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President's Note

As I write this letter, I have just finished training a new group of mediators who will volunteer for our service. I am at day five of a total of eight days of after office hours seminars. The group is required to have 40 hours of training and we are the only certified training program in N.E. MN, so I am dragging at this point in the week.

Your Executive Committee has been busy working on issues such as the Certificate Plan, a Pro Bono Summit, and ideas for sessions at the 2003 EJC conference in Portland. We did submit some ideas for sessions to the ABA for inclusion in next year's conference. We will also be working on the Beyond the Basics and may try to stretch the time lines a bit to offer you a greater array of skill enhancing seminars.

The Executive Committee met in Chicago in October and worked hard finalizing the Certificate Program and a mid-year Pro Bono summit. Take a look at our website at the Center for Pro Bono. Thanks to ABA staffer, Bill Jones, it has a look with some exciting possibilities. If you are not already on the NAPBPro listserve, contact mike@gabar.org to be added. Believe it or not, deadlines for the EJC Conference in Portland are only a few months away. We will deal with all of the issues above as well as some exciting planning for the evening NAPBPro event at the EJC. If you missed Marla Elliott as much as we did last year, this event should make the whole conference worth attending. Look for further details closer to the conference.

Fireside Chat seems almost appropriate as the temperature here is under 30 each morning now as I go to work. October went on record as one of the coldest in history. Such an honor!! Hard to believe that the leaves have turned and gone away. Time goes by much too quickly for the Executive Committee who only meets telephonically 3 or 4 times per year and only once per year after the conference. Seems like so much to do and so little time to do it.

It's time to start thinking about nominating someone or yourself, (which is just fine) for either the Pro Bono Coordinator of the Year, or the Wm. R. Smith, Jr. Special Services to Pro Bono Award. It is a wonderful tribute to those who have worked so long and hard in the Pro Bono movement. Also, think about applying for the scholarship, if attending the conference will be a hardship for you. We would like to see as many of you as possible.

It is also that time of year when memberships are due, so please remember to renew! Our strength is in our numbers. If we have no numbers, we have no ability to advocate on your behalf to the powers that be.

Since we have just celebrated Thanksgiving, we also want to thank all of the folks before us who made this the organization that it is. I know that if I started naming them, I would forget someone and I would hurt someone's feelings. One of the first resolutions passed by the organization was something like this: Be it resolved that all pro bono coordinators, whether attorneys or not are of equal stature in this position. So it is through today. We are still advocating for the professionalism of our members.

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NAPBPro SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The National Association of Pro Bono Professionals (NAPBPro) is offering two registration scholarships to its members to attend the 2003 Equal Justice Conference in Portland, Oregon.

The first scholarship is the "*Hanna Cohn Equal Justice Conference Scholarship*" which is a full scholarship for the registration fee. Individual contributions, monies raised from the raffle at the NAPBPro reception/talent show held at the EJC in 2002, and a contribution from the ABA Center for Pro Bono will fund the scholarship.

The second scholarship consists of a \$300 award to go toward the 2003 Equal Justice Conference registration fee.

The requirements are NAPBPro membership and need. The NAPBPro Executive Committee will determine which scholarship will be awarded to its nominee selections.

Please complete the scholarship application below and mail to:

Elma Moreno, Chairperson, NAPBPro Nominating Committee
Texas Tech University School of Law Clinical Programs
1802 Hartford Avenue, Lubbock, TX 79409
Phone: (806) 742-3990, Ext. 312
Fax: (806) 742-4199
email: emoreno@law.ttu.edu.

Also, include no more than one page setting forth a brief statement of need. Requests must be received by February 7, 2003.

Name: _____
Program: _____ Title: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____
____ Years as Pro Bono Professional
____ Years as a NAPBPro (formerly NAPBCO) member
NAPBPro, the ABA and NLADA will not be responsible for any other costs I may incur while traveling to and while attending the conference.
Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

HANNA COHN EQUAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP

As you will recall, in April 2002 the National Association of Pro Bono Professionals announced the creation of the "*Hanna Cohn Equal Justice Conference Scholarship*" at the Equal Justice Conference in memory of Hanna Cohn who many knew and loved.

The scholarship will be awarded to a NAPBPro member to be applied toward the EJC registration fee. Individual contributions, monies raised from the raffle at the NAPBPro reception/talent show held at the EJC in 2002, and a contribution from the ABA Center for Pro Bono will fund the scholarship for the EJC in 2003.

NAPBPro continues to seek contributions to be applied towards this scholarship.

You can send your check, made payable to NAPBPro, to: Judy Whitelock, NAPBPro Treasurer, Volunteer Lawyer Program of Northeast Indiana, Inc., 904 S. Calhoun, Fort Wayne, IN 46802. Please indicate on the memo line of the check "*Hanna Cohn EJC Scholarship*".

"The ultimate victory in competition is derived from the inner satisfaction of knowing that you have done your best and that you have gotten the most out of what you had to give."

Howard Cosell
Sports Broadcaster

PRO BONO PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award is presented to a Pro Bono Professional who has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to *pro bono* and given exceptional service and achieved outstanding results.

All NAPBPro members who have been Pro Bono Professionals and with their program for at least 2 years are eligible. Persons currently on the Executive Committee or seeking a seat on the Executive Committee are not eligible for nomination during that year.

Pro bono professionals, from those working in the smallest rural program to the largest urban program, are equally eligible for this award. The best use of available resources is a consideration in the selection.

Nominating Procedure: The nomination form is offered as a guide. Its use is not required. However, all nomination and supporting materials must be in writing. Nominations must be received by February 7, 2003.

The nomination may include any information considered relevant. Any information submitted will be considered. For instance, the judges may find the following information helpful. (Note: the items listed below are not required. This list is offered as a guide only):

- % letter(s) from a local and/or state bar association or officials;
- % letter(s) from local legal services providers, program staff, or director(s);
- % letter(s) from local judges;
- % letter(s) from local client/community organization(s), client board member(s), or program client(s);
- % letter(s) from volunteer attorney(s) or firm(s);
- % letter(s) from other *pro bono* professionals;
- % background narrative or resume;
- % current job description;
- % number of years as a pro bono professional;
- % description of program's diversity;
- % the coordinator's location of; use of; and increase of available resources;
- % description of geographic area served;
- % qualities of leadership and innovations; and
- % special efforts by the pro bono professional for important cases.

The NAPBPro Executive Committee will review all nominations and supporting materials and select the recipient.

The Nomination deadline is February 7, 2003.

Send your nominations for NAPBPro Pro Bono Professional of the Year to:

Elma Moreno, Chairperson, NAPBPro Nominating Committee
Texas Tech University School of Law Clinical Programs
1802 Hartford Avenue, Lubbock, TX 79409
Phone: (806) 742-3990, Ext. 312 Fax: (806) 742-4199
email: emoreno@law.ttu.edu.

NAPBPro PRO BONO PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Name of Nominee: _____
please print

Title: _____

Program: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Number of Years in Position: _____

Please use separate paper for the following:

- I. Summarize qualifications of the nominee and why you think he/she should receive this award.
- II. Identify the types of projects, activities and programs coordinated by nominee.
- III. Additional comments regarding nominee (attach additional pages as necessary).

Nominator's Name*: _____
please print

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

**Nominator will be the contact person. The recipient is not notified prior to receiving the award.*

WILLIAM REECE SMITH JR. SPECIAL SERVICES TO PRO BONO AWARD

The *William Reece Smith Jr. Special Services to Pro Bono Award* is presented to individuals who have made outstanding commitments to and made positive impacts upon the institutions or systems of providing *pro bono* legal services. The award was first presented at the 1992 NAPBCO Annual Meeting with Smith being the first recipient. Throughout the years NAPBPro (formerly NAPBCO) has honored the following with this prestigious award: Laurie Zelon (1993), F. William McCalpin (1994), Esther Lardent (1995), Joseph Genova (1996), Robert E. Hirshon (1997), Lynn R. Sterman (1998), Sandy (Talbot) D'Alemberte (1999), J. Chrys Dougherty (2000), Wayne Tanna (2001), and Steve Reyelts (2002).

This award is intended to recognize the efforts of those who, on a national, regional or state wide basis, bring about innovations, generate support for, provide assistance to or have other positive influence on the systems or networks of providing pro bono legal services. The award is to honor those who elevate, enhance or make easier the work of the pro bono coordinators and volunteer attorneys, rather than recognizing the efforts of coordinators in running their own programs or the efforts of volunteer attorneys in handling their cases.

Any member of NAPBPro may recommend a candidate for receipt of this award. However, the decision as to whether to present the award and to whom it should be awarded shall be within the discretion of the NAPBPro Executive Committee.

Send your nominations for the William Reece Smith, Jr. award by February 7, 2003 to:

Elma Moreno, Chairperson, NAPBPro Nominating Committee
Texas Tech University School of Law Clinical Programs
1802 Hartford Avenue, Lubbock, TX 79409
Phone: (806) 742-3990, Ext. 312 Fax: (806) 742-4199
email: emoreno@law.ttu.edu.

FUNC PRO TUNC: SPECIAL TREAT

There's a special treat in store for you at next year's Equal Justice Conference. NAPBPro's traditional Reception and Talent Show will feature the musical delights of the well-known (to the Pro Bono Community) entertainer Maria Elliot and her legal/musical cohorts: Func Pro Tunc. Maria is known to past EJC attendees for her original, inspiring, raucous and just plain fun workshops on *Using Entertainment and Humor to Build an Equal Justice Community*. Past works written (or freely adapted) by Ms. Elliot for the Pro Bono Community in the Northwest include: *Oliver Twisted*, *The Justice League of Washington (vs. Supervillain Status Quo)*, *The Wizard of Lawz* and *Lawfulpalooza*.

Func Pro Tunc will entertain at the Wednesday evening (April 9th 2003 NAPBPro Reception and Talent Show. Additional acts will include traditional favorites.



Func Pro Tunc is the hardest working band in Access to Justice and the funkiest bunch of lawyers in the USA! Composed of professional musicians who are also practicing attorneys, Func Pro Tunc formed in 1998 through the auspices of the Washington State Access to Justice Conference. Func Pro Tunc includes members of The Righteous Mothers as well as lawyers from the Attorney General's Office, Columbia Legal Services, Northwest Justice Project, Gonzaga and Seattle University Law Schools, and pro bono program staff. Func Pro Tunc has rocked conferences, clubs, and legal aid fundraisers with music from Aretha Franklin, Sly and the Family Stone, James Brown, and many other favorites. Their mission: to get down, get on up, and get on the good foot! Their method: rock & soul, rhythm & blues. Their motto: "Make it funky!" Don't miss this hilarious treat-and the rest of the EJC!!

ABA Center for Pro Bono News

by Carol Craighill, Secretary

Staffing

In July 2002, **Dina Merrell** was named Director of the ABA Center for Pro Bono. For the past three and a half years, Dina served as an Assistant Staff Counsel with the Center. **Greg McConnell**, the former Director, left the Center in May to become the Director of Public Interest Law at Winston & Strawn in Chicago. The Center is currently recruiting to fill the vacant Assistant Staff Counsel position.

Clearinghouse

The Center continues to build its document library (Clearinghouse). The Center has recently completed the entry of a backlog of documents into the Clearinghouse, bringing the total number of documents in the Clearinghouse to 3,584 - all related to pro bono! The Center encourages pro bono managers to look at the index on <http://abanet.org/legalservices/probono/clearinghouseindex.html> to get an idea of the range of documents contained in the Clearinghouse. If you see an area of interest, directions for requesting documents from the Clearinghouse are posted on the website. Also, if you have documents for the Clearinghouse, please send a copy to the Center. Information for submitting documents is located on the website.

The Center is working to make the Clearinghouse more easily accessible by migrating the current database to the web, which will facilitate access to the Clearinghouse index and abstracts of documents. These changes will enable visitors to the website to search the Center's Clearinghouse using an "any word" search and to request copies of specific documents. The Center expects the migration to be complete in mid-October. Please bookmark the Clearinghouse website and check out the changes!

Peer Consulting Project

Another service that the Center offers to pro bono managers and programs is the Peer Consulting Project. Through the Peer Consulting Project, the Center for Pro Bono makes available the expertise of experienced volunteer consultants. Center staff and volunteer consultants provide telephone and on-site consulting on a range of issues such as planning efforts, identifying new resources for meeting unmet legal needs and recruiting volunteers. For more information about the Project or to arrange for a consultation request, please contact Cheryl Zalenski at (312) 988-5770 or zalenskc@staff.abanet.org to discuss your program's particular needs and interests.

Website Updates

Finally, the Center regularly updates its website at www.abaprobono.org. Current pro bono developments are featured on the home page, while news items are found on the "News Around the World" page. There is also new content for several topics on the "Program Support" page (including Recognition and Government Attorneys.) Be sure to check out the website from time to time to see what's new!

MID YEAR MEETING

It was a chilly, but sunny weekend in Chicago when six members of the NAPBPro Executive Council met at the ABA Center to discuss future directions and activities of the organization. On October 20th and 21st, Committee members discussed future NAPBPro projects such as the Certification Program for Pro Bono Professionals and Web services for members-only with staff members of the ABA Center for Pro Bono. The committee also discussed the upcoming Equal Justice Conference (EJC) planned for April in Oregon and NAPBPro's role in designing and executing conference plans.

In attendance were: President **Patty Murto**, President-elect **Judy Sobin**, Treasurer **Judy Whitelock**, Secretary **Carol Craighill**, Past-President **Elma Moreno** and **Elena Simmons**. ABA Center for Pro Bono staff in attendance included **Bill Jones**, **Dina Merril**, **Steve Scudder** and **Cheryl Zalenski**.

The Mid-year meeting has been a tradition for three years for the Executive Committee. It is an important opportunity for members to spend uninterrupted time discussing future directions and the EIC Conference. The Committee holds teleconference meetings approximately every two months throughout the year and two shorter meetings at the Equal Justice Conference.

NAPBPro members are encouraged to consider serving on the Executive Committee to participate in the leadership of our important organization. Express your interest by submitting a self-nominating letter (see nomination form, this newsletter). Elections are held just prior to the EIC and the NAPBPro Annual Meeting.



SPOTLIGHT ON....

by Mike Monahan
Pro Bono Project, State Bar of Georgia



NAPB Pro is an organization whose principal mission has always been to bring people together to talk about issues important to our community. Most of us see one another just once a year, and sadly, each year it seems friends and colleagues move on to other work or are taken from us. And so it seems natural that we add a new feature to the newsletter- a regular column featuring someone (I would use the word “character”!) from the pro bono community. In this way, we quilt together pieces of our history, and we create a wonderful fabric.

That said, the Executive Committee asked me to launch this new column by writing something insightful about my own experiences in the pro bono community so that when we call on you to share your most private and intimate pro bono thoughts, you’ll have a model. The Executive Committee isn’t very choosy about its models.

As many of you know, I have a knack for coming out of left field with my ideas and opinions. When I was in third grade, Sister Mary Catherine commented to my mother that she could always count on me to have something—I think she used the word *thoughtful*- to say, but she said *thoughtful* in a way that made it sound more like what Father Daley would have considered a *near-occasion of sin*.

Fast forward 30 years (or so).

I would like to say I have become thoughtful in a normal sense, but I have discovered that in a profession that requires one to handle so many tasks, create and maintain so much with so little in resources, and remain hopeful and forward looking, *normal just* doesn’t cut it. So, to be insightful, as I have been instructed to be so by the NAPBPro Executive Committee, I now share with you my

Top Ten Pro Bono Rules of Success:

- 1 Never let them see you sweat. Yes, I know it’s an anti-perspirant slogan, and yes, I violate this rule more than any other. But it’s just such a darn good rule.
- 2 Say yes more often than no. It goes without saying that to be a good “Do-bee”, one must be cooperative.
- 3 Learn when to say no. It’s a good rule, but let’s just accept that we’ll never follow it. Chaos is so much more interesting than order, don’t you think?
- 4 Trust in people who have the bigger picture. I do follow this rule— really.
- 5 Learn to look like you are listening. Need I say more?
- 6 Take advantage of every learning opportunity— especially conferences. There’s much to be learned over a Martini and salted peanuts. Trust me on this one.
- 7 Try something you don’t think you can do. You can do it, maybe not perfectly, but well enough to be proud you tried.
- 8 View life as a team sport. And it’s OK to be a bowler in a world of discus throwers. See rule # 1.
- 9 Be a sponge. Not in square pants. In the Kung Fu grasshopper sense. It’s a good rule, but the metaphor and allusions get in the way.
- 10 Every morning in rush hour traffic, sing the Authority Song. Just because.

There is real truth for me in each of these rules, all kidding aside. I’m certain the Executive Committee had a different approach in mind for this new column, something normal. I invite you to submit your essay for publication. Tell us about yourself and your work. Add to the quilt.

JOIN THE NAPBPro EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There are three (3) positions available on the NAPBPro Executive Committee. Each of these positions is a for a three-year term.

Any regular member of NAPBPro is eligible for nomination. Nomination should consist of:

- (1) the name, address and phone number of the nominee; and
- (2) a statement from the nominee, which may not exceed one page.

The nomination deadline is February 7, 2003.

Send your nominations to: Elma Moreno, Chairperson, NAPBPro Nominating Committee

Texas Tech University School of Law Clinical Programs

1802 Hartford Avenue, Lubbock, TX 79409

Phone: (806) 742-3990, Ext. 312

Fax: (806) 742-4199

email: emoreno@law.ttu.edu.

NAPBPro 2003 MEMBERSHIP FORM

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRO BONO PROFESSIONAL

NAME _____ TITLE _____

PROGRAM NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ FAX _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (please print legibly) _____

_____ NEW MEMBER _____ RENEWAL

REGULAR MEMBER ANNUAL DUES: \$30

HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR NAME RECENTLY?

FROM _____

TO _____

AREAS OF INTEREST _____

Return form and \$30 to:

Brenda Schexnider

Acadiana Legal Services Corporation

914 Hodges Street

Lake Charles, LA 70601

(337) 439-0377

Fax (337)- 439-0636