

FROM THE EDITOR

CASD's Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame

by **Kerry Hoxie**
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I hope that all of you enjoyed a spectacular summer. I'm writing this during the "Lazy, Hazy, Crazy Days" of July when action is in full swing here in Mission Beach. CASD also enjoyed a great summer. Ringler Associates, a CASD Affinity Partner, sponsored "A Day at the Races" and offered free tickets on numerous other days for our members to enjoy the horse racing season. We had a seminar on mild traumatic brain injury and a lab on the basics of discovery. One of my favorite events was on June 5 when CASD members gathered at the San Diego Yacht Club for our biannual Past Presidents' Dinner. At least 17 of our past presidents attended as did former officers and directors. This event is a great opportunity to chat with our officers and directors from past years and hear some new "war stories". Photos from the event appear on pages 16 and 17 of this issue.

The Past Presidents' Dinner is also when we induct one or more of our members into the CASD Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame which commemorates the career contributions of CASD members for their accomplishments in the law, their service to the public, and their leadership of this Association. For more information about CASD's Hall of Fame, visit our website at www.casd.org; the Hall of Fame is under "About CASD" on the toolbar.

This year's Hall of Fame inductee was Harvey R. Levine. You haven't been involved with CASD for very long if you don't know Harvey Levine. He was the CASD President in 1983 and was President of CAOC in 1989. Harvey is a real trial star; he was recognized with CASD's Outstanding Trial Lawyer awards in 1981, 1987 and 1990 and as Trial Lawyer of the Year in 1981, 1986, and 2002. You will often see Harvey in the news representing someone who has been unable to obtain justice – the latest case (trial was this June) involved Charger linebacker Steve Foley whose football career was violently ended when he was shot in the back of his knee and his hip by an off-duty police officer who suspected Foley of driving under the influence. If you have the chance to watch Harvey in trial, you will learn much about trial skills. He is truly advocacy in action.

Harvey is also a frequent lecturer at law schools and continuing legal education seminars on trial techniques, insurance bad faith litigation, punitive damages, products liability and personal injury law. He was a Professor of Law at University of San Diego Law School from 1972 to 1992. In 2002, Harvey received the Bernard E. Witkin Award which honors a member of the San Diego

Legal Community for civil leadership, excellence in teaching, practice, enactment or adjudication of the law. True to form, Harvey brought his frequent co-lecturer “Miss Piggy” with him to the Dinner, and although Harvey seemed more energetic and enthusiastic than ever, Miss Piggy was showing some of the wear and tear of her many hours at the lectern teaching us the finer points of presenting damages issues to a jury.

A passionate and dedicated runner, Harvey is the co-founder, with Larry Williams, of the YMCA PRYDE Running Program dedicated to introducing inner-city youth to the sport of running and using the activity as a medium for developing goal-setting skills and promoting positive character values. It’s really not possible to list all of Harvey Levine’s accomplishments and contributions in this article, but he truly belongs in our Hall of Fame. Congratulations, Harvey, and thanks for all you have done for CASD and the legal profession!

Harvey Levine joins the following inductees in the CASD Trial Lawyers Hall of Fame: George P. Andreos (2006), Peter J. Hughes (2005), Milton J. Silverman (2005), Hon. Louisa Porter (2004), Kerry Hoxie (2004), Michael T. Thorsnes (2003), Maurice Boudreau (2002), Ramon Castro (2002), Richard F. Gerry (2001), Alan J. Ludecke (2001), David S. Casey (2000), Brian D. Monaghan (2000), and Gordon S. Churchill (1999). Information about the Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame and the individual inductees is on our website.

CASD does much to support its members by sharing the knowledge and expertise in substantive law as well as technical skills in its seminars, labs, roundtables and instant communication on its group email list server. Our leaders and Hall of Fame members exemplify this spirit of sharing and helping each other to continually improve our skills and better represent our clients. For example, in June, we presented a seminar teaching the intricacies of explaining and presenting mild traumatic brain injuries to a jury. This injury frequently accompanies other traumatic injuries, yet is frequently missed or overlooked when treating the other severe injuries. Soon after the seminar, members used the list server to arrange an informal meeting at a member’s office to help each other work on presentation of evidence for trial in specific cases – one more example of CASD in action.

We urge you to take advantage of the many opportunities to improve your practices at our seminars, labs and roundtables as well as our social events, mixers and dinners. We have a Mixer on August 14 at Fred’s Mexican Café in Old Town. Come join us! And don’t forget that you can get prompt individual assistance on specific issues and offer your assistance in kind on our group email list server. With CASD you truly “Never Stand Alone.”