

# The Legislative Administrator



An Official Publication of the American  
Society of Legislative Clerks  
and Secretaries

Vermont

Winter 2007

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# ASLCS Spring Meeting

March 28-30, 2008

## Renaissance Hotel

### ASHEVILLE, NC - A BRIEF HISTORY

Submitted by Mick Bailey - WV  
Network Specialist

In 1784, the William Davidson family settled what we consider Asheville, NC. After traveling over the Blue Ridge Mountains, the Davidson family decided to settle the area in western North Carolina near the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains. Together, with the aid of Colonel David Vance, they were able to establish the surrounding area as Buncombe County. In 1797, the city formerly called Morristown was officially named Asheville after North Carolina Governor Samuel Ashe. The city of Asheville is situated on the French Broad River and is the seat of Buncombe County.

### BILTMORE ESTATE

The Biltmore House was built between 1888 and 1895 by George Washington Vanderbilt. Its exterior walls were constructed with Indiana Limestone brought to the site by rail. It remains the largest privately-owned home in the United States. The House was designed by Architect Richard Morris Hunt and has 250 rooms and 75 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens. The home is approximately 175,000 square feet and is situated on 8,000 acres.

In 1930, the Biltmore House was finally opened to the public. In 1950, the house was opened to the public as a "House Museum". In 1963, the estate was designated a National Historic Landmark. Since then, the Biltmore Estate, including its award winning winery, has been one of the most visited historic attractions in the nation rivaling some of our most famous monuments and landmarks.

The estate's 8,000 acres provide gardens, pastures, forests and farmlands. Each year, its vineyards provide more than 250 tons of grapes for the Biltmore Estate Winery. In addition to the Biltmore House, the estate operates four restaurants, eight shops, the winery, and the 213 room Inn on Biltmore Estate that opened in the spring of 2001. The estate is still privately owned and operated by the descendants of George Washington Vanderbilt.

### OTHER ATTRACTIONS

Asheville has many local attractions well worth seeing including:

- Great Smokey Mountain Railroad
- Linville Caverns
- Asheville Historic Trolley Tours
- Chimney Rock Park
- Asheville Art Museum
- Haunted Asheville



Dear Friends,

It is with great excitement and anticipation that I begin my year as president of ASLCS. I look forward to working with each of you to keep ASLCS the strong, productive, and inclusive organization that it has become.

Having been an active member of ASLCS for over 30 years, it goes without saying that I love and respect our organization. I value the professionalism that each of you brings to the organization, your dedication to the legislative institution and its process, your commitment to your respective chambers and leadership, and your willingness to share ideas and advice with fellow legislative staffs across the country. I am truly honored to serve as your president this year.

As I look to the future of ASLCS, it is hard not to look back at the succession of gifted and exceptional leaders who have preceded me. ASLCS has been guided by extraordinary people, and it is not surprising that it is the largest and most respected staff section of NCSL.

Under the leadership of Laura Clemens, the Society enjoyed much growth and great accomplishments, including the addition of over 50 new members, the successful negotiation of an agreement with NCSL regarding the longstanding issue over control of our dues account, and the completion and adoption of the revision of the ASLCS Standing Orders. Even more important to me personally is the friendship and encouragement I have received from Laura. I know you echo my feelings when I say – "Job well done, Laura!"

Our Society is strong and comprised of willing members. Your leadership group for 2007-2008 is anxious to serve. As I made my calls for committee chairs and vice chairs, not one person was reluctant to accept the responsibility, and I am grateful for their enthusiastic and ready responses. The committees got off to a great start in Burlington. The committee meetings were well attended and the participation and discussions spirited and productive.

On behalf of ASLCS, I want to thank David Gibson and Don Milne and their staff for the terrific conference in Vermont. The setting was beautiful, the weather was perfect, the meetings were excellent, and the hospitality was unparalleled. Pat Saville and the Program Development Committee did an outstanding job with both the plenary sessions and the concurrent sessions. The social events and the trip to Montpelier were superb.

Also, I want to thank Susan Schaar and Bruce Jamerson and their staff for the Joint Canadian/American conference in Virginia. Our Canadian friends were treated to true Southern hospitality! The sessions were informative and lively and the historical visits moving, the food was wonderful, and the camaraderie between the Society and the Canadians was exhilarating. I am happy to announce that the international competition (volleyball) ended with Team USA once again defeating Team Canada. The trophy safely resides in my office.

As we begin this new year, I want to encourage each of you to be open to change and the challenges that change brings while retaining your love for the legislative process. Your knowledge of the process and your dedication to the preservation of procedure are essential in our democratic society. You truly are the "keepers of the legislative process" and the teachers of the process.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president. I look forward to working with you, and I sincerely seek your advice, suggestions, comments, and questions. Together we can achieve much for ASLCS.

Sincerely,  
Patsy Spaw  
Secretary of the Texas Senate and ASLCS President



## 2006-2007 Executive Committee



Laura Clemens - OH  
President



Patsy Spaw - TX  
President - Elect



Millicent MacFarland - ME  
Secretary - Treasurer



Cheryl Laube - AZ  
Associate Vice President



Gregory Gray - WV  
Elected Principal



Robert Marchant - WI  
Appointed Principal



Suzi Lowell - AK  
Appointed Principal



Brad Hendrickson - WA  
Elected Associate



Carmen Cauthen - NC  
Appointed Associate



Scott Kaiser - IL  
Appointed Associate



JoAnn Hedrick - DE  
Immediate Past President



Tara Perkinson - VA  
Immediate Past Associate  
Vice President

# Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Hilton Burlington  
 Burlington, Vermont  
 Thursday, September 13, 2007

President Clemens called the meeting of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries to order at 12:10 PM.

**QUORUM**

Executive Committee members present were Laura Clemens, President; Patsy Spaw, President-Elect; Millie MacFarland, Secretary-Treasurer; Cheryl Laube, Associate Vice President; Gregory Gray, Elected Principal Member; Brad Hendrickson, Elected Associate Member; Suzi Lowell, Appointed Principal Member; Rob Marchant, Appointed Principal Member; Carmen Cauthen, Appointed Associate Member; Scott Kaiser, Appointed Associate Member; JoAnn Hedrick, Immediate Past President; Tara Perkinson, Immediate Past Associate Vice President, and Natalie O’Donnell of NCSL staff. A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Patsy Spaw moved that the minutes of August 8, 2007 be accepted and Greg Gray seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT**

Millie MacFarland presented the Treasurer’s Report with a balance of \$44,907.68 as of September 6, 2007.

Balance as of July 31, 2007 .....	\$45,707.27
Total Deposits .....	1,365.00
Subtotal .....	47,072.27
Less Disbursements .....	2,164.59
Balance as of September 6, 2007 .....	\$44,907.68

JoAnn Hedrick moved that the report be accepted and Patsy Spaw seconded the motion. The report was unanimously accepted.

**NEW BUSINESS**

President Clemens inquired if there was objection to taking New Business up out of order. There being no objections, the President asked Patrick O’Donnell, Chair of the Bylaws and Standing Orders Committee, to present the recommendations of the committee. Chair O’Donnell stated that the work of the committee had begun in 2006 under Chair Jeannine Wood who put a lot of time and effort into the revisions and under his chairmanship the current committee worked closely with Jeannine Wood to complete the project. The committee’s goal was to edit the standing orders to reflect current ASLCS policies and to make them easier to navigate through and more user friendly. Chair O’Donnell then reviewed the document in detail with the committee. A discussion was held and on motion of Patsy Spaw and seconded by Millie MacFarland, the revisions were unanimously adopted. Chair O’Donnell thanked President Clemens and members of the executive committee and informed members that he would update the document as approved by the executive committee and send copies to the full committee.

The second part of the task was to update the indexes to the Bylaws and Standing Orders and Chair O’Donnell presented the improved indexes for approval. Scott Kaiser moved acceptance of the new indexes, JoAnn Hedrick seconded the motion and the committee unanimously accepted the updated indexes.

President Clemens thanked Chair O’Donnell and members of the Bylaws and Standing Orders Committee for their diligence and superior work.

Obie Rutledge, Chair of the Legislative Administrator Committee, thanked President Clemens for the opportunity to chair the committee and made the following recommendations to the committee:

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes Continued

1) Increase the current budget of \$7,150 for the next year, stating that it costs approximately \$2,300 per edition; 2) review the printing standards and make the standards uniform; and 3) purchase a new camera to assure higher quality photos. President Clemens thanked Chair Rutledge and without objection referred the matter to incoming executive committee for decision.

A discussion was held regarding the archives of the society relative to ensuring that all appropriate documents get forwarded to Archivist Steve James in Massachusetts.

A discussion was held regarding the potential membership of Clerks from other governmental entities. After brief discussion President Clemens directed Natalie O'Donnell to send a communication to the Clerks that had inquired advising them that ASLCS Bylaws do not permit them to be members; however, we encourage them to attend our meetings.

Patsy Spaw gave an update on the spring meeting which will be held in Asheville, NC, at the Renaissance Hotel from March 28 to March 30, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,  
Millicent MacFarland, Secretary-Treasurer

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## Annual Business Meeting Minutes

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Saturday, September 15, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
12:00 PM

### Call to Order

President Laura Clemens called the business meeting to order at 12:50 PM.

### Roll Call of the States

Burney Durham moved that the Roll Call of the States be waived and Rob Marchant seconded. The motion was passed by unanimous consent.

### Approval of Minutes

Ann Cornwell moved that the minutes of the September 23, 2006, annual business meeting held in Austin, TX, be approved. Scott Kaiser seconded the motion and the minutes were adopted by unanimous consent.

### Approval of Treasurer's Report

Millie MacFarland presented the Treasurer's report. The balance in the ASLCS dues account as of

September 6, 2007, was \$44,907.68. Norman Moore moved acceptance of the Treasurer's report as presented. Bruce Jamerson seconded the motion and the report was accepted by unanimous consent.

### Recognition of Host State

President Clemens recognized the Vermont Host Committee and thanked them for their hospitality.

President Clemens extended special thanks to the society's on-going sponsors for their continued support.

### Introduction of International Guests

President Clemens recognized the attendance of international guests: E. George MacMinn, Clerk, British Columbia; Deborah Deller, Deputy Clerk, Ontario; Neil Ferguson, Assistant Clerk and Legal Counsel, Nova Scotia, who reported on the activities of the Canadian Association of Clerks at the Table (CATTs); and Beverly Isles, Principal Clerk, Ontario, who offered greetings from the Canadian Parliament and Russell Grove, Clerk, New South Wales, who extended greetings from the Australian and New Zealand Association of Clerks (ANZACATT).



## Annual Business Meeting Minutes Continued

### Committee Reports

The chairs of the following standing committees presented reports:

Canadian-American Relations - Karen Wadsworth  
 Professional Journal - Hobie Lehman  
 Program Development - Pat Saville  
 Bylaws and Standing Orders - Patrick O'Donnell  
 Inside the Legislative Process - Kirsten Waid  
 Site Selection - Sandy Tenney  
 Technology - Alan Whittington  
 International Communication and Development -  
 Ann Cornwell  
 Legislative Administrator - Obie Rutledge  
 Membership and Communication - Annette Moore  
 Roster - Rose Ramsey

### Nominating Committee Report

JoAnn Hedrick reported for the Nominating Committee and recommended the following persons for 2007-2008 officers of ASLCS:

President - Patsy Spaw, Secretary of the Senate,  
 Texas  
 President-Elect - Millicent M. MacFarland, Clerk of  
 the House, Maine

Secretary-Treasurer - Gregory M. Gray, Clerk of the  
 House of Delegates, West Virginia  
 Associate Vice President - Brad Hendrickson, Deputy  
 Secretary of the Senate, Washington  
 Elected Principal Member - Robert J. Marchant,  
 Chief Clerk of the Senate, Wisconsin  
 Elected Associate Member - Carmen W. Cauthen,  
 Administrative Clerk, House of Representatives,  
 North Carolina

Karen Wadsworth moved acceptance of the nominating committee report and Norm Moore seconded the motion. The officers were elected by unanimous consent.

There being no further business Steve Marshall moved adjournment Ramona Kenady seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Millicent M. MacFarland  
 Secretary-Treasurer

# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Bylaws and Standing Orders



Sunday, September 16, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
9:00 AM

The Committee was called to order by the Chair, Jeannine Wood of the Idaho Senate.

Those in attendance were:

Claire Clift - NV, Vice Chair  
Diane Bell - FL, Vice Chair

Steve Arias - NM	George Bishop - VA
Laura Clemens - OH	Karen Wadsworth - NH
Jeff Finch - VA	John Garrett - VA
David Gibson - VE	Karen Goldman - CO
JoAnn Hedrick - DE	Bo Hoover - WV
Cheryl Laube - AZ	Dowe Littleton - AL
Millie MacFarland - ME	Norman Moore -AZ
Pat O'Donnell - NE	Patsy Spaw - TX

John Garrett of the Virginia Senate was temporarily appointed recorder by the Chair.

The Chair brought before the Committee the following items for the 2007-2008 agenda:

- Consistency in the Standing Orders, particularly concerning abbreviations and acronyms. The term Professional Develop-

ment Seminar may use PDS as a acronym. How is this reflected after the first time PDS is used? Should it be different if it is a section title?

- Can references regarding retirees be included in one section?
- Travel reimbursement and travel advancements. Should the standing orders be changed to reflect the current practice which does not include travel advancements? See also Section XVIII, Travel Reimbursement, which refers to travel costs.
- Review the index of the Standing Orders to ensure the topics have all of the pertinent entries.
- Review the Standing Orders to ensure the archiving process is explained so that:
  - a. It is clear who is responsible for getting documents to the Society's Archivist.
  - b. What should be sent to NCSL and what should be sent to the Society's archivist.
  - c. What is the route that documents should follow in order to get to the Society's archivist.

This is necessitated due to the fact that the Society's Archives have been moved from Nevada

# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Bylaws and Standing Orders Continued

to Massachusetts (Steven James of the Massachusetts House). NCSL also retains some records, but it needs to be made clear which documents go to NCSL and which go to the Archivist.

- Review the Standing Order regarding Publishing Standards now that Inside the Legislative Process will no longer be published, and will be available only electronically. What should the practice be regarding sending the item to the Society's archivist? Should the entire electronic publication be printed and sent each time there is a change or should just the change be sent? Should the publication be saved in hard copy or on some type of storage format such as, but not including, a compact disc (CD)?

A motion was made, seconded and agreed that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Garrett, Recorder

Addendum: Al Mathiowetz, Minnesota House, is also Vice Chair, but was unable to be in attendance.



# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Inside the Legislative Process



Sunday, September 16, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
9:00 AM

The meeting of Inside the Legislative Process was called to order by Melissa Bybee-Fields - KY, Chair.

The following members were present:

William MaGill - VT, Vice Chair  
Pat Mau-Shimizu - HI, Vice Chair

Polly Emerson - TX	Jane Atkinson - VA
Dianne Whitaker - VA	Rose Ramsey - VA
Barbara Carter - VA	Linda Hopkins - TX
Patience Worrel - TX	Scott C. Caffey - TX
Nancy Alliegro - TX	Jean Burgin - KY
Adanna Hydes - KY	Brenda Erickson - MD
Laurel Johnston - HI	Kirsten Waid - AK
Leigh Goodman - NC	Lori Stone - WV
Susan Kannarr - KS	Carmen Cauthen - NC
Kathy Jackson - UT	Steven James - MA
Diane Ashley - MS	Lisa Davis - MS
Lucinda Benjamin - NV	Susan Furlong Reil - NV
Sandi Morris - KY	Paul Campos - WA
Michael Chernick - VT	Jane Gill - NV

Melissa Bybee-Fields, Chair, introduced herself and the Vice Chairs, and Brenda Erickson of NCSL.

The Chair asked Brenda Erickson to explain the

committee and its process for all the new members.

Brenda suggested that we limit the topic areas to 2 or 3 topics to keep the survey under 20 pages.

The following topics were discussed:

- Conference Committee conflicts
- Messaging and bill recall between the chambers, the Governor, and the Secretary of State
- Technical Amendments
- Debate Limits
- Ethics (not revised in Inside the Legislative Process since 1996)
- Technological aspects of streaming videos and other technological advancements

Vice Chair Pat Mau-Shimizu (HI) suggested we pick one "bread and butter" issue from the document to update and one new or futuristic topic.

Steven James (MA) suggested that as a committee we look into how to promote and advertise the Inside the Legislative Process document more to members. Possibly putting something in the Administrator with the web address.

# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Inside the Legislative Process Continued

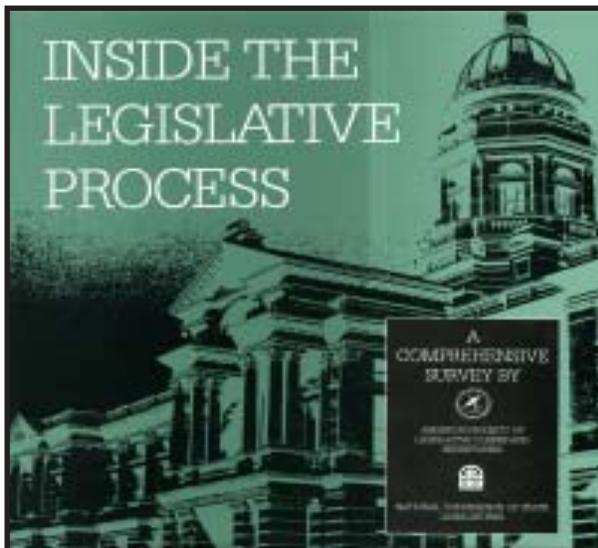
The Chair informed the members that she would communicate with all members next week to get the email communication going and possibly the NCSL listserv up and running.

There being no further business, Polly Emerson (TX) moved to adjourn.

The motion was seconded by Steven James (MA).

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Bybee-Fields, Chair



### Inside the Legislative Process

Now, *Inside the Legislative Process* is becoming an electronic document—hopefully, making its information more accessible to legislators and legislative staff. The electronic version will include all sections published since 1996. Access the electronic edition of *Inside the Legislative Process* through the [Published Sections List](#). Please note that the individual sections are published as PDFs, which will require Adobe Acrobat Reader to download the documents.

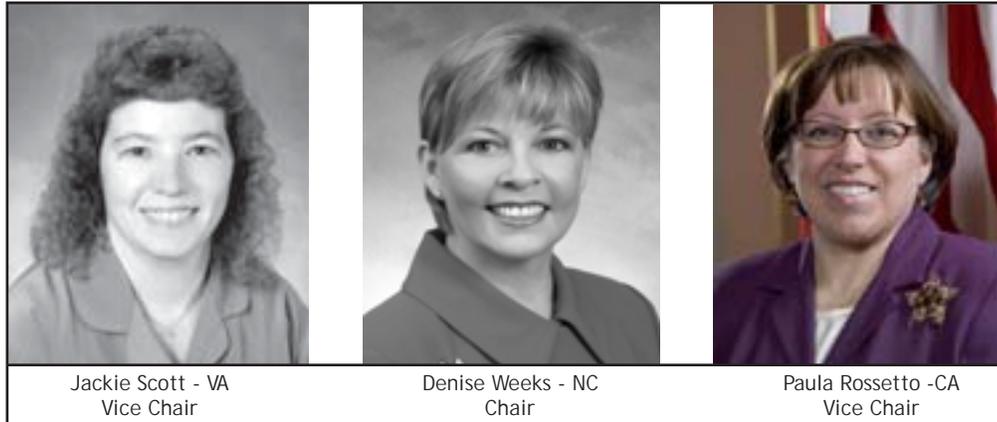
As of January 2007

[http://www.ncsl.org/legis/legismgt/ILP/ILP\\_Intro.htm](http://www.ncsl.org/legis/legismgt/ILP/ILP_Intro.htm)



# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Site Selection



Sunday, September 16, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
9:00 AM

Committee members present:

Denise Weeks, Chair - NC  
Paula Rossetto, Vice Chair - CA  
Jackie Scott, Vice Chair - VA

Linda Tubbs - TX	Joyce Wright - AL
Michelle Adams - NC	Mardi Alexander - TX
Mary Andrus - UT	Dave Avant - AL
Dora Belcher - WV	Jay Braxton - VA
Kristin Canterbury - WV	Norma Chastain - AZ
Liz Clark - AK	Ann Cornwell - AR
Michael Cote - ME	Molly Dondero - NV
Marguerite Duda - WV	Marilyn Eddins - CO
Inga Emerson - DE	Londi Ensor - AK
Carolyn Franklin - AL	Janice Gadd - UT
Greg Gray - WV	Virginia Habansky - VA
Stephanie Hall - AK	Jason Hataway - NV
Nathan Hatfield - VA	Martha Hopson - AK
Emily Howard - VA	Bruce Jamerson - VA
Barbara Sue Nobles - AL	Diane Keetch - NV
Jeannine Layell - VA	Lydia Lee - NV
Hobie Lehman - VA	Suzi Lowell - AK

Mary Monahan - MD	Ann Moyle - NV
Anati Neiffer - OR	Mary Phillips - NV
Kevin Pierce - WA	Janet Pruitt - NC
Melanie Reekes - VA	Eleanor Ringel - WV
Sherry Rodriguez - NV	Pat Saville - KS
Nancy Starkweather - NM	Gina Spartz - AK
Sandy Tenney - UT	Lori Summers - WV
Bonnie Trivette - NC	Lora Thompson - WV
Barbara Lecarpentier - VA	
Tricia Vaughan - VA	

Also attending:  
Patsy Spaw, President of ASLCS - TX

The Site Selection committee was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Denise Weeks, Chair, North Carolina. Ms. Weeks introduced Vice Chair, Jackie Scott, from Virginia and informed the committee that Emily Howard from Virginia had agreed to serve as Recorder for the committee. Chair Weeks stated that the job of the Site Selection committee was to find and recommend a location for the 2010 Professional Development Seminar. Committee members were reminded that Reno, NV is the site of the 2008 Seminar and Seattle, WA had been selected for 2009. Chair Weeks also explained that there were three types of conferences: 1. a Host

## Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

State - the state provides the necessary funds; 2. a Hybrid State- the state provides some of the funds and the Society provides some; 3. a No-Host State - the Society is responsible for all the necessary funds. The committee was informed that both the 2008 and 2009 meetings were Host State conferences. Also, it was mentioned that many of the costs are taken care of by the sponsors and that it was important to continue to get their support whether the meeting was hosted or not.

Chair Weeks stated that both California (Sacramento) and Virginia had expressed interest in hosting the 2010 meeting. Neither state had submitted a letter or formal proposal as of the Burlington meeting. Norma Chastain mentioned that Paula Rossetto had said that California was very interested in hosting the meeting in Sacramento. Ann Cornwell suggested that the committee send out a survey to find out if there were any other states interested in hosting the 2010 meeting. Bruce Jamerson suggested that the survey could also ask for interest in hosting the 2011 meeting and could then be used in future years to gauge interest. Chair Weeks said that she would put together a survey and would send it out to all the states.

Hawaii was discussed as a possible site for the 2010 or 2011 meeting. Chair Weeks informed the committee that the idea of Hawaii as a host state had been seriously discussed 3 years ago, but that many concerns had been raised when it came time to ask for a formal proposal, including:

- Expense - the cost of traveling to Hawaii. Many committee members from the Western U.S. stated that, for them, getting to Hawaii was cheaper than traveling to the East Coast
- Explaining the trip to leadership - often "negative" press associated with a conference being held in HI; it was also pointed out that other NCSL staff sections have held meetings there have held meetings there
- Number of staff that states could bring - suggested that not as many people would be able to attend the Professional Development Seminar if the meeting was in Hawaii
- Size of Host State staff - Hawaii Clerk's Offices would probably need additional help in staffing the conference
- If Hawaii hosted in 2010, it would mean 3 West Coast meetings in a row; suggested that perhaps it would be better in 2011

It was noted that Hawaii has expressed a certain reluctance to make a formal proposal because of past experiences. Dave Avant suggested that Chair Weeks speak to the representatives from Hawaii to get a sense of their feelings on the idea and to see what kind of assurances they would need in order to go forward with a proposal. Chair Weeks stated that she would talk with the Clerks from Hawaii before the next meeting of the Site Selection Committee. She also stated that the members of the committee should ask around to other members of the society to find out who would be able to attend the meeting if it was in HI and what potential problems or issues that they could foresee. It was mentioned that a poll had been done to try to determine Society interest in HI when Claire Clift was Site Selection Chair. Chair Weeks said that she would talk with Claire about the results of the poll.

Other states that the committee expressed an interest in exploring as possible locations for the 2010 meeting included: Alaska, Nebraska, New Mexico, Colorado and Wyoming. It was mentioned that Wyoming had been discussed previously, but was difficult to get to and extremely expensive. It was mentioned that when trying to encourage states to offer to host the Professional Development Seminar, they should be told that the conference generally brings in between \$500,000-\$750,000 to the local area.

# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Site Selection Continued

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Sherry Rodriguez, NV, gave the Committee an overview of the 2008 Seminar in Reno. She stated that the conference would be held at the Silver Legacy Hotel, which was big enough to hold all attendees; that the Host State reception would be held at bowling alley (but that the term didn't really do justice to the location); and that there may not be a trip to the Capitol because of problems with transportation. The dates of the conference are October 1 - 6, 2008.

ASLCS President Patsy Spaw spoke to the committee about the things that the Executive Committee looks at when making a decision about where the conference should be held. She stated that costs of the hotels at recent conferences have caused some concerns. She also stated that could be something that the Site Selection Committee looked

at before bringing a proposal to the Executive Committee, but they do not want to discourage any state from making a proposal. Dave Avant asked if there was a list of guidelines that NCSL had for the hotels that the Site Selection committee could use when making its decisions. It was mentioned that NCSL handles all dealings with the hotels and makes the choice after getting feedback and suggestions from the Host State.

Chair Weeks stated that the next meeting of the committee would be at the Spring Meeting in March in Asheville, NC.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sandy Tenney and seconded by Ann Cornwell.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Howard, Recorder



# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes



Sunday, September 16, 2007  
 Burlington, Vermont  
 9:00 AM

The Technology Committee meeting was called to order by Tim Rice, Chair.

In attendance:

Tim Rice - IL, Chair  
 Judy Barrows - ME, Vice Chair  
 Ron Smith - LA, Vice Chair  
 Patsy Spaw - TX, President, ASLCS  
 Natalie O'Donnell, NCSL

Bonnie Alexander - ID	Dianne Arrington - TX
Wallace Austin - NC	Mick Bailey - WV
Matthew Baker - NV	Johnye Bennett - VA
Karen Brown - UT	Paul Curry - NC
Burney Durham - TN	Tom Forster - OR
Eric Fowler - NH	Robert Haney - TX
Maryann Horch - VA	Cynthia Johnston - OR
Crys Jones - AK	Scott Kaiser - IL
Ann Krekelberg - AK	Nancy Longoria - TX
Steve Marshall - VT	Jim McElroy - NC
Julie Medina - OR	Bo Pittman - FL
Jim Schratz - AR	Susan Whitford - NV
Maureen Wilson - UT	Brad Young - OH

Eric Fowler reported on the technology survey sent out by last year's committee, asking what types of electronic services each state uses for various tasks such as journal, calendar, enrolling, etc., and how well their products work. The response rate was quite low, possibly because of the complexity of the survey. The committee agreed to continue with the survey, possibly in a different format, and the following members agreed to serve on a subcommittee on the survey: Jim Schratz, Eric Fowler, Maryann Horch, and Judy Barrows. Judy Barrows agreed to serve as chair of the subcommittee.

The committee also discussed the possibility of setting up a discussion forum or blog as a more effective way to gather and organize some types of information than the current listservs. The advantage of a listserv is that it's easy to get responses from a number of people in a short amount of time; the disadvantages are that everyone gets all the responses, whether or not the topic is relevant to them, and that it's not that easy to organize past questions and responses for easy searching. The following members agreed to serve on a subcommittee to study this issue: Tom Forster, Wallace Austin, Karen Brown, Maureen Wilson, Bonnie Alexander, Bo Pittman, and Ron Smith. Ron Smith agreed to serve as chair of the subcommittee.

# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Technology Continued

The committee agreed to sponsor one or two concurrent sessions at the next Professional Development Seminar, and also expressed interest in sponsoring another Job Share/Technology Fair, either in conjunction with the Support Staff or separately. Possible concurrent topics discussed included Technology Replacement (who is planning to replace what, how often should things be replaced, how to discuss replacement with vendors, etc.); Tips & Tricks (how to use Microsoft and maybe other standard products more efficiently); Technology Survey Update; and E-Learning.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Burney Durham, seconded by Karen Brown.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Barrows, ME, Vice Chair/Recorder



# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## International Communication and Development



Sunday, September 16, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
10:00 AM

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, Steve Arias at 10:00 am.

The following members of the committee were present:

Steve Arias - NM	Laurel Johnston - HI
Wallace Austin - NC	Dowe Littleton - AL
Dave Avant - AL	William McGill - VT
Diane Bell - FL	Jim McElroy - NC
Paul Campos - WA	Nanette Mitchell - TN
Liz Clark - AK	Ann Moyle - NV
Laura Clemens - OH	Anati Neiffer - OR
Claire Clift - NV	Janet Pruitt - NC
Ann Cornwell - AR	Bo Pittman - FL
Paul Curry - NC	Melanie Reekes - VA
Sherry Rodriguez - NV	Molly Dondero - NV
Gina Spartz - AK	Greg Gray - WV
Patsy Spaw - TX	Sandra Tenney - UT
Jane Gill - NV	Denise Weeks - NC
Robert Haney - TX	Jeannine Wood - ID
Jason Hataway - NV	Patience Worrel - TX
JoAnn Hedrick - DE	Martha Hopson - AK
Steven James - MA	
Deborah Deller - ONTARIO, CANADA	

Chairman Arias appointed Sandra Tenney and Dowe Littleton as recorders for the year and then discussed the charge of the committee in the coming year. The Chair then reported on the trip to the ANOMAC

meeting held in Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico. ANOMAC celebrated its 11th anniversary this year. The meeting was attended by President Laura Clemens, Ann Cornwell, Carmela Bills Putney and Chairman Arias.

Chairman Arias then appointed a subcommittee to design the international program at NCSL in New Orleans, LA next July. Members of the subcommittee are Butch Speer, Denise Weeks, Ann Cornwell, Diane Bell, Laura Clemens and Steve James. Mr. James suggested the use of video clips of actual sessions to illustrate the session.

The ANOMAC meeting in 2008 will be held in the Federal District of Mexico City. No Mexican clerks were able to attend the ASLCS meeting this year due to the elections in Mexico.

A bit of levity was provided to the committee by Russell Groves of Australia when he gave a brief quiz on the meaning of Australian terminology. A request for "Legispeak" phrases was made by the chair from the different countries and states for possible inclusion in a glossary.

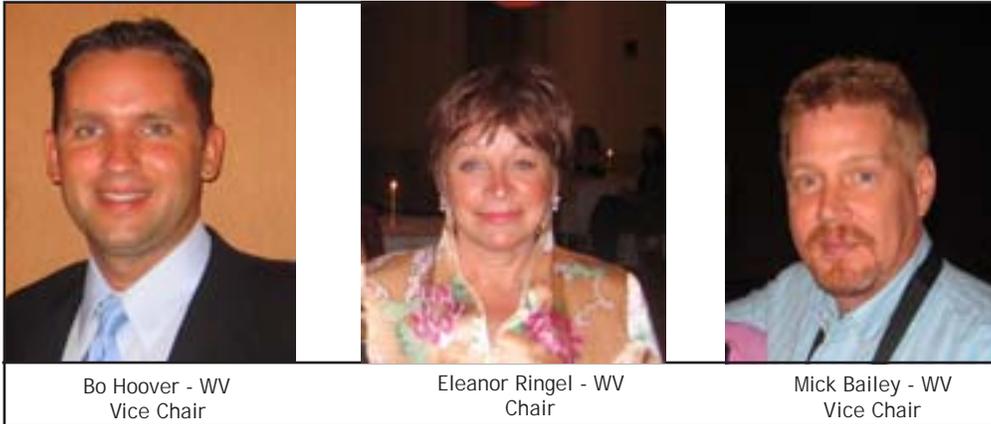
A brief discussion of ATELCA and its origins and status followed. A motion to adjourn was made by Ann Cornwell and was seconded by Laura Clemens. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen R. Arias, Chair

# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Legislative Administrator

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Sunday, September 16, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
10:00 AM

The meeting of the Legislative Administrator Committee was called to order by the Chair, Eleanor Ringel - WV.

The following members were present:

Mick Bailey - WV, Vice Chair  
Bo Hoover - WV, Vice Chair  
Obie Rutledge - OR, Recorder

Jane Atkinson - VA                      Hobie Lehman - VA  
Anita Bavis - MD                        Marguerite Duda - WV  
Karen Goldman - CO                    Nathan Hatfield - VA  
Maryann Horah - VA                    Millie MacFarland - ME  
Mary Monahan - MD                    Patrick O'Donnell - NE  
Susan Furlong Reil - NV

Members not in attendance:

Lisa Davis - MS                         Rusti Horton - ID  
Rob Marchant - WI                      Bernadette McNulty - CA  
Anne Marie Sweeney - PA

Chair Eleanor Ringel opened the meeting by discussing the background of the Legislative Administrator and requested suggestions from the Committee about changes or enhancements to the magazine.

Marguerite Duda suggested a section dealing with notes of ASLCS member's milestone articles. Karen Goldman suggested that these notes be kept on a professional level and the Committee agreed that some standard be adopted to ensure a professional appearance.

The Committee also suggested that a technology section be added to the Administrator to keep members informed about new technology being used in individual House and Senate Chambers.

The Chair then discussed having each Committee member adopt as many as three states to correspond with in hopes of fostering interest in the Society and obtaining articles for the States At A Glance section of the Administrator.

Printing the Administrator and the operating budget was explained by Obie Rutledge who had been in charge of the magazine for the past two years. He explained that over the past year the three issues were printed by volunteer states with in-house print

# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Legislative Administrator Continued

shops at cost which resulted in tremendous savings to the Society. All agreed to work with the Executive Committee to try and continue this. Mary Monahan indicated she might be willing to print one of the upcoming issues and would get back with the Chair to let the Committee know.

The mailing list for the Administrator was discussed and the Committee agreed to try and make sure the list was as accurate for their state as possible, making sure that each dues paying member of the Society would continue to receive a copy of the publication. The Chair agreed to send a reminder

to the members to let Natalie O'Donnell of NCSL know if their mailing list had changed and that way keep printing and postage at a minimum.

There being no further business, Nathan Hatfield moved the Committee adjourn, which motion was seconded by Bo Hoover, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eleanor Ringel, Chair  
Obie Rutledge, Recorder



# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Membership and Communications



Sunday, September 16, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
10:00 AM

Chair Janice Gadd called the meeting to order.

The following members were in attendance:

Janice Gadd - UT, Chair	John Garrett - VA
Suzi Lowell - AK, Vice Chair	Scott C. Caffey - TX
Pat Saville - KS, Vice Chair	Linda Hopkins - TX
Mary Andrus - UT	Mardi Alexander - TX
Judy Barrows - ME	Jackie Scott - VA
Nancy Alliegro - TX	Ruth B. Pierini - NV
Linda Tubbs - TX	Nellie Humphries - AL
Jeannine Layell - VA	Norman Moore - AZ
Leigh Goodman - NC	George Bishop - VA
Mary Phillips - NV	Jim Schratz - AR
Michelle Adams - NC	Julie Medina - OR
Karen Wadsworth - NH	Stephanie Hall - AK
Bruce Jamerson - VA	Maureen Wilson - UT
Ann Krekelberg - AK	Marilyn Eddins - CO
Kirsten Waid - AK	Jay Braxton - VA
Londi Anzor - AK	
Karen Brown - UT	
David Gibson - VT	

The charge for the Committee is:

- Improve communication with members
- New Attendee Orientation
- Revise and update the brochure

The committee discussed ideas for a theme for the New Attendee Orientation in Reno, Nevada next year. Some of the suggestions were Casino Night with cards, dice, and decorations. There was talk about modifying the dice game Bunko as an ice breaker. Stephanie Hall (AK) suggested we call the orientation, "Working for the Legislature, What a Gamble." The budget for the event in the past was \$500. The Chair will check with the Executive Committee on the budget.

The Buddy Program was discussed. It was decided that the new attendee's sponsor would also be their buddy. Also suggested was a new attendee link on the NCSL website.

John Garrett (VA) suggested we reach out to other states who haven't attended as much in the past, such as Georgia and Wyoming. The Chair will visit with our President regarding this suggestion. Other suggestions were that sponsors should try to contact

# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Membership and Communications Continued

new attendees that arrive late. It was suggested we focus on initial contact before the meeting along with providing a sign-up sheet at the registration table for new attendees as they arrive. It was discussed that new attendees who work only during session are hard to contact. The Clerk or Secretary of each state should let new attendees know about the New Member Orientation and pin contest. Sponsors should try to contact new attendees by e-mail, phone and letter. Another possibility would be to have a New Member Orientation as a breakout session.

Karen Wadsworth (NH) suggested we change the title of the Wrap-up Session for New Attendees to the New Attendee Part II session in hopes that people who missed the first orientation will not be dissuaded from attending the second one. This could take place in the hospitality room with sponsors and new attendees including those that had not arrived in time for the first orientation. It was suggested that sponsors take new attendees to lunch sometime during the meeting or make

arrangements to meet them at a provided lunch. George Bishop (VA) suggested that breakfast tables be set aside for new attendees. The Chair suggested additional ideas to stay in contact with new members be e-mailed to her.

It was pointed out that other staff members coming to the meeting could remind new attendees about bringing state pins and could explain the pin contest. It was suggested that there would be a place on the evaluation form to check if a new attendee and ask for feedback and input for the next year.

Patsy Spaw, our new President of ASLCS, visited the committee and recognized the Membership Committee as a very important committee. She suggested the committee continue the overview of the Society and the introduction of the Executive Committee at the Orientation and she encouraged us to always be inclusive and to reach out to all members of the Society.

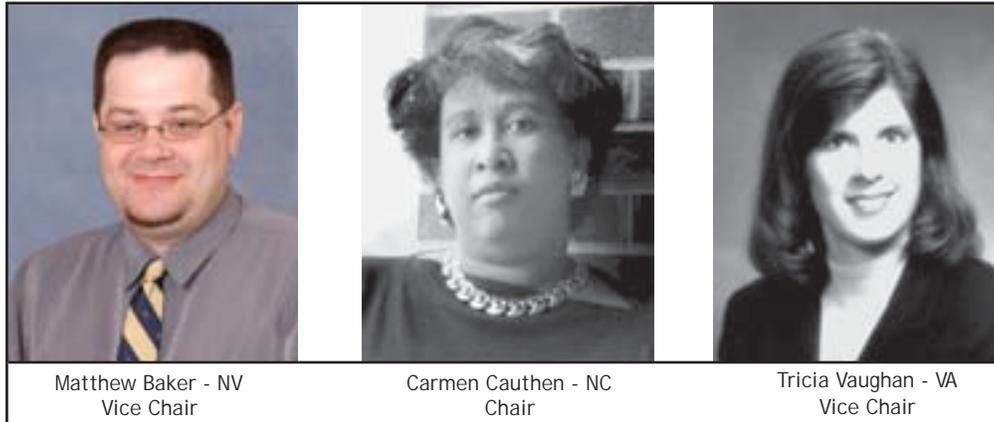
The motion was made and seconded that the Committee adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janice Gadd, Chair



# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Support Staff



Sunday, September 16, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
11:00 AM

The following members were present:

Carmen Cauthen - NC, Chair  
Matthew Baker - NV, Vice Chair  
Tricia Vaughan - VA, Vice Chair  
Natalie O'Donnell, NCSL

Dianne Arrington - TX	Dora Belcher - WV
Lucinda Benjamin - NV	Johnye Bennett - VA
Melissa Bybee-Fields - KY	Kristin Canterbury - WV
Barbara Carter - VA	Norma Chastain - AZ
Michael Cote - ME	Burney T. Durham - TN
Inga Emerson - DE	Polly Emerson - TX
Jeff Finch - VA	Kathryn Fosnaugh - NV
Eric Fowler - NH	Carolyn Franklin - AL
Virginia Habansky - VA	Emily Howard - VA
Adanna Hydes - KY	Kathryn Jackson - UT
Cynthia Johnston - OR	Chrys Jones - AK
Cheryl Laube - AZ	Barb Lecarpentier - VA
Nanci Longoria - TX	Barbara Nobles - AL
Rose Ramsey - VA	Ron Smith - LA
Lori Stone - WV	Lori Summers - WV
Lora Thompson - WV	Bonnie Trivette - NC
Dianne Whitaker - VA	Susan Whitford - NV
Joyce Wright - AL	Brad Young - OH

The Support Staff Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Carmen Cauthen, NC. Polly Emerson, TX was asked to be the recorder of the minutes.

A motion was made to accept and dispense with the reading of the minutes for the committee meeting held on August 5, 2007 in Boston. The motion prevailed without objection.

Discussion took place regarding the Associate Exchange Program. Chair Cauthen encouraged all to participate in the program and shared with the committee the following deadlines:

- 9/28 Letters out to Principals of possible host states
- 10/19 Notification back from states willing to be host state
- 10/26 Applications and fact sheets out to Associates
- 11/16 Applications due back to Support Staff Chair via NCSL
- 12/4 Support Staff committee members choose top 4 associates

## Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

- 12/7 Support Staff committee makes final recommendations to Executive Committee for approval
- 12/14 President to announce those approved

The 9 host states that will rollover from 2006-2007 are American Samoa Senate; Connecticut Senate; Delaware House; Georgia Senate; Louisiana Senate; Minnesota House; Oregon Senate; Virginia Senate and House. It was mentioned that ASLCS would pay \$250.00 toward the expenses of each selected Associate.

Committee members were asked for suggestions for topics and seminars for the program development Job Fair. Norma Chastain, AZ, recommended that the name, Job Fair, be appropriately renamed, Job Share and that vendors be included. Suggestions were made to: bring paper products that are needed to perform legislative duties to display at Job Share; review the legislative process; share a video or tv channel for training of house and senate employees - (their duties, where offices are located, sexual harassment, etc.); educational programs for kids.

Melissa Bybee-Fields, KY, asked about creation and on-line display of organizational charts by states. Chair Cauthen recalled that this project was already in the works from a previous committee. The committee agreed to try completion of the project and signed up to get their states charts on a sheet. Natalie said there had been a bit of a breakdown and she would regroup and work to get the organizational charts that she has received on line. Also discussed was updating the legislative processes compiled by the ILP committee and working with the technology committee to break down the processes and address each one in the various break-out meetings.

ASLCS President Patsy Spaw stopped by and addressed the group and stated that the biggest challenge for the group would be preparing for the annual meeting and breakouts. She liked the idea of paper displays at Job Share and thanked the chair, vice chairs and all the committee members for their willingness to serve.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

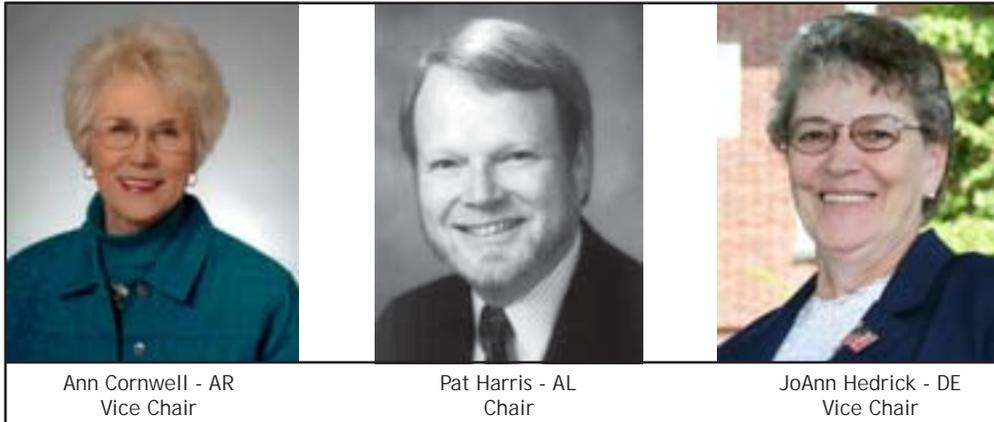
Respectfully submitted,  
Carmen Cauthen, Chair  
Polly Emerson, Recorder



# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Canadian-American Relations

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Sunday, September 16, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
11:00 AM

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Pat Harris.

The following members of the committee were present:

Steve Arias - NM	Barbara Lecarpentier - VA
Dave Avant - AL	Dowe Littleton - AL
Jane Atkinson - VA	Millie MacFarland - MA
Diane Bell - FL	Norman Moore - AR
George Bishop - VA	Steve Marshall - VT
Barbara Carter - VA	Ann Moyle - NV
Laura Clemens - OH	Anati Neiffer - OR
Ann Cornwell - AK	Rose Ramsey - VA
Jeff Finch - VA	Sherry Rodriguez - NV
Carolyn Franklin - AL	Pat Saville - KS
John Garrett - VA	Gina Spartz - AL
Jane Gill - NV	Laura Stone - WV
Greg Gray - WV	Karen Wadsworth - NH
Judy Hall - OR	Diane Whitaker - VA
JoAnn Hedrick - DE	Jeanine Wittenberg - NV
Bo Hoover - WV	Denise Weeks - NC
Martha Hopson - AL	Jeannine Wood - ID
Rusti Horton - ID	Emily Howard - WV
Bruce Jamerson - VA	Steven James - MA

Also Attending:

Deborah Deller - Ontario, Canada  
Neil Ferguson - Nova Scotia  
Bill Schaeffer - International Roll Call

Chairman Pat Harris reported that he and Denise Weeks represented ASLCS at the Clerks at the Table Meeting that was held at Prince Edward Island in August.

Chairman Pat Harris recognized Bruce Jamerson to give the committee an update on the Joint Canadian-American Meeting, October 11-15, 2007, in Richmond, Virginia. A draft program for the meeting was handed out to all members. Bruce stressed that the hotel reservation deadline is Monday, September 24 and the conference registration is Friday, October 5. Shuttle service from the airport to the hotel and return will be provided by Virginia, starting October 11.

Karen Wadsworth went over the program with the committee and asked for volunteers to be on panels. Everyone was reminded that the annual international competition would be held on Saturday, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm Oct 13, and to be sure and participate. On motion of Denise Weeks and seconded by Steve James, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Cornwell, Vice Chair

# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Professional Journal



Sunday, September 16, 2007  
 Burlington, Vermont  
 11:00 AM

Members in attendance included:

Nathan Hatfield - VA, Co-Chair  
 Maryann Horch - VA, Co-Chair  
 Annette Moore - UT, Vice Chair  
 Inga Emerson - DE, Recorder

Polly Emerson - TX            Jeff Finch - VA  
 Tom Forster - OR            Karen Goldman - CO  
 Nellie Humphries - AL      Mary Phillips - NV  
 Ron Smith - LA

Nathan Hatfield, co-chair, called the Professional Journal Committee to order at 11:00 AM.

Hobie Lehman moved the committee approve the minutes of the last meeting on Sunday, August 5, 2007 in Boston, Massachusetts.

The motion was seconded and the committee passed it unanimously.

Maryann Horch, co-chair, volunteered to record the minutes of the meeting.

Karen Goldman requested clarification guidelines for submission of articles. Hobie explained what past Journal issues included. The guidelines in the ASLCS standing orders were also reviewed. The committee discussed and identified what types of articles we were looking for and Hobie mentioned the Journals are all online and the committee can go to see what types of articles have been the Journal before. It was emphasized that each committee member be conscious in thinking of printed articles in the past.

Jeff Finch explained his article on Chamber Automation that had been published and is still looking for opportunities for other articles.

The committee recognized the contributions of Susan Schaar, VA. Her office has funded the printing and mailing for the Professional Journal for the past two years.

Maryann requested volunteers for an Editorial Board. Jeff Finch (VA), Nellie Humphries (AL), Hobie Lehman (VA) volunteered.

Inga Emerson accepted the position of recorder for the committee.

Some ideas of topics for the Journal included:

# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Professional Journal Continued

- Parliamentary procedure
- Ethical issues
- ASLCS panelists from this year
- Prayer
- Also discussed – Blogs - their effect on the legislative process; access to members/information/decision-making, etc.

Patsy Spaw suggested the committee think of possible themes for Journals. She also reminded the committee the articles published are of an academic nature.

Hobie described Steve's article for the upcoming edition (re: how they have not really adjourned from Session since 1980). The committee was interested and excited about the article.

Polly suggested a "teaser" go out before the Journal is mailed so people can see what articles are going to be included- if something is of interest- they will be on the lookout for the next Journal edition. It

was also suggested that this could include a plug for the need for future articles. (list the criteria for the articles here as well)

Maryann said she would create the plug and send it to the committee for their feedback. (Per Karen's suggestion this would include number of pages or words needed, other parameters, quality we are looking for etc. - Hobie said this information is on page 2 of the Journals)

Jeff volunteered to get articles from the Mason's Manual panelists (possible for the Spring or Fall 2008 Journals).

Hobie indicated that Denise Weeks would be emailing an article to him when she returned home from the Professional Development Seminar.

There being no further business, Hobie Lehman moved the committee adjourn. Jeff Finch seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maryann Horsh, Co-Chair



# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Program Development



Sunday, September 16, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
11:00 AM

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Susan Clarke Schaar, Chair, at 11:10 AM.

Order of Business:

The meeting started with the introduction of the new Chair, Susan Clarke Schaar, and the new Vice Chairs, Janet Pruitt and Obie Rutledge.

It was announced that the program evaluation form had been distributed during breakfast and that it would be available online within the next couple of weeks.

The committee then discussed ideas for plenaries and concurrent session for the 2008 ASLCS fall meeting in Reno, Nevada. Several suggestions came from sessions that were held in Boston, Massachusetts from the 2007 NCSL meeting. These topics were Conflict Resolution; Ethics; and Dealing with Difficult People. Other ideas were to have a session that involves several of our international members, such as the Role of the Clerk or the

Differences between the Legislative Process. The committee would also like to see another concurrent session that dealt with technology.

The committee liked the Job Share concurrent session and would like to continue it next year. It was proposed to have it in a bigger room, so more people can participate and it wouldn't be as noisy. There was discussion on whether to have the Job Share as a plenary or keep it as a concurrent session. Committee members liked the idea of having the Job Share as a plenary so everyone could go to the session. Members communicated that they would like to have a list of the Job Share participants and what they are "sharing". The Support Staff committee and Technology committee are to develop the Job Share for the 2008 fall meeting. Anyone who wants to participate is to contact Carmen Cauthen or Judy Burrows.

Committee members also offered ideas on how to have more effective staff breakout sessions, particularly with the Support Staff breakout. It was explained to the committee that the Support Staff means many different things to each state and that it would be more valuable if this breakout was broken into different categories, such as mail, security, page program, etc.

A committee member asked if concurrent sessions

## Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

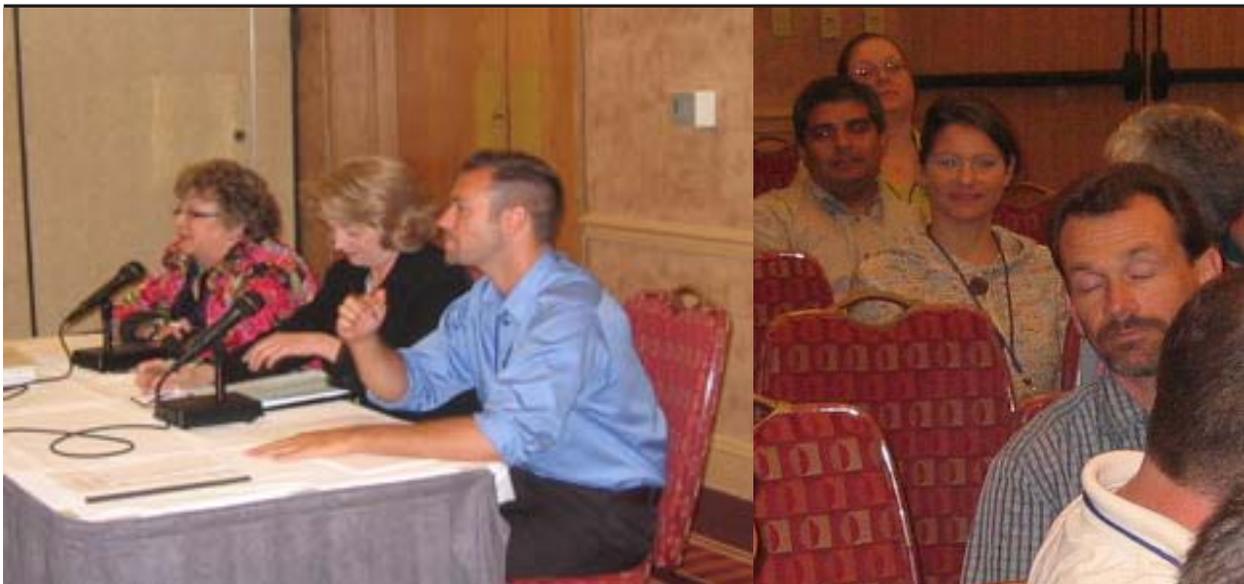
could be video taped so you have the option of viewing the session that was missed. The Chair, as well as others, felt this would not be a good idea since sensitive subject matters are discussed and the copyright issues of speakers. It was said that speakers usually have handouts that a participant could pick up so they have an outline of what was discussed during the session.

The committee discussed the format of the conference. Committee members expressed that the meeting seemed to be a day too long and offered ideas on how to shorten the conference for the 2009 ASLCS Fall Meeting in Seattle, Washington. It was suggested to start the conference on a Wednesday and end on Sunday, where the State Dinner would be on Saturday night. This would allow people to travel back to their homes on Sunday and not have to take off more time from work. It would also cut down on hotel costs. The committee is to look at the schedule to see what sessions/activities can be given up in order to shorten the conference. The suggestions for the

2008 fall meeting were to have small schedule cards that would fit into name badges. Virginia offered to print the schedules for next year's meeting. Committee members recommended that the morning sessions start at 8:00 am and include breakfast, instead of starting sessions after breakfast. It was also decided that there only be two simultaneous concurrent sessions instead of three.

Chair Susan Clarke Schaar encouraged committee members to keep coming up with new ideas.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Clarke Schaar, Chair



# Committee Membership and Meeting Minutes

## Roster



Sunday, September 16, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
11:00 AM

The meeting of the Roster Committee was called to order by Mardi Alexander -TX, Chair. The following members were in attendance:

Linda Tubbs -TX, Vice Chair  
Patience Worrel - TX, Vice Chair  
Linda Hopkins - TX, Recorder

Nancy Alliegro - TX	Lydia Lee - NV
Dora Belcher - WV	Nanci Longoria - TX
Kristin Canterbury - WV	William Pittman - FL
Marguerite Duda - WV	Jim Schratz - AR
Kathryn Fosnaugh - NV	Jacqueline Scott - VA
David Gibson - VT	Nancy Starkweather - NM
Leigh Goodman - NC	Lori Summers - WV
Cynthia Johnston - OR	Susan Whitford - NV
Jeannine Layell - VA	

Members not in attendance: Lisa Davis - MS, and Gail Romanowski - MN.

Chair Mardi Alexander began the meeting by discussing the publication schedule for the Society's Roster and Reference Guide. The chairs of the committee are appointed to two-year terms, and will be responsible for the preparation and publication

of the Roster for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010. The previous year's committee is responsible for the publication of the 2007-2008 edition following the fall meeting in Burlington, Vermont.

The work to update the next edition will begin in the spring after members' dues are paid. A letter is sent on behalf of the committee requesting updates to the Roster information after the dues deadline. Before this letter is scheduled to be sent, the committee will meet again at the spring meeting in Asheville, North Carolina, and will then have an opportunity to discuss this work.

There was a suggestion made about putting an article in the Legislative Administrator asking for changes in the members' bio's and for new pictures, if anyone would be interested in having a new one for the next issue of the Roster. There was also a discussion about possibly e-mailing the principals of each state asking them for changes to be made in the Roster.

There being no further business, Jim Schratz (AR) made a motion to adjourn. That motion was seconded by Nancy Longoria (TX) and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Hopkins, Recorder



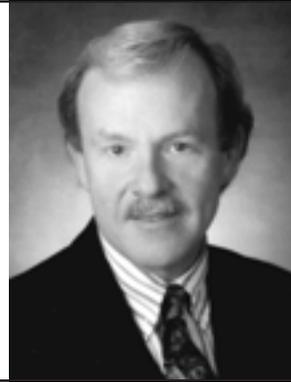
## 2007-2008 Executive Committee



Patsy Spaw - TX  
President



Millicent MacFarland - ME  
President - Elect



Gregory Gray - WV  
Secretary -Treasurer



Brad Hendrickson - WA  
Associate Vice President



Robert Marchant - WI  
Elected Principal



Claire Clift - NV  
Appointed Principal



Mary Monahan - MD  
Appointed Principal



Carmen Cauthen - NC  
Elected Associate



George Bishop - VA  
Appointed Associate



Norma Chastain - AZ  
Appointed Associate



Laura Clemens - OH  
Immediate Past President



Cheryl Laube - AZ  
Immediate Past Associate  
Vice President

# Annual Business Meeting

Monday, September 17, 2007  
Burlington, Vermont  
9:00 AM

The members of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries assembled in the Green Mountain Ballroom of the Hilton Hotel on Monday, September 17, 2007, for the first Business Meeting following the election of new officers, and at 9:00 AM were called to order by ASLCS President, Patsy Spaw, Secretary of the Senate, Texas.

Due to the election of new officers and transition of papers and documents, in the absence of objection, the Treasurer's Report was deferred until the next meeting of ASLCS.

President Spaw then addressed the assembly and congratulated all in attendance on a job well done during the past week. She particularly thanked the Vermont Clerk of the House Don Milne and staff, and Secretary of the Senate David Gibson and staff for their outstanding service in hosting the Professional Development Seminar during the past week. (Applause, the members rising)

President Spaw then asked the attendees to be sure to complete the program evaluation forms and to give suggestions for future meeting programs.

The Chair then called for reports from the various Standing Committees, which were as follows:

**BYLAWS and STANDING ORDERS**-Chair Jeannine Wood, Secretary of the Idaho Senate, noted that the Committee had received Executive Committee approval for the Recodification of the Standing Orders and Index, and that the committee would continue to make recommendations to update the same as needed.

**INSIDE THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS**-Vice Chair Bill MaGill, First Assistant Clerk of the Vermont House, reported that the Committee had met and was formulating ideas and the development thereof for the ensuing year.

**SITE SELECTION**-Chair Denise Weeks, North Carolina House Clerk, announced that the Committee had discussed proposed locations for the Annual Professional Development Seminars in 2008 and 2009, and that the Clerks from the Commonwealth of Virginia had expressed interest to host the seminar in 2010, and that Sacramento, California had also been discussed as a possible site for the meeting in 2010. The Chair further stated that vibrant discussion had been held on the possibility of meeting in Hawaii, but that no formal offer for 2010 had been received to date from any state.

**TECHNOLOGY**-Chair Tim Rice, Executive Director, Legislative Information System of the Illinois Legislature, reported that the Committee had three items to report: (1) The old business of the technology survey resulted in only ten responses among the states; therefore, it was suggested that the questionnaire be trimmed down; (2) In the area of communications, how is it best to be determined what others are doing-List serve, blog, etc.; and (3) The Technology Fair portion of the Job Fair/Job Share was well received.

**INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT**-Sandy Tenney, Chief Clerk of the Utah House, noted on behalf of the Chair that a subcommittee was appointed to develop program ideas for the ensuing year, which ideas will be discussed, developed and finalized in subsequent ASLCS meetings and in New Orleans at the Annual NCSL Meeting.

**LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATOR**-Chair Eleanor Ringel, Assistant Clerk of the West Virginia House, reported that the Committee meeting was very productive, that the Committee had many volunteers and that there had been many new ideas and suggestions brought forth for inclusion in the forthcoming editions of the Legislative Administrator.

**MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNICATION**-Chair Janice Gadd, House Journal Clerk, Utah, stated that the Committee held discussions relative to enhanced membership and the Buddy Program and that ideas were being discussed and developed relative thereto.

## Annual Business Meeting Continued

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**SUPPORT STAFF**-Chair Carmen Cauthen, Administrative Clerk of the North Carolina House, reported on the status of the Associate Exchange Program, stating that the Committee will poll the states for applications of Associate Members. The Chair asked that Principal Clerks please encourage their respective staffs to participate in the Exchange Program, and that the deadline for selection is December 14, 2007. A suggestion from the Committee was that the Job Fair be continued next year and that it contain paper/printed products from the various states.

**CANADIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS**-Vice Chair Ann Cornwell, Arkansas Secretary of the Senate, reported on the upcoming meeting with the Canadian Clerks at the Table to be held in Richmond, Virginia, calling attention to the program agenda and fine proposals brought forth by the Virginia hosts.

**PROFESSIONAL JOURNAL**-President Patsy Spaw gave the membership an update on the meeting of the Professional Journal, committee membership consisting of a two year appointment. President Spaw encouraged participation by all and requested that articles on procedure and other issues of interest throughout the various states be submitted to the Professional Journal members for possible inclusion in the Journal.

**PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**- Vice Chair Janet Pruitt, Principal Clerk of the North Carolina Senate, advised the membership of a very vocal meeting at which the members in attendance voiced their opinions concerning this year's program and the development of the program agenda for the forthcoming PDS. The Vice Chair asked that evaluation forms be filled out and returned, stating that they will be considered in formulating the program for Nevada.

**ROSTER**-Chair Mardi Alexander, Texas, reported on the meeting of the Roster Committee and stated that the Committee is in the ongoing process of updating the Roster.

President Spaw then announced that the Spring Meeting will be held March 28-30 in Asheville, North Carolina.

There being no further business to come before the assembly, on motion of Laura Clemens, Clerk of the Ohio House, seconded by Denise Weeks, Principal House Clerk, North Carolina, the 41<sup>st</sup> Professional Development Seminar of ASLCS adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gregory M. Gray  
Secretary-Treasurer



# Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2007  
9:30 AM

The first meeting of the new Executive Committee was held on September 17, 2007, and at 9:30 AM, was called to order by the President of ASLCS, the Honorable Patsy Spaw, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Texas.

A call of the roll disclosed that the following were in attendance:

Patsy Spaw, President- TX  
Millie MacFarland, President-Elect -ME  
Greg Gray, Secretary-Treasurer - WV  
Rob Marchant, Elected Principal Member - WI  
Laura Clemens, Immediate Past President - OH  
Claire Clift, Appointed Principal Member - NE  
Mary Monahan, Appointed Principal Member - MD  
Brad Hendrickson, Associate Vice President - WA  
Cheryl Laube, Immediate Past Associate Vice President - AZ  
George Bishop, Appointed Associate Member - VA  
Norma Chastain, Appointed Associate Member - AZ

Carmen Cauthen, Elected Associate Member - NC, was absent.

In the absence of objection, the report of the Secretary-Treasurer was passed over until such time as the Internal Audit could be performed in accordance with the requirements of Section X of the Standing Orders.

The Chair then recognized the Honorable Russell Grove, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, New South Wales Parliament, Sydney, Australia, who addressed the Executive Committee with words of thanks and fraternal cooperation and esteem from the Australian Clerks, best wishes for the ensuing year and extended an open invitation to attend the Australian meeting of our counterparts.

The next order of business to come before the Committee being the approval of appointments of members by the ASLCS President to the Executive Committee, on motion of Laura Clemens, Ohio, sec-

onded by Cheryl Laube, Arizona, the same were unanimously approved.

The Chair next recognized Obie Rutledge, Oregon, who submitted a recommendation to the Committee for the purchase of a new digital camera for the use of the photographers for the Legislative Administrator.

Pending discussion on the recommendation, on motion of Mary Monahan, Chief Clerk of the Maryland House, seconded by Laura Clemens, Clerk of the Ohio House, the purchase of a new digital camera was authorized, with a price limit of \$600, the same to be effectuated by the current Legislative Administrator Chair and Vice Chairs.

It was then brought to the attention of the Committee that Steve James, Clerk of the Massachusetts House, and Archivist for ASLCS, has completed an inventory of the Archives, and will update the index thereto and will forward it to Natalie O'Donnell. The index will also be online in the future.

Natalie O'Donnell, NCSL Staff Liaison , next explained the various financial accounts, summaries and detailed account statements of the various expenditures and revenues of ASLCS and Joint Canadian-American meetings.

An extensive explanation and discussion then occurred on the Dues Account vis a vis the federal Patriot Act, outlining what is now required in order to transfer the handling of ASLCS moneys from an outgoing Secretary-Treasurer to an incoming Secretary-Treasurer. NCSL will maintain the funds in a bank in Denver, with the incoming Secretary-Treasurer maintaining the Society checkbook and having signature authority to pay ASLCS debts and authorized purchases. The dues which become payable throughout the course of the year will be submitted by the Secretary-Treasurer to the NCSL Staff Liaison for deposit in the bank in Denver.

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

A discussion then ensued concerning next year's meeting in Reno, Nevada and the 2009 meeting in Seattle. On motion of Laura Clemens, seconded by Millie MacFarland, it was agreed to leave the block of rooms at 185 for Reno and to increase the block to 200 for Seattle.

Brad Hendrickson, Deputy Secretary of the Washington Senate, then made an inquiry regarding the status of an employee exchange situation, stating that his inquiry was being made on behalf of Rob Marchant, who had necessarily departed due to his flight schedule. He stated that Wisconsin was to host an employee exchange with North Carolina, but that the North Carolina employee had since left the employ of the Legislature. He further noted that the Wisconsin Senate still wants to host an employee exchange. It was also noted that the Society awards a \$250 scholarship to the exchange employee to assist with expenses involved.

Brad Hendrickson also announced that the State of Washington was willing to assist in the printing of the International Directory and that they were also offering to print and mail an issue of the Legislative Administrator. Laura Clemens also noted that the Maryland House and the West Virginia House had also offered to print an issue each, and further noted the offer from the Delaware House to assist in printing an issue, if needed.

There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee, on motion of Laura Clemens, Clerk of the Ohio House, seconded by Cheryl Laube, Assistant Chief Clerk of the Arizona House, the Executive Committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gregory M. Gray  
Secretary-Treasurer



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## Technology Pages

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### **The West Virginia Legislature is replacing its AT&T Definity G3 telephone system**

Submitted by Joe Koval  
West Virginia House  
Reading Clerk/Technical Support

The Definity telephone system was installed in the early '90's and it seemed miraculous at the time. Software upgrades helped it seem up-to-date but the aging infrastructure (wiring) and the fast pace of technology made it old within 15 years.

We may have continued "upgrading" the Definity well into the future but there were concerns that the campus buildings may not have been in compliance with national fire protection codes and posed a threat to the employees and the buildings themselves.

Finally, the Governor's Office of Technology examined the networking (telecommunications and computers) on campus and moved to replace the old "wiring". The fire hazard related mainly to the pvc cable jackets so the Legislature decided it was time to have the old wiring removed. A few of us attended a showing of a DuPont film which demonstrated what pvc wiring does when exposed to fire; it becomes the fuel and becomes flammable when exposed to extreme heat.

The first phase in removing the old hazardous pvc cable was just the beginning. The situation became an opportunity for the Legislative leadership to replace the Definity system with the Cisco's Voice Over IP system.

Voice Over IP is the technology that enables voice communication to be routed over the computer network using internet protocol. Thus, the internet becomes the highway (remember the Information Superhighway?) and is therefore available anywhere there be internet access, including wireless.

Cisco was chosen as the supplier and the first step is to install new Cisco switches in the electric closets to which the new devices (read telephones) will be attached. There'll be 40-50 switches to support over 600 of the VOIP devices.

The computers will attach to the new telephone devices and therefore the computer and telephone will share a connection back to the Cisco switch in the electric closet. The Cisco switches will also provide power for the telephone therefore eliminating all of the auxillary power supplies we needed for the old telephones.

### **North Carolina is Upgrading Their Telephone System**

Submitted by Wallace Austin  
NC General Assembly

North Carolina is in the process of deploying a VOIP (Voice Over IP) telephone system. VOIP is a category of hardware and software that enables people to use the Internet and/or internal computer networks as the transmission medium for telephone calls. It is the practice of using an Internet connection to pass voice data using IP instead of using the standard public switched telephone network.

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# Technology Pages Continued

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## Technology—Bridge to the Past

Submitted by William S. Pittman III  
Chief Clerk, Florida House of Representatives

Within legislative bodies, the office of the clerk (and/or secretary) typically has a primary role of documenting the action of that legislative body for legal and historical purposes. To that end, we spend much time and effort in our attempts to better accomplish this task. Technology today offers many diverse tools to assist in this, but finding the right tool is an ever elusive quest. My legislative networking over the last decade has left me with the distinct impression that most legislative staff have many unmet needs with respect to technology. Perhaps the complexity of our task, compounded by ever changing rules and procedures, exacerbates this issue and keeps it ever out of reach. My word to you is—do not give up hope. Persevere! NCSL and ASLCS provide us an incredible forum to network to see what others are doing right and wrong. We need not have 50 states re-inventing the wheel when many times we have the same goals and objectives. To that end, I offer the following details of some initiatives the Florida House has successfully implemented.

One goal of the Florida House of Representatives Clerk's Office has been the digitizing of historical documents, including the *Journal* dating back to 1845. Retired Clerk John Phelps persevered many years on this issue, which finally became reality approximately one year ago. Not only were we dealing with some excessive costs to merely scan thousands of pages of text, but we were also dealing with old, fragile, and in some instances irreplaceable books that required careful handling. Staff from the Clerk's Office worked closely with procurement and IT staff and librarians from the Department of State to develop detailed specifications for this job. For several years the cost to hire contractors skilled at this task far exceeded what leadership was willing to spend. Clerk Phelps was able to work out a deal with the University of Florida Digital Collections (UFDC) division to finally accomplish this project. The cost to the House was substantially less than previous projections since the University used their staff and students to do the scanning, and in return the scanned documents reside in their domain. The link below will take you directly to our section of the digital collection:

<http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/UFDC/UFDC.aspx?c=flaw1&m=hrbt&t=Journal&o=2>

You will find that the journals are searchable, although only by one complete journal at a time. This new tool allows anyone with Internet access the ready ability to research all House journals dating back to our first convening in 1845. Potential candidates, former members' relatives, students, lobbyists, and any other interested parties can delve deeply into our archives from anywhere in the state or the world for that matter. Until this project was completed, these tasks could only be accomplished by being physically present at one of a very few libraries in the state. An additional benefit to State government and the Clerk's Office in particular is that we are no longer doing research for general inquiries. Inquirers are now referred to the UFDC web site.

The House primary web site, [www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov), gives researchers access to major House documents from 1998 to present. Included in these documents are filed bills, journals, session summaries by committee, and other assorted documents. Another ongoing project is creating an online document of *The People in Lawmaking in Florida*, which is an alphabetical listing of all past and present members of the Florida Legislature, including the officers (clerk, secretary, sergeant at arms, etc.)

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## Technology Pages Continued

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William S. Pittman III - Continued

I noted recently as I inspected other legislature's web sites that Oklahoma has a nice online mechanism to listen to audio from past sessions, and Texas has a similar video link. I am sure other legislatures have such links or are working to develop them. It is our objective to have a new audio link completed for use in the upcoming 2008 regular session to give online access to recorded meetings and sessions. Currently, this is only available on demand via CD or audio cassette. The next step for the Florida House will be to implement a video link similar to what you see at the Texas House site. Once again, implementation of these new means of information access frees up staff to focus on other matters. The cost of implementing these initiatives has dropped dramatically over the last several years. I am sure those of us who have invested in such technology would gladly share cost data on an individual basis.

Finally, a very low cost technology initiative that allows the Florida House to give ready access to information and documents throughout the Capitol complex has the acronym PODS (print-on-demand stations.) Our IT shop created a "lite" version of our myfloridahouse.gov web site. This "lite" version allows limited access to documents and information that perform well in this open environment and do not tie up the machines too long in the process. Seven surplus computers and printers were placed adjacent to committee meeting rooms and the Chamber for use by Capitol clientele. We did a very soft rollout of the PODS not knowing if we could fully support them or how well they would be received. With no publicity, the units started showing activity. We have activity logs that IT monitors to see what units are getting used to get to what documents/information. Self-performance of research and on-demand self-printing of basic House documents has been accomplished by this initiative as well as placing document access throughout the complex.

I hope you can see the common thread in each of these discussed initiatives. A primary goal of getting information into the hands of our "customers," the people of the State of Florida, has been accomplished. The delivery of this information was accomplished at a reasonable and justifiable cost. The secondary goal of each was to free legislative staff of research and printing duties that can easily be self-performed. This has the added benefit of recurring cost reduction. How about you? Share your ideas with others.

### **New Technology for Vermont**

Submitted by David A. Gibson  
Secretary of the Vermont Senate

The Vermont General Assembly has undertaken a major innovation, in that we have begun the process for installation of the basic tools of the Legislative Management System that has been developed by International Roll-Call.

We are in the preliminary stages at this point in time, engaging in the "process study" phase for development of the customized software that we hope to have in place for our 2009 session. We anticipate that this system will eliminate much duplication involved in the entry of data and that it will facilitate the later adaptation of our "legislating" by enabling us to utilize computers at the desks of the Senators and Representatives. We also hope to cut down on use of paper and to be able to store records in electronic form for the future, instead of cluttering up our bookcases with bound volumes.

Stay tuned!

## Landmarks

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### **Judith Schultz Retiring**

West Virginia Senate



**Judith Schultz**

Judith Schultz, the Fiscal Officer of the West Virginia State Senate, retired October 31, 2007, after 32 years service with the Senate.

Judy came to work during the 1975 Regular Session as the Senate Journal Clerk. In the summer of 1978, while she was on vacation, the Senate Clerk asked Judy if she would temporarily fill the position of Bookkeeper and Payroll Clerk. Although Judy repeatedly asked to return to the Journal Clerk position, 29 years later she retired as the Fiscal Officer of the State Senate. Altogether, Judy has more than 40 years service with county and state government.

Judy and husband Dewey plan to spend their retirement traveling, fishing and spending time with her family. They have four children, two sons and identical twin daughters. They both love children and it's a good thing - they have thirteen grandchildren.

### **McDowell Lee -- Longest Serving Clerk**

Clerk of the Alabama Senate



**McDowell Lee**

McDowell Lee was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives in 1954 and served through 1962. He was the third generation family member to serve in the Alabama Legislature.

During his time as a legislator he received the "Outstanding Freshman Legislator" award in 1955; and was chosen "Best Debater" by the Alabama Press Association in 1959.

In 1963 McDowell was elected Secretary of the Alabama Senate and is currently serving in that capacity today.

During his tenure as Secretary, McDowell served as President of the ASLCS, 1974-75; Staff Chair of NCSL, 1976-77; received the Joseph A. Beek Distinguished Service Award, 1989; and received the ASLCS Length of Service Honor in 2003.

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## States At a Glance

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### **COLORADO**

Karen Goldman  
Secretary of the Senate

#### THE COLORADO CHANNEL

On January 9, 2008, citizens in Colorado will be able to view the proceedings of the Colorado House of Representatives. The idea for "The Colorado Channel" came from Speaker of the House Andrew Romanoff and was originally designed to cover the proceedings of both the House and the Senate. However, efforts to raise private funds for start-up costs resulted in only enough money to broadcast one chamber. It is anticipated that Senate proceedings will be televised in 2009.

The television project was not only a cooperative effort on the part of House and Senate staff and the non-partisan legislative agencies, the City and County of Denver agreed to extend the cabling it utilizes to broadcast City Council meetings to the State Capitol, over one mile away. Additionally, cable provider Comcast agreed to donate two dedicated channels, one for each chamber, for one year. Comcast broadcasts to the bulk of cable users throughout the state. Details for web-streaming video are still being worked out.

Colorado will join 34 states in providing legislative coverage via television and/or web video.

### **MARYLAND**

Mary Monahan  
Clerk of the House

#### GOVERNOR CALLS FOR SPECIAL SESSION DUE TO 1.7 BILLION DEFICIT

"This storm is upon us, and this looming budget shortfall threatens to do grave damage to the very quality of life that our neighbors have elected us to defend" Governor O'Malley remarked as he spoke before a Joint Session of the Maryland General Assembly on Monday, October 29, 2007.

Until three years ago, it had been over a decade since a Special Session was convened. There were four Special Sessions in the 1990s and four earlier in the 1980s. Then in 2004 and again in 2006, the General Assembly met in a Special Session to address the costs of medical malpractice insurance and electric rate relief, respectively. Again this last week of October Maryland's General Assembly has been called to address this shortfall in finances.

The structure and procedures governing a Maryland Special Session are determined primarily by the Maryland Constitution, augmented of course by each house's Rules, the Maryland statutes, and court decisions. A Special Session may convene in two ways. It may be called by the Governor or, if a majority of the members elected to the Senate and to the House petition the Governor to call a Special Session at a date specified in the petition such as in 2006, the Governor must issue a proclamation calling a Special Session. A Special Session is limited to 30 days and may not be extended; rather another must be called. The powers of the legislature in a Special Session are as broad as in a regular session, and the legislative process is exactly the same as

## States At a Glance

### MARYLAND - Continued

for a regular session. Also, once the Governor has called a Special Session he may not adjourn it nor may he force members to attend. As well, the Governor's proclamation of a Special Session for a particular reason may not limit the subject matter of legislation. Thus legislation may be introduced on any subject. Once introduced, however, the presiding officers may refer legislation to the Senate or House Rules committees, as appropriate; to ensure that the focus remains on the legislation introduced to deal with the core issues for which the Special Session was called.

Governor O'Malley is confident that he has the votes in the Democrat controlled Assembly to pass his package of tax increases. The Governor has introduced six bills to increase the sales, tobacco, gas, corporate and personal income taxes. Also, the Governor has proposed a referendum on the November 2008 ballot legalizing slot-machine gambling throughout the state.

### NEVADA

Susan Furlong Reil  
Nevada Assembly

#### TEACHERS GAMBLE ON GAMING TAX INCREASE

Frustrated with its inability to convince state lawmakers to increase elementary and secondary education funding substantially, the Nevada State Education Association (NSEA) recently announced plans to circulate an initiative petition in 2008, proposing an increase in the gaming tax in Nevada. According to Lynne Warne, President of the 28,000-member NSEA, the petition would require that 40 percent of the new revenues be used to implement strategies to improve K-12 education in Nevada, such as adding instructional days to improve student achievement, and another 40 percent be dedicated to increasing teachers' salaries and improving work conditions. The remaining 20 percent of the proposed new revenue would go toward merit pay for teachers. The initiative petition would need to be approved by the voters in both the 2008 and 2010 general elections before becoming law.

A recent analysis of education spending commissioned by the Nevada Legislature found that Nevada needs to spend an additional \$1 billion if it is to meet the adequacy requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Education spending in Nevada—which has no personal or business income tax—is almost \$1,900 per student less than the national average.

The NSEA argues that student proficiency in Nevada is well below the national average and that class sizes are some of the largest in the nation. In addition, the state is experiencing a teacher shortage. Gaming representatives contend that other industries should share in meeting the tax burden, thereby creating a more stable and predictable revenue stream. The industry also warns that an increase in the gaming tax would drive investment out the state.

According to the *Las Vegas Sun*, polls conducted over the past ten years show that 70 percent of Nevadans believe education funding in Nevada is inadequate and that the gaming industry should fill the shortfall.

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## States At a Glance

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### NEVADA - Continued

Under the terms of the union's proposed initiative, Nevada's gaming tax of 6.75 percent—currently the lowest in the nation—would increase to 9.75 percent for those large casinos that make over \$1 million a month. In comparison, New Jersey and Mississippi levy both a corporate income tax and an average 8 percent tax on gaming revenue.

The political risks are high for both sides. If the NSEA fails to gain the public's support for its initiative, the union's bargaining position may be weakened going into future legislative sessions. Among gamers, there is fear that if the union is successful, other special interest groups will follow and look to gaming to fund other worthwhile programs.

The battles lines have been drawn, with Nevada Governor Jim Gibbons (R), the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, and the big gamers on one side and the NSEA on the other. While previous attempts by the teachers to go directly to the voters have failed, political pundit Jon Ralston predicts that this time around, the union will teach big gaming a lesson. "Early line: 10-to-1 in favor of every-one else and an increased gaming tax."

### OREGON

Obie Rutledge  
Reading Clerk, Oregon House

#### OREGON APPROVES ONE BALLOT MEASURE AND REJECTS THE OTHER

A measure on the ballot to clarify Oregon's land use law was approved by over sixty percent. Three years ago a different measure was approved which threw Oregon into uncharted waters, rolling back regulation that had been in place for 30 years. With the new measure it is hoped that there will now be some clarity in the existing laws.

The increase in the cigarette tax did not fare so well. It went down to defeat by a margin of fifty nine percent. The 2007 Legislature, unsuccessful to gain the constitutional three-fifths majority vote required in the House of Representatives for a tax increase, chose to place the tax increase in a constitutional amendment that then only required a constitutional majority vote but then needed to be ratified by the people.

## About State Capitols - A Brief History

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### MARYLAND

Mary Monahan  
Clerk, Maryland House

The Maryland State House dates from 1772-1779 and is the oldest State House in the country still in legislative use. In 1960 it was designated as a National Historic Landmark by the U.S. Department of the Interior. Located in the center of State Circle in the heart of Annapolis, Maryland's capital since 1695, the State House holds the chambers of the Maryland Senate and the House of Delegates, offices of the Senate President and the House Speaker, and offices of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor. Most significantly, it is the site of the legislative sessions during which Maryland laws are made, the overwhelming majority of those in regular sessions. Only once since the current State House was built did the General Assembly meet elsewhere and that was in April 1861, when legislators left the city to escape the repressive atmosphere of Annapolis which had fallen into the hands of General Benjamin Butler and his Union troops.

Maryland is probably only one of the 50 states to have three well-established nicknames. The State was first dubbed the "Old Line" state by General George Washington during the Revolutionary War in honor of the Maryland soldiers who "held the line" against the British at the battle of Long Island, allowing General Washington and his troops to withdraw. Out of 404 Maryland soldiers, only 96 survived. Another common name is the "Free State" which is popularly assumed to refer to the State's long perceived history of religious toleration and respect for political freedom. The name actually is derived from the State's refusal to pass a law in the 1920s to go along with the federal government's ban on alcohol. Marylanders, so the story goes, believed that the imposition of Prohibition violated their freedom. And lastly in the 1930s, a National Geographic writer tagged Maryland as "America in Miniature" and it stuck basically because so much topographical diversity is packed into its small area. Maryland with its 12,000 plus square miles ranks 42nd in area among the fifty states. From its mountains through its piedmont and coastal plains to the Atlantic seashore, about the only natural feature that is missing is desert. So whether it is America in Miniature, the Old Line or Free State, Maryland and its legislative body, the Maryland General Assembly, which first met in 1635, will continue to meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

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## About State Capitols - A Brief History

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### NEBRASKA

Jamie Kruse

The Nebraska State Capitol is currently hosting the *America's Favorite Architecture Exhibition* on behalf of the American Institute of Architects. Based on a public poll conducted through the American Institute of Architects, the traveling exhibition is a photography collection of the top 150 works of architecture within the United States.

The Nebraska State Capitol is ranked #67 on the list and is one of only three Capitols included on the list, along with Virginia and Texas.

The Nebraska State Capitol is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is also a registered National Historic Landmark. The Capitol was completed in 1932 and is 400 feet tall with the base measuring 440 feet wide. Ironically, while the Capitol took 10 years to construct, from 1922-1932, it is currently undergoing its 10<sup>th</sup> year in the Nebraska Capitol Exterior Restoration Project which involves examining the entire exterior facade and repairing and replacing cracked or damaged stones.

For more information on the American Institute of Architects *America's Favorite Architecture Exhibition* you can access their website at [www.favoritearchitecture.org](http://www.favoritearchitecture.org)

### Burlington Waterfront, Vermont 2007



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