



Boone County Bar Association NEWSLETTER

www.bocomobar.org

April 18, 2003

Volume 18, Number 4

Mental Health Court information session scheduled on May 12

Bar members and other interested persons are invited to an informational presentation on the newly established Mental Health Court at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, May 12 in the Ceremonial Courtroom at the Boone County Courthouse.

A reception will follow the presentation. Persons wishing to attend are asked to RSVP by May 7 by calling 886-4082.

Reservations due April 25 for Bench-Bar Meeting

Bar members from Boone and Callaway counties will have an opportunity to mingle and exchange viewpoints with 13th Judicial Circuit judges at the annual Bench-Bar Dinner on Tuesday, April 29 at the MU Alumni Center.

The event will begin at 5 p.m. with a "Dialog with the Judges." Questions submitted in advance by bar members will be addressed by the judges, and additional questions may be asked from the floor.

A social hour will start at about 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. The per-person charge for the event is \$30.

RSVP: If you plan to attend, you must RSVP to BCBA Secretary **Scott Wilson** by *Friday, April 25*, so the proper amount of food can be ordered. Please use the coupon below. Prepayment of \$30 per lawyer is preferred, but payment also will be accepted at the door. Checks should be made payable to "Boone County Bar Association."

The dinner menu is spinach salad, filet mignon, twice-baked potato, green beans almondine, and key lime pie.

Next year the Callaway County Bar Association will host the Bench-Bar Dinner.

Court decides family law issues

The 13th Judicial Circuit discussed family law issues at recent en banc meetings.

At the March meeting, the court reviewed its policy for entering final judgments in family law cases and issued the following statement: *A proposed judgment must be filed before a final judgment can be entered. If no judgment is filed at the time of the hearing, the case will be passed to a date certain to allow submission of the judgment. The date the judgment is approved by the judge will be the effective date of the judgment. It is requested that the attorney submitting the judgment include the following language: "Now on the ___ day of ___, 2000_, cause is submitted."*

At the April meeting, the court considered the Family Law Committee's recommendation to form a task force on the operation of the juvenile court.

Instead of forming a task force, the court decided that Family Court judges will meet regularly with the committee to address concerns.

Also at the April meeting, the court adopted a revised Local Rule 68.12 and related forms relating to mediation. The revised rule and forms are now posted on the BCBA web site.

Bench-Bar Dinner is chance to examine working relationship

**By Betty Wilson
BCBA President**

With the welcome burst of color from our flowering trees and shrubs, April traditionally has been the time for Boone and Callaway County lawyers and judges to meet and examine our working relationship.

This has been done in the past in various formats, sometimes humorous, sometimes serious and informational, and sometimes with token exchanges.

While preparing for the April 29 Bench-Bar program and dinner, I am strongly convinced that this annual occasion should serve as a kick-off and renewal for an on-going process as judges and attorneys discharge their respective responsibilities.

In order to maximize the effectiveness of the bench/bar partnership, we need to know what distinguishes us and what unites us. Both bench and bar members must be open to sug-

gestions, change and collaboration where possible as the society we serve also changes.

In order to stay relevant, the bench-bar relationship must be a dynamic one with active discourse. We are fortunate to have a local judiciary which sees the merits of such a relationship and a bar eager and willing to participate. I urge all members of the Boone and Callaway bars to attend the dinner on April 29.

2003 Boone County Bar Association Bench-Bar Dinner Reservation

(Make checks payable to "Boone County Bar Association, Inc.")

To: **Scott Wilson, Secretary**
Boone County Bar Association
903 E. Ash St.
Columbia, MO 65201-4853

Enclosed is payment @ \$30 per person for the April 29, 2003 Bench-Bar Dinner for the person(s) listed below.

Name(s) and address (include firm name if any) _____

The *Boone County Bar Association Newsletter* is published monthly, more or less, by the Boone County Bar Association, Inc. Annual dues are \$40 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 . . .

Three members of the Boone County bar have died recently. **M. Stanley Ginn** died April 17, 2003. **Phillip L. Baker** died March 17, 2003. **George Nickolaus** died March 8, 2003.

Recently joining the BCBA was **Kurt U. Schaefer**, Lathrop & Gage, 326 E. Capitol Ave., Jefferson City, MO 65101, phone 573-893-4336, fax 573-893-5398. Kurt, who often appears in Boone County, received a B.A. from MU in 1990 and a law degree in 1995 and a master's in environmental law in 1996 from Vermont Law School. He worked as an Assistant Attorney General 1995-1999, handling environmental, licensing and general administrative law matters. He joined Lathrop & Gage in 1999. He and his wife Stacia and two sons live in Columbia.

Cavanaugh Noce recently moved his office from the Tenth and Walnut Building to 3610 Buttonwood Dr., Suite 202, Columbia 65201.

About 40 BCBA members attended the March 12 meeting to hear **Sarah J. Read's** talk on "Understanding the Advocate's Role in Mediation." Her materials are posted on the BCBA web site.

BCBA member **Stephen Wyse** and MU Law School Associate Dean Rod Uphoff recently testified before the Missouri Senate Judiciary Committee in favor of Senate Bill 21, known as the "Integrity of Justice Act." The bill would change evidentiary and procedural rules in criminal cases in an effort to avoid convictions of innocent defendants.

Treasurer's Report by Bob Buckley

Account balance as of 2/28/03.....	\$5,548.82
Receipts 2/28/03 - 4/11/03	
Dues	+720.00
Interest.....	+0.89
Disbursements 2/28/03 - 4/11/03	
Accent Press (<i>Newsletter</i> printing).....	-66.83
Midwest Mailing (<i>Newsletter</i> mailing).....	-74.48
Boone Tavern (Executive Committee)	-59.00
Boone Tavern (guest lunches).....	-45.60
Mock trial competition expenses	-910.00
Account balance as of 4/11/03.....	\$5,113.80

76 members still owe 2003 BCBA dues

Of 289 dues-paying members, 213 had paid and 76 had not paid 2003 BCBA dues by April 11. Dues were payable beginning Jan. 1, and those who have not paid by April 30 are subject to being stricken from the rolls.

A bylaws change increasing annual dues to \$40 was approved at the Feb. 12 BCBA meeting. Dues are waived for sitting and retired judges and for members who have been licensed in Missouri for at least 50 years or who have reached the age of 75.

Dues payments should be sent to BCBA Treasurer **Bob Buckley** at P.O. Box 1097, Columbia, MO 65205. Please note if your contact information has changed.