



Monroe County Brief

Published for the Monroe County Bar Association
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President's Message-

The year has moved by quickly, and although speed is one measure, we as a Bar Association have done lots of good work we can be proud of as an organization. As I write a final quarterly message for my year as Bar President, I find that it's almost Thanksgiving. That means, first and foremost, it is the time to send 'Holiday Greetings' from the Association and the Youngs to all of you and your families.

With the coming New Year, my term as President will come to an end, too. It's also the time for all of you to think about taking on and continuing active leadership roles in the affairs of the Monroe County Bar Association. One thing that has become very clear to me is just how much we as an Association rely on all of you, and just how much we accomplish in our Association through your hard volunteer work. My personal thanks certainly are not enough of a reward for your service to the Bar, but I offer that gratitude to each of you who put in the effort this year, and to all who step up to do so next year, too. Let's see some new faces on our committees and being active in other affairs.

Looking back over all that we have done in 2009, I am impressed not just with the breadth and depth of our Bar Association volunteers, but also with the performance of our Association's staff as well. Susan Kenny, Rosalie Richardson and Lesleigh Pope all deserve our thanks for their very effective service on behalf of this Bar. Kudos, ladies.

One example of their fine work was the recent, quite memorable dinner for Judge Jerry Cheslock held at Skytop Lodge to commemorate his years of service to our community as he retires as an active Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. The setting for the dinner was great, with good food and drink, and the words of praise and thanks all well deserved by the Judge. He should have many more years to continue to serve in Senior Judge status, too. To our retiring Judge, we all say a hardy 'job well done' and we really mean it.

Lawyers, also, really need to be proactive community leaders at all levels, too, not just good lawyers. Think about the great harm done to the image of Pennsylvania this year - from the continuing Luzerne County indictments, the state budget fiasco, and the small number of lawyers serving in our General Assembly. We also should listen closely to Cliff Haynes, the President of the PA Bar Association. He has taken a decisive leadership role to revisit our state constitution has made a commitment to try to restructure our government at all levels. continued →

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Monroe County Bar Association Holiday Dinner

December 12, 2009

The Lodge at Mountain Springs Lake Resort
Reeders, Pennsylvania

Join the Monroe County Bar Association at the Annual Holiday Dinner to be held on Saturday, December 12, 2009 at the Lodge at Mountain Springs Lake Resort in Reeders, Pennsylvania. You are guaranteed a wonderful night full of good cheer, fine food and drink and festive music for dancing. The evening begins at 7PM with a cocktail hour and butlered Hors d'Oeuvres. Dinner follows at 8PM. Music will be provided by the Charlie Cole Trio.

You will find the registration form on page two of this newsletter or you may register by calling the MCBA at (570) 424-7288. Don't miss this fabulous evening.

President's Message, cont.

It's time to do the hard things, get done things that badly need to be done. If we don't lead and don't get important things done well, others will lead and you will not like where they leads us. Unless we lead Pennsylvania positively and purposefully, someone else - negative leadership - will find ways to take over. One thing that it's not good to be is being the best bad example. Pennsylvania needs to look in the mirror.

Let's all help fix Pennsylvania when it badly needs it.

Alan Young

Upcoming Events**Mass Swearing In Ceremony****December 16, 2009****3PM****Courtroom #1**

Holiday Open House**December 16, 2009****4PM-7PM****Bar Center****Lunch & Learn**

December 11, 2009

Intro to Accident Reconstruction Principles

Presented by:

Bernard M. Telatovich, P.E.

Benchmark Civil Engineering Services, Inc.

Do you have any ideas for Lunch and Learn programs that would appeal to our MCBA members?

Please give the MCBA office a call or send an email to skenny2@monroebar.org.

We want to hear from you!!

**Membership Updates**

Please check the MCBA website www.monroebar.org for daily updates on membership information.

New Members

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Contact Information/Address changes

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Have you moved?

Changed your phone number?

Changed your email?

Be sure to inform the MCBA of your new contact information. It will be posted on the website and published in the quarterly newsletter.

Monroe County Bar Association
Presents the First Annual
Pro Bono Conference

Tuesday, January 12, 2010
Pocono Inn Town, Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania

Conference Agenda

Buffet Lunch 12:00 pm

Session #1 12:30pm -1:30pm

“Pro Bono for the 21st Century: Utilizing Online Resources in Your Representation”

Presented by: David Trevaskis, Pro Bono Coordinator, Pennsylvania Bar Association
&
Sam Milkes, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network

Break 1:30pm -1:45pm

Session #2 1:45pm – 3:15 pm ***“Defending Credit Card Collection”***

Presented by: Attorney General Bureau of Consumer Protection
Lori Molloy, Managing Attorney, North Penn Legal Services, Bethlehem

Break 3:15 pm – 3:30 pm

Session #3 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm ***“Pro Bono Tenant Representation”***

Presented by: Mark A. Primrose, Esq.
John L. Dewitsky, Jr., Esq.
A Representative from the Monroe County Magisterial District Court and
North Penn Legal Services

The MCBA Pro Bono Conference is free to those attorney who agree to accept two pro bono cases during the year 2010. The referrals for the pro bono cases will be made through North Penn Legal Services. Cost to attend the Pro Bono Conference (to those who do not want to accept two pro bono cases) is \$250.00

Registration Form

Name: _____ Attorney ID# _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Complete and return to the MCBA, 913 Main Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360 by
December 30, 2009.

Upcoming PBI CLE Programs

The following PBI seminars have been scheduled and will be held at the MONROE COUNTY BAR CENTER, 913 MAIN STREET, STROUDSBURG, PA. To register call the Pennsylvania Bar Institute at 800-932-4637. Early Registration fees are available.

Wednesday, December 2, 2009-Groupcast

Practice Before the Veterans Administration

3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics
8:30 pm to 11:45 pm
Reg. begins at 8:00 am (Lunch is included)
Members \$174/Non members \$194

Wednesday, December 2, 2009-Groupcast

Legal Issues Affecting Military Personnel

4 hours substantive/0 hours ethics
12:30 pm to 4:45 pm
Reg. begins at 12:00 pm (Lunch is included)
Members \$204/Non Members \$224

Thursday, December 3, 2009-Video Replay

Bad Faith Litigation

3 hours substantive/1 hour ethics
9:00 am to 1:30 pm Reg. begins at 8:30 am
Members \$129/Non members \$149

Friday, December 4, 2009-Groupcast

Trials! Tips, Tactics & Practical Tales

5 hours substantive/1 hour ethics
8:30 am to 3:30 pm (Lunch is included)
Reg. begins at 8:00 am
Members \$344/Non members \$364

Wednesday, December 9, 2009-Groupcast

Using Electronic Processes Needed to Effectively Represent Claimants in SS Disability Claims

3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics
1:00 pm to 4:15 pm
Reg. begins at 12:30 am (Lunch is included)
Members \$214 Non members \$234

Thursday, December 10, 2009-Groupcast

Get Organized and Get Things Done-Practical Time Management for Lawyers

5 hours substantive/1 hours ethics
9:00 am to 4:30 pm
Reg. begins at 8:30 am (Lunch is included)
Members \$274/Non members \$294

Monday, December 14, 2009-Groupcast

The Family and Medical Leave Act: One Year after the Dept. of Labor Regs

4 hours substantive/0 hour ethics
12:30 pm to 4:45 pm (Lunch is included)
Reg. begins at 12:00 pm
Members \$244/Non Members \$264

Thursday, February 4, 2010-Groupcast

Fundamentals of Civil Practice & Procedure

4 hours substantive/0 hours ethics
9:00 am to 1:15 pm
Reg. at 8:30 am
Members \$224/Non members \$244

Wednesday, March 3, 2010-Groupcast

Death and Taxes

6 hours substantive/0 hours ethics
9:00 am to 4:30 pm (Lunch is included)
Reg. begins at 8:30 am
Members \$264/Non members \$284

Thursday, March 11, 2010-Video Replay

16th Annual Auto Law Update

3 hours substantive/1 hours ethics
12:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Reg. at 11:30 am
Members \$129/Non members \$149

Monday, March 15, 2010-Video Replay

Criminal Law Update 2010

4 hours substantive/0 hours ethics
12:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Reg. at 11:30 am
Members \$129/Non members \$149

Thursday, March 18, 2010-Groupcast

UM/UIM

3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics
12:00 pm to 3:15 pm (includes lunch)
Reg. at 11:30 am
Members \$224/Non members \$244

Tuesday, March 23, 2010-Groupcast

Contempt of Court

3 hours substantive/0 hours ethics
12:00 pm to 3:15 pm (Lunch is included)
Reg. begins at 11:30 am
Members \$214/Non members \$234

Tuesday, March 25, 2010-Groupcast

23rd Annual Civil Litigation Update

5 hours substantive/1 hours ethics
9:00 am to 4:30 pm (Lunch is included)
Reg. begins at 8:30 am
Members \$274/Non members \$294

YLD Year in Review:

I would like to take a minute and thank the young lawyers, the Monroe County Bar Association Executive Board, Members of the Monroe County Bar Association and especially the Bar Association Staff for your support and encouragement over the past year. Our year has been successful because each and every time I reached out and asked for help, help arrived. Thank you.

Young lawyers were active in our local community this past year. Young lawyers participated in the high school mock trial competition, fairy tale trials and the law day race.

Young lawyers organized and participated in a food drive, blood drive, Sheriff Martin's Toys for Youth program, Project Kid Care, and a school supply drive for Monroe County Elementary Schools.

Young lawyers also enjoyed several Friday afternoon Happy Hours at Marita's Cantina.

In addition to recapping what we have done over the past year, I would like to leave you with a final thought from Parker Palmer's book, Let Your Life Speak.

"Vocation does not come from willfulness. Vocation comes from listening. We must listen to our lives and try to understand what it is truly about – quite apart from what I would like it to be about – Or our lives will never represent anything real in the world, no matter how earnest our intentions."

May we, as young lawyers, continue listening to ourselves and to each other. May we always remember and be encouraged by the gift within. May we be continually grateful for the work and support of those within our legal community from lawyers to courthouse staff to sheriff's deputies to bar association employees. And finally, within the midst of our daily madness, may we always remember and respect each other.

As you may be aware, my legal journey has recently changed and I have relocated from the Stroudsburg to Scranton office of North Penn Legal Services. But, I'm just an e-mail or phone call away should you need anything. Thank you again!

Teddy Michel
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On a personal note..

Congratulations to:

Joshua and Mary Kay Goldberg on the birth of their son, Jason Charles, 7lb 8oz, 20 1/2 inches on September 20, 2009.

Judge Ron and Joan Vican on the birth of their first grandchild, Madeline Marie, 7lb 6oz, 20 inches on November 6, 2009.

Tom Foley III and Kim Diddio on their recent marriage.

Jeff Velandier and Karen Oney on their recent marriage.

Katie Karam on her recent engagement.

Jane Maughan on her election as Vice President of the Pennsylvania Bar Institute Board of Directors.

Condolences to:

Harry and Jeannie Lee on the loss of their daughter, Stacey.

Monroe County Bar Association

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