



2009 Calendar of Events

Please mark your calendar for these upcoming NCBA events. Locations to be announced via the newsletter and website (www.nevadacountybar.com) unless otherwise noted.

- March 4** **Noon - Trolley Junction.** Gold County Estate Planning Council [NOTE NEW DATE]
- March 10** **Labor Law Update**
7:30 – 12:00 N.C. Elks Lodge
- March 25** **MCLE Lunch – Holbrook Hotel**
- April 1** **Noon - Trolley Junction.** Gold County Estate Planning Council [Not an April Fool's!]
- April 17-19** **Complex Property Characterization**
Assoc. of Cert. Family Law Specialists
- Criminal Law Subsection** – Contact Steve Munkelt at 265- 9508

If you haven't registered yet for the Granlibakken MCLE Conference at Lake Tahoe, just a reminder that the early registration discount expires March 15 (see attached PDF)

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Award Nominations/ Family Law Update March 26, 2009
- 4 Granlibakken MCLE Conference ; Comings & Goings; news from the State Bar; AOC Fellowship Opportunity
- 5 Classifieds & Officers Contacts
- + **NCBA & LRS Joint Annual Meeting**
Wednesday, February 18th 5:30 – 7:30

Next MCLE Luncheon Dates for 2009

Where: Holbrooke Hotel, Grass Valley
When: Wednesday March 25

Alternative Dispute Resolution

11:15 a.m. Executive Committee
12:00 General Membership

Price: \$26 ea. Members with RSVP
 \$30 ea. No RSVP

Program includes
1 hour of MCLE Credit:

Menu Choices: Buffet with Vegetarian and non-Vegetarian Options

Attendees should email jifordlaw@yahoo.com to receive advance pricing.

Reminder: Have you sent in your '09 Dues?

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

We all owe Debbi Sitzberger a debt of gratitude for her tireless effort on our behalf as the 2008 term President of this up and coming bar association. She turned in an outstanding performance and deserves our thanks. Thanks are also due for diligent and effective effort to Helen Cavanaugh Stauts as VP and Journal editor, Judy Ford and Secretary, John Bilheimer as Treasurer, and Board Members Neil Dorfman and Peter Bronson.

AND, certainly we should not fail to tip our hats or nod our heads to Andy Harris for his continuing with the thankless task of administering our fee arbitration program, Kip Wordell, who keeps us in good graces with the State Bar on MCLE, our fine Law Day Chair, Steve Baker, and Social Chair par excellence Yolanda Bachtell.

The committee and section chairs are also important

contributors to our Association's success and we want them to know that we applaud them too.

As your President for the 2009 term, I look forward to doing what I can to continue the trajectory of progress achieved by my predecessors. I take on the task with a pleasant anticipation of getting acquainted with even more of you than before. This is one of the benefits to me of bar association involvement, that of getting to meet and spend time with my peers in the profession. The opportunities for learning from each other are limitless and the value of the dues we pay is returned many times over.

If you take a little time each month to browse the NCBA Journal the chances are good that you can find a section, a committee or an activity that you can fit into and enjoy. If you have any ideas for additional sections or committees, our Board and I will enjoy hearing from you and giving such ideas earnest consideration. Or just come to our bi-monthly MCLE lunch meetings and enjoy the good fellowship of the fine lawyers you will encounter there.

My fellow officers and I owe it to our predecessors who have worked so hard to make NCBA a bar association to be proud of, to continue the work with enthusiasm and dedication. I look forward to working with and for all of you.

Dave Finch

11th Annual Family Law Update
Thursday March 26, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Nevada County Courthouse
6 MCLE Credits
Pick up a registration from the Family Law Clerk

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Court Appointed Attorneys

The AOC requires that court employees attach a printout to all travel claims to substantiate mileage for travel.

In keeping with the tightening budget and these audit requirements, please ask court appointed attorneys, interpreters, court reporters, and other contract professionals who bill mileage to attach verification of mileage.

The printout from map quest or a similar website with mileage calculation is acceptable.

Nellie Strong, Accounting Supervisor
201 Church Street, Suite 6. Nevada City, CA
530-265-7173, FAX 530-478-5603

March 10 Labor Law Update
7:30 – 12:00 N.C. Elks Lodge

Presented by EDD.

To reserve a spot contact Nevada County Chamber 273-4667. (\$65 & \$75 registration)

April 17-19 Complex Property Characterization
Assoc. of Cert. Family Law Specialists

Complex Property Characterization and Disposition Issues, Strategies for an Uncertain Economy

Wyndham Palm Springs Hotel
Register on line: www.acfls.org

You can also order the DVD / CD of materials.

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of California has an opening for a Pro Se Law Clerk to assist the court with developing and managing an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) program for pro se prisoner litigants. Please consider forwarding the announcement to persons who you think may be interested and qualified.

Refer to job announcement # 2009-10
CAED-HR@caed.uscourts.gov

Nevada County Counsel Opening
Level I/II & III

Information available at:
mynevadacounty.com

If you know of someone you would like to nominate for the court-based staff Award of Merit, please note that the nomination deadline is this coming Friday. This award is a joint award between the Access Commission and LAAC, and nominees can include any staff member of a trial or appellate level court program (excluding bench officers) who has helped improve access.

The nomination form is available at http://www.calegaladvocates.org/about/item.Awards_of_Merit. Please consider nominating someone who is deserving of this recognition, and please submit the form by this Friday.

Let us know if you have any questions - and thank you for helping get the word out about this deadline and for nominating a worthy recipient!

Section Notes

Criminal Law Section:

2nd TUESDAY of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Taking on the system can be lonely work - so come by and get support from your peers!

The criminal defense group is meeting on **2nd TUESDAY of the month** at 5:30 p.m. (If you would like to receive the group's e-mail notices, call Anita at 265-8508). The meetings are kept to about one hour max, so as many as possible can attend.

There are kudos each month for individual successes, and contributions to criminal defense - if you have a nomination, tell Steve or Anna at 265-8508. - Steve Munkelt

Family Law Section:

Noon at the Nevada City Courthouse

Our next Family Law Luncheon will be at CoRR on February 23 at noon. The plan will be to take a tour of CoRR and have the staff explain to us the many services they offer and also to view their facility. We hope to have a conference room where we can ask questions of the staff either before or after the tour.

I invite all family law attorneys, therapists and CASAs to attend this informative meeting.

Contact: Chuck Eckerman by phone at 477-2440 or email eckerlaw@sbcglobal.net.

ADR Section:

Noon at The Holbrooke Hotel in Grass Valley (parking in back).

ADR Section: **Wednesday, February 25, 2009**, Noon, Holbrooke Hotel, front room for lunch (we're moving to a quieter location). We'll be finalizing the agenda for our March 25 MCLE program for NCBA, and sharing ideas on how to convene a mediation to hone our skills as mediation practitioners.

Contact Rosemary Metrailler: rmetrailler@metrailler.com (530)265-3062

Gold Country Estate Planning Council:

The GOLD COUNTRY ESTATE PLANNING COUNCIL meets monthly at 11:45 am-1:15 pm, every first Wednesday. **Contact Terry Brown for details.**

The luncheon meetings are held at the Trolley Junction Café (at the Northern Queen Inn) in Nevada City.

All are welcome!

To RSVP for the next meeting, please call Terry Brown at 530-273-1323.

Or check out the website: www.estateplanningcouncil.net.

FAMILY LAW MEDITATION:

Effective March 1, 2009, due to budgetary short falls; Family Court Services will now offer one (1) voluntary mediation appointment per year. If the parties agree upon having a custody evaluation, drug assessment/testing etc. the follow up appointment will be included in the one (1) voluntary mediation appointment per year policy.

Also:

Family Court Services will no longer be offering Mediation Orientation on Wednesday mornings. All other days will remain the same [Mon., Tues., Th., Fri., 9:00 a.m.]

Award Nominations Open

Nominate individual attorneys, attorney teams and/or law firms that provided outstanding pro bono legal services during calendar year 2008 for the State Bar of California's 2009 President's Pro Bono Service Awards.

Please also consider submitting a nomination for the 2009 Loren Miller Legal Services Award. This award was created in 1977 to honor an attorney who has demonstrated long-term commitment to legal services and who has personally done significant work in extending legal services to the poor. Information about Richard Rothschild, the 2008 Loren Miller Legal Services Award recipient is posted at http://calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_generic.jsp?cid=11398&id=7083.

Information about and nomination forms for the 2009 Pro Bono Awards are posted at http://calbar.ca.gov/state/calbar/calbar_generic.jsp?cid=11398&id=7081 (as well as three additional State Bar Awards: Loren Miller Legal Services Award, Jack Berman Award of Achievement and the Diversity Awards).

Awards nominations must be postmarked by March 16, 2009. The 2009 awards will be presented at a reception on Friday, September 11 during the State Bar Annual Meeting in San Diego. If you have any questions about the awards, please contact me at <mailto:czeisler@manatt.com> or 310-312-4194, or the SCDLS Staff Liaison, Sharon Ngim at <mailto:sharon.ngim@calbar.ca.gov> or 415-538-2267.

American Association of Law Libraries

President Obama also released two important Memoranda: the Memorandum on the Freedom of Information Act, which re-establishes a presumption of openness under FOIA and orders the Office of Management and Budget to "update guidance to the agencies to increase and improve information dissemination to the public," and the Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government, which lays out several ways in which the new Administration will "work together to ensure the public trust and establish a system of transparency, public participation, and collaboration."

This is an issue that AALL has been following for many years, and this new Executive Order on Presidential Records is indeed great news. To read the new Executive Order, you can visit the new White House Web site and click on "Executive Orders" under the "the Briefing Room" tab at the top. Or go directly to http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/ExecutiveOrderPresidentialRecords.

Emily Feldman
Advocacy Communications Assistant
American Association of Law Libraries

Check Out the Library...

There is a new Attorney Shelf – MCLE and other professional info.

MANY treatises on line as part of the new Westlaw subscription.

PLACER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Granlibakken MCLE Conference

April 17 & 18 \$180 PCBA members

\$225 Non – Members pcba@hckjs.com

Comings & Goings:

Note Address Change:
Dave Finch
11294 Buckeye Circle,
Penn Valley, CA 95946.

Have you moved, added an associate, etc?

Let me know hsttauts@nevadacountycourts.com & I'll put it in the newsletter!

NEWS FROM THE STATE BAR

NEW AFFINITY PARTNERS --- A new group of affinity partners who provide tools and services to assist attorneys with marketing their practices have joined CalBar Connect, the State Bar's members-only Web site.

Confidential Hotline:
(800) 222-0767

Free Confidential Assistance to those in the legal community with substance abuse problems. Weekly Other Bar Recovery Meetings are held in many areas and others are being established. For times and locations or to start a program in your area contact the website above.

Future MCLE Lunch Dates: May 27
July 22
Sept. 23

+
"Armchair Trainings" – learn from your office.
See attachment.

The 2009 version of the Judicial Diversity Report compiled by the State Bar Council on Access & Fairness.

The information includes judicial appointment data from reports just released by the Governor, Judicial Council and JNE Commission. We hope this information will be helpful with your ongoing judicial appointments initiatives. For those of you participating in the March 10-11 Bench Bar Coalition trips to Sacramento, this will serve as updated background information for your conversations with various legislators regarding judicial diversity.

If you have any questions, please contact Terrie Mesa at 415-538-2143 or Theresa.Mesa@calbar.ca.gov. Thanks.

NCBA CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICERS

Debra Sitzberger - President
(530) 274-1321, debbisitzberger@sbcglobal.net

Judy Ford - Secretary
(530) 265-0154, jlfordlaw@yahoo.com

John Bilheimer - Treasurer
(530) 265-6357, hbigb@jps.net

MEMEBERS AT LARGE:

Neil Dorfman: (530) 274-0643
dorfman@goodfaithlaw.com

Peter C. Bronson: (530) 432-0851
pbronson@pbronsonlaw.com

Helen Cavanaugh Stauts - Newsletter
(530) 470-2596, hstauts@nevadacountycourts.com

SECTION & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Rosemary Metraier - ADR Section Chair
(530) 265-3062 rmetraier@metraier.com

Steve Munkelt - Criminal Law Section Chair
(530) 265-8508, smunk@gv.net

Chuck Eckerman - Family Law Section Chair
(530) 477-2440, eckerlaw@sbcglobal.net

Andy Harris - Fee Arbitration Program Admin.
(530) 272-4250, andy@scottbrowne.com

Kipp Wordell - MCLE Chair
(530) 470-0900, kippcharlton@sbcglobal.net

Judicial Officers Nevada City Branch

Department I: Judge Heidelberg
Department II: Presiding Judge Dowling
Department III: Judge McManus
Department IV: Judge Tamietti
Department V: Commissioner Thomsen
Department VI: Judge Anderson

Truckee Branch

Dept. A Judge Anders Holmer
Dept. B Commissioner Thomsen

NCBA
P.O. Box 1473
Nevada City, CA 95959-1473
www.nevadacountybar.com

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Miner's Village

in Downtown Nevada City

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Offices: 240 sf to 1100 sf – as low as \$1.00/sf
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Mediation: two room suites available – by the
Hour or by the day – competitive rates
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john@grassvalleymanagement.com
www.grassvalleymanagement.com
530.272.8496-P 530.272.8196-fax

Dispute? Resolution!

Judge Albert P. Dover (ret)

Please call: 265 2235 or email at al@adrwithdover.com
**Visit the website for information on rates, fees, and
services**
at www.adrwithdover.com

VERITAS INVESTIGATIONS

Ronald J. Eason
CA License: PI 25927
PO Box 1102
Cedar Ridge, CA 95924
[530-263-9489](tel:530-263-9489) or [477-7970](tel:477-7970)

Retired police detective and licensed CA Private Investigator, I had a twenty-three year career and a great deal of valuable training (including FBI homicide investigation, hostage negotiation, crime scene investigation and interviewing techniques) and practical experience. I'm interested in any type of criminal case, missing persons, heir location, birth parent location, insurance and civil cases

Attorney Volunteer Needed

Legal Services of No. Cal. seeking an attorney to volunteer 1/2 day a week in Grass Valley office, advising mostly low-income seniors on general civil elder law matters. Thanks again, Bob Lobell, Staff Paralegal (274-3554).

**Nevada County Bar Association
Post Office Box 1473
Nevada City, CA 95959-1473**

Nevada County Bar Association

FEBRUARY 18 5:30 – 7:30

**Joint Annual Meeting
NCBA & LRS
ANNUAL MEETING :**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**HON. JUSTICE RONALD B. ROBIE.
Access to Justice**
