



THE 42ND NCACC ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN SNOWBIRD, UTAH

AUGUST 2-7, 2015

By: Eydie Nash (WV)

The NCACC education program will begin on Sunday this year with a presentation from a Latter Day Saints Bishop. He is a descendant of Ephraim “Eph” Hanks who was a bodyguard to Brigham Young and scout for early Mormon pioneers. Eph Hanks made over 40 round-trip crossings on the Oregon and Mormon Trails between Utah and Missouri, and played a crucial role in the 1856 winter rescue of several hundred pioneers who were snowed in near the continental divide. He also has relatives instrumental in the construction of Temple Square.



Temple Square, Google Images

The Bishop will offer tips to not only enhance our experience of Salt Lake City, but guide us on the journey of Ephraim Hanks into the west; a vision of Mormon pioneer history and the court cases involved.

On Monday morning, arrive prepared to tackle your emergency preparedness plan as well as your succession plan. Members are encouraged to bring their current plans, so as to determine what areas may need to be improved upon. All will leave with much improved, more concrete plans.

Monday afternoon, members will be given a more avant-garde approach to serving self-represented litigants. We will learn how explaining due process can answer many of their questions and create more meaningful access to the judicial system. Members will then be taught how to take these principles back to teach them to their court staff.

Tuesday morning, we will start the program with the ever popular “*What’s Bugging You?*” In the next program, we will analyze and dissect the decision-making process, studying the effect of stress and the neuroscience of decision-making.

Once again, the vendor show will take place on Wednesday this year. The day will begin with an expert who has developed hyperlinking software and an iPad app for organizing files that are downloaded. After the vendor show, we will hear from a panel of appellate clerks who have drafted and revised electronic filing rules in their jurisdictions. We will hear about lessons learned, and what works and what doesn’t when it comes to drafting rules for the electronic transition. Perhaps, we will all be amending rules in our jurisdiction after this session.

The week will continue with speakers on subjects to include substance abuse issues, leadership, personal security, and ethics. As we are still a few months out from the event, details are being finalized. A complete schedule will be in the next edition of *The Docket*. Many thanks to the Program Committee - we’re all looking forward to a great conference this year!

2015 DUES REMINDER

An annual membership dues notice will be coming out in January if you haven’t already received it. The change to annual billing in January each year was made to streamline collection of the membership dues. Your dues are due March 1st and, if not paid by July 1st, you will be designated as “delinquent”. If you do not pay within the year, you will be purged from the membership rolls. To ensure your good standing, please pay your dues promptly...we love our members!

Inside This Edition:

2015 Annual Conference <i>Eydie Nash (WV)</i>	Pages 1-2
Dues Reminder <i>Christine Crow (LA)</i>	Page 2
NCACC Committee Update	Page 3
NCACC Directory Update <i>Kelly McNeely (LA)</i>	Page 3
The President's Page <i>John Olivier (LA)</i>	Page 4-5
E-Courts 2014 <i>Craig D. Burlingame</i>	Page 6
NCACC Officer Nominations <i>Ed Smith (MT)</i>	Page 7
Scholarship Assistance <i>Amy Reitz (OH)</i>	Page 8
Scholarship Application	Pages 9-10
Nominations for Awards <i>Lillian Richie (LA)</i>	Page 11
Awards Nomination Form	Page 12

THE DOCKET

News of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks

President	John Olivier (LA)
President Elect	Blake Hawthorne (TX)
Vice-President	Irene Bizzoso (PA)
Past President	Deena Fawcett (CA)
Secretary	Sherry Williamson (TX)
Treasurer	Christine Crow (LA)
Executive Committee	Gregory O. Block (DC)
	Polly Brock (CO)
	Edythe A. Gaiser (WV)
	Petra Mandigo Hulm (ND)
	Larry S. Royster (MI)
	Ruth A. Willingham (AZ)
<u>Publication Committee</u>	
Kevin Lane (CA) Chair and Editor	(619) 744-0781 kevin.lane@jud.ca.gov
Sherry Williamson (TX) Assistant Editor	sherry.williamson@txcourts.gov
Paula Garcia (CA)	paula.garcia@jud.ca.gov
Patricia Harrington (VA)	pharrington@courts.state.va.us
Greg Pachmayr (IN)	greg.pachmayr@courts.in.gov
Joseph Stanton (MA)	joseph.stanton@appct.state.ma.us
Deana Williamson (TX)	deana.williamson@txcourts.gov

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>

NCACC DIRECTORY UPDATE

Our directory is an important tool in networking with other NCACC members throughout the nation, but it is only useful if the information is correct. A photo needs to be sent in Jpeg format. The deadline for changes is March 1, 2015. Please take a moment to send your updated photos and information to:

Kelly McNeely
P.O. Box 16577, Lake Charles, LA 70615
kmcneely@la3circuit.org
337-493-3012

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

JOHN OLIVIER (LA)



Happy New Year! Hoping you and your family had a safe and happy holiday.

In preparation for this edition of “From the President’s Desk,” I read a number of past issues of *The Docket*. In addition to the standard content which I’ll touch upon below, there were some common themes: working toward excellence; managing personnel, public expectations and change/transitions (Justices, Judges, staff); and balancing technology with budget and business processes. Leadership is essential for all of these. John F. Kennedy said “Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.” Our organization helps us develop necessary skills to accomplish our goals, and the knowledge we gain from sharing our experiences is invaluable.

As President, I was invited to attend the Annual William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence reception and dinner held at the Supreme Court of the United States. This award was created by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) in 1996 and is presented annually to a state court judge who, in the opinion of the selection committee, possesses the qualities of judicial excellence exemplified by Chief Justice Rehnquist. Judge Steve Leben of the Kansas Court of Appeals was named recipient of the 2014 William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence by the NCSC, which was presented to him by Chief Justice Roberts. Judge Leben has worked toward improving American courts in terms of procedural fairness. He stated that research has shown that people will have a positive view of an authority figure if they feel they have been heard, have been respected, that the Rule of Law was followed, and that they have been explained how the decision was reached. In the end, they will feel that the process was a good one, win or lose.

In addition to hearing about the great things Judge Leben has done in advancing this idea, this was an opportunity for me to meet with the Presidents of other court organizations as well as many Chief Justices and State Court Administrators. I look forward to sharing with them our mutual programs to further improve our system of justice.

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE, cont'd

JOHN OLIVIER (LA)



Your Executive Committee met in Denver at the site of our 2016 conference. Thanks goes to Polly (and Marty) for coordinating and hosting our meeting. The hotel is in a great location and will work well for our conference. We toured Polly's Judicial Center, which is unbelievable. Not a single detail was missed in its design. The interactive learning center is a match for the Smithsonian. Polly showed us their Great Hall where the plan is to have a reception at our conference. But before making the trek to Denver in 2016, we will be meeting this year in Snowbird,

Utah. Mark your calendars for this conference, August 2nd – 7th, and check out the article in this issue of *The Docket*.

I want to again thank those of you who signed up for committees. There was a glitch in the posting of the committee assignments in the last newsletter. Please see the correct assignments on the NCACC website. If you are interested in joining a group, there is still time. Note that there are a few committees that are limited in the By-laws and some that require appointment by the Executive Committee.

Your committees have been hard at work. Of note, the Contracts Committee has reviewed contracts for Lake Tahoe (2017), Denver (2016), and the Executive Committee meeting in Oakland, as well as our contract with the NCSC. The Program Committee has been lining up and getting speakers for our conference in Snowbird. Some of the highlights are noted in this newsletter. The Public Relations Committee is surveying the membership in an effort to determine why some members are not attending the annual meetings. They will report to the Executive Committee at our April meeting, where we will consider what can be done to include more members at the annual meeting and serve those who still cannot attend. Other committees have submitted reports of their work, which will be covered in the next issue of *The Docket* and at the annual meeting.

Wishing you a Safe, Happy and Productive New Year.

“KEEP CALM AND CLERK ON!”



By: Craig D. Burlingame,
Judiciary CIO,
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Court officials from around the country gathered for E-Courts 2014 at the Red Rock Resort in Las Vegas in early December. This will be the last of many E-Courts conferences held in this terrific facility in Red Rock Canyon. The next E-Courts conference is scheduled in 2016 for December 12-14 and will be moving to The Cosmopolitan on the Vegas strip.

For the first time in history, the E-Courts conference was sold out for both attendees and exhibit booths for vendors. For all of the plenary sessions, there was an overflow viewing room set up so that some attendees, unable to find space in the main ballroom, could watch a video feed in a satellite space set up for this purpose. The vendor exhibit floor was so packed with vendors there was not even room for the traditional footprint for the National Center. This was also the first time that all the major sessions were streamed live for online viewing by individuals who were unable to attend the conference in person.

As always, there were traditional and ongoing discussions about e-filing, CMS, and records management. I was particularly interested in a session presented by a working group of the JTC (COSCA/NACM Joint Technology Committee) focused on Judicial Tools. The JTC is soon to publish a number of resource bulletins including one on Judicial Tools. These resource bulletins can be found on the JTC website at www.ncsc.org/jtc.

Professor Michael Wesch provided an interesting perspective on the changing digital landscape and its impact on society and culture. Professor Wesch's presentation and all of the key conference presentations can be viewed on the E-Courts website at www.e-courts.org. The NCSC has indicated these materials will be available for a few months for those who were unable to attend and wish to access them online.

I was particularly impressed by the number of vendors present in the exhibit hall this year. Among the many CMS and A/V vendors, I noticed an uptick in the number of vendors offering outsourced financial and collection solutions for courts. A full list of exhibitors and links to their respective websites can also be found on www.e-courts.org.

I would be remiss if I did not mention that CITOC (Court Information Technology Officers Consortium) also held their meeting contemporaneously with the E-Courts event. Technology leaders from States and Counties around the country had half-day sessions before and after the E-Courts meeting and discussed a wide range of topics of interest. I would encourage the NCACC members to urge their technology professionals to participate in CITOC. More information can be found at the recently updated CITOC website at: www.citoc.org.

The next opportunity for those interested in Court Technology to gather will be at the Court Technology Conference (CTC) scheduled for September 22-24, 2015, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

NCACC NOMINATIONS - 2015
FOR OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Deadline: March 6, 2015

The strength and vitality of the NCACC depends to a large extent on the commitment of our membership. The officers and executive committee run the organization and are a critical component to our continued success. Please take a moment to provide suggestions to your nominating committee. You don't have to submit nominations for all the positions, but any input is valuable and much appreciated.

Thank you and we look forward to receiving your recommendations.
Ed Smith (MT), Chair
Nominating Committee

Office of Vice-President: _____
Presently held by Irene Bizzoso (PA)

Office of Treasurer: _____
Presently held by Chris Crow (LA)

Executive Committee Position
1: _____
Presently held by Edythe A. Gaiser (WV)

Executive Committee Position
2: _____
Presently held by Polly Brock (CO)

Executive Committee Position
3: _____
Presently held by Ruth Willingham (AZ)

PLEASE SUBMIT NOMINATIONS TO: **eds@mt.gov**

SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE FOR ANNUAL MEETING

SNOWBIRD BOUND!

Greetings from the Scholarship Committee. Is it possible your Court will not fund your attendance at the annual meeting in Snowbird? If the lack of funding could prevent you from attending, please consider applying for a scholarship. Scholarship funds are awarded as a means of promoting attendance at annual meetings of the NCACC by members who would otherwise be unable to attend. Scholarship money may be used to pay for transportation to and from the meeting and/or lodging.

The application is posted on the NCACC website and is included in this issue of *The Docket*. 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.

Scholarship Application

42ND ANNUAL MEETING

Snowbird, Utah

August 2–7, 2015



National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks

If the lack of funding could prevent you from attending the annual meeting held in Snowbird this year, please consider applying for a scholarship. Scholarship funds are awarded as a means of promoting attendance at annual meetings of the NCACC by members who would otherwise be unable to attend. Scholarship money may be used to pay for transportation to and from the meeting and/or lodging. Please do not hesitate to apply. If you apply for a scholarship and later discover that your court will fund your trip, please advise the Scholarship Committee. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Amy Reitz, Scholarship Committee Chairperson.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please review the scholarship selection criteria outlined in the NCACC directory. Applicants must complete the entire application. Completed forms should be signed and sent to Barry Forrest at the National Center for State Courts, by **May 1, 2015**.

Please complete and return application to:

Barry Forrest
National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks
National Center for State Courts
300 Newport Avenue
Williamsburg, VA 23185

– FUNDING REQUESTED FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN SNOWBIRD, UTAH – AUGUST 2-7, 2015

Name: _____

Title: _____

Employing Court: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

NCACC member in good standing? Yes No

Total number of NCACC members employed by your court: _____

Is your court offering any funding for your attendance at the Annual Meeting? Yes No

If yes, what amount? _____

Are there any restrictions on these funds? Yes No

If yes, please list the restrictions:

Would your court have funded the attendance of NCACC members from your office to other educational programs during the twelve months immediately preceding the 2015 Annual Meeting? Yes No

If yes, how many programs did you attend: _____

If yes, please identify the program(s) and total amount expended:

What amount of financial assistance are you seeking from NCACC: _____

TRAVEL

List the estimated fare for economy or coach airline ticket: _____

-OR-

List the total roundtrip mileage from your home to the conference site: _____
(mileage reimbursement rate will be determined by the Executive Committee)

LODGING

Number of nights: _____ Rate per night: _____

OTHER EXPENSES

List the nature of expenses and amount:

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF YOUR APPLICATION

Please explain why you believe you should receive a scholarship. Please attach additional pages if necessary.

I hereby certify that the foregoing answers are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I acknowledge my obligation to keep the NCACC apprised of any changes in my funding status that might affect my eligibility for scholarship assistance. I understand that my attendance at all education program is required should I receive scholarship assistance.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS REQUESTED

Nominations for the **J. O. Sentell Award** and the **Morgan Thomas Award** are being sought by the 2014-2015 Awards Committee. These awards will be presented at the 2015 NCACC Annual Conference to be held in Snowbird, Utah.

The **J. O. Sentell Award** is given to a NCACC member who has contributed substantially to the objectives of the conference by improving skill and knowledge through conferences, seminars or other educational programs; promoting and improving the contribution of appellate court clerk offices within the area of effective court administration; and collecting and dissemination of information and ideas concerning the operation and improvement of the offices of appellate court clerks. (See Article II of the Bylaws.) This award is named for and honors a founding member, James Oscar Sentell, Jr., who was the first president of the NCACC. He has been described as “a great public servant possessing a keen and analytical mind with perceptive insight and integrity beyond reproach.”

The **Morgan Thomas Award** recognizes an individual who is not a member of the NCACC and who has made distinguished contributions to enhancing professionalism and supporting the goals of the NCACC as a body and of its members individually.

Past recipients of both awards are listed in the NCACC Directory.

Please submit the Awards Nomination Form by February 13, 2015 to:

Lillian Richie, Clerk/Administrator

By e-mail: lrichie@la2nd.org

By fax: (318) 227-3735

By mail: 430 Fannin Street, Shreveport, LA 71101



Awards Nomination Form

J. O. SENTELL AWARD

Please make your recommendation below and give your reasons. (If more space is needed, please attach additional page(s).)

I nominate: _____ No nomination

Reasons:

MORGAN THOMAS AWARD

Please make your recommendation below and give your reasons. (If more space is needed, please attach additional page(s).)

I nominate: _____ No nomination

Reasons:
