

NABE-News

OF BAR EXECUTIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

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CALENDAR

from www.nabenet.org

January 16, 2006

Nominating information for NABE directors, officers distributed

Petitions for election are available at any time from the NABE office, 321 N. Clark St., 20th Floor, Chicago, IL 60610

February 7, 2006

NABE Board of Directors Meeting

Hyatt Regency
Chicago, IL

February 7–11, 2006

NABE/NCBP/NCBF Midyear Meeting

Hyatt Regency
Chicago, IL

March 7 & 8, 2006

Chief Staff Executive Retreat

Millennium Knickerbocker
Hotel, Chicago, IL

March 9–11, 2006

DBS/ABA Bar Leadership Institute

Downtown Marriott Hotel
Chicago, IL

MID-YEAR MEETING PLANS FINALIZED

What qualities and skills define professionalism in bar staff members? You will have a chance to learn what your colleagues think during the opening plenary session of the 2006 mid-year meeting February 8 in Chicago.

In a survey this fall, 320 bar staff and volunteer bar leaders answered questions about professionalism and change management in the bar association context; the questions were developed by our Task Force on Professionalism, which is the sponsor of the professionalism programming at the mid-year meeting. Results of the survey will be used as the cornerstone of a multi-media, interactive presentation by Harrison Coerver, a nationally known association management consultant, who will lead our opening plenary session and a follow-up breakout.

Harrison's presentation kicks off a multi-year focus on professionalism in bar association management under the leadership of our task force, chaired by Chuck Turner of the Denver and Colorado Bar Associations.

If you are not among the 136 NABE members, including 9 first time attendees, who took advantage of the early registration opportunity for the mid-year meeting, which ended on December 9, there is still plenty of time to sign up and join us for what promises to be an outstanding experience in Chicago on February 8 and 9. To register, visit the NABE website at www.nabenet.org. Be sure to use the NABE/NCBP/NCBF registration form. If you are not an ABA member, you just need to register as a non-member; this will not affect your NABE membership or your registration fee for our meeting. I hope to see you there.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BAR FOUNDATIONS

As many of you know, NCBF was thrown into a state of some considerable confusion during the annual meeting last August in Chicago, where they elected new officers and board members. That organization does not conduct a mail ballot election as NABE does; rather, they have a nominating committee appointed by the president that makes its report and recommendations at their annual meeting. In this instance, several persons were nominated for board positions from the floor, in addition to those recommended by the nominating committee; and some of these floor nominees were elected instead of others who had been nominated by the

March 11, 2006
NABE Program Committee Meeting
Downtown Marriott
Chicago, IL

March 15, 2006
Deadline for candidates to file NABE election petitions

April 3, 2006
NABE Membership Campaign begins, dues renewal statements mailed

April 7, 2006
Scholarship application process begins for Annual Meeting

April 17, 2006
Election ballots mailed

May 5–7, 2006
NABE Board of Directors meeting
The Homestead
Hot Springs, VA

May 12, 2006
Annual Meeting scholarship recipients named

May 16, 2006
Deadline for returning election ballots

May 26, 2006
Early-bird registration ends for Annual Meeting

June 1, 2006
Election results announced
New membership year and fiscal year for NABE begins

(NCBF continued)

committee. Subsequently, at the initial meeting of the newly elected board, officers were chosen, again including some who had not been recommended by the nominating committee.

Following the annual meeting, the then immediate past president of the organization resigned in protest of what had occurred, writing a lengthy letter of complaint to the membership. Thereafter, most of the new officers and members of the board resigned. For the past several months things have been in a state of flux, but a new board has now been seated and new officers elected. I am pleased to report that Bob Glaves, Executive Director of the Chicago Bar Foundation, is the new NCBF president. I have spoken with Bob, who is a very experienced foundation exec, and wished him well in his new position. We have invited him to meet with our board during our next meeting in February to give us an update and tell us about his aspirations for the organization during the balance of his term.

The new NCBF Board will also be meeting during the mid-year meeting in Chicago, and they will have a visioning session to plan for the future of the group. Since some 50% of NCBF's members are also members of NABE and serve both their foundations and their bar associations, we obviously have an interest in seeing NCBF return to good health. If you are one of those dual membership persons who has been holding off on renewing your NCBF membership pending resolution of this unfortunate situation, I would encourage you to get reinvolved with NCBF and help restore the organization to viability.

NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTION GOING GREAT GUNS

Under the leadership of Toby Brown from the Utah State Bar, the proposed new IT Section continues its development, with over 50 members at this point. By-laws have been drafted by a committee headed by Bill Dickinson of the Virginia State Bar, and they will be presented for approval at the February meeting of the NABE Board of Directors. Later in the week during our mid-year meeting, the initial leadership of the section will be chosen, and the section will be presenting several programs that focus on this vital area of bar association work.

Congratulations to Toby and his colleagues on getting the section up and running so quickly after receiving the NABE Board's blessing in August. If you or any of your IT staff need information about how to join, contact Toby or Jill Werner at DBS.

CHIEF STAFF EXECUTIVES RETREAT AND BAR LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Registration materials for the 2006 CSE Retreat and BLI will be emailed to executive directors on Friday of this week. The retreat is planned for March 7–8, 2006 at the Millennium Knickerbocker in Chicago, and the BLI will follow on March 9–11 at the Downtown Marriott. Both hotels are located on the Magnificent Mile, and both events are always excellent educational and networking opportunities for our CSEs.

August 1, 2006
NABE Board of Directors Meeting
Sheraton Waikiki
Honolulu, HI

August 1-5, 2006
NABE/NCBP/NCBF Annual Meeting
Sheraton Waikiki
Honolulu, HI

August 5, 2006
NABE Board of Directors Meeting
Sheraton Waikiki
Honolulu, HI

NABE WEBSITE REDESIGN

The process of redesigning and improving the NABE website has begun, with Palantir.net of Evanston, IL as the developer. Bar association websites designed and developed by Palantir.net have won past Luminary Awards from our Communications Section, so we look for great things for our organization's website.

Plans are to completely change the look, organization and utility of NABE's site. A small focus group will provide member reaction to the design changes during the early stages of the work. Focus group members will include NABE Web Committee Chair Toby Brown, Communications Director at the Utah State Bar; Chris Baum, Systems Manager at the State Bar of New Mexico; Chris Centagorta, Executive Director of the Washoe Co. Bar Association in Nevada; Anne Fritz, Executive Director of the Memphis Bar Association; Mark Mathewson, Director of Legal Publishing at the Illinois State Bar Association; Connie Schin, Marketing Manager at the New York State Bar Association; and David Simms, Web Editor at the D.C. Bar. Our thanks to these communications professionals for lending their expertise to help our vendor get things like we want them in the redesign process.

As work on the site progresses, Palantir will seek input from additional NABE members about the site and any suggestions members may have. The goal is to have the redesign completed and the new website operative in late February or early March. Stay tuned, and be prepared to offer your thoughts during the development phase of this redesign of one of our most important communications vehicles.