PLUS Legal Legends of the Bar Connecting with Students
Sun Tzu says:

“Opportunities multiply as they are seized.”

Steve Kruis says:

“Mediation multiplies opportunities.”

Lawsuits, like warfare, reach a point when they must come to an end. That’s when it’s time to mediate and explore opportunities other than the win/lose of trial.

Steve Kruis has mediated well over 1,500 cases. That’s the kind of experience that leads to the win/win of mediation.

Steve Kruis – when it’s time to resolve the conflict.
Teamwork is a hallmark of every successful law firm. A unified partnership, along with knowledge, experience and commitment to their clients have helped Casey Gerry’s attorneys achieve outstanding results and earn well deserved recognition for their legal skills. Call (619) 238-1811 to arrange for a free consultation or visit us on the web for more information.

Dedicated to the Pursuit of Justice

110 Laurel Street, San Diego, CA 92101 • www.caseygerry.com

PERSONAL INJURY AND CIVIL LITIGATION SINCE 1947
FEATURES

16 2011 Service Award Winners
The San Diego County Bar Association recognizes the people and organizations making a point of service to the community.

22 The Caring in CAR
The SDCBA’s Children at Risk Committee partners with schools and helps students year-round.
By Deborah Cumba

28 Inside the Inns
San Diego Lawyer continues its series on the local Inns of Court with a look at the Louis M. Welsh Inn of Court.
By Wendy Patrick, Jeremiah Moffit, Samuel Park, Daniel Eaton and Lindsey Stevens

32 Networking Strategies
The benefits of networking are undeniable. Two San Diego attorneys explain their approaches to building a network.
By Spencer Sleen and Patty Hollenbeck

34 Legal Legends of the Bar
The creation of the video project to preserve the rich history of SDCBA members is itself a tale.
By George Brewster Jr.

42 Rewind
Judge Lawrence Neil Turrentine left his mark on the San Diego legal community.
By Hon. William Howatt Jr.

43 Sustaining Members

44 Photo Gallery
A look at events in the legal community.

46 Closing
The new federal courthouse climbs skyward.
Photographs by Barry Carlton

DEPARTMENTS

06 Connections
The Service Award Winners share some of their inspirations.

08 President’s Page
The meaning of giving is personified by the SDCBA Service Award Winners.
By Dan Link

10 Technology
Got that backup plan in place yet?
By Michael Fuller

12 Ethics
Disputes over fees can make exiting a legal relationship a bit tricky.
By Edward McIntyre

14 Briefly
Judge Louisa Porter has friends in high places.
By Jodi Cleesattle

San Diego Lawyer is looking for volunteer photographers. Contact martin@kruming.com for more information.
A STEADFAST COMMITMENT TO PROTECTING LAWYERS

Your law firm can benefit from the exclusive Professional Liability insurance program developed by the dedicated team at Ahern Insurance Brokerage and XL Insurance.

Meeting the insurance needs of law firms for over 20 years, our comprehensive program is designed with today’s changing exposures in mind, and with a long-term commitment to the San Diego marketplace.

San Diego County Bar Association members can benefit from:
- Coverage carrying an A (Excellent) rating by A.M. Best and Admitted in California
- A financially stable, global company
- Customized policy features available only to SDCBA members
- A reputation for fair, efficient and responsive claims handling
- Service delivered by dedicated law firm insurance specialists

Call today to take advantage of this valuable SDCBA member benefit.

XL INSURANCE

AHERN INSURANCE BROKERAGE
LAW FIRM INSURANCE SPECIALISTS

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT WWW.AHERNINSURANCE.COM OR CALL 1-800-282-9786

"XL Insurance" is a registered trademark of XL Capital Ltd and the pool brand used by its insurance company subsidiaries. Coverages Underwritten by Greenwich Insurance Company and Inland Harbor Insurance Company. Rating as of August 7, 2009.
Reasons to Give

Our 2011 Service Award winners personify what it means to connect with our community. Here are just a few thoughts on what inspires them to give. Read more on pages 16-20.

Serving is a way to use your gifts and expertise to give back to your community and make it a better place for yourself and others.
— Judge Pat Cowett, speaking of why she and husband Michael Cowett chose to give back

Don’t let your ideas be nothing more than idle thoughts. Share your ideas with those who have the same passion and ability to make it happen.
— Judge Carolyn Caietti

I believe that lawyers should strive to raise the standards of practice in our legal community, and not just practice to the least common denominator.
— Susan Hack

The victims, the civilian witnesses and the law enforcement officers who lived through the crimes are what kept me going every day. They all looked to the District Attorney’s office for justice. I did not want to let them down.
— Jeff Dusek

Take the time to give back to our community in pro bono work or volunteer service, and you will help the lives of those in need. However, you will also get back something that is priceless ... your soul will be enriched.
— Jerrilyn Malana

As attorneys, we are highly trained and educated, and we have many things to offer to these community service organizations. Regardless of how busy you may think you are, we all can find a way to give of our time, talent and treasure to connect with others, to assist individuals and to have a positive impact on our community as a whole.
— David Berry

There are many who are less fortunate for whom just doing something, even small things, are incredibly appreciative and motivated. And whatever you choose to do, do the right thing, in the right way and at the right time.
— Joan Friedenberg

I feel everyone has the potential to achieve their dreams, whatever they may be, once provided a support system.
— Marissa Bejarano

I don’t want to take anything for granted, as I can only credit accomplishments to those around me who have coached and led by example.
— Eric Ganci

No service is too small to make a difference in the life of a child.
— Sue Evans, Walden Family Services

Saying “no” is often the easier route, and accepting that something can’t be done ends the inquiry, but collaborating with others to create solutions and improve the systems we work in is always worth the extra time and effort it takes to do it well.
— Candi Mayes, Dependency Law Group
This is my community. I grew up here—saw my first baseball game at Jack Murphy Stadium, caught my first wave at Law Street in Pacific Beach, took my first law school class just down the road, had my first date with my wife at Tower 23 and bought our first home here several years ago. My daughter, at almost a year old (wow, where did the time go?), has had many firsts here, with many more to come. This community is our home, and I couldn’t be more proud to live in such a great town, with so many talented, motivated and caring people.

In the time I have been in San Diego, our fine city has changed a lot. And as it continues to grow and evolve, I am proud that so many of those making a difference are a part of our profession. Lawyers and legal professionals give back to our community in countless ways, from coaching Little League teams to organizing teams for charity runs to working tirelessly on a pro bono basis to ensure that justice is served.

In this issue of San Diego Lawyer, we honor our 2011 Service Award Winners—just a few of our community’s unsung heroes—those individuals and organizations with an altruistic spirit and a dedication to their professional and personal pursuits, which better the lives of those around them. From service to our community, to improving diversity and inclusion efforts, to progressing legal education forward, our 2011 Service Award Winners personify the true meaning of giving. Please join me in congratulating them on their awards and in recognizing their incredible efforts.

There are so many in our community who give so much, we couldn’t possibly recognize all of them, but their work does not go unnoticed. It is recognized by every individual they serve, and in the collective good they do for our profession.

Through the SDCBA, volunteers have opportunities to serve as mentors, lead community service projects and help educate their peers. There are countless ways to get involved, and I hope that whatever you choose to participate in holds personal meaning for you. If you are unsure where to start, review the “Volunteer Opportunities” section of the SDCBA website or This Week at the Bar to find a project you connect with.

Thank you, for all that you do as a part of this community, and all that you will continue to do in the future as we continue to grow and thrive.

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live. —George Bernard Shaw
AT JAMS, YOU FIND EXPERIENCE. KNOWLEDGE. FAIRNESS. SERVICE.

AND AN UNSURPASSED PANEL OF NEUTRALS.


JAMS has continually strived to set new standards in dispute resolution, including a highly selective recruiting process that helps us build the strongest neutral panels possible. Nowhere is this any truer than in San Diego, where our neutrals draw upon a deep knowledge of the region. To learn more about JAMS in San Diego, call us at 619.236.1848.

THE RESOLUTION EXPERTS.®

401 B Street, Suite 2100, San Diego, CA 92101  www.jamsadr.com
Who’s Got Your Back?

You know it’s going to happen to you one day. But you’re still in denial. Data crashes happen every day, yet many lawyers aren’t prepared for the aftermath. Big firms have IT departments that install multiple, redundant backups in several offices around the country. But who’s got your back?

The First Line of Defense
Small, external hard drives, such as the Seagate FreeAgent and Iomega Prestige, provide a robust first line of defense for small firms. These desktop backup drives are inexpensive, provide terabytes of data backup and easily attach to your computer’s USB port. Even the complete non-techie can plug in one of these devices and be quickly up and running. Included with all of these backup devices is simple desktop software to manage how and when to back up your PC. Some lawyers even back up to multiple external hard drives so they can take their data away from the office as extra protection. Portability, price point and ease of use make external hard drives a must for the small-firm practice.

Bigger firms are also in luck. A relatively new category of backup called Network Attached Storage (NAS) connects directly to your computer network. These NAS systems can be installed by novices and easily configured to back up all of your server and PC data files. NAS systems such as Netgear ReadyNAS, Iomega StorCenter and Seagate BlackArmor are more expensive than their desktop counterparts but also have many more features. Some provide secure access to your files across the Internet. Most NAS systems have built-in recovery technology that protects your data files even if a hard drive within the NAS crashes.

Go Online
But when it comes to computer backups, I strongly suggest a belt-and-suspenders approach. Local backups are simply not enough for your critical data, because one office calamity can destroy every bit of data. This is where online backups provide the redundancy that can really protect mission-critical files. Companies such as Mozy (www.mozy.com), Carbonite (www.carbonite.com) and CrashPlan (www.crashplan.com) provide backup services that work through the Internet and cost only about $10 a month, depending on how much data you want to back up. After an unobtrusive backup program is installed on your computer, any file on your PC or server that changes during the day is quickly whisked to a secure server in some impenetrable mountainside. Your files are automatically encrypted so that only you have access to them.

In the case of a catastrophe, your data can be downloaded through the Internet or sent to you on a DVD via overnight mail. The disadvantage with these services is that data backups over the Internet can be very slow, so you need to be selective about how much data to back up. For most firms, copying only the critical files to an online backup system makes the most sense.

Paying a bit more for backup redundancy is almost always worth the incremental cost. Just ask anyone who has lost data and didn’t have their back covered.

Michael Fuller (mfuller@kmob.com) is a partner at Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear.
Could you benefit from a wealth specialist who understands the legal landscape? Our Legal Specialty Group is dedicated to advising law firms, partners and associates.

Whitney Price, Vice President, Legal Specialty Group, 619-230-3013
A Safe and Grateful Exit

“Yes, lad.” Caller ID showed MacBeth that his nephew, Duncan, was on the phone.

“Hi, Uncle. May I disturb you for a moment?”

“You already have, lad.”

“I have a … situation.”

“What this time, Duncan?”

“Remember my client, Ms. Grumble?”

“I do, lad.”

“We have a bit of a fee dispute. More than a bit, really. But we’ve resolved it.”

“Very good, lad. Fee disputes have been known to spark malpractice claims and ugly accusations about fiduciary duty.”

“That’s why I’m calling. Working on a written agreement right now.”

“She threatened malpractice?”

“No, not at all.”

“Are you aware of any facts that could give rise to a malpractice claim?”

“Absolutely not. I’ve done great work for her. Fantastic results. She just thinks the work cost too much. But I want to put a general release of all claims in our settlement of the fee dispute.”

“And a waiver of Civil Code §1542?”

“Of course.”

“Very prudent.”

“But can I?”

“You can, lad. The State Bar has answered your question. Take a look at Formal Opinion 2009-178.”

“I will . . . but can you give me a hint?”

“Where there’s an ongoing attorney-client relationship, and the client has no independent counsel . . .”

“That’s my situation.”

“You have to advise Ms. Grumble that you do not represent her in the dispute. Also, tell her in writing that she may seek the advice of independent counsel about the general release and the 1542 waiver.”

“Okay.”

“And you have to give her the opportunity to consult with that independent counsel.”

“Seems straightforward.”

“It is, lad. Take a look at Rule 3-400(B).”

“Should I withdraw?”

“Our friends in Los Angeles have addressed whether a fee dispute creates a conflict that requires withdrawal. Take a look at Los Angeles Formal Opinion 521 (2007); the committee concluded that a fee dispute does not require withdrawal. The dispute does not, by itself, create an ethical conflict subject to Rule 3-310.”

“Good.”

“And the Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct Opinion 2009-178 cites that Los Angeles County opinion. But be careful, lad. If Ms. Grumble does assert a malpractice claim, then you should withdraw.”

“Don’t worry, Uncle, I’ll be long gone—just as soon as I can quit without prejudice to her.”

“Sounds like someone read Rule 3-700.”

“I’m learning, Uncle.”

“One last point, Duncan. I assume you’re not taking an interest in Ms. Grumble’s property to pay your fees?”

“No at all.”

“That’s good.”

“Why?”

“If you were, you’d also have to follow Rule 3-300: fair and reasonable terms; fully disclose the terms to her; written advice to seek independent counsel; time to do it.”

“Glad I’m not caught up in that.”

“A discussion for another day, lad.”

“Thanks, Uncle, I knew I could count on you.”

“So it seems, lad.”

Edward McIntyre (emcintyre@swsslaw.com) is a partner at Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith and a member of the San Diego County Bar Legal Ethics Committee.
Fragomen is the world's leading global corporate immigration law firm. For more than 50 years, we have focused solely on delivering strategic immigration solutions to our clients. Our service areas include:

Temporary Work Visas ~ Intra-Company Transfers ~ Professionals & Investors ~ Entertainment and Sports Professionals
NAFTA Visas ~ Labor Certifications ~ Family Related Petitions ~ Outbound Global Immigration
Consular Processing ~ Employer Sanctions (I-9) ~ Immigration Policy Development

Gary Perl, Partner
gperl@fragomen.com

Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP
11238 El Camino Real, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92130
Phone: 1 858 793 1600
www.fragomen.com

WHO'S WHO LEGAL
Corporate Immigration Law Firm
of the Year - 2005, 2006 & 2007
The Eagle Has Landed—and Taken Off
Judge Louisa Porter takes wing with the San Diego Eagles flight club

The first rule of flight club is not that you don’t talk about flight club. Just ask Louisa Porter. A U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of California, she’s also a pilot—and she enthusiastically shares her love of flying and the fun she has with her club, the San Diego Eagles.

"Flying is really exciting," she says. "You leave the bounds of the Earth. You get up there, and it’s all gone—everything you were worrying about. You’ve got to fly; you have to pay attention to that airplane. It’s a wonderful diversion, a wonderful feeling of letting go.”

Porter started flying in 1981, taking lessons at a local flight school from an instructor who was the son of a client. She got her pilot’s license in the early 1980s and bought her own plane—a single-engine, four-seat 235-horsepower Piper—in November 1991, not long after being appointed to the federal bench.

Today, she tries to get up in the air twice a month. She’s the coordinator for the San Diego Eagles, formerly called the Legal Eagles because “it started out as all attorneys and judges, but we decided to open it up.” The club, which has 60 to 65 members, still includes a number of local attorneys: Nancy Vaughn, Phil Alpert, Gerry Blank, Jim Pokorny and Michael Griffith, among others.

The Eagles take monthly day trips to scenic spots, where they gather for lunch before flying home. A team leader picks the destination, and Porter coordinates RSVPs and the lunch reservation. Recent trips have taken them to Calexico, Borrego, Catalina and Santa Barbara. May calls for tri-tip sandwiches in Camarillo; June will find the group in Sedona, Arizona.

“There are a lot of great places around here,” Porter says. “It’s fun to just bebop around. … I’ve probably landed at half the airstrips in Baja—Bahia de Los Angeles, San Felipe, La Paz….”

For the day trips, the group travels only as far as the planes can go before refueling—about six hours of flying at 130-140 miles per hour. The club also takes two overnight trips yearly. Last May, about 16 members flew to the Bahamas.

Porter has had a few scares as a pilot.

“I had an engine go out once, and that was scary,” she says. “It was pilot error. I switched gas tanks, and I didn’t seat the gear properly. It’s absolutely frightening when that engine goes silent. I called traffic control, and they cleared the skies for me for an emergency landing. I landed perfectly, but I was embarrassed because they had fire trucks out there waiting. They thought I was going to crash-land.”

But the scares haven’t dampened her enthusiasm or discouraged her. After all, her desire to fly was sparked as a kid growing up in Fort Wayne, Indiana, watching astronauts go up into space—and by a bit of a rebellious streak.

“Anything people told me I couldn’t do, I wanted to do,” Porter says. “Flying was one of the things girls couldn’t or weren’t supposed to do. To me, it was the ultimate freedom.”

Jodi Cleesattle is a deputy attorney general with the California Department of Justice.

Jodi Cleesattle is a deputy attorney general with the California Department of Justice.
WEST COAST RESOLUTION GROUP

Our Resolve. Your Resolution.

You know us. We’re lawyers just like you, and we know the challenges confronting you in litigation. You can count on us to bring our experience, skill and tenacity to the table to ensure an effective process. It's our singular purpose and we achieve it with exceptional results.

Dispute Resolution. It’s what we do and we take it personally.

Call someone you know. denise asher + doug barker + jim chodzko + john edwards

westcoastresolution.com  619.238.7282
San Diego Lawyer congratulates all of the 2011 San Diego County Bar Association Service Award winners.

The following questions were asked of the individual winners:

- Where did you go to undergraduate and law school?
- How long have you been practicing law?
- Which three noteworthy persons would you invite to dinner?
- Why do you feel compelled to serve?
- What/who is your inspiration?
- What words of advice or encouragement would you give others to inspire them to serve?

Organizations were asked to supply their founding date, information about the leader, staff and programs, pro bono projects or mission, and were given the chance to answer the questions about serving, inspiration and advice.
Outstanding Attorney of the Year

C. Michael Cowett (awarded posthumously)
Former partner, Best Best & Krieger

Undergraduate: UC Berkeley
Law School: UC Davis
Years in practice: almost 40

James Gilpin, a partner at Best Best & Krieger, wrote the following about Michael Cowett:

It seems unfair to ask a person to pinpoint the one thing they will miss most about someone they’ve lost. This is particularly true for me in trying to encapsulate the one thing I will miss most about Michael Cowett. I will miss him, his humor, his guidance, his wisdom and his reassuring presence. But if I have to narrow it to just one thing, I would have to say I will miss his perspective. Some people see the glass half-empty, some as half-full. Mike saw everything as perfect. Whatever it was, whatever had happened, “It was perfect!”

You have to realize how particularly infuriating such a response, about everything, can be to truth-seekers, naysayers and cynical lawyers. At some point, I just accepted that the “perfect” response was coming. It was only later that I realized when Mike said something was perfect, he wasn’t stating fact; he was just sharing his perspective: Life is what you make it.

If you see everything as perfect, then maybe it really is, or maybe it could be. Mike’s perspective led him to look for solutions, not point out problems. So in the end, the thing I will miss most is him—but from the perfect perspective, he’s not really gone. Michael and the lessons he shared will be with me forever.

Outstanding Jurist

Hon. Carolyn Caietti
Judge, San Diego Superior Court,
Assistant Presiding, Juvenile; current assignment: Juvenile Delinquency

Undergraduate: University of San Diego
Law School: University of San Diego School of Law
Year appointed to the bench: 2006

Dinner guests: Mother Teresa, Thomas Jefferson and Sandra Day O’Connor.

Why serve? I serve for a variety of reasons. One is working with the probation youth; real potential exists to make a difference in redirecting their behavior. Second, educating the public what we in the juvenile justice system do. It may also involve a larger effort such as taking on an issue that needs to be corrected to better assist the youth; or collaborating with seven different agencies in putting together an event such as Passport to Life. I am in a unique position to educate the public on what I do and, hopefully, help minors and their families avoid the criminal justice system.

Inspiration: The youth and their families are an inspiration, as much as the passion and dedication of the people I work with in the juvenile justice system, such as judges, court staff, probation staff, attorneys, San Diego County Office of Education and many others. Nothing makes it more worthwhile than a heartfelt “thank you” from a parent or minor.

Advice: Don’t let your ideas be nothing more than idle thoughts. Share your ideas with those who have the same passion and ability to make it happen. To borrow from a Nike commercial, “Just do it!”
Service to Legal Education
Susan Hack
Partner, Higgs, Fletcher & Mack

Undergraduate: University of California at Los Angeles
Law school: University of San Diego School of Law
Years in practice: 21
Dinner guests: Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Katharine Hepburn and Bobby Flay (to do the cooking).

Why serve? I believe that lawyers should strive to raise the standards of practice in our legal community, not just practice to the least common denominator. Teaching and mentoring new lawyers and law students is part of how I try to give back.

Inspiration: Far too many to list, but for legal education, my first supervisor at Higgs: Maureen Summers. Maureen trained me so well as a brand-new lawyer in the time we worked together at Higgs. This gave me a solid foundation to build upon in the years to come. She is truly a gifted lawyer.

Advice: When you end your career, what mark will you have left on our legal community? Teaching and mentoring is a very rewarding way to serve. We all have strengths as lawyers, and I encourage everyone to share wisdom and knowledge with new lawyers and law students.

Service to the Legal Profession
Jeff Dusek
Chief Deputy District Attorney (retired) responsible for the Narcotics, Gangs, Appellate and Cold Case Homicide Divisions

Undergraduate: Brigham Young University
Law school: Washington & Lee University School of Law
Years in practice: 34
Dinner guests: Three people I would invite to dinner (one time only) are David Westerfield, Ramon Rogers and Kerry Dalton. Perhaps a guard should also be present. They are three people I have sent to death row.

Why serve? In all honesty, I did not feel a great need to serve when I joined the D.A.’s office. I was married with a five-month-old daughter and needed a job. For some reason I was hired and have been there ever since. And in hindsight, it has been the best job possible, and the years have flown by.

Inspiration: What inspired me through the years was not any one person but a huge category of people. The victims, the civilian witnesses and the law enforcement officers who lived through the crimes are what kept me going every day. I did not want to let them down.

Advice: I have no magical words of advice or encouragement for others except to say that in my case this has been the absolute best job in the world for me. The time has flown by. I have met and worked with terrific people. And I think we have been able to do some good.

Service to Diversity
Jerrilyn Malana
Shareholder, Littler Mendelson

Undergraduate: University of California San Diego
Graduate: Chaminade University (MBA)
Law school: California Western School of Law
Years in practice: 13
Dinner guests: Oprah Winfrey, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama.

Why serve? I am grateful for the many opportunities I’ve had in my life, and I want to do all that I can to give back.

Inspiration: The countless number of individuals who give of themselves regularly and quietly for the greater good; random acts of kindness.

Advice: Take the time to give back to our community in pro bono work or volunteer service, and you will help the lives of those in need. However, you will also get back something that is priceless: Your soul will be enriched.
Community Service
David Berry, Deputy District Attorney

Undergraduate: Southern Illinois University
Law School: Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago-Kent College of Law
Years in practice: 26

Why serve? No person is an island, and it is important to reach out and be connected with others to live a full, meaningful and enriched life. One aspect of being connected is community service, where a person gives freely of his/her own blessings of time, talent and treasure in order to have a positive impact on others and the community as a whole. In return, that person gains meaningful relationships, an enhanced perspective of life and a sense of sharing their blessings.

Inspiration: The countless other persons, other attorneys, who perform community service. I am always impressed by the willingness of so many people to serve others.

Advice: Get out and get involved. Find something that interests you, and become connected with others engaged in community service. As attorneys we are highly trained and educated, and we have many things to offer to these organizations. Regardless of how busy you may think you are, we all can find a way to give to connect with others, to assist individuals and to have a positive impact on our community as a whole. The benefits are immeasurable for the individuals and organizations you reach out to, and you fulfill and enhance your own life.

Distinguished Citizen
Joan Friedenberg
Executive Director, Lawyers Club of San Diego

Undergraduate: University of California at Los Angeles
Graduate: California State University, Northridge and San Diego State University
Time at Lawyers Club: 5.5 years
Dinner guests: Melinda and Bill Gates and Justice Sandra Day O’Connor.

Why serve? In my career of more than 40 years, opportunities to work with individuals facing many incredibly tough challenges have touched me and stimulated me to do whatever I can to try to improve the quality of life for at least a few.

Inspiration: There are many. One particular event demonstrates all that has touched me. A few years back, at the Women’s Resource Fair, I had “door duty,” checking people as they went in. One older woman, who seemed to have recently fallen on hard times, was leaving the fair. She had tears drifting down her face as she touched my arm and said, “I think I found a place to live today.” Just having experienced that and many other similar occurrences motivates me to do more, even if it is on a very small scale.

Advice: There are many who are less fortunate for whom just doing something, even small things, is incredibly appreciated and motivating. And whatever you choose to do, do the right thing, in the right way and at the right time.

Service by a Public Attorney
Marissa Bejarano
Deputy Attorney General, California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General

Undergraduate: University of San Diego
Law school: University of San Diego
Years in practice: six
Dinner guests: Barack Obama, Sonia Sotomayor and Bill Gates.

Why serve? I want to help those who are less fortunate than myself. I feel fortunate to have been raised in a loving family by great parents who have always supported me in anything that I chose to do. Not everyone has the same fortune. However, I feel everyone has the potential to achieve their dreams, whatever they may be, once provided a support system. The young girls I mentor in MANA de San Diego’s Hermanitas Program are a perfect example. Thanks to the mentorship they are provided, they overcome many social barriers and go on to become successful young women.

Inspiration: My inspiration is my father. He has achieved many firsts in his lifetime despite his humble beginnings. Despite his successes, he has never forgotten his roots, and he never is too busy to give back to those who are less fortunate.

Advice: Service to others embodies true beauty.
Outstanding Service by a New Lawyer
Eric Ganci of The Law Office of Eric P. Ganci

Undergraduate: Northern Illinois University
Law School: Thomas Jefferson School of Law
Years in practice: 1.5
Dinner guests: To be honest, I’d just like to sit down for pizza and beer with my parents, brother and sister. Not newsworthy by any means, but I don’t get to see them too often, and it’s always such a great time.

Why serve? I’ve been very fortunate to be given the opportunities I have, and I want to give back. It’s just simply that. I don’t want to take anything for granted, as I can only credit accomplishments to those around me who have coached and led by example.

Inspiration: It may sound cheesy, but I’ll say it: my better half, Renee Galente. I’ve never been so impressed and inspired by someone. Every single day.

Advice: It’s good for the soul. In this profession, it feels good to balance the nonstop work pressure with giving to others.

Distinguished Organization
Walden Family Services
Sue Evans, Senior Director of Operations

Since 1976, Walden Family Services has been recognized as a premier foster family and adoption agency in Southern California, serving San Diego, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, Imperial and Kern Counties (with 57 employees and four offices in San Diego, Riverside, Northridge and Apple Valley). Our programs are as unique and individualized as the children and youth we serve. Walden serves the most-at-risk population of children who have developmental disabilities, special healthcare needs and challenging behaviors. These children have been removed from their homes because of abuse, neglect or abandonment.

Why serve? Walden believes every child deserves the opportunity to live in a family. We are able to offer quality services to many children and make a difference in their future outcomes, from helping a child with special needs find a forever family to assisting a youth in obtaining his high school diploma.

Inspiration: The wonderful foster and adoptive families who welcome children every day into their homes at all hours of the day and night, and the staff who are committed to Walden’s mission, by providing the resources and services needed to make a child’s placement successful.

Advice: No service is too small to make a difference in the life of a child.

Public Service by a Law Firm or Agency
Dependency Legal Group of San Diego
Candi Mayes, CEO & Executive Director
Robert Gulemi, Senior Supervising Attorney

Dependency Legal Group (DLG), established in 2010, is a 98-employee nonprofit public benefit corporation representing indigent families in San Diego County’s Juvenile Dependency Court. DLG is the only law firm in the nation that provides representation for both parents and minors in the dependency system within the same firm, which consists of four divisions: the Minor’s Counsel Office, the Primary Parent Office, Conflict Parent Office and the Conflict’s Counsel Office.

Why serve? The family is the foundation of our community, and those relationships are fundamental to who we are and who we want to become. By dedicating our practice to dependency, we are able to have an immediate impact on the lives of each family we represent and to feel good about the work we do.

Inspiration: We are inspired by many of the families we serve who work so diligently to face and overcome the challenges and struggles in their lives to bring their family back together in a safe and healthy way.

Advice: Saying no is often the easier route, and accepting that something can’t be done ends the inquiry, but collaborating with others to create solutions and improve the systems in which we work is always worth the extra time and effort it takes to do it well.
Because all people deserve justice, the San Diego County Bar Foundation supports over 30 legal aid and public interest organizations including...

- The Access Center of San Diego
- Access, Inc.
- American Civil Liberties Union Foundation
- Becky's House
- Casa Cornelia Law Center
- Casa de Amparo
- Catholic Charities
- Center for Community Solutions
- Children at Risk
- Children's Advocacy Institute at the University of San Diego
- Coming Home to Stay
- The Community Resource Center
- The Crime Victims Fund
- Elder Law and Advocacy
- Hannah's House
- Home of Guiding Hands
- Homeless Court
- International Rescue Committee
- Kids Included Together
- Kids Turn San Diego
- La Cuna, Inc.
- Labor Training and Community Development Alliance
- Las Valientes
- Legal Aid Society of San Diego
- License to Freedom
- Parkinson's Association of San Diego County
- Peninsula Family YMCA
- Saint Clare's Home
- San Diego Advocates for Social Justice
- San Diego Coastkeeper
- San Diego Family Justice Center
- San Diego Justice Foundation
- San Diego Superior Court
- San Diego Teen Court, Inc.
- San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program
- Second Chance
- Southwest Center for Asian Pacific American Law
- Voices for Children
- Volunteers in Parole of San Diego County
- Women's Resource Fair
- YMCA of San Diego County
- YWCA of San Diego County

You can help us succeed.

Please visit www.sdcbf.org to make a donation or learn more about our mission.

1333 7th Avenue, Suite 101
San Diego, CA 92101
619.231.7015
The Caring in CAR

The SDCBA’s Children at Risk Committee (CAR) offers attorneys, paralegals, judges and law students opportunities to work with at-risk children. CAR partners with Porter Elementary School and Clairemont High School and coordinates programs and special events to assist students all year long. Programs include Porter Readers (year-round reading), Clairemont High School’s Academy of Business & Technology (guest speakers, mentors and internship hosts) and mock-trial video presentations at elementary schools in San Diego County.

Teaching Professionalism and Workforce Preparation: Clairemont High School’s Academy of Business & Technology

The Academy of Business & Technology (AOBT) is a “school within a school” at Clairemont High School that focuses on business, computer and communication skills. AOBT targets “at-risk” students with a minimum GPA of 2.0 who “need a push,” according to Elizabeth Rush, AOBT coordinator. Students who complete the three-year AOBT program have had a 100 percent graduation rate.

Rush, who became the AOBT coordinator in 2004, took it upon herself to write a grant to receive funding and also encouraged business and community involvement. About AOBT’s business partners, she says, “I knew that once they got in and saw the kids, they would want to do more. Community involvement has completely and utterly changed our program and the kids’ education.”

Guest speakers are an integral piece of the curriculum. They provide an authentic link to the “real world” that gives students an opportunity to reflect on the connection between what they learn in school and their future. AOBT’s Expectations in the Workplace series addresses topics such as the value of an internship, how to appreciate starting at the bottom, acing the interview, ethics in the workplace and business etiquette, including how to dress,
“Having the business and legal community involved with our students is what education is all about. Connecting students to real-world experiences enables and motivates them to strive for opportunities they would have never dared to dream about. Being mentored by individuals who are ‘doing the work’ gives them insight into fields that many others have told them were impossible to access. Providing internships and serving as mentors to our students lets them know, first-hand, that they are worthy and that there are adults who care about their futures and are willing to give of themselves to show them. A heartfelt thanks to all who have given their time to work with the students in the Academy of Business & Technology.”

— LENORA SMITH
Principal, Clairemont High School

Shannon Howell is the chair of the SDCBA’s Children at Risk Committee. To get involved with CAR or to explore other volunteer opportunities, please contact bar@sdcba.org or check www.sdcba.org/volunteer.

talk and act. In addition, guest speakers address motivational topics such as why laws are important to society, the importance of tolerance and choosing friends wisely.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Laura Taylor has used her guest-speaker opportunities to address the judicial system; she finds the students’ questions to be both thoughtful and relevant. Jessica Hardacre, an associate at the Law Offices of Thomas Diachenko, spoke about workplace rights for teens, minimum wage, meal periods and what to expect on an interview. Another speaker, U.S. District Court Judge Rudi Brewster, says AOBT “exposes students to something beyond their horizons.”

Mentoring provides another component that guides students’ decisions for the future. Mentors formally meet with their students five to six times per year and discuss topics such as student interests, hobbies, goals, academic progress, college, career preparation and job opportunities.

With her youngest son about to head off to college, Judge Taylor has enjoyed her involvement as a mentor to a high school student whose parents are not professionals. She has shared with her mentee the importance of preparation, attention to detail and the value of one’s professional appearance, in addition to “things that are almost automatic for the children I have raised, but these children are going to need.”

Hardacre’s mentee became pregnant about a year into the relationship. As an AOBT mentor, she was able to talk to the student’s teachers and come up with a plan to allow the student to graduate with her class. She explains, “AOBT rewards kids who make a commitment to their education by providing special privileges not given to other students.” These privileges include shadowing their mentors at work, listening to guest speakers who provide invaluable tips, securing internships and receiving donated professional clothing for their internships and interviews.

According to Judge Taylor, “Frankly, anyone who is a lawyer or judge, that is a gift—so we need to give back.”

Volunteer opportunities with AOBT range from a one-hour time commitment to a year-long mentorship. If you would like to get involved with AOBT, please contact Anna Romanskya at aromanskya@starkllp.com.

Shannon Howell is the chair of the SDCBA’s Children at Risk Committee. To get involved with CAR or to explore other volunteer opportunities, please contact bar@sdcba.org or check www.sdcba.org/volunteer.
Encouraging Children to Read: Porter Reading Program

Founded by retired Magistrate Judge Leo Papas and a few friends and colleagues, the Porter Reading Program has taken off to heights beyond Judge Papas’ imagination. Porter Elementary School is an at-risk school in the Lincoln Park neighborhood of San Diego. In the 1990s, while at Porter Elementary for a Literacy Days event, Judge Papas enjoyed reading so much that he asked a teacher if he could come back to read to the class on a regular basis. He formed a team with his wife and a few friends who are lawyers and judges and has been reading at Porter Elementary ever since. After reading to the students, Judge Papas says, he feels “upbeat . . . good about myself and what I am doing.”

The Children at Risk Committee, specifically attorney-mediator Richard Pray, began organizing the Porter Reading groups in 2004. “Richard has done a fabulous job,” says Judge Papas. Currently, there are seven reading groups (of approximately five members) that each read to a different classroom at Porter Elementary on a weekly basis. The readers rotate each week, so the time commitment is about one hour every four to five weeks.

“We have a wide range of readers—judges, law students, attorneys, paralegals, court personnel—and we have had volunteers from legal aid groups in the past,” says Pray. He says relating to the kids is easy, and the students ask interesting questions, which leaves the volunteers walking away feeling good. “It really is a terrific experience—people get addicted to it,” he says.

Two of the Porter Reading groups are composed of members of the Southern District of California’s Community Outreach Program Committee. Chief District Court Judge Irma Gonzalez and Magistrate Judge Barbara Majors are regular volunteer readers at Porter Elementary.

Sotera Anderson, an associate at Wilson Turner Kosmo LLP, states, “When the timer goes off to stop the reading session, the kids are so disappointed, which, while sad, is also extremely encouraging because it shows they really enjoy the reading time. Some of these kids don’t have anyone to
read to them at home. As volunteers, we, too, get so much out of the experience, and we all feel like we did some small little part to encourage kids to read, which is extremely important for their future. It truly is rewarding.”

CAR is always looking for volunteers to form or join teams of five to seven readers to adopt a classroom and read monthly at Porter Elementary. If you are interested in becoming a Porter Reader, please contact Richard Pray at Richardpray@sbcglobal.net.

“Research states that the best way to learn to read is to read. The San Diego Lawyers in the Classroom Reading Program at Porter is affording our students more opportunities to practice their reading, in order to become better readers and critical thinkers. Having opportunities to read with law professionals is a motivating factor for students, in that they are becoming career-minded at a very early age. The law professionals not only read with the students but encourage them to read to learn, which prepares them for the college of their choice. The staff, students and parents hope the San Diego Lawyers in the Classroom Reading Program will be a part of Porter for many years to come.”

- LILLIE K. McMILLAN
Principal, Porter Elementary School

---

Car is always looking for volunteers to form or join teams of five to seven readers to adopt a classroom and read monthly at Porter Elementary. If you are interested in becoming a Porter Reader, please contact Richard Pray at Richardpray@sbcglobal.net.
Preventing at-Risk Behavior: The Mock Trial Video Program

CAR’s Mock Trial Video Program is used in an effort to prevent at-risk behavior by teaching students about the legal system. Volunteers present a hypothetical mock criminal trial video starring a judge, courtroom staff, lawyers and witnesses—all elementary-school-age student “actors” from San Diego. During the screening, the facilitators and students pause the video to discuss the legal meaning of what is taking place in the trial they’re watching. After the video, the students break out into groups of jurors tasked with deciding the outcome of the case.

Initially created in 2000 for Judge Papas’ use in his capacity as director of the Federal Court’s Judges in the Classroom Program, the mock trial video was a collaborative effort on the part of Judge Papas, then-law clerk Elizabeth Balfour, law clerk Karen Hughes and Michele Hirzel. In addition, August Larson of AJL Litigation Media graciously volunteered his time.

While the video took months to prepare, it was well worth the effort. Once the video was finished, CAR also began presenting it to local classrooms and expanding the outreach efforts. And not only did the video win an American Bar Association national award for community involvement, the ABA currently uses the video for its education and community outreach programs.

In this school year alone, CAR has presented the Mock Trial Video Program to 27 local classrooms and engaged approximately 850 students. By the end of the school year, CAR projects that the program will reach 40-50 elementary school classrooms in the San Diego Unified School District, with hopes to expand to other school districts within...
Christopher Todd, the chair of CAR’s Mock Trial Video Program and a partner at Wingert, Grebing, Brubaker & Juskie, LLP, has personally presented the video more than 25 times. The students are engaged in their job as jurors, he remarks, and they “always come up with something that hasn’t been seen or commented on before.”

According to presenter Judge Rudi Brewster, students “really get into it” and “even fourth graders have a lot more understanding than most people think they do.”

In fact, students continue discussing the program on the playground after the screening is over. According to Amy Jackson, fifth grade teacher at Florence Elementary, “Three parents stopped me this morning to comment on how much their child enjoyed the presentation. I think the format was terrific for the time period. I know it kept the attention of the students, and the culmination of the ‘votes’ at the end was great.”

In what appears to be a common thread, the volunteers enjoy presenting the video as much, if not more, than the students enjoy watching it. “The attorneys take away more from interacting with the kids than [they] give,” says Todd.

Judge Papas states that the SDCBA’s involvement with students is “fundamentally important for the future of our community and our country.”

Presentations are generally 90 minutes to two hours long and require modest preparation. For more information and for upcoming presentation dates, please contact Christopher Todd at ctodd@wingertlaw.com.

Deborah Cumba (Deborah.cumba@wilsonelser.com) is an associate at Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker.

“The mock trial video program is a terrific introduction, presented to children in an accessible way, to the realities of our judicial system. The students are really curious about the plight of the criminal defendant, the role of the lawyer and the dynamics of a courtroom. They ask insightful questions. And after they sit as jurors, deliberate and render a verdict (or not), they always want to know ‘Did we get it right? Did we reach the correct result?’ I tell them the jurors’ decision is the result, and there is no answer key. This really brings home the key point about their civic duty and hopefully inspires confidence in our justice system. And it’s fun for the kids, too.”

— ELIZABETH BALFOUR
Partner, Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton
IN THE 1970S AND 1980S, American judges and lawyers sought methods to improve civility, competence and professionalism in the practice of law. In 1977, led by then-Chief Justice Warren Burger, a group of American lawyers and judges spent two weeks in England as part of the Anglo-American Exchange. They observed the English Inns of Court and became impressed with the manner in which these mandatory organizations passed on to new lawyers the decorum, civility and standards of the profession.

On September 17, 1983, the U.S. Judicial Conference, led by Chief Justice Burger, established an ad hoc committee on the American Inns of Court. Members of the committee included prominent San Diego jurists Judge J. Clifford Wallace and Judge William B. Enright. The group hoped not to merely mimic the English Inn but to foster a uniquely American approach.

Soon after the formation of that committee, a determined group of judges and attorneys—each of whom had served as president of the San Diego County Bar Association—met to lay the foundation of the American Inn in San Diego. This small group, which included Judge Enright, Judge Howard Turrentine, Gary Bailey, Craig Higgs and Robert Steiner, conceived a unique Inn that would focus on mentoring young trial lawyers rather than law students. By making membership available to a range of experience levels, the Inn would establish an environment conducive to mentorship and education by example. Young attorneys would gain unprecedented access to judges and senior practitioners, giving them a forum for questions and a platform for development. Senior trial attorneys would have an opportunity to give back to the community, better their profession and hone their skills.

The Inn would encourage membership of solo practitioners and lawyers in small firms who might not otherwise have access to the training available in large firms. Likewise, the Inn would invite membership from diverse practice areas: public agencies, prosecutorial offices and practices including private, plaintiff, defense, federal and state practice.

The founders envisioned three levels of membership: Masters, consisting of pre-
eminent judges and trial lawyers in the community; Barristers, comprising lawyers with some trial experience, who would serve for two years; and Associates, promising young attorneys with at least a year of experience, who would serve a one-year term. Masters would rotate out of membership when appropriate, and many would remain connected to the Inn as alumni or senior advisors. All participants would serve as both teachers and learners. Masters would lead educational programs by conducting demonstrations of issues relevant to trial practice at monthly meetings. Those meetings would be conducted on a strict two-hour time schedule (with refreshments available but without a formal dinner) to respect the time of members, who committed to attending every meeting, absent a compelling reason.

For many years, Judge Louis Welsh had led the San Diego Inn of Court, which predated the American Inns of Court in presenting educational programs to young attorneys. To pay tribute to his longtime service to the community, the leadership decided to make this Inn the first in the nation named in honor of an individual. The founders invited leading judges and trial lawyers in San Diego to a luncheon, at which all but one signed on as the initial set of Masters. The Inn divided the Masters into several small groups, appointed group leaders and charged each group with preparing and presenting one of the monthly programs. The Inn gave each group great autonomy in selecting the material and topic it would present, which fostered creativity and

“I was invited to join the Welsh chapter of the American Inns of Court nearly 20 years ago and have sincerely enjoyed participating in this outstanding group of lawyers and judges ever since. I have most enjoyed the memorable monthly breakfasts, held at a table at the Westgate, with the small teams I have headed over the years. The greatest benefit I have gotten from Inn membership has been friendships and camaraderie.”

Hon. Richard Haden (retired)

“I became a Master with the Welsh Inn of Court 20 years ago and have served on its board of directors and as Head Master for numerous monthly programs. In my view, the major benefit of the Inn experience is networking and socialization. It is the opportunity to meet and work with lawyers who represent many walks of the legal community and judges who, without the forum of the Inn, seem isolated and unapproachable.”

Hon. Louisa Porter

“Monthly meetings of the Welsh Inn have provided me the opportunity to renew longtime friendships and make new ones with attorneys who practice in areas other than criminal law. On many occasions, attorneys from other areas have commented on how different and special San Diego is. We need to perpetuate that by sharing how we do things with these new practitioners.”

Peter Hughes

Louis M. Welsh
American Inn of Court Executive Committee
Hon. Peter Bowie
Hon. Rudi Brewster
Jerry Coughlan Jr.
Karen Crawford
Hon. William Enright
Hon. Richard Haden
Hon. Marilyn Huff
Hon. Janis Sammartino
Robert Steiner
Hon. Ronald Styn
Patrick Swan Jr.
Nancy Vaughan
Reg Vitek
Edward Vogel
Michael Weaver
Claudette Wilson
innovation in the programs. In addition to attending the monthly meeting, each small group met monthly to prepare the program or discuss topics of current interest.

The Welsh Inn charter was approved on March 28, 1985, as Inn IX. Judge Enright, who contributed so much to the establishment of the Welsh Inn, became its first president.

From the start, the structure as originally designed exceeded the founders’ expectations. The Welsh Inn continues to thrive because of the solid support it receives from the judiciary and the leading trial attorneys in San Diego. The impact on participants has been profound and lasting. Perhaps the best evidence of this impact can be found at any given meeting, where one might find any of the past presidents in attendance—including Judge Enright, Judge Rudi Brewster, Judge Marilyn Huff, Judge Richard Haden, Judge Ronald Styn—and the current president, Judge Janis Sammartino.

Judge Sammartino notes that program content has evolved over the years to stay fresh: “Tradition is sacred but must bend to keep the Inn relevant to today’s practice.”

Presentations during the first year included demonstrations on voir dire and opening statements. Memorable programs over the years that earned national awards for excellence included “The Bones of Colonel Hart,” as leading practitioners shared their unique cross-examination styles without script; “What Would Lincoln Do?” in which members of the Inn applied 21st-century principles of California legal ethics to actual ethical dilemmas from cases Abraham Lincoln had handled as a practicing trial lawyer; and “Lawyers on the Rocks,” a program on substance abuse in the profession.

The Inn also supported and assisted in the establishment of other Inns in San Diego. Nationally, other Inns have based themselves on the innovations of the Welsh founders.

Most judges and leading practitioners hope to leave a legacy that advances the profession. Most young attorneys cherish access to judges and senior trial attorneys who can provide insight and mentorship to aid in their professional growth. As the San Diego Bar grows, the Welsh Inn continues to foster and promote competency in our profession, civility and integrity in our community and pride in the members of the San Diego Bar. In the words of Judge Enright, the Welsh Inn is “an idea whose time has come.”

Wendy Patrick (wendy.patrick@sdcda.org) is a San Diego County deputy district attorney, Jeremiah Moffitt (jmoffitt@luce.com) is an associate with Luce Forward, and Samuel Park (samuel@mupark.com) is with the Law Offices of Samuel H. Park.

The authors wish to thank Judge William Enright, Judge Richard Haden (ret.), Judge Janis Sammartino and Robert Steiner of Luce Forward for their invaluable contributions to this article.
The Unique Downtown Inn
By Wendy Patrick, Daniel Eaton and Lindsey Stevens

In 1983, the Louis M. Welsh American Inn of Court was established in San Diego by San Diego District Judges William Enright and Howard Turrentine and lawyers Robert Steiner, Gary Bailey and Craig Higgs. The Inn initially earned a conditional charter because its founders excluded law students from membership. They believed the Inn would better serve the local legal community if all members had passed the California bar exam. Fittingly, the Inn’s unique nature was encouraged when the conditional charter was granted upon the reflection “Let a thousand flowers bloom.”

Bloom it has. Almost 30 years later, the Welsh Inn has been led by multiple judges. Judge Enright, eager to carry out the Inn’s mentorship mission, served as its first president. Other past presidents include District Judges Rudi Brewster and Marilyn Huff and San Diego Superior Court Judges Richard Hayden and Ronald Styn. The current president, Judge Janis Sammartino, has served both as a Superior Court judge and now as a district judge. She believes her experience as Inn president is special because it has enabled her to meet, mentor and learn from a broad base of San Diego lawyers engaged in every area of practice.

From the start, the Inn has emphasized the importance of mentoring and didactic opportunities. Each month, even after a team has presented its annual program to the full Inn, team leaders schedule an informal lunch or breakfast. In this casual setting, members are free to discuss any topic, ranging from legal or ethical issues to current events or career plans. Highly experienced lawyers and judges often digest complex issues in a matter of moments. This dialogue is invaluable for young Associates who might otherwise be naturally excluded from such conversations in a work environment. Judge Sammartino particularly appreciates this aspect of the Inn. “Without the Inn,” she says, “it could be years before I meet young lawyers.”

It is appropriate that the Inn, founded and led by judges, meets only blocks from San Diego’s downtown courthouses. While the practice of law has spread to other areas of San Diego, a substantial concentration of lawyers, particularly trial lawyers, remains downtown. Since few people live downtown, the Inn’s location reinforces the important role the organization plays in members’ professional lives. And the Welsh Inn is unique because all of its past presidents are still members and continue to mentor San Diego attorneys.

Wendy Patrick (wendy.patrick@sdcda.org) is a San Diego County deputy district attorney, Daniel Eaton (eaton@scmv.com) is a shareholder in Seltzer Caplan McMahon Vitek, and Lindsey Stevens (lstevens@littler.com) is an associate with Littler Mendelson.
HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

By Spencer Skeen

NETWORKING DOES NOT necessarily involve cocktail parties, glad-handing and shameless self-promotion to strangers. If networking really focused on those things, I would not do it. My idea of networking is simply this: expanding personal and professional contacts in a meaningful way, by helping others. With this in mind, and with apologies to the movie Jerry Maguire, “help me help you” with networking.

I’ve found that the more I help other people fulfill their personal and professional goals, the more people help me. Whether coaching Little League, organizing a charity golf tournament or serving on my law school alumni board, whenever I served the community or another, I was personally enriched from the experience. Oftentimes, I made great friends or professional contacts.

I am not proposing people intentionally seek to expand their network by providing community service or doing favors. In that scenario, the giver is keeping score and more focused on meeting his/her own needs. If there is a selfish purpose behind service or any favor, the opportunity for personal and professional enrichment is lost. Instead, the focus must be on identifying and meeting the needs of others, regardless of whether the “favor” will ever be returned.

As an example, I previously served on San Diego’s Small Business Advisory Board, an advocate for small business and a liaison to the mayor’s office. I served on the SBAB in large part because my mother was a small business owner. Watching her succeed and sometimes struggle to provide for her family created a sincere desire in me to help the small business community. I was on the SBAB for several years, dealing with myriad small business licensing, regulatory and tedious permitting issues that truly did not pertain to my law practice. This might not seem to be the place for my professional network to expand. However, two to three years after I started working with the SBAB, I met an SBAB member who was running a nonprofit trade association, which represented hundreds of similarly situated small business owners. Over time, I created a close friendship with this individual and his family and grew connected to the business community this nonprofit serves. I have since become the outside general counsel for the association and have met dozens of friends and clients as a result.

Expanding your network by helping others is easy. Do not limit your activity to interactions with lawyers or those you think might need your legal services. Buy lunch for someone, ask questions, and try to discover ways you can help him/her. People might not need your services now, but they could later. Or perhaps they know someone who needs your help.

Provide referrals to professionals or businesses you trust and respect. They may return the favor—but if they don’t, so what? You do not lose anything by doing a favor, and you may gain a friend in the process.

Consider volunteering in your community, serving on a nonprofit board or helping with a local fund-raiser or food/clothing drive. Don’t keep score or expect anything in return. You’ll leave these experiences feeling enriched and are sure to meet wonderful people. You may even drum up some new clients along the way.

Spencer Skeen (sskeen@laborlawyers.com) is a partner at Fisher & Phillips and co-chair of the SDCBA’s Labor and Employment Law Section.
HAVING FUN WITH NETWORKING

By Patty Hollenbeck

WHEN IT COMES TO practicing law, the ability to network is a process — and a skill — that needs attention. Some people seem to have no problem. They have 4,000 Facebook friends and 1,600 contacts on LinkedIn. I’m not one of those people. Networking for business purposes is something I had to learn. For the most part, I’m self-taught, but I have learned a great deal from others, and I’ve zeroed in on what works for me.

In perhaps my third or fourth year of practice, I realized that if I wanted to become a partner, I had to demonstrate an ability to bring in business. I knew I could successfully bring in more work from existing clients, but I also knew that long-term survivability was dependent on developing my own contacts. We didn’t call it networking then, but that’s precisely what it was.

My first efforts were pretty quaint. I made a handwritten list of everyone I knew, including college friends, law school classmates, current clients of the firm and clients who had no active matters. I put every name and every company into a table of contents, then put everything in a binder, separated by alphabetical tabs.

Now for the tough part: I actually had to call the people in the binder. I was petrified, but I convinced myself I really had nothing to lose. Let’s face it, some people are easier to talk to, so I called my friends first. Later, I called the people I didn’t know so well. We talked about work, families and life. I took notes so that next time I would “remember” the key details.

For me, this planned approach worked. Every day I made a few calls, and I kept at it. Eventually, I filled that notebook, then another. Now I use a computer for my list, and of course there is LinkedIn and a host of other ways to organize contacts. But the process I use is essentially the same. I call, and I visit in person, every day.

Another networking activity that has worked for me is playing golf. Those who know me have heard my golf stories. I started playing with my dad when I was 7, and I played in college. I used to be outstanding; now I’m not — but I can still hold my own. So I make an effort to play in golf tournaments with new contacts and existing clients. I’ve met many wonderful people. This works for me because I love it, and it demonstrates who I am and how I conduct myself. I’m over-the-top competitive, just as when I practice law. I’d never intentionally lose to anyone, but I’ll happily congratulate you if you win. The formality and etiquette of the game is much like the formality of the courtroom and the ethical foundation of practicing law.

Golf is fun for me, so it’s an easy way for me to meet new people. Find what’s fun for you, and pursue it.

Patty Hollenbeck (phollenbeck@duanemorris.com) is a partner at Duane Morris and chair of the SDCBA’s General Civil Litigation Section.
Legal Legends of the Bar

The creation of the video project to preserve the rich history of SDCBA members is itself a tale

BY GEORGE BREWSTER JR.
For a while, the committee consisted only of its co-chairs: myself and Craig Higgs. Happily, Higgs saw to the development and posting of the history boards you now see hanging in the Bar Association’s main lobby. Higgs, of course, is the son of Dutch Higgs, whose bust sits in the Hall of Justice rotunda. Dutch, Ferdinand Fletcher (Bar president in 1953) and H. Pitts Mack were partners, and Fletcher’s passing in 2005 caused Craig and me to sit down and draw up a list of people we should interview before it was too late. (Besides being the longest-surviving original partner of Higgs, Fletcher & Mack, Fletcher was president of the organization that oversaw the creation of Children’s Hospital in 1954; he assisted in the development of the Salk Institute in 1962 and was later its general counsel.)

There were two large hurdles to overcome in furthering the Legal Legends project. One was developing the list; the other was funding.

Higgs and I took attorney directories and started going through names—including the judiciary. We looked for leaders in the legal community and then, in terms of priority, those who were older. From there, we tried to find diversity—gender, race, types of practice. We sent out requests to Bar leaders for their thoughts. (This process has not been foolproof. Tom Hamilton, the last name partner of the Luce firm, just passed away this March 15 at the age of 95. He wasn’t on our list!)

Financing was tougher. Working with the videographer who helped put together the Bar’s centennial video, we came up with a budget of approximately $6,600 for a day of taping, post-production work and DVD copies. We didn’t qualify for funding from the Bar Foundation, since this was a bar committee project, so I had to go on the hunt.

On our list, I’d noticed the large number who were also members of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), whose primary objective is to preserve the right to civil jury trials. It started in Los Angeles in 1958, with San Diego the second chapter in 1962, and now has hundreds of chapters across the country. Local criminal defense attorney Peter Hughes was among the first members of the local chapter, as was attorney Gene Freeland (now deceased). With those two, along with many other ABOTA members, I was able to get a commitment for partial funding of the Legal Legends project.

I then went to the SDCBA with my list, which included many past Bar presidents (Howard Turrentine, Colin Weid, Marc Adelman, Bill Enright, Alec Cory, Bob Steiner, Hugh Friedman, Ned Huntington, Bill Yale, Franklin Orfield). The SDCBA and ABOTA agreed to back the project on the condition that the other agreed. We moved on to taping.

I set a date, booked two rooms at the Bar Association: a “green room” for pre- and post-interview use; the Bar Café for the taping. A letter was sent asking everyone to fill out a bio sheet and to select three times that
would work for them on February 6, 2006. We picked 40 people, figuring we’d get about half; 35 were able to make it.

On the interview date, the video crew came in early to set up. We used the fireplace in the Bar Café (part of the University Club when it was located in that building years ago). It had not been turned on for years, and there was a gas odor (likely a small leak) the entire day. Each interviewee mentioned the smell.

The person designated to conduct the interview (rotated among me, Higgs and Alan Brubaker) met with the subject in the green room, going over the basic bio and discussing the stories planned for the taping. We then moved to the other room for the 20-minute interview. After the taping, I wrote brief biographies of each person, which were included on the final DVD as a click-to feature (I didn’t want to use up the 10 minutes or so allotted for each person on the DVD with biographical information). Summarizing the biographies was not easy. Some interviewees had submitted very little, so I had to hunt down information. Others, like Judge Clifford Wallace, had huge résumés (his was more than 20 pages—an amazing career).

We’ve now done four tapings (February 6, 2006; May 29, 2009; August 21, 2009; and May 19, 2010), totaling 56 Legal Legend video biographies. The last three tapings were without any funding but were accomplished thanks to Storyteller Productions, videographer Mark Boyd and the interviewing skills of Frank Drummond, Karie Boyd and Bob Gaglione.

Ultimately, the best aspect was getting to meet these pillars of our legal community and talk to them openly about their lives, with fairly candid questions. And it was a kick to watch the interaction between our guests as they crossed paths while waiting for or coming back from the interview.

As Brubaker says, “To be around and involved with these stalwarts of our Bar reminiscing the history of our circumstance today, events and relationships through stories otherwise lost to time was as fun and enriching to me personally as imaginable.”

I most enjoyed the raw moments. Mike Thorsnes recited from memory some of his wonderful poetry. I got Brian Monahan to sing, albeit briefly. I got to talk to my old boss, Kevin Midlam, in a way I never would have as a young associate in his firm. Media-shy John Davies agreed to be interviewed but only if Dick Murphy attended—and both did! Vince Bartolotta was asked—probably for the thousandth time—about the origin of the flower on his lapel, but was caught off guard and showed great emotion when we discussed a client of minimal means of many years ago and how they kept in touch.

The judges were often surprises. John Rhoades seemed very stern and no-nonsense from high above on the federal bench. But he had a very dry, sometimes biting sense of humor and was genuinely interested in capturing history and lessons to be learned. Janet Kitner, the third woman appointed to the bench in San Diego, brought a box of documents (she was a columnist for Dicta for many years and very active in the Bar). In talking to her, as well as with Judy McConnell, Liz Riggs, Betty Boone, Lynn Schenk, Melinda Lasater, Marilyn Huff, Regina Petty and Virginia Nelson, it was evident that the struggle for equality has been a long road and not an easy one—and passion for that cause, and others, has not
25 YEARS +
275 APPEALS +
PROVEN RESULTS

It all adds up. That's why discerning lawyers turn to Martin Buchanan to handle their clients' appeals.

A degree from Harvard Law and a recent unanimous win in the United States Supreme Court make Martin Buchanan the right choice for your next appeal, too.

WWW.MARTINBUCHANAN.COM

CERTIFIED APPELATE SPECIALIST,
STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION
Most of those interviewed allowed themselves the luxury of emotion, and many covered times when life wasn’t easy. You can catch this on the tapes, some moments more fleeting than others. We asked each interviewee to offer advice to new lawyers. Some advice was practical, some philosophical. But the underlying theme can be summed up in a word: civility.

Some of our interviewees have since passed away, including Judge Howard Turrentine, Bar president in 1948, still sharp as a tack in his 90s; Franklin Orfield (Bar president, 1961); Alec Cory (Bar president, 1966); Al Walkoe, a wonderfully upbeat guy who never missed an opportunity to fund-raise for Legal Aid; and Judge Napoleon Jones, a very down-to-earth fellow.

Perhaps tied most closely to Bar history was Bill Yale, who was the presiding judge for the Superior Court when the current courthouse at 220 West Broadway was built. He saved the stained-glass windows that were part of the prior courthouse; those windows now hang in all of the courthouses in San Diego. One of the preservationists who raised funds to rebuild the first San Diego courthouse on its original foundation in Old Town, he was a regular financial backer of that nonprofit endeavor. He’d come to various dedications at the Old Town courthouse and unassumingly sit in the back. He lives on, if briefly, in our video project.

When I started putting this project together, I was frequently asked, “What will you do with it?” I don’t plan to do anything with it. This project is about preservation, in this case a bit of oral history from key players in our legal community. Maybe the question is: What will others do with it?

The interviews are now available for viewing on the Bar website. Get to know the Legends Project participants at www.sdcb.ca.org/legendsofthebar.

George Brewster Jr. (sandbrews@aol.com) is a senior deputy county counsel with the Office of County Counsel.
**Visual Evidence Archive:** Demonstratives That Made a Difference

**Practice Area:** Personal Injury

**Background:** Plaintiff toddler accidentally swallowed a “button” battery that lodged in her throat. Over the course of several months, the battery leaked and caused serious health problems. At issue was the source of the battery, purportedly from a bathroom scale manufactured by defendant.

The source of the battery was questionable for several reasons; the battery had reportedly been replaced at one point by the parents, the parents threw away the scale after the child was initially treated, and the measured size of the recovered battery, which was discarded by the treating hospital, was different than that used in the scale.

**A Demonstrative That Made a Difference:** For mediation, a technical 3D computer animation was created that illustrated how the button battery is inserted and locked into the scale’s battery compartment. An additional sequence demonstrated how if the compartment somehow became unlocked, the battery would not fall to the ground and become visible unless the heavy scale was moved.

**Outcome:** Defendant settled for a confidential amount.

---

**A wider perspective:**

*What the legal community expects from a law school devoted to the big picture.*

Creative, versatile graduates with panoramic vision for today’s complex legal challenges.

[www.CaliforniaWestern.edu](http://www.CaliforniaWestern.edu)
EYEWITNESS EXPERT TESTIMONY: 42 years of forensic psychology experience with pretrial consultations and frequent court testimony regarding factors known to influence the validity of eyewitness report. Pretrial consultation can include choosing foils for live lineups and selecting jurors. Trial testimony includes charts to explain the results of scientific research demonstrating factors known to influence eyewitness identification accuracy. Thomas R. MacSpeiden, Ph.D. (619) 294-4044, fax: (619) 295-4113 e-mail: macspeidenphd@nethere.com

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION, CONTACT 619-231-0781

ADVERTISEMENT
Join us for the
— 27th Annual —
RED BOUDREAU TRIAL LAWYERS’ DINNER
HOT SUMMER NIGHT PARTY
CONVERSATION • HOSTED COCKTAILS & APPETIZERS • DANCING

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING 27 YEARS OF CIVILITY, SERVICE AND PHILANTHROPY.

FRIDAY 5:30PM
AUGUST 5, 2011

675 L STREET
OMNI HOTEL
DOWNTOWN

MUSIC BY
ROCKOLA

DANIEL T. BRODERICK III AWARD
DANIEL M. WHITE

INTRODUCING:
THE JUDGE DAVID R. THOMPSON
NEW LAWYER AWARD
OLEG CROSS

HONOREES SELECTED BY:
ABTL-SD • ABOTA-SD • SDDL • CASD • SDCBA • THE WELSH, ENRIGHT, TODD, LOPARDO AND WALLACE CHAPTERS OF THE AMERICAN INNS OF COURT

MORE THAN 10,000 HOMELESS CHILDREN AT ST. VINCENT DE PAUL VILLAGE HAVE BEEN HELPED BY THIS EVENT OVER THE PAST 27 YEARS.

WE INVITE YOU TO ACCESS A PDF OF THE RSVP FORM AT WWW.NEIGHBOR.ORG/REDBOUDREAUDINNER.
THE RSVP FORM CAN BE COMPLETED, SCANNED AND EMAILED BACK TO MARGOT HOWARD OR A COPY CAN BE MAILED TO THE ADDRESS NOTED ON THE FORM.

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE EVENT, TO RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROGRAM ADS, AND TO SEND YOUR AD ART FILE AS A PDF OR JPG, PLEASE CONTACT MARGOT HOWARD (619) 446-2108 OR MARGOT-HOWARD@NEIGHBOR.ORG

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL VILLAGE
3350 E STREET, SAN DIEGO, CA 92102-3332
(619) 446-2100 FAX (619) 446-2129
Judge Lawrence Neil Turrentine left his mark upon the history of the San Diego judiciary, both literally and by reputation. The son of a minister, he was born in 1892 and educated in Escondido public schools. Turrentine initially thought he would go into medicine, but a legal career was less expensive, so he went to law school at the University of Southern California straight from high school.

After he graduated from law school at age 20, he had to wait until he was 21 to be admitted to the State Bar. He was admitted in 1913, and his first job was as an office boy for Judge J.W. McKinley in Los Angeles. Turrentine moved back to Escondido to open his own practice in 1915, then joined the Navy during World War I, serving as an ensign aboard a mine sweeper off the East Coast for 18 months. He returned to Escondido and continued practicing law, and in 1926 moved to the city of San Diego.

In a 1982 interview he described himself as having prominence as a trial lawyer, defending doctors in medical malpractice cases. He also served as the city attorney for both Escondido and National City.

Turrentine was appointed judge of the San Diego Superior Court on November 1, 1930, by Governor C.C. Young. Historian Leland Stanford described him as a man with a brilliant mind, ambition and the ability to assume administrative leadership. Often referred to as “The Boss” by his colleagues, Judge Turrentine served as presiding judge for a number of years.

Probate matters were heard each Friday in his court. At the end of the day, he’d have more than 150 orders to process and sign. Instead of signing his name, he used a distinctive slash to expedite the process. According to Jeff Stickney, this caused one Los Angeles lawyer to remark, “We have a lot of ignorant judges in our county, but none so far gone that he has to sign his name by a mark” (Stickney’s Cracker Barrel: Antics of Lawyers and Judges in San Diego in the Early Part of this Century).

Stickney also recalls a case where out-of-town counsel announced a two-day trial estimate. Judge Turrentine noted the facts were not in dispute and asked for the legal argument. The case was concluded quickly and counsel was sent packing, vowing an appeal of this “cow county” judge. Judge Turrentine was affirmed on appeal.

He was the judge who tried the slant oil well drilling cases in Huntington Beach, finding that the oil 3 miles off the coast belonged to the state. The U.S. Supreme Court reversed his decision, holding that the oil was owned by the United States. Congress subsequently passed a law returning ownership of the oil to the state and the city of Long Beach.

During his tenure, Judge Turrentine instituted the program for convicted sex offenders to choose bilateral orchidectomy (removal of the testicles) as an alternative to state prison. He once remarked that in 140 cases where this option had been chosen, there were no repeat offenders.

He was one of the first presidents of the Conference of California Judges, now known as the California Judges Association. Judge Turrentine took special interest in the Juvenile Court, the YMCA and the youth of San Diego. He also served on the Judicial Council Juvenile Law Committee.

He was a pragmatist and a popular judge who served his community from 1930 until retirement in 1958. He died in 1985, comfortable with the knowledge he had made a difference in his community.

Hon. William Howatt Jr. is a retired Superior Court judge who currently works for JAMS.
Sustaining Members

The San Diego County Bar Association gratefully acknowledges its Sustaining Donation Members.

PATRON
Marc D. Adelman
John G. Davies
William O. Dougherty
James P. Frantz
Louis E. Goebel
Stephen M. Hogan
Rhonda J. Holmes
A. Jason Kerckhoff
Harold O. McNeil
Gerald S. Mulder
William E. Nelson
Paul H. Neuharth Jr.
David Baxter Norris
J. Michael Reed
Thomas J. Warwick Jr.

Duane S. Horning
John R. Sorensen
Andrew H. Wilensky

FRIEND MEMBERS
Charles H. Adair
Edward V. Brennan
Scott Carr
Carrie A. Downey
David B. Dugan
C. Hugh Friedman

NAME THAT COURT

Please submit answers by May 15 to martin@kruming.com. Your name will be entered to win lunch for two at Dobson’s Bar & Restaurant in downtown San Diego. Congratulations to Montine Nyhan, who correctly identified the Jacob Weinberger U.S. Courthouse in the previous issue. Thanks to everyone who participated.
The SDCBA’s Annual Judicial Reception provided a time for the Bench and Bar to connect.
BLACK & WHITE BALL

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BARRY CARLTON

The Association of Corporate Counsel hosted its 10th annual Black and White Ball on March 5 at the Manchester Grand Hyatt.

LAF-OFF

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MARCO TORRES

SDVLP’s fifth annual LAF-Off (Lawyers Are Funny) was held on March 24 at the House of Blues.

Lisa and Amar Thakur, Debbie Nye

Elizabeth and Greg Daniels

Josh Gluck, Cyndia Jewell, Sonja Alpert, Dave Fisher

Karen Hewitt, Susan and Michael Williams

Jim Edwards, Annie Bracken

Debbie Coplan, Kitty Juniper, Judy Seaver, Theresa Breh, Hon. Stephanie Sontag

Dan Link, Judy Copeland, Dan Lawton

Chris Dibbern

Cynthia Thornton

Neal Svalstad
The new federal courthouse being constructed is opposite the Hall of Justice on Broadway. Photo by Barry Carlton (bjcarlton@cox.net), a supervising deputy attorney general with the California Attorney General’s office.
Member Benefits

The SDCBA strives to add value to your membership by offering you discounts on a wide range of practice-related and lifestyle products and services. Contact the Member Services department with questions regarding any of the following benefits and services at 619-231-0781 or mbr@sdcba.org.

Preferred Providers

**AHERN INSURANCE BROKERAGE** offers a full line of coverage for your practice including professional liability, general liability, property coverage, employer benefits such as medical, life and retirement plans, as well as workers compensation insurance.

**Manuel Valdez** and **Manny J. Valdez** of **Magner Valdez of Ruggeri Associates** are experts who can help you meet settlement solutions to best meet the unique needs of clients.

**Professional Products and Services**

Real Estate - Groth & Ellis is a full service commercial real estate firm offering services including 94% of the transactions handled for clients from its representation.

**Law Pay** has developed a merchant account just for attorneys and law firms. Members can save up to 25% on the costs of credit card and processing fees by accepting payments through Law Pay.

**LawPay Credit Card Processing**

**Torrey Pines Bank** offers a comprehensive package of banking services at a reduced cost with faster bank-branch maintenance fees through the newly created Javelin Financial Community Banking.

**Proven** provides website design as well as communications and public relations services, graphic design, and internet marketing services at a discounted rate.

**Hutchings Court Reporters** includes deposition, hearings, arbitrations, meetings, trials, exams, and examinations, court monitors, 18% on motion and incidental rates.

**Logan Product Experts, Inc.** provides court reporters with preferred access to an extensive catalog of customizable transcriptional and captioned. Receive preferred pricing tiered set-ups and sameday turn-around for each project.

**Javelin Web and Media**

**WEST** of a Thruway Services

**Publications**

**San Diego Magazine** offers members a 15% discount on thousands of books and periodicals available from the ABA.

**San Diego Business Journal** offers members a 15% discount on thousands of books and periodicals available from the ABA.

**AVIS** and **Hertz** rental cars are available to members through Hertz and Avis.

Assessments & Discounts are available to members through SeaWorld, Universal Studios Hollywood, the San Diego Zoo and the San Diego Wild Animal Park.

**SDCBA Sections and Committees** provide you with a forum to discuss topics and issues affecting your area of practice. Each section, committee and division has a designated lawyer and non-lawyer, allowing use of common members and sharing of documents, tools and information.

**Networking Through E-Communities**

The SDCBA offers a variety of online seminars for both in-person and self-study credit.

**Legal Ethics**

The San Diego County Bar Association staffs a free Ethics Hotline for members with questions regarding legal ethics. Reach the hotline at 619-231-0781. The Bar also maintains an online library of legal ethics opinions dating back almost 40 years at www.sdcb.com/legalopinions.

The online Legal Career Center allows members to search for jobs or post jobs at this nationwide legal career center. Used by the nation’s leading law firms, corporate legal departments, and government agencies, there are listings for full-time, part-time, contract, and temporary positions available.

**LRIS** of Lawyers, Referral and Information Services

The Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS) matches potential clients with qualified attorneys in their area of the county. Joining the LRIS can be an effective way to build a practice and a great place to refer clients outside of your practice area.

The Bar’s Client Relations Program wants to assist law firms and clients resolve problems before disputes reach the San Diego Bar level.

**www.sdcba.org/benefits**