



Conference Committee

By Marleen Young, NJ

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The 2009 ABJA conference in Baltimore was a complete success and we thank those who took the time and effort to attend. We had a great turnout, much higher than expected. I believe that once you attend a conference you get hooked and you take away so much more than you ever expected.

Time to start planning your trip to the 2010 ABJA Educational Conference. New Orleans will be the host for 2010 and they are very excited about us coming to their completely revamped city. They have put so much love and work into rebuilding what was lost in the hurricane and are so eager to bring us to their "Forever New Orleans."

The Ritz-Carlton, New Orleans (http://www.ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/NewOrleans/Information/Default.htm?om_b=10_information) brings new life to a pair of Crescent City architecture landmarks – the Maison Blanche and Kress buildings on world-famous Canal Street. A \$250 million renovation and restoration effort yielded a five-star caliber, 527-room hotel, which houses a 25,000-square-foot spa, salon and fitness facility, as well as two unique restaurants (casual and fine dining) and two distinct bars. The hotel is situated on the edge of the French Quarter and is within walking distance to most of the city's attractions, including the Aquarium of the Americas, the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, the Riverwalk (where the NCBJ members will be staying during their conference) and Jackson Square. Our room block rate will be \$133 single/double, \$165 triple, \$190 quad. A fantastic rate for this beautiful hotel!

The dates will coincide with the NCBJ's conference. The CBA portion will be held Tuesday & Wednesday, October 12-13, 2010, Opening reception, Wednesday, October 13, 2010; the ABJA portion will be Thursday, October 14, 2010 (Advanced Bankruptcy Seminar). The program for Friday, October 15, 2010 is still being developed. The closing banquet will be held on Friday instead of Saturday this year and we are trying to plan the business meeting sometime on either Thursday or Friday.

Don't forget to check with your court to see if funding is available to offset some of your costs to attend. (See ABJA Newsletter of June 2008, page 20, for details or contact Cindy_Korbel@wiwb.uscourts.gov via email). A couple web sites to visit prior to arriving are www.foreverneworleans.com, www.neworleansonline.com and www.nola.com. New Orleans looks like no other American city. Strong French and Spanish influences have created a truly European city inside the U.S. The architecture including Creole cottages, shotgun houses, plantation homes, grand residential mansions, cast iron fences, breathtaking balconies, and the cities of aboveground cemeteries will captivate your eyes and spark your imagination. The heart of NOLA is alive in its music. Walk any city street and you will hear some fantastic music of all genres, Zydeco, Cajun, Jazz, R&B, Reggae and good ol' Rock n' Roll. NOLA is America's most delicious city, where you live to eat. It's not just food, it's cuisine. It's not just cooking, it's creating a masterpiece.



Aside from the great architecture and culinary treats, there is so much to do in New Orleans, that you should try to plan an extra day just to experience some great venues. Consider taking a swamp & airboat tour; a walking ghost tour; tour a voodoo center; a trolley tour of the different neighborhoods. The list just goes on and on (so does the shopping and eateries).

Future newsletter articles will cover more information for planning purposes.

