

# UTAH BAR JOURNAL

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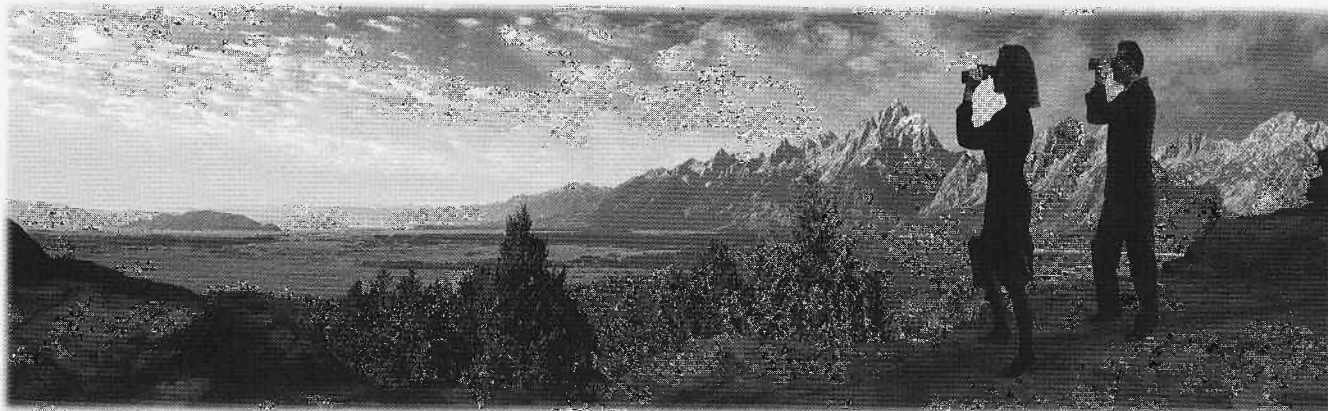
April 1998



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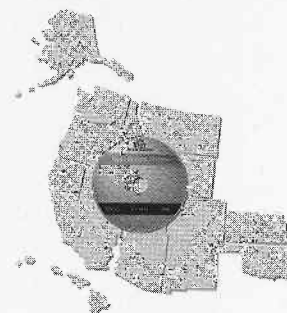
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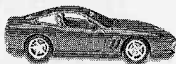


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**VISION OF THE BAR:** To lead society in the creation of a justice system that is understood, valued, respected and accessible to all.

**MISSION OF THE BAR:** To represent lawyers in the State of Utah and to serve the public and the legal profession by promoting justice, professional excellence, civility, ethics, respect for and understanding of, the law.

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COVER: Segó Lilies at Zions National Park by first-time contributor, Norman K. Johnson.

**CORRECTED FIRST HUNDRED COVER ISSUES AVAILABLE**

The title to the photograph of Utah's First Hundred on the cover of the March edition of the *Utah Bar Journal* contained a grammatical error. For those who may wish to have a copy of this very important photograph and issue celebrating the First Hundred, the Bar has reprinted a limited number of additional copies with corrected covers. These collector's editions will be available for pick up at the Bar offices in the Utah Law and Justice Center. We apologize for this inconvenience.

Members of the Utah Bar who are interested in having photographs they have taken of Utah scenes published on the cover of the *Utah Bar Journal* should contact Randall L. Romrell, Randle, Deamer, Zarr, Romrell & Lee, P.C., 139 East South Temple, Suite 330, Salt Lake City, UT, 84111-1169, 531-0441. Send a slide, transparency or print of each scene you want to be considered.

The *Utah Bar Journal* is published monthly, by the Utah State Bar. One copy of each issue is furnished to members as part of their State Bar dues. Subscription price to others, \$40; single copies, \$4.00. For information on advertising rates and space reservation, call or write Utah State Bar offices.

Statements or opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Utah State Bar, and publication of advertisements is not to be considered an endorsement of the product or service advertised.

# LETTERS

Dear Editor:

The following poem expresses the view of many of our members about the current proposal for mandatory reporting of pro-bono work.

## WHAT ONCE WAS NOBLE, PRIVATE CAUSE

Pro-bono work the Bar promotes.  
"Mandate reports," some agitate.  
That starts to crowd out volunteers.  
"But mandating makes numbers great."

It's a disease most widely spread:  
"We bar members are not well liked.  
We've got to spruce our image up.  
Pro-bono numbers must be hiked."

"They can't be hiked without reports."  
The Bar office must thus expand.  
What once was noble, private cause,  
we'll tabulate, broadcast, grandstand.

Why don't we let members alone?  
The quality of good you do,  
and services you give for free,  
still do and can speak well for you.

If truth were known about the case  
What's freely given does more good  
than tabulated pro bono  
has ever done or ever could.

He who pro-bono's slothfully,  
or gives because reports are due,  
It is not counted good to him,  
and little public good will do.

Answer: "But poor folk get left out."  
And richer folk advantage gain.  
They do sometimes, without a doubt.  
You'll stop that when you stop the rain.

Yet each should help out where he can,  
with that but few of us contend.  
But form new Bar bureaucracy?  
Heaven protect us and forfend!

"It's only voluntary though."  
"We'll discard those reports you do."  
Buy that, the Brooklyn Bridge is next.  
What foolishness! What ingenue!

Edwin H. Beus

Dear Editor:

Several years ago bar dues were raised substantially to pay the mortgage on the Bar Office Building. After the mortgage was paid, dues were not reduced.

In 1997, the Bar Commission found three-quarters of a million dollars in SURPLUS money in Bar accounts. A quarter of a million dollars was pledged to the new courthouse. A half million dollars was set aside in a "working capital reserve" account. None

was used to reduce bar member dues.

Commissioners, please reduce our dues.  
Brian M. Barnard

Dear Editor:

I think I speak for most members of the bar in stating that the new state Courts building in Salt Lake City appears to be a very attractive and functional edifice. I look forward to practicing there.

However, try as I might it is difficult to imagine why it is necessary to leave virtually every light in the building turned on all night every night, when the building is not even in use yet. I doubt there is a surplus of money with which to do this, and if there were it would still be worth while to conserve energy. I write this letter in the hope that someone with the power to do something about it will either put a stop to the practice of leaving all of the lights on or, if there is some good reason for doing so enlighten me.

Mitchell R. Barker

## Letters Submission Guidelines:

1. Letters shall be typewritten, double spaced, signed by the author and shall not exceed 300 words in length.

2. No one person shall have more than one letter to the editor published every six months.

3. All letters submitted for publication shall be addressed to Editor, *Utah Bar Journal* and shall be delivered to the office of the Utah State Bar at least six weeks prior to publication.

4. Letters shall be published in the order in which they are received for each publication period, except that priority shall be given to the publication of letters which reflect contrasting or opposing viewpoints on the same subject.

5. No letter shall be published which (a) contains defamatory or obscene material, (b) violates the Code of Professional Conduct, or (c) otherwise may subject the Utah State Bar, the Board of Commissioners or

any employee of the Utah State Bar to civil or criminal liability.

6. No letter shall be published which advocates or opposes a particular candidacy for a political or judicial office or which contains a solicitation or advertisement for a commercial or business purpose.

7. Except as otherwise expressly set forth herein, the acceptance for publication of letters to the editor shall be made without regard to the identity of the author. Letters accepted for publication shall not be edited or condensed by the Utah State Bar, other than as may be necessary to meet these guidelines.

8. The Editor, or his or her designee, shall promptly notify the author or each letter if and when a letter is rejected.

## Interested in Writing an Article for the *Bar Journal*?

The editor of the *Utah Bar Journal* wants to hear about the topics and issues readers think should be covered in the magazine.

If you have an article idea or would be interested in writing on a particular topic, contact the editor at 566-6633 or write, *Utah Bar Journal*, 645 South 200 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.



## Bar Commission Adopts Long Range Plan

by Charlotte L. Miller

**A**t its commission meeting on March 5, 1998, the Utah State Bar Commission completed its adoption of a Long Range Plan. The Long Range Planning Committee has been writing and revising the Long Range Plan for one year and the Bar Commission has been reviewing and discussing the Long Range Plan for several months. All of the objectives have been unanimously approved by the Bar Commissioners. The Plan is now published on the Web at <http://www.utahbar.org/LRP/long.htm>. A printed copy of the Plan may be obtained from the Bar offices (531-9077).

On April 17 and on May 15, the Bar Commission will discuss and determine priorities and budgeting of resources for the objectives in the Long Range Plan. Please review the objectives, and provide comments to the Commissioners so that we have the benefit of those comments prior to those meetings. Comments regarding the Plan and its implementation will be assimilated by John Baldwin who can be reached at [jbaldwin@utahbar.org](mailto:jbaldwin@utahbar.org). If you are too busy to bring yourself to provide comments, I ask that you at least let us know which three objectives should be at the top of the priority list.

The following is an overview of the Plan objectives. The Plan also contains significant context materials giving Bar

history and future projections.

**Management with a long range view.** The Plan commits the Bar for a five year period. Short-term projects will be avoided in favor of long term commitments. Success in implementing the Long Range Plan will be measured by a "report card" included in the Plan.

**Objective 5 – The Bar will administer consistent with the Long Range Plan.**

**Budget Cycles.** Budgets will not only be annual but multi-year budget periods will also be used. Margins for bar operations have decreased until the last two years budgets have projected no excess revenues. The Bar has not had a dues increase since 1990. The plan suggests that dues increases not occur every year but at the beginning of a multi-year cycle. A surplus would be reserved at the inception of the multi-year cycle, just after an increase. There would be no surplus in mid-cycle years and end of cycle deficits would be funded by the initial year reserve.

**Objective 6 – The Bar will refine its accounting systems and policies.**

**Sections, Committees and Local Bars** should be a principal means of delivering services to Bar members. The Bar needs to devote more of its resources to enabling these groups, which are proximate to members, to provide services. The Bar's

information, staff and internet resources will be made available to these groups.

**Objective 2 – The Bar will empower, emphasize and serve through sections, committees and local bar associations.**

**Member Services** should be a major focus for the Bar. The Supreme Court's 1990 Order severely restricted member services. The Bar has been able to make many of its member services self sustaining. With this record, the Bar needs to provide more self-sustaining member services. Bar information and technology resources can be used to enable members to adapt to changing legal markets, develop management expertise and improve their professional work.

**Objective 4 – The Bar will focus on the needs of new lawyers.**

**Objective 9 – The Bar will emphasize and monitor the relative amount of resources that is devoted to Member Services.**

**Objective 10 – The Bar will serve the needs of its changing membership.**

**Objective 11 – The Bar will provide assistance programs to members in law office management areas.**

**Objective 12 – The Bar will prepare members in markets which will be impacted by future developments.**

**Objective 15 – The Bar will embrace and lead with technology.**

