



The Whole Enchilada

The newsletter for the San Antonio Chapter of the Federal Bar Association

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Don't miss our monthly
lunch meetings at the
Quarry Golf Club &
Restaurant

Save the Dates

The San Antonio Chapter of the Federal Bar Association is pleased to announce our upcoming events.
Be sure to save the date so that you may join us!

February 11, 2015

Monthly luncheon
Quarry Golf Club & Restaurant, 11:50 a.m.

Speaker: Prof. Michael Ariens of St. Mary's Univ. School of Law

Topic: Henry Lord Brougham's famous statement, "[A]n advocate, by the sacred duty of his connection with his client, knows, in the discharge of that office, but one person in all the world, that client and none other."

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March 11, 2015

Monthly luncheon
Quarry Golf Club & Restaurant, 11:50 a.m.

Speaker: Honorable Jeanette Clack, Clerk of Court for the Western District of Texas

April 8, 2015

Monthly luncheon
Quarry Golf Club & Restaurant, 11:50 a.m.

Speaker: Jonathan Hafén – Chair of the Membership Committee of the Federal Bar Association

+ **Fiesta® Medal distribution**

FBA Chapter Fiesta® Medals will be distributed at the April 2015 Luncheon.





A Message from the Chapter President

Stephen Dennis

Strasburger & Price, LLP

The Chapter Officers and Board of Directors for the Federal Bar Association-San Antonio Chapter are pleased to provide you with this edition of The Whole Enchilada. As a New Year's issue, I think it is important to reflect on the Chapter's 2014 accomplishments, mark out the Chapter's 2015 goals and activities, and relish in the goodness of being a member of the Federal Bar Association.

A great place to start is the 2014 National FBA Convention that took place in Providence, Rhode Island. Our Chapter received the 2014 Chapter Activity Presidential Achievement Award. The award is presented by the National FBA to chapters who have proven to be outstanding in their work and accomplishments. Our Chapter, through its exceptional membership, continues to be an award winning example that other Chapters seek to emulate.

Based on our 2014-2015 calendar, it looks like our Chapter is headed towards another outstanding year.

We opened our Fall 2014 year by inviting Trinity University Professor Dr. Carey Latimore to speak at our member meeting on free African Americans in Richmond, Virginia during the civil war era. As you may know, 2014 was the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act. To further celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, the Honorable United States Magistrate Judge Henry J. Bemporad was invited to speak on "The Civil Rights Act at 50: Sexual Orientation Discrimination and Title VII." Both Dr. Lattimore and Judge Bemporad's discussions provided an interesting picture of our legal system pre-and post-Civil Rights Act.

In addition to the excellent programming provided by the Chapter, we bid farewell to a long-time Chapter friend. The Honorable William G. Putnicki, Clerk of Court for the Western District of Texas. To honor Mr. Putnicki, the Chapter sponsored a fitting farewell celebration at the John H. Wood, Jr. US Courthouse.

With our departing Clerk of Court, we were honored to welcome our incoming Clerk of Court, The



Honorable Jeanette Clack. We look forward to Ms. Clack's presence and welcome her to the FBA family.

Along with Ms. Clack, we also welcome The Honorable Robert L. Pitman, United States District Judge, Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division. Judge Pitman was recently confirmed as a United States District Judge and we are proud to include him into our FBA family.

Looking to our future, we have many exciting announcements ahead. For example, we are back at The Quarry Golf Club for our Member Meetings.

Also, we have some substantial changes to our web-site that will be taking place in the upcoming months.

The revamped web-site will be cleaner, more visually appealing, and best of all, easier to register and pay for events.

I am excited about our April Member Meeting because we will be handing out Fiesta Medals to those members who are in attendance. While we did not receive a winning entry for our First Annual Fiesta Medal Competition, we did put together a great medal design. Lastly, we are working on an immigration law CLE that should be interesting, educational, and of great benefit to our legal community.



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As you can see, being a member of the Federal Bar Association-San Antonio Chapter provides great access to interesting CLE, networking opportunities with fellow attorneys and judges, and fun while supporting our Federal Courts.

I personally thank you for your membership and encourage you to invite a friend to join. Further, I welcome you to find a committee or other opportunity to serve the FBA. Service to our Federal Courts is a great honor and privilege and ensures that our Federal Courts continue to thrive. If I can ever be of assistance to you, please feel free to contact me.

Chapter delegates receive the FBA Presidential Achievement Award at the National Convention in September 2014. (L to R) Todd Hedgepeth (National Board Member); Melanie Fry (Chapter President-Elect), Hon. Gustavo Gelpi (FBA President), Beth Smith (National Board Member) and Stephen Dennis (Chapter President)



2014-2015 San Antonio Chapter Officers

President

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Vice President

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President-Elect

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Federal Bar Association Sponsors

Moot Court Competition at St. Mary's University School of Law

The San Antonio Chapter sponsored the annual Federal Bar Association Moot Court competition at St. Mary's University School of Law. Many Chapter members served as judges at the preliminary rounds of the FBA moot Court competition and three federal judges (Judge Pamela Mathy, Judge Henry Bemporad, and Judge David Ezra) determined the final rounds of the competition. The winners of the competition were Courtney Miller and Mariel Puryear, both 3L students. They competed against Andrew Stephens and Scott Walther in the final round.

Courtney Miller was awarded best speaker for the competition and was awarded \$250. The winning team took home a cash prize of \$650 while the other finalist team was awarded \$250. Thank you for participating in another successful moot court competition.



FBA Moot Court Competition
Winners Mariel Puryear & Courtney Miller



Judges Pamela Mathy, Henry Bemporad and David Ezra





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Chapter Monthly Luncheons



Hon. William Putnicki

Hon. William Putnicki
plays a trivia game with
the audience



Hon. Ronald B. King, Hon.
William Putnicki, and Hon.
Craig Gargotta



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Chapter Board members with retiring Clerk of Court, Hon. William Putnicki and incoming Clerk of Court, Hon. Jeanette Clack



Hon. Henry Bemporad and Steve Dennis



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Steve Dennis and Rick Shimon of the US
Commerce Department



Steve Dennis and Dr. Carey Latimore





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Judge Henry Bemporad
speaks about the Civil
Rights Act



Chapter President,
Steve Dennis



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Ethics Follies® educated the membership in September 2014





National Convention

Delegates of the San Antonio FBA Chapter attended the FBA Annual Convention September 4-7, 2014 in Providence, Rhode Island. Delegates were entertained by “WaterFire,” a Providence attraction, during the Welcome Reception hosted by the Rhode Island Chapter of the FBA. After receiving the Presidential Achievement Award at the FBA Awards luncheon, the delegates attended the Presidential Installation Banquet.

Todd Hedgepeth, Beth
Smith, Steve Dennis &
Melanie Fry



Providence, Rhode Island
“WaterFire”



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FBA - San Antonio Chapter Board 2014-2015

Kelle Acock
Paul D. Barkhurst
John Dulske
Hon. Craig Gargotta
James Todd Hedgepeth
Hon. Pamela Mathy
Kay Perry
David Rivela
Jane H. Thomson

Gary L. Anderson
Jeffrey Bizon
Col John J. Franco, Jr. USAF (Ret)
Joan K.F. Gluys
Hon. Ronald B. King
Molly Neck
William G. Putnicki
Hon. Xavier Rodriguez
Miguel "Mike" Villarreal

Simon Azar-Farr
Stephen Dennis
Melanie Fry
Jay Hulings
Col William C. Kirk USA (Ret)
John Paniszczyn
Sona Ramirez
Teo Seger



Federal Bar Association San Antonio Chapter

Take Us With You

Take *The Whole Enchilada* with you when you travel. Snap a picture when you go, and show us where you've been.



Bill Kirk shared *The Whole Enchilada* internationally on his travels "Down Under" in the Fall of 2014 when he visited Australia. Thank you Bill!