

Newsletter of the State, Court and County Section of the American Association of Law Libraries

From the Chair

Before I begin telling you about plans for the 1996 annual meeting, I want to assuage my guilt and correct my error in the last newsletter. Our listserv is "STATECOURTCOUNTYLAWLIB-L". To subscribe, send an e-mail message as follows:

(address)

listserv@lawlib.wuacc.edu

(message)


**subscribe STATECOURTCOUNTYLAWLIB-L
[your name]**

I will certainly be more careful next time I direct people to a listserv--I've never had so much e-mail. Thanks to all of you who pointed out my error to me (diplomatically of course). If I goofed

again, my e-mail address is: dnorwood@wln.com. One thing that I have discovered as we move to an electronic world is the need to keep in touch. This may sound contradictory as e-mail and other services make communicating so easy. However, e-mail lends a certain anonymity. A recent article in a local newspaper discussed the benefits of e-mail and other types of electronic communication for shy people. Those who are shy or who dislike personal interaction may revel in the new order. They can create their own world with little or no personal interaction--even groceries can be delivered by e-mail request. I suggest that we all need to carefully nurture our personal interaction with others. As a corollary, I think we need to be conscious of collegiality among peers. We need to treat each other with respect for our work, for our time and for our individuality. We can disagree respectfully with one another. A loyal opposition is a valuable asset in any organization or group. After reading some of the messages that appear on e-mail, I think we could all take some lessons from Benjamin Franklin, known for his diplomacy, in expressing ourselves. Because electronic communication makes it so easy to lose the personal touch, I think that events such as the annual meeting take on a special importance. Staying in touch with other law librarians in your area--meeting for lunch, exchanging phone calls, going on tours--is just as important. These events are opportunities to meet with those you enjoy and to parlay with those with whom you have differences. Many of us have been busy planning for the annual meeting in Indianapolis, July 20 - 25, 1996. The State, Court & County Law Libraries SIS


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meeting will be on Sunday, July 21. We will start with our traditional light breakfast followed by our business meeting. After the business meeting, Chair-Elect Frank Herch is planning a joint program with the Automation-Scientific Development SIS entitled "Automated Access to Legal Information." The program will include demonstrations of automated means of access including kiosks, Internet access to legal forms, Interactive Voice Response (telephone) message systems. Be sure to plan on attending the breakfast meeting and the program on Sunday morning. Michele Finerty, our education chair, has planned two SIS-sponsored programs for Indianapolis. One is on the authenticity of electronic documents and the other is on the cost of legal publications. Both promise to be excellent programs. Additionally, Jackie Jurkins and our Standards Committee have been working to finalize the revisions to the standards for county and appellate court law libraries. Jackie received a few comments on the revised standards from only one person. We will be going forward with our plans to present them to the AALL Executive Board for its approval. Thanks very much to Jackie and the committee for guiding the standards to a final draft. Sue Roach, Nominations Chair, has been busy searching for candidates for the upcoming SIS elections. By the time this issue of the newsletter is distributed, the slate will most likely be set. If you are interested in running for office or if you would like to recommend someone, be sure to let the nominations committee know early in the Section's year. I hope you plan to attend the AALL annual meeting in Indianapolis in July. It will be an excellent educational experience and an opportunity for staying in personal contact with your colleagues. 

*--Deborah Norwood
Washington State Law Librarian*

SCCLL Program in Indianapolis

On Sunday morning, July 21, 1996, following the business meeting, the State, Court and County Law Libraries SIS will co-sponsor with the Automation and Scientific Development SIS a program entitled "Automated Access to Legal Information." This program will feature demonstrations of North Communications kiosks, an interactive telephone system and Internet access to legal forms and instructions. These automated solutions have been successfully pioneered by the Superior Courts of Maricopa County in Phoenix, Arizona. A description of these creative automated solutions and a self-service center for pro se use will appear in an article in the next issue of this newsletter. For more information, contact Frank Alan Herch at (702) 455-4697. 

*--Frank Alan Herch
Clark County Law Library*

