

NABE-News

CALENDAR from www.nabenet.org

Program Committee meeting

When: Sept. 10 - 11
Where: Salt Lake City

Communications Section Workshop

When: Oct 6 - 9
Where: Minneapolis, MN
"Make Tracks to
Minnesota. . . Where
Creative Ideas Run Wild!"
Click [here](#) to register online.

NABE Board of Directors meeting

When: Nov. 5 - 6
Where: Destin, FL

GR Section Workshop

When: Nov. 10 - 12
Where: Washington, DC

NABE Administration and Finance Section Meeting

When: Feb. 7 - 8
Where: Salt Lake City, UT

NABE/NCBP/NCBF Midyear Meeting

When: Feb. 7 - 8
Where: Salt Lake City, UT

Bar Leadership Institute

When: March 10-12, 2005
Where: Chicago, IL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DO NOT FAX RULES

The House of Representatives passed legislation July 20 designed to overturn the new Federal Communications Commission (FCC) do-not-fax rules that are scheduled to go into effect in January 2005. Two days later, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation approved its version of the legislation, and the full Senate is expected to vote in September.

Both measures, H.R. 4600 and S. 2603, would preserve the ability of associations and businesses to fax important information to their members and customers under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991 (TCPA). The bills would reverse the new FCC rules eliminating the so-called "established business relationship" exception to the TCPA's general prohibition against unsolicited fax advertisements. Possible amendments to S. 2603 could weaken the legislation by imposing strict time limits, ranging from 3 to 18 months, on the "established business relationship" exception.

For more information, go to www.abanet.org/poladv/letter and click on "Aug. 4." Thanks to Janis Jerman, Director of Administration & Finance and Bar Counsel for the Connecticut Bar Association, for keeping us updated on these developments.

HURRICANE CHARLEY UPDATE

Karen France, Executive Director of the Clearwater Bar Association, provided the following information on disaster relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Charley:

With leadership provided by Michael J. Faehner, president of The Florida Bar's YLD, and Mark Arnold, Florida ABA/YLD District Representative, The Florida Bar and the Florida Bar YLD have instituted the ABA/YLD's Disaster Relief Plan in conjunction with FEMA to help provide emergency legal services to victims of Hurricane Charley which ravaged areas of Florida on Aug. 13. Local bars are assisting by recruiting volunteer lawyers from throughout the state to take part in a 1-800 hotline or to work at Disaster Relief/Recovery Centers. Assistance is also being offered to affected law offices. The Florida Bar has established information at www.flabar.org to assist victims and volunteer attorneys. It is expected that there will be a need for at least 750+ attorneys to take care of the needs of the victims over the next year. It is estimated that nearly one million Floridians were affected by Hurricane Charley through loss of power, damage to homes or personal injury.

In addition to the direct delivery of legal services, there will be an effort to raise funds for the American Red Cross and for Florida Attorney's Charitable Trust (ACT), a 501(c)(3) disaster relief fund that offers Florida's attorneys an avenue for making donations to victims of disasters, including members of The Florida Bar. ACT seeks to provide aid and assistance when a disaster has caused the disruption of legal processes and court systems or which result in reduced citizen access to the legal system and the pursuit of justice. Many of the legal aid offices in Charley's path took significant damage and are in need of rebuilding their offices. ACT may also support other charitable organizations that assist in providing aid and other assistance to persons on a charitable basis. Donations can be mailed to Florida Attorney's Charitable Trust, 651 East Jefferson St., Tallahassee, FL 32399-3200.

(continued)

Karen reports that while she evacuated to Georgia, Charley ended up hitting about 100 miles south of the Tampa/St. Pete/Clearwater area. If you met first-timer Dinah Leach from Lee County, Florida, at the Atlanta meeting, her county was especially hard hit. Our thoughts are with our Florida colleagues -- let us know if there's anything we can do to help!

LAST CALL

If you haven't signed up for a NABE committee or forum yet, do it now. Otherwise, you may receive that dreaded "recruitment" call from one (or more) of the following committee and forum chairs, and you'll have to quickly think up an excuse! Sign-up forms are available on the NABE website, www.nabenet.org.

2004-2005 Committee Chairs:

Bylaws: Dwight Dinkla, Iowa State Bar
Chief Staff Executive: David Blaner, Allegheny County Bar
Diversity Development: John Williamson, New York State Bar
Membership: Sandra Cousins, Tulsa County Bar
Scholarship: Mary Corbitt, Monroe County Bar
Sponsorship: Sam Clinch, Nebraska State Bar
Surveys: George Brown, Wisconsin State Bar
Website/Knowledge Management: Joe Conte, State Bar of New Mexico

2004-2005 Forum Chairs:

Lawyer Referral & Information Service: Sheree Swetin, San Diego County Bar
Law Office Economics & Management: Linda Oligschlaeger, The Missouri Bar
Meetings/Seminars & Events: Wanda Claiborne, Maryland State Bar
Sections & Committees: Margaret Robinson, Oregon State Bar
State & Local Bar Liaisons: Kalpana Yalamanchili, Ohio State Bar

My thanks (again) to all the above for their willingness to serve as chairs this year.

MEMBER SERVICES/BENEFITS

OK, no one has sent me any ideas on what NABE can do for its members who cannot or do not attend meetings. I know y'all have plenty of ideas, so c'mon – share!

HUMOR FOR THE DAY

If you like the philosophy of hypocrisy and ambiguity, mull on these:

- Don't sweat the petty things and don't pet the sweaty things.
- What if there were no hypothetical questions?
- How do they get deer to cross only at those yellow road signs?
- What was the best thing before sliced bread?
- One nice thing about egoists: they don't talk about other people.
- If you try to fail, and succeed, what have you done?