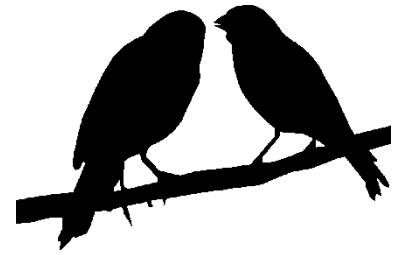


THE INFORMANT

Saint Croix Valley Bar Association Newsletter

September 2012

Volume 23, No. 1



From the President's Desk

By Max Neuhaus

Dear Members,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as the incoming SCVBA President. My term will run through May of 2013, and I am pleased to write about the Association's ongoing activities.

Our inaugural "Lunch with the Registers" event of 2011 was highly successful, and we will plan on a similar installation as a part of this year's calendar. The SCVBA "Lunch with the Judges" is always a draw, and our intention is to add Dunn County to this year's itinerary. Jorv Gavic was recently welcomed as Pierce County Commissioner, and with that, SCVBA is considering hosting a "Lunch with the Commissioners" event that will include a panel of the area's Commissioners to address practice and procedural tips.

The officers of SCVBA are always looking to coordinate events that benefit our members, and so please contact any of us with any ideas for future events.

Our St. Croix, Pierce and Polk Free Legal Clinics are highly regarded by the public as valuable *pro bono* services. I would highly encourage you to participate in one of these clinics if you have not already done so. In the spirit of deepening our public service, SCVBA remains committed to implementing a Wills for Heroes clinic. The Wills for Heroes program was created by the Wills for Heroes Foundation after September 11, 2001, and is designed to assist emergency personnel in preparing basic estate planning documents to protect themselves and their families. Donations are necessary to make this program become a reality, and thanks goes to Patricia Miller, Bakke Norman and Doar, Drill & Skow for leading the way with their charitable contributions. You will be receiving more information as SCVBA develops this project and if you are interested in donating, please contact me.

See Message continued on page 2

Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote a legal system whereby the rights and privileges of all persons are asserted and protected. We are dedicated to strengthening public trust in our legal system. We promote high ethical standards, civility, and professionalism amongst all attorneys.

We encourage our members to serve the public. As officers of the court, we have an important role in assisting courts in the administration of justice.



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In closing, I want to thank you for being a member of the St. Croix Valley Bar Association. Our Association is comprised of over 100 of the area's best and brightest. That said, there are over 300 attorneys of record practicing in the four counties of our geographic region. Please make a point to invite a newer attorney to our next SCVBA event so that our Association continues to strengthen and grow. Until then, my best.

-Max Neuhaus

**Message from our area's
Wisconsin Bar Association Board of
Governors Representative,
Michael Waterman**



The financial condition of the bar remains a big issue. The bar generates most of its revenue from non-dues income like the sale of books and

seminars. Over the past several years, non-dues revenues have been down and have not met projections. The bar has been using money set aside in its reserves to cover the shortfall in revenue while maintaining current levels of services to members.

Non-dues income is projected to be better in fiscal year 2013, but they will still be insufficient to balance the budget, so the bar will tap into its reserves. However, the reserves are nearly depleted so the Board of Governors will be struggling with ways to solve the budget problem. Everything is on the table from programming cuts to a dues increase. Please contact me if you have questions or want to share your opinions on the matter.

***St. Croix Valley Bar Association
Treasurer's Report***

Checking Balance as of
September 1, 2012:
\$3067.13

CD Balance as of
September 1, 2012:
\$3280.92

Upcoming Events:

GOLF OUTINGS

St. Croix County Golf Outing
Hudson Golf Club
Thursday, September 20, 2012
1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Polk County Golf Outing
Luck Golf Course
Friday, September 21, 2012
1p.m. to 6 p.m.

Check the SCVBA Website

for updates at

www.stcroixvalleybar.org

Or "like" our page on Facebook or join our groups on Facebook or LinkedIn.