



Boone County Bar Association NEWSLETTER

www.bocomobar.org

January 3, 2006

Volume 21, Number 1

From BCBA President Pat Eng

About 90 members, spouses and dates attended the Dec. 7 Holiday Party at the MU Alumni Center. Thanks to all whose hard work made it such a success.

Members have told me that while they missed being hosted by **Ron Bartlett** and his wife Lyria at Missouri Manor, the Holiday Party venue for several years, they thought the Alumni Center was a good alternative with convenient parking. We'd like your feedback on the location for future planning.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held at noon Feb. 3 at Boone Tavern. I invite

any committee chair or member with information or concerns to attend that meeting. Bar members are encouraged not to be shy and to communicate their concerns to the appropriate committees.

As announced in the last *Newsletter*, the 13th Circuit has adopted a cell phone policy. Our Treasurer, **Josh Oxenhandler**, has expressed concerns about the policy in a letter sent to many of us (see separate story below). We will discuss the policy at the Jan. 11 general meeting to determine whether the BCBA should take a position on it.

Concerns raised about cell phone policy

BCBA Treasurer **Josh Oxenhandler** has raised concerns about the 13th Circuit's new cell phone policy which will be discussed at the Jan. 11 BCBA meeting.

His concerns focus on the rule's requirement that cell phones be completely turned off in courtrooms. He notes that many lawyers rely on wireless devices not only for cell phone service, but also for scheduling, email, internet research

and text messaging, and he believes these functions can be used silently and without disruption of court proceedings.

Josh suggests the rule be revised to allow lawyers to use their wireless devices in courtrooms so long as there is no disruption of proceedings and the devices are not used to record proceedings by any means.

Josh plans to present his concerns at the February En Banc meeting.

2006 BCBA dues of \$40 per lawyer now due

2005 BCBA dues of \$40 per member are now due. Use the coupon below to send dues payments or claim a first-time exemption.

Dues are waived for sitting and retired judges and for members who have been licensed at least 50 years or who are at least 75 years old.

CLE credit for Jan. 11 program

A 1.2-hour CLE-credit program on "Factual Discovery and Public Records" will be presented at the regular BCBA meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 11 at Boone Tavern, 811 E. Walnut St.

RSVP: To reserve your spot for this meeting, contact BCBA Secretary **Helen Wade** at 442-1660 or hwade@hesnlaw.com by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10.

As usual when CLE programs are presented, lunch service will begin at 11:30 a.m. The lunch price will be \$9, payable to Boone Tavern.

The program is scheduled to start at noon after a business meeting which will include a discussion of the 13th Circuit's new cell phone policy.

The presenters will be LexisNexis representatives Wendall Coonse and Brian Ellis.

February-May programs planned

The following programs are planned in the next few months:

Feb. 8: CLE-credit program on "Ethical Issues in Domestic Violence Cases."

March: Bench-Bar Dinner, date to be announced.

April 12: To be announced.

May 10: Dr. Gary Kramer, Executive Director of the State Historical Society of Missouri, will speak on "History of the Boone County Courthouse and Notable Trials Conducted There."

Program suggestions may be submitted to Vice President Bruce Beckett at 443-3141 or bbeckett@smithlewis.com.

Mock trial volunteers are sought

Columbia will once again host the high school regional mock trial competition, and the BCBA Partners in Education Committee is seeking volunteers to help.

A new feature this year is that the committee is seeking CLE credit for the volunteer lawyers.

A total of 18 lawyers (six to serve as presiding judges and 12

as evaluators) are needed for the Jan. 21 and Feb. 26 competitions at the Boone County Courthouse. Participants need to arrive at 8:45 a.m. for a briefing and should be finished by noon.

To sign up or get information, call **Todd Werts** at 875-1991 or send him an email at werts@learandwerts.com.

2006 Boone County Bar Association Dues Payment/Waiver Form

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

To: **Josh Oxenhandler, Treasurer**
Boone County Bar Association
P.O. Box 1404
Columbia, MO 65205-1404

___ Enclosed is payment of \$ _____ for 2006 BCBA dues for the following attorneys

(at \$40 per attorney)

___ Person named below claims dues waiver for: ___ Judge ___ Seniority

Name(s) and address (note contact information changes, if any) _____

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The Boone County Bar Association Newsletter is published monthly, more or less, by the Boone County Bar Association, Inc. 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. Annual dues are \$40 and may be sent to the Treasurer, **Josh Oxenhandler**, 224 N. 8th St., P.O. Box 1404, Columbia, MO 65205, phone 449-2929. BCBA officers for 2005-06 are: President, **Pat Eng**, 903 E. Ash St., 874-4190; Vice President, **Bruce Beckett**, 111 S. 9th St., Suite 200, P.O. Box 918, 443-3141; Secretary, **Helen Wade**, 401 Locust St., Suite 401, 442-1660; and Treasurer, **Josh Oxenhandler**, address above. Executive Committee members are the officers and **Jodie Asel**, **C.J. Dykhouse** and **Ed Orr**. The BCBA web site is at www.bocomobar.org.

Around the bar

The Young Lawyers' Committee will meet for happy hour at Truman's Bar & Grill at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 17. All lawyers who have been Boone County bar members less than 10 years are welcome. For information, contact **Gretchen Rogers** at 443-3134 or grogers@owwlaw.com.

Helen Cripps and **Jason Simmons** formed **Cripps & Simmons, LLC** effective Jan. 1 at 2412 Forum Blvd., Suite 101, P.O. Box 7068, Columbia 65205. Their phone and fax numbers remain 447-3355 and 447-3399, respectively. They focus on estate planning, business planning, probate, tax planning and controversy, and real estate.

Gregg Hyder has moved his office to 827 E. Broadway, Columbia 65201, phone 449-6900, fax 449-6011. He also has office space available there for rent.

Sarah J. Read has relocated her office to 1905 Cherry Hill Dr., Suite 200, Columbia 65203. Her phone and fax remain 447-2349 and 447-1789, respectively. Both Sarah and **David Gibbons** provide mediation services through The Communications Center, owned by Sarah, which also has relocated to the same address. Sarah's old office at 1705 N. Stadium Blvd. is available for rent; call 445-4441 for information.

Recently joining the BCBA was **Kate Pitzer**, a new associate at

Van Matre & Harrison, P.C., 1103 E. Broadway, Suite 101, P.O. Box 1017, Columbia 65205, phone 874-7777, fax 875-0017. A Moberly native, she graduated in 2001 from Washington University Law School. She previously was an associate at law firms in St. Louis and Washington, D.C. She will focus on commercial litigation, health care issues and antitrust issues.

Dave Evans has one or two offices available for rent at 717 Cherry St. with services available. He is offering two months free rent. Call Dave at 449-8430 for information.

BCBA members are reminded to communicate their concerns to appropriate committees, which are listed on the BCBA web site at www.bocomobar.org/committe.htm. **Stan Clay**, chair of the Criminal Law Committee, has made a special request for members with concerns relating to criminal law to contact him at stanclay@stanclay.com.

Nationally recognized legal scholars will visit the MU Law School Feb. 24-25 to discuss the new bankruptcy law. For information, contact Prof. **Michelle Arnopol Cecil** at 882-7765 or cecilm@missouri.edu.

2006 court holiday schedule announced

Presiding Judge **Gene Hamilton** has announced the 2006 court holiday schedule. When a holiday falls on a Monday, the displaced Law Day usually is scheduled on Tuesday. The holidays are:

- Monday, Jan. 16: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- Monday, Feb. 13: Lincoln's Birthday (observed).
- Monday, Feb. 20: Washington's Birthday (observed).
- Monday, May 8: Truman's Birthday.
- Monday, May 29: Memorial Day.
- Tuesday, July 4: Independence Day.
- Monday, Sept. 4: Labor Day.
- Monday, Oct. 9: Columbus Day (observed).
- Friday, Nov. 10: Veterans' Day (observed).
- Thursday, Nov. 23: Thanksgiving Day.
- Monday, Dec. 25: Christmas Day.

Treasurer's Report by Josh Oxenhandler	
Account balance as of 10/26/05	\$5,243.34
Receipts 10/26/05 - 12/17/05	
Dues	+40.00
Interest	+0.65
Holiday Party receipts.....	+2,640.00
Disbursements 10/26/05 - 12/17/05	
Accent Press (Newsletter printing-2 issues).....	-159.78
Midwest Mailing Service (Newsletter mailing-2 issues)-	204.30
Boone Tavern (guest lunches)	-44.00
Editor/Webmaster (October-December)	-375.00
Account balance as of 12/17/05	\$7,140.91