

NABE-News

OF BAR EXECUTIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2005



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CALENDAR from www.nabenet.org

CSE Retreat

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

Bar Leadership Institute

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

NABE Board of Directors Meeting

When: April 8-10, 2005
Where: Memphis, TN

NABE/NCBP/NCBF Annual Meeting

When: August 2-4, 2005
Where: Chicago, IL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A GOLD MEDAL MEETING! By all accounts, the Midyear Meeting in Salt Lake City last week was a smashing success! The programming was excellent, with much practical, useful information on a wide variety of subjects. Highlights of some of the programming will be featured in upcoming editions of NABE-News. If you were unable to attend the meeting, go to NABE's web site, www.nabenet.org, to check out the handout materials (click on "Midyear Meeting Program Planner.")

I want to thank the Program Committee and the Sponsorship Committee for their incredible work in putting this meeting together. We had the most number of programs ever, and were able to keep the registration fee low because of our sponsors. All of you deserve a gold medal! Members of those committees are:

Program Committee

John Norwine, chair
Keith Norman, vice chair
Emily Eastin
Kimberly Farmer
Susan Jacobs
Leah Johnson
KaLyn Laney
Carol Madeja
Yvonne McGhee

Julie Rowe
Barry Simpson
Dana Collier Smith

Sponsorship Committee

Sam Clinch, chair
Dana Collier Smith, vice chair
Greg Derwart
Susan Jacobs
Jack Lockridge
Eric Mann
Amy Patterson

SPONSORS = LOWER REGISTRATION FEES: And while I'm at it, I want to thank all the sponsors of the Midyear Meeting, whose support helps us keep registration fees low and who also provide us with valuable information and advice.

Platinum

LexisNexis

Gold

Legal Directories Publishing Company, Inc.
MBA America Bank

Silver

Iron Mountain Records Management

Bronze

ABA Members Retirement Program
Affiniscape, Inc.
AON Affinity Insurance Services
Center for Civic Education
Premiere Conferencing

As was mentioned several times at the meeting, because of our sponsors, the registration fee for the Annual Meeting in Chicago is only \$175!

ANNUAL MEETING: Speaking of Chicago, you can download the registration form or register online at www.abanet.org/annual/2005. All NABE meetings are at the Sheraton.

NO ROOM LEFT: The CSE Retreat, March 8 and 9, is now full. If you're interested in attending, your name can be put on a waiting list in case someone cancels.

AWARD NOMINATIONS: You will receive soon, nomination forms for the Bolton Award for Professional Excellence, the LexisNexis Community & Educational Outreach Awards, and the 2005 Partners in Success Award. These are very noteworthy awards, and I encourage you to submit nominations for them. A brief description of each follows.

The **Bolton Award for Professional Excellence** is NABE's highest accolade. The award recognizes a bar executive who has the four C's: congeniality, character, camaraderie and cooperation. Recipients epitomize the highest traditions of professional excellence as exemplified by Fred Bolton, for whom the award is named. The NABE Board selects the recipient, so no current board member is eligible. The deadline for nominations is April 1, 2005.

LexisNexis Community & Educational Outreach Awards honor outstanding public service and law-related education programs implemented during the 2004 calendar year. Eligible candidates are bar associations and/or foundations whose staff are currently NABE members. There is no restriction on the number of nominations a bar association or foundation can submit. The categories are: state bar association with more than 18,000 members; state bar association with 18,000 or fewer members; local bar association with more than 5,000 members; local bar association with 5,000 or fewer members; bar association with 2,000 or fewer members. The deadline for nominations is March 18, 2005.

The **Partners in Success Award** recognizes members who have made a significant contribution to NABE. Any NABE member who has provided a noteworthy service to the association during this calendar year (June 2004 through April 2005) is eligible. Examples of such service could be leadership of a section, committee or forum; participation in a special project; or recruitment of new members or sponsors. The deadline for nominations is April 1, 2005.

BOARD MEETING: The NABE Board of Directors met on Tuesday, February 9 during the Midyear Meeting. Among the items dealt with were:

- Voted to increase the number of scholarships for the Annual Meeting to six and the number of registration fee waivers to three, due to NABE's healthy financial situation.
- Adopted a Code of Ethics for board members and a policy to review all NABE entities (committees, sections, and forums) at least every two years to ensure that they still serve a purpose.

- Heard a report from Ann Scarle and Sue Lengal on plans for a small bar conference.
- Withdrew the bylaws amendment relating to the composition and terms of the Program Committee; the current bylaws provision remains in effect.
- Approved the request of the Sponsorship Committee to allow mailing of the registrant list to sponsors prior to the meeting.
- Approved Chris Blake, former Communications Director at the Connecticut State Bar, as an honorary member.

LEXISNEXIS CARES: The first-ever LexisNexis Cares project proved to be a resounding success, with over 200 books donated to the Family Support Center, which works with abused and neglected children. This was a joint project of the NABE, NCBP and NCBF in conjunction with Lexis-Nexis. Another project will be planned for the Chicago Annual Meeting.

ABA PRESIDENT-ELECT: Michael Greco, the ABA President-Elect, spoke briefly at the NABE business meeting during the Thursday luncheon. After noting that his first challenge was getting from place to place on time, he imparted his vision for his year as ABA President, a “Renaissance of Idealism in the Legal Profession.” Stating that the true joy of being a lawyer comes from using your legal training to help others and improve society, he plans to re-ignite, re-invigorate, and preserve the idealism that lawyers had when they began law school. To do this, he is asking for the help of bar associations, large and small, across the country. Lawyers must strike a balance between serving their firms and the public, freeing up time so they can contribute to the community. He proposes to begin with an honest discussion of what we have let the profession become. He also reiterated his personal commitment to diversity in the legal profession, noting that admission of persons of color to law schools has dropped in three of the last four years.

We thank Mr. Greco for taking time out of his busy schedule to discuss his initiatives with us.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Brian Myers, Information Coordinator for the Division of Bar Services, who is leaving soon for a new position at a Chicago suburban library. Thank you for making sure the web site was up-to-date and for answering the many, many questions we posed to you. We will miss you, but we wish you good luck in your new position!