Registration is now open for the Bar Association’s Bench-Bar and Annual Conference at the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa in Atlantic City, N.J. on Friday, Oct. 15 and Saturday, Oct. 16.

The Association’s Bench-Bar Conference features a large selection of continuing legal education seminars for practitioners in a variety of areas and topics. There is ample opportunity for attorneys to mingle and network with their colleagues and members of the bench. Vice Chancellor John E. Savoth and Board of Governors Vice Chair Regina M. Foley are co-chairs of the 2010 conference.

Full-conference admission is $349 for members and $399 for non-members, if reserved by the early-bird deadline of Friday, Sept. 17. For members of the Young Lawyers Division and government and public interest attorneys, admission is only $199. Visit philadelphiabar.org for a complete registration form and pricing guide.

Hotel reservations must be made separately by calling the Borgata directly at 1-866-692-6742. Guests must reference the Philadelphia Bar Association to receive the special rate. Discounted rooms are available from Thursday, Oct. 14 through Saturday, Oct. 16, if booked by Friday, Sept. 17.

Stephanie Resnick, chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Board of Governors in 2008, has been announced as the recipient of the 2010 Sandra Day O’Connor Award.

The award is conferred annually on a woman attorney who has demonstrated superior legal talent, achieved significant legal accomplishments and has furthered the advancement of women in both the profession and the community. The Women in the Profession Committee established the award in 1993 to recognize the important contributions that women attorneys in Philadelphia have made to the legal profession. The award presentation will be made during the June Quarterly Meeting.

“We were fortunate to have so many exceptional women to choose from, but Stephanie Resnick is a wonderful example of all the qualities we were seeking,” said Committee Co-Chair Nikki Johnson-Huston. “From her superior legal talent, significant legal accomplishments and most importantly the mentoring that she has provided to many female attorneys, Stephanie is very deserving of this award,” she said.

“I consider myself privileged to have been selected as this year’s recipient of the Sandra Day O’Connor Award,” said Resnick, chair of the Litigation Department at Fox Rothschild LLP. “I am grateful and extremely humbled when I think of the outstanding lawyers and judges who have been the past recipients of this Award.”

“Stephanie has shown such strong leadership and such a commitment to mentoring women in the law, that she really stood out in the very qualified field of nominees,” said Committee Co-Chair Kimberly Ruch-Alegant. “She has demonstrated leadership and mentoring both within and outside of her law firm. The legal community has obviously benefited from her efforts, and I’m sure will continue to do so in the future.”

The June Quarterly Meeting is also highlighted by the presentation of the Judge A. Leon Higginbotham Jr. Memorial Public Interest Lecture. The speaker for the program and date for the event will be announced at a later time. New members of the Association’s Year Clubs will also be honored.

Resnick served as chair of the Federal Courts Committee in 2004, the liaison between the federal bench and its practitioners. She was responsible for program planning, communication between the bench and bar on strategic initiatives, and continued on page 15.
Three panel discussions, a report on the state of the court and luncheon remarks by Philadelphia District Attorney R. Seth Williams highlight the Friday, June 11 Federal Bench-Bar Conference at the Rittenhouse Hotel.

Eight federal judges and some of the city’s most well-known practitioners are among the faculty for the program. A total of 3 substantive CLE credit hours are available for the program.

“We are very excited about this year’s Federal Bench-Bar Conference which promises to be the best ever based on the roster of distinguished jurists and leading practitioners,” said Federal Courts Committee Chair Grant S. Palmer. Committee Vice Chair Elizabeth Malloy is the course planner.

In the first session, U.S. District Court Senior Judges Jan E. DuBois and Norma L. Shapiro, Judge Gene E.K. Pratter and Lawrence J. Fox will discuss the Code of Conduct for Judges and the American Bar Association’s input on recusal situations.

U.S. District Court Judge Mitchell S. Goldberg along with James Becker and Peter F. Schenck will discuss the Department of Justice memoranda that are expected to impact discovery practices by the U.S. Attorney’s Offices. The memoranda followed a number of high-profile dismissals of indictments, including Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens and Blackwater employees charged in an Iraq shooting incident. This session will discuss the guidance, and include practical views from the prosecution, the defense and the bench.

The Eastern District of Pennsylvania has long pioneered the emergence of electronic capabilities in courtroom proceedings. In recent years, completely paperless trials have taken place. U.S. District Court Senior Judge Ronald L. Buckwalter and Robert J. Mongeluzzi will discuss the technology and tips on effectively presenting your case without a single piece of paper and the evidentiary issues raised in paperless trials.

The program will also include reports on the state of the court by U.S. District Court Chief Judge Harvey Bartle III; U.S. Bankruptcy Court Chief Judge Stephen Raslavich; and U.S. District Court Clerk of Court Michael E. Kunz. U.S. District Court Judge Michael M. Baylson will present an update on summary proceedings.

District Attorney R. Seth Williams was elected in November 2009 and became the first African-American district attorney in city and state history. He is a graduate of Central High School, Penn State University and Georgetown University Law School. He served for 10 years as an assistant district attorney and was inspector general for the City of Philadelphia from 2005 to 2008.

Registration and breakfast begin at 8:15 a.m. at the Rittenhouse Hotel, 210 Rittenhouse Square.
“What’s past is prologue” – William Shakespeare, “The Tempest” and inscribed on the National Archive Building.

As the Philadelphia Bar Association celebrates its 208th year, it continues to evolve to meet the challenges of 21st century law, society and technology. Indeed, the present-day Association gives new meaning to the traditional term “Philadelphia lawyer.” But with all the discussion this year about how we plan for our future, it is essential to record how we have come this far.

In my address to the membership last December, I called upon the Bar to preserve the rich stories, precious artifacts and treasured history of America’s first bar association. I said that our Association would undertake a significant effort to preserve where we have come from as Philadelphia lawyers through the creation of a Philadelphia Bar Association Historical Society.

Our progress to date has been inspiring.

Since January, our Historical Society has been working hard on a number of levels to carry out its important work, under the capable leadership of William P. Fedullo, immediate-past chair of the Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention; Robert C. Heim, former Chancellor; and Roberta D. Liebenberg, our 2008 Sandra Day O’Connor Award recipient.

It’s no small thing to practice law in the shadow of Independence Hall.” Those were the concluding words of Philadelphia journalist Dan Rottenberg in his seminally article, “One Shining Moment: Why Philadelphia Lawyers are Different,” in the award-winning winter 2002 edition of The Philadelphia Lawyer magazine commemorating our Association’s 200th anniversary. Our Historical Society has taken these words to heart.

As Rottenberg and other respected contributors captured so eloquently in the pages of our anniversary issue, without always consciously realizing it, Philadelphia lawyers have played a central role in the continuing process of human liberation.

Last month, the Society began an ambitious video archive project in partnership with Temple University, aided by the university’s senior vice provost and dean of students, and Temple broadcasting, telecommunications and mass media students.

With this project, we are capturing the remarkable oral history of our Association through high-definition video interviews with our past Chancellors. By recounting their unique and cherished memories of their experiences and accomplishments at the helm of our Association, these past Chancellors are truly telling the “story” of the Association as no one else can.

The video collection will be one of the central features of a state-of-the-art Philadelphia Bar Association Historical Society website that we will unveil later this year. They will be showcased in a high-impact gallery that will allow for quick and convenient download. The new website will also feature a detailed historical timeline spanning more than two centuries of the Association’s history.

Members and nonmembers alike will have a special place to learn about our Bar’s long-standing history of excellence and the many successes made possible by generations of dedicated volunteers. In time, we will utilize this website as a virtual archive for many of our most cherished documents and photographs, capturing our history as we continue to make new history.

The website will also feature a new and enhanced home for our Legends of the Philadelphia Bar, our hall of fame for the city’s legal giants of the past. New.
By Ria C. Momblanco

In 2007, the Juvenile Law Center began an investigation that uncovered what is now infamously known as the “Kids for Cash” scandal, a scheme involving two Luzerne County judges who the JLC said repeatedly failed to protect the Sixth Amendment rights of accused minors and indiscriminately sent thousands of children to private youth detention centers in exchange for $2.6 million in kickbacks.

We would like to think that what occurred in Luzerne County is the exception rather than the norm. But, according to investigative journalist Amy Bach, this type of injustice is “widespread” and, she believes, is “inherent to the way America holds court.” At the April 13 plenary session of the Public Interest Section, Bach, the author of *Ordinary Injustice: How America Holds Court*, brought attention to the systemic flaws in the criminal justice system, described the resulting injustice, and shared her thoughts on a possible solution.

Bach, a well-published journalist and member of the New York bar, spent eight years observing and investigating criminal courts in Illinois, New York, Georgia and Mississippi. What she found was a series of ethical mistakes that led to everyday injustice – a phenomenon that Bach termed “ordinary injustice” – when “mistakes become routine, and the legal professionals can no longer see their role” in policing the legal system.

For example, in Georgia, she found a public defender so committed to resolving cases efficiently that he sped through the representation of his clients, relaying the prosecutor’s offer only minutes before each client’s plea hearing. Bach recalled seeing as many as 48 of the attorney’s clients plead guilty in one day. Shocked, Bach asked him, “Doesn’t [48 people] seem like a lot?” The public defender replied, “No one can say that they didn’t have their day in court. Look, we’ve successfully done a 10-page calendar in one day!”

In another instance, Bach found a New York judge who imposed excessive bail, failed to inform defendants of their right to counsel, and coerced guilty pleas. Bach stated that the situation was not unlike the one in Luzerne County where the courts failed to take elemental steps in determining whether someone needed a lawyer, in determining the facts in the case, and in determining whether a crime had been committed.

During her eight-year investigation, what astounded Bach the most was the number of legal professionals who regularly witnessed improper conduct but complacently allowed it to continue, unchecked, for years. Bach described the situation as “a corruption of the adversarial system where if one person stops doing his or her job, then the rest will follow because that person will enable them not to do theirs, until everyone is moving toward something that is not justice.” Several of the attorneys whom Bach interviewed stated that they failed to act because they either feared retaliation or they felt that it wasn’t their job.

What is the solution then? According to Bach, the systemic flaws of “ordinary injustice” are not readily visible, making it difficult to prove. To create more transparency, Bach suggests tracking and publicizing relevant statistics that address questions, such as: How many people plead guilty without a lawyer present, and how many of those people spend time in jail beforehand? How high are the bails for certain types of crime? According to Bach, making such metrics available to the public may be the first step toward creating a better system in which checks and balances are restored.

Ria C. Momblanco (rcm@finekaplan.com), an associate with Fine, Kaplan and Black, R.P.C., is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
The Philadelphia Bar Association Academy, a new civic and cultural education series for members of the Philadelphia Bar Association, kicked off its programming March 29 with the Philadelphia Union, Philadelphia’s new Major League Soccer (MLS) team.

The panel included the team’s CEO and operating partner Nick Sakiewicz, team president Tom Veit and team vice president of communications Carl Cherkin, and was moderated by Chancellor Scott Cooper. More than 100 attorneys attended the discussion, learning about the early efforts to bring an MLS franchise to Philadelphia, the branding of the Union, and the Union’s style of play. The panel also discussed the Union’s new state-of-the-art home, PPL Park in Chester.

Four years ago, Sakiewicz, a former professional goalkeeper and two-time MLS Executive of the Year, began the efforts to bring an MLS franchise to Philadelphia. At the time, Philadelphia was the only major market without a team. Although Philadelphia has a historically rich soccer history, it had been without a professional soccer team for three decades.

MLS granted a franchise to Philadelphia on Feb. 28, 2008 and the branding of the new team began. Veit explained that in branding the new team, they conducted both historical and fan research, including a fan poll that decided the team’s name. Veit described the historical significance of the team’s crest – the circle represents unity, the snake is borrowed from a Benjamin Franklin cartoon, the stars represent the original 13 colonies, the navy blue and gold represent the Continental Army’s uniforms, and the light blue is borrowed from Philadelphia’s flag. The Union’s motto “JUNGITE or DIE” is a Latin phrase meaning “JOIN or DIE”, also a Ben Franklin reference.

The Union acquired its first players in the MLS expansion draft last November, and continued building a team through the 2010 SuperDraft in January, through trades, and by signing free agents. The Union has indicated a section and tailgate area for the Union in Chester.

The Union season officially kicked off its season in Seattle on March 25 with a 2-0 loss to the Sounders. Until PPL Park opens on June 27, the Union will play two home games at Lincoln Financial Field and the other games on the road.

Sakiewicz and Veit discussed the decision to build the stadium on the Chester waterfront, which was largely based on its easily accessible location and the Union’s desire to create a different fan experience from Philadelphia’s other sports teams. Like the Union’s branding, PPL Park was also designed with the fans in mind. As Veit explained, the fans’ overall experience and the stadium’s atmosphere is key. In creating atmosphere, the Union designated a section and tailgate area for the Sons of Ben, an independent supporters club formed in 2007 to lobby for a MLS franchise to Philadelphia, the branding of the Union, and the Union’s style of play.

The Union season ticket holders are guaranteed 15 home games and two bonus games, one of which is an exhibition game with Valencia of the Spanish Primera División. Sakiewicz stated the Union’s desire to bring more high-profile exhibition games to Philadelphia and indicated that there could be additional exhibition games with major European clubs this summer. The Union has established partnerships with some of Europe’s biggest clubs, including Spanish Primera División favorites Real Madrid and Barcelona, Manchester United (one of the most successful clubs in the English Premier League), and the legendary Celtic Football Club of the Scottish Premier League, for both youth development opportunities and possible future exhibition games in Philadelphia. The Union has also established partnerships with local youth soccer associations and will help develop local talent through a free program for youth players ages 8-12.

Although PPL Park was designed for soccer, the stadium includes a built-in concert stage for future events, including major musical acts. While PPL Park seats 18,500 for Union games, seating will expand to 26,000 for other events. According to Sakiewicz, PPL Park will host approximately 40 events per year. PPL Park is easy to access by major roadways and SEPTA.

For fans unable to make it to PPL Park, 17 of the Union’s games will be nationally televised, the most of any MLS team. The Union’s local partner, 6ABC, will broadcast the other 13 games.

**Get Inside Look at KYW Newseradio on Tuesday, May 4**

**Join us on Tuesday, May 4, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. as the Philadelphia Bar Association Academy presents “All News, All the Time: An Inside Look at KYW Newsradio 1060” at the top-rated news station’s headquarters at 400 Market St.**

This free program will provide a behind-the-scenes look at the station’s news operation and broadcast technologies presented by station executives and senior reporter Tony Hanson, including a tour of the broadcast booth.

Attendees will also learn about business development opportunities from the station’s vice president of sales, David Yadgaroff, and enjoy complimentary wine and cheese. The program is open to all members of the Philadelphia Bar Association. Space is limited and advance registration is required. Register online at BarAcademy.philadelphiabar.org.

According to the station’s website, KYW Newsradio 1060 has been serving listeners in the Philadelphia region since Sept. 21, 1965. The station began in Chicago on Armistice Day, 1921. Only the seventh radio station in the United States to start broadcasting, KYW – jointly owned by Westinghouse Broadcasting (Group W) and the Edison Company – began airing performances of the Chi-continued on page 14

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By Stephanie Mensing

The Philadelphia Bar Association Academy, a new civic and cultural education series for members of the Philadelphia Bar Association, kicked off its programming March 29 with the Philadelphia Union, Philadelphia’s new Major League Soccer (MLS) team.

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The Union acquired its first players in the MLS expansion draft last November and continued building a team through the 2010 SuperDraft in January, through trades, and by signing free agents. The Union have 24 players, eight of whom are foreign-born players allowed under MLS rules. Sakiewicz stated that the Union will not sign a star player under the Designated Player Rule (also known as “the Beckham rule”) unless the player will improve the team.

The Union season officially kicked off
City Courts Not Broken, Senate Panel Told

By Michael Petitti

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court’s Criminal Justice Seamus P. McCaffrey, Philadelphia District Attorney R. Seth Williams and Chief Defender Ellen Greenlee were among the witnesses that testified at a four-hour Pennsylvania Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the state of Philadelphia’s criminal justice system on April 19, hosted by the Philadelphia Bar Association.

The hearing, spurred by The Philadelphia Inquirer’s investigative series that uncovered a system plagued by a low conviction rate, widespread witness intimidation, and an overwhelming fugitive problem, was presided over by state Sens. Stewart J. Greenleaf, Daylin B. Leach and Michael J. Stack.

Stack began the hearing by commending The Inquirer’s investigation. “Their research is extremely comprehensive,” he said. “Their research is incredible—and incredibly disheartening.” He called some of the findings “totally unacceptable.”

“We just want an efficient, fair justice system,” Sen. Greenleaf said. “It’s not about conviction rates; it’s whether justice is being done in our courts.”

Justice McCaffrey, a former judge in Philadelphia Municipal Court who has been working closely with Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald D. Castille to effectuate reform in the city courts, was the first to testify. While he agreed that improvement to Philadelphia’s criminal justice system is needed, referring to a 1978 report that outlined many of the same problems: The Inquirer unearthed, he was quick to stress that the First Judicial District has been asked to slash its expenses, even as the number of cases has increased. He pointed out the $9 million saved in the city’s prison budget due to various court programs and lamented that none of these savings are being put back into the courts.

“We all understand the concept we need money to make money,” Justice McCaffrey said. “I need money to save money.”

Judge D. Webster Keogh, administrative judge of the Common Pleas Court’s trial division, took exception to The Inquirer’s claim regarding a low conviction rate, saying his court’s conviction rate was 75 percent or more.

“The Common Pleas Court is not broken,” Judge Keogh said. “The Common Pleas Court is not in crisis. The Common Pleas Court is not dysfunctional.”

While both Justice McCaffrey and Judge Keogh tempered their criticism of The Inquirer’s investigation and support of the court system with acknowledgment that there is room for improvement, Greenlee testified passionately in support of the defense bar and argued Williams and the Supreme Court were forcing through changes in judicial procedure while stripping away important rights of the accused. She also had harsh words for The Inquirer.

“Since The Inquirer’s business is in a tailspin, they’ve now decided to have a

Pennsylvania state Senators (from left) Michael J. Stack, Daylin B. Leach and Stewart J. Greenleaf presided over the April 19 Senate Judiciary Committee hearing at the Philadelphia Bar Association. Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Administrative Judge D. Webster Keogh (right) was among those who testified.

Court-trained volunteer military veterans are being sought as peer-to-peer mentors to work with accused veterans in Philadelphia Veterans Court.

The Philadelphia Veterans Court, the brainchild of Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald D. Castille to effectuate reform in the city courts, is based on a similar program in Buffalo, N.Y. Court sessions are scheduled every Wednesday at 1 p.m.

The concept of the court is the intervention at an early stage in the justice process with the assistance of the Veterans Administration to help veterans who have entered the criminal justice system.

If the veteran is qualified (at least 90 days of active duty and no less than a general discharge), he/she may enter into a rehabilitation program with the VA with court monitoring. If the veteran satisfactorily completes the VA program, the court, under certain circumstances, may expunge the veteran’s charges. However, the most important aspect of the program is that the charged veteran is helped to get back into a productive and healthy life.

At the preliminary hearing in Courtroom 1003, Philadelphia Municipal Court Judge Patrick Dugan (a former para trooper and current JAG reserve officer) presides. Also in attendance is an assistant district attorney and public defender, both knowledgeable of the program. In addition, Rebecca Hicks of the VA is present to facilitate introducing the accused veteran to the program. They work together to help qualified veterans into the program.

Training for the Veteran Mentoring Program is held on the third Monday of every month in the Jury Selection Room of the Philadelphia Criminal Justice Center.

The coordinator for the program is Janet DiTomasso, the wife and mother of veterans. She is assisted in the program by Tom McCoy, a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps.

“I attended a session of the Veteran Mentoring Program last month, as well as a court session, and found both experiences very inspirational. This is the kind of pro bono work that really makes a difference,” said attorney David J. Prewitt.

For More Information
For more information about the Veteran Mentoring Program, contact Janet DiTomasso at 215-683-7317 or by e-mail at janet.ditomasso@courts.phila.gov.
Exercise of the city by providing more funding. The predominant system. The predominant could help improve Philadelphia's ask each witness how state legis-

Hearing continued from page 6

new business – which is managing the Philadelphia courts.” Greenlee said, “I wish them…better luck than they’ve had in keeping The Inquirer alive.”

Following each testimony, the senators asked each witness how state legis-

Win Dinner for 2 at The Palm

Become a fan of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s official Facebook page and be automatically entered into a drawing to win dinner for two at the Philadelphia Palm Restaurant, located at The Hyatt at the Bellevue.

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The contest is open to everyone who becomes a fan of our official Facebook page by Thursday, May 20.

Don’t worry current fans – you’ll be automatically entered into the drawing as well. So what are you waiting for? Become a fan today! Visit philadelphiabar.org for more information.
Movie Business Booming Here, Pinkenson Says

By Nicole C. Edwards

A TV series starring Jimmy Smits and a documentary series about a Philadelphia law firm are just a few of the projects with which the Greater Philadelphia Film Office (GPFO) is helping out.

Sharon Pinkenson, the executive director of the GPFO, talked about her work in keynote remarks at the Young Lawyers Division Annual Meeting on March 31.

Pinkenson has been with the GPFO since 1992. Within her first year at the office, she coordinated the production of “Philadelphia,” starring Tom Hanks and Denzel Washington. Not only was this heart-wrenching tale the first film to bear the city’s name, it was also the first movie filmed entirely within the city in more than 60 years. The GPFO has since generated more than $1 billion in revenue in the region and has facilitated the production of more than 100 films and television shows.

Pinkenson gave attendees insight into the GPFO’s role and responsibilities within the film industry. She explained that the office is responsible for marketing Philadelphia and the surrounding suburbs to the film industry. Its goal is to attract the film, video and television industry to this region for the purpose of fostering economic development. The office is responsible for

YLD Honors Service at Annual Meeting

Claudia Parenti-McFillin of Ace Reporters Inc. accepted the Young Lawyers Division Vision Award. It is presented annually to an organization that has provided outstanding support to the YLD.

Djung Tran accepts the F. Sean Peretta Service Award from Chacker and DuFrayne.

Albertine DuFrayne accepts the ceremonial gavel from Brian Chacker signifying the change in leadership for the Young Lawyers Division. DuFrayne outlined her plans for the year at the event, attended by more than 100 people. DuFrayne’s remarks are available on podcast at philadelphiabar.org.

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DuFrayne Stresses Community Outreach

By Jeff Lyons

In difficult economic times, the legal community has come together to provide resources to each other to help young lawyers navigate their way through their professional careers, YLD Chair Albertine Y. DuFrayne told division members at the March 31 Annual Meeting.

“In February, the YLD hosted a bootcamp for law students and new graduates to provide guidance in the practical skills that are necessary for success in the profession. More than 150 people participated in the program. Topics included networking, tips for surviving the first years of practice, considerations when starting your own firm and advice from both federal and state judges,” she said.

DuFrayne said there are more than 240 attorneys and law students participating in the YLD’s one-on-one mentor program, which kicked off in March.

“The YLD is also committed to supporting and partnering with public interest agencies and young lawyers who practice at those agencies,” DuFrayne said. “We held a joint networking event with the Delivery of Legal Services Committee and several other organizations in January to foster additional communication with local public interest agencies. Public interest agencies are also offered the opportunity to be featured in the YLD’s weekly e-newsletter and we are working with the agencies to provide young lawyers to fill spots on their boards of directors.”

She called the Community Outreach Committee the backbone of the YLD and talked about the eight community and school programs held during Law Week. Several hundred volunteers visited classrooms to speak to students, lead school students on tours of the courts and gave free legal advice at branches of the Free Library of Philadelphia.

“Only by supporting the community and offering our insights and mentorship to our fellow attorneys will the profession positively develop with attorneys who are fully invested. The YLD is here to assist young lawyers, but you have to make the decision to participate for yourself and the benefit of others. I encourage each of you to participate in YLD activities. I am looking forward to a great year,” DuFrayne said.

Yuks for Bucks: Comedy Night Aids Foundation

By Albertine DuFrayne

I am very pleased to announce that the Young Lawyers Division will host the Fifth Annual Comedy Night and Silent Auction Fundraiser at the Franklin Institute at 20th Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway on Saturday, May 22 from 7 to 11:30 p.m.

This event is a very important part of the year for the YLD. Over the last four years, the YLD has raised more than $100,000 for the Philadelphia Bar Foundation through Comedy Night. It is the only fundraiser that the YLD hosts and we need your help to make it successful in 2010. I encourage you to sponsor and/or attend Comedy Night for a variety of reasons.

A main reason to support Comedy Night is that the event is for a good cause. All proceeds go to benefit the Philadelphia Bar Foundation, the charitable arm of the Philadelphia Bar Association that embodies the Philadelphia legal community.

Attending and supporting Comedy Night allows you to support the public interest segment of our community even if you do not have a lot of time to undertake pro bono work. People are often reluctant to participate in pro bono activities because they are afraid that they will get pulled into a never-ending black hole of time commitment. Comedy Night is one evening through which you can provide support for all of the agencies simultaneously.

It is also important to support young organizations and the attorneys who work at those agencies.

Another great reason to attend Comedy Night is that it is fun. You get to network with attorneys of all ages as well as other professionals while enjoying the food and open bar. You also get to experience the comedy of headliner Dan Cummins, star of “Comedy Central Presents Dan Cummins,” who has also appeared on “The Late, Late Show with Craig Ferguson.”

Comedy Night will also feature an extensive silent auction with gift certificates to local restaurants and spas, gift baskets, Phillies tickets, signed Eagles memorabilia, overnight stays and a gourmet meal at Philadelphia’s Radisson Plaza-Warwick Hotel and Harrah’s Resort in Atlantic City, tours of Philadelphia landmarks, and lunch at the Vesper Club with Philadelphia District Attorney Seth Williams, to name a few. You could win one of these great items.

I invite you to join the YLD in making this event successful by sponsoring and joining us at Comedy Night 2010. If you are interested in sponsoring the event or donating an item to the silent auction please visit the Association’s website or contact me directly. Make sure to take advantage of the early-bird ticket price by purchasing your tickets on the Association’s website before Friday, May 7.
WOMEN IN THE PROFESSION COMMITTEE

Lawyers Urged to Focus on Passion for Careers

By Heather J. Austin

Write your own obituary now, and work backward by living your life in a manner consistent with the way that you want to be remembered. These and other words of wisdom were shared during the March 30 Women in the Profession Committee meeting that focused on alternative career options.

Panelists Ronalyn Sisson, owner, Oxford Legal Associates; Kathy Mandelbaum, professor, Temple University Beasley School of Law; author Dara Lovitz; and Lida Bonner, president and CFO, KLM Group, Inc., followed different paths, but each found professional happiness when they focused on their passion.

A busy trial attorney for three years, Sisson returned to full-time work after starting a family. Sisson loved her career, but she ultimately decided that she had to choose between her career as a litigator and her family obligations. Sisson shared her dilemma with her employer and when her employer suggested that she work on an hourly basis, Sisson considered starting her own contract attorney/staffing company. With the help of the Wharton Small Business Development Center, Sisson developed business and marketing plans and obtained financing. She then became her first employee and client.

Mandelbaum left her 18-year career as a tax and trust and estate lawyer for a very different reason. Mandelbaum started her family while working at Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP, a firm that offered a lot of flexibility and allowed her to remain on the partner track while working part-time. Indeed, Mandelbaum did become a partner and continued her practice while working as an adjunct professor and teaching a class on Wednesdays at Temple. When Mandelbaum’s husband approached her one evening and commented on how happy she looked, Mandelbaum realized that it was Wednesday evening. Teaching that night was the source of her happiness. She left the practice and has been happily teaching full time since 2001.

An adjunct professor now, Lovitz practiced personal injury law before she was laid off last May. After the layoff, Lovitz’s former employer agreed to pay for her sessions with a career counselor. She took the time to evaluate her professional options and the counselor offered a new perspective on her talent and skills. Lovitz used her free time to continue researching animal law, the subject of her course and a topic on which she had done a law journal article a couple of years past. She devoted her days to research, and she found that her true interest in the subject allowed her to work all day without taking the breaks that she found necessary prior to the layoff. Lovitz found so much information that she decided to write a soon-to-be-published book. She now considers writing to be her full-time job.

Bonner never pursued a legal career after graduating from law school and passing the bar exam. While she entered law school with the intent to practice law, Bonner and two other women started a staffing company shortly before she entered law school. By graduation, the company had grown and she decided to work for the business. Still, Bonner found that her law degree was incredibly valuable in terms of running her business. She does not need to hire outside counsel when dealing with unemployment and labor law issues and negotiating contracts.

Each panelist shared her story of personal sacrifice and agreed that financial discipline is required, especially if the new career is less lucrative. Just as with any career, each panelist faces challenges. However, all have realized a level of satisfaction and degree of happiness that allows them to face these challenges much more easily.

Heather J. Austin (haustin@thorpreed.com), an associate with Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP, is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.

Film

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coordinating the day-to-day activities of the productions that end up filming in Philadelphia. In this capacity, the office’s responsibilities range from booking hotels, to ensuring that the creature comforts are available on set, to helping producers obtain permits, hire local cast and crew members, and apply for a tax credit. Lastly, the GPFO is responsible for fostering the growth and development of the local film community within the Philadelphia area. Pinkenson explained that the primary vehicle for fostering this growth is the Greater Philadelphia Film-makers program. In addition, Pinkenson played an integral part in championing the passage of the first film tax credit program in Pennsylvania in 2004. She said that without this tax credit, no movies would be filmed in this area because the tax credit is the main vehicle by which producers can get their films financed. Pinkenson explained that in Pennsylvania, feature films, television series and commercials are eligible for a 25% percent transferable tax credit, as long as the producers spend at least 60% percent of their budget within the state. Unfortunately, with the proposed state budget, these tax credits, along with most other tax credits, are taking a cut.

Pinkenson concluded by divulging some up-and-coming projects taking place in the city. She shared that there is an untitled TV pilot being filmed in the city starring Jimmy Smits as a U.S. Supreme Court justice who leaves the bench to return to private practice. According to Pinkenson, the show stands a good chance of getting picked up. Additionally, a producer is currently looking to cast a small to mid-sized boutique Philadelphia law firm for a documentary series that chronicles the life of real-life attorneys, focusing on workplace dynamics, attorney-client interactions, courtroom proceedings and professional associations.

For more information on Pinkenson, the GPFO, or professional listings in the film industry, please visit the GPFO’s website at www.film.org.

Nicole C. Edwards (Nicole.Edwards@dlapiper.com), an associate with DLA Piper LLP, is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.
Some of you will have noticed something different about this month’s Bar Reporter. It came in a bag and with it the Bar Foundation’s 2009 Annual Report. We’re very proud of this, our third published annual report. Not only because it looks great (thanks to the efforts of April Colby whose time was donated by Martin, Banks, Pond, Lehocky & Wilson and Lynne Brown, deputy executive director of the Bar Foundation), but because of what it shows about the work of the Foundation.

Let me be your yellow highlighter to the report (although I urge you to read it at your leisure). Of course, the high point of 2009 for the Bar Foundation was its ability to give a record amount in grants – $568,000 in a year when the dollars were most needed by our grantees. We did this by maximizing the amount we are able to take from our endowment fund and the support of our many individual and institutional donors.

While I was helping to edit and proofread the drafts of this annual report (please don’t tell me if I missed a typo), I was struck by how many people give of their generosity. donors – the Philadelphia law firms and their generosity.

Plus so many others I can’t even begin to list. There are hundreds of lawyers and other professionals who have made the Bar Foundation and its support of equal access to justice their charitable priority. And there are so many ways that they chose to give. The Andrew Hamilton Circle Life Fellows have decided that for 25 years of their lives they will give $1,000 a year to grow the Bar Foundation’s endowment. There are the lawyers who volunteer their services as arbitrators in the Court of Common Pleas and who not only give up a day of billable time but then donate the honorarium they receive for that volunteer work to the Bar Foundation. There are others who annually contribute to our grants program. Plus so many others I can’t even begin to express how grateful and moved I am by their generosity.

Nor can I forget the institutional donors – the Philadelphia bar firms and businesses that, despite the financial anxiety of the past year, upheld the “finest traditions of the bar” and supported those less fortunate, even while they themselves experienced hard times. You can see from the array of firms listed as sponsors of our three events – the spring YLD Comedy Night, the summer Golf Classic and the fall Andrew Hamilton Benefit – and the participation in the raising the Bar campaign that the private bar is engaged in supporting the Bar Foundation as its community foundation.

Finally, there is the work the Foundation staff and board did to support our public interest community; and in turn, the work that the agencies have done to help those in need. I know you’ve heard about the Juvenile Law Center and its work on behalf of unfairly incarcerated teens in Lackawanna County. But I was reminded in our annual report that it was also successful in persuading the state Supreme Court to expunge the records of 6,500 juveniles affected by the scandal. Those kids now can go on with their lives without the stigma of wrongful "juvie" records hanging over their heads.

And speaking of children, it was great to read about the Education Law Project taking up the cause of ensuring the education of the growing population of homeless youth. Also fighting for the homeless, the Homeless Advocacy Project told us the story, as just one example of the more than 3,000 people it helped in 2009, of one homeless veteran with mental illness who was denied benefits by the Veterans Administration. HAP attorneys, working on her behalf, secured a court ruling reversing the decision and obtained retroactive benefits and a monthly stipend for the veteran, enabling her to afford a home.

Philadelphia VIP, the “hub” for pro bono services for the public interest legal community, served more clients in 2009 than ever before, matching 985 new clients with volunteer attorneys. This was in addition to serving more than 2,100 existing clients. VIP also won the top prize in TD Banks “Housing for Everyone Competition,” and was featured in a major Philadelphia morning television news story.

From time to time, the Philadelphia Bar Foundation receives contributions or a fund in memory of someone who has died or, on a happier note, to mark a special occasion or honor an achievement. Philadelphia lawyers are a special breed. We honor them when we make a gift to the Bar Foundation that is then used to assist Philadelphia’s public interest lawyers and the clients to whom they provide legal services.

**In Memory**
- Given by David S. Fineman in memory of Robert J. Klein of Fineman Kreestin & Harris P.C., a real estate lawyer and social activist who did pro bono work for causes he believed in, including representing members of the Black Panthers and Vietnam War conscientious objectors during the 1960s and 1970s.
- Given by Amy B. Ginensky and Andrew Rogoff in memory of David N. Zeehandelaar of Blank Rome LLP. A key member of Blank Rome’s leadership team and a well-known expert in aviation law, he successfully defended the federal court case against the component manufacturer involved in a multi-fatality disaster involving the military Osprey aircraft.
- Given by Gerald A. McHugh Jr. and Maureen Tate in memory of the mother and sister of Andrew F. Susko of White and Williams LLP.
- Given by Amy B. Ginensky and Andrew Rogoff in memory of Eva G. Levin, mother of Murray S. Levin of Pepper Hamilton LLP.

**In Tribute**
- Given by Aaron Finestone in honor of his friendship with Brian J. O’Neill, minority leader of Philadelphia City Council.

The Philadelphia Bar Foundation’s 22nd Annual Golf Classic will be held Monday, June 21 at Huntington Valley Country Club in Huntington Valley, Pa.

The fee for players is $450. Members of the Young Lawyers Division may play at a discounted fee of $375. A foursome of eight players plus four additional guests to the grand cocktail party; VIP parking for golfers; two tickets to the 2010 Andrew Hamilton Benefit; premium gift for sponsor and guests; and commemorative hole flag for guests.

- **Tournament cup/skills prize sponsor** ($7,500) includes banquet hung in clubhouse entrance; name on the cover of the souvenir program; present skills competition prizes; includes golf for six players plus four additional guests to the grand cocktail party; commemorative hole flag for guests; and two VIP parking spaces for golfers.
- **Luncheon, Grand Cocktail Party Sponsor ($10,000)** includes hole for four players plus four additional guests to the grand cocktail party; banquet table for four; recognition in the souvenir program; and golf for two.

For more information about the Bar Foundation Golf Classic, visit www.philabarfoundation.org.

Memorial Gifts Recognized

22nd Bar Foundation Golf Classic June 21 at Huntington Valley

WebCheck

For more information about the Bar Foundation Golf Classic, visit www.philabarfoundation.org.

or Putting Contest Sponsor ($5,000) includes name on sign at sponsorship location; recognition in the souvenir program; and four players plus four additional guests to the grand cocktail party.

- Golf Cart Signs, Refreshment Cabana Sponsor ($3,500) includes name on golf carts or at refreshment cabanas; recognition in the souvenir program; and golf for two players and two additional guests to the grand cocktail party.
- **Hole Sponsor ($2,250)** includes name on sign at tee; recognition in the souvenir program; and golf for two.

For more information, contact Lynne Brown at (215) 238-6347.
MAY 16, 2010
8:30 a.m.

31st Annual 5K Run/Walk
Sunday May 16th, 2010
For the Support Center for Child Advocates

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Bar 5K Run/Walk May 16

The Philadelphia Bar Association’s 31st Annual 5K Run/Walk, which benefits the Support Center for Child Advocates, begins on Sunday, May 16 at 8:30 a.m. on the Martin Luther King Drive, adjacent to the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

There will be several competitive divisions with a 5K run competition for all runners, a 5K run competition for members of the Philadelphia Bar Association only and there will be both a legal team competition and a corporate team competition. In addition, there will be a kids’ dash sponsored by Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, for children ages 5-10. This free 200-yard non-competitive dash will begin after the run. All participants will receive a giveaway.

A $200 prize will be awarded to anyone in the legal competition who can beat Neill Clark, who was won the last 11 legal competitions with a 5K run, for company and legal team competitions. All participants who complete the run or walk will receive a short-sleeve T-shirt.

The registration fee for the 5K run is $25, if postmarked by Wednesday, May 12, or delivered in person on May 13 or Friday, May 14. For those who register on the day of the run, the fee will be $35.

If you are a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association and would like to have your time also placed among only members of the Bar, the registration fee is $20. If you wish to run as a family, the 5K walk will be $60 and that includes all immediate family members at the reduced rate. Pre-registration is encouraged.

Online registration is available until May 14 at www.active.com, where a service fee will apply. Checks should be made payable to the beneficiary of the run, the Support Center for Child Advocates. For company and legal team competition applications, please call Michael Berkowitz at 215-567-2010 (ext. 132), or via e-mail at mjberkowitz@crbcp.com.

This year, the Bar Association is being joined by corporate sponsors FirTrust, Wawa, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC., Iron Mountain, Philadelphia Runner, Brooks, The Legal Intelligence, Landmark Legal Solutions, USI Affinity, Veritext, Reliable and CPMI.

The event is also being joined by legal sponsors Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP; Panitch Schwarze Belisario & Nadel LLP; Pepper Hamilton LLP; Pepper Hamilton LLP; Ritter Prestia; Saul Ewing LLP; Volpe and Koenig, PC.; White and Williams LLP; Woodcock Washburn LLP; and Young Conway Staggart & Taylor.

Judge Michel ‘Unplugged’ June 8 at Union League

Judge Paul R. Michel will be the speaker for “Unplugged: First Thoughts Post-Retirement,” at a Tuesday, June 8 event presented by the Association’s Intellectual Property Committee.

The event will be held at The Union League of Philadelphia, 146 S. Broad St., beginning at 5:30 p.m. and is co-sponsored by the Philadelphia Intellectual Property Law Association.

Sponsors for the program (as of April 9) include Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP; Ben Franklin Inn of Court; Caesar Rivie Bernstein Cohen & Pokotilow, Ltd.; Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP; Cozen O’Connor; Dechert LLP; Dilworth Paxson; DLA Piper; Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP; Duane Morris LLP; Eckert Seamans Cheron & Mellott, LLC; Feldman Gale, PA; Fish & Richardson, P.C.; Fox Rothschild LLP; Harding, Farley, Folkmur & Fraley PC.; Morris, Nichols, Anstrut & Tunnell LLP; Panitch Schwarze Belisario & Nadel LLP; Pepper Hamilton LLP; Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP; Ritter Prestia; Saul Ewing LLP; Volpe & Koenig, PC.; White and Williams LLP; Woodcock Washburn LLP; and Young Conway Staggart & Taylor.

Judge Michel was appointed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in March 1988. He became chief judge on Dec. 25, 2004 and since then has served as one of 27 judges comprising the Judicial Conference of the United States, the governing body of the judicial branch. In 2005 he was appointed by the chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court to serve on the Executive Committee of the Judicial Conference. Admission to the event is free, but registration is required.

WebCheck

To register for the June 8 program with Federal Circuit Chief Judge Paul R. Michel, visit philadelphiabar.org.
Municipal Court reforms were the topic of discussion at a recent meeting of the Criminal Justice Section featuring Edward McCann, deputy district attorney for trials; Charles A. Cunningham, first assistant defender; and Daniel-Paul Alva, from the law firm of Alva & Associates.

The March 30 discussion first turned to a series of articles recently published in The Philadelphia Inquirer. McCann felt that while the articles may have spurred the court system into action, District Attorney Seth Williams had campaigned on many of these issues and was already in the process of enacting some reforms. For instance, changes were being made to the process to get more experienced people involved at the earliest stages. At least 12 experienced ADA’s were being moved to the charging department and the D.A.’s Office is currently preparing new investigative guidelines in cooperation with the Philadelphia Police Department. One of the positives he sees is extending the time period from arrest to the preliminary hearing, which will give all parties a chance to have cases ready at the first Municipal Court hearing. The long-term goal is to dispose of cases earlier in the process, hopefully as early as the preliminary hearing. McCann alluded to the possibility that certain cases involving possession of small amounts of marijuana may be handled as summary offenses in an effort of small amounts of marijuana may be handled as summary offenses in an effort to more efficiently allocate resources. The D.A.’s Office subsequently announced the implementation of that program.

Cunningham was rather critical of The Inquirer series and felt the articles were misleading. While he acknowledged that the system has its flaws, he does not believe the system was “broken.” His worry is that many more cases would flow to the already over-burdened Common Pleas Court if the changes were enacted.

Alva felt that the recommendations were premature since they are based on rumor and “triple hearsay.” He described the private defense bar as attorneys who like to be captains of their own ship, but this particular ship is in a fish bowl tossed from politician to politician at the direction of The Inquirer. While politicians deal with “promises,” there are many practical considerations that must be dealt with in the real world. As he sees it, the Philadelphia Municipal Court is the third- or fourth-busiest court system in the country and that it handles a large, burdensome preliminary hearing list every day. The system should be tweaked but not eliminated, in his opinion.

The panel also discussed the concepts of “collaboration” and “justice partners.” Cunningham pointed out that the criminal justice system is adversarial by its very nature and that the parties’ interests will conflict. Alva felt that the defense bar had not had a “seat at the table” for several years, although an audience member pointed to several recent examples that show this might be changing.

Finally, an audience member asked a question regarding conviction rate versus disposition rate. McCann did not think the court should be discussing conviction rate as there are other results that are positive for the entire justice system. Alva said because of who the private defense bar represents, they do not have a say in the discussion. He suggested that the needs of the accused should be taken into account. Cunningham pointed out that the courts judge their judges by their disposition rate.

Edward P. Kelly (ekelly@astorweiss.com), a partner with Astor Weiss Kaplan & Mandel, LLP, is an associate editor of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.

Panelists Mull Municipal Court Reforms

Bar Academy

continued from page 5

Chicago. Opera Company. For the first time, great music was available to thousands outside the concert halls. Ownership of radios in Chicago jumped from 1,300 to more than 20,000 from the time the opera broadcasts were announced to the close of the season. In its quest to serve all segments and interests of the community, K液压 also was the first station to broadcast major football games.

In 1934, the station moved to what was then the nation’s third-largest market, Philadelphia. Here it continued its reputation for excellence in community coverage. K液压 served as the nerve center for the NBC network broadcasts of the 1940 Republican National Convention and the 1948 Republican and Democratic national conventions in Philadelphia.

During World War II, K液压 was cited for numerous accomplishments on the home front, among them War Bond Drives. The station continued to grow as a cultural force as well, sponsoring and broadcasting fine musical programs, literary reviews, dramatic shows and educational programs.

In January 1956, K液压 moved to Cleveland and returned to Philadelphia in June 1965, and launched its all-news service just three months later.
O’Connor Award continued from page 1

professional development and education. In 1997, she served as chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention (Judicial Commission), having served as a member of the Commission from 1995 through 1998. From 1988 through 1994, she was a member of the Investigative Division of the Judicial Commission. In that role, she investigated the background of judicial candidates seeking election and reported those findings to the Judicial Commission.

Resnick was appointed trustee of the Campaign for Qualified Judges in 1996 and was also appointed by the then-president judge of the Court of Common Pleas to the Task Force on Gender Fairness in the Courts. She also served as co-chair of the Women’s Rights Committee, and as a member of the Professional Responsibility, Professional Guidance and Fee Disputes Committees.

The Women in the Profession Committee established the award in 1993 to recognize the important contributions that women attorneys in Philadelphia have made to the legal profession. That year, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor presented the first award to U.S. District Court Senior Judge Norma L. Shapiro.

The award has since been presented to the late Juanita Kidd Stout, former justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Deborah R. Willig, first woman Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association; Professor Marina Angel, of the Temple University Beasley School of Law faculty; Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Dolores K. Sloviter (former Chief Judge); U.S. District Court Judge Anita B. Brody; Leslie Anne Miller, first woman president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association; Lila G. Roomberg of Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP; the late Judge Judith J. Jamison; Ellen T. Greenlee, chief defender of the Defender Association of Philadelphia; past Chancellor Audrey C. Talley; U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Marjorie O. Rendell; former Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge Phyllis W. Beck; Roberta D. Pichini of Feldman, Sheph-herd, Wohlgemuther, Tanner, Weinstock & Dodig; Lynn A. Marks, executive director of Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts; Roberta D. Liebenberg of Fine, Kaplan and Black, R.P.C.; and JoAnne Eppe, dean of Temple University Beasley School of Law.

World City Bar Leaders Meet in Tokyo

Representatives of the Tokyo, Chicago and Montreal Bar Associations meet with Chancellor Scott F. Cooper (center) and Chancellor-Elect Rudolph Garcia (right) during the Conference of World City Bar Leaders in Tokyo in March. Ken Shear, executive director of the Philadelphia Bar Association, was also part of the Philadelphia delegation.

Frontline continued from page 3

Legends are periodically inducted by our Association’s Legends of the Philadelphia Bar Committee based on a record of extraordinary skill and service to the bar, the profession and the community.

Because we are able to leverage the latest advances in web design technologies, I cannot think of a better time for us to be working on such an exciting project.

The website will serve as an online resource for all segments of the Bar, providing our diverse membership with a vehicle to move their stories forward, and truly planting the seeds for future generations of Philadelphia lawyers.

This year, the Historical Society will also help us commemorate a very important anniversary, upon which all Philadelphia lawyers trace their heritage. It was 275 years ago, in 1735, that Philadelphia lawyer Andrew Hamilton traveled to New York to defend newspaper publisher John Peter Zenger against charges of libel, forever estab-

ishing the concept of freedom of the press. According to the story, Hamilton’s defense of Zenger was so eloquent and stirring that it was allegedly proclaimed, “only a Philadelphia lawyer could have done it.”

Since then, the term “Philadelphia lawyer” has always stood for an attorney who is a bit more clever, and who knows the most detailed points of law. There is even a Wikipedia page dedicated to this famous term of art.

Participating with Temple University’s Department of Theater, our Historical Society will mark the anniversary of Hamilton’s famous trial at our Bench-Bar and Annual Conference in Atlantic City this October.

At an unprecedented plenary session, we will present a live, colorful, theatrical re-enactment of the landmark Hamilton trial, featuring attorneys and judges of the Philadelphia Bar Association. The Conference, which returns this year to the world-class Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa on Oct. 15-16, features a large selection of CLE seminars for practitioners in many areas and topics.

I hope you’ll join us for this exciting, one-of-a-kind theatrical presentation at the Conference. There is ample opportunity for attorneys to mingle and network with their colleagues and members of the bench. Vice Chancellor John E. Savoeh and Board of Governors Vice Chair Regina M. Foley are the co-chairs of the 2010 Conference and promise a spectacular event. Registration is now open at philabenchbar.org.

As our Historical Society completes the process for acquiring its 501(c)(3) status and continues to define its goals, we welcome the input and suggestions of members of the bench and bar. We will also look to our members to help find the documents and artifacts that will best enable us to preserve our rich and diverse history.

Through the Society’s efforts, we will provide present and future generations with the tools for preserving the valuable contributions of the Philadelphia legal community in our national history – as we look forward to documenting its future.

Scott F. Cooper, a partner with Blank Rome LLP, is Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association. His e-mail address is chancellor@philabar.org.

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May 2010 Philadelphia Bar Reporter 15
Save the Date | October 15-16, 2010
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Liberian, Russian LL.M. Students Honored

The International Law Committee presented its International Law Awards at a reception hosted by Fox Rothschild LLP on April 8.

The awards are presented annually to graduate law students in the region for outstanding achievement in human rights or international law. This year’s recipients were Judge Ceaineh D. Clinton-Johnson of Liberia and Natalia Nekrasova of the Russian Federation.

Judge Clinton-Johnson developed an early interest in the disparity between treatment and opportunities of men and women, and even within groups of women, in Liberian society. After working in the Ministry of Finance, she decided to study law. She saw the election of Africa’s first female president as a reflection of the political will to find solutions to these disparities, and she served as principal minister/deputy attorney general, through which she gained an understanding of the public interest in law and its enforcement. She also participated in formulating the Liberian government’s poverty reduction strategy program. She has taught as an assistant professor of human rights at the university level for more than 15 years and served as a judge for the sexual offenses court, which developed out of the advocacy efforts of her and her colleagues. She expects to complete her LL.M. at the University of Pennsylvania Law School this year.

Nekrasova, who expects to receive her LL.M. at Temple University’s Beasley School of Law this year, completed her law studies in 2006 at Tyumen International Institute of Economics, Management and Law. In 2009, she was selected from a pool of 2,000 young professionals for an internship in the Department of Economics and Social Affairs at the United Nations. Working in the Secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, she prepared briefs for the 47th session for the commission on social integration of the disabled and conducted research for a conference on community-based rehabilitation that provided new approaches to the implementation of the convention.

Two other LL.M. candidates, Lubna A. Hammad and Samreen Malik, were recognized with honorable mentions.
From the Editor’s Desk

Hey Donovan: Thanks and Good Luck - Mostly

I know that most people are tired of hearing about the subject and it is not quite law related, but the recent Donovan McNabb trade was a pretty big deal and I feel the need to put in my two cents. I was fairly certain that, come next season, McNabb would no longer be the Eagles quarterback and would most likely be in a Raiders jersey. Generally speaking, I was OK with that. But when I learned that McNabb had been traded to the Redskins, I was not sure how I felt about it. I thought I was ready for him to go. But when I found out his next destination was to another team in the NFC East, I started having mixed feelings. Very mixed feelings.

Eagles fans generally fall onto one of two sides: the one side who really wanted to see McNabb go and then the other who wanted him to stay, with a small minority who were somewhere in between. Before the Redskins trade, I put myself into the first category. No one can argue that McNabb is a great quarterback with Hall of Fame numbers. But year after year of watching the team make it to the playoffs, topped off by one very frustrating Super Bowl, made me think that McNabb was never going to take the Eagles all the way. So I was ready to see him go, but never thought that it would happen while coach Andy Reid was calling the shots. So I was more than surprised when the trade rumors started and ready for it to actually happen.

But when I found out that McNabb was getting traded within the division, I kind of had a sick feeling in my stomach. The Redskins just hired Mike Shanahan as coach. What if McNabb was a different kind of player under Shanahan? Because let’s face it, while McNabb had his problems, Reid creates plenty of his own problems with his play calling, poor time management skills and failure to make on-field adjustments. I had this scary vision of McNabb flourishing next season under Shanahan and presenting a threat to the Eagles. All of that aside, I think every team has to learn when it is time to cut their losses and start to rebuild, or as Reid calls it “retool.” I believe that the Eagles have reached that point and the biggest part of rebuilding for us will be to structure the team around a new quarterback after the 11-year McNabb era. We have seen what McNabb can do with great receivers and with not-so-great receivers. So now I think it is time to see what another quarterback can do for the team. Is Kevin Kolb the long-term answer? I really have no idea. But I liked what I saw when McNabb was injured and Kolb was actually given a chance to show what he can do and I would like to see more. Kolb may not get them a Super Bowl title either, but I am willing to give him a shot.

I had this scary vision of McNabb flourishing next season under Shanahan. McNabb did a lot for the Eagles while he was here and stayed classy despite some very rocky times. So regardless of what happens with him in Washington, I feel as time goes by, Eagles fans will come to realize that McNabb will probably go down as one of the Eagles’ greatest quarterbacks. So I would just like to say in closing, “So long No. 5, thanks and I wish you the best of luck. Except against the Eagles.”

Asima Panigrahi (panigrahi@whiteandwilliams.com), an associate with White and Williams LLP, is editor-in-chief of the Philadelphia Bar Reporter.

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Entries are now being accepted for the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Eighth Annual Legal Writing Competition in honor of the Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg, associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

The co-chairs of the competition are Kathleen D. Wilkinson, partner at Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP and secretary of the Association, and Diane Penneys Edelman, assistant dean for international programs and professor of legal writing, Villanova University School of Law.

The Bar Association recognizes the importance of excellence in legal analysis and writing skills, and seeks to award a student enrolled in an American Bar Association-approved or provisionally approved area law school for authoring a top-quality competition submission.

“We are thrilled that the Bar Association has demonstrated a strong commitment to the development and recognition of excellent legal analysis and writing abilities among Philadelphia-area law students. These skills have always been important to a lawyer’s success, and have become even more crucial in this economy,” said Edelman.

“We have a very diverse and talented group including a federal judge, professors from all area law schools, attorneys in government practice, and attorneys in private practice,” said Wilkinson. The judges include Brandi J. Beice, City of Philadelphia Law Department and member of the Board of Governors; Assistant Dean Arlene Rivera Finkelstein, University of Pennsylvania School of Law; Professor Ellis Margolis; Temple University Beasly School of Law; Professor Candace Mueller Centeno, Villanova University School of Law; Professor Sydney T. Howe-Barksdale, Widener University School of Law; Professor Lisa T. McElroy, Drexel University; Professor Ellie Margolis; Temple University Beasly School of Law; Professor Candace Mueller Centeno, Villanova University School of Law; Professor Sydney T. Howe-Barksdale, Widener University School of Law; Professor Lisa T. McElroy, Drexel University.

This competition is open to full- and part-time law students who are in their second or third year of study during the 2009-2010 academic year at one of the following six institutions: Drexel University Earl Mack School of Law, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Rutgers University School of Law – Camden, Temple University Beasly School of Law, Villanova University School of Law and Widener University School of Law (Delaware Campus).

Part-time law students in their third or later year of study are also eligible. Students must be in good standing at their institutions. The submission may not have been published previously, although it may have been prepared in connection with a law school course or for a law journal. The submission also may not have been submitted for any other competition during the time when it is under consideration for this competition, until after the time when awards are announced. The submission must be the work of one author alone (joint submissions will not be considered), and the author must certify that the submission has been prepared without substantial editing from others.

Candidates may submit a law review-quality submission on any topic relating to rights, privileges and responsibilities under federal law. Entries must be received by Monday, May 10 at 4 p.m.

The author of the winning submission will receive a cash award of $2,500, the publication of the winning submission on the Bar’s website and/or in an appropriate Bar Association publication. The winner will be honored at the October Quarterly Meeting.

**Stack to Address Committee May 12**

Pennsylvania state Sen. Michael Stack of the 5th District will address “From the National Guard to Guarding our Tax Dollars: A Public Servant’s Role” at the Wednesday, May 12 meeting of the Government and Public Service Lawyers Committee.

Sen. Stack was elected to his third term in the state Senate in November 2008. His district includes Northeast Philadelphia, Port Richmond, Bridesburg and Kensington. He serves as a captain in the armed forces in the Pennsylvania National Guard. He graduated from the Officers Basic Course competing with soldiers 20 years his junior. Sen. Stack serves as Democratic Vice Chair of the Appropriations Committee and Democratic Chair of the Banking and Insurance Committee.

This month Philadelphia VIP recognizes Alfonso Madrid for his outstanding volunteer assistance to VIP clients. Madrid has handled 17 VIP cases since he began volunteering with VIP in the late 1990s, with particular focus in recent years on mortgage foreclosure and other homeownership cases. He has handled 11 mortgage foreclosure cases since the court’s Diversion Program began in June 2008, providing ongoing representation to nearly all of his clients beyond their initial conference in court. Madrid approaches his clients’ mortgage foreclosure cases with great care and thoroughness, proving to be a steadfast resource for VIP.

He also lends his expertise in bankruptcy law to VIP staff by advising on the complex relationship between foreclosures and bankruptcy. Madrid was a panelist at VIP’s Mortgage Foreclosure Training for volunteer attorneys in April and is drafting materials that will explain to volunteers the interplay between foreclosures and bankruptcy.

Madrid has also been an exceptional advocate for a homeowner-ship client whom he has been assisting in defending an ejectment action and filing a quiet title action to regain title to his home. He was eager to accept the case after the ejectment complaint had already been filed against the client and immediately began filing pleadings in court to protect the client’s interests. As the litigation continues through discovery, he continues to zealously represent his client and his right to his home.
Mahler’s Music Can Be an Acquired Taste

By Marc W. Reuben

In this, the sesquicentennial of the birth of composer Gustav Mahler (1860-1911), it may seem a bit odd to begin with a celebratory notice about a restaurant. But that is the goal, since eating before or after a concert is a most important aspect in the enjoyment of music.

The Cadence restaurant on the second tier of the Kimmel Center is the place for pre- or post-concert refreshment. This eatery offers a list of fine, but not too fancy, dishes that are well prepared, neatly served and not too heavy on the palate. Food should be light around a concert hall, and the meals offered at Cadence just fit the bill. Salads that are not too cluttered but are clean and light; entrees offer well-prepared food with the slightly international tilt and there is a wine list. The cocktails are also well prepared (although starting a day with 15 pills and a cup of coffee and then ordering two excellent large martinis first off at dinnertime is not the best way to prepare yourself at pre concert.). The service is efficient with an eye to concert time. The atmosphere, like the Kimmel itself, is informal as opposed to fancy. Here the seats are comfortable without any finery, and the atmosphere is blessedly quiet, considering the place was packed when I went there. Prices are moderate.

The Kimmel Center, which I was prevented from enjoying early on due to triple bypass, is the much anticipated successor to the venerated Academy of Music, where the Philadelphia Orchestra played for decades before the money was raised to build a place that was more “modern.” The baroque magnificence of the old 1850s-built Academy (it was modeled after the opera house at La Scala in Milan) was a selling point of the place for years. When there was money in this town, the mucky-mucks held sway in this ornate setting. It was set for opera (the first and one of the rarest local performances of operatic Wagner was held there in the 1860s) and was used by the Metropolitan Opera Company during early visits to this town. The velvet seat covers and gold gilt appointments gave the impression of European luxury. Immigrants to this country (as well as the well-heeled rich) found comfort in the local imitation of luxury as practiced in the cultured halls of Europe. The place was seriously appreciated by those who looked upon culture as a luxury enjoyed by the aristocracy over there.

The Mahler concert I saw at the Kimmel Center was performed by the San Francisco Orchestra under the baton of Michael Tilson Thomas. Two martinis on an empty stomach may have affected my balance, but afforded me comfort during an excellent performance of the Symphony #2 (Resurrection), which is a huge piece with chorus and vocal soloists. The San Franciscans played with convincing eloquence. The brass was particularly bright and the choral work (from the continued on page 21
The music of Mahler is an acquired taste. The vocal soloists were extraordinary. The Westminster Choir was rousing. The use of vocal work in Mahler's music offers an intellectual exercise for alert listeners. The use of vocal work in the symphonies is most certainly the influence of church singing. My favorite of his symphonies is the “Symphony of a Thousand” (number 8), a large vocal offering that can rouse stones. The Fourth Symphony is the happiest of the works and the sixth is the darkest. There is a full, late romantic sound to the music and listeners sensitive to orchestral performance are particularly drawn to Mahlers’ output.

An early champion was Bruno Walter (in Europe), and among his last recordings is a stereo performance for Columbia of the Symphony #1 (Titan). The complete symphonies were recorded in the 1960s by the New Yorkers under Bernstein, and the transfer to disk is still among the treasures for any collector.
Abbe F. Fleitman, a shareholder with Flaster/Greenberg PC, has co-edited the 2010 edition of The Woman Advocate, a title last published in 1994 by the American Bar Association.

Brian P. Seaman, an associate with Bradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP, has been elected to the board of directors of the Wilma Theater.

Amy Rosenberger, a partner with Willig, Williams & Davidson, has been appointed to the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations Lawyers Coordinating Committee Board of Directors.

Ellen C. Brotman and Mark B. Sheppard, partners at Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoads, LLP, were speakers at the recent Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers “For the Experienced – The Ultimate Criminal Law CLE,” presented in February in Gettysburg, Pa. Brotman, a conference planner, was a co-presenter for the course titled “Cushioning the Blow: Practical Tips for Sentencing Mitigation.” Sheppard co-presented “The Grand Jury: Opportunities and Dangers in State and Federal Court.”

Carl D. Buchholz III, a partner with Rawle & Henderson LLP, has been appointed chair of the Disciplinary Board of Pennsylvania by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

Joseph F. Bouvier, a shareholder with Mattioni, Ltd., will serve as chair of the Greater Swedesboro Business Association’s Golf Outing at Town & Country Links in Woodstown, N.J., on May 27.

Judge James T. Giles, of counsel to Pepper Hamilton LLP, recently received the A. Leon Higginbotham Lifetime Achievement Award at the 22nd Annual Pennsylvania Bar Association Minority Attorney Conference in Philadelphia on March 30.

George J. Murphy, a director at Gibbons P.C., is coordinating the International Association of Defense Counsel’s efforts in Pennsylvania and throughout the country to promote the “Our Courts” program, a comprehensive, web-based education curriculum for middle school students designed to effectively teach civics and inspire active participation in democracy.

John M. Dodig, a partner with Feldman Shepherd Wohlgelernter Tanner Weinstock & Dodig, addressed the topic of deposing liability witnesses at the Pennsylvania Association for Justice Advanced Deposition Strategies Seminar on March 24.

Deborah Epstein Henry, founder and president of Flex-Time Lawyers LLC, was a speaker at an University of Pennsylvania School of Law Women Association’s program “Women in Law: Where are We, Where We Want to Be & How to Get There” on March 24.

Meredith DuBarry Huston, an associate with Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP, was a panelist at the “Landlord-Tenant Law Seminar” presented by Sterling Education Services, Inc. in Allentown, Pa. on April 8 and in Philadelphia on April 13.

Dawn M. Tancredi, an associate with Mat- tioni, Ltd., recently was accredited by the U.S. Green Building Council as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Associate, which designates her as having knowledge of the requirements for green building design, construction and operations.

Yitzhak Rabin Center.

Stuart W. Davidson, a partner with Willig, Williams & Davidson, has been elected chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Friends of the Yitzhak Rabin Center.

Mitchell S. Kaplan, managing shareholder of Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Scher Toddy, PC, has been appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Green Tree School in Philadelphia.

David J. Steerman, a partner with Obermayer Rehmann Maxwell & Hipple LLP, was the featured course planner for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s “Government Intervention in Parenting Decisions” program on March 9.

Brett Stensky and Angela Pappas, attorneys with Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP, were the course planners and members of the faculty that presented “Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency: Key Financial Incentives for Businesses” to the Pennsylvania Bar Institute on March 12.

Jeremy D. Mishkin, a partner at Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoads, LLP, was a speaker at the University of Pittsburgh/Katz School of Business’ Executive MBA program, where he taught the class “Legal Issues in E-Commerce.” Mishkin also recently taught as an adjunct professor at Temple University’s Beasley School of Law, on the topic of “Handling Key Witnesses in Complex Litigation” as part of the school’s LL.M. in Trial Advocacy.

Neil A. Morris, a partner with Archer & Greiner, PC, has been named township labor counsel in Lower Southampton Township, Pa.

Louis W. Fryman, a partner with Conrad O’Brien PC, has been re-elected chair of the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission.


Katherine M. Keefe, a shareholder with Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin, was a speaker at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s 16th Annual Health Law Institute on March 11.

Renée F. Bergmann, senior counsel to Thorp Reed & Armstrong, LLP, was a faculty member for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s Fourth Annual IP Law Institute on April 15.

Jacquelyn Ager, of counsel to Conrad O’Brien PC, has been appointed to the Board of the Sunshine Foundation, a national organization dedicated to answering the dreams of the chronically ill, seriously ill, physically challenged and abused children ages 3 to 18, whose families cannot fulfill their requests due to the financial strain that these illnesses may cause.

NAMEs are NEWS

“People” highlights news of members’ awards, honors or appointments of a community or civic nature. Information may be sent to Jeff Uyuso, Senior Managing Editor, Philadelphia Bar Reporter, Philadelphia Bar Association, 1101 Market St., 11th fl., Philadelphia, PA 19107-2955. Fax: (215) 238-1159. E-mail: reporter@philabar.org. Color photos are also welcome.
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Andrew Chirls has been trying a broad variety of business and tort cases for more than 25 years. He was the first lawyer in Pennsylvania to present an AIDS or HIV discrimination case to a jury, and he continues to pursue employment and other discrimination cases as a partner at Haines & Associates. Mr. Chirls has been lead counsel in numerous commercial and products liability class actions, and is recognized as an authority in the field of property rights and condemnation law.

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