WHAT DOES THE FDCC HISTORY TEACH US?

FDCC History – If you haven’t read it, I strongly recommend this – it’s a fun read! (see the “About FDCC” tab on the website) So what does that history teach us? It teaches us that while we treasure our traditions, we have also always done pretty darn well at adapting, changing, and moving forward to meet the changing needs of our profession, our members, and their clients.

So – here we are in 2014, and the Federation is still changing. Not only do you now have the first insurance industry executive as your President, but the second woman president and second inhouse counsel. And we’ve made great strides in terms of diversity. Plenary sessions, section leadership, and our Board are populated with many more women, although we still struggle with attracting and retaining members of color. Even our website looks different than it once did. We recently began sending electronic newsletters and holding webinars, a great value not only to our members, but their clients and their firms and companies.

But get ready – we have even more changes this coming year. Before next summer, we will have held 23 local meetings around the country. These will give our members an opportunity to get together informally to catch up with one another at an after work wine & cheese party at one of your firms – or maybe a simple get-together at a local pub. Bring a prospective member or two or bring a client to sample the amazing fellowship that is one of our hallmarks or to show off what an elite organization you belong to! Save the date information about these will come to your email box well in advance. I hope to see many of you at these events.

We’ve also undertaken a new project which holds the potential to join efforts like the Litigation Management College as a signature program of the FDCC. Four deposition boot camps have been or will be held to train your young associates in all aspects of preparing for and taking all kinds of depositions. This committee has put together a 20 chapter manual and an extensive fact pattern. Students will receive the manual and we will also be selling it. Boot camp students will learn from the best, gain real experience by deposing fact and expert witnesses, and have their videotaped work to take home. Our first one was in Phoenix in September, followed by one in Philadelphia. Denver and New Orleans will be held in 2015. Please watch for further information and PLEASE send your associates!!!

FDCC CHARM
THE “MAGICAL” SEA TURTLE

The Federation has a long tradition of creating a gold charm to represent the symbol of each summer and winter meeting. As we all know, the price of gold has increased exponentially over the last decade. In order to avoid raising registration fees, the Board has decided we will maintain this tradition, but the charm will now available for purchase via your online registration.

The charm for the 2015 Winter Meeting, appropriately chosen for Amelia Island, will be a 14 karat gold loggerhead sea turtle. Often living over 80 years, and weighing as much as 350 pounds, it has been said that turtles are the bridge that links the ocean to the earth. Sea turtles are amazing creatures. Every year, from May to mid-August, the female turtles journey to the area where they were born to deposit their eggs. During our meeting at the Ritz Carlton, you will probably see “Freckles” and “Bubba,” sea turtles that live on the property.

If you would like to order this very special charm, please do so online when you register for the meeting. The cost for the charm is $150. By purchasing in quantity, we were able to secure an excellent price for our members and their guests.
**WHAT DOES THE FDCC HISTORY TEACH US?**

But we have not abandoned our wonderful winter and summer meetings. We have two wonderful locations, one of which is new for us. Walter & Elaine Dukes have planned a fabulous week at the Ritz Carlton in Amelia Island, Florida. Mike Glascott has developed a superb CLE program, including our Trial Masters with three judges on a panel sharing their perspective from the bench. Then next summer, we will return to a 2008 location that topped the list of favorites among our members – the Fairmont Banff Springs – for a week, it’s our own castle in Canada. Howard Merten and Roni Dash have already made two trips there to ensure that you and your kids will have a fabulous time at this world-renowned location, and Andy Downs has very innovative ideas for a program based on disruption – in the law and our lives.

And beyond Banff? Our members have all achieved success. To do that we, like the Federation, have adapted and changed to the rapidly evolving legal and business world around us. And of course that’s a never-ending process. We must plan for the Federation’s future in this ever-changing world. We have great leaders coming up with Steve and Mills and others now on the board who will follow. We must ensure that this organization keeps the best of what has been entrusted to us, and is also positioned to remain at the forefront of the defense bar in the future.

Such changes require that we evolve to keep up.

We have two committees this year which will look at our structure and our processes and whether or not we are properly positioned to meet those goals. The board has spent many hours discussing and prioritizing the goals we should be striving toward for the next five years. Don Myles and Elizabeth Lorell co-chair a Strategic Planning Committee to develop detailed metrics and tactics to achieve those goals. We will then assign individuals who, with the board, will have the responsibility to ensure we are accomplishing them. Bruce Celebrezze and Dan Kohane chair a committee looking to ensure that the Federation’s business and our finances will continue to be managed in the best way possible as we evolve.

We must continue to attract and retain the best of the best, including finding ways to attract new, younger members. That may require shorter meetings or changes in the bylaws. Maybe we need different programming or different publications?? Maybe we don’t. I don’t know exactly what that will entail, but I do know that we will study it hard and be prepared to continue to change – because we do have a history of evolving and remaining the best of the best.

— Victoria H. Roberts President

“**We must continue to attract and retain the best of the best, including finding ways to attract new, younger members. That may require shorter meetings or changes in the bylaws. Maybe we need different programming or different publications?? Maybe we don’t.**”

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"We must continue to attract and retain the best of the best, including finding ways to attract new, younger members. That may require shorter meetings or changes in the bylaws. Maybe we need different programming or different publications?? Maybe we don’t." — Victoria H. Roberts President
Come escape to sunny Florida. Beautiful Amelia Island awaits you for the 2015 FDCC Winter Meeting. Join President Vicki Roberts for a time of fun and fellowship. Convention Chairs Walter and Elaine Dukes have wonderful activities for those who want to relax, as well as planned adventures for the outdoor explorer. The Ritz Carlton offers everything from horseback riding on the beach, golf on the resort’s championship course, fun-filled water activities for adults and children alike, as well as biking, walking through the sand dunes, and area historical tours.

Amelia Island is the home of historic Fernandina Beach where you will step back in time in this quaint seaside village with cobblestone streets, ornately painted Victorian homes, and an array of charming boutiques, eateries, and art galleries.

The Ritz Carlton Amelia Island is located on the Atlantic Ocean, just outside Jacksonville, Florida. There are a number of direct flights into the Jacksonville International Airport from Charlotte, Atlanta, Philadelphia, D.C., and New York. Besides the major airlines, Southwest and AirTran also offer service. St. Augustine, the oldest city in the United States, is located about an hour south of the Ritz and has non-stop service on Frontier from both Washington Dulles and Princeton, New Jersey. If you are interested in train service, the car train comes into Jacksonville, which also happens to be the headquarters of CSX Railroad.

When you arrive at the hotel, you will enjoy relaxing ocean views as you spend time on the private beach or soaking in the sun in a poolside cabana. Relaxation is the key while visiting this beautiful destination. Whether shopping in the stylish boutiques of the resort or historic Fernandina, enjoying a rejuvenating experience at the amazing spa, or walking on the beach, you’re sure to have a relaxing time with FDCC friends. For the golfers, come unwind with a round of golf on the resort’s 18-hole golf course. In addition to the course at the Ritz, TPC Sawgrass, World Golf Village, the King and the Bear, and the Slammer and the Squire are all within an hour from the hotel.

Looking for an adventure? Kayak through the scenic salt marshes of the Intracoastal Waterway where you’ll have an interactive overview of the local eco-system and indigenous wildlife. If you are into biking, you can rent a beach bike and enjoy over 40 miles of bike trails on the island. Whatever you choose for your activities, you will be completely surrounded by the unique scenery on this native Florida Island.

We have a variety of social events for you to enjoy during your visit. Tuesday’s Welcome Sunset Cocktail Party is planned to give you a chance to unwind and mingle with FDCC members as they arrive while kids will be looking for the turtles that wander through the grounds and sand dunes of the resort. Join us at the President’s Reception where Vicki Roberts will welcome you to beautiful Amelia Island as you take in the breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean.
On Amelia Island, the culture is rich in history! Plan your “Island Getaway” and join us for what will be an incredibly rewarding time with your Federation family.

— Walter and Elaine Dukes
Convention Chairs

BOOK CLUB – AMELIA ISLAND

In 1936, nine working-class boys from the American west rowed their way into history. “The Boys in the Boat” by Daniel James Brown celebrates the University of Washington’s eight-oar rowing team who stunned the elite eastern universities and qualified for the Olympics in Hitler’s Berlin. Set against the backdrop of the Great Depression and World War II, this is the irresistible true story about the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers who overcame privilege and power with hard work, and true grit. Beautifully written and meticulously researched, the novel offers intimate portrayals of each crew member along with insightful personal stories of their British-born boat builder and enigmatic coach. In the rich history of rowing, this is the memorable story of teammates who learned to pull together and beat the odds.
SECTION MEETINGS ON AMELIA ISLAND

• Anatomy of a Bad Faith Set-Up
  A discussion of the continued evolution of bad faith claims with an anatomy of a bad faith set-up.

• Taking On the Experts: How to Examine Experts Effectively
  Listen to how you can get the most bang for your buck from your expert, while unraveling your adversary's case by effective cross-examination of their expert.

• Arbi-gation: Navigating Clients at the Crossroad of Litigation and Arbitration
  Obtain a better understanding of the interplay between litigation and arbitration by exploring the strategies for dealing with the hurdles or arbitration.

• Industry Efforts Now Underway To Manage Climate Change Exposures
  Learn of the genesis and the outlook for climate change losses, along with the repercussions of such change from the insurance industry perspective.

• Concussion Litigation: The Evolution of Individual Claims, Mass Torts, and Class Actions
  Discovery what is beneath the tip of the iceberg in concussion litigation as this new tort continues to morph into mass tort litigation.

• The Reptile Plaintiff: Using Traumatic Brain and Other Complex Injuries to Reach For the Stars
  Learn more of the reptile theory in traumatic brain injury and other catastrophic injury cases which terrify jurors and drive up verdicts.

• Disability Discrimination: Trends and Challenges for In-House Counsel and Law Firm Management
  Now that disability discrimination claims comprise almost 28% of all charges before the EEOC, learn more about the “interactive process” and exploring reasonable accommodations, leaves of absence, absenteeism, mental disabilities, and more.
RIDING THE WAVES OF CHANGE

SECTION PRESENTERS
- Sidney Hardy, McCannie, Sizemore, Arcebo, Hardy, McCamel & Wolch, LLC, New Orleans, LA
- Michael Walsh, Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann L.L.C., New Orleans, LA
- Lesli Harris, Stone Pigman Walther Wittmann LLC, New Orleans, LA
- Roger L. Hillman, Garvey, Schubert & Barer, Seattle, WA
- David J. MacMain, The MacMain Law Group, LLC, Malvern, PA
- James “Dart” Meadows, Balch & Bingham LLP, Atlanta, GA
- Lance Cooper, The Cooper Firm, Atlanta, GA
- Charles A. Burkhart, Balch & Bingham, LLP, Birmingham, AL

PLENARY PRESENTERS
- Kenneth R. Feinberg, Feinberg Rozen, LLP, New York, NY
- Daniel J. Kornstein, Kornstein Veisz Wexler & Polansky, LLP, New York, NY
- John C. Trimble, Lewis Wagner, LLP, Indianapolis, IN
- H. Mills Gallivan, Gallivan, White & Boyd, PA, Greenville, SC
- Patricia A. Henry, ACE Group, Philadelphia, PA
- Tracey Laws, General Counsel of the Reinsurance Association of America, Washington, DC
- Leigh Ann Pusey, President and CEO of the American Insurance Association, Washington, DC
- John Rahoy, Brown & James, PC, St. Louis, MO
- Kelly Geary, V.P. Lemme Insurance Group, Inc., Arlington Heights, IL
- Betsy Woudenberg, CEO, Intelligence Arts, LLC
- Hon. Patricia Kerrigan – District Court of Harris County, Texas
- Hon. James Graves – 5th Circuit
- Hon. James Crandall – District Court of Orange County, California
- Sandra Clark, Mehaffy Weber Law Firm, Beaumont, TX
- Jennifer Johnsen, Sullivan, White & Boyd, PA., Greenville, SC
- Caryn Lilling, Mauro Lilling Naparty LLP, Woodbury, NY
- Ralph Zappala, Busby & Zappala LLP, Lafayette, CA
- Gene Williams, Shook, Hardy & Bacon, LLP, Houston, TX

• Roundtable Discussion: Topics on the International Horizon in Reinsurance, Excess and Surplus Lines
  Experienced practitioners, industry insiders, and section members will engage in an open forum roundtable session regarding emerging issues.

• Aiding and Abetting Claims: Ethics And Avoiding A New Exposure***
  Learn more about the surge in many jurisdictions in “aiding and abetting” claims filed in conjunction with bad faith suits.

• Offensive Trademarks: What’s In a Name?
  Learn what it means at the local level that the recent Blackhorse decision cancelled six registrations owned by the Washington Redskins on the grounds that the marks were disparaging.

• Trauma in the ER: Warrantless Blood Draws and Exigency of Circumstances
  How does the recent Supreme Court decision, Missouri v McNeely, concerning warrantless blood draws impact circumstances that create exigency, and what will healthcare providers do now?

BLOCKBUSTER PROGRAMS
• What You Don’t Know Can Hurt You! How to Successfully and Ethically Practice in the New Paradigm of Litigation Metrics***
  Learn about metrics and discover practical ideas as to how to use good metrics in an ethical manner as a marketing tool.

• Looking into the Eye of The Tiger: Future Trends from Plaintiff’s Counsel
  What do plaintiff’s lawyers understand about their cases long before the danger of their presentation to jurors becomes evident to defense counsel?

*** Denotes programs with ethics credit.
RIDING THE WAVES OF CHANGE

When thinking of a theme for our program, we never imagined that the waves of change would carry us to Amelia Island, Florida, but ride we shall to the 2015 Winter Meeting Program on Amelia Island, Florida.

Our opening keynote address by Kenneth Feinberg will offer an overview of his experience wrestling with unconventional responses to unique catastrophes, sometimes requiring modification of the law to meet the unique challenges of a particular loss. Mr. Feinberg has served as a mediator or claim administrator in our nation’s largest catastrophic losses and he will opine about existing tort law and how, occasionally, policymakers must choose a different path in order to reach just results in high-exposure, catastrophic losses.

Following his keynote address, Mr. Feinberg has graciously agreed to participate in a discussion with John Trimble and Mills Gallivan which will address the management of victim and public expectations in the disbursement of funds after a mass disaster. This discussion will focus on the successful handling of claims by Mr. Feinberg and John Trimble which arose from the collapse of a roof at the Indiana State Fair. The loss resulted in 7 deaths and 70 injured and required a novel resolution of claims because of the limited funds available.

Our plenary program will also address a number of emerging issues of significant importance to the insurance industry. We will kick off our Friday morning plenary program with an overview of the shifting regulatory landscape within which all companies must operate in our global economy. The world of international regulatory issues is both fluid and complex as it relates to the framework of supervising internationally active insurance groups. Since 2011, regulatory schemes have given rise to significant issues in response to the global financial crisis. Our panel will discuss the international capital standard which presents a growing challenge for insurers that wish to offer products around the world.

Our Friday plenary program will also feature a presentation of the ever-evolving cyber issues which are now morphing into class action claims. The constant attack on financial institutions and corporations continues to elevate concern by such entities, private citizens and the insurance industry.

We will conclude on Friday with New York lawyer and renown author, Daniel J. Kornstein. Mr. Kornstein is a brilliant defamation lawyer, but he has successfully combined his law practice with frequent writing and speaking about the law. Mr. Kornstein has published 8 non-fiction books, 18 law review articles, and hundreds of essays and book reviews. His work has appeared in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Chicago Tribune, and a host of other nationally recognized publications. He has been cited by a number of courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court. He will delight and inspire you with his observations as to why lawyers must aspire to take a creative approach in the practice of the law.

On Saturday, we have two Blockbuster Programs scheduled after our section meetings which offer something for everyone. Metrics has emerged as a significant issue for insurers, private companies, and law firms across the country. Our clients now rely upon task codes and analytic software to grade attorneys and their firms with the use of metrics, a device to measure the performance of each firm. Although most lawyers are currently aware that metrics are used, most firms do not understand the manner in which such metrics are used in order to analyze the performance of their firm. Attendees for this program will learn how to track their own metrics and how to train their colleagues and staff to make wise metric-driven decisions.

Our second program will discuss future trends expected from plaintiff’s counsel. With the understanding that defense lawyers must remain as vigilant, thoughtful, and imaginative as our plaintiff counterparts, our special guest, Lance Cooper, will appear to offer to insight as to how his plaintiff’s practice has evolved and grown in recent years. Mr. Cooper and his law firm have landed a spot on the leadership team to steer more than 100 lawsuits against General Motors through multidistrict litigation in Federal Court in New York. These cases, which relate to the GM ignition switch recall, pertain to the alleged defective ignition in GM cars which have resulted in crashes causing deaths and severe bodily injury.

We will conclude our program on Saturday with Trial Master’s, which will offer a different perspective on our effectiveness in the courtroom. Entitled “A View of from the Bench – Judging the Lawyers”, our program will feature a panel of experienced jurists from around the country that will offer insight as to effective techniques in all phases of trial.

I hope you can join us.

— Michael T. Glascott
Program Clair
LITIGATION MANAGEMENT COLLEGE AND GRADUATE PROGRAMS:

THE FDCC “CROWN JEWEL”

After participating on the LMC faculty for several years, I can offer this insight:

The LMC builds on the FDCC’s energy and spirit to present not just a conference, but an interactive, intense (yet supportive) collegial learning experience that is so unique that it has to be experienced to be fully understood and appreciated. Claims professionals who attended the 2014 LMC described their experience as: “Incredible” “Invaluable” “Fantastic” “Perfect.”

We are now planning the 2015 LMC and Graduate programs which will be held at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia from June 7-11. The LMC is designed for claims and litigation management professionals with five to 15 years of experience. The graduate school offers a higher level of intense training: perfect for claims professionals (including but not limited to those who have completed the LMC) with more experience, claim managers, in-house counsel, etc.

The students work individually and as teams to dissect a real-life fact pattern, analyze the legal claims and defenses, assess the credibility of the witnesses, and engage in other “hands-on” activities. The instructors are industry experts, outside consultants, and FDCC members who offer expertise and strategic pointers on variety of topics including budgeting, insurance coverage, negotiation, mediation, working with defense counsel, and preparing litigation plans.

Each student participates in a video-taped deposition training exercise.

The 2014 LMC was attended by professionals from many different insurers across the country including: EMC, USAA, Harleysville, American Modern Insurance Group, The Main Street America Group, Travelers, Swiss Re, Markel, Farmers, PURE, Shelter, Liberty Mutual, Amica, Aspen Insurance, NBIS, and RLI Insurance Company.

Please consider recommending the LMC program to your clients. You can be assured that any claims person you encourage to attend will be extremely appreciative. If you are an in-house FDCC member, please consider including the LMC in your training allocation as you prepare your 2015 budget.

We are planning a new LMC/Grad feature: a webinar in January! Details will follow.

—David M. Governo
Dean of Admissions
dgoverno@governo.com
Dear Friends,

We can’t wait to return to Banff for our 2015 Annual Meeting. Those who have been there before will recall how spectacular and special it is. We did – and yet on our return, Banff still took our breath away. If you haven’t been yet, just ask someone who has. You will see the excitement in their eyes as they gush, “Banff! We LOVE Banff!” We couldn’t ask for a better endorsement or a better location! It just doesn’t get any better than Banff.

Banff National Park offers hiking, rafting, kayaking, gondola rides, wildlife, getting chased by bears (actually happened to us, fun story), and more. Everything is right outside the hotel doors. Our week together will take advantage of the Park’s natural bounty, including photography and painting clinics by renowned local artists.

**FAMILY FUN:** Banff is the perfect place for families. The week is chock full of activities for kids of all ages. Parc Canada will host budget-friendly, park-themed programs especially for us. The week opens with a family field day. Throughout the week, your kids (or you) won’t want to miss sled dog puppies, canoe trips with fur traders, the bike & hike trip, polar bear-themed educational activities, evening raft rides, and more.

**THRIVING IN DISRUPTIVE TIMES:** Andy Downs’ cutting-edge program will discuss impending technological, social, and demographic changes and how they may affect corporate defendants, insurers, and the practice of law.

Bruce MacEwen, of Adam Smith, Esq., author of “Growth is Dead: Now What?” and “A New Taxonomy: The seven law firm business models,” is one of the foremost commentators on the economics and business of practicing law. You will not want to miss his thoughts on what the future holds for our profession.

Dr. Steven Amstrup, the Chief Scientist from Polar Bears International, is our unique keynote speaker. His presentation on the lives, behaviors, and future of polar bears will be entertaining and fascinating for the entire family.

**DETAILS AND LOGISTICS:**

**Accommodations** – The Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel is a wonder unto itself, a castle nestled right in the park. Make your reservations early: (403) 762-2211 or (800) 257-7544.

**Passports** – You now need a passport to enter and leave Canada.

So will your children if they are traveling by air. (Children 15 or under arriving by car can enter and return to the US with a certified copy of their birth certificate.)

**Travel** – Banff is a beautiful 90-minute drive from Calgary International Airport. If you are visiting Jasper (you should if you can), the Edmonton International Airport is closer. Rental cars are available at both airports.

**Weather** – Weather in and around Banff varies tremendously; we are in the mountains after all. Average temperatures in July range from 73 to 43 F (22 to 6 C for our Canadian friends).

See you there!

— Howard, Roni, Andy, and Chris Convention Chairs
Greetings! I am sure all of you who read this (I really hope there are some who actually read it because I know you will enjoy it) will not necessarily know what the Federation Foundation does for the FDCC. Each year, we try to educate newer members so they can become Fellows of the Foundation sooner rather than later. It sounds like you have to be old (like Bill Roedder) to be a “Fellow” and that is not true. All you have to do is recognize the many values of FDCC and want to be a contributing and supporting participant. You are automatically a member of the Foundation when you join the FDCC, but to really be a contributing Foundation participant you need to give or pledge money to the Foundation.

We are excited to announce the improved and more user-friendly way to contribute electronically on the FDCC website. With one click, you can contribute easily and quickly. Simply go to the Foundation menu logo and follow the directions.

The Foundation, a separate non-profit organization, serves the FDCC by sponsoring programs and activities that provide the benefits of improving our skills as trial lawyers, claims professionals, managers, and officers. The current programs that we are supporting are:

- The Colonial Williamsburg Outreach Program. Aimed at restoring education about government and civics throughout the U.S.
- Ken Feinberg who will speak at the 2015 Winter Meeting about legal issues related to the BP oil spill and other topics.
- The Foundation for Legal Excellence which educates judges about the defense perspective.
- Speaker Bruce MacEwen who will address the topic of Law Office Management in new and different ways at the Banff 2015 meeting.
- The Connect and Learn Webinars that allow your firm to attend educational programs in your own offices taught by the highest quality panel members.
- The Foundation also continues to contribute to the FDCC Quarterly with a scholarship shared with the FDCC to help keep that important and worthwhile publication alive.

When you see the Federation Fellow ribbons worn at the meetings, thank those people for their extra effort to ensure that the quality of programs continue at the meetings. Consider becoming a Fellow to pay back some of the true value you have received from the referrals, fellowship, education and fun you have been privileged to enjoy at the meetings. Remember, your gift is one click away at the website and is tax deductible.

You can also serve the Foundation by joining either the Foundation Fundraising Committee, chaired by Diane Polscer, or the Foundation Visibility Committee, chaired by Terence Ridley. Thanks to Foundation Board Members and the two Committee chairs.

See you all at the Winter Meeting on Amelia Island.

— Rich Hall
President, FDCC Foundation

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Vice President/President-Elect:
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Dan D. Kohane, Buffalo, NY

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Janet L. Brown, Maitland, FL
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2012-2015:
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Edward M. Kaplan, Concord, NH
Michael L. Lucey, San Francisco, CA

2013-2016:
Wayne B. Mason, Dallas, TX
Michael E. Neil, San Diego, CA
Sarah J. Timberlake, Oklahoma City, OK
THE VALUE OF FDCC MEMBERSHIP

Great people, great meetings, great location. Having just attended my first FDCC meeting at The Greenbrier, I was thoroughly impressed with everything about this organization. I have never attended a lawyer conference that included such wonderful people who treated my wife and me with open arms and enthusiastically got us involved with the group. The meetings and CLE presentations were top-notch, and everything about the week was inviting and encouraging.

Through our mentors, we were made to feel right at home from the very beginning. Even as a new member, there was a feeling of mutual respect amongst the participants and a genuine interest in who you were, where you were from, and what you did, both in and out of the office. I look forward to creating many more friendships and lasting memories.

I was thrilled and honored to be admitted to the FDCC in early 2014. We attended our first meeting at The Greenbrier over the summer. I say “we” because this truly is a family-friendly group and that is such a welcome change. The members were extremely friendly, helpful, and welcoming to my husband and me. On our first day, I even had the benefit of securing a babysitter, the daughter of another member, for our youngest while we were on the bunker tour. I don’t have that much luck at home!

The programming exceeded my expectations and I thoroughly enjoyed the entire week. I have already made connections I never would have made without attending the meeting and we look forward to seeing old and new friends on Amelia Island in March.

I never stopped to tally-up, in any formal way, the business I received through my membership in The Federation, although someone at my firm surely has. I never did for a couple of reasons. First, who could really say? Because of the closeness of our organization, what begins as a few relationships grows to a complex web of connections, which reaches far beyond our membership. Apart from the direct call from a member, it seemed hard to track such things down.

My firm is no different - we require an “investment” like joining the FDCC to have a return. I have no quarrel with that. The economic benefits seem obvious and apparent to me, and I trust to my firm as well.

Indeed, that’s why I joined. It started out as marketing. My partner Don Rees encouraged me to complete the nomination form, though I found it odd at the time that of all the benefits he spoke of, he did not mention financial ones. Now I know why, which leads to the second reason, why I never tallied the tab. The financial benefits pale in comparison to the emotional benefits. Ok, I am going to sound like some “new age” Californian, but I am so amazed at, and thankful for, the rich friendships that Jenny and I have made. I have never been in an organization like this before or since. These relationships will continue to enrich Jenny’s and my life long after the financial benefits have ceased. What a ROI. Who could ask for more than that?
THE PROUD. THE FEW. FDCC DEPOSITION BOOT CAMP GRADUATES!

The Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel’s inaugural Deposition Boot Camp, with a full compliment of 25 students, was held at the beautiful offices of Snell & Wilmer in downtown Phoenix, Arizona, on September 18 & 19, 2014. Following an introduction by President Vicki Roberts, Boot Camp faculty consisting of Joyce Wang, Greg Witke, Stacy Broman, James Holland, John Rahoy, Bob Christie, and Tom Oakes led the two day exercise. Students learned from faculty lectures the first day, and “by doing” and taking realistic mock video depositions the second day. Mock deposition witnesses included actual accident reconstruction experts. Recurring feedback from students included “enjoyed” and “learned,” exactly our goals.

Special thanks go to the following who provided invaluable help that made the kick-off successful: Sheila Carmody for providing the Snell & Wilmer facilities; SEA and Exponent for providing mock expert witnesses; Tom Oakes and Thomas G. Oakes Associates, LLC for court reporters and technical help; Gateway Community College, Phoenix, for court reporters; Esquire Solutions for videographers; and Doreen Myles for providing witnesses for the mock depositions.

Our second Boot Camp was hosted by Gale White at White and Williams in Philadelphia. Once again, there was a full roster of students. Faculty included K. Marc Barre, Joanne T. Blackburn, Francis J. Deasey, Derek D. Lick, and Dennis M. Wade.

Future Boot Camps are in Denver next April, and New Orleans next June. Sign your associates up now and reap the benefits the next time they take a deposition.

I really enjoyed the program and thought it was excellent. A great training source. It was hard to believe that it was the inaugural launch since it was so well put together. I told [my FDCC sponsor] that we should send our young associates to it every year.”
UPDATE ON THE LOCAL MEETING PROJECT

LOCAL MEETINGS OF FDCC MEMBERS AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS ARE WELL UNDERWAY WITH 7 MEETINGS HELD SO FAR AND MORE SCHEDULED AFTER THE HOLIDAYS IN 2015.

Greg Witke arranged and hosted the first local meeting in Des Moines on October 10th. David Zizik and Barbara O’Donnell organized the meeting in Boston on October 15th held at the beautiful offices of fellow member James Campbell. Tim Pratt attended both of these meetings. Director and Local Meeting Project co-chair Bob Christie attended the Boston meeting as well, arriving early that week in anticipation of the Head of the Charles Regatta held over the weekend.

Members gathered in San Francisco on October 23rd during the DRI Annual Meeting and Joyce Wang organized this gathering. Vicki Roberts attended. Vicki also attended back to back meetings in St. Louis meeting on October 29, arranged by Kurt Reeg, and Kansas City on October 30th, arranged by Rob Adams and hosted at the offices of Shook, Hardy & Bacon. Board Chair Tim Pratt also attended the Kansas City meeting.

On November 13th, there was a local meeting in New York City hosted and arranged by Jeff Lorell and Beth Fitzpatrick. On November 14th, a local meeting in Philadelphia was hosted and arranged by Jane North and Gale White. Vicki attended both of these meetings and Bob Christie attended the Philadelphia meeting.

Upcoming meetings, before the Winter Convention on Amelia Island, include Los Angeles [John Peer] and Miami [Ray Abadin and Lauren Curtis]. Stay tuned for a local meeting in your part of the country in 2015!

STAY TUNED FOR A LOCAL MEETING IN YOUR PART OF THE COUNTRY IN 2015!
The theme of the 11th Annual Corporate Counsel Symposium (CCS), held at beautiful Biltmore Resort in Phoenix, Arizona was forecasting, defending, and managing corporate legal threats. The program was an outstanding success, with keynote speaker Sean Carter kicking off the program. Sean refers to himself as a “Humorist at Law” and gave the most entertaining and memorable ethics program ever presented at the FDCC. Sean’s presentation ensured that the entire audience will remember certain ethics rules based on his anecdotes.

Jim McKean, a major League Umpire for 28 years, was another featured speaker. He focused on getting the call right under trying and adverse situations including angry fans and intimidating Managers. His stories in baseball were equally relevant to the corporate counsel attendees who are often faced with adverse situations, but expected to make the right legal “call”. Another sports figure, Ed Hochuli, an FDCC member and an NFL referee, led a panel on developments in sports law and discussed how lessons learned in this field have wide applicability to practitioners defending corporations across America.

One threat to corporations across the country is high stakes litigation and the program featured two panels designed to educate on how to develop and tell the corporate story. The master of storytelling at trial, FDCC member Wayne Mason, along with his consultant, Allan Campo of American Jury Centers, presented opening arguments that used storytelling techniques to combat the sympathy that is typically used during the plaintiffs’ opening statements. Later, storytelling expert Esther Choy, founder of the Storytelling Lab, and attorney David Duffy used the derailment of the train in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec as a backdrop to teach the theory of developing a compelling story to counter even the most tragic stories told by plaintiffs’ counsel.

Insurance coverage is one of the first topics considered when managing corporate risk and one panel offered practical tips on how to maximize coverage, analyze insurance coverage opinions, and work with insurance brokers to advance company interests. Presentations also included education on the following subjects: data breach, data privacy, and cyber liability, topics that keep General Counsel up at night, and the elements of a compliance programs. Corporate counsel cannot manage legal threats alone and rely on partnerships with outside counsel. One presentation focused on how to build and maintain strong relationships between inside and outside counsel. The conference also featured a candid roundtable discussion for corporate and insurance practitioners to discuss their most pressing concerns.


As always, the support of our exhibitors was crucial to the success of the CCS. Those companies included: Engineering Systems, Inc.; Habif, Arogeti & Wynne, LLP; Thomas G. Oakes Associates; Litigation Management Inc.; Scientific Expert Analysis; Rimkus Consulting Group; American Jury Centers; and Exponent.

There was ample time for networking amongst corporate and insurance attendees during the dinners and receptions held at the hotel and around the Phoenix area. We look forward to next year’s CCS which will be held in September in New Orleans.
Nearly 70 speakers, including 20 or so first-timers, came together at The Greenbrier to address the theme: **Thrive! Driving Success Through People, Culture and Relationships.** In doing so, they delivered on the promise of the theme by sharing empowering presentations loaded with wisdom, knowledge and tools that will help our member’s practices and firm’s flourish in the 21st century.

We kicked the program off with a fascinating exploration of what to expect in the coming years of **The 21st Century Practice of Law.** The presentation and the white paper that accompanied it were the products of the blue-ribbon committee assembled by President Tim Pratt as one of his initiatives. If you missed the presentation, get the paper!

Sean Payton, head coach of the New Orleans Saints, surprised a packed house on the second day of the plenary with a visit and a short talk. Coach Payton was very gracious to share his time in the middle of summer practice, and it was interesting to learn that he knew a bit about us as his father had been an insurance claims executive. Three very special presentations followed Coach Payton to the stage. Through **Cautionary Tales,** we heard shocking, and tragic tales about navigating law firm crises from those who experienced them. You could have heard a pin drop as our speakers shared their stories. Stuart Mauney, a fighter in the battle against clinical depression and an expert on how it impacts our profession followed with his keen insights on how to recognize friends and colleagues who are suffering from depression or substance abuse and provide help. We wrapped up the morning with lots of positive energy as Jon Gordon, the dynamic and entertaining author of the Wall Street bestselling business book **THE ENERGY BUS** spoke on the “hows and whys” behind **Creating a Culture of Greatness.** Many thanks to our Federation Foundation for bringing Mr. Gordon to The Greenbrier!

We brought in-house counsel together on the third day of the plenary for a lively discussion on the things outside counsel may not realize about what drives client decision making. The audience emailed questions to the moderator, which resulted in a lively and frank discussion of the outside counsel / in-house dynamic. And, we concluded the CLE plenary by exploring the wisdom and insights of firm leaders from some the Federation’s most successful and innovative law firms. Of course, after the next day’s business meeting, we heard from author and art historian Robert Edsel who wrote **THE MONUMENTS MEN: ALLIED HEROES, NAZI THEIVES, and the GREATEST TREASURE HUNT IN HISTORY.** Previewed the night before by a special screening of the popular movie of the same name, Mr. Edsel’s meaningful and thoughtful presentation about the unsung heroes who saved the great monuments, works of art and cultural items of Europe during World War II was enjoyed by all.

I know that everyone who was fortunate enough to attend the annual meeting joins me in offering hearty thanks to all of our speakers, section chairs, registration volunteers, our wonderful staff and everyone else who worked to make the program a success.

— W. Michael Scott
Program Chair
Come Home... To America's Resort
AWARDS AT 2014 ANNUAL MEETING

Golf

1st Place Team:
Clark Hudson; Tommy Hudson;
Luke Hudson; Allan Campo

2nd Place Team:
Alan Rutkin; Corey Rutkin;
Brad Rutkin; Maura Rutkin

3rd Place Team:
Teddy Brown; John Craver;
Grant Craver; JR Murphy

Longest Drive:
Kristy Blake
Kurt Hentz

Closest to Pin:
Beth Pulignano
Kevin Faley

Tennis

Flight A
Ladies 1st Place
Kristy Blake; Tonya Macaulay

Mens 1st Place
Erik Mahaney; Trent Miller

Ladies 2nd Place
June Chin; Sue Chapman

Mens 2nd Place
Mike Niemeyer; Richard Leslie

Flight B
Ladies 1st Place
Virginia Culbreath; Ashley Davis

Mens 1st Place
David Hudgins; Joe Babington

Ladies 2nd Place
Allison Manley; Pam Gassler

Mens 2nd Place
Jim Chapman; Chris Blake

Fun Run

1st Place Men
Luke Hudson

1st Place Ladies
Deborah Meier
FDCC is a member of Lawyers for Civil Justice (LCJ), a partnership of leading corporate counsel and defense bar practitioners who have united to restore balance to the civil justice system. LCJ’s strength is promoting the corporate and defense perspective on proposed changes to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. LCJ works proactively to achieve specific rule reforms by galvanizing corporate and defense practitioners and legal scholars to offer consensus proposals to the rule makers.

LCJ has been focused for several years on changes to the rules governing discovery. On September 16, 2014, the Judicial Conference approved by unanimous vote the proposed amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure that were approved by the Advisory Committee in April and by the Standing Committee in May. This package includes the key amendments adding proportionality to the Rule 26(b)(1) definition of the scope of discovery and the new Rule 37(e) governing preservation/sanctions.

That vote, another major milestone in the road toward rule reform, means the proposed amendments will now be transmitted to the Supreme Court for consideration. If the Supreme Court approves the amendments, it will transmit them to Congress in April. We expect Congress to review the amendments, and we know some Members of Congress oppose them. However, unless both houses of Congress vote to reject or modify them, the amendments will become effective December 1, 2015. This unanimous vote by the Judicial Conference marks a significant milestone in the history of LCJ’s work with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

In addition to the discovery changes, LCJ has been active on class action reform. On August 13, 2014, LCJ submitted its second comment on class action reform to the Advisory Committee on Civil Rules and its Rule 23 Subcommittee titled, “Repairing the Disconnect between Class Actions and Class Members: Why Rules Governing “No Injury” Cases, Certification Standards for Issue Classes and Notice Need Reform.” These comment papers have been submitted prior to the Advisory Committee setting its agenda, which is scheduled to take place this fall. Class action reform is very important to LCJ members, and LCJ plans to play an active role throughout the rules amendment process.

DECEMBER MEETING

LCJ’s semi-annual meeting was December 4-5, 2014 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City. This year’s featured speaker was the Honorable Judge Robert M. Dow, Chair of the Rule 23 Subcommittee of the Judicial Conference. He shared insight about possible class action reform. Other speakers included a General Counsel panel featuring: Michael D. Fricklas (Viacom), Frank L. Steeves (Emerson Electric), and Michael H. Ullman (Johnson & Johnson). Barry Jackson, former advisor to House Speaker John Boehner, provided attendees with an update on the elections results and how they might impact LCJ’s efforts to enact changes to the rules governing discovery.

NEW WEBSITE

Under the guidance of new Executive Director Andrea Looney, Lawyers for Civil Justice recently launched a new website that will enable LCJ to better serve its members. As LCJ begins its lobbying efforts related to discovery, the website will serve as the new virtual face of the organization allowing for easier access to formal LCJ comments and other resources.
from the
PRESIDENT-ELECT

SIX THOUGHTS

One – The Board and P&O Committee had the recent opportunity to hear a presentation from Velvet Chainsaw; a nationally renowned consulting group which helps not-for-profits improve their members’ meeting experiences. You will hear more about them from others, but one takeaway for me was make presentations short and varied. In that spirit, here are six scattershot thoughts about the FDCC:

Two – It’s amazing to think that the time has flown so rapidly. Only yesterday, I was settling into the role of Secretary-Treasurer and now I have the honor of supporting Vicki during her Presidency. As expected, she is doing an amazing job on your behalf in representing the Federation across the globe.

Tim and Vicki have brought a very intense spotlight on increasing the number and participation of our Corporate and Industry members. Without exception, our Defense members want increased participation and attendance by Corporate and Industry members and Tim and Vicki have opened those doors for us.

Three – We also need new Defense Members. We raised the limit on Defense members to 1,250 at the business meeting at The Greenbrier. (By the way, that was a great meeting and a perfect send-off for Tim Pratt and all the outstanding work he’s done). Accomplishing the goal of adding approximately 200 new defense members will be a challenge that ALL of us have to meet.

How can we accomplish this? From my days on Admissions and MDR, I learned there is no perfect formula. Like so many things, there are a number of ways for each of us to identify new members.

First, don’t be afraid to fail. I say this because many of us have proposed someone for membership who did not make it past the Admissions Committee. That’s fine. We want to be selective and we want to have only the “best of the best.”

On the other hand, I know from personal experience that proposing someone who does not get admitted can make you gun shy about the next prospect.

Let me encourage you to think of someone who should be a member of this organization. Think about our goals. Think about our meetings. Think about the impressive cadre of members we have. Certainly you know somebody who should be in the Federation who isn’t!

Who are the targets that we want? Our needs are varied. Not only do we need more Defense Counsel members, we need more Industry members and we need more Corporate Counsel members. We also need additional younger members [more about that below].

Four – By now, you know that we have decided to forego our meeting in Puerto Rico due to public health issues. I join many of you who are extremely disappointed about this,
but it is for the best. Vicki, Marty, and Walter and Elaine Dukes will deliver an outstanding meeting wherever we go. Please take a moment to thank the Dukes for their hard work and offer them whatever help or encouragement you can. As some of you will recall, Lee & I experienced the change of venue months before a meeting and it is a lot of work. Fortunately, we have a great couple as Convention Chairs, and along with Marty and her team, our Winter 2015 meeting is going to be great.

**Five** – On behalf of the Federation, I was honored to attend the 2014 Annual Meeting of the International Association of Claims Professionals. The IACP provides a forum for senior Claim leaders from across the globe to meet and share ideas and information about claim issues and trends. The FDCC is working to increase its relationship with the IACP and towards hosting their President, and perhaps other IACP officers, at the 2016 Winter Meeting at the Hotel Del Coronado in San Diego. According to their leaders, a major concern of their members is that they not enter into a “feeding frenzy of solicitation.” As we all know, our culture is exactly opposite that and I will be excited to host them in San Diego so they can enjoy our members and learn to appreciate our unique and amazing fellowship. Hopefully, we can grow this relationship in the future.

**Six** – We need younger members. The evolution of organizations like ours is rapid. Many of you may have seen the recent news that American Judicature Society (AJS) approved a plan to dissolve the Society and wind up its affairs. The AJS was the original “fair courts” citizen organization and, for over 100 years, has worked to protect the integrity of the American justice system. Its demise is a warning to us. I firmly believe that if we do not evolve, we will wither and die.

Along those lines, one of my initiatives during my year as President will be to identify how we attract and retain younger members. There has to be a way to do this without compromising our high admissions standards and organizational culture of fellowship and trust among members. Stay tuned as there will be more to come on this issue.

— Steven E. Farrar
President-Elect

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### 2015 Meetings

- **April 16 - 17, 2015**
  - Deposition Boot Camp
  - Hall & Evans, LLP – Denver, Colorado

- **May 13 - 15, 2015**
  - Law Firm Management Conference
  - Conrad Chicago – Chicago, Illinois

- **June 6 - 11, 2015**
  - Litigation Management College & Graduate Program
  - Emory Conference Center – Atlanta, Georgia

- **June 8 - 9, 2015**
  - Deposition Boot Camp
  - Phelps Dunbar LLP – New Orleans, Louisiana

- **September 28 - 30, 2015**
  - Corporate Counsel Symposium
  - New Orleans, Louisiana

- **September 30 - October 1, 2015**
  - P&O Meeting
  - New Orleans, Louisiana

- **October 21 - 23, 2015**
  - I-3 Insurance Symposium
  - New York Athletic Club – New York, New York

### Future Winter & Annual Locations

**WINTER 2015**
- **March 4 - 7, 2015**
  - The Ritz Carlton – Amelia Island, Florida

**ANNUAL 2015**
- **July 25 - August 1, 2015**
  - Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel – Banff, Alberta

**WINTER 2016**
- **February 28 - March 6, 2016**
  - Hotel Del Coronado – San Diego, California

**ANNUAL 2016**
- **July 23 - 30, 2016**
  - Fairmont Le Manoir Richelleau – La Malbaie, Quebec

**WINTER 2017**
- **March 4 - 10, 2017**
  - Omni Amelia Island – Amelia Island, Florida

The FDCC reserves the right to change dates and/or locations due to unforeseen circumstances.
I am honored to have been selected as the Secretary-Treasurer of the FDCC and truly appreciate the confidence you have shown me. Having been in office a little over two months, I am reminded of the old saying: “The thing about experience is you get it right after you need it.” So it is with the Secretary-Treasurer position; the learning curve has been a rush but also a lot of fun.

The FDCC Board of Directors has been a good steward of your dues and registration fees. I am happy to report that the FDCC is in excellent financial shape and that President Tim Pratt finished his year with a budget that was in the black. Our future programs and conventions are budgeted to break even and are on track. We continue to provide outstanding educational and networking opportunities for our members at a cost that is on the positive side of the value proposition.

Dues notices are out; please pay them at your earliest convenience if you haven’t already.

How do our members capitalize on their connections? Most of us are involved in some form of Social Media which is great for making connections, but referrals are based on relationships. Relationships result from our members collaborating on projects, attending meetings, and developing lasting mutual respect for each other’s professional skills. That takes what I call “time on the water.” As an avid fly fisherman, I practice casting in my yard, but I have never caught a trout in my yard. To catch trout, I must be standing in and fishing one of our beautiful Appalachian mountain streams. Even then, catching a trout is not a sure thing; however, my chances are better standing in the river than in my back yard. So it is with referrals, our involved members are referring business to each other based on relationships built at our meetings. Successful anglers and rainmakers both know that results are based on “time on the water.”

The FDCC is in a growth mode and we are actively seeking qualified and diversified members in all of our categories. The Membership Development and Retention Committee is aggressively targeting potential members in states and countries that are underrepresented on our membership roll. Last year, we admitted more new members than in the response to the question about the importance of networking opportunities with 69.7% of the respondents giving it the highest rating of “Very Important.”

Last year, Tim Pratt created FDCC Connect as a way for our members to “Connect, Share, Refer” and it has given all of our members a new tool which makes referrals even easier. As a part of this initiative, the first FDCC Connect Award was presented to Clark Cole during the Annual Meeting “for his excellent efforts in advancing the FDCC Referral Network.” Clark is to be congratulated, along with numerous other members who were nominated for the Award. The nomination forms verified that our members are in fact regularly referring millions and millions of dollars of business to each other.

I am very proud of our members who are consistently going ‘above and beyond ...’

H. Mills Gallivan
Gallivan White & Boyd PA
Greenville, SC
any recent year, and our Corporate Counsel Membership is at an all-time high. It has never been a better time to be an FDCC member! If you know someone who would enjoy the benefits/value of FDCC membership, please submit their name to our MDR Committee.

The Pareto principle, espoused by the Italian Economist Vilfredo Pareto, is more commonly known as the 80/20 rule. Pareto observed that in most instances, 80% of the effects come from 20% of the causes. Obviously, Pareto never had the chance to observe the inner workings of the FDCC. I believe that the FDCC has a much higher percentage of members engaged in our projects, meetings, publications, and referrals, this makes the FDCC a very special organization. I am very proud of our members who are consistently going "above and beyond" for the FDCC and for each other. I look forward to working with all of you over the next few years to continue the FDCC’s phenomenal success as a thought leader of the defense bar.

P.S. If you like chocolate, fondue, jazz, yodeling, alpine hiking, and best of all, FDCC Fellowship, then start planning for our 2017 Annual Meeting in Montreux Switzerland!

— H. Mills Gallivan
Secretary-Treasurer
LOOKING BEYOND THE HORIZONS: THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS

When I was taking an undergraduate political science course many years ago, my professor used the word “ethnocentrism” in a lecture. I loved the sound of that word, and I had no idea what it meant. I went back to my dormitory to look it up and learned that it essentially means that people naturally compare their own culture, which they know well, to other cultures, which they don’t typically know well at all. In that face-off, one’s own culture always wins.

And so it was when I was practicing law as an outside counsel. My practice was predominately US-based. I saw the practice of law through the prism of one who lived, breathed and practiced law in our US system of justice. Yes, there were times when I heard about class action reform in Europe and clients fretted about that, but it was not anything I paid much attention to as a US lawyer. Because I knew little about legal matters outside of the US, I relegated them to the level of relative unimportance to me.

Things changed in 2008 when I became a General Counsel in charge of worldwide legal affairs for my company. My vista was startlingly broadened. I learned about the complexities of products liability litigation in places like France, Germany, Argentina, and Japan. About the challenges of intellectual property litigation in China. About Works Councils and labor/employment litigation throughout Europe. About anti-bribery laws in the UK, the ease of class certification in Canada, provincial anti-marketing laws in Asia, litigation over tax laws, commercial disputes in places like Israel, Brazil and Korea, and on and on. Countries around the world have their own laws and procedures, usually far different from those we know in the US, and multi-national companies deal with them on regular basis. My limited ethnocentric legal view of the world suddenly became significantly more multi-cultural.

One way for our US FDCC members to appreciate the truly global practice of law is to bring more international members into the fold. They enlighten us with the experience and knowledge. They help us understand the challenges US clients are facing beyond the US borders. For those who attended the session “Traveling Abroad in Class Action Litigation” at The Greenbrier meeting, you know what I am talking about. Attendees achieved a more global perspective about class action litigation from Christopher Hodges, Professor at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies at University of Oxford; Scott Maidment of McMillan LLP in Toronto, Canada (FDCC member); Peter Lennon of Maples and Calder, Dublin, Ireland (FDCC member); and Vincent Wang of the Tsar & Tsai Law Firm in Taipei, Taiwan (a new FDCC member). What an eye-opening experience. They talked about things that vex US-based companies, most of whom are clients of FDCC members in the US.

We have a good and active contingent of members from outside the US, but we should all seek to add more. They enrich our organization. They expand our horizons. And they are a lot of fun to hang out with. Don’t forget we have the opportunity to visit them on their own soils as we hold upcoming meetings in Canada and Switzerland. By better understanding the legal cultures of others, we begin to operate in that world between ethnocentrism and xenocentrism. If you’ve learned nothing else from this article, you’ve now picked up two new words to impress others in everyday conversation.
Introducing New Board Members

I was honored to be elected to the Board of Directors at the 2014 Annual Meeting at The Greenbrier. My first FDCC meeting was in 2005 at Marco Island. I have not missed a meeting since my admission and I have come to place great value on my membership. I ran for the Board of Directors for two reasons. First, I love this organization. I am a better lawyer and a better person having been in an organization comprised of those who are truly “above and beyond.” Second, I hope I can make a difference. I have been active in the organization since my admission. I have been Chair of the Extra-Contractual and Appellate Sections. I was Vice-Chair of the Insurance Coverage Section. I served on several committees including Admissions. As Chair of the Amicus and Public Policy Committee, I aim to increase our visibility.

The members of this organization are truly the best of the best. It is both an honor and a humbling experience to be chosen to serve on the Board.

I became an FDCC member in 2004. The first meeting my family and I attended was at Marco Island. My wife, Debbie, and my three boys (JD, Tommy, and Luke) had no idea what to expect. While the weather that year was amazingly cold, the reception my family received was remarkably warm. It was at that time I decided to become an active participant within the organization.

Being actively involved has allowed my family to make lifelong memories and develop lifelong friendships. It has also opened my eyes to what it takes to have the organization function. While Marty, Mike, Susan, Mary Nell, and Amber do an outstanding job operating and supporting FDCC, it has become quite clear the organization also functions because of the participation of its members.

I ran for the Board of Director position so that I could become more involved. I hope I can effectively serve as a Director so other members and their families can develop lifelong memories and friendships, as a result of the FDCC.

FDCC Member
Jim Edwards
appointed to Fifth District Court of Appeal

November 14, 2014 - Governor Rick Scott announced the appointment of Federation member James A. Edwards to the Fifth District Court of Appeal. Jim was a shareholder with Zimmerman, Kiser & Sutcliffe, P.A., Orlando.

Governor Scott said, “Throughout his career, Edwards has demonstrated an understanding and respect for the rule of law. I am certain he will preside with integrity and distinction on the Fifth District Court of Appeal.”

In resigning due to his judicial appointment, Jim commented, “I have enjoyed my association with the Federation...It is made up of very fine lawyers who are also very fine, warm and welcoming people.”

Congratulations Jim. We shall miss you.

In Memoriam

J. Jerry Langford
Madison, Mississippi
Member since 1981
Welcome New Members

Corporate Counsel

Lisa A. Chonarzewski
Zurich North America
Schaumberg, IL
Sponsors: Mercedes Colwin; Serge J. Adam

Mark F. DiGiovanni
Global Indemnity Group, Inc.
Bala Cynwyd, PA
Sponsors: Edward J. Currie, Jr.

Paul C. Dispensa
Property and Liability Insurance Resource Bureau
Downers Grove, IL
Sponsors: Edward J. Currie, Jr.

David L. Jarrett
Western Reserve Group
Wooster, OH
Sponsors: John G. Farnan; Dawn R. Siebert

Christopher S. Knopik
Laser Spine Institute
Tampa, FL
Sponsors: Jaret J. Fuente; C. Howard Hunter, III

Aaron B. Latto
Great American Insurance
Cincinnati, OH
Sponsors: Bruce D. Celebrezze; Timothy A. Pratt

Mark D. Logalbo
Property and Liability Resource Bureau
Downers Grove, IL
Sponsors: Edward J. Currie, Jr.; Clark H. Cole

Ronna F. Ruppelt
National General Insurance
Cleveland, OH
Sponsors: Mario C. Ciano; Paul M. Finamore

Defense Counsel

Francis Daniel Balmert
Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP
Akron, OH
Sponsors: Victoria H. Roberts; Robert E. Tait

James Joseph Banks
Banks & Watson
Sacramento, CA
Sponsors: Victor R. Anderson, III; Todd A. Roberts

Stephen J. Brake
Nutter McClennen & Fish, LLP
Boston, MA
Sponsors: William E. Vita; Andrew J. McElaney, Jr.

Amanda M. Cialkowski
Nilan Johnson Lewis PA
Minneapolis, MN
Sponsors: Heidi G. Goebel; Sheila T. Kerwin

Stephan M. Cooper
Pettiette, Armand
Shreveport, LA
Sponsors: G. Bruce Parkerson; Jay R. Sever

Richard T. Coyne
Wegman, Hessler & Vanderburg
Cleveland, OH
Sponsors: Frank H. Gassler; Craig A. Marwinney

Margaret Oertling Cupples
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP
Jackson, MS
Sponsors: Edward J. Currie; Robert A. Biggs, III

Elizabeth S. Fitch
Righi Law Group
Phoenix, AZ
Sponsors: Donald L. Myles, Jr.; Michael J. O’Connor

Richard D. Gable
Butler Pappas Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP
Philadelphia, PA
Sponsors: W. Douglas Berry; Robert H. Belt, Jr.

James D. Garriott
Cassem, Tierney, Adams, Gotch & Douglas
Omaha, NE
Sponsors: Brien M. Welch; Daniel P. Chesire
From the President

We hope you enjoy the new look and feel of The Federation Flyer. Please let me know your thoughts, impressions, and suggestions. I invite you to forward your news and accomplishments for consideration in future issues of The Flyer. Our goal is to highlight members as well as to demonstrate the impact of the FDCC on our members. Your contributions are encouraged and welcome. Please direct such communication to The Flyer's Editor, Greg Witke at gwitke@pattersonfirm.com

Gregory A. Witke
Patterson Law Firm
Des Moines, IA

International Defense Counsel

Vincent Wang
Tsar & Tsai Law Firm
Taipei, Taiwan
Sponsor: Christian G. Lang

INDUSTRY

Michael Pizetoski
Mitsui Sumitomo Marine Management
Warren, NJ
Sponsors: Richard H. Nicolaides, Jr.; Brian E. O’Donnell

George S. Marr
Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance
Boston, MA
Sponsors: Steven L. Barney; Michael G. Costello

Erik A. Sikorski
Builders Insurance Group
Atlanta, GA
Sponsors: Edward J. Currie, Jr.; Robert A. Biggs, III
Top Row L to R: Bob Christie, Bruce Celebrezze, Todd Roberts, Clark Hudson, Howard Merten, Brett Preston, Stacy Broman, Andy Downs, Scott Kreamer, Michael Scott, Walter Dukes, and Ned Currie

Seated L to R: Elizabeth Lorell, Marty Streeper, Tim Pratt, Vicki Roberts, Steve Farrar, Mills Gallivan, Deb Varner, and Leslie Packer

Missing: Michael Glascott