



# Connections

Expanding Our Spheres of Influence



*American Association of Law Libraries*

1998/99

*Year in Review*

# From the President

Joining and participating in AALL gives us immediate access to more than 5000 great connections — our fellow members. Recognizing that there is strength in our numbers, we have leveraged these connections to expand our influence throughout the legal community, and to make a significant difference in Washington.

Having become known as experts on information policy issues, law librarians are a true force in the legislative decision-making process. And our connections and spheres of influence continue to grow.

***We chose "Connections" as the theme of this report because it sums up what AALL has done best in this past year, initiating and fostering critical connections, both inside and outside our Association. Notably:***



- Our Washington Affairs Office has worked on a variety of matters of national and international impact, including World Intellectual Property Organization Treaty Provisions, database protection legislation, and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act.
- The Citation Formats Committee published the *AALL Universal Citation Guide*.
- Our Access to Electronic Legal Information Committee (AELIC) continues to educate policymakers in how to provide better access to governmental information.
- Our Committee on Relations with Information Vendors is working to help law librarians cope with the ever-changing legal information landscape.

***AALL's broad influence and collective expertise benefit all of us, because:***

- When important information policy issues are discussed, AALL is consulted.
- Our ideas, knowledge, and skills are shared through our many educational programs and professional development efforts.
- Members' interests and concerns are expressed directly to legal publishers, and we are learning from the publishers themselves.
- Dedicated task forces are continually addressing initiatives that benefit our members, as well as those in the legal and information communities.
- Our Annual Meeting and Conference allows us to hear and connect directly with our colleagues — and with judges, legislators, government officials, educators, information technology experts, journalists, and other influential individuals.

Yet, of all the connections AALL members will make throughout our careers, I believe that the most meaningful ones are with each other. The networking, camaraderie, and opportunities for sharing personal wisdom are the most enriching parts of AALL involvement for so many of us.

I am proud to introduce this record of progress AALL has made in the past year, and feel confident we are doing the right things. I know that with the connections we've made — and the impact we now have on information policy — AALL has become a significant force. I am indeed pleased and proud to be so connected with each of you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Heller".

**Jim Heller**

**AALL President 1998-99**

Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law  
College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia

# AALL connects the legal community through:



***“It is the collective strength of all 5000 of our law library colleagues that makes AALL such a valuable asset to each of us and our profession. It is THE association for law libraries because of individual members who attend AALL programs, share experiences and resources, and help colleagues find solutions to their day-to-day challenges.”***

**Margaret Maes Axtmann**  
AALL President-Elect  
1998-99  
*Director for Collections and Technical Services  
University of Minnesota Law Library, Minneapolis, Minnesota*

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## AALL's Mission

Recognizing that the availability of legal information to all people is a necessary requirement for a just and democratic society, the American Association of Law Libraries exists to promote and enhance the value of law libraries to the public, the legal community, and the world; to foster the profession of law librarianship; and to provide leadership in the field of legal information and information policy.

# Advocacy!

*In order to raise awareness and promote a better understanding of legal information issues, AALL serves as a bridge between law librarians and policymakers.*



The Washington Affairs Office continued to provide strong national leadership and visibility on a wide array of federal and state information policy issues, positively impacting the future of how law libraries do business. Copyright in the digital age and the public's access to electronic government information continued to be important issues in the federal policy arena. State and Chapter efforts were prominently supported in New York and Texas (see "Taking a Strong Stand").



***"Law librarians are on the cutting edge of the information revolution. AALL is appropriately at the forefront of the information debate, working proactively to advance law library interests in the promotion, retrieval, dissemination, and storage of legal information."***

**Cornell H. Winston, AALL Member**  
*Law Librarian, Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP  
Los Angeles, California*

■ **The Washington office worked in cooperation with other national library associations** through the Shared Legal Capability (SLC), and the broader Digital Future Coalition (DFC), to address the following intellectual property legislation:

- **The Digital Millennium Copyright Act** (P.L. 105-304), and the mandated distance education study and fair use rule-making proceeding that are being conducted by the Copyright Office.
- **The Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act** (P.L. 105-298), and formal comments regarding proposed regulations to implement the library and archive exceptions.
- **The Collections of Information Antipiracy Act** (H.R. 354) that we oppose, and the DFC alternative draft bill, the Database Fair Competition and Research Promotion Act, which prohibits database piracy but provides balance by allowing for transformative uses into new products.

- **The draft Uniform Commercial Code Article 2B** that would validate shrink-wrap licenses, threatening the fair use rights of consumers.

■ **AALL provided leadership via the Inter-Association Working Group on Government Information Policy (IAWG) in:**

- Drafting, working with congressional staff, and testifying on the Wendell H. Ford Government Publications Reform Act of 1998.

- Drafting the Next Generation Electronic Government Information Access Act of 1999.

■ **AALL supported the annual budget requests** for the Law Library, the Library of Congress, and the Federal Depository Library Program through congressional testimony, Capitol Hill visits, and formal letters.

***For more information on how the AALL Washington Affairs Office's activities will impact your future, visit <http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/aallwash/>.***

## Taking A Strong Stand

AALL joined Nolo Press in filing a lawsuit against the Texas Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee (UPLC). The March 1999 lawsuit seeks a judicial declaration on whether Nolo, bookstores, and libraries can continue to sell and distribute Nolo publications in the state. The lawsuit is an outgrowth of Nolo's struggles with a subcommittee of the UPLC, which is investigating whether Nolo may distribute its 120 titles under the Texas unauthorized practice of law statute. The issue goes to the essence of AALL: the dissemination of, and access to, legal information.

# Influence

***“The American Association of Law Libraries is to be commended for taking the lead in this most important effort to standardize citation formats. Law librarians are indeed uniquely qualified to provide leadership and direction by guiding lawyers, judges, and court professionals through the maze of electronic citations.”***

Suzanne H. James, President  
National Association for Court  
Management  
Court Administrator, Seventh Judicial  
Circuit, Upper Marlboro, Maryland



## ***Universal Citation Guide Published***

After three years of research, discussion, and debate on all aspects of citation reform, the first edition of the *Universal Citation Guide (UCG)* was published in the spring of 1999. The *UCG* contains AALL's recommendations for universal citation rules for case law, constitutions, statutory law, and administrative law.

In 1998-99, the AALL Citation Formats Committee was divided into two parts: while one half of the Committee continued its work on the *UCG*, the second group began work on universal citations for administrative decisions and secondary sources. That work is ongoing and will be incorporated into future editions of the *UCG*.

## **Publisher Relations**

In its continuing effort to enhance relationships and influence with legal publishers, AALL's Committee on Relations with Information Vendors (CRIV) in 1998-99 introduced:

- **CRIVGrams and CRIV Alerts**, effective, timely, and practical information, important for both librarians and publishers, delivered electronically. This has been closely tied to CRIV's increased aggressiveness in identifying the needs and concerns of law librarians, and working with them and with publishers to meet the needs and resolve the problems.
- **CRIVTools**, tangible products designed to help librarians work more effectively and efficiently with publishers on a day-to-day basis, which were published in *AALL Spectrum* and are available on AALLNET.
- **CRIVPage** (<http://www.aallnet.org/committee/criv/>), content-rich Web page designed to keep users updated on what is happening in the publishing industry and, especially, to provide features that offer practical help to librarians on a daily basis. The page includes:
  - vendor contact information
  - publisher-specific Y2K contact information
  - CRIV Tools
  - Links to various other useful Web sites
  - Electronic CRIV complaint forms

***“Law librarians and publishers are in the same business of providing legal information to our end users. CRIV is the vehicle for us to be effective partners in serving our customers.”***



Marian F. Parker, CRIV Member  
Acting Senior Director for Law Schools and Courts,  
LEXIS-NEXIS

### ■ In addition, CRIV:

- Conducted site visits to two leading legal publishers, Shepard's and LEXIS-NEXIS. The comments, suggestions, and concerns of law librarians that had been gathered beforehand were shared with high-level executives of each company, and meeting reports were published in *AALL Spectrum*.
- With the Washington Affairs Office, responded to the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) Request for Comment concerning the *Guides for the Law Book Industry*. The FTC sought comments on the overall cost and benefits, and the continuing need for, the *Guides* as part of its systematic review of all current Commission regulations and guides.

# Professional

AALL continues to identify, develop, and offer the most meaningful growth opportunities to its membership — a range of readily available, high-quality and timely programs, publications, and services in various formats — that help keep members current in their profession.

## at the crossroads INFORMATION MANAGEMENT • TECHNOLOGY • POLICY

AALL's 92nd Annual Meeting, "At The Crossroads: Information, Management, Technology and Policy," July 17-22, 1999, in Washington, D.C., reflects the intersection of information, technology, and the legal profession. More than 70 cutting-edge educational programs address:

- the impact of electronic publishing on legal education and legal scholarship
- access to information from the federal and state courts
- preservation of federal agency electronic records
- subject tracks in Management, Technology, Information Access and Policy; Foreign, Comparative, and International Law; and Technical Services

## Educational Opportunities Close To Home

■ **Satellite Teleconference**  
**Quality Customer Service: Beyond "How May I Help You?"** — AALL's third annual videoconference, April 13, 1999, brought together an estimated 1000 AALL colleagues at 49 sites around the U.S. The event was a partnership between AALL and West Group.

■ **Local Programs**  
**Space Planning & Technology for Academic Law Libraries**, held March 12-13, 1999, at Duke University School of Law, Durham, N.C., offered knowledge and insights for creating and maintaining effective academic law library facilities for the 21st Century.

■ **ListServ Discussions**  
**Managing the Reference Inquiry as It Comes In from All Directions** was the subject of a lively two-week listserv discussion of reference challenges in the electronic age February 24-March 10, 1999. Moderator: Mary Whisner, Head of

Reference at the Gallagher Law Library, University of Washington.

■ **Law Libraries in the Depository System: Measuring Success** addressed the value and challenges of the depository system in a two-week discussion held May 3-14, 1999. Moderator: Charlene Cain, Chair of AALL's Government Documents Special Interest Section, Government Documents Librarian at the Hebert Law Center Law Library, Louisiana State University.

■ **Turnkey Programs**  
AALL offers several programs that can be sponsored locally by Chapters, libraries, consortia, and other groups interested in a local professional development activity. With just a phone call to the AALL Director of Programs, your Association will bring this program to your location and provide the necessary support, in exchange for a modest registration fee charged to participants. The following were available in 1999:

- Copyright
- Training the Internet Trainer
- Space/Technology Planning for Law Firms
- Legal Research

**More than 250 people participated throughout 1998-99 in six different sessions of AALL's Copyright in the Age of Technology Workshop**, which addresses the many issues surrounding copyright and the many challenges modern technology presents to copyright law. Organizations ranging from AALL Chapters to law firms utilized this AALL service to provide their members with valuable professional development opportunities.

*"I have no doubt that AALL has the resources to support every member of our profession at different stages throughout our careers. Collectively, we have wisdom from our long history, and unbounded energy for the future."*

**Roberta Shaffer, AALL Member**  
Director of Research Information Services  
Covington & Burling, Washington, D.C.



# Development

***"I wanted a quality copyright program in the Seattle area, so I contacted AALL headquarters and asked them to make the arrangements. They did! I offered a room in the law school and equipment and they did all the rest – confirming dates with the presenter, making housing and travel arrangements, budget, handouts, publicity to local librarians, registration – everything!"***

Penny Hazelton, AALL Member  
Professor of Law and Law Librarian, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington



## Partnerships

AALL's Professional Development Program expands opportunities for members through partnerships with other organizations.

- **Copyright in the New Millennium: the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and Copyright Act Term Extension**, a videoconference that explored recent changes in copyright law, was sponsored by AALL and several other library associations. The May 21, 1999, event featured a distinguished panel of experts who:
  - described the new laws
  - discussed the implications for libraries, archives, and educational institutions as they attempt to comply with the new laws
  - discussed strategies for the community as it engages in the ongoing studies required by the law and confronts pending database legislation.
- **The Annual Conference on Justice and Public Safety in the 21st Century**, May 11-12, 1999, in Sacramento, California, was cosponsored by AALL and produced by *Government Technology* magazine. The conference focused on creating awareness and cooperation within and across all jurisdictions, branches, and agencies; exploring current issues and technologies; and promoting full access to justice for all Americans.
- **The National Conference to Improve Public Trust and Confidence in the Justice System**, May 13-15, 1999, in Washington, D.C., is a joint effort of the Conference of Chief Justices, the American Bar Association, the League of Women Voters, and the Conference of State Court Administrators. Eighteen law librarians, including AALL President Jim Heller, are among the more than 400 leaders of state and federal courts, bar associations, and legal organizations — along with members of the media and the public — participating in the invitation-only event. The Conference's purpose is to develop a national strategic action plan for grass-roots efforts to increase satisfaction and confidence in legal institutions, in the courts, and in lawyers.

**A follow-up program on the Conference** is scheduled for July 18, 1999, at the AALL Annual Meeting and Conference. The program, "National Action Plan to Improve Public Trust and Confidence in the Justice System: Defining a Role for Law Libraries," features Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas A. Zlaket, co-chair of the May conference.

**AALL recognizes major support from BNA, Inc.  
for the Professional Development Program.**



# Networking

One of the most valued aspects of AALL membership is the access it offers to other knowledgeable sources in the law library and legal communities.

## Connections Ranked High

The value of "connections" to AALL members was underscored by the results of a 1998 Membership Project Report in which the *AALL Directory* and "Networking" were ranked as the most important of all Association programs/activities.

### Importance of Programs/Activities to AALL Members

#### % with High Importance Ratings

- |                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1. <i>AALL Directory</i>    | 80% |
| 2. Networking               | 75% |
| 3. Advocacy with publishers | 73% |
| 4. Annual Meeting program   | 66% |
| 5. Research activities      | 63% |
| 6. SISs                     | 63% |
| 7. Price Index              | 57% |
| 8. <i>AALL Spectrum</i>     | 56% |
| 9. Legislative Advocacy DC  | 56% |
| 10. Annual Meeting exhibits | 53% |

## VIP Program

In 1999 AALL is promoting understanding of legal information issues by sponsoring attendance at our Annual Meeting for Valuable Invited Participants (VIPs) from the legal community. AALL Chapters are using the VIP program to help establish new relationships — or augment existing ones — with judges, court administrators, attorneys, firm administrators, library administrators, and educators. Eleven state court justices also are attending the conference thanks to a grant from the State Justice Institute.

## Revised Ethical Principles

AALL's 5000 members endorsed updated Ethical Principles produced by the AALL Special Committee on Ethics, which replace the Association's prior Code of Ethics. The Principles offer standards for law librarians to follow when serving diverse clientele, building business relationships, and fulfilling their professional responsibilities. They can be located at [http://www.aallnet.org/about/policy\\_ethics.asp](http://www.aallnet.org/about/policy_ethics.asp).



***"I didn't realize how little I knew until I got involved in AALL. It expands your***

***knowledge with each new contact you make. Each person you meet helps your library function just that much better, and offers an additional librarian's knowledge to your firm for free."***

Janeen Heath  
President, Dallas Association of Law Libraries  
Library Manager, Baker & McKenzie, Dallas, Texas

## Access To Electronic Legal Information

Response to the model Legal Information Web Site created last year by AAL's Access to Electronic Legal Information Committee (AELIC) has been overwhelmingly positive. In 1998-99 the Committee helped further educate courts and government agencies about the best ways to present legal information by:

- Demonstrating its model Web site at the Government Technology Executive Leadership Forum and at the Council of State Governments Annual Meeting and State Leadership Forum.
- Publishing an article focusing on the Web site in *Government Technology* magazine's May 1999 issue.



***"AALL has a diverse membership, reflecting the diverse society and population which it serves. As individuals, we not only need to promote library services within our communities, but also become active members within the larger community in which we work and live. AALL offers meaningful opportunities for this personal and professional growth."***

Cossette T. Sun  
AALL Executive Board Member 1999-2002  
Law Library Director, Alameda County Law Library, Oakland, California

# Support Systems

## Chapter Support

AALL is maintaining its commitment to the Chapter Alliance, a vision developed in 1996 to help Chapters and the national Association share expertise and resources. AALL connects with Chapters through support activities such as listserv and mailing list management, leadership training, the *Chapter Leadership Bulletin*, and other information-sharing and cooperative educational opportunities.

## Scholarships And Grants

Connecting law librarians with funds necessary to support their continuing education is an important goal for AALL. In 1998-99, **more than \$7,000 in grants** were available to enable law librarians to attend the AALL Annual Meeting. **More than \$56,000 in scholarships** helped law librarians attend law school, and non-librarians to pursue law library education.



***"In my career, I have worked in academic, private firm, and county law libraries. In each position, I have looked to AALL for educational programs, technical assistance, and networking opportunities."***

Maryruth Storer, AALL Executive Board Member 1999-2002  
Law Library Director  
Orange County Law Library  
Santa Ana, California

*AALL's support systems combine to serve as a solid infrastructure for members and their activities, helping to keep them connected in their profession.*



AALL *Spectrum* continued its coverage of key issues in legal information, extending into both management and technology. In 1998-99 the monthly magazine introduced relevant new features such as the Desktop Learning series by the Professional Development Committee, and important new columns such as the Copyright Corner and CRIV Notes.

Quarterly Member Briefings written by AALL member subject-experts summarize important issues and present practical ideas for handling them in the workplace. Briefings on AALL Headquarters, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Licensing, and the New World of Legal Publishing were published in 1998-99.



Based on member suggestions, AALLNET was completely redesigned in 1998-99, and now averages more than 150,000 page views per month by 17,000 individual visitors.

The new features include:

- a navigation bar at the top of every page
- an enhanced search engine
- more access to the membership database, including member profiles

Experience AALLNET for yourself by visiting the online discussion section of AALLNET at <http://www.aallnet.org/discuss>

## RESOURCE GUIDE SERIES

With the sponsorship of LEXIS-NEXIS, two new AALL *Resource Guides* were completed in 1998-99:

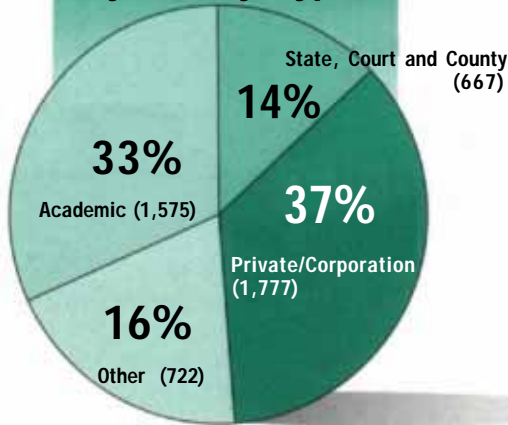
- *How to Hire a Law Librarian*
- *Expanding Roles for Law Librarians*
- *Space Planning for Law Libraries*
- *Collection Rebalancing for Law Libraries*

AALL is creating a total of eight *Guides* written by law library experts, to help law firm decision-makers understand the challenges of managing legal information. Four more titles still to be published are:

- #5: *Negotiating A Flat Fee Agreement*
- #7: *Marketing Support from Law Libraries*
- #6: *The Internet as a Legal Research Tool*
- #8: *Value-Added Research in Law Libraries*

# AALL at a Glance

## AALL Members by Library Type



Total: 4,741 members

(Source: AALL Monthly Membership Statistics, April 1999)

## AALL Special Interest Sections (SIS)

Academic Law Libraries	805
Computing Services	600
Legal History & Rare Books	211
Legal Information Services to the Public	269
Foreign, Comparative and International Law	382
Government Documents	350
Micrographics & Audiovisual	126
On-Line Bibliographic Services	328
Private Law Libraries	1,568
Research Instruction and Patron Services	521
Social Responsibilities	181
State, Court & County Law Libraries	524
Technical Services	626
<b>Total SIS Members</b>	<b>6,491</b>

## AALL Membership Value

	1997	1998
<b>DUES paid by most AALL members (per member)</b>	<b>\$129.00 (income)</b>	<b>\$133.00</b>
<b>BENEFITS AND SUPPORT SERVICES received by AALL members</b>	<b>\$216.00 (cost)</b>	<b>\$ 245.00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Membership Directory &amp; Handbook</li> <li>■ AALL Spectrum</li> <li>■ Law Library Journal</li> <li>■ Chapters &amp; Committees</li> <li>■ Officers &amp; Executive Board</li> <li>■ Washington Affairs Office &amp; Other Representatives</li> <li>■ Member Discounts on Programs and Publications</li> <li>■ Headquarters Administration</li> <li>■ AALLNET Web site</li> </ul>		
<b>MEMBERSHIP COSTS NOT COVERED by each member's dues</b>	<b>\$ (87.00) (difference)</b>	<b>\$(112.00)</b>
<b>AALL REVENUES from the following must subsidize each membership</b>	<b>\$ 87.00 (subsidy)</b>	<b>\$112.00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ IFLP and other publication sales</li> <li>■ Annual Meeting &amp; Professional Development Programs</li> <li>■ Membership list rentals</li> <li>■ Placement advertising</li> <li>■ Investment income</li> </ul>		

Your AALL Membership is Worth

\$245

## Supporting Advancement

AALL's Finance and Budget Committee approved the following additional projects to support AALL efforts for Fiscal Year 1999-2000:

- Committee on Citation Formats meetings
- Media relations effort promoting AALL's leadership in developing the *Universal Citation Guide*, and marketing the publication
- AALLNET Task Force
- Biennial Salary Survey
- CRIV Site Visits and Publisher Relations Tool Kit
- Access to Electronic Information Committee for promotion of their legal information Web site to outside groups
- Mail ballot on Bylaws Amendment

# AALL Keeps You Connected

AALL enables its many member groups to stay in close communication by supporting numerous vehicles that members use for sharing information, including:

- Broadcast e-mail and faxing of AALL news and information
- Chat rooms on AALLNET
- Mailing lists made available selectively to legal publishers for sharing product information
- Newsletters for various Special Interest Sections
- Listservs for more than 100 AALL groups, including Chapters, Committees, and Special Interest Sections. A Web interface was custom-designed by AALL to make listserv commands even easier for subscribers and list owners

## Involvement

AALL designates a leader or staff member to represent law librarian interests by supporting involvement with:

- American Bar Association
  - Commission on Rules of Conduct
  - Judicial Administration Division
  - Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar
  - Law Practice Management Section
- American Library Association (several committees)
- Association of American Law Schools
- Association of Legal Administrators
- Association for Library and Information Science Education
- Association of Research Libraries
- British and Irish Association of Law Libraries
- Canadian Association of Law Libraries
- Digital Future Coalition
- Freedom to Read Foundation
- Law Library of Congress
- Inter-Association Working Group on Title 44
- International Association of Law Libraries
- International Federation of Library Associations
- Library of Congress (several committees)
- Medical Library Association
- National Center for State Courts
- National Equal Justice Library
- Special Libraries Association
- Serials Industry System Advisory Committee

## IFLA: Boston 2001

AALL is one of five U.S. sponsors of the annual conference of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), which will be held in Boston in 2001. The conference is the primary annual event for the international library community, and includes exhibits, programs, and meetings for approximately 3000 attendees.

## Valued Partners

AALL is grateful to the following Chapters and corporate supporters that have made possible a number of AALL scholarships, grants, Annual Meeting events, services, and benefits to the members:

Aspen Law & Business  
Matthew Bender & Co., Inc.  
Bernan Press  
BNA, Inc.  
CCH Incorporated  
Congressional Information Services, Inc.  
Current Legal Resources, Inc.  
Global Securities Information, Inc.  
Innovative Interfaces, Inc.  
Law Librarians Society of Washington, D.C.  
Law Library Association of Maryland, Inc.  
LEXIS-NEXIS  
Virginia Association of Law Libraries  
West Group  
William S. Hein & Co., Inc.

***“AALL is a community. We begin with a common interest - legal information, law libraries, and the delivery of legal information to our clients. But from there, we grow.”***



**Robert L. Oakley**  
AALL President-Elect 1999-2000  
*Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law  
Georgetown University Law Center  
Washington, D. C.*

## *Supplement to AALL Spectrum*



*American Association of Law Libraries*

53 West Jackson Boulevard

Suite 940

Chicago, Illinois 60604

312.939.4764

fax 312.431.1097

fax on demand 732.554.5901

e-mail: [aallhq@aall.org](mailto:aallhq@aall.org)

**AALLNET: [www.aallnet.org](http://www.aallnet.org)**