

The Future Is Bright!

By Jared Byrne, President, The Lawyers Association

These days it's common to hear complaints about millennials. They don't want to put in the hours, they rely too heavily on technology, and they share a self-centered view of the world. These are myths. The younger generation desperately wants to get involved, share their talents, and contribute. To be clear, I'm not a millennial, but I'm close enough to understand their plight.

I was recently invited to attend a meeting of the Young Lawyer's Division of the Missouri Bar Association as part of an outreach program designed to bring together legal associations from across the state. Represented groups included the Southern Missouri Women Lawyers, the Mound City Bar Association, Hispanic and Asian Bar Associations from St. Louis and Kansas City, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, and the Lawyers for Equality, just to name a few. As each representative discussed their organization's annual events, themes emerged such as service to the community, diversity, and collegiality. Young leaders spoke passionately about their goals and opportunities for collaboration. Many of them probably left law school like I did, with a mortgage-size student loan that would have seemed unthinkable 40 years ago and paltry job prospects. But there was no cloud of discouragement in the room, only an intoxicating sense of optimism.

I plan to bring some of this enthusiasm to The Lawyers Association during my term as President. Our immediate Past President, Ken Vuylsteke, was absolutely right when he wrote that The Lawyers Association is first and foremost a social organization. Most of our events such as the bowling tournament, the holiday party, and certainly the Gridiron Show, are intended to give attorneys and judges an opportunity to share a few laughs in a more relaxed setting than the courtroom. That's not going to change. But yes, I am

Continued on Page 5

Judicial Appreciation—Sept. 7

Judge Carol Jackson, Judge Carolyn Whittington, Judge Jimmie Edwards, Judge Kathy Hart and Judge Joseph Denigan will be honored at the association's annual Judicial Appreciation program on Thursday, September 7. Judges Jackson, Whittington, Edwards, Hart and Denigan will be honored for their 25 years of service on the Bench. All members of the Bench will be honored and be guests of the association at this annual program that will include food stations and a cash bar.

Gerry Noce of HeplerBroom, LLP will be the featured speaker at the program that will be held in the 3rd Floor ballroom of the downtown Missouri Athletic Club.

The cost of the dinner program is \$50 per person and reservations may be made by contacting Jim Susman at susgroup@gmail.com.

[Judicial Appreciation Sponsors through 8-29-2017](#)

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P.O. Box 411122
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Gridiron Cast Call

Members of the Lawyers Association who are performers or singers or who think they are performers or singers you are invited to join others of like mind on Tuesday, September 19 as Gridiron rehearsals begin. Rehearsals begin at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Floor of the Goff-Moll American Legion Post 101 (2721 Collier)., which is just west of the Schnucks at Manchester and Brentwood Blvd.

Questions regarding rehearsals and the show itself may be directed to the Gridiron Director Erin Madden at erin.madden4@gmail.com or Jim Susman at susgroup@gmail.com or 314-991-5297.

CLE Seminar

Hot Topics in the Law — With Top Trial Lawyers in St. Louis

9:00 a.m. to Noon—Thursday, November 30
Doors open at 8:30 a.m.

The Association's annual CLE with USA&M will be held on Thursday, November 30 at 500 N. Broadway (1st Floor Training Room). Speakers will include:

9:00—9:50 David Ahlheim (Childress, Ahlheim & Cary) and Matt Padberg (Padberg, Corrigan & Appelbaum) will speak about 537.065 agreements and recent updates on the law.

10:00—10:50 Ken Vuylsteke (Fox & Vuylsteke) and Peter Dunne (Pitzer Snodgrass) will be discussing medical depositions.

11:00—11:50 Debbie Champion (Rynearson, Suess, Schnurbusch & Champion) and Gen Nichols (Coffey & Nichols) will join the other presenters will present an ethics program.

Act now as there is limited seating in the classroom. Reservations may be made by contacting Kelly Spiller (314-231-4642) at USA&M. \$40 for Lawyers Association members and \$50 for non-members. Please make checks payable to USA&M and mail to 500 N. Broadway, Suite 1800, St. Louis, MO 63102. Net proceeds will be donated to Legal Services of Eastern Missouri.

Congratulations....

...to Jenny Woulfe of Rynearson, Suess, Schnurbusch & Champion for receiving the John Shepherd Professional Award presented by BAMSL.

... to Karen McCarthy of The Bar Plan for receiving the Richard B. Teitelman Distinguished Service Award presented by Legal Services of Eastern Missouri at its 2017 "For The Common Good" awards program.

...to Chantel Fink of Blitz, Bardgett & Deutsch for being named to the *Missouri Lawyers Weekly* Up & Coming Lawyers of 2017.

Award of Honor

Matt Padberg, a founding partner of Padberg, Corrigan and Appelbaum, was honored and roasted at the annual Award of Honor dinner in April. Roasters included the Honorable Phil Hess, Tom Stewart, and Peter Dunne. Keeping the show (or the program) moving in a timely fashion was Ken Vuylsteke, the association's immediate past president. The sold-out dinner was held at the Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel.



More Award of Honor photos



Pro Bono Opportunity

By Bharat Varadachari, HeplerBroom, LLP

I have always found it unique that members of The Lawyers' Association can put aside the adversarial nature of our practice and the general stressors of a demanding profession to develop meaningful relationships with people we do battle with on a regular basis and work together to benefit our community. St. Louis is unique in that regard as I have yet to see a legal community comes together quite like ours.

Our profession is often stereotyped in a negative fashion, but that does not prevent us from taking advantage of the unique and enviable position of making a difference in people's lives that are not able to help themselves. Every member of our organization has intense demands for time on both a professional and personal level, but as lawyers, we look for opportunities to help others.

The Board for The Lawyers Association is providing our members with some information regarding the Kaufman Fund Veterans Legal Referral Program, which aims to find free or low cost legal assistance for veterans. This charitable group collaborates with support agencies serving veterans in the St. Louis Metropolitan area to identify the most needed legal services and to provide assistance for those who do not qualify for aid from other agencies through referrals from volunteer attorneys in private practice. If you have not already, you will be receiving an e-mail from The Lawyers Association regarding information for this invaluable service. If you would like to actively participate with or receive more information about the Kaufman Fund, please contact Irwin Loiterstein at 314-550-5915 or irwin@thekaufmanfund.org.

Upcoming Events

Judicial Appreciation

Thursday, September 7

Happy Hour

Thursday, October 19
Goff-Moll American Legion Post

Gridiron

Friday, November 10
Chase Park Plaza Hotel

CLE Seminar with USA&M

Thursday, November 30

Holiday Party

Tuesday, December 12

Bowling Tournament

Wednesday, January 24, 2018
Saratoga Lanes

Black History Month Program

Thursday, February 22

Napier Award Winners Announced at Award of Honor



The Milton F. Napier Awards for Excellence in Trial Advocacy were presented at the Award of Honor in April. Ken Vuylsteke presented the certificates and a checks to David Weber of the Washington University School

of Law and Torrey Peterson of the Saint Louis Law School. The Napier Awards have been presented annually by the association since the 1970s.



The Future Is Bright—continued from Page 1

going to try and drag our organization technologically into the 21st century. With any luck, you might be able to pay for events online next year and we may even look into this Facebook thing I've been hearing so much about.

Change is inevitable. It was George Carlin who said, "Just when I discovered the meaning of life, they changed it." This year the Gridiron Show will have a new director for the first time in over 15 years as Erin Madden takes the reins from Bill Thomas and Tom Germeroth. There's a chance it might actually be funny this year (just kidding Bill). Let this be the first of many times I thank Bill and Tom for their years of service to our organization in creating Gridiron memories we'll never forget. With their help and guidance, Erin has been working hard with a talented group of writers on what is sure to be an amazing show.

We will continue serving our community by partnering with groups such as Habitat for Humanity and connecting with various organizations in need of pro bono legal services. We will also continue to provide our members with fun and worthwhile CLE events that utilize the vast knowledge our membership has to offer.

The Lawyers Association was founded in 1934 and its strength lies in the wisdom and experience of the members who have cared for it over the past 80 years. Award of Honor recipients such as Matt Padberg, Michael Gunn, Steve Ringkamp, and Kevin O'Malley are just a few of the many people who have built this organization into what it is today. I've seen the willingness of a younger generation to get involved and listen to those who know what it takes to succeed. Together we can achieve great things. I'm looking forward to a great year.

We're all going to need new sunglasses, because the future is bright!

Save the Date



Friday, November
10, 2017

Chase Park Plaza
Hotel

Sponsorship and Advertising
Opportunities are available
to contacting Jim Susman at
susgroup@gmail.com

A Sit Down With Our New and Not-So New City and County Judges

By James R. Cantalin, Brown & Crouppen, PC



St. Louis County Associate Circuit Court Judge **Robert M. Heggie**, Appointed to the 21st Circuit Court, Division 42, on March 24, 2016, by Governor Nixon.

Where did you go to school?

University of Missouri-Columbia, B.S. Accountancy (1985) and St. Louis University School of Law, J.D. (1991).

What is your favorite thing to do outside of work?

Spending time with my wife and 16-year-old daughter. Additionally, I enjoy spending time in the country fishing and hunting.

Why did you want to become a judge?

After 20+ years in private practice, it was time for a new challenge. The judiciary is an excellent place to use your legal background to help our community.

How is the Bench different from what you initially thought?

There is a lot more administrative work than I anticipated regarding managing people and resources. While we have a great management team, I still feel responsible for making sure everything runs smoothly and according to plan.

Do you have any recommendations for lawyers who appear before you?

First and foremost, be on time. Also, attorneys should always introduce themselves to the court and identify who they represent and know their case including the desired end-result and how to achieve that result.

The one things that lawyers do in court that drives me crazy is . . .

It is uncomfortable and unprofessional when attorneys interrupt each other, or speak to one another in a condescending manner.

What part of your legal career best prepared you for this job?

My extensive experience handling a very active civil litigation practice.

What advice would you offer to an attorney who wants to be a judge?

Get into the courtroom in order to develop and practice your litigation skills. Additionally, it is important for attorneys wanting to become judges to be out in the legal and non-legal community in order to demonstrate your commitment to help the community.



St. Louis City Circuit Court Judge **Christopher E. McGraugh**, Appointed to the 22nd Circuit Court on April 15, 2015, by Governor Nixon.

Where did you go to school?

DeSmet Jesuit High School (1979), St. Louis University B.A. (1983), St. Louis University School of Law J.D. (1987).

What is your favorite thing to do outside of work?

Golfing, reading non-fiction books and spending time with my family. In addition, I enjoy teaching Trail Advocacy at St. Louis University School of Law and Washington University School of Law.

Why did you want to become a judge?

During my career, I have had the opportunity to practice before some outstanding trial judges who have inspired me to become a judge. I hope my 25+ years of litigation experience will help me effectively serve as a trial judge in the City of St. Louis.

How is the Bench different from what you initially thought?

The administrative aspect of the position. I did not realize how much time the judges spend on managing the court.

Do you have any recommendations for lawyers who appear before you?

Be prepared and maintain a professional conduct by dressing well, acting in a professional manner and treating others with respect.

How has being on the Bench changed your perspectives of the court from when you were an attorney?

During my time on the Bench, I have gained insight on decisions judges make that I did not understand or disagreed with when I was an attorney. Now, I understand the rationale and merits behind those decisions.

Who were some of your mentors throughout your career?

Jack Garvey, Joseph Leritz, Thomas Plunkert and Kevin Kern.

What is one of the most important aspects of a "good lawyer"?

I believe that practicing law is all about relationships. Not only relationships with the clients, but also with other attorneys as well as judges.

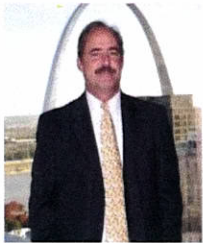
Do you have any special preferences for hearings or trials?

I believe it is very important to start on time and respect everyone's time. Be prepared and know your case.

Continued on Next Page

A Sit Down With Our New and Not-So New City and County Judges

Continued from Previous Page



St. Louis County Associate Circuit Court Judge [Joseph L. Green](#), Appointed to the 21st Circuit Court, Division 36 on February 18, 2016, by Governor Nixon.

Where did you go to school?

St. Dominic High School, Truman State University/Northeast Missouri State University, B.S. Business Administration (1982) and St. Louis University School of Law, J.D. (1987)

What is your favorite thing to do outside of work?

I enjoy spending time with my wife, our 4 children and 3 grandchildren. In addition, I enjoy fishing and boating.

Why did you want to become a judge?

First, I love trying cases and being in the courtroom. I originally wanted to be a police officer because a lot of my family worked in law enforcement including my uncle who was the Chief of Police in Florissant. However, my mother swayed me into law instead, as it was a safer way to defend and protect the public.

Do you have any recommendations for lawyers who appear before you?

I recommend scheduling a pre-trial conference well before the morning of trial in order to address any motions or outstanding issues.

What are your most notable trials as either a judge or attorney?

In my time as an attorney, I tried 25 death related criminal cases, one being a murder case in my first year as a licensed attorney. I also represented Megan Drury in *Drury v. Missouri Youth Soccer Association Inc.*

Who have been your mentors throughout your career?

Judge Frank Connett and Judge Chris McGaugh.



St. Louis City Circuit Court Judge [Michael Noble](#), Appointed to the 22nd Circuit Court on November 18, 2015, by Governor Nixon.

Where did you go to school?

St. Louis University High, United States Military Academy at West Point, NY, B.S. Engineering (1988) and St. Louis University School of Law, J.D. (2004).

What is your favorite thing to do outside of work?

Fly fishing. Favorite locations are Meramec River, White River, and Montauk State Park.

Why did you want to become a judge?

First, I really enjoyed being a trial attorney and being in the Courtroom. Also, my experience as the St. Louis City Drug Court Commissioner exposed me to some of the real needs in our community. I realized that I could have more of an affect in our entire community as a judge.

How is the Bench different from what you thought?

I had absolutely no idea how many women in our community have been sexually assaulted and the vast majority of them are unreported. This came to my attention during jury selection, especially in sexual assault cases. I see this as a serious under addressed problem in our community.

Hardest thing about your job?

The "grey" areas. Because of my drug court experience, I am careful at weighing who should be in jail verses who shouldn't be, and trying to find the best solution in each unique situation. Jail is not always the right solution. It can be difficult to find the right penalty or solution in the gray areas.

What is your definition of "good lawyering?"

Be prepared. For example, a good lawyer anticipates the objections and is prepared to argue the admissibility of the question. A good lawyer is able to handle the interruption of the objection, argue the admissibility of the question and return directly to where they left off without missing a beat. A good lawyer does not have tunnel vision, he is prepared from all angles.

Any special preferences for hearings?

Be prepared and know your facts. Judge Noble recommends lawyers request a pre-trial conference to avoid being blindsided the morning of trial. Additionally, a pre-trial conference prior to the morning of trial allows the Court time to properly rule on the issues.

Softball and Picnic — A Good Time Was Had By All !



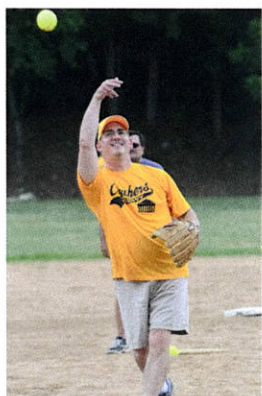
The veterans confer.



Doling out another attendance prize.



Jared makes the catch.



The winning pitcher delivers a strike.



The rookie and the hall of famer meet.



Chowing down on the BBQ.



Discussing the game.



Close play at second.



Bharat whiffs on a change up.



Giving away more prizes.



Judge Hart and father, Bob Hart, tell Jim Fox she won the grand prize.



The friendly rivalry.



<<<< Home run swing

>>>> How did we lose again?

