



THE 42ND NCACC ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN SNOWBIRD, UTAH AUGUST 2-7, 2015

By: Lisa Collins (UT)

Come experience the majestic beauty of Utah and enjoy the 42nd Annual Conference of the NCACC. The conference will be held from August 2nd – 7th, 2015 at Snowbird, Utah, 25 miles from Salt Lake City, and 35 miles from Historic Park City. Did you know that —

- The classic film “The Sandlot,” was shot in Salt Lake City and we host the Sundance Film Festival.
- Famous Utahans include, Butch Cassidy, Donnie and Marie Osmond, and Ken Jennings (the most consecutive wins on Jeopardy) , David Arhuleta (American Idol runner up) and Robert Redford.
- Salt Lake City hosted the XIX Olympic Winter games in 2002 and brought 2400 athletes to compete from 80 nations.
- Salt Lake City is home to Wasatch Brewery and High West Distillery.
- The Great Salt Lake contains 4.5 billion tons of salt. And yes, you’ll float in it.
- And last, but not least,

Salt Lake City was crowned the #1 least stressed-out city in the United States in 2014, by CNN, so come and relax with us!! (Obviously, they didn’t include anyone that works for the court!)

Utah will serve as a beautiful setting for our conference, and there should be plenty of time to seek out five nearby State Parks. Alternatively, enjoy one of 43 expansive golf courses, if you feel like taking in a few rounds!

Our hotel is the fabulous Cliff Lodge, located at Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort at the top of Little Cottonwood Canyon. The room rate at the Cliff Lodge will be \$116 per night (plus taxes) and room reservations must be made by June 1, 2015. You can make reservations now at 800-453-3000.

The hotel does not provide a shuttle service from the airport, but a service is available through Canyon Transportation, Inc. Their contact information is 801-255-1841, or canyontransport.com.

Conference registration is Saturday, August 1, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on August 2 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon. The Program Committee has put together an agenda with topics on current trends and practical applications, which will keep our members abreast of all the tools available to us in this ever-changing landscape. Many of the topics will spur intellectual debate.

As in years past, our social events will begin on Sunday evening with a reception hosted by BNA at the hotel. This event is always a great opportunity to greet, meet, and catch up with friends. The reception will be followed by the Morgan Thomas slideshow and the Educational Committee’s fund-raising auction. Please start thinking about your donated item for the auction!

Be sure to join us on Monday night for the catered event sponsored by Thomson Reuters at the Museum of Natural History. This 2014 winner of the Travelers’ Choice award will be sure to delight as the locale for an event that we all look forward to every year. Here we’ll have an opportunity to engage with Utah’s rugged history and bring her beauty a little more within reach.

On Tuesday afternoon, the golfers are off to the Old Mill Golf Course for the golf tournament. If you don’t golf, we have another activity for you! Here’s a chance to hike to beautiful Cecret Lake.

On Wednesday, August 5, after the vendor showcase, we will be going to Utah Olympic Park in Park City for a catered social event hosted by Lexis. We will be entertained by the Flying Ace All Star Pool Show. Here’s your chance to experience an actual bobsled ride.

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THE DOCKET

News of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks

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NCACC COMMITTEE UPDATE

Committees are a major part of keeping our organization relevant and functional. Several committees have added additional members and Chairs have been appointed. For a complete list of the committee assignments for 2014-2015 visit:

<http://www.appellatecourtclerks.org/committees/index.html>

TO REMIT NCACC MEMBERSHIP DUES:

**National Center of State Courts
300 Newport Avenue
Williamsburg, VA 23185**

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

JOHN OLIVIER (LA)



Time flies when you are having fun and I must be having a great time, because this year has flown by. Not only this year, but the last 30 years that I have been at the Louisiana Supreme Court and the 20 years I have been the Clerk. I was looking at back issues of *The Docket*, and in the issue for April 1995, there I was at Frans's home "Destiny" along with Bill Suter, showing the Executive Committee how to eat crawfish. It seems like just yesterday. For our Executive Committee meeting this month, we met in Oakland, CA (Jack London Square). There was the Strictly Sail Pacific Boat Show taking place, as well as a craft show and farmers' market. The weather was great and as usual, the Executive Committee shared war stories of our respective courts, as well as doing the work of the Conference at our meeting. I find meeting with fellow clerks refreshing and rejuvenating and always look forward to getting together.

Committee reports were all submitted in a timely fashion and presented by their liaisons. Lisa Collins (UT), our host in Snowbird, and Eydie Gaiser (WV), our Program Committee Chair, and the Committee have been hard at work preparing for our conference this August. The theme of this year's conference is "Current Trends and Practical Applications." The venue is magnificent and will be very conducive to spending time together, sharing and honing our skills. A couple of the interesting educational programs will be: "When Law and Religion Collided: The History of the Settlement of Utah and the Intermountain West" (the Mormon Experience) and "Marijuana Legalization: Policy and Ethical Problems" (the "Mary Jane" laws). It is time to register, and again this year we will be doing so online. Thank you Isaac Counts (WV) for setting this up for us.

Things are rolling along with the committees working to fulfill their missions for the year. One committee that everyone looks forward to hearing from is our Site Selection Committee, chaired by Dan Shearouse (SC). The Executive Committee is pleased and excited to accept the recommendation to hold our 2018 conference in San Diego at the Sheraton Hotel and Marina. Kevin Lane (CA) submitted this bid for which we are grateful. Kevin hosted the Executive Committee meeting a couple of years ago and has proven to be quite apt at planning and organizing such events. A few years back, I attended the Appellate Judges' Education Institute which was held at this hotel. This is an excellent location.

Another important committee is the Finance and Investment Committee. This committee, chaired by Chris Crow (LA) is nearly finished consolidating our accounts. Chris has been working with the National Center for State Courts to set up a meaningful chart of accounts so that our budget can be easily managed from year to year.

I cannot say enough about the work of all of our committees. As mentioned in our last edition of *The Docket*, our organization's success is due to the hard work and dedication of members. You will learn more about our committees' work at the annual meeting.

"KEEP CALM AND CLERK ON"

*****Get your registrations in and start preparing for Snowbird.*****

Register for the Snowbird Conference ONLINE!

Go to:

<https://www.regonline.com/ncacc42nd>

The online registration site has been created with the information for the Snowbird conference. You can register and pay online, choosing all available options for you and your guests. Our hosts are volunteers and using the online registration assists them a great deal with administration of the conference. Please note that there will be no fee to use the online registration. If you are paying all the registration costs yourself, the process is straightforward. However, those members who prefer to pay the basic conference registration cost for one or more court employees with a government-issued credit card or check, and then pay for other costs separately (such as merchandise, events, or guest fees) with a personal credit card or check, will be required to follow a two-step registration process.

STEP ONE. Select the “Full Conference Registration” level; completely fill out the personal information form, including the days of the conference you plan on attending. Leave the guest information blank for now. Continue to the check-out screen. Skip the agenda events and merchandise pages for now, because you will come back to them later. Once at the check-out screen, complete check-out by paying only for the basic registration and transaction fee.

STEP TWO. Return to online registration at any time to add guests, agenda events, and merchandise. Follow the screens to check-out again, this time paying for the added costs with a secondary form of payment such as a personal credit card or check. Keep in mind that the check-out screen will show records of all transactions, as well as a running total of costs, paid and unpaid. If you are paying for more than one court employee, modify STEP 1 by clicking the “add Another Person” button at the bottom of the personal information screen, and fill in the second registrant’s information. Repeat as needed. IT is important to provide a unique contact e-mail address for each registrant. Each registrant will receive a confirmation e-mail, but will need the password created by the master registrant to modify their personal registration and pay items with personal funds.

NOTE: Not all agenda items have a cost associated with them, and some may have a cost associated with them depending on the registration level of registrant. To view or change your registration information, click the main link in the confirmation e-mail sent to you by the system.

QUESTIONS? For questions about the online registration process, please contact Isaac Counts at the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals (304)558-6836 or isaac.counts@courtswv.gov.

STEVEN F. LANCASTER

Professional – Patriot – Professor – Public Servant – Friend

By: William DeCicco and Kevin Smith



My experience with Steve is that he has the integrity and diplomacy to implement court policy and allocate resources in a fair and impartial manner that has always amazed me. He has demonstrated the highest level of professionalism while having diverse demands made upon the court's finite resources. His progressive vision and tireless work ethic have made possible the implementation of numerous technological improvements to the court's operation. It is one thing to have an idea; it requires a special talent to turn those ideas into reality. Steve has that talent.

-Honorable Terry Crone, Judge of the Indiana Court of Appeals

With these words, Judge Crone recognized the service of Steve Lancaster as Steve prepares to retire later this year after serving for 20 years as the Administrator of the Indiana Court of Appeals. The word “professional” is used by everyone to describe Steve. Judge James Kirsch of the Indiana Court of Appeals states, “Steve has been the consummate professional in everything he has undertaken. We will always be grateful.” And Judge Paul Mathias of the court remarked, “From the beginning, I have always marveled at Steve’s ability to professionally respond to each of us here on the court about the needs we think we have from time to time. Clearly it is a difficult job. But what I have always been most impressed with is the strength of Steve’s character. He will be missed, personally as well as professionally.”

These judges are stating what all of us in the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks have known for a long time – that Steve is a consummate professional and gentleman. He has served our association with distinction as President from 2007 to 2008, as an Executive Committee member, as Program Chair in 2004, and on numerous committees, always working toward the betterment of the NCACC. In 2014, Steve was recognized with the presentation of the J.O. Sentell Award for all he has done for the NCACC.

Steve is also a patriot. After graduating from the University of Notre Dame, Steve began his military career in 1967 with a commission in the United States Army. He went on to graduate from the

STEVEN F. LANCASTER

Professional – Patriot – Professor – Public Servant – Friend

By: William DeCicco and Kevin Smith

(Continued)

Indiana University School of Law in 1970, and began his career in the Army's Judge Advocate General's Corps until 1995, serving his country in Texas, Hawaii, Kentucky, Germany and Virginia. His fellow soldiers remember him well, particularly as an outstanding professor of administrative and civilian personnel law at the Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School in Charlottesville, Virginia. Steve also completed studies at the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He later served as legal advisor to the Judge Advocate General of the Army in administrative law and labor law. Steve's military decorations include four awards of the Legion of Merit Medal (second highest non-combat decoration that can be awarded to a military officer), three Meritorious Service Medals, the Army Commendation Medal and the Army Achievement Medal. He retired in the grade of Colonel. One of Steve's proudest moments actually took place after his military retirement when he recently administered the oath of promotion to his son Nick to the grade of Colonel in the Army JAG Corps.

Although Steve has attained achievements and accolades in his career that few could hope to emulate, he has been one of the most down-to-earth, friendly and approachable members in our organization. Those in the NCACC who consider Steve a good friend are counted by the score, and he has always been one to go out of his way to make new members feel welcome. Many has been the night when Steve has been found chatting up new members in the hospitality suite. In that same vein, when the Indiana Supreme Court hired Kevin Smith as its Administrator in 2004, Steve immediately contacted Kevin to make him feel welcome and to serve as a resource during Kevin's transition from private practice to court administration. Since then, although Steve and Kevin were "peers" at an organizational level, Steve provided mentoring, advice, and friendship that Kevin found invaluable. "I will always be grateful for the years I worked with Steve, his friendship, and his example," Kevin said. "I can't imagine what the last 11 years would have been like if someone else had been in his position. He will be sorely missed."

After 48 years of public service, military and civilian, Steve has announced his retirement from his post as the Administrator of the Indiana Court of Appeals. He does so with the respect and admiration of his judges and colleagues at the Court of Appeals, his former military comrades, and all of us in the NCACC. We echo the words of Senior Judge John Sharpnack of the Indiana Court of Appeals when he said of Steve, "We are much the better for his having been here."

We wish Steve and his wife, Pauline, a long and enjoyable retirement.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE APPROACHING

Amy Reitz

If you are uncertain whether or not your court will fund your attendance at the annual meeting in Snowbird, Utah this August, please consider applying for a scholarship. The application is posted on the NCACC website at:

[2015 Scholarship Application](#)

The scholarship criteria are detailed in the NCACC directory—Committee Operational Guidelines/NCACC Scholarship Committee.

Please submit your scholarship application to Barry Forrest, National Center for State Courts, by May 1, 2015. If you apply for a scholarship and later discover that your court will fund your trip, please advise the Scholarship Committee.

Feel free to contact Amy Reitz, Scholarship Committee Chair, at amy.reitz@sc.ohio.gov, if you have any questions or comments. Thank you! Hope to see you in Snowbird.

IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAM (BILL) S. FULTON

By: The Membership Committee

I was asked to write about William Fulton for the Docket and I don't want to, because I want someone better to do Bill justice. To better tell how nice he was, how his eyes twinkled, especially when he smiled or told a story. How just being around him made me feel important, happy, so glad just to be there. To explain how he and his wife Marjorie brought so much to the association. But I can't stop thinking about Bill and how much I admired him and his wife, Marjorie, and how he never shirked his duty, ever. So, dear Bill, here I will try and not let you down.

I only knew Bill and his wife through the conference. They are one of the pivotal reasons the conference means so much to me. As a new member, he was exceedingly welcoming and accepting of me. Marjorie even more so if that's possible. If you ever had the chance to sit at the same table with Bill, you will know what I mean when I say there was not a more enjoyable tablemate. The conversations were always delightful, imaginative and informative. He was not the most talkative, but he had a way of being the heart of the group and when he spoke, we were all sure to hang on his every word. As a member of the Executive Committee, he was thoughtful, resourceful and usually the one with the best ideas. Rarely the one to speak first, unless necessary, he always wanted to hear what everyone had to offer. He always had something to add to the discussion. And he was always there if you needed help. For my money, the two most important roles for a member are as Program Chair and the other Host. Bill was both. His program for 1996 was tops. His hosting was a thing of beauty. Remarkably so because of the circumstances surrounding how he came to be host for the 1992 conference in Washington DC.

Now I believe hosting is the most rewarding role one can undertake for the conference, but it is also the most difficult, time consuming and at times, the most nerve-wracking. And that is for those who become hosts by choice. They have more than two years to plan and prepare, so that most of the work is done well in advance. Bill, however, did not have that amount of time. See he jumped in and rescued the conference when the scheduled host bowed out, left us at almost the last minute. Leaving whoever succeeded him to pick up the pieces. But, in this case, there weren't many pieces to pick up as not much had been done.

We needed the Navy to save the ship that was heading in the wrong direction and floundering. The Air Force to pilot the plane that wasn't just off course—it had no course and was diving. The Marines to land and take the high ground. But better yet, we had Colonel William S. Fulton U S Army (ret), and thank our lucky stars, he came to our rescue. William Fulton was the man of the hour. He pulled it all together at the last minute and, for those of us fortunate to attend that conference, enjoyed as fine an annual meeting as ever was. He and the Program Chair Nancy Foley are forever in our gratitude.

My membership in the NCACC means a lot to me because of the great members. I know of no greater member that it has been my privilege to know and consider my friend than Bill Fulton. He and his wife, Marjorie, truly exemplify that membership in the NCACC is membership in a family. Dear Bill, thank you for all that you and Marjorie have done for the NCACC, for all that you brought to the Conference, accepting me into your group and for being you. Missed but not forgotten.

JOB OPENING AS COURT OF APPEALS ADMINISTRATOR JUDICIAL BRANCH OF INDIANA

Fellow NCACC Members,

After 28+ years of military service and 20 years as the administrator of the Court of Appeals of Indiana, I have decided to retire at the end of September. I have thoroughly enjoyed being an active member of the NCACC and hope to continue being involved after I retire. Pauline and I will be attending the conference in Snowbird, Utah.

The Court is actively seeking applicants. This is a great job and there is no inside track on this position.

The job announcement is posted on the Court's website:

<http://www.in.gov/judiciary/4260.htm>

Steve Lancaster

UPDATE ON CLOUD COMPUTING

IJIS Institute recently published an information brief on [Cloud Computing for the Courts](#). The brief offers courts an introduction to cloud computing and some of the benefits and challenges. The [IJIS Institute](#) is a nonprofit organization that represents industry's leading companies who collaborate with local, state, tribal, and federal agencies to provide technical assistance, training, and support services for information exchange and technology initiatives.

