



NCBC IMPACT

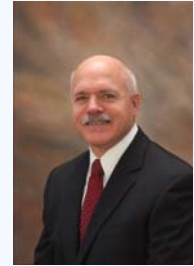
Dedicated to the professional development of its members

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August 1, 2011

Volume 11, Issue 6

President's Message by Ken Hirz



The 31st Annual Conference in New Orleans was a wonderful success as 630 participants descended on the Crescent City June 14-17, 2011. The weather was seasonably warm, but dry, and the participants enjoyed the many program and social events planned throughout the week. Congratulations are in order for our two host Clerks, Marla Hamilton, LA-E, and Monica Menier, LA-M. They had great support from Chief Deputy Clerks Elizabeth Hager and Brian Richoux and their entire staff who worked throughout the conference, and then some, to make the program and events the best ever. Many thanks to all of the New Orleans staff that made our stay so special and feel so welcome.



The educational program featured two plenaries, 31 breakout sessions, several MSU courses, Peer2Peer and of course our perennial favorite, the information sharing program. We were fortunate to have among our speakers Jill Sayenga, Deputy Director, Glen Palman, BCAD Chief, Jim Baugher, Budget Chief, and Judge Randy Dunn, NCBJ President. We were also hosted by the local chief bankruptcy judges Jerry A. Brown (LA-E) and Douglas D. Dodd, (LA-M). I'd like to take a moment to once again thank our Education Committee that put on this successful program. They include the tri-chairs of Teresa Underwood (OH-N),

Monica Menier (LA-M), and Marla Hamilton (LA-E), along with Brian Richoux (LA-E), Elizabeth Hager (LA-M), Trisha Harrington (WA-W), Eddy Emmons (CA-N), Lee Ann Bennett (FL-M), Stephanie Hemmert (FJC), Richard Marshall (FJC), Barry Lander (CA-S), Scott Ford (AL-N), Ken Ridgeway (MD), and Joshua Wiker (TX-N). And of course I want to thank the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and the Federal Judicial Center for providing trainers and staff support to add to the conference success. Photos of the conference can be found at the host court website: www.laeb.uscourts.gov/ncbc2011. I would like to take a moment to thank our outgoing NCBC Board members for each of their four years of contributions. They include Kathy Grzybowski (WI-W), Milton Aguila (NY-S) and Trisha Harrington (WA-W). By the same token, I'd like to welcome our new Board members Kathy Bernart (CA-N), Kris Botts (IA-S), and Eileen Garrity (MA).

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There were 131 awards given during during this conference. I would like to especially recognize the Ralph H. Kelley Outstanding Achievement Award recipient, Glen K. Palman, BCAD Chief and Deputy Assistant Director for Court Administration. This prestigious award is given in honor and memory of the late Judge Ralph H. Kelley, Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee. It is voted on by the board of governors and is given to one who best



exemplifies outstanding achievement in the spirit and manner exemplified by Judge Ralph H. Kelley. Prior awards were give to Brenda Argoe (2005), Wayne Wolfe (2007), and Richard Heltzel (2010). Glen plans to retire in December 2011, after 35 years of service at the AO. Glen was bestowed a lifetime Honorary Membership along with the award.

Congratulations, Glen.

MSU Judicial Administration Program News by Maureen E. Conner and Catharine White

Heidi Wolven MSU Spring 2011 Master's Degree Graduate

Heidi Wolven is the first federal court employee to graduate from the Master of Science in Criminal Justice, Judicial Administration Specialization program from MSU in May 2011. While working full time as case administrator and court recorder in the US Bankruptcy Court - Central District of Illinois, Heidi was accepted in the online master degree program in the fall of 2007. Congratulations to Heidi for her diligence and scholarship. MSU looks forward to the contributions Heidi will make to the courts and to the profession of judicial administration throughout her career.

For application information on the master's degree program, contact Catharine White at gamperca@msu.edu or visit <http://judicialadministration.msu.edu>

MSU Offers Judicial Administration Certificate Courses Online in Preparation for the 2012 NCBC Recognition Ceremony in San Francisco

All ten courses that comprise the MSU Judicial Administration Program Noncredit Certificate offered in partnership with NCBC will be held online during the 2011-2012 academic year. Students who want to receive their certificates at the 2012 NCBC annual meeting and have courses to complete may do so via this online option. All courses will be facilitated by past MSU graduates. Review the schedule of courses and register today with Catharine White at gamperca@msu.edu.

Date/s of Proposed Noncredit Online Course Offering	Noncredit Online Course Offering	Instructor	Course Payment Due Date
September 12th – 30th, 2011 (3 weeks)	Purposes and Responsibilities of Courts (Core)	Crystal Lightfoot	August 12, 2011
October 3rd – 14th, 2011 (2 weeks)	Court and Community Communication (Elective)	Crystal Lightfoot	September 3, 2011
October 17th – November 4th, 2011 (3 weeks)	Resources, Budget, and Finance (Core)	Jeffrey Allsteadt	September 17, 2011
November 7th – 18th, 2011 (2 weeks)	Education, Training, and Development (Elective)	Monette Warren	October 7, 2011
November 28th – December 9th, 2011 (2 weeks)	Visioning and Strategic Planning (Elective)	Jeffrey Allsteadt	October 28, 2011
January 9th – 27th, 2012 (3 weeks)	Caseflow Management (Core)	Michael Palus	December 9, 2011
January 30th – February 15th, 2012 (2.5 weeks)	Leadership (Core)	Jeffrey Allsteadt	December 30, 2011
February 20th – March 2nd, 2012 (2 weeks)	Essential Components of Courts (Elective)	Michael Palus	January 20, 2012
March 5th – March 23rd, 2012 (3 weeks)	Information Technology Management (Core)	Monette Warren	February 5, 2012
March 26th – April 11th, 2012 (2.5 weeks)	Human Resources Management (Core)	Kathy Noel	February 26, 2012

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NCBC Members attend FCCA's annual conference



Lisa Haney, TNWB; President Ken Hirz, Clerk, OHNB; and Sharon Gardner, ILCB enjoyed hearing Wilnay Audain speak at the Federal Court Clerk's Associations (FCCA) annual conference June 5th - 9th in Mobile, AL. President Hirz attended on behalf of NCBC.

Lisa was an instructor for JENIE/HRMIS/eOPF and the J-Net is Your Friend. Sharon has been a member of FCCA since July, 2008, is the district representative, serves on the IT and Publication Committees, and has attended the last four conferences.



Sharon Gardner, ILCB NCBC District Representative

Were you one of the 630 members which represents 43% of our total membership who attended the annual conference in New Orleans? If not, you missed an AWESOME, EXCELLENT, OUTSTANDING, EXHILARATING, and ENERGIZING conference.

Opening plenary speaker Joe Petz challenged us to not only think outside the box, but to step outside the box. Gloria Franklin, Clerk, CANB, and her team presented why **YOU** should attend next year's conference in San Francisco, August 7th - 10th. Closing plenary speaker Michael Gold and the Jazz Impact Ensemble continued to empower, engage, motivate, energize, and challenge employees. Also, the Rockin Dopsies **entertained** everyone at the Mardi Gras Ball. Personally, I believe entertained is an understatement.

I joined NCBC several years ago because I wanted to advance my professional and personal growth as well as network with other judiciary members. I am serving on the Website Committee and have served on the Awards Committee the past two years. Looking forward to seeing everyone in San Francisco!

Lessons learned at New Orleans

by Lizette Torres

As I'm packing and getting ready to go check out of the New Orleans Marriott Hotel, I found myself doing my homework. You may ask yourself, "What is she talking about?" In our court, it's a tradition to share what you learned at the NCBC conference. By the way, this applies to all training and conferences that one attends.



Once I entered the hotel elevator, my mind is swinging to the *Jazz Impact* tune learned at the Closing Plenary Session . . . "Grind that coffee, grind that coffee," it played. "Grind that coffee!" Was that my assigned line or the one that impacted me the most? I can't really tell you. At this point, I am no longer sure.

What I am sure of, what I would like to share with you, are a few personal experiences from the conference this year that has left an impact on me and, I am sure, many of the attendees.

I had waited five years since attending the Rhode Island's NCBC Conference to be able to attend another such event. That was in 2006, and the excitement I felt now on the first day of the conference knew no bounds.

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At the first session on Human Resources Management there was talk about values. They

NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

By: Sharon Gardner, District Representative



Our Clerk, Pamela 'Pam' Sherry, is retiring August 26 after 23 years of service, the last four and a half years as Clerk of Court. During her tenure as Clerk of Court, she is most proud of the great hires made during her tenure, notably Khadija Thomas as Chief Deputy, who will succeed her as Clerk of Court.

Pam came to the court in February, 1989, as Deputy-in-Charge of our Peoria Divisional Office and became Chief Deputy in September, 1990. She was a driving force in migrating our court from the Integrated Case Management System (ICMS) to AutoCop to Case Management/Electronic Case Filing (CM/ECF). During this period, she saw her greatest accomplishment as having a very successful and smooth transition to CM/ECF, made possible by supportive Judges and a dedicated and very talented staff.

She saw the size of court staff significantly reduced in the early 90s due to many factors which included increased use of automation and more efficient operating procedures. Her advice to other court units: 1) Never be satisfied with the status quo, 2) "*We have always done it that way*" = Big Red Flag!, 3) Recognize staff who suggest better, more efficient ways of doing business, 4) Keep abreast of how other courts have solved problems, particularly with locally developed software applications.

She has served on several committees and advisory groups, namely the Bankruptcy Clerk's Advisory Group (BCAD), the CM/ECF Working Group, and the FJC Bankruptcy Education Advisory Committee. She loved working on the committees and advisory groups as it gave her an opportunity to know some very talented people in other courts as well as in the Administrative Office and the FJC.

During her tenure with the judiciary, the lack of bureaucracy was a total and totally great surprise. The ability of each court to make operational and budget decisions based on its particular culture and needs is what she thinks makes the federal court system special and wonderful. The most challenging situations she had to deal with were difficult personnel decisions (terminations/reduction in staff) that had a negative impact on someone's life.

She will miss the staff here in the Central District as well as working with folks in other courts, many of whom she considers to be among her closest friends. She would like to be remembered like most people.....in a positive way.

Prior to coming to the court, she was a game warden in New Mexico, was an expert marksman, carried a .357 Smith & Wesson, and conducted population studies on bighorn sheep, elk, and deer. She is moving back to New Mexico, a state that definitely lives up to its name 'Land of Enchantment'. She hopes to combine her leadership skills with her **LOVE** of the game of golf. She has been working on her LPGA Teaching and Club Professional Certification with the goal of coaching high school or college golf. She says it has been a rewarding 23 year journey and can hardly wait for the next phase of life to begin. **CONTINUED ON PAGE SEVEN**



Congratulations and Best Wishes!



AWARDS NCBC 2011 CONFERENCE

Host Court: **Eastern District of Louisiana**

Middle District of Louisiana

Judge Ralph H. Kelley Award:

Glen K. Palman

*Thank
You*

Departing Board Members:

Trisha A. Harrington

Kathy Grzybowski

Milton N. Aguila

Special Service Award:

Rebecca Hanson – Planning & Coordinating Information Sharing Plenary Sessions

Kathy Grzybowski – Planning & Coordinating Information Sharing Plenary Sessions

Carol Thompson – Secretary NCBC Benefits Committee

Jeffrey Elmore – Development of software Re: digital audio recordings of court proceedings

Tony Girigiano – Development of software Re: digital audio recordings of court proceeding

Bobby Boone – Development of software Re: digital audio recordings of court proceedings

*Thank
You*

Funtional Requirement Group:

Sean McAvoy

Andrea Redmon

Stacey Manley

Lori Konnerman

John Stephens

Michael Wint

Steve Horvath

Barry Lander

Gary Drake

Kris Botts

Nan Noecker

Dianna Weaver

Tina Roberson

John Horner

Doug Young

Kathy Bernart

Susan Wexter

Lori McLaughlin-Nelson

Bo Bartlett

Denise Schuster

Barbara Young

Dana McWay

*Thank
You*

Outstanding Achievement Award:

Shelly Gou

Development & Support of E-Orders

Anthony Lacey

Development & Support ELMO Program

Tim Callahan

“Easy Fixes” (nominated & approved last year)



AWARDS NCBC 2011 CONFERENCE



Membership GOLD Awards:

District of Maine
Middle District of Louisiana
Northern District of Ohio
Western District of Wisconsin
District of Hawaii

Membership SILVER Awards:

District of Rhode Island
District of Delaware
Western District of Pennsylvania
Middle District of North Carolina
Eastern District of Louisiana
Eastern District of Kentucky
Eastern District of Michigan
Central District of Illinois
Eastern District of Wisconsin
District of Arizona
Southern District of Iowa
District of Nebraska
District of North Dakota
District of Alaska
Western District of Washington
Eastern District of Oklahoma
Western District of Oklahoma
Northern District of Oklahoma
Southern District of Alabama

Creditor Matrix Submission

Derek Higgins
Sean McDermott

Information Sharing:

Learning Management System (LMS)
Rosann Crawford
Sandi Brask
BNC Working Group and BCAD
Therese Buthod
Kerri Mikolaities
Matt Loughney
yCal – What's New Now...and the Future
Bill Fields
BMAP Working Group
Stacey Manley
Dave LePauloue
Brian Richoux
Judiciary Inventory Control System (JICS)
Heather Smith
The Loss Mitigation Program
Milton Aguila
Vito Genna
Susan Thurston
QM Assist
Sheila Sewell
Grant Price
Stacey Roberts
CourtSpeak
Jeffrey Elmore
Allyson McNeill
ErrorTrack
Derek Higgins
Sean McDermott

NCBC – MemberWorks Demo

Ken Gardner
How Teleworking Enhances Workplace Productivity
Ronald Smith
Cathy Losenegger
Julie Ellingson
Creditor Web page with Speed Claims
Monica Olson
Julie Ellingson
Jorge Jimenez
Jammin' to Widgets and Plug-ins
Laurie Moison
MSU
Cathy White
Dr. Maureen Conner
CHAP and the New ECRO Module
Brenda Dowler
Greg Williams
Jared Vanderhoff
Ian McMurray
Kent Crockett
Heather Aslet
The Impact Editorial
Yvonne Cherokee
Alyson Johnson
Leslie Taylor
Laura Whitehead
Overview of Different Programs
Richard Marshall
Stephanie Hemmert
Corrine Gee

Membership BRONZE Award:

District of Columbia
District of New Hampshire
District of Puerto Rico
Southern District of New York
District of Vermont
District of New Jersey
Middle District of Pennsylvania
Eastern District of North Carolina
Western District of North Carolina
District of South Carolina
Eastern District of Texas
Western District of Texas
Northern District of Texas
Western District of Kentucky
Middle District of Tennessee
Western District of Tennessee
Northern District of Illinois
Southern District of Illinois
Southern District of Indiana
Northern District of Iowa
District of Minnesota
Northern District of California
Southern District of California
District of Oregon
Eastern District of Washington
District of Utah
Northern District of Alabama
Northern District of Florida
Middle District of Florida
Southern District of Florida
Middle District of Georgia



NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS



Khadijia Thomas, Chief Deputy for the Central District of Illinois, is succeeding Pamela Sherry as Clerk of Court August 29. When asked what she feels is most gratifying working in the courts, Khadijia referenced the following quote from an article she recently read where a business leader stated, *“There are no quick fix solutions. As soon as you adjust or amend one part of a situation that may lead to another area in need of transformation.”*

It is gratifying to know that the courts are composed of so many subject matter experts. This is evident by the instantaneous replies to many list-serv questions. It is great to see your question (or cry for help) being responded to from all over the judiciary by staff who enthusiastically offer their knowledge and expertise. Not only are you provided with the *how to fix*, but you also have a new way of working, new thinking, and possibly new tools to accomplish the task. This is gratifying – resolution and success!

She believes a challenge next fiscal year as Clerk of Court will definitely be budget related. As a result of the budgets being tightened, this may bring on increasing complexity as court leaders are required to meet the dynamics of budget shortfalls. The task to strategically plan for personnel related matters as well as other court resources may be demanding for court leaders. The ability to navigate through the next fiscal year will require adaptability (changes in structure/process/procedures) and understanding at all levels within the court. In addition to the possibility of budget shortfalls, another potential challenge will be maintaining the organizational knowledge/knowledge management as more tenured court employees embark on the sweet life of retirement. *“Creating a culture in which knowledge is valued and shared effectively is one of the most difficult challenges faced in leadership.”* (Amidon, D.M. 1998)

Three of the goals Khadijia wishes to accomplish as Clerk of Court are focused on innovation, creativity, and technology. She wants to continue to emphasize to staff the innovation that exists within the work we do. The court staff is knowledgeable and possesses the talent to make things happen! Khadijia believes innovation can continue with open lines of communication, sharing ideas, and cross-functional teams of employees working together. As the judiciary budget tightens, this is an opportunity to offer creativity to many of our standard ways of doing business. If the end result is (1) ensuring the mission of the court is met and (2) efficient results, then this is definitely an opportunity to seize and utilize creativity to our advantage. The focus on the importance of technologies within the court is also significant. There are many new technologies being introduced. As virtualization increases, understanding new technologies is critical to keep up with the breadth and intensity of change within our court environment.

Khadijia perceives her greatest professional accomplishment as the gratefulness of the mentoring she received from others throughout the judiciary. These relationships have truly allowed her to glean experience and wisdom which have brought forth a rewarding career in the court. Her greatest accomplishment from an educational perspective is ‘finally’ reaching the status of Doctoral Candidate. She looks forward to completing her Doctorate within the next couple of years. She has a wonderful family (husband, Nick and daughter, Khamari) and a great network of friends whom are supportive and encouraging in all that she attempts.

Others may be surprised to know she **LOVES** to play tennis. She doesn’t get to play as much as she would like. Any opportunity to get on the tennis court, count her in!

Get Involved With the NCBC

Circuit Liaison & Local Representative Positions Are Now Open

By John Horner

The NCBC Board is seeking Circuit Liaisons and Local Representatives for terms that will expire this year. Circuit Liaison and Local Representative positions were developed by the Board in 2009 to broaden the organizational structure, increase member involvement, and open communication channels between the Board and members. In the past two years, the Circuit Liaisons and Circuit Representatives from courts throughout the country, have worked to generate several growth and development ideas, which include the recently adopted lifetime membership option. As a result, member affiliation has steadily climbed from a total of 897 members in 2009 to 1,379 members in 2011.

If you are interested in becoming more involved in our growing organization, and would like consideration for a two-year Circuit Liaison or Local Representative position (see list of vacancies below), please submit a one-paragraph statement of interest describing *why you wish to be considered*, to John Horner at john_horner@pawb.uscourts.gov. Please note in the email subject-line the position(s) for which you would like consideration. If you submitted a position application at the 2011 Conference in New Orleans, please know that your application is currently under consideration, and you do not need to email a statement of interest.

Many thanks to each of you for your continued support.

NCBC Local Representative Vacancies

Alabama Middle	Louisiana Eastern	North Carolina Eastern
Arizona	Louisiana Western	North Carolina Western
Arkansas	Maine	Ohio Northern
California Eastern	Maryland	Ohio Southern
California Southern	Michigan Western	Oklahoma Eastern
Colorado	Mississippi Southern	Pennsylvania Middle
Delaware	Missouri Eastern	Puerto Rico
Florida Northern	Montana	South Dakota
Florida Southern	Nebraska	Tennessee Middle
Georgia Middle	Nevada	Texas Southern
Hawaii	New Hampshire	Texas Western
Illinois Central	New Jersey	Utah
Illinois Northern	New Mexico	Virginia Eastern
Indiana Northern	New York Eastern	Washington Eastern
Iowa Southern	New York Southern	West Virginia Northern
Kentucky Western	New York Western	Wisconsin Eastern

It's coming! September 17th is coming!

That's right September 17th is the date our United States Constitution was signed at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This is the day for all Judiciary and Federal employees to take a few moments to stop and remember the people who came together to create this document.

As the National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerks, we take pride in knowing our branch of government was created in the Constitution. Lawyers, farmers and business men had the forethought to create a document which was both defining and open at the same time.

The Constitution has shaped the lives of Americans for over 200 years setting the standards, guidelines and principles on which our nation is built. Men such as Franklin, Jefferson, Madison and others not so well known, worked long and hard to bring this document together. New York's John Jay and Alexander Hamilton, along with Pennsylvania's George Clymer and Massachusetts' Henry Knox and Rufus King, rode many miles to discuss and cajole delegates into the final compromise.

So, in honor of these and all of the people of our fledgling country, we take a moment on September 17th to reflect as:

"WE THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, IN ORDER TO FORM A MORE PERFECT UNION, ESTABLISH JUSTICE, INSURE DOMESTIC TRANQUILITY, PROVIDE FOR THE COMMON DEFENCE, PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE, AND SECURE THE BLESSINGS OF LIBERTY TO OURSELVES AND OUR POSTERITY, DO ORDAIN AND ESTABLISH THIS CONSTITUTION FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

The members of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerks, along with the rest of the judiciary, take pride in the work we do. We abide by and uphold the standards and principles of the United States Constitution. So let's all take a moment to remember and recognize the people of the past and pass on to the people of the future this document of America's founding fathers.

Submitted by the Constitution Day Committee at Florida Northern.

Latonia Isom Claire Bikowitz Ne'Shoni Foulks

NCBC Circuit Liaison Vacancies

7th Circuit	
8th Circuit	
10th Circuit	
11th Circuit	

**Get Involved With
the NCBC**

LESSONS LEARNED IN NEW ORLEANS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE THREE)

At the first session on Human Resources Management there was talk about values. They shared English sayings that I could truly relate to, although coming from a bilingual -Spanish/English- upbringing or, if I were to be more accurate, a Puerto Rican-New York-Massachusetts upbringing I was surprised to hear and conclude that some sayings are universal. In any event, the MSU, Professor Terry Curry II, seemed to be hitting all the right points, and had me listening attentively.

As the session went on, I received a text from one of my court's employees that he was not feeling very well. Huh! As a wife and a mother, I immediately reacted, and offered him "Pepto," that cure-all (at least in my household) magical potion. "What the heck," I figured. "Probably a little bit of indigestion."

But I was wrong. Boy, was I wrong. "I think I'm passing a kidney stone," he said. Ouch! Ooooookay . . . being the highest ranking member of the court present at that time, I felt the responsibility to drive him to the nearest hospital myself. Why did he decide to give birth in New Orleans? Cajun baby? Spicy new member of the family? I have no idea! Poor guy! To make matters more interesting he was staying at another hotel, so we ended up walking there.

Watching his face transform from the pain, I asked him for his medical card and he says he has a Spanish certified letter because he did not have a card. So, I'm thinking; "Good Luck with that!" Just because Old San Juan's architecture resembled New Orleans' as stated by Judge Dodd didn't mean they'll accept that letter!

Once at the ER at Tulane Hospital, we had a true New Orleans experience. The service was excellent! They took care of us right away, we had a private room assigned in no time whatsoever, and the Spanish letter was not a problem as long as they got it translated via fax which our HR in Old San Juan, which they promptly took care of. The doctor discharged the employee after CT Scan and painkillers and allowed him to remain at the conference. Oh boy! Was I relieved! And of course so was the stone bearer, finally pain free.

Aside from this personal experience which I thought was worth sharing with you (you'll be the judge) as it depicts the interaction with the true "New Orleanders," as opposed to the controlled environment back at the Marriott, the conference was filled of many new lessons and experiences for me.

Here are some of the highlights: What an Opening! I enjoyed the magic tricks and how Jon Petz addressed the audience with energy and creativity with **"It's Showtime! - and this isn't a dress rehearsal."** He was a superb motivational and enthusiastic speaker that created a great bonding connection with the audience. He shared with all of us his passion and his recipe for success! It really influenced me to adopt the reinventing mentality.

I also attended **"Bore No More, Get More out of Meetings, or Get Out of More Meetings!"**, which was hosted by Petz as well. As a result, I was able to maintain a high energy level with these back-to-back presentations. I gained many ideas from how to excuse from a meeting to techniques on how to keep meetings productive and people engaged. On Wednesday, I danced a little and worked out some of my creative juices (and no, it was not at Bourbon Street!). I attended Stephanie Hemmert 's, Assistant Division Director, Clerk's Office Programs, Education Division, Federal Judicial Center, **"Creative Problem Solving- Exploring Ways to Keep Your Brain Sharp."** A

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LESSONS LEARNED IN NEW ORLEANS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE NINE)

different structured presentation course that teaches amongst many things that everyone can be creative, covered an Introduction to Sudoku and an opportunity to be part of a record-breaking session attendance!

On Wednesday night, I had an unforgettable Cooking Experience at the **Bajou Road Inn Plantation House**. Emeril's former Souse Chef, expertly cooked for us a true New Orleans Menu. I even flipped my own crepes! Thanks Brenda. It was a hit!

The **Mardi Gras World Banquet** ended up being a lot more fun than I anticipated! I truly enjoyed checking out the floats and it was the closest I ever got to meeting Drew Brees - my husband's favorite quarterback! The band was outstanding and the men that dared to go on stage have all my respect. Another highlight of the show!

Back at the conferences, another breakout session favorite of mine was "**The Love You Take . . . How To Stop Worrying And Learn To Love Your Job**". It was a fantastic journey to embark on a personal introspection that helped you reflect about your talents and strengths. I went from a Broadcast Journalist, to a Yoga Instructor, to my reality Operations Manager (which I happened to love!), thanks to George's good brainwash session! All kidding aside, it made all the logic and sense in the world to me to focus on your best qualities and make them shine.

From the beignets at Café du Monde, tasting an alligator burger, riding a mechanical whale (thank you, Kelley!) to winning the Upgraded Room Gift Certificate sponsored by the San Francisco Bankruptcy Court which made me feel like "*The Price is Right*" contestant before a 600 people audience were all first time experiences that I lived at the New Orleans NCBC Conference 2011.

It was an amazing time for me, and I will always be grateful for the educational, cultural and social enrichment that the NCBC Conferences continue to provide to the bankruptcy employees' community. Thanks to my Clerk, Maria de Los Angeles Gonzalez and Chief Deputy, Wilma Jaime. Hope to see you all in San Francisco 2012 God willing!

Benefits Corner

The Benefits Committee is looking for 4 new members. This is a very active committee that meets once a month with the goal of researching benefits needs of NCBC members and the Judiciary as a whole. In addition to research, the Committee also explores and evaluates various benefits programs. NCBC strives to be the frontrunner on providing excellent benefits to its membership and relies on the Benefits Committee to make proposals to the NCBC Board. The Committee works with Federal First Insurance who offers the following benefits programs: Life Insurance, Long Term Disability, Retirement Seminars, and Dental & Vision Insurance. If you are a HR professional looking to expand your impact on the Judiciary by serving on the Benefits Committee, please submit your application to Lee Ann Bennett at Leeann_Bennett@flmb.uscourts.gov. In your application, please include your HR background and why you are interested in serving on the committee.

MSU Judicial Administration Program News

by Maureen E. Conner and Catharine White

2012 MSU/NCBC Judicial Administration Program

Course Offerings: In San Francisco the MSU courses that will be offered are: Information Technology Management and Visioning and Strategic Planning. MSU liaison Barry Lander will be developing those courses with the instructors. Be on the watch for course information from Barry and postings on the NCBC website and the Judicial Administration Program website.

MSU Capstone Projects and Mentors: Students who intend on completing their Judicial Administration Program Certificate for recognition during the 2012 NCBC annual meeting, can contact Catharine White at gamperca@msu.edu for capstone project directions and to receive a mentor. Past MSU graduates volunteer their time to assist current students with their capstone projects. The MSU/NCBC mentors are committed to the success of MSU students, and they are: Laura Brundage, Kathy Noel, Monette Warren, Paul Dickson, Ron Hayward, and Crystal Lightfoot

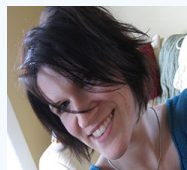


Editor's Note: We hope that you have enjoyed this newsletter and that it has proven to be resourceful to you as a member of the NCBC. We would be grateful to receive your comments on the newsletter, both on its content as well as on its structure, and ways to improve it further. We are also welcoming ideas on how to improve membership. All suggestions are welcome. Happy reading!

Yvonne Cherokee (919) 856-4752 ext. 125 yvonne_cherokee@nceb.uscourts.gov



Correspondents:



Alyson Johnson



Carol Thompson



Laura Whitehead



Leslie Taylor

All newsletter requests should be submitted to the editor.

Ask The Editorial Committee

The NCBC Impact Editorial Committee is here to serve you. Additionally, this is our 'always open' invitation to share your questions, comments, and suggestions for articles that will provide helpful information to NCBC members. Material should be emailed to Yvonne_cherokee@nceb.uscourts.gov.

This is your newsletter -- let your voice be heard!

CIRCUIT LIAISONS AND LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

Circuit	Circuit Liaison	District	Local Representative
1st Circuit	Kristen Batty	District of Columbia	Michael Wint
		Rhode Island	
		Maine	Sheila Dilios
		Massachusetts	Eileen Garrity
		New Hampshire	Kerri Mikolaities
		Rhode Island	Carolyn Sweeney
2nd Circuit	Becky Collette	Puerto Rico	Lizette Torres
		Vermont	
		Conneticut	Lou DiLella
		New York Eastern	Dwayne Cox (co-rep)
		New York Eastern	Donna Tenga (co-rep)
		New York Western	Paul Warren
3rd Circuit	David Bird	New York Northern	Jeffery Dingman
		New York Southern	Laura Brundage
		Vermont	Becky Collette
		Delaware	
		Delaware	Barbara Torres (co-rep)
		Delaware	Lora Johnson (co-rep)
4th Circuit	Laura Whitehead	New Jersey	Jeffrey Peirce
		Pennsylvania Eastern	Tim McGrath
		Pennsylvania Middle	Jackie Cherrybon
		Pennsylvania Western	Jan Hunger
		North Carolina Eastern	
		Maryland	Tracey Matthews (co-rep)
5th Circuit	Debbie Duke	Maryland	Cherita Martin (co-rep)
		North Carolina Eastern	Anne Moell
		North Carolina Middle	Debbie Payne
		North Carolina Western	Robin Felts
		South Carolina	Renee Surette
		Virginia Eastern	Renee Paxton (co-rep)
6th Circuit	Michelle Pierce	Virginia Eastern	Val Valentine (co-rep)
		Virginia Western	Carol Rickerson
		West Virginia Northern	Chris Warsinsky
		West Virginia Southern	Sheila Huffman
		Texas Eastern	
		Louisiana Eastern	Gaynell Donelon
		Louisiana Middle	Monica Menier
		Louisiana Western	Mitzie Denis
		Mississippi Northern	Sandra Peoples
		Mississippi Southern	Collette Derouen
		Texas Eastern	Maria Sheppard
		Texas Western	Daniel Paez
		Texas Northern	Katherine Floyd
		Texas Southern	
		Kentucky Western	
		Kentucky Eastern	Amy Smith
		Kentucky Western	Jeanne Tuell
		Michigan Eastern	Natalie King
		Michigan Western	Kim Davis
		Ohio Northern	Lynn Baldwin Bergmeyer (co-rep)
		Ohio Northern	Katherine Shvak (co-rep)
		Ohio Northern	Brenda Heminger (co-rep)
		Ohio Southern	Yvonne Ventre
		Tennessee Eastern	Karen Gwinn
		Tennessee Middle	Sharon Wingler
		Tennessee Western	Cindy Coady

Circuit	Circuit Liaison	District	Local Representative
7th Circuit	Ron Hayward	Illinois Central Illinois Northern Illinois Northern Illinois Central Illinois Southern Indiana Northern Indiana Southern Wisconsin Eastern Wisconsin Western	Patricia Reed (co-rep) Margie Maldonado-Rahmoun (co-rep) Sharon Gardner Cathy Hart Robin Stanley Jill Lass Pam Creydt
8th Circuit	Beth Wilbanks	Iowa Southern Arkansas Iowa Northern Iowa Southern Minnesota Minnesota Missouri Eastern Missouri Western Nebraska North Dakota South Dakota	Tammi Pennington Rebecca Hoefer Kris Botts Grace Goede (Minn.) Sam Runck (St. Paul) Matthew Parker Cecelia Parle Lisa Smith Ginger Elless
9th Circuit	Maggie Bondi Theola Ross	Alaska Washington Western Alaska Arizona California Northern California Eastern California Central California Central California Southern Guam Hawaii Idaho Montana Northern Mariana Islands Nevada Oregon Washington Eastern Washington Western	Maggie Bondi Cindy Ribar Sharon Hurt Beryl Dixon (co-rep) Sabrina Palacio-Garcia (co-rep) Shawna Dahl Charles White Amy Young Debbie Jenson Colleen Grady Maria Sanders Jonni Paulsen Shannon O'Brien Theola Ross
10th Circuit	Angie Martin	Oklahoma Western Colorado Kansas New Mexico Oklahoma Northern Oklahoma Eastern Oklahoma Western Utah Wyoming	Deb Beatty Donna Urbom-McClure April Colling Sharon Washburn Debbie Anderson Angie Martin Kyle Crockett James Baumhover
11th Circuit	Tracey Couling	Alabama Southern Alabama Northern Alabama Middle Alabama Southern Florida Northern Florida Middle Florida Southern Georgia Northern Georgia Middle Georgia Southern	Doug Wedge Henrietta Foster Tracey Couling Latonia Isom Alyson Johnson Katrinka Covington Regina Thomas William Tanner Sam Kay

Your Local Representative is available to answer your questions concerning NCBC membership and benefits.