



IGA NEWS- APRIL 2006

The Illinois Guardianship Association
PO Box 64845
Chicago, IL 60664-0845
Phone 312-458-9867
www.illinoisguardianship.org

Please join the IGA for our Annual Meeting and Conference. . .

IGA Annual Business Meeting and Conference
May 11, 2006
Department of Agriculture (State Fairgrounds)
5th and Sangamon Avenue
Springfield, Illinois 60025

This training is absolutely **FREE** of charge

- 8:00-9:00 Coffee . . .Socialize . . .Sign in
- 9:00-9:50 **IGA Annual Business Meeting-** President's Report- Benjamin Brown
Election Results
Committee Reports
Incoming President's Address- William Scheidemantel
- 9:50-10:00 **Break**
- 10:00-10:50 **Constitutional Rights of Wards**
John H. Wank will discuss protection of wards under the constitution
- 11:00-11:50 **Improving Advocacy for Persons with Autism**
Illinois Center for Autism
- 12:00-1:00 **Lunch on your own**
- 1:00-2:00 **Looking Ahead . . . Illinois Department Developmental Disabilities**
Illinois Department of Human Services
- 2:00-3:15 **Panel Discussion - Legislative Changes affecting Guardians**
John Erbes -SIU
Lee Beneze- IL Dept. on Aging
Sherri Rudy- Public Guardian- Winnebago County
- 3:15-3:00- **Adjournment**

To reserve a space at this conference please contact Laura Zorich at
lzorich@gac.state.il.us or call (312)793-5900

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Illinois Guardianship Association Members:

What a year it has been. We held our first annual fee conference trainings to great success. Professional, public, and personal guardians all learned how to handle the complexities of being a guardian. We had such a good response to the training, we plan to do it every year. Our trainings will have something for every guardian, whether you have one ward or one hundred wards. Our fee conference trainings are particularly valuable if you want to keep up with changes in the law and innovations for performing your duties.

We started up our own website. Now we will have information about guardians and guardianship all in one place. But more importantly we will continue to update the member directory. This directory is for members only and is a valuable resource for outreach and networking.

Speaking of our website, we will be posting our newsletter for all to see. The newsletter contains what our members are up to, announcements of upcoming events, articles and sources of information for guardians. This is an opportunity for members to share their insights and events, ask questions and be a part of the larger guardian community. www.illinoisguardianship.org

In that larger community, one of our members was presented with the Star Achievement Award by the National Guardianship Association. This annual award is given to the most outstanding Master Guardian in the country. This is an example of the quality of member that shares this organization with us. We are in good company. I look forward to seeing all of you in Springfield for our annual meeting on Thursday, May 11, 2006. Our meeting promises to be informative, with updates in the law as it applies to guardians and caregivers. It will also include speakers from the Department of Human Services and The Illinois Autism Society . Finally, the capable Bill Scheidmantel will be installed as President of IGA.

If you have questions or concerns you may contact me or other members of the Board of Directors.

Sincerely,
Ben Brown- President of IGA
730 E. Vine St., Suite 214
Springfield, IL 62703
217-753-3300
e-mail: benbrown@lollaf.org

IN MEMORIAM

James B. Moses, Jr.
1958 – 2006



GUARDIANSHIP FUNDAMENTALS: Written by William Scheidemantel

Standby and Short-Term Guardians

In the past, when a guardian died or became unable to serve, a gap in guardianship services would occur until an interested party went to court and obtained the appointment of a successor guardian. Several years ago the Probate Act was amended to provide mechanisms designed to avoid such an interruption in guardianship coverage. The statutory amendments created two new categories of guardian: the standby guardian and the short-term guardian.

STANDBY GUARDIAN

The Probate Act allows the original court-appointed guardian to designate a standby guardian to immediately take over guardianship duties upon the death or incapacity of the original guardian. The designated standby must be approved by the court, but the advantage of this arrangement is that the appointment of the standby guardian takes place before the need arises.

The designation of a standby guardian is made in a written instrument witnessed in a manner similar to a Will, by two or more persons. The nominated standby guardian must meet the same legal qualifications of a guardian, and in choosing standby guardians, the wishes of the ward must be considered, although not necessarily followed.

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The IGA newsletter is a quarterly publication. Would YOU like to contribute? We'd like to hear from you. Please send all articles, questions or comments to Bill Scheidemantel via email bscheidemantel@gac.sate.il.us

Is it time for you to renew your IGA membership?

It's easy. Just complete the invoice on page 4 and return it to the IGA with payment.

Questions? Give us a call (312) 458-9867

GUARDIANSHIP FUNDAMENTALS:

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Although approved in advance by the court, the standby guardian has no duty or authority to act as guardian until he or she learns of the death or incapacity of the original guardian, at which time the standby immediately assumes the powers previously granted by the court and may exercise those powers for a period of up to 60 days. Within those 60 days, the standby guardian must file a petition with the court to appoint a guardian to serve beyond the initial 60-day period. The standby must also file an oath and bond with the court.

SHORT-TERM GUARDIAN

A short-term guardian is a person designated by the original court-appointed guardian to serve as a sort of temporary, substitute guardian when the original guardian is temporarily unavailable due to events such as a brief illness or vacation. The appointment of a short-term guardian does not require court approval.

The designation of a short-term guardian must be in writing and witnessed by two or more persons. Again, in choosing a short-term guardian, the wishes of the ward must be considered. The designated short-term guardian also must sign an acknowledgement of their willingness to serve. The appointment of the short-term guardian is effective upon the signing of the document, unless it specifies a later date or event. The short-term guardian may act a cumulative total of up to 60 days in a 12-month period. The short-term guardian may not act as guardian of estate, but may collect or apply for public benefits for the disabled person.

The original guardian may appoint only one short-term guardian at a time, and may limit the scope and duration of the appointment. Each time the guardian wishes to appoint a short-term guardian, the ward must be provided with the name, address and phone number of the short-term guardian and the details of the appointment, and notified of the right to object to the appointment of a short-term guardian by filing a petition with the court.

Thank you for your interest and participation in the Illinois Guardianship Association. For questions, concerns, information or to become involved in one of our many committees, please contact Gina Rossi via email at grossi@gac.state.il.us

Invoice
Illinois Guardianship Association

Illinois Guardianship Association
501 c3
PO Box 64845
Chicago, IL 60664-0845

Phone 312-458-9867
Federal ID#36-4254121
<http://illinoisguardianship.org/>

To: IGA Member

Description: Renewal of IGA Membership Fee for 2006

Detach and mail with payment

Total Amount Due (check one) :

\$75 Illinois Guardianship Association member only

\$25 Member of the National Guardianship Association and Illinois Guardianship Association

\$25 Family, Consumer, Student, Non-Professional

Name: _____

Company/Agency Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Dues Payable to:

Illinois Guardianship Association, c/o P O Box 64845, Chicago, IL 60664-0845

IGA Annual Meeting and Conference
THURSDAY MAY 11th

**DECISIONS OF LOVE
STRUGGLE WITH END OF LIFE CHOICES**

*The West Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging is sponsoring a **free conference** at the Quincy Senior and Family Resource Center at 639 York Street in Quincy Illinois. The Conference is May 9th 2006 from 8:00-11:00 am. For a brochure or to register (217) 223-7904. Cost for CEU processing is \$10*

Would you like to become a REGISTERED GUARDIAN ?

A Registered Guardian Course Review and Exam will be held in Chicago on June 28th 2006. Please contact Gina Rossi via email at grossi@gac.state.il.us. Also feel free to research registered guardians on the National Guardianship Association's Website at www.guardianship.org for more information.

**Visit us on the world wide web at
www.guardianship.org**

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