



Report me and my cause aright
Hamlet, Act V, Scene 2

The Catchline

BULLETIN OF THE ASSOCIATION OF REPORTERS OF JUDICIAL DECISIONS

Volume XXVII, No. 3

June 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear ARJD Members:

Your ARJD Executive Board met for dinner at The Monocle Restaurant in Washington, DC, prior to our Spring board meeting. Attendees were: Wilma, Kevin, Claude, Barbara, recently retired member John Fee, and we welcomed guests: Denyse and Maggie.

Next day, Friday, May 2, 2008, the November 2007 meeting minutes were approved and a draft version of the 2007 Anchorage Annual Meeting minutes was distributed. We had a full agenda and we were happy to welcome our treasurer, Tim Fuller, on a teleconference line.

Electronic Publishing Committee Chair, Ralph Preston, presented a revised draft of the *ARJD Statement of Principles: "Official" On-Line Documents*. Committee revisions have been made to Sections 2, 3 and 4. ARJD Executive Committee voted their acceptance based on their review and recommendation of the committee. Updated version will be posted to website.

The Scribes matter has been laid to rest by the Executive Committee after over a year of discussion and communication back and forth. You will be updated at the annual meeting.

Ed Jessen and Cliff Allen have completed the 2008 Membership Directory and issued some late inserts for it -- we appreciate their diligence in getting this task done annually. Ed has advised that with the closing of this issue the publishing of the *Catchline* newsletter will need to move under the direction of another member. His workload volume has increased by 20% with no correlative increase in staffing. We have a possible solution in mind and await some further information from potential new publisher. It goes without saying that we are extremely grateful to Ed and his wonderful support staff for their work on the newsletter in our behalf. *Thank you!*

Reminder that the *Catchline* needs articles from members and committees. Book reviews, etc., anything of interest to our membership. Something new happening at your Court? New software/hardware being deployed . . . do share with everyone, if you can. We each learn from the other.

Education Committee Chair, Cliff Allen, has done a tremendous job in putting together this year's business meeting agenda. Look for it in the enclosed documents. He has attracted multiple speakers with great topics for us. He is also seeking two moderators to host roundtable sessions -- consider stepping up to the plate and offering your help. It's a great way to become involved!

Based on a recommendation by Frank Wagner and Lloyd Hysan the ARJD Executive Committee has agreed to invite our Founder, Henry Lind, and his lovely wife, to join us at the meeting in Pittsburgh. Both members also offered to transport the Linds to/from that meeting. Don't be surprised if you see them there and do take the opportunity to welcome them both.

Bylaws review has been part of the Executive Committee's recent meetings. Past President Barbara Kincaid kindly volunteered to lead this effort and has done a fine job in behalf of the ARJD. She will present to you on this at the annual meeting and propose amendments.

Richard Ross, Honors Committee chair, is seeking nominees for the **Henry Lind Award** which is bestowed upon individuals who have made a significant contribution to the improved reporting of judicial decisions or the preservation of historic court records. Our last award was presented to Hon. Alex Kozinski in 2004 at the New York meeting. If you do have a suggestion please contact Richard at rossr@kscourts.org and he will provide you with the criteria for the award.

Membership Chair, Bilee Cauley, reported 98 members as of April 30, 2008, including 41 active members; 29 associate members; 25 retired members; and 3 honorary members.

Recent retirees are:

Janette Bloom -- Supreme Court of Nevada & John Fee -- United States Tax Court.

New members are:

Tracie Lindeman
-- Supreme Court of Nevada;
Dolores A. Bianco & Robert M. Levine
-- Superior Court of Pennsylvania;
Stephen Kenyon
-- Idaho Supreme Court/Court of Appeals;
Gregory Pun
-- British Columbia Court of Appeal;
Jean M. Ruskell
-- Supreme Court and Court of Appeals of Georgia.

I extend a warm welcome to each and every one in behalf of the ARJD Executive Committee and our membership. Do please come and join us in Pittsburgh.

Bilee is working on a Master Directory of members and will coordinate same with Cliff Allen for the next directory printing. Wow! Thanks to both. Our new membership application form now includes a notation of both forms of membership: active and associate. It also now carries a notation that all monies tendered to treasurer should be in United States currency.

New Member Chair, Leah Walker, reports connecting two ARJD mentors with members. She continues to work on ABA CLE issues for roundtable discussion at annual meeting. Leah is also actively following up by sending welcome packages to new members:

Daphne Matlakala, Deputy Attorney General
-- Botswana;
Sarah Moore and Tracie Lindemann
-- Supreme Court of Nevada;
Gregory S. Pun, Law Officer
-- British Columbia Court of Appeal.

All of that while she is working full time and attending law school. Great work, Leah.

Nominating Committee Chair, Shauna Thomas, is actively working on a slate of ARJD officers for 2008-2009. If you have an interest in serving the ARJD please contact her at: shaunat@mt.net Part of that process will be adding a transitional Treasurer for the upcoming year -- as an eventual replacement for Tim Fuller.

Website Committee Chair, Andy Ashe, reports that he needs a website savvy helper right away. If you can help in this capacity please contact Andy now -- cashe@courts.state.ny.us or by phone at 518-474-8211 work. The site has been updated and now boasts a link to Pittsburgh's convention and visitor bureau, the tentative education schedule for the annual meeting, and the most recent *Catchline*. The website runs at no cost to the ARJD and is currently hosted by Washburn University. We sincerely appreciate that partnership.

Site Selection updates were presented in person by: Kevin Loftus -- 2009 meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada and Janette Bloom -- 2010 meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Hotel selected for Nova Scotia is the Delta Halifax and the base rate is \$165 (single or

double) plus 15% tax. [Note: Room rates for Halifax are in Canadian dollars.] Kevin will update everyone thoroughly on this location in Pittsburgh and about the negotiation process. He's done a great job on this.

Janette has been making the initial rounds of properties in Las Vegas and working up an RFP accordingly. She too will have more to report, in person, in Pittsburgh.

Lloyd Hysan reported on the Pittsburgh hotel -- a decision was made to increase the room block. We are pleasantly surprised at the number of members already signed up. Do not delay making your room reservation at the Omni William Penn Hotel, as Pittsburgh is a busy city and hotels fill quickly, especially on weekend dates. Use code: ARJD2008 when calling for reservations in our block. Phone: 412-281-7000. Rate is \$135 plus tax per night. Rooms cut-off date is July 1, 2008.

All those members who book by June 16 will have their name included in an **Early Bird Drawing** -- winner to be announced and a gift to be distributed in Pittsburgh.

Plan Ahead for Special Events for Pittsburgh:

We already have well over 200 room nights sold at the Omni William Penn Hotel, site of our 27th Annual meeting in Pittsburgh -- Lloyd has even had to add additional room nights to the contract to accommodate member requests.

Once again we have a variety of events planned for the benefit of attendees and their guests. Sincere thanks to all vendor representatives involved in the planning of same. Bilee Cauley will also prepare an insert on Pittsburgh places of interest, restaurants,

etc., that will be included in your arrival package.

Wed. 8/6 – ARJD ARRIVAL DINNER at **McCormick & Schmick's Restaurant** near the hotel.

Cost: \$50 per person “all inclusive” of taxes and gratuity — Pittsburgh native, Bilee Cauley, will host — *event flyer has details.*

Thurs. 8/7 – LEXISNEXIS will host dinner at **The Warhol Museum**. Its permanent collection comprises 12,000-plus works of art by Warhol, including paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, sculpture, film, videotapes, and extensive archives that document the artist's life. Together, the art and archives make this museum the most comprehensive single-artist museum in the world — *event flyer has details.*

Fri. 8/8 – *Don your glad rags!* LOISLAW will host a **Hawaiian Dinner Cruise & Show** on a Gateway Clipper riverboat with entertainment by Tuika's Polynesian Island Magic dancers.

Expect to see *Nofo Oti* — the Samoan Fire Knife Dance. The menu is Hawaiian and just looking at it makes my mouth water. Time: 5:30 p.m. – 10 p.m. RSVPs will be direct to Loislaw -- *event flyer has details.*

Sat. 8/9 – THOMSON-REUTERS will host dinner at the **Sen. John Heinz Museum/History Center**. John Heinz was many things to many people during his shortened life: Husband, father, member of Congress, art collector, sportsman and philanthropist. The Heinz gallery honors his life and his public service, and reveals his legacy to each one of us: the charge to carry

his work forward, and to see it completed. Exhibit celebrates his contributions to the arts & culture, the environment, economic development and society. Learn how many of the Pittsburgh-born and bred celebrities you know are listed among the 500 artists, athletes, industrialists and inventors who have shaped the region over the past 250 years! *Event flyer has details.*

ARJD Calendar

The next two Executive Committee meetings will be held at the Supreme Court of the United States, Washington, DC, on the following dates:

Friday, Nov. 21, 2008, and Friday, April 10, 2009. Please join us if you are in the vicinity.

2008 – Aug. 7-11 -- Annual Meeting, Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

2009 – Aug. 6-10 -- Annual Meeting, Delta Halifax Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

2010 – Aug. 5-9 -- Annual Meeting, Hotel TBD, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

Take the opportunity to place these events on your calendar today so that you can attend.

This comprises my last newsletter column to the ARJD membership. I have thoroughly enjoyed all of it over the past two years as President. I also just happen to really enjoy event planning for nonprofit associations as a hobby. Let me use this opportunity to acknowledge and send my appreciation for their efforts to every Executive Committee Member, Committee Chairpersons, Committee Members, Volunteers, and a supportive ARJD Membership (and their guests). I look forward to seeing everyone in Pittsburgh. Do take advantage of airline specials by booking early.

Sincere Regards,

Wilma H. Grant

President, ARJD 2006-2008

3. "Open Discussion." As has become somewhat of a tradition, the last morning of our annual meeting (Monday) has evolved into an informal discussion of the substance of the meeting just ending and an opportunity to make suggestions as to the direction of the next annual meeting. A volunteer to lead this discussion is needed this year.

Roundtable Discussions

1. "We Now Know What New Members Want -- Let's Start to Provide It." At our Anchorage meeting, a roundtable discussion identified four topics of interest to new members. This year the challenge is to prioritize our action and begin to provide what our new members have requested. A summary of our Anchorage discussion appears in the *Catchline*, Volume XXVII, No. 1, p. 11.

The areas of discussion planned for our Pittsburgh meeting will be (1) a mentor program; (2) clinics or classes on headnote drafting, opinion editing, and proofreading (possibly for CLE credit); (3) expanded use of Web site; and (4) greater awareness of the job of a reporter of decisions, coupled with greater advertising.

Of course, additional topics may be raised and discussed.

2. "Too Many Cases Reported, Too Much Citation?" Is this a concern? If so, how do our members address the problem? Can the problem be addressed? Should unpublished decisions be published? The Internet, culprit or savior? Lengthy string citations. Law review article or judicial opinion? Citation to Web sites.

A volunteer to lead the discussion on this topic would be greatly appreciated.

Presentation of Professor Ross E. Davies

Ross E. Davies, Professor of Law at George Mason University School of Law and Editor-in-Chief of the *Green Bag* has decided on a new topic for his presentation. Professor Davies will be speaking the Saturday morning of our meeting on the topic, "Judges as Reporters: The Case of Benjamin R. Curtis and Samuel F. Miller."

2007-2008 Officers

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Secretary: Claude Marquis, Supreme Court of Canada

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Membership: Bilee Cauley, Alabama Appellate Courts

Nominating Committee: Shauna Thomas, Supreme Court of Montana

Site Selection Committee: Janette M. Bloom, Nevada Supreme Court

Website Committee: Charles A. Ashe, New York State Reporting Bureau

The Catchline

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