



From the Foundation

by Martha Hardwick Hofmeister

Donations Help Support FBA Chapter Philanthropy, Scholarship, and More

In last month's column and at the Federal Bar

Association (FBA) Annual Meeting and Convention in Providence, R.I., I invited FBA members to **Take a Closer Look** at the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association. The foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, chartered by Congress in 1954. Our mission is to promote and support legal research and education; advance the science of jurisprudence; facilitate the administration of justice; and foster improvements in the practice of federal law.

This month, I'd like to highlight just a few of our recent programs and initiatives:

Foundation Supports FBA Chapters Working on Hurricane Rehabilitation

The foundation granted a total of \$11,000 to two FBA chapters—the New Orleans Chapter and the Mississippi Chapter—to support their philanthropy projects related to serving the communities most severely affected by Hurricane Katrina. Even now, almost a decade after the hurricane, many neighborhoods are still devastated.

The New Orleans Chapter is working in partnership with Rebuilding Together New Orleans (RTNO) to help repair, renovate, and rebuild storm-damaged homes. RTNO's home rehabilitation program targets the urban poor, the population in New Orleans most affected by Hurricane Katrina. Volunteers work under the supervision of skilled RTNO construction staff to rebuild homes of low-income, elderly, and/or disabled clientele.

The Mississippi Chapter is offering volunteer opportunities to its members and families who wish to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity of the Mississippi Gulf Coast (HFHMG). HFHMG works in partnership with community stakeholders to create innovative, sustainable housing solutions.

Money from the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association will help underwrite costs related to volunteer service. In New Orleans, this includes a commitment fee for volunteer work days, which helps support RTNO's costs of building supplies, safety equipment, insurance, transportation, and more. In Mississippi, the foundation's underwriting includes overnight accommodations (facilities and meals) for volunteers who come from throughout the state.

Minnesota Chapter Raises and Donates \$56,525

The Minnesota Chapter of the FBA has a long history of commitment to philanthropy, community service, and outreach. This year, it provided a record-high total of \$56,525 in grant funding to support several nonprofit programs in the state that provide services consistent with the chapter's mission.

Grant funding comes from a variety of sources, including the Minnesota Chapter's monthly luncheon series, annual dinner-dance, and annual federal practice seminar. The chapter annually contributes to its Donor-Advised Fund, created in 2003 and managed by the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association. Over the past decade, grants in excess of several hundred thousand dollars have been made from this fund.

The Minnesota Chapter's grants committee solicits and reviews numerous applications from organizations seeking grants, particularly those whose activities align with the mission statement of the FBA and which, in particular, have a focus on issues that are federal in nature.

The Board of the Foundation of the FBA unanimously accepted the chapter's recommendations and distributed the full amount of \$56,525 to 14 worthy organizations, including Mid-Minnesota Legal Assistance, the Minnesota Justice Foundation, the Innocence Project of Minnesota, and Volunteers of America.

Foundation's Public Service Scholarship Recipient Announced

The Foundation of the FBA's Public Service Scholarship Award provides \$5,000 in financial assistance to the son or daughter of a federal government attorney or judge who is also a member of the Federal Bar Association. The 2014 recipient of the scholarship is Anne Whitney, the daughter of Hon. Frank DeArmon Whitney, U.S. district court judge in the Western District of North Carolina.

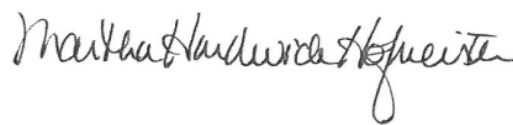
... And Much More

In addition to the above, the foundation recently announced the recipients of its Chapter Community Outreach Grants, which support community service and *pro bono* activities that involve FBA chapter participation; inducted a new class of fellows, who are recognized for their exceptional commitment to and leadership within both the FBA and the legal community; and held a successful silent auction during the Annual Meeting and Convention.

Additional details about these and other foundation activities and initiatives can be found on our web site at www.fedbar.org/foundation.

The work of the foundation is made possible by charitable gifts from FBA members like you. On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for including the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association as a part of your personal philanthropy. We recognize that there are many local, regional, and national nonprofit

organizations doing excellent work on causes that are important to you; thank you for supporting your profession through your gifts to the foundation. ☺



Take a Closer Look at the **FOUNDATION** of the Federal Bar Association



The Foundation of the FBA provides **Chapter Community Outreach Grants** of up to \$5,000 to support community service or outreach projects that involve FBA chapter participation. Projects must address the need for legal services in the community or fall under any component of the Foundation's mission.

Past grants have included funding for an oral history to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act; a legal writing program; a diversity seminar; a self-help legal clinic; a mentoring program and many others.

Programs such as these are made possible by gifts from FBA members like you. Take a closer look at the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association. Learn more about our initiatives and how you can support our work. Visit www.fedbar.org/Foundation today.

**Attention
FBA Chapter
Leaders!**

Grant applications
are due
Dec. 15, 2014.