
THE SOUTHWESTERN REGION NEWSLETTER

Spring 1998

Newsletter of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Janet K. Wilson
University of Central Arkansas

The 1997 SWACJ annual conference theme "Technology, Crime, and Justice" has inspired a number of us to find ways to distribute information in a more timely fashion to the membership and to "smooth out" some of the rough edges in conference planning. For a number of years, second vice-presidents, site committee members, and the secretary/treasurer, each of whom are responsible for pulling the conference together, providing participant counts to the hotel at the earliest possible date, etc., have struggled to also account for the last-minute needs of conference participants. We have tried a range of tactics from constructing preliminary programs with deadlines in April prior to the conference to extending the deadline until just two weeks before the actual conference. These attempts have proved to be cumbersome for conference participants on the one hand and conference organizers on the other. This year we are trying something new.

Although Bill Stone (Southwest Texas State University) will have a full-plate this coming year serving as our second vice-president and site committee chair, he has offered to set up a web page for SWACJ in addition to a list serve of members who have provided us with their e-mail address. If you would like to be added to the SWACJ list serve and receive information like the Call for Papers, conference information and reminders, a preliminary program listing presentation times, as well as be able to send requests to share hotel rooms to reduce the costs of conference participation, making requests for special equipment needs for our conference presentation, turn in your abstract at the last possible minute and not rely on the postal system to get it in on time, etc., please send your e-mail address to Bill (ws03@swt.edu). As you can see, if utilized by SWACJ members and officers alike, this technology can benefit us all. However, since it is obvious that not every member has Internet access, information will continue to be distributed through the mail.

Along different lines, we may want to begin considering whether SWACJ could support a journal (an idea informally bantered about

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1998 CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS October 1-3, 1998

Bill Stone, Site Committee Chair
Southwest Texas State University

The plans for the next meeting in San Antonio are shaping up very well. Janet, Wes and I have finalized the contract for our hotel and I believe we have a location that will please everyone. We have contracted with the Sheraton Four Points, which is located on the north end of the riverwalk. From our hotel you simply go down a set of stairs and you are on the riverwalk. If you walk south along the river it is six blocks to the Alamo and nine blocks to the Rivercenter Mall. It is only nine and a half blocks to Dirty Nellie's Irish Pub, one of my personal favorites. If you don't like to walk, river taxis can be picked up at the hotel and you can cruise up the river to the locations of your choice. There are too many restaurants on the river to name, but you can find just about any type of food or drink that you can imagine.

To give people a feeling for all the things to do in San Antonio, I have set up a link on our new association web page that will allow the members to check out just about everything you could ever want to know about San Antonio. The web page address is www.cj.swt.edu/swacj/intro.html; when the page comes up you can simply click on "things to do in San Antonio" and you will find all sorts of links describing San Antonio. If you have a fast Internet connection there is even a vir-

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by Jeff Walker, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, at the conference). Although it could take a few years to work out the details, you may want to begin considering the focus the journal may take, how we would financially support such an activity, where it would be housed, and whether this is even a topic of interest for our region.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do this year to assist you or the Association. I look forward to seeing you on the "Riverwalk" in San Antonio, Texas, October 1-3, 1998. Remember, Thursday evening is the President's reception; panels, plenary sessions and business meetings are Friday; and panels are Saturday until noon.

E-mail Addresses of Current Members

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 Jeffrey Walker, University of Arkansas, jwalker@ualr.edu
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 Janet K. Wilson, University of Central Arkansas, jwilson@mail.uca.edu
 David A. Woods, Sul Ross State University, dwoods@sul-ross-1.sulross.edu

1998 SWACJ STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Graduate or undergraduate students currently enrolled (and who will be enrolled September 1998) in a university, college or community college within the Southwest Region.

PRIZES? \$150 will be awarded to the winning graduate paper, and \$100 will be awarded to the winning undergraduate paper.

JUDGES? Judges will be faculty members of SWACJ.

ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS? If the student desires to present the paper at the conference, he or she must follow the guidelines in the Call for Papers Program Announcement. The following instructions apply to the paper competition *only*.

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. The paper must be authored by student(s) only. No faculty/student co-authored papers will be considered.
2. The paper must be an original work. It may be especially prepared for the 1998 SWACJ conference or it may be a revision of a paper prepared for course work at the student's home university.
3. Three copies of your paper should be submitted to **James W. Golden, Ph.D.; Criminal Justice Institute; University of Arkansas at Little Rock; 2801 South University Avenue; Little Rock, Arkansas 72204** before September 1, 1998. No papers will be considered that are received after the established deadline.
4. The paper must meet standard publication form requirements as established by the student's home university.
5. Indicate on the front of the paper whether it is prepared by an undergraduate or graduate student. Also, make sure author's name and affiliation is included in title page, and only appears on title page.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF WINNERS AND PRESENTATION OF AWARDS WILL BE MADE AT THE CONFERENCE. *Please Note:* Students are not required to participate in this paper competition in order to present a paper at the 1998 SWACJ conference. The competition is strictly voluntary in nature.

TRUSTEE REPORT

Joan Crowley
New Mexico State University
Regional Trustee

The ACJS Board of Trustees midyear meeting was held in September in Anaheim, California. It is a year of major transition for ACJS. Our lease with NKU for the ACJS secretariat runs out in summer of 1998. Our expanded membership means both more needs for service, and more resources. After reviewing several proposals from universities, the board of trustees decided that it was time for ACJS to stand on its own.

The logical place to make that stand is Washington, D.C. A vocal segment of the membership has long advocated a move to the nation's capitol since that's where the money is, along with the makers of policy. The board also wants to find a property to purchase, rather than continuing to pay rent without building up equity. A committee is working with a Realtor who specializes in property for non-profit organizations. We will probably rent space initially and purchase a place when we find one that meets our needs and our budget. We are looking for a building that will have room for expansion of the ACJS staff as our membership continues to grow. We expect that the building will provide additional meeting and office space beyond that needed by the secretariat. We could sponsor seminars, facilitate meetings with funding agencies, and provide limited logistical support for members who come to D.C. The trustees felt that the purchase would increase our financial risks somewhat, but that the potential return is more than worth it.

Speaking of the budget, the decision to move also prompted a review of the dues. There was pressure to raise dues before the decision to move, given the increased costs of member services and the dangers of going with inadequate reserves. The board members believe that ownership will keep office space costs in line over the long term, but the purchase will require large initial costs, plus accounts to provide for maintenance and renovations over time. With one thing and another, it was generally felt that a \$15

annual increase in dues would provide us with stable and adequate revenue. ACJS is still a bargain compared to most professional organizations. (It should be noted that your trustee suggested that \$10 would be a better number.) This means that the life memberships now cost \$900. Institutional membership dues were raised from \$100 to \$150.

The other major business was selection of two convention sites. Again, the crucial issue was money. San Antonio, the tentative site for 2002, increased its room rates to \$200 per night. President Vito said "no thank you" and scouted for an alternative. The alternative turns out to be the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California (not to be confused with Disney World in Orlando, Florida in 1999). At the strong urging of our convention planners, we also committed ourselves to selecting sites another year in advance. As ACJS grows, the number of cities that can accommodate us shrinks. Planning further in advance gives us more options. So, after agreeing on Disneyland, the board accepted a tentative offer to go to Washington, D.C in 2003.

Gary Cordner announced that the 1999 conference theme will be "Crime and Justice Across the Millennium." Jack Greene will be the program chair. There are changes going on in academy publishing. Gary Cordner reported the Police Section and the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) are starting a new journal, *Police Forum*. Section dues will increase by \$25 to cover the journal subscription. Anderson wants major changes to the contract for the monograph series, specially since recent volumes have not sold well. ACJS will be looking at alternate publishers and generally reviewing the focus of the monographs.

Attendance at the annual meeting in Louisville was down somewhat. This may have been due at least in part to people concerned about flooding, especially with national media showing photographs of drowned street signs in the area. We are looking forward to a great turnout in Albuquerque, a great city in our own great region!! Please encourage all your folks, faculty and students to come join us for an exciting program.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

W. Wesley Johnson
Sam Houston State University
Annual Meeting Minutes
Corpus Christi, Texas (October 2-4, 1997)

Joy Pollock, 1996-1997 President, called the meeting to order. There were 34 members in attendance. The annual and mid-year minutes were distributed and approved. Wes Johnson gave the treasurer's report and thanked TAMU-CC, SHSU, UALR, SWT, and Anderson Publishing Company for their "extra" financial support.

Joy Pollock recognized Gary Cordner, Vice-President of ACJS and thanked the national office for their continued support of the SWACJ. Special recognition was given to Phil Rhoades and TAMU-CC for their efforts as this year's conference site coordinators.

Jody Crowley gave the regional trustee report and indicated that the ACJS secretariat plans to move out of Eastern Kentucky University by July 1, 1998.

Nominations for second vice-president were accepted and voted upon. Bill Stone, Southwest Texas University, was elected by majority vote. Nominations for Secretary/Treasurer (1998-2001) were accepted. Joy Pollock was nominated and accepted by unanimous acclamation.

Janet Wilson, SWACJ President 1997-1998, took over the meeting and presented Joy Pollock with a plaque and a gift. Janet announced that Alan Thompson, SHSU, was the winner of this year's student paper competition and awarded him with a check for \$150.00.

Bill Stone, 1997-1998 conference site coordinator, discussed various conference plans. A vote was conducted to determine the 1998 conference site and conference date. The conference date was set for October 1, 2, and 3, 1998, and will be held in San Antonio, TX in the Riverwalk area. A Friday night

Robert Taylor, University of North Texas, volunteered to serve as site coordinator.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous decision

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tual tour of the riverwalk at www.ci.sat.tx.us/pio/rivwalk.htm. The virtual tour can also be located by looking under "Guides to San Antonio."

The best of the news about San Antonio is that we have obtained very reasonable room rates. Because SWT has worked with the hotel before, it has committed a block of 50 rooms at \$70 for a single, \$85 for a double and \$10 for each additional person above that. They have even agreed to give us 25 rooms at this same price for people who want to stay over Saturday night. These are really great rates since October is the busiest month for downtown hotels in San Antonio. To get these rates you must make your reservations by September 10, 1998 and **make sure to tell them that you are with SWACJ** or you will not get the special rate. If you plan to stay over Saturday night I would call **now**. The toll free reservation number is 1-800-28TEXAS. If you do not get in on the block of rooms at this special rate you can plan on paying about \$200 per night or spending the night under the IH 37 overpass in a sleeping bag.

If you fly in, you can take the Star Shuttle from the airport for about \$7 each way. If you are driving in to San Antonio, plan on paying \$5 per day parking at the hotel. For those individuals that wish to look around the city, the VIA transit system is reasonable and can get you out to locations like Sea World and Fiesta Texas (we will try to get discounts to some of the common attractions for the conference packets). If you like live theater, the Majestic Theater will be within walking distance and you can check their schedule and get tickets through TICKETMASTER.COM. Most of the Majestic Theater events are sold out in advance so plan early.

If you have any questions about the conference site, please feel free to just click on the mailbox of the

NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

SWACJ welcomes the following people who have joined (or re-joined) the Association. A reminder—now is the time for you to update your membership! If you attended the 1997 annual meeting in Corpus Christi, then you paid your membership fees for 1997-98. Otherwise you may pay \$10 for regular membership or \$5 for student membership. Please send your check to the Secretariat. If your e-mail is incorrect, please contact Wes Johnson.

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Lee Latham, University of Houston—Downtown
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SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE Application for Membership

NAME _____ DATE _____
 TITLE _____
 INSTITUTION _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 WORK PHONE _____ FAX _____

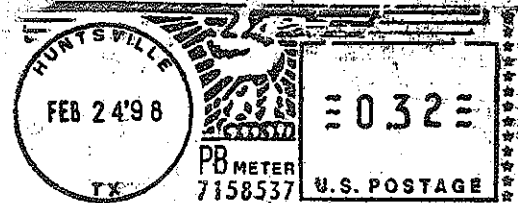
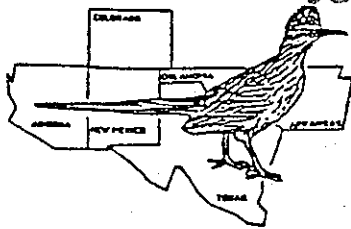
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY: FULL MEMBER _____ (\$10.00) STUDENT _____ (\$5.00)

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

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