

MINUTES
Historical Society of the United States Courts in the Eighth Circuit
Executive Committee Conference Call
April 8, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.

Participants:

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

Roll call was taken, and the minutes of the Executive Committee's January 7, 2015 meeting were approved.

Welcome Circuit Librarian Designate Eric Brust

Retiring Circuit Librarian and Secretary Ann Fessenden introduced Circuit Librarian Designate Eric Brust, and the Committee welcomed him. Mr. Brust came from the Jackson County Law Library as Executive Director and holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and Classical Antiquities, a Master's of Library Science, and a Juris Doctorate. Ms. Fessenden's last day at work will be April 17.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Greenbaum reported the balance of the parent account as \$29,185 and the balance of the appeals branch account as \$627.93. It was noted that \$20,000 in the parent account is for the publication of the Eastern District of Arkansas history, as the parent Society is acting as disbursing agent for that branch to pay the publisher.

Ms. Greenbaum commented that while there have been emails conveying that Judge Bright will be donating royalties from the sale of his autobiography to the Historical Society, she had not yet received any such monies. A possible explanation offered was that Judge Bright may have assigned his royalties to the Society but that it may be that the publisher only pays them once a year.

E.D. Arkansas Publication of History

Ms. Ross said that the manuscript was just recently deposited back into the hands of the University of Arkansas Press.

2016 History Workshop

President Lyford said that he would be having lunch with Mike Giudicessi, a member of the Judicial Conference planning committee, regarding the history workshop and would report back to the Executive Committee. *[He did so the following day via email, describing his vision for the workshop. Mr. Lyford wrote that he hoped to secure a time for the workshop that would not*

interfere with the conference program, possibly shortly before the Judicial Conference opening reception. He envisioned a workshop consisting of table discussions on topics such as written history projects, oral history projects, fund raising, educational outreach and courthouse displays, etc. These would be led by someone with knowledge and experience in the respective areas. The participants could sit at whichever table discussions interested them, and there could be fixed time intervals for changing tables. He mentioned that there was a group who indicated interest in helping with this at the Judicial Conference in Omaha and that there was thought to making the workshop electronically available to those who could not attend the conference in person, though it remained to be seen whether this would be possible. He said that we would need a room to hold the workshop and at most, one and a half hours on the conference agenda. He noted that depending on how this works, the Board could possibly hold its annual meeting in conjunction with the workshop instead of the 7:30 a.m. breakfast meeting on the day of the public conference. Mr. Lyford concluded that he viewed the function of the Society to promote and facilitate the preservation and spreading of legal history and that he thought that this workshop would further those goals.]

Other Items

Tom Boyd said that Eighth Circuit history author Jeffrey Morris had sent him a number of books on the history of Eighth Circuit states that he had gathered during his research. Mr. Boyd offered to send them to the U.S. Courts Library in St. Louis for possible addition to their collection, and Ms. Fessenden welcomed the books for review. Mr. Lyford noted that he would be interested in any rejected by the library.

Mr. Boyd mentioned circuit judge oral histories as a potential project for the Appeals branch. He enquired as to whether that was being done elsewhere. Ms. Fessenden replied that the district branches were encouraged to include their circuit judges but this doesn't always happen. She also said that she and Circuit Executive Millie Adams had at one time looked into pursuing circuit judge interviews but were not able to fund the project. Ms. Fessenden said that it may be necessary to raise funds to pursue an oral history project.

Mr. Lyford reported that Judge Morris Arnold had contacted Judge David Hansen to encourage him to give an oral history interview but that Judge Hansen was still not willing to do so. Mr. Lyford said that the Southern District of Iowa was also working to get permission from Judge Melloy for his interview.

Secretary Fessenden's Retirement Award

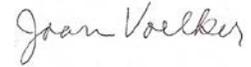
President Lyford then asked Ms. Fessenden to leave the room so that the Executive Committee could discuss the details of routing her certificate of appreciation for signature. As this was Ms. Fessenden's last day as Secretary of the Historical Society, the Committee officially appointed Archives Librarian Joan Voelker as Secretary so that she could sign the certificate as "Secretary" rather than "Acting Secretary." *[An official vote of the Board of Directors will be required at the Board's next meeting. If Ms. Voelker is elected, her position as Secretary would be effective retroactive to this day.]*

Next meeting

The date of the next conference call meeting was discussed and agreed upon as **Wednesday, July 8, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.**

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Voelker".

Joan Voelker, Secretary