

OADC OUTLOOK

A Publication of the Oklahoma Association of Defense Counsel

April 2015

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www.OADC.org

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President's Message

by Angela Ailles-Bahm

I want to thank you all again for the opportunity to be the president of the Oklahoma Association of Defense Counsel. It is an organization which is very near and dear to my heart as I have been on the board or an office for 15 years - I'm not kidding.

Well, 2015 certainly started out with a bang. The **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE** has been hard at work as you might expect. Thank you to **Chair, Jason Reese, and members, Mike Carter, Gary Roper, and Randy Sewell**. And a huge thank you to our **lobbyist Brett Robinson** who is doing an excellent job, again, of keeping us informed and on top of matters of interest. I can tell you from personal observation, Brett is highly regarded and is representing our interests well at the Capital.

As I said during my Winter Meeting remarks, in addition to the ongoing attack on the JNC and the judiciary, the legislature was entertaining some efforts at changing the Oklahoma Bar Association from a mandatory bar to a voluntary bar. The authors, Representative Kevin Calvey (a lawyer) and Senator Ralph Shorty wrote a couple of bills trying to eliminate what we know as our Bar; the last effort was to basically defund it. Whether you like the idea of a voluntary Bar or not, the bills which were introduced provided no alternative means by which important functions of the Bar would be accomplished, like policing the membership. Who would review complaints; how would "bad" lawyers be disciplined and disbarred; and how would it be paid for? We sent out the mass email about the issue and I want to thank those who called their legislators about the issue. The bill died in committee at the last minute...literally!

The **OADC bill** to clean up 12 O.S. Sec. 3009.1 hopefully will be signed into law shortly. We worked with the OAJ as far as we could on an agreed bill. But, as you might expect we couldn't completely agree. Brett and I met with our author Representative Randy Grau to discuss the issues and he ultimately agreed with our position. Thank you to members, Steve Johnson and Jon Starr, for working with me on some key issues regarding the drafts of the bill.

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Don't be an unfrozen CAVEMAN Lawyer.

Get your **oadc.org** password today.

Here's how to sign up:

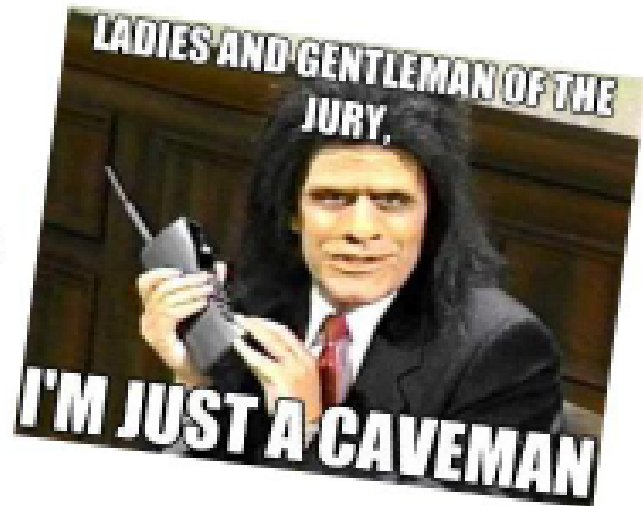
1. Go to the OADC website: www.oadc.org
2. Click "forgot password" in the upper right corner of the home page:

Email

Password

Remember me

[Forgot password](#)



3. Enter your email address (the one that matches your OADC membership info), and follow the instructions on the screen:

Reset password

* Your email

* Code

Type the 6 characters you see in the picture



4. Use the website to pay your dues, register for CLE, check the OADC calendar, read the OADC-sponsored legislation, post to a discussion forum, and more.

Marriott Gaylord Texan

Grapevine, Texas

June 4 - June 6, 2015

Name _____

Firm _____

Guest _____

Email _____

Check the appropriate registration options, then total your amount due. Return the registration page with your check to OADC. Mail your registration to *OADC PO Box 5445, Edmond, OK 73083*.

Registration Deadline is May 22nd. After May 22nd there is a \$250 Late Fee.

Full Conference (includes all CLE and social events)

_____ \$450 OADC Member

_____ \$550 OADC Non-Member

_____ \$150 Guests: Thursday Reception and

Saturday Reception & Dinner

Does NOT include CLE programs. Spouses who are lawyers and wish to attend CLE courses must register.

CLE Programs or Individual Social Events (If you will not attend the full conference use this section to register.)

Thursday

_____ \$175 OADC Members

_____ \$225 OADC Non-Member

_____ \$50 Thursday Night Reception

Friday

_____ \$175 OADC Members

_____ \$225 OADC Non-Member

Saturday

President's Reception and Dinner.

_____ Number of attendees x \$100 each: \$_____ total

No Official Golf Tournament Scheduled

\$_____ **TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED**

Marriott Gaylord Texan

Hotel Reservations: 1.877.491.5138

Hotel Code: ODC

OR go to: <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/OklahomaAssociationDefense2015>

Cut-Off Date: Monday, May 12th

Rate: \$179 + \$18 Resort Fee

This year I want to engage our **YOUNG LAWYERS** and start a young lawyer committee. They will carry this association into the future. I started out with young lawyers I knew and the young lawyers on our Board. I solicited the assistance of two “mentors” for the group, Leslie Lynch and Jake Jones. **Board Member Mary Beth Nesser and Liz Oglesby** will take the lead on the committee and get some traction going. Please email or call them with your wish list. What can the OADC do for you? Mentoring? Networking? Peer to peer social gatherings? Don’t want to hang with your old boss at the next meeting because you don’t know anyone else??? Let this committee work for you!

Speaking of working...the **CLE COMMITTEE** has been also hard at work. Immediate past president, **Jennifer Annis is Chair. Members of the committee include David Russell, Mike Chitwood, and Meredith Lindeman.** They are working on an outstanding slate for the Summer Meeting. The Trial College is still on but had to be continued to later in the year. They want to get the best possible venue, like a law school, and ran into a snag with the timing. More to come.

And last but no way least, my thanks to **Steve Johnson and the WEBSITE COMMITTEE.** I hope you all have noticed the increased traffic on the website. Steve is dedicated to making sure the site provides you with a useful tool. **Committee members include Eric Begin and Tom Manning.** Please read on...inside the Newsletter is a “how to” Steve put together about accessing and using the OADC Website.

We’re still in need of more committee members! Please don’t hesitate to let me know if you want to participate on a committee-it is never too late.

I look forward to seeing you at the Summer Meeting, June 4-6, 2015. It will be at the beautiful Gaylord Texan.



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