



Boone County Bar Association NEWSLETTER

www.bocomobar.org

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CLE ethics credit at July 14 meeting

“Every Lawyer Wants the Case (But No Lawyer Wants to Be the Case)” is the title of a 1.2-hour ethics CLE-credit program to be presented by Chris Stiegemeier, Risk Management Director of The Bar Plan Insurance Co., at the next BCBA meeting at lunchtime July 14 at Boone Tavern.

Meal service will begin at 11:30 a.m. July 14 in the County Room on the lower level of Boone Tavern, 811 E. Walnut St. The lunch price will be \$9, payable to the restaurant. A brief business meeting will precede the program.

RSVP: To reserve your spot for this meeting, contact BCBA Secretary **Todd Werts** at 875-1991 or werts@learwerts.com by 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 13.

From BCBA President Stan Clay

Circuit Judge **Gene Hamilton** will be retiring at the end of September. A committee has been formed to plan a retirement celebration to recognize his many years of service as a prosecutor and judge. The committee is soliciting donations to help pay the costs of the retirement celebration and to contribute to a gift of appreciation.

Lawyers and firms wanting to contribute should send donations to “Hamilton Retirement,” P.O. Box 1502, Columbia, MO 65205. For more information contact the chair of the finance subcommittee for the event, **Gary Stamper**, at 442-2454 or gary@wasf-law.com.

To help in planning and budgeting for the event, the committee asks that donations be made within the next four weeks if possible.

Ron Smull honored at June 9 meeting

Ron Smull, who has terminal cancer, was recognized at the June 9 BCBA meeting for his 35 years of teaching the legal drafting class at the MU Law School.

Associate Dean **Bob Bailey** read remarks originally prepared by **Jim Devine**, who was originally scheduled to speak at the May 12 meeting but had a heart attack shortly before the meeting began and later died.

Former Associate Dean Devine’s remarks about Ron accompany the online version of this story.

President **Stan Clay** also announced at the June 9 meeting that the BCBA will make a \$500 contribution to the Law School’s scholarship fund in Ron’s name and urged members to also make such contributions through BCBA Treasurer **Jill Jackson**.

New bar composite planned

A new composite photograph of BCBA members is in the works, and the Executive Committee has voted to retain PhotoGliff to take photos and compile the composite. The last previous composite was prepared in 2002.

The BCBA will cover the cost of preparing the new composite and purchasing a large version for display in the Counsel Chambers at the Boone Courthouse along with previous composites.

While there will be no charge to lawyers for photographic sittings, members are encouraged to purchase their individual portraits and a smaller composite for office display. Composite prices, exclusive of taxes (and shipping if applica-

ble), are expected to be as follows:

- 11x14 print without mat or frame – \$20
- 11x14 print without mat in black frame – \$40
- 11x14 print with white mat in black frame – \$60
- 11x14 print with double mat and more formal black or brown frame – \$120

The purchase of other composite sizes with other frame/mat options may be discussed with PhotoGliff on an individual basis.

The first sitting session for photographs has been scheduled on Wednesday, July 14 at Boone Tavern between approximately 12:45 and 2:00 p.m. immediately following the regular BCBA meeting. Each photograph will take only a couple of minutes, and members are strongly encouraged to have their photos taken at this time if possible.

Subsequent sittings will be scheduled at the Boone County Courthouse as needed, and sittings also may be scheduled at PhotoGliff, 212 E. Green Meadows Rd., Suite 6, phone 881-8862.

For more information about the composite project, contact the project organizer, **Sander Sowers** at 256-8989 or sander@dansimonlaw.com.

Around the courthouse . . .

The possibility of the local Public Defender’s Office starting to refuse cases was discussed in June both by the Court en Banc and by BCBA members. Presiding Judge **Gary Oxenhandler** is discussing the situation with the PD Office. Meanwhile, the consensus of bar members who attended a June 11 meeting was that if the court must appoint lawyers to represent indigent criminal defendants, all bar members should be subject to appointment. BCBA President **Stan Clay** has appointed a committee to make recommendations to the Executive Committee for transmittal to the Court en Banc.

The court is working on development of a website where local lawyers would submit trial-setting conflicts, which will lead to the ability to set cases by computer matching rather than manually. The court is now seeking attorneys to “beta test” the system – those interested are asked to contact Mary Epping, Assistant to the Court Administrator, at 886-4059, or mary.epping@courts.mo.gov.

To help lighten Associate Circuit Judge **Carol England**’s load, Circuit Judge **Kevin Crane** is now hearing Boone County Small Claims Court cases at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on the Tuesdays of Week 2 and Week 3 each month. Judge England will continue to hear small claims cases at 2:30 p.m. on the Thursdays of Weeks 1, 3 and 5.

The list of docket schedule deviations for Circuit Judges recently was updated on the Docket Schedules page (Court Info menu) on the BCBA website.

Mary Epping is the new Assistant to the Court Administrator, succeeding **Joy**

Rushing who retired June 30. Mary previously worked as deputy communications counsel for the Missouri Supreme Court. She attended law school at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and has lived in Columbia for four years.

Joy Rushing’s 6 1/2 years as Assistant to the Court Administrator were recognized at a retirement reception June 25 at the Boone County Courthouse. In addition to serving as the circuit’s legal counsel, ADA Coordinator and primary contact for Guardian ad Litem, Mediators, and Focus on Kids programs, Joy wrote grants that funded a domestic violence coordinator and helped develop services provided to *pro se* litigants. In retirement Joy plans to continue volunteer activities including her work with Mid-Missouri Access to Justice.

The court reminds bar members of the availability of the expanded counsel chambers next to the circuit clerk’s offices on the second floor of the courthouse. This area now has two separate office areas, in addition to the meeting and computer areas. The court asks attorneys to accompany their clients at all times in the counsel chambers. Non-attorneys who are not accompanied by an attorney will be asked to leave. Attorneys who will be in trial and need a space for multiple witnesses may contact the court administrator’s office to ascertain if the court has a room available.

Attorneys also are reminded that wireless internet access is now available in the public areas of the courthouse, as well as in the counsel chambers. To obtain internet access, follow the instructions on the Wireless Network page (Court Info menu) on the BCBA website.

The Boone County Bar Association Newsletter is published monthly 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 \$50 and may be sent to the Treasurer, **Jill Jackson**, 3210 Bluff Creek Dr., Columbia, MO 65201-3525, phone 449-2613. 2009-10 BCBA officers are: President, **Stan Clay**, 28 N. 8th St., Suite 517, 65201, 442-1646; Vice President, **Tom Schneider**, 11 N. 7th St., 65201, 449-2451; Secretary, **Todd Werts**, 2003 West Broadway, Suite 107, 65203, 875-1991; and Treasurer, **Jill Jackson**, address above. Executive Committee members are the officers and **Mal Mayse**, **Phebe LaMar** and **Tom Mingus**. The BCBA web site is at www.bocomobar.org.

Around the bar . . .

The Young Lawyers Committee will meet for happy hour at 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 20 at Forge & Vine, 119 S. 7th St. The upcoming golf tournament will be discussed. Contact **Sander Sowers** at 256-8989 or sander@dansimonlaw.com for more information.

The Commercial Law Committee will have a picnic from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, July 23 at Happy Hollow Shelter, Stephens Park. Food and drink will be provided. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 4-12, and free for children 3 and under. For more information contact **Mike McCrary** at 443-2889 or mccrarylaw@yahoo.com.

The Missouri Bar's 2010 Annual Meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia Sept. 29-Oct. 1. The BCBA will sponsor a hospitality room and provide other assistance as needed.

Rafael Gely has been appointed as associate dean for academic affairs at the MU Law School, filling the vacancy left by the unexpected death of **Jim Devine** in May.

The Devine family sent a thank-you note to the BCBA for its support and for flowers.

BCBA Vice President **Tom Schneider** reminds members to beware of unsolicited emails from so-called prospective clients wanting to deposit funds in a lawyer's trust account for transmittal elsewhere. These are almost always scams in which a counterfeit certified check is presented.

Gretchen Yancey has announced her candidacy for the Missouri Bar Board of Governors.

Simon, Diaz & Ellis has dissolved, though the former members continue to practice at the same address. **Dan Simon** and **Sander Sowers** comprise the Simon Law Firm. **Karla Klingner Diaz** will practice immigration law with Breanne Ardila. **Bill Ellis** is solo. All their listings on the BCBA website have been updated.

Tonnie Martin Cook has moved her office to 1713 Katie Ln., Rt. J, Fulton (Millersberg), MO 65151, phone and fax 642-6235.

Mark Evans is now of counsel to the A.W. Smith Law Firm, PC, 2600 Forum Blvd., Suite C, Columbia 65203, phone 443-7300, fax 443-7301.

Chris Pieper, former legislative liaison for the Department of Natural Resources, is now acting general counsel at the Department of Economic Development, 301 W. High St., P.O. Box 1157, Jefferson City 65102, phone 573-751-5097.

Nancy McKerrow will retire July 30 from the Public Defender's Office.

Brian Sleeth recently moved from Mid Missouri Legal Services Corp. to Cronan & Robinson, 306 N. College Ave., Columbia 65201, phone 442-

5161, fax 875-8156.

Recent new members are:

• **Matt Dameron**, Chief of Staff, Attorney General's Office, 207 W. High St., Jefferson City 65101, phone 573-751-8807.

• **JoBeth A. Lynch**, a new associate at Harlan, Harlan & Still, P.O. Box 933, Columbia 65205, phone 874-2402, fax 443-3354.

• **Melissa Holyoak**, Asst. Columbia Prosecutor, 600 E. Broadway, Columbia 65201, phone 874-7229, fax 874-7533.

About 75 members attended the June 9 meeting to hear Catherine Zacharias' program on the future of electronic case filing in Missouri. Her materials are posted on the CLE Materials page (Other Topics menu) on the BCBA website.

Bill Rotts still has a 516-square-foot office suite available for rent at 1001 E. Walnut St., Columbia. Rent includes utilities. Other services available at additional cost are phone reception, secretarial support and access to online legal research. Contact Bill at 443-3463.

CLE programs listed on BCBA website

For the convenience of BCBA members completing their CLE reports due July 31 for the year ending June 30, all CLE-credit programs presented by the BCBA from July 2009 through June 2010 are listed on the website at www.bocomobar.org/cle.htm.

Treasurer's Report by Jill Jackson

Account balance as of 5/31/10	\$17572.66
Receipts 5/31/10 -6/30/10	
Dues	+187.50
Interest (May and June)	+1.53
Disbursements 5/31/10 - 6/30/10	
Accent Press (newsletter)	-64.30
Midwest Mailing (newsletter).....	-83.93
Editor/Webmaster (April-June)	-450.00
Boone Tavern (Executive Committee)	-90.28
Tiger Hotel (June bar meeting).....	-229.00
Lunch refunds (May-meeting cancelled).....	-27.00
Account balance as of 6/30/10	\$16817.18