Forty Years of Strengthening Appellate Courts
NCACC Annual Conference - Seattle 2013
Amy Reitz (OH)

The 40th NCACC Annual Conference is quickly approaching. The program committee has been working hard to put together a strong program covering a variety of topics. The education program will begin on Sunday afternoon with a session on the law in popular culture presented by Paul Bergman, author of Reel Justice: The Courtroom Goes to the Movies and Professor Emeritus at UCLA School of Law. Professor Bergman will lead a discussion and show video clips to illustrate how pop culture affects people’s attitudes toward the law, lawyers, and the legal system.

Monday will begin with our Opperman Speaker, Clay Jenkinson, and his presentation titled “Thomas Jefferson on the Constitution and the Courts.” Mr. Jenkinson is a humanities scholar and historical performer and will perform in character as Thomas Jefferson and speak on the law and ethics both in Jefferson’s time and in the present day.

Monday morning will continue with a session on civility by David Maring, Attorney at Law. After lunch, we will spend 90 minutes on everyone’s favorite session “What’s Bugging You?” which will be moderated by Polly Brock (CO). We will conclude Monday with a session on security given by Raymond Fleck, Supervisory Deputy with the United States Marshals Service, Western District of Washington.

Tuesday will be dedicated to human resources issues. Our first session will be brought to you by our own Christie Cameron Roeder (NC) and Polly Brock (CO), who will lead a session called “Hiring/Firing with Role Play.” You may be called upon to volunteer! Wrapping up Tuesday morning will be a session called “ADA Chemical Sensitivity” presented by Linda McCulloh, Senior Attorney, ADA Resources Coordinator, California Judicial Branch.

Wednesday will, as usual, be our technology day. We will begin the morning with a panel discussion on iPads lead by Jenny Kitchings (SC) and John Reynolds, Internal Applications Analyst for the South Carolina Supreme Court, who will share their perspectives on the use of iPads in the South Carolina Judicial Department. The session will include testimonials from judges who have been using iPads in their courts as well as a demonstration on how iPads can be used to eliminate the need for paper copies of records, briefs, and memoranda. Wednesday will continue with the Vendor Expo, led by Blake Hawthorne (TX). Eric Magnusson will then join us for a discussion called “Technology and Ethics: Moving Ahead and Avoiding Pitfalls.” Wednesday’s educational session will wrap up with Richard Johnson, Clerk of the Court of Appeals of Washington, Division 1, on technology. We will end the day with the third annual Vendor Happy Hour. Remember, you can’t win a fabulous prize if you’re not present!

Thursday morning will start with Dr. Dana Raigrodski’s session on human trafficking. We’ll wrap up the educational component of the conference with a panel discussion on civics education, with Associate Justice Andrea Hoch of the California Third District Court of Appeal and Frank McGuire (CA).

Thanks to the efforts of Rory Perry (WV) and Blake Hawthorne (TX), two of the educational sessions: “Thomas Jefferson on the Constitution and the Courts” and “iPads,” will be videotaped. The videos will be available on the NCACC website sometime after the conference concludes. The members of the program committee look forward to seeing you in Seattle!
The NCACC Alaska Cruise 2013
7 Night Alaska Cruise

Come sail away with us on August 10, 2013 as our group heads out for a great week of fun and adventure in Alaska. We’ve reserved a selection of cabins at various rates but they won’t last forever. Check your schedule and then make a reservation here with your credit card. Our special group rates and bonus offers make this an exceptional value and, of course, cruising together is an even bigger bonus. See you onboard the Holland American Westerdam in August 2013!

See page 11 for additional information.
As I write this, I am finishing up the final details in preparation for the Executive Committee meeting this weekend in San Diego. I thought this would be a good opportunity to update everyone on the activities of the conference.

The NCACC website has been completely redesigned at no cost to the NCACC and will probably be "live" by the time you read this. The overall design and navigation have been modernized and updated. New pages have been created for history, awards, and latest news. The Past President’s Committee, the Technology Committee, and the Public Relations Committee have reviewed and commented on the site and it is ready for a vote by the Executive Committee. Once the site is live, we will continue to expand and update the content, and will welcome comments from all members. We will be celebrating our 40th year of strengthening appellate courts this year at our conference in Seattle. In keeping with this milestone, the updated website includes more about the history of the NCACC. We hope eventually to have pictures and biographies of all previous award winners. Thanks to the Past President's Committee for their continued help on the effort to make our history available online.

This year members will be able to register for the conference online. Using a commercial service provided by Regonline.com, members can sign up for events and agenda items, and can even pay for registration fees and personal items with different sources of payment. The online registration is not free, but the cost is not unreasonable, and the NCACC will be splitting the service fees with members. (After this conference, we will evaluate whether to continue with this service.) Details and instructions appear elsewhere in this issue of The Docket. Given the fact that our hosts are volunteers, online registration should make the administration of the conference easier for all concerned. Please choose the online option when registering. I would like to thank Isaac Counts in my office for his numerous hours of work in configuring the online registration. Isaac has also agreed to make himself available to answer your questions about the process.

Committee work is essential to the mission of the conference, and I truly appreciate the work by all the committees. In this limited space I can't recap the work of every committee, but I would like to conclude by highlighting the work of the Membership Committee, chaired this year by Donna Humpal of Iowa. Following up on the change in the bylaws that removed the restriction on membership to courts in the continental United States and its territories, the Membership Committee has made solid contacts with U.S. Tribal Courts and courts of appeal in Canada. I would not be at all surprised if we have a guest from both groups at our conference in Seattle. In addition, the Membership Committee has developed a strategy for making contacts with appellate courts in each state to seek new members, or to ask lapsed members to join us again. These types of activities are very important and help our conference to thrive for forty more years.

Please do your best to join us in Seattle. There is a terrific educational program on tap, wonderful social events, technology vendors to learn from, all in a diverse urban setting with plenty to see and do. Together we can continue the work of those organizers who came together at the Dolly Madison House in August 1973 to organize the NCACC.
We have noticed in the news that Congress and several state legislatures are now in session alienating their constituents and others. Apparently this problem did not start recently but has continued for several hundred years. Here are some great observations from some well known people and some who are not so well known. We think you will be able to relate.

- In my many years I have come to the conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm, and three or more is a congress. **John Adams**

- If you don’t read the newspaper, you are uniformed; if you do read the newspaper, you are misinformed. **Mark Twain**

- I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle. **Winston Churchill**

- A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul. **George Bernard Shaw**

- Democracy must be something more than two wolves and a sheep voting on what to have for dinner. **James Bovard**

- Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys. **P. J. O’Rourke**

- Government is a great fiction through which everybody endeavors to live at the expense of everybody else. **Frederic Bastiat**

- In general, the art of government consists of taking as much money as possible from one party of citizens to give to the other. **Voltaire**

- Just because you do not take an interest in politics does not mean politics will not take an interest in you. **Pericles**

- No man’s life, liberty, or prosperity is safe while the legislature is in session. **Mark Twain**

- Talk is cheap except when Congress does it. **Anonymous**

- The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of the blessings. The inherent blessing of socialism is the equal sharing of misery. **Winston Churchill**

- What this country needs are more unemployed politicians. **Edward Langley**

- We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great ones to public office. **Aesop**

We can also see from these quotes the problem is not confined to the United States.
Remembering Steve Kelly (CA)

Stephen (Steve) Monaghan Kelly, the Clerk/Administrator for the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District in San Diego, California passed away in February. Steve was the longest serving Clerk in the district’s history, having held the position for twenty-five years.

Steve served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam conflict and was honorably discharged. He joined the Superior Court of San Diego County from 1973 to 1978. He joined the Court of Appeal in San Diego as a deputy clerk from 1978 to 1982 and then chief deputy clerk from 1982 to 1987. He was appointed Clerk/Administrator of the Fourth District in 1987.

Steve received several awards for his work and for court programs he oversaw. He served on numerous advisory committees and was a member and past president of the California Appellate Court Clerks Association.

Gregory O. Block was sworn in as Clerk of Court of the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims by Chief Judge Bruce E. Kasold in a ceremonial session of the Court convened on September 1, 2010. Mr. Block also serves as the Court Executive.

Mr. Block recently completed his 30th year in uniform as an Army Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAGC) Officer, and retired from active service in the rank of Colonel. He served in multiple overseas locations including Germany, Korea, Bosnia, and Afghanistan, and completed his service in Charlottesville, Virginia, where he served as the Dean of the Judge Advocate General's School.

Mr. Block's educational background includes an undergraduate degree from Washington State University, masters degrees from the University of Southern California and the War College, a law degree from Seton Hall University of School of Law, and an LL.M. from The Judge Advocate General's School.

Mr. Block currently resides in Arlington, Virginia, with his wife, Maureen; they have two grown sons.

Joe Stanton, from Massachusetts, and his daughter thank the many NCACC members who contributed to her fourth grade class's project by sending a postcard from their State.

To become the first class to successfully complete the project of receiving a postcard from all 50 States, the class still needs postcards from 9 states: AL, DE, ID, IA, NJ, NM, ND, OK, and SD.

If you have time, please send a post card to:

Village Middle School
Shannon c/o Mrs. Forward's Class
93 Village Street
Marblehead, MA 01945.

Thank you!
Wednesday in Charleston, South Carolina was all about technology. Eric Magnusson, former Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, was scheduled to join us for a discussion about technology and ethics. However, he unexpectedly had to undergo heart surgery weeks before the conference. Thanks to medical technology, he is looking forward to joining everyone in Seattle.

Former Justice Magnusson prepared and provided materials that contain specific citations to several web pages that contain relevant, current information on the ethics of technology. He also arranged for Charlie Carpenter to present the session on the ethics of technology for the Conference. As both of these gentlemen agreed, technology in the courts is not an option, it is a necessity.

We were all reminded that the public uses the internet and expects instant access to information. In many aspects, although the public may not appear to be as present as they once were, they remain ever present through the use of technology. The ease of access to documents creates its own advantages and challenges. Truly confidential information should remain protected, which requires cooperation between the courts, lawyers and litigants. Once information is made available through technological means there is no deleting it.

As an appellate advocate, Charlie realizes that technology gives the courts greater ability to verify the accuracy of references to the record and authorities. Court rules regarding hyperlinked briefs or similar methods of presentation should be written in a way that ensures that accurate references are included in all submissions to the court. From an ethical standpoint, this technology paves the path for lawyers to be held to stricter standards of candor and accuracy.

Just because technology may make it easier and faster for the Courts to get information to the public, we must not get lackadaisical about the presentation of that information.
The Fortieth Annual Meeting will be held in Seattle, Washington, August 4-9, 2013, at the Seattle Renaissance Hotel. The hotel is located at 515 Madison Street just blocks from the waterfront, historic Pioneer Square, great restaurants, and exciting downtown Seattle. The room rate of $137.00 a night plus taxes is available three days prior and post conference. Arrive early and stay late. The hotel has an online reservation page dedicated to our group. The web address is [https://resweb.passkey.com/resweb.do?mode=welcome_gi_new&groupid=16491333](https://resweb.passkey.com/resweb.do?mode=welcome_gi_new&groupid=16491333). You can also make hotel reservations by phone by calling toll free 1(877) 901-6632 or local 1(506) 474-2009. If you have any problems making your hotel reservations, please feel free to contact Vickie VanLith at [vanlithv@flcourts.org](mailto:vanlithv@flcourts.org) or (850) 922-5215.

The hotel does not provide a shuttle service from the airport. There are a couple of shuttle companies at the airport; the Shuttle Express fare is $31 roundtrip. Shuttle Express has also set up a webpage for our group so that you can schedule your shuttle service ahead of time. The web address is [http://shuttleexpress.hudsonLtd.net/res?USERIDENTRY=NCACC&LOGON=GO](http://shuttleexpress.hudsonLtd.net/res?USERIDENTRY=NCACC&LOGON=GO).

Cab fare from the airport is about $40 one way.

This year online registration is available at: [www.regonline.com/ncacc40th](http://www.regonline.com/ncacc40th) See page 7 for instructions for online registration.

The Program Committee has put together a great program. Conference registration is Saturday, August 3, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and again on Sunday, August 4, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. See the attached tentative schedule for more information.

If you ask the “当地人” what is a must do when in Seattle, their answer is the same: “Ride the Ducks.” With that in mind, we are putting together a group “Duck Ride” for Saturday afternoon. We will be picked up at the hotel and returned to the hotel in our very own “Duck(s).” Each “Duck” holds 36 people and has to be full in order to get the group pricing. The tour will last 90 minutes. We start boarding at 2:00 p.m. with the departure at 2:30 p.m. Be sure to sign up and see the sights of Seattle from the “Duck.”

Sunday evening Bloomberg BNA will host our opening reception, followed by the Morgan Thomas slideshow and the Education Committee’s fund raising silent auction.

Join us Monday night as LexisNexis extends their hospitality by hosting us in the Olympic Ballroom at the Edgewater Hotel. The Ballroom is on the 4th floor and has floor-to-ceiling windows which offer a panoramic view of Elliott Bay and the Olympic Mountains. The Edgewater Hotel has hosted some of the most famous names in music, including: The Beatles, Pearl Jam, The Village People, Led Zeppelin, The Rolling Stones, Ozzy Osbourne, KISS, Wings, Neil Young, Frank Zappa, Blondie, Jewel, David Bowie, Emmy Lou Harris, Iggy Pop, REM, Rod Stewart, Willie Nelson, and more. The British Exports, a Beatles tribute band, will entertain the group. The band has provided the ultimate Beatles tribute for over a decade. They have performed for tens of thousands of fans at some of the most prestigious events in the world. Be sure to join us for this event as there will be good food, good music, and fun for everyone!

Tuesday afternoon the golfers are off to the West Seattle Golf Course for the golf tournament. Don’t golf, don’t worry – we have another adventure for you. We are putting together a group tour of the Seattle Underground. After a fire destroyed most of Seattle in 1889, the streets were re-graded a story or two higher. The tour is a leisurely guided walking tour beneath the city’s sidewalks and streets. As you roam the passages that once were the main roadways and first-floor storefronts of old downtown Seattle, the guides tell you stories the pioneers didn’t want you to hear. It’s history with a twist!
On Wednesday, August 7, we will have dinner hosted by Thomson Reuters/LT Court Tech at the Museum of Flight at Boeing Field. This is one of the largest air and space museums in the world. You will be amazed and moved by the exhibits of air and spacecraft as well as stories of the pioneers of flight.

Things to Do in Seattle

The Seattle Waterfront has lots to offer. Watch the fish fly at Pike’s Place Market, where you will find fresh seafood and produce, as well as handmade crafts and gifts galore, and many great restaurants. Or go for the bigger “fish” by taking a whale watching tour. Take a cruise to Tillicum Village on Blake Island, where you can experience Native American culture. Take the Washington State Ferries to Friday Harbor, or any of the many nearby islands, for a day full of adventure. Take in the Seattle Aquarium and enjoy a hands-on marine experience.

Pioneer Square is a fascinating part of downtown Seattle and home of the original “Skid Row.” It’s a historic district with fascinating architecture and wonderful shops and restaurants. Seattle is known for art glass, and you can watch glass blowers in action at the Glasshouse in Pioneer Square.

Check out one of the many museums – EMP Museum (formerly known as Experience Music Project), Seattle Art Museum, Henry Art Gallery, Frye Art Museum and Chihuly Garden and Glass to name a few.

You can’t forget to visit the Woodland Park Zoo or ride the Monorail to the Seattle Center — home of the Space Needle, the Pacific Science Center, the EMP, and more. They are always fun and filled with adventure. For the really adventurous, take a Seattle sightseeing flight. If you are into ghosts, take a ghost tour. There is even a walking haunted pub tour.

Take in a baseball game. The Seattle Mariners will be playing the Blue Jays at Safeco Field Tuesday, August 6, 2013, at 7:10 p.m. Let us know if you are interested to going to the game as a group. We will work on putting it together.

California isn’t the only state with the Wine Country! Just 30 minutes outside the city, the Woodinville area is home to dozens of local wineries, cellars and tasting rooms. Or try the Yakima Valley wine region (two to three hours from Seattle) where you can tour the actual vineyards. Wine not your thing? Take a tour of the breweries. Seattle is home to many craft breweries and micro beers.

Don’t forget your passport! The Canadian border isn’t far. Victoria and Vancouver are great places to visit.

And last but not least, don’t forget to check out the NCACC Alaska Cruise on the Holland America Westerdam, August 10-17! For more information, contact Kevin Donovan, kevin.donovan@wmph.com.

As you can tell, Seattle is loaded with fun and interesting things to do. So mark your calendars and start making plans!

Online Registration and Reservations!

Conference Online Registration:  www.regonline/ncacc40th


Shuttle:  http://shuttleexpress.hudsonltd.net/res?USERIDENTRY=NCACC&LOGON=GO

Register for the Seattle Conference

Online!

Go To: www.regonline.com/ncacc40th

The online registration site has been customized with information about the Seattle conference. You can pay online and choose options for you and your guests. Because our hosts are volunteers, using online registration will assist them a great deal with administration of the conference. The online registration site charges a service fee of 4.95% on all transactions, half of which is absorbed by the NCACC. The remainder of the fee (2.475%) is passed along to the registrant and is calculated at the end of each transaction, as well as a $6.00 per registrant fee that the NCACC will pay for half of, calculated at the end of each registration.

If you are paying all the registration costs yourself, the process will be straightforward. However, some members prefer to pay the basic conference registration cost for one or more court employees with a government-issued credit card or check, and then pay for other costs such as merchandise, agenda events, or guests with personal credit card or check. This requires a two-step registration process.

STEP 1. Select the "Full Conference Registration" level, and completely fill out the personal information form, including the days of the conference you plan on attending. Leave the guest information blank for now. Continue to the check-out screen. Skip the agenda events and merchandise pages for now, because you will come back to them later. Once at the check-out screen, complete check-out by paying only for the basic registration and transaction fee.

STEP 2: Return to online registration at any time to add guests, agenda events, and merchandise. Follow the screens to check-out again, this time paying for the added costs with a secondary form of payment like personal credit card or check. Keep in mind that the check-out screen will show records of all transactions, as well as a running total of costs, paid and unpaid.

If you are paying for more than one court employee, modify STEP 1 by clicking the “Add Another Person” button at the bottom of the personal information screen, and fill in the second registrant’s information. Repeat as needed. It is important to provide a unique contact email address for each registrant. Each registrant will receive a confirmation e-mail, but will need the password created by the master registrant to modify their personal registration and pay items with personal funds.

NOTE: Not all agenda items have a cost associated with them, and some may have a cost associated with them depending on the registration level of registrant. To view or change your registration information, click the main link in the confirmation email sent to you by the system.

QUESTIONS? For questions about the online registration process, please contact Isaac Counts at the West Virginia Supreme Court (304) 558-6836 or isaac.counts@courtswv.gov.
SLATE OF NCACC OFFICERS
By Ed Smith (MT)

It is with great pleasure that the Nominating Committee formally nominates the following slate of Officers and Executive Committee for the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks for 2013-2014:

**Vice-President: Blake Hawthorne (TX)**

Blake A. Hawthorne is the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas. The Supreme Court of Texas appointed Blake to a four year term as the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Texas on August 1, 2006. The Court reappointed him to a second term beginning on August 1, 2010. Prior to his appointment to Clerk of the Court, Blake served the Court as the Staff Attorney for Original Proceedings. Before joining the Court, he was an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Texas and an associate in the law firms of Wiley, Rein & Fielding in Washington, D.C. and Jackson Walker in Fort Worth, Texas.

Blake graduated magna cum laude from Tulane University with a degree in Anthropology and Spanish in 1992. The faculty of the Anthropology Department awarded him the Robert Wauchope Award as the most outstanding graduate that year. While a student at Tulane, he spent his junior year abroad studying at La Universidad Complutense in Madrid, Spain. Blake graduated with honors from the University of Texas School of Law in 1996. He is Board Certified—Civil Appellate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Blake is a member of the Texas Judicial Committee on Information Technology (JCIT) and serves as the Co-Chair of the Electronic Filing Subcommittee. He is also Co-Chair of the Steering Committee for the Texas Appeals Management and E-Filing System (TAMES). He serves as Secretary for the Austin Bar Association Appellate Section.

Blake is a native Texan, who was born in Austin, Texas. He is married to another native Texan and Austinite, Wendy Harvel, who is an administrative law judge with the State Office of Administrative Hearings. They have two daughters - Sophie and Eva.

In his free time, he enjoys photography, traveling, learning foreign languages, and building furniture.

**Treasurer: Chris Crow (LA)**

Christine Lasseigne Crow was appointed Clerk of Court for the First Circuit Court of Appeal on November 1, 1998. She is a member of the Louisiana State Bar Association, the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks, the National Association for Court Management, the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association (former four-year member of the Board of Directors), and the Louisiana Court Administrators Association (currently serving as Secretary).

Prior to her appointment as Clerk of Court, Chris was the Senior Staff Attorney for the Louisiana Senate Finance and Health and Welfare Committees where her responsibilities included appropriation bill tracking and drafting constitutional amendments and legislation dealing with a variety of subject matters. Chris started her public service career as a budget analyst for the Division of Administration in 1981.

Chris graduated from E. D. White High School in Thibodaux, Louisiana, in 1975. She obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in 1978 from Louisiana State University (LSU) in International Trade and Finance. In 1981, she obtained her Juris Doctor degree from the LSU Paul M. Hebert School of Law and, in 2000, she received her Master of Public Administration degree from the LSU Ourso School of Business.

Chris has been an active member of NCACC, having served on a number of committees over the years. She was Program Chair in Key West in 2005, a Co-Host for the New Orleans conference in 2007, and a member of the Executive Committee from 2006 to 2008. Since 2005, she has served as the NCACC “CLE coordinator” to ensure attorney members receive continuing legal education credits for attending the annual conference.
Executive Committee

Ruth A. Willingham (AZ)

Ruth has been with the Court of Appeals, Division One since 1989. Starting her career as a Deputy Clerk, she moved up to Assistant to the Clerk, Chief Deputy Clerk and was appointed as Clerk of the Court in 2010. Ruth is a member of the Arizona Courts Association, has served on the Judicial Staff Education Committee, has been a member of the National Association of Appellate Court Clerks since 2001; serving on several committees, including the Conference Assistance Committee, the Pictorial Committee and currently chairs the Scholarship Assistance Committee. Ruth is married to Warren Willingham; together they have four children and five grandchildren.

Eydie Nash Gaiser (WV)

Eydie is the Deputy Clerk of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. She completed her undergraduate studies at Wheeling Jesuit University in 1985, and earned her law degree from Duquesne University in 1988. She is a member of the West Virginia and Pennsylvania bars. Eydie was in private practice until 1999 when she moved to Tallahassee, Florida and joined the Office of the State Courts Administrator of the Florida Supreme Court. In August 2003, Eydie accepted the position as Deputy Clerk of the Supreme Court of Appeals and moved back to West Virginia. She is the mother of two sons, Ryan and Jayson, 18 and 19 years old, who attend West Virginia University.

Pauline Brock (CO)

Polly has been with the Colorado Court of Appeals since 1996 and is currently the Chief Deputy Clerk of Court. Polly graduated from the University of Colorado School of Law in 1992. Before her current position, Polly was a staff attorney for the Colorado Court of Appeals specializing in motions and jurisdiction for over 10 years.

The NCACC Alaska Cruise 2013

August 10-17 Inside Passage Cruise

When planning your Seattle trip, remember to consider extending your stay and joining your friends and their families on a Holland America Alaska cruise. The ship we will sail is the Westerdam, and it is a medium sized ship that goes to Glacier Bay. Only a few cruise ships have the National Park’s permission to go into this park, and while there, we will have National Park Guides onboard to instruct us. The rooms include plush Euro-top beds, flat panel TVs, Egyptian cotton towels, and the dining is supposed to be superb! The cruise stops at beautiful ports, and the excursions sound adventurous and fun. Finally, the price is extremely reasonable, and our Educational Fund will receive $720, if we have at least eight rooms reserved. (As of 4/2/13, there were seven rooms reserved). The ship leaves and returns to Seattle which will make your travel plans much more simple. If you are interested, please call our contact at Alaska Cruises, Kevin Donavan (kevin.donovan@wmph.com) at 1-800-439-1909, ext 7853.