

MOCATNEWS

Northern California Association of Law Libraries A Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

September - October 1999

Volume 20, Number 1

A Message From the President

by Cathy Hardy Venture Law Group

hope that we can serve NOCALL well this year by providing quality programs and opportunities for each member to become involved.

This is an exciting year for NOCALL. We will soon be celebrating our 20th anniversary! We begin the 1999/2000 year with the Fall Business Meeting in Santa Clara where our speakers, Shirley David and Sam Trosow of the **AALL Government Relations Commit**tee, will fill us in on the exciting legislative day in Washington, D.C. and NOCALL participation in that day. The Fall Workshop is also back this year and Education Chair Jenny Kanji and her committee are lining up a great speaker. Look for details elsewhere in the newsletter. Dr. Blanche Woolls, dean of the San Jose State Library

School, is our featured speaker for the January Business Meeting. She will speak on the future of Library Education. The Spring Institute in March promises to be even more exciting than ever, but I will let Donna Williams give you the details. We have asked to have our AALL executive board visit during the Institute this year, but still do not know who will be visiting.

NOCALL has accomplished much in the last 20 years. We have 20 standing committees that do an incredible amount of volunteer work each year to make all our lives better. As I have talked to committee chairs, past chairs, and members at large, I am in awe of the amount of work which we now

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Web-Searchable Catalog Now Available at the San Francisco Law Library

by Diane Rodriguez San Francisco Law Library

The San Francisco Law Library is pleased to announce the availability of

our new Online Catalog. Our new Innovative Interfaces system is up and running at http://sflawlib.ci.sf.ca.us, or come into the Civic Center library and

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A Message from the President

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take for granted. Of course we have professional level workshops and an Institute, of course we produce a Union List, of course we provide consulting and outreach, of course we have a library school liaison, of course we promote the profession with articles and volunteer work, and of course we have a web page of national renown. No wonder we are all a little tired at times!

I think one of the most important things we do as an organization is to help each other to grow. I am truly honored to serve as president, with such an incredible board and committee chairs. I hope that we can serve NO-CALL well this year by providing quality programs and opportunities for each member to become involved. If you are interested in volunteering for a committee please let me know. We need new people to become involved. If you just want to talk about NO-CALL give me a call or send an email. We can move mountains when we work together!

CB

NOCALL News

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SFLL Online

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use one of our public access terminals. The new catalog contains the current holdings of both the Civic Center and Financial District Branch locations. Materials put into storage due to our move out of City Hall are not currently included in the catalog. We plan to add these titles in the next 2 years while we prepare to move to a larger, permanent location, which will accommodate the entire collection.

In addition to Author, Title, and Subject searching, our new catalog includes the following features:

- Update Announcements—each record indicates the latest supplement received
- Current Journals—Journal entries display the latest issue received & which volumes are currently at the bindery
- Keyword searching
- ♦ Library information
- ♦ Helpful links for Internet searching
- Easy access to our monthly New Acquisitions List

Because the catalog is new, it is still evolving. In the near future we will add:

- Public access terminals at all locations
- ♦ Keyword searching of subjects
- Online circulation system enabling patrons to check their circulation records
- ◆ The ability to see if a book is on the shelf from your desktop
- ♦ The ability to place holds

Another part of our automation project is the switch to the Library of Congress classification system. The library was formerly unclassified. Staff has been working hard to apply labels and bar codes to every volume. Soon we will reorganize the library into the LC classification scheme. Finally our collection will be browseable by topic!

In collection development news we have been building up our practice guides for popular states other than California. Currently these states include Florida, New York, and Nevada. A keyword search in the online catalog on any of these states will bring up our listing of practice guides. Also take a look at our Monthly Acquisitions Lists for a complete listing of new titles.

We hope you enjoy using our new catalog. Please don't hesitate to call the library if you have any questions. We can be reached at:

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Musings From Mark - The AALL Annual Meeting

by Mark Mackler Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal

This might surprise you, but much of my thoughts and feelings during the AALL week in Washington were profoundly affected by the death of John Kennedy, Jr. There were many occasions during the week when I found myself drifting back to the Kennedy years. Because of my age and because of my many connections to Massachusetts, I had always felt a particular affinity for the Kennedys. As a result, the accident hit me very hard.

One afternoon, Debi Mazor and I went off to Arlington National Cemetery. It was such an extraordinary thing to see: Dozens of people leaving flowers and cards by the Kennedy gravesite. Dozens of people speaking dozens of different languages. Dozens of people in tears.

...On Sunday afternoon, Susan Glasser, deputy national news editor for the Washington Post, spoke at the PLL Luncheon about the influence of money and lobbyists on the American political process today. That night, I went to the new FDR Memorial and reflected on FDR's legacy and the state of American politics. My conclusions were not pleasant. In fact, they were absolutely depressing.

...AALL Session A-1 focused on the practice of law firm librarians billing for time. One of the concerns which was expressed: How do we get law firm partners to stop writing off librarians' time? The unanswered question: Who cares about the extent to which they write off our time? Maybe it's more important for the partners to see and to appreciate what it is we do, and for us to express it

in a clear and informative manner on timesheets. I used to be concerned with how much or how little of my time was actually billed out to the clients. Now, it really doesn't matter to me. My raise isn't determined by how much money is recovered from the client for my services. The Firm won't rise or fall according to how much of my costs are recovered. Am I being wrongheaded on this one?

...Maybe I'm getting cranky, but Westlaw managed to annoy me with the glitziness it exhibited at AALL. Party hats and streamers on my hotel bed? "Millennium" and KeyCite posters on the doors of the hotel rooms? Dick Clark there to usher in the new "Millennium"? Arrgh!!! Look, we know that you guys produce excellent online products. However, the glitz and glitter are, to me at least, demeaning. In the immortal words of Donna Summer: Enough is Enough!

AALL Annual Meeting Planning Ideas

by Lille Koski Shartsis, Friese & Ginsburg LLP 1999 Grant Recipient

Did you like to ride the merry-go-round when you were a child? I sure did! With its bright lights, mirrors, intricately decorated animals & gay music, a merry-go-round ride was a step into fantasy. Before my turn for the ride, I would watch the snarling tigers, thick-maned lions, timid rabbits, sweet-faced kittens, snorting war horses and placid swans twirl past me. I was looking for the horse

(Continued on page 5)

(Planning Ideas continued from page 4)

(for equine-lover Lille only a horse would do) that rose the highest on the ride. I loved the feeling of towering over the other riders as we all moved up and down and around in a circle to the music of the mechanical organ. It was a magical ride! I always felt that I had the best ride even though those riders on the other animals (both movable & stationary), the people seated in the stationary chariots or sleighs, and even the spectators watching us spin by seemed to enjoy the ride.

To me, the AALL Annual Meeting is a lot like a merry-go-round ride. With its whirl of programs, meetings, vendor parties, opening reception, association luncheon, closing reception, exhibit booths, library tours, SIS functions, etc., the convention attendees have signed up for a five day ride. During this ride we can see the other attendees "reflected in the mirrors" as we all move from one program/event to another.

Which kind of merry-go-round rider/convention attendee are you? Are you a spectator watching others enjoy the convention and getting satisfaction from that? Are you riding a sleigh or stationary animal? Do you participate in a few programs/events and find that this is enough for you? Are you riding a movable animal? Do you attend many programs/events and experience much that the convention has to offer? I thought I would share with you some things that help prepare me for the AALL Annual Meeting merry-goround ride!

1. Check preliminary educational programs and workshops on AALLNET.

Annual meeting information appears first on the AALL web site (http://aalha.org/meeting_annual_programs.asp) usually in March. I print the list of programs and highlight the programs that sound interesting and/or are pertinent to my work. I may highlight two

programs in the same time slot and decide later which program I will ultimately attend. Then I look over my list of highlighted programs. Are there enough interesting/pertinent programs to justify my attendance at the annual meeting?

2. Fill in Personal Calendar which appears in Preliminary Program.

When the Preliminary Program arrives, I fill in (in pencil) the programs I am planning to attend. I also note that the Opening Reception is always on Sunday night, the West party on Monday night, Lexis party on Tuesday night, Closing Banquet on Wednesday night. As I become aware of other events (i.e. NOCALL reception, library tours, volunteer duties, etc.) I pencil them in as well. I try to leave ample time to tour the exhibit hall. I usually tear this page from the Preliminary Program, encase it in plastic; make additions and corrections to it and refer to it throughout the annual meeting.

3. Decide on Hotel.

I check the convention hotels listed in the Preliminary Program. Where are they located in relation to the convention center? What are the daily rates? What amenities are offered at each hotel? Can I get a better rate elsewhere? I check the AAA Tour Book and Internet sites such as Hotel Reservations Network (www.180096hotel.com). When I find the hotel that best meets my requirements, I make the reservation immediately (even before I have registered for the convention.) I can always cancel or change it if I need to.

4. Arrive Early.

I usually schedule airline reservations from Friday to Friday. It usually takes one whole day (Friday) to get from my home to my hotel room. I find I need the extra day (Saturday) to orient myself to the time difference and my surroundings.

(Continued on page 7)

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(Planning Ideas continued from page 5)

I like to register at the convention center on Saturday when there are no lines. After registering, I locate a nearby table and chair to peruse the AALL Final Program, Education Program Handout Materials and the Daily Paper included in my registration materials.

I leaf through the Final Program and note any pertinent program changes. I look over the Daily Schedule of Events. Is there something listed there that I missed earlier? Are there vendor parties listed that I might want to attend? Which Special Interest Sections are meeting and on which evenings?

The Final Program also contains a nice Exhibitors and Products/Services Guide. I make a note of certain vendors I particularly want to visit and where they are located in the exhibit hall. Ruth Balkin's AALL Spectrum article, "Making the Best Use of the Exhibit Hall" (June 1999) was very helpful.

I look through the Educational Program Handout Materials. Are handouts included for the program I am planning to attend? Are they helpful and informative? Based on the handouts, does another program look more worthwhile than one I am planning to attend? If so, I change programs.

The daily Annual Meeting newspaper is also informative. It often contains information and tips on attending the Opening Reception, last minute program changes/meeting notices and informational pieces on local sights or events I might wish to visit.

Then using the convention center/meeting facilities floor plans in the Final Program, I locate the meeting rooms I will be using and the rooms of other functions I will attend (Association Luncheon, SIS Meetings, Vendor Parties, etc.)

5. Bring Food!

One thing that makes a strange place more comfortable is familiar food. If I am munching on my favorite snack in my hotel room, it feels more like home.

This year I brought breakfast and lunch fixings (including bowls, plastic spoons, paper lunch bags, etc.) in addition to snack food. It enabled me to eat breakfast quickly when I needed to get to the convention center by 8 a.m.! I also could spend more time in the exhibit hall. Another advantage of packing food in my suitcase is that I then had room for convention materials on the return trip home!

Each of us has a unique AALL Annual Meeting experience and an enjoyable "merry-goround ride". I hope my suggestions prove helpful to you on your future "rides."

CB

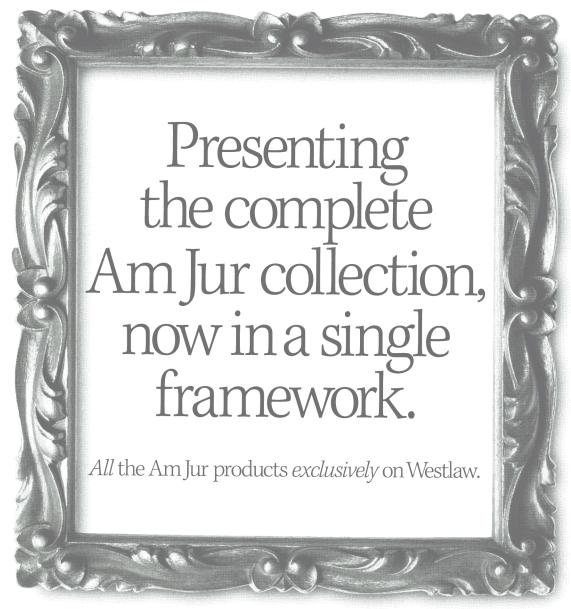
AALL Attendance: It Enhances & Advances

by Karen M. Lutke San Mateo County Law Library 1999 AALL Grant Recipient

I wanted to thank you and the members of the Grants Committee for the grant to attend the AALL Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. I had a wonderful time and gained so much personally and professionally.

As the Director of a busy county law library with a small staff, I have limited opportunity for continuing education and networking. This leaves me feeling somewhat disconnected from law librarianship at times, but I make the best of this situation by communicating with other law librarians through email and the telephone. However, I find the

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(AALL Attendance continued from page 7)

Annual Meeting is the single most important professional conference I can attend to enhance and advance my professional skills. The broad and varied selection of lectures and seminars conducted at the Annual Meeting extend me the extraordinary opportunity to explore and learn new topics, affirm current practices, and foster relationships with other law librarians.

The Exhibit Hall is very beneficial as it provides the opportunity to view, compare and evaluate the products and services of multiple publishers and vendors. And the Exhibit Hall is great fun! This year I was particularly impressed, and admittedly awed, by the new age of legal publishing. I see great potential and challenges in the 21st Century, but feel confident that I can meet them, and much of this confidence is gained through the many lectures and seminars I attended.

I rounded out my Annual Meeting experience by volunteering at the AALL Registration Desk and at the NOCALL table. By conference end I was exhausted, but very fulfilled. I feel NOCALL recognizes and shares my feelings of the value of professional conferences and wants to provide everyone with the opportunity to attend. All this said and done, I encourage others to apply for future grants for either a NOCALL sponsored event or the national conference. My thanks to Mary Sigafoos and the Grants Committee for this highly rewarding experience. I am already looking forward to Philadelphia!

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AALL Highlights

AALL's 92nd Annual Meeting, July 17-21, 1999, in Washington, D.C. was a memorable event with more attendees than any previous meeting. Below are comments from NOCALL conference attendees:

"I was fascinated by the librarian's new role as an information architect for designing intranets. The workshop on "The Internet: The Next Step" was excellent and gave me new ideas for developing our firm's intranet. I also learned about a book many of you might find valuable, Information Architecture for the World Wide Web, by Louis Rosenfeld and Peter Morville. We also had fun visiting the art galleries, museums and monuments. A highlight of the trip was our visit to the Franklin D. Roosevelt monument and the Holocaust museum. One evening as a friend and I walked down Pennsylvania Avenue, we could hear the munchkins singing "follow the yellow brick road" from the Wizard of Oz. The film was being shown at an outdoor theater set up near the Washington Monument. At first this seemed strange to me. Here I was wandering around the Nation's Capitol while listening to the sound track of Wizard of Oz; it also seemed oddly appropriate." Lauri Cameron, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

"It was a mind-expanding meeting for me because the programs were some of the best I've ever attended. For example, Lolly Gasaway's presentation on Electronic Reserves was superb. Several others also stick in my mind: a roundtable on constructing user surveys; a program on ILL/Document Delivery that confirmed that employing CLIO is a forward-thinking move; Sam Trosow's program which featured Julie Cohen and Marc Rotenberg speaking on the effects of globalization of in-

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Dueling Database Bills: The Saga Continues

by Samuel Trosow
Boalt Express Librarian and Member,
AALL Government Relations Committee

In a 1991 decision (*Feist Publications v. Rural Telephone*, 299 U.S. 340), the U.S. Supreme Court held that a compilation of facts must have a modicum of creativity in its selection, coordination or arrangement in order to qualify for copyright protection. This ruling, which placed the contents of most databases outside the scope of copyright protection, was recently relied upon by the Second Circuit when they denied West Publishing's claim of copyright in their page numbering and other factual materials in reported court decisions. (*Matthew Bender & Co. v. West Publishing*, 158 F.3d 674, cert. den. 522 U.S. 3732)

Since the Feist decision, passage of a new law extending copyright-type restrictions to such databases has been high on the information industry's wish-list, and this has only intensified since the Supreme Court has effectively closed the door on West's copyright-litigation strategy. H.R 3531 in the 104th Congress and H.R. 2652 in the 105th were failed attempts to create new copyright-type limitations on databases and compilations even though they could not qualify for protection under existing copyright law. While these measures had the strong support of the well-funded and powerful information industry, a broad coalition of educators, librarians and researchers mounted an effective opposition. Despite a last minute maneuver to include the database bill in the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998, the bill did not make it into the final law.

This legislative battle has extended into the current 106th Congress. H.R. 354. would provide the industry with the additional legal rights they are seeking, but it again met with the strong opposition of library, educational and research interests who feared the bill would adversely affect the public's access to information. The bill seeks to establish a new property right for "collections of information," complete with civil and crimi-

nal remedies for unauthorized use.
Like its predecessors, it is viewed as an unwarranted expansion of property and investment interests to the detriment of the public interest.

THE SUCCESSFUL
OUTCOME OF THE
AUGUST 5 COMMERCE
COMMITTEE MARK-UP
SESSION WAS A MAJOR
VICTORY FOR AALL.
THE CONTACTS
ALREADY MADE BY
AALL AND OTHER
COALITION MEMBERS
WERE CRUCIAL TO THIS
SUCCESS. BUT THE
BATTLE WILL CONTINUE

In May of this year, the

House Judiciary Committee approved H.R. 354 much to the delight of West, Lexis-Nexis, the real estate industry and others who would like to see stronger restrictions on the use of data. Similar in scope to the bills from the previous two Congresses, H.R 354 would do much more than simply provide creators of compilations with remedies against competitors who engage in acts of misappropriation. Its broad prohibitions would reach the conduct of end-users of data, even if the data was generated by the government. With inadequate protections for fair use and unduly harsh penalties, H.R. 354 has drawn the opposition of a broad

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group of consumer-oriented forces that includes AALL. The key objections are:

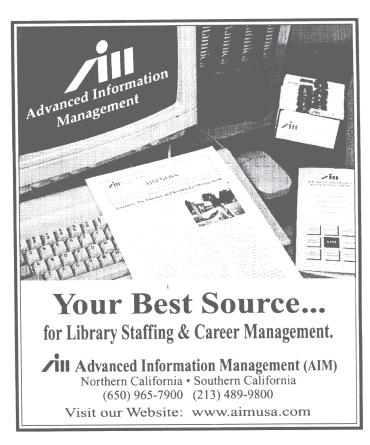
- ⇒ It is overbroad in scope and is a radical departure from the current intellectual property framework that seeks to balance the interests of users and owners.
- ⇒ It would allow content owners excessive control over the uses of information including downstream, transformative use of facts including those generated by the government.
- ⇒ The exemption for education and research activities is too narrow.
- ⇒ The term of protection is too long; effectively perpetual for dynamic collections.

But this year, instead of just opposing the bad bill, an alternative has been offered. H.R. 1858, the *Consumer and Investor Access to Information Act of 1999*, would protect owners of databases from commercial misappropriation by competitors without placing unreasonable restrictions on consumers. In August, the House Commerce Committee unanimously approved H.R. 1858, including an amendment offered by AALL that would insure that primary legal materials remain accessible to end-users:

Protection under this chapter shall not extend to primary legal materials, including court opinions, statutes, codes, regulations, or administrative agency decisions, from any Federal, state, or local jurisdiction, unless such materials were permanently available on an interactive computer network, without restriction, in an official, no-fee, publicly accessible electronic form at the time that the extraction occurred.

The successful outcome of the August 5 Commerce Committee mark-up session was a major victory for AALL. The contacts already made by AALL and other coalition members were crucial to this success. But the battle will continue into the fall and maybe even into the second session of the 106th Congress in 2000. More detailed information concerning these bills, including their full text, current status, and list of co-sponsors is available through http://thomas.loc.gov.

Now that Congress is back in their fall session, some resolution between the Judiciary and Commerce versions of the bills will be attempted. Presumably, this will first be attempted by Commerce/Judiciary staff, but the issue will ultimately become a question for House members if the substantial differences cannot be resolved. Meanwhile, it is important for Congress members to hear from their constituents on this issue. Writing a letter to your representative asking him/her to cosponsor or support H.R 1858 with AALL's amendment and to oppose H.R. 354 is a good first step. Watch out for upcoming AALL Legislative Alerts on this subject.



NOCALL Spring Institute 2000

When: March 17-18, 2000

Where: Ramada Plaza Hotel International

1231 Market St., SF. Room rates: \$109 single / \$119 double.

NOCALL will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a bash at the California Culinary Academy!

The program will cover a variety of topics from Antitrust, Mergers & Trends to Intranets to Uncovering Reporters' Secret News Gathering Methods. Speakers will address what their topic was like 20 years ago, how it has changed and what they foresee in the future. There will also be a trade show with exhibitors, games & prizes.

The Spring Institute committee: Donna Williams, Prano Amjadi, Marilyn Dryer, Barbara Friedrich, Jackie Grossman, Ellen Platt, Mark Mackler, Donna Purvis

More information will be released in the next NOCALL News!

Meet the New Officers & Board Members

Meet Donna Williams

Vice President - President Elect

Law Librarian at the California Court of Appeal, 6th Appellate District, San Jose.

We asked the new Board Members and Officers to answer a variety of questions both to introduce themselves and also to spark discussion on some current topics. Over the next several issues we will hear their comments:

1. General Question: Tell us about your current position and what challenges you are working on now (for instance, what is the biggest "pain" or "joy" of your job recently)?

The biggest joy is that I just created a new brochure for my library. I used to have a "Services & Procedures" word document and now I spiced up the document using Broderbund Printshop Deluxe. It's a brochure I hand out to all new employees and externs (law school students).

2. What is the point of NOCALL? Why did you become a member and why do you remain a member?

What do you get out of it? What changes would you like to see in NOCALL? What should NOCALL be doing? Are there issues it should be addressing?

What's the point of NOCALL? I think it ties us all together. When I first began my librarianship career in an SF firm, it was great being able to use the NOCALL Union list and directory for ILL's. Then, meeting the people in person at NOCALL events and getting to know them was wonderful. I find that now, being in a solo environment, it's nice to have colleagues I can email or call about the latest issues/trends.

Why did I become a member? First, because of the ILL privileges. Second, I like being involved and an active member of the law library community. I like to know what's going on and have a say in it!

What do I get out of it? Professionalism, leadership, knowledge & friendship. I think you only get out of it what you put into it. I have tried to be on at least one committee every year since I joined NOCALL in 1984. I figure if it helps our profession, I could take

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Pan-California Vision Statement

Submitted by Mary Ann Parker NOCALL Immediate Past President

The California chapters of the American Association of Law Libraries (SCALL, NOCALL, SANDALL) share a commitment to the continuing education and professional development of their members. Through communication, cooperation, and the coordination of activities and events, the Chapters seek to increase educational and networking opportunities for all members while enhancing the professional stature of law librarianship throughout the state.

Pan-California Points of Cooperation

- Cross-mailing and cross-posting on listservs to members of all three chapters for major events (e.g. Institutes and workshops). (Note: The SCALL Board opted for listserv cross-posting and placement of announcements in newsletters, thinking that it might be too costly to do cross-mailings.)
- Reciprocal rates for registration should be charged at each other's major events.
- Joint (three-chapter) Institute at least every 5 years. (Note: The SCALL Board agreed with this "in principle," in that it didn't want to lock in future Boards.)
- Cooperation of the three chapters on government relations issues through the chapters' Government Relations Committees and in other ways.
- An e-mail list or listserv for members of the three Boards should be set up for better communication statewide.
- Joint Participation in the AALL Chapter VIP Program.
- Joint All-California reception at the AALL Annual Meeting.
- Sending Vice Presidents to each other's major events.

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the time to be a member or chair a committee each year. I now know a lot more people than I would have had I not volunteered to be involved and that helps me professionally & I've made a lot of great friends in the process.

3. Technology: Can't live with it Can't live without it: What is your biggest technology challenge/hassle?

Technology - I love it and hate it! Sometimes I feel like I'm drowning just trying to keep up with the latest upgrade and/or technology. Then I talk with others & everyone feels the same way! I think our reps are trying to push us to Internet based products and

with each new upgrade of CDs, "vendors" make it more difficult and have untrained IS staff to answer questions! I work closely with my IS people & we have a great relationship. We found that they have had to update the "vendor's" IS people on their own product because they don't know what's going on. I find that very frustrating! I think that the Web is great, however we have a whole set of special problems in the Judicial branch. We have a LOT of firewalls and unfortunately many of the web-bases products don't work because of cookies. I also worry about privacy which will be nonexistent soon!

RO3

4,249 cases retrieved. 4,194 irrelevant.

58 cases retrieved. 53 on point.

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Special "Beach Reading" Edition

by Nora Levine Crosby, Heafey, Roach & May

Here's a little escapist beach reading: I just read the latest book in Sue Grafton's alphabetical mystery series, featuring female private investigator Kinsey Milhone. This one was entitled N is for Noose. Kinsey is an excop based in Santa Teresa (fictional counterpart to Santa Barbara). This enjoyable series, told from the protagonists point of view, details the insights of a rebellious, independent, tough but sensible single woman with a sense of humor and an eye for detail. This story takes Kinsey to a little town off Hwy 395 somewhere between Mono Lake and Mammoth. Her latest boyfriend, a private eye, is laid up with leg surgery and passes on this job. The widow of a small town police detective who died of a heart attack wants to know what was upsetting him the few weeks before his death. Ms. Grafton takes you through small town society and police politics, and episodes of personal danger to Kinsey. She throws in enough false leads to keep you guessing until nearly the end. A page turner for me, but I'm a fan, having also read A-M in the series. ~ Dan Cunningham Crosby, Heafey, Roach & May

I first discovered the world of Rex Stout and his mysteries as a 10-year old boy on a 100-degree day in the shaded front yard of my family's house in Sacramento. Having already gone through all the Agatha Christies in my local library, I'd checked out a Rex Stout, and for the rest of the afternoon I forgot all about the heat as I fell under the spell of those two opposite yet symbiant characters, Nero Wolfe and Archie Goodwin.

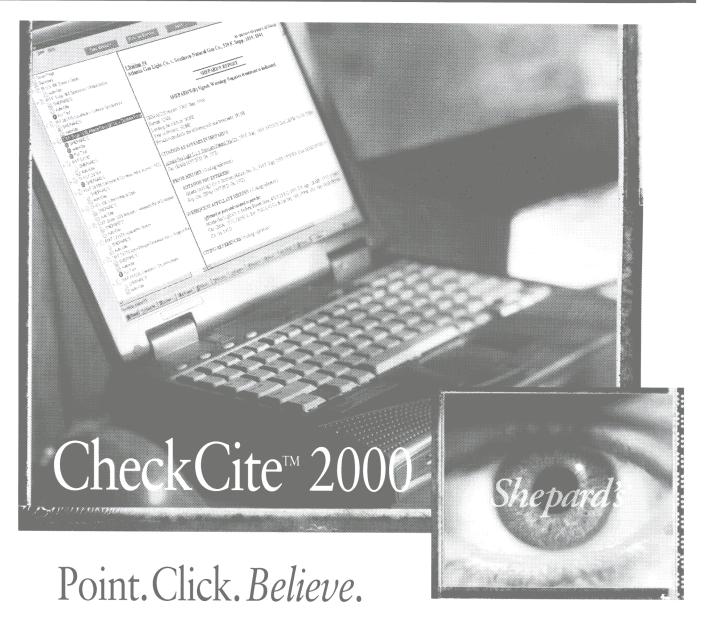
Wolfe and Archie live in Wolfe's Manhattan brownstone, which also serves as their office,

since Wolfe never leaves on business. Without Archie to goad him into accepting new clients, Wolfe would spend all day puttering with orchids, eating meals prepared by his live-in chef, and reading books (beer in hand) in the only chair in the world that can hold his seventh-of-a-ton figure. Once they actually accept a new client, Archie still does all the leg work -- Wolfe's contribution mostly comes at the end of the case, when he has Archie collect all the clients, suspects, and interested parties into his office, where Wolfe then proceeds to reveal the identity of the killer amongst them (without leaving his chair, of course). My current read is Justice Ends at Home and Other Stories, a collection of pre-Wolfe & Goodwin crime stories. Some of them show early signs of Wolfe and Goodwin; many of them are short enough to be read on a lunch break (or if you find yourself trapped on MUNI). The danger of reading Rex Stout is that you begin to turn into a Nero Wolfe yourself, wanting only to sit in your chair and read, read, read -- and getting up to work only when you can't put it off any longer. ~~ Tom Eyres, Pacific Telesis Group (aka Pacific Bell) Law Library

I just finished reading *Dear Exile* by Kate Montgomery and Hilary Liftin. It is an exchange of letters between two former college roommates soon after they graduate and one goes to Kenya with the Peace Corps. Anyone who has experienced exchanging letters (or email messages) over a period of time with a friend will appreciate the book. I was able to identify with both writers even though I have never lived in New York or Kenya.

I have also been reading *The Wonder of Boys* by Michael Gurian. I am way out of practice reading non-library-related non-fiction and it is taking me a long time to read this book. It is about raising boys, the things the author thinks they need, and how to give those things

(Continued on page 17)



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(Reading continued from page 15)

to them. He suggests touching (hold their hand or put your hand on their shoulder) boys when you tell them something that they need to hear and also says that boys need to be held more and receive more cuddling when they are babies and toddlers than they are getting. I like the book and think it makes sense. I wish our entire society would read it and start taking the author's suggestions to heart.

On the nightstand are: *Patterns of Progress* by Barbara Brackman, which has great pictures of quilts that were in an exhibition at the Autry Museum in the LA area, and *The Real Boys*, another book about raising boys. ~Jaye A. H. Lapachet, McKenna & Cuneo

I am reading *The Coast of Good Intentions* by Michael Byers. A collection of really neat short stories by this new author, perfect for beach reading. I heard it recommended on an NPR "best books" feature, and it has certainly not been a disappointment! ~~ Cynthia McClellan, Health Sciences Library, Univ. of Medicine & Dentistry of NJ

I just finished *Havana Bay* by Martin Cruz Smith, the fourth in his series of mysteries featuring Moscow Homicide Inspector Arkady Renko. Arkady is in Havana to help identify the remains of a Russian found mysteriously floating in Havana Bay. It seems a pretty straightforward case, but Arkady is unconvinced, and his investigation tells a lot about the effect on Cuba of the collapse of the USSR, its powerful patron. I highly recommend this novel and all the rest of the Arkady Renko mysteries, if you want to know more about atmospherics and the Russian character as well as whodunit. ~ Mary Ann Parker, California Department of Water Resources Law Library

Just got back from an island off the coast of Maine where, in spite of the high temperatures on the mainland, we had a lot of fog. So, while happily fogged-in, I sat on the deck and read A Widow for One Year, The Reader, and A Girl's Guide to Hunting and Fishing. I would recommend them all as good "beachreads." With my daughters, I read Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets. They love the series. I'm a tad mystified about their wide appeal but maybe it's one of those generational things. ~ Kathy Skinner, Hancock, Rothert & Bunshoft

While basking away on a swim dock at Lake Almanor, I read the mystery series by Diane Mott Davidson. The series involves her main character, Goldie Shulz, a caterer and amateur detective. I read Catering to Nobody, Cereal Murders, Dying for Chocolate, Killer Pancakes, The Last Supper and The Main Corpse. Her witty, recipe-filled plots are fun and an easy read. The recipes are yummy! I've tried several since returning from vacation. There are a few more titles in the series, The Grilling Season and Prime Cut, but I will have to wait until my library automation project is done to read them. ~ Cindy Beck, Weller, Cooper, White & Cooper

Those Damn Yankees by Dean Chadwin. The hype may have focused on Mark McGwire but the real story of 1998 was the New York Yankees winning yet another World Series championship. Living in southern California (or northern for that matter) one can truly relate to the title of this book given the Angels', Giants', and Dodgers' decades of ineptitude. Having attended Mickey Mantle retirement day with my father all those years ago at the Mecca of baseball stadiums (no, not Camden Yards), last year's World Series and reading this book gave me those familiar goosebumps again. ~ Alan Schroeder, Rutan & Tucker

Professional Reading in Review

by Jaye A. H. Lapachet McKenna & Cuneo, L.L.P

I don't subscribe to *Online* magazine, but occasionally I buy it and the May/June 1999 special issue on Web Search Engines is a really good one. There are numerous articles on all aspects of searching the Web, a "features and commands" chart on thirteen search engines, the future of web searching, how search engine technology works and an excellent article on Metasearch engines. You will be able to use the chart for teaching users and you will improve your searching skills. I suggest that you check out this issue.

"Accessibility of Information on the Web," Nature, v.400, July 8, 1999, pg.107-109. This is kind of a geek's article to accessibility, but if you plow through the statistics, you will find that your searches, and those of your users, may not be as comprehensive as you thought and why that is the case. My question is: can we as librarians help improve accessibility?

"How to Boost your Organization and Aid your Communities," Michael Stevenson, Research column, Information Outlook, August 1999, v.3, n.8, pg. 44. Discusses how the Librarian can assist the firm in researching social responsibility issues and investing.

"In Search of...Everything?" Genie Tyburski, Law Office Computing,
August/September 1999, pg.83-85.
Review of where to go using various information resources, including on the Web to find information about private companies.
Very useful sources, but the article reminds us that this type of reference isn't easy and

requires delving into several different sources.

"Knowing When to Pull the Plug on Internet Dependency," Kevin Lee Thomason, Daily Journal, August 20, 1999, pg.6
If you have not read this article, take three minutes to do so. Thomason says what we have been saying for years: the Internet is not the be-all and end-all of information resources, but he says it in a public forum. I just hope his colleagues read it.

"The Library as an Agent of Change: Pushing the Client Institution Forward," Stuart Basefsky, Information Outlook, August 1999, v.3, n.8, pg. 37-40.

The recent debate about the library community's inability to cooperate on a project like the World's Biggest Library made this article more important to me after I read it. We have to integrate ourselves into the daily work of the firm or company. We have to be indispensible, because we don't have a monopoly on organized and useful information. This article gives concrete ideas about how to integrate yourself or your library further into the firm culture.

"The Response to 'Building Earth's Largest Library" http: ww.infotoday.com/searcher/jul/coffman.htm

This follow-up article discusses the reactions of readers to Steve Coffman's library-world shattering article about applying the Amazon.com model catalog to an all encompassing library catalog. If you didn't read the original article, you can find it at [Building Earth's Largest Library: Driving into the Future, Searcher, March 1999 pp. 34-47 http://www.infotoday.com/searcher/mar/coffman.html]. If you have anything to do with people finding things in your library, then you need to read both of these articles. How many of your problems would be solved if

(Continued on page 19)

(Professional Reading continued from page 18)

you could put a query for a book into your online catalog and find that book, a picture of its cover and its location, if your library did not own it? And if the attorney, secretary or paralegal did not have title right, how useful would it be to get a list of possible titles about rather than the stupid message "no items found"? Think of these two articles as "Amazon.com goes to the library."

This quote from the article is one that makes me scared for our profession: "We are dealing in Internet time here, and my sense is that we have to do something big and grand and fast, if we hope to capture the imagination of our customers and our profession. If we do not, somebody else will it do it for us..." The end of the article is the best because it aptly describes one of the biggest problems with our profession: lack of imagination.

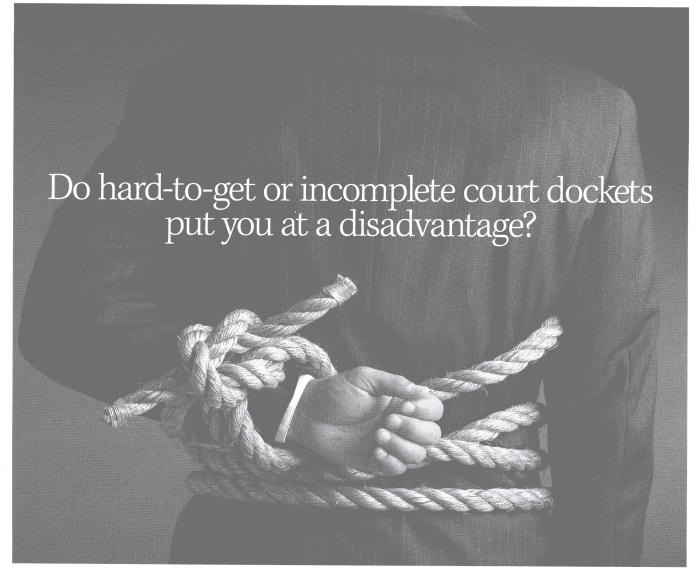
(AALL Highlights continued from page 9) formation; the roundtable on teaching Advanced Legal Research, and many others. Hey, even the business meetings were interesting!" ~~ Faye Jones, Hastings College of the Law Library

"The best time I had at AALL 1999 was sitting at the NOCALL table. It was nice to see other NOCALL members and get caught up on their libraries and lives. I also enjoyed talking to people who were interested in moving to the Bay Area. It felt like I was helping people change their lives and we (the Bay Area and the law library community) would get the benefit of their knowledge and experiences. I would gladly sit at the table again and I encourage others to do so." ~~ Sharon McNally, Fenwick & West LLP

"In Washington, D.C., I attended AALL for the first time as a new member and a new law librarian. In the past, I have attended other library association conferences such as ALA, SLA and CLA. I have to say that my experience with AALL was unique and rewarding. My first observation of AALL was its relative intimacy and calm compared to ALA where thousands of librarians are wandering around. I attended CONELL (Conference of Newer Law Librarians) for the first time and it was great. I got to know a small group of other newer librarians from all over the country. The Library of Congress reception was also a memorable evening." ~~ Sirous Monojami, USF Law Library

"There were two highlights for me - one program and one extra added attraction. The best program for me was "Gumshoe Librarians: Using Investigative Sources and Techniques." It wasn't so much about how librarians might use investigative techniques, but more on how investigators can locate relevant data on computers - even files which people thought they had deleted or deposited in the trash. Joan Feldman (Computer Forensics, Inc.) described ways of finding evidence in hard drives, backup tapes, replaced disk drives, and operating system-created files. Email may reveal a great deal, and if the equipment is company-owned, such discovered evidence can be used in lawsuits. Connie Kaplan (Kroll Associates), dressed as a spy, commented on some of the cases worldwide in which her company had participated. The final caveat from both speakers was: Do not put anything on your computer that you don't want the world to know about.

My favorite extra activity was a U.S. Navy Band Concert at the Naval Memorial after the NOCALL/ SCALL/ SANDALL reception. It was a beautiful evening and the music was superb, featuring blue grass, Big Band, & the traditional "Stars and Stripes Forever." It was a wonderful way to celebrate our week in the Nation's Capital. ~ Sue Welsh, Gordon D. Schaber Law Library, McGeorge School of Law



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NOCALL Meeting Minutes

NOCALL BUSINESS MEETING FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1999

The Business Meeting was held in the Commandant's Room, 10th Floor, Marines' Memorial Club & Hotel, 609 Sutter Street (at Mason St.), San Francisco, CA 94102. President Mary Ann Parker called the meeting to order at 12:50 p.m. There were approximately fifty attendees

- **1. Welcome**. Mary Ann Parker welcomed all to the January Business Meeting.
- 2. Approval of Minutes of the September 24, 1998 Business Meeting at the University of California, Davis. The minutes were approved as read.
- **3. Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Nancy Adams reported that NOCALL has spent fourteen dollars more than the organization earned this fiscal year. The balance in our account as of January 22, 1999 is \$34.338.09.
- 4. Nominations Report. Mary Ann announced the slate of candidates for NOCALL office for the 1999-2000 fiscal year: for Vice-President/President-elect Bev Lipton & Donna Williams; for Secretary Leslie Hesdorfer & Jane Metz; for At-large Members of the Executive Board Dave Bridgman, Lauri Flynn, Lynn Lundstrom & Debi Mazor.
- 5. Chapter VIP Invitees at the AALL Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Mary Ann announced that Kevin Starr, State Librarian, and Justice Ming Chin of the California Supreme Court will be attending the annual meeting as the guests of NOCALL and SCALL.
- 6. NOCALL-SCALL Joint Institute. Cathy Hardy, NOCALL Vice-President, urged everyone to sign up for the first NOCALL-SCALL Joint Institute to be held in Monterey, February 26-27. The deadline for ensuring the guaranteed hotel room rate has been extended to January 26. Included in the program will be two breakout sessions--one on technical services and the other on collection balancing.
- 7. West Group Presentation. T.J. Murphy of West Group updated the audience on the latest news. West Group customer service will be focusing on California products; for Y2K compliance information, please visit our web site-www.westgroup.com; a new edition of the California Style Manual (print edition out in the

spring and online version at the end of the year); coming out with new unannotated softbound codes and CALJIC-BAJI will be on the new version of LawDesk.

- **8. Committee Reports.** Mary Ann reported that committee reports were passed out to those attending the meeting and will also appear in the January/February issue of *NOCALL News*.
- 9. Frank Liu's AALL Chapter Visit. AALL Executive Board Member Frank Liu gave an inspirational speech about the importance of AALL and its future for all AALL members. Shirley David, NOCALL AALL liaison, presented Frank with a NOCALL polo shirt.

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NOCALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1999

The meeting was held in a conference room at Wilson, Sonini, Goodrich & Rosati in Palo Alto. Present: Mary Ann Parker, Cathy Hardy, Lille Koski, Nancy Adams, Linda Weir, Liza MacMorris, Mike Saint-Onge.

President Mary Ann Parker called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

- 1. Approval of Minutes from January 22, 1999 meeting. The minutes were approved as corrected.
- 2. New Business.
- Treasurer's Report Nancy Adams The Joint NOCALL/SCALL Joint Institute figures were discussed. Nancy will have a final accounting on the Institute later.
- Contribution requested for AALL Legislative Day on Friday, July 16, 1999 by Mary Alice Baish. Mary Alice is soliciting contributions from AALL chapters for the (non-vendorsponsored) reception at the end of AALL Legislative Day. The Board agreed to donate \$100.00.
- Counting of Ballots. The election ballots were counted with the following results: Vice-President/President-Elect - Donna Williams; Secretary - Jane Metz; At-large Members of the Board: Dave Bridgman & Lauri Flynn.

(Continued on page 25)

(Continued from page 24)

3. Liaison Reports.

- Membership Yvonne Boyer (Nancy) Yvonne will be turning over the chairmanship of the committee to Marlene Harmon.
- Audit & Budget Marilyn Dreyer (Mary Ann)
 When the committee receives the semi-annual report from Nancy Adams, the members will prepare a budget for the June "turn-over" meeting.
- Grants Mary Sigafoos (Liza) We had one person apply for the Joint Institute. However, that person had to cancel at the last minute.
- Academic Relations Diane Rodriguez (Linda)
 The committee is planning a spring reception at San Jose State at the end of April. Diane is requesting a larger budget for next year.
- Awards Linda Weir (Linda) The committee
 will be meeting shortly to choose the Professional
 Achievement Award recipient. The Award will
 be presented at the May Business Meeting.
- Newsletter Jo Caporaso (Mike) The January/ February issue is at the printer. It contains a new column called "Heard on the NOCALL Grapevine". The March/April issue will go to the printer in mid-April. Jo would like to do a column for future newsletters when a new newsletter editor is chosen.
- Education Jenny Kanji (Mike) The AALL Video Conference on April 15, 1999 will be shown at three sites locally: USF in San Francisco, Alameda County Law Library in Oakland and Dept. of Water Resources in Sacramento. The AALL Solo Librarians Workshop on June 25, 1999 will be held at Lexis-Nexis.
- **4. Institute Final Report Cathy.** The successful NOCALL/SCALL Joint Institute was discussed. There were approximately 130 attendees.
- **5. Letter from Albert Brecht about Vendor Sponsorships.** Vendor speakers at Institute meals was discussed.

6. Announcements.

- Ad Hoc Committee on the ALA Salary Survey

 Nancy. Mark Mackler and Nancy Adams are taking the local ALA Salary Survey Committee out to lunch. Would NOCALL like to pick up the tab? (Of course!) Nancy will be writing an article on the salary survey for PLL Perspectives.
- Next Meeting Mary Ann. The next Executive Board Meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. on May 20 at Crosby, Heafey, Roach & May in Oakland. The General Business Meeting will follow at 3:00 pm

7. Adjournment. Mary Ann adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

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NOCALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1999

The meeting was held at Crosby, Heafey, Roach & May in Oakland. Present: Mary Ann Parker, Cathy Hardy, Lille Koski, Nancy Adams, Liza MacMorris, Mike Saint-Onge. Absent: Linda Weir

President Mary Ann Parker called the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes from March 18, 1999 Meeting. The minutes were approved as corrected.

2. New Business.

- Treasurer's Report Nancy The NOCALL/ SCALL joint institute was very successful. NO-CALL received \$7,774.56 as its portion of the proceeds. Nancy proposed the writing of a memo on things to do for the next joint institute in approx. five years. Marlene Harmon (Membership Chair) has just sent out the annual dues notices. More income should be coming in soon. Our certificate of deposit is maturing on 5/17/1999. We need to do something with it. Nancy suggested rolling it over and investing another \$5,000 in another C.D. This motion was approved by the Board. The two C.D.s will be staggered three months apart.
- Chapter V.I.P. Update Mary Ann State Librarian, Kevin Starr, has declined our invitation to attend the AALL Annual Meeting. Chief Justice Ming Chin of the California Supreme Court is also unable to attend. Marcel Poché, Associate Justice, Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, will attend in place of Justice Ming Chin. The Board discussed other possible invitees. It was decided to check with SCALL for input on this decision.

3. Liaison Reports

 Ad Hoc Committee on the ALA Salary Survey -Nancy Adams (Nancy) - Mark Mackler and Nancy Adams took two ALA administrators out to lunch and presented their job description recom-

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mendations. The administrators then sent Nancy rewritten job descriptions which include education levels, experience levels, etc. Nancy was very pleased. The descriptions are significantly more accurate and a print version will be coming out in October.

- Grants Committee Mary Sigafoos (Liza) The deadline for submitting applications for
 AALL Annual Meeting grants was extended.
 The Board agreed to also offer grants to the oneday SOLO Librarians Institute to be held in San
 Francisco in June.
- Public Relations Donna Williams (Liza) NOCALL will be selling five polo shirts in each
 size at the AALL store at the Annual Meeting.
 NOCALL Day at AALL will be during the joint
 NOCALL/SCALL/SANDALL reception. The
 KQED pledge drive (manned by NOCALL members) has been postponed until September.
- Union List Pati Traktman (Lille) We plan to purchase a print of the GRC portion of the Union List by the end of May. Cost estimate is \$2627.00
- Newsletter Jo Caporaso (Mike) The March/ April issue is at the printer.
- Education Jenny Kanji (Mike) The AALL Teleseminar was discussed. There were 1000 attendees across the country. In 2000, the seminar is scheduled for April. It was suggested that we videotape the conference next year to watch it at a more convenient time for those of us on the West Coast.
- Audit & Budget Marilyn Dryer (Mary Ann)
 Marilyn Dreyer and Ellen Platt have done a proposed budget for next year.
- Next Year's Chairs (Cathy) President-Elect
 Cathy Hardy would like Board Members to contact their liaisons & see which ones are willing to
 serve as chairpersons next year. Please let Cathy
 know if any chairpersons are not returning.
- 4. NOCALL, SANDALL and SCALL's Statement (Mary Ann) The Board reviewed the Pan-California Vision Statement and the Pan-California Points of Cooperation. Both were approved with the exception of cross-mailing to members of all three chapters for major events. It was decided that listserv cross-postings would serve the purpose. It was pointed out that AALL holds the Chapter VIP program at the discretion of the President. The Board recommended deletion of the parenthetical statement about it being held every five years.
- 5. SIMS Accreditation (Mary Ann) Mary Ann

checked with a couple of CLA officers who work at the State Library. CLA has taken no official position on the SIMS accreditation. After discussion, the Board agreed that NOCALL would not take a position about SIMS accreditation.

6. Adjournment - Mary Ann adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

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NOCALL News

NOCALL Calendar of Events - 1999

◆ October 27th, Wednesday:
DON'T Fall Workshop - Speaker will be

FALL

MISS THE

Work-

SHOP!

OCTOBER

Fall Workshop - Speaker will be Sandra Yancy, Human Improvement Technologies. Marine's Memorial, San Francisco. Contact Jenny Kanji for more information or if you want to volunteer to help!

• November 5th, Friday:

SANDALL's First Annual Fall Workshop - 2000: A Cyber Odyssey/ Contact John Adkins (619) 260-4612 or go to http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/sandall/

◆ November 8th-10th, Monday-Wednesday: Internet Librarian '99 - San Diego. http://www.infotoday.com/il99/il99.htm

For more information about upcoming events, visit NOCALL's webpage:

WWW.nocall.org