

connections with SECTIONS

links to help you

Practice Management Resource Center Helpline

<http://www.michbar.org/pmrc/helpline.cfm>

Economics of Law Practice Survey Results

<http://www.lawpracticeeconomics.com/>

Lawyers and Judges Assistance

Web cast seminar "Stress Management for Lawyers"

<http://www.michbar.org/pmrc/seminars/stress1/frame.html>

Five free SBM electronic subscriptions

<http://www.michbar.org/publications/signup.cfm>

Connections with Sections is an electronic newsletter published three times a year by the State Bar of Michigan and distributed without charge to Section chairs and chair-elects and the State Bar Board of Commissioners.

Announcements, articles, and pictures for Connections with Sections are highly encouraged. Please send suggestions to Candace Crowley at ccrowley@mail.michbar.org. The State Bar of Michigan reserves the right to edit for clarity and suggests that submissions be kept at 500 words or fewer.

Submission Deadlines:

October 15, 2007

February 15, 2008

June 15, 2008

Thank You to Kim Cahill

Candace Crowley

I spent most of my time with Kim working with local and special purpose bar associations, but I know well that Kim viewed the sections as the vanguards of professional practice. If you had the luck to know Kim, I'm sure you would share some of my observations about her. She knew just about everything. She never said no to any request for help or opportunity for camaraderie. She was a model of confidence and independent style, she was generous in all ways, she was big fun, and she was just terrific.

Like many of you, I still struggle to figure out why Kim had to die when she did, and how I can honor Kim's legacy through the right personal measures. The comforting part is that Kim showed us there is no shortage of actions to model, no lack of worthy groups to support, no lawyer who doesn't need a friend, and no contribution to justice that could be too small. Thank you, Kim; you had it all, and you shared it so generously with us. It was a privilege.

Bar Leadership Forum

We are hoping to see all of you at the June 13 and 14 BLF at Mackinac Island. Our leadership speaker is Dan Mulhern. This year's Saturday morning program includes a session devoted strictly to sections. "Understanding Common Ground and Identifying Differences" will quickly move through those things that bind us all together, and go on to enlist your input on the differences that make sections unique. From there, we'll break into smaller units to work on topics you identify for discussion. This is a great opportunity for section leaders to learn, network, and have fun with each other.

Upper Michigan Legal Institute Offers Something for Everyone

The UMLI joins with the Bar Leadership Forum on Mackinac Island again this year. On June 13 and 14, sessions include Real Property New Developments, Child Support and Property Division Update, Criminal Law Update, New Developments in Business Law, Planning for Small Estates, Defense of Drunk Driving, Forfeiture and Foreclosure, Practice Management, Divorce Mobility, and Medicaid Planning. See the [schedule](#) for presenters and more information.

Calendar of Events

NOMINATIONS CLOSE FOR MAJOR STATE BAR AWARDS

April 2, 2008

http://www.michbar.org/news/releases/archives08/sbmawards_nomination.cfm

LAW DAY

May 1, 2008

NOMINATIONS CLOSE FOR LIBERTY BELL AWARD

May 2, 2008

GOLDEN CELEBRATION

May 12, 2008

St. John's Inn, Plymouth

LEGAL MILESTONE REDEDICATION

Rose of Aberlone

May 13, 2008

Plymouth, Michigan

YOUNG LAWYERS SUMMIT

May 16-17

Soaring Eagle Resort

BAR LEADERSHIP FORUM

June 13-14, 2008

Mackinac Island

UPPER MICHIGAN LEGAL INSTITUTE

June 13-14, 2008

Mackinac Island

<http://www.michbar.org/UMLI.cfm>

STATE BAR ANNUAL MEETING

September 17-19, 2008

Dearborn

SECTION ORIENTATION

October 2, 2008

Lansing

Section Chair/Co-Chair Listserv Now Available

We invite you to use the section chair listserv to communicate with each other. The address is SectionLeaders@groups.michbar.org. Although this is the tool we used in January to plead for ample lead time to properly support your events, we actually think it has greater value as an announcement or discussion board for you. As they say, "if you build it they will come."

Speaking of Ample Lead Time

We repeat the message here on the theory that people need to hear things several times before they actually sink in. If you know of an upcoming event, be sure to contact Heather Anderson now to get the ball rolling for flyers, registrations, e-commerce, press releases, website postings, name badges, materials, e-blasts, etc. Heather has a new checklist that you can use to identify what you'd like State Bar staff to help with. The checklist will be posted online soon; contact Heather to see one now at handerson@mail.michbar.org or (517) 346-6414.

Annual Reports Due May 31

For any association, a strong annual report is a sign of organizational health and vigor. Not only should it reflect the activities of the past year, but it can also serve as a valuable planning document. Keep in mind that when State Bar members call staff here and ask about a section, we usually refer them to your website and suggest that they read your annual report and look for information on your newsletters, seminars, conferences, legislative actions, amicus briefs, committee work, and other great activities. In this way, your annual report serves as a great membership-recruiting tool as well. Section leaders, don't forget May is sneaking up on us—start planning now for your annual report submissions! An e-mail notice with a suggested form will be sent in April. This is a great item that can be delegated to a member who has time for one contribution to the section.

Section Orientation—Save the Date

State Bar President-Elect Ed Pappas has identified Thursday, October 2, 2008 as the date for the section orientation. Chairs-elect should mark their calendars now and plan on joining Mr. Pappas and State Bar staff for a full day of networking, lunch, and learning about State Bar services.

Annual Meeting Calendar and Room Assignments Completed

This year's Annual Meeting will occur at the Dearborn Hyatt from Wednesday, September 17 through Friday, September 19 and we are so pleased to say that 25 sections will be joining us there for a meeting or event. Sections chairs will receive information by the end of March outlining deadlines and opportunities to promote your sections programs from Kari Brandel. Please check with Kari if you have any questions or concerns, Kbrandel@mail.michbar.org or (517) 346-6371.



The Public Corporation Section held its mid-winter conference at the St. John's Inn in Plymouth. Left to right: Philip Erickson, Chair Jeff Slugggett, program planner Marcia Howe and Andy Mulder, president of the Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys.

Is Your Website Updated?

Very few sections lack a wealth of meetings, seminars, networking events, newsletters, awards, scholarships, law student activities, radio show appearances, or other exciting activities. We are surprised, nonetheless, at how many section websites are simply out-of-date, offering no clue to visitors as to what's going on in the section. Bar staff updates the council information every year, but many times that's all that's current on the site.

Meeting minutes, newsletters, press releases, and conference materials are just a few of the items that can be posted to make your website look healthy and attract new members. This is another item that can be easily delegated to a member—just assign someone to send material to Sandra Barger at sbarger@mail.michbar.org with a request that it be posted on your section's website.

Report from Representative Assembly; Pictorial Directory Now Available

Chief Justice Clifford Taylor will be presenting the annual State of the Judiciary address at the Representative Assembly meeting on April 12 at Lansing Community College. The address will be televised on MG-TV. The Assembly's Pictorial Directory is now up on its website. For more information, contact Anne Smith at asmith@mail.michbar.org or (517) 346-6374.

Out and About

The **Social Security Lawyers** saw record turnout for their February 8 Winter Seminar—kudos to section leaders for the fantastic programming; congratulations on your success!

The 31st Mid-Winter Ski Conference with the **Criminal Law Section** focused on handling confidential informants during a weekend of good conversations and snowy slopes at Shanty Creek Resort.

The Stark Law seminar series organized by the **Health Care Law Section** continues to experience successful turnouts, and is looking forward to the last event on April 23.

The Sixth Annual Spring Conference for the **Elder Law Section** was held March 14, and honored the memory of George A. Cooney, Jr.

Business Law is getting into the swing of spring with their First Annual Spring Fling, a networking event for attorneys and law students April 10, Dirty Martini Lounge, Novi.

The **Annual Animal Law Symposium** is padding closer; April 11 will see the section attentive to important cases, updates, and practice advice.

The **Legal Assistants Section** will be presenting their Annual Day of Education on May 2, focusing the theme on alternative dispute resolution.

The Mandalay Bay Hotel in Las Vegas will host the **Negligence Law Section** as it combines with the Michigan Association for Justice and the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel to present a fantastic seminar on May 2 -5.

The **Young Lawyers** are heading on up to Soaring Eagle on May 16 & 17 for their first Annual Summit; plan ahead to join them for a fascinating selection of cutting-edge programming!

Family Law joins ICLE for 2008 Child Custody, Support & Parenting Time Update on March 25, and again on March 27 for Resolving Custody Disputes & Drafting Settlement Agreements. Negotiating & Drafting a Property Settlement Agreement will also be presented on March 27.



Business Law Section officers led their council meeting at the State Bar Building in March. From left to right: Secretary Tania E. Fuller, Chair Michael S. Khoury, Vice Chair Diane L. Akers, and Treasurer Robert T. Wilson



The Labor and Employment Law Section conducted another successful mid-winter conference at the Detroit Athletic Club recently. Members Rob Boonin (program organizer) and Eric Pelton (Board of Commissioner liaison) pause for a photo.

Members of the Health Care Law Section gather at roundtable discussions at their most recent annual meeting.



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