



## Court Related Meetings Held

Case Coordinators, Mediators and those interested in Court Security met in March to learn more about these respective topics.



CASE COORDINATORS VISITED THE JUSTICE BUILDING. (Foreground L. to R.) GAYLE WILLIAMS AND VICKIE JONES, CASE COORDINATORS IN THE 21ST CIRCUIT.

Fifty-six case coordinators came to Little Rock for their annual two day meeting. "Jury Management", "Handling Individuals with Mental Health Disorders", "Crime Scene Investigations" and a session for new case coordinators were presented at the meeting, along with a visit to the Justice Building and the Crime Lab. New officers are Pres./Laura Berryman, 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit, Vice Pres./Jo Ann Smith, 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit, Sec./ Linda Lee, 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit, Treas./Andrea Hicks, 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit, and At Large Reps./Joan

Lester, 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit and Ruth Calloway, 11<sup>th</sup> W. Circuit.

On March 12<sup>th</sup> mediators, judges, lawyers, government agency employees and educators gathered in Little Rock for ADR Summit 2004. The Summit is a bi-annual conference hosted by the Arkansas Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission. The goal of the Summit is to bring together leaders in the field of alternative dispute

resolution to discuss recent developments, hot topics and plans for future projects. The hope is that by bringing together ADR professionals from the judiciary, government, educational institutions, and the private sector, participants can share resources and develop a clear sense of the current state of affairs of ADR in Arkansas;

This year, in addition to local speakers, presentations were made by three national speakers; Bernard Mayer of CDR Associates in Boulder, Colorado, Craig Coletta of the National Associa-

tion for Community Mediation in Washington, D.C., and Christine Carlson of Policy Consensus Initiative in Portland.

Judges Jay Finch, Jerry Mazzanti, and Mackie Pierce conducted a panel discussion on court ordered mediation before a packed room. The judges discussed their experiences with ordering cases to mediation, including why they do or don't use mediation and how they select cases. Circuit Judge David Goodson, Court of Appeals Chief Judge John Stroud, and



Mediation Panel Discussion by (L. to R.) Judges Mackie Pierce, Jay Finch and Jerry Mazzanti. retired Court of Appeals Judge John Jennings were also in attendance at the Summit.

ADR Summit 2004 was well attended with a record

# Old Ice House Becomes Court Complex



How many of you remember going to an ice house for ice or having ice delivered to your home for the "ice box" to keep it cold?

Garland County Juvenile Court and Hot Springs District Court moved into a renovated ice house in September, 2003. The old ice house is just down the street from the main Garland County Courthouse.

Of unusual interest throughout the building are pictures drawn by students who entered an art contest devised by Circuit Judge Vicki Cook. Fourth graders in the Hot Springs area submitted pictures

of what they did with their families during one of the four seasons of the year. A jury of artists judged the entries. There are 45 winning pictures on display. Along with the art, each display has a picture of the student artist and a written explanation by the student of what the picture depicts. There are also several pictures on display that are drawn by teachers in the area.

Before moving into the renovated building, juvenile court in Garland County was held in an old downtown church. Judge Cook and her staff now work in an open, airy environment. Each office has a

skylight, letting in natural light to the windowless rooms. There are several rooms set aside for juveniles to stay and in which to play while proceedings are being conducted. There is a large window lit jury room for use when circuit court



cases requiring a jury are conducted. This room is also equipped with materials needed when mediation is scheduled.

The renovated ice house is an asset to the Garland County court community and a nice example of renovating an old structure for modern use.

*Parent Wars*, a film about high conflict divorce and its effects upon children, will air on AETN in June, 2004. The film is a project of the Arkansas Bar Association's Family Law Section and was funded by the Arkansas Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission, the Arkansas Bar Foundation, and the IOLTA Foundation.

*Parent Wars* depicts a high conflict divorce and the effects of hostile parental conduct on the child. The film includes interviews with mental health experts,

(See Film, next page.)



**Former Chief Justice John Fogleman** passed away March 10, 2004. He was 92 years old. He had served as an Associate Justice from 1967-1979 and as Chief Justice from 1980-1981. During his time on the bench, he wrote over 1,000 opinions.

He had been licensed to practice law in Arkansas since 1934. Chief Justice Fogleman's public service during his life was widespread: Chairman/Arkansas Judiciary Committee, Member/ Board of Law Examiners, Member/ 1967 Constitutional Revision Study Commission, President/ Crittenden County Bar and Northeast Arkansas Bar Associations, and President/ Arkansas Bar Association just to name a few. Some of his awards included Outstanding Lawyer of the Arkansas Bar Association and Arkansas Bar Foundation, Man of the Year Award by the West Memphis Chamber of Commerce, and Golden Gavel Award by the Arkansas Bar Association for Exemplary Service to the Legal Profession.

## Arkansas CASA Plant Stake Project

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) is launching a plant stake initiative in an effort to raise awareness of CASA throughout the state. These plant stakes have been designed by a true stake manufacturer and include information about volunteering for CASA. CASA of New Hampshire initiated this undertaking this past summer and found it to be an effective approach to spreading awareness about CASA throughout the state. It was decided to conduct this project after National CASA conducted a survey that indicated that a very large percentage of potential volunteers also enjoy plants and gardening.



CASA Plant Stakes

When CASA of Arkansas began to put together their “stake” project, it was estimated they would need 20,000-25,000 stakes. After calling nurseries throughout the State, they found that the demand was much greater and ordered 60,000 stakes to be distributed to over 100 centers. This project is extremely cost-effective since each stake costs less than \$.03. Arkansas CASA believes that this project is a tremendous opportunity to reach a vast amount of people throughout the state for little cost. For further information, contact: Erin Stone/Arkansas CASA at 1-866-284-8111.

(Meetings continued)

number of participants, reflecting the growing interest in mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution in our courts, government agencies, educational institutions, and the private sector. *(For more information about mediation, or other ADR related issues, please contact Jennifer Jones Taylor or Angie Pearrow at the Administrative Office of the Courts.)*

The first of four Court Security Summits was held in Springdale on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Featured speaker was Steve Steadman from Court Security Consultant in Denver, Colorado. Steadman presented

practical tools and ideas to improve safety and security for the public, victims, witnesses, jurors and litigants, while maintaining the security of court staff and judges. Eddie Davis, Chief of Supreme Court Police briefed the audience about proper and effective security equipment in the courtroom and courthouse. Keith Caviness spoke on the availability of resources for court security. The other three Court Security Summits will be



EDDIE DAVIS, CHIEF OF SUPREME COURT POLICE

held in Camden, Jonesboro and Little Rock.

(Film, continued)

mediators, and judges, including Judge Joyce Warren and Judge David Switzer. Children who have been involved in a high conflict divorce talk candidly about their pain, anger, and frustration over the untenable situation in which they are placed by their parents. A segment of the video discusses ways in which to alleviate some of the conflict between parents, and focuses on mediation as one option. Mediation between two parties involved in a divorce is demonstrated. The video also highlights possible benefits of mediation.

Judges attending the Spring Judicial Council meeting in Little Rock received a copy of the video. To date, 36 judges have ordered copies of the film to make available to parties involved in a child custody, visitation, or support dispute.



## New Faces in the Judiciary

### City Judges

Widener - James Miller replaces Alan Cline.

### City Court Clerks

Greers Ferry - Jennifer Adams replaces Delores Shuster.

Lakeview - Bobbie Mitchell replaces Christine Jenkins.

Norfolk - Jodie Therrien replaces Susan Motes.

Rosebud - Terry Childers replaces Wyevette Jackson.

Widener - Kathy Spencer replaces Holly Sanders.

### JUDICIAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM 2003 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2003 Arkansas Judicial Retirement System Annual Report is now online at

[http://courts.state.ar.us/pdf/ajrs\\_2003.pdf](http://courts.state.ar.us/pdf/ajrs_2003.pdf)

### ADR GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Arkansas Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission is accepting grant applications for projects promoting or furthering the use of mediation or other forms of ADR. Grant application deadline is May 28, 2004 by 4:00 p.m. For more information contact Jennifer Jones Taylor at (501) 682-9400.

## CALENDAR

### **APRIL**

Education Committee Mtg. **22-23**  
(Heber Springs)

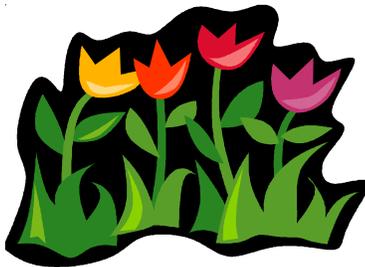
### **MAY**

District Judges Spring **13-15**  
College and District &  
City Court Clerks Annual  
Meeting (Springdale)

### **June**

Spring Judicial College/  
Judicial Council Meeting **9-11**  
(Hot Springs)

District Court Probation **24-25**  
Officers (Jonesboro)



#### Friends of the Court

Administrative Office of the Courts  
Justice Building/625 Marshall  
Little Rock, AR 72201



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Address  
Correction  
Requested