

# NABE-News

## CALENDAR from [www.nabenet.org](http://www.nabenet.org)

### 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. 8-12  
Where: Salt Lake City, UT

### CSE Retreat

When: March 8 - 9, 2005  
Where: Chicago, IL

### Bar Leadership Institute

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NABE BOARD MEETING RECAP:** The NABE Board meeting last Friday and Saturday in Destin was very productive and (a little) fun. Thanks to the Florida people who made sure that the sun was shining, the sky was clear, and there were no hurricanes on the horizon! If you hear stories of people getting lost on the way from the airport or stealing sand from the beach, just disregard. However, my advice is never to get in a car with Allan Head and Jack Lockridge.

Among the items considered and acted upon by the Board were the following:

- Adopted new investment and reserve policies. The investment policy allows the Investment Committee, composed of the Vice President, Treasurer, one other Board member and two NABE members, to invest, within the guidelines specified, in cash equivalents, fixed income securities, and equities. The purpose of the reserve policy is to cover expenses associated with an unforeseen or catastrophic event affecting NABE's operation. The reserve minimum is set at 50% of the estimated annual operating budget, which is defined as the annual general operating and administrative expenses and the gross expense budgets of the annual and midyear meetings. Currently, that would translate to a reserve balance of \$150,000. Both policies require periodic review by the Investment Committee and the Board.
- Accepted the report on the New Bar Executives Institute, which was started again this year and rated highly. The Board voted to hold the New Bar Executives Institute every year, in conjunction with the Annual Meeting.
- Heard a report from John Norwine (yes, we let him come), chair of the Program Committee, on the status of the midyear meeting programming. There will be 25 different programs, including breakout sessions by size of bars, a significant increase over previous meetings. In addition, six different entities (forums, committees and sections) are presenting programs; this corresponds to the recommendations arising from Jan Cohen's report, which found that NABE members want to attend programs geared to their "niche".
- Adopted a bylaws amendment regarding the composition of the Program Committee. A fuller discussion of this amendment, which the NABE membership will vote on at the midyear meeting, follows.
- Approved the recommendation of the Law Office Economics & Management Forum to change its name to the "Bar Member Services Forum." The forum will enlarge its scope to include discussion of all member services offered by bar associations to their members, including the cost of such services and staffing issues. If you're interested in joining this revamped forum, please contact Maria Johnson at [JohnsonMaria@staff.abanet.org](mailto:JohnsonMaria@staff.abanet.org).
- Increased the number of scholarships for the midyear meeting from four to six, and, in addition, approved two registration fee waivers. For more information about applying for a scholarship, read on!

**MIDYEAR MEETING SCHOLARSHIPS:** For several years, NABE has provided scholarships for members whose bar associations are financially unable to cover the cost of attending a midyear or annual meeting. Those receiving NABE scholarships will have all registration fees waived and receive up to \$500 to defray travel and lodging expenses. The

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guidelines developed by the Scholarship Committee in awarding the scholarships are:

- Have not previously received scholarship assistance from the Scholarship Committee;
- Have not attended the Annual or Midyear Meeting in the past five years;
- Are financially unable to attend, due to factors such as the size and type of bar association, the association's annual budget, and the association's capacity to provide professional development training on its own;
- Are new to bar association work or have moved to a bar association that meets the financial criteria above;
- By participation, would improve the racial/ethnic diversity of NABE;
- Are likely to continue their participation in NABE after the scholarship has been awarded.

An applicant need not satisfy all of these criteria. The scholarships are valid only for the 2005 Midyear Meeting in Salt Lake City and the deadline for applying is November 30, 2004. Application forms were emailed last week to all NABE members.

I strongly encourage any NABE member who meets some or all of the criteria listed above, to apply for a scholarship. Attending a NABE meeting is a great way to learn about bar association work and, more importantly, develop contacts with people who can assist you in the future. The NABE Board thought attending a NABE meeting important enough to increase the number of scholarships available. If you have questions about the scholarship process, please contact Mary Corbitt, chair of the Scholarship Committee, at 585/546-1817 or [mcorbitt@mcba.org](mailto:mcorbitt@mcba.org).

**BAR ACTIVITIES INVENTORY:** The Division for Bar Services is in the process of developing the questionnaire for the 2005 Bar Activities Inventory. They are seeking our input, in an effort to decrease the number of questions, while increasing their value to us. If you could ask only one or two questions of your bar colleagues across the country, what would they be? Email your questions to Joanne O'Reilly at [OreillyJ@staff.abanet.org](mailto:OreillyJ@staff.abanet.org).

**NABE/LEXIS CARES PROJECT:** LexisNexis, a long-time sponsor and supporter of NABE, has proposed a joint volunteer project for the Midyear Meeting. LexisNexis will identify potential nonprofit agencies in Salt Lake City to partner with for the project and then will send a postcard to those attending the meeting, asking them to bring donations, such as children's books or school supplies, for the project. Members of LexisNexis and the NABE Cares Team will deliver the donated items to the selected nonprofit agency. Both the Program Committee and the Board deemed this to be a worthwhile project, and endorsed it. Look for your postcard or future NABE-News for information on the items to donate.

**BYLAWS AMENDMENT:** At the Midyear Meeting in Salt Lake City, NABE members will be asked to vote on an amendment changing the composition and terms of the Program Committee members. Under the current bylaws, the 12 members of the Program Committee are divided (4 each) among state bar associations, local bar associations, and NABE sections. Committee members serve three-year terms. The proposed bylaws amendment allows the sections and forums and the CSE Committee to nominate persons to serve on the Program Committee, with the final appointments still at the discretion of the President-Elect. However, the President-Elect will strive to maintain an appropriate mix of members from state and local bar associations. In addition, committee members will serve a two-year term, with the possibility of re-appointment to a second two-year term. If you have questions about the proposed bylaws amendment, please contact President-Elect Tom Edmonds at [edmonds@vsb.org](mailto:edmonds@vsb.org).

**ABA MEMBERSHIP:** As you may know, the ABA is the largest voluntary professional association in the world. As such, it provides an important and effective voice for the legal

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profession at the national and world level, with input into the selection of judicial nominees and pending legislation in Congress, among other things. To continue to be a voice for the profession, the ABA needs bar leaders and executive directors to be members. If your president is not an ABA member, encourage him/her to join (and join yourself, if you're not already a member!)

**ANNUAL MEETING FEE:** Due to the "flush" state of NABE finances, the Board voted to cover the \$100 ABA registration fee for the 2005 Annual Meeting in Chicago. This means that when you receive your registration form for that meeting, you'll be able to deduct the \$100 fee from your total registration fee. . .NABE will take care of it! (This is the second year in a row that NABE has done this.) We're able to do this because of the increased sponsorship money at the midyear and annual meetings, thanks to the hard work and dedication of the NABE Sponsorship Committee, led last year by Susan Jacobs and this year by Sam Clinch. Thanks everyone!!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:** Allan Head, Executive Director of the North Carolina Bar Association, who was selected to receive the Sixth Annual Southeastern Association Executive of the Year Award. You are a deserving recipient, Allan (even if you can't follow directions)!

**PUN OF THE WEEK:** Evidence has been found that William Tell and his family were avid bowlers. However, all the league records were unfortunately destroyed in a fire. Thus we'll never know for whom the Tells bowled. (You can groan now.)