

MINUTES
Historical Society of the United States Courts in the Eighth Circuit
Executive Committee Conference Call
November 4, 2009, 12:00 p.m.

Participants:

Hon. Richard G. Kopf, Chairman of the Board
Frances Ross, President
F. Richard Lyford, Vice-President
Sheila Greenbaum, Treasurer
Hon. Richard Peterson, Past-President
Joan Voelker, Archives Librarian

Ann Fessenden and Past-President Tom Boyd were unable to participate in the conference call.

Board Chair Judge Kopf welcomed the participants and turned the proceedings over to President Ross.

Minutes

The minutes of the past conference call were approved.

Finances

Treasurer Greenbaum reported a balance of \$9,559.75 in the parent account and a balance of \$1,142.52 in the Court of Appeals account.

IRS Tax Filing, Due Nov. 15, 2009

Ms. Greenbaum said that Joan Voelker had been keeping her apprised as to receipt of branch annual reports and that Ms. Voelker had that morning posted reports received to date on the Historical Society web site. Ms. Greenbaum noted that the parent Historical Society was still lacking one branch financial report, and that as soon as it was received, she would be able to file with the IRS on behalf of the Historical Society. Ms. Voelker said she would pursue the outstanding report.

Events Honoring Publication of Judge Richard S. Arnold Biography

Dick Lyford noted that Tom Boyd, who was unable to take part in the call, was author Polly Price's "travel agent," arranging events around the circuit. He said Mr. Boyd had been working with him on Ms. Price's appearance at the Federal Practice Seminar to be held in Des Moines in December. Ms. Greenbaum commented that she thought Polly Price's presentation to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis during its September court week was outstanding. She also pointed out that Ms. Price had related stories about Judge Arnold that were omitted from the final version of the book, commenting that they were so interesting that she thought there could be a second book in the making. Ms. Voelker said that the U.S. Courts Library Eighth Circuit had received the digital audio recording of the presentation for the Eighth Circuit court archives, and

Judge Kopf suggested that she post it on the Historical Society web site. Ms. Voelker said that she would do that.

Judge Bright

Ms. Voelker said that the library had prepared a biographical display and brochure honoring Judge Bright's historical achievement as the longest working Eighth Circuit judge. It was exhibited at the judges' Judicial Conference in Duluth and has begun to circulate in the Circuit.

Speaker at Historical Society Meeting

Judge Kopf related that he had been contacted by William Domnarski, author of *Federal Judges Revealed*, a book based on about one hundred oral histories of Article III judges from around the country and published by Oxford. He said Mr. Domnarski, an attorney in Riverside, California, had offered to make a presentation to the Historical Society. After a bit of discussion, the Executive Committee opted to keep this offer in mind but to not take any action at the present.

Judicial Conference Panel on Displays

It was noted that Tom Boyd had requested this topic be added to the agenda. With Mr. Boyd absent, it was agreed to table the topic and bring it up at the next meeting. It was noted that the Conference would be held in Minneapolis this year, August 9-13, 2009.

Iowa History Projects

Judge Peterson complimented Mr. Lyford on the Iowa state time line, a display he had worked on with the Iowa State Bar Association and located in a refurbished train depot. Mr. Lyford said that he had been successful in getting an image of the old District of Iowa court seal from the National Archives and asked if anyone had had any luck with making medallions. Judge Kopf said that Borsheim's, a fine jewelry store in Omaha, will make jewelry on request.

Next Meeting

President Ross scheduled the next meeting of the executive committee for Wed., March 3 at 12:30.

There being no other business, the conference call adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Voelker, Acting Secretary