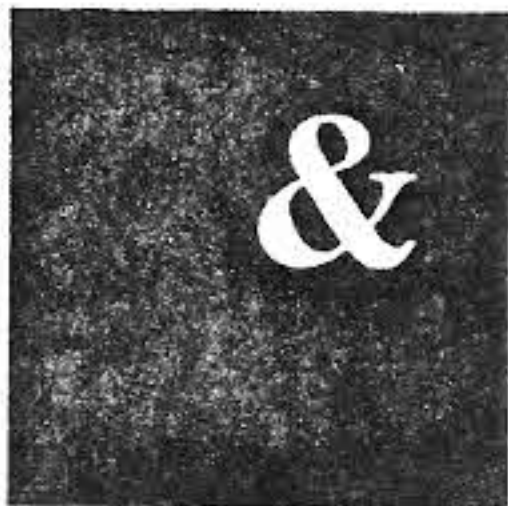


STATE, COURT & COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES



Volume 19, Number 1 Fall, 1992

A Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries

Chair's Message

Summer's gone and winter's comin' on, and the life of our section seems to be well underway. The Boston program proposal blitz produced 20 program proposals either section sponsored, member sponsored from within the section, or section brokered in tandem with other SISs. The process resembled a marathon, and enjoyed the great assistance of past Education Chair Jean Holcomb, and present Chair Anne Matthewman. The ideas are conceptually all splendid, and our ability within the association has been enhanced. I was particularly pleased with some innovative workshop ideas, and member suggestions of a program on literacy, using volunteers in our type of library, and space planning for public law libraries. If we even get a third of those 20 through the selection process, it will have been worth it. The next issue of the newsletter will contain the full analytical results of our section response to the association's research agenda. I've included the high points just to whet your appetite. Those of you in more than one SIS may receive this survey more than once and may be confused about the origin and purpose of the survey. It is all part of the whole AALL "Research Agenda." I hope that if any of you have further questions or comments about our particular focus and perceptions that you will send your thoughts to Catherine Lemann, Law Library of Louisiana. I did the tabulation and analysis for this newsletter but am depending on Catherine to develop our input toward an overall research agenda for the association. While we are similar in many respects to our peers, we are also quite different in our public service aspects. I am absolutely fascinated by the notion of studying how lawyers do research. If we really understood how they approach the process perhaps we could better assist with the results. I'm also especially interested in our keen desire to share resources and to network with others. In that regard please compare our results with the academics as presented in the summer, 1992 *Law Library Journal*.

Some thoughts on networking. For the Membership/Subscription Group, there will be a spring meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio in the second week of April. Many of us will be representing court libraries in Columbus, November 12-13, 1992, at the invitational conference on the crisis in our state and local lives since the great recession of the 1990's. That conference is being organized by Erick Low and Paul Fu.

Before the next issue of the newsletter comes around, I want everyone to be thinking of candidates for our awards committee chaired by Fred Baum, Association of the Bar of the City of New York. Fred chairs the first committee and will be drafting final criteria for the awards which will be given annually to distinguished members of our section. These awards are the Bethany Ochal Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession; the Connie Bolden Award for Distinguished Publication; and the O. Jim Werner Award for Service to the Disadvantaged. Our purpose in granting these awards is not only to honor our section's many accomplished members, but to increase awareness in AALL of our unique accomplishments.

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Message from the Editors

Former editors Regina Smith and Kathy Coon did such an outstanding job that we are approaching this year with fear and trembling. This issue may look a little crude but be patient -- we are still learning. The next issue will be better.

We believe, however, that content is more important than form. The content of this newsletter depends on you. Please send us your articles, letters, suggestions for articles that you may not want to write yourself, news items, notices of meetings, job changes, promotions and anything else that you want to share with the group. We would also be interested in reading your comments on what is interesting and unique about working in your library.

Deadline for the next issue is December 15, 1992.

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JOB CHANGES

Jean Holcomb has moved to Seattle, Washington to assume the directorship of the King County Law Library. Jean began her new duties October 1, 1992, after serving as Law Librarian at the Norfolk Law Library for five years. Jean has just been elected to a three-year term on the Executive Board of the State, Court and County Special Interest Section.

Taking Jean's place at the Norfolk Law Library will be Donna Bausch, who served most recently as public services librarian at Regent University Law Library, Virginia Beach, Virginia.



