

# WAVES OF EXPLORATION

NCBC 2009 - ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

Issue Three  
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The Beacon— Official Publication of the 2009 NCBC Conference

## Remember:

- \* When: June 29—July 2, 2009
- \* Where: The Renaissance Vinoy Resort & Golf Club, St. Petersburg, Florida

## Registration Table - Hours of Operation:

Registration begins at the Vinoy on Monday, June 29, 2009. The hours are as follows.

Monday, June 29:  
7:30 am - 8:00 pm

Tuesday, June 30:  
7:30 am - 4:00 pm

Wednesday, July 1:  
7:30 am - 4:45 pm

Thursday, July 2:  
7:30 am - 12:00 pm

After Tuesday, the Registration Desk will be combined with our Lifeguard Station, so there will be one handy location for all your conference requests and needs!

This issue lovingly edited by Middle District of Florida especially for you

## It's Almost Here! Have You Packed?

May we make some suggestions?

Sandals or flip flops (Avoid being laughed at as you traverse the beach in your loafers)

A camera, to photograph all the fun you're having (And to document your court's Clerk traversing the beach in loafers)

Sunscreen, sunblock, sunglasses, sun hats, sun visors (Because it's sunny...)

A large flame retardant blanket to extinguish fellow conference goers who spontaneously burst into flames (Because it's also hot...)

An umbrella (Because it's sometimes hot, sunny, AND rainy. It's fun, we promise!)

Swim gear for an afternoon at the pool or beach (Bring a snorkel and wear it to the banquet. Everybody loves a guy in a snorkel.)

A cell phone, mainly for waving in the air at Cha Cha Coconuts as George Prentice plays. (Bonus: Barry Lander likes shiny things.)

*But seriously folks:* bring your laptop, notepad, thinking caps, and capacity for learnin' and funnin'. Also, just a tip: the Vinoy doesn't offer free internet access, so if you have a cell modem for your laptop you may want to bring that along!



## Transportation—Getting Away From The Airport

When planning your trip, you'll likely want to start thinking about how to get from the airport to the hotel as quickly (and, from your court's standpoint no doubt, frugally) as possible. Here are some options for you to consider.

### Taxi:

Yellow Cab and United Cab service the airport. The cost is \$2.00 plus \$2.25 per mile. It's about 22 miles to the hotels, so expect a fare between \$50 and \$55.

### SuperShuttle:

Direct service to the three hotels. The charge is \$25.00 one way and \$46.50 round trip if pre-paid. You do not have to make reservations ahead of time but you can - shuttles leave every fifteen minutes. (Reserve by phone at 800-282-6817 or on the website at <http://www.supershuttle.com>)

### Metro Cars:

A good option if you're arriving in a small group, the charge for transportation by luxury town car is between \$60.00 and \$66.00 (including tip) to the three hotels. Reservations **must** be made at least one day in advance by phone at 888-459-7827.

## Restaurant Suggestions:

You have a few opportunities to plan dining outings for yourself, so for those of you who prefer to have some ideas in mind ahead of time, here are a couple of suggestions from our local staff. All are within walking distance of the Vinoy except where noted.

### *Parkshore Grill*

Voted Best Contemporary Cuisine by Tampa Bay Magazine 2009, described as stylish and polished, with both indoor and outdoor dining  
<http://parkshoregrill.com>  
 300 Beach Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

### *Midtown Sundries Restaurant & Bar*

A local favorite, with casual atmosphere and an eclectic crowd. Offers traditional American and pub food  
 200 1st Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

### *Ceviche Tapas Bar and Restaurant*

For great tapas and drinks,  
<http://www.ceviche.com/1828>  
 10 Beach Dr., St. Petersburg, FL 33701

### *The Garden*

St. Pete's oldest restaurant, known for its live jazz, good food and outdoor courtyard atmosphere  
<http://thegardenbistro.com>  
 217 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

### *The Moon Under Water*

A British colonial tavern featuring traditional British fare and Indian curry dishes  
<http://www.themoonunderwater.com/Page1.htm>  
 332 Beach Dr., NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

### *The Hurricane*

This is the one "road trip" option in the bunch, but it's worth a ride for the view! Located across the peninsula (20 minutes by car) on St. Pete Beach in an area known as Pass-a-Grille. Enjoy signature drinks, great seafood entrees and, most notably, the spectacular view from the rooftop deck of the sun setting over the Gulf.  
<http://www.thehurricane.com>  
 807 Gulf Way, St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

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### Did you know?

Your hotel may require a copy of your travel authorization as well as a tax exempt form upon check-in. For travel information, as well as information on state tax exemption, visit the JNET site <http://jnet.ao.dcn/Travel/index.html>

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Not the plannin' sort? Head to St. Pete Pier, where you're bound to find something, even if it's trouble!

## To Our Offsite Hotel Guests:

You'll pick up your conference registration materials at the Vinoy's Registration Table, but please remember to pick up your welcome packets from the front desk of the Hilton or the Hampton when you check in! There will be handy information in there that will help you get around and be prepared for the conference, so there may be no need to dash straight for the Vinoy as soon as you arrive. Put your bags down and rest a while!

## Play It Cool, Dress It Down

For the President's Reception, Cha Cha Coconuts, Columbia, and the Captain's Gala final banquet, you should feel free to dress cool and casual.

Elsewhere around the beaches, you'll find that many places' "dress code" may often be interpreted as a suggestion of shoes and pants...shoes optional.

## Exercise Junkies, Fear Not!

If you're a runner or jogger, please stop by the Lifeguard Station information desk at the Vinoy to pick up your 5K Jogging Map, featuring a scenic route for you to enjoy while maintaining your routine.

## Questions? Concerns?

The deadline for making changes to your registration has passed. However, if you have questions or concerns, the NCBC Help Desk is here for you! Send e-mails to [NCBC\\_Help@flmb.uscourts.gov](mailto:NCBC_Help@flmb.uscourts.gov)

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### Did you know?

Payments for conference registration and social activities should have been made to Celia Strickler (payable to NCBC) by June 15, so please send those in if you haven't already!

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## Golfing at The Vinoy

The Renaissance Vinoy is offering a 15% discount on golf fees. If you are planning on using their golf facilities, be sure to let them know you are part of the NCBC group to get your discount.

## Ahoy There, from Innovation Bay!

Innovation Bay is *the* place to explore during the NCBC Conference. We will be filling the Vinoy's Grand Ballroom Foyer to capacity with exhibits. As we put the final touches on this magnificent event, we want to bring you the latest information about the exhibits. To help you plan your excursion through Innovation bay, please visit the Innovation Bay web-page on the conference website. There you will find a summary about each topic and a map of exhibitors. Check it out... Discuss among your colleagues... Plan to bring a treasure trove of information back to your court!

<http://www.flmb.uscourts.gov/ncbc2009/innovationbay/>

*(Special thanks to Kathy Grzybowski for this article!)*



## See You Soon!

That's it, the last you'll hear from The Beacon! (Now, now...it's rude to cheer.) Thanks so much for letting us share information with you—it has been and will continue to be our pleasure to provide you with every scrap of knowledge we have—it may not be much, but it's ours to give!

We look forward to seeing you in just about a week. Travel safely and be well!

**Visit our website for lots more!**

<http://www.flmb.uscourts.gov/ncbc2009/>