

MINUTES
Historical Society of the United States Courts in the Eighth Circuit
Executive Committee Conference Call
July 13, 2011 12:00 p.m.

Participants:

Hon. Richard G. Kopf, Chairman of the Board
F. Richard Lyford, President
Ann Fessenden, Secretary
Sheila Greenbaum, Treasurer
Thomas H. Boyd, Past-President
Joan Voelker, Archives Librarian

Roll call was taken, and the minutes of the Executive Committee's April 13, 2011 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Greenbaum reported that the parent fund had a current balance of \$9,595.51. The Court of Appeals branch balance was \$1,142.52. She has written one check on the parent fund for the annual corporate registration which is not yet reflected in the bank balance.

American Society for Legal History (ASLH) reception

The main item of business was to review the status of the ASLH reception and determine actions needed. President Lyford indicated that he had written to Judge Morris Arnold to inform him of the intention of ASLH and the Historical Society to honor him with a reception at ASLH's 2012 St. Louis meeting. He had received a letter of thanks and acceptance from Judge Arnold. Therefore, planning for the reception can proceed. Ms. Fessenden requested copies of the correspondence for the Association's records, and Mr. Lyford agreed to send.

Discussion of possible fund-raising approaches ensued, including potential donors, amounts, and appropriate persons to make contact. However, it was realized that in order to start fund-raising, the group really needed a firmer estimate of the likely cost for the reception. Therefore, Ms. Fessenden and Ms. Voelker were asked to work with the Circuit Executive's Office to identify a possible caterer and get a cost estimate for a reception for 175-200 people, with light hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Ms. Greenbaum suggested that the option of providing beer and wine instead of having the cash bar should also be explored. Ms. Fessenden and Ms. Voelker will report their findings at the next conference call.

Other

Several members then gave updates on historical projects in their areas. Tom Boyd is developing plans for a new project for the appellate branch. He hopes to collaborate with the district branches to develop biographical information on district judges who became Circuit judges.

Richard Lyford reported that a sequel is being written to the Southern District of Iowa history, *No One is Above the Law*. Ann Fessenden and Joan Voelker reported on the progress of an Eastern

District of Missouri history being prepared by Burton Boxerman. The last chapter has been drafted, though they were not aware of the plans for publication. Ms. Voelker has assisted the author with research.

Finally, Mr. Lyford mentioned his interest in acquiring old court seals from the district courts in the circuit. The Southern District of Iowa located theirs last year, and he thought it would be very interesting to locate others and perhaps develop a display or at least have them available on the Historical Society's website. After discussion, it was determined that Ms. Fessenden and Ms. Voelker should write to the Clerks of Court of the various districts to inquire whether any of them have seals available, and if so, request that they send digital photos of them.

Next meeting

The date of the next conference call meeting was discussed and agreed upon as **October 5, 2011 at 12:00.**

There being no other business, the conference call meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann T. Fessenden".

Ann T. Fessenden, Secretary