Orders of Deportation (FOD's). It is now mandatory to report to the INS within 30 days of receiving a FOD. There are some 317,000 people now subject to FOD's. The INS can now just deport or arrest them for the crime of staying too long.

On April 12, 2002 new regulations came into effect. Tourists, who automatically used to get six months to stay in the U.S., now get just 30 days, after which they must request an extension from the INS. Foreign nationals cannot come into the U.S. to be students unless they receive student status first.

Congress is considering reorganizing the INS. The enforcement responsibilities of the INS may be shifted to the Customs Service. Kurzban expects that there will be lots of money for enforcement but not much for adjudication.

Among the recent laws affecting immigration is the USA PATRIOT Act, which is the wish list of a number of federal agencies. Among its provisions, the Act triples the border patrol on our northern border. The INS can now check to see if there is an FOD in the system for a particular individual during a border check. The U.S. will now check the identity of people applying for visas. No one having dealings with terrorists may enter the country. Individuals linked to terrorism can be indefinitely detained. An exit visa system has been reinstated, so we can tell if a person has left the country.

Next, Irene Good spoke on the methods she uses in teaching her advanced immigration research course

at Boston College. She noted that the order of sources taught is important. She starts with current awareness, using Interpreter Releases, which are now available on Westlaw, and websites from law offices. Next she discusses secondary sources, including forms. One homework assignment she gives is the preparation of an organizational chart of the federal agencies involved in immigration. She uses the INS website and THOMAS to teach about relevant statutes, notably the Immigration and Naturalization Act (INA). The regulations section of her course covers the Administrative Procedures Act, and she focuses on where and when published in the case section of the syllabus. Finally, the legislative history portion of the class begins with what she calls the School House Rock – How a Bill Becomes a Law.

Good's website for her Immigration Law Guided Research seminar can be found at www2.bc.edu/~goodi/.

In the "Everglades Evermore?" program, three speakers presented an overview of the history and possible future of the Everglades.

Mary Doyle, professor of law at the University of Miami, first discussed the history of the Everglades. The Everglades is essential to the fresh water supply for South Florida. We are now involved in a \$7.8 billion project to repair 50 years of harm to the water system.

Originally published in 1947, *The Everglades: River of Grass* by Marjory Stoneman Douglas generated public support for President Truman's controversial order to create the two million acre Everglades National Park. In 1948 the Army Corps of Engineers started the Central and Southern Florida Project to handle flood control and water for the Park. The project's 1,800 miles of canals drained fresh water into the sea. It also destroyed half of the pristine Everglades and allowed the development of South Florida.

The project did not succeed in providing fresh water to the Park in the quality and quantity required. The number of wading birds has decreased 90% in the last 60 years, which signifies a change in the food chain. Exotic (non-native) plants have also become a major problem.

In 1983 Gov. Bob Graham initiated the Save the Everglades program. The Florida Surface Water Improvement and Management Act (SWIM) passed in 1987. Then in 1988 the U.S. Attorney General filed suit

against the South Florida Water Management District for allowing the sugar industry to dump phosphorus into the Everglades. In the spring of 1991 Gov. Lawton Chiles went to court and declared, "I want to surrender. I've brought my sword. I want to find out who I can give my sword to." In the settlement, Florida agreed to build 35,000 acres of storm water treatment areas.

In recent years the voters in Florida approved a state constitutional amendment that says the polluters in the Everglades farming area are primarily responsible for the costs of restoring the Everglades but voted down a penny-a-pound sugar tax. In April 2002, however, the Florida Supreme Court ruled that only the legislature can change the current financing plan, which splits the costs between the sugar industry and the property owners.

Next, Richard Grosso from the Environmental & Land Use Law Center at Nova Southeastern University explained some of the aspects of the largest public works project ever. It requires the coordination of many government entities, from Congress down to local municipalities. The Everglades covers 16 counties and some 100 municipalities, each with its own local zoning ordinances and tax base. Grosso claims we are writing the textbook on the procedure as we go along. The project concerns such issues as growth management and freedom to travel, and it must work to satisfy urban, agricultural, and environmental needs.

The biggest part of the plan is buying the land, which will involve competing with developers. Grosso believes that political support for the plan will continue. He also points out that the dynamic of two brothers in charge of the project has both its good and bad points.

Finally, Jennifer Sekula from the Law Library at the College of William and Mary showed us a number of

Job Opening

Florida International University College of Law is seeking a person to fill the following position, which offers a law librarian the unusual and exciting opportunity to participate in designing and building a new collection and set of public services.

The FIU Law Library is seeking a full-time Reference Librarian to provide reference, research, and instructional services to law students and faculty, the University community, members of the Bar, and the public, using a complete range of print and electronic information sources. The Reference Librarian will participate in the reference desk rotation, which may include an evening and occasional weekend days; participate in faculty liaison and instructional services programs; prepare library publications, such as guides and web guides; give tours; and assist the Assistant Director with supervising other public services.

Required: M.L.S., M.L.I.S., or equivalent from ALA-accredited school and/or J.D. degree; knowledge of legal research in multiple formats; one or more years relevant legal reference experience; high-quality communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills; self-starter who is able to meet tight deadlines; able to work in a team environment.

Preferred: dual degrees (M.L.S. and J.D.); experience with NOTIS system; experience in teaching and/or international law.

To apply, submit a cover letter, resume, and three references by June 21 to: Search and Screen Committee, c/o Sarah Hooke Lee, Director of the Law Library, FIU, University Park, GL 481B, Miami, FL 33199. Fax: (305) 348-7017. Email: shlee@fiu.edu.

Law Books Available

Barbara Beall, librarian at Stearns Weaver Miller, reports that her library is disposing of several sets of books. If you are interested in any of the titles listed below, or know if a library that might be interested, please contact Barbara at 305-789-3251 or email her at bbeall@swmwas.com.

Am Jur Pleading and Practice Forms, v. 1-25c (complete)

Atlantic Reporter 2d, v. 1-783

Atlantic Digest 2d (complete)

New Jersey & Atlantic Digest, v. 1-36 (complete)

New York Supplement 2d, v. 451-733

New York Digest (1st series) (complete)

New York Digest 2d (complete)

New York Digest 3d (complete)

New York Digest 4th (complete)

New York Jurisprudence 2d (complete)

McKinney's Consolidated New York Laws (complete)

Employment Practice Decisions (CCH), v. 11-56

Trade Cases (CCH), 1932-1939, 1940-1943, 1944-45 to 2002-2