In This Issue:

- DSBA’s New *Pro Bono* Coordinator
- Law Week 2010
- Delaware Legal Directory
- Correction Form
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FEATURES

7 Law Week 2010  
By Pat Quann

11 Pro Bono Coordinator Position Added to DSBA Staff  
Susan Simmons Is Hired

18 2010 Delaware High School Mock Trial Competition: A Recap  
By Anthony J. Iannini

21 2010 Delaware Law Day Luncheon

DEPARTMENTS

8 Calendar of Events

9 Section & Committee Meetings

15 Delaware Legal Directory Correction Form

19 Disciplinary Actions

20 Bulletin Board

COLUMNs

4 President’s Corner

6 Editor’s Perspective

10 Tips on Technology

12 DE-LAP Zone

14 Insurance Insight

16 Book Review

22 Judicial Palate

Letters to the Editor should pertain to recent articles, columns, or other letters. Please limit to 250 words. Unsigned letters are not published. All letters are subject to editing. Send letters to 301 North Market Street, Wilmington, DE, 19801, Attention: Editor, Bar Journal.

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Delaware State Bug: Ladybug
“Adopted April 25, 1974, the Lady Bug was chosen by the Legislature after an intensive effort on the insect’s behalf by Mrs. Mollie Brown-Rust and her 2nd grade students of the Lulu M. Ross Elementary School in Milford, Delaware. Delaware Code Title 29 § 309”
When my year as President of DSBA began almost a year ago, I heard from a number of my predecessors how rewarding the experience will be, and how quickly the year will pass. They were right on both points. I started my year with a set of goals and a road map to achieving them. Some were my own goals, and others were initiated by my predecessors. But, I realized quickly that in order to accomplish anything in one short year, I had to prioritize my goals and hope that the remaining goals will be carried on by my successors. Since I always believed that the strength of the DSBA is the direct result of the special relationship among its members and its effective engagement in public affairs, I made the enhancement of these attributes among my primary goals.

As part of last month’s Law Day Celebration, the Bar brought together the three branches of Delaware government for a panel discussion on separation of power and cooperation. This superb program was the result of efforts by members of the Bar with the assistance of Justice Holland, Representative Melanie George, and other members of our government. The program clearly demonstrated how well the branches of our government work together for the benefit of all Delaware’s citizens, and how the DSBA can contribute to that success.

With one exception, all panel members were members of the Delaware Bar, including those representing the Legislative and Executive branches. This illustrates what I believe to be the individual calling of each of us, to participate in public life and to apply our education, training, and professional skills to the advancement of social goals. In such engagement, we advocate our individual views, or the positions of those whose interest we represent.

But, as a Bar, our role is different. We are all familiar with the quote from Shakespeare’s Henry VI: “The first thing we do, let’s kill all the lawyers.” While this phrase is often used pejoratively, Shakespeare was actually paying homage to our profession, recognizing its role as protector of democracy and freedom. In such role, we are serving the interest of the community as a whole, and to do so effectively we must work together.

Indeed, while DSBA’s Bylaws encourage our members to express their individual views publicly on proposed legislation and other matters of public policy, the Bylaws also provide that when representing the association as a whole,

the Executive Committee shall determine whether or not the Association shall recommend legislation or publicly express the Association’s views on proposed legislation or other matters of public policy. In its deliberations on such matters, the Executive Committee shall consider all factors deemed relevant by its members but, in general, the Executive Committee shall not endorse or oppose legislation unless (1) the matter involves an issue about which lawyers are uniquely qualified to comment because of legal expertise or practical experience in the administration of the law or the judicial system; (2) the matter involves the practice of law and the legal profession or a significant direct economic impact on members of the Association; or (3) the matter involves an individual liberty.

A few years ago, our Bylaws were amended to add a provision that would allow the DSBA to publicly endorse actions opposed by a significant number of members, even if such actions would be divisive within the membership, as long as the endorsement is approved by the Executive Committee by super majority, and another provision that would have permitted public expressions by one Bar Section over the objection of other Sections.

At its first meeting under my presidency, I asked the Executive Committee to consider whether these additional Bylaws provisions truly served our collective best interest. Following extensive discussions involving many leaders of the Bar over a period of several months, the Executive Committee approved an amendment to our Bylaws removing these provisions, reaffirming the DSBA as an Association serving the common interest of all its members. My hope is that our future leaders will continue to strive to build consensus among our members and to publicly speak on behalf of our Association in one voice, while also encouraging our members, individually, to actively promote their own positions on issues of public interest.

To each and every member of the Bar, I wish to express my profound gratitude for allowing me to serve as President of the DSBA.
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When I was a child, summer seemed to last a year. Once school let out—the last few days being nearly impossible for us students to learn or remember anything—my family would begin a regular cycle of summer activities, thanks to my father being a teacher and therefore having free time to spend with his family. We would usually begin with a trip to New Jersey to visit my aunt and uncle and their daughters; followed by a trip to Michigan to visit my great-uncle, great-aunt, and other relatives there; and then a journey to western Indiana to see my grandparents. And, as my brothers and I grew older, we would go camping in one of several different Pennsylvania state parks, usually in primitive, Works Progress Administration-era cabins.

The excitement leading up to those sojourns was always palpable; I would begin to count the days left until each trip weeks in advance, looking ahead to them more than I did the end of school. And, each outing had its own highlights; heading east to New Jersey usually meant stopping to pay a visit to one of the many caves which dot the mountains of Central Pennsylvania; camping always involved canoeing, fishing, hiking, and experiencing the Fourth of July parade in whatever small town was nearest; while trips west to Indiana and Michigan always promised endless sweet corn, heat lightning far away over the horizon, and precious time spent with relatives.

As I grew older, summer began to lose its meaning as a time of rest and rejuvenation. It became an occasion for summer jobs, to earn money for college or law school, with perhaps a trip or two home to see my parents. Once I graduated from law school and began working, the meaning of summer changed again—now summer meant endless work, with perhaps few days off here and there to go somewhere. In short, it was more of the same, just with hotter and stormier weather.

In a real sense, it was necessary for me to lose summer in order to regain it. A new attorney learning the ropes can scarcely afford the long, slow vacations of his or her childhood. But, as my practice has grown and my legal experience has deepened, I have been able to carve away blocks of time for myself and my family—since I am a committed workaholic, often with the strident urging of my wife during the precious summer months. For example, for almost ten years, I have been attending a week-long Eastern European folk music and dance camp (see www.eefc.org for what it’s about), which is sort of a grown-up version of band camp, but most of the music in minor keys and asymmetric rhythms. That time has become the focal point of my summer; I count down the days to my family’s trips when I was a kid. And, my wife and I have even been fortunate enough to be able to pay summer visits to my parents up in my hometown of Erie, PA, with great perch fishing on Lake Erie and even better swimming in the clear, clean, salt-free waters of the lake.

For me, summer is once again a special and precious time for rejuvenation and relaxation. I can finally sing loudly with the cuckoos and the birds in my yard and say—summer is a-comin, ne swik thu naver nu! Don’t you ever stop!
Law Week 2010

Law Day was created by a Congressional Resolution in 1961 and is celebrated on May 1. For the past several years, the Delaware Law Related Education Center has coordinated a program that places attorneys and judges in high school classrooms across the state. DELREC provides a lesson plan and appropriate materials to use in teaching a class. The 2010 Program covered the week of May 3-7, 2010.

This year’s lesson was based on the American Bar Association’s Theme for Law Day, Law in the 21st Century: Enduring Traditions, Emerging Challenges. We used material from the Deliberating in a Democracy program developed by the Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago, The Constitutional Rights Foundation, and Street Law, Inc. The goal of the program is to “increase the knowledge, ability, and dispositions of teachers and students to effectively participate in deliberations related to democratic principles.” The topic for the deliberation was “Should our democracy allow schools to punish students for off-campus cyberbullying?” The topic was very timely and created a lot of discussion from the students.

The following High Schools participated in the program:
- Appoquinimink High School
- A.I. DuPont High School
- Brandywine High School
- Cab Calloway High School
- Cape Henlopen High School
- The Charter School of Wilmington
- Conrad School of Science
- Dickinson High School
- Howard High School of Technology
- Indian River High School
- Lake Forest High School
- Padua Academy
- Sussex Technical High School
- William Penn High School
- Wilmington Christian School

Brandywine High School had a special program coordinated by the school’s Mock Trial Coach, Dwayne Caldwell. Attorneys visited 10 classes at the school. Additionally, a program was held again at St. Mary Magdalen School coordinated by F. Peter Conaty, Jr., Esquire. Our thanks goes to Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Conaty for their terrific support for Law Day. Following are the names of all the volunteers who gave so generously of their time for Law Week:

Abby Lynn Adams, Esq.
Melony Rose Anderson, Esq.
Mary E. Bowler, Esq.
M. Dwayne Caldwell, Esq.
Allison M. Camara, Esq.
David P. Cline, Esq.
F. Peter Conaty, Jr., Esq.
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Darryl Anthony Parson, Esq.
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Ruth Ann Price, Esq.
Donna Pugh, Esq.
Harshal Purohit-Patel, Esq.
Bruce A. Rogers, Esq.
T. Andrew Rosen, Esq.

President's Corner (continued from page 4)

As my term as President nears its conclusion, I wish to express my gratitude to Chief Justice Steele, Justice Holland, and other members of our judiciary for their support and guidance, and to Judge Slichts for his effective service as Judicial Liaison to the Executive Committee. I also wish to express my gratitude to Rina and the members of the staff of the Bar Association, on whom we all depend on for the day-to-day work and who made my job as President so much easier. I wish to express my deep appreciation to the many members of the Bar with whom I worked in the past year for their ongoing assistance—especially to the members of the Executive Committee and to our Section and Committee Chairs and officers, too numerous to mention in this space, who volunteer their time daily to do the work of our organization, and make it what it is, a collegial, diverse group of lawyers, second to none, who enjoy working together to achieve our common goals. And, to each and every member of the Bar, I wish to express my profound gratitude for allowing me to serve as President of the DSBA and I hope that I have served you well.
June 2010

Wednesday, June 9, 2010
Bench and Bar Conference 2010
Ethics in the 21st Century: It’s Complex
3.0 hours CLE credit
Chase Center on the Riverfront, Wilmington, DE

Wednesday, June 16, 2010
Environmental Law Update 2010
3.8 hours CLE credit
Delaware State Bar Association, Wilmington, DE

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Professional Guidance Committee

This committee provides peer counseling and support to lawyers overburdened by personal or practice-related problems. It offers help to lawyers who, during difficult times, may need assistance in meeting law practice demands. The members of this committee, individually or as a team, will help with the time and energy needed to keep a law practice operating smoothly and to protect clients. Call a member if you or someone you know needs assistance.

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   Psychiatrist - Dr. Carol Tavani

Section & Committee Meetings

June 2010

Monday, June 7, 2010 • 12:00 p.m.
Taxation Section Meeting
Morris Nichols Arsht & Tunnell LLP, 1201 North Market Street, 18th Floor, Wilmington

Monday, June 7, 2010 • 12:30 p.m.
Senior Lawyers Committee Monthly Luncheon Meeting
Delaware State Bar Association, 301 North Market Street, Wilmington

Tuesday, June 8, 2010 • 12:15 p.m.
Small Firms and Solo Practitioners Section Meeting
Delaware State Bar Association, 301 North Market Street, Wilmington

Wednesday, June 16, 2010 • 5:30 p.m.
Women and the Law Picnic
Tania Culley’s Home

Thursday, June 17, 2010 • 12:00 p.m.
Executive Committee Meeting
Delaware State Bar Association, 301 North Market Street, Wilmington

Thursday, June 17, 2010 • 12:30 p.m.
Law and the Elderly Committee Meeting
Law Office of William W. Erfart, P.A., 800 North King Street, Suite 303, Wilmington

Monday, June 21, 2010 • 12:00 p.m.
Estates & Trusts Section Lunch Meeting
Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor LLP, 1000 West Street, 17th Floor, Wilmington

Wednesday, June 23, 2010 • 4:00 p.m.
Family Law Section Meeting
Morris James LLP, 500 Delaware Avenue, Suite 1500, Wilmington

Friday, June 25, 2010 • 12:30 p.m.
Social Security Disability Section Meeting
Linarducci & Butler, PA, 910 West Basin Road, Suite 100, Wilmington

July 2010

Monday, July 12, 2010 • 12:30 p.m.
Senior Lawyers Committee Monthly Luncheon Meeting
Delaware State Bar Association, 301 North Market Street, Wilmington

Please contact Janice Myrick at jmyrick@dsba.org or (302) 658-5279 ext. 103 to have your Section or Committee meetings listed each month in the Bar Journal.

2010 Bench and Bar Conference
June 9, 2010
Register today!
www.dsba.org
Blackberry – Move Over

Crystal-ball is a learned art. It takes many years to master and many many hours of practice. The wonderful thing about crystal-ball is that if you think years ahead, it will be a long time before anyone proves you are wrong.

I have spent some significant time during the last few weeks gazing into my crystal. And, I must tell you, I do not see the Blackberry as having a stabilized presence in the future. I do not mean the Blackberry will be gone forever. I do mean that its dominance as a business tool in the legal marketplace will be on the decline.

Why do I say that? Because I have recently received my 3GS iPhone.

In 1985, I experienced my first Apple Macintosh. I became born again. Those were the days before local area networks; those were the days of DOS. As I gazed into my crystal ball, I envisioned a time when each lawyer would have a computer at his/her desk. It took a while, but it happened. We started to see crops of computers finding their way into the lawyers’ offices. In 1993, Apple premiered the Newton. This was a handheld device which was the precursor to the current day palm computer. By current standards, it would be thought of as large and clunky. However, it contained much of the functionality that we see in the Droids and Blackberries today. Developers of the Newton software published dozens of computer programs and offered practical and easy to use applications. The Newton had potential. But, there was a lack of need. Social networking had not yet been invented and communicating via computer was still in early stages of development.

The significance of the Newton quickly faded and in 1998 the product ceased to exist. A few years passed and the efficiency of electronic communications increased dramatically. Lawyers, as well as the rest of the world, found e-mail. We embraced it and we nurtured it into the very essence of our practice. During that critical period, the Blackberry became the backbone of everyone’s practice. It was small; it was quick; and it was efficient. The interface with Microsoft Outlook was close to perfect. We did not realize how much we depended upon this device until it was rumored that a federal court might enjoin RIM from further development and sale of the device on the grounds of patent infringement. For years Blackberry has been king. It is a matter of standard issue in many law firms. E-mails are sent; calls are made; and hours are logged.

The iPhone has been in the marketplace for more than three years. However, it has not been taken seriously as a tool for business, at least in the legal marketplace, until recently. Why this has occurred only recently, no one really knows. It could simply be the number of applications (Apps) that are available; or it could be the development of better integration between the iPhone and Outlook. There is no question the introduction of the Droid into the marketplace has increased awareness of the value of the Apps available to the business world for both the iPhone and the iPad.

The Blackberry still has an incredible foothold in the marketplace. Its interactivity with Outlook is stable and flawless. It is available through all major carriers and fits the budget of most law firms. However, the value of the Blackberry is not without its limitations. The screen is small. Its ability to comfortably handle attachments is marginal as is its ability to connect seamlessly with the Internet for other services.

The iPhone is new to the legal market; its connectivity and stable interactivity with Outlook is still unproven (although it is wonderfully intuitive). Service is still limited to AT&T, and it generally appears to be a more expensive option than the Blackberry to most law firms.

But, lawyers are beginning to see the unlimited potential of the iPhone when it comes to productivity. There may be only a few legally-oriented applications developed at the current time; however, the future should see incredibly exciting advancements. Now that the iPad has been introduced, the iPhone and the iPad, as tools, will become obvious when lawyers begin to review opinions from West and Lexis on the iPad. Currently there are only a few legal reference materials available, such as the Federal Rules of Evidence, the Federal Rules of Civil, Criminal, Bankruptcy, and Appellate Procedure, and Black’s Law Dictionary. There is no question that this body of information will continue to grow.

One of the more magical moments I have had for years in technology has been my recent exposure to Dragon Dictation for the iPhone. This is a free application and works amazingly well. If you can dictate comfortably and clearly, the accuracy of this App is astounding. And, with the push of a button, the text that is dictated can be converted to text in an Outlook e-mail and sent.

There are hundreds of productivity Apps other than Outlook available for
the iPad and the iPhone. In fact, the only thing non-productive I have found about these devices is the obsessive compulsion to spend otherwise productive time looking for more productivity applications. The only true negative I have found to the iPhone is in the short battery life. The battery generally needs to be charged before the end of the day. There are ways of working with this small shortcoming. You can charge it at your desk for a couple of hours during the day or you can carry one of the many external batteries. In any event, I am sure this will be attended to in due time.

As I continue to review the iPhone and iPad in future issues, I will take a look at a new App each month as well.

BTW, this article was written using Dragon Dictate.

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**Pro Bono Coordinator Position Added to DSBA Staff**

**Susan Simmons Is Hired**

Hitting the ground running, Susan Simmons assumed the position of the Delaware State Bar Association Pro Bono Coordinator in May, becoming the first person to hold this post. Access to justice is dependent upon the availability of legal help. Because of their stature, organizational structure, and resources, Bar Associations are uniquely situated to spearhead the effort to promote and coordinate the pro bono component of an integrated legal services delivery strategy. Incoming DSBA President Matthew M. Greenberg, Esquire, identified a need for the creation of the position of Pro Bono Coordinator. He noted, “We are fortunate that Delaware lawyers have always been actively involved in pro bono efforts. The DSBA seeks to help in coordinating and identifying new opportunities for attorneys who have yet to participate. I am excited to welcome Susan who will be an excellent catalyst for the Bar’s pro bono efforts. With Susan’s help, we will be able to roll out some new pro bono programs and enhance existing programs.”

Susan’s goal is to make the position of DSBA Pro Bono Coordinator a vital part of the offerings to the DSBA membership. Creating a pro bono program is one of the strongest tools Bar leadership can use to influence the structure of the Bar to promote pro bono work. Common job duties for Bar Association pro bono staff include: developing volunteer recognition, developing reports, developing new pro bono projects, conducting outreach to other legal providers and non-profits in the community, interacting with agency program staff to develop and implement pro bono projects, developing and directing publicity for the pro bono program, performing administrative duties, and planning/oversight of training events. The close relationship between a Bar Association and the existing Agencies’ program staff can be instrumental in raising the level of pro bono activity on a statewide basis. Susan looks forward to working closely with Delaware Volunteer Legal Services, Community Legal Aid Services, and the Legal Services Corporation of Delaware.

Pro bono work is not new to Susan. In her capacity as a principal of a small business, Susan and her former business partner have made it a point to give back to the community, offering volunteer design and production services to area associations and organizations including the PFI 25th Anniversary Celebration they called “The Pedro Project.” Originally the project started as an application to “ABC’s Extreme Makeover: Home Edition,” but it soon became their own version of the TV program recruiting over 80 local volunteers and companies to completely makeover and expand the modest home of a wheelchair-bound victim of a cruel prank.

Susan also serves on the boards of two local non-profit organizations. As a board member for over eight years of Westside Family Healthcare, a community health center whose mission is to provide equal access to quality healthcare, regardless of ability to pay, Susan is currently Community Relations Committee Co-chair and Chair of the Fundraising Committee. Susan also serves on the Board of the Delaware HIV Consortium, a statewide non-profit organization established to facilitate collaboration among its members and to ensure that quality, non-duplicative HIV treatment and prevention services are available throughout Delaware.

Look for Susan Simmons at the Bench and Bar Conference on June 9 to learn more about more about the Pro Bono program and how to get involved. More information will be available as the position and program develops, including a survey to establish interest in performing Pro Bono work, and a Pro Bono information form indicating the existence of Pro Bono opportunities for attorneys. Contact Susan at (302) 658-5279 or by e-mail at ssimmons@dsba.org.

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A Message from the Delaware Lawyers Assistance Program

The Delaware Lawyers Assistance Program in a Nutshell: Who We Are and What We Do

Attorney #1 knows that she needs to change; but does not know how.

Attorney #2 is self-medicating with alcohol and his life is out-of-control. He too wants to change.

Attorney #3 just added parent care-giving to an already hectic schedule and needs balance in his life; but he is clueless as to how to do it.

Attorney #4 knows that it is time to retire; but doesn’t for fear of change.

How do these attorneys cope with changes in their life and address problems that may be affecting their quality of life and professionalism? They all found help through The Delaware Lawyers Assistance Program (DE-LAP). Whether it is an issue or problem including, but not limited to: life changes, stress management, depression, alcohol/chemical abuse/dependence, gambling addiction and/or other issues regarding adulthood and aging, DE-LAP is here for you. In a nutshell, DE-LAP is a confidential and free service that provides information and meaningful assistance to Delaware’s judges and lawyers.

Ironically, because lawyers spend most of their time dealing with other people’s problems, they often ignore their own. The day-to-day pressures and deadlines of practicing law, coupled with the ongoing responsibilities of life itself, can and often do add to acute difficulties such as anxiety, depression, abuse/dependence of gambling, alcohol, and/or other substances.

DE-LAP is familiar with how problems can affect both the personal and professional life of a legal professional. Studies over the years confirm that lawyers and judges experience a high rate of depression, substance abuse/dependence, as well as other psychological, behavioral, and physical symptoms that may be related to the stress of practicing law. Similarly, it is estimated that at least 18 percent of lawyers may be dealing with the issues of chemical dependence (alcohol included). Furthermore, the legal profession rates high in the category of incidences of major stress, depression, as well as suicide when compared among the various professions.

How DE-LAP Works

Generally, these conditions are treatable and recovery can be a reality. That is why, person by person, DE-LAP reaches out to help judges and lawyers by working with them to: identify issues/problems; facilitate treatment for those issues/problems; support in those changes; and monitor when needed. In other words, by identifying problems, facilitating treatment and supporting change, DE-LAP fulfills its mission:

The mission of the Delaware Lawyers Assistance Program (DE-LAP) is to provide confidential assistance to judges and lawyers. Our goal is to help individuals identify problems affecting their work productivity and/or quality of life while assisting them in developing effective solutions to those problems thereby culminating in a workplace atmosphere that encourages health, balance, and professional growth and maintains the integrity of the legal profession.

DE-LAP includes a paid professional on staff that works with both the DSBA’s Lawyers Assistance Committee and the DSBA’s Professional Guidance Committee. Together, we are here not to police, but to help the legal professional.

Confidentiality

Because of the sensitive nature of these issues, judges and lawyers who may need help are very reluctant to seek it. Therefore, in order to foster early and confidential contact with DE-LAP, the Delaware Supreme Court acknowledges the work of the Program and its need for confidentiality.

More specifically, Rule 8.3 states:

(a) A lawyer who knows that another lawyer has committed a violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct that raises a substantial question as to that lawyer’s honesty, trustworthiness or fitness as a lawyer in other respects, shall inform the appropriate professional authority. (b) A lawyer who knows that a judge has committed a violation of applicable rules of judicial conduct that raises a substantial question as to the judge’s fitness for office shall inform the appropriate authority. (c) This Rule does not require disclosure of information otherwise protected in Rule 1.6. (d) Notwithstanding anything in this or other of the rules to the contrary, the relationship between members of either (i) the Lawyers Assistance Committee of the Delaware State Bar Association and counselors retained by the Bar Association, or (ii) the Professional Ethics Committee of the Delaware State Bar Association or (iii) …shall be the same as that of attorney and client.

Therefore, DE-LAP is designed to provide a confidential, non-disciplinary way for Delaware’s legal professionals, judges and lawyers, to seek appropriate help for problems before they sabotage their careers and/or quality of life.

Again, referrals are confidential. Ac-
cordingly, any legal professional that seeks assistance as a self-referral can be assured that their information will be held in the strictest of confidence. Similarly, those who are concerned about a co-worker, peer, or other legal professional are guaranteed the same confidentiality.

**DE-LAP Services**

The Delaware Lawyers Assistance Program services include, but are not limited to:

**Initial Assessment:** A trained member of the DE-LAP staff will meet with the legal professional either at the DE-LAP office (located at 301 N. Market Street, Wilmington, DE) or off-site to evaluate the situation/problem and offer recommendations for solutions. DE-LAP maintains an extensive, up-to-date network of licensed health care professionals who are familiar with the unique issues involved in working within the legal profession.

**Interventions:** In appropriate situations, a member of the staff will plan, rehearse, and facilitate a formal intervention to assist with the impaired or problem individual.

**Coaching:** A certified Wellness Inventory Coach is available to help you design a personal blueprint for change and support you in that change.

**Peer Support Network:** The person in need of assistance or help may be paired with a member of the Lawyers Assistance Committee and/or Professional Guidance Committee to help in the support and/or monitoring stage.

**Structured Rehabilitation Program:** In cases involving formal action against the legal professional or a supervisory referral, DE-LAP can implement a structured rehabilitation program that documents the legal professional’s efforts and success in making changes in their life. Furthermore, and only if releases are signed, DE-LAP, under such a program, can report compliance and non-compliance under a formal monitoring agreement.

**Attorney Support Meetings/Workshops:** DE-LAP sponsors weekly and monthly meetings where attorneys help each other deal with the problems and stresses of practicing law while maintaining balance in their personal lives. These support groups are not only closed to the public, they too are confidential.

**Educational Outreach:** The Delaware Lawyers Assistance Program also provides educational and other outreach activities/seminars.

If after reading this article you are concerned about yourself or another lawyer or judge, pick up the phone and call DE-LAP at (302) 777-0124 or toll-free at 1-877-24DELAP. Remember, Delaware judges and lawyers do not have to face overwhelming problems alone. Equally as important, each call serves to chip away at the stigma associated with these problems that often work to keep legal professionals isolated from support and assistance. Don’t suffer silently. Confidentially, we do together what need not be done alone!

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**JIM HALEY, JR.**

**MEDIATOR/ARBITRATOR**

302-656-7247

FERRARA & HALEY

1716 Wawaset St.
P.O. Box 188

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19899

jhaley@ferraralaw.net

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**CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION**

**BUSINESS CORPORATION**

Matthew T. Croslis, 2030 Tilghman Street, Suite 100, Allentown, PA 18104. Notice is hereby given that a Certificate of Incorporation was filed with and approved by the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, at Dover, Delaware on the 7th day of May, 2010 for the purpose of obtaining a Certificate of Incorporation for a business corporation organized under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware. The name of the corporation is HUNEDOARA HOLDINGS, INC. The purpose for which it was organized is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which corporations may be organized under the Laws of the State of Delaware.

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Medicare Defined: Plans A-Z

When you turn 16, you’re given a license and the ability to drive, making life better in many ways. To orient you on driving, classes are offered and an experienced driver is by your side until you are ready to drive on your own. Also, you are not burdened with choosing the right type of license.

Medicare is another important entitlement that comes at a specific age. Medicare coverage requires people to make decisions and can be confusing to use, yet the guidance and support is not readily available.

Medicare is health insurance for people 65 and older, or with end-stage renal disease, or with certain disabilities. One thing making Medicare so complicated is that its medical coverage is divided into several different parts and plans. It’s not uncommon for someone eligible for Medicare to have coverage (and insurance cards) from three to four different companies. This article is a brief summary of the different parts of coverage and how they work together.

Medicare Part A

Part A is coverage for hospitals and other skilled nursing facilities. This is government provided coverage available to anyone who has worked (or whose spouse has worked) and paid Medicare taxes for a minimum amount of time. Most people do not pay a premium for Part A coverage. While Part A is intended to cover hospitalizations and other inpatient services, there are gaps in coverage (deductibles, copayments, and limits). Prescription drugs filled through a pharmacy are not covered under Medicare Part A.

Medicare Part B

Part B is coverage for doctors services, outpatient care, and other nonhospital services. Like Part A, this coverage is also provided by the government through Medicare. Part B has a monthly premium that is based on your household’s joint income tax return. The 2010 monthly premium is $110.50 per month for anyone with a filed tax return up to $85,000 per year ($170,000 for a joint tax return). Part B coverage has out-of-pocket expenses such as deductibles and benefit maximums. Prescription drugs are also not covered under Medicare Part B.

Medicare Part C

Part C is another name for a Medicare Advantage plan. These plans are not provided by Medicare, but by private insurance companies. They take the place of coverage provided by Medicare Parts A and B and almost all include prescription benefits. Part C plans often contain extra coverage such as vision, dental, and other health and wellness benefits. They are often structured like a group plan with copays or deductibles. These plans often use their own network of physicians, and could be an HMO, PPO, or other type of plan. You are still required to pay for the Part B premium even with a Medicare Advantage plan. You typically have the right to change these plans once a year. These plans are popular, but are often more expensive than purchasing a Medicare Supplement and Medicare Part D plan together.

Medicare Part D

Part D plans are exclusively for prescription drug benefits. These plans are also not provided by Medicare, but by many, private, Medicare approved insurance companies. To be covered by a Part D (prescription drug plan) you must also be covered by Medicare Parts A and B. Each plan is structured differently. Some plans have a deductible. Most plans have copays or coinsurance. The biggest criticism of nearly all Part D plans is the “Donut Hole” or coverage gap. When someone’s drug costs reach a certain point, the Part D plan provides no coverage until the insured spends a certain amount of money out-of-pocket. Once the out-of-pocket amount is reached, the insurance plan resumes coverage. On the positive side, the premiums for most plans are much lower than a private or group prescription drug plan. Anyone can change their prescription drug plans between November 15 and December 31 of any year, without providing health information.

There is a very good system on Medicare’s website to help determine which plan is the least expensive. We can enter a list of prescriptions and determine the total cost of premiums and copays, as well as the monthly cost of each prescription.

Medicare Supplement

Medicare Supplement (or Medigap) plans are intended to cover medical expenses not covered by Medicare Parts A & B. In particular, Medicare Part A has a large deductible and daily copay for inpatient hospital stays. Supplement plans are designed to cover those and other gaps in Medicare’s benefits. These plans are not offered by Medicare, but by approved private insurance companies. Each company offers several plan options labeled A–N. Unlike Medicare Part C and Part D, every company’s
plan must have identical benefits. For example, if you choose Medicare Supplement Plan F from Blue Cross, the benefits would be identical to Plan F from AARP. In Delaware, Medicare Supplement Plan D (not to be confused with Medicare Part D) is the most frequently purchased plan.

Choosing the right Medicare Supplement plan is important because these plans are not guaranteed issue to switch your plan annually. After you initially become eligible for Medicare, if you switch plans, the insurance company may ask medical questions and has the right to decline to offer coverage. However, once you purchase your plan, you may not be removed from coverage unless you fail to pay premiums or lose your ability to be covered by a Medigap plan.

Special Notes
1) You are eligible for Medicare benefits beginning on the 1st of the month in which you turn 65. You must apply for Medicare Parts A & B through the Social Security office. You are able to apply at least three months before you turn 65.

2) Many employees who work for companies with 20 or more employees are not required to elect Medicare until they leave their company’s group health plan. This assumes that their group plan qualifies as “credible coverage.”

3) Anyone working for a company with less than 20 employees may be required to elect Medicare Parts A and B when they turn 65. For these people, Medicare is the primary payer for medical expenses incurred. Because Medicare pays first, the insurance companies require those employees to elect Medicare Parts A and B, as well as the group plan.

The information above is a very brief outline of the types of Medicare coverage that are available. For specific details on available plans or enrollment requirements, please refer to the Medicare website or to the individual summaries from the insurance companies providing Medicare Supplement/Prescription benefits. Each person has different needs and can benefit from a personalized review of their medical care and prescription drugs. For more information, please contact DSBIS or go to www.medicare.gov.

This is one in a series of periodic articles by Delaware State Bar Insurance Services, Inc. (DSBIS) providing information about insurance products that may be useful to law firm leaders. DSBIS is a wholly owned insurance brokerage subsidiary of the Delaware State Bar Association. DSBIS serves all insurance needs for attorneys, their firms, their families, and their clients. DSBIS was formed by Delaware attorneys for Delaware attorneys.

Aaron Mitchell is DSBIS’ lead marketing representative, coordinating all lines of insurance. He specializes in group benefits and life insurance. Contact Aaron at (302) 397-0170.

Keep your information up-to-date with DSBA
DELAWARE LEGAL DIRECTORY correction form

Please let us know if there have been any changes in your place of business, address, telephone number, fax number, or e-mail address. Please send changes for the 2011 Legal Directory to Janice Myrick at jmyrick@dsba.org. Please send photographs for the 2011 Legal Directory to Rebecca Baird at rbaird@dsba.org.

In order to have the correct information published in the 2011 Delaware Legal Directory, corrections must be received no later than September 15, 2010 – no exceptions!

(Please type or print clearly)

Name:_____________________________________________________ Bar ID #___________________

Firm:__________________________________________________________________________________

Address:________________________________________________________________________________

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Telephone number:____________________________ FAX number:____________________________

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PLEASE MAIL, FAX, OR E-MAIL COMPLETED FORM BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2010 TO:
Delaware State Bar Association  •  301 North Market Street  •  Wilmington, DE 19801
Fax: (302) 658-5212 • E-mail: Janice Myrick at jmyrick@dsba.org

DEADLINE FOR LEGAL DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS AND PHOTOGRAPHS: SEPTEMBER 15, 2010
One Nation: A Nation of Laws
By Peter Charles Hoffer (Univ. Press of Kansas, 2010)

There are an estimated 4,000 lawsuits filed per year per 100,000 people; so, with an estimated population of 308 million at the end of 2009, approximately 12,320,000 lawsuits were filed in the United States in 2009. Meanwhile, the United States Code fills over 370 volumes, and that does not include federal regulations. The Delaware Code takes up 19 volumes, again excluding regulations, and Delaware is one of the smallest of fifty states with one of the smallest legal codes. There are also countless county and municipal ordinances and regulations.

It seems a cliche to say that ours is “a nation of laws,” but what does this really mean? In his new book, A Nation Of Laws, America's Imperfect Pursuit of Justice, Professor Peter Charles Hoffer looks at this very question: what does it mean to say we are a nation of laws?

Hoffer's book is really a collection of six short essays, each examining the issue in a different way. The first chapter is entitled “Contested Categories,” and deals with those areas of the law which have seen the greatest disputes, both historically and today. While ours is a “nation of laws,” there is continual jostling over what those laws are, and Hoffer’s initial essay looks at those particularly contested areas and why they are so.

The second chapter looks at the different ways in which the law changes or evolves, and here Hoffer offers his most interesting analogy—evolution. Darwin posits the idea of survival of the fittest. Species evolve and adapt over time, and those species that best adapt and evolve survive, while others eventually die out. So it is, Hoffer argues with law. The law evolves over time with “better” laws surviving and “worse” laws being replaced or dying out through lack of enforcement. Classic Darwinism, though, is not the only means for evolutionary development of species, nor is it the only means for evolutionary development of law. Occasionally, evolution will take a radical jump or step, and sometimes the law does this as well. Hoffer’s analogy may seem obvious, but it is presented in an entertaining and thought-provoking manner.

The rest of Hoffer's book presents a combination of legal history and observation all revolving around our country’s continued commitment to (some might say obsession with) law. Chapter three, entitled “Adversaries and Partisans,” looks at all the different players who impact our ever-changing body of law: litigants, lawyers, legislators, jurors, judges, law professors—each plays a role. Along the way, Hoffer discusses jury nullification, the history of legal education, the development of modern law schools, and how the roles of all the various players have waxed and waned over time.

Chapters four, five, and six present essays on important criminal trials, other critical episodes of legal history, and other ways (which he terms “discursive spaces”) in which the law has been debated and shaped. While Hoffer touches some of the bases you might expect, he also discusses less-recognized moments and cases as part of his thesis. In addition to the Salem witchcraft trials and the Scopes monkey trial, he discusses the trial of John Brown and the trial of Susan B. Anthony. In looking at important legal moments, he focuses not only on Roosevelt’s “court packing plan” and the joint opinion in Planned Parenthood v. Casey, but Senator John Calhoun’s speech on the Senate floor (drafted by the dying Calhoun, but read by a colleague) which led to the compromise of 1850, and the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848. Hoffer has a way of taking less well-known moments and reminding the reader that our nation of laws can trace its heritage to these moments just as much as more well-regarded moments such as Marbury or Brown. His comparison of Vincent Bugliosi’s and Alan Dershowitz’s reactions to the O. J. Simpson trial is also quite interesting.

Hoffer closes his book with a quote from Madison's Federalist No. 10: “As long as the reason of man continues fallible, and he is at liberty to exercise it, different opinions will be formed… From the protection of different and unequal faculties of acquiring property, the possession of different degrees and kinds of property immediately results; and from the influence of these on the sentiments and views of the respective proprietors, ensues a division of the society into different interests and parties.” Madison believed, and the Constitution was committed to the idea, that the only way to contain these passions and divisions was in a nation committed to law. That idea endures to this day. Hoffer's short, readable overview of what it means to be a nation of laws reminds us that while our laws have never been perfect, and are in a constant state of refinement, debate, and change, it is our commitment to law that has allowed our country to prosper and endure.
In addition to live seminars, the Delaware State Bar Association presents accredited Continuing Legal Education videos every weekday.

Call the DSBA at (302) 658-5279 for an appointment to view one of the many recorded DSBA seminars.

A complete list of all CLE videos is available on our website at: www.dsba.org

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The 2010 Delaware High School Mock Trial Competition: A Recap

By Anthony J. Iannini, AAACP, DCP, PaCP  
President, Delaware Paralegal Association

Despite some weather-related havoc from Mother Nature, the Delaware High School Mock Trial Competition was yet again a huge success. Pat Quann, Executive Director of the Delaware Law Related Education Center (DELREC), the DELREC Board and staff, and the dozens and dozens of volunteers it took to pull it off should be commended for an incredible event and an invaluable learning experience for the students.

This year, we were given a murder case, where our victim, Dee Frost, was found dead inside a freezer in the restaurant she owned with business partner/murder suspect, Izzy A. Freeman. Poor Dee Frost had a gambling problem and had been unlucky for a long period of time. Thinking that things were going to change, Dee went to the local loan shark, Lucky Lou Contralto, and borrowed a very large sum of money. When Dee lost Lucky Lou’s money, and Lucky Lou was pressuring Dee to pay the money back, there was no other option for Dee than to start stealing from the business. Unfortunately, however, even after stealing all the money from the business, Dee still owed Lucky Lou Contralto over $200,000 and “her payment was due.”

The students who participated got the chance to put on the murder trial of the year as the prosecution or as attorneys for the defense with the help of key witnesses for the prosecution such as Les Moore, the forensic accountant hired by the Defendant to investigate why the business was losing money; Police Detective Jerry Riggs, who had a reputation for less than stellar police work; and loan shark/mobster Lucky Lou Contralto.

Witnesses for the defense were Izzy A. Freeman, the Defendant in the case; Private Investigator/Criminologist Pat Ives; and J.L. Byrd, a jailhouse snitch who was serving time for a myriad of charges.

As much fun as the case was to read, it was equally as much fun for the students to learn and perform. This year, I thought it would be interesting to have one of the students write the second half of this article. I did this for two reasons; first, I wanted all of you to see how much students appreciate the mock trial program and all the work the volunteers do. Second, I wanted the students to relay in their own words what they get out of their participation in the Mock Trial Program. If you have ever wondered if the money or the time that you donate to DELREC for the Mock Trial Program is worth it, let this serve as confirmation that it absolutely is worth every penny and every second.

The second half of this article is written by Ms. Shannon Speed, a graduating senior from Campus Community High School in Dover. Shannon has participated on the mock trial team at her school for the last four years. I asked her to summarize what she thought of the mock trial program, what she found fun, and what she found challenging. I also asked her what type of person you have to be to join a mock trial team and if she had any advice to future high school students who were considering joining the mock trial team at their school. The following was her response.

... For the past four years of my high school career, Mock Trial has not only been a fun extra-curricular activity, but a part of my life.

Four years ago, as a ninth grader, I decided that mock trial was something I might be interested in. After attending the first meeting at our school, I was hooked. I became a mock trial junkie. Of course, little did I know what I was getting myself in to.

I found that mock trial demands a lot of the people who are involved. Being a witness my first two years required me to become a good actress. Not only did I have to become someone else, but I had to think quickly on my feet. Being a witness was a great way to get my feet wet. Finally, I dove all the way into the mock trial pool and became an attorney. So, for last two years, I was an attorney where I acquired more skills. Being an attorney entails a lot of research, time working with your team outside of group practices, and even late nights working on questions for witnesses. Still, I found all of the work to be worth it in the end.

To be a part of mock trial, one has to be driven and not afraid to take constructive criticism. Mock trial is hard work, long hours and a lot of homework. It takes a dedicated person who can handle extra pressure to be a part of the mock trial team. I know firsthand how stressful the work can be; and I often wanted to quit and give up. Nonetheless, I stuck with it, persevered and ultimately became a better person. At the end of each trial, I became not only a stronger speaker, but a stronger individual who could handle large amounts of pressure.

This past trial was the best trial I encountered in my four years as a mock trial participant. I think what drew me to this case was how real it seemed. It was a murder trial, one where the defense had a better case than the prosecution (of course that’s my opinion). The plot and the characters are what I found to be the most fun. My team had a great time acting out the eccentric characters offered in this case.

The most difficult part of the case this year was untangling all of the webs that had been spun. There were so many false leads and dead ends. I’ve never encountered a trial more confusing than this one. A murder trial sounds clear, but each character, while they were very interesting, had their own story that had to be covered up. It almost clouded the case and drew away from the main goal; to find the defendant guilty or innocent.

While I enjoyed this case, it was a lot of work. This year, more than any other, involved a lot of work on my own, and that was the same for the other attorneys on my team. To prepare for this year’s case, my team of attorneys met after group meetings, after school, and on weekends in order to...
get our work done. It takes collaboration between everyone to dissect and develop a plan of attack. The teams are divided, but we are forced to work together in all ways in order to help each other be better competitors. This year, in particular, I used help from my coaches (attorneys and teachers). They helped us plan out our ideas. We came up with a game plan and they assisted us in narrowing our plan down.

Through participating in mock trial, I have benefited by making friends. You spend months working with teammates perfecting your case. I found that to be a great bonding experience. I cannot tell you how much fun we have during rehearsals and work days. We must spend 50% of the time laughing and joking and 50% of the time working. For my team it was not just about work, it was about having fun and enjoying doing it, and that is a rewarding benefit.

I also feel fulfilled after completing a mock trial case. It is nice to be a part of something that you have fun doing that also helps further your education in the area of law at the same time. I have never regretted being a part of mock trial, no matter what kind of stress I experienced. At the end of the competition, I want more. It is like eating a cookie, you cannot have just one.

For anyone who is interested in law or joining mock trial because they’re looking for a fun extra-curricular, I say join mock trial. It’s one school-related activity I actually look forward to participating in and it’s fulfilling. I recommend it to people who don’t mind a little hard work. For those who choose to participate, I say good choice, and keep your chin up. It may get difficult at times, but just stick with it—it will get easier with time.

And, for those who are going to be in mock trial next year, make sure not to lose sight of the objective. It is never to win, it is always to have fun, make friends, and enhance your skills as an individual. My advice is to stay level-headed and try not to get overwhelmed because that’s when you’ll encounter problems.

In all four years of high school, mock trial has been one thing I look forward to, and I wouldn’t have it any other way.
**Positions Available**

**Attorney:** Wilmington insurance defense firm seeks associates with 0-5 years experience for its workers' compensation and liability practice. Send confidential resume to David R. Batman, Esq., Heckler & Frabizzio, P.O. Box 128, Wilmington, DE 19899-0128 or dbatman@hfddel.com.

**Duane Morris LLP,** an international law firm with 700+ attorneys, has an opening in its Wilmington office for an entry level/junior associate with 1-2 years’ experience for its Bankruptcy Practice Group. The ideal candidate should have knowledge/experience in bankruptcy, finance, and corporate restructuring law along with strong academic credentials, superior writing ability, a quick-study aptitude, ability to engender client confidence, and thrive in a creative, entrepreneurial and collegial environment. Delaware bar admission required. Please direct your resume, law school transcript and submission materials to: Peggy Simoncini Pasquay, Manager of Attorney Recruitment & Relations, simoncini@duanemorris.com. EOE/AA/M/V/D. We are currently not accepting resumes from search firms for this position.

**Attorney:** The Wilmington office of White and Williams LLP is seeking an attorney with 2-4 years of litigation experience to work in the areas of medical malpractice, toxic tort and general liability defense. DE Bar admission required along with excellent writing skills and academic credentials. We offer a competitive salary, an excellent benefits package and the opportunity for professional growth. Please send resume and cover letter to: White and Williams LLP Attn: Hiring Partner 824 North Market Street, Suite 902 PO Box 709, Wilmington, DE 19899-0709 Fax: 302-654-0245. EOE M/F/D/V.

**Associate Attorney:** New York based firm seeks Assoc. for Wilmington office. 4-6 yr litigator. Delaware license and Chancery Court a must. Send resume in confidence shall@justlegalinc.com.

**Attorney:** Municipal law office is seeking an experienced attorney to practice in the area of environmental law and related transactional work. Delaware admission preferred; possibility exists for successful candidate to apply for limited permission to practice pursuant to Delaware Supreme Court Rule 55. Salary negotiable. Excellent benefits package (including family medical and dental coverage, pension plan, MCLE allowance, professional membership dues), with thirteen paid holidays in addition to vacation. City residency required within six months of employment. Forward resume with cover letter to: City of Wilmington Law Dept., 800 French Street, 9th Floor, Wilmington, Delaware, 19801-3537, or fax to (302) 571-4565.

**Litigation Attorneys:** Fox Rothschild LLP is seeking attorneys with 3 to 5 years experience for the Litigation Department of its Wilmington, DE office. Please send resume in confidence to mrutkowski@foxrothschild.com.

**Office Space**

**Office Space Available:** Office sublet available on the top floor of The Corporate Plaza, 800 Delaware Avenue in Wilmington. Space consists of two windowed partners’ offices (one a corner office), four windowed associate/paralegal offices and three secretarial bays. It also includes a file/copy room. Services include reception (excluding phone service), mail, law library, conference rooms and more. For more information, please contact Susan Holton at (302) 652 8400 or sholton@skfdelaware.com.

**Newark:** Fully furnished 126 sq. ft. office. Main St. Off street parking. Perfect satellite office. Available June 1. Tom Ferry 731-8083.

**Downtown Wilmington:** Appr. 2000 sq. ft. office space on 2nd floor in an elevator building. 2 blocks from court houses. Parking available on premises. Call (302) 656-5445.

**Lost Will**

**Lost Will:** Would anyone who prepared and/or has knowledge of a will for Harry B. Harper, Sr. prepared on May 21, 1985, please contact Valerie M. DeFontes, Esquire at (302)-658-4200.

**Coming this summer...**

The July/August issue of *The Journal of the Delaware State Bar Association* will be an online issue available at www.dsba.org

The July/August issue will be an electronic version, allowing DSBA members to access the Bar Journal—the latest news, monthly columns, and announcements—with the convenience of a mouse click. All DSBA members will receive a link to access the July/August issue. Enjoy!

Questions? Call (302) 658-5279.
**NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 2010 AWARDS**

The Delaware State Bar Association and the Awards Committee are seeking nominations for the following five awards* **:

- **Daniel L. Herrmann Professional Conduct Award**
- **Outstanding Service to the Courts and Bar Award**
- **Distinguished Mentoring Award**
- **Government Service Award**
- **Service to Children Award**

These and other awards will be presented in a special Awards Luncheon. *Deadline for submission is June 30, 2010.*

**Awards Description**

**Daniel L. Herrmann Professional Conduct Award**
Awarded to a member of the Delaware Bar who, over the course of time, has demonstrated those qualities of courtesy and civility which, together with high ability and distinguished service, exemplifies the Delaware lawyer.

**Outstanding Service to the Courts and Bar Award**
Awarded to a Delaware lawyer or judge who, by exemplary service to the Delaware courts and the Delaware Bar, has substantially assisted the courts and the Bar and has strengthened public trust and confidence in the State’s court system and the administration of justice.

**Distinguished Mentoring Award**
Awarded to a Delaware lawyer or judge who, by distinguished mentoring of other Delaware lawyers (or future lawyers) over a period of many years, has served as an inspiration to and a model for those lawyers in striving for and maintaining the highest standards in their professional careers and in their community involvement.

**Government Service Award**
Awarded to a government employee in recognition of dedicated and distinguished contribution to the Administration of Justice.

**Service to Children Award**
Awarded to an individual lawyer, legal professional, or organization principally including lawyers, which demonstrates outstanding commitment to, and work for, children in the provision of legal or community services. It may be given to volunteers or those employed in the provision of legal services for children. This award is given as warranted, not necessarily annually.

* These are not necessarily annual awards. All or some of these awards will be presented only upon the recommendation of the Awards Committee and approval by the Executive Committee of the DSBA.

** Please note that previous nominations must be renewed to be considered.

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**DELaware STATE BAr ASSOCIATION AWARDS NOMINATION FORM**

Name of Candidate: ________________________________

Title/Occupation of Candidate: ________________________________

Award: ________________________________

Date: ________________________________

Nominator: ________________________________

Phone: ________________________________ Fax: ________________________________ E-Mail: ________________________________

Firm: ________________________________

Address: ________________________________

Brief statement of reasons that candidate is deserving of Award (see above Award criteria). Please attach sheet if necessary.

______________________________

Nominations should be submitted to Rina Marks, Executive Director, e-mail (rmarks@dsba.org) or fax to (302) 658-5212. The deadline for nominations is June 30, 2010.
In honor of Father’s Day, I asked attorneys to share memories about their dads who are/were also members of Delaware Bar.

Joe Green wrote of his father, law partner and best friend, Harold:

My dad and I practiced together for 24 years before his passing. It was a continuing professional high. I cannot tell you how much I looked forward every morning, Monday through Friday, walking into our building and seeing the light on in my father’s office.

As my dad’s contemporaries knew, if you needed to call an attorney early (very early) in the morning, you would have no doubt about finding my dad in the office beginning his morning routine. He rarely arrived at work later than 6:00 a.m.

When I started practicing with him and would come in around 8:00 a.m., I told him I would take the late shift and he could keep the early shift.

Of course, my dad would also get frustrated because there were very few people he could call or communicate with at that early time.

One morning I came in around 8:00 a.m. and he had moved his clients’ chairs together and was laying awkwardly across them asleep in front of his desk. As I walked in, he woke up and looked at me with a sheepish grin. “You won’t believe this,” he said, “but I misread my clock this morning (it was always still dark when he got to work) and I arrived at the office at 3:00 a.m. So I just decided to take a nap.” We had a good laugh about that one.

I will never forget the words Joe Hurley wrote in his condolence card to me: “Your dad was one of the finest men I have ever known.” I may be biased, but I cannot disagree.

Theodore Annos and his sister, Constance Annos Dorsney, shared this about their father, William:

You could say our legal careers began at any early age. As children, we were often brought to our father’s law office on Lawyer’s Row in Wilmington, which he still occupies and works out of today. And, we have (mostly) fond memories of being there.

We say “mostly” because, at first, it was fun. He had plenty of toys and games to entertain us (and many of those toys are still proudly on display in his office, likely serving to keep alive the warm memories of years past). But, it was not long before the fun and games ended, and he put us to work. Whether it was filing or delivering documents, cleaning or shoveling snow, he would always find something for us to do, regardless of whether we had any intention of lending a hand.

As we grew older, we obviously understood that the work we were doing was not critical to his practice, and that he was merely trying to instill in us a strong work ethic. But, while those lessons are certainly admirable in and of themselves, our father did far more. Unrecognized by us at the time, looking back, we now can appreciate that, as we were working hard to complete his assigned odd jobs, our father was working even harder. And that, whether he realizes it or not, has likely had the most impact on our lives.

After more than 35 years of practicing law, our father’s fortitude is unrelenting, and he continues to lay the foundation with his grandchildren, who now have their own toys in his office. And, we are confident that they, like us, will one day realize how fortunate they were to merely be in his presence. To play on the familiar words of the notable American author, Clarence B. Kelland: our father did not tell us how to work; he worked, and let us watch him do it.

If you are looking for an out-of-the-ordinary gift and your father happens to be a foodie, may I suggest these two gems:

• “Ciao Italia: Five Ingredients Favorites” is the latest cookbook from Mary Ann Esposito. Mary Ann has been hosting the “Ciao Italia” cooking program on public television for some twenty-one years. Here she passes along time-tested recipes, each dish made with just five ingredients. $30—www.ciaoitalia.com.

• A case of Evolution “Lucky 7” Porter. Evolution is Delaware’s newest craft brewery, located in Delmar. Their mission is to make food-friendly beers, and the “Lucky 7” Porter will pair perfectly with that barbecue dinner you are going to make for dad. $38—www.evolutioncraftbrewing.com.
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