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President's Column

Jeanne B. Heaton
President of ACLEA



It's my favorite season here in the Midwest – Spring! A time of warmer weather, green grass, flowering trees, and new growth. Being raised on a farm really made me appreciate the season. My dad always looked forward to getting into the fields to plant the crops. Yes, it meant hard work, but Spring never could come soon enough. So, in honor of my favorite season, the word for ACLEA today is “growth.”

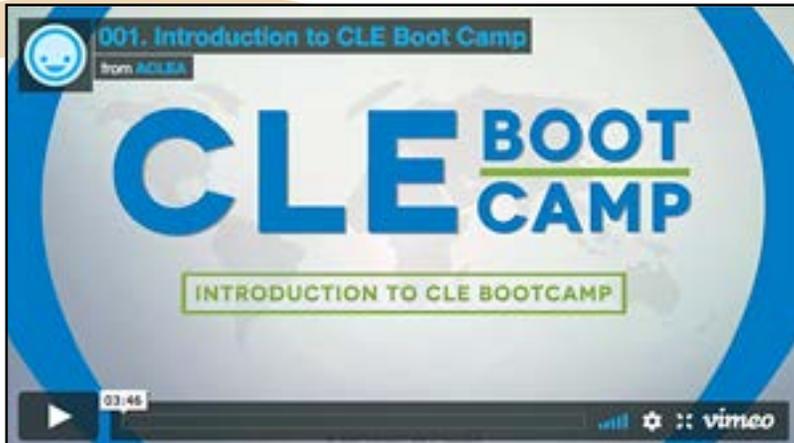
Your ACLEA leaders continue the hard work of nourishing the ACLEA soil to produce a thriving and vibrant network of CLE professionals. We were able to experience that vibrancy in San Antonio at our Midyear Meeting in February. We had great attendance and we welcomed a number of new exhibitors. Special thanks to the Planning Committee, chaired by Sharon Sandle. The programming was great, with some of my favorites being the sessions on cultivating resiliency and developing a customer-success mindset. Your feedback on the evaluations told us you enjoyed the networking time, loved the shorter format, and took home a lot of practical ideas

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President's Column

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to implement in your home shops. If you couldn't attend, check out the program materials in the resource section of the ACLEA website (http://www.aclea.org/?page=about_resources). And keep the feedback coming. We want to be responsive to your needs!



Another part of ACLEA's new growth involves the release of our first on-demand Boot Camp program on ACLEA's updated On Demand Learning Center (http://www.aclea.org/on_demand_learning). Of course, we hope our new members can experience a live onsite boot camp, but we know some can't attend a conference. That's where the online program comes in, providing an easy way for new CLE professionals to get a quick overview of the CLE basics. The program offers two complimentary segments – a boot camp introduction and the top 10 MCLE tips. Additional programming can be purchased for only \$60 for members or \$125 for non-members. The program features some of our top boot camp speakers, with sessions demonstrating a variety of online presentation techniques – panel presentations, audio over slides, and video presentations with PowerPoint slides.

And in line with our Vision 2020 goals, plans are underway to bring you more online CLE programs next year, so please let your SIG and Committee Chairs and Executive Committee members know your topic suggestions. We continue to cultivate ways to connect our members between conferences and to find economical ways to bring

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Meet Your ACLEA Executive Committee Member

Kristin Houtari, *State Bar of Wisconsin*



1. What is your current professional position?

Director of Professional Development at the State Bar of Wisconsin. Our department is responsible for developing the books, seminars, and practice resources for Wisconsin lawyers.

2. What did you do in your pre-CLE life and what brought you to the CLE world?

I litigated in an insurance defense firm. I disliked the fighting and wanted to work someplace where it would be collaborative and creative.

3. How long have you been a member of ACLEA?

Since 2007.

4. What do you remember from your first ACLEA meeting?

It was in Philadelphia and I was intimidated not knowing anyone, but I loved being with a group of people who did exactly what I did and knew my challenges and triumphs.

5. What has surprised you most about being a member of ACLEA?

How freely everyone shares their experience, without ego or posturing.

6. What other leadership positions(s) within ACLEA did you hold before joining the Executive Committee and what did you learn from (it/them)?

I worked with the committees planning the Savannah, Seattle, Nashville, and Montreal conferences, which was a great experience coming from the program side in my professional life. I've also chaired the ACLEA's Best Marketing Awards committee.

7. What motivated you to become a member of ACLEA's Executive Committee?

I work with a board and wanted to serve on the board to better understand that experience. I wanted to take my commitment to ACLEA to the next level and really contribute to working on growing the association.

8. What would you tell someone who is thinking about running for a position on the ACLEA Executive Committee?

DO IT! All of these ACLEA experiences have proven invaluable in developing my skills. There is so much to learn and the EC is a great place to look behind the curtain.

9. What do you think is the most important issue facing CLE organizations today?

How to beat back the competition. Especially because many times we are competing against FREE.

10. What do you think will change about CLE in the next five years?

Learning will become even more bite-sized, so we will need to be offering our content in a variety of ways to capture the interest of learners with different styles and needs. There will be less of a focus on

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President's Column

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professional development opportunities to your door. The online programming is also a way to reach non-members and to support the ongoing ACLEA membership recruitment campaign.

And as with all growth, sometimes the growing process takes us outside of our comfort zones because it involves change. The Phoenix Planning Committee is looking ahead and planning a unique Midyear Meeting for 2019 – a weekend conference in a high-tech law school venue with both traditional and in-depth advanced program options. We are all very excited for the opportunity to distinguish between our Annual and Midyear Meeting formats, and for the innovations ahead in Phoenix. Stay tuned for more info soon!

And don't forget to "Blaze the CLE Trail" and [register](#) for our traditional ACLEA Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon, July 28–31. Oregon's own Kes Joerg and her amazing Planning Committee have a great agenda planned with sessions ranging from using "Alexa" to increase your productivity to the impact of artificial intelligence on the practice of law. I look forward to seeing you in Portland!



Meet Your ACLEA Executive Committee Member

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one-size-fits-all with our offerings.

11. If you weren't involved in CLE, what do you think you would be doing instead?

I would likely be slogging away in a small law firm, but instead I would love to be working on women's rights issues.

12. What do you like to do when you aren't working?

I really love spending time with my kids, even though they are teenagers now. And traveling is always at the top of my list of how I want to spend my time.

13. Tell us one thing that the ACLEA membership should definitely know about you.

I make an excellent brandy old fashioned. It's all about the cherries.

Meet Your SIG/Committee Chair

Kim Kett, *GTxcel*



1. Which SIG or Committee do you currently co-chair?

Exhibitor & Sponsor Committee

2. How long have you been involved with this Committee?

This is my second year.

3. Why did you choose to join this Committee?

I was asked by someone on the Executive Committee a couple years ago. My company is an exhibitor so I thought I could add a good perspective.

4. What do you see as the main objectives of your Committee?

To act as an ACLEA ambassador to the exhibitors and sponsors. To listen to feedback from the exhibitors and sponsors, and make their experience at the ACLEA meetings as good as possible.

5. What has the Committee been working on recently?

Recently, there has been a sales team brought on to focus on securing more exhibitors and sponsors. This initiative was very successful for the San Antonio Midyear Meeting. The goal is to bring quality exhibitors and sponsors who offer services that will be beneficial to the attendees.

6. What is your Committee's biggest challenge right now?

It is always difficult to balance the role of ACLEA and the role of the exhibitors and sponsors when it comes to lead generation and engagement at the conference. ACLEA has some responsibilities to the exhibitors and sponsors to allow for the correct amount of networking opportunities for attendees to visit with the exhibitors and sponsors, but there is also the responsibility of the exhibitors and sponsors to engage with attendees and start conversations that can lead to post-show follow up.

7. What resources would be helpful to your Committee right now?

Having more committee members would be great both on the CLE professional side as well as the exhibitor and sponsor side. It is always good to have different perspectives.

8. What is the major reason why one should join this Committee?

The exhibitors and sponsors make the meetings happen and they are all there to help CLE professionals do their jobs better, so helping to bring quality exhibitors and sponsors to the conferences is a great thing not only for ACLEA but for the attendees.

9. What do you enjoy most in working with this Committee?

As a committee member, I enjoy working on making the relationship between ACLEA, the exhibitors and sponsors, and the attendees the best it can be.

Member Moment

Annette C. Buras

Louisiana State Bar Association



Professionally

Current Job:

CLE Coordinator

A Recent Professional Victory:

Not so much a victory as an honor to serve on two ACLEA Planning Committees (Portland & Phoenix). It's been a wonderful experience working with such talented people!

Your Latest Challenge:

Professionally, the challenge is always time management and striving to do the best job possible. Personally, it was seeing my son off to college. It was really hard to see him go, but I'm so very proud of him!

In My Pre-CLE Life, I Was:

Wedding hostess, restaurant company trainer for new locations, retail associate, front-desk receptionist, and for one summer I was an Anheuser-Busch hostess.

What Brought Me to CLE:

I was referred to the Louisiana State Bar by a co-worker.

Technologically Speaking

I Never Leave Home Without:

My cellphone and a prayer.

My Favorite Software:

Goodreads, I could spend an eternity browsing books.

On My Wish List:

An app that will give me a dinner menu suggestion, along with recipe, each evening depending on my family's preferences!

Must-See Website(s):

[Goodreads](#), [Pinterest](#)

Personally

Recent Good Read:

Game of Thrones (1-3) by George R. R. Martin, *Beartown* by Fredrik Backman, and *A Little Life* by Hanya Yanagihara.

Favorite Pastimes:

Reading, camping, and spending time outside.

My Dream Vacation:

Two weeks on a Costa Rican beach with my family.

Words I Live by:

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

The Membership Corner

By Dennis Cuevas and Earl Dumitru

Membership Committee Continues to Promote ACLEA and Collegiality

Since the Fall of 2017, the ACLEA Membership Committee has continued to focus its efforts on member activities and member benefits. During the Midyear Meeting in San Antonio, the Membership Committee organized dine-arounds on Saturday and Monday evenings. The dine-arounds were held at restaurants in the Riverwalk and Pearl neighborhoods in San Antonio. More than 40 meeting attendees participated in the dine-arounds and everyone enjoyed the camaraderie, the friendship, and the wonderful food the restaurants had to offer. The dine-around dinners also provided new ACLEA members the opportunity to meet more seasoned ACLEA members in a fun and casual environment.

The Membership Committee also has stepped up its outreach efforts to new members. Committee members reach out to new members either on a monthly or quarterly basis to educate them about ACLEA and the ACLEA website. Providing new members with the ACLEA Member QuickStart Guide, they learn how to login and manage their online ACLEA profiles, utilize the various ACLEA listservs to facilitate discussions, and navigate all the helpful tools and resources available. The Membership Committee also stepped up its outreach efforts to first-time conference attendees to gather information, comments, and suggestions on the ACLEA Midyear Meeting. Preliminary reports confirm that new members enjoyed the educational sessions and networking events in San Antonio.

In the near future, the Membership Committee will work closely with the Membership Recruitment and Outreach Subcommittee, led by Executive Committee member Gina Roers-Liemandt from the American Bar Association. The Membership Recruitment and Outreach Subcommittee is charged with developing strategies and implementing those strategies to increase membership in ACLEA for the good of networking, diversity, and the budget. As the subcommittee continues its strategy planning, the Membership Committee will assist in the implementation. A conference call between the Membership Committee and Membership Recruitment and Outreach Subcommittee will be scheduled in early May.

Membership Committee members will continue to staff concierge tables at the Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon, on July 28–31, 2018, and assist the conference planners with logistics for the various planned ACLEA Meeting social events.

If you are interested in joining the Membership Committee, please contact Dennis Cuevas at dcuevas@dcbar.org or Earl Dumitru at EarlDumitru@aloc.ca.

2018/2019 ACLEA Executive Committee Elections and Procedure for Self-Nomination

By Alexandra Wong, ACLEA Secretary

Call for Self-Nominations

On Tuesday, July 31, 2018 at the business meeting to be held during the ACLEA Annual Meeting in Portland, elections will be conducted for the Executive Committee officer positions of President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. There will also be elections for three (3) Director positions.

As an ACLEA member in good standing, you may nominate yourself for any of these positions by notifying the Secretary of your intent to run. To be eligible, your membership dues must be current at the time of nomination.

Pursuant to the Bylaws, Article VII, Section 1(b), a member may file a self-nomination with the Secretary (or his or her designee) for any officer (other than President) or director position. The period for receipt by the Secretary (or his or her designee) of such self-nominations shall begin 90 days before the starting date of the Annual Meeting and shall close 45 days before the starting date of the Annual Meeting. Thereafter no further self-nominations shall be permitted. The notice of self-nomination must be in writing (with facsimile and electronic mail transmission being acceptable as "in writing"). It is the sole responsibility of the member filing a self-nomination to assure its receipt.

Please send your notice of intent to run, a brief biography, and photo for inclusion on the ballot to the ACLEA office no later than midnight CDT (UTC-5) Wednesday, June 13, 2018.

ACLEA
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Thank you for your active participation in ACLEA!

Join Us in Portland

for ACLEA's 54th Annual Meeting

July 28–31, 2018

Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront | Portland, Oregon – U.S.A.



PLENARY SESSIONS INCLUDE:

- A Brave New World: Artificial Intelligence and the Practice of Law
- How Binge Watching Affects CLE and Learning
- 10 Ways That Embracing Your Vulnerabilities Increases Your Success at Work
- The Power of Strengths – Stop Trying to Fix Weaknesses and Focus on What You Already Do Best

Register online today at aclea.org!

