

NCBF 2005 Annual Meeting

August 4-6 in Chicago!!!

National
Conference of
Bar Foundations

Foundation Forum

Your Bar
Foundation
Resource



Annual Meeting Edition 2005

NCBF Annual Meeting Will Inspire and Energize Members

You can't wait for inspiration, author Jack London advised. You have to go after it with a club. Consider the National Conference of Bar Foundations your club, as you hunt for inspiration during the 2005 Annual Meeting, August 4 through 6 in Chicago.

Program Chair Bill Schneider, executive director of the Louisville Bar Foundation in Kentucky, worked with NCBF colleagues to identify speakers who have walked in your shoes and sessions that will address your needs.

Friday's program will begin with a session titled "How Effective Nonprofits Work." Based on a book of the same title, this session will pinpoint strategies, structures and best practices that contribute to the development of healthy foundations. Marianne Philbin, who co-authored the book, recognizes that bar foundations vary widely in mission and resources. However, successful foundations also share common elements that keep them vibrant.

Ms. Philbin has more than 25 years of experience in the nonprofit sector and an extensive background in fundraising and grantmaking. Before establishing her consulting practice, Ms. Philbin was development director for the \$50 million Chicago Annenberg Challenge, executive director of The Chicago Foundation for Women and executive director of The Peace Museum in Chicago. She has served on numerous nonprofit boards, ranging from Amnesty International USA to Chicago Women in Philanthropy.

"Foundation, Association Partnerships: Mars, Venus and the IRS" is also scheduled for Friday morning. Bob Graves, executive

director of the Chicago Bar Foundation, and Janice Rogers, a partner at the law firm of Quarles & Brady LLP in Chicago, will share how foundations and associations can work in close concert without running afoul of the Internal Revenue Service. There are legal ground rules that must be respected in a good working relationship, and compliance with these restrictions must be carefully documented. Graves and Rogers will use typical examples from the bar foundation world to illustrate their points.

The Friday Joint Luncheon brings a re-energizing break to the morning's sessions and gives NCBF members an opportunity to recognize and support the work of this year's recipient of the Bar Foundation Excellence in Public Service Programming Award. The cost of the luncheon is included in the NCBF registration fee.

Following lunch, Award Committee Chair Lauren Larmer Barrett, executive director of the Lawyers Foundation of Georgia, will moderate a session devoted to more information on the NCBF awards program and the other noteworthy public service programs in this year's pool of nominees.

Saturday's programming begins with an examination of recent and proposed federal legislation that affects bar foundations and charitable groups. Congress is currently considering a number of far-reaching changes in the laws governing charitable organizations, and you'll get

a detailed update of how these changes could affect your bar foundation. In addition, you'll learn how the nonprofit community is responding to the increased scrutiny of the sector with proactive steps to improve governance and accountability consistent with the public trust placed in our organizations.

The day's next sessions will introduce foundation staff and board members to an assessment tool that can help boards evaluate their performance and identify areas that need improvement. Kevin Connelly, executive director of The Center for Nonprofit Excellence in Louisville, will discuss key board responsibilities and how to determine whether a foundation's board is meeting those challenges. To help bring these issues and other foundation conundrums into focus, Connelly will use case studies submitted by foundation staff and volunteer leaders to facilitate the discussion. See page 4 for information on how to submit your particular set of governance conundrums.

Saturday's meeting will adjourn shortly after noon, leaving ample time for NCBF members to seek further inspiration in the shops on the Magnificent Mile, at the Art Institute less than a mile south of the Sheraton or along the hiking/biking path of beautiful Lake Michigan. So join NCBF in Chicago. We'll inspire you!

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President's Page

NCBF Plans Insightful Chicago Program

Welcome to Chicago, a wonderful city for our 2005 Annual Meeting! Chicago lays claim to the best architecture in the country, splendid museums, one or two affordable restaurants, great shopping and shows, an exciting lakefront and more.

The more is the program NCBF will present this year. You will find our sessions useful, insightful, interesting and fluff-free. Our speakers are first-rate, and they have been programmed to keep you awake! Some of the topics that will be covered are:

- Best practices of healthy foundations
- Tax issues that arise between bar associations and foundations
- Regulatory initiatives that could affect your foundation
- How to measure your board's effectiveness

It's been a good year for the NCBF:

more members than ever; plans for a valuable resource manual; increased advice and communications with foundations; more sprightly publications; and a heightened sense of our obligation as lawyers and human beings to help our system of justice and address the needs of so many of the disadvantaged in our society.



Jerome J. Shestack

My presidency of the NCBF has been a joy because of the support, initiative and collegiality of our officers and board, and because of a splendid staff performance from Jill Werner, aided by Kimberly Vann and Maria Johnson. See you in Chicago.

Jerome J. Shestack is president of the National Conference of Bar Foundations and a partner in the law firm of Wolf Block in Philadelphia, PA. He is also a past president of the American Bar Association and can be reached at jshestack@wolfblock.com.



NCBF/LexisNexis Chicago School Supply Drive

If you are planning to attend the annual meeting in Chicago, please bring the following school supplies for students at the South Loop Elementary School:

- Glue sticks
- Wide-ruled spiral notebooks
- Notebook paper
- Colored pencils
- #2 Pencils
- Scissors
- Crayons
- Pocket Folders

Supplies should be placed in the collection box near the NCBP/NABE/NCBF Registration Desk at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers. Thank you!



The South Carolina Bar

Foundation Board of Directors is pleased to name Shannon Willis Scruggs as its Executive Director. She has been with the bar foundation since 2000 and assisted the organization with conversion of the IOLTA program to mandatory status.



The **Indianapolis Bar Foundation** recently added to its budget a president's grant pool separate from the regular grant pool administered by its grants committee. The pool was created to allow the foundation to respond to immediate need, low dollar (up to \$1,500) requests for funding. The foundation also is undergoing a branding initiative to create a cohesive look for its print pieces.

The **Orange County Bar Foundation (OCBF)** Executive Director, Jane Martin, retired in December 2004 after 19 years with the foundation. An active member of NCBF, Jane served on its board of trustees for several years. The OCBF just completed its first capital campaign, which raised over \$300,000 to provide the foundation with a reserve fund. Funds were primarily raised through a \$10,000 contribution from a major law firm with a matching challenge grant from private philanthropist John Herklotz.

Additional funds were raised for a statue that signifies the foundation's efforts in juvenile crime diversion through its Shortstop programs. The beautiful bronze work was dedicated to the Orange County Superior Court in Santa Ana, CA in April as an expression of appreciation for the judicial, attorney and court support of the Orange County Bar Foundation's programs.

The **Ohio State Bar Foundation (OSBF)** is working with the YWCA Columbus Racial Justice staff and the University of Toledo Criminal Justice Studies Department to design new

anti-racism legal education standards for lawyers and judges. Working with the Supreme Court of Ohio's Commission on Professionalism, the foundation is also developing baseline standards to accredit anti-racism courses to confer professionalism CLE credit. This fall, the Ohio Judicial College will pilot the foundation's model anti-racism course with Ohio judges. The initiative is sponsored by the OSBF's Past Presidents Advisory Council.

In March, the **Association of the Bar of the City of New York Fund, Inc.** and the IOLTA Fund of the State of New York convened a citywide meeting of legal and social services providers and representatives of the bar and bench.

Altogether, there were more than 60 participants from throughout the city.



Discussions centered around participants' perceptions of their clients' most urgent needs, ways in which those needs are currently being addressed, and the creation of new collaborations to further meet clients' needs.

The **West Virginia Bar Foundation** is the owner and landlord of the State Bar Center and the Lawyer Disciplinary Board Building. The foundation also administers the IOLTA program, which has generated more than \$11 million for free civil legal services for West Virginia's low income citizens. The foundation has initiated a grantmaking program that has distributed smaller sums to programs to educate and assist children in need. It also recognizes a Public Citizen of the Year and a Lawyer Citizen of the Year for their contributions to their local communities and to the state.

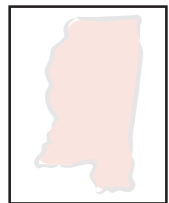
The **North Carolina Bar Foundation's** Liberty Fund Wall of Honor features the foundation's newest recognition opportunity - Liberty Funds. A Liberty Fund honors

those North Carolina lawyers, past and present, whose careers have demonstrated dedication to the pursuit of justice and outstanding service to the profession and the public. Liberty Funds require a minimum contribution of \$10,000 to establish the unrestricted fund.

In April, the **Nebraska State Bar Association's Charitable Funds, Inc.** hosted the First Annual Barristers' Ball at the new Hilton Hotel in Omaha. The ball was a festive event featuring dining, music, and live and silent auctions. Over \$70,000 was raised to support the Volunteer Lawyers Project, the NSBA's 22-year-old statewide volunteer legal services program, which seeks to ensure that all people who need civil legal assistance receive it, regardless of their ability to pay.

Also in April, the Nebraska Supreme Court and the **Nebraska State Bar Foundation** honored the winners of the Sixth Annual Law Day Essay Contest at the Law Day luncheon at Lincoln's Cornhusker Hotel. Dr. Paul Lisnek, nationally acclaimed trial consultant and attorney, delivered the keynote address. Chief Justice John V. Hendry, Nebraska Supreme Court, and Foundation President George E. Svoboda presented a certificate of achievement and a personalized gift to each of the winning essayists who addressed a topic related to the Law Day theme, "The American Jury: We the People in Action."

This year the **Mississippi Bar Foundation** combined the annual Fellows Induction Ceremony with the Annual Meeting.



Previously, the Fellows Induction Ceremony was a separate event. The Annual Meeting was held at a local Inn and over 170 members and their spouses/guests attended. Annual awards were presented and 15 new Fellows were inducted.

Create Your Own "Aha" Moment in Chicago

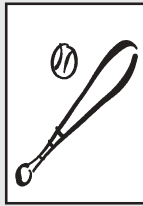
It's called "The City of Big Shoulders," the "Windy City" and "The Second City." But none of Chicago's many nicknames actually capture the zest and adventurous spirit that you'll experience in this magnificent city. Opportunities abound for you to create your own "aha" moment in Chicago, but here are some suggestions to get you started.

The top activity on your social agenda should be NCBF's Thursday Night Dinner. With the help of President Jerry Shestack's sponsorship connections, NCBF has chartered a boat for a private dinner cruise on Lake Michigan. We'll gather at 6:45 p.m. at the boat dock and embark around 7:15 p.m. for a two-hour cruise. (Logistics will be e-mailed to registrants as the meeting draws closer.) On board, diners will enjoy an appropriately nautical clambake with music in the background and Chicago's beautiful skyline taking center stage. Be forewarned: Jerry is threatening to bring his song sheets again. Tickets for the dinner are \$50 and can be purchased separately during the registration process or by sending a check to Maria Johnson, in care of the ABA Division for Bar Services, 321 N. Clark St., 20th Floor, Chicago, IL 60610.

The NCBP/NABE /NCBF Joint Reception on Friday night features a private tour of Chicago's Art Institute. Tickets are \$85 and include food, drinks and an impressive display of Impressionist and 20th century American art. Register for this event as you are making your arrangements for the Annual Meeting.

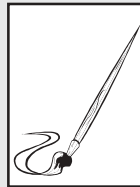
Other highlights to hit while in the Second City include:

The **Chicago White Sox** are at home against the Seattle Mariners with evening games on August 5 and 6. The ABA has a package event or you can purchase your own tickets on line. You can get to U.S. Cellular Field from any Red Line subway station along State Street (Chicago, Grand, Lake, Washington, Monroe or Jackson.) Board a southbound Red Line 95th/Dan Ryan train to Sox-35th St. station. Walk west one block to the ballpark.



Get a new perspective on the city with an **Architecture River Cruise**, a 90-minute tour highlighting more than 50 significant sites. The dock is located at the southeast corner of the Michigan Avenue Bridge and Wacker Drive, a short walk from the Sheraton. The weekend ticket price is \$25, and the schedule is available on the Chicago Architecture Foundation's Web site at www.architecture.org/tours.aspx.

The **48th Annual Gold Coast-River North Art Fair**, featuring live entertainment, food and a variety of juried artwork, will be ongoing throughout the weekend. The fair is in the River North District, bordered by Clark, Wells and Ontario Streets and Chicago Avenue. This is a 10-minute cab ride from the Sheraton.



Theater offerings in Chicago are abundant and the Sheraton is a quick cab ride from the city's main theater district on Randolph Street. Score tickets to Disney's "**The Lion King**" at the Cadillac Palace or the Broadway hit "**Wicked**" at the Ford Center for the Performing Arts, Oriental Theatre on Ticketmaster.com.

ATTENTION NCBF MEMBERS!

Your Input is Needed for Foundation Case Studies: Real Solutions to Real Problems

The Saturday, August 6 session, "Foundation Case Studies: Real Solutions to Real Problems," will feature a facilitated discussion of real-world situations that face foundation leaders.

Please give us a page from your book and share a challenge that you have faced or are facing in your foundation. Include a brief description of the issue/problem, an explanation of the facts, and an account of the outcome/resolution, real or desired.

Leave out specific names or places and submit your 1-page case study no later than July 8 to: Jill Werner, ABA Division for Bar Services, 321 N. Clark St., 20th Floor, Chicago, IL 60610 or reply via fax to 312-988-5492 or e-mail to wernerj@staff.abanet.org

NCBF MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the National Conference of Bar Foundations is to assist state and other foundations in developing law-related charitable and educational programs and accomplishing their public service objectives by providing a medium for the exchange of ideas and information and the dissemination of knowledge with respect thereto.