



# ABVE Goes To Charleston October 18 - 21, 2007 Charleston, South Carolina

*By Larry Sinsabaugh, Conference Chair*

The American Board of Vocational Experts (ABVE) will meet again in Charleston, October 18 – 21, 2007 under the theme; “*Taking VE Skills to the Next Level: Tips and Traps.*” An electronic brochure is on the Website at [www.ABVE.net](http://www.ABVE.net).

Pre-conference workshops are geared for those new to ABVE or those who want some additional experiential work in testifying. We might as well call Friday’s schedule an afternoon with lawyers. David Yandel will lead off as the keynote speaker, emphasizing tips and traps in ADA. Sam Edleman and the Honorable Judge David Hatfield will address relationships between Judges and VEs in Social Security hearings. Finally J. Leeds Barroll, IV, Esquire will offer tips on how to make VE testimony stand up on appeal.

Saturday morning’s focus is on trial work; the VE getting a birds-eye view from a judge’s perspective as the Honorable Judge Leon W. Tucker addresses what makes some VEs really good on the stand. This is followed by a trial attorney Rhonda Wilson who will talk about keeping the client in mind as a marketing and professional issue. Tips and traps will address communication after getting hired to do VE work and returning that work.

Saturday afternoon, the conference will take a ninety degree turn to address employment as a result of translating neuropsychological test results into predictors of employability. That very difficult spot, you know that spot at the end of Saturday afternoon when participants are tired of a hard day’s work of sitting through and integrating a bunch of information and data; the focus will again change and become interactive. Hopefully you will laugh, perhaps cringe, but overall reflect on things that can happen “good and bad” to a VE while testifying. Dr. Sinsabaugh will lead an interactive discussion based upon so called “war stories” from the field for the purpose of improving ethical VE practice through reflective “VEing.”

Sunday, Rosalyn Pierce former ABVE Ethics Chair will lead a discussion about filing ethical complaints. She will talk about and demonstrate the process. The program will wrap up with Dr. Mayer discussing VE liability.

More exciting, all of this will take place in Charleston South Carolina at the historic Francis Marion Hotel (See page 8 for *Favorite Charleston Experiences*). As always ABVE will offer the National Certification Test for those pre-authorized to be examined.

Your ABVE leaders urge you to take time away from your practice to meet with other VEs, talk about issues facing you and about what it may require to *Take Your VE Skills to the Next Level*. See you in Charleston!

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## President's Message

By G. Michael Graham, ABVE President, 2007-2009

The realization of another publication of ABVE's Newsletter brings me up short and heightens my awareness of just how fast the calendar pages are coming off the wall calendar. Like most of you, I am busy running my practice, attending depositions and trials, meeting with some of the other organizations I belong to and support and traveling between my office in Northern California and one in Honolulu, Hawaii .....(finally have 6 cases in Hawaii, now if I can just learn to pronounce the Hawaiian names!!, oh my gosh!!)

The past few months have been extremely busy for ABVE in terms of internal structural shoring up and launching exciting external projects..... let me just bring each of you up to date briefly.

1. Your Board of Directors recently passed seven new policies. **These have been posted to the ABVE Web site in their entirety for your perusal** but I'll briefly outline them here:
  - a. Clarification of Non-Certificated and Certificated level of membership. Non-certificated (joining without taking the National Certification examination) consist of *Associate Member and Student Member*. The certificated membership levels (passing the National Certification Examination is required) consist of *the Fellow and Diplomate* levels
  - b. Current ABVE Membership lists may be sold for a \$500 one time fee to requesting organizations of a human services nature & not for the purpose of non-related general solicitation.
  - c. ABVE Credential Committee members shall serve a 2-year term and shall be involved in the peer-review process for ABVE certification applicants. Policy outlines, duties, responsibilities, training and removal for unsatisfactory service.
  - d. ABVE members who recruit a successful candidate for membership at the Associate or above level will be awarded a \$100 conference discount.
  - e. ABVE Board members who present at ABVE conferences do so as volunteers and will not eligible for any reimbursements afforded to other conference speakers.
  - f. In order to establish uniformity among ABVE members, all certificated members are authorized to use the following designations on all business cards, letterheads, brochures, or other appropriate advertising pieces:

D/ABVE – indicating the *Diplomate* certification

F/ABVE – indicating the *Fellow* certification

2. The Board passed a motion accepting the work of Rosalyn Pierce, past ABVE Ethic Committee Chair and Betty Lindsey Hale, current ABVE Ethic Chair, regarding the detailed and step-by-step process with which an ABVE member can file a charge of a breach in the ABVE Code of Ethics and the manner in which that charge will be tracked and addressed until it is discharged. Roselyn will be presenting this wonderful piece of work as a part of her presentation at the ABVE Conference in South Carolina, October 18-21, 2007. The entire ABVE Code of ethics and this Discharge Procedure are posted on the ABVE Web Site at [www.abve.net](http://www.abve.net).

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

## President's Message Continued...

3. For those of you ABVE members who follow and/or participate on the IARP Forensic List Serve, you are well aware that there was a thread regarding "Who's The Client" which came to take on a life of its own. Your ABVE Board of Directors also tackled this issue internally and commissioned John Williams, Larry Sinsabaugh and Michael Graham to address this conundrum from a forensic perspective. Each of you, as ABVE members were emailed a copy of the work product of these three Board members and had until August 25<sup>th</sup> to present your concerns, approvals or suggestions. I am happy to say that over 28 responses were sent to me and all of them were in approval of the new direction ABVE was taking regarding this issue. Subsequently, your Board of Directors approved this work product and the four new definitions, and have now added these to the current Code of Ethics, which is posted in its entirety on the ABVE Website for all to see.

I was very proud of this working trio and the positive feedback obtained from ABVE members, I feel that it is a defining moment in the development of the forensic nature of this organization.

4. Under the gentle but persistent guidance of Board member John Williams, ABVE designed developed and implemented 3-major study-surveys in the past few months. Again, the results of these study-surveys have been posted in the ABVE Web site for your review – you can see the actual survey questions and the responses of participants. ABVE Headquarters made available a technological advance that allowed the surveys to be taken and tallied right on the ABVE Web site, which eliminated the expense of paper handling and mailing. The 3-surveys are: a) Current ABVE Members, b) Former ABVE Members and c) Non-Members (those who engage in forensic and vocational expert services but have never been a member of ABVE). These surveys and the results will continue to be posted on the ABVE web site for 30 more days so go to [www.abve.net](http://www.abve.net) to access these important documents. The outcomes of these studies will be utilized in the on-going Strategic Planning and the Role and Function studies of your Board of Directors.
5. Lastly, I wanted to let you know the positive start of ABVE's first nation-wide out reach committee activity. I am chairing a committee that will eventually establish linkages with the American Bar Association and the Bar Associations in each State and County. On July 15, 2007, I emailed to each ABVE member, a 1-page outline of what I envisioned to be the scope and activities of this Committee. I asked for volunteers who would be up to the activity that it was going to take to make this project happen. Happily, 18 members volunteered, some even took hold of the 3 suggested action activities I listed in this memo and sent me their State and County Bar Association Directories, calendar of events, etc.

ABVE member Harry Whiting and I have contacted William Neukom (Seattle, Washington) who became the President of the American Bar Association this month. We have requested a meeting with Mr. Neukom to outline this project and to seek his advice and support in reaching out to the National and State Bar Association members in a variety of ways to establish the Value-Added "want" on the part of the members of these Bar Associations for the use of ABVE Certified members as expert witnesses. EXCITING!

And so, colleagues, ABVE continues to move forward in assessing the needs and wants of our members and to make some decisive actions for the advancement of our forensic profession. As always, I welcome feedback, criticism and volunteering for action from our members..... step forward and join me and others whose collective energy and collegiality will keep ABVE YOUR forensic certification organization.

## From The Editor's Laptop

***By Betty Lindsey Hale, Newsletter Editor***

As another fall season approaches and I see the first beginnings of color changes here in Kentucky, I am reminded of all the changes I've witnessed within ABVE over the last year. We have three new Board Members: Dave Martin, Jayne Barton, and Dick Baine who are committed to making ABVE the premier organization in our field. We have several new policies that will clarify our position as a group. We have engaged in surveys of the membership, both current and former, as well as professionals in the field who have never been part of ABVE to determine how best to serve their needs and are attempting to enact changes that will reflect that input in a positive way. Also, our new President, Michael Graham, has been very proactive in promoting grass roots efforts within the membership to reach out to the legal community and educate them on the value of retaining an expert who has earned the ABVE credential. I hope that you will all agree with me that these are positive changes for our organization and that you will continue to assist the Board in doing our best for ABVE by providing input from the member's perspective so that we can all continue to grow and develop both as professionals and as an organization.

## Welcome to the Following New Members

The American Board of Vocational Experts would like congratulate the following new members. Continue to watch us grow!

Linda Stevenson, Associate Member  
Aida Worthington, Associate Member  
Kevin Ufier, Associate Member  
Larry Bonnington, Associate Member  
Holly Berquist, Associate Member  
Natalie Tessari, Associate Member  
Marta Engdahl, Student Member

Additionally, would also like to thank our three new subscribers to *ABVE's Journal of Forensic Vocational Analysis*:

John Meltzer, Journal Subscriber  
Martin Vego, Journal Subscriber  
Barbara Harvey, Journal Subscriber

**ABVE members who refer a qualified candidate who becomes a certified member will receive a \$100 "finder's fee credit" to be applied towards their next conference registration. So get out there and spread the word!!**

## Advertising In The Newsletter

The ABVE Newsletter now accepts selected advertisements. Although ABVE does not endorse any product or service from our advertisers, advertising sales benefit our entire membership. If you work with a professional or organization who's products or services would benefit others in our membership, please encourage the business or individual to contact Betty Lindsey Hale at [blhale@insightbb.com](mailto:blhale@insightbb.com) about advertising in the Newsletter.

## Expert Marketing

I've compiled a basic list here of Dos and Don'ts that will help you avoid these and other costly and potentially practice-killing mistakes.

1. **DO** compose and rehearse a one-sentence response to the question, "What do you do?" for networking situations such as a mixer at an expert witness conference or, more importantly, when meeting an attorney in person. It may be your one opportunity. Be succinct — attorneys are not interested in all that you know, only in what you can do for them. "I provide litigation support to attorneys in the field of orthopedic surgery, including medical record review, and expert testimony if necessary."
2. **DO** develop a networking relationship with your competitors. I met a Houston expert who turns away enough business to keep two additional consultants fully employed. Put yourself in the position to receive that turned away business!
3. **DON'T** invest advertising dollars in display advertising without also maintaining a consistent listing-type exposure such as a directory or classified advertising. The exception would be display advertising in a publication directed to an narrowly targeted audience. Nonetheless, remember that expert advertising, unlike retail advertising, does not create your prospect's desire and need. Not until an attorney needs an expert does he look for one, so be easy to find.
4. **DO** learn the difference between classified and display advertising. When an attorney seeks a toxicologist in an expert witness classified section, he will look for a category heading of "Toxicology". Conversely, a display ad must catch the reader's eye among articles and other kinds of ads. It must, therefore, be larger and contain an attention-getting phrase, photo, logo or graphic, and must have enough white space to make the message stand out.
5. **DON'T** use your paid space in a classified ad to state your fax number or address. The purpose of a classified ad is to tell the attorney that an expert is available in the specialty he is seeking. He will call you for additional information. Provide your phone number and your email and/or website address if you have one.
6. **DON'T** change your classified ad frequently. It is a category listing, not a beauty contest. People remember by shape, dimensions, a catchy word or term and other aspects. Make it easy for prospects, when they need you, to recall having seen your ad.
7. **DO** keep your website conservative and professional. Don't make claims of what you can accomplish except along the lines of helping the attorney understand the issues and communicating those issues to the triers of fact.
8. **DON'T** waste money sending large, glossy, costly brochures in an unsolicited direct mailing. A letter, a tri-fold paper brochure or resume and a business card are adequate. You could also include an article or an offer to provide an article. Save the more costly kit for inquirers.
9. **DO** make a marketing plan before you contract for advertising. Advertising is only one technique for growing your practice. Experts need a well-thought-out plan that includes professional-looking, effective business cards and other materials; networking actions and events; direct contact with attorneys, insurance adjusters and other potential clients; and publicity efforts such as newsletters, presentations, instructing/teaching and written articles.
10. **DON'T** ignore your existing and prior clients, who already represent value, in your search for new ones. Groom the goose that lays the golden eggs.

by Rosalie Hamilton, author of *The Expert Witness Marketing Book* and business development consultant for expert consultants. Learn more about her book at <http://tinyurl.com/yslylg>

# Congratulations to Dr. E Davis Martin

**AUBURN** - Auburn University College of Education faculty members Rebecca Curtis and E. Davis Martin recently received a combined \$875,000 for their innovative projects in the field of rehabilitation through two, five-year grants from the U.S. Department of Education.

Both Curtis and Martin are on faculty in Auburn's Department of Rehabilitation and Special Education. Their projects focus on undergraduate education and graduate rehabilitation leadership education.

Curtis, an assistant professor of rehabilitation counseling and undergraduate program director for the rehabilitation and disability studies major, will use her grant of \$375,000 to place students in a course of study approved by the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services that could provide a fast track into the rehabilitation counseling graduate program.

"The rehabilitation counseling profession has a shortage of qualified counselors, and a primary goal of my project is to show alternative ways of increasing the number of qualified persons entering the field," said Curtis.

Curtis joined AU's Department of Rehabilitation and Special Education in 2004 from Georgia State University, where she helped provide training opportunities to staff of community rehabilitation program throughout the southeast federal region.

Martin, a professor of rehabilitation counseling and graduate program director, will use his \$500,000 grant to provide training in leadership and management to both rehabilitation managers and those with leadership potential. The state-of-the-art distance education technology used in the training program will implement learning and reduce time spent off the job.

"An innovative feature of this grant is the development of critical management institutes paired with the academic courses throughout the 16 month post-graduate program," said Martin. Martin joined the faculty in 2003 from Virginia Commonwealth University, where he served in both faculty and administrative positions. He serves on Alabama's State Rehabilitation Council and chairs its Program Evaluation and Consumer Services Committee.

The College of Education's Department of Rehabilitation and Special Education recruits, prepares and graduates qualified individuals who are committed to and competent in assisting individuals with disabilities advance their personal, educational, vocational, social and economic goals. AU's Department of Rehabilitation and Special Education rehabilitation counseling program was recently ranked 14th nationally among public universities by U.S. News & World Report.

## Journal Guidelines Available

Those interested in submitting manuscripts for ***The Journal of Forensic Vocational Assessment*** can request specific guidelines from:

E. Davis Martin, Jr.  
Phone: (334) 844-2083  
email: [martiev@auburn.edu](mailto:martiev@auburn.edu).



## Future ABVE Conferences

Mark Your Calendars Now!

Fall 2007  
October 19 - 21  
Francis Marion  
Charleston, SC

Spring 2008  
San Diego, CA

Fall 2008  
San Antonio, TX

The American Board of Vocational Experts never has and currently does not endorse the use of any specific tests, test batteries, or commercial products.

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# Court Decisions affecting VE testimony in SSA Disability Hearings

The following excerpts regarding vocational expert testimony within the SSA Disability context were found on the NOSSCR Disability Blog. This site provides a wealth of information related to SSA and has links to other blogs focusing on Workers Compensation, LTD, and other areas where vocational issues are relevant.

**January 03, 2005**

**Ellis v. Barnhart, \_\_\_ F.3d \_\_\_, No. 03-3945 (8th Cir., Jan. 3, 2005)**

The Eighth Circuit, in a 2-1 decision authored by Circuit Judge Steven M. Colloton, affirms a step 5 denial of SSI benefits for a man alleging chronic back pain due to multiple injuries. The Court found that the ALJ's rejection of the treating physician's opinion that Ellis could sit only four hours per day was proper, that his rejection of Ellis's testimony of incapacitating pain was proper where substantial evidence did not support that testimony, and that VE testimony was unnecessary where Ellis's pain did not diminish his ability to perform a full range of sedentary work. In dissent, Judge Heaney concluded that the doctor's opinion was well-supported by the record and not inconsistent with other substantial evidence. He recounted Ellis's extensive medical history. "To summarize, Ellis has been involved in five serious car accidents in which he sustained injuries including fractures of both femurs, a fracture of the left radius, a collapsed lung, a pelvic fracture, facial lacerations, scalp lacerations, and multiple minor injuries. In addition, he has fallen twice from roofs, injuring his right hip and tail bone." He believed the medical evidence documented that Ellis's pain was chronic and severe. And he thought that the ALJ failed to correctly apply the *Polaski* factors and that he did not adequately explain the alleged inconsistencies in the record that supported his finding on Ellis's credibility. Judge Heaney would have remanded for payment of benefits.

**August 02, 2004**

**Wilson v. Commissioner, No. 02-00197, \_\_\_ F.3d \_\_ (6th Cir. August 2, 2004)**

The Sixth Circuit, in a significant opinion by Judge Ronald L. Gilman, vacated and remanded the District Court's decision affirming the ALJ's denial of benefits. The Court discusses at length the ALJ's duty to explain his reasons for rejecting a treating physician's opinion and finds that the ALJ failed in this case to articulate sufficient reasons for discounting that opinion, that this was not harmless error and that reasons advanced after the fact by agency counsel and the district court did not cure the defect. An excerpt:

The ALJ's failure to give "good reasons" for not crediting DeWys does not constitute harmless error, notwithstanding the district court's reasoning and the Commissioner's argument on appeal. The district court stated that it "appears" that "the ALJ may have incorrectly interpreted Dr. DeWys's opinion as articulating only those limitations from which [Wilson] was then suffering, rather than recognizing that Dr. DeWys had determined that such limitations originated on December 31, 1993." . . . The Commissioner asserts that the ALJ's rejection of DeWys's opinion is supported by substantial evidence, as the ALJ "could" have relied on evidence in the record—namely, Wilson's testimony and the opinions of two consulting physicians, which, according to the Commissioner, contradict DeWys's opinion—to reject the opinion.

The argument is not persuasive in the context of this case. A court cannot excuse the denial of a mandatory procedural protection simply because, as the Commissioner urges, there is sufficient evidence in the record for the ALJ to discount the treating source's opinion and, thus, a different outcome on remand is unlikely. "[A] procedural error is not made harmless simply because [the aggrieved party] appears to have had little chance of success on the merits anyway." *Mazaleski v. Treusdell*, 562 F.2d 701, 719 n.41; see also *Ingalls Shipbuilding, Inc. v. Dir., Office of Workers' Comp. Programs*, 102 F.3d 1385, 1390 (5th Cir. 1996). To hold otherwise, and to recognize substantial evidence as a defense to non-compliance with § 1527(d)(2), would afford the Commissioner the ability to violate the regulation with impunity and render the protections promised therein illusory. The general administrative law rule, after all, is for a reviewing court, in addition to whatever substantive factual or legal review is appropriate, to "set aside agency action . . . found to be . . . without observance of procedure required by law." Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(D) (2001).

The court goes on to discuss situations which might constitute harmless error in a Social Security case. Finally, the court rejects the appellant's contention that the ALJ's failure to identify at step 5 of the SEP the transferable skills that existed in the case was reversible error. It also rejects the assertion that SSR 82-41 requires identification of transferable skills.

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## Court Decisions Continued...

August 2, 2004 at 12:22 PM

**Stormo v. Barnhart, No. 03-3184, \_\_\_ F.3d \_\_\_ (8th Cir. August 2, 2004)**

The Eighth Circuit, in an opinion by Circuit Judge Roger L. Wollman, affirms the which is a reminder that more weight is given to an opinion regarding the functional limitations a claimant has than on the ultimate issue of disability:

“[The ALJ] did not commit error in giving little weight to Dr. Simpson’s statement that “[a]t this time, I feel this patient is totally disable [sic] and should be considered for assistance and disability,” A.R. 484, for it constituted a legal conclusion and failed to specify any functional limitations or provide medical data in support thereof. The ALJ also properly placed little weight on the opinion expressed in Dr. Gutnik’s letter. Dr. Gutnik’s conclusory statement “that Lance’s problems would make it difficult for him to hold any significant employment,” A.R. 513, similarly asserts an inappropriate legal conclusion.”

The opinion also addresses listing 12.02B and the requirements for a proper hypothetical to a vocational expert.

February 05, 2004

**Allen v. Barnhart, 357 F.3d 1140 (10th Cir. 2004)**

An interesting decision authored by Judge & Carlos F. Lucero in which the ALJ erroneously applied the grids at Step 5 without discussing VE testimony which might have been enough to deny the claim. This is another in a series of disability cases which refuse to countenance post-hoc rationalizations offered by agency counsel. Thus, the lead paragraph states:

Affirming this post hoc effort to salvage the ALJ’s decision would require us to overstep our institutional role and usurp essential functions committed in the first instance to the administrative process. Because the ALJ’s decision cannot stand on its own erroneous rationale, we reverse and remand the case for further proceedings before the agency.

The Court also discussed the harmless error defense and said:

. . . to the extent a harmless-error determination rests on legal or evidentiary matters not considered by the ALJ, it risks violating the general rule against post hoc justification of administrative action recognized in *SEC v. Chenery Corp.*, 318 U.S. 80 (1943) and its progeny.

The Court nevertheless considered application of harmless error principles to the case but concluded that “[a]ny attempt to save the decision, by finding that the one job Allen concededly can do constitutes significant work, usurps the ALJ’s primary responsibility to determine that question in light of the various case-specific considerations outlined in *Trimiar* [*Trimiar v. Sullivan*, 966 F.2d 1326 (10th Cir. 1992)].”

## Favorite Charleston Experiences

Here are just a few suggestions for recreational activities to round out your trip to Charleston. This beautiful city and surrounding area has a rich history with many options to explore. Come early, stay later, or just plan an evening out with your ABOVE colleagues, friends, or family. Enjoy!

- **Playing Scarlett & Rhett at Boone Hall:** Over in Mount Pleasant, you can pretend that you're one of the romantic figures in Margaret Mitchell's *Gone With the Wind* by paying a visit to this 738-acre estate, a cotton plantation settled by Maj. John Boone in 1681. It's gorgeous Avenue of Oaks was used for background shots in the movie and the miniseries *North and South*.
- **Going Back to Colonial Days:** At Charles Towne Landing, you get the best insight into how colonists lived 300 years ago when they established the first English settlement in South Carolina. Even the animals the settlers encountered, from bears to bison, roam about. Enjoy 80 acres of gardens by walking along the marsh or biking past lagoons that reflect blossoming camellias and azaleas.
- **Taking in the View from the Battery:** The Battery, as locals call White Point Gardens, offers the best perspective of the historic district. The gardens lie at the end of the peninsula, opening onto Cooper River and the Harbor, where Fort Sumter sits. For the best walk, head along the sea wall on East Battery Street and Murray Boulevard. Later you can relax in the landscaped park beneath wonderful live oaks.
- **Tasting She-Crab Soup:** She-crab soup is to the local Charlestonian what clam chowder is to a New Englander. This rich delicacy has many permutations, but in most kitchens it is fashioned from butter, milk, heavy cream, sherry, salt, cayenne pepper, and of course, crabmeat picked free of shells and cartilage. The secret ingredient: crab roe.
- **Shopping Along King Street:** In 1854 painter Charles Fraser wrote of King Street and its "dazzling display of goods emulating a Turkish bazaar." The street's decline began with the Civil War and continued through subsequent natural disasters and 20<sup>th</sup>-century suburban sprawl. Today, King Street has bounced back. While it may never have the dazzle of a Turkish bazaar, it now ranks as one of the most attractive shopping promenades in the South.
- **Exploring Fort Sumter:** Few events have had such a far-reaching impact on American history as the first shot of the Civil War fired here on April 12, 1861. Remembering what happened on that awful day and how it would rend the fabric of the nation gives great import to a tour of this fortress, its gun emplacements and artifacts on shining display. You can almost hear the bombardment as Yankee ships fired on the fort, whose Confederate troops valiantly resisted until the final day of surrender 4 years after that fateful shot.
- **A night in a B&B:** Few cities in the South recapture that antebellum feeling as much as a stay in a restored bed-and-breakfast lodging in Charleston. The Old English theme prevails, with stucco-finished walls, muslin curtains, draped rice beds, exposed beams, an occasional tapestry, and crystal chandeliers. Listen to the clank of an iron gate in front of a columned house as the scent of jasmine fills the air.
- **Strolling Through the City as a Garden:** The entire district of Charleston seems to be one lush garden—not just the public plantings, such as the oleanders that line the Battery, but the nooks and crannies of private courtyards, where even the smallest patch of earth is likely to be filled with lush plantings. Wherever you stroll you can peer through wrought-iron gates into private Edens planted with everything from wisteria to Confederate jasmine, tea olives to ginger lilies. Pink-blossomed crape myrtles line the streets, and camellias and magnolias sweeten the air.
- **A Horse and Carriage:** Nothing in Charleston quite captures the languid life of the Low Country more than a horse-drawn-carriage ride through the semitropical landscape. Most times of the year, the streets of Charleston are heavily scented, perhaps from the blossoms of tea olives, jasmine, or wisteria. As the horse pulls you along, you'll feel you're back in the antebellum South as you slowly clip-clop past sun-dappled verandas and open-air markets selling fruits, vegetables, and straw baskets.

Travel Recommendations excerpted from *Frommer's Portable Charleston*, Wiley Publishing, Inc. Hoboken, NJ, 2007.