



Boone County Bar Association NEWSLETTER

www.bocomobar.org

November 5, 2002

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Backing up data — Just do it!

By Steve Scott
Newsletter Editor

Are you backing up essential computer data on a regular basis? More to the point, do you have a periodic off-site backup in case of a fire or other disaster?

The importance of off-site backup was brought home when a local law office recently had its computers stolen and did not have a current backup.

Imagine the problems you would face if you lost all those valuable form files, client files and accounting data that reside on your computers' and network servers' hard disks. You could even face malpractice claims for loss of client data.

There are numerous possibilities for doing backups, including tape drives, writable CD disks, and portable hard disks. The important thing is to implement a backup plan, perform regular backups, and keep at least a weekly full backup at a location other than your office.

With the advent of the Universal Serial Bus (USB) 2.0 standard, one of the more practical forms of backup now is USB-connected portable hard disks, which can be purchased for under \$200 and are much faster than tape drives and CD burners. These portable hard drives are compact and sturdy enough to carry off-site for safekeeping.

It is not sufficient, however, to just back up your data. You should also make sure your crucial software programs are stored in a secure location so you do not have to purchase them again in case you need to re-install them.

Plan ahead before disaster strikes!

Upcoming meetings

Appellate judges here on Nov. 13

One hour of CLE credit will be granted for attendance at the Nov. 13 BCBA meeting at Boone Tavern when judges from the Missouri Western District Court of Appeals will be the speakers. Lunch service will begin at 11:30 a.m. to accommodate the program. The lunch price will be \$9.

RSVP: To reserve your spot for this meeting, which has been well attended in the past, contact BCBA Secretary **Scott Wilson** at 443-4500 or scott@hineslawfirm.com by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12.

The judges will be in town on Nov. 13 to hear appellate arguments at the Boone County Courthouse. They will discuss appellate practice and procedure and answer questions.

Holiday parties set Dec. 2 and 9

The annual BCBA Holiday Party will be held at the MU Reynolds Alumni Center on Monday, Dec. 2, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The format will be a cocktail reception with food, and there will be an opportunity to attend an MU basketball game afterward. Members and spouses or dates are invited. The cost will be \$15.

BCBA women lawyers will be holding their seventh annual holiday gathering on Monday, Dec. 9, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at **Mary Carnahan's** home, 2304 Topaz Dr. Once again gifts will be collected for young girls in Boone County as well as Drug Court participants. Men are also welcome to attend.

More details on both events will be published in the next *Newsletter* in late November.

Wilson promotes pro bono

By Betty Wilson
BCBA President

One of the many reasons we as attorneys choose to live and practice in Boone County is the availability of civic and cultural resources that make our quality of life more satisfying.

Often these resources are provided by not-for-profit organizations which operate with low budgets and rely on volunteer talent. Many attorneys are approached to provide legal assistance for such organizations, either by serving on their boards and/or by performing *pro bono* legal services. I com-

mend those who have given generously of their time and expertise and encourage others to do so.

The opportunities are endless. For example, if you share my enthusiasm for the arts as basic to a strong economy as well as community enrichment, you may be interested in a volunteer opportunity coordinated by the City of Columbia and St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts, a referral service that matches attorneys with low-income artists and small arts organizations needing help with legal matters.

Walther urges pro bono reporting

Skip Walther, a member of the Missouri Bar Board of Governors, has a suggestion for BCBA members who would like to help improve the image of the bar:

"You will be getting your bar enrollment form in December, and with the form will come a reporting form for *pro bono* hours.

"Fill out the form. Send it in. Tell the bar how many hours you donated to low income clients and local non-profit organizations.

"This information is compiled and published by the Missouri Bar, and it allows us an opportunity to show our communities just how much legal work and public service we donate.

"It is an important public relations tool for lawyers. It will cause more than a few people to reconsider their opinions.

"Only 1,575 of almost 27,000 lawyers sent in their forms last year. Better reporting means better results and better public relations."

Dockets revised

Two previously announced minor changes to the 13th Judicial Circuit Law Day docket schedule have now been included in the version of the schedule which can be downloaded from the BCBA web site in Microsoft Word format.

The changes are:

- On the first Monday of a month, the Division II criminal docket will begin at 1:30 p.m. instead of 2.

- On the third Monday of a month, the Division I criminal docket will begin at 2 p.m. instead of 1:30.

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The *Boone County Bar Association Newsletter* is published monthly, more or less, by the Boone County Bar Association, Inc. Annual dues are \$25 and may be sent to the Treasurer, **Bob Buckley**, P.O. Box 1097, Columbia, MO 65205-1097, phone 449-2613. Send items for publication to the Editor, **Steve Scott**, 201 Westwood Ave., Columbia, MO 65203-2871, phone 442-7268, fax 443-1676, email sscott@scottlawfirm.com. 2002-03 officers of the Association are: President, **Betty Wilson**, P.O. Box 977, 443-3134; Vice President, **Elton Fay**, 11 N. 5th St., 449-2969; Secretary, **Scott Wilson**, 901 E. Ash St., 443-4500; and Treasurer, **Bob Buckley**, address above. Executive Committee members are the officers and **Dan Atwill**, **Mariam Decker** and **Colly Durley**. The Association's web site is at www.bocomobar.org.

Around the bar . . .

The BCBA Partners in Education/Public Relations Committee is seeking input from bar members on public relations issues, including how best to promote the bar. Suggestions should be given to committee chair **Dan Dunham** at lawyerdd@verizon.net.

Orders are still being accepted for the new BCBA composite photo. Call Creative Photo at 875-1841 for information.

A farewell reception was held Nov. 1 in the Boone County Commission chambers for **Debbie Antel**, who is "retiring" after more than 19 years as Division II Court Reporter. Judges, lawyers and Courthouse staff members gathered to wish Debbie well. Debbie will continue to report for Senior Judge **Frank Conley** when he handles special cases and also plans to do freelance reporting work.

Another transition in the local court system occurred on Oct. 11 when **Gary Oxenhandler** was sworn in as the new Division II Circuit Judge. A standing-room-only crowd of about 200 gathered in the Ceremonial Courtroom for the event.

Ron Sweet has been appointed by President **Betty Wilson** to chair an ad hoc committee to review BCBA bylaws. Members having suggestions for changes in the bylaws should contact Ron. The bylaws appear on the BCBA web site at www.bocomobar.org/bylaws.htm.

One of our new members is **Scott Washburn**, a new associate at **Grimes, Fay & Gaeth, LLC**, 11 N. 5th St., Columbia 65201,

phone 449-2969, fax 443-2808. He is a May 2002 graduate of the MU Law School and received his B.S. degree in business administration from Southeast Missouri State in 1998. A graduate of Chillicothe High School, Scott lives in Columbia with his wife Jessica and their son Isaac.

Another new member is **Dianna Coy Long**, 306 N. College Ave., Columbia 65201, phone 874-5664, fax 442-5009. A 1991 MU Law School graduate, she recently relocated to Columbia from the Branson area where she had worked as a public defender, assistant prosecutor, county counselor, city attorney, municipal judge and private attorney. Her practice includes criminal and family law, bankruptcy, estate planning and real estate.

Dewey Crepeau has a corner office space for rent, including parking and receptionist service, at 2501 W. Ash St. Call Dewey at 445-9435 for information.

Several Boone County lawyers are again volunteering their time to present programs at the Missouri Bar's "Essentials of Missouri Practice" program in Columbia on Nov. 15-16. Their topics are: **Robert A. Murray**, "How to Effectively Handle Traffic Cases" and "How to Handle a DUI/DWI Case"; **Ken Wright**, "Interviewing and Counseling Your Estate Planning Client"; **Jean Goldstein**, "How to Close and Distribute the Probate Estate"; **Susan Ford Robertson**, "Keys to Effective Motions Practice in a Civil Case"; **Skip Walther**, "How to Handle a Residential Real Estate Closing"; and **Steve Scott**, "How to Develop and Manage Your Own Law Firm."

Mark your calendar for the Jan. 8, 2003 BCBA meeting when Missouri Bar President Dale Doerhoff will be the featured speaker. Besides discussing issues facing the state bar, he will tell us about plans for the 2003 Annual Meeting to be held in Columbia for the first time ever in September 2003.

Some 70 BCBA members turned out for the Oct. 16 meeting to welcome new MU Law School Dean **Larry Dessem** and hear his entertaining and informative comparison of the Law School now and 100 years ago.

Treasurer's Report by Bob Buckley	
Account balance as of 9/30/02	\$1,842.96
Receipts 9/30/02 - 10/30/02	
Dues	+75.00
Interest	+0.63
Disbursements 9/30/02 - 10/30/02	
Boone Tavern (executive committee)	-18.59
Accent Press (Newsletter printing)	-117.81
Midwest Mailing (Newsletter mailing)	-71.46
Account balance as of 10/30/02	\$1,710.73