

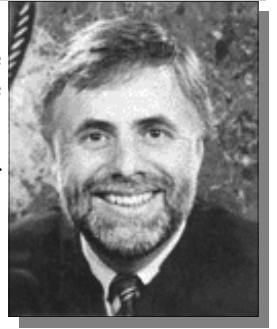
Time to Make Reservations for the 97th Lincoln Memorial Banquet

You have already received your formal invitation to the 97th Lincoln Memorial Banquet, to be held on **Thursday, February 24, 2005, at the Peoria Civic Center**. The keynote speaker will be the **Honorable Robert R. Thomas**, Illinois Supreme Court Justice from the Second District.

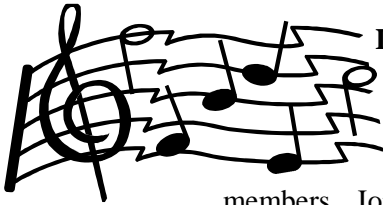
Tickets are only \$60 per person. There will be tables of eight, so if you would like to be listed in the program as a table host, the cost would be \$480.

We would like to thank the following firms and individuals who have already submitted their table host commitment:

- Jeanne Ballor
- Cassidy & Mueller
- Hasselberg, Williams, Grebe, Snodgrass & Birdsall
- Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen
- Elizabeth Jensen
- Kingery Durree Wakeman & Ryan, Assoc.
- Miller, Hall & Triggs
- Nicoara & Steagall
- Pearl Companies
- Prusak, Winne & Gorman Ltd.
- Quinn, Johnston, Henderson & Pretorius, Chtd.
- Vonachen, Lawless, Trager & Slevin
- Westervelt, Johnson, Nicoll & Keller LLC



Celebrate 10 Years of Magic



Legal Aid 2005, featuring the classic rock and soul of the **Shy-sters**, will be held on **Friday, February 25, 2005**, at the Par-A-Dice Hotel in East Peoria. In honor of our 10th Anniversary, there will be a raffle for a \$500 gift certificate to The Shoppes at Grand Prairie and special guest appearances by former band members. Join us for great food, good music, and time to let your hair down with your colleagues and friends at the casual event of the year. Table reservations are available for parties of 8 or more. For tickets or information, call **Sandra Crow**, Prairie State Legal Services, Inc., at 674-9831 or via e-mail at scrow@pslegal.org.

Schedule of Events

- Feb. 11 Lincoln's Birthday (Observed) – Courts Closed/Courthouse Open
12 **CLE: Law Office Automation – Packard Plaza – 8:30 – Noon (or 1:00)**
19 **CLE: General Practice – Packard Plaza – 8:30 – Noon**
21 President's Day – Courts & Courthouse Closed
24 **97th Lincoln Memorial Banquet – Peoria Civic Center – 6:30 p.m.**
25 Legal Aid 2005 – Par-A-Dice Hotel —Tenth Anniversary Celebration
- Mar. 2 **Brown Bag Lunch Series – PCBA office – noon – Divorce – Lisa Wilson**
9 **Brown Bag Lunch Series – PCBA office – noon – Real Estate – David French**
16 **Brown Bag Lunch Series – PCBA office – noon – Bankruptcy – Sumner Bourne**
23 **Brown Bag Lunch Series – PCBA office – noon – Military – Frank Ierulli**
25 Good Friday – Courts & Courthouse Closed
30 **Brown Bag Lunch Series – PCBA office – noon – Defending DUI's – John Stenson**
- Apr. 6 **Brown Bag Lunch Series – PCBA office – noon – Collection of a Judgment – Mick Hall**
28 **Law Day Luncheon–Hotel Père Marquette–Speaker: Hon. Michael M. Mihm**
- May 25 **Memorial Service – Peoria County Courthouse – Courtroom 210 – 10:30 a.m.**
30 Memorial Day (Observed) - Courts & Courthouse Closed
- June No holidays; no events scheduled.
- July 4 Independence Day – Courts & Courthouse Closed
11 **Annual Meeting of the Membership – Hotel Pere Marquette – Noon**
13 **Illinois Bar Foundation/Peoria County Bar Foundation Joint Golf Outing – Weaver Ridge**

Thomas W. O'Neal
President

Rex K. Linder
President-Elect and
Budget Chair

Dennis R. Triggs
Second Vice President and
Professional Standards Chair

Karen L. Kendall
Secretary-Treasurer

Robert H. Jennetten
Past President and
Nominating Chair

Karen M. Stumpe
By-Laws

Michael R. Lied
Courts & Procedures

Timothy L. Bertschy
Diversity

Tracy C. Litzinger
Entertainment

Michele A. Miller
Law Library

Stephen J. Thomas
Lawyer Referral Service

James R. Carter
Lincoln Memorial Banquet

Brian D. Mooty
Local Continuing Legal Ed

James F. Kane
Membership & Memorials

Matthew B. Smith
Pro Bono

John P. Vespa
Public Relations

Michael D. Gifford
Publications

Sandra A. Birdsall
Real Property

Jennifer N. Connelly
Young Lawyers and Law Day
Directors at Large:

Linda S. Ficht

Susan Dawson-Tibbits

John P. Nicoara

Justice Mary W. McDade

February

1 8:00 a.m. Pro Bono Committee
9 Noon Young Lawyers Committee
10 Noon Lincoln Memorial Banquet Committee
15 8:00 a.m. Board of Directors
16 Noon Diversity Committee (meet at Heyl firm)
21 Noon Real Property Committee

March

1 8:00 a.m. Pro Bono Committee
8 Noon Budget Committee
15 8:00 a.m. Board of Directors
21 Noon Real Property Committee

The **Diversity Committee** was established this past year, with the mission to increase the diversity of our local bar. The Committee meets on a monthly basis and is actively engaged in several projects, including the following.

- Hosting a Diversity Luncheon this past September to bring focus to the PCBA's diversity efforts. Over 300 people attended and the guest speaker was Robert Grey, ABA President. The Committee plans to sponsor a second diversity luncheon next fall, possibly in conjunction with a job fair.
- Administering the PCBA Diversity Scholarship program, which offers a \$1,000 scholarship to a law student of color who has an interest in practicing law in our community.
- Obtaining pledges from major law firms in our community that commit each firm to increase their efforts to recruit and hire minority law students and lawyers.
- Meeting with law schools and minority students at the U of I, SIU, and NIU to encourage them to look for work in the Peoria area. This is an effort to establish an ongoing relationship with the minority student associations at each school.
- Working with Judge Kouri, the ABA, and the Illinois Judges Association to secure at least one minority judicial intern for the Peoria County Circuit Court this summer.
- Working with a professional consulting firm to create a diversity training program for our legal community. Similar programs exist in other legal communities, most recently Kansas City.
- Planning a high school mentoring program for minority students who may have an interest in attending law school.

If you have any questions about the Diversity Committee or would like to be involved in its work, please contact Tim Bertschy (676-0400), Sonni Williams (494-8590), or Linda Raineri (674-6049).

The **Lawyer Referral Service Committee** is pleased to report the receipt of a check in the amount of \$160 from **Jennifer Connelly**, representing 10% of the attorneys' fees in a referral case. Special thanks to all those attorneys who participate in the service. This is a great public service/public relations instrument and your time and effort is appreciated. If you would like to be involved in LRS, contact Linda at pcba@mtco.com

The **Local Continuing Legal Education Committee** has held three successful programs thus far. The remaining two programs will be February 12 (Law Office Automation) and February 19 (General Practice). Please submit your registration as early as possible. (See flyer included with

this issue.) The **Brown Bag Series** for 2005 is scheduled for every Wednesday in March plus the first Wednesday in April. A sixth session has been added, so please review the enclosed flyer. As always, the seminars are geared toward younger/newer attorneys, and registration is on a first-come/first-served basis, with limited seating available, so get your registration in early. These are free seminars and a light lunch is provided.

The **Pro Bono Committee's** pledge drive (for attorneys' time contribution, not monetary contribution) continues to build momentum. As was reported last month, the Heyl firm has pledged to handle 38 PSLS cases in the next year. Now the Quinn firm has stepped up to the plate and has committed to 20 cases! If your firm would like to participate in this different kind of pledge drive, contact **Matt Smith** at 309.674.1133 or msmith@qjhp.com.

The **Young Lawyers Committee**.

- Special thanks go to **Rick and Megan Russo** for their work on the Young Lawyers' bus trip to the CUBS game this summer. We have 38 folks registered for what promises to be a great time!
- Speaker requests for **Law Day** have started arriving at the PCBA office. If you are not on the Young Lawyers Committee but would like to speak at an area school during the month of April, contact **Jami Webster** at 699-4040 or jwebster@addybushlaw.com.

In Memoriam

James P. Kellstedt

On January 9, 2005, James P. Kellstedt passed away. Born on June 28, 1918, Mr. Kellstedt attended Bradley University and Northwestern. He received his J.D. from Northwestern School of Law in 1945. He was Peoria County State's Attorney from 1952 to 1956 and was a former Assistant Attorney General for the Federal Bankruptcy Court. Mr. Kellstedt was a solo practitioner for many years, last officing in Peoria Heights.

R. Wayne Harvey

On January 28, 2005, R. Wayne Harvey passed away. He was born November 12, 1942 in Chicago. He received his J.D. from the University of Illinois in 1970. Mr. Harvey began his practice of law with the office of Lester Berry Smith, prior to opening his own firm of Harvey & Stuckel in the 1970's.

Memorial cards for the PCBA Foundation are included with this newsletter and the Association has contributed \$200 to the Foundation in memory of James P. Kellstedt and R. Wayne Harvey.

Contributions of over \$2,000.00 for the Lela Post Scholarship Fund at I.C.C. have been received in memory of Lela Post. The PCBA has also made a \$100 contribution to the fund. The presentation of the funds will be made at the Annual Meeting of the Membership on July 11, 2005 and contributions can still be taken until that date.

Thank you!

Special thanks to the following firms and individuals for assistance:

- Dane Pudik and Quinn, Johnston, Henderson & Pretorius** for assistance with delivery of the December *LegalEase*.
- Kevin Miller of Quinn, Johnston, Henderson & Pretorius and Calista Reed of Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen** for special assistance with the Civil Practice CLE Seminar.
- All members for patience during this hectic time of year.

Courthouse News

PEORIA COUNTY

Plans are underway to join the ranks of the four counties in Illinois (Lake, Winnebago, DuPage and Kane) who currently have **Children's Waiting Rooms**. A proposal has been submitted by the Crittenton Center and it is anticipated the Children's Waiting Room could open in late fall of this year or early 2006, in conjunction with plans for court renovations. To defray the expense of establishing and operating a Children's Waiting Room the statute allows the county board to approve the collection of a filing fee on all civil cases of not more than \$5.00 (705 ILCS 105/27.7). For further information contact **Michael Lied**, Chairman of Courts & Procedures Committee, 309.672.1483 or via e-mail: mlied@howardandhoward.com

TAZEWELL COUNTY

To contact a courtroom clerk regarding scheduling, please e-mail the following:

jbarbee@tazewell.com	(Felony, Judge Ault)
rgregory@tazewell.com	(Criminal, Judge McCoy)
jyoung@tazewell.com	(Civil, Judge Lucas)
lwubben@tazewell.com	(Traffic, Judge Steenrod)
labts@tazewell.com	(Domestic Relations, Judge Maher)
rnull@tazewell.com	(Law & Equity, Judge Borden)

aguidotti@tazewell.com (Administrative Office 102)

Peoria County Pro Bono Plan

On behalf of our clients, we would like to thank the following attorneys and their staff who recently closed pro bono cases: **Kirk Bode** (2 cases), **Christopher Cassidy**, **John Dundas**, **Michael Fleming**, **Deborah Moore**, **Gay Nell German** (2 cases), **Sam Harrod**, **Jeremy Heiple**, **Art Inman**, **James Jorgensen**, **Robert Muir** (3 cases), **Rodney Nordstrom**, **James Putnam**, **Christopher Ryan**, **Valerie Umholtz** and **Alicia Washington**.

There are currently 93 cases in Peoria County and 32 cases in

Tazewell County on our divorce waiting list. Our special thanks to the following attorneys who completed a divorce training in our office on January 20, 2005: **Michele Miller**, **Laura Petersen**, **James Putnam**, **Mandy Watson** and **Jerrod Williams**.

*Sandra Crow, Peoria County
Pro Bono Plan Coordinator, scrow@pslegal.org*

Divorce Training for Pro Bono Attorneys



A divorce training will be held for all attorneys who have signed up to have two pro bono cases referred to them through the Pro Bono Plan, a joint effort of the Peoria County Bar Association and Prairie State Legal Services. Judge Maher will be presenting the training utilizing the materials

she prepares to educate judges. The program and materials are available to those in attendance at no charge. The divorce training will be held on **Thursday, March 3, 2005, at 3:00 p.m.** in the **Hazen Room** of the **Associated Bank Building** in Peoria. To participate, please contact **Lisa Wilson** at 309.674.9831 or e-mail at lwilson@pslegal.org.

Immediate Openings

Attorney: Respected small town law firm seeks attorney for general practice. Competitive benefits available. Salary \$30,000-\$50,000 depending on experience. Send resume, reference list, letters of recommendation, cover letter, salary requirements, writing sample and law school transcripts to Gary Barnhart, Bruce Beal or Chris Walters at Claudon, Kost, Barnhart, Beal & Walters, Ltd., 121 W. Elm St., P. O. Box 400, Canton, IL 61520; e-mail: walters@ckbbw.com

Attorney: Five-attorney law firm with statewide practices in insurance defense, insurance coverage, and appellate representation seeks Illinois-licensed attorney with two to six years experience. Full-time position involves all aspects of client representation in litigation matters before state and federal trial courts in Illinois. Excellent writing skills and experience in insurance defense litigation are required. Salary commensurate with experience. Send cover letter, resume, references, law school transcript and writing sample to Barbara Snow Mirdo at Thielen, Foley & Mirdo, L.L.C., 207 W. Jefferson St., Suite 600, Bloomington, IL 61701.

Associate Attorney: Plaintiff personal injury/worker's compensation firm seeks aggressive, hard-working associate. Base salary commensurate with experience. Excellent incentives. Submit resume in confidence to Douglas J. Schweickert, Schweickert & Ganassin, 2101 Marquette Rd., Peru, IL 61354, or fax: 815-223-8449.

Associate Attorney: Peoria AV-rated law firm seeks associate with 1-4 years experience. Real estate, title examination and business law experience preferred. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume, writing sample and transcript to Thomas R. Davis, Miller, Hall & Triggs, 416 Main Street, Suite 1125, Peoria, IL 61602.

Attorney: Looking for attorney with minimum 5 years experience. Growing trial practice handling complex defense litigation, as well as Plaintiff's medical malpractice and products litigation, needs assistance. Top salary and benefits being offered for the right candidate. All inquir-

ies will be kept confidential. Please contact James Carter at 673-3517 or e-mail resume to jcarter@jcarterlaw.com.

Attorney: The Office of the General Counsel for Country Insurance & Financial Services has an opening for an attorney in our Bloomington, Illinois home offices. The duties include working with a broad range of corporate clients in areas such as commercial law, real estate, investments, trusts, securities law, regulatory issues, environmental matters, insurance, corporate documents, employment law, agricultural law, contracts and litigation. The position requires a law degree, 2-5 years experience, admission to practice in Illinois and excellent interpersonal skills for extensive client contact. Trial experience is preferred. Qualified applicants please submit cover letter and resume to: jobs@countryfinancial.com, Corporate Human Resources, Employment Department, 1701 Towanda Ave., Bloomington, IL 61701; Fax: 309-820-5462.

Associate Attorney: Immediate opening for a business attorney with 1 to 4 years experience. Strong academic credentials essential. Send resumes in confidence to John S. Elias, Elias, Meginnes, Riffle & Seghetti, P.C., 416 Main St., Suite 1400, Peoria, IL 61602.

Paralegal: Respected small town law firm seeks four year degree paralegal. Competitive benefits available. Salary \$25,000-\$35,000 depending on experience. Send resume, reference list, letters of recommendation, cover letter, salary requirements and writing sample to Gary Barnhart, Bruce Beal or Chris Walters at Claudon, Kost, Barnhart, Beal & Walters, Ltd., 121 W. Elm St., P. O. Box 400, Canton, IL 61520; e-mail: walters@ckbbw.com

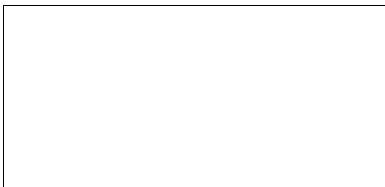
Paralegal: Full time for solo practitioner. **Clerical:** Full or part-time for solo practitioner. Send resumes to PCBA, 411 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1618, ATTN: Newsletter Editor, Peoria, IL 61602-1104



LegalEase

PEORIA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
411 Hamilton Boulevard, Suite 1618
Peoria, Illinois 61602-1104

February 2005



Address/Directory Changes

Broadway, James D., Sorling Northrup Hanna Cullen and Cochran, Ltd., P. O. Box 5131, Springfield, IL 62705-5131; Peoria Phone: 676-1144

Gaede, Donovan, Thailand

Gruber, Dexter R., Williams & Williams P.C., 139 E. Washington, East Peoria, IL 61611; Phone: 694-3196; Fax: 694-3230

Hayes, Thomas M., 104 N. Davenport, Metamora, IL 61548-0822; Phone: 231-4800; Fax: 367-4450; e-mail: dannyh@mtco.com

Murphy, James A., 6226 N. Jamestown Rd., Peoria, IL 61615 Same telephone number.

Phelps, Barbara, New Suite No. 1710

Taylor, Luke, 8 S. Fourth St., Pekin, IL 61554; Phone: 346-1002; Fax: 346-0051

Walker, C. Edwin, New Suite No. 1710

Washington, Alicia, Prairie State Legal Services, 331 Fulton St., Suite 600, Peoria, IL 61602; Phone: 674-9831; Fax: 674-3802; e-mail: awashington@pslegal.org

Firm Name Changes

Space Available

- Two-office suite available in new construction located off of Glen Avenue near the Metro Center. Shared break room and conference room available. Possibilities for receptionist service if needed. Contact **Mike Nordwall** 691-9985.
- Office space available immediately. Attorney office and plenty of secre-

tarial and file cabinet space outside of it. Use of kitchen and refrigerator included. Contact **Robert Strodel**, 676-4500.

- Legal space for rent. New construction, spacious offices on second floor with scenic view, private facilities, large conference room, secretarial staff available if needed, located at 1009 Illini Dr., East Peoria, behind Proctor First Care. For further information or to see office space, contact **Clay Moushon**, 698-6627.

Peoria County:

Hasselberg, Williams, Grebe,

Snodgrass & Birdsall

Michael R. Hasselberg

Raymond C. Williams

James R. Grebe

Kenneth M. Snodgrass, Jr.

Sandra J. Birdsall

Charles J. Urban

Alison E. McLaughlin

David L. Wentworth II

Timothy Steil

Megan R. Russo

Darcy K. Schindler

Lisa R. Barbee

Tazewell County:

Williams & Williams, P.C.

Dick L. Williams

Rich B. Williams

Dexter R. Gruber

Free Books

Free – old volumes of Proof of Facts and Illinois Digest available at Benckendorf & Benckendorf, P.C., 101 NE Randolph Ave., Peoria, 309-673-0797.

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