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October 8, 2010 – President's Letter to Members

Dear AAAA Member,

I write to you in the aftermath of AAAA's Fall Seminar, held on September 30th and October 1st at the Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston, Iowa. I'm pleased to report that our seminar was a notable success. We had a nice crowd, paid expenses and made some money too. More to the point, Frank Comito described it as one of the best seminars he had ever attended. Large numbers of attendees offered similar congratulations to Seminar Chair Chuck Traw and his committee of Tom Drew, Liz Kennedy and Lora McCollom. The atmosphere at the seminar was collegial, entertaining, informal and highly instructive. Why was this so?

Part of the answer is that AAAA is evolving into a "learned society" of lawyers who are active ADR professionals and, as such, are comfortable in a seminar format which is interactive and challenging. The attendees at our seminars include most of the active mediators and arbitrators in this area. They enjoy equally the camaraderie and the educational content of the offerings. They expect to return again and again.

So, when the dates for AAAA's 2011 Fall Seminar are announced, please remember this letter and make a real effort to join us. We look forward to the pleasure of your company.

Best wishes,

David J. Blair, AAAA President