

FBA Members Are Integral to the Association's Success

by Mark K. Vincent



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Congratulations to you, the members of the FBA! As I reach the mid point of my presidential term, the FBA continues to grow at an outstanding rate. Since October, we have increased membership by nearly 1,000 people—topping the 18,000 mark in January. This is directly attributable to our Membership Committee; our chapters, sections, and divisions and the CLE programming they are providing; and our national staff. Job well done!

To exemplify the quality of CLE and member programming the FBA is providing, I will give you few examples from across the country.

In October, the Dayton Chapter hosted its annual installation luncheon, attended by approximately 150 members. The next night the Cincinnati, Columbus, and Dayton Chapters, along with the FBA Federal Litigation Section, co-hosted an investiture reception honoring Chief Judge R. Guy Cole Jr. at the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals courthouse in Cincinnati. The Federal Litigation Section hosted its first (and very successful) annual CLE conference in Washington, D.C. And, the Memphis Mid-South Chapter hosted its annual CLE at Memphis Law School, where attendees received a very insightful tutorial on the history of civil rights in the South.

In November, the Utah Chapter sponsored its annual Ronald N. Boyce Federal Litigation Seminar, where 175 attendees spent the day hearing from federal judges on critical topics to improve the practice of law in federal court.

The Arizona Chapter honored former FBA board member and U.S. Magistrate Judge Michelle Burns in December at its Annual Holiday Party at the Phoenix Art Museum—an honor well deserved by Judge Burns. The Hawaii Chapter hosted its annual CLE on Waikiki Beach, where attendees received a tutorial on recent Supreme Court decisions, the value of implementing a federal Veterans Court, and a presentation on human rights.

January proved to be a month wherein most of the country was digging out of the snow. The FBA Board of Directors had a very successful meeting in Miami,

where the South Florida Chapter hosted a wonderful reception for its members and the board at the Pérez Art Museum Miami.

In February, the Kansas Chapter and its Kansas University Law Student Division hosted a number of events promoting FBA membership and its accompanying values. The Southern District of New York Chapter and the Second Circuit Court of Appeals hosted the S.D.N.Y. District Court and the S.D.N.Y. U.S. Marshals for a presentation by S.D.N.Y. U.S. Marshal Michael Greco. The Inland Empire Chapter (located in and around Riverside, Calif.) hosted its annual Installation and Judges Appreciation Dinner at the historical Mission Inn Hotel & Spa.

March had the Younger Lawyers Division sponsoring the 2016 Thurgood Marshall Moot Court Competition, with the final round being argued at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces. And, the beginning of April has us at our Midyear Meeting at the Capitol Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C.

This is just a small sampling of the events our chapters, sections, and divisions are hosting in addition to national programming. This is why the FBA is such a value! I encourage you to attend upcoming FBA events, including: the 41st Indian Law Conference on April 7–8 at the Talking Stick Resort in Scottsdale, Ariz.; the 2016 Women in the Law Conference on April 21 or the 2016 Immigration Law Conference on May 12–13, both in New Orleans; and the 28th Annual Insurance Tax Seminar on June 2–3 in Washington, D.C., to name a few. All FBA sponsored events can be found by going to www.fedbar.org/Calendar.aspx.

Again, congratulations to you, the members, for making the FBA such an outstanding success! ☺