

NEWSLETTER

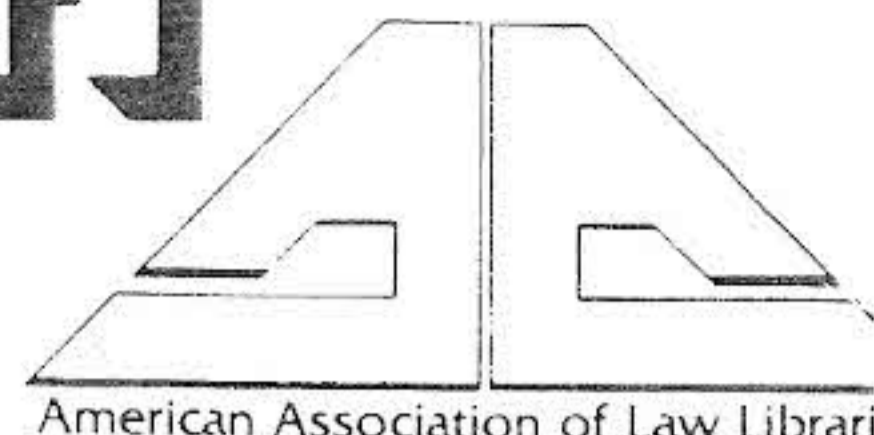
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A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Virtually everyone in SCCLL applauded Joel Fishman's proposal at the annual meeting that a committee be appointed to study our section's long-range purpose and objectives. I was equally enthusiastic upon reading committee chair Marcia Koslov's recommended plan of action in the October issue of this newsletter. It strikes me as being right on target. Marcia identifies three major areas for discussion: (1) Interaction among our SCCLL members, (2) SCCLL's relationship with AALL - particularly the Academic and Private SIS's, and (3) development of contacts with related organizations.

Clearly we are seeking ways to make our views known and our influence felt. During the past couple of months I have had a great many phone conversations that convince me that a lot of us in court and bar libraries have not been taking advantage of opportunities available to us. Dan Freehling and his Program Committee for the 1988 AALL meeting in Atlanta have been hard at work since late summer lining up dozens of program topics and speakers. Several colleagues from academic and private libraries who are coordinating sessions have conferred with me about topics that require the expertise of SCCLL members and have asked for suggested speakers from among our ranks. I particularly sat up and took notice when an academic member of a large AALL committee called and said that no one on her committee knew any SCCLL people well enough to ask one to participate on their program.

Her call caused me to peruse the list of AALL committees in the August newsletter. I was a bit distressed to see that several very important ones - notably Program, Nominating, National Legal Resources, Constitution and Bylaws, and Legislation and Legal Developments - have no SCCLL members at all. Several others, including Education and Membership, have only one of us amid a list of academic and private librarians. Since quite a few AALL members serve on multiple committees, I can only assume that SCCLL people simply aren't bothering to volunteer. To make sure that the Executive Board is aware of our concern, however, I have sent them a letter urging their attentiveness to well-balanced committees as future appointments are made.

Being on a committee isn't just an ego-trip: it's a learning experience - a chance to contribute the public and bar library viewpoint and to bring back to our section information on issues that affect us and on which we should deliberate and act. Within the next several months the AALL Newsletter will carry a form inviting volunteers for 1988/89 AALL committees. By all means, complete it, and send it in. If you are chosen, your own professional development will be enriched, and all SCCLL members will be served by your representation of them.

Carol



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Appellate Court Standards Committee
David G. Badertscher, Chairman

The two main projects in the Committee this year are:

- (1) finish a comprehensive revision of the standards and submit them with commentaries for final approval at the next annual meeting of AALL and
- (2) investigate the procedure for submitting our Standards to the National Center for State Courts or any other appropriate bodies for approval and adoption.

Work on the revision of standards is progressing rapidly and a new working draft is being presented in this issue of the newsletter for your comments.

A subcommittee consisting of Connie Bolden and Paul Fu (who has just joined the Committee) has been formed to work on the second project as mentioned earlier. They will be advising us as to how we should go about obtaining approval of the Appellate Court Standards from other organizations.

The following is a revision of the Appellate Court Library Standards. We ask that you please read it carefully and send your comments (good or bad) to me before February 15, 1988 so that we will be aware of your opinions when preparing the final document to be presented for your approval at the next annual meeting.

