



**The Official Publication of SWALL:
The Southwestern Association of Law Libraries
A Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries**

Summer & Fall 2002, Vol. 33 Nos. 1 & 2

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FROM THE BENCH

President's Letter
by [Kathryn C. Fitzhugh](#)

SWALL President & Reference/Special Collections Librarian
UALR/Pulaski County Law Library

Welcome to the first issue of this year's SWALL Bulletin! I hope that everyone was fortunate enough to attend the SWALL and AALL annual meetings and that you were able to learn a lot, speak, and make useful contacts.

I want to thank the SWALL 2002 Local Arrangements Committee, headed by Susan Phillips, and the members of the Program Committee for their work. I would also like to thank all others who worked in annual meeting efforts -- the coordinators, speakers, and vendors. Even though I was not able to attend I heard many good things about the meeting.

I'm looking forward to lots of great things with SWALL this year.

One of the best things about serving as program chair last year was that I was able to meet or become reacquainted with many talented SWALL members, some who served as coordinators and speakers, and others who served as committee chairs and committee members. If you wish to serve on a committee, please email or call me. Please remember that one person can truly make a difference in efforts

towards making SWALL better.

I would also like to introduce our new committee officers and chairs. Look for their names in this issue. They are already working on some interesting innovations, such as changes in the SWALL Web site and a new handbook. I'm looking forward to lots of great things with SWALL this year.

TRANSCRIPT

Minutes of SWALL Business Meeting

**Fort Worth
April 19, 2002**

President Beth Youngdale called the meeting to order on Friday, April 19, 2002, at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Fort Worth, Texas. The minutes from the meeting in Minneapolis were approved.

Constitution and By-Laws – Arturo Torres reported that he is working on the SWALL Handbook/Manual. It is currently before the Board and will be posted for comment on the Web site.

Mon Yin Lung announced that the next meeting would be in Kansas City, April 3-5, 2003.

Finance – Joan O'Mara distributed the Treasurer's Report and took questions. There were none.

Grants – Jill Henderson reported that there was one grant given for Amy Hale Janeke to attend this meeting. SWALL will be offering 3 grants of \$750 each to AALL, since only one was given for the SWALL meeting.

Legal Information Services to the Public – Beth Schneider thanked Anna Teller for her help and reported that there were 40 registrants for the Legal Information Services to the Public pre-conference seminar.

Life Membership and Memorials -- Jessica Alexander reported that there were no nominations previously but the committee needed to consider a new nomination.

Local Arrangements – Susan Phillips welcomed everyone to Fort Worth.

Nominations – Kay Schlueter announced the slate of officers for 2002/2003:

- Kathryn Fitzhugh – President
- Sharon Wayland – V.P./President-Elect

- Susan Spillman – Secretary
- Joan O'Mara – Treasurer

Program Committee -- Kathryn Fitzhugh (not present—no report)

Publications – Kumar Percy reported that the SWALL Bulletin is now located on the AALL Web site—www.aallnet.org. He has added a job posting to the site and he needs more articles for the Bulletin. He would like to add the Membership Directory to the site, modeled after the AALL directory. He had one bid so far. If anyone has any concerns/questions, he suggested that they contact an officer. Beth announced that the Board approved licensing two URLs—SWALL.net and SWALL.org.

Public Relations – Bob Hu (not present) announced that he would like some members to volunteer for his committee. He would also like some "real life" stories from firms.

Recruitment – Monica Szakasits (no report)

The officers were elected.

Mon Yin Lung announced that the next meeting would be in Kansas City, April 3-5, 2003. She has promised 100 rooms to the hotel, so she wants everyone to come.

Beth announced that Mark Lambert had agreed to be Archivist, and she encouraged everyone to join a committee and that committee volunteer forms are posted on the SWALL Web site.

Meeting adjourned. (The gavel was passed in absentia to Kathryn Fitzhugh.)

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Spillman

Computer Instructional Services Librarian
South Texas College of Law Library

PRO FORMA

◇> **Southwestern Association of Law Libraries**
◇> **Affiliated with American Association of Law Libraries**

Treasurer's Report
Prepared by [Joan O'Mara](#)

July 25, 2001 – April 18, 2002
Balance Sheet as of April 15, 2002

ASSETS

Checking Account (April 1, 2002)	\$35,275.74
*Savings Account (March 21, 2002)	<u>19, 801.79</u>
Total	\$55, 077.53

LIABILITIES & EXPENSES

Liabilities	\$ 0.00
Equity	55, 077.53

This report does not reflect expenses for the 2002 SWALL Meeting.<>

*This account was previously listed as "Coco-Miller." For clarity that name will be replaced with the term "Savings."

HEADNOTES

SWALL 2003

by [Mon Yin Lung](#)

SWALL Local Arrangements Committee Chair
Assistant Director and Head of Public Services
Florida International University College of Law Library

SWALL will hold its 2003 meeting in Kansas City, Missouri. This is SWALL's first time in K.C. Here are some great things to know about the upcoming meeting:

1. The meeting begins on April 3, ends on April 5, and includes a trip to KU Law School (Lawrence, Kansas) for our Saturday programs.
2. The Marriott at Country Club Plaza (yes, the world renowned Country Club Plaza) is our conference hotel. It is at the east edge of the Plaza (45th Street and Main), overlooking the Neptune Fountain and across the street from the headquarters of the American Century Mutual Fund.

Literally next door to the hotel is the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Arts with its very contemporary Sebastian Restaurant where each dish is also a piece of artwork. The bonus of the Kemper Museum is that the admission is free.

About two blocks to the east are the Kansas City Art Institute (where Thomas Benton taught) and the Nelson-Atkins Gallery, which is famous for its East Asian collection (mainly Chinese, Japanese, and Tibetan). Here you can see a traditional Chinese bedroom and a temple. (The Kuan-Yin statue is my favorite.) But this collection is only the tip of the iceberg. More information will be available in the next issue. In the mean time, you can discover more at <http://www.nelson-atkins.org/>.

if you enjoy the high life, then . . . the country club plaza is for you

If you enjoy living the high life, the Plaza with its upscale restaurants and shops is certainly for you. The Country Club Plaza officially begins at 47th Street and Main: simply walk down the hill and turn west and you will be in the heart of the activities. If you want that romantic touch, you can hop on to the decorated pumpkin carriage with a white horse and ride the evening away. Meanwhile to mingle

business with pleasure, you can also brief yourself on the murder-for-hire case between the two competitors who own the two carriage companies. If you are adventurous, walk two short blocks east and north, and you will be in the Westport area with all the local shops and bars and music. Just try not to look too youthful because the city imposes a curfew for underage kids within Westport.

3. To celebrate, we have booked a barbeque / bar crawl for Thursday night group time. Just remember to get up early enough for the traditional Friday morning business meeting!

4. Kansas City is famous for its fresh produce and good eating. It offers not only the famous barbeque but also a wide assortment of ethnic cuisine. American, Italian, French, Chinese, Japanese, seafood ..., you name it and it is there.

More information on our Kansas City conference is forthcoming. Watch out for further announcements.

Kansas City has so much to offer I highly recommend that you arrive early on Wednesday AND depart on Sunday so you can make the most of your trip!

2002 - 2003 SWALL OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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SWALL AT AALL

CONNELL 2002:

My Adventure in the Central Florida Wilderness
and How to Become a "Conference Pro"

by John Conger
Reference Librarian, Brown McCarroll, LLP
Austin, TX

I left my first AALL Annual Meeting with wonderful new friendships, innovative ideas from the conference programming, and a box full of brochures and catalogs on the latest and greatest in technology. Quite haphazardly I almost wound up transporting a colony of Florida red ants back to Texas as well. The little suckers decided to have their own little convention, albeit in my backpack. It was that kind of AALL meeting this year: one that was extremely rewarding professionally, but one that was thematically dominated by fabulous and pesky creatures both large and small. Whether it was seeing a Great Heron near my hotel, taking in all the amazing aquatic life at Sea World, or hearing rumors about the eight-foot crocodile spotted near the Orlando Convention Center it was hard at times not to feel like I was in a show on Animal Planet, and as the Crocodile Hunter himself would say, "AALL in Orlando, it's a RIPPER!"

Amidst the excursions through the flora and fauna of Central Florida I found myself on the first day attending the 32nd CONELL (Conference of Newer Law Librarians) program put on by the AALL Mentoring Committee. In the first presentation of the day President of AALL Barbara Bintliff gave an entertaining overview of the history of AALL. President Bintliff emphasized that AALL was a "growing" and "vibrant" association and further noted that "AALL boasts over 5200 members" and that roughly "eighty percent of the law librarians are members of AALL." She encouraged CONELL participants to investigate AALL committees and special interest groups as they "provide fertile ground for significant career development in addition to providing almost unlimited potential for leadership and professional growth." In concluding her address she noted that "AALL and its members together will decide the fate of the profession."

As the Crocodile Hunter himself would say, "AALL in Orlando, it's a RIPPER!"

Following the President's Message, CONELL attendees were introduced to the AALL Executive Board. Victoria Trotta, chair of the Annual Meeting Committee, gave a brief presentation AALL Annual Meeting programs (including plenary meetings) and encouraged CONELL participants to find programs that would "excite" and "challenge" us. Additionally, Frank Houdek, editor Law Library Journal, told us about the opportunities for publication in AALL and encouraged us to contribute our ideas and thoughts to the profession in the form of writing.

After these presentations CONELL attendees were broken up into smaller groups and paired with members of the AALL executive board for an icebreaker activity. Groups were formed based on various Orlando attractions that we had been assigned to when first arriving. I was a member of the Disney Epcot group which was moderated by AALL President Barbara Bintliff. The icebreaker question for our group was "If you could put a fifth person on Mt. Rushmore what librarian would you choose?" Two responses elicited from the group included Melville Dewey and Laura Bush. I tried in vain to think of the librarian who introduced the concept of "value added" to the information sciences but kept drawing a blank. I tracked down his name the next day in the Internet Café—Robert Taylor (Sorry Professor Doty. It's been almost three years since Intro!). The topic was then expanded to all Americans, but we only had a chance to scratch the surface on that question, as it was on to the next portion of the program. This activity was one of the rare ones at CONELL that felt a little rushed, and a few of the participants I spoke to wished they had more time to meet the other CONELL attendees, although ample opportunity was given later in the day.

Following the icebreaker activities, CONELL participants were treated to presentations on career development in the "From Rookie to Veteran" session from speakers who were all quite notably "youthful" veterans. Susan Thorpe, Chair of the AALL Mentoring Committee, said, "We made a special attempt to find speakers who [were] 'just a few years out' with relatively recent memories of being new in the profession, hoping that they would relate well with the audience." The strategy worked very well as all the speakers were all highly praised among CONELL participants.

The first of these presentations "Tips and Advice for Job Success" was given by Greg Lambert, Legal Information and Law Libraries Director for the Oklahoma Supreme Court. The primary focus of his presentation centered on professionalism, and his key piece of advice to CONELL participants was "Know who you are. Remember who you are at all times. You're a professional. You've entered a profession." Lambert went on to give very cogent recommendations on knowing the chain of command when starting a new job, the dangers implicit in having too many unfinished projects, and oftentimes the reality of having to move away to move up to that next coveted job. Additionally, one of the best points of his presentation dealt with the importance of law libraries marketing their own work. As an example he cited his work with the Oklahoma state court system on getting all the state of Oklahoma case law online.¹ He told CONELL attendees "Don't be afraid to blow your own horn if you've done something great. Let people know what your doing."

The next speaker Kumar Percy, Head of Reserves and Media Services at the Tarlton Law Library at the University of Texas at Austin, gave a presentation on "AALL Volunteer Opportunities," or as Kumar put it "how you can work for free." In his presentation Kumar began by focusing on how volunteering contributes to library profession as a whole as well as how it benefits the individual. Kumar noted that volunteerism helps strengthen the profession in three primary ways: 1) it helps librarians make connections with other professionals and overcome isolation; 2) it collectively keeps law librarians more informed about technology and current issues; and 3) it makes the profession a more respected one. Kumar then went on to address the self-interest issue or the "What's in it for me?" question and solicited help on this issue by asking other AALL volunteers what their primary motivations were for volunteering. The responses to his question varied widely and included: 1) networking with professionals with similar interests and concerns; 2) making lasting friendships; 3) developing new job opportunities; 4) developing ideas for articles; 5) giving back to the profession and community; and 6) what Kumar described as the best response he received—to fight boredom.

The *Index to Legal Periodicals* was created out of AALL committee and volunteer work

Kumar concluded his presentation by giving specific advice on how to get involved with different AALL groups and committees at the convention. He cautioned CONELL participants not to be discouraged in thinking that they would not be able to get involved in a committee with so many librarians attending AALL. In fact he noted the opposite is true and went on to assure us that the committees wanted the newer librarians for the ideas and energy.

Perhaps one of the most notable items in Kumar's presentation was the fact that the *Index to Legal Periodicals* was created out of AALL committee and volunteer work, illustrating just how vital and successful volunteer work with AALL can be.

The final speakers in the "From Rookie to Veteran" session were Julie Bozell, Electronic Information Specialist at Greenberg and Traurig, and Erika Wayne, Reference and Internet Services Librarian at Stanford University. They gave a very creative and memorable presentation on "How to Conference." Thematically they structured the presentation around David Letterman's famous Top Ten Lists.² At the beginning of the presentation ten cards were handed out to CONELL attendees who professed to be David Letterman fans. Every card had one of the ten essential items for effective conferencing, and Erica and Julie had each attendee with a card come up and read it as way of presenting their next topic. Additionally each attendee was given a small gift for participating in the presentation, and there was usually some thematic tie-in. For instance for item number six "Celebration . . . WooHoo . . . We've got a party going on right here" CONELL attendee Jennifer Bryan, Documents Librarian at the University of Indiana, received a bottle of Tylenol. Other eclectic gifts included Visine and chocolate flavored Roloids.

Another clever item that Julie and Erica used in their presentation was to have all the CONELL participants

fill out their name and library on a piece of paper during the presentation and place it in the hotel ice buckets they had conveniently brought. At the end of the presentation the buckets were passed around again with each attendee drawing a name. The short term goal of the exercise was to meet the CONELL attendee listed on the piece of paper by the end of the day, but the larger point was aimed at the importance of actively trying to meet new people at the conference.

The presentation included a wealth of practical advice for the first-time AALL attendee, such as how to navigate the vendors market and mail back the catalogs, how to volunteer at the convention, and a problem I often ran into: what to do when there are four presentations that you want to attend going on at the same time. Erica and Julie also provided the CONELL attendees with invaluable scheduling cards small enough to fit inside a name tag. CONELL attendee Katie Heger, Electronic Services Librarian at Greensfelder, Hemker and Gale, noted that these cards were "especially helpful" and that "NON-CONELL participants mentioned what a great idea it was." This was also the presentation where Julie Bozell warned us about the eight-foot crocodile. Unfortunately no mention of Florida ants, but I did take away valuable information that helped me through the rest of the conference.

Following the "From Rookie to Veterans" session the rest of the morning was devoted to two more interactive sessions, "Ask the Experts" and the "Marketplace." First I went to the Marketplace session, which included fifteen AALL committees, twelve special interest sections, and four AALL chapters. It allowed CONELL participants to explore a wide range of interests and volunteer opportunities. The Mentoring Committee cleverly gave CONELL attendees a raffle card as an incentive to network. In order to be eligible to enter the raffle the card had to be signed by six representatives at the Marketplace. Later in the day at the Orlando Museum of Art three raffle award winners were given Florida-related gifts that included an umbrella, beach accessories (towel, sunscreen), and some rather ostentatious drinking glasses given in an NSYNC gift bag. I visited with a number of representatives during the Marketplace session: Carol Rogers of CRIV (Relations with Information Vendors), Cheryl Nyberg of Access to Electronic Information Committee, Lucy Curci-Gonzalez of the Private Law Libraries SIS, and Regina Smith of Smith of the State, Court & County Law Libraries. I also visited the Technical Services SIS where I met TS-SIS representative JoAnn Hounshell. I explained to JoAnn that coming from such a small private law firm staff (two including myself) I was taking on a good portion of the cataloging responsibility for the library, and that I wished I had taken a second cataloging course in library school. We then got into a discussion about how some schools were no longer requiring a single cataloging course. After speaking with the representatives and collecting materials, I spent the rest of the session getting to know more CONELL participants.

This was also the presentation where Julie Bozell warned us about the eight-foot crocodile

The Ask the Experts session was set up to provide CONELL attendees with time to talk to expert librarians in areas ranging from Administration, Solo Librarian settings, and Foreign, International and Comparative legal settings to Public, Technical and Electronic Services. At the Ask the Experts session I sat at the Public Services table with Gretchen Van Dam, Circuit Librarian at the William J. Campbell Library of the U.S. Courts, and Howard Trivers, Senior Reference Librarian at Baker and Daniels. Roundtable topics that were touched on varied from reference services, acquisitions, electronic vs. print resources, and library management. Gretchen Van Dam also recalled discussion on "tales of *pro se*'s, judges, lawyers, law professors and law students and the rewards—and challenges—involved in being on the front lines in a law library." Toward the end of our allotted time I had a discussion with Howard Trivers and fellow CONELL attendee Cynthia Berry, Reference Librarian at Greenberg Traurig, about tracking down public records. The discussion arose out of Howard's new article "People Finder Databases: Which Ones to Use & Why" that will appear in the July/August issue of *Legal Information Alert*. I found the Ask the Experts session a really great chance to meet librarians from a wide range of backgrounds (academic, public, private, and business). Additionally, it was fascinating to discuss the larger concerns we all shared as law librarians in

conjunction with concerns that are more typically endemic to each type of library.

After the concurrent sessions of Ask the Experts and Marketplace the CONELL attendees boarded buses for our luncheon at the White Wolfe Café. The café itself is located in the area of downtown Orlando known as Antique Row located off Orange Avenue, which contains an assortment of antique shops. The decor of the restaurant itself contained numerous antiques, including a wide assortment of chandeliers hanging from the ceiling. At the luncheon I was joined by fellow CONELL attendees Susan Retzer, Reference Librarian at Katten Muchin Zavis, Jennifer Bryan, Documents Librarian at Indiana University and Donald Ford, attorney-at-law and current library student at the University of Pittsburgh. We had a good conversation discussing our various library situations and our CONELL experiences. Then it was on to the Orlando Museum of Art.

The art museum was memorable as much for the opportunity to meet other CONELL attendees as the art itself, although the art was quite good. The museum had an impressive collection of modern art in addition to work by American impressionist Edward Potthast. It also had an exhibit of ancient Peruvian art in their exhibit "The Majesty of Ancient Peru" and one painting by Georgia O'Keefe. We were broken up into smaller groups and given tours by the museum staff. While the tour was interesting Debbie Ginsberg, Electronic Resources Librarian at Chicago - Kent College of Law, noted that at times it made it difficult to meet other CONELL attendees. The particular tour guide I was paired with would continually ask our group if we would like to put the painting he was showing us in our home. My answer on most of the modern art was no as my taste tends to lean more towards the classical. Later we were given some time to explore the museum on our own, and it was good time for meeting other CONELL participants and looking through the gift store. With our bus ride back (through the first of many afternoon thunderstorms) the CONELL session was concluded.

Upon returning to the Peabody Hotel I ran into an old classmate of mine, Matt Mantel. Matt and I both were lucky enough to have taken Legal Informatics at University of Texas at Austin with Roberta Schaffer. He had recently moved from Austin and taken a reference job at the Jacob Burns Law Library at George Washington University. With the rainstorms still eminent, Matt and I grabbed a beer and talked about our CONELL experiences. Matt particularly enjoyed the luncheon and visit to the Orlando Museum, noting that they were the "two best opportunities [for] interactions with other newer librarians."

The rest of the AALL conference went by like something akin to an internship at a twenty-four hour news network

The rest of the AALL conference went by like something akin to an internship at a twenty-four hour news network. Well that is a bit of an over exaggeration. There were down times too, one of which I specifically remember on the next to last day of the conference. In between programs I took a break outside the convention center, pulled out my notebook and pen and set my backpack on the ground. *Outgoing Ant 783 secretes a chemical pheromone message of possible sugar sighting near Convention Center bench.* I began to jot down ideas and lessons I learned for this article, ones that were mostly gathered from the mistakes I made at CONELL and AALL. *Message is picked up four seconds later by Outgoing Ant 219 who pauses momentarily to relay the message via antenna to Incoming Ant 447.* It is a really good idea to get the CONELL program on time (something I failed to do) and also heed Katie Heger's advice, "Don't assume the conference registration will be near the CONELL registration in the morning." (This was main reason I was late, well that is if you overlook failure to read CONELL materials before meeting.) *Incoming Ant 447 reaches lower hive structure and Scouting Party from lower level atrium four is dispatched for possible acquisition.* Bring enough business cards, and do not mistakenly hand out other people's cards that you have received. Although I am sure they appreciate the extra attention, your goal should be to network yourself first if possible. *Scouting Party sends out query of unidentified object. Outgoing Ant 783 receives message and replies, "appears to be unfinished blueberry muffin from 7-11 in large cave."*

Try to slowly pickup on the language of AALL. Learn what a SIS is and spend time a little time deciphering all the other SIS acronyms you are interested in. As Ruth Goldstein, Reference Librarian at San Francisco Law Library, points out "the program list is overwhelmingly acronymic." *Scouting party secures to swarm position and sends ANT 284 to confirm object composition. Blueberry muffin composition confirmed. They secrete final pheromone message: JACKPOT!!!*. Attend all of the functions you can (if for nothing else to meet more people) but as Jennifer Bryan advises schedule some "down time" as well. Sounds like contradictory advice? Well it is. For fans of the band The Clash this conflict has a rather familiar refrain. "Should I Stay or Should I Go?" The answer: the majority of the time you should go, but head over to Starbucks every now and again and spend some time starring out into space. *Message reaches Queen six feet below the ground, and she delivers final message. Incoming ants are turned into outgoing ants from the sheer wave red bodies as the mound explodes and the final message is passed in a mad frenzy, "Prepare to invade!"* Wear the handy CONELL identification ribbon and make mistakes. Ruth Goldstein noticed during the convention that the ribbon helps make meeting people easier and invites introductions from other people. Most importantly, though, when you make a mistake the ribbon gives you a ready-made excuse: "Hey it's my first convention!"³

1. See the Oklahoma State Courts Network's "The Electronic Law Library for Oklahoma."
<http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/start.asp?viewType=LIBRARY>.

2. Bozell, Julie & Erika Wayne, "How to Conference Top Ten List." 95th Annual AALL Meeting and Conference. Peabody Hotel, Orlando, FL. (July 20, 2002).

1. Hey Mom, I'm Going to Disney World!!!
2. I Can Walk and Talk to Vendors and Chew Gum at the Same Time . . .
3. Ask Not What AALL Can Do for You, Ask What You Can Do for AALL!!!
4. On Second Thought, Ask What AALL Can Do for You!
5. Celebration . . . WooHoo . . . We've Got a Party Going on Right Here
6. Sleep is Highly Overrated
7. Information Junkies of the World Unite!
8. I Used to Play Ping Pong Professionally, Until the Accident
9. All This and Somebody Else Makes My Bed for Me All Week!
10. Network, BABEE!

3. Specially thanks in traditional alphabetical order to all the people that helped contribute to this article. I am sorry I was not able to include more of your material. Thanks to AALL, the AALL Mentoring Committee, Cynthia Berry, Julie Bozzell, my law firm Brown McCarroll for picking up the tab, Jennifer Bryan, Elizabeth Conger, the Crocodile Hunter, Debbie Ginsberg, Ruth Goldstein, Katie Heger, Jency James, Matt Mantel, Kumar Percy, Susan Retzer, Susan Thor, Howard Trivers, Gretchen Van Dam, Erika Wayne, and Karyn Webb.

Connections Created: AALL

By Lee F. Peoples
Head of Reference Services,
Oklahoma City University Law Library

"Creating Connections" was the theme of this year's AALL Annual Meeting and it became reality throughout the convention. The first connection I noticed was between my sweaty clothes and body while waiting in the shade of a palm tree on International Drive for the trolley. Despite the heat I managed to make more significant connections: formal ones with new ideas at

organized sessions and informal social connections at smaller meetings and receptions.

"Creating connections" was the theme of this year's AALL Annual Meeting and it became reality

E-Reference Services: Collaborating to Make the 24/7 Connection presented the experiences of several law libraries with the Collaborative Digital Reference Service/Question Point program. The program connects the reference departments of libraries around the world to form a network ready to answer reference questions 24/7. A computer program routes reference questions to the participating library best suited to answer the specific question. The

project also maintains a database of previously answered questions. More information is available at: <http://www.questionpoint.org>.

Devolution in the United Kingdom: A Revolution in Online Legal Research outlined the transfer of power back to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and the sources of legislation produced by the new regional legislatures. It was exciting to hear the program presenters speak with conviction and purpose about local democratic rule created by the devolution of power. This devolution has also produced something equally exciting for law librarians interested in foreign legal materials, free access to regional legislative documents at the Web sites of the respective legislatures; <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/index.html>, <http://www.wales.gov.uk/index.htm>, and <http://www.ni-assembly.gov.uk/index.htm>, with an article discussing devolution at: <http://www.llrx.com/features/devolution.htm>.

The Semantic Web was a fascinating plenary session detailing the future of the internet. This information superhighway construction project promises to make organization of and access to online information more efficient. It works by using resource definition framework (RDF), a framework of metadata much like HTML but more descriptive, to create a Web that is a globally linked database as opposed to the current conglomeration of Web pages. Law libraries, according to the presenter Eric Miller, enjoy a history of social trust because of the information they provide. Miller called upon law librarians to continue to make responsible decisions about internet content so this trust may be extended to the Semantic Web. More information is available from: <http://www.w3.org/2001/sw/> and <http://www.semanticweb.org/>.

Legal Research Meets Darwin: The Origin and Evolution of Research Courses at Two Law Schools was an interesting reflection on the current state of legal research instruction at two institutions. The emphasis on motivating students to take the courses in the first place and making the actual content of the course like a game, treasure hunt or carnival was intriguing. Law schools and their libraries are constantly berated for not producing graduates who can competently conduct legal research, yet this focus on motivation reveals that the blame may lie with the students themselves who seem unwilling to or uninterested in improving their legal research skills.

The convention offered many opportunities to create informal social connections (i.e., gossip and socialize.) I discovered that law librarians as information professionals are extremely adept at both. I found smaller meetings like the SWALL reception a good place to meet and socialize with fellow law librarians. Walking through the convention center and Peabody Hotel with an esteemed mentor of mine I was intimidated and comforted at the same time. Intimidated by the fact that she knew just about every person we passed. How was I ever going to get to know all of these people, much less remember their names or faces? I was reassured and comforted by her kind introduction to many colleagues and the warm welcomes to the profession they extended. Another connection was created when I met my AALL assigned mentor. This was an excellent opportunity for me as a new member of AALL to meet someone else with similar interests that I otherwise may have never discovered. I plan to stay in touch with my mentor and to participate

in the program as a mentor next year. All law librarians interested in sharing their insights into the profession, meeting new law librarians and discovering how they came to this unique line of work should participate in the mentoring project. More information is available at: http://www.aallnet.org/committee/mentoring/mentor_project.html.

Connections were definitely created at this year's AALL Annual Meeting. I left the meeting more educated and motivated about law librarianship than ever. I felt reassured in my decision to become a law librarian because of the people I met. They come to the profession from diverse backgrounds, do interesting things at their libraries and most of all are eager and willing to share their knowledge and experience with a new law librarian.

My AALL Experience: 2002

by [Daniel Bell](#)

Reference Technology Law Librarian
Mabee Legal Information Center
University of Tulsa College of Law

The 95th annual AALL meeting was held July 20-24, 2002 in sunny, humid Orlando, Florida. The theme this year was "Creating Connections". This was my first AALL annual meeting, and I really had no idea what to expect. All I knew was that I had a presentation to give on the very last day, and I was stressed about speaking in front of who-knows-how-many-people. However, with the Conference of Newer Law Librarians (CONELL) the first day, "Creating Connections" turned out to be the theme for my experience as well.

Still in travel shock, 7:30am felt much earlier than it should have when I arrived at the Peabody Hotel for the CONELL program. I am not the most social person in the world, but my normal technique in these situations is to spot the other introvert in the crowd and strike up a conversation. I quickly learned though that law librarians will not let you be an introvert. I think I told my career story at least fifteen times in the first hour, and made at least that many new friends. I was surprised to meet so many firm and government librarians. Somewhere I had picked up the unconscious assumption that academic law librarians would be the vast majority at AALL. I was quite wrong, and it was an opportunity to see different viewpoints on the same issues we all encounter. The roundtable discussions were very helpful, giving me a chance to talk to other librarians with similar responsibilities and discover that the issues I deal with everyday are by no means unique to my library. I received several helpful suggestions, and hopefully was able to return the favor. If you are a new law librarian I cannot stress enough how much you'll get out of attending CONELL.

I was surprised to meet so many firm and government librarians. Sunday through Tuesday I attended several programs on such topics as legal research exams, licensing agreements, and copyright law, and brought back many new ideas to try out back home. I attended a meeting of the Computing Services Special Interest Section and even volunteered for a committee. The exhibit hall had too many booths to visit in just one day, but I was able to learn a great deal at both the Lexis and Westlaw exhibits. I met so many people I think I have half of the jurisdictions in the U.S. covered should I ever need help with a reference question. Evenings were spent at the various organized activities with some of the new friends I had made, and then later back to my hotel room to hunch over my laptop making last minute changes to my presentation, which was hanging over me constantly.

My presentation was titled, "Access to Website Content for the Sight-Impaired." Bill Draper,

from the University of Pennsylvania's Biddle Law Library, was my co-presenter and the ring leader. Bill has been interested in this area for several years through his work with the Lion's Club, and he found me because our Web site uses a parsing program that creates a screen-reader friendly version of our Web site. I admittedly wasn't that interested in the topic to begin with, but quickly converted as I discovered how difficult browsing the Web with a text-to-speech browser can be.

Originally the presentation was to be divided into three parts, Bill doing the legal aspects, Tony and Anne Marie Teal, a sight impaired husband & wife were to give their perspective, and finally me, giving the librarian/webmaster angle. Toni and Anne unfortunately had to cancel two weeks before AALL and we had to adjust the program. Bill and I took over parts of their program and at the last minute added a section to our presentation where I visited a few well known Web sites with a text-to-speech Web browser using the audio output from a laptop.

Wednesday, the last day, was a stress-filled blur. Against all instincts I woke up early, abandoned my outline and wrote my presentation out, word for word. When presentation time rolled around at 8:45 I nervously counted and re-counted. The room seated probably 200, I think we ended up with almost 40. When it was my turn to speak I didn't look at my speech once, went on auto-pilot and am told I did well, but really can't remember. When questions came at the end I was pleasantly surprised that I could give intelligent answers to all of them.

All round, it was a very positive experience, and I'd like to thank SWALL for awarding me a travel grant. The most striking thing about the whole convention was that, in a nation-wide profession such as ours, everyone seems to know everyone. For anyone who has never gone before, I'd like to give two pieces of advice: go to CONELL, and don't present on the very last day!

EXPERT WITNESS TESTIMONY

Joint Study Institute, 2002

"Canadian Focus: Global View"

by Catherine K. Harris
Law Librarian, State Law Library, Austin, Texas

Set amidst the beauty of British Columbia, the colorful plumes of peacocks, and sweet smelling blooms of the gardens, the third biennial Joint Study Institute was held at Royal Roads University, Victoria, May 22-25, 2002. The Institute continued a tradition first envisioned in the mid 1990's by a group of presidents from three library associations: American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), the British and Irish Association of Law Libraries (BIALL) and the Canadian Association of Law Libraries (CALL).

The intent of the founders was to gather law librarians from the common law countries to learn more about each country's laws and legal systems.

The intent of the founders was to gather law librarians from the common law countries to learn more about each country's laws and legal systems. The first Institute was held in September, 1998, at Cambridge University, England; the second was held in July, 2000, at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. I have attended all three Institutes, each one offering a unique professional experience.

This year's Institute was hosted by CALL, with support from the Carswell Institute in Toronto, and it very successfully fulfilled the

goals of the founders. There were 21 Canadians in attendance, and 24 "foreigners" from five legal systems: the United States, New Zealand, Australia, England and Scotland.

The Institute provided twelve hours of lectures from an impressive team of nine speakers focusing on aspects of the Canadian Constitution, history, politics, and legal system. The conference highlighted the challenges facing Canada in the areas of international trade, peacekeeping, and globalism of the 21st Century.

The presentations were scholarly, informative, and stimulating. They provided this U.S. attendee (and others, based on the comments I heard) with an increased understanding of our neighbor to the North as well as a better perspective about its relationship with the U.S. Sharing the same hemisphere, as well as a common Anglo heritage and history, culture and religion, law and language, the United States and Canada are well suited for co-existence and cooperation in the "new globalism" of our modern world. Both will benefit by joining together in matters concerning economy, trade, health, environment, and peace.

History of Canada

The program began with a review by law librarian and historian **John N. Davis** of York University in Toronto. He presented us with a list of only 456 "Significant (and Insignificant) Dates in Canadian History," but quelled our outcry against these details with an entertaining review of the five areas most significant in his opinion:

- 1) the 500 year change in population
-- Canada's population is about 30 million; Texas, alone, has nearly 20 million;
- 2) the ongoing conflict between two competing national languages
-- also known as the "French-English thing";
- 3) the issue of federalism
-- that has resulted in tension with the central government;
- 4) the relations with the United Kingdom; and
- 5) the relations with the United States.

Based upon this list, Davis pointed out that Canada's population of 30 million people is not large enough to support a successful economy. Canada must rely on foreign markets for distributing its goods. Additionally, the Quebec issue is too many years in discussion and still has no satisfactory resolution. Now Canada's relationship with the United Kingdom has shifted as the United States has become more powerful and dominant in world affairs.

The Canadian Constitution

Following John Davis was University of Manitoba law professor **Bryan Schwartz**, who gave an equally entertaining presentation on the Canadian Constitution. Canada gave birth to its Constitution in 1867 creating a Confederation in what became known as the *British North America Act*. Because of Canada's status as a colony, the act was an ordinary statute of the United Kingdom parliament, and there were no provisions included for its amendment by any other body. In 1982 the statute was renamed *The Constitution Act, 1867*.

In 1982, after more than half a century of federal-provincial conferences and negotiations on how to amend the constitution, Canada "patriated" its Constitution by creating provisions that allows Canadians to amend it without reference to the U.K. Parliament. When the U.K. passed *The Canada Act* in 1982, it terminated the British Parliament's power over Canada. The *Constitution Act, 1982* established four legal formulas, or processes, for amending the

Constitution. The act included the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, a document comparable to America's *Bill of Rights*. The *Charter* allows both federal and provincial laws to be challenged, and thrown out by the courts, on the grounds that they violate the *Charter*.

Legislative and Judicial Branches of Canadian Government

Both Professor Schwartz and **John Eaton**, Law Librarian and Associate Professor at the University of Manitoba, discussed the legislative and judicial branches of the Canadian government. Canada has no legislative chamber selected with proportional representation. Professor Schwartz believes that in the next five years Canadians could expect some reform in this area.

The Canadian judicial system is unified, but has two tracks: federal and provincial. The first level is the provincial courts, established, funded, and staffed by the provinces. At the appellate level, the federal government appoints and pays the judges in the provincial/territorial superior courts. Cases in each track can be appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada, which has been the final court of appeals only since 1949. Prior to that, the Judicial Council of the Privy Council (under the control of the Crown) had the power for a final ruling of an appellate case.

Canada has no legislative chamber selected with proportional representation.

The Supreme Court of Canada

Professor Eaton and **Diane Teeple** of the Supreme Court of Canada Library, described in detail the composition and workings of the Supreme Court. She explained the history of the Supreme Court from its beginnings in 1875 to the present. Using exceptional visual aids, she talked extensively about the Court, its building, the justices, and court operations. It was especially interesting to learn about the geographic distribution of the judges. There are nine judges. By law three must be from Quebec while the remainder can come from any other area of Canada. However, convention provides that three judges are from Ontario, one is from British Columbia, another is from the Prairie provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba), and the final judge is from the Atlantic provinces.

Complexity of Two Legal Systems and Two Official Languages

Law Librarian **Denis LeMay** of Laval University in Quebec City discussed some of the issues of bilingualism and noted the complexity of the Canadian legal system in its combination of both the Anglo common law and French civil law.

The *1866 Civil Code of Quebec* was a pre-federation statute and was not to be corrupted by the common law. Quebec's distinctive civil law was guaranteed by the 1867 Constitution. However, the tension between the Roman Catholics of Quebec and the Protestants of Ontario was felt early in Canada's history. The 1867 Constitution guaranteed separate schools for the religious minorities in the two provinces. *The Constitution Act, 1982* continued the guarantees for the English and French languages in New Brunswick, Quebec and Manitoba, and continued to provide for separate schools funded by public monies, where the number of children "so warrants."

Canada produces official information,

As a bilingual country, Canada produces official information, such as statutes, regulations and court opinions, in both English and French. Even official Web sites are in both languages. Statutes must be

such as statutes, regulations and court opinions, in both English and French

drafted in both languages, not written in English and then translated into French.

Bilingualism and the combined legal systems of Canada have presented a challenge for the law schools that must educate students about two legal systems and two languages.

The Politics of Canada

Historian **Jack L. Granatstein** of York University, Toronto, gave a lively and insightful presentation on the politics of Canada. He focused on "keys" that he believes are determinants of politics: race, religion, language, region, class and leadership. At the time of Confederation, the French Canadian people were 40% of the population; that figure has declined today to only about 20%. Primarily, it is Quebec that has maintained its "Frenchness."

The religious tension between the Protestants and Roman Catholics has influenced the education of children and thus affected politics. A successful politician must manage relations with religious leaders. Likewise, language in Canada has had a huge influence on politics. In 1968, Prime Minister Trudeau successfully endorsed bilingualism. Multi-culturalism is now government policy.

Where class is concerned, the centrist usually succeeds in politics. Overtly class politics have failed. In leadership, the electorate wants a caring and honest prime minister. These qualities ranked highest in a recent poll of the electorate. No one really worries much about policies and ideology, a phenomenon that may open the way for other parties and new leaders.

With the national attention on Quebec's threat to secede, other issues are not debated. And, there are many other areas of concern for all Canadians, particularly trade relations. Among the young Canadians there seems to be a growing opinion against the Quebec government. Professor Granatstein phrased it this way, "If you want to go, go; if you want to stay, stay, but let's quit talking about it!"

Canadian Commerce

Jeffrey S. Thomas, a trade law attorney for the Canadian firm of Borden, Ladner, Gervais, LLP in Vancouver, talked about the importance of Canada's trade relations with other countries. With 43% of its GDP exported, Canada is sixth in the list of leading exporters. Canadian trade is centered on the United States with 80% of its exports going to the U.S. Thus trade relations with the U.S. are fundamentally important to Canada's prosperity.

Thomas discussed each of four themes that he sees as dominating any discussion of Canada's trade policies: 1) the need to develop foreign markets, 2) the fact that Canada is too small to be a leader in trade policy, 3) the mercantilist trade policies at the heart of Canadian culture, and 4) the impact of commerce on domestic and constitutional issues.

Canada's domestic market -- remember, only 30 million people -- is not large enough to support the lifestyle Canadians have gained over the years. Thus, after the U.K. opened itself to Europe, Canada sought and received preferential access to U.S. markets, ensuring that Canada's economic future is intimately tied to the U. S. It has no similar broad based access to other countries.

Thomas reiterated what Professor Schwartz had noted earlier. Canada supports a "rule of law" in

trade relations as a means of competing with larger countries. Canada needs the protection of a formal rule governing trade relations rather than relying on informal agreements or "gentleman's agreements." Rules can be invoked to curb the power of larger nations.

Protected industries, such as agriculture and textile industries, continue to have a disproportional influence in Ottawa. Few dairy products are exported, and there is a high tariff on dairy imports. Canada wants to be a part of global trade, and has benefited from market access obtained by other countries through international trade agreements and organizations.

In the past, border issues have dominated trade relations. But, since 1947, the emphasis has been on technical standards and on issues such as intellectual property. Commerce has complicated the federal-provincial relationships. Only the federal government has treaty-making power, yet provinces have jurisdiction in certain areas such as property and civil rights. The Prime Minister can adopt a trade policy even if there is no consensus to support him, but wisely does not use that power to walk over the provinces.

Canada and Peacekeeping

David Malone, President of the International Peace Academy, an independent organization headquartered in New York City, told us that Canada has traditionally been supportive of peacekeeping throughout the world. Since 1954, when the United Nations engaged in its first effort at the Suez Canal, 150,000 Canadians have participated in peacekeeping operations and over 100 of them lost their lives in doing so.

The changes in peacekeeping since the end of the Cold War have resulted in new factors driving decisions of the UN Security Council. Today, the following considerations are important in the peacekeeping process:

- humanitarian concerns,
- human rights,
- democratization,
- and terrorism.

Our Global Circumstances

Concluding the program was **Ivan L. Head**, Professor Emeritus of Law and Senior Fellow of the Liu Centre for the Study of Global Issues at the University of British Columbia. As a Special Assistant to Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, he has had first-hand experience with foreign policy and international relations and willingly shared his stories and views with us. Professor Head identified the major areas of concern for the planet: demographics, migration, communicable disease, the absence of healthcare, and trade.

The tripling of the world's population since 1930 has almost overpowered the ability of governments and civilizations to deal with the resulting consequences. According to Professor Head the population growth tests the "caring capacity" of the planet.

The sheer numbers in migration due to the disparity in economic status of different areas is nothing new, but nevertheless, overwhelming.

The population has, from age to age, been devastated by disease. In 1918-19, influenza killed 21 million people. In the 21st Century we still have tuberculosis, malaria and now HIV to conquer. The absence of health will reduce economic growth, productivity, civility and human dignity.

Finally, trade is essential. Professor Head referred to the talk of Jeffrey Thomas and reiterated the importance of exports to support many new developing economies. He stated that the world must fight commerce in contraband (drugs, narcotics, human beings), promote health among all nations, and effectively manage population growth.

Professor Head believes that Canada is a "joiner," in its international affairs----always looking for others that are like-minded.

In a world of dependency, the old notion of a "sovereign nation" seems, as Professor Head said, outdated and unrealistic for 2002 and beyond. It will be in the intensification of international cooperation that lies, in part, the solution to problems and conflicts between nations and neighbors. Together, much more than separately, the U.S. and Canada can set examples for cooperation and harmony that may lead other nations to greater peace and unity, not to mention prosperity.

In a world of dependency, the old notion of a "sovereign nation" seems, as Professor Head said, outdated and unrealistic

Closing Session . . . Thanks and On to Australia

Roger Jacobs, Law Library Director at Notre Dame University, Indiana, ably summed up the programs for us on the last day. His humor and insight made us all realize that we had, indeed, experienced a unique conference and were privileged to have been a part of this Joint Study Institute. We even came to understand, and appreciate, the "French-English thing!"

Thanks are due to CALL and their President, John Eaton, to the Institute Convenor Suzan Hebditch, and especially to Bonnie Preece of Carswell Institute for a truly memorable Institute. Together they satisfied the mind, body and soul. Outstanding food, stimulating lectures, and fun socials made for a great time! I wish that more SWALL members could have attended. The 2004 Institute is expected to be in Australia. The Aussies are ready for us!

SWALL 2002: Fiery Fun in Fort Worth!

by [Amy Hale-Janeke](#)

Reference Librarian/Media Coordinator
San Diego County Public Law Library

The plane landed. I stepped out onto the jet way and my hair instantly went flat. Ah- the humidity of Fort Worth!! I had missed all my SWALL friends, though, which was one reason why I decided to attend the 44th Annual SWALL Meeting. The other reasons included barbeque, Shiner Bock beer, fried okra, and pecan pralines (not necessarily in that order).

While waiting for the shuttle at the airport, I began seeing familiar sights from my childhood: skinny farm boys with belt buckles the size of dinner plates proudly proclaiming their rodeo accomplishments.-- "Most Likely to Get Gored By a Bull 1999," "Most Broken Bones in 8 Eight Seconds;" big-haired women whose locks defied the humidity with a combination of shellac and large amounts of backcombing; and people whose accents were twangy enough to make tuning forks resonate. In a short, I was home!!

Dining in Ft. Worth: Fiery Fun

After settling in at the hotel, I ventured forth with some old friends from law school to sample the Texas delicacies I had been craving. When the stuffed jalapenos came to the table, my friend took a bite and then sucked in air and said, "It's hot!" I thought she was referring to the piping hot filling, but no. As I learned when I bit into that plump bit of green fire, she was referring to the pepper itself. It seems this particular batch of peppers was grown in Hell and then shipped to the restaurant to be served to unwitting customers. Granted, I have not been an angel in my life, but I am pretty sure that those peppers violated the Eighth Amendment as they were both cruelly tempting and unusually punishing for my poor taste buds.

In order to tame the fire raging in my mouth a bit, I started swigging large amounts of Shiner Bock beer. And as the alcohol hit my brain, I decided that no stinkin' vegetable was going to get the best of me! No sir! I was born and raised in Texas and so surely I had enough fire in my blood that I could handle this!! So I ate another one of those green devils. And then had to drink more beer to put out the fire and hopefully reduce the number of blisters on my tongue. So then I'd get brave again. . . .Do you see a pattern here?

After a few hours of this, I sloshed my way back to the hotel room where my roommate took one look at my blistered, puffy lips and bleary eyes and said, "Them peppers gotcha huh?" I nodded mutely, hoping my lips would not resemble Mick Jagger's puffed protuberances in the morning.

I called my husband to tell him I had landed safely and was going to bed, but between my puffed lips and the drawl I tend to revert into while on my native soil, he probably didn't understand much.

I tried to explain about the peppers and the beer and wondered aloud how I could ever be content to live in the land of tofu and sprouts. He did what any smart husband is supposed to do when faced with a conversation with his wife who has lapsed into her native dialect and has had slightly too much to drink. He listened and made conversational sounds like, "Uh huh. Really? That's great Hon." while I told him that I had third degree burns on my tongue and that Shiner Bock beer is the nectar of the gods. He finished with "I love you. Glad you got there safe! Good night." He was able to hang up with the satisfaction that only a married man can know: he had carried on a conversation with his wife, who was talking but he couldn't understand her, and she didn't have a crying fit or accuse him of not listening. He celebrated by ordering a pizza.

The Pre-Conference Program

Every year the Legal Information Services to the Public (LISP) Special Interest Section of AALL gives a pre-conference program to the local non-legal librarians of the city which hosts the SWALL Meeting

The next day I had to get up early to give a presentation to a group of public librarians on how to do legal research on the 'Net and I was living to regret my run in with those jalapenos. Luckily, the librarians I was addressing didn't know me from Adam so they didn't comment on the mildly bloodshot eyes and puffy lips. If they had asked about the lips, I was prepared to tell them that they were the result of mandatory collagen injections that are a requirement when one moves to California. As for the eyes, I thought I would tell them that I had worn my contacts and had a run in with a Texas wind, but no one seemed inclined to question me. The blisters on my tongue made me have a wee bit of an accent, but next to the thick accents of some of the participants, I sounded like a New York cabbie.

It was great fun to teach the Ft Worth public librarians the basics of legal research. Every year the Legal Information Services to the Public (LISP) Special Interest Section of AALL gives a pre-conference program to the local non-legal librarians of the city which hosts the SWALL

Meeting. We teach them the basics of legal research in both book and Internet formats, and it is always fun! Elizabeth Schneider, my mentor, originally drafted me into helping with this annual event, but I have volunteer to do the program for three years in a row simply because I have so much fun!

My co-presenters Sharon Wayland, Peggy Martindale, Sharon Blackburn and Jill Henderson were also wonderful and we had a great time. The librarians asked lots of interesting questions, and I reflected on how nice it was to teach people really interested in learning versus some of the members of the public who attend my legal research class and who would lose a battle of wits with cheese.

The SWALL Meeting

After that program was over, I headed to the SWALL meeting itself. One thing I love about SWALL meetings is that everyone is so friendly. That may be due to the fact that SWALL, like other AALL chapters, is somewhat incestuous, as we have all worked for and with each other and each other's bosses. It is like going to a family reunion. . . .in Arkansas. But that's OK- it makes for a friendly and relaxed time, with the added bonus that you don't have any cousins trying to kiss you.

[A SWALL Meeting] makes for a friendly and relaxed time, with the added bonus that you don't have any cousins trying to kiss you.

The SWALL speakers were great and so were the programs (OK- I admit I am a bit biased because I gave one of the programs, -- but they really were great!). One I really enjoyed was "Managing Up" by Lorea Belle of the SMU's Human Resources Department. This program discussed ways for employees to make managers more effective through good communication practices. Since my current practice of peering through the stacks of work and glowering malevolently at my manager and saying, "You've got to be kidding" has stopped working, this seminar was really helpful.

My favorite seminar was called "The Solo Librarian's Guide to Marketing on a Shoestring" by Beth Dempsey, Manager of Corporate Communications for the Gale Group. She listed many valuable ideas about how to market with no money, which is of interest to those of us in the county law library realm. She explained that she is part of an in-house ad agency for the Gale Group and that they lend out their services to libraries. She pointed us to a free Web site where law libraries can print out free law-related bookmarks and flyers and even add customized text to the flyers! The Web site is: <http://www.gale.com/freestuff/> and the free stuff is in both Spanish and English! I have my notes and the bibliography from the seminar if anyone is interested -- just e-mail me and let me know.

After Hours Fun in Ft. Worth

After attending these excellent seminars, I wandered outside to the Fort Worth Arts Festival. There, I was able to kick back and listen to zydeco music and the blues while munching on kettle corn and drinking a margarita. My grandparents, who were in town to visit a cousin, came over one evening and we walked up and down the Arts Festival exhibits. At one point, my devoutly religious grandmother cautioned me to avoid a certain booth. She drawled in a hushed whisper "Don't look ovuh there-- there's a picture of a nekkid lady!" I whispered back "Don't worry, I've seen them before." She was shocked, but not as shocked as she would be if she knew that public libraries have many kinds of art exhibits, including one in Boulder, CO that featured ceramic penises. See that story at <http://www.boulderweekly.com/archive/111501/newsspin.html>.

So, in all, it was a wonderful time. The fact that I learned so much AND got to eat my favorite foods AND got to see my friends and some family made this, like my other SWALL conferences, a wonderful experience despite the jalaepeno-inflicted blisters in my mouth. I am hoping I will be healed in time for next year's meeting, because it will be time to chow down on Kansas strip steaks!

COURT FILINGS

Award Winners in UALR

by [Jessie L. Cranford](#)

Circulation Librarian & Associate Professor of Law Librarianship
UALR/Pulaski County Law Library

Melissa Serfass and Jessie Cranford, librarians at the UALR William H. Bowen School of Law, received the Academic Law Libraries Outstanding Article Award for their article "Federal and State Court Rules Governing Publication and Citation of Opinions," *3 Journal of Appellate Practice and Process* 251 (Spring 2001).

The article responds to the renewed interest in unpublished appellate court opinions and their precedential value following the recent Anastoff decision. It includes guidelines for publishing opinions and for citing unpublished opinions in the federal courts of appeal and the appellate courts of the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

NEW PUBLICATION announcement

State of Texas Statutory Restrictions on Convicted Felons Current through the 77th Legislature, 2001 A Compilation of Texas Laws

Reference staff at the State Law Library in Austin have compiled a list of Texas statutes concerning the activities of convicted felons. We think this list will be useful for all who work in law enforcement, the criminal justice system, the juvenile justice system, for anyone who works with youth, especially those at risk, for public and school librarians, teachers, counselors, and advisors.

Over 160 Texas statutes, many in the Occupations Code, restrict the actions and activities of convicted felons. What future jobs might be affected? Statutes for risk managers, interior designers, funeral home directors, and the occupations of law enforcement officer, security officer, and public official are among the many areas not available to convicted felons.

Price: \$10.00

Need further information? **Contact Catherine Harris**
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