

MEMBERS HELPING OTHERS

The Red Boudreau Dinner and Broderick Award

by George L. de la Flor and Rebecca Lack Mowbray

The Red Boudreau Trial Lawyers Dinner is right around the corner! **Mark your calendars now for May 17, 2008 at the U.S. Grant Hotel.** We encourage our fellow CASD members to participate in this very worthwhile fundraiser with roots in our own organization. The dinner is always a fun time, known for its lengthier than usual cocktail hour, significant presence by the San Diego bench, and plenty of dancing after dinner and the award presentation. This annual celebration started in 1984 after the death of Red Boudreau in 1983. The originators were friends of Red Boudreau and Consumer Attorneys of San Diego (at that time known as "San Diego Trial Lawyers Association"). The event is conducted as a fundraiser for Father Joe Carroll's St. Vincent de Paul Village. Over the years, the event has grown and other local organizations including ABOTA, ABTL, and San Diego Defense Lawyers have become sponsors as well. *This is the only event where all sides of the bar come together for a charitable cause.*

After the death of Dan Broderick, Dan's colleagues and friends established the "Daniel T. Broderick III Award" to recognize a local trial lawyer for civility, integrity, professionalism and trial skills, usually in civil matters. In 1990, the Friends of Dan Broderick approached the organizers of the Red Boudreau Dinner and asked if the award could be presented at their dinner. The first award recipient was Thomas Sharkey in 1990, a former CASD president. Over the years, the honorees have been selected by a committee composed of one representative from CASD, ABOTA, SDDL, ABTL-SD, the past three recipients, and Steven M. Boudreau. In the last three years, a non-voting SDCBA representative has helped select the honoree. The sole beneficiary of this event remains St. Vincent de Paul Villages. Over the years, it is estimated that over \$700,000 has been donated. A former CASD President, Dan Krinsky, holds an annual fundraiser at Good Time Charlie's which collects thousands of dollars more for Father Joe.

This year, the 2007 Daniel T. Broderick III Award Honoree will be Michael I. Neil. Most of you know Mike Neil and also know that he is a Brigadier General, with an illustrious career in the Marine Corps. He has received a Navy Cross and a Purple Heart.

Mike became an associate at the law firm of Holt, Rhoades & Hollywood in 1972. Both John Rhoades and Harrison Hollywood became judges, and in 1990, Mike became the senior name partner in the firm. Mike has tried more than 135 cases, mainly focusing on medical malpractice defense. He has received many honors as an attorney from the San Diego Defense Lawyers, *San Diego Magazine*, *California Lawyer* magazine and the *San Diego Daily Transcript* where he was named a "Top Attorney" in 2006. In 2007, Mike was selected as one of 50 "Super Lawyers" in San Diego County. He has been listed in the "Best Lawyers in America" for approximately 20 years.

We urge all of you to come honor Mike Neil for his outstanding work in our legal community and raise money for Father Joe's Villages. Should you have any questions regarding the event, please contact the CASD Chairpersons Rebecca Lack Mowbray or George de La Flor.