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STATE, COURT & COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES



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Chair's Message

You soon will be receiving your registration packets for the AALL annual meeting in San Francisco in July. I want to take advantage of having you as a captive audience to encourage you to plan to go. I know that this is an especially difficult financial year for you, as very few public entities have not been the target of budget cuts. To help you justify—if you must—the expense of the convention, you should know that the State, Court and County program will last the better part of Sunday, July 19th. We will have our standard morning schedule of a short breakfast business meeting followed by a fantastic program being developed by your Vice-Chair, Pam Gregory and the Education Committee (Jean Holcomb, Chair). We then will adjourn the full SCCLL Section, which will enable you to take your buffet lunch to break out rooms. Four roundtables for state, county, membership/subscription, and federal law librarians are being attempted this year. This will give you an added couple of hours to meet with colleagues from around the country who share the unique concerns and problems of the kinds of libraries you run. Your board of Directors hopes that this schedule will provide you with an enhanced opportunity to network. (Payment for both the breakfast and the buffet lunches will be addressed on the AALL registration form; usually you don't need to pay for dinner that day because of the heavy appetizers available at the opening reception.)

There will be more programs than normal this year during the rest of the convention which have been designed with our members in mind. You should have no trouble convincing your authority person that you will be a better law librarian after attending the 1992 Annual Meeting. Remember that there are travel grants available to assist you with your budgeting. AALL, the Chapters, and your own state library association all have funds which can be tapped for attending continuing education forums.

I have been reading the minutes of last fall's meeting of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer. It was described by Wayne Kelley, Superintendent of Documents, as a "group grope" in defining both short and long term visions

for electronic dissemination of Federal information through the Depository Library Program. The Council (SCCLL member Kay Schlueter of the Texas State Law Library is a member) spent two days in October discussing options and priorities for G.P.O. as it moves into the era of electronic delivery of information. It has occurred to me that our SIS should be more involved in offering solutions to the questions raised by the Depository Council. Our libraries are the ones that the public expects to have government information. Our smaller county law libraries will be more able to provide access to the wealth of federal legal information *when space and cost are no longer issues*. I wonder if I am crazy to even make the suggestion that such a Utopia will ever become an actuality! I believe the Depository Council, specifically Kay, would benefit from hearing of your concerns.

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