



East Bay Council News

May 2011

President's Message

It is spring, or at least the calendar tells us that. The year has passed so quickly.

This month we have a terrific speaker and an interesting topic. The estate planning field is constantly changing, not only with respect to tax law, but also with respect to the "family." Michael Ferguson's presentation promises to be a crowd pleaser and eye opener.

Our program chair has worked very hard over the year to set up a variety of programs. As a recap, we have covered topics ranging from a market update, loss of competence in elders, ethical issues for fiduciaries, the new tax relief act and trust administration. Thank you, Jesse for the programs. Also, the board has contributed their time and expertise to the council operations, as well. Thank you to all of the board members.

At our May meeting, we will have a new slate for the board, and those in attendance will vote on the new slate. I hope to see you all there.

Regards,
Margaret Zywiczc

To Heir is Human

Our Changing Conceptions of "Family"

It's not 1950 anymore for sure.

The concept of what is a family has gone through some radical changes since World War II. We are no longer in the "Father Knows Best" or "Leave it to Beaver" typical family.

This month we are pleased that **Michael C. Ferguson, J.D.** can join us to discuss the legal family. Starting with California Prop 8 he will explore same-sex couples and marriage. Michael will look at CA and other states and contract law issues. He will move on to parent/child relationships and other ramifications of today's definitions of family. It should be a fascinating presentation for both Attorneys and non attorneys alike.

Monday, May 9, 2011

Scott's Seafood Restaurant

Jack London Square
Oakland

6:00 PM Wine Reception
6:30 PM Dinner Meeting

\$35.00 paid in advance
\$40.00 at the door

Please make your **check** payable to
"EBEPC" and mail to:
781 McKean Place
Concord 94518

Or for **credit cards**:

<https://www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=ebepc>

Or call 925.686.4819
before 1 PM on
Thursday, May 5th

Meeting Sponsored By:

John Tregenza
Bell Investment Advisors
1111 Broadway, Suite 1630
Oakland, CA 94607
510.433.1066 x 109

Michael Ferguson is a graduate of Boalt Hall with a Bachelors in Economics. He has been Board Chair, California State Bar - Estate Planning, Probate & Trust Law Advisory Commission. He is an instructor at Boalt Hall, St. Mary's College, and in several Continuing Education programs. His offices are in Berkeley. For fun he reads, travels and "tend to my family [a wife, 4 kids and their spouses and significant others, and 4 grandkids-- 14 in all. Even dinners at Chinese restaurants can get expensive!]"