he Planning Committee for the American Agricultural Law Association's Fourth Annual Meeting and Educational Conference joins me in extending to you a special invitation to participate in this year's program. The program is being planned in conjunction with the Third Annual Agricultural Law Institute, sponsored by the University of Arkansas School of Law in cooperation with the Agricultural Law Committee of the Arkansas Bar Association, and the Arkansas Institute for Continuing Legal Education. All activities will be held in the beautiful new Little Rock Excelsior Hotel, which is a delightful place for a meeting such as ours. The Excelsior is located next to the State House Convention Center on the bank of the Arkansas River next to Riverfront Park in an area of Little Rock that has undergone a dramatic renewal and renovation in recent years. Nearby is the Territorial Restoration area and the historic State House. The Excelsior is a luxury hotel, but has offered our group special convention rates. Not only is the convention facility an excellent place for such a meeting, but I think you will find that access to and from Little Rock is very convenient with service by most major airlines throughout the country.

In addition, the Planning Committee has worked diligently to put together an excellent program. The theme is summarized by the topic of the keynote address, "Agriculture at the Crossroads." You will note that we have put together programs on most of the major issues that are confronting agriculture. The line-up of speakers is outstanding and the program offers something for everyone.

I would like to encourage you to not only attend the program, but try to arrange your schedule to spend some extra time in Arkansas. An abundance of rivers, lakes, forests and mountains provides Arkansas visitors with easy access to various outdoor activities. Fall is a particularly beautiful time to visit our state. Little Rock and the surrounding area is a most scenic and delightful place. It offers a mixture of relaxed southern charm and progressive urban energy and there is a wide array of entertainment available in the Little Rock area. We are pleased to host this meeting of the Association and hope that you will make your plans now to attend. Send your pre-registration card to the Division of Continuing Education and your hotel reservation form directly to the Excelsior.

Jake Looney President-elect

OCTOBER 13

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration

9:30 a.m. • American Agricultural Law Association Business Meeting, (Dale Dahl, presiding)

 Report from ABA Forum Committee on Rural Lawyers and Agribusiness, (Lawrence Kurland, presiding)

10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Session 1 - (Jake Looney, presiding)

Welcoming Remarks

Steve Clark; Attorney General of Arkansas

• Keynote Address: "Agriculture at the Crossroads: Agricultural Policy Issues Beyond the Harold Breimyer; Professor, University of Missouri, Department of Agricultural Economics

12:00 a.m. Luncheon (Phil Kunkel, presiding)

 Welcoming Remarks Dennis Shackleford; President, Arkansas Bar Association

 Presidential Address Dale Dahl

1:15 p.m. Session 2 - (John Elrod, presiding)

"Water Resource Issues and the Future of Irrigated Agriculture"

Kenneth D. Frederick; Senior Fellow, Resources for the Future, Washington, D.C. "Groundwater Control Measures: The Critical Issues and Developing Problems"

Norman Thorson; Professor, University of Nebraska School of Law, Lincoln, Nebraska

"Legal and Institutional Barriers to Market Transfers and Reallocation of Water Resources" Steven E. Clyde; Clyde, Pratt, Gibbs & Cahoon, Salt Lake City, Utah

 "Tax Ramifications of the Ownership of Natural Resources by Farmers" Karin B. Littlejohn; Eakes & Littlejohn, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 3:15 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. Session 3 - (Steve Halbrook, presiding)

• "An Overview of Current Legal Issues Facing USDA" John Noakes; Deputy General Counsel, USDA, Washington, D.C.

 "Representing Farmers in Administrative and Court Proceedings Involving USDA" Patrick Murphy; Regional Attorney, Office of General Counsel, USDA, Little Rock, Arkansas

• "Farmers' Appeal Rights in Local USDA Administrative Proceedings" Neil Hamilton; Associate Professor, Drake University School of Law, Des Moines, Iowa

5:00 p.m. Refreshments

6:30 p.m. Banquet (Jake Looney, presiding)

• Featured Speaker -

United States Senator Dale Bumpers

8:30 p.m. Entertainment Sugarhill

OCTOBER 14

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Discussion Group (locations to be announced)

• Extension Educators

Law School Teachers

Practitioners

Students

8:30 a.m. Session 4 - (David Saxowsky, presiding)

• "Representing Farmers in Bankruptcy Proceedings" Phil Kunkel; Moratzka, Dillon & Kunkel, Hastings, Minnesota

• "Protecting the Lender's Rights When Farmers File for Bankruptcy" Gary Rosentrator; Southwest Production Credit Association, Montrose, Colorado

10:00 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. Session 5 - (John Mueller, presiding)

• "Problems Arising from the Sale of Mortgaged Farm Products" Ernest H. Van Hooser; Deas, Van Hooser & Olsen, Kansas City, Missouri

• "Proposals for Improvement in Agricultural Marketing Transactions" Leon Geyer; Assistant Professor, Virginia Tech, Department of Agricultural Economics, Blacksburg, Virginia

11:45 a.m. Luncheon (Neil Hamilton, presiding)

• Featured Speaker -Richard Bell; President & Chief Executive Officer, Riceland Foods, Stuttgart, Arkansas

1:15 p.m. Session 6 - (Karin B. Littlejohn, presiding)

• "Corporate, Foreign and Other Investments in U.S. Farmland" Ken Krause; Economic Research Service, USDA, Washington, D.C. Peter DeBraal; Economic Research Service, USDA, Washington, D.C.

 "Domestic and Non-Resident Alien Investment in Agriculture: Investment Structuring Techniques for Off-Farm Investors" John Schumann; Vice President, Northern Trust Co., Chicago, Illinois Robert Rich; Davis, Graham & Stubbs, Denver, Colorado

3:15 p.m. Adjourn