



Newsletter

A Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries Nov./Dec. 2008, v. 36, no. 2

From the President... Jessica Wimer

Welcome to the last *SCALL Newsletter* of the year, and the first with our new logo. The new logo was voted on and chosen by SCALL members and will soon become as familiar as the very appreciated and longstanding version we are used to seeing. A big “thank you” goes out to the Newsletter and Info Tech committees for working so diligently to get the new logo incorporated into the Newsletter and the SCALL webpage. Yes, indeed, your eyes do not betray you. As I write this, the Info Tech committee is working hard to revamp the SCALL webpage. The new logo presented the committee with the perfect opportunity to update and improve the website, making it more streamlined and intuitive. Our goal is to have it done by the first of the year. I promise to keep you posted!



With Thanksgiving behind us, the holiday season has officially started. Soon many of us will find our schedules busier than ever with all that comes with holiday festivities. As we gear up for the marathon that is shopping and entertaining, it is easy to quickly become overextended and feel pulled in too many directions. Even more, due to the current economic situation, it is important to reevaluate our priorities and give careful consideration to those things and activities to which we devote our precious time and resources. It is therefore with great pride that I offer my assurance that you can feel confident in the benefits of being a SCALL member. If you had any doubts that you are part of an organization that puts its members front and center, allow me to put them to rest.

In late October, SCALL committee chairs and Board members met to discuss the goals of our association and the activities of its committees, and to come up with new ideas for the upcoming year. This was done to ensure that SCALL continues to truly serve our members’ needs in an ever changing world. This meeting reinforced my confidence that as a group we already accomplish a lot! It also helped make clear that our committee chairs are an invested group of indi-

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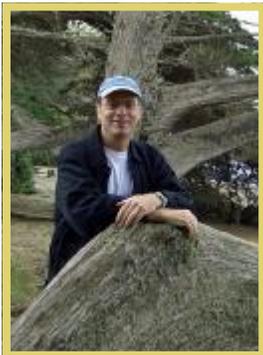
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SCALL Newsletter Submission Deadlines

We welcome the submission of any articles of interest to the law library community. Contact Hugh J. Treacy, **SCALL Newsletter** Editor: htreacy@law.whittier.edu.

All submissions should be received by the following dates:

December 8, 2008	Jan. / Feb. 2009 issue
February 9, 2009	Mar. / Apr. 2009 issue
April 13, 2009	May / June 2009 issue
August 10, 2009	Sept. / Oct. 2009 issue
October 12, 2009	Nov. / Dec. 2009 issue
December 14, 2009	Jan. / Feb. 2010 issue
February 8, 2010	Mar. / Apr. 2010 issue
April 12, 2010	May / June 2010 issue
August 9, 2010	Sept. / Oct. 2010 issue
October 11, 2010	Nov. / Dec. 2010 issue
December 13, 2010	Jan / Feb. 2011 issue



Editor's Notes... Hugh J. Treacy

This issue welcomes the new SCALL logo as part of an equally new look for the *SCALL Newsletter*. All of us on the Newsletter Committee hope you like what you see! The logo reflects the downtown skyline of Los Angeles; the black, gray and white design reflects an urban look that is quite appealing. With the new logo comes a newsletter design that compliments the bustling city as well as the entire region, where new and modern is the rule but whose history is respected, preserved and celebrated.

The same is true for the *SCALL Newsletter*. In this issue, we're featuring *Heard Around Town*, a new column presented by Larry Meyer. Larry will be gathering interesting information about law libraries throughout SCALL territory to keep us informed about what's new and exciting, novel and interesting, in our workplaces. All of us will benefit from this column as we confront the daily challenges of our profession. Let's also celebrate the accomplishments within our law libraries; so send Larry your latest news!

We are also approaching our first HTML version of this newsletter. We hope to present the new version (along with PDF and printer-friendly versions) with the January/February 2009 issue.

Of course, you'll recognize all of the familiar features of the *SCALL Newsletter*; too. They haven't gone away.... In an engaging article, Ed Butler describes the SCALL Fall Meeting held at Café Metropol downtown on October 14th. Ed also provides us an opportunity to congratulate Larry Meyer and the entire staff of the Law Library for San Bernardino County for winning the Federal Depository Library of the Year Award. Margot McLaren offers us a *Getting to Know You* introduction to Kim Laru, the new Head of Circulation Services at San Diego County Public Law Library. She also provides us with a description of the recent Federal Depository Library Conference held in October in Arlington, VA. Inside you'll also find minutes to a recent SCALL Board meeting, and the latest *Job Opportunities* compiled by Jodi Kruger.

To help you easily navigate the *SCALL Newsletter*, hot links will take you from the table of contents on the front page to the first page of an article, then to its continuation page, and back again as you may prefer. All advertising is hot linked to each advertiser's webpage; and, the hot linked listings in *Job Opportunities* take you to the text of the job announcements posted on the SCALL webpage.

If you have any questions or comments, ideas for articles, or if you would like to submit an opinion piece or an article for publication, please contact me or any other member of the Newsletter Committee. Remember, this is *your* publication!

Save the Date! SCALL Institute, La Quinta, March 27-28, 2009



If you are interested in serving on the 2009 SCALL Institute Committee, contact:

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Embassy Suites La Quinta Hotel and Spa

La Quinta is a resort community located just a few miles east of Palm Desert in California's Coachella Valley. La Quinta offers beautiful mountain scenery as well as outdoor activities such as golfing, hiking and biking. In Old Town La Quinta, across the street from the hotel, you'll find a variety of unique shops, restaurants, and art galleries in an historic village setting. The tentative topic for the Institute is Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). Stay tuned for details!

Update on GPO's Federal Digital System... Margot McLaren

I recently attended the 2008 Fall Federal Depository Library Conference and Depository Library Council Meeting from October 20-22 in Arlington, Virginia. The conference was well attended.

The plenary session addressed the current status of the Federal Digital System (FDsys), a state-of-the-art digital system for managing federal government documents, which is scheduled to replace *GPO Access* (<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/>) in late December and migrate existing content collections while providing full functionality. Beta testing of the digital system will also begin in December, and library communities are encouraged to participate. FDsys and *GPO Access* will run simultaneously, and information within *GPO Access* will continue to be migrated to FDsys. Migration is scheduled for completion in summer 2009.

FDsys is being developed through a series of releases. The first phase of release 1 will perform the following functions: build a foundational infrastructure and a preservation repository; make available content and metadata for viewing, printing and downloading; ensure authenticity and digitally signed PDF documents; provide simple, advanced fielded, citation and Boolean searches; and exchange descriptive metadata between FDsys and ILS (integrated library system).

To prepare for the migration from *GPO Access* to FDsys, content must be parsed (information is extracted from a content file and stored as metadata), or analyzed. At launch, the following collections will be migrated: the *Federal Register*, congressional bills, public and private laws, *Compilation of Presidential Documents*, *Congressional Record*, congressional reports, documents and hearings.

The second phase of release 1 (scheduled in mid-2009) will include submission of congressional orders to GPO and enhancements to search and access functionality. The third phase (scheduled in late 2009) will enable federal agencies to submit orders electronically to GPO; provide the capability to ingest digitized content; include documented interface (API) to allow search by non-GPO systems; allow for the navigation of relationships between publications; and provide email and RSS notifications.

Release 2 of the FDsys will automatically gather information from agency websites ("harvesting"), provide access to the preservation repository, include online GPO bookstore interface, and allow users to customize search preferences, help features and alert services. Release 3 will provide tools to create and publish documents; allow for content creation in a collaborative working environment; and include reference tools. To keep abreast of the developments of FDsys, click on <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys>. Users are encouraged to submit ideas and feedback. The session concluded with a demonstration of the FDsys.



U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

California Law Library Honored by GPO ...Ed Butler

An exemplary job of performing the basics of a Federal Depository Library resulted in the 2008 Federal Depository Library of the Year award going to the Law Library for San Bernardino County.

So explained U.S. Public Printer Robert C. Tapella, in his visit to the library Nov. 12 to help mark bestowal of the annual award. Presenting a framed certificate with gold GPO Coin, Tapella said "this library helps 'we the people' have access to the documents of our democracy."

In his official role of recording the actions of government and making them available to the public in perpetuity, Tapella said depository libraries are an important intermediary in providing documents to the public. As recommended by a selection committee and with broad patron and community support, this library was singled out in particular for its service practices including outreach to the public, Tapella said.

Tapella became public printer a year ago after having been a senior executive of the Government Printing Office for five years. As public printer he is the GPO's chief executive officer. Goals of his administration include enhancement of search capability of federal documents, authentication of electronic documents, and sustainable environmental stewardship of the department. Achievements under his command include development of an authenticated electronic federal budget, opening of a passport production facility and creation of the Official Journals of Government business unit.

Speakers at the Nov. 12 ceremony included Judge Keith Davis, library board president. He said the library aims to do the best possible job providing its public service, including access to materials. He said the award is a tip of the hat to library Director Larry Meyer, "one that's well deserved."



Larry Meyer accepts the Federal Depository Library of the Year award from U.S. Public Printer Robert C. Tapella in between Victoria Trotta and George Carter.



The Law Library for San Bernardino County

State Assemblywoman Wilmer Carter emphasized the importance of public libraries to a democracy. "Access to information is as American as apple pie," she said.

The library received a certificate from State Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod praising it "for your outstanding job providing and safeguarding a vital link between the public and its government."

Dignitaries on hand to offer their congratulations also included State Assemblyman William Emmerson; Mayor Grace Vargas of Rialto; San Bernardino County Public Defender Doreen Boxer; Rancho Cucamonga City Councilman Sam Spagnolo; Tory Trotta, of the Federal Depository Library Council and Director of the Law Library at Arizona State University, Tempe; Bob Riger, Director of the San Diego County Public Law Library; and Barbara Keough, Board Member of the San Bernardino County Bar Association.

SCALL's Fall Meeting Highlights Library Trends... Ed Butler

As the role of law libraries changes, law librarians should lead the way in adapting to evolving trends.

That was a reminder delivered by a library organizational and staffing consultant Oct. 14 at the fall meeting of the Southern California Association of Law Librarians.

The move from print to digital is here to stay, affirmed Sarah Kavanaugh, library consultant with Library Associates Companies.

Law library trends include law firms devoting less building space to libraries, greater emphasis on digital and electronic sourcing, more use of intranets, and more outsourcing of technical staffing, Kavanaugh said. She sees a trend toward law librarians being more involved in marketing and law practice development, and greater spending on electronic content.

She sees librarians having a cohesive role in their organizations, in areas such as research and information technology, which they can exploit in taking a leadership role in organization change.

Kavanaugh said job availability is cyclical and lately urban areas have had more jobs in serials, system administration, cataloguing and metatagging.

Speaking on the theme of the law librarian employment market in Southern California, Kavanaugh shared the podium with Belinda Beardt, chief operating officer of AIM Library and Information Staffing. Beardt spoke optimistically about opportunities to be mobile within the regional job market.

Beardt said the overall outlook is favorable, with a survey showing 40 percent of specialty librarians earning between \$50,000 and \$80,000 per year. Among the region's top 200 law firms, half said their law library is the top source of competitive and marketing intelligence.

Beardt said opportunities arise from a lack in numbers of seasoned, experienced law librarians; the opportunity to rotate among library departments; and trends toward specialization in research areas such as marketing and finance.



Café Metropol, Los Angeles

She noted that the current economic downturn is cyclical and should encourage people to reassess their goals and prepare for the next boom. Law librarians need to learn to assess themselves and let their value be known, she said.

She also emphasized the value of networking for mobility and readiness to respond to employment trends, in light of competition with former librarians, seasonal workers, and new graduates. She also advised that law firm librarians network with the lawyer specialists in their firms.

Beardt also had encouraging words for the unemployed, noting the cyclicity of economic trends and urging exploitation of benefits such as outplacement services and flexibility in accepting the next job. "Most of all, don't get discouraged," she said.

Beardt's firm provides library staffing.

In addition to that, Kavanaugh's firm also provides consulting in library organization and its clients have included NASA, USAID, and Tulane University.

The SCALL fall meeting was a buffet dinner affair held at Café Metropol, in the Los Angeles downtown artists' district.

Paul Moorman, program chairman, introduced the speakers.

Brian Raphael, Institute chairman, said the next SCALL Institute in March, in La Quinta, will be devoted to alternative dispute resolution.

President's Column... continued from page 1

viduals with ideas on how we can continue to be relevant to SCALL members. Let me highlight *just a few* of the many worthwhile committee activities you can already appreciate. Of course there is simply not enough time to name all the wonderful programs, but I can give you a sample!

Besides providing opportunities to network and socialize at our regular meetings, your SCALL membership provides tangible benefits to you. Many members have attended professional development activities because they were recipients of SCALL grants. Did you know that SCALL grants don't necessarily have to be spent only on SCALL and/or AALL programs? Indeed, if there is a professional development or continuing education program or workshop you are unable to attend due to financial constraints, I urge you to explore the option of applying for a SCALL grant. Another committee that promotes our profession is the Library School Liaison committee. In addition to offering a library school tuition scholarship every spring and a mentor program every fall, committee members keep in touch with students throughout the year, answering questions and providing guidance to current library school students. Using email listservs and now even incorporating the use of social networking tools, students are also invited to SCALL meetings, allowing them to get a head start with meeting future colleagues and providing early networking opportunities.

In addition to what we already provide our members, committee chairs discussed many goals for the upcoming year. Beyond the mentor program we offer to library students, the Membership committee is exploring the possibility of creating a mentorship program that matches librarians new to the profession with more experienced librarian mentors. When I started my career as a librarian, I needed guidance on the best way to get involved in various professional activities beyond the daily 9-5 work responsibilities, just as much as I needed to develop my research skills. I would have benefited greatly from having someone locally I could turn to in order to ask my questions, express my concerns, and receive some much wanted advice.

At our meeting committee chairs also discussed the option of subscribing to a membership database. A membership database would allow members handle all online SCALL transactions in one place. Not only would it allow for all SCALL related payments be made online - from membership dues, to meetings, to the Institute - it would also make it easier to update the listserv so messages sent to the list would reach more of our members. A membership database would also make it easy to obtain a current list of SCALL members and their contact information,

answer surveys, and download any necessary forms quickly and easily. The Membership committee is exploring the options available to us and the costs for each, but the overwhelming feeling was that this was a worthwhile investment for our chapter. Expect more details to come in the future!

Keeping all of these benefits in mind, like the rest of the country, SCALL must face the reality of the current economic situation. In addition to directly supporting programs, grants, and scholarships, costs for all of our activities are rising. Holding our meetings has become more expensive due to the rise in both venue and food costs, and this is a situation we must address. At the same time, if our goal is to expand the benefits we offer our members, we will face additional costs. The Board is working hard to accomplish as much as we can without asking too much of our members in terms of higher program registration prices and membership dues, but these are realities we must bring to the table. Over the next year, serious discussion will center on the options that best meet the needs of our members at this time. In the meantime, I hope you all have a safe and happy holiday season. 2009 promises to be another great year for our chapter.

Getting to Know You: Kim Laru... Margot McLaren

SCALL welcomes Kim Laru!

Kim hails from Brooklyn, New York. She earned her Bachelor's of Arts degree in History (1982) and her Master of Library and Information Science (1997) from San Jose State University (Fullerton extension).

When asked what made her pursue a career in law librarianship, Kim replied, "Even though I'm new to law libraries, I've had many great library mentors...high school librarian Liz Emmerich; Ann McGrath, Head Librarian of Huntington Public Library in Long Island, New York; Maxine Moser; and Dr. Cindy Mediavilla who taught my first SJSU-SLIS class and had me hooked from day one!"

Since graduation Kim has worked in a number of libraries, including special, college and public libraries. Most recently, she was a solo librarian at the San Diego County Water Authority for 12 years and Adult Services Librarian at the Chula Vista Public Library for six years.

In September 2008 Kim joined the staff at San Diego County Public Law Library (SDCPLL) as Head of Circulation Services. Her responsibilities include managing four staff members at the main (downtown) facility, working with three other branches on their circulation issues, shelving materials, scheduling hours, training staff and student employees, and maintaining the copiers and printers.

In addition, Kim is participating with other team members to streamline some of the library's circulation policies.

"Working in a law library without a formal law background has humbled me greatly. Even though I have my MLIS degree, I spent the last six years working in a public library where I was "Info Central." I now refer people to the reference desk because I do not know where to begin these reference interviews—yet. Luckily I was hired as Head of Circulation Services. I am surrounded by professional, competent and patient colleagues, so I am learning fast!"

As a new member to the law library community, Kim recently joined SANDALL's new Social Responsibility Committee (2008-present) and is a member of AALL, SCALL, ALA and SLA.

When she is not immersed in her career and professional activities, Kim likes to read and garden, create bead jewelry, visit museums, attend concerts and theatres, and watch movies. Kim's deepest passion is music. "I love how music connects and moves people, from reggae to classical, rock to gospel, heavy metal to Gregorian chanting...It's a universal, eternal heartbeat."

In five years Kim sees herself working in a newly-renovated and award-winning SDCPLL, creatively managing a 200 percent increase in membership and circulation. She will be working closely with the reference and circulation staff members in their new virtual reality "Ref-ulation" or possibly "Circu-rence" desk, and leading the library's *All You Need Is Law* true-crime book discussion group.

Welcome, Kim!



Minutes of the SCALL Executive Board... May 13, 2008

A regular meeting of the SCALL Executive Board was held on May 13, 2008 at Les Freres Taix Restaurant in Los Angeles. Board members present were: James Senter, President; Jessica Wimer, Vice President; Patrick Meyer, Past President; John Wilson, Treasurer; Stefanie Frame, Board Member; and Robert Wright, Board Member.



A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm.

I. Review of Minutes

- A. Patrick Meyer moved to postpone the reading of the minutes of past meetings until the next meeting due to the absence of Secretary Mark Gediman. There was no discussion and the motion was carried.

II. Treasurer's Report

- A. John Wilson distributed his report which showed Net Assets = \$42,956.15.
B. PayPal payments from the last Joint Institute were finally cleared up.
C. SCALL is still waiting for monies from the 2008 SCALL Institute (will hear from Michele Lucero about Thomson-West contribution).
D. Jessica Wimer moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. There was no discussion and the motion was carried.

III. Secretary's Report

- A. The Secretary's Report was tabled.

IV. President's Report

- A. The Pacific Chapters Joint Reception at the AALL annual meeting is to be held Saturday, July 12, 2008 at 4:30 pm, to be hosted by Law Librarians of Puget Sound (SCALL will host this reception in 2010).

1. John Wilson asked if SCALL still owed money from the last Joint Reception; Jim Senter said he would look into it.

- B. SCALL will not sponsor a VIP at the AALL annual meeting this year.

- C. Stefanie Frame moved to accept the President's Report. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

V. Vice President's and 2008 Institute Report

- A. Although the Institute Committee is still waiting on about \$3,000 in checks, it appears the Institute had a profit of about \$11,800. This amount is attributed to a more affordable hotel/venue, low technology costs, and lower than usual speakers' fees and costs.

(continued on next page)

SCALL Board Minutes... (continued from previous page)

- B. Vendors—in particular Carolina Rose—expressed pleasure at the Institute’s physical layout this year and liked having two days of “face time” with attendees.
- C. Patrick Meyer moved to accept the Vice President’s Report. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

VI. Committee Reports

- A. The Board received and read all committee reports by email, and those reports are filed with the minutes of the meeting.
- B. John Wilson moved to accept the committee reports as submitted. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

VII. Bylaws Amendment

- A. AALL has approved the Board’s previously proposed language for changing the SCALL Bylaws (Art. XIV Sec. 3, adopted by the Board at its meeting on December 17, 2007) concerning changing membership dues (giving the Board “broad powers” if approved by the membership).
 - 1. Jim Senter, having second thoughts, wanted to send changes back to the Bylaws Committee for further review, and moved to remove and expunge proposed amendments.
 - 2. Concerns were also raised about bringing the Bylaw change into conformity with Sturgis’ Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure and with clarifying Art. XIV Sec. 1 on the process of amending the Bylaws.
 - 3. The motion carried.

VIII. Choosing a New SCALL Logo

- A. Patrick Meyer will consult with the IT Committee to arrange an online vote among the membership on the proposed new SCALL logos.
 - 1. The vote on web pages is to be prepared for the old logo and two new ones, the winner to be chosen by plurality.

IX. \$500 Rule

- A. Robert Wright moved: “Non-budgeted expenditures by the Board of less than \$1,000.00 may be voted on and approved by the Board by any means of communication including email. Non-budgeted expenditures of \$1,000.00 or more must be voted on by the Board in person and at a regular or extraordinary Board meeting.” There was discussion on how the old limit of \$500.00 (adopted about six years ago) had not kept up with inflation. The motion carried.

X. Adjournment

- A. Jessica Wimer moved that the meeting be adjourned. There was no discussion and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfull submitted,

Robert Wright

SCALL Board Member

SCALL Board Minutes... (continued from previous page)

ADDITIONAL MOTIONS MADE AND BUSINESS CONDUCTED BY EMAIL

May 15, 2008

John Wilson moved that SCALL extend member rates to SLA-Southern California Chapter members for our chapter programs. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

June 11, 2008

Jessica Wimer moved that the SCALL Board approve and sign the submitted Government Relations Committee action letter that comments on the proposed California Rules of Court, Rule 10.75, Advisory Commission on Civil Fees in the Courts, and requests a modification of the proposed rule. In this comment letter, SCALL requests that at least one representative of the county law libraries be specifically included as a member of the Advisory Commission. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

Heard Around Town... Larry Meyer



Let me start this first column with a brief reminder as to what it's all about. We are seeking brief information items about the comings and goings of our members. An example of those items: Did you recently participate in a conference as either a speaker or attendee? Have you a hobby or sideline that other members might find interesting? Have you recently traveled somewhere interesting/exciting? Have you special kudos for a fellow law librarian? Scholarship/grant or award winner? A new degree? Community involvement? Library moves/additions/more space? These and similar types of items are more than welcome. Please send items and photos to Larry Meyer at: larrym@sblawlibrary.org.

Barbara Tarvin and **Cheryl Weeks-Fry**, two law librarians from San Diego County Public Law Library (SDPCLL) conducted a work shop September 12 for librarians from North San Diego County public libraries. Word has it that attendees went away with favorable impressions of the presenters and a much better understanding of both the legal system and the services available at SDPCLL and its Vista branch.

Did you attend the October SCALL meeting? If so, you may have noticed **Carol Ebbinghouse's** escort. Her name is Tempo. For most of this year, Carol has had Tempo and has been training her as a guide dog. From all accounts trainer and trainee are doing quite well. If you would like to know more about this worthwhile project, contact Carol at the Second District Court of Appeal.

Kudos to **Cathy Elliott** from Chapman Law Library on the recent reception of her M.L.I.S. Congratulations on a job well done, Cathy!

Okay, I can not let this first column pass without asking at least one trivia question. Which well-known and popular former SCALL President has a personal quest to visit the grave sites of each of our former Presidents? Watch for the answer to this question and other exciting news in the next issue of the *SCALL Newsletter*.

Job Opportunities... Jodi Kruger

[Click on any entry](#) -- Updated: December 2, 2008

Librarian; Troutman Sanders LLP; Orange County or San Diego, November 24.

Librarian Relations Consultant; LexisNexis; San Francisco, November 13.

Pool of Temporary Reference Librarians; Western State University Law Library; Fullerton, October 7.

Reference Librarian; Western State University College of Law; Fullerton, October 7.

Librarians & Library Technical Assistants, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; Statewide, April 15.

Law Librarian; California Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District; Sacramento, March 7.





Manage With Confidence: AALL 2009 Management Institute Scheduled...

AALL is looking for new and aspiring people to be part of *Manage With Confidence: AALL 2009 Management Institute*, to be held March 19-21, 2009 in Tampa, Florida.

From dealing with difficult people, to developing a strategic plan for the library, to building partnerships, new law library managers have a lot on their plates. The AALL Management Institute provides new and aspiring managers from all types of law libraries the opportunity to collaborate in small groups and learn from their colleagues as they develop the skills to manage with confidence today.

For more information about this Institute, please contact:

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