

THE CATCHLINE

BULLETIN OF THE ASSOCIATION OF REPORTERS OF JUDICIAL DECISIONS



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President's Message

Denver, Ho! There may no longer be much gold in “them thar hills” (other than the Acapulco strain), but the 33rd annual ARJD conference set for August 6 to 10, 2014 in the Mile High City should nevertheless deliver priceless value. I hope you plan to attend. You should have received registration materials by now. Please contact me if you haven't (bhooks@courts.state.ny.us; 518-453-6918). The conference registration deadline is July 7, and hotel reservations must be made by July 16 to assure a favored ARJD rate. The flyers for the various evening events contain separate registration instructions.

Our conference site, the Hyatt Regency Denver Hotel in downtown Denver, provides easy access to the 16th Street Mall (Denver's hub of shopping, dining and entertainment that stretches for 16 blocks in the heart of downtown), as well as an incredible selection of arts, entertainment and sporting events.

Susan Williams has planned our traditional “arrival dinner” for 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday night at the Appaloosa Grill, a short walk from the hotel.

Educational programs and business meetings are scheduled for Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Remember that this is the inaugural year of the Wednesday through Sunday format.

Immediate Past President and Education Committee Chair Leah A. Walker has done her usual stellar job in arranging our education program. A description of the speakers and topics in greater detail appears elsewhere in this issue of *The Catchline*. Business sessions will include site selection for the 2016 conference, election of a slate of 2014-15 ARJD officers, updates from Committee Chairs on various initiatives, and a forum for current issues faced by Reporters' offices.

Our generous sponsors—Thomson Reuters West, LexisNexis and Wolters Kluwer—have arranged the usual lineup of outstanding events to round out our days. You'll enjoy a catered visit to the History Colorado Museum, a reception and tickets to a theatrical production of *The Sound of Music* and a dinner tour of the Old West on the Georgetown Loop Railroad.

And, of course, the meeting presents a wonderful opportunity to reacquaint with old friends, meet some new ones and create more happy memories of sharing and learning together with a few good laughs thrown in!

See you in Denver!

—WILLIAM J. HOOKS

ARJD President

Spring 2014 Executive Board Meeting

Communications Committee

Before presenting the report on behalf of François Boivin, Bill complimented François for his excellent and diligent work in leading the committee. The group discussed the December issue of *The Catchline* and mentioned that they liked the new layout. Bill extended kudos to April Patterson at the Nevada Supreme Court for the design. François has done a great job of monitoring the website and responding to inquiries received through it. François notes that the website needs enhancements with respect to content, design, and navigability, but that the ARJD lacks time, money, and expertise to bring about such enhancements. Meg Greene also noted that there may be limitations as to the site's capabilities (Washburn Law School in Kansas is the host) and suggested investigating capabilities before proceeding with any redesign. With respect to content, Bill would like to review the ARJD's mission statement (likely in need of modernization in light of electronic publishing,

etc.) and focus on making the site a useful tool, for example, by including links to decisions from different jurisdictions and available secondary sources and making the site more navigable. As this project will be fairly labor-intensive, Bill intends to work on it when his presidency ends. Bill plans to begin by contacting all reporters. As the ARJD does not have a mailing list of all reporters, perhaps the communications committee can work on compiling such a list and breaking it into subgroups.

Annual Meeting Committee

As determined at the fall board meeting, this committee will be co-chaired by the current President (and will thus rotate every year) and a more permanent co-chair (currently Sandra Grosko from Ohio). David Power, Leah Walker, and Meg Greene are also current members. The committee does not have a great deal of work to do during the year, but of course gets busier as the meeting approaches, at which time it may need short-term help from other members. Registration materials this year will allow members to opt out of providing contact information in their public listing on the website. For those who do not attend the meeting, the board will consider an email blast to prompt members to let Cliff Allen know



if they want changes to their listing on the website.

The meeting insurance issue has been resolved thanks to a suggestion from the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks to contact Mary Anna Hicks at Wells Fargo Insurance. Bill was able to obtain meeting insurance for this year's annual meeting for \$300 through Philadelphia Insurance Companies. The ARJD can decide year to year whether to renew, though Bill suggests obtaining such coverage regardless of whether the hotel requires it to protect the ARJD from liability (the policy covers negligence not committed by the hotel).

Education Committee

Leah Walker was unable to attend the board meeting, so Bill presented the report on her behalf. Most of the report pertains to the Denver meeting, which is discussed in detail further below. Bill complimented Leah for the great job she's done of finding speakers and organizing the education program for Denver. The Education committee is small, so suggestions from members are welcome and encouraged.

Susan gave an update on the 2015 meeting in Nashville. A contract has been signed because the process needed

to be expedited. However, Susan questioned whether, in the future, the ARJD needs to pursue contracts so far in advance, as many hotels do not want to book that far out. The meeting will be at the Embassy Suites, in an eclectic part of town near Music Row, Vanderbilt, and many restaurants. There is also a complimentary shuttle for a two-mile radius. If attendance is greater than usual, it may change the way the meeting is set up (an extra-large group may require a classroom style layout instead of an open square). Leah is pursuing free meeting space with her contact at Vanderbilt (which may affect food and beverage minimums at the hotel, but the numbers are reasonable and the ARJD should have no trouble meeting those requirements). The meeting will be held August 5-9, 2015 (Wednesday to Sunday). As was the case with the Denver hotel, the Nashville hotel is requiring meeting insurance. Susan has also come up with a potential speaker for Nashville: an advocacy group for women and children that is working on a project involving the language used in appellate decisions in sexual assault cases. When describing such incidents, courts sometimes use language that is inappropriate or insensitive to the victim. This advocacy group endeavors to make courts aware of the issue and also offers suggestions about how to better approach the issue.

External Outreach Committee

Bill presented the report on behalf of Mary Joe Beck. The committee is updating the ARJD's brochure. The group discussed photos that might go in the brochure. Suggestions (and photos) from members are welcome. The brochure may include locations of upcoming meetings (Denver, Nashville, etc.). Meg will send a draft to the board when complete.

Dan Anselmo raised the issue of recruiting new members. Bill plans to reach out to reporters who are not yet members or who are no longer active, especially those geographically close to Denver. Bill noted that two reporters recently retired: Ed Jessen of California and Brian Ervin in Illinois. Illinois reached out to the ARJD to advertise the job opening created by Brian's retirement. The new Illinois reporter has been in touch with Susan (both jurisdictions are electronic-only), and Susan will extend an invitation to the Illinois reporter about attending an upcoming meeting. Chris Fallon suggested it would be nice to hear from electronic-only jurisdictions about version control. The group discussed possibly inviting the Illinois reporter as a speaker in Nashville. With respect to Ed Jessen, he retired in January. It appears no new reporter has yet been appointed in California.

Treasurer's Report

Bill presented the report on behalf of Kevin Loftus. The ARJD had a few small expenditures: donations to charities in memory of Henry Lind and his wife and a premium of \$300 for meeting insurance.

Site selection

As determined by the membership at the 2013 annual meeting, the possible locations for the 2016 meeting are: Columbus, Ohio; Austin, Texas; Toronto, Ontario; and Arizona. Leah researched Arizona and the annual meeting committee suggested to the Board that the ARJD opt to consider the Phoenix/Tempe area over Tucson because of better hotel selection/costs and proximity to ASU Law School and the state capital (and thus increased opportunities for local speakers). Also, the Phoenix/Tempe area is closer to the



Grand Canyon (which members may want to visit while in Arizona). Susan moved to vote on Phoenix/Tempe as the Arizona option, rather than Tucson, for 2016. That motion was approved. All four options will be presented in detail in Denver.

Denver update

Vendor activities

Three vendors have agreed to host events. West will host an event at the History Colorado Center. Lexis will hold a reception at the hotel followed by *The Sound of Music* at a theater near the hotel. Loislaw has agreed to host an event but details have not been decided yet.

New attendees/meeting mentors

Albert Hicking, head of the Law Revision Commission of the Northern Mariana Islands, and a staff attorney from his office will be attending the Denver meeting. This will be a perfect opportunity to introduce the “meeting mentor” program established at the fall 2013 board meeting, which will involve meeting with first-time attendees when they arrive, making introductions, and generally “showing them the ropes” at the meeting. Dan volunteered to be the meeting mentor for Mr. Hicking and his staff attorney. The group discussed members who might act as mentors to other first-time attendees. Registration materials will indicate whether a person is a first-time attendee and the Board will recruit mentors from there.

Arrival dinner

As Vice President, Susan is in charge of planning the arrival dinner. Leah has suggested to Susan a certain restaurant near the hotel and Susan is researching it. Details (location, time) will go out with the registration materials.

Education/Activities

***Editor’s Note:** The education program, as well as all other registration materials for the annual meeting, have since been distributed to members via e-mail. Those materials can also be accessed on the ARJD’s Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/members.arjd/>

A tentative schedule has been set. Some of the highlights include:

- Welcome by the Chief Justice.
- Thursday: Presentations on coin production at the Denver mint, tribal law and typography for lawyers; and a roundtable discussion on succession planning for reporters.
- Friday: Marijuana legislation in Colorado; a potential vendor roundtable on UELMA; reporters discussing their offices (like in years past); “hot button” roundtable (for reporters to bring up any issues they are facing).
- Other possible items include: differences between self-publishing and contracting out publishing; how to cite to other jurisdictions, i.e., follow the preferred citation format for that jurisdiction?; a tour of the judicial building in Denver (the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and/or the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals may address the group during the tour).
- Saturday (half day): Presentation on cognitive wellness; Katie Loomis from Michigan will discuss link rot and Michigan’s use of a group called Perma.cc to address link rot; continued business meeting, if necessary.

Possible presentation by vendors

Bill would like to get vendors involved in presentations. One possibility is

UELMA and its impact on commercial publishers. Some UELMA requirements, such as the designated “official publisher” being the governmental entity responsible for publishing decisions, may not be entirely compatible with contracting with a commercial publisher. It would be interesting to see publishers’ ideas for working with jurisdictions required to comply with UELMA. West indicated its willingness to speak on the issue. Lexis and Lois have not yet confirmed.

Other business

OASIS

Brian Redmond from Massachusetts and Trevor Gross from Nevada are monitoring the issue. There is nothing substantive to report yet. The OASIS group just broke up into subcommittees. The group discussed the fact that some reporters have been advised by their technical staff that the OASIS project likely will not have much effect on how reporters do business. The ARJD will nevertheless continue to monitor the project.

Save the date

- Annual meeting this year: August 6-10, 2014.
- Next board meeting: Possibilities include October 17, October 24, and November 21, 2014. The meeting date may depend on the next secretary’s schedule. The date will be set before the annual meeting.

Education Committee

The Denver meeting is right around the corner and I am eager to welcome you to my fair city and hope you find the presentations scheduled to be of great benefit to you!

We open the meeting on Thursday with a welcome to Denver by a native son, Chief Judge Alan Loeb of the Col-

orado Court of Appeals. Rebecca Barnstien from the Denver Mint will discuss the history of the US and Denver Mints, current coin programs, and how the Mint produces money with a particular emphasis on the quality assurance programs that ensure mistake-free coins. Justice Jill E. Tompkins of the Mashantucket Pequot, Passamaquoddy, and Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Courts of Appeal, and President of the National American Indian Court Judges Association, and David Selden, Law Librarian at the National Indian Law Library, will co-present on the collection and publication of tribal law, particularly codes, constitutions, and tribal-state agreements, and tribal court opinions. Matt Butterick will give a presentation on his book *Typography for Lawyers*. If you are interested in previewing what he has to say, check out his website:

<http://typographyforlawyers.com/>.

A roundtable discussion on succession planning will be held with new Reporters, including Brian Redmond, Rick Neidhard, and myself, speaking about our experiences taking over the job and retired or moved-on Reporters, including Cliff Allen and Dan Anselmo, discussing how they handled their exits.

Friday will start with everyone's favorite question about life in Colorado: marijuana. Ronald Nemirow will give us insight into the impact Colorado's recent legalization of marijuana will have on federal drug policy as well as the legal and ethical implications of drug use for employers and employees. Michigan's recent decision to use Perma.cc to help avoid link rot in their opinions will be explored by Katie Loomis, Legal Editor in the Reporter's office. She will address the various methods considered, why they selected Perma.cc, and their experience with using Perma.cc. Kim Dulin and Adam Ziegler from Perma.cc will then explain how Perma.cc works, its

platform and features. There will be plenty of time for questions! We will also have a new open forum segment, where everyone can bring issues or questions to the membership. Please come with topics to discuss!

Friday afternoon we will venture a few blocks down the street from our hotel to the Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center, home of the Colorado Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. Justice William W. Hood, III, will welcome us to the building before we head off on our tour led by Daniel Cordova, the Supreme Court librarian who spoke at our conference in Chicago.

Saturday finds us learning how to manage our stress and make the most of our brain power. Dr. Debra Austin will give a presentation on Cognitive Wellness, specifically the impact of stress on cognition and provide us with a series of suggestions to maximize our cognitive function. Peter Martin will talk to us about post-release revisions, offering his thoughts on the practices our various courts use and suggestions from the reader's perspective. If you'd like a preview of his perspective, check out his blog post on the topic: <http://citeblog.access-to-law.com/?p=157>.

As this is our first year with a four-day meeting instead of a five-day conference, Sunday morning will find us having our traditional wrap up session and open discussion. I look forward to seeing everyone soon!

—LEAH WALKER

Employment Opportunities

California Supreme Court

The California Supreme Court, located in San Francisco, is accepting applications for the position of Reporter of Decisions. Under direction from the Supreme Court, the Reporter of Decisions executes the Court's

constitutional and statutory responsibilities pertaining to opinion publication by managing assigned staff and activities, and by generally managing the publisher's work pursuant to the Official Reports publication contract. The job post was recently e-mailed to all members and can also be found on the ARJD's Facebook page. To apply online or for more information, go to www.courts.ca.gov/careers and search for Job# 3874. This position will remain open until filled. For earliest consideration, please apply by July 7, 2014.

Supreme Court of Ohio

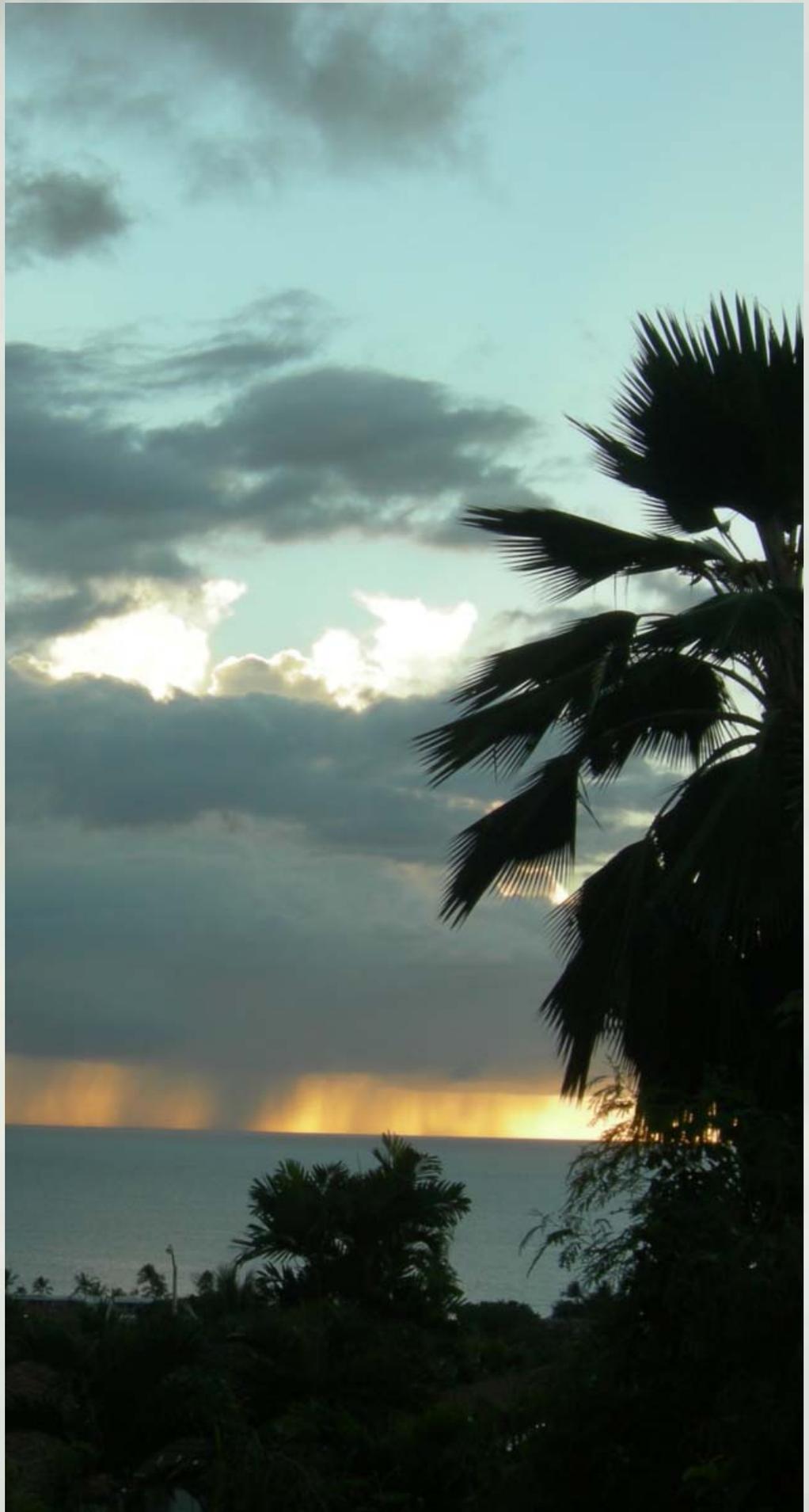
The Supreme Court of Ohio is seeking candidates for the Reporter of Decisions. Duties include managing and directing assigned staff, developing and implementing the office's objectives and goals, and collaborating with other internal and external leaders to plan for the future and ensure that long-term Court objectives are achieved. The job post was recently e-mailed to all members and can also be found on the ARJD's Facebook page. Applicants must have a minimum of ten years' experience directly related to legal writing in the public or private sector with a minimum of five of those years in a supervisory role. Formal consideration of interested applicants responding to this announcement will begin July 9, 2014 and will continue until the position is filled. Additional details on the position and application instructions are available on the following website:

<http://agency.governmentjobs.com/ohio>.

To be considered for this opening, candidates must apply online at www.careers.ohio.gov.

New Appointment

Ohio Reporter of Decisions Sandra Grosko has been appointed to the position of Clerk of the Supreme Court of Ohio effective July 1, 2014. After July 1, she will continue to serve as interim Reporter of Decisions until the position is filled. The ARJD would like to congratulate Sandra on her appointment.



2013-2014 Officers

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Vice President: Susan P. Williams, Supreme Court of Appeals of Arkansas

Treasurer: Kevin J. Loftus (Ret.), Supreme Court of Connecticut

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Sandra H. Grosko, Supreme Court of Ohio

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François Boivin, Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada

Education:

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E-mail Address Changes and Corrections?

Please alert us by sending an e-mail to: info.arjd@gmail.com.