Well, it’s happened. I’m rounding out my time as SEAALL President and am writing to you for the last time in this space. It’s been a weird and challenging year but I’m also glad to have been entrusted with this responsibility. Thanks to all of you for trusting me. I look forward to the excellent online Annual Meeting that the Program Committee is polishing up and the excellent leadership that you will expect from C.J. Pipins starting in April.

While I never really meant these columns to become all Covid-19 all the time that’s the world we live in now. It looks like the Omicron variant is beginning to wane throughout the U.S. although progress is a bit slower in SEAALL country. The recent surge means that my library has once again closed to the public and we don’t yet have a reopening date. Many of you have started the Spring semester online or are facing questions about when or if you might return to working in the office on a regular basis. All of this uncertainty and changing structures has been really stressful for me and I imagine many of you have found it distressing as well.

One of the things about life in the time of Covid-19 that has caused trouble for me is the sudden abundance of unstructured time I have found myself with. Way back in March and April 2020 this lack of structure was a gift, offering me the opportunity to get enough sleep, take long walks, read whatever I found interesting, and just slow down. But now that time in concert with my butterfly chasing, shiny object seeking brain has caused me to gain a collection of bad habits and behaviors that make fitting back into a more “normal” life difficult and scary.

This challenge has led me to go out looking for ways to get better. That’s involved doing the truly terrifying work of actually asking for help and taking the time for introspection that I usually find deeply uncomfortable. It’s hard and can be upsetting but I’m finding it completely necessary.

While most of you probably don’t have the same set of issues that you face but I can almost guarantee that you are facing stress and discomfort in the reality in which we all find ourselves. Maybe you’re frustrated with the way things are going at work or are itching to try something new. Perhaps you’re anxious or depressed or even burned out. I encourage you to take a look at what’s going on in your life and work and take the time to take care of yourself. I know I need to take care of me and you need to take care of you as well.

To that end I commend to you Legal Ease: Self-Care For Library Staff, a whitepaper that AALL published in 2018. It was written by a diverse group of law librarians and other professionals, including a number of your fellow SEAALL members (including me). You can find it on AALLNet at https://www.aallnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Legal-Ease-White-Paper-FINAL.pdf. I hope you’ll take a look and think about what you can do for your own mental health and well being. We’re still deep in a scary time and we all need help sometimes. If there’s anything that SEAALL can do to help you, please feel free to ask. Even if you don’t have the time energy to do a lot I do encourage you to do something small for yourself like taking a walk, doing something you love, or maybe just enjoying a little treat. You’re worth it!
If you absolutely needed a technology tip, where would you turn? If you shouted ‘the SEAALL newsletter, obviously’, we appreciate your patronage but you’re either sucking up, or you’re a librarian from 1998. If you buzzed in with ‘GitHub,’ that’s cool, but it seems more likely that you would tip my tech than the other way around.

But if you raised your hand and answered, ‘I would probably just try to find a YouTube tutorial,’ this is the column for you. When you’re trying to, say, troubleshoot that pesky Mail Merge, a screencap with an explanatory voice-over just can’t be beat.

If you need to rewind and listen to that tricky part one more time, and you find yourself fumbling your attempts to click those teeny icons at the bottom of the video, know that there’s a better way, friend!

That better way takes the form of the many keyboard shortcuts that can supercharge your YouTube experience, such as:

- Pressing ‘k’ to pause. This is superior to the spacebar, which does different things depending on what you’ve selected with your mouse.
- While the video is paused, you can navigate it frame by frame by hitting the period and comma to go forward and backwards respectively.
- Soundwise, you’ve got ‘m’ to mute and the up/down arrows to turn the volume up and down.
- ‘>’ and ‘<’ will fulfill those functions.
- The numbers allow for fairly granular control over where you are in the video, with 0 returning you to the start, 5 to the 50% mark, 9 to 90% and so on. (This doesn’t work with the numpad.)

There are other shortcuts out there, but these are the ones that I find to be most useful. If you find yourself struggling to commit this article to memory, you can also click on the ‘keyboard’ icon at the bottom of your video for a refresher (sadly, there’s no shortcut for the shortcuts).

These individual shortcuts may seem pretty minor, but together they can make your YouTube exploits much more efficient. They are especially clutch if you’re on a laptop with a finicky touchpad. Combine them with the use of an ad blocker, and you almost have a usable website!

"Let me explain. No, there is too much. Let me sum up." Inigo Montoya, _The Princess Bride_.

If you need to speed your tutorial up or slow it down, ‘>’ and ‘<’ will fulfill those functions.

The numbers allow for fairly granular control over where you are in the video, with 0 returning you to the start, 5 to the 50% mark, 9 to 90% and so on. (This doesn’t work with the numpad.)

The e-postcard is a straightforward certification that SEAALL had less than $50,000 in gross receipts for the year. Under the direction of the SEAALL Board, I prepared SEAALL’s 2021 990-N e-postcard for President Sarah Mauldin’s signature, and I filed it with the IRS for free.

One of SEAALL’s largest expenses, other than in-person annual meeting expenses when those happen, is its WildApricot subscription.
Today a friend of mine from library school tweeted, “I have found that there are two types of librarians/archivists: enthusiastic lawful weeder and unbridled chaotic hoarder. No in-between.”

Fortunately, in my professional collection-development role, I tend towards legal selection and weeding, but in my personal life I am unfortunately a chaotic hoarder of books, shoes, sweaters, and cats.

For instance, my bookshelves are currently divided between “books, read” and “books, unread or not-yet-read,” and the books-not-yet-read currently take up...pardon me while I count...about five bookcases, give or take a few shelves. Both categories are further divided into “fiction, almost entirely speculative,” “three southern novels written by friends or friends-of-friends,” “book about music” (housed, of course, next to the LPs), “poetry,” “plays,” “graphic novels and oversize art books,” “books acquired from end-of-the-year Verso, Haymarket, and academic publisher book sales,” “academic texts about fantasy and science fiction and also collections of fairy tales,” and “Terry Pratchett novels.” Then there’s the bookshelf in the bedroom for everything I want to read next, which probably has something from all of the above in it.

And that’s just at home. The academic books about southern history, politics, and culture live at the office and are roughly divided by state. I have the most about Alabama, but Mississippi is a close second. I’m working on North Carolina. That’s also where the cultural theory, academic books about the history and culture of places other than the U.S. South, and the Oxford University Press “Very Short Introduction” books all live. (Except for the one...
Closed Stacks, cont.

about the American South, which is located with the music books.) And a couple books about law and libraries and legal research, you know, just for fun.

My latest shelf, drawn partly from the southern history and culture section, with some new editions (perhaps you have picked up on the fact that I find it difficult to stop buying books), is on the queer history of the U.S. South. I have just finished a two week “write every day” sprint with other faculty members and used my time to write a conference proposal and take notes for a lit review. I am slowly finishing an MFA in Documentary Expression at the University of Mississippi, which has been interrupted by a move to NC, the pandemic, and various health concerns.

My written thesis will be on recent Pride Parades in Mississippi, which will be accompanied by a website featuring different types of documentary material. I’m trying to get myself back into it, and it was great to spend some time with books I know I need to cite but have not read in a long time. First up was, of course, John Howard’s *Men Like That*, the foundational work for southern queer history. Howard uses a variety of methods to paint a portrait of queer life in Mississippi in the mid-twentieth century and argues that historians must use different tools to see queer life in rural areas. Mary L. Gray’s *Out in the Country* tackles a more recent period by exploring how rural queer youth in Kentucky navigate media, sexuality, gender, and visibility. Taking a literary angle, Jaime Harker’s *The Lesbian South* tells the story of southern lesbian feminists and the women-in-print movement of the 1970s. I have just read for the first time Susan Stryker’s *Transgender History*, which is a terrific account of, well, What It Says On The Tin - major moments in U.S. transgender history, which both intersect with and diverge from other queer histories.

Next up are Katherine McFarland Bruce’s *Pride Parades* and John Maruszalek’s *Coming Out of the Magnolia Closet* for obvious reasons, Anne Enke’s *Finding the Movement* (about the feminist movement in Detroit, Chicago, and St. Paul-Minneapolis in the 1970s) for methods on how to tell movement histories, and Ralph Eubanks’ *A Place Like Mississippi* to think about how to incorporate photography and other documentary material with creative nonfiction. And special mention to Cecelia Park’s new article “‘Be Nice to My Shadow’: Queer Negotiation of Privacy and Visibility in Kentucky,” in the September 2021 volume of the Journal of the History of Sexuality, which really helped me think about how southerners negotiate visibility and privacy in regard to sexuality. Terrific works, all.


As we live with our daily COVID reality, I was reminded of the 1993 legal drama, Philadelphia. Filmed a decade after AIDS was identified as a disease, *Philadelphia* was one of Hollywood’s first mainstream films confronting the life-altering disease. The film is a reminder that we did not always know the current science regarding HIV/AIDS. For example, in one scene in the film, a librarian repeatedly asks visibly ill attorney Andy Beckett, if he wouldn’t be “more comfortable in a private research room.” How does this attitude compare to libraries’ COVID responses? Like the beginning of HIV/AIDS, COVID confounds us with uncertainty, changing medical information and guidance, frustration over vaccination status, impacts on our daily lives, and overburdened health care systems.

*Philadelphia* stars Tom Hanks, as Andy Beckett, a talented senior associate at a top Philadelphia law firm, and Denzel Washington, as Joe Miller, a plaintiff’s lawyer known as “the TV guy.” As the film opens, AIDS is a part of Andy’s life, although he is hiding his condition and sexuality from the law firm. Andy is a rising star at the firm and receives a promotion to handle a case for the firm’s largest client.
Legal Movie Review Cont.

However, one of the senior partners becomes suspicious after noticing a lesion on Andy’s forehead. The client’s complaint prepared by Andy suddenly goes missing and is found only minutes before a statute of limitations expires. Andy is informed his future at the firm is in doubt and he suspects he is fired because he is sick.

Andy is determined to take a stand but is unable to find an attorney willing to take on his old firm. He finally asks attorney Joe Miller, who despite his admitted homophobia, reluctantly takes Andy’s case. As the film shifts to the trial, we see the progression of Andy’s disease and the toll it is taking on him and his family. In fact, scenes with his family showing their support, are some of the most touching and emotional scenes in the film. As the movie concludes, we are left with the hope that this film helped confront the stigma and prejudice that surrounded HIV/AIDS and lead to effective medical treatment. Jonathan Demme directed Philadelphia and Ron Nyswaner wrote the screenplay. The film was inspired by the lives of attorneys Geoffrey Bowers and Clarence B. Cain, although not without controversy. Philadelphia received several awards, including Academy Awards for Tom Hanks for Best Actor in a Leading Role and Bruce Springsteen for Best Music, Original Song, Streets of Philadelphia. You can watch Philadelphia for free on Amazon Prime.

I heartily recommend this film, not only for the legal drama and access to court issue, but for the reminder that despite all the initial fear about HIV/AIDS, science and medicine are now able to manage this disease. Perhaps this is a lesson that people will learn about COVID and likewise remember working with science and medicine will enable us to manage this disease.

SEAALL Student Scholarship Article - Jennifer Chapman

As I enter my final semester as a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) student at the University of Maryland College of Information Studies (UMD iSchool), I find myself drawing connections among all I have learned. While studying for my MLIS, I have been fortunate to work at the Thurgood Marshall Law Library (TMLL) at the University of Maryland Carey School of Law (UMD Law), which has contributed greatly to my experience. Last semester I began teaching legal research. This experience has reinforced the value of law librarians in teaching legal research and the importance of helping law librarians acquire the necessary skills to teach legal research to future lawyers effectively. An issue I am particularly interested in and will be exploring through an independent study with Professor Ursula Gorham this semester is how to help law students think critically about information technology.

We live in a time where we seemingly have unending access to information. Law students need to understand both the benefits and limitations of the systems we use to access information. For example, quickly finding information does not necessarily mean you have found the answer, and not finding information does not mean there is no answer. Technology-driven search platforms can cause novice researchers to fall into pitfalls like “grazing” - haphazardly foraging for information - and “satisficing” - settling for information that is most readily available. Engaging, informing, and understanding how law students learn is essential to ensuring they can use the wide range of legal information resources in their
Student Scholarship Cont.

coursework, clinical work, summer positions, and internships. They must be prepared to be productive, contributing members of the legal community and apply good legal information-seeking behaviors once they enter the legal profession, including critically examining digital resources. Law librarians can help foster an appreciation for legal research and counter poor information-seeking behaviors that may have been shaped through almost exclusive engagement with Google and other natural language-driven search technologies. Students often do not draw distinctions between Googling an issue and doing research in legal databases, which require more nuanced search techniques.

Teaching law students how to effectively and efficiently perform legal research and critically examine information technologies is an important role for academic law librarians. Students need these skills to both secure future employment and promote good research behaviors in the legal community. Law librarians are well situated to provide instruction to law students that gives them strong legal research skills and teaches them to think critically about the information they are finding. As I complete my MLIS and find my place in the law librarian community, I look forward to continuing to learn from my colleagues and the community of legal information professionals ways to help our students and patrons acquire good information-seeking behaviors.

PODCAST REVIEW: YOU’RE WRONG ABOUT

For our first Podcast Review, I wanted to suggest something academic, but fun. A podcast that teaches new things and encourages reexamination of past held beliefs and understandings. Something that I believe all librarians could appreciate. For me, that comes in the form of one of my favorite podcasts: You’re Wrong About. Hosted by two journalists (and friends), Mike and Sarah. The show is informative and their banter is a delight.

The show started in May 2018 and posts new episodes on a semi-regular basis. Its tagline is: “Sarah is a journalist obsessed with the past. Every week she reconsiders a person or event that’s been miscast in the public imagination.” Unfortunately, they recently announced that Mike, the other co-host, has left the podcast to pursue other things, but I have listened to episodes with Sarah, who now has a revolving door of guests, and it is still just as good! Not to mention, there is a backlog of 4 years’ worth of hour long (sometimes more) episodes. Michael Hobbes is a reporter at the HuffPost and Sarah Marshall writes for multiple news outlets, such as: the New Republic and Buzzfeed, as well as being a professor at Portland State University.

What I enjoy about this podcast in particular is that the hosts have a good rapport, and it is well researched. I find that these elements can make or break a podcast for me. Sarah and Mike are both quippy, but respectful of what the other person is saying — and their tangents are not long and always amusing. Obviously, everyone has a different opinion on that sort of thing, but I think their chemistry as co-hosts and friends is palpable.

Additionally, the podcast is well researched. As journalists, Mike and Sarah take a clear cut strategy to their research and constantly reference academic journal articles, firsthand accounts, scientific studies, court documents, and biographies (with the appropriate disclaimers about biases.) As someone who listens to a lot of historical podcasts, I appreciate this thoroughness, as it allows me to fully engage with the conversation, without wondering where the sources are coming from. They often quote directly from sources and also deconstruct sources and question their validity. In many episodes, you can find links to their sources in the description.

One of my favorite things, however, is how both Mike and Sarah take turns researching and presenting topics to the other host, who has not done any research and is often only vaguely familiar with the topic — such as knowing the
Podcast Cont.

more “mythological” version that is perpetuated by the media. The other host then gets to gleefully deconstruct their concept of their knowledge of the subject. What is great about this is while they have clear notes and a story narrative, it is not scripted, allowing for an easy, conversational flow to the podcast. Many podcasts struggle with the balance between a faux-sounding scripted conversation or being too unstructured so as to lose the thread of narrative. You’re Wrong About has a great balance.

For those interested in law cases they covered, I would suggest starting with their multi-part series on the OJ Simpson trial. This was the first thing I listened to when getting into the podcast and immediately appreciated how they spent several episodes discussing the victims, making sure to center the story on those individuals and the facts of the case without sensationalizing. It was incredibly informative and fascinating. (And still not complete!) They have covered many other well known cases such as: Anita Hill, Lorena Bobbitt, the McDonald’s Hot Coffee Case (I really loved this one!), Roe v. Wade, Dan Quayle v. Murphy Brown, the Clinton Impeachment, and the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

If you would like to start with other episodes, I would suggest their five part series on Princess Diana, which I listened to after finishing OJ Simpson. Other episodes that I enjoyed were: Koko the Gorilla, the Y2K Bug, Exorcism, the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment, the Stanford Prison Experiment, the Chicks v. the Iraq War, and a recent podcast they did on why the true crime podcast phenomena has problematic elements to it.

I hope that you give it a chance and enjoy!

Note: Be cautious, as many episodes include descriptions of assaults, murders, and other graphic content. Usually, they will put warnings at the beginning of episodes, but some of the older ones do lack that.

Library Profiles : Law Library of Louisiana

The Law Library of Louisiana is housed in the Louisiana Supreme Court Building in New Orleans’ historic French Quarter. The building itself cannot be missed if you find yourself strolling the streets around Jackson Square and the banks of the Mississippi River. Street performers can be seen and heard playing music to crowds that congregate on the entrance stairs. Occupying an entire block along Royal Street, the grand structure was built in the early 1900s, though the library as an entity predates construction, having been originally founded in 1838 by the state legislature.

The physical library space is currently closed to the public due to the ongoing pandemic. However, the law library does offer online collections via the Louisiana Digital Library in partnership with the Louisiana Digital Consortium that can be accessed from anywhere. The library’s tri-annual publication, De Novo, can be found on Hein Online as well as the digital library.

In addition to the digital library, there are copious Library Research Guides authored by resident librarians. The guides offer substantial information about the rich Louisiana Legal History. Some guides of note range from fascinating “Louisiana Cemetery Laws,” to landmark “Plessy v. Ferguson,” to lesser-known histories such as “The Mass Lynching of Italian-Americans in New Orleans.”

The Law Library of Louisiana serves a wide variety of patrons; the Louisiana Judiciary, attorneys, and pro se patrons. Their rare book collection offers resources for historians interested in Louisiana’s civil law history, the oldest book in their collection being the 1518 Digesti Novi Textus.

Source: https://law.library.lsu.edu/
Recent Acquisitions

I prefer reading fiction, but our recent acquisitions were nonfiction, so finding a book that I thought would be interesting to read posed somewhat of a challenge. I settled on *Paving the Way: The First American Women Law Professors* by Herma Hill Kay and edited by Patricia A. Cain.

Herma Hill Kay introduced *Paving the Way* as a book about firsts. In chapters one through six (out of seven), she told the stories of the first 14 women who were full-time law professors at ABA accredited–AALS member law schools before 1960. Most parts of their stories were interesting: many were first-generation college students and came from modest backgrounds. Many had families. A few practiced law before joining the academy. Some of them became deans. Some left the academy to become judges. Many significantly contributed to developing and reforming the legal system. These women were pioneers because they were talented and accomplished; many were experts in their fields. However, I confess that I found some parts of their stories tiresome and tedious. Their accolades – awards, honors, committees, and scholarship, including dates for all – often read like a resume in paragraph form. But just skimming these sections, I could appreciate all their accomplishments.

Of particular interest to this audience is that six of the 14 thrived at law schools located within the SE-AALL region and that five were librarians before becoming professors. Of the five librarians, four were at schools in the southeast. And of particular interest to me, three of the 14 were at the University of Miami School of Law. Let’s take a brief look at this select group.

Harriet Spiller Daggett became a law professor at Louisiana State University in 1931. She helped reform Louisiana’s community property laws to ensure employed spouses were treated equally. She also was a leader in establishing oil and gas as a new legal field, and in 1939, she published her treatise, *Mineral Rights in Louisiana*.

Soia Mentschikoff practiced law for several years before joining the Harvard faculty in 1946, the same year she married her former professor, Karl Llewellyn. At the time, Soia and Karl were heavily involved in drafting the Uniform Commercial Code, which led to Soia publishing the casebook, *Commercial Transactions: Cases and Materials*. In 1951, the couple joined the faculty at the University of Chicago, and in 1974, Soia became Dean at the University of Miami. In negotiating her contract, she insisted that an addition to the law library be built, saying “No law school can possibly operate unless it has a first-rate library.” Thank you, Soia!

Jeanette Ozanne Smith graduated from law school and became the law librarian for Dade County (now Miami-Dade County) where she established the courthouse library, worked with the judges, and trained lawyers in legal research. She was appointed to the University of Miami law faculty in 1949.

Janet Mary Riley had been a librarian for several years when she accepted the opportunity to be the law library director at Loyola University New Orleans, while simultaneously taking law school classes. She remained the director for three years after graduating, and in 1955, she became a full-time professor. Janet, as a member of the Louisiana State Law Institute, was actively involved in revising the state’s community property laws.
Recent Acquisitions Cont.

Helen Elsie Steinbinder worked full-time at the Library of Congress while she attended law school. In 1956, she became a research librarian at the Georgetown University Law Center, and in 1957, she joined the faculty as its first woman law professor and remained its sole female professor for over 15 years.

Maria Minnette Massey started at the University of Miami as an assistant law librarian after graduating from its law school in 1951. She was an active member of AALL and served as SEAALL’s Secretary-Treasurer in 1956-57. Her article, Law School Administration and the Law Librarian, published in 1957 in the Journal of Legal Education, is one of the earliest studies documenting salary disparities. Minnette joined the law faculty in 1958, and in 1962, she served as Acting Dean until 1965. She continued as a professor until her last class on April 24, 2008. Why is that date significant? Because I started as a reference librarian at the University of Miami Law Library on April 1, 2008. I regret not having the opportunity to work with her.

Without diminishing the accomplishments of the women identified by Herma Hill Kay, it is important to remember the criteria that Herma used: full-time law professors at ABA accredited—AALS member law schools before 1960. As pointed out by Melissa Murray in the Afterword, Herma’s criteria eliminated several women that taught at unaccredited law schools, some of whom predated those on Herma’s list. In Herma’s list, Barbara Nachtrieb Armstrong became the pioneering women, she understands Herma’s criteria because that was the world in which Herma lived; she served as President of AALS in 1989 and she served on numerous ABA committees. In fact, Herma would have been the 15th woman on the list, having joined the University of California Berkeley law school faculty in 1960.

Although Paving the Way focused on women in law, their stories may encourage those who face challenges in the workplace. These women, despite my focus on their successes, fought for their place in a white, male-dominated profession. As noted in the Foreword written by Ruth Bader Ginsburg, these women persevered, and “all of them overcame the odds against them for the same reason: they found law study and teaching fulfilling.” May we all be so fortunate to find our true passion and success.

Meet & Three

Meet

Like many of you, I came to law librarianship after a stint – six years in my case – of unsatisfying law practice and casting about for something that was a better fit. I don’t know that I have much to add to that story, but I will say that I worked in the law library while I was in law school and had two people sit me down and try to talk me into getting my library degree and embarking on law librarianship as a career path, and I blew them off. One of those people was Bob Nis- senbaum, then the director at the Rains Law Library at Loyola of Los Angeles (and recently retired from the directorship at Fordham). The other was a good law school friend of mine who intended a career as a law librarian himself. If only I had listened to them, I could have saved myself six years of general stress and unhappiness. If you have a student working in your law library that you think has the aptitude for our profession, please push it on them – more than once!

I’m originally from California, and ended up in Tennessee without a lot of careful thought. It was more of a happy accident. My original plan had been to attend the University of Washington’s highly esteemed law librarianship program, but I decided to apply to a few extra library schools as a safety measure. After reviewing a lot of brochures that came into my mailbox after I registered for the GRE, I picked the University of Tennessee as a place I would apply based on the sole criterion that Johnny Cash was from Tennessee, and I’m a big fan. People always think I’m joking when I say this – I’m not.

Sibyl Marshall
Head of Public Services
The University of Tennessee
Meet & Three Cont.

So, I sent in my applications to the University of Washington, the University of Tennessee, and one other place I don’t even remember.

Firmly intent on my University of Washington plan, and already having been accepted there, I got an envelope from the University of Tennessee and promptly threw it in the trash without opening it. The next day, while taking out the trash, I decided I really ought to look at whatever they sent me before tossing it. So I dug through the trash and found an offer for a full scholarship and assistantship, complete with a tuition waiver and pay. As much as I was looking forward to the University of Washington, I couldn’t resist free tuition and a salary for graduate school. So, I came to Tennessee, with the intention of going right back to the west coast with my degree. Instead, I found myself very happy here and I have yet to return after twenty-five years.

And three
I’m an animal lover, and one of the ways I feel like I can do good things for the community and for the animals is participating in fostering homeless pets and in rescue transport relays, where pets (usually dogs) are transported from crowded, mostly southern, shelters to areas in the country where adoptable pets are in high demand. I usually do one drive per month. A typical “leg” would be to meet the previous driver in my home city of Knoxville, take the dog(s) into my own car, drive them 50-80 miles to hand off to the next driver, then come on back home. It isn’t a huge outlay of time or gas money, but it feels like I’m making a real contribution. And I get to meet lots of wonderful dogs! Here are three of my favorites from over the years, each of which is an adorable mix.

Misha was perhaps the cutest puppy I have ever seen in my life. She is a chow-yorkshire terrier mix, so the transport drivers called her a choworkie. She was literally minutes away from euthanasia in a crowded Memphis city shelter when someone stepped in and pulled her for rescue. I drove her one leg of the way from Memphis to her adoptive home in Connecticut.

Oscar was such a lovely gentleman! Perfect manners and an absolute sweetheart. He is an Australian shepherd – basset hound cross and was on his way through Tennessee to a new home in North Carolina when I drove him.

And this is Ruby, who I fostered in my house for a few weeks. She is a clown with a big personality. I came very close to “foster failing” and keeping her for myself. Ruby’s parents were a Catahoula leopard dog (mom) and a miniature dachshund (dad). Yes, really. You can’t tell from this picture, but Ruby is very small, not much bigger than a dachshund. Those giant ears always look like she’s about to go soaring off like the Flying Nun. Ruby found a great home on an estate in the Virginia mountains, where she has hundreds of acres to romp around and amuse herself. I still miss her though!
Encouraging Student Research and Scholarship – Lessons Learned from a Law Library Program

Just a few days ago, I received my MLIS diploma in the mail from the University of Arizona’s iSchool Library Science Program. As a fellow in UA’s law library fellowship, I was granted the opportunity to study under and work alongside some of the best law librarians in the profession – both at UA and during my internship at the University of Richmond. These folks are dedicated to training the next generation of law librarians, and they understand that law library students play an important role in the advancement of the profession. Since students will eventually join their teachers as colleagues and peers, one of the most important ways teachers can inspire their students to advance law librarianship is by encouraging their research and scholarship while still in school.

One of the biggest surprises during my program occurred at the first meeting of my Research Methods course. The week’s topic was a debate as to whether research classes should even be a requirement for library science students at all. Likely most librarians are not entering the field intending to conduct research. But law librarians sit at an important nexus between two disciplines, making our profession a ripe subject are for cross-disciplinary research. In particular, academic law librarians work alongside law professors who are continually producing scholarship for publication. These librarians are often encouraged by their law schools to produce scholarship themselves, and they may have university resources at their disposal to do so. AALL and its affiliates offer grants and awards for law librarian research as well, and scholarly work is welcomed at conferences and in professional journals. In short, law librarians should regard scholarly research as a viable facet of their professional work if they don’t already.

But from my own admitted-ly anecdotal experience, most law librarians generally have not, and have not considered, conducting research in law librarianship. I believe library science professors have some power to remedy this by encouraging their students to conduct research while in school. In one of my early semesters at UA, I offhandedly mentioned to my professors a research topic that I thought would be interesting to explore. They immediately supported the idea and offered their guidance and assistance in whatever ways they could. I conducted my research and wrote up my findings for class. I hope now that I have graduated and work at a law school library, I can continue my research and eventually publish my findings in a scholarly journal. Without the encouragement from my professors, I would not consider research as a regular part of a law librarian's job description. This is just one more way in which law librarians can impact their students and the future of the profession.
Criminal Contagion: How Mafias, Gangsters, and Scammers Profit from a Pandemic. Tuesday Reitano and Mark Shaw. Hurst & Co., 2021 ($29.95)

What does the COVID-19 world have to do with organized crime and criminal law? Tuesday Reitano and Mark Shaw use their experience at both the UN and the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime to explain how a world of shortages, unexpected consumer demand, lockdowns, and a world searching for new remedies and treatments is a perfect environment for the growth of frauds, scams, and organized crime.

Reitano and Shaw look at these issues from the illicit wildlife trade that was likely responsible for the zoonosis that we call COVID-19 to the counterfeit N-95 masks, fake medicines, and internet scams that have resulted from the global societal changes.

They also look at the effect that the crisis has had on justice systems world wide and examine how that affected the world of organized crime. Several chapters are devoted to the economics of crime as well as how the economic problems encountered during the pandemic may have supercharged the growth of some illegal activities.

Finally, the authors present what they call “prevention, treatment, and cure” for confronting the growth of crime and present their reasonings as to why social and educational interventions for children and vulnerable populations are key to preventing organized crime and working within the justice system to treat the problem.

This book provides a look at the COVID-19 pandemic in a way that focuses on the societal rather than the medical impacts. Academic libraries should consider adding it to their collection.

SEAALL Scholarship and Awards Committee Update

The SEAALL Scholarship and Awards Committee had a meeting on December 7, 2021, and selected the Student Scholarship winners for 2021. There were six applicants and three scholarships were awarded.

The Committee is now reviewing and preparing the application and announcements for the Lucile Elliott Scholarship, which provides financial aid for any purpose reasonably designed to improve one’s career in law librarianship.

Part of the purpose of this award is to encourage recipients to remain in the profession. The Committee plans to release the announcements and applications for the Lucile Elliott Scholarship sometime in February.
Registration is now open for SEAALL 2022. 14 sessions, 4 days, zero cost.

If you want to attend this Virtual event, please register in advance for the conference.

Registered attendees will receive links to the programs via email before April 1.

To register go to https://seaall.wildapricot.org/event-4605492 to register.

The slate of programs for this year’s Virtual Annual Meeting are an excellent mix of programs this year from a variety of SEAALL members and non-members alike.

The meeting will be held entirely on ZOOM.

From Noon until 2pm on Tuesday, April 5; Thursday April 7; Tuesday April 12; and Thursday April 14.

Nearly all of the sessions will be recorded for those who cannot attend in person.

**Thank you to the program Committee for all of their hard work!!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>1pm – 2pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>12pm (Noon) – 1pm</td>
<td>1pm – 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OPENING:</strong> Recovering With Mindfulness for Law Librarians 60 min</td>
<td>Building Collections with a Racial Justice or Social Justice Focus 20 min</td>
<td>Teaching Legal Citation with the Bluebook Bootcamp 30 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 7</td>
<td>12pm (Noon) – 1pm</td>
<td>1pm – 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law Student Awareness and Use of Closed Captions 20 min</td>
<td>Exploring Advanced Legal Research: What Should It Be? 30 min</td>
<td>So you want to teach Law Practice Technology? 60 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>12pm (Noon) – 1pm</td>
<td>1pm – 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reconnecting with Difficult Patrons 20 min</td>
<td>Going Remote: How We Developed a Hybrid ALR Class to Better Serve Students During the Pandemic 30 min</td>
<td>PeMento: Making the Case for a Spicy New Version of Mentoring 30 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>12pm (Noon) – 1pm</td>
<td>1pm – 2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Value of Professional Development and Service within Your Organization 20 min</td>
<td>Working with Open Educational Resources: Nuts and Bolts 30 min.</td>
<td>Do We Have To? A Historical and Empirical Analysis of Law Schools’ Ethical “Obligation” to Teach Legal Technology 30 min.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CLOSING:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>AALL Treasurer, Comell Winston 20 min.</td>
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Become an author in the Southeastern Law Librarian! Share your articles, notes, photos, comments, ideas, rejected blog entries, or anything else that will fit into a Word document in the SEAALL Newsletter! Guaranteed to be your first step to conquering the librarianship world or your money back!

Editorial comments or submissions should be sent to:
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Newsletter submission deadlines are:

- Winter: January 20, 2022
- Spring: April 20, 2022
- Summer: July 20, 2022
- Fall: Oct. 20, 2022

MS Word is the preferred format for electronic submissions. All submissions will be edited for grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation, and to ensure style consistency within the newsletter. Every effort will be made not to change the intended meaning of the text.

The opinions in the columns are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of SEAALL.

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