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## President's Column

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## President's Column

Recently I was looking over a partial listing of programs that will be held during our joint conference with the South Carolina Library Association, in Charleston, October 24-26, 2002. It was quite an impressive list. Our colleagues from throughout the Southeast will be presenting outstanding sessions on many interesting and informative topics, including design of library buildings, promoting information literacy, web catalogs, interactive web sites, electronic reserves, intellectual freedom, UCITA, virtual reference, cataloging, staff development, humor as a stress reliever, reading for teens, historical records and technical services in the electronic environment, to name a few.

Combine that with the exciting general session speakers (ALA President Mitch Freeman, Dori Sanders, Elliot Engel and Robert Jordan), an impressive array of informative exhibits, and outstanding social events, this conference is not to be missed. There are also a number of pre-conferences planned, including the ABC's of Successful Library Advocacy, with Charles Beard.

By the time this issue of the Southeastern Librarian is received, you will have received the conference mailing. Additional [and updated information concerning the conference is available on the SELA website \(http://sela.lib.ucf.edu\)](http://sela.lib.ucf.edu).

I look forward to seeing you in Charleston in October!

-- Barry B. Baker

## From the Editor

Summer can be a good time to get away from the day-to-day and recharge our batteries. I was fortunate to have two good "escapes" this summer (both within the southeast!) and hope you had similar opportunities. The SELA Planning and Development Committee is soliciting input for the next installment of SELA's long-range strategic plan covering 2002-2006, one element of which to be addressed is *The Southeastern Librarian*. An idea suggested through the SELn editorial board is to create a regular column featuring special collections of libraries in the southeast. This is an exciting proposal as special collections allow our libraries to showcase their individuality. Special collections also lend themselves to illustrations. So let's try it. If you are interested in submitting a short article please contact me at [fallen@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:fallen@mail.ucf.edu) for additional information.

This issue features five articles covering a range of topics. We have been fortunate to receive a number of manuscript submissions in recent months and look forward to continued interest. We will be putting out a call to all presenters after the SELA/SCLA conference inviting them to consider submitting a paper based upon their presentation. Please pass the word on to your colleagues that *The SELn* is actively soliciting manuscripts for consideration. We are pleased to offer a book review in this issue, a regular feature of *The SELn* in past years. *The SELn* editorial board is considering the possibility of including book reviews as a regular or occasional feature of the journal. If you are interested in playing a role with book reviews for *The SELn* please let me know.

Thanks to our SELA state representatives and members who contribute to *The Southeastern Librarian*. I look forward to seeing many of you at the biennial conference in Charleston.

-- Frank Allen