June, 2009 Volume 38, Issue 4

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"Thar's Gold in Them Thar Hills !"

by Deena Fawcett (CA)

This was the most heard cry from the floods of immigrants who came from all over the world in a crazy, mad rush to find their fortunes in the hills surrounding Sacramento. The year was 1849--the year of the "Gold Rush." This year in 2009 the rush to Sacramento will provide you with a "golden" educational opportunity in the 36th Annual National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks!

This exciting week starts with registration on Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The dress for this year's conference is California casual. Part 1 of the business meeting kicks off the beginning of the conference on Sunday. Remember to bring your silent auction item for the auction on Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. This important donation benefits the education fund. Due to positive feedback, BNA will once again host a dessert reception on Sunday. This will enable members and their families to have dinner on their own after the business meeting and return to share in the scrumptious desserts while enjoying the welcoming smiles, hugs, and greetings of those we haven't seen in a year and those that are new to our conference. Tom Hall is diligently working on the Morgan Thomas Slide Show. For those that can't remember, you will be reminded of what happened in Pittsburgh!

Monday begins a week of education and social events that will be very memorable. Steve Kenyon and the Program Committee developed an inspiring program that will capture the attention of the members. For those that wish to participate, each morning at 7:30 a.m., roundtable discussions will be held on various topics. Monday has a rich education session. That evening the Thomson West event is scheduled at the California State Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento. The building of the transcontinental railroad began 1863 and was completed in 1869. This railroad linked the east and west coasts. The Railroad Museum houses many historic rail cars and will take you back in history as you board the famous Pullman Sleeper Car. Once again West will host a remarkable event filled with music, food, and beverages. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, or each evening as time permits, the exciting four square tournament will be held on the swimming pool deck of the second floor. Be sure to bring your tennies and be ready for fun! The hotel has promised that they will not boot us out! (Remember last year?!) As tradition has it, after our educational session on Tuesday, the annual golf tournament will be held at the Haggin Oaks Golf Complex. Public tennis courts are available at McKinley Park for those that choose to hold a racket instead of a club. Wednesday is for the early birds. The fun run/walk (I usually find that most walk)

(Continued on page 17)

Call for the Annual Meeting

President Tom Hall, through Secretary Trish Harrington, and pursuant to the provisions of Article V, Section 5, of the Bylaws, hereby issues the call for the annual meeting of the Conference of Appellate Court Clerks to be held at the Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza, Sacramento, California, beginning Sunday, August 2, 2009, and continuing through Friday, August 7, 2009.

Respectfully submitted, Trish Harrington Secretary



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THE DOCKET

News of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks

Tom Hall (FL)
Susan Stokley-Clary (KY)
William A. DeCicco (DC)
Steve Lancaster (IN)
Patricia Harrington (VA)
Marilyn May (AK)
John Tarlton Olivier (LA)
Rory L. Perry, II (WV)
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EEP US INFORMED!!

To Remit NCACC Membership Dues: National Center of State Courts 300 Newport Avenue Williamsburg, VA 23185



THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Tom Hall (FL)

Hopefully a lot of you have now finalized your plans for the annual conference this year in Sacramento, California. Host Deena Fawcett and her staff along with Program Chair, Steve Kenyon, and his committee, and Vendor Chair, Cynthia Rapp, have been hard at work. From all indications they have a wonderful conference planned. I really hope to see you there. If you haven't made your plans, it is not too late. I am sure Deena and the hotel can find room for you.

It has been a busy year. But I do not really need to tell you that, since virtually eve-

ryone serves on some committee. There is no question that one of the major strengths of our Conference is the commitment everyone makes. We got a lot of things done this year and you will hear all about them during the committee reports in Sacramento.

The Executive Committee had two very productive meetings; one hosted by the Montana Supreme Court Clerk, Ed Smith, at our 2010 meeting place: Grouse Mountain Lodge in Whitefish, Montana. Put the 2010 meeting on your calendar now. Whitefish is a great place. You and your family will love it. The other Executive Committee meeting was in Tallahassee, Florida. Not nearly as picturesque as Whitefish, but still fun – despite the rain the entire weekend.

I want to personally thank the officers, Susan Clary, Bill DeCicco, Steve Lancaster, Trish Harrington, and, Marilyn May for all their hard work. The rest of the Executive Committee members, John Olivier, Rory Perry, Cynthia Rapp, Rex Renk, Mike Richie, and Sherry Williamson, also contributed greatly and never backed away from anything I asked of them. Until you're on the Executive Committee it is difficult to understand the time commitment required. Despite that, I know each of us who are members enjoy it.

As I move from President to Immediate Past President, I truly have mixed emotions. Immediate Past President is decidedly one of the best positions in our Conference, but it also means I will soon stop attending Executive Committee meetings. I have been attending Executive Committee meetings for 7 years now. While the last thing I need in my life is another meeting, I will very much miss attending because of the chance to interact with the people who attend the meetings.

I also want to thank Deena, Steve and Cynthia for all they have done to get the conference ready in Sacramento. I also cannot thank Collette Bruggman and Les Steen enough. Both of them were extremely helpful to me this year in many capacities. And, as far as non-members go, I would be remiss not to thank Brenda Stephens for all of the help and assistance she provides in preparing *The Docket*.

It has not been an easy year. We lost Marj Fulton and Charlie Clary. They will be missed and our prayers are with their families. One of our members, Diana Pratt-Wyatt, is battling serious health issues and she likewise is in our prayers. I am sure there are others I am not aware of.

When I first joined NCACC, I was told, "It is like a big family." After 9 years as a member I can truly attest it is.

See you in Sacramento!

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF APPELLATE COURT CLERKS THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Sunday, August 3, 2008 to Thursday, August 7, 2008

Call to Order:

President Steve Lancaster (IN) called the Thirty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks to order at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 3, 2008. President Lancaster welcomed all in attendance and gave the history of the association's gavel. He introduced David Beach (VA) as the Parliamentarian for the meeting. President Lancaster also introduced special invited guests.

Roll Call of States:

Secretary Bessie Decker (MD) called the roll of states, recognizing each person registered and present. David Beach acknowledged the presence of a quorum to President Lancaster.

Approval of the Minutes:

President Lancaster noted that the minutes of the Thirty-Fourth Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana were published in the June, 2008 issue of *The Docket* and he called for a motion to waive the reading of the minutes. Ken deBlanc (LA) moved that the reading of the minutes be waived. Penny Miller (ND) seconded the motion. All present voted in favor of the motion; none opposed. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Educational Fund:

Colette Bruggman (ND) reported the Educational Fund was fairly active this year. The committee was directed to hire a fund raising consultant. The committee put out the proposal in November and at the April Executive Committee meeting two candidates were interviewed – one in person and one by phone; also one withdrew. The Executive Committee then retained the services of Gadd Guillot Enterprises as our fund raising consultant.

Education Fund Campaign:

Colette Bruggman (ND) reported President Lancaster appointed the members of this committee and they are Bill DeCicco (DC), Marilyn May (AK), Diana Pratt-Wyatt (LA), Sherie Welch (GA) and Colette will be the chairperson. She stated this committee is in the fund raising stage for the Education Fund and has been very active over the past few months refining the NCACC case statement. This will be posted on the website and in *The Docket*. Colette stated this meeting is the official fund raising kick off and she shared the history and time line since 2001 on how this campaign came to be. She introduced Michael Guillot and he made a presentation to the conference on the campaign process.

Before any further committee reports were given, President Lancaster called for a motion to defer approval of the committee reports until Thursday, August 7, 2008. Colette Bruggman (ND) made such a motion,

which was seconded by Diana Pratt-Wyatt (LA). All present voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Awards Committee:

Laura Roy (MO) reported the J.O. Sentell Award will be given at the banquet on Thursday night. She thanked the committee members. Laura asked as to the Trailblazer Award, if a member has a funny story to share regarding their trip to the conference this year. If so, please see a committee member.

Bylaws Committee:

Chris Crow (LA) reported the proposed bylaw changes regarding the Technology Committee were published in *The Docket*. These changes pertain to the responsibility of the website. She will distribute copies of the changes tomorrow and they will be voted on at the business meeting on Thursday.

Convention Assistance Committee:

Deena Fawcett (CA) recognized and thanked the committee members. She also thanked the members that helped compile the conference binders. Deena stated the silent auction would be running from 2 to 5 p.m. today in the back of the meeting room. The proceeds benefit the Educational Fund. Orientation for family members would be from 3:30 to 4 p.m. today. She stated a welcoming reception would be at 7 p.m. tonight with desserts hosted by BNA and NCACC. The Morgan Thomas Slide Show will be held after the reception. The hospitality suite will be open at 10 p.m. tonight in room 816. She stated after the business meeting on Thursday there will be a presentation on Sacramento, CA and materials were available on a table in back of the meeting room.

Finance and Investment Committee:

Marilyn May (AK) thanked the members of the committee. She stated NetBank failed this year but we had insurance and the transfer of monies went smoothly. She stated the committee had two assignments this year: (1) to segregate out the CATO and Educational Fund monies into separate accounts; and (2) to make a possible recommendation for a dues increase. The committee recommended against raising the dues this year. The committee developed a budget for the first time. Copies of the financial statements and the budget were given to the membership for its review.

Membership Committee:

Holly Sparrow (GA) reported as of the end of June we have 227 members. This number is down from last year because the committee contacted members and removed ones that were not paying dues any longer or have went into private employment. The committee submitted two proposals regarding membership which were: (1) automatic removal of a member if they have not paid their dues in two years; and (2) if a member has not paid their dues within one year, the committee will contact the member to see if they wish to continue membership. She stated membership was divided by groups of states and committee members contacted these states on a quarterly basis to see if there were any potential new members. Holly thanked her committee members. The committee this year was asked to address the following policy issues: redefining classes of membership; establishing a single membership year for all members; a mentors program for new members; and being allowed to purge members automatically.

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Nominating Committee:

Terence Lord (MO) thanked his committee members for their work. He presented the slate of officers for 2008-2009:

Executive Committee:	Rex Renk (MT) Michael Richie (OK) Sherry Williamson (TX)
Secretary:	Trish Harrington (VA)
Vice President:	William DeCicco (DC)

Past Presidents Committee:

Sandra Skinner (MO) stated the committee has been working on how to digitize the thousands of slides we have of past conferences so they could be available for our website or just for someone who would be interested within the conference. The committee first looked at getting a company to digitize the slides but it would cost us 50 to 60 cents a piece. Presently the committee, along with the Executive Committee, are looking into purchasing a piece of equipment that we can digitize the slides ourselves. President Lancaster stated Leslie Gradet (MD) is continuing to collect letters and documents and the committee is looking at how to store these documents for historical purposes.

Pictorial Directory:

Kelly McNeely (LA) reported the directories were mailed out by Thomson West in June. He thanked the members of the committee and stated if anyone had any suggestions for the directory to please join the committee.

Program Committee:

Rory Perry (WV) thanked all the members of the committee including his Deputy Clerk, Edythe Nash (WV) for all her work and Steve Kenyon as Vice Chairperson and being in charge of the vendor show. He stated the program is pretty straight forward this year and the committee produced booklets found with the registration packets. There will be round table discussions again this year to be held between 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. each morning. If you have any ideas or suggestions, Rory encouraged people to contact Steve Kenyon since he will be the Program Chair next year. Cynthia Rapp will be handling the program in Montana in 2010. He encouraged people to attend the critique breakfast to share ideas and suggestions. The vendor showcases will continue again this year which will be held on Wednesday.

Publication Committee:

Diana Pratt-Wyatt (LA) thanked her committee members. She reported all issues of *The Docket* were printed on time. She encouraged membership to submit articles on any projects they may be involved in such as e-filing, etc. to share with the members.

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Public Relations Committee:

Ron Carpenter (WA) thanked his Committee members. He reported the committee discussed publishing a condensed version of *The Docket* to give to people outside of the conference but decided not to pursue this idea. The committee submitted and published an article featuring President Lancaster in the *Journal of the Indiana Bar Association* which was also included in *The Docket*. The committee is currently working on an article about Tom Hall (FL). A press release for this conference was sent out to seven different papers.

Scholarship Committee:

Dan Shearouse (SC) thanked committee members. The committee received six applicants this year and they were all approved. He stated the applicants doubled this year and he thinks it is because of the economy. The Executive Committee approved approximately \$5,600 scholarships. The committee submitted a few guideline suggestions to the Executive Committee.

Site Selection Committee:

Lisa Matz (TX) thanked all members of the committee. The committee made two recommendations this year to the Executive Committee. The first recommendation was to amend the due date when bids need to be submitted and the second was to recommend Annapolis, Maryland as the site of the 2011 Conference with Bessie Decker (MD) and Cynthia Rapp (DC) as co-hosts. President Lancaster stated the Executive Committee did approve Annapolis as the site for the 2011 Conference.

Strategic Planning Committee:

Michael Richie (OK) reported the committee dealt with one difficult issue this year and that was regarding the role of retired members in our organization. The Committee made recommendations to the Executive Committee but decisions have been deferred to the Fall Executive Committee meeting. He thanked the Membership Committee because some recommended changes would affect that committee as well. The committee also reviewed the listserv and who should have access to it.

Technology Committee:

John Olivier (LA) stated the committee has been working on the definitions and reporting of statistics by the National Center for State Courts. He stated there will be a presentation on Tuesday morning and also break out sessions with the National Center.

President Lancaster announced at 4:05 p.m. the adjournment of the meeting until Thursday at noon.

The Thirty-Fifth Annual Business Meeting resumed at 12 noon on Thursday, August 7, 2008, with a call to order by President Lancaster. David Beach, the Parliamentarian, noted the presence of a quorum.

President Lancaster asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented on Sunday. Rory Perry (WV) moved that the minutes be approved. Deena Fawcett (CA) seconded the motion. All present voted in

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favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Bylaws Committee:

Norm Herring (DC) thanked the members of the committee. He presented a proposed amendment to the Bylaws, Article VII, Section 3(C)(14) below:

Present Language:

<u>Technology Committee.</u> The purpose of this committee is to provide technical support and advice to appellate court clerks and their staffs and to coordinate electronic communications between the conference and other organizations.

Proposed Language:

<u>Technology Committee.</u> The purpose of this committee is: (1) to provide technical support and advice to appellate court clerks and their staffs; (2) to coordinate electronic communications between the conference and other organizations; and (3) to oversee the maintenance of the NCACC web page as the Executive Committee directs.

Fritz Ohlrich (CA) moved to accept the proposed bylaw changes. Christie Cameron (SC) seconded the motion. All present voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee:

Chris Crow (LA) repeated the names of the persons nominated for election to the offices indicated below:

For the Executive Committee:	Rex Renk (MT)
	Michael Richie (OK)
	Sherry Williamson (TX)
For Secretary:	Trish Harrington (VA)
For Vice-President:	William DeCicco (DC)

President Lancaster asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, Christie Cameron (SC) moved to close the nominations and elect each nominee by acclamation. Ken deBlanc (LA) seconded the motion. All present voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried and those members were elected.

Resolutions and Memorials Committee:

Rex Renk (MT), on behalf of the Chairperson Pete Fitzgerald (LA) thanked the members of the committee. Rex presented resolutions for adoption by the NCACC to the individuals and organizations listed below for their contributions to a successful conference:

35th Annual Meeting co-hosts: Irene M. Bizzoso, Deputy Prothonotary, Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Middle District; John Vaskov, Deputy Prothonotary, Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Western District;

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(Minutes continued from page 8)

Karen Reid Bramblett, Prothonotary, Superior Court of Pennsylvania; Eleanor Valecko, Deputy Prothonotary, Superior Court of Pennsylvania; Charles O'Conner, Jr., Deputy Prothonotary, Superior Court of Pennsylvania; John Moyer, Deputy Prothonotary, Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania; Kristen Brown, Prothonotary, Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania Program Committee Chair Rory Perry (WV) and members of the Committee. Vendor Show Coordinator Stephen W. Kenyon (ID) Convention Assistance Committee Chair Deena Fawcett (CA) and members of the Committee. The Docket Editor Diana Pratt-Wyatt and her assistant, Brenda Stephens (LA) Dwight Opperman, Key Investment, Inc. Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel, Allison Krawec, Sales Manager; Dante DeRienzo, Director of Catering; Melanie Koscelnak, Director of Group Sales; Ryan Hunt, **Convention Services Manager** Quicksilver Golf Course National Center for State Courts, Brenda A. Williams, Account Executive Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center Amy Ceraso, Director of Judicial Automation and Ralph Hunsicker, Senior Projects Director, Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts Kennywood Amusement Park Sandra (Sandy) Minner, Appellate Court Clerk, Pennsylvania Supreme Court **Partners and Showcases**

Thomson West represented by Dave George, Manager – Government Relations; Tom Leighton, Vice President, Content Acquisition; Nancy Owens, Senior Content Acquisition Specialist; Rob Mosimann, Senior Content Acquisition Specialist; Hollie Machen, Government Account Representative; Stacey Richards, Government Regional Manager LexisNexis represented by Dawn Conway, Vice President, Global Licensing and Content Acquisition; Nikki Daugherty, Director, Government Relations and Contracts; Dee Davis, Manager, Global Data Fabrication; Anne Thompson, Content Specialist

Sponsor

Bureau of National Affairs, Inc., represented by Karyn S. Bowie, Manager, Judicial Opinions

Contributor

Loislaw, A Wolters Kluwer brand, represented by Sue Rogers

Exhibitors and Showcases

ErgoGenesis, represented by Bill Anderson, Territorial Sales Manager LT Court Tech LLC represented by Manoj Jain, Vice President Justice Systems, Inc., represented by Gary Sapp, Software Engineer; Mary Ann Dix, Documentation Specialist

Christie Cameron (SC) moved to accept the report of the Resolutions and Memorials Committee. Michael Richie (OK) seconded the motion. All present voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

President's Report:

President Lancaster thanked Rory Perry (WV) for a great program this year. He also thanked Steve Kenyon for his work on the Vendor Show. President Lancaster stated there were members going off the Executive Committee that he wanted to personally thank. They were: Sandra Skinner (MO) as Past President;

(Continued on page 10)

Bessie Decker (MD) as Secretary and the Executive Committee members: Colette Bruggman (ND), Chris Crow (LA) and Jim Pelzer (NY). He reported Joe Lane (CA) represented NCACC at the NACOM meeting and Tom Hall (FL) represented NCACC at the Council of Chief Justices Meeting and COSCA's annual meeting in Alaska.

Adoption of Committee Reports:

Ken deBlanc (LA) moved to approve all of the committee reports. Deena Fawcett (CA) seconded the motion. All present voted in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m. on August 7, 2008.

[After adjournment, Deena Fawcett (CA), host clerk for the 2009 annual meeting, made a presentation on next year's conference in Sacramento, California.]

Respectfully submitted,

Bessie Decker NCACC Secretary

Dear NCACC:

As some of you may have heard, and others probably not, I will be leaving the Court of Appeals in Fort Worth, Texas. My last day at the court is scheduled for June 30, 2009. I will be moving to Oxford, England with my husband's job relocation. I am sad to leave the court. It's been a great job with wonderful people. But I am excited about the new opportunity.

I will definitely miss seeing everyone at the NCACC conference every year. Unfortunately, I don't think I'll be able to make it to California this year but I wish everyone the best for a fantastic conference. I know it will be great!!

I wanted to pass along my personal email address. If you ever need anything please let me know.

Home email: stephanie.m.robinson@hotmail.com

Sincerely, Stephanie Robinson (formerly Lavake) Clerk of the Court, Second Court of Appeals Fort Worth, TX





We extend our sympathy to William S. Fulton, Jr., Clerk (retired) of the U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals in the death of his wife, Marjorie P. Fulton on February 24, 2009.

Marjorie Fulton was a resident of The Fairfax retirement community at Ft. Belvoir, and a member of the Army JAGC Wives' club. A service honoring her life was held on Thursday, March 5, 2009 at the Arlington National Cemetery.



Facts, Fiction, & Foolishness

As this summer's conference in Sacramento nears, it is time for our annual travel advisory. Because most of us will be flying into the Golden State, we thought it would be appropriate to publish some airline announcements we found recently. The state motto for California is, "Eureka! I have found it!" Let's hope our pilots are so lucky.

Giving safety instructions, "There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only four ways out of this airplane."

As the plane landed and was coming to a stop at Ronald Reagan, a lone voice came over the loudspeaker, "Whoa, big fella. WHOA!!!"

After a particularly rough landing during a thunderstorm in Memphis, a flight attendant on Northwest Airlines announced, "Please take care when opening the overhead compartments because sure as hell everything shifted after a landing like that."

Another flight attendant's comment on a less than perfect landing, "We ask you to please remain seated as Captain Kangaroo bounces us to the terminal."

Overheard on an American Airlines flight into Amarillo on a particularly windy and bumpy day and after an extremely hard landing, the flight attendant said, "Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to Amarillo. Please remain in your seats with the seat belts fastened while the captain taxis what's left of our airplane to the gate."

On an overseas flight, "Your seat cushions can be used for flotation, and in the event of an emergency water landing, please paddle to shore and take them with our compliments."

Heard on Southwest Airlines just after a very hard landing in Phoenix, the stewardess announced, "That was quite a bump, and I know what y'all are thinking. I'm here to tell you is wasn't the airline's fault, it wasn't the captain's fault, it wasn't the flight attendants' fault, is was the asphalt."

Part of an arrival announcement, "We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized aluminum tube, we hope you will think of us at US Air."

After a real crusher of a landing in Phoenix, the attendant came on with, "Ladies and gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Captain Crash and the crew have brought the aircraft to a screeching halt against the gate. Once the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are silenced, we'll open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the terminal."

And, finally, after the plane reached a comfortable cruising altitude, the captain made an announcement, "Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Welcome to Flight 293 nonstop from New York to Los Angeles. (This is getting close to our destination) The weather ahead is good and we should have an uneventful flight. Now sit back and relax . . . OH MY GOD!!! Then, silence. After several minutes, the captain came back on, "Ladies and gentlemen, I am so sorry if I scared you earlier. While I was talking to you, the flight attendant spilled hot coffee in my lap. You should see the front of my pants." A passenger in coach yelled, "That's nothing! You should see the back of mine!!"

Here's hoping for a smooth landing and clean pants. See you in Sacramento.



36th Annual Meeting Schedule - Education Program

August 2-7, 2009 Sacramento, CA

By Steve Kenyon (ID)

Sunday, August 2, 2009

- Registration
- Welcome Meeting
- Roll Call of the States, Business Meeting Part I

Monday, August 3, 2009 (Four Sessions)

8:40 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. Session Topic: Intergenerational Leadership

Presenter: Dr. David Whitfield, President *LEADERSHIP* Inc. Natalie A. Mattson, Senior Consultant *LEADERSHIP* Inc.

10:20 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 Noon Topic: Personal/Court Security Issues

12:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. Session Topic: Metadata Electronic Document Issues

2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Topic: Ethics

Tuesday, August 4, 2009 (Two Sessions)

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Topic: "What's Bugging You?"

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. - 12:00 Noon Topic: NCACC Statistics Model

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Golf

Wednesday, August 5, 2009 (Three Sessions) 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Session Topic: ADA and the Courts

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Break

Presenter: Malcom Franklin, California AOC

Presenter: Rick Borstein, Adobe, Inc.

Presenter: Dr. Jeffrey Thompson BYU Marriott School of Business

Presenter: William Raferty, NCSC

Presenter: Linda McCollough, California AOC

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10:30 a.m 11:45 a.m. (Panel Discussion) Topic: Electronic Filing Issues	Moderator: Rory Perry, (WV)
12:00 Noon - 5:00 p.m. Vendor Expo	
Thursday, August 6, 2009 (Four Sessions) 7:00 a.m NCACC Fun Run	
8:30 a.m 10:15 a.m. Topic: Investing in Today's World	Presenter: Jim Niehaus
 10:20 a.m 12:00 Noon Breakout Sessions (50 min. Breakout) Breakout I 10:20 a.m 11:10 a.m. * Death Penalty Panel 	
* Budgets - Current Developments (panel discussion)* Retirement Options	Presenter, Kevin Smith
Breakout II 11:10 a.m 12:00 Noon * Death Penalty Panel * Perdector Correct Developments (correct discovering)	
* Budgets - Current Developments (panel discussion)* Retirement Options	Presenter, Kevin Smith

12:00 Noon - 1:30 p.m. Annual Business Meeting / Executive Committee Meeting

5:00 p.m. Banquet

Friday, August 7, 2009 Critique Session

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Bill DeCicco (USCAAF)

The Executive Committee has voted in favor of submitting the following change to the bylaws for a vote by the general membership at this summer's meeting. Under Article XI of the by-laws, it is to be published in *The Docket*.

The new language would add a new standing committee as section 3(c)(16) to Article VII of the bylaws:

(16) Contract Committee. The purpose of this committee is to review any contract referred to it by the President or the Executive Committee. The committee shall report its recommendation to the President and the Executive Committee.

Lawyer Ethics and Technology: Wireless Computer Networks Part II

By Daniel J. Crothers All rights reserved

This is the fourth in a series of articles about the lawyer's ethical use of technology¹. This is Part II of two pieces examining ethical implications of communicating confidential client information using wireless computer networks. Part I provided an overview of technical issues about wireless networks². Having that background, Part II will focus on some of the ethical and legal issues surrounding wireless local area networks ("WLANs").

Client Confidentiality

The confidentiality obligation under Rule 1.6 of the North Dakota Rules of Professional Responsibility requires that "[a] lawyer shall not reveal information relating to the representation of the client unless the client consents."³ This article addresses whether a lawyer can use a wireless computer network and still satisfy the requirements of Rule 1.6.

The short answer is "yes, if...." The longer and more accurate answer builds on the technical background covered in Part I of my November SBAND *Gavel* article.

The November article introduced peer-to-peer networking, where one computer connects directly to another computer or group of computers via wireless networking cards. The danger of peer-to-peer networking is that all information on each "peer" computer usually will be accessible to other "peers." Lawyers utilizing this type of open networking must, at a minimum, use password protection at the program, folder or file level to ensure privacy of confidential information on their computer.

Looking more broadly to traditional WLANs using a wireless access point, there is the potential for exposing data to third parties during transmission and storage. In each case, securing data to satisfy ethical requirements is relatively easy once we understand the problems presented by use of an unsecured WLAN.

(Continued on page 15)

²Daniel J. Crothers, <u>Wireless Computer Networks, Part I, *The Gavel*, November 2008, at 12-13, available at http://www.sband.org/data/gavelupfiles/nov08.pdf.</u>

³The pertinent part of the Rule provides:

(a) A lawyer shall not reveal information relating to the representation of the client unless the client consents, the disclosure is impliedly authorized in order to carry out the representation, or the disclosure is required by paragraph (b) or permitted by paragraph (c). The duty of confidentiality continues after the lawyer-client relationship has terminated.

N.D.R. Prof. Conduct 1.6(a).

¹The first article discussed using email while preserving the lawyer's duty of confidentiality and preserving the attorney-client privilege. Daniel J. Crothers, <u>Lawyer Ethics and Technology: Email Confidentiality</u>, *The Gavel*, May 2008, at 12-13, available at http://www.sband.org/data/gavelupfiles/May08.pdf. The second article covered confidentiality issues arising with the use of cellular and portable telephones. Daniel J. Crothers, <u>Telephone Confidentiality</u>, *The Gavel*, August 2008, at 24-25, available at http://www.sband.org/data/gavelupfiles/August08.pdf.

An unsecured WLAN permits anyone with a wireless network card to access the network. That access may merely permit use of the network's internet connection. However, the access also has the potential of publically exposing every byte of information in the network. The remedy is protection of network data by a hardware or software firewall.⁴ Absent a functioning firewall, access to programs and files should be protected by meaningful passwords.

Using an unsecured WLAN permits anyone with a wireless network card to access the WLAN and to intercept the radio signal between the access point and WLAN users. For users who control the WLAN, the easy remedy is to activate the many reasonably reliable access controls available on or with the access point.⁵ For those who must access an unsecured WLAN, found for example in a hotel or airport, VPN software or a VPN type website should be utilized.⁶ Without a VPN, users of an unsecured WLAN should take care to not transmit confidential client information. I have not located an ethics opinion or disciplinary proceeding saying it is unethical for lawyers to use an unencrypted WLAN connection, but I expect the loss of confidential client information.

Wardrivers and Piggybackers

As if needed, WLAN owners have other reasons to limit access to those using their sites. "Wardriving is driving around a city searching for the existence of Wireless LAN (802.11) Networks. Its locating and logging wireless access points while in motion. Often, this task is automated using dedicated wardriving software and a GPS Device."⁷ Wardriving software, equipment needs and instructions are freely available on the internet.⁸ Often, wardrivers will assemble WLAN locations on a map which is available on the internet, thus sharing their "finds" with others.⁹

Wardrivers' actions *may* be harmless and their intentions *may* be innocent. However, "piggybackers" are out to make unauthorized use of a WLAN. "Piggybacking is a term used to refer to access of a wireless internet connection by bringing one's own computer within the range of another's wireless connection, and using that service without the subscriber's explicit permission or knowledge."¹⁰ The legality and ethics of piggybacking

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⁴<u>See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Firewall (</u>"A firewall is an integrated collection of security measures designed to prevent unauthorized electronic access to a networked computer system. It is also a device or set of devices configured to permit, deny, encrypt, decrypt, or proxy all computer traffic between different security domains based upon a set of rules and other criteria.").

⁵See, e.g., Delcourt, <u>How To Secure Your Wireless Network</u>, <u>http://www.housebound.com.au/how/How%</u> 20to%20secure%20your%20wireless%20network.pdf

⁶Crothers, <u>supra</u> at note 2.

⁷http://www.wardrive.net/

⁸See Id., http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/wardriving and www.wardriving.com

⁹See http://wiki.personaltelco.net/WarDriving

¹⁰http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piggybacking_(internet_access) ("A customer of a business providing hotspot service, such as a hotel or cafe, is generally not considered to be piggybacking, though non-customers or those outside the premises may be.").

is beyond the scope of this article.¹¹ Within the scope of this article is that permitting a piggybacker open access to a WLAN carries many risks.

One risk is that the piggybacker will use a WLAN to distribute SPAM, which at best will cause slower internet access.¹² At worst, the WLAN owner might be prosecuted for criminal activity if a piggybacker uses the site to send or receive unlawful materials such as child pornography. One such case is <u>United States v. Perez</u>, 484 F.3d 735 (5th Cir. 2007), where the defendant argued his open access WLAN deprived the government of probable cause to obtain a warrant to search his computer. Perez' argument, rejected by the Fifth Circuit, was that anyone in the neighborhood could have used his internet connection to download pornography so that it was not fairly probable that HE downloaded pornography.¹³

Both the <u>Carter</u> and the <u>Perez</u> decisions contain useful information about dangers associated with open wireless access points. Reviewing those opinions is recommended for anyone attempting to weigh their ethical and legal risks when operating and using a WLAN.

Conclusion

I close this article by emphasizing that all lawyers have an obligation to sufficiently understand technology so they may comply with their ethical obligations in connection with clients they represent.¹⁴ In this case, wireless computer networks produce a varied risk of inadvertent disclosure of confidential client information. Lawyers therefore must exercise caution and use their informed professional judgment when using a WLAN to transact business on behalf of their client.

¹²See <u>United States v. Carter</u>, 549 F.Supp.2d 1257, 1264 (D. Nev. 2008)

¹³Similar arguments were made and rejected in <u>See United States v. Carter</u>, 549 F.Supp.2d 1257 (D. Nev. 2008) and <u>United States v. Latham</u>, No. 2:06-cr-379-LDG (GWF), 2007 WL 4563459 (D. Nev. Dec. 18, 2007).

¹⁴See e.g. N.Y. State Bar Ethics Op. 782 (2004): "A lawyer who uses technology to communicate with clients must use reasonable care with respect to such communication, and therefore must assess the risks attendant to the use of that technology and determine if the mode of transmission is appropriate under the circumstances."

¹¹<u>See</u> N.D.C.C. § 12.1-06.1-08 Computer fraud-Computer crime-Classification-Penalty. For additional information, <u>see</u> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legality_of_Piggybacking ("Laws regarding 'unauthorized access of a computer network' exist in many locales, including the U.S. federal government, all 50 U.S. states, and other countries, though the wording and meaning differ from one to the next. However, the interpretation of terms like 'access' and 'authorization' is not clear, and there is no general agreement on whether piggybacking (intentional access of an open Wi-Fi network without harmful intent) falls under this classification. Some jurisdictions prohibit it, some permit it, and others are not well-defined").

(Sacramento, continued from page 1)

commences at 6:30 a.m. Cynthia Rapp, our vendor chair, developed a great vendor show that follows the morning educational sessions. Make sure you visit all of the vendors to see the "latest and greatest" innovations. Lexis is finalizing the details on Wednesday evening for a yacht cruise on the river with dinner, music, and dancing at a local restaurant. Also, Lexis is sponsoring a book drive to benefit children in the community. Further information will be available later. This brings us to the last day of education—Thursday. The breakout sessions are followed by the business meeting. That evening the banquet will be held on the top floor of the hotel overlooking the Sacramento landscape. (Did you know that Sacramento is also known as "The City of Trees"? I didn't know this until a couple of years ago when I saw this information painted on a water tower. Interesting...) The dress for the banquet will be tropical casual to cocktail or a combination of both. Be sure to visit the hospitality suite after the banquet to observe the distribution of the awards. Friday's critique breakfast is a "must attend." The feedback and suggestions given at this breakfast help improve the conference every year. Immediately following the breakfast a bus will leave for the El Dorado County wine area located about an hour from Sacramento. Box lunches are included with the wine tour. El Dorado County is one of the few wine producing counties in California that contains only mountain vineyards. The wine tour will visit three wineries within close proximity to one another. If time permits, additional wineries may be visited. These wineries are known for "making vibrantly flavorful, distinctly delicious wines, grown in the dramatic elevations of the Sierra Nevada." Don't pass up this opportunity to taste some fabulous wines and have fun doing it!

Following is a little history about Sacramento to entice you to spend your extra time exploring and experiencing the very roots of this area. I'm sure you will find an activity that works for you while you're in California's beautiful capitol city.

Just 200 years ago the Sacramento area was thriving with Miwok, Maidu and Shonomy Indians. In the mid 1800's, the Spanish explorer Gabriel Moraga named the area Sacramento, meaning "holy Sacrament." The California State Indian Museum located in midtown Sacramento displays exhibits of the state's first inhabitants. Next to this museum is Sutter's Fort State Historic Park which houses a wonderful collection of pioneer and early California artifacts. The Fort was built over 150 years ago by Swiss immigrant John Sutter who also constructed the sawmill in Coloma, on the American River, where gold was discovered. Catch the bus, drive, or prepare for a long walk if you wish to visit these museums.

Other historical sites of interest are the Crocker Art Museum, Leland Stanford Mansion, and the State Capitol. These are all within close walking distance and will fascinate history buffs and museum enthusiasts. In addition, the Governor's Mansion that was constructed in the mid-1800s is another point of interest and is well worth the fourteen block walk to visit.

If museums are not your thing, how about shopping? The location of the Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza opens the doors to a vast array of choices within walking distance. Step out the side entrance of the hotel onto the K Street Mall and turn left. The Downtown Plaza offers open-air shopping, a movie theater complex, and a variety of restaurants. If you are into a little different kind of shopping with elements of history and fun thrown in, turn right and enter into Sacramento's past with a visit to Old Sacramento! You can enjoy the Gold Rush-era ambiance via horse-drawn carriage rides over cobblestone streets. For a little history thrown in with the shopping, you can see the location where in 1860 the Pony Express riders completed their 1,966-mile run on horseback between Sacramento and St. Joseph, Missouri, in 10 days or less! Visit the B. F. Hastings Building that once housed the Pony Express and the California Supreme Court. There are a multitude of shops, restaurants, and nightclubs located right on the Sacramento River in Old Sacramento.

If you're into water, Sacramento has a lot of it! Two rivers run through Sacramento—the Sacramento River and the American River. There is rafting available on the American River. If you want a more relaxed rafting adventure with a leisurely float down the American River, begin at the Sunrise Bridge, about 20 minutes from downtown. However, if white water rafting is more to your style, Coloma offers a variety of water flows that range from tranquil Class II floats to white water rafting of Class IV rapids with drops. If you prefer water slides, Raging Waters at Cal Expo offers speed slides, a wave pool, and an area for little ones.

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Dana Jarrell (FL)

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of Officers and Executive Committee members.

Marilyn May (AK) Vice-President



Marilyn May has been the Clerk of the Appellate Courts for the State of Alaska since October 1998. She received her B.A. and M.A. in German from the University of Northern Iowa where she was an instructor of German and Spanish. In 1984 she received her J.D. from the University of Minnesota Law School and moved to Alaska. After several years of private practice, she spent ten years as an assistant attorney general before moving to the court system.

Marilyn is currently serving as NCACC's Treasurer and has served as an Executive Committee Member and as Host of the 2004 annual meeting in Anchorage. She has served as Chair of the Membership, Site Selection, Scholarship, and Finance & Investment Committees and has been a member of the Program, Long-Range Planning, Nominating, Convention Assistance, and Education Fund Committees.

Irene M. Bizzoso (PA) Treasurer



Irene M. Bizzoso has been the Deputy Prothonotary for the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, Middle District for the past nine years. Prior to said appointment, she served as Legal Assistant to the Prothonotary for two years. She received her B.A.G.S. from The Catholic University of America in 1985 and her J.D. from Widener University School of Law, Harrisburg in 1992. Before joining the Court, she served as an Assistant Counsel to the Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Board of Review for five years and was employed by the Manhattan District Attorney's Witness Aide Services Unit for the five years prior to attending law school. She is licensed to practice law in both Pennsylvania & New Jersey.

Irene has served on various boards, in various positions, including the Violence Intervention and Prevention Program of the YWCA (1993-2001) and the Dauphin County Bar Association (1993-2007) and has been a proud member of the NCACC since 2000. She has served as Host; Executive Board member; Chair of the Ad Hoc Fee Review Committee; Chair of Convention Assistance Committee; Chair of the Scholarship Committee; and as a member of the Past Host Committee; Contract Committee; Convention Assistance Committee; and Scholarship Committee; By-laws Committee; Site Selection Committee; Public Relations Committee; and Scholarship Committee.

Susan Festag (CO) Executive Committee

Susan Festag has served as Clerk of the Colorado Supreme Court since July 2004. She received her bachelor's degree in Public Administration from California State University at Long Beach and her master's degree in Judicial Administration from the University of Denver College of Law.

Prior to her appointment as Clerk, Susan served as the Chief Deputy Clerk of the Colorado Supreme Court for 17 years. She began her career in the Colorado Judicial Branch as a deputy clerk in the Colorado Court of Appeals.



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One of Susan's first acts after her appointment as Clerk was to join NCACC. She attended her first meeting in Key West in 2005. She served on the Finance Committee her first year and then took a more passive role in the organization while focusing on the in-house development and installation of the Colorado Supreme Court's first computerized case management system. Having successfully navigated that project, Susan is currently a member of the Website Sub-Committee (Publication) and the "Convention Assistance Reinforcement Team".

Steve Kenyon (ID) Executive Committee

Stephen Kenyon was raised in Boise, Idaho and graduated from Idaho State University in 1994 with a BA in Accounting. Steve began his working career as an accountant in the Idaho State Controller's office where he worked in the division of Financial Reporting and Review producing the State's financial statements.

Steve received his Juris Doctor degree in May of 2000 from the University of Idaho. Following law school Steve spent four years working for the Idaho State Controller's office as the Staff Attorney and Administrator of the Division of Statewide Payroll.



He was appointed to serve as the Clerk of the Idaho Supreme Court and the Idaho Court of Appeals on January 3, 2005. Steve is a Certified Public Accountant and a member of the Idaho State Bar. Steve and his wife Teuila have four children and live in Boise.

Amy Reitz (OH) Executive Committee



Amy Reitz is the Chief Deputy Clerk of the Supreme Court of Ohio. She received her B.A. degrees in Political Science and Sociology from Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania, in 1993. In September, she will complete three years of course work and receive her certification in court management from the Institute for Court Management. Prior to joining the Court in 1996, Amy worked for the Columbiana County Prosecutor's Office and was assigned to the Columbiana County Drug Task Force in Lisbon, Ohio.

Amy joined the NCACC in 2005 and attended her first conference in Key West, Florida. Amy has chaired the Convention Assistance Committee and has also been a member of the following committees: Membership, Site Selection, Nominating, Awards, and Program.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Wheeler (FL), Chair Tia Milton, GA Amy Reitz (OH) Les Steen (AR) Mike Yerly (CA) Trish Harrington (VA), Executive Committee Liason

MAKE PLANS TO VISIT THESE VENDORS

IN SACRAMENTO

By Cynthia Rapp (DC)

Our vendors are looking forward to meeting us all at the vendor lunch on Wednesday, August 5 in Sacramento. Below is some information about our vendors who will be joining us.

Westlaw

PARTNERS

WEST

We are very fortunate to have West, a Thomson Reuters business, joining us again. West delivers quality legal, regulatory and business information and innovative technology tools to manage it. In addition to being the home of Westlaw (online), West annually publishes over 66 million books and 500 CD-Rom libraries. West will be putting on a Showcase program entitled "Westlaw - Features, Content & Functionality." For more information visit their website at www.west.thomson.com.

LEXIS

This year Lexis will again be a partner for our conference. LexisNexis is a leading global provider of content-enabled workflow solutions to professionals in law firms, corporations, government, law enforcement, tax, accounting, academic institutions and risk and compliance assessment. For more information visit www.lexisnexis.com

SPONSORS

BUREAU OF NATIONAL AFFAIRS

BNA is the largest independent publisher of information and analysis products for professionals in business and government. They publish - in print and electronic formats - more than 350 daily, weekly, monthly, and up-to-the-minute news services covering the full range of legal, legislative, regulatory, and economic developments that impact the business environment around the nation and the world. See their web site at www.bna.com.

EXHIBITORS

CASELOAD SOFTWARE

Joining us again this year will be CaseLoad Software. CaseLoad provides case management solutions to justice agencies throughout North America. Their vision is to provide customers with reliable, affordable open case management solutions. Some software vendors make you change the way you work in order to use their software. CaseLoad says, why change what works? myCaseLoad is a fully customizable case management solution that is accessed from your web browser. It works the way you work. For more information visit http://caseload.com

COURTCALL

CourtCall will be joining us this year at our vendor show. CourtCall originated the regularly scheduled, organized and voluntary method for attorneys to make appearances by teleconference for the court, with no risk or expense, while reducing the cost of litigation and burdens on courtroom staff. CourtCall, LLC administers and promotes the entire program at its expense. Hundred of thousands of CourtCall Appearances have been in over 1,800 courts around the country saving lawyers hundreds of thousands of hours and their clients millions of dollars. For more information visit their website at <u>www.courtcall.com</u>.

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IMAGESOFT

ImageSoft will be putting on a Showcase program demonstrating what their company can do for the courts. ImageSoft provides document management and workflow solutions (ECM) that reduce costs and improve efficiency for the court, prosecutor and law enforcement. Most courts achieve a 30% productivity improvement and a one year return on investment. There web site <u>www.imagesoftinc.com</u> contains more information.

JUSTICE SYSTEMS INC.

Back for another year Justice Systems Inc. will have a booth at our vendor show. Justice Systems has been the standard for integrated case management solutions for over 25 years. Full Court Appellate utilizes open-source web technology to produce a robust scalable and versatile case management system for the appellate courts. Go to their web site at www.justicesystems.com for more information.

LT COURT TECH LLC

Joining us for another year at the vendor show and also hosting a Showcase program is LT Court Tech LLC. They are known for Integrated Case Management, E-Filing and Document Management for Appellate Courts. For more information visit their website at <u>www.LT-Holdings.com</u>.

(Sacramento, continued from page 17)

Because the Holiday Inn is extending the group rate of \$111 three days prior to the conference and three days after, I encourage you to arrive early and stay late to experience the popular places close to the capitol city--it is only an hour and a half to the mountains, Lake Tahoe, and an hour and a half to the ocean, San Francisco! The drive to Lake Tahoe on Highway 50 is beautiful. The lake is lovely in the summer. If you enjoy gambling, there are many casinos to choose from. If you want to visit "The City," you can choose to have a relaxing trip by taking the Amtrak train to San Francisco. You will miss the headache of the drive there, crazy drivers in San Francisco, and finding parking. Things to see and do, not to mention the endless number of restaurants, make San Francisco must to visit while you are here on the west coast.

This is only a drop in the bucket of what you will find in Sacramento. From sightseeing to shopping, museums to galleries, and river rafting to golfing, it's all here and so much more. Come to Sacramento and "strike it rich" at the 2009 annual meeting! See you soon!



Welcome, New Members!

Christie Cameron, (NC)

The membership committee is pleased to spotlight three of our newest members, Sandra Mengel from Michigan, Jeanette Barber from South Carolina, and Robyn Guthrie from Louisiana.

Sandra Schultz Mengel - Michigan Court of Appeals

Sandra Mengel is a graduate of Kalamazoo College and the Detroit College of Law (now Michigan State University College of Law). At the Court of Appeals Sandra served as a Research Attorney (1979-1980), Judicial Law Clerk (1980-1981), Supervising Attorney – Research Division (Detroit) (1981-1992), District Clerk (Detroit) (1992-1998), Chief Deputy Clerk (1998-2001) and moved into her present position in 2001. In her current position as Chief Clerk, she supervises the management of the four district offices of the clerk, and she has oversight responsibility for the court's Information Systems Department. She consults with the judges of the Court of Appeals on policy and procedure issues and serves on various judicial committees. Sandra collaborates with judicial branch administrators on budgetary and other matters, serves as liaison to the Appellate Practice Section of the Michigan State Bar, and is an active member of the planning committee and occasional presenter for the Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference.

Jeanette Barber - South Carolina Court of Appeals

Jeanette Barber received a B.S. in Business Administration in 1982 from the University of New Hampshire, an M.B.A. in 1987 from New Hampshire College, and a J.D. in 1994 from the University of South Carolina. She was admitted to practice law in South Carolina in November of 1994.

Jeanette served the South Carolina Court of Appeals for twelve years prior to her appointment as the Clerk of the South Carolina Court of Appeals, effective January 2009. During this time, Jeanette served the Court of Appeals as a staff attorney, Chief Staff Attorney, and law clerk for the Honorable William T. Howell, the Honorable Jasper M. Cureton, the Honorable H. Samuel Stilwell, and the Honorable Paul E. Short, Jr. Jeanette also practiced law for two years, primarily in insurance defense and appellate practice.

Jeanette and her husband, Cecil, have one daughter, Christina.

Robyn Guthrie, Second Circuit Court of Appeal Deputy Clerk

After working fourteen years in the private sector as a legal secretary and deputy clerk in district court, Robyn came to the Second Circuit as an assistant clerk in March of 2008. She was commissioned as a deputy clerk in February 2009. Robyn and her husband, Jonathan, reside in Minden, Louisiana and are the proud parents of one daughter, Lauren.

We welcome these new members to our Conference!