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# NSBA

## **Trial Lawyers Section Summer Meeting**

MacArthur Place Inn & Spa Sonoma, California July 27 – July 30, 2014



Attendance at this meeting offers up to 6.0 MCLE credit hours – including 1.0 in ethics and 5.0 in professional practice for experienced attorneys only.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**MCLE CREDIT:** The New York State Bar Association's Meetings Department has been certified by the NYS Continuing Legal Education Board as an accredited provider of continuing legal education in the State of New York. Under New York's MCLE rule, this program has been approved for a total of 6.0 credit hours: 1.0 hours in ethics and 5.0 hours in **professional practice.** This is **NOT** a transitional program and is **NOT** suitable for MCLE credit for newly-admitted attorneys.

**DISCOUNTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:** New York State Bar Association members and non-members may receive financial aid to attend this program. Under this policy, anyone who requires financial aid may apply in writing, not later than fourteen working days prior to the **program**, explaining the basis of his/her hardship, and if approved, may receive a discount or scholarship. Scholarships apply to the educational portion of the program only. For more details, please contact: cteeter@nysba.org or Catheryn Teeter, New York State Bar Association, One Elk Street, Albany, New York 12207. 518-487-5573.

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:** NYSBA welcomes participation by individuals with disabilities. NYSBA is committed to complying with all applicable laws that prohibit discrimination against individuals on the basis of

disability in the full and equal enjoyment of its goods, services, programs, activities, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations. To request auxiliary aids or services or if you have any questions regarding accessibility, please contact Catheryn Teeter at New York State Bar Association, One Elk Street, Albany, New York 12207 or cteeter@nysba.org.



#### **GETTING TO SONOMA** and MacArthur Place 29 East MacArthur Street

Sonoma is located 53 miles from San Francisco Airport (www.flvsfo.com), 50 miles from Oakland Airpiort and 80 miles from Sacramento Airport. Rental Cars are available at all airports.

The Napa Airporter offers 24 Hour/7 Days a Week Doorto-Door Airport Shuttle Service from/to San Francisco International Airport (SFO), Oakland International Airport (OAK) and Sacramento International Airport (SAC). Visit, www.napaairporter.com for rate information or e-mail: napaairporter@yahoo.com or call: 707-252-1900

#### **Important Hotel Information:**

**Garden Spa/Pool:** Reservations for Spa highly recommended. Call: 707-933-3193 prior to arrival.

Bike rentals available

**Concierge:** Nancy Boerum; Assistance with recommendations for independent wine tours, etc. 707-933-3189.

**Babysitting Service:** Nannies-on-Call, 707-933-9550

**Saddles Steakhouse:** Lunch and Dinner Daily. Call 707-933-3191 for reservations.

#### Sunday, July 27

2:30 – 5:30 p.m. **Registration** – Hotel Lobby

3:30 – 5:00 p.m. **Executive Committee Meeting** – The Tack Room, Conference Center

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Complimentary Wine & Cheese in the Library for Hotel Guests

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. **Welcome Reception** – Veranda Garden

7:00 p.m. **Dinner** on your own

If you are planning on eating on-site please make reservations in advance of the

meeting. Additional dining suggestions in town are located on page 8.

#### Monday, July 28

7:00 – 10:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast** – Saddles Restaurant, Conference Center

(included in room rate for overnight hotel guests)

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. **Executive Committee Breakfast Meeting** – The Tack Room, Conference Center

8:00 a.m. **Registration** – Conference Center Foyer

9:05 – 11:55 a.m. **GENERAL SESSION** – Conference Center, Rodeo Room

9:05 – 9:15 a.m. **New York State Bar Association Welcome** 

DAVID P. MIRANDA, ESQ., PRESIDENT-ELECT

**Trial Lawyers Section Welcome** 

A. MICHAEL FURMAN, ESQ., SECTION CHAIR

Furman Kornfeld & Brennan LLP

New York, New York

9:15 – 10:05 a.m. HOW TO GIVE EFFECTIVE OPENING AND CLOSING STATEMENTS

**NEIL KORNFELD, ESO.** 

Furman Kornfeld & Brennan LLP

New York, New York

10:05 – 10:15 a.m. **Break** 

10:15 – 11:05 a.m. THE EFFECTIVE CROSS-EXAMINATION: A VIEW FROM THE BENCH

HON. LEWIS J. LUBELL

New York State Supreme Court

Westchester County White Plains, New York

#### Monday, July 28 continued

11:05 – 11:55 a.m. WHEN YOU CAN'T SETTLE: TRYING YOUR CASE TO WIN

Topics to be discussed will include: Evaluating Trial Counsel Preparedness; Witness Selection/ Preparation; Focus Groups/Jury Research; Jury Selection; Use of Visual Aids and Shadow Juries

**JAMES J. YUKEVICH** Yukevich Cavanaugh Los Angeles, California

12:15 p.m. Golf at Chardonnay Golf Club, 2555 Jameson Canyon Road, Napa Valley

The 18-hole course meanders through over 150 acres of Chardonnay vineyards and uniquely features six par fives, six par fours, six par threes and numerous lakes, creek crossings, and a wide variety of flora and fauna. **Golf shuttle departs hotel promptly at 12:15 p.m.** Contact: alexhall@chardonnaygolfclub.com for club rentals. **Soft-spikes only.** \$135 fee includes transportation to/from course, boxed lunch, greens fee and golf cart. No

refunds on golf cancellations after July 10th. **Preregistration Required.** 

Golf Chair: Daniel G. Ecker Esq.

Traub Lieberman Straus & Shrewsberry LLP, Hawthorne, New York

12:00 p.m. **Lunch** on your own

12:00 p.m. Free afternoon to explore downtown Sonoma and Napa.

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Complimentary Wine & Cheese in the Library for Hotel Guests

6:00 – 10:00 p.m. Cocktail Reception & Dinner - BENZIGER WINERY, GLEN ELLEN, CA

Named "Winery of the Year" in 2012 by Wine & Spirits Magazine.

Join us at Benziger Estate Ranch for a wine country dinner on the side of Sonoma Mountain. Hop on their tram for a tour of the vineyards and learn about their bio-dynamic farming practices followed by a private wine tasting. After cocktails, we will adjourn to the Estate Wine Cave for a multi-course dinner amongst the aging wine in its French oak casks.

Meet in hotel lobby for transportation to Winery at 6:00 pm sharp. Preregistration Required.



#### Tuesday, July 29

7:00 – 10:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast** – Saddles Restaurant, Conference Center

(included in room rate for overnight hotel guests)

8:30 a.m. **Registration** – Conference Center Foyer

9:05 – 11:50 a.m. **GENERAL SESSION** – Conference Center, Rodeo Room

9:05 – 9:10 a.m. **Trial Lawyers Section Greeting/Announcements** 

PETER C. KOPFF, ESQ., PROGRAM CHAIR

Peter C. Kopff, LLC Garden City, New York

9:10 – 10:00 a.m. **NEW YORK PRACTICE AND CPLR UPDATE** 

PROFESSOR PATRICK M. CONNORS

Albany Law School Albany, New York

10:00 – 10:10 a.m. **Break** 

10:10 – 11:00 a.m. THE ETHICS OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND PAYING FOR EVIDENCE

PROFESSOR PATRICK M. CONNORS

Albany Law School Albany, New York

11:00 – 11:50 a.m. 60 CENTRE STREET TO LA LAW: NY AND CA CIVIL PRACTICE

Trial vs Mediation – How California's Cap on Pain and Suffering has Affected

Medical Malpractice Cases and More

JOHN J. QUINN, ESQ.

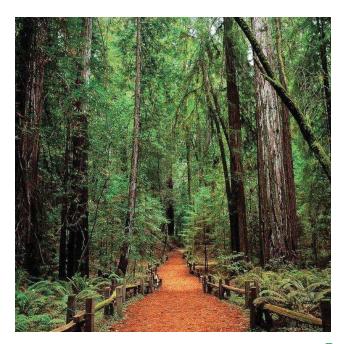
Tucker Ellis LLP

Los Angeles, California

## 12:15 – 6:15 p.m WINERY TASTING TOUR AND ARMSTRONG WOODS VISIT

Join us for tastings at two beautiful vineyards west of the Russian River Appellation - Lynmar Winery and DeLoach Vineyards. At Lynmar, we will sample 4 reserve wines paired with Artisan cheeses in their redwood grove, and at DeLoach, our tasting will take place in the barrel room. We will then make our way to Armstrong Woods for a guided hike through the magnificent Sequoia sempervirens known as the coast redwood.

Preregistration is required. Tour price includes boxed lunch.



## Tuesday, July 30 continued



#### 12:15 p.m. Silverado Golf Club, 1600 Atlas Peak Road, Napa

Experience an unforgettable day on the greens on the championship18-hole North Golf Course. The Opening event of the 2014-15 PGA Tour season, The Frys.com, will take place in October on this course. Designed by renowned architect Robert Trent Jones, Jr., the course features dozens of water crossings, elevation changes and routing through oak, pine and redwood trees. Soft-spikes only. First tee time is 1:00 p.m. Shuttle departs hotel at 12:15 p.m. promptly. Preregistration required. \$250 fee includes transportation to/from course, boxed lunch, practice balls, greens fee and golf cart. Club rental contact: bjohnson@troongolf.com to prearrange. No refunds after July 10th.

7:00 – 10:00 p.m. **Reception & Dinner** – Veranda Gardens and Veranda, MacArthur Place

#### Wednesday, July 30

7:00 – 10:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast** – Saddles Restaurant, Conference Center

(included in room rate for overnight hotel guests)

12:00 noon Check Out/Departure

#### THINGS TO DO IN SONOMA

Stop by the Sonoma County Visitors Bureau, 453 First Street East, located on the east side of Sonoma Plaza for information about the Plaza and all of Sonoma Valley. Open Monday – Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (866) 996-1090 or www.sonomavalley.com

#### Garden Spa/Pool, MacArthur Place, Sonoma

The Garden Spa and Fitness Center is located adjacent to the heated outdoor pool and whirlpool in the heart of the garden. Complimentary iced tea and water are served poolside and room service is available for poolside lunch or snacks. The Garden Spa at MacArthur Place offers over 40 different massage, facial and body treatments utilizing the elements of the historic gardens fruits, flowers, herbs, and earth. Advance reservations highly recommended. Call: 707-933-3193.

Sonoma State Historic Park, Mission San Francisco Solano, 114 Spain Street at First St., Sonoma Unlike most parks with a single plot of land and a continuous boundary, Sonoma State Historic Park is a scattering of historical attractions consisting of six midtown locations near Sonoma's Plaza. They are: Mission San Francisco Solano, the Blue Wing Inn, Sonoma Barracks, the Toscano Hotel, the Servants Quarters (the remains of La Casa Grande) and the home of General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo. Vallejo's home, Lachryma Montis, is less than a mile west of the Plaza. Vallejo served as Military Commander and Director of Colonization of the Northern Frontier. \$3 Admission gets you into the small museum, mission church and home of General Vallejo. An interesting part of CA history; don't miss the short video on the history of the area. Easy walk across the park down the bike trail to the house and other buildings. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. 707-938-9560.

#### Sonoma Plaza Wine Walk

Sonoma Plaza is currently home to more than 24 wine tasting rooms that offer fine wine from Sonoma County's award winning wineries. We will have copies of the WineWalk guide to 18 of these tasting rooms on the Plaza at registration or you can print your own from www.sonomaplaza.com. Buy a bottle or two to enjoy. Most tasting rooms offer shipping to New York.

#### Sonoma Coast State Beach, Highway 1, Between Jenner and Bodega Bay, Sonoma, CA

Sonoma Coast State Beach is actually a collection of beaches in Sonoma County; the drive on Pacific Coast Route #1 offers eye-popping vistas from both the beaches and the surrounding high hills. Stroll the beaches, stop at an overlook, have a picnic or take a hike on one of the trails. Depending on the time of year, Schoolhouse Beach has tide pools that offer an abundance of sea life, even baby octopus! Walk barefoot and wade in the water. Not all of the beaches offer swimming so check before you go. Phone: 707-875-3483. www.parks.ca.gov/?page id=451

#### Armstrong Woods State Natural Reserve, 17000 Armstrong Woods Road, Guerneville ~

A majestic living reminder of the magnificent primeval redwood forest that covered much of this area before logging operations began during the 19th century. Armstrong Redwoods preserves stately and magnificent Sequoia sempervirens, commonly known as the coast redwood. These trees stand together as a testament to the wonders of the natural world. The grove offers solace from the hustle and bustle of daily life, offering the onlooker great inspiration and a place for quiet reflection. Open 8 a.m. to one hour following sunset. **Our guided tour on Tuesday includes a hike through Armstrong Woods.** Phone: 707-869-2015. www.parks.ca.gov/?page\_id=45

Wineries on Highway 121 entering Sonoma Valley: Gloria Ferrer, Viansa & Jacuzzi Family Vineyards. Others Nearby Wineries: Buena Vista Winery, Ravenswood, Gundlach Bundschu, Imagery, Kunde, Hanzell and Cline Cellars.

For more information on Sonoma Activities, visit:
www.winecountrythisweek.com
www.sonomaplaza.com
www.sonomacounty.com

#### DOWNTOWN SONOMA RESTAURANTS

## Depot Hotel Restaurant and Garden, 241 First Street West, Sonoma, 707-938-2980. Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday – Sunday

Historic stone building two blocks from the Sonoma Plaza featuing Mediterranean-inspired cuisine. Served as the local hotel for 19th c. passengers arriving on the train from San Francisco. The original owners also opened an Italian restaurant and "saloon" here in 1890 to serve the townspeople of Sonoma and their visitors. Enjoy dining in the plumstone building or on the decks and terraces surrounding the garden and reflection pool. Their Wine Bar, Vinoteca, offers house-made "small plates" of antipasti consisting of salads, cheeses, and other vegetables dishes, as well house-made cured meats. The Vinoteca is open in the afternoons when you can enjoy a casual snack at the bar, at a fireside table, or in the Garden, as well as on into the evening. www.depotsonoma.com

## El Dorado Kitchen, 405 First Street West, Sonoma, Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Daily, Dinner Sunday – Thursday 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Farm-driven cuisine showcasing the essence of seasonal produce with ingredients sourced from local purveyors and nearby Sonoma farms. A sophisticated bistro serving straightforward seasonal dishes. On warm evenings, the patio is a lovely place to try one of the inventive cocktails, such as the refreshing gin-based Kiwi Martini.

www.eldoradosonoma.com

## Fremont Diner, 2698 Fremont Drive, Sonoma, 707-938-7370, Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Thursday – Sunday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The tiny Fremont Diner off the junction of Highway 121/12 nails the look of a roadside diner from the 1940s. The roof is corrugated tin, and a badly rusted pickup truck is permanently parked outside. The menu is classic Southern comfort food with a bit of Cal-Mex thrown in, cooked with the best Napa and Sonoma ingredients with a good selection of local craft beers, www.thefremontdiner.com

## The Girl & the Fig, 110 West Spain Street, Sonoma, 707-938-3634, All-Day Menu Daily 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday Brunch 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A Sonoma County favorite since 1997, this charming spot serves French-country cuisine for lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch. It's practically de rigueur to precede a meal here with a Fig Royale (the house cocktail, made with fig syrup and sparkling wine). Should you try the slow-braised carbonade de boeuf for dinner, or the pan-roasted black cod? Extensive charcuterie offerings. www.thegirlandthefig.com

## Harvest Moon Café, 487 First Street West, Sonoma, 707-933-8160. Dinner Sunday – Saturday 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Closed Tuesday.

Farm-to-table cuisine with menus changing daily to focus on Sonoma County's bountiful, local harvests. All of their produce, meat, poultry and fish come from local farms, ranches and fisheries guided by principles of sustainability. www.harvestmooncafesonoma.com

**LaSalette Restaurant, 452 First Street East, Suite H, Sonoma, 707-938-1927. Open Daily Lunch & Dinner.** Brazilian and Contemporary Portuguese cooking with a California flair - unique cuisine characterized by familiar Southern European comfort ingredients (olive oil, olives, garlic, tomatoes, onions, wine, parsley, etc.), exotic seasonings picked from around the globe during hundreds of years of Portuguese expeditionary voyages, and fresh local and seasonal California produce. www.lasalette-restaurant.com

Sante at Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn, 100 Boyes Blvd., Sonoma, 707-939-2415, Nightly 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. AAA Four Diamond Award and Michelin designee. Wine country casual offering three dining choices: a Chef's Tasting Menu of seven courses with optional wine pairings; a Prix Fixe Menu and an Ala Carte Menu.

ADDITIONAL DINING OPTIONS ABOUND IN NAPA AS WELL AS IN OTHER SURROUNDING AREAS.