



2014 Fall All-Fellows Luncheon



2014 Fall All-Fellows Luncheon Highlights

Carole McNamara, ACB Staff


Nearly two hundred Fellows joined the American College of Bankruptcy for the Fall All-Fellows Luncheon, held in Chicago, Illinois on October 8, 2014 at the Chicago Hyatt Regency.

Attendees enjoyed a delicious lunch while listening to a consumer-focused panel presentation by bankruptcy experts Neil Gordon of Arnall Golden Gregory, LLP in Atlanta, GA, Mary Ann Rabin of Rabin & Rabin Co., LPA in Cleveland, OH, John Rao of the National Consumer Law Center, Inc., in Boston, MA, and Henry Sommer of the Consumer Bankruptcy Assistance Project in Philadelphia, PA.

Panelists discussed the latest trends and practices on the consumer side of bankruptcy.

Attendees also heard from Erica Spangler Raz of the Chicago Law Project. The Chicago Law Project is a past recipient of the American College of Bankruptcy Foundation's Pro Bono Grants program.

The Law Project provides free, expert legal assistance to support community development efforts led by entrepreneurs and nonprofit organizations that generally do not have the resources to pay for legal services.

Ms. Raz explained how ACB funds have been disbursed to support local clients in need and emphasized the ongoing challenges facing pro bono organizations serving the community. 

Upcoming Circuit Events

January 23, 2015
15th Annual First Circuit Reception & Wine Tasting
Boston, MA

January 23-25, 2015
11th Circuit Fellows Retreat
Sarasota, FL

February 7, 2015
ACB LawMeet Restructuring Negotiation Competition
USC Gould School of Law
Los Angeles, CA

March 12-14, 2015
Class 26 Induction Ceremony & Related Events
Washington, DC

For details and registration information for these and other regional events, please [click here](#). If you know of an upcoming event that is not listed, please let Shari Bedker know at sbedker@amercol.org.



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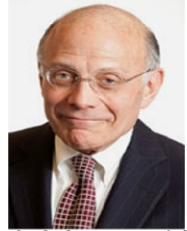
434-939-6004

www.amercol.org

Email: sbedker@amercol.org

Chair's Column

Michael L. Cook, *Chair*



What the College is doing and where it's going are the subject of this column. As shown below, the College is thriving while striving to continue to enhance its capabilities.

Public Service. The College's Pro Bono Committee received 40 grant applications from legal service entities in the past year, seeking \$403,429. These organizations provide critical bankruptcy-related services to indigent consumer debtors on a pro bono basis through volunteer attorneys, bankruptcy clinics, bankruptcy workshops, continuing legal education training programs, hardware and software programs, written materials and videos. The committee has reviewed all of these requests and will be making grants totaling at least \$326,000, with funds coming from the College and the Foundation. The Foundation administers the grants and, thanks to increased donations from Fellows, has become better able to provide funding to these worthy efforts.

The College has also filed two amicus briefs in the Supreme Court during 2014. With strong pro bono legal support from Squire Patton Boggs, Latham & Watkins, and Professor Ralph Brubaker, the College filed an amicus brief in the *Arkinson* case decided by the Court in June, 2014. In September, 2014, Wilmer Hale, also on a pro bono

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President's Column

G. Christopher Meyer, *President*



Housekeeping for the College

In his Chairman's column, Mike Cook has brought you up to date on a number of the College's larger initiatives. While these signature programs are a justifiable source of pride and focus for all of us, College leadership is also attending to a variety of other activities that could be characterized as "good housekeeping."

Change of auditors. With the relocation of the College's headquarters from suburban DC to Stanardsville, Virginia, we decided that it would be an opportune time to request bids for a new auditor better-able to service our new headquarters. Shari Bedker, our Executive Director, presented several alternatives to the Board at its meeting in October, as well as her recommended selection. With the new auditor that we have now chosen, we believe we have been able to gain improved service at a reduced cost from our prior arrangement.

Amendment to Bylaws. The College's Bylaws were adopted over 25 years ago. From time to time, we have amended those Bylaws to clarify or supplement its provisions. This year, with the help of the College's General Counsel, Bill Perlstein, we adopted amendments to clarify the procedure for considering nominations of retired or former judges for admission as Fellows. We also updated the designation of the College's principal office

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basis, filed an amicus brief in on behalf of the College in the *Wellness International* case. Both cases raised important issues relating to the jurisdiction of bankruptcy courts and the efficient administration of bankruptcy cases.

Education. The College has updated the administration of its highly regarded international law course given at twelve law schools in the United States and Mexico. The course is now housed at St. John's University Law School and will be administered by Professor Ray Warner. The International Committee chaired by Charles Case, has formed a new Supervisory Committee to oversee the recruitment of law schools and remote faculty members so as to increase the participation of Fellows in the process; to create a new financial model for the course; to review the course from a strategic perspective; and to explore a partnership with the International Insolvency Institute.

More than 100 Fellows now belong to the International Committee. The College is funding an update of the Second Edition of "International Cooperation in Bankruptcy and Insolvency Matters," written by Bob Wessels, Bruce Markell, and Jason Kilborn, and will host its International Fellow dinner at the annual meeting on Saturday, March 14, 2015.

The College's domestic education programs are continuing throughout the

country. Almost every Circuit has had a College-sponsored educational program over the past two years. Under the leadership of Rich Mikels, more than 70 Fellows have actively driven the work of the Education Committee in running these programs. Programs sponsored by the College include the following: Ponzi schemes; bankruptcy issues facing state court judges; consumer bankruptcy practice; chapter 9 (municipal debt adjustment); chapter 15 (cross-border cases); and a novel bankruptcy negotiation competition. To educate law students about bankruptcy practice, the Committee has also created materials that will be available to students throughout the country. At virtually all educational programs, the College has funded social events for Fellows.

Other Developments.

• The College has funded the publication of Ken Klee's updated book on bankruptcy cases in the U.S. Supreme Court; it will be published by year end and will be available to Fellows at a substantial discount.

• The Distinguished Service Award Committee has selected Richard Levin and Ken Klee as the 2015 recipients of its Distinguished Services Award at our Annual Meeting in Washington on March 13, 2015; both of these Fellows were the principal draftsmen of the Bankruptcy Code and have had distinguished careers over the past 35 years.

• The National Bankruptcy


Archives, housed at the University of Pennsylvania, will continue to be supported by the College despite the withdrawal of funding by LexisNexis; we continue to search for alternative sources of funding.

• The Foundation, chaired by Mark Bloom, will now oversee the Pro Bono Committee chaired by Jim Baillie, and fund its grants with support from the College; this will enable the Foundation to consider future long-term projects for the Committee.

• The new Finance Committee, chaired by Treasurer Melissa Kibler Knoll, has helped develop our 2015 budget, a new insurance program and a new expense reimbursement policy; for the next year, it will work to consider new sources of revenue.

Strategic Planning. Stephen Lerner is chairing the College's Strategic Planning Committee, which is tasked with helping the Board chart the College's course over the next decade. The Committee has just circulated to all Fellows a thoughtful survey probing our views on admissions, governance and leadership. We expect a preliminary report in early 2015.

* * *

These are only the highlights of the College's activities. We welcome your continued suggestions and thank you for your many contributions. 





Foundation Year-End Campaign in Full Swing

Mark D. Bloom,
ACB Foundation Chair



By now each of you should have received any number of solicitations from your Circuit Campaign Committees to make your annual 2014 donations to the American College of Bankruptcy Foundation. For those of you who have already given, our sincere thanks – but keep on reading anyway! For those who've not gotten around to it just yet, the calendar is winding down and we need your support.

The good news is that the numbers change every day. As of November 24, just before the Thanksgiving holiday, more than one-third of our Fellows – 278 of 825 – had made their donations to the Foundation.

The bad news is that despite this level of participation to date – and despite the inclusion of over \$50,000 in extraordinary gifts from various creditor trusts as previously reported – we remain well short of our 2014 goal of \$222,750.

It's a fact of life that charitable organizations solicit heavily in the last weeks of each year, and the Foundation is no different. Next year we propose to make life a little easier by

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to reflect the move to Stanardsville.


Electronic Publication of College Columns. The fact that you are reading this edition of College Columns in electronic format reflects another initiative to better communicate with Fellows, while reducing the cost of those communications. Once again, our Executive Director, Shari Bedker, took the lead in identifying an appropriate provider, negotiating contract terms and developing the template for this first electronic addition. We hope you will find the new format easy to access. Its use will save us approximately \$5,000 in postage annually.

Refreshing the Website. Another project that should produce immediate benefit to our Fellows is the updating and improvement of the College's website. The update will improve the user interface, as well as providing a "Fellows Only" area secured by password protection. This private area will enable Fellows to edit their bios, post papers, initiate internal chat inquiries to ask about experience in a given area or conduct Committee chat discussions. We hope to have these improvements in place by the time of our next annual meeting in March of 2015.

Amazon Smile. At the suggestion of our immediate Past Chairman, Jan Baker, Shari Bedker and her staff have been working to qualify the College Foundation as a recipient under

the Amazon Smile Program. This program enables charitable organizations to be designated to receive .1% of an individual's purchases at a special Amazon site. We are working to make sure that the IRS has us identified in a manner that will permit us to qualify under this program. We hope to be able to advise you in the near future to designate the College Foundation as a beneficiary for your Amazon purchases.

As you can see, the college staff, the Board, and college leadership are engaged in a variety of efforts to continue to improve this marvelous organization. We welcome your input on suggestions for additional improvements. Our goal is to make the College a better and more meaningful place for all.

I will close with an invitation to all Fellows to let us know how you would like to get more involved with the activities of the College. We recognize that we have needed to do a better job of channeling expressions of interest into concrete responses. To that end, we have established a Membership Participation Committee, chaired by Debra Grassgreen. Please feel free to contact Debra, or any member of College leadership, to let us know of your interest. We will do our best to promptly respond to your requests. 



Join Us in Welcoming the 26th Class of Fellows!

Marc A. Levinson, Chair, Board of Regents




The all-day Board of Regents meeting in Chicago on October 8th produced 34 invitations for induction in College Class 26 to candidates from across the country and around the world. The invitees are domiciled in 24 states (including the District of Columbia) and three foreign countries (Mexico, Hong Kong and Brazil). In addition to the invitee from Honolulu, the venues of the invitees literally span the country – from Seattle to Southern California to Maine to Miami – and all points between those four corners of the U.S. Invitees include three bankruptcy judges, 25 attorneys, three professors, two financial advisors and one bankruptcy court clerk. Thirteen of the 34 are women (38%). More important than their domicile or gender, however, is the fact that this is

another outstanding group of bankruptcy professionals. Each and every one meets the College's high standards in that they excel in their profession, their integrity is unquestioned and they give to the community both through participation in bankruptcy educational programs and through active (and generally leadership) roles in pro bono and charitable endeavors. You will learn more about them at the March 13, 2015, induction ceremony, which will again be held in the wonderful covered atrium of the Smithsonian Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture.

More than 34 candidates were nominated, of course, and the Regents had spirited but very collegial debates about the nominees. The decisions were tough ones because almost without exception, the nomination packages submitted by the various Circuit Councils and the Judicial and International Nominating Committees were thorough

and compelling.

My personal thanks to the Regents and to the Committee Chairs for providing the College such a great and well-qualified group of candidates. The Regents from the various Circuits are Mark Berman (1st), Dennis Dunne (2nd), Karen Giannelli (3rd), Richard Wasserman (4th/DC), Charlie Beckham (5th), Judy O'Neill (6th), Ron Barliant (7th), David Warfield (8th), Jeff Davidson (9th), Carl Eklund (10th) and Robbie Colton (11th). The Committee Chairs are Bob Rosenberg (International) and Jim Garrity (Judicial). And thanks to Regents at Large Tim Coleman, Judge Joan Feeney and Professor Charles Tabb for their substantial contributions before and during the October 8th meeting. But special thanks and congratulations are reserved for all the Fellows who took the time and expended the effort to put together the nomination packages. All of you who have done so understand that it is no easy task to complete the lengthy form, to do the requisite due diligence and to solicit the letters of recommendation, all in secret. The Board of Regents looks forward to equally thorough and professional packages for the nominees to Class 27, and we look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting in March. You may access a list of the invitees by clicking [here](#). 

Highlighting Southern Bankruptcy Practitioners

Hon. Joyce Bihary, Archives
Committee Co-Chair



There have been many additions to the National Bankruptcy Archives in 2014, including

two oral histories of important bankruptcy practitioners in the South, Samuel J. Zusmann, Jr. and Morton P. Levine. Taken by Retired Bankruptcy Judge Joyce Bihary and Bankruptcy Judge Paul Bonapfel, these interviews are colorful and provide a window into bankruptcy practice in the South in the 1950's and beyond.

Sam and Morton graduated from the University of Georgia Law School in the 1950's (Morton in 1953, Sam in 1954) and each has practiced law for over 60 years! Both served in the military and that experience impacted them in different ways. Morton trained as a rifleman in the summer of 1945. While marching in the Florida heat as he observed a lieutenant riding in a jeep, a light opened up as he said to himself "I am not gonna be a foot soldier the rest of my life; I'm going to be riding in that jeep". Sam enlisted in the Army and had the sobering and difficult job of burying men who

came back from Korea.

Their oral histories describe the extreme informality of bankruptcy practice in the 1950's and 1960's (from Sam "The Rules of Evidence meant nothing in those days".) They also cover the manner in which trustees were selected under the Bankruptcy Act, the formation of the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute in the 1970's (both were on the initial Board of Directors), and memories of practice with Morris Macey and other stalwarts of the bankruptcy bar.

Both gentlemen have always exuded enthusiasm over the practice of bankruptcy law, some of which stems from the variety of industries and unusual personalities they have had to deal with in the course of their long careers. Morton's practice included dealing with Jimmy Venable, the Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, (a "terrible, awful man") and travelling to Moldova to meet with officials over an asset he was trying to administer as a trustee. Although Sam was involved in a great many sophisticated matters, in his early career, his practice required him to learn about pig farming in Georgia and what to do when the collateral for a loan included alligators in Florida.

Sam practiced law with Bob Lipshutz who was the treasurer of Jimmy Carter's 1976 presidential campaign, and he has distinct recollections of a telephone call between Morris Macey and Mr. Lipshutz (Bobby) regarding whether President Carter should sign the new

bankruptcy law in 1978. Minutes after it was signed, Bobby called Sam and Sam alerted Ralph Kelly, bankruptcy judge in Tennessee, who alerted the bench throughout the nation.

You won't want to miss the descriptions of bankruptcy judges from long ago— from Sam Zusmann:

Ellis Mundy was a wonderful man. There is a story about him during the thirties when the price of cotton went to the bottom and some congressman supposedly rose on the floors of Congress and proclaimed, "We can solve this problem if we just plow under every third row of cotton." And Ellis Mundy wrote an op-ed piece that said, "We'd be better off if we just plowed under every third congressman."

And we have the sage advice from Atlanta part time bankruptcy referee Buster Bird (think Alston and Bird) --again from Sam Zusmann's recollection of a story told by one of Judge Bird's partners:

[O]ne day Buster was having lunch with a group of summer clerks. We didn't call them summer associates then, we called them summer clerks. And they were asking him questions about the practice of law and as I heard the story, Buster said, "there's going to come a time in your career when you're going to lose a case. You may lose it because the other attorney knows the facts better than you do, he may know the law better

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Pro Bono Committee Awards 2014 Grants Across the U.S.

*James L. Baillie, Chair,
Pro Bono Committee*



The Pro Bono Committee of the Foundation has recently completed its work and awarded grants of up to \$10,000 each to 35 bankruptcy pro bono programs in 21 states in the total amount of \$326,812.00. Following the procedures that have evolved over recent years, the Committee received grant requests totaling \$403,429.00 responding to the July 1, 2014 deadline. Each grant request was circulated to all the 34 members of the Committee and assigned to one of the members of the Pro Bono Committee for review. Each reviewer then presented the request and their recommendation to the full Committee, which then considered the requests during seven calls or meetings between August 21, 2014 and November 17, 2014.


The most typical grantee is a local bankruptcy pro bono program formed by or supported by the bankruptcy bar and judges in that locale. These bankruptcy pro bono programs usually operate in conjunction with larger local pro bono or legal aid organizations. Eligible clients receive pro bono services by bankruptcy lawyers. The grants

are usually used to cover administrative costs, training programs, computers or software or other support. The services provided to clients usually include some combination of community education, brief advice, assistance to pro se filers, full case representation, or representation at reaffirmation hearings or representation in adversary proceedings.

A smaller number of grants went to programs operated by or in conjunction with law schools often in conjunction with clinical programs. In these programs, some of the assistance is provided by law students. Occasionally grants go to financial literacy programs (i.e. CARE) or programs involved in appellate advocacy or other activities supportive of bankruptcy pro bono.

This year, our staff (Carole McNamara primarily), building on earlier work by Lynne Riley and Judge Laurel Myerson Isicoff, organized materials generated by our grantees with our funding – guides or handbooks for clients or volunteers, training programs for volunteers, translations, recruiting materials and information on program organization that can be used by other programs all around the country. These can be found on our website [here](#). These help each program build on the efforts and achievement of others and avoid having to “reinvent the wheel”. This magnifies the impact of our grants. The Committee has

other activities in process which may be covered in subsequent reports.

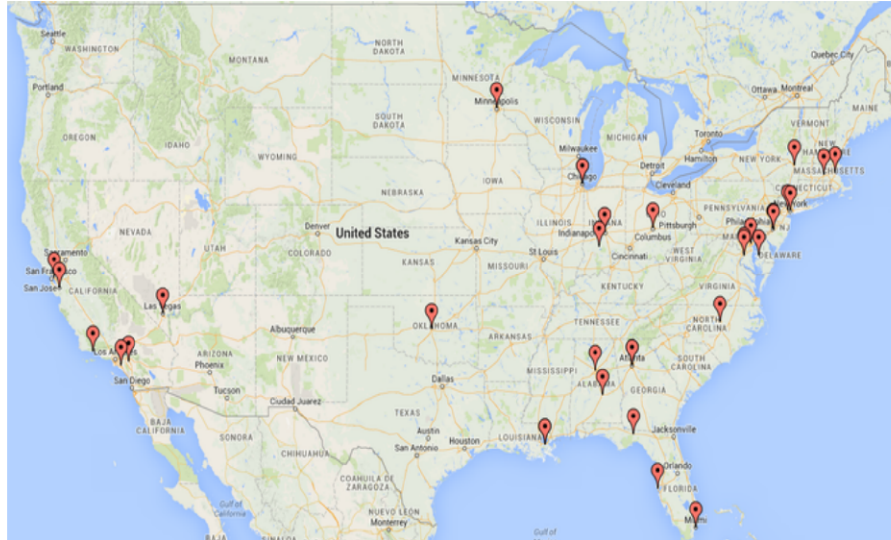
We believe that the Foundation is the largest provider of funding for bankruptcy pro bono in the country. A large part of our grant funding comes from the College, from dues or initiation fees. A large part also comes directly from the annual contributions that individual Fellows make to the Foundation. Thus individually we often contribute twice, first with our dollars and second with our feet, as the volunteers in these same programs. 





2014 Pro Bono Grantees

Your Donations At Work!



The grants issued in 2014 include the following:

Alabama Applesseed Center for Law & Justice
Montgomery, AL

**Alameda County Bar Association
Volunteer Legal Services**
Oakland, CA

Atlanta Bar Association
Atlanta, GA

Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation
Atlanta, GA

**Birmingham Bar Volunteer Lawyers
Service**
Birmingham, AL

Campbell Law School
Raleigh, NC

**Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of
Chicago**
Chicago, IL

Community Legal Aid, Inc.
Worcester, MA

Consumer Bankruptcy Assistance Project
Philadelphia, PA

Credit Abuse Resistance Education
Alexandria, VA

Dade Legal Aid-Put Something Back
Miami, FL

DC Bar Pro Bono Program
Washington, DC

District 10 Pro Bono Project, Inc.
Bloomington, IN

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada
Las Vegas, NV

**Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara
County**
Santa Barbara, CA

Legal Assistance Foundation
Chicago, IL

The Legal Project
Albany, NY

Legal Services of North Florida, Inc.
Tallahassee, FL

Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service
Baltimore, MD

Mid-Shore Pro Bono, Inc.
Easton, MD

Military Assistance Project
Philadelphia, PA

**National Consumer Bankruptcy Rights
Center**
San Jose, CA

Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic
Indianapolis, IN

New York Legal Assistance Group
New York, NY

Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation
Columbus, OH

Oklahoma City University School of Law
Oklahoma City, OK

The Pro Bono Project
New Orleans, LA

Public Law Center
Santa Ana, CA

Public Service Law Corporation
Riverside, CA

**Rutgers University School of Law-
Camden**
Camden, NJ

Southeast Louisiana Legal Services
New Orleans, LA

Stetson University College of Law
Gulfport, FL

Volunteer Lawyers for Justice, Inc.
Newark, NJ

Volunteer Lawyers Network
Minneapolis, MN

**Volunteer Lawyer Project of Boston Bar
Association**
Boston, MA

Heartfelt Thanks

Upon receipt of their 2014 grant checks, Dianna Schwartz of the Military Assistance Project and Jill Friedman of Rutgers School of Law-Camden sent emails to James Baillie, Pro Bono Committee Chair, thanking the Foundation for its support. The emails are reprinted below and offer concrete examples of your Foundation donations at work across the country!

Hello! I wanted to circle back and let you know that today we received notification of our award, with check included. Many thanks! We are so grateful for the vote of confidence from the American College of Bankruptcy Foundation and will be sure to complete our reporting requirements in a timely and diligent fashion.

As a nonprofit who received their 501c3 just this past March, we've built our organization primarily on board stewardship and corporate giving, expanding only recently into federal funding. This is our first full grant cycle, and notification of this gift was in fact our first grant award! I know more will follow, but there is something special about the first Foundation which provides a grant to a young organization. Thank you for being that Foundation to the Military Assistance Project.

*Yours in service,
Dianna Schwartz and Albert Ciardi
Military Assistance Project*



Mr. Baillie and Ms. Bedker,

I am writing to thank you heartily for the \$10,000 grant to Rutgers University School of Law – Camden just approved by the Foundation. I am in receipt of your letter, reporting form and check. As I hope you know, we will steward the Foundation's grant with care and gratitude, serving as many low income debtors as we can. Our project design enables practicing pro bono attorneys, volunteering through our local legal services office, to help inculcate our law students with the pro bono ethic so pervasive among members of the bankruptcy bench and bar. We truly appreciate the Foundation's support.

Judge Wizmur, thank you as always for championing our Project and our work.

*Best,
Jill Friedman
Associate Dean for Pro Bono and Public Interest
Rutgers School of Law – Camden*

Highlighting Southern Bankruptcy Practitioners *continued from page 7*

than you do, he may argue better than you do, but you should never lose a case because opposing counsel was more honest with the court than you were."

Sam and Morton also relate what it was like to practice law in the racially segregated South, and they discuss the treatment Jewish lawyers in the era in which they began the practice of law. As a part our undertaking to capture how bankruptcy law was practiced before the passage of the Bankruptcy Code and how it was practiced in the South, we also interviewed Georgia Bankruptcy Judges Stacey W. Cotton and W. Homer Drake, Jr. in 2014. These terrific interviews will be on our website soon and should be of great value to students or fans of bankruptcy history.

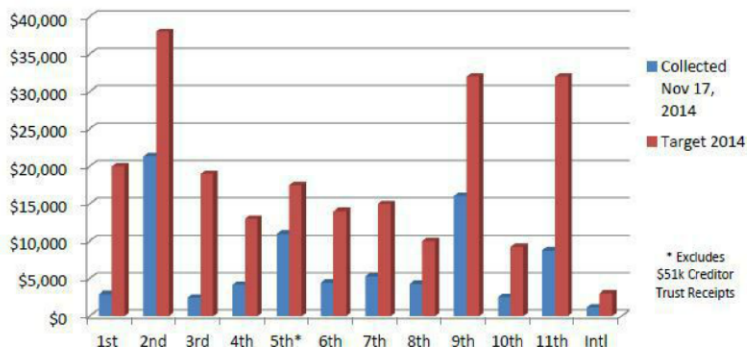
The interviews of Messrs. Zusmann and Levine are just an example of the interesting history that is preserved at the National Bankruptcy Archives ("NBA"), a national repository of archival materials relating to the history of debtor-creditor relations, bankruptcy and the reorganization of debt. Formed in 2000 through an agreement between the University of Pennsylvania Trustees through the Biddle Law Library and the American College of Bankruptcy, the NBA has collected 60 oral histories of important bankruptcy figures, videos of educational

programs of historic importance, personal papers, documents related to some of the more significant bankruptcy cases, and organizational papers of the leading bankruptcy organizations in the United States.

The oral histories are available to you on the [NBA website](#). The guidelines for taking an oral history and/or donating papers of possible historical interest to the NBA are set forth on the NBA website. Inquiries about the NBA can be addressed to Leslie O'Neill, Archivist, at loneil@upenn.edu or feel free to contact either of the Archive Committee Co-Chairs, Joyce Bihary at joyce.a.bihary@gmail.com or Diane Sigmund at dianesig@comcast.net. If you are conducting bankruptcy research or are interested in bankruptcy or legal history, we invite you to visit your National Bankruptcy Archives. We think you will be fascinated with the growing collection. 




ACB Foundation Collections to November 17, 2014



Foundation Year-End *continued from page 4*

implementing a process that will enable our Fellows to sign up for monthly or quarterly gifts to be posted automatically to the credit card of your choice. But for balance of 2014 we need to go about the task of our fund-raising the old-fashioned way, and that includes those letters, those emails, those calls, and even this column.

Those of you who attended our Fall Fellows Luncheon in Chicago got to hear first-hand from The Law Project, one of our 2013 grant recipients, about the impact of our \$10,000 grant, and even more so the critical shortages that continue to confront non-profit organizations across the country. Through its Pro Bono Committee the Foundation solicits and fields grant applications from deserving organizations all across the country – in every single Circuit. The generous contributions of our Fellows help to fund those grants, in inner cities, rural areas, and in the backyards of virtually every one of our Fellows.

As we count our many blessings this holiday season, please take a moment to remember the good work of the Foundation and its positive impact on the lives of so many who might otherwise lack access to the resources they need to regain their financial footing. 



The Top 10 Reasons the ACB Headquarters Is Now Located in Stanardsville, VA (or, where the heck is Stanardsville, VA?!)

Shari A. Bedker, ACB Executive Director

First and foremost, thank you so much for everyone's patience and understanding while I moved not only my business, but my home of 21 years this summer. The good news is that my husband, dog and I are all settled and my new staff is doing a great job. The even better news is that I am NEVER moving again!

If you are one of the few lawyers who didn't go to undergrad or law school at the University of Virginia, Stanardsville, population 476 (that is NOT a typo), is about 20 miles north of Charlottesville, VA and is 6 miles from Skyline Drive in the Shenandoah National Park which crosses on top of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Just in case you haven't updated your address books, the new contact information is:
American College of Bankruptcy
P.O. Box 249
Stanardsville, VA 22973
434-939-6004
434-939-6030 fax

And now, the Top 10:

10) If the Virginia Piedmont area is good enough for

Presidents Jefferson, Monroe and Madison, then we are in good company!



9) If you are not into history, but like to read, David Baldacci and John Grisham also call this area home.

8) And if you are more into movies, Dwayne "the Rock" Johnson lives here.

7) Ever watch the Waltons? Yep, the real family lived in Schyler, VA, another huge town which is 40 minutes away, also in the Blue Ridge Foothills.

6) The office is really cute!



5) There is plenty of space for onsite storage to ensure document retention policies are in full compliance.



4) The Executive Director has a short commute, so no rain, sleet or snow will close down the office (unless the electricity goes out!)



3) We are contributing to a small local community as I am betting Stanardsville hasn't been on so many mailing lists since it was first settled in 1794!



2) The office doubles as a cottage with a bedroom, full kitchen on weekends. Although the rates are very reasonable at \$0 per night, reservations are required. Please note, there is a strict check out time of 8 a.m. on Monday-we do have to work here also!

1) And the number one reason, it is REALLY pretty down here! Although that might be a bad thing, because it is really hard for the Executive Director to leave this view from her screened porch and cup of hot tea every morning to do the very long commute down the driveway-I'm thinking not too many people are feeling sorry for me right now, though...



Fellow News

A section for newsworthy awards and moves by Fellows. If you have news about yourself or a colleague, please send announcements to Shari Bedker at sbedker@amercol.org for inclusion in the next issue of the College Columns, published in June and December each year.

◆ Otterbourg's **Melanie Cyganowski** was appointed by U.S District Judge Jesse Furman to the plaintiffs' Executive Committee that will assist lead counsel in key aspects of the General Motors ignition switch litigation pending in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. Judge Furman, who is overseeing more than 100 cases against G.M., appointed Ms. Cyganowski on August 15 among other leadership appointments related to the litigation.

◆ Blank Rome's **Bonnie Glantz Fatell** has been selected as a 2015 Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers® in the area of Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law.

◆ The **Honorable Robert E. Gerber** (U.S. Bankruptcy Court SDNY) was presented with the 3rd Annual New York Institute of Credit The Honorable Burton R. Lifland Mentor of the Year Award. Presented by the Honorable Arthur J. Gonzalez (Ret.), this award is presented to an Industry Leader who has given guidance and direction to future leaders in the financial, credit, restructuring and bankruptcy communities.

◆ **Chief Judge Barbara J. Houser** will be presented the

Judge William L. Norton, Jr. Judicial Excellence Award during the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges annual meeting in Chicago in October. The Norton Judicial Excellence Award was established by Thomson/West and the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI) in 2006, and it honors a current or retired judge based upon a career of lifetime achievement as an educator, writer, or scholar. Chief Judge Houser will be the 9th recipient of the award.

◆ **Kay S. Kress** has been appointed Chair of the American Bar Association's Business Bankruptcy Committee. She is named in The Best Lawyers in America, is a founding member of the Michigan Chapter of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation, and has played a number of roles within the ABA's Business Bankruptcy Committee.

◆ Campbell Law Dean **J. Rich Leonard** was named N.C. Lawyers Weekly's 2014 Lawyer of the Year by a vote of an independent panel of judges.

◆ Jenner & Block's **Ron Peterson** was named the Chairman of Ripon College's Board of Trustees in October 2014. Ron was also honored

on October 9, 2014 with the Commercial Law League of America's Lawrence P. King Award for Excellence in the Field of Bankruptcy.

◆ Potter Anderson Corroon LLP's **Laurie Selber Silverstein** was named by the Third Circuit Court of Appeals as the tentative selection for a judgeship in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, one of busiest corporate bankruptcy venues in the country.

◆ Gibbons' **Frank J. Vecchione**, a director in the firm's Financial Restructuring & Creditors' Rights Department, was honored as a Fifty-Year member of the Essex County Bar Association (ECBA) at the organization's annual dinner on October 16, 2014.

Bankruptcy and the Supreme Court: 1801-2014 Now Available!

To be published in December and available for Spring 2015 courses, this latest edition, co-authored by Kenneth N. Klee and Whitman L. Holt, was made possible through generous funding by the American College of Bankruptcy.

Upon its release, Fellows may order the book at a 30% discount. Please [click here](#) to reserve your copy now.

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As of November 25, 2014



In Memoriam

Steven H. Ancel
August 14, 2014

Jean Braucher
November 25, 2014

M. Caldwell Butler
July 28, 2014

Arnold M. Quittner
November 4, 2014

Ross C. Reeves
July 3, 2014

Leonard M. Rosen
October 14, 2014

On March 12, 13 and 14, 2015, the American College of Bankruptcy will host the 2015 Induction Ceremony and Related Events in Washington, D.C. at the Washington Marriott Marquis. The Induction of Class XXVI will be held on Friday, March 13 at the Smithsonian Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture. During this time we will also honor our 2015 Distinguished Service Award recipients, Kenneth N. Klee and Richard B. Levin.

In addition to the Induction Ceremony other events include:

- Circuit Luncheons
- Current Topics Discussion
- International Fellows Panel Discussion
- Tour for Spouses and Guests
- Honoring Distinguished Bankruptcy Law students from the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Ninth and Eleventh Circuits
- Educational Program coordinated by Prof. Bruce A. Markell
- All Fellows Luncheon

A special rate of \$249 per night at the Marriott Marquis is available to ACB Fellows and their guests. Please [click here](#) to reserve your room.

Event registration will be available shortly!



American College of Bankruptcy
P.O. Box 249
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