

**THIS IS THE CCBA NEWSLETTER**  
**IMPORTANT NEWS INSIDE**  
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## October Luncheon Meeting

Wednesday, October 12th, 12:00 p.m.

Town Club

800 North Shoreline Boulevard, 6th Floor

Free Parking available in Parking Garage — Have your ticket Validated at the front desk

**Speaker: EDUARDO RODRIGUEZ, STATE BAR PRESIDENT**

**Topic: "Professionalism and the Bar"**

CLE Credit: 1.00 hour Participatory, ETHICS

**Cost:** \$19.00 per person for members, \$24.00 per person for non-members if reserved by noon, Tuesday October 11, 2005. Call the Bar Office at 883-4022 to RSVP or e-mail us at [sgonzales@corpusbar.com](mailto:sgonzales@corpusbar.com). All reservations must be paid for. The cost at the door will be \$21.00 for members, \$26.00 for non-members

👉 **NOTE** 👈

**ADDED ADVANTAGE OF ADVANCE RESERVATIONS** — THOSE WHO RSVP IN ADVANCE WILL HAVE THEIR CLE ATTENDANCE CARDS PRE-POPULATED SO ALL THEY HAVE TO DO IS TO SIGN THE CARD (AND, OF COURSE, STAY FOR THE PRESENTATION) IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THEIR CLE CREDIT — Just another service of your Corpus Christi Bar Association



# Newsletter

October 2005

## Cecil E. Burney Humanitarian Nominations Sought

In 1979 the children of Cecil E. Burney funded and the Corpus Christi Bar Association established the Cecil E. Burney Humanitarian Award. The award is given each year by the Bar Association to the attorney who best exemplifies the spirit of Cecil E. Burney: untiring devotion and humanitarian involvement in all phases of the community. The award carries a cash stipend of \$750.00 which is given to the local charitable organization designated by the honoree. A silver bowl memorializing the award is presented to the honoree.

Please mail nominations for the award to Cecil E. Burney Humanitarian Award Committee, Corpus Christi Bar Association, 555 N. Carancahua, STE 260, Corpus Christi, TX 78478. The nomination package should include a biographical sketch along with an outline of the nominee's community involvement and civic accomplishments qualifying the nominee for this award. If you have any questions, please call the Bar Office at 883-4022. The **deadline for nominations is October 17th.**

### WE STILL NEED YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

If you have not already done so, please send your e-mail address to us via e-mail at [sgonzales@corpusbar.com](mailto:sgonzales@corpusbar.com) or via fax at 883-0353 or via voice at 883-4022. We are attempting to step into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century by establishing an e-mail data base and blast e-mail capability. The addresses will not be shared with any other organization. By establishing this service, we can save time in transmitting critical communications to you; and we shall be able to save money. We shall also be looking at new

initiatives such as sending the newsletter via e-mail. If you have any questions, please call us at 883-4022.

## Red Mass Rescheduled To Thursday, October 20th Supreme Court Justice Keynote Speaker

The "Red Mass" has been rescheduled to Thursday, October 20th, at 5:30 p.m. in the Corpus Christi Cathedral. The keynote speaker will be Texas Supreme Court Justice Nathan Hecht. A reception will follow. The "Red Mass" is a historical tradition that dates to the 13th Century in Europe and is attended by judges and attorneys of all faiths asking God to bless them at the beginning of the judicial year. Invitations will be sent shortly.

## Bankruptcy Changes to Be Explained in Seminar Set for Friday October 14th

Bankruptcy laws are changing October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Bar Association is making it easy for you to understand and navigate the intricacies of the changes with comparable ease. Matt Rosenstein has put together an outstanding seminar on the changes and how they will affect you and your clients. Titled "A One Day Survival Course — Living under the Revisions to the Bankruptcy Code and Related Statutes: Bankruptcy Abuse, Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005," it will be held Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, at the Ortiz Center. It will be 7.25 hours in duration with a **full hour of ethics**. This course has been approved for **specialization credit** for Bankruptcy. The cost will be \$160.00 for members, \$185.00 for non-members who pre-register. For those members who do not pre-register, the cost at the door will be \$175.00. Non-members who do not pre-register will pay \$200.00 at the door. You can register now with the Bar Association. A flyer has hit the streets and is available on our Website. There is also a link to the flyer on the State Bar of Texas's Calendar.

## Fish Fry to Replace Holiday Party

Remember the raucous "Judges' Fish Fry" parties of the past? Those of you who do not can ask their more experienced brethren/sistren. We do not remember why they stopped; regardless, we are going to resurrect them this year. What better way to spend a Friday evening in December than having casual intercourse with the judges (Get your mind out of the gutter — check the first definition of "intercourse."), eating great fish, and drinking some beer (wine for "sophisticated" non-hackers, tea for those trying to create a mature, responsible impression)? Reserve Friday, **December 2nd**; and stand by for more details. As an experiment, the "Judges' Fish Fry" will replace the Holiday Party this year.

## Board Actions

The following actions have been taken by the Board of Directors:

- Increased the charge for luncheons for non-members to \$5.00 more per meal than members pay and for seminars to \$25.00 more than members pay
- Changed the elections so that ballots are distributed in April, the votes are counted in May, and a joint Board meeting/retreat is held in June
- Authorized acceptance of advertising on the website and in the newsletter
- Replaced the June Luncheon with a "Docket Call"
- Authorized a survey of members
- Authorized the listing of two phone numbers on the same line in the Pictorial Directory
- Authorized a general mailing to try and increase membership

## Important Dates

(Changes noted in **bold**)

### October

- 10/1 — "Coat, Blanket, and Warm Clothing" drive commences
- 10/11 — Last day for luncheon

reservations

10/12 — Luncheon — State Bar of Texas President to Speak

10/14 — **Bankruptcy Seminar**

10/20 — **Red Mass, Corpus Christi Cathedral, 5:30 p.m.**

### November

11/1 — "Adopt a Family" Holiday project commences  
"Coat, Blanket, and Warm Clothing" drive ends

11/4 — **Personal Injury Seminar**

11/8 — Last day for Luncheon reservations

11/9 — **Joint Luncheon with Corpus Christi Association of Legal Professionals**

### December

12/2 — **Judge's Fish Fry**

### January

1/10 — Last day for Luncheon reservations

1/11 — Luncheon

1/27 — **Appellate Law Seminar**

### February

High School Regional Mock Trial Competition

2/17 — Joint Luncheon with CPA's

### March

CCISD spring break 13th — 17th

3/3 — **Family Law Seminar**

3/21 — Last day for Luncheon reservations

3/22 — Luncheon

### April

Advanced Civil Trial Seminar

Board of Directors Elections

4/11 — Last day for luncheon reservations

4/12 — Luncheon

### May

Criminal Law Seminar

5/2 — Law Day Reception

5/3 — Law Day Luncheon

## **Advanced Personal Injury Seminar November 4th, Racehorse Haynes to Speak**

The Advanced Personal Injury Seminar will be conducted on Friday, November 4th at the Congressman Solomon Ortiz Convention Center. Judge Jack Hunter and Greg Turman are the course directors. Topics covered will be jury selection, the grievance process, demonstrative evidence, tire defect litigation, medical malpractice litigation, e-filing, maritime personal injuries, Vioxx litigation update, and product liability developments. Mr. Haynes will talk about ethical considerations in accepting new clients, voir dire suggestions for both civil and criminal trials, cross examination in civil and criminal trials, closing argument in civil and criminal trials, and anecdotal examples regarding trials over the last 50 years. The flyer will hit the street within the next week. The cost for members will be \$185.00 for pre-registration; it will be \$210.00 for non-members. Registration at the door will be \$205.00 for members and \$235.00 for non-members.

## **E-Filing Has Started in Nueces County**

E-filing will enable you to submit documents online and to receive a response from the courts as to the status of your filing. It will enable you to file with multiple courts without having to learn separate systems for each court. You will be able to file 24/7/365, and the online status will allow you to know the document was received and what actions have been taken thereon. Payment will be by a major credit card. You will be able to attach messages and instructions to the clerk upon your document submission.

To start the e-filing process, go to TexasOnline.com. At the bottom of the page you will find "eFiling for Courts." Click there, and then follow the instructions. You will actually register and file through

a certified electronic service provider (EFSP). EFSP's are competing commercial filing services with their own websites. Currently, there are five EFSP's. Those services transmit your filing to the various courts. That is why you do not have to learn a separate procedure for each court that allows e-filing. There is, however, a caveat: **YOU MUST STILL COMPLY WITH THE LOCAL RULES.** As a registered filer, you will also have the option of being served electronically. E-filing is currently available in sixteen Texas counties. The list is available at TexasOnline.com.

## **Coat & Warm Clothing Drive**

The annual "Coat & Warm Clothing Drive" has begun. The coordinator is Kevin Liles. This is our first public service project of the fiscal year. We are collecting gently used coats and warm clothing as well as blankets. If you would like to donate new items, they will be gratefully accepted. The coats, warm clothing, and blankets collected will be donated to homeless shelters in Corpus Christi for distribution to men, women, and children in need. We ask you to do a good deed: when you clean your closets or replace your coats, warm clothing, and/or blankets: Please deliver them to the Corpus Christi Bar Association for donation to the homeless shelters. The drive will end November 1st.

## **VETERANS**

Doug Chaves is currently serving on the Board of Directors for the USO. He is in the process of compiling a list of all attorneys who served in the military so that they can be recognized appropriately at upcoming events. In that regard, please e-mail your name, dates of service, branch of service, rank (optional), corps if any (optional) and any special information you may want to convey regarding your service and any experience you may have had with the USO to Doug at [dchaves@crllawfirm.com](mailto:dchaves@crllawfirm.com) or call him at 884-5400.

## **A Note from the Pres**

Not all are aware that we have a new Executive Director. He is Richard G. "Dick" King. I think you should know a little about him. Dick spent his youth in Munster, Indiana, a suburb of Chicago. He received his B.S.B.A. from Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, in 1966. Dick received his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School in 1969, and in March 1970 he was commissioned a Lieutenant (Junior Grade) in the Navy's Judge Advocate General's Corps. He served tours of duty in Charleston, South Carolina; Mayport, Florida; Washington, DC; Lemoore, California; and Corpus Christi (twice). The Navy funded Dick's course of study leading to his receipt of his LL.M. from Georgetown University Law Center in 1979. While Dick was serving his first tour of duty in Corpus Christi, he decided that he wished to return here and stay after he retired from the Navy. His dream of a "twilight tour" here in Corpus Christi came true when Dick assumed command of the Naval Legal Service Office here in July 1991. Dick retired from the Navy in 1994. His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), the Navy Commendation Medal (two awards), and the Navy Achievement Medal (two awards).

Dick became the Executive Director of the Nueces County Medical Society in July 1994. He remained there until August 2000 when he became the Administrator for South Texas Retina Consultants, L.L.P., a position he held until being hired to follow Irene Canales as our Executive Director. As is readily evident, Dick brings years of management and supervisory experience to our Association.

During his first Navy tour of duty in Corpus Christi, Dick initiated the effort and drafted the language which resulted in the Texas Natural Death Act's amendment to provide the Act's protection to military physicians serving on active duty in Texas regardless of the State in which they are licensed.

Community Service has been a part of Dick's life. Among his activities have been Webelos Den Leader for Cub Scouts, assistant Little League Coach, President of the Carroll High School Tuff Tiger Band Booster Club, member of his Church Council, member of the local USO's Board of Directors, Corpus Christi Insight Steering Committee, member of the board of directors for Dos Mundos Day School, Leadership Corpus Christi Class XXVI, and service on medically related and legislative committees of the Chamber of Commerce.

He has three children. Brian, his oldest, lives here in Corpus Christi. He is a radiologic technologist at CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Memorial who performs CT's and MRI's. Brian is married and has one stepson. Elizabeth, Dick's middle child, is a high school physics and science teacher who lives in Mesquite. She has "retired" to mother and home school her children, of which, she and her husband currently have a year and one half old daughter. Raymond, Dick's youngest, is commencing his sophomore year at Texas A & M in College Station where he is studying engineering.



Dick King

## **UPDATED MAILING LABELS FOR SALE**

The Bar Association has updated mailing list labels for sale. The cost for members is \$50.00 plus tax and shipping and handling when applicable. Just call us at 883-4022 to order.

**Bar Directory Publication  
Date Moved Up  
New Feature Added**

In order to make the information in the Directory more timely, the Bar Directory for 2006 will be published in late December 2005 or early January 2006 instead of May 2006. If you have moved, changed firms, changed any phone numbers, changed your e-mail address, or wish to add additional information, NOW is the time to notify us. You may do so via fax (883-0353) or e-mail Sara Gonzales at (sgonzales@corpusbar.com). **THE DEADLINE FOR UPDATES IS OCTOBER 21ST.**

Even if you have not changed anything, please check the current Bar Directory to ensure that your information is correct and please notify us if it is not. When checking the current directory, please take a close look at your photo. If you are not pleased with what you see or you have become more distinguished, you can change the photo, but **we must have the updated photo by October 31st. ALL photos must be DIGITAL.**

**For the first time, you will be able to list your area of practice in the Bar Directory.** One listing consisting of 30 characters will be free. Any additional listings will be \$10.00 per additional listing. Due to space constraints, each area listing will be limited to 30 characters. As with updates, you may notify us via fax (883-0353) or e-mail (sgonzales@corpusbar.com) of your initial listing request. If you wish to list additional areas of practice, please notify us via mail and include a check to cover the cost. **No additional area of practice listing(s) will be placed in the directory until the check paying for the additional area of practice listing(s) is received.**

Due to space constraints, the maximum number of listings you may have in your entry in the Bar Directory will be limited to **10 lines of 30 characters/spaces** in

addition to your name. An example of the limitation is as follows:

- Name
- Spouse's Name
- Name of Firm
- Address of Firm
- Home address
- Office phone
- Office fax
- E-mail
- Home phone
- Home fax
- Area of Practice

The attorney in the example already has 10 listings in addition to his/her name. If the attorney in the foregoing listing wished to list an area of practice, he/she would have to delete one of the current listings to make room for the area of practice listing. That is so because the attorney already has 10 listings in addition to his/her name. If the attorney in the foregoing example wished to list two areas of practice, he/she would have to delete two of his/her current listings in order to make room for the second area of practice listing. If the attorney's name, the firm's name or the firm's address in the foregoing example were such that two lines were required to list it, then the attorney would not be able to list an area of practice without deleting two of the current listings.

**The deadline for adding an area of practice to your listing is October 21st.** If you have any questions, please call us at 883-4022.

The form on the opposite page may be used when notifying us of changes.

**Directory Update**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Include Home Address in Directory: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ NO

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Include Home Phone in Directory: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ NO

Include Home Fax in Directory: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ NO

Home e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Include Home e-mail in Directory: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ NO

Area of Practice \_\_\_\_\_

LIMITED to 30 Characters/Spaces

Additional area of practice: (At a cost of \$10.00 per add. area)

\_\_\_\_\_  
LIMITED to 30 Characters/Spaces

\_\_\_\_\_  
LIMITED to 30 Characters/Spaces