



Friends of the Court

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Judicial Council Meets in Fort Smith for Annual Fall Conference

The Arkansas Judicial Council, consisting of circuit, appellate and retired circuit judges, met in Fort Smith in October for their annual fall meeting. With Amendment 80 in mind, educational sessions focused on “Changing Hats”. The judges were presented an array of topics to assist them in learning more about aspects of different jurisdictions.

State Senator Steve Faris of Malvern received the annual “First Branch Award” from the Council. The “First Branch Award” was established in 1992 as a means of honoring outstanding legislative service on behalf and for the improvement of the state judicial system.

Senator Faris serves on the Senate Judiciary Committee, State Agencies & Governmental Affairs Committee, and is Vice Chairman of the Joint Retirement and Social Security Committee. He served as a member of the House of Representatives in 1997 and 1999 and is presently serving his first term in the Senate.

Retired Judge John Graves of Camden received the “Community Service Award” from his fellow judges. The Award was also established in 1992 by the Council and recognizes off-the-bench activities in service to the community by a member of the Council.

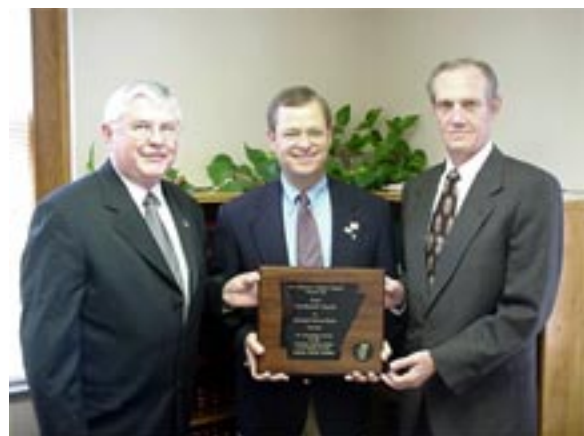
Judge Graves is now serv-

ing regularly as a special judge on assignment cases and has been active in the Kiwanis Club and the Catholic Church in Camden. In presenting the award to Judge Graves at the banquet, Judge Gayle Ford told those attending about Judge Graves’ interesting role in World War II.

Judge Graves served as a ball turret gunner on a B-17 which is known to be a precarious position to hold. On his 21st mission, the plane was shot down over occupied Europe and Judge Graves was a prisoner of war for several months.



Retired Judge Jack Graves(right), recipient of the “Community Service Award”, is congratulated by 18th West Circuit Judge Gayle Ford (left) and Chief Justice W.H. “Dub”Arnold (center).



7th Judicial Circuit Judges Phillip Shirron (left) and John Cole (right) give their congratulations to State Senator Steve Faris on his receiving the “First Branch Award”.

“Changing Hats” Series Scheduled

The “Changing Hats” series was designed to provide circuit judges with the information to assist them with their changing jurisdictions as a result of Amendment 80.

The purpose of these programs is to provide circuit judges with detailed information about hearing new types of cases. **“Juggling Your Hats”** is part two of a three part series entitled “Changing Hats” that was kicked off in October at the Fall Judicial College. Classes scheduled for this series are:

January 10-11, 2002

Criminal - Little Rock

February 7-8, 2002

Civil - Little Rock

March 7-8, 2002

Domestic Relations - Little Rock

April 11-12, 2002

Probate - Little Rock

May 9-10, 2002

Juvenile - Little Rock

The third phase of the “Changing Hats” program is **“Adjusting Your Hats”** and is designed to provide judges, who have been hearing new types of cases, a structured program during which they can ask questions and discuss issues related to their caseload. Classes for this series are:

September 13, 2002

Criminal & Civil - Little Rock

November 8, 2002

Domestic Relations & Probate - Little Rock

December 13, 2002

Juvenile - Little Rock



Eileen Parin, Data Auditor and a 20 year employee for the Administrative Office of the Courts, passed away in September. She was a dear friend and co-worker and will be missed.

New Judicial Council Officers & Board

A new set of officers and Board of Directors took over for the Arkansas Judicial Council at their fall meeting. Hon. Jim Gunter/8th North Circuit is the new President. Hon. David Burnett/2nd Circuit is the President-Elect. Hon. David Bogard/6th Circuit is the Immediate Past President. Hon. Don Glover/10th Circuit is the Secretary and Mr. J.D. Gingerich is the Treasurer.

The Board of Directors is comprised of Hon. Gary Arnold/ 22nd Circuit, Hon. Robert Vittitow/10th Circuit, Hon. Ted Capeheart/9th West Circuit, Hon. Leon Jamison/11th West Circuit, Hon. David Goodson/2nd Circuit, and Hon. Robert Brown/Supreme Court.



New Council President, Judge Jim Gunter (left) visits with Chief Justice Arnold at the cookout sponsored by the Sebastian County Bar Association.

- Judiciary Web site Information -

The Arkansas Judiciary web site has extensive information for public use and for the legal community. The most recent decisions of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals can be found there, as well as published court opinions are available from 1994 to present. Unpublished Supreme Court opinions are available from December 1999 to present. Unpublished Court of Appeals opinions are available from January 2000 to present. The docket for both Courts is available for all active cases and for inactive cases that have had activity in the last 90 days.

Annual Reports of the Judiciary since 1994, “Friends of the Court” newsletters since 1998, court forms, and the Judicial Directory (updated monthly) can be found under “Publication & Forms” on the home page.

Under “Court Administra-

<http://courts.state.ar.us>

tion” web viewers can find a listing of personnel for the Administrative Office of the Courts with their e-mail addresses, the Arkansas Court Automation Project (ACACP), CASA, the Judicial Branch Education Calendar, and Supreme Court Boards & Committees.

Under “Judges” can be found the Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission and the Judicial Ethics Advisory Committee.

In the center of the home page, under “Announcements” presently can be found: Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Professional Conduct recent decisions, Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Civil Practice’s annual suggested changes to court rules, an announcement by the Supreme Court concerning an increase in license fees scheduled for the Bar of Arkansas, the
(See **Web**, next page)

Law Day 2002
“Celebrate Your Freedom”



2002 Law Day theme has been announced by the ABA Division for Public Education. “Celebrate Your Freedom: Assuring Equal Justice for All” focuses on America’s efforts to make equal justice a reality for all citizens regardless of color, gender, disability or economic status. The Division for Public Education has prepared the 2002 Law Day Planning guide which contains program ideas and resources for promoting this year’s theme. The Guide offers valuable information on how to plan a Law Day program and gives special outreach strategies to reach students and communities. To assist planners in implementing and promoting activities, there’s also a wide selection of Law Day resources such as media tools, posters, awards, and gifts. To request a copy of the *Planning Guide*, call (312) 988-5735 or e-mail to adapubed@abanet.org. To view the guide and order online, visit www.lawday.org

(Web, continued)

Arkansas Supreme Court’s proposed ALAP (Arkansas Lawyer Assistance Program) Procedure Manual for comment, and the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Jury Instructions - Civil preliminary drafts of proposed instructions for comment.

In addition, under “Professional Resources”, information concerning the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Commission can be found.



Reprinted with permission of Judge Rice Van Ausdall, circuit judge in the 2nd Judicial District, below is a spontaneous essay written by Dave Grundfest, grandson of Judge Van Ausdall. Dave is a 5th grade student at Pulaski Academy in Little Rock. The essay was written in class after the September 11th attack on the World Trade Center and Pentagon. The 5th grade students were asked by their teacher to write “What It Means To Be An American”.

“What it means to be an American is to live upon this holy soil in which freedom was written and justice was defined. It is where the Constitution, which we look upon daily, and cherish into the deepest part of our heart, was created. Where our father’s father took part in the creation of this land whose soil we walk upon. It has the blood of all who have fought to sustain this wonderful place in which we are so lucky to call a part of us and as Americans we must put forth our patriotism and unite upon this holy land in which we call our homes.”

Information concerning Judicial Elections for the 2002 election year is now present on the web site as well.

And, finally, there is now a “Children’s Page” link on the home page where students can go to learn more about the courts.



Terri Looney

Terri Looney joined CASA November 1st as the co-director for the State. Terri and Diane Robinson will be sharing the job of Director, with each being in the office half-time. Before accepting her present position, Terri served as executive director of CASA of Lonoke County for over a year. Terri and Diane will be sharing a phone number (501) 682-2655 and e-mail address casa@mail.state.ar.us

Drug Court Grant Application Kit

The Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs Drug Courts Program Office announces the publication of their FY2002 Grant Application Kit. Applications are now being accepted. The application kit is available online at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/dcpo/applicationkits.htm>.

For 2001, the Drug Courts office awarded \$30.9 million to 89 jurisdictions in 38 states for drug courts programs.

Deadline: January 4, 2002.



New Faces in the Judiciary

AOC

Terri Looney - Co-Director of CASA.

District Judges

Batesville - **John Gregg** replaces Roy Thomas.

Harrison - **Gail Inman-Campbell** replaces Brad Crawford.

District Court Clerks

West Helena - **Dionne Carter** replaces Renee Chanay.

Circuit Clerks

Hot Spring County - **Ruth E. Finley** replaces James O. Birch.

Case Coordinators

19th West (Scott) **Jeannette L. Birky** replaces Shirley Dolan.

Circuit Judges

19th West - **John Scott** replaces Don Huffman.

“Goodbye & Best Wishes!”

Sue Towell, Data Auditor with the Administrative Office of the Courts for the past 18 years, will be retiring at the end of the year. We wish her well in her retirement!



CALENDAR

JANUARY

Circuit Judges' Changing Hats - Criminal (Little Rock - Holiday Inn Select) **10-11**

Juvenile Officers' Certification (Little Rock) **23-25**

FEBRUARY

Juvenile Officers' Certification (Little Rock) **6-8**

Circuit Judges' Changing Hats - Civil (Little Rock - Holiday Inn Select) **7-8**

District Court Officers (Hot Springs - Arlington Hotel) **21-22**

Case Coordinators' Conference (Hot Springs - Arlington Hotel) **28-1**

MARCH

Circuit Judges' Changing Hats - Domestic Relations (Little Rock - Holiday Inn Select) **7-8**

District/City Court Clerks Certification (Little Rock - Holiday Inn Select) **15**

APRIL

Circuit Judges' Changing Hats - Probate (Little Rock - Holiday Inn Select) **11-12**



Season's Greetings!



Friends of the Court

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**Address
Correction
Requested**