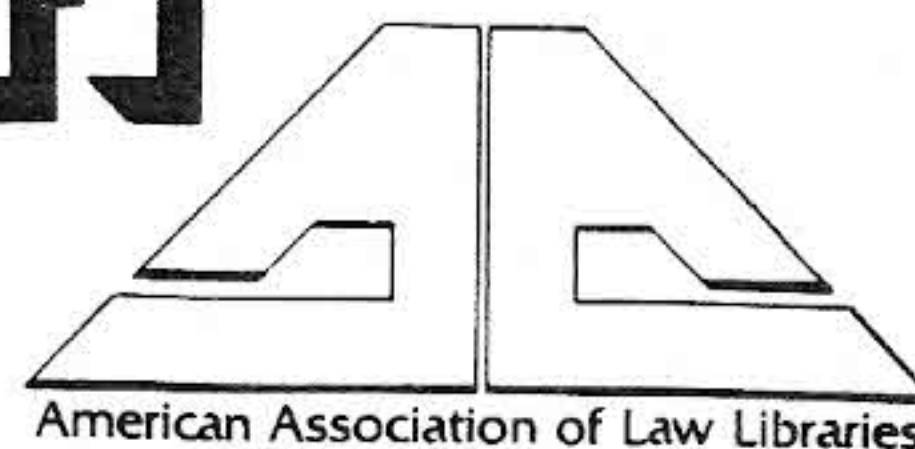


NEWSLETTER

State, Court, and County Law Libraries Section

VOLUME 13, NO. 2

MAY 1987



SCCLL ANNUAL MEETING - SUNDAY MORNING, JULY 5, 1987

Hyatt Regency Hotel - Chicago, Illinois

7:30 - 8:30 Executive Board Meeting

8:00 - 8:30 Registration & Continental Breakfast (See form inside.)

8:30 - 9:30 Business meeting (See agenda information inside.)

9:45 - 11:45 PROGRAM

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Establishing Justice for All... Coordinating Local Law Library Services

State Survey: Barbara L. Golden, *Minnesota State Library*, Moderator
Erick Baker Low, *National Center for State Courts*

Coordination through the State Law Library:

Maureen D. Well, *Connecticut State Library*

Coordination through the Court Administrative Office:

Ruth Ann Fraley, *New York State Office of Court Administration*

Coalition of Self-Governing Libraries:

Shirley David, *Sacramento County Law Library*,
President, *Council of California County Law Libraries*

The Federal Model:

Ann T. Fessenden, *U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit Library*



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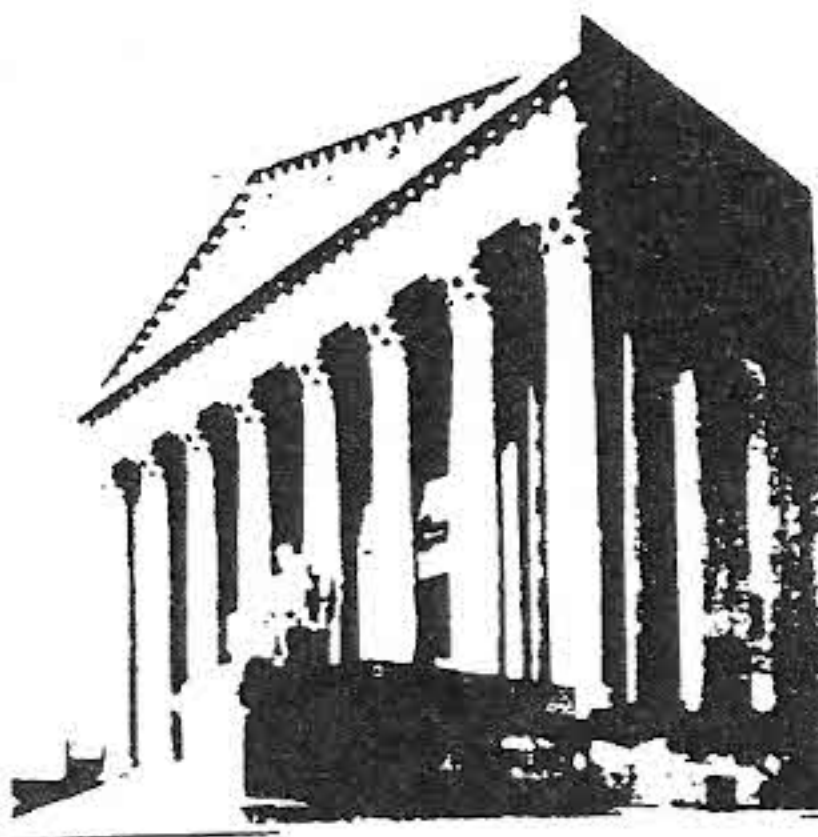
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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Since the registration materials for the 80th Annual Meeting of the AALL have arrived in the mail, a reminder that July 5, 1987 will creep up on us faster than we think. One of the topics that has the potential of being hotly debated in Chicago is the restructuring of the Association's membership categories. By now, you must have received the straw ballot from the Membership Committee to survey the sentiment of the association members on this important issue. You must also have read the message from Lally Casaway, President of AALL, in the February 1987 issue of the AALL Newsletter discussing some of the issues involved, and expressing her personal feelings toward the matter. Briefly stated, there are three major concerns that led to the re-consideration of the Association's membership structure. These concerns are: (1) the accounting and recordkeeping problems that are caused by the institutional memberships; (2) the role and privileges of the increasing number of independent, free lance librarians and library consultants; and, (3) the role and privileges of those law librarians that are employed in various capacities by the publishers and non-library organizations. While problems with institutional membership recordkeeping by the headquarter staff may be resolved without much fanfare, the implications surrounding the other two issues call for closer scrutiny by all members of the Association.

In reviewing these issues, there are a few personal observations that I would like to share with you. Consider for a moment, what our reasons were when we decided to join the law libraries association. Was it simply to fulfil our "civic duty"? Or, did we join because we wanted the opportunity of continuing our law librarianship education, and the professional enrichment that comes from the wit and wisdom of our peers? Is it true that we join together as a group - from the special interest section to the national association - because of our shared interest and desire to promote and achieve the common goals of our chosen profession? Should it not be our expectation that the group we join be representative of our position and the defender of our interests?

The membership of an organization is primarily composed of people of common interest. This segment of the organization is the major, and, most likely, the majority of the membership. They rightly enjoy the special privileges as well as bear the added responsibilities of such membership. While an organization should welcome a broad spectrum of interested parties into its membership, and keep the channels of communication open to all, it is, by all concern, a special interest group. If the active membership of AALL is to include anyone that is interested in law librarianship, what will the position of the Association be when libraries are laying off their own librarians and contracting those operations to outside, independent services? What action will the Association take when libraries as a whole are being indicted for infringing on the publishers' copyright?

The re-definition of membership categories is too important an issue to be taken lightly. There are a great deal of options and alternatives in re-designing the structure. As bylaw changes are going to be proposed, I urge you to give this matter some serious thought. I have asked Edgar Bellefontaine, Social Law Library, Boston, to draft a position paper for our Section. Please make your feelings known to him. I hope that at our State, Court, and County

Law Libraries SIS annual meeting in Chicago, we will formulate a consensus of opinion which can be presented at the general business meeting of the AALL.

As I approach the end of my "tour of duty", I wish to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to be the Chair of the State, Court, and County Law Libraries Section. It has been an honor and privilege that will occupy a special place in my book of memories. To members of the Executive Board, I say "Thank you for your support and guidance without which I could not have performed smoothly." To Carol Billings, the forever graceful Vice Chair/Chair Elect, I say "Thank you for your patience and understanding whenever I have called." To Aimee Ruzicka, the travelling Newsletter Editor, I say "Thank you for your diligence in cranking out the Newsletter, no matter where, no matter when."

My best wishes to each and everyone of you.

Kai-Yun Chiu



**STATE, COURT AND COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES SECTION
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES**

Chairperson: Kai-Yun Chiu, Baltimore Law Library, Baltimore, Maryland
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Kendall F. Svengalis, Rhode Island State Law Library
Newsletter Editor: Aimee Ruzicka

The State, Court and County Law Libraries Section is a special interest section of the American Association of Law Libraries which has as its purpose the improvement of the quality and service of its members' libraries and the promotion of the mutual interests of those libraries. A subscription to the NEWSLETTER costs non-members \$5.00 a year (2 issues, fall and spring). Previous issues of the newsletter were entitled SCLL NEWSLETTER, v. 1-4. A limited number of back issues is available from the editor at \$2.50 per copy.

Neither the AALL nor the State, Court and Law Libraries Section assumes any responsibility for the statements or opinions of contributors to the newsletter.

NOMINATIONS FOR 1987-1988 OFFICES

The Nominating Committee announces the following nominees to hold office in State, Court and County Law Libraries Section during the year from July 1987 through June 1988:

For Vice Chairperson/Chairperson-Elect:
Frederic S. Baum, Association of the Bar of the
City of New York

For Secretary/Treasurer:
Elizabeth Kelley Schneider, Maricopa County Law
Library, Phoenix, AZ

For Executive Committee Member:
J. Terry Hemming, U.S. Court of Appeals, 10th
Circuit Library, Denver, CO
(Note: This committee member's term shall extend
from July 1987 through June 1990)

All nominees have agreed to serve in these offices if elected at the meeting in Chicago on July 5, 1987.

Serving on the Nominating Committee were Ann T. Fessenden; Brenda B. Woodruff and Rosa Gahn Wright, Chair.

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Presentation of committee reports.

Election of officers: Vice president/president-elect, secretary-treasurer, executive board member to serve for three years.

New Business:

Among the items to be introduced will be an update on telefacsimile transmission of materials between libraries by Fred Baum, of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. Fred also plans to present "an exciting proposal." Regina Smith of the Jenkins Memorial Law Library in Philadelphia will also speak on developments in the delivery of computer-assisted legal research service in public and bar libraries.

Any requested additions to the agenda should be sent to the chair, Kai-Yun Chiu, Baltimore Bar Library, 618 Court House, W., Baltimore, MD 21202.

