NCA joins fray on behalf of Burning Tree Club

The National Club Association has filed a "friend of the court" brief in the Supreme Court supporting the Burning Tree Club's efforts to persuade the court to review a Maryland court's decision that the club's efforts to coordinate a Supreme Court fight if clubs lose their private status, "As an advocate of private status, NCA feels that every reasonable step must be taken to clarify and to keep as expansive as possible what constitutes that private status," said NCA Executive Vice President Gerard F. Hurley. "We are also pleased to be able to bring to bear the extensive legal and club experience of our members," said NCA Director of Government Relations, and Milton E. Meyer Jr., a member of NCA's Legal/Legislative Committee.

"Our strategy is above all to get the Supreme Court to give us more guidance concerning the applicability of the right of free association to private clubs. We have also suggested a more reasoned and more definite method of determining whether or not a club is private, within the meaning of the Constitution. At this point, there is no way to tell what the court may do."

Privacy redefinition bill loses

In a victory for private clubs in Texas and throughout the country, the Texas Chapter of the National Club Association defeated legislation that would have redefined a private club or association as a public one. NCA Director and Past President Harold B. Berman of Dallas, "was significantly worse than the New York City Local Law 63 in that it made no attempt to define a private organization." Berman lauded the result of the industry "working together and supporting principles of privacy to preserve the integrity of our clubs."

Privacy redefinition bill loses