



LegalEase

January 2018

Newsletter of the Peoria County Bar Association, an Accredited Provider of Continuing Legal Education.

Message from the President



As we approach the end of 2017, I hope that the holidays have provided each of you with the opportunity to see loved ones and to celebrate. Heading into 2018, resolve to spend Saturday mornings in January earning CLE credit taught by fellow PCBA members. While CLE hours are easier to find in recent years, live and local courses taught by area practitioners, with input from our judiciary, are of optimal value. Also, watch your emails for an invitation to the 110th Lincoln Banquet on February 15, 2018 at the Holiday Inn & Suites at Grand Prairie.

Court News *By Chief Judge Paul P. Gilfillan*

- 1) Happy New Year from the bench to the bar. Here's to a collegial, professional and productive legal year. On a personal note, may your new year be happy, healthy and prosperous.
- 2) The judiciary is pleased to announce its new website: www.10thcircuitcourtil.org. Check it out.
- 3) Effective 1-1-18, the new Eviction Act (don't call it Forcible Entry and Detainer) will have a mandatory 'Eviction Order.' Also of interest is a new form directly approved for use in recently amended Supreme Court Rule 9(c)(4). See both and other new forms at the Illinois Courts website.

Lincoln Memorial Banquet



Invitations for the 110th Annual Lincoln Memorial Banquet were sent on December 21 and will be resent on January 3, so please keep your eyes on your in box. This year's event is being held on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at the Holiday Inn & Suites at Grand Prairie. Cocktails begin at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. Keynote speaker is retired Judge Ron Spears (left). Tickets are \$100 per person or \$900 for a table of ten. What a great way to introduce newer members in your firm, or in the bar as a whole, by inviting them to this inspiring event honoring our greatest lawyer-president.

Lawyer Referral Service

Thank you to **Phil O'Donnell** for returning a referral fee in the amount of \$225.50. Attorneys who retain a case referred to them by the Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) agree to send back 10% of fees generated over \$1000. The LRS is now online at www.peoriabar.org. You can view the LRS directory by clicking on the link on the homepage. If you would like to join, please submit an application by clicking on "LRS Registration Form" under the members tab.



Lawyer-to-Lawyer Mentoring

Did you know that the PCBA is involved with the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism mentor/mentee program for attorneys? Simply apply online and we can pair you with another attorney in the area. Visit www.2civility.org/programs/mentoring to learn more about it and the professionalism credit that can be earned in this one-year program.

Schedule of Events & Court Holidays

January

- 1 Courts & Courthouse closed for New Year's Day
- 13 Estate Planning & Probate Seminar – Spalding Pastoral Center – Check-in 8:00 a.m., seminar 8:30 – Noon.
- 15 Courts & Courthouse closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 20 Family Law Seminar – Spalding Pastoral Center – Check-in 8:00 a.m., seminar 8:30 – Noon.
- 27 Civil Practice Seminar – Spalding Pastoral Center – Check-in 8:00 a.m., seminar 8:30 – Noon.

February

- 15 Lincoln Memorial Banquet – Holiday Inn & Suites at Grand Prairie – Cocktails 5:30 p.m. | Dinner 6:30 p.m.
- 19 Courts & Courthouse Closed for Presidents' Day

Committee Meetings Meetings at noon at the PCBA office unless otherwise noted.

January

2 Real Property	11 YLC	24 PCBA 2030
3 Government & Public Interest	16 Board	25 Communications & Technology
4 Lincoln Memorial Banquet	17 Diversity	29 Commercial Law & Litigation
8 Appellate	18 Civil Practice	31 Family Law
9 Substantive Law (Section Chairs)	22 CLE	
10 Fitness Health & Wellness	23 Public Relations	

Entertainment by Ann Pieper

The Holiday Committee thanks all those who attended the Christmas Party this year. We do hope that you had a good time. Always remember, if you see something that needs to be covered in annual skits or songs, contact Linda Raineri or Stephanie Bittner at the PCBA and they will get your idea, anonymously, to those who will attempt to turn it into comic gold. Also; please join the committee if you would like to have a say in content, venue, or any other aspect of the Holiday Party. The party has a lot of moving parts and without members on the committee the party cannot continue in its present format.

Fitness Health & Wellness by J.D. Van Rheeden

It's the "Frosty 5K and Dog Walk" on January 27, 2018. The race starts in front of Running Central on the riverfront and finishes at the Gateway Building. The early registration race fee to run is \$30 and includes a t-shirt. All proceeds benefit FamilyCore, an organization that offers family counseling services, foster care and adoption services, and other youth and family services. The link to register is here: http://www.cfspeoria.org/event_1_27_18_frosty5k.

Local Continuing Legal Education

2018 Winter Series

January 13 Estate Planning & Probate – Topics include: Medicaid/Elder Law Update by Susan Dawston-Tibbits; An Old Dog Teaching New Tricks – E-filing in Ecourt by Jim Kane; Medicare Update; Tax Bill by Marci Shoff; Planning in a Time of Uncertainty by John Brady; and Ethics (.5 hrs) by Leslie Wood, Chair, ISBA Standing Committee on ARDC

January 20 Family Law: Issues in Family Law that can't be Addressed by a Chart – Topics include: Bifurcation and "Consent" by Ann Pieper; "Loans from Parents" – Income or not...and what else can be imputed? by Norman McGill; How "unable to pay fees" must the party be to obtain contribution to fees? by G. Edward Murphy; Judge, do you mind if I do my job? What do you do when you think Court oversteps boundaries when the other party is pro se? by Judge David Brown; Can I appeal this yet? Rule 304(a), Rule 301 applicability by Michael Fleming and Brad Elward; Collaborative Process – Will it play in Peoria by Lora Keller; Updates – case and legislative not discussed above by Judge Jerelyn Maher (retired) and a Judges Panel

January 27 Civil Practice – Topics include: Federal practice segment; Liens by J. Kevin Wolfe; Civil Practice Case Law Update by Jeffrey Bach; Impact of Social Media on Litigation by Patrick O'Shaughnessy; and Use of Technology in the Practice and at Trial by Matthew Smith.

These seminars will be from 8:30 – 12:00 at the Spalding Pastoral Center. Check-in and continental breakfast begins at 8:00 a.m. To register, visit www.peoriabar.org and click on "seminars" under CLE. Each seminar is \$65 for members, \$80 for McLean County members, and \$95 for non-members.

2018 Brown Bag Seminars

This year's lineup for the annual series includes: March 7, Commercial Law & Litigation (changes to the LLC Act, among other topics); March 14, Cyber Safety by Pearl Technology; March 21, Real Estate Closings by Bob Coletta and Chris Oswald; and March 28, Appellate Practice. These one-hour seminars are free for PCBA members and lunch is provided; **advance registration required**. As with all of the PCBA's seminars, the Brown Bag series will be available on DVD or On Demand.

Recent seminars now available on **DVD and on demand**: October 27 Professional Responsibility, November 7 Government & Public Interest and November 13 Workers' Compensation. The cost is \$100 for members and \$125 for non-members. Contact Stephanie at pccbaasst@mtco.com to purchase.

June 6 Professional Responsibility – 1 hour of Mental Health by Dr. Finkenbine plus 1 hour of Diversity/Inclusion. This seminar will fulfill the new Illinois Supreme Court Requirements.

Membership

We received an application for membership from Brad Barber and Stephen Komie. These applications will be presented to the Board in February for approval. Brad is an attorney with Elias, Meghinnes & Seghetti, P.C. and Stephen is an attorney with Komie and Associates in Chicago.

Young Lawyers Committee

Thank you to everyone who donated gifts or money to Project Santa. With everyone's help, we were able to donate over 150 presents, plus \$1,180 in monetary donations and \$715 in gift cards.

Job Openings & Office Space Available

Job openings and office space available can be found on the homepage of our website or by clicking the following links:

[Job Openings](#) and [Office Space](#)

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