FOUNDATION



President's Message

2021 is already off to a galloping start for The ACTEC Foundation! Thanks to our five intrepid jockeys and the ACTEC Fellows who spurred them on with their generous contributions, we raised over \$36,000 in the 2021 ACTEC Foundation

Derby: The L. Henry Gissel, Jr. Race of the Yearlings. Jockey Lora Davis followed last year's Texas Fellows victory with a second consecutive first-place win. Charlie Nash put on the pressure to achieve second place, followed by Benetta Park, Alan Rothschild and Bruce Ross. All of our jockeys deserve a round of applause - \$35,000 represents an entire year of financial support for the ACTEC Trust and Estate Talk podcasts and the Family Estate Planning videos. I have no doubt that our dear friend Henry Gissel would be particularly proud of his home state Jockey Lora Davis riding her filly, The Patriot Gissel, named in honor of Henry.

Looking forward to 2021, we anticipate reviewing several new grant proposals, including a proposal for the next Symposium and funding for a new class of Dennis I. Belcher Young Leaders. The Foundation's Disaster Preparedness Task Force is well underway with its project to offer resources in preparation for natural disasters. Two law students have been hired to compile the information using materials already gathered by ACTEC

Fellows and to supplement that with new research. We hope that this project will result in a handbook that will be available, free of charge, to all ACTEC Fellows and other professionals. This work could not be done without your financial support.

The ACTEC Foundation has been and continues to be built by ACTEC Fellows to support the educational and other charitable activities of the College. The impact from sponsoring research and the dissemination of knowledge concerning the improvement of a legal system in probate, trust, tax, and related areas of the law is impressive. This is your Foundation – please reach out to the Board of Directors with suggestions for new projects and ideas for sharing content with the public. It is not just your financial support we seek, but also your participation in our work.

Please join me in congratulating the jockeys at the 2021 ACTEC Virtual Summer Meeting. And if you'd like to help them take a victory lap, donations for The Derby are still being accepted through June 30.

Wishing you a healthy summer,

Jeffrey C. Thede

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Update: ACTEC Foundation Disaster Preparedness Task Force

The Disaster Preparedness Task Force ("Task Force") of The ACTEC Foundation is pleased to begin work on resources for communities impacted by disaster. The Task Force's project will expand on the research of the College's Charitable Planning Committee. The project's goal is to provide a central educational resource for ACTEC Fellows and members of the broader legal community to assist in the aftermath of a tragedy. The idea of the disaster preparedness resource was presented at two Charitable Planning Committee meetings. The goal is to provide a resource webpage and materials on actecfoundation.org that is accessible without charge to professionals and local governments.

At the March 2021 Board of Directors meeting, The ACTEC Foundation approved \$10,000 in funding to hire two law student interns to assist with the initial phase of creating an outline for the online resources. Once the outline is completed, it will be reviewed and expanded by Charitable Planning Committee members.

The two law students are Victoria Lee Cejka and Brittany D. Green, both of whom graduated from Loyola University Chicago School of Law in May 2021. Victoria and Brittany have begun work on the outline under the supervision of Task Force Chair Susan L. Abbott. The student interns will expand on the initial draft outline and add original research and interviews with ACTEC Fellows who have expertise in this subject. The initial research stage of this project will likely extend into the summer of 2021.

MARY MOERS WENIG WRITING CONTEST

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF TRUST AND ESTATE COUNSEL



FOUNDATION

Law Student Writing Competition is Open.

Deadline June 30, 2021.

First Prize — Full-tuition scholarship to the Heckerling Graduate Program in Estate Planning at the University of Miami School of Law, \$5,000 and publication in the *ACTEC Law Journal*.

Second Prize — \$3,000, online publication on The ACTEC Foundation website, and possible publication in the *ACTEC Law Journal*.

Third Prize — \$1,000, online publication on The ACTEC Foundation website, and possible publication in the *ACTEC Law Journal*.

For details visit actecfoundation.org/law-student-writing-competition

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Contributions from January 1 through April 30, 2021

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Check – Make the check payable to "ACTEC Foundation" and mail to The ACTEC Foundation, 901 15th Street, NW, Suite 525, Washington, DC 20005. Be sure to include where any acknowledgement should be sent.

Amazon Smile – Select The ACTEC Foundation as your beneficiary when you are shopping on **smile.amazon.com**. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5 percent of the purchase price to The ACTEC Foundation.

Annual Membership Dues – When remitting ACTEC dues, consider adding an annual contribution to The ACTEC Foundation.

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Matching Gifts – Your firm or company may "match" your donation to The ACTEC Foundation by doubling the dollar amount of charitable contributions through an employer matching gift program. Contact your firm's benefits administrator for more information.

Planned Giving – Contact James D. Spratt, Jr., Esq. at (404) 523-3018 or jimspratt@bowdenspratt.com if you would like information on how to name the Foundation as the recipient of a specific bequest under a will or trust; how to name the Foundation as a beneficiary under an IRA or other employee benefit plan; or about how to name the Foundation as the beneficiary of a CRUT.

In Memoriam Tribute – Honor a colleague, friend or loved one with a memorial gift to The ACTEC Foundation.

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