



April-May
2010

The Federal Bar Association News

2009-10 Officers & Directors:

President

Meagan M. Gillette
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San Antonio Chapter

President's Corner **By Meagan M. Gillette**



I am writing this President's Corner on the plane as I return from the Federal Bar Association's Mid-Year Meeting that was held in Washington, D.C. on

March 27. The Meeting provided a great opportunity to visit with other people in leadership positions with the FBA – the national executive officers, section and division chairpeople, and leaders from other chapters across the country.

As I have mentioned before, increasing membership and member involvement in our Chapter is a goal of my presidency. At the Mid-Year Meeting, we heard from FBA President Lawrence Baca (who is a fascinating individual and will be our luncheon speaker in June), President-Elect, Ashley Belleau, and others. While they all had great things to say, Ms. Belleau's remarks stuck with me because they concerned increasing membership and member involvement in the FBA. Specifically, she spoke about V-R-V. Visibility, Relevance and Value. The FBA must have Visibility for individuals to become interested in the organization; the FBA must have Relevance for individuals' professional lives; and the FBA as an organization must provide individuals with professional Value.

Towards the end of V-R-V, this month marks the beginning of our Member Spotlight column. The column will briefly highlight a Chapter member, his/her practice, and the ways in which the FBA and membership in the organization have positively impacted their career and professional life. This month's Member Spotlight is on J. Todd Hedgepeth, a Chapter Past-President (2007-2008). We hope you find this column helpful in explaining the many benefits of membership in the FBA. And we hope to see you at a Chapter event in the near future!

**CALLING ALL WOMEN IN THE LEGAL COMMUNITY:
MENTOR FOX TECH STUDENTS AT THE PIZZA LUNCH
on APRIL 15 ~ Please See Page 3 of the Newsletter for Details!**

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**Moved or Need
to Update Your
Contact
Information?**

**Update your
information at
the Federal Bar
Association
website at
[www.fedbar.org/
update.html](http://www.fedbar.org/update.html)**

Upcoming CLEs & Luncheons:

Chapter Luncheons

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14TH, 11:50 A.M.

The Honorable Ronald King, Chief Judge for the Bankruptcy Court of the Western District of Texas, will educate and entertain us with "Popular Misconceptions About Bankruptcy -- A Game Show Quiz."

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12TH, 11:50 A.M.

As is tradition, the Chapter will celebrate Armed Forces Month at this luncheon. Our speaker will be Colonel Sharon Sughru, Staff Judge Advocate for the 19th Air Force at Randolph Air Force Base.

Make your reservations on the chapter website at www.fedbarsatx.org. For each meeting, the chapter will apply for 0.75 hours of SBOT MCLE credit (unless otherwise indicated). Luncheons are held at the Quarry Golf Clubhouse, 444 East Basse Road (for a map and directions, visit <http://www.quarrygolf.com/location.html>).

Federal Court Practice Seminar on February 5th

The Federal Court Practice Seminar is a prerequisite for admission to practice in the Western District of Texas. The next course is on Friday, May 14th. Registration forms and fee information is available on the website (www.fedbarsatx.org). The course will be held at the Adrian A. Spears Judicial Training Center from 8 AM – 3 PM. Five hours of SBOT MCLE credit, including **1 hour of ethics credit**, will be awarded.

Government Contracts Committee Brown Bag Luncheon on May 18th

The next FBA Government Contracts Committee Brown Bag Luncheon will be May 18, 2010 at 11:45 a.m. at 745 East Mulberry, Suite 500, in the conference room. Speakers are Court B. Allen, Esq., Paul D. Heydon, Esq., and Alan R. Thiele, Esq. They will give a panel presentation on "Intellectual Property and Government Contracts: New Opportunities and Pitfalls." (We will seek approval for 1 hour of participatory MCLE credit.) For information, please contact Joan Kelley Fowler Gluys 210.524.3821, jgluys@dulske-gluys.com.

MENTOR FOX TECH STUDENTS AT THE PIZZA LUNCH

THURSDAY, APRIL 15TH, 11:30AM, SPEARS TRAINING CENTER

The San Antonio Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, the Bexar County Women's Bar Association, and the Paralegal Division of the State Bar of Texas, District 5 invite all women in the legal community (attorneys, paralegals, law enforcement, etc.) to participate in our annual mentoring lunch. Our students are the young women enrolled in the SAISD Fox Tech Law and Research Magnet Program. As a woman in the legal profession, we ask you to join us to share a meal and your legal career advice with these students.

- 11:30 Meet and Greet and greet
- 11:45 One on one conversations between you and students over pizza lunch
(Lunch is provided by the FBA)
- 12:15 Presentations by guest speakers telling their career stories
- 1:15 Questions and more informal conversations
- 1:30 Program ends

Please contact Susan Kilgore (information below) with your suggestion for our guest speakers of women with particularly interesting career stories. If you are a woman in a law related field, join us for this great mentoring event on Thursday, April 15, 2010, at the Adrian Spears Judicial Training Center, Training Room A, located at 655 E. Durango Blvd., just across the patio of the John H. Wood, Jr. U.S. Courthouse Building. Parking is free in the lot on the south side of Durango.

Please RSVP to Susan Kilgore at susan@skilgore.com or 210-320-2749 by Monday, April 11.

Thank you for your support and please share this invitation with other women in the legal community!

Membership Report

We extend a big welcome to our new members; we are very happy to have you as part of our membership!

Tommy Adams
Diana Aguilar
Haidar Alsaleh
Matthew Badders
Julie Cuplin
James Frost
Matthew Gates

Jeremy Gilbreath
Benjamin Golden
David Gregorcyk
Jennifer Hansen
Amanda Henarie
Gardner Kendrick
Stephen Lecholop

P. Weston May
Rashin Mazaheri
Elizabeth Mazzapella
Andres Perez
Jillian Rowlett
Stephen Rutherford
Charles Salmon

Forrest Seger
Donna Spicer
Cristina Suroiu
Lisa Tatum
David Vanderhider
Brittany Wild

Member Spotlight

This is a new regular column that will appear in the newsletter to introduce a member of our local chapter so we may learn more about his/her practice and how membership in the FBA has impacted his/her career and/or personal life.

For this edition, the spotlight is on:

J. Todd Hedgepeth, President, San Antonio Chapter of FBA, 2007-2008



"My practice focuses on labor and employment law in the federal sector, as I am currently the Chief of the Air Force's Labor Law Field Support Center here in San Antonio, Texas. My office and staff are responsible for all labor and employment matters at all eight Air Force installations within the State of Texas. My main areas of responsibility include representing the Air Force in all complaints before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, all appeals before the Merit Systems Protection Board, and all unfair labor practice complaints filed by the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

"The benefits I have received from my FBA membership have been tremendous, both as an active duty Judge Advocate in the Air Force and as an attorney in private practice at Fulbright & Jaworski, LLP. As I neared the end of my military career, membership in the FBA assisted me greatly in seeking and finding employment in the private sector, by making contacts and getting to know what opportunities were out there. It certainly helped pave the way to a successful transition from the military to private sector. Even earlier in my military career, when I knew I had a long military career in front of me, FBA membership rewarded me by again making contacts, and establishing relationships with leaders in the local legal community, which assisted me importantly on numerous occasions where liaison with local entities was involved.

"While in private practice at Fulbright & Jaworski, I again made wonderful contacts and friendships within the San Antonio legal community, and just as importantly, I was fortunate enough to get to know numerous federal judges on a personal basis, not to mention other practitioners in my same area of the law. My law firm was very supportive of my involvement, and also benefitted from the fact that one of their lawyers was the President of the local Federal Bar Association chapter. Now that I have left private practice after six years and returned to work for the federal government, this time in a civilian capacity, the benefits from FBA membership continue to thrive for the same reasons as noted above, not to mention the quality guests speakers I have the pleasure to hear each and every month.

"I give a full and hearty endorsement and salute to membership in the Federal Bar Association. You will not regret it".

~Todd Hedgepeth

Chapter Membership Challenge – Help Our Chapter Win Valuable Prizes!

The 2010 Chapter Challenge membership campaign is giving our Chapter the opportunity to grow while also making some money! Please recruit your friends and colleagues to join our organization (forwarding this newsletter to them and bringing them to a luncheon is a great way to start!).

Chapters are divided into 5 divisions based on number of members. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded to the three Chapters with the largest net percentage increase in membership in each division: **1st Place: \$2,000 • 2nd Place: \$1,000 • 3rd Place: \$500.**

For more information, visit <http://www.fedbar.org/chapter-challenge.html>.

Become a Member of the Supreme Court Bar with the FBA on June 1st

The Supreme Court Admissions Ceremony is a unique way for FBA members to be admitted to the bar of the Highest Court in the land. After the ceremony, the FBA's Younger Lawyer Division hosts a breakfast reception for participants and guests at which time they are greeted by Supreme Court Justices. The program is open to all FBA members, no matter what age. The 2010 YLD Supreme Court Admission Ceremony will be held on June 1, 2010, and the deadline for applications is April 12, 2010. If you are interested or would like more information, please review the information online at <http://www.fedbar.org/yld.html> or contact Adrienne Woolley at (571) 481-9100 or awoolley@fedbar.org.

Fifth Circuit Court Sets March 15, 2010 as date for Mandatory Electronic Case Filing (ECF)

Pursuant to Fifth Circuit Rule 25.2.1, the court established March 15, 2010, as the effective date for attorneys to use the ECF program to file in cases before the court. Unless excused for good cause, counsel must register as Filing Users under Rule 25.2.3 and comply with the court's electronic filing standards. Attorneys must be admitted to practice in the Fifth Circuit and are required to file an appearance form in each case they are involved in before making any electronic filings. *As Mr. Fulbruge, the Clerk for the Fifth Circuit, reminded us at our January luncheon, Fifth Circuit practitioners are well advised to register as ECF filers **before** they have a case before the Court, because it can take time to register and receive filing permission, passwords, etc.* For more information visit <http://www.txwd.uscourts.gov/ecf/default.asp>

Get More Involved!

The Chapter supports its on-going projects through the committees and sections, led by the chairs listed below. This is a great time to become more involved as we begin the 2009-2010 bar year! Get to know the great members of our Chapter and work on worthwhile programs that help your colleagues and the community.

CLE Coordinator:	Susan Biggs	384-7255	Susan.Biggs@usdoj.gov
Community Outreach Committee:	Susan Kilgore	320-2749	susan@skilgore.com
Bexar County Dispute Resolution Center:	John Franco	277-3600	jjfrancotx@sbcglobal.net
Federal Court Practice Seminar Committee:	Jane Thomson	967-7050	jane.thomson@dhs.gov
Government Contracting Committee:	Joan K.F. Gluys	524-3821	jgluys@dulske-gluys.com
Judicial Relations Committee:	John Paniszczyn	384-7325	john.paniszczyn@usdoj.gov
Membership Committee:	Brenda Ryan		bryan@swbc.com
Military Relations Committee:	Maury Deaver	221-7894	maurice.deaver@amedd.army.mil
Newsletter Committee:	Kay Perry	287-4348	perryk3@uthscsa.edu
Nominations and Elections Committee:	John Paniszczyn	384-7325	john.paniszczyn@usdoj.gov
Open Doors to the Federal Courthouse	Hal Atkinson		atkinsons@satx.rr.com
Program and CLE Committee:	Meagan Gillette	554-5503	mgillette@coxsmith.com
Web Site Coordinator:	Nathan Roach	880-5169	nroach@cirruslaw.com
Young Lawyers and Law Students			
Committee & St. Mary's Univ.	Travis Headley	286-5449	proximmaximus@gmail.com
School of Law Student Liaisons:	Laura M. Clark	554-5357	lclark1@mail.stmarytx.edu

(Area Code is 210 for all numbers)