RESEARCHING EXPERT WITNESS

By: Kathy S. Heberer
Rumberger, Kirk, Caldwell, Cabaniss & Burke

QUESTION:
An attorney comes to you for information on a certain expert that he or she is scheduled to depose. What do you do?

ANSWER:
1. Conduct your regular reference interview. You will want to verify the spelling of the expert’s name, determine what information the attorney really wants, in what format they want it, and whether the attorney knows anything at all about the expert. You should also determine how much money the attorney wants to spend and adjust your search procedures accordingly.

2. Check any print sources available to you, your in-house expert bank, or call Defense Research Institute’s Expert Witness Bank if you have a member’s name to use.

3. Then do WESTLAW, VU-TEXT and DIALOG searches:

Run a WESTLAW search in the FORENSIC SERVICES DIRECTORY. If your expert has an unusual surname, such as GODTS, simply search by that. Otherwise search using the w/connector, thereby allowing for the absence or presence of a middle name:

Robert w/3 Brenner

Although some records in the Forensic Services Directory are more complete than others, you can expect to retrieve the basic information that will make all subsequent online research easier — such as area of expertise, educational background, and a list of publications.

Then do a WESTLAW search in the ALLSTATES and ALLFEDS databases. This will not lead you to all prior testimony, but it will direct you to those cases in which your expert was important enough to be mentioned in the opinion. Your attorney can then get a feel for how instrumental the expert’s testimony has been in the past, and can determine whether it would be worthwhile to contact attorneys involved in a given case for copies of depositions, etc. You should search in ALLSTATES and ALLFEDS because your expert may have testified nationally; do not restrict your search to the home state cases of your expert. Usually a last name is not a sufficient query for the massive ALLSTATES and ALLFEDS databases. Include terms in your query that will limit the search to the appropriate cases. If your expert determines causes of fires or explosions, then your query might read:

John w/3 Kennedy and (arsen or fire or explo| or combustion)

If you have become a VU/TEXT user and if your expert’s local newspaper is one of those on the system, then do a free text search for any articles in which your expert is mentioned.

Next, do a DIALOG search for autobiographical information on your expert. Begin with BIOGRAPHY MASTER INDEX (287, 288). You will get a list of the directories in which your expert appears. If WHO’S WHO (234) or AMERICAN MEN AND WOMEN OF SCIENCE (236) are not among them, then don’t waste online time checking those files.

Conduct a DIALOG search for articles, books reports conference papers, etc. written by your expert. The subject guide to databases is often too restrictive for this interdisciplinary world of ours — don’t limit yourself to that. If your expert is an engineer specializing in automobile accidents, then you will want to search the obvious files: CLAIMS PATENTS (23, 24, 25, 125), TRIS (63), NTIS (6), COMPENDEX (8), INSPEC (12, 13), EI ENGINEERING MEETINGS (165), BOOKS IN PRINT (470), LC MARC (426), and REMARC (423, 424, 425). But if your expert addresses the issue of trauma involved in automobile accidents then you will want to search MEDLINE (152-154) as well. Does your expert make a career out of testifying? Perhaps he or she wrote an article for a legal newspaper or a litigation journal. Check LEGAL RESOURCE INDEX (150) and its update NEWSSEARCH (211). CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERIODICAL INDEX (171) or NCJRS (21) might also be of some help. Don’t forget DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS (35) if you really want to be thorough!

Most author searches are quick and inexpensive, but require searching so many files that DIALINDEX (411) is often a waste of your time. I don’t recommend using it. Remember - every file sets up its author field differently in regard to spacing and punctuation. This makes saving the search difficult — I don’t — and also means that you must do your homework and review bluesheets before going online. You will often find that there is no consistency within the author field of the same file. Get in the habit of using the EXPAND command or you will miss relevant citations. An expand on the author SANCES could (and did) yield the following.

au=Sances, A.
au=Sances, A.J.
au=Sances, A. J.

Continued on Page 3
From The President

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

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

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

To explore the issue, I am requesting your help in two ways. The first is by asking you to send me your ideas on what the Chapter can do to better serve the educational needs of members who cannot regularly attend national or regional meetings. Should we sponsor locally-developed programs? Should we develop traveling workshops? What other responses seem appropriate?

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

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

Dick Danner
President
SEAALL

EDITOR’S CORNER

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

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

In this issue, you’ll find articles

Continued on Page 3
RESEARCHING EXPERT WITNESS

Continued from Page 1
au=Sances, A. J. Jr.
au=Sances, Anthony
au=Sances, Anthony Jr.
You would want to select and print all of these entries.

TROUBLESHOOTING
What if you've done all this and nothing turns up? Be sure to print the query and the "no documents" screen for your WESTLAW search. Do the same thing in an expand of author's names in DIALOG to illustrate that the expert simply did not appear. Doing so will bolster your credibility and will make you take a second look to ensure there were no typographical errors. Your attorney may be looking for a "no results" search. Some experts vaguely refer to numerous publications in their resumes—perhaps those publications don't exist and your search provides some grounds for proving that.

What if you've done all this and the wrong person turns up? Give the printout to your attorneys anyway and explain why the wrong person might have turned up in a valid search. For instance, SCISEARCH uses only surnames and initials. If you were looking for articles by CARLEY C. WARD, then you printed any and all entries under au=ward CC there might be another CC WARD that is a scientist and has written some articles.

If you find yourself doing expert searches all the time, then develop profiles that identify which files to search for specific types of experts. You don't have to spend time reviewing the alphabetical guide to databases each time your prepare to do a search on an expert.

ONLINE UPDATE

Correspondente:
DIALOG
Kathy S. Heberer
Rumberger, Kirk, Caldwell,
Cabaniss & Burke
WESTLAW
Jo Ellen McComb
University of Kentucky
School of Law Library

WESTLAW

WESTLAW Customer Service (1-800-328-9833) is available weekdays from 7 a.m. to Midnight, Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Central Time. Call for help with anything related to the system; from software problems, computer compatibility questions and command mechanics to database content and search strategy. Don't forget to put in your two cents about additions, changes and corrections you'd like to see.

QUERY FORMULATION SPECIALISTS are staff attorneys who are available by request from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. They provide valuable help by suggesting alternative terminology, investigating pertinent editorial policies, and explaining retrieval peculiarities. When requesting hardware service and recent search time reports, be sure to reach for the telephone armed with the first five digits of your password.

Customer Service reports that inconsistency in journal coverage in the NATIONAL TEXTS AND PERIODICALS DATABASE is partly deliberate and partly beyond WESTLAW's Control. For example, they cannot obtain copyright permission for Harvard Law Review. Some journals are not set in machine readable form for publication, which makes inputting at WESTLAW more problematic. However, WESTLAW editors select some journals for expanded coverage. Compare Yale Law Journal's twenty-six articles to North Carolina Law Review's nine and Florida State University Law Review's five articles as of August 1985. Yale Law Journal and others have been targeted for retrospective loading as well.

INSTACITE contains indirect history citations as well as direct history citations, so that an unrelated but overruling case decided since 1972 will be listed in the display. Direct case history for federal cases now extends back to 1945. Use INSTACITE also to obtain parallel citations.

Remember INSTACITE is also your quickest source to citations on recent slip opinions. If you have the name of the case, docket number or any other key word means of retrieving the text of the opinions from a WESTLAW database, it may appear sans citation as ______ S.E.2d ______. But press the Instacite key to find the cite. Instacite is supplied with citations before the full text databases.

Finally, WESTLAW now automatically generates irregular plurals, as well as regular plurals formed by the addition of "s" or "es" to the end of a word, or by changing a "y" to an "ies." Mouse generates mice, woman generates women, child generates children, etc.

EDITORS CORNER

Continued from Page 2

Comparing database systems, giving tips on relations with sales representatives, some information on the demographics of the Chapter and Dick Danner's thoughts on the need for our Chapter to better provide educational activities for our members. This is a serious concern and we would encourage anyone with ideas to send them to Dick and to volunteer for the Committee he is appointing.

Mary S. Bourget
Hazel L. Johnson
DEALING WITH PUBLISHERS' SALES REPS

By Kay M. Todd
Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker

Do the publishers’ sales representatives with whom you deal save time and promote the efficiency of your operation? Or do you view them as an unnecessary evil with which you dispense whenever possible?

Consider several fairly typical stories. A local rep calls your legal administrator and asks if there is someone other than you with whom he can deal because he finds you impossible to work with. Another rep calls and tells you that he is not pleased with his working relationship with you and wonders what he can do to improve it. You decline to see a third representative when he calls without an appointment, and subsequently you begin receiving a subscription from that publisher which you did not order. A fourth rep pats your knee as he is leaving and you wonder if he tries this with everyone.

On the other side of the coin, you encounter sales reps who find extra copies of pamphlets to give you when you lose yours, who loan you office copies of looseleaf sets for lengthy examination, and routinely go out of their way to make your job easier. Are all of these people in the same business?

Perhaps it will help all of us to have a greater number of positive relationships with sales reps if we understand their compensation system and the demands placed on them by their companies.

Although the compensation systems of publishers vary, some generalizations can be made. Most publishers pay their sales reps a salary plus a commission on sales. Their policies on renewals, however, may vary substantially. One publisher gives no credit for renewals, only new sales; the representative for this company, therefore, is likely to place more emphasis on sales and less on customer service on existing subscriptions. Some companies gauge the performance of their employees by the speed with which the representatives’ renewals are returned. The additional compensation the salesman receives for his renewals may not be immediately available to him. For example, one company, while it pays its salesman a draw, compensates them for renewals only at the end of the year.

Closely related to renewals are cancellations, and company policies on them vary widely, also. When an advance renewal has been made, but the subscription term has not yet begun, most publishers will allow a cancellation even though the renewal has been signed. Often this is not a written policy, but is an unstated company policy.

If the cancellation is allowed, however, the salesman may be debited for the cancellation. In general, how you are treated on a request for a cancellation of a current subscription or one which has been renewed in advance, will depend on how good a customer you are to that company. If you do substantial business with them, it is in their interest to honor your rare request for a cancellation. On the other hand, if you are only a small customer, they may attempt to hold you to the renewal that you have signed for. On a current subscription, this policy is even more the norm. It is unlikely that you will be able to receive a pro rata refund for the unused portion of your subscription unless you are a major customer. The best policy for all concerned is a frank discussion of this policy regarding prospective renewals at the time the renewals are presented. For refunds on current subscriptions, discuss it casually with your representative when no particular subscription is in question. The rep will tell you frankly what he can and cannot do, and this will avoid future misunderstandings.

Most companies have protected territories where the sales representative’s area is guaranteed to him and mail-orders are credited to him. In such a situation, even though you may not wish to deal with the sales representative, the company will be crediting him for purchases which you make directly through the company. This is likely to be the case even though you may request that the company deal with you directly. Where you are making purchases for a branch office, various publishers may have different systems of compensation for the local representative for the branch and the local representative for the main office where the order is placed. For some companies, the split will be 50-50 for each representative; however, this may not always be the case, and this may dictate from whom you may request customer service on a particular subscription. Again, the best policy is a frank discussion with the representative when placing the order for the branch office, to know in advance which representative will be interested in maintaining the subscription. Occasionally a representative in the city where the branch is located may attempt to have orders placed and billed through the branch to receive the entire commission. If this does not provide the branch office control you want to have, make this clear to that rep and follow through with a letter to the main office and a complaint to your own rep.

The general etiquette of your relationship with a sales representative will depend in part on the demands that his company puts on the representative, and in part on the requests that you make of him. Often representatives drop in without an appointment because of the distance involved: if they are in the area, they may feel it worthwhile to attempt to make the contact. Your best defense from drop-in visits of any sort is to advise the representative how you feel about them. If you are never available without an advance call, tell them. Those representatives with whom you have close relationship will abide by your wishes or only use this method when they feel it is in your interest. If a representative who is generally con-

Continued on Page 5
DEALING WITH PUBLISHERS’ SALES REPS

Continued from Page 4

Siderate does drop in, it is an easy matter to meet him in the lobby, apologize for having no time that day, and tell him it was nice to see him. The companies often tell their representatives to make contact with each customer several times a year. By his occasional telephone calls or requests for a visit, he may be attempting to comply with a company policy. There are occasions when the local representative hopes to impress his supervisor with the productive relationships which he has with his regular customers, and your assistance in helping him to convey this impression will not go unappreciated.

The customer service which you may expect from a representative may include ordering missing pages for you, checking on billing problems, ordering missing reports, and other miscellaneous jobs. Most companies ask that their representatives assist with these tasks as a means of spreading good will. If you find the service is faster in these areas if you deal directly with the company, so do. Occasionally, the local representative can speed your request and in these situations it will be to your benefit to use him. Certain representatives have offices with sets of their services which they will loan to you. Others may be able to expedite an order for you, and/or its return. Your own experiences with different companies is the best guide here.

What if you have a complaint to make or a deteriorating relationship with the representative? Most companies have regional offices often with divisions under them. My first recommendation is that you attempt to document, through letters, the problems you are having; however, getting a local representative to respond in writing where he also realizes there is a problem may be difficult. Whether or not there is a written back-up, contact the regional office directly. If you don’t know the regional office’s address and don’t wish to alert the local representative in question, write to the home office. They will be more than willing to tell you who the supervisor is for the local representative, and may in fact have that supervisor contact you. However, be aware that their standard policy may be to automatically alert the local representative to the complaint, and you may wish to forestall that contact.

One question I have always wondered about as the number of firm librarians in Atlanta has multiplied, was whether the sales representatives viewed the firm librarian as an improvement in their working relationships. According to the representatives with whom I spoke, we are a mixed blessing, but generally an improvement. On the negative side, we may not agree to the fast sell that the lawyers they used to visit directly did. However, on the positive side, they always know with whom to deal, whatever the subject of the publications they are selling, and we are far more prompt in responding to them on renewals.

The three problems I described at the start of the memorandum did happen to Atlanta firm librarians. In the first case, the legal administrator was amused, told the rep the firm had complete confidence in the librarian and he must deal with her, and related the story later to emphasize how firm the librarian was in her dealings with publishers. In the second situation, the rep had never assisted the librarian, or indeed appeared to know his company’s products, and he was told that the relationship, although bad, suited her just fine. In the third situation the unrequested subscription was cancelled on demand and the librarian could never document whether the frustrated rep was responsible. In the last incident, no comment was made then, but the librarian intends to scream “Don’t touch me!” next time and hopes others will treat him in the same way. All four reps (actually only three different ones) are still with their companies in Atlanta, but they are not typical. In general, with some advice from the librarian on what her needs are and what time restraints she is under, working relationships with publisher’s sales representatives can be mutually beneficial.

The author wishes to thank the sales representatives who were kind enough to discuss their occupation with her and the librarians who critiqued the article. (This article was published in the Atlanta Law Libraries Association Newsletter, and appears in this Newsletter with permission from the Association.)

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIPS!!!

This will be your last issue if you don’t
MINUTES OF THE S.E.A.L.L.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, New York, New York, July 18, 1985

The meeting of the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries convened at 7:41 a.m. in the Sutton Parlor Center in the New York Hilton in New York, New York, at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries on July 18, 1985. The meeting was called to order by Ed Schroeder, President, Florida State University. All the chapter members present at the meeting introduced themselves.

The minutes of the March, 1985, meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

A copy of the Treasurer’s Report was circulated to all the tables. Some receipts for annual dues were not reflected in the report. Also not included in the Report were the cost of the breakfast at the AALL meeting or the share of the annual meeting in New Orleans. The net gain of that meeting is $2,113.00. The Treasurer’s Report was accepted as presented.

The report of the June election was given by Ed Schroeder. Carol Billings, Law Library of Louisiana, was elected to the position of Vice-President/President-Elect. The group approved a motion to destroy the ballots.

Ed Schroeder gave a presentation on behalf of Larry Wenger, Law Librarian, University of Virginia, regarding the next annual meeting of the Southeastern Chapter which will be held from April 17 through 20, in Charlottesville, Virginia, at the Radisson Hotel. The Program Chair for the meeting is Carol Billings, and the Chair for the Local Arrangements Committee is Larry Wenger.

Steve Thorpe, University of Richmond, Chair of the Constitution and By-laws Committee, was not present. Ed Edmonds, College of William and Mary, will be the Chair for the next year. Three issues were raised by Dick Danner for the Constitution and By-laws Committee. They included a conflict concerning the amendment process, the creation of separate positions for Secretary/Treasurer and a date specified in the By-Laws concerning payment of dues.

Pat Strongal, Alston & Bird, Atlanta, Georgia, gave the Membership Committee report and thanked Joan Cannon, Florida Supreme Court Library and Martha Rush, College of William and Mary, for their assistance on the Committee this year. The Committee made a mass mailing in April which resulted in an addition of forty-three new members. There was a motion that the chapter explore preparing a brochure. The motion passed and was referred to the Executive Committee for final ratification. There was also a motion that the chapter have an annual membership director which was approved. Pat Strongal also moved the granting of life membership status to Mary W. Oliver, Law Librarian Emeritus, University of North Carolina, under Article I, Section 9. This motion was unanimously approved.

Mary Bourget, Akerman, Senterfitt & Eldson, Orlando, Florida, gave the Newsletter Committee Report. She discussed the acceptance of advertising beginning with the next issue. The project will be headed up by Mary Cooper, University of Virginia. There seemed to be some concern among possible advertisers over the use of business card size advertisements. This problem will be discussed and resolved by the Newsletter Committee.

The Nominations Committee had no report.

Cherry Thomas, University of Alabama, reported that the Placement Committee will begin working with a network of statewide Placement Committee members rather than attempt to publish advertisements in the newsletter.

The Scholarships and Grants Committee had no report.

The first item of new business was an announcement by Bruce Johnson, Continued on Page 7

USF Establishes Library School

The University of South Florida Department of Library, Media, and Information Studies has been designated as the School of Library and Information Science as of May 15, 1985. The department chair, Dr. John McCrossan, has been named director of the new school.

In his letter creating the school, Dr. Gregory O’Brien, USF Provost, complimented the department on its excellent work and on its successful efforts towards school status. He stated, “This forward movement on the part of the School recognizes its tremendous professional accomplishments and brings its stature into conformance with the professional standards in the library science field.”

McCrossan said that efforts towards school status were successful because the program has outstanding, extremely dedicated faculty and many very successful graduates. The latter have taken leadership positions in all types of library, media, and information agencies.

The USF program has been fully accredited by the American Library Association since 1975. Approximately 70 students complete Masters degree programs each year and take professional positions in all types of libraries and media and information centers. Graduates have been placed throughout Florida, the United States, and in many foreign countries, including Canada, Germany, Great Britain, and in several Central and South American nations.

(Reprinted from FLASH, Florida Library Association Newsletter, Vol. 4, No. 8, August 1985.)
MINUTES...
Continued from Page 6

University of South Carolina, that the 1987 meeting will be hosted by the University of South Carolina at the Mills House Hotel in Charleston, South Carolina on April 2-4, 1987.

The next item of business was the consideration of a letter from Information Management Index requesting the right to reproduce articles from the newsletter. A motion was approved to recommend that the new Executive Board work on the particulars of granting such a right.

Robin Mills, Emory University, on behalf of the Council of Law Libraries Consortium invited librarians in large academic libraries to come to Atlanta in September to discuss joint activities.

Hazel Johnson spoke on behalf of the AALL Committee on Public Relations and noted that the Association has a traveling exhibition that is available for State Bar Association meetings. She encouraged people to take advantage of the opportunity to display the activities of AALL. She also requested input from the Chapter membership of how the Committee could possibly be of help.

Carol Billings announced that the Southeastern Chapter is continuing as the home for the Coordinator of Chapter Presidents. Next year this position will be held by Teresa Neaves of Jones, Walker, Waechter, Poittevent, Carrere and Denegre, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Ed Schroeder expressed his appreciation and thanks to everyone who helped during the past year and especially the members of the Executive Board: Kay Todd, Margarett Dye and Dick Danner.

The meeting concluded with the membership presentation of the ceremonial gavel to Dick Danner by Ed Schroeder and a round of applause for Ed in appreciation for his work on behalf of the Chapter during the past year. The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Edmonds
Acting Secretary

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FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Balance (Feb. 1, 1985): $7,241.41

Deposits:

  NOW Interest (Feb. 1985/June, 1985)  153.01
  Dues                           2,910.00
  Scholarship donation from Smith & Hulsey  300.00
  Chapter Breakfast - New York (July 8th)  577.00

Total Deposits: $3,940.01

Debits:

  Printing/Postage (Newsletter, Vol. 10, #s 3 & 4)  $1,612.10
  Scholarships (5 at $300.00 each)  1,500.00
  Postage & Copying drives  73.22
  Dues & Ballots: postage & copying  185.76
  Miscellaneous Administrative Expenses  18.76

Total Debits: $3,389.12

Ending Balance (July 1, 1985): $7,792.30

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret M. Dye
Secretary/Treasurer

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New Officers Installed For South Florida Association of Law Libraries

The South Florida Association of Law Libraries held its annual installation luncheon of Friday, June 7, at the Holiday Inn, Crowne Plaza, Miami.

Robert Wallace, Librarian at the Dade County Law Library, outgoing President, introduced Carol Roehrenbeck, Director of the Nova Law School Library, who acted as Installation Officer for the meeting. New officers installed for the 1985-1986 year are: Muriel C. Efron, Law Librarian and Paralegal Coordinator from Holland & Knight as President; Barbara Hunt, Librarian at the Dade County Law Library, as Vice-President/President-Elect; June Woodward, Law Librarian at Steele, Hector & Davis, as Secretary; and Jennifer C. Haugan, Law Librarian for Ruden, Barnett, et al., Fort Lauderdale, as Treasurer. After Ms. Efron was installed she announced the following people as Committee Chairs: Angela R. Stramiello, of English, McCaughan & O'Brian, Fort Lauderdale, and Sid Kaskey, of Smathers & Thomson, as Co-Chairs for Education; Angela Speranza, Public Relations Chair; Nella Thomas, Librarian at the Cutler Ridge Branch of Dade County Law Library, as Newsletter Editor; Mary Cross, from Arky Freed, et al., Constitution and By-Laws Committee; Bob Wallace and Angela Stramiello as Co-Chairs for Placement; and, Leila Glenn, Librarian at the University of Miami Law Library as Archivist.
WHO ARE WE?

by Hazel L. Johnson
Smith & Huley
Jacksonville, FL

After much discussion and several attempts dating back at least four years, the membership list of the Southeastern Chapter has been computerized. Since the physical production (printing and mailing) has been my chief responsibility and my firm recently purchased an IBM PC/XT on which to access WESTLAW, I offered to relieve the Secretary (and her firm’s word processing department) of the burden of preparing the mailing list. As you can imagine, this has been of tremendous assistance to us and to Margarette. It should also make the production of the membership directory as authorized during the Chapter business meeting in New York much easier. An additional benefit is that computerization allows us a glimpse of ourselves.

Among the many potholes along the road to computerization, I learned a lot about the membership of our Chapter. I thought you also might find the composition of the Southeastern Chapter interesting.

On August 1, 1985, the Southeastern Chapter was made up of 395 members. As you know, our by-laws provide for four types of members: individual, institutional, life and associate. Institutional membership is claimed by 279 or 70.6 percent of our members. An institutional member is one whose dues are paid by the organization for which he works and said membership remains with that organization. An individual member is one who pays his or her own dues and is claimed by 95 or 24.1 percent of the membership. Associate membership is granted to law librarians residing outside the geographic region or “persons, companies and institutions not connected with law libraries, residing in or outside of the Southeastern region.” Presently SEAALL has 20 associate members (5.1%) and one Life member (0.3%).

Geographically, our organization includes members from the states of Alabama (27, 6.8%); Florida (74, 18.7%); Georgia (58, 14.7%); Kentucky (14, 3.5%); Louisiana (67, 17%); Mississippi (9, 2.3%); North Carolina (41, 10.4%); South Carolina (8, 2%); Tennessee (16, 4.1%); Virginia (39, 9.9%); West Virginia (5, 1.3%) and the Territory of Puerto Rico (21, 5.3%). Other states claim 16 of our members or 4.1 percent. I found it very interesting that the three states having a “city” Chapter (Florida — South Florida; Louisiana — New Orleans; and Georgia — Atlanta) were the states having the largest percentages of Southeastern Chapter members.

In addition to our geographic diversity, our employers are also very diverse. We work for private law firms, corporations, law schools, state governments, courts, county governments, publishers, and independently. To simplify the categories, I have included state and county law librarians under the...

Continued on Page 9
category entitled Courts and included independent law librarians under the category of Publishers. The employment figures follow:

University — 185 — 46.8 percent
Firms — 84 — 21.2 percent
Courts — 82 — 20.8 percent
Publishers — 12 — 3 percent
Corporations — 6 — 1.5 percent

For twenty-six (6.6%) of our members who have their Southeastern Law Librarian mailed to a residential address, I was unable to determine an affiliation. On our next dues notice or perhaps for the directory we will attempt to categorize the groups a little more succinctly.

All right you may be asking, so what? I believe there are some conclusions which can be drawn from these statistics. First, the vast majority of Southeastern employers are supporting our professional activities through membership in a professional association. I hear many firm librarians saying they cannot make the administration of their firm understand the importance of such memberships, perhaps these statistics can be used to encourage recalcitrant employers. I also feel that we should be grateful for those members holding a membership in Southeastern and in another chapter. Many of these dual members are among our most active. I was very surprised to find the percentage of firm librarians was so small when compared to that of university librarians. On a national level, the numbers of firm librarians seem to be rising. Are Southeastern firms smaller or slow to hire a librarian? Are we not reaching the firm librarians?

The Southeastern Chapter has 395 members and we need every one to be an active force for the Chapter to realize its potential as a dynamic, exciting organization. As A.A.L.L.'s oldest chapter, we also can be it's most dynamic.

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SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

1985 - 86 Standing Committees

Constitution and By-Laws Committee:
Edmund P. Edmonds, Chair (College of William & Mary)
Bruce S. Johnson (University of South Carolina)
Susan S. Roach (U.S. Dept. of the Navy, Judge Advocate General Law Library)

Local Arrangements Committee - 1986:
Larry Wenger, Chair (University of Virginia)

Membership Committee:
Michael Chiorazzi, Chair (Duke University)
Patricia G. Strougal (Alston & Bird)
Ruth D. Weeks (University of Alabama)

Newsletter Committee:
Mary S. Bourget, Co-Chair (Akerman, Senterfitt & Eidson)
Hazel L. Johnson, Co-Chair (Smith & Hulsey)
Timothy Coggins (University of North Carolina)
Mary Cooper (University of Virginia)
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Elizabeth Kern (Law Library of Louisiana)
Gail G. Reinertsen (Florida State University)

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Carol A. Nicholson (University of North Carolina)
Nancy P. Johnson (Georgia State University)
AALL NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE SEEKS CANDIDATES
FOR 1986/87 AALL ELECTIONS

Please suggest candidates for:
• V/P - President Elect
• Secretary
• Treasurer
• Executive Board (4 candidates for 2 slots)

Consider past AALL Chapter, Committee and SIS work in your selection of a nominee. Review accomplishments of members in your own organizations, and recommend someone you think is ready for leadership challenge of an AALL office.

Complete the form below and send to 1986/87 AALL Nominations Committee Chairman, Anita K. Shew, 141 Court Street, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.

CANDIDATES FOR THE 1986/87 ELECTION

Name of Nominee: ___________________________________________________________

Institution/Firm of Nominee: ___________________________________________________

Office Suggested: _____________________________________________________________

Have you advised the person that you are submitting his/her name: _______ YES _______ NO

Association Activities and Service of Individual: ______________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Professional Experience and Accomplishments of Individual: ________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

If you have additional suggestions, please provide the same information on another copy of this form or on another sheet.
FLORIDA

New member, MAYRA CASAS is the Head of Technical Services at St. Thomas University Law School Library. Mayra has a B.A. from Florida International University, an M.L.S. from Indiana University, and is working on an M.I.S. at the University of Miami. Prior to her present position, she was the Head of Catalog Maintenance Unit at the University of Miami’s Richter Library.

New member, JOHN DYRUD is the Assistant Law Librarian for Public Services at the St. Thomas University School of Law. John has been in this position since September 1984. Prior to joining the staff at St. Thomas, he was the Law Librarian at the University of West Indies Faculty of Law. John has a B.A. and M.A. from the University of Minnesota and a J.D. from the University of Maryland.

MURIEL C. EFRON is the Law Librarian and Paralegal Coordinator at the law firm of Holland & Knight in Miami. Prior to joining that firm one and one-half years ago, Muriel was the Assistant Director of the Library at Florida International University. She has an M.S. in Library Science from Drexel University, an M.A. in Management from Florida International University, and a J.D. from the University of Miami. She currently serves as the Vice-President/President-Elect of the South Florida Association of Law Libraries.

For the past six months, new member DELBRA D. McGRiff has served as Archivist II for the Florida State Archives. Prior to this position, Delbra was an Archivist I in the Information Services Section. Her work includes researching legislative records to obtain "legislative intent" for attorneys. Delbra has a B.S. in Communications from Florida State University.

New member, C. RICHARDS ROBERTS is an Administrator in the Information Services Depart-ment of the Florida State Archives. He has served in this position for the past three years; prior to this position he was an Archivist in the Information Services Section. His work includes extensive research with the original records of the Florida Legislature and providing these records to attorneys doing legislative intent research. Richard has a B.S. and a M.S.P.A. from Florida State University.

JUANITA WHIDDON joined the staff of the Florida State Archives as an Archivist I in February 1985. Juanita has a B.A. in Social Science and an M.S. in Social Studies Education from Florida State University. She has completed all necessary requirements, except her dissertation, for a Ph.D. in History from Florida State University. She was a Historic Sites Specialist with the Historic Preservation section of the Florida Department of Archives prior to her present position.

LOUISIANA

New member, MARIAN K. DREY joined the staff of the Tulane University Law Library two and one-half years ago as a Cataloger. Marian has an M.L.S. from Louisiana State University, a B.A. and an M.A. in History from the University of Southwestern Louisiana.

TAYLOR FITCHETT has been the Head of Public Services at the Tulane Law Library for the past two years. Taylor has an M.L.S. from the University of Alabama and was previously the Acting Director of the University of Alabama Law Library.

New member, MARSHA SULLIVAN is the Librarian at Gordon, Arata, McCollom, Stuart & Duplantis in New Orleans. Marsha has a B.S. in Library Science from East Carolina University. She previously was the librarian at Arthur Andersen & Co. in New Orleans.

New Book Available: Louisiana

Legal Research, by WIN-SHIN S. CHIANG, Law Librarian and Professor of Law, Loyola University, New Orleans, Louisiana. The book is available from Butterworth Legal Publishers, 11004 Metric Blvd., Austin, TX 78758-9990; the price is $42.50.

NORTH CAROLINA

New member, STUART BASEFSKY has been the Documents Librarian at Perkins Library of Duke University since September 1983. Stuart has a B.A. from the University of Colorado, an M.A.T. from Duke University, and an M.S.L. from the University of North Carolina. Prior to his position at Duke University, Stuart was the Assistant Documents Librarian at North Carolina State University. He served as Chair of the AALL Committee on Citation Reform/GDSIS from 1980-83.

MELISSA HANNU-HAMPTON joined the Charlotte Law Library as Librarian in March 1986. She has an M.L.S. from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a B.S. in English from Rio Grande College in Ohio. Prior to joining the Charlotte Law Library, Melissa was Assistant Head of Reference Services at York County Library in Rock Hill, South Carolina. She is a member of the Metrolina Library Association in Charlotte, the Special Libraries Association, and the American Library Association.

JILL L. SLOOP is the Librarian with Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, P.A. in Charlotte. She joined the firm two years ago after working with the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill as Audiovisual-Monographs Cataloger. Jill has a B.A. from Allegheny College and an M.L.S. from the University of Pittsburgh.

PUERTO RICO

OLGUIA NEGRON-GAZTAMBIDE is a Librarian IV-Law Librarian at the Legislative...
Library at the Capitol Building in San Juan. Olguita has been with the Legislative Library for 19 years. She has a B.A. with a major in History and Spanish Language and a minor in Library Science and Philosophy. Her previous position was the Director of the Library of the Caribbean Consolidated Schools, Parksville Branch, in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico.

MANUEL A. TORRES-TAPIA is a Librarian V-Head Cataloger with the Legislative Reference Library in San Juan and has worked with the Legislative Library for the past 23 years. Manuel possesses both B.A. and M.L.S. degrees and was the Librarian for the Traveling Library in San Juan prior to joining the Legislative Library.

SOUTH CAROLINA

CASSANDRA SMITH GISSENDANNER is the Catalog Librarian at Coleman Karesh Law Library at the University of South Carolina. She has a B.A. in Secondary Education from the University of South Carolina and an M.S. in Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her previous work experience was at the Columbia Museum as the Librarian and at Thomas Cooper Library at the University of South Carolina as a Catalog Librarian.

TENNESSEE

New member, ELIZABETH BOURNER is the Law Librarian at Boutil, Cummings, Connors & Garry in Nashville. Elizabeth has a B.A. from Furman University and an M.L.S. from Vanderbilt University. She was a Reference Intern with the Vanderbilt Library prior to joining the firm.

VIRGINIA

LINDA A. BLATRUSCH is the Law Librarian/Recruiting Coordinator for Hazel, Beckhorn & Hanes in Fairfax, Virginia. Linda has a paralegal degree and a library science degree. She previously held positions with the Fairfax County Law Library. Additionally, Linda was the 1982 recipient of an award from the American League of University Women for an article entitled "A Gift of Love."

New member, MICHAEL PETIT has been the Associate Librarian for Technical Services at the George Mason University Law Library for the past nine and one-half years. He has a B.A. and an M.S.L.S. from Catholic University. Prior experiences include work as a Cataloger at the Robert White Law Library at Catholic University and participation in a special cataloging project at the North Carolina Supreme Court Library during 1973-74.

New member, SUSAN S. ROACH has been the Reference and Catalog Librarian at the Navy Judge Advocate General Law Library for the past nine years. Susan has an M.S.L.S. from Catholic University and a B.A. from George Washington University. Her previous work experience was at George Washington University Law Center as the Government Documents Librarian.