

# THE DELCO *re:*VIEW

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2017

Happy  
New Year

& JUSTICE FOR ALL!

## IN THIS ISSUE:

*Refresh and Return to Tradition  
With Grace and Professionalism*

*YOLO... You Only Live Once*

*A Pioneer of the Bar...  
William Henry Ridley, Esquire*



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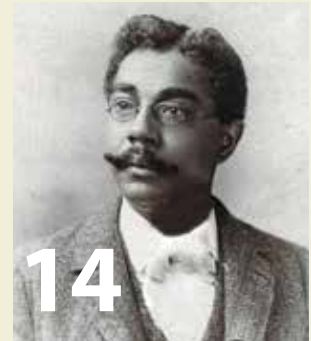
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**With Grace & Professionalism**

**Karen Newell**

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### EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS

If you would like to provide editorial content for future issues of *Delco re:View* please forward your story ideas to Tracy Price, Marketing Director & Editor, 610-566-6627, x 225, or Tracy@delcobar.com. Article and content consideration will be given to Association members, sponsors and vendors first but we welcome content suggestions from the Delaware County community. All content placement is solely at the discretion of the Association.



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Scott C. Gottel, Esq.,**  
*DCBA President, 2016*

## *An Introduction to 2017*

**T**ime flies when you're having fun! This was true for my year as President in 2016. It seems like just yesterday that I was writing my first "President's Message" in the *Delco re:View* and now I type my last as I get ready to turn the reigns over to Robert R. Delong, Jr., Esquire. What a great year 2016 was for the Bar Association which underwent some beautiful renovations to spruce up tired spaces, saw an increase in participation with Affinity partners, continued financial success and stability, hosted multiple Continuing Legal Education courses for fellow lawyers and members of the public, hosted multiple educational events and social gatherings, and continued to explore additional sources of income to assure a strong future for the Association and its members.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome 2017's President, Robert R. Delong, Jr., Esquire. I can tell you from personal experience that Rob will lead the Association on a continued path of success! His dedication to the Association is unquestionable and his insight and intellect always bring a thoughtful approach to issues. Last year I had the pleasure of spending time at various Association events and functions with Rob and his wife, Susan, who operates an invitation business. The two could not have been more gracious and understanding at a conference as I suddenly asked the driver of a shuttle bus to stop by the side of a windy road coming home from a restaurant after unknowingly being infected with a virus that had spread throughout the hotel complex where we had been staying. Not such a nice introduction to Rob's wife but a true testament to the couple's compassion!

For those of you who have not been fortunate to meet or work with Rob, he is a sole practitioner in Media, concentrating in Estate and Incapacity Planning, Estate Administration and Elder Law. Interestingly, Rob is a "second career" lawyer who graduated from Widener School of Law after initially having a career in securities and investments in Chicago and Houston before transferring to Pennsylvania. It was here that Rob decided to complement his financial background with a legal career where he focuses on Elder Law, Estates and Estate Planning. Additionally, Rob has served as an adjunct professor at the Widener School of Law Legal Education Institute where he teaches Torts and Wills, Trusts and Estate Administration and Elder Law.

When he is not representing clients, Rob can be found on the golf course. He has spent countless hours organizing the Bar Association's golf league in addition to serving on other committees, including the Association's Elder Law Committee and Community Outreach Committee as well as participating as a member of the Philadelphia and Chester County Bar Associations.

I know that Rob will serve the Association and our community well. Please join me in congratulating and welcoming Rob as the Association's 82nd President! Good luck in 2017! ■

Scott C. Gottel, Esquire, DCBA President, 2016





# Refresh and Return to Tradition

## 45th Annual Bench Bar Conference

### June 7, 8, and 9, 2017

### Skytop Lodge, Pocono Mountains, PA

Save the Date...June 7, 8, and 9, 2017. . . Get your Skytop on, we are headed back to the Pocono Mountains! Since 1928, Skytop has been a memory-maker for those who cherish unique traditions, and creating their own in the process. From the moment you enter Skytop Lodge, you are transported to a more dignified time. Every aspect of your stay is memorable—from the awe-inspiring surroundings as you make your way up the winding road to the Main Lodge, to the welcoming warmth you receive from attentive staff throughout your stay.

**Skytop's Mission:**  
**To make everyone who walks  
through our doors feel as though  
they are family.**  
**After all, it is in their nature.**

Historic Skytop Lodge resort positioned itself for growth in 2015 as it celebrated its 87th birthday! Skytop Lodge has made significant investments in upgrades to its guest rooms and main public areas—a key area of focus for the resort. A \$3.7 million property-wide update is complete, inclusive of all 192 guest rooms where enhancements to the rooms' design aesthetics utilize the history of the hotel and the flavor of the early 1930s era. Guest amenities and in-room technology were also upgraded. The Pine Room lobby and library have been refreshed to accentuate the original woodwork.

In order to enhance the guest experience and position of the 5,500-acre

iconic resort for continued excellence, Skytop Lodge investments have allowed the vision of the new and improved Skytop Lodge to become a reality while staying true to the resort's rich history. There is nothing more important than an authentic experience each and every guest has when they step foot on the property and the memories visitors take home with them when they leave. That experience is dictated by everything from the design of guest rooms to personalized service received throughout the resort.

***Thoughtful choices and true to history...Delivering the authentic Skytop experience every step of the way...***

Pulling from local history and tradition, each newly remodeled guest room has been designed to tell the Skytop Lodge story. With three room designs (Water, Garden and Mountain), the color palette and design elements of each room reflect the natural beauty of the Pocono Mountains. Each guest room includes a

*continued from page 6*

## 2017 Bench Bar Conference continued from page 5

hand-painted wall covering signed by the artist, Ann McGuire.

**WATER:** Inspired by the Indian Ladder Falls, these rooms incorporate blue and gray hues as well as original paintings by Ann McGuire.

**GARDEN:** Inspired by the original 1927 landscape design of the Olmsted brothers who designed Skytop Lodge's gardens, these rooms are bathed in muted tones with a nod to the local topography.

**MOUNTAIN:** Using the deep red hue of the beloved West Mountain as inspiration, these rooms look out on expansive mountain views and incorporate rugged lines and hand-painted wall art. Each newly refurbished guest room features classic furniture inspired by the 1930s era as well as updates to the bathrooms, with more shelving, countertop space and brighter lighting. In-room safes were added to each guest room, as were new "smart" TVs, bedside lamps and additional USB/outlet chargers. Suites are designed after iconic, historical figures who were instrumental in Skytop's famed history, such as Samuel Packer, the resort's first general manager; Harold "Mini" Callaway, the property's original golf pro; and celebrated American landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, best known for designing Central Park and whose sons later created Skytop Lodge's landscape design.

Memories, there have been many! For years, the Delaware County Bar Association retreated to Skytop for the annual Bench Bar Conference. I recall the Millenium Reunion, year 2000, at Skytop Lodge. Look who was there to celebrate the Millenium that had attended the first annual Bench Bar Conference in 1973 . . . David E. Auerbach, Lewis B. Beatty, Jr., Hon. Francis J. Catania, Hon. Kenneth A. Clouse, Alexander A. DiSanti, Howard Farber, John M. Gallagher, Jr., James H. Gorbey, Norman L. Haase, William G. Halligan, Hon. Frank T. Hazel, Charles F. Knapp, Stanley R. Kotzen, Hon. Joseph T. Labrum, Jr.,

John R. Larkin, Joseph E. Lastowka, Jr., Anthony F. List, Jr., Michael T. McDonnell, Jr., Richard A. Mitchell, Rodger L. Mutzel, David M. Smilk, John Churchman Smith, F. Harry Spiess, Jr., Hon. William R. Toal and Hon. Robert A. Wright.

### And, here is how it all started!

The following was taken from the Delco re:View, August, 2000 issue. DCBA member O. Warren Higgins used to interview one of our Past Presidents for publication each quarter . . . *"In the forthcoming issues of the Delco re:View, there will appear an interview with one of the Past Presidents of the Delaware County Bar Association. The purpose shall be an endeavor to establish how the Association has progressed not only to its infrastructure but also in the services provided to the membership and the citizens of Delaware County."*

The interview appearing in the August Issue 2000, was that of John J. Maffei, Esq., who served as President of the Delaware County Bar Association in 1973. John was admitted to practice in 1958 and became active in the Association, serving as Chairman of several committees, then as Second Vice President and First Vice President before becoming President. John, at the time of the interview, was semi-retired and interviewed at his home in Nether Providence Township immediately after one of his tri-weekly, 7:00 a.m. fitness workouts at Penn State Delaware County Campus. The following is just an excerpt . . .

**Interviewer:** John, what was and continues to be the most memorable event or incident concerning the Association that occurred during your tenure as President?

**Maffei:** I had attended a Bench Bar Conference of the Philadelphia Bar the year before I became President and from what I learned there, I thought it would be a good idea to start such a conference for our Association.

**Interviewer:** What steps did you take to create such a conference for the Delaware County Bar?

**Maffei:** At my request, the Board of Directors created a Bench Bar Conference Committee and I appointed Joe Labrum as Chairman since he had the respect of both the Bench and the Bar. Max Gibbs, Murray Eckell and myself worked with him as Committee members.

**Interviewer:** What was the aim or focus of the Committee in establishing the Conference?

**Maffei:** We saw the Conference as an opportunity to provide an educational forum and as an excellent time for the Bench and Bar to work and play together.

**Interviewer:** Time has certainly proved the success of the Conference.

**Maffei:** Yes, in more ways than one. As a result of the Conference, we formed a Bench Bar Relations Committee which met with the Board of Judges on a monthly basis to discuss matters of concerns to both groups. In addition, a Real Estate Committee was created for the education of the Bar in real estate matters and to improve the relationship between the Bar and Real Estate Brokers. We also formed a Medical Legal Committee to address medical malpractice issues between the legal and medical communities and to develop joint educational programs.

**Interviewer:** And all this developed from the Bench Bar Conference?

**Maffei:** It either came as a result of the Conference or developed contemporaneously with the Conference. I would like to add that the Conference would have never happened without the support of Judge Catania and the rest of the Bench. We were also fortunate because we received financial support from the Chadwick Fund which was being administered by Frank Ginsburg as Chairman, Marty Duus

and John Wellman. At the Conference we established the Chadwick Award to recognize a member for his or her substantial contribution to the Bar. Appropriately, Frank Ginsburg was its first recipient.

**Interviewer:** What in your opinion was the most important accomplishment for the betterment of the Association that occurred during your tenure as President?

**Maffei:** The establishment of the Bench Bar Conference.

**Interviewer:** Was the Delaware County Bar Association the first to have a Bench Bar Conference?

**Maffei:** I believe we were the first of four counties outside of Philadelphia.

**Interviewer:** Thank you, 1973 was a busy and innovative year for the Association under your lead.

And under your lead Mr. Maffei, be it spiritually, the Delaware County Bar Association remains committed to serve its members and the community at large by fostering respect for the law, by advancing the competent, collegial, and ethical practice of the legal profession, and by creating opportunities for attorneys, judges, and the public to work collaboratively for justice.



John Joseph Maffei, age 89, a longtime resident of Wallingford, PA and parishioner of Nativity BVM, passed away on November 17, 2016.

A memorial mass was celebrated on Wednesday,

Nov. 23rd, at Nativity BVM in Media, PA. Memorial contributions may be made to the Delaware County Hero Scholarship Fund. PO Box D, Media, PA 19063. [www.delcoherobowl.com](http://www.delcoherobowl.com) ■

## Delaware County Bar Association 144th Annual President's Dinner

*All members of the  
Delaware County Bar Association  
are cordially invited to the  
144th Annual  
President's Dinner*

**Friday, January 20, 2017**

**Cocktails 6:30 pm**

**Dinner 7:30 pm**

**Springfield Country Club  
400 West Sproul Road  
Springfield, Pennsylvania**

Please join us in honoring outgoing  
President Scott C. Gottel and welcoming  
Incoming President Robert R. DeLong, Jr.

*Members Only - Black Tie Optional*

*RSVP by January 13*

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# *With Grace & Professionalism...*

## *Karen Newell Memorial*

**O**n April 20, 1987, a young woman named Karen Kristie walked through the front doors of the Delaware County Bar Association to begin working as secretary to the late Elizabeth C. Price. This was the beginning of a new career for Karen, and she was to dedicate 29 years to serving the members of the DCBA.

Karen brought incredible organizational skills to her job, and because of her talent and diligence, her original role of secretary evolved into a key position at the Bar Association. Among one of her great accomplishments, Karen led the effort to prepare the application and supporting materials so that the DCBA could become an accredited CLE provider in the early 1990s. Over the years, she assumed ever greater responsibilities, which included:

- Planning and advertising all CLE programming
- Serving as liaison with the Bench, Board, sections, and various committees
- Handling of administrative duties for the Guy G. deFuria Inn of Court
- Planning the Annual Dinner, Bench Bar Conference, Law Day Program, and Annual General Membership Meeting
- Processing all new membership applications and communicating with new members
- Processing Fee Dispute Petitions
- Organizing materials for the Alternate Dispute Resolution program
- Serving as the Association archivist



This list only touches the surface of Karen's contributions, and she handled all of her tasks with grace and professionalism. For her many years of service, the Young Lawyers' Section recognized Karen with its Liberty Bell Award in 2016.

While we knew her as the colleague who could handle any work issue and who was probably one of the most adept people at multi-tasking, Karen also had many successes in her personal life. She was the proud mother of Jason and Adam, cherished the time she spent with her grandchildren, and loved her second husband, Jim Newell. Her dedication to her job was only surpassed by her dedication to her family.

There is no way to adequately articulate all that Karen meant to the DCBA. She was kind, thoughtful, patient, hard-working, and humble. Despite all that she did, Karen would never take credit but always preferred to work "behind the scenes" without recognition. Karen's greatest reward was to do her job and do it well.

As a huge Seinfeld fan, Karen often would make allusions to the show when the circumstances warranted it. For those who are familiar with the TV program, one of her favorite lines (uttered by the character Frank Costanza) was "Serenity now!" Karen epitomized this sentiment by engendering the qualities of patience, composure, and understanding both in her personal and professional lives. We cannot begin to count all of the many ways by which Karen made this Association great, but we were blessed to have had her constancy and support for nearly three decades, and she will always be with the DCBA in spirit.

Karen, thank you for all that you have done for the Association, and we pray that you will enjoy "Serenity now!" and for all eternity! ■



# THANK YOU

## DELAWARE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS JUDICIAL TEAM

Good colleagues are those who know that WE is more powerful than ME . . .  
Thank you to the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas Judicial Team...  
Annual Holiday Party, Spasso, Media. ■



## Criminal Case Law Update... 80+ In Attendance!

December. 80+ in Attendance! Delaware County Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (DCACDL) presents Criminal Case Law Update. Case law update was discussed as to the following issues: Birchfield, Ignition Interlock, Expungement, Juveniles Sentenced to Life, Mandatory Minimums, Enhancements and First and Consecutive Strikes. Worth: 2.0 Substantive Law CLE Credit Hours. ■



*Presenters Patrick J. Connors, Esq. (left),  
and Max J. Oresnstein, Esq.*

# SHARED EXPERTISE...

## AN AFTERNOON WITH SUPREME COURT JUSTICES



### NOVEMBER

#### **“Sexual Assault Issues” with Superior Court Justice Jack A. Panella and Justice Correale F. Stevens...**

Sexual assault is any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without the explicit consent of the recipient. The sexual assault of men, women, and children represents a very serious problem in American Society. It occurs frequently and the effects on its victims are long lasting and severe.

#### **Speakers:**

**Judge Jack A. Panella** is a Judge on the Superior Court of Pennsylvania. Prior to his election to the Superior Court, he was a Judge on the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania. Prior to becoming a judge he

maintained his law practice as a sole practitioner. He graduated from St. John’s University with a degree in Accounting. He received his law degree from the Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America.

**Justice Correale F. Stevens** is President Judge Emeritus on the Superior Court of Pennsylvania. Prior to Emeritus status he served as Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. He graduated from Pennsylvania State University, and received his law degree from Dickinson School of Law.

#### **“Post – IFP v. Koken – Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Claims” with Scott Cooper, Esq.**

Before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court’s decision in *Insurance Federation of Pennsylvania v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*, Department of Insurance, Diane Koken, Insurance Commissioner, 889 A.2d 550 (Pa. 2005); Insurance Department regulations required insurance policies to mandate that Uninsured (UM) and Underinsured Motorist Coverage (UIM) disputes be adjudicated in binding non-court arbitration. The Koken case held that this mandate was beyond the department’s authority. Thereafter, many insurance policies eliminated arbitration clauses and required that UM and UIM claims be brought by lawsuit.

**Scott Cooper, Esq.** is a partner at Schmidt Kramer located in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He specializes in personal injury law with an emphasis on motor vehicle accident and insurance cases. Mr. Cooper received his law degree from Widener University School of Law and his undergrad from the University at Albany. ■



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# Women in the Law Committee

## “The Business of Law: The Environment for the Practice of Law for Women”



*Tell us about your greatest challenges and rewards...  
(L to R): Pamela A. Lee, Esq.;  
Colleen M. Neary, Esq.;  
Nancy C. DeMis, Esq.;  
Linda M. Anderson, Esq.;  
Kristine F. Hughey, Esq.*

Do women attorneys conduct their rainmaking differently than men do? Does the glass ceiling still exist? Why are over half of law school graduates women, yet ten years later so many women no longer practice law? How do we keep women from ending their legal careers? Members gathered for CLE credits and discussed issues facing women practicing law including networking, starting your own firm/practice and insuring success in today's market. ■



## TRENDING WORDS: *The Glass Ceiling*

**Glass Ceiling...** a metaphor used to represent an invisible barrier that keeps a given demographic (typically applied to women) from rising beyond a certain level in a hierarchy. The metaphor was first coined by feminists in reference to barriers in the careers of high-achieving women. It is a very recent idiom in English and according to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, the first use of the term had to do with advancement in the corporate management structure.

### History

The concept of the glass ceiling was originally introduced outside of print media at the National Press Club in July 1979. This was at a Conference of the Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press led by Katherine Lawrence of Hewlett-Packard. This was part of an ongoing discussion of a clash between the written policy of promotion versus action opportunities for women at HP. The term was coined by

Lawrence and HP manager Maryanne Schreiber.

In 1991, as a part of Title II of the Civil Right Act of 1991, Congress created the Glass Ceiling Commission. This 21-member Presidential Commission was chaired by Secretary of Labor Robert Reich, and was created to study the “barriers to the advancement of minorities and women within corporate hierarchies (the problem known as the glass ceiling), to issue a report on its findings and conclusions, and to make recommendations on ways to dismantle the glass ceiling.” ■

*Editors Note: Trending words...Where the definition of a word will undergo a sudden, sharp spike in popularity as a result of a shared experience or event. Glass ceiling was recently trending. I personally had never heard the term used. I felt compelled to research it and share.*

# YOLO... *You Only Live Once*



## DELAWARE COUNTY HEROIN TASK FORCE



In recognition of the toll the heroin epidemic is taking on the community, Delaware County Council, the District Attorney and Delaware County agencies formed the Delaware County Heroin Task Force in 2012 to address this public health concern. The mission of the Heroin Task Force is to provide young people, parents and educators with information regarding the destructive and addictive nature of heroin and abused prescription drugs.



**Pictured (L to R):** CID Chief Joe Ryan; Councilman David White; District Attorney Jack Whelan; Senator Tom Killion; Councilman John McBlain

Delaware County Heroin Task Force Members: Jack Whelan, Delaware County District Attorney; Chairman Mario J. Civera, Jr., Delaware County Council; Councilman David J. White, Delaware County Council; Marianne Grace, Executive Director, Delaware County Government; Dr. George Avetian, Senior Medical Advisor; Dr. Fredric Hellman, Medical Examiner; Judge John Capuzzi, Delaware County Court of Common Pleas; Chief Joseph Ryan, Criminal Investigation Division; George Dawson, Assistant District Attorney and Chief of Anti-Violence Task Force; Sharon McKenna, Assistant District Attorney and Chief of Narcotics and Forfeiture; Jonna DiStefano, Administrator, Offices of Behavioral Health & Intellectual Disabilities; Anne Jennings, Drug and Alcohol Administrator; Michael Raith,

Director, Adult Probation and Parole; Linda-Moore Singleton, Director, Drug & Alcohol Programs; Lori Devlin, Director, Intercommunity Health; Beth Mingey, Director of Prevention/Education Services, Holcomb Behavioral Health; Joseph Dougherty, Director, Human Services; Larry O'Shea, Director, Delaware County Intermediate Unit

Tricia Stouch, NOPE/Parent; Chelsey Price, Executive Director, Senior Victim Services; Dr. Christopher Stenberg, Crozer Chester Medical Center; Olga Tsousidis, Pharmacy Representative; Ray McKinney, Century21 Realtor; Mike Ranck, President & CEO, Community YMCA of Lansdowne; Timothy Boyce, Homeland Security, Office of the District Attorney; Denise V. Stewart, Director, County Office of Services for the Aging; Chief Robert Adams, Collingdale Borough Police Department; Senator Thomas H. Killion, 9th Senatorial District; Thom Duddy, Adapt Pharmaceutical

Sheriff Mary McFall Hopper, Delaware County; Trish Cofiehl, Director, Public Relations; Adrienne Marofsky, Public Relations Officer, Delaware County Council; Emily H. Harris, Public Affairs Officer, Office of the District Attorney.

### **Task force goals include:**

- Reduce the demand for heroin and illegally used prescription drugs;
- Educate citizens about the resources available to prevent and treat addiction;
- Reduce drug-related crime in the community through public education and law enforcement.

### **"YOLO"...You Only Live Once**

Red Ribbon week is observed from Oct. 23-31 to raise awareness about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. This year's theme was "YOLO. Be Drug Free."



In honor of Red Ribbon Week, County Council reminded residents they can dispose of unused, unwanted or expired prescription drugs in Medicine Drop Boxes located in nearly every police station in the county and in the lobby of the Government Center. Thank you to our Department of Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health and Heroin Task Force who work tirelessly to prevent addiction all year long.

**OCTOBER. DELAWARE COUNTY CRIMINAL AND JUVENILE JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM: FINDING A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS...** With the goal to find solutions and gain new perspectives on some of the most challenging issues facing juveniles and the criminal justice system including mental health and opioids, *Delaware County Court of Common Pleas President Judge Chad F. Kenney* hosted a summit at Widener University. This is the second year the Criminal Justice Advisory Board held this unique summit due to popular demand to share best practices and explore reform within the justice system. District Attorney Jack Whelan, Delaware County Councilman Dave White and Senator Tom Killion served on a panel addressing the heroin epidemic.

Attorneys had the opportunity to earn up to five (5) substantive CLE credits in courses such as: **Heroin Epidemic - A Critical Crisis for Counties Nationwide; Delaware County Drug Treatment Court; My Life: Juvenile Justice and Foster Care; Delaware County Mental Health Crisis Court; Delaware County Veterans Court; Criminal Mental Health Court/Prison Restoration Competency Program; Delco Trial Heroin Recovery Program; Mobile Crisis and Community Resources; HIFI WRAP, First Episode Psychosis and Transition to Independence.** ■



## Young Lawyers' Section "Run for the House"

The Ronald McDonald House supports families of seriously ill children by creating a community of comfort and hope. The Ronald McDonald House of Philadelphia was the first of its kind, and now serves as the model for over 350 Houses in 42 countries. Ninety percent of their funding comes from individuals and corporate donors, and the remaining ten percent is provided by Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Each year since its formation, The Young Lawyers' Section (YLS) of the Delaware County Bar Association has donated one hundred percent of the proceeds from their 5k runs to the Adopt A Room program at the Ronald McDonald house on Chestnut Street. To date, the 5-year total exceeds \$26,000. The Adopt-A-Room partnership program allows individuals, companies, or organizations to be the room sponsor of one of the 65 guest rooms at one of their two locations. Funding sponsors all of the families who sleep in these rooms with their sick

children throughout the year. This year, the Ronald McDonald House located on Chestnut Street, the first of its kind, announced plans to expand the facility. This expansion will help serve more families in need, and hopefully reduce the amount of requests they have to turn down due to a lack of space.

Six years ago, a small group of individuals got together to make a difference, and they did. The 5k run, a joint venture with the YLS and the Ronald McDonald House, was the first of its kind. This small group of runners who took the first steps in building this race, have since grown the group into the largest to have ever run, breaking down records, raising money, and helping those who are less fortunate.

**Raising the Bar...Many thanks to the Young Lawyers' Section for their significant contribution in helping the Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia expand their ability to help families in need . . . Michael H. Hill, Esq., YLS President, 2016**



**Young Lawyers' Section Officers, 2017**

**President- Michael J. Davey**

**Vice President -Matthew Bilker**

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## Still Going Strong After All of These Years The ADR Committee's 17th Annual CLE Program

December. The Alternate Dispute Resolution Committee held its 17th annual CLE program entitled "WHAT IS YOUR CASE WORTH WHEN ANALYZED AND COMPARED OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS?" This exciting annual seminar again addressed contemporary settlement evaluations for selected cases, as analyzed by an outstanding panel of judges, as well as experienced Counsel for the Plaintiff and the Defense, and featured: The Honorable Spiros E. Angelos, The Honorable Charles B. Burr, II, S.J., The Honorable Christine Fizzano Cannon, The Honorable G. Michael Green, The Honorable James F. Proud (Retired), District Court Administrator Gerald C. Montella, Esq., Sheryl L. Brown, Esq., Ronald E. Freemas, Esq., Hugh J. Gillespie, Esq., Donald M. Grimes, Esq., M. Elizabeth Naughton-Beck, Esq., George G. Rassias, Esq., J. Michael Sheridan, Esq., Daniel J. Sherry, Esq., and Moderator Andrew J. D'Amico, Esq. This interactive seminar again included discussions and evaluations of real cases in today's market, and discovery of approach and actual settlement recommendations. Attendees learned how other lawyers and judges evaluate similar cases in "real terms." In addition, Gerald Montella, Esq., provided valuable statistics analyzing Delaware County verdicts and awards. ■



# A Pioneer of the Bar

## William Henry Ridley, Esquire

By Samuel M. Lemon, Ed.D.

The Delaware County Bar's first attorney of color was a true pioneer. But there are few alive today who remember this remarkable man.

The story of "Lawyer Ridley," as he was often called, begins with his parents Cornelius Ridley and Martha Jane Parham, former slaves on neighboring plantations in Southampton County, Virginia. They escaped during the Civil War and fled north to Media and were given refuge by Isaac and Elizabeth Smedley Yarnall, local Quakers from Providence Friends Meeting. The young couple worked hard and established themselves, later moving into the little house on the corner of Front Street and Providence Road, now called the "Minshall House." On June 12, 1867, William was born there.

On February 9, 1945, in Courtroom #3 of the Court of Common Pleas, before Presiding Judge Albert Dutton McDade and Judge Henry Sweeney, Paul Lane Ives, Esq., President of the Delaware County Bar Association, introduced a "Minute and Resolution on the death of William H. Ridley, Esq."

"William H. Ridley was born in the Borough of Media, the son of Cornelius Ridley and Martha, his wife, highly respected residents of said Borough. Cornelius Ridley was born and reared as a slave in Virginia and during or following the Civil War moved to Media where he was employed for years by Samuel W. Hawley and later Hawley & Snowden, hardware merchants. No man stood higher in the estimation of the people of the County than Cornelius Ridley.

"William H. Ridley attended the public schools of Media and graduated with honors in the class of 1887. His record as a pupil led his instructors and other to prophesy a bright future for him.

"The Board of Examiners of the Bar, David F. Rose, Garnett Pendleton and Ward R. Bliss, certified on September 1, 1887 that they had examined William H. Ridley on all branches of a good English education and found that he was sufficiently qualified and prepared to enter as a student at law and on the same date Louis H. Richards, a prominent member of the Bar, certified that Mr. Ridley had been registered in his office as a student at law and that he was then aged 20 years, 2 ½ months.

"Mr. Ridley pursued his studies diligently and in February



1891, Mr. Richards certified that he had served clerkship in his office since September 1, 1887 and that he was a gentleman of good moral character and Edward A. Price, James S. Cummins, John B. Hinkson, and John B. Hannum, members of the Board of Examiners, certified that they had examined Mr. Ridley on his application to be admitted to practice as an attorney in the several courts of the county and certified that they were unanimously of the opinion that he was sufficiently qualified for admission to the Bar and that they had received satisfactory evidence in writing of his good moral

character whereupon on March 2, 1891 he was duly admitted to the Bar.

"William was sickly as a child, which caused a delay in starting school, and left him very near-sighted. An amiable child, he was such a daydreamer that his mother would tie a rope to his belt so he wouldn't wander off while she was hanging laundry outside.

"Pursuing a legal career was exceedingly ambitious for a bright young man of color in the late 19th century. It may have been partly due to his parents having been enslaved. But there was a practical reason as well. During his school years, William had a summer job at a saw mill, but was injured when the tip of







a finger was cut off – convincing him manual labor was not for him.

“As a fledgling attorney, to further his knowledge of the law, he worked in the offices of the Prothonotary and Recorder of Deeds, and took courses at the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

“Ridley’s life and legal career were nearly cut short when he narrowly escaped being murdered. The front page of the September 4, 1889 edition of the *Chester Times* exclaimed: “RECKLESS SHOOTING. Several Mediaites Come to Chester and Try to Paint the Town Red.”

“A series of articles explained that Ridley and fellow law students George Hannum, John Armstrong, and Theodore Stickler were in Chester passing out circulars for their candidate – John B. Robinson – who was running against Jesse Baker in a hotly-contested Republican primary election. As they were leaving the Colonnade Hotel about 1 o’clock in the morning, they were attacked by about fifteen members of the Hanley Hose Company who were supporters of Baker, the rival candidate. Someone hit George Hannum in the face, and when Ridley stepped up to protest he was thrown to the ground. He testified that “a crowd of four or five were upon me in a second. I considered my life in danger and drew my revolver and fired upward. The crowd scattered and I ran down the street and jumped into the wagon of Armstrong and Strickler.

“In the excitement I saw someone grab at the horse’s head, but I didn’t know it was a policeman, but thought it was some of the mob pursuing us. I fired in the air and also fired one shot after the team had turned up Edgmont Avenue.” A hail of bullets chased after them.

“Ridley also said that his glasses were knocked off in the scuffle, and as he is near-sighted, he could see very little without them. The young men with him bear him out in the statement that he did not know the man who called to him to halt was a policeman. They say they saw no police.

“Ridley’s revolver given up after the day of the occurrence showed three chambers discharged, which goes to corroborate his statement. To prove good character for the defendant almost the entire Bar were summoned, but after calling John T. Reynolds, W. Roger Fronefield and William L. Mathues, the District Attorney said they did not question Ridley’s character, and Judge Clayton said it was not necessary to call any more... Independent witnesses testified this was a case of self-defense, and Ridley would likely have been killed had he not fired his weapon.

“Before sentence was passed on him Captain Isaac Johnson (Superintendent of Broadmeadows Prison), although not employed as counsel in the case, addressed the Court in his behalf, arguing that to imprison this young man would probably blight his prospects forever and prevent his entering the legal profession, for which he is studying. Judge Clayton also took a merciful view of the case, and, after a fatherly reprimand, discharged the defendant upon payment of the (\$25) fine and costs...of the suit on the charge of carrying concealed deadly weapons. On the more serious charge of assault and battery and shooting at a policeman the jury had acquitted him.”

Ridley’s life was full of drama. In the mid-1920’s, the Ku Klux Klan showed up at his Olive Street home, dressed in white hoods and robes and carrying torches. They were looking for a young Cherokee student at Elwyn Institute who had been accused of assaulting a local white female while she was walking home from Media Public School. However, members of the community believed there was more to the story than was reported in the paper.

Ridley’s son-in-law had just come in from work and was mistaken for the suspect the Klan was seeking. Ridley went outside and spoke with the mob who eventually accepted his explanation and left. The Klansmen then marched up Olive Street to Sandy Bank where they held a cross-burning ceremony.

*continued on next page >*

## ROBERT DELONG, ESQ.

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## A Pioneer of the Bar... continued from page 15

Ridley had a distinguished career as a practicing attorney that spanned a remarkable 54 years. Successful and widely respected, his clients were black and white, prosperous and poor. He maintained law offices in Chester and West Chester, and practiced out of his home on Olive Street in Media.

One case troubled him more than any other – that of Alexander McClay Williams, a 16-year-old black student-inmate at Glen Mills School, who was convicted by an all-white jury and sent to the electric chair in 1931 for the brutal murder of white school matron Vida Robare. Unfortunately, Ridley was not appointed by the court to represent Williams until 15 days after the accused had made his third confession without an attorney or parent present. Ridley stated the case “had no rhyme or reason,” and that he “felt the verdict keenly.”



After 30 years spent researching this case, there is incontrovertible evidence that Williams did not receive a fair trial. Further evidence, not available at the time to the prosecution or the defense, suggests the victim’s ex-husband with whom she was living but had divorced five years earlier on the grounds of “extreme cruelty” was the real culprit. But he hid this from authorities and avoided suspicion.

Ridley was also an avid sports fan, enjoying football and baseball games

and boxing matches at “Baron” Jimmy Dougherty’s Leiperville Hotel, which hosted a ring. Former boxers like the great John L. Sullivan sometimes attended to watch the promising young fighters.

Ridley enlisted in the Army during the Spanish American War, which ended while he was in Florida waiting for a ship to transport his troop. He later pushed back his age to enlist in World War I and attended the Colored Officers Training Program at Ft. Des Moines, Iowa. However, he resigned and returned home when his mother became terminally ill.

When the U.S. first recognized Liberia, Ridley was a leading candidate for first Ambassador. However, he turned down this and other prestigious appointments which would have taken him far from home and family. He was a contributing author of several important pieces of legislation and his opinion was often sought on complex legal matters. While several white friends went on to become judges, he was not able to overcome this hurdle due to systemic racism at the time, which was a great disappointment to him.

By 1960 only three African Americans, including Ridley, had been members of the Delaware County Bar. Nearly 80 years



would pass between the county’s first African American attorney and its first black judge in 1970 – the late Honorable Robert A. Wright, of Chester.

Judge Wright once told me that as a young man, he often visited Ridley’s home to see one of his attractive granddaughters, Nina (now 100 years old). Judge Wright said whenever he visited, Mr. Ridley was often seated in the living room, reading a law book and wearing a jacket and tie. Also active in public affairs, Ridley ran for County Commissioner, but lost, in 1935.

Ridley died on February 1, 1945 at 10 p.m., at his Olive Street home. His body spent weeks in a vault at Eden Cemetery in Collingdale because the ground was too frozen to dig his grave. He was buried without a headstone because with his passing, his family lost a major source of income and fell onto hard times. On June 8, 1991, the family, with the generous assistance of the Bar Association and The Honorable Judge James F. Proud, then President, installed a headstone and held a memorial celebration for the country squire who loved the Bar.

The Bar’s resolution ends with: “...in the death of William H. Ridley the County of Delaware has been deprived of the services and influence of a respected citizen, his family a loving husband and parent, and the Bar of Delaware County of a lawyer who maintained the highest principles of the profession.”

Newspaper articles from February 14, 1945 included quotes from former colleagues:

“When Mr. Ridley was admitted, his people were just coming out of slavery.” – Henry Gouley, Esq.

“Today it is nothing unusual in a colored man practicing law, but to go back 50 years, it was a real achievement.” – Robert B. Greer, Esq.

“He was born with a problem he had to surmount; he had to prove superior to prejudices which do exist, whether we wish they existed or not. And, in his individual life, I think he won very completely the right to the acceptance that we all talk about...” – Judge E. Wallace Chadwick

“He became a leader and an advocate, of sterling qualities, and every respect was shown him, for his courage and urbanity.” – Judge Albert Dutton MacDade

“It was phenomenal for a man of Bill Ridley’s race to become a member of the Bar, and he had to do it alone, depending only on his own courage and ability.” – Samuel A. Montgomery

In a brief note to me on March 12, 1990, the late Honorable Judge John V. Diggins wrote, “Dear Mr. Lemon: I knew your great-grandfather very well indeed. He was a man that we all liked and held in high esteem.”

It’s an honor to live in the family home my great-grandfather purchased in 1920, nearly a century ago. He remains a great source of pride and inspiration for me. ■



# Wine & Dine

## SAUTERNES...

### SWEET TALE OF TWO RIVERS...

### HOW CAN ROT BE SO NOBLE



Most people are familiar with late harvest and ice wines, however, familiarity with Sauternes is usually the province of serious wine drinkers. We will let this secret out of the bag here; you too deserve the experience, the flavor and the enjoyment of a Sauterne.

First, let's distinguish between Sauternes, Late Harvest and Ice wines because they are very different. Late Harvest wines are wines made from grapes that are allowed to stay on the vine past the normal harvest time thus causing them to dehydrate, concentrating the sugars and flavors into a richer grape juice once extracted. Ice wine is a type of late-harvest wine that's made from grapes that are left on the vine until the first frost when they freeze, causing a similar desiccation.

These wines typically lack the complexity of Sauternes, which, in contrast, are the result of a fungus known as *Botrytis*, nicknamed "Noble Rot." As the grapes develop *Botrytis cinerea*, the fungus shrivels them, leaving high concentrations of sugar, but less juice from the grape to make wine; thus each vine yields not much more than a glass (usually a vine will yield about 2 or 3 bottles of wine). This fall phenomenon which is ideal for the growth of the *Botrytis* is the result of the Garonne and Ciron rivers with their different temperatures, causing the Ciron to give off a cool early morning mist/fog which dissipates as the warmth of the morning takes hold.

Sauternes, made from Sauvignon Blanc, Semillion & Muscadelle grapes, are not just sweet; they have a wonderful complexity, with flavors of peach, apricot, vanilla, honey, pineapple, nuts and sometimes toffee. Sauternes work well with spicy foods, complementing and calming the spiciness. They complement desserts nicely and also work well with rich foods such as blue cheese, offering a not-so-subtle delicious contrast. It is the perfect complement for Foie Gras.

Sauternes are made in the Sauternes Region of Bordeaux, France, situated between the Ciron and Garonne rivers. Sauternes is an appellation of Graves, a sub-region of Bordeaux, which is situated on the left bank of the Garonne River. The name "Graves" is derived from the gravelly soil. Graves is a very important sub-region as it produces all three types of Bordeaux wines: Red, dry White, and Sweet.

Sauternes can be expensive, with the customary 375ml bottles usually priced at more than \$80, and many first growths going for at least several hundred dollars. However, bargains are sometimes available on entry-level bottles in the \$35 to \$55 range and one can find second labels for as low as \$15. Second labels are often produced by top-notch first-growth producers from alternate parcels of vines; however the process and care given is usually the same, resulting in some very nice wines.

Today there are many bargain prices even on first growths. This is because with such a high price, they usually do not sell out, resulting in large reserves and older vintages which are sold at bargain prices. This has caused many producers to reduce their prices on new vintages, making it hard for them to be profitable, given the labor intensive, tricky and risky nature of the business. (These grapes are highly dependent on weather conditions; only the highly affected grapes can be used, they must be hand picked, and they must be at a certain stage when picked.) Adding to the financial dilemma is both the fact that these wines last virtually forever in the cellar and that they are not consumed on a regular basis, as are regular wines.

For us, the consumers, it is an advantage that Sauternes age so well, and that they can keep for almost a week after opening. This enables us to always keep some stored away, ready for our pleasure, and our fortunate experience of that decadent taste!

Submitted by...One in the know! ■



# THE JUSTINIAN SOCIETY OF DELAWARE COUNTY ANNUAL DINNER CELEBRATION

*An evening honoring those of Italian American Heritage and their contributions to the legal profession and our community...*

**Dick Vermeil**

**Scholarship Recipients – Matthew Casale and Daniella Spitelli**

***Pictured (L to R):  
Honorable  
Dominic F. Pileggi  
with Dick Vermeil***



Richard Albert “Dick” Vermeil . . . A former American head coach for the National Football League’s Philadelphia Eagles (1976–1982), St. Louis Rams (1997–1999) and Kansas City Chiefs (2001–2005). He is in the Sid Gillman coaching tree and has coached at every level; Vermeil owns the distinction of being named “Coach of the Year” on four levels: High School, Junior College, NCAA Division I and Professional Football. In all three of his stops as an NFL head coach, Vermeil has taken every team—Philadelphia, St. Louis and Kansas City, each of which had a losing record before he arrived—and brought them to the playoffs by his third season at the helm.

Vermeil is remembered for his frequent displays of emotion which has helped make him a popular coach among fans. The Vermeil family enjoys spending time and working on “The Ranch,” a 114-acre homestead located outside Philadelphia in rural Chester County, Pennsylvania. He is also a huge supporter of the Chester County Council Boy Scouts of America and is a recipient of the Silver Beaver Award, which was coincidentally awarded at the same time he was named head coach of the Chiefs in 2001. His annual golf invitational has brought in over US\$1 million to the Council’s operational fund.

True to his Napa Valley roots, Vermeil partnered with OnTheEdge Winery and produced his own self-proclaimed “Garage Cabernet” wine, named in honor of his father, Jean Louis Vermeil. After football, wine is Vermeil’s biggest passion. Villa di Roma, an Italian restaurant in Philadelphia, named one of its signature dishes “Steak Vermeil” in Vermeil’s honor.

Vermeil was portrayed in the 2006 film *Invincible* by Greg Kinnear. The film showed Vermeil when he was head coach of Philadelphia and gave Vince Papale an opportunity to play for the Eagles. During his first retirement, Vermeil worked as a game analyst for both CBS (1983–87) and ABC Sports (1988–96), most of the time paired with Brent Musburger. Currently, Vermeil works as a game analyst on broadcasts of college football and NFL games on NFL Network. Vermeil also served as head coach in the 2012 and 2013 editions of the NFLPA Collegiate Bowl. A Coors Light commercial featuring manipulated archival footage of Vermeil at a press conference debuted in 2006. On November 2, 2008, Vermeil was honored by the St. Louis Rams organization with the placing of his name on the “Ring of Honor” around the inside of the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis. Vermeil had a short cameo in the 2011 film *The Greening of Whitney Brown*, set in Chester County, in which he plays a football coach for the local middle school. The Broadcast Pioneers of Philadelphia named Vermeil their Person of the Year in 1985 and inducted him into their Hall of Fame in 2003. In August 2015, Vermeil bought a 2.5% share of the Philadelphia Soul arena football team.

■



***Pictured (L to R): Alexander D. DiSanti,  
Esq., Treasurer; Matthew Casale  
and Daniella Spitelli, Scholarship  
Recipients; and Michael A. Burns, Esq.,  
Vice Chancellor.***





*Pictured from left: Keeley P. Mitchell, Esquire (Paralegal Program Director at DCCC); Lauren Raikowski; Joseph W. Bullen, III, Esquire; the Honorable Barry C. Dozor; Ellen Passerini (President of the Delaware County Paralegal Association); Michael J. Harper, Esquire; and Patrick J. Connors, Esquire*

# ATTORNEY/PARALEGAL ROUNDTABLE AT THE DCBA

On October 27, 2016, the Delaware County Bar Association hosted a “paralegal roundtable” co-sponsored by the Delaware County Paralegal Association and the Paralegal Program of Delaware County Community College.

With the increased use of para-professionals in the legal field, it is critical for both attorneys and paralegals to understand their respective roles and communicate these clearly. As part of the roundtable (which qualified for Continuing Legal Education Credits and included a distinguished panel of instructors), the following topics were addressed:

- Role and Challenges of Paralegals in the Practice of Law
- Rules of Professional Conduct That Paralegals and Lawyers Need to Know
- Best Practices for Using a Paralegal
- Current Legal Technology: Optimizing Use, Training and Private vs. Public Legal Environments

Many local lawyers and paralegals attended this event.

For more information about the Delaware County Paralegal Association, visit its website at [www.delcoparalegal.org](http://www.delcoparalegal.org), or to learn about the Paralegal Program at Community College, visit [www.dccc.edu](http://www.dccc.edu). ■

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- Former Chairman, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania Interest on Lawyers Trust Account Board
- Former Federal Prosecutor
- Selected by his peers as one of the top 100 Super Lawyers in PA and the top 100 Super Lawyers in Philadelphia
- Named by his peers as *Best Lawyers in America* 2015 Philadelphia Ethics and Professional Responsibility Law “Lawyer of the Year,” and in Plaintiffs and Defendants Legal Malpractice Law

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# Meet the 2017 DCBA Board of Directors

*On January 20, 2017, the DCBA will install its new President, Officers, and Directors at the Annual President's Dinner. This is a ceremonial occasion when the outgoing President, Scott C. Gottel, will pass the gavel to incoming President, Robert R. Delong, Jr. Below are a few words from our 2017 Officers and a brief overview of the Directors.*



**President**  
**ROBERT R. DELONG, JR., ESQ.**

"I am honored to have the opportunity to continue to be of service to the members of the DCBA - now as President. I will do my best to ensure that the year 2017 will be one of our best yet for our organization - the DCBA Board & members - and our greater Delaware County Community."



**President-Elect**  
**VINCENT B. MANCINI, ESQ.**

"I have served as a Member of the Board of Directors from 2014 to present and was also our Zone 9 Delegate from 2005-2008. I became the Chairman of the Real Estate Practices Committee in 1994 and remains so to date (22 years). In recent years (2014-2016), I have served on the Board of Directors' Executive Committee and have held the offices of Secretary, Treasurer and Vice-President. I look forward to serving as President-Elect in 2017 and President of the Bar in 2018."



**Vice President**  
**CRAIG B. HUFFMAN, ESQ.**

"I am a Partner at the Eckell Sparks firm where I focus my practice on domestic relations law. I am currently serving in my third year as an officer on the DCBA Board after serving two prior terms as a director. I have served on numerous committees and was a two-time Chairman of the DCBA Family Law Section and prior Chairperson of the Family Law Rules Committee and the Orphan's Court Rules Committee. I am an active member of the Bench/Bar Committee and the Finance Committee. I live in Chadds Ford Township where I serve as Chairperson of the Planning Commission. My volunteer work for the DCBA is a highly rewarding way of giving back to the legal community by fostering professionalism and competence in the practice of law. Local bar associations are the backbone of the practice of law and we are fortunate to have a strong organization staffed with excellent people in our county."

**Treasurer**  
**ROBERT F. KELLY, JR., ESQ.**

"I am a Senior Litigation Associate with the Law Firm of Holsten and Associates, in Media, where I have worked for the last twenty-five years. I reside in Thornbury Township, where I sit on the local Election Board. I have been privileged to be allowed to serve as a member of the Delaware County Bar Association, Board of Directors, on and off, since 2008 and as a past President of the Guy G. deFuria, American Inn of Court. I have served on the Executive Board of the DCBA since 2015 and have enjoyed active participation in numerous DCBA committees over the last twenty years, including Co-Chair of the By-laws Committee. My service on the various committees, including the Community Outreach, the Law Day, the By-Laws and the Workers' Compensation Law Committees, has been rewarding, both on a personal and a professional level. The interaction with the community, the opportunity to learn, educate and inform, and the camaraderie, are something for which I am grateful. I look forward to my role as DCBA Treasurer in 2017. I strongly encourage all members of the DCBA to become involved as active members of the Association and its committees."



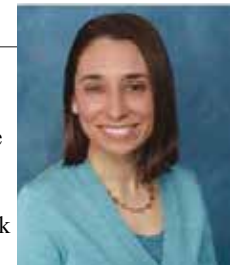
**Recording Secretary**  
**KAREN E. FRIEL, ESQ.**

"I have been on our board off and on over the past 25 years, and it has been a real pleasure to be an officer this past year and for 2017. Our members should know how hard our executive board and general board work each year to better our bar association for all of our members. The services the bar association provides are invaluable and I encourage each and every member to participate on a committee(s) or in an activity to truly make the most of your membership."



**Corresponding Secretary**  
**CARRIE A. WOODY, ESQ.**

"I have become very involved in the DCBA, where I am a Co-chair of the Mentoring Committee. I have been an active member of the Young Lawyers' Section since I joined the Bar Association in 2010. I am also a member of the Delaware County Estate Planning Council. I look forward to serving as an Officer of the DCBA."





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SCOTT C. GOTTEL, ESQ.



**Past President:**  
KRISTEN M. RUSHING, ESQ.



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# Volunteer Attorneys *An Important Role*

By Barbara Overholser

Communications Manager, Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania

In April of 2016 LASP opened an office in Media to provide an additional, convenient resource for Delaware County residents seeking representation and assistance in obtaining Protection from Abuse orders. With the help of volunteer attorneys, this goal is on the way to being achieved. And with the new rules permitting pro bono attorneys to represent clients through LASP through an entry of a limited appearance, it is now even easier for attorneys to volunteer their time.

Walter Weinrich, Esquire, and Jordan Reilly, Esquire, are two of the volunteer attorneys who have already impacted the lives of Delaware County residents like Ms. T, who sought safety from an abusive partner. Ms. T filed a PFA, but “unfortunately the PFA was only the tip of the iceberg,” says Mr. Weinrich, a family law attorney. “She was jobless and homeless, and needed to support three children. But through Legal Aid, and with the Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County and Delaware County Women Against Rape, we were able to address some of those issues for her, help resolve custody issues and get her some temporary shelter.”

“By putting together the vast and varying experience that we have in the Delaware County Bar Association with the low income clients who desperately need those skills, we can reduce the number of unrepresented parties in the Media courthouse,” says Thomas Kerstan, Esq., Pro Bono Coordinator for LASP’s Media office.

Mr. Weinrich began volunteering with LASP in the spring of 2016, and represented his first clients in September. “I appreciate how simple the administrative staff and attorneys at LASP made volunteering for me,” he says.

Domestic violence cases are particularly well suited for pro bono work. Representing a PFA petitioner doesn’t require an abundance of time or research, yet the impact is tremendous. Research shows that PFAs reduce violence and abuse, and victims who are able to access civil legal services are significantly more likely to obtain a protective order. Civil legal attorneys can also help with custody and housing, related legal issues that challenge a client’s ability to escape an abusive relationship.

“There are so many cases where a party is too frightened to move forward with custody and divorce,” says Ms. Reilly, whose firm focuses on family law and criminal defense. “The threat of physical violence makes them a prisoner in their relationship. A PFA gives them the time and protection they need to move forward.” Ms. Reilly has volunteered with LASP for several years and says, “Legal Aid offers an invaluable service to the public. So many people would be facing injustice with no guidance if it weren’t for the services LASP offers.”

To learn more about volunteering with LASP’s Media office, please contact Thomas Kerstan at 610-874-8421 x313 or at [tkerstan@lasp.org](mailto:tkerstan@lasp.org) or Jacqueline Csop, DCBA’s Pro Bono Coordinator, at 610-566-6625, extension 227, or at [Jackie@delcobar.com](mailto:Jackie@delcobar.com). ■

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# Celebrating NATIONAL PRO BONO WEEK

**OCTOBER.** CLE Offering: Attorneys and other legal professionals attended a seminar for continuing legal education credits on changes in 2016 to the expungement statute. On November 14, 2016, the provisions of Act 5 (SB 188) went into effect which allows people with certain misdemeanor convictions to petition the courts to seal their criminal records. Sealing is not an expungement and expungements are still available to erase non-conviction charges and charges resolved with ARD, as well as summary convictions following a five-year arrest-free period. Topics of discussion included expungement and sealing procedures (and the new rule authorizing the filing of a Petition to Seal); new fees imposed on both expungement and sealing petitions; and, the impact of the Pa. Supreme Court's decision in *Commonwealth v. Giulian* on expungement practice in Pennsylvania. Speakers included Phillip B. Rosenthal, Esquire, from Legal Aid of Southeast Pennsylvania, and Robert C. Keller, Esquire, of Keller, Lisgar and Williams.

Following the seminar, the Pro Bono Committee invited all members of the bar to attend a wine and cheese reception to celebrate National Pro Bono Week and recognize the Honorable Barry C. Dozor with a Special Pro Bono Recognition Award. Judge Dozor was recognized for his work shepherding through the passage of Local Rule 1012, which permits pro bono attorneys to enter a limited appearance in custody cases. This rule facilitates pro bono representation of indigent clients and allows more clients access to the courts.



## Why Celebrate Pro Bono?

The ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service chose to launch this important initiative because of the increasing need for pro bono services during these harsh economic times and the unprecedented response of attorneys to meet this demand. The National Pro Bono Celebration can be an effective strategic tool for enhancing and expanding local efforts to increase access to justice for all. Use it to increase pro bono participation and expand legal services to low income individuals and groups.

Although national in breadth, the Celebration provides an opportunity for local legal associations across the country to take the next step in their efforts to provide high quality legal services to those living on the social margins.

A guiding principle of the Pro Bono Committee is to support these local efforts and to assist in their growth and effectiveness by providing information, planning guides, resources, and consultation services. The legal needs of the poor are local issues, and although nationwide, this celebration is intended to have a local focus and impact. Goals for the celebration include: recruiting more pro bono volunteers and increasing legal services to poor and vulnerable people; mobilizing community support for pro bono; fostering collaborative relationships; recognizing the pro bono efforts of America's lawyers.

"We are bound by a responsibility to use our unique skills and training — not just to advance cases, but to serve a cause; and to help our nation fulfill its founding promise of equal justice under law...The obligation of pro bono service must become a part of the DNA of both the legal profession and of every lawyer." Eric Himpton Holder Jr., the 82nd Attorney General of the United States, from 2009 to 2015. ■



# DCBA Family Law Section Annual Dinner *Advancing the Cause*

## The Family Law Section Recognizes . . . Kristen M. Rushing, Esq.

*The Eric D. Turner Award was created in the millennium year 2000, to honor the memory of a lawyer who was dedicated to the practice of family law. The award has since been presented annually to a lawyer “whose dedication, professionalism and integrity most closely exemplifies that of Eric D. Turner.” Kristen M. Rushing, Esq., is wholly deserving of this award for her “dedication, professionalism, and integrity, along with her substantial contributions to improving the practice, elevating the standards, and advancing the cause of matrimonial law.”*

Kristen M. Rushing joined the law firm of Sweeney & Neary in 2005 and became a partner in 2013. She received her undergraduate degree from York College of Pennsylvania in 1999 and her Juris Doctor from Widener University School of Law in 2002. After graduating from law school, Ms. Rushing served a three year judicial clerkship for the Family Court of the State of Delaware.

Ms. Rushing is an active member of both the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Delaware County Bar Association. In January, 2015, Ms. Rushing began her term as the 80th President of the Delaware County Bar Association, which consists



*Pictured (L to R): Patrick T. Daley, Kristen M. Rushing, Jean Moskow, Amanda K. Konyk*

of over 1200 members. She is a Past Chairman of the Family Law Section of the Bar Association as well as a Past President of the Young Lawyers' Section. She remains an active member of the Family Law Section. Additionally, Ms. Rushing is a member of the Law Day Committee and the Bench Bar Conference Committee of the Bar Association. On the state level, Ms. Rushing is the Co-Chairman of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division for Zone 9 and a member of Council for the PBA Family Law Section.

Ms. Rushing has received numerous honors from her peers on the local and state level in recognition for her outstanding contributions to the legal profession. She received the Nicholas D. Vadino, Jr. Memorial Award in 2007, the most prestigious award that can be given to a Young Lawyer by the Bar Association. She also received the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation Pro

Bono Award in 2010 and was selected in 2008 and 2010 as a “Rising Star” by *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Magazine*. In addition to these awards, Ms. Rushing has been recognized by her peers for her expertise in the area of Family Law and by the Bar Association, the Delaware County Domestic Abuse Project and Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania for her contributions to the local community. Ms. Rushing is a frequent lecturer on matrimonial law for the Delaware County Bar Association and has also been a presenter of continuing legal education courses for the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section and Neumann College.

As part of her charitable work, Ms. Rushing established the Young Lawyers “Run for the House” 5k, which benefits the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House. This run has become an annual event, raising over \$20,000 to date.



In appreciation for your  
dedicated service to the  
Family Law Division . . .  
The Family Law Section  
Recognizes  
Jean Moskow, Esq. and  
Amanda K. Konyk, Esq.

*"Any job very well done that has  
been carried out by a person who is  
fully dedicated, is always a source of  
inspiration."*

The Family Law Section ("FLS") is the largest and one of the most active groups in the Delaware County Bar Association. Its membership is comprised primarily of family law practitioners, but the FLS is open to any interested member of the Association.

For nominal annual dues of \$35.00, you can enjoy some of the benefits of membership in the FLS, which include: excellent networking opportunities; great CLE programs; special social events.

The FLS prides itself on its commitment to serving the community, and each year it holds a special fundraiser in March to benefit a local charity.

If you would like to learn more about the FLS, contact the 2017 Section Chair, Patrick T. Daley, Esquire, at [pdaley@sweeneynearylaw.com](mailto:pdaley@sweeneynearylaw.com). Membership in the FLS offers you a great way to enhance your practice and to become a more active part of the DCBA!

#### FAMILY LAW SECTION OFFICERS 2017

##### CHAIRPERSON

Patrick T. Daley

##### CHAIRPERSON ELECT

Walter J. Weinrich

##### VICE CHAIRPERSON

Thomas Kerstan

##### TREASURER

Beth Ann Marshall

##### SECRETARY

Aimee M. Taylor

■

# The Guy G. deFuria Inn of Court Adopts-A-Barrister

By: Amber L. Falkenbach, formerly Amber L. Burke



When I envisioned legal practice in England, I, drawing from 18th Century British portrayals that you may read in a Charles Dickens' novels or maybe watching during an episode of Downton Abbey, assumed that the lawyers would be draped in long black cloaks, with heads adorned in bright white wigs. No one was more surprised than me to learn that these portrayals were not too far off base. Picking up Heather Oliver, the Guy G. deFuria's Inn of Court's "adopted barrister," from the airport, I was surprised to hear Heather's deep regrets about leaving her wig back in England. In fact, in a "brilliant" British accent, Heather explained that Barristers would typically size one another up from the color of their wig. A fresh white wig denoted a newly admitted Barrister. Of course, the first thing that newly admitted members would then do was dirty their wigs. To forget your wig in a court appearance may have ramifications more severe than not wearing a red tie in a certain judge's courtroom (or so I've heard). In fact, during Heather's brief visit, she had the opportunity to meet with President Judge Kenney, where she somehow found the time to propose a new Delaware County Local Rule requiring all local attorneys to also adorn wigs. As I understand it, this proposal is still pending approval.

Besides the dress, Heather spoke about the structural differences between attorneys in the United States versus England. In England, there are two types of attorneys: (1) a barrister, who makes court appearances and argues before the Court, and (2) a solicitor who meets with clients and does more transactional work, akin to a paralegal in our system. Heather, whose main practice areas include criminal law, also spoke about the English legal system's rules with respect to representing accused criminals and prosecuting them. Interestingly, Heather works both as a prosecutor for the Crown Prosecution and other times works defending the criminally accused. She described this experience as positive and attributes working both sides as giving her perspective, and preventing her from developing a strictly defense or prosecution oriented mindset. In fact, during her presentation to the Guy G. deFuria Inn, Heather spoke about a typical criminal case. When Heather explained that the criminally accused was encouraged by their legal counsel to give a statement to the police, the room exploded asking "What about his 5th Amendment Right?" While this is a right we may take for granted, in the English legal system, refusal to give a statement to a police officer may result in an adverse inference at the time of trial.

I also learned that if I was a law clerk for a judge in England, as opposed to Delaware County, my job would be much easier. Heather explained when anyone appeals the Court's decision, that the barristers make argument and the Court does not have to justify their rulings with an Opinion.

Heather also explained the English Inn of Court System, from which the American Inn of Court system is loosely based. While the American Inn of Court system, is a non-mandatory professional organization with goals of achieving professionalism, civility and legal skills among the bench and bar through a mentoring system the English Inn of Court is a professional association which all barristers must belong to. The English Inn of Courts are broken into four Inns: (1) Lincoln's Inn, (2) Inner Temple, (3) Middle Temple, and (4) Gray's Inn. The role of these Inns is to provide access to the bench, mentoring relationships, and each Inn has supervisory and disciplinary functions, akin to our state disciplinary boards.

As much as we took from Heather, she was equally inquisitive about the American legal system and having had the opportunity to sit in on a criminal trial with Judge Capuzzi, was eager to learn more. At the end of her visit, Heather, now an adopted Delaware County local, made promises to return to her new hometown, which the Guy G. deFuria Inn of Court eagerly awaits. ■

# Flag Etiquette

## *The Proper Way to Handle Old Glory!*

*Photo by the Honorable Barry C. Dozor*

*Location: Rose Tree Park, Upper Providence Township, Delaware County, PA*



Few of us know how to display an American flag properly. Even fewer know all the ins and outs of flag etiquette. You must go to the source, the U.S. Flag Code, to find out the proper way to handle Old Glory...

Many Americans think we're displaying our patriotic pride by wearing a U.S. flag on our sleeves, chests or elsewhere. Do you know that the U.S. Flag Code prohibits wearing Old Glory on an article of clothing or printing its image on anything disposable, such as paper plates, napkins and other picnic decorations?

Every day, many people violate Section 8d of United States Code Title 4, Chapter 1. Read on to learn the proper handling of the American flag...

### **When to Fly the U.S. Flag**

If you like to display your American flag 24 hours a day, year-round, there are a few things you should know: Flag etiquette requires that a U.S. flag be properly illuminated at night and taken down during foul weather, unless it is made from all-weather material. The flag can be flown every day, but there are certain days of the year when displaying this patriotic symbol is especially important.

### **Flag Displays on Holidays**

The U.S. Flag Code recommends that flags fly from sunrise to sunset on the following holidays: New Year's Day; Inauguration Day; Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday; Lincoln's Birthday; Washington's Birthday; Easter Sunday; Mother's Day; Armed Forces Day; Memorial Day; Flag Day; Independence Day; Labor Day; Patriot's Day; Constitution Day; Columbus

Day; Navy Day; Veteran's Day; Thanksgiving Day; Christmas Day.

### **How to Display the Flag Across a Roadway**

During summer and for parades across America, the flag is often used to decorate the streets.

When a flag is hung vertically across a street, the union (field of blue) must point toward the north on an east/west street and to the east on a street running north and south. A flag hanging over a sidewalk is required to be placed with the union on the street side, away from buildings.

### **Displaying a U.S. Flag with Flags of Other Nations**

Wherever flags are displayed in a courtroom or hall against a wall with crossed staffs (or masts), the U.S. flag should always be on the right (the flag's right, not the viewer's). And the U.S. flagpole should be on top of the second flag.

### **Multiple Flags on the Same Pole**

According to proper flag etiquette, the U.S. flag should always be at the top when flown in the U.S. Flying one country's flag above the other shows that the lower one is subordinate in that location.

### **Displaying a U.S. Flag at Half-Mast**

The proper way to hoist a flag to half-mast (also called "half-staff") is to draw it all the way to the top of the pole before lowering it halfway down. Only the President of the United States and state governors have the authority to order flags to be flown at half-mast. Flags may fly at half-staff after the deaths of important government figures, governors of states and foreign dignitaries. A recent amendment to the U.S. Flag Code allows state governors to order that public buildings fly flags at half-mast to honor fallen military personnel from that state during wartime. The length of time an American flag is flown at half-mast depends on the importance of the event or rank of the deceased government

official or service member being honored. Anywhere from one to 30 days is appropriate. The President assigns the length of each mourning period.

### **Half-Mast Displays on Holidays**

Every Memorial Day, flags should be flown at half-mast until noon and then raised to their full height. Other days that the flag should be flown at half-staff include: May 15th (Peace Officers Memorial Day); September 11th (Patriot Day); December 7th (National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day).

### **Window Sills**

Flagpoles affixed to the windowsill of a home or other building should fly the flag with the union at the peak of the pole.

### **Flat on the Wall or in a Window**

If the flag is hung on a wall or displayed in a window, the union should be on the viewer's top left.

### **In Processions**

An American flag carried in a parade or other procession should always be in the front in a line of several flags or to the right of a second flag.

### **On a Staff in an Auditorium, Church or Other Public Hall**

If the country's flag is displayed at an official gathering place, such as a public auditorium or church, the flag takes the place of honor to the right of the speaker or podium. Never let a U.S. flag be lowered into the grave. And never allow it to touch the ground. A flag does not have to be destroyed if it does touch the ground, but it should be cleaned as soon as possible by hand and allowed to dry before displaying it again.

One of the most poignant flag ceremonies involves the flag-draped casket of a fallen hero. Whether the deceased was a war veteran or a soldier killed in battle, Americans engage in the solemn ritual of lifting the flag from the casket and folding



it 12 times in a series of triangles. Each of the 12 folds represents various aspects of life, both patriotic and spiritual. The result is a triangle with the stars on top of the stripes to signify that the United States began as a union of 13 colonies and now includes 50 states represented by the 50 stars. After being folded in this reverent manner, the flag is presented to a family member of the deceased.

### Disposing of an American Flag

If your flag needs to be retired, dispose of it in a dignified, respectful manner. Section 8k of the Flag Code states: "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."

### More Flag Etiquette Tips

Here are more basic flag etiquette guidelines:

- The flag of the United States should never be dipped to any person or thing.
- No flag should be torn, soiled or damaged in any way.
- No marks such as logos, insignias, letters, words, designs, or figures should be attached to the flag.
- The flag should never be used to carry or hold anything.
- Never use the United States flag for advertising. Its image should not appear on boxes, paper napkins, plates or anything made to be discarded.
- Do not use the flag for clothing or as a costume.
- When displayed with flags of other nations the U.S. flag should always be hoisted first and taken down last.
- Multiple flags of various nations should always fly at the same level during peacetime.

The American Flag Code is a guideline for proper flag etiquette. Although the code is violated in many different ways each day, what matters most is the intent behind the use of the flag. That's why ripping, stepping on or burning a flag at a protest is an act of disrespect.

For more information about flag etiquette and other U.S. history topics, visit [www.ushistory.org](http://www.ushistory.org); the site includes the U.S. Flag Code in its entirety. ■

# The Geezers 26th Annual Dinner

*Friendship cheers the faint and weary,  
Makes the timid spirit brave,  
Warns the erring, lights the dreary,  
Smooths the passage to the grave.*

**OCTOBER 2016.** A GEEZER is any member of the Delaware County Bar Association for more than 25 years. Annually, the Geezers join for dinner at Aronimink Golf Club, and all eligible "Geezers" are invited to attend in honor of a Geezer and a Golden Geezer. In 2016, the Geezers welcomed the class of 1991 and honored Geezer William L. Baldwin and the Golden Geezer Edmund Jones. Attendees were entertained with reflections and reminiscences by Brian Lockman, President and CEO, PCN TV (Pennsylvania Cable Network).



### GOLDEN GEEZER, 2016 . . . EDMUND JONES

Edmund Jones is a former Republican member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. He was first elected on May 18, 1971. Jones served with a heavy automotive repair company during World War II. Shortly after the war, Jones, who graduated from the University of Pennsylvania's law school, took depositions from concentration camp survivors for the Nuremberg War Trials.

**BORN:** Apr. 18, 1918 (age 98) in Chester, PA

### HISTORY

The law firm of Jones, Strohm & Guthrie, P.C. was first organized in 1876 when Edmund Jones, Esquire, opened his office in Chester, Pennsylvania. He was later joined by his son Henry W. Jones, Esquire, and in 1942, Henry W. Jones, Esquire, was joined by his son Edmund Jones, Esquire, grandson of the founder of the firm, Edmund Jones. Consequently, the firm has been in continuous active practice in Delaware County for more than 130 years, making it the longest serving law firm in active practice in Delaware County.

Today, Jones, Strohm & Guthrie, P.C. continues its uncompromised commitment to representing its clients with the same integrity, diligence and excellence as it has for more than 130 years. The firm offers a broad range of legal services, practice areas including corporate and business law, banking and regulatory compliance, troubled loan restructuring and workouts and foreclosures, loan documentation, creditor rights, taxation, and commercial and residential real estate transactions. ■

### PAST "GEEZER" HONOREES:

Hugh Bonner	Charles Rankin	Walter ReDavid	Joseph Diamond
Basil Clare	Marty Duus	Warren Higgins	Lew Beatty
Paul VanDyke	Bud Carey	Jim Shea	Donald Sparks
Vince LaBrasca	Charles Mayer	Harry F. Dunn, Jr.	Donald Lehrkinder
Ed Harvey	Samuel Blank	Hon. Robert Wright	Angelo DiPasqua
William C. Archbold, Jr.	Hon. Murray S. Eckell	David Hennessy	Vram Nedurian

### THE GEEZER COMMITTEE

Robert E.J. Curran Michael L. Murphy Raymond J. Peppelman, Jr. Harry F. Spiess, Jr.

# To Honor Courage & Sacrifice

## 57th Veterans Day Parade

Highlights and photos by Tracy E. Price, Editor

**MEDIA, PA.** Pride and respect for those who served their country was on full display in “Everybody’s Hometown” with what is regarded as one of the finest parades in the country to honor members of the military who have served the United States in foreign wars and conflicts.

At the conclusion of the parade down State Street, many gathered in front of the Courthouse for the annual ceremony which this year featured keynote speaker Col. Maureen Weigl, who recently retired after 25 years in the U.S. Army after working in suicide prevention, mild traumatic brain injury, sexual assault and employment opportunity initiatives. Col. Weigl focused on veterans’ access to programs and the importance of raising local and national awareness of the issues facing veterans and beneficial ways to help and support them.

Middle school students who were invited to participate in an essay contest and placed in the top three positions read their work to attendees. The students highlighted that while enduring the challenges of war can be rewarding, honorable and self-purposeful, the effects of serving one’s country can be traumatizing, transformative and overwhelming. Each touched upon ways to help veterans, whether it be shopping at veteran-owned businesses, reuniting soldiers with service dogs or donating time at a local VA hospital.

This event, in its 57th year, gave us the opportunity to honor courage and sacrifice, and realize the importance of renewing, revalidating and rededicating our commitment to the veterans and their families... **WE SALUTE YOU!** ■



## Welcome to the DCBA

*“What makes greatness is starting something that lives after you...”*

**Presiding:** The Honorable Chad F. Kenney, President Judge  
**Presentation of New Admittees:** Mary V.Z. Wachterhauser, Membership Chair  
**Remarks Welcoming New Admittees to the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas and the Delaware County Bar Association:**

- Honorable Margaret J. Amoroso
- Scott C. Gottel, Esquire, President, Delaware County Bar Association
- Michael H. Hill, Esquire, President, Young Lawyers’ Section, DCBA ■

### NEW MEMBER

Phyllis T. Bookspan  
 George W. Bodenger  
 Kimberly M. Collins  
 Daniel R. DeSpirito  
 Joan D. Gallagher  
 Tiffany G. Griffin  
 Gabriella H. Grosso  
 Michael J. Handley  
 Kimberly J. Krzyzaniak  
 Francis X. McIlvaine  
 Brian E. O’Neill  
 Melanie A. Reynolds  
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# DREAM BIG, REACH FOR THE STARS JOHN HERSCHEL GLENN, JR.

By Tracy Price, Editor

*With courage and a spirit of discovery, there is no limit to the heights we can reach together . . .*

**J**ohn Herschel Glenn Jr. was an American aviator, engineer, astronaut, and United States Senator from Ohio. In 1962, he became the

first American to orbit the Earth, circling three times. He was the last surviving member of the original Mercury astronauts. Before joining NASA, he was a distinguished fighter pilot in both World War II and Korea, with five Distinguished Flying Crosses and eighteen clusters.

He made history a second time in 1998, when he flew aboard the shuttle Discovery to become the oldest person to fly in space. His legacy is one of risk and accomplishment, of history created and duty to country carried out under great pressure with the whole world watching. John Glenn will be remembered as an actual hero at a time when heroes are often called heroes but are not.

**Lived: July 18, 1921-Dec. 8, 2016 (age 95)**

## An early explorer

On Feb. 20, 1962, when space travel was in its infancy, John Glenn rocketed into space; it was momentous and nerve-racking. Every launch and mission captivated the imagination of America. A few minutes after liftoff, Glenn's Friendship 7 capsule reached orbit. People listened in with excitement and awe. "Roger, zero G and I feel fine," Glenn relayed from space. "Capsule is turning around. Oh, that view is tremendous!"

## A hero well before orbiting Earth

Then there was the technology. Rockets exploded during testing, sometimes with the astronauts watching. In 2012, on the 50th anniversary of his Mercury flight, Glenn reflected on the danger. "It was important because of the Cold War," Glenn said at a Smithsonian forum. "It was a new step forward, and we were proud to be representing our country there. And so ... you made it as safe as you possibly could, and what little bit of risk was left, we accepted that."

Any trip to space is risky, and Glenn's mission was no exception. During his five-hour, three-orbit flight, there were some tense moments after faulty warnings about his heat shield. After the flight, he became a national hero. He befriended President John F. Kennedy and received a ticker-tape parade in New York City. John Glenn will remain in the history books; he was exactly at the right place at the right time for when America needed somebody to not only become the first American to orbit the

Earth but to actually project what it meant for America to put a person into space.

## A life in flight and politics

Glenn was a highly decorated Marine who flew 59 combat missions in the South Pacific during World War II. During the Korean War, he flew 90 combat missions, using different models of new jet fighters. He remained in the military through the 1950s, testing supersonic aircraft and other military models. In all, he earned the Distinguished Flying Cross five times. In 1958 he was one of 508 pilots tested for what became the Mercury program, an accelerated response to the Soviet Union's successful launch of the first satellite in 1957.

He left NASA in 1964. Later he would learn that at the time, NASA and Kennedy had deemed him too valuable to fly in space again.

In 1974, he was elected to represent Ohio in the U.S. Senate. Two years later, Glenn's name was among those mentioned as a running mate for Democratic presidential nominee Jimmy Carter, but Carter ended up picking Sen. Walter Mondale of Minnesota. Glenn campaigned in the Democratic primary for the 1984 presidential election, but ended up losing to Mondale. He remained in the Senate, however, serving four six-year terms.

During his Senate career he was noted for his attention to NASA and to national defense. He was also remembered for his support for the Panama Canal treaty in the late 1970s and for his resistance to the decision to televise the Senate floor debates on C-SPAN. He warned that the Senate's reputation for deliberation would suffer if it became, in effect, a TV show. He retired from politics in 1999.

## A pioneer once again

As his political career was ending, he wanted to go back into space. In 1998, he lobbied NASA to fly again. Glenn spent nine days aboard the shuttle Discovery – for science. As a 77-year-old, he became the oldest person to fly in space. His flight revived public interest in NASA. When NASA canceled the shuttle program and scaled back its ambitious exploration efforts, Glenn lamented the loss. He spoke during a 2011 forum at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum. "The average person [was] better educated ... back years ago than most people in the world. And then we put more into basic research and learned the new things first," Glenn said. "That little combination is just as true today. If we lose that edge in research and education, we won't be a leading nation in the world. It's that simple."

*There is a star man waiting in the sky... ■*

# When Disaster Strikes, One Call Can Make the Difference

By **Ira L. Straff**



**Your client is on the phone...** There's been a devastating fire, and they don't know what to do. Or maybe it's damage from a structural collapse, a storm, ice and snow, a burst water pipe, or some other cause. Whatever the disaster, they're turning to you for advice.

The first thing they have to know is that *every second counts*: they need an expert at the site immediately! Damage needs to be assessed and documented properly.

Public adjusters are coverage experts who work for you and your client—not for the insurance company. As part of your team, they can offer guidance and assistance in assessing damages and preparing insurance claim forms and support documentation. Advice from a public adjuster can ensure that correct decisions are being made, which can help to maximize your client's recovery.

Here are some important issues that a public adjuster can resolve:

When **fire and smoke** or other disasters strike, insurance company adjusters are trained to keep settlements to a minimum. As a result, the actual cost to repair the damaged property can be higher than the insurance company's estimate, often by thousands of dollars.

Several types of **storm damage** are limited or excluded from many insurance policies. An investigation of the cause and a thorough analysis of your coverage can make a big difference in the recovery.

The source of **water damage** is just as important as the extent of the damage. Many policies exclude some types of water damage: burst, frozen or blocked pipes; faulty appliances; sewage; even rainwater might not be covered. Public adjusters can decipher the fine print.

Under the weight of **snow and ice**, roofs can collapse, gutters can pull free, and trees can break and fall, damaging the roof, walls, ceilings, floors, and furniture. Less visible, ice dams can cause water to seep through roofing material and damage a building's interior.

A **lightning strike** can cause a fire, leading to smoke and water damage and additional related losses. Lightning can also travel through the electrical system and fixtures, causing extensive damage to electronics, appliances and the property's physical structure.

***"It makes all the difference to your client to have a knowledgeable public adjuster."***

Sam S. Auslander, Esq.  
Eckell Sparks

Attorney Sam S. Auslander of Eckell Sparks, Media, observes: "It makes all the difference to your client to have a knowledgeable public adjuster to evaluate and document the damage, provide proper guidance, and to negotiate the best possible recovery. The attorney and public adjuster have the same mindset about serving the client's best interests."

Kenneth R. Schuster, Esq., of Media's Shuster Law, emphasizes: "In a property damage matter, it's important to have a public adjuster on your team as early as possible."

Most people don't realize how difficult and time-consuming the claims process can be, especially if you're not there on the front line yourself. It's always better to be proactive and preemptive—by immediately retaining a reputable, knowledgeable public adjuster.

Your clients will thank you for it.

*Ira L. Straff is principal partner of IAB, the Insurance Adjustment Bureau, Inc., public adjusters located in Bala Cynwyd and in business since 1964. ■*





# Boscov's BERKS Jazz Fest<sup>®</sup>

BERKS ARTS COUNCIL

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MARCUS MILLER • FOURPLAY FEATURING BOB JAMES, NATHAN EAST, HARVEY MASON, CHUCK LOEB • PAT MARTINO ORGAN TRIO WITH HORNS  
BRIAN CULBERTSON • NEW URBAN JAZZ PARTY: BOB BALDWIN, WALTER BEASLEY, MARION MEADOWS, TOM BROWNE • NICK COLIONNE • ERIC DARIUS  
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