

Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

The ADR Section is offering to present an informative, interactive show on civil mediation to your association. The presentation includes a simulated mediation, demonstrates how mediation works, and explains how lawyers can better serve their clients through mediation. For more information, contact Robert E. L. Wright at (616) 776-6334 or Richard Morley Barron at (810) 487-1368.

Business Law Section

The section's annual meeting will be held September 25 at the Sheraton Detroit Novi. The meeting begins at 4 p.m. and will include the presentation of the Stephen H. Schulman Award to this year's recipient, G. Ann Baker. The meeting will be followed by a reception from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Watch for our monthly e-newsletter or visit our website at <http://www.michbar.org/business/> to learn more about these and other upcoming events.

Consumer Law Section

Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard to help pass the Home Loan Protection Act to curb predatory mortgage lending practices. This was a joint effort

by a large group, and the Consumer Law Section was well represented. The act is a victory for consumers. However, three provisions added at the end of the process diminish the effectiveness of the act; we now need to push to have these modified or eliminated.

Environmental Law Section

This year has been an expansion of horizons for the section. The programs focused on broad issues of climate change and alternative energy. The section continued building relationships with law schools and initiated collaborative relationships with EPA Region V, the ABA, and the Air & Waste Management Association. The updated Environmental Law Deskbook will be released in electronic format.

Labor and Employment Law Section

On September 18, at the State Bar Annual Meeting, the LELS and ADR Sections are presenting a joint program at 2 p.m. Led by FMCS mediator Mike Nowakowski, a panel of top-notch mediators will discuss best practices during mediation. WSU Law School Dean Robert Ackerman will provide a keynote address on mediation. Arbitrator Kathryn VanDagens will chair a blue ribbon panel of arbitrators and practitioners dis-

cussing the finality of arbitration decisions. A reception will follow the program.

Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section

The Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2008 scholarship awards, to be presented at the annual meeting on September 19 in Dearborn: Tammy Nguyen, Holland (\$1,000); Elizabeth Hicks, Madison Heights (\$750); Sarah Tiltman, Troy (\$500); and Ashley Olszewski, Belleville (\$250). Scholarship funds may be used toward tuition and books for any paralegal/legal assistant program at a Michigan post-secondary college or university. Details about the annual scholarship are available at www.michbar.org/legalassistants.

Real Property Law Section

The 2009 Winter Conference will be held March 12–14, 2009, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa in Bonita Springs, Florida. The section thanks Margaret Van Meter of Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn LLP and Gregory J. Gamalski of Giarmarco Mullins & Horton PC for planning this conference. Registration fees: first-time attendees, \$300; section members, \$350; non-section members, \$400. For details, visit www.michbar.org/realproperty/ and click 2009 Summer Conference or call Arlene Rubinstein at (248) 644-7378.

Senior Lawyers Section

The Senior Lawyers Section held its annual meeting August 22–24 at the Soaring Eagle Casino in Mt. Pleasant. Jack Krasula, a well-known motivational speaker, addressed the group. State Bar President Ron Keefe was the first recipient of the Robert Hess Award.

Taxation Section

The second annual Michigan Tax Conference, jointly sponsored by the Taxation Section, the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants, and the Michigan Department of Treasury, will be held November 5–6 at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi. ■