

The education committee chaired by Past President Gerald Elliott reported on a significant project to provide AJA members an opportunity to receive continuing judicial education through the Internet. The project is in its formative stages, but implementation of a pilot learning process is expected soon. Members should look for more information about this in future issues of *Benchmark*.

Educational Sessions

Quality continuing education is always a focus for each AJA meeting, and the meeting in Billings was no exception. Nicholas Murnion, county attorney for Garfield County, Mont., gave a very informative presentation on a subject that, unfortunately, many judges have encountered. He discussed his involvement as a prosecutor in a situation that garnered national publicity involving the Posse Comitatus, Montana Freeman movement. Judge Sidney Thomas of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit discussed several issues facing trial judges and suggested some effective ways to deal with those issues.


Networking Opportunities

The American Judges Foundation sponsors many initiatives to support the judicial profession. During a luncheon at the midyear conference, the foundation laid out plans for future initiatives.



Nicholas Murnion

Perhaps one of the best features of any AJA conference is the opportunity for members to interact, develop friendships, and discuss issues common to all judges. One such opportunity was a reception and dinner held at the Yellowstone Art Museum. Judge Pedro Hernandez hosted the event. All enjoyed the beautiful artwork, fine dining, and wonderful fellowship.

If you have never attended a conference of AJA and AJF, please make plans to do so. We guarantee you will enjoy the experience. We look forward to seeing you at the annual conference in Montreal! 

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