



2010 STATE BAR OF NEVADA ANNUAL MEETING

BY BEAU STERLING, ESQ. & JENNI SMITH

Photos by Beau Sterling, Esq. More available online at www.nvbar.org.



▲ [left to right] Chief Justice Ron Parraguirre conducts the swearing in ceremony for Board of Governors members Richard Scotti, Alan Lefebvre and Elizabeth Brickfield.



▲ [left to right] Connie Akridge, President Elect (top left); Kathleen England, Immediate Past President (top right); Frank Flaherty, Vice President, Hon. Johnnie B. Rawlinson, and Cam Ferenbach, President, enjoy a breathtaking view of the Monterey Bay.

“The greatest meeting of land and water in the world.” That’s what landscape artist Francis McComas (1875-1938) called what is now Point Lobos State Reserve, just south of Monterey. Artists, poets and writers have flocked to the area, inspired by the unsurpassed natural beauty of this rugged stretch of California coastline. In 1962 photographer, and environmentalist, Ansel Adams moved to nearby Carmel Highlands, over-looking magnificent Big Sur and the vast Pacific ocean.

Natural beauty has not always been Monterey’s only, or even chief, attraction, of course. John Steinbeck wrote poignantly about the colorful, albeit sometimes less savory, aspects of life in the gritty, industrialized Cannery Row of the early 20th Century. Cannery Row is now best known as the home of the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

This year, more than 170 members of the State Bar of Nevada had the pleasure of meeting in beautiful Monterey for three days of education, networking and fun at the 2010 State Bar of Nevada Annual Meeting. The meeting included multiple featured speakers and an emphasis on a diverse mix of practice-specific CLE opportunities.

New Trial Academy

This year, the Young Lawyers Section of the state bar introduced the first-ever Annual Meeting Trial Academy. The small workshops offered hands-on learning and direct, one-on-one feedback from seasoned instructors, including prominent attorneys and judges.

The Annual Meeting began early on Thursday, June 24 for the Trial Academy participants, who enjoyed a lively introductory lunch presentation with Second Judicial District Court Judge Brent Adams, and concluded on Saturday with mock trial sessions. The Trial Academy received high praise from program participants.

Thursday Events

For meeting attendees not participating in the Academy, the Annual Meeting kicked off with a special presentation from national speaker Dr. Thomas Reidy, a forensic psychologist. He was followed by Dr. Jeffrey Zeig, who offered useful techniques for using non-verbal communication in the courtroom.

Thursday evening, meeting attendees were invited to honor the past presidents of the State Bar of Nevada at a cocktail reception at the beachfront Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa, host of this year's Annual Meeting. Despite the cool weather, visitors were treated to breathtaking sunset views of the Monterey Bay while enjoying this excellent opportunity to network with other bar members, judges and guests.

Friday Highlights

A powerful and moving presentation from author Michael Burke began a full day of CLE workshops

on Friday, June 25. Burke, a former attorney and recovering gambling addict, spoke at length about his own experiences struggling with addiction and shared his observations as to why attorneys are especially at risk for developing addiction problems. He was joined by Carol O'Hare from the Nevada Council on Problem Gambling, who discussed prevention and treatment options available to Nevada attorneys who may be struggling with addiction issues.

Friday's lunch presentation mixed humor with insight from featured speaker William Chriss, who spoke eloquently on the past and present public perceptions of lawyers and the judicial system. Attendees left the session armed with several excellent jokes to deflect and diminish the value of poking fun at the legal profession.

Students from the Las Vegas Academy for the performing arts were the featured entertainment at the Annual Banquet Friday evening. A six-person jazz ensemble, featuring both current and graduate students from the academy, included Danny Ferencbach, son of incoming bar President Cam Ferencbach.

After dinner, Chief Justice Ron Parraguirre conducted the swearing-in ceremonies for new members of the State Bar of Nevada Board of Governors and board officers. Guests heard short

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SAVE THE DATE

June 23-25, 2011
Grand Hyatt Kona,
HAWAII

Join us next year for the
2011 State Bar of
Nevada Annual Meeting!

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speeches from Immediate Past President Kathleen England and President Cam Ferenbach, emphasizing the recent accomplishments of, and future plans for the bar.

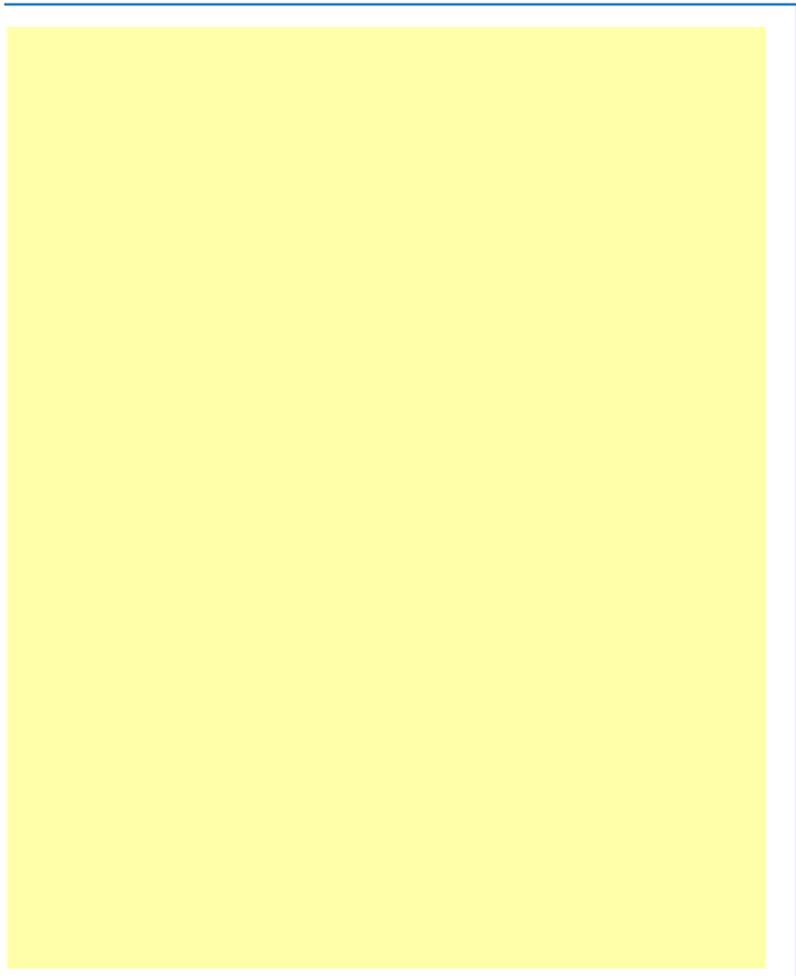
Breakfast with the Chief Justice

Saturday morning's events kicked off early with a private breakfast, held at the famous Monterey Bay Aquarium. Those who attended this event were granted access to the aquarium before the crowds arrived, just after the morning cleaning and feeding – getting a close up view of the animals at their most active.

At the aquarium, Chief Justice Ron Parraguirre delivered a “state of the court” presentation on behalf of the Nevada Supreme Court. The Nevada Supreme Court remains one of the busiest supreme courts in the country, with one of the highest average number of cases-per-justice (307).

Despite the heavy workload and budget cuts, the Chief Justice reported that the Supreme Court is still keeping up with its caseload. “We’re focusing on our primary responsibility of deciding cases,” Chief Justice Parraguirre said. He noted that more than half of the cases before the Supreme Court have been on the docket for six months or less.

The Chief Justice also spoke on behalf of the Nevada Supreme Court’s proposal to create a Court of Appeals for Nevada. The



▲ [left to right] Past Presidents of the State Bar of Nevada, including Puccinelli, Gloria Sturman, Bruce Beesley and Hon. Patrick Fla



▲ [left to right] Linda Faiss, Chief Justice William Maupin (Ret.), Hon. Susan Johnson, and Robert Faiss join other guests at the Annual Banquet.



▲ Stacy Rocheleau (left) and her husband Rock Rocheleau (right) attend their very first state bar Annual Meeting.



...ing Nancy Allif (top left), Kathleen England (top right), Andrew Anagan are excited to attend the Thursday Welcome Reception.

proposal calls for the formation of a three-judge intermediate appellate court with statewide jurisdiction. To minimize the budget impact, the new court would use existing facilities at the Regional Justice Centers in Reno and Las Vegas and would utilize existing Supreme Court staff. The Chief Justice encouraged all members of the state bar to familiarize themselves with the proposal.

Monterey Recreation

The 2010 Annual Meeting concluded early in the afternoon on Saturday, June 26, permitting many attendees to enjoy the day in Monterey. Many visited the aquarium; others went shopping in nearby Carmel, visited Cannery Row or traveled south to Point Lobos and Big Sur.

Next Year's Meeting - Hawaii

Registrations are already being accepted for next year's Annual Meeting, taking place in Hawaii, at the Grand Hyatt Kaua'i from June 23-25, 2011. This is a favorite Annual Meeting destination with lots of fun, family-friendly activities, in addition to the excellent educational and networking opportunities the Annual Meeting provides. Aloha!

Thanks, again, to the state bar staff, who did an excellent job, planning and running the Annual Meeting, and to the staff of the Monterey Plaza Hotel, who helped to make our stay comfortable and enjoyable.

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▲ Hon. Brent Adams, presiding judge in Department Six of the Second Judicial District Court, opens the Trial Academy with a lunch presentation on voir dire and opening statements.

THE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) SECTION

is proud to sponsor the Client Development Workshop at the State Bar of Nevada Annual Meeting.

We encourage members to join our Section.





▲ Students from the Las Vegas Academy for the performing arts performed live jazz music at the Annual Banquet on Friday. Performers included (shown in no particular order) Danny Ferenbach (second from left), Summer Kodama, Austin Pooley, Martin King, Sean Edging and Steven Vanbetten.

◀ Hon. Johnnie B. Rawlinson, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, attended the Annual Meeting with her grandson, Marc.



▲ Barbara Buckley, Speaker of the Nevada State Assembly (left) and Hon. Kathy Hardcastle, Eighth Judicial District Court (right) were in attendance at the 2010 Annual Meeting. ■

