



# SFALL

A Quarterly Publication of the  
South Florida Association of Law Libraries

Fall 2001

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## Bookmark Our Website

[www.aallnet.org/chapter/sfall](http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/sfall)

What can you find on the website?

- Chapter announcements
- Handy member directory
- SFALL by-laws
- Useful research links
- Membership application
- Newsletter back issues
- History of SFALL
- Listserv information
- Job listings

## President's Message **Janet Reinke**

President

My goal for SFALL this year is to try to make this the sort of organization that you, the members, would like it to be. To that end, I have a couple of questions for you: What would you like to see SFALL do this year? Do you have any suggestions or comments? If so, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at [jreinke@law.miami.edu](mailto:jreinke@law.miami.edu) or by phone at 305-284-4264.

This is an important year for our organization: it's our anniversary. In a twist of fate, this is simultaneously our 20th anniversary and our 25th anniversary. SFALL has existed for 25 years, and we have been a chapter of AALL for 20 years. Celebration is in order! We plan to commemorate this landmark birthday with an appropriate party later in the year. I do hope you'll join us.

We have a program scheduled for October 30. Robert Riger, Director of the Miami-Dade County Law Library, will be our guest speaker. He will speak on the plans for the library to serve the legal community more effectively. Lunch will be provided by Global Securities. The law firm of Holland & Knight will host the meeting. Hope to see you all there.

## October Program

### Guest Speaker

**Bob Riger, Director of the Dade County Law Library**

Lunch will be provided by Global Securities

Date: Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2001

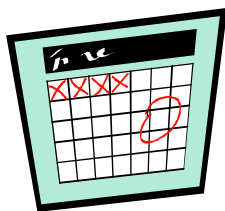
Time: Noon

Location: Holland & Knight LLP  
701 Brickell Ave., 30th floor  
Miami, FL 33131

**R.S.V.P.** by Oct. 25: Liz Chifari  
305-789-7420  
[echifari@hklaw.com](mailto:echifari@hklaw.com)

*See page 4 for directions to Holland & Knight.*





## SFALL Calendar

Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2001	SFALL general meeting, noon Holland & Knight, Miami
Thursday, Dec. 13, 2001	SFALL holiday party, 7 p.m. Buca Di Beppo 3355 S. University Dr. Davie, Florida
April 11-13, 2002	SEAALL annual meeting Doubletree Hotel Fort Lauderdale, Florida
April 14- 20, 2002	National Library Week
July 20-24, 2002	AALL annual conference Orange County Convention Center Orlando, Florida

### 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
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Editor	Liz Chifari
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Computer consultant	Andy Chifari (age 15)
Editorial assistant	Stephanie Dooley

## Meet Your Officers

**Janet Reinke** (President) is originally from Cleveland, Ohio. She went to Oberlin College, where she majored in English literature. She then earned a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin and followed it with an M.L.S. from Kent State. Janet has worked at the University of Miami Law Library for the past 3½ years, where she is a Reference Librarian and is in charge of Lexis and Westlaw. In addition, Janet teaches a seminar in online legal research in the paralegal program at Miami-Dade Community College. In her free time, Janet absolutely loves going to the beach.

**Lisa Smith-Butler** (Vice President/President-Elect) has been the Associate Director of the Law Library at Nova Southeastern University since 1998. She grew up in Georgia and received a B.A. in English from Hastings College in Nebraska. She holds a J.D. from Creighton University in Omaha, and she practiced for a time in the fields of employment and bankruptcy law. She then earned an M.L.S. from Clark University in Atlanta. Lisa has a seven-year-old daughter and a beagle "who's a lunatic."

**Pat Pardo** (Secretary) holds a B.A. in Romance Languages (Spanish, Portuguese, and Latin American area studies) from Queens College in New York; an M.L.S. from Long Island University, C.W. Post College; and a Master's Degree in Educational Media from the University of Miami. Pat worked in the law library of the New York office of Milbank, Tweed and of Cleary Gottlieb. She worked for a time as the school librarian at South Miami High School to accommodate her daughter's school schedule. She resumed her law library career in 1999 and now works as the Librarian in the Miami office of White & Case.

**Diane Altimari** (Treasurer) is the Reference/Acquisitions Librarian in the law library at Nova Southeastern University. She has a B.S. in Business from Nova and an M.L.S. from Florida State. Diane is originally a Brooklyn girl but came to Florida for some "fun in the sun." In addition to her work at Nova, Diane teaches a class in research and term-paper writing at the University of Fort Lauderdale. In her free time, Diane likes to read and travel to NASCAR races.

# ASIL Annual Meeting Report: International Law Under the Cherry Blossoms

By Rhonda Gold  
International and United Nations Librarian  
Nova Southeastern University

The American Society of International Law (ASIL) held its annual meeting April 4-7 in Washington, D.C. As international legal scholars and practitioners discussed and debated issues of war, peace, harmonious co-existence, and conflict, the world-famous Washington cherry trees, a gift from Japan in 1912, were in full bloom. The trees, given in the spirit of international cooperation, provided a glorious backdrop to a meeting whose attendees are devoted to promoting justice and understanding across national borders. I was privileged to be among them.

“The Visible College of International Law,” the theme of the conference, refers to what has traditionally been an “invisible college” of individuals engaged in the field of international law as practicing attorneys, political advisers, legal scholars, and social scientists. Conference attendees representing many countries and fields of specialization included some movers and shakers in world affairs. The nametag on the tall gentleman with the shock of white hair sitting next to me at the opening lecture identified him as William Rogers. I thought at the time, could this be the man who served as Secretary of State under President Nixon? I never asked, but I later found out that the former Secretary of State Williams Rogers had died in January. Boy, I’m glad I didn’t ask. A review of the list of attendees did, however, turn up an ex-ambassador, presidential advisers, a former U.S. Attorney General, a Nuremberg prosecutor, and the authors of several popular textbooks and scholarly tomes on the subject of international law.

The meetings covered a broad range of topics on substantive issues of international law, presenting such a

fascinating array that selection was difficult. The meetings I chose included, for example, panels focusing on the increasing involvement of NGOs (non-governmental organizations) in international policymaking; the impact of international law on local issues as well as the international legal dimensions of local politics; the efforts underway to ensure that the values and knowledge of indigenous communities are protected by intellectual property laws; and a lecture on “The Just War Tradition vs. Humanitarian Intervention.”

On the subject of “International Law and the American Law School,” it was acknowledged that international law, once a requirement for first year law students, is returning as a component of the curriculum. A criticism voiced by some, however, is that there exists a tendency to teach specialized courses, rather than core courses emphasizing basic concepts and principles of international law. Jim Willets from Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Law, spoke about our school’s international clinic, which includes several placements at the United Nations, and our summer programs abroad. As publishers of the *ILSA* (International Law Students Association) *Journal of International & Comparative Law*, NSU had significant student representation at the conference, and it was immensely gratifying to be a member of the NSU international team in D.C.

“Fostering an International Legal Information Network: A Program for Librarians and Information Managers” provided international and foreign law librarians the opportunity to discuss their work and to comment on the valuable resources offered by ASIL and other organizations. About 25 law

librarians attended the program, and it was a great opportunity to interact with people whom you might not meet at the very large seminars.

A highlight of the conference was a program and reception in honor of Thomas Buergenthal, who serves on the International Court of Justice. Described as a champion of human rights, Judge Buergenthal is Professor of International and Comparative Law at George Washington University Law Center and director of its International Rule of Law Center. Formerly, Judge Buergenthal was dean of the American University College of Law, director of the human rights program at the Carter Center at Emory University, president of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and a member of the U.N. Truth Commission for El Salvador. When it was noted that the Czech-born Buergenthal, who came to the United States in 1951, was a child survivor of Auschwitz, the room became so silent you could hear the proverbial pin drop.

The 95th ASIL Annual Meeting was interesting in so many respects. I had the opportunity to share information with other international and foreign law librarians, as well as to attend programs where leading scholars and policy-makers analyzed major issues in international law today. The chance to visit D.C. during cherry blossom week was a visual treat that enhanced the conference experience.



# Law Lib Interrogatory

## What is your pet peeve about your job as a law librarian?

When someone says, "You mean you have to go to school to do that?" — *Diane Altimari*

That we are not respected by other legal departments. — *Michael Ambrose*

When male attorneys take the library's copy of *The Miami Herald* into the men's room. — *Liz Chifari*

(1) Spine labels that are not affixed neatly and straight. (2) The question "Why do we need librarians when we have the Internet?" (3) The comment, "Library school? What do you learn there? Shhhhhing?" — *Stephanie Dooley*

Although I now work in an academic library, my peeve is one to which others can relate. My pet peeve is that people assume that since I work in a library that I have time to sit around and read all day. — *Linda Marie Golian*

I have no pet peeve. I find my work very creative and rewarding. — *Barry Goodman*

Not being appreciated for all of my job responsibilities. — *Rita Kalil*

I have asked "Would you like fries with that?" I have worked a normal work schedule from 11 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. I have placed metal sheets into vats of boiling acid to be etched at 3:00 in the morning. I have had women tell me to cut the meat extra thin because that's how their cats like it. In other words, until I went back to college and graduate school, I worked at a number of jobs that were variations of my personal hell. Now, I work with educated people, in an air-conditioned office with reasonably normal hours. Pet peeve . . . heaven, I'm in heaven . . . (all together now, from the top). — *Sid Kaskey*

My pet peeve is that some members of the public assume there is a simple answer to every legal question. They think the law librarian is withholding the answer from them. They fail to understand the complexity of legal authority. — *Janet Reinke*

That I have a job where I can sit around all day and read good books. Where did anyone ever get that idea? — *Lisa Smith-Butler*

My answer is two-fold. First is the stigma librarians have of being hush-hush, ultra-conservative, holier-than-thou individuals who have no other life than in the library. As the recent article about the belly dancing librarian and the bar tabs at the AALL conventions show, we are pretty much as wild as the rest of the world. (Not that I belly dance, but you get the drift.) My second response applies to the large percentage of law librarians who have J.D. degrees. I notice that practicing attorneys tend to look down their noses when they hear that I chose to go into library work rather than kill myself in the practice of law like they do. I know in the grand scheme that I am better off with my decision than if I had gone into practice. I chose a life much more normal than theirs. Yes, compared to some attorneys my salary is piddling, but compared to many, many others I am doing just fine and I don't have work-related health problems. — *Bill Stafford*

**Editor's note:** I was surprised that no one mentioned those new sticky labels from West Group. They've been generating quite a discussion on various listservs. One librarian of my acquaintance suggested we use them for roach traps.

## Directions to:

Holland & Knight LLP  
701 Brickell Avenue  
30th floor  
Miami, Florida

### From the north:

Exit I-95 South at Biscayne Boulevard (exit on left side of I-95).

At bottom of exit is S.E. 2nd Avenue (Hyatt Regency is on right). Turn right and cross the Brickell Avenue Bridge.

Holland & Knight is located in the Bank of America Tower on the left at the second light. Enter garage from the front of the building by turning left at the light.

### From the south:

Take U.S. 1 north to Brickell Avenue.

Holland & Knight is located in the Bank of America Tower on the right side of the street.

**Check in with the security desk in the building lobby. Take the elevator to the 30th floor, where you will be directed to the conference room.**

## WANTED:

Chairperson for SFALL's Membership Recruitment Committee. Help interest young people in our rewarding profession!

If interested, please contact Janet Reinke, phone (305) 284-4264 or e-mail [jreinke@law.miami.edu](mailto:jreinke@law.miami.edu).

## Member News

Welcome to our newest SFALL members:

**Roy Balleste**, Reference/Electronic Services Librarian, Nova Southeastern University Law Library.

**Claudette Calixte**, Administrative Assistant at the Dade County Law Library.

**Sarah Lee Hooke**, Director of the Law Library and Information Technology, Florida International University.

**Bob Riger**, Director of the Dade County Law Library.

**Alleda Titre**, Library Assistant at White & Case.

Have you read these articles written by SFALL members?

“Could You Translate This Site for Me?” by **Roy Balleste**, *AALL Spectrum*, July 2001.

“Managing Small Libraries Using a Standard Operating Procedure,” by **Wanda Gozdz**, in *PLL Perspectives*, Summer 2001.

Book review of *Congressional Quarterly's Desk Reference on the Presidency*,” review by **Janet Reinke**, in *Law Library Journal*, Summer 2001.

“Personal Digital Assistants,” by **Linda Will**, in West Group's *Practice Innovations*, July 2001.

### AALL Annual Conference

Florida law librarians are in luck! The AALL annual conference will be held July 20-24, 2002 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando. The theme for the conference is “Creating Connections.” Stay abreast of conference news by monitoring the conference webpage at <http://www.aallnet.org/events/>.

If you would like to volunteer your help for the conference, please contact Margie Hawkins at Holland & Knight in Orlando (407) 244-1153. Margie is co-chair of the Local Advisory Committee. You can also contact Greg Gronlund at the Orange County Law Library (407) 425-4694. Greg is coordinating volunteers for the event.

## Planning Ahead: SFALL Holiday Party

We haven't even hit Halloween or Thanksgiving yet, but it's already time to start thinking about our annual holiday party!

Date: Thursday, Dec. 13  
Time: 7 p.m.  
Location: Buca Di Beppo  
3355 S. University Dr.  
Davie, Florida



Price: \$25.00 per person

Please R.S.V.P. before Dec. 1 to: Diane Altimari

Phone: 954-262-6216

Email: [altimarid@nsu.law.nova.edu](mailto:altimarid@nsu.law.nova.edu)

### Directions to Buca Di Beppi from Miami:

Take I-95 or the Turnpike north.

Exit at 595 west.

Go west on 595 to University Drive.

Turn left on University Drive just past 30th Street.

Restaurant is on the west side of University Drive.

(You could also take University Drive north and make a U-turn at 30th Street.)

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Liz Chifari  
Law Librarian  
Holland & Knight LLP  
701 Brickell Ave., Ste 3000  
Miami, FL 33131

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## SEAALL Annual Meeting News

2002 is shaping up to be a year of great opportunities for South Florida law librarians. You've probably already heard that AALL's annual conference will be a short hop away in Orlando next summer. In addition, SEAALL (Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries) will be holding their annual meeting in Fort Lauderdale on April 11-13. Below is a preliminary schedule of events for the SEAALL meeting:

Thursday, April 11      Registration; SEAALL Institute on "The Invisible Web"; COSELL (Consortium of Southeastern Law Libraries, a consortium of academic law libraries) meetings and roundtable discussions; evening reception to be held aboard a yacht.

Friday, April 12      Program choices:      Everglades Evermore?; Tech Services and Public Services Dialog; Intranet Solutions for a Library with Little IT Support; Migration Issues Involved with a New OPAC; Sharing Digital Information: Document Delivery and Copyright in a Digital World; Identifying and Solving Difficulties with Student Workers; Records and Briefs on the Web; Tech Services and the Small Library.

Saturday, April 13      Program choices:      Immigration Law; Legislative Update: Federal and State; Unauthorized Practice: Where To Draw the Line; Foreign and International Law on the Internet; Gazing into the Crystal Ball: The Future of Law Libraries; Managing Workflow Changes in Tech Services.

The conference will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, 2670 E. Sunrise Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale. For further information, check with the conference website at [www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/2002/Program-1.htm](http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/seaall/2002/Program-1.htm) or contact Billie Jo Kaufman at [kaufmanb@nsu.law.nova.edu](mailto:kaufmanb@nsu.law.nova.edu).