



Boone County Bar Association NEWSLETTER

www.bocomobar.org

May 1, 2006

Volume 21, Number 5

'Boone County Courthouses, Past and Present' is May program

"Boone County Courthouses, Past and Present" will be the topic of a program by Dr. Gary Kremer, Executive Director of the State Historical Society of Missouri, at the next BCBA meeting on Wednesday, May 10.

The meeting will be held at Boone Tavern, 811 E. Walnut St. Lunch will be served at noon, and the meeting will end at 1 p.m. The lunch price will be \$9, payable to Boone Tavern.

RSVP: To reserve your place for this meeting, contact BCBA Secretary **Helen Wade** at 442-1660 or hwade@hesnlaw.com by 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 9.

Dr. Kremer's PowerPoint presentation will include historic images and details on interesting cases and events associated with Boone County courthouses. Among topics he plans to cover are: The trial of five slaves accused of murdering their master in 1943; the use of the second courthouse for every-

thing from slave auctions to religious services in the antebellum period; the use of the courthouse as a meeting place for both pro-Southern and pro-Union sympathizers in the early months of the Civil War; the much-publicized corruption trial of St. Louis political boss Ed Butler that helped propel Joseph Folk to political prominence and the governorship in 1905; and the 1923 trial of several people accused of crimes associated with the lynching of James T. Scott.

A fifth-generation Missourian, Dr. Kremer taught history at Lincoln University 1972-1987 and at William Woods University 1991-2004 and served as Missouri State Archivist 1987-1991. He has written, co-authored, or co-edited ten books, including *A Dictionary of Missouri Biography*, *Missouri's Black Heritage*, and *A History of Missouri 1775-1919*, all published by the University of Missouri Press.

105 lawyers, judges and courthouse personnel attend Bench-Bar Dinner

The Bench-Bar Dinner on April 26 was a resounding success, with 105 lawyers, judges and courthouse staff members in attendance at the MU Reynolds Alumni Center for a social hour and buffet dinner.

Thanks to the Young Lawyers Committee, with the leadership of **Gretchen Rogers**, for organizing the

event. Most of the committee helped, but those particularly involved were **Greta Bassett, David Clayton, Kim Force, Julia Grus, Brad Lear** and **Todd Werts**.

Firms sponsoring desserts for the dinner were: **Davis, Susan & Holder; Harlan, Harlan & Still; Harper, Evans, Schneider & Nete-**

meyer; Lear & Werts; Oliver Walker Wilson; Rotts & Gibbs; Scott Law Firm; Shurtleff, Froeschner & Bunn; Smith Lewis; Tofle & Oxenhandler; VanMatre, Harrison & Volkert; and Walther, Antel, Stamper & Fischer.

The Bench-Bar Dinner is designed to allow lawyers,

judges and courthouse personnel to mingle in a social setting.

The event is co-sponsored by the Boone and Callaway bar associations. It alternates two years in Boone County and one in Callaway County. Next year is the Callaway County Bar Association's turn to host.

Judge change rule takes effect June 1

New Local Rule 6.8 requiring that "any request for a change of judge shall specify the division from which the change is being requested" recently was adopted by the 13th Circuit Court en Banc and will take effect June 1, absent reconsideration based on comments from bar members.

The next meeting of the Court en Banc will be held at 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 2, in the Boone County Courthouse Law Library.

The Bench-Bar Dinner was a huge success. Many thanks to **Gretchen Rogers** and others (mentioned in another article) for all their hard work putting the event together.

For the future, let's all remember that the Bench-Bar Dinner has been and remains a non-spouse event because the purpose is to encourage interaction between the bench and bar.

Please mark your calendar for the next regular meeting at Boone Tavern on May 10 when Dr. Gary Kremer will

talk about the history of the Boone County courthouses (see related story).

Also, mark your calendar now for the annual picnic scheduled on Friday evening, Sept. 15, which is the only non-MU football weekend

that month. Spouses, dates and kids are invited and encouraged to attend the picnic. We are going to try to reserve a picnic shelter at Stephens Lake Park, which will be a great central location.

From BCBA President Pat Eng

Treasurer's Report by Josh Oxenhandler

Account balance as of 4/7/06.....	\$11,673.32
Receipts 4/7/06 - 4/25/06	
Dues.....	+640.00
Disbursements 4/7/06 - 4/25/06	
Accent Press (Newsletter printing).....	-81.52
Midwest Mailing Service (Newsletter mailing).....	-117.55
Joel Anderson Ensemble (Bench-Bar Dinner) ..	-400.00
Account balance as of 4/25/06.....	\$11,714.25

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 . . .

Skip Walther was inadvertently omitted from the list in the last *Newsletter* of those who volunteered as evaluators for the State High School Mock Trial Competition.

Stan Clay (442-1646), chair of the BCBA Criminal Law Committee, urges bar members with concerns about local criminal practice, courts, dockets, etc. to contact him or committee members **George**

Batek (443-2300) or **Kay Evans** (442-1660).

The next meeting of the Young Lawyers Committee will be a happy hour at 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, at Forge & Vine, 119 S. Seventh St. For more information, contact **Gretchen Rogers** at 443-3134 or grogers@owwlaw.com.

Harriet Francis has joined the firm now named **Abbott, Schappe & Francis, LLC**,

which has moved its office from Buttonwood to 19 E. Walnut St., Columbia 65203, phone 886-8912, fax 886-8901. Both **Harriet** and **Mark Abbott** were formerly associates at **VanMatre, Harrison & Volkert, P.C.**

Kerry Hirth recently left Mid-Missouri Legal Services Corp. to join the legal staff at the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, 3315 W.

Truman Blvd., P.O. Box 599, Jefferson City 65102, phone 573-751-0222, fax 573-751-7806.

Elton Fay has three offices for rent at 11 N. Fifth St., Columbia which could accommodate a small firm or individual lawyers. Call 449-2969 for information.

The **Eng & Woods** firm has purchased the former Crazy Music building next to its office and will have office space available there. Office space can be remodeled to tenants' specifications. For information, call Amanda Maddex at 874-4190.

MU Law School honors:

* Assoc. Prof. Thom Lambert recently was one of nine campus faculty members selected by students for the Golden Chalk Award for teaching excellence.

* Clinical Prof. Mary Beck will be one of ten MU faculty members to receive an Alumni Association Faculty Award in October for her work at MU, across Missouri and nationally in addressing family violence.

Judge Roper and reporter Diana Taylor receive awards

Circuit Judge **Ellen Roper** recently received two significant awards, and her reporter Diana Taylor received a professional association award.

On April 26 Judge Roper was one of 20 honored as an "Outstanding Missourian" by the Missouri House of Representatives. The award is given by the House to state residents who "truly embody the concept of Outstanding Missourian" through their deeds and achievements.

Judge Roper's husband **Bob Roper** and her reporter attended the presentation at the State Capitol. A photograph of the

presentation appears on the BCBA web site with this article.

Judge Roper also recently received the 2006 Athena Award, an annual recognition given by the Women's Network of the Columbia Chamber of Commerce. The award is given each year to a woman or man who demonstrates excellence in a chosen career, devotes time and energy to the community, and assists women in reaching their full potential.

Diana Taylor recently received the Legislative Activist of the Year Award from the National Court Reporters Association at its annual Legislative Bootcamp

in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes reporters who have worked to improve the court reporting profession in their state and nationwide.

Diana was specifically recognized for her work in obtaining a program for mandatory state certification of Missouri court reporters.

Judge Roper was appointed to the bench in 1976, elected probate judge that same year, and became a Circuit Judge with the new Judicial Article in 1979. She was then re-elected for four six-year terms. She will retire at the end of 2006. Diana has been her reporter for 24 years.