



Bruce K. Davis

# BENEFITS OF KBA MEMBERSHIP

You have probably already noticed that this issue of the *Bench & Bar* contains highlights from the 2010 Annual Convention held in Lexington. A record registration of over 2100 lawyers and judges made this convention the most successful ever. Over the last several years, the members of the Kentucky legal profession have made the annual convention much more than a great opportunity to obtain continuing legal education (CLE) credits and hear from nationally recognized speakers. With the assistance of the law schools and many other law practice related groups, the convention has become a time of year when lawyers and judges get together and renew old friendships and make new contacts as well as attend great CLE. If you attended this year's convention, I hope you will agree that the Annual Convention and CLE Program Planning Committees, working with the outstanding KBA staff, produced an excellent three days of both educational and social programs. Next year, the convention will once again be held in Lexington. Please mark your calendar for the dates of Wednesday, June 15, to Friday, June 17, 2011, for the 2011 KBA Annual Convention.

Just as the convention is a great opportunity to meet with fellow lawyers and judges, so are the upcoming District Bar/Kentucky Law Update (KLU)

programs. The KLU registration forms are out, and I encourage you to join the over 4000 other Kentucky Bar Association members who will sign up for one of the nine locations. These programs are a great member benefit that is offered without registration fee and is paid for through your dues dollars. The KBA President's presentation during the KLU program will be on the good value that we receive for our annual dues.

Another member benefit offered without additional charge is Casemaker, an online legal research service. A few years ago your Board of Governors added this service to the KBA annual budget. Each issue of this magazine generally has an advertisement for Casemaker, and Casemaker representatives have provided instruction programs at both annual conventions and the Kentucky Law Updates. While many members have taken advantage of this online legal research service, it still has not reached the number of regular users that was anticipated when the Board of Governors entered into a service agreement with Casemaker. The "out of pocket" Bar dues cost to offer Casemaker to the membership is approximately \$90,000 per year. We would like to hear from you if you use Casemaker on a regular basis and it is beneficial to your law practice.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve this coming year as President of the Kentucky Bar Association and wish to express my sincere thanks for the excellent leadership of Buzz English of Bowling Green who served as FY 2009-2010 KBA President. Buzz's father, Charles E. English, was one of the great presidents of the KBA, and Buzz certainly learned well from him.

Your KBA Board of Governors is dedicated to advancing the legal profession through leadership, ethics and education, and the volunteer time given by members of the Board as well as hundreds of other lawyers and judges is truly remarkable. The Kentucky Bar Association could not operate without the spirit of volunteerism that is alive in the Kentucky legal profession. ☺

**Mark your  
calendar**

**June 15-17, 2011**

**KBA Annual  
Convention 2011**

**Lexington**