



President's Column

By **Jennine Adamek Moore**
Franke, Schultz & Mullen, P.C.

You guessed it. It is that time of year again when the new President of the Lawyers Association gets to introduce herself to everyone, or at least to everyone who still reads the newsletter.

I am honored to be writing my first President's Column after having read so many over the past 23 years. As many of you know, I was at a downtown insurance defense firm (often mentioned in the Gridiron News) for almost 20 years before I embarked on a new adventure at my current firm. It began on a Monday. On Thursday, everybody started working from home due to the pandemic. I managed to make it 3.5 years without getting COVID, but now I am trying to WFH since COVID has brought me to a screeching halt the past few days. If you do not find this column witty or engaging, I am going to blame it on COVID brain. Luckily, opposing counsel in my cases have been accommodating and I think that is a fitting example of how LASL brings together adversaries and reminds everyone that we are all human.

I love this organization that brings together plaintiff's lawyers, defense lawyers, and judges from around St. Louis. I will admit I was apprehensive when I attended my first few LASL meetings years ago. I only knew two or three attorneys and they were both from my firm. We

Judicial Appreciation Program

Wed. Sept. 27

The association's annual Judicial Appreciation program will be held at the Westin Hotel, 811 Spruce Street, at 5:30 p.m. on Wed. Sept. 27. All Members of the Bench will be honored during the program. However, **Judge Rodney Sippel**, **Judge Joan Moriarty** and **Judge Barbara Peebles** will be honored for serving 25 years on the Bench.

Judge Sippel is a Senior District Judge of the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri, and Judges Joan Moriarty and Barbara Peebles are Circuit Judges with the 22nd Judicial Circuit.

Debbie Champion, a partner at Ryneerson, Suess, Schnurbusch & Champion, LLC, will be the featured speaker at the program.

The cost of attending the program is \$60 for members of The Lawyers Association and \$75 for non-members. Law firms wishing to be a sponsor of the event may do so by contacting Jim Susman at susgroup@gmail.com. The costs and benefits of sponsorships are: Gold Level - \$500 and includes 2 tickets to the program. Silver Level Sponsorships are available for \$250 but do not include tickets. Both sponsorship levels include name recognition in marketing materials.

Judicial Appreciation Sponsors are listed on Page 3.

Upcoming Events

Wed. Sept. 27
Judicial Appreciation
5:30 p.m.
The Westin Hotel – 811 Spruce
Street

Fri. Nov. 17
Gridiron
6:00 p.m.
St. Louis Marriott Grand Hotel
800 Washinton Ave.

Tues. Dec. 5
Holiday Party
5:30 p.m.
McGurk's
1200 Russell Ave.

January 2024
Bowling Tournament
Date to be Determined

February 2024
Black History Month Dinner
Date to be Determined

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Gridiron

Save the Date

Friday, November 17

Gridiron Cast Call

The Gridiron season is upon us. Rehearsals began on Thursday, September 14, 2023, at the VFW Hall, 1717 S. Big Bend (between I-64/Highway 40 and Manchester). Rehearsals will generally be on Tuesdays and Thursdays with a few exceptions. If you know someone who wants to join the cast, please ask them to join us at the VFW Hall on one of the rehearsal dates. As always, dinner and drinks will be provided for the cast.

Finally, be aware that Tuesday is Taco Tuesday Night at the VFW Hall and Thursday is Steak Night. These nights tend to be well attended and there will be more vehicles in the parking lot. However, there still should be plenty of parking for the cast.

If you have any questions, please reach out to:
Chantal Mehill — cmehill@greensfelder.com or
Tom Neill — tneill@grgpc.com.

Rehearsal dates are:

Tues. Sept. 26	Mon. Oct. 30
Thurs Sept. 28	Thurs. Nov. 2
Tues. Oct. 3	Mon. Nov. 6
Thurs. Oct. 5	Thurs. Nov. 9
Tues. Oct. 10	Mon. Nov. 13
Thurs. Oct. 12	Tues. Nov. 14
Tues. Oct. 17	Wed. Nov. 15
Thurs. Oct. 19	Thurs. Nov. 16
Tues. Oct. 24	
Thurs. Oct. 26	

Gridiron Cast Member Update – The Next Generation

Since the 2022 Gridiron Show the cast has grown by leaps & bounds as evidenced by those that have given birth to future cast members.

Emily, wife of Andrew Eastman (Charlotte)
Olivia Findley – Penelope
Sarah Jane Hunt – Elinor
Chantal Mehill – Frederick (Freddie)

stuck together in a pack, too timid to mingle with all the accomplished attorneys who already seemed to know each other. We stayed like that for most of the events that first year, afraid to venture out. However, the following year, I attended the Judicial Appreciation Dinner where a jovial attorney approached and introduced himself and everyone (yes, everyone) around him. His name was [Peter Dunne](#). Pete suggested I join the Gridiron rehearsals that year and my love for LASL was cemented.

LASL facilitates comradery amongst the Bench and Bar and it is always great to see so many familiar faces at our events. It is also probably the only organization where you may see your opposing counsel in a case perform a skit from "The Full Monty" at the Gridiron Show on Friday and then face him at a deposition the following Monday. While we are not bringing back that skit for this year's Gridiron, I am certain it is forever engrained in the memories of those either in or at the show that year.

Our jobs are stressful but LASL gives us opportunities to socialize outside the courtroom and conference rooms. We have a great line-up this year, including the Judicial Appreciation Dinner on September 27, the Gridiron Show on November 17, and the holiday party on December 5. Next year begins with the bowling tournament in January, followed by the Black History Month Dinner in February, the Award of Honor Dinner in March or April, the Memorial Service in May, and the picnic and softball game in June. We might even throw in some more events just to keep you on your toes.

I hope to see everyone at these events and look forward to starting 5 years in a row of female LASL Presidents!

Annual Association Picnic



County Crushers beat the City Swingers 8-7 in the annual LASL Softball Game

