

Dauphin County Bar Association August Newsletter



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President's Message



Just One More...

'Searching is half the fun: life is much more manageable when thought of as a scavenger hunt as opposed to a surprise party.'

~ Jimmy Buffett.
Summertime!

I remember when just the thought of summertime was enough to brighten my day. As one with a mid-summer birthday (July 24), I always anticipated the lazy, hazy, crazy days. It was not uncommon to be away on vacation for my birthday, oftentimes relishing in the fun of Myrtle Beach. I continue to go to Myrtle Beach as an adult, though not as frequently, and I now truly appreciate why my father was exhausted after spending a week at the beach with three boys! I have but one child, who is now 22, but he possessed the energy and enthusiasm of a boy; and that's why they have a Margarittaville at Broadway on the Beach!

In true Summertime-fashion, the DCBA has been picnicking like there is no tomorrow! A couple of weeks ago, the Young Lawyers hosted the annual volleyball picnic at the Postal Grounds. Kim, Amanda, Leslie, Nicole, and a host of other Young Lawyers did a fantastic job this year! I had the opportunity to wander around and talk with people and enjoy the company of colleagues and friends... and to meet some new friends. There is nothing quite like a picnic to set the tone for the summer. Hamburgers, hot dogs, beer, volleyball... the only thing that was really missing was the sand. While we did have a few rumbles of thunder at the end of the evening, I am pleased to say that none of our teams had to spend the night on the 'mountain' this year!

And if one picnic weren't enough (is it ever?), a week later we participated in the Second Annual Joint Dauphin County/Cumberland County Bar Associations Summer Picnic at Allenberry. The weather was steamy; actually it was friggin' HOT! Maybe that played a role in the smaller numbers this year, but those of us who were there absolutely enjoyed clams, friendship and the legendary Allenberry Sticky-Buns! This year's picnic also saw the first DCBA/CCBA Golf Outing, hosted at Rich Valley Golf Course, and 76 members signed up! So while the attendance at the picnic may have been slightly less than last year, the overall participation in the day's events was far better than last year. And I think next year will be even better! Congratulations to Jason Kutulakis for taking lead on organizing the golf scramble this year; it was a bigger task that he first anticipated, but he did a fantastic job of pulling it all together.

We had two very successful events this summer. Throughout this newsletter you can see the pictures of our friends and colleagues enjoying themselves and each other. Success is the result of dedicated work by people who don't care about recognition. They work hard, not because they seek the laurels of a job well done, they work hard because the work needs to be done. Liz, Joyce and Bridgette were integral in the success of the two picnics. (Certainly, Becky and the folks in Cumberland County were essential and important in the success of the Annual Picnic...). These three will do whatever they can to deflect attention from their roles in making the DCBA successful. But those of us who work with (or for?) them know the truth...

Thank you, Liz, Joyce and Bridgette. Your efforts do not go unnoticed and are really, REALLY appreciated!

What's on the agenda...

I hope you are all enjoying your summers and your vacations. It's hard to believe that in less than a month, kids will be going back to school, returning to college, or starting on some new adventure. If you did not make it to the Volleyball Picnic last week, please make a point to stop by the Postal Grounds this Thursday afternoon. This is the first week of playoffs, and the last time this year that all of the teams will be there at one time. Come and cheer on your friends and co-workers; take some time out of your busy week to wander around, sipping a beer and just... being.

If you have been following these articles, you might remember that I shared with you that the Young Lawyers are re-introducing the Wine Tasting this year. It's ON!!! September 6, the Young Lawyers will be co-hosting the return event with the Pennsylvania Wine Society. A never-before-seen pairing, this event promises to be both entertaining and informative. However, space is limited; the registration form is in this month's newsletter. Don't wait to sign up!

There are two other important dates for you to mark.

- Wednesday, September 19 we will host a Memorial Service in Courtroom 1 beginning at 4:00, with a Last Call Reception immediately thereafter.
- Thursday, September 27 is our Fall Membership Meeting at the Civic Club downtown, beginning at noon.

Summertime is a good time. A fun time. But it's still a busy time.

Come out and join us... you have time for *Just One More...*

Funds to Establish Consumer Protection Lawyer



A donation resulting from a consumer class action has helped create an innovative Consumer Protection Attorney post. Consumer attorney Cary L. Flitter, center, of the Narberth, PA law firm Flitter Lorenz, P.C. presents a check for \$185,321, to MidPenn Legal Services Executive Director Rhodia D. Thomas, on left. The funds are part of a settlement valued at over \$10 million from a successful challenge to an auto lender's repossession practices. Attorney Thomas expressed her gratitude to Attorney Flitter, "This is a significant win for local low-income consumers. Establishing this new post will help a lot of poor families with serious consumer problems. This economy is tough on everyone but the families at the bottom are suffering the most."

MidPenn Legal Services, which provides free legal aid to the poor in civil matters, will use the donation to establish a Consumer Protection Attorney position, to be filled by Attorney Nancy L. Datres, on right, of the Harrisburg MidPenn office. Attorney Flitter said, "It is great to see consumers get increased access to attorneys." Mr. Flitter was in Harrisburg on July 17 to help train MidPenn attorneys in spotting consumer issues.

MidPenn Legal Services is the "legal emergency room for the poor," a legal safety net for very low-income families in Central Pennsylvania. MidPenn provides help in civil law matters including: domestic violence, custody, housing, health care, consumer, elder law and public benefits. Last year MidPenn handled nearly 15,000 cases in 18 counties in Central Pennsylvania at an average cost of less than \$600 per case.

Bar Briefs



Sandy Ballard and Kandice Hull were named PBA co-chairs of the Legal Services to the Public Committee.



Lisa Benzie was named co-chair of the PBA Political Action Committee and the Women in the Profession Committee.



Bernadette Barattini, former Deputy Chief Counsel for the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), has joined the law firm of Mette, Evans & Woodside as Counsel to the firm. Ms. Barattini brings extensive knowledge of municipal financing, having administered the Local Government Unit Debt Act, which governs the incurrence of indebtedness by local governments in Pennsylvania for over 25 years. Her practice with the firm will focus on municipal finance.



Leo Dunn was named chair of the PBA Gay and Lesbian Rights Committee.



John Gedid was named chair of the PBA Statutory Law Committee.



Amy Groff was named chair of the PBA Civil Litigation Section.



Melissa Bevan Melewsky was named co-chair of the PBA Bar and Press Committee.



Bridget Montgomery was named co-chair of the PBA Judicial Code of Conduct Task Force.



Jan Tamanini was named chair of the PBA Plain English Committee.



Melanie L. Vanderau has rejoined the firm of Mette, Evans & Woodside as an Associate in the Banking Law and Business Law practice areas. Ms. Vanderau started her legal career with the firm and most recently served as Vice President and Bank Counsel for a regional bank. Ms. Vanderau advises financial institutions on banking issues and provides comprehensive legal counsel to business entities. A native of Adams County, Ms. Vanderau graduated summa cum laude from Susquehanna University. She received her Juris Doctorate from the Penn State University Dickinson Law School, graduating cum laude.



Randy L. Varner of McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC has authored the 2012 edition of *Assessment Law & Procedure in Pennsylvania*, published by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. The treatise is designed to provide the reader with a guide through each step of the assessment and appeal process. It is a comprehensive manual incorporating years of practical experience by McNees attorneys in this specialized area of law. *Assessment Law & Procedure in Pennsylvania* also includes detailed discussions of the relevant case law and statutory provisions that provide the framework for Pennsylvania assessment law.



Claudia Williams was named chair of the PBA Labor and Employment Law Section.

WIP NEWS



The next WIP Social will be held at the DCBA on **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2012** beginning at **5:30 p.m.**

Come help us plan our final event of the year coming up in October. We will discuss how we will honor a DCBA DIVA and hope to generate interest for new leaders to take the reigns of our Committee in 2013.

Hope you can join us!

2012 Camp 1L CAMP Intern Program



2012 Camp 1L Interns pictured here with
Royce Morris of Goldberg Katzman.

My how time flies! On July 24, 2012 the DCBA hosted the Closing Reception for the CAMP 1L Program to congratulate the students who participated in the program this year. Twelve students from Penn State Dickinson School of Law and Widener Law were placed with firms in Harrisburg and Lancaster to put into practice their first year law training. In addition to their regular work day with the firms, the students took part in six professional development sessions that included topics such as Criminal Law, Public Utility practice, Civil Litigation, Public Service, State Agency practice and Corporate Law. Each of these sessions was presented by seasoned attorneys in the respective fields and the students all enjoyed the opportunity to hear from and ask questions of these respected practitioners.

The CAMP 1L Intern Program has been in effect in Dauphin County since 2006 and we are pleased to introduce minority law students

to the legal community here in the Harrisburg area. Lancaster County joined this initiative in 2009 and also enjoys success in introducing students to a number of firms there.

Without the participation of these firms and their support, this valuable program would not be so successful. This year we thank the following firms for accepting students:

Harrisburg

Eckert Seamans
Goldberg Katzman
Highmark
K & L Gates
Saul Ewing
Stevens & Lee

Lancaster

Armstrong World Industries
Atlee and Hall
Barley Snyder
Blakinger Byler and Thomas
Gibbel Kraybill and Hess
Hartman Underhill and Brubaker
McNees Wallace & Nurick (Lancaster Office)
Stevens & Lee (Lancaster Office)
Triquetra Law

We also thank all of our members who participated in the interview process for the selection of the students and for monetary contributions from firms as well. Best wishes to all of our students and on behalf of the Lancaster and Dauphin County Bar Associations, we are hopeful for your continued success in law school and future career paths.

Young Lawyers Picnic



CCBA & DCBA Joint Picnic Photography by: J. Michael Sheldon



Dauphin County Pro Bono Attorneys Featured on National Web Site

The ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service launched the National Pro Bono Celebration, to be held October 21 to 27 this year, to help address the increasing need for pro bono services during these harsh economic times and to recognize the unprecedented response of pro bono attorneys to meet this demand.

Goals for the celebration include: 1) Recruiting more pro bono attorneys and increasing legal services to poor and vulnerable people, 2) Mobilizing community support for pro bono, 3) Fostering collaborative relationships, and 4) Recognizing the pro bono efforts of America's lawyers. The Committee created a web site to maximize participation in the National Pro Bono Celebration.

One new feature on the web site is a "video quilt" of pro bono stories. As the web site explains, "Every day, lives are changed when our poorest and most vulnerable citizens gain access to the legal system. Listen to public interest advocates tell stories of justice that significantly impacted the lives of their clients as well as their own." Thanks to Lafayette College Intern, Ryan Crumlish, several Dauphin County pro bono attorneys will be featured on this video quilt. Here is one of their stories:

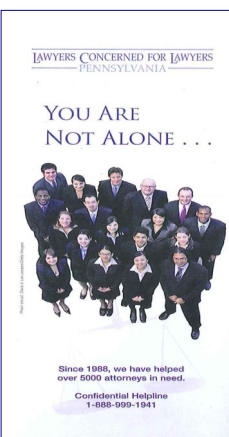
Chris Dreisbach is an attorney with the firm **Robinson and Geraldo**. His most recent pro bono case was with a client named Scott Walters.* Scott had a custody dispute and was scheduled for a conciliation conference. However Scott had a lot of animosity towards the child's mother.

I tried to help him take most of the emotion out of the situation and get him to realize that the whole focus and purpose of the custody negotiation agreement was not to resolve the issues between him and his ex-girlfriend, but figure out what was in the best interests of his son. After he and I were able to go over that in great detail, Scott understood and we were able to negotiate an agreement that absolutely was in the best interests of his son.

He felt relieved that he had accomplished what he had ultimately wanted and was no longer clouded by the personal issues that he had had with the mother of his son. It was a positive result for myself and that is really one of the greatest benefits of being able to do pro bono work

* Not his real name.

To listen to other pro bono stories and/or post one of your own, go to: <http://www.probono.net/celebrateprobono/>.



Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers

To obtain your copy of the Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers Brochure, contact the Bar Association at (717) 234-4582

The following participants provided *pro bono* service during the month of July by accepting new clients, making a financial contribution to MidPenn Legal Services, participating in one of our *pro bono* programs, or conducting one of our family law clinics:

Sherry E. Baskin
Seth T. Black
Rob Bleecher
James Daniel Blythe
Jeffrey C. Clark
John Andrew Davidson
Laurie Jo DeBarr
Bradford Dorrance
Leo L. Dunn
Edward Finkelstein
Donna L. Fisher
Suzanne S. Friday
Hon. Robert A. Graci
Fred Harold Hait
Lacy Hayes Jr.
Neil E. Hendershot
Emily Long Hoffman
Nathaniel M. Holmes
Lisa Mary-Frances Hopkins
Jacqueline A. Kelly
Dale K. Ketner
Robert L. Knupp
Stephen R. Krone
Richard C. Lengler
Hon. Rebecca Jo Margerum

F. Stephenson Matthes
Brian E. McDonough
Andrew W. Norfleet
Nichole M. Staley O'Gorman
Heather L. Paterno
Joseph C. Patterson
Kathryn J. Peifer
Theron R. Perez
Brian W. Perry
William J. Peters
Elizabeth B. Place
Ann E. Rhoads
Marianne E. Rudebusch
Lisa A. Rynard
Edward P. Seeber
Matthew A. Sembach
Mark T. Silliker
Barry M. Simpson
Elizabeth D. Snover
Jan Matthew Tamanini
Rhodia D. Thomas
Sheila A. Thurston
Bruce J. Warshawsky
Russell R. Wert
Maribeth Wilt-Seibert



Pro Bono Performance

So far in calendar year 2012, our Pro Bono Program has:

Assisted 452 clients (based on new cases)
Donated 1,944 hours of legal services (based on closed cases)
Valued at \$291,600
Conducted 8 Pro Se Clinics

Additionally, our Lawyer Referral Program has fielded 2,706 calls and referred 1,661 clients, including 64 clients who qualified for our Modest Means Panel. Thanks to all those who help maintain this tradition of community services.

August 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 6:00pm Volleyball Rain date (make up games from June 7th)	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 6:00pm Volleyball Playoffs	10 9:00am - 5:00pm DCBA 6 Hour Compliance Session (Crowne Plaza) https://www.dcba-pa.org/Calendar/Signup.aspx?EventNo=192	11
12	13	14 11:30am lunch 12:00 Noon CLE "Selecting, Evaluating and Handling Personal Injury Cases" Featuring: Christopher Marzzacco https://www.dcba-pa.org/Calendar/Signup.aspx?EventNo=194	15 9:00am Custody Clinic	16 9:00am Custody Campaign Meeting 6:00pm Volleyball Playoffs (if needed)	17	18
19	20 12:30pm DCBA ADR Committee Meeting	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 11:30am lunch 12:00 Noon - 3:00 p.m. CLE "Recent Developments Impacting Estate Plan- ning & Administration" Featuring: Panel of Speakers https://www.dcba-pa.org/Calendar/Signup.aspx?EventNo=198	29 5:30pm WIP Social https://www.dcba-pa.org/pdfs/event-Ads/0829WIPflyer.pdf	30	31	

September 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Labor Day Holiday - DCBA Closed	4	5 4:30pm DCBA Social Committee Meeting	6 9:00am - 12 noon "Advanced Concepts in Parenting Coordination" https://www.dcba-pa.org/ pdfs/ even- tAds/090612parentingcoor dinators.pdf 7:00pm Young Lawyers Wine Tasting https://www.dcba-pa.org/ pdfs/	7 2012/2013 Dauphin County Arbitrator Appli- cations Due	8
9	10 5:30pm Lipsitt Inn of Courts	11 11:30am lunch 12:00 Noon CLE To Be Announced	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 4:30pm Board of Directors Meeting	19 4:00pm Me- morial Service https://www.dcba- pa.org/pdfs/ even- tAds/0919Memor ialServicepub.pdf	20	21	22
23	24	25 11:30am lunch 12:00 Noon CLE To Be Announced	26 4:00pm DCBA Military Commit- tee Meeting	27 12noon DCBA Fall Membership Meeting - Civic Club https://www.dcba-pa.org/ pdfs/ even- tAds/092712fallmshipmtg.p df	28	29
30						

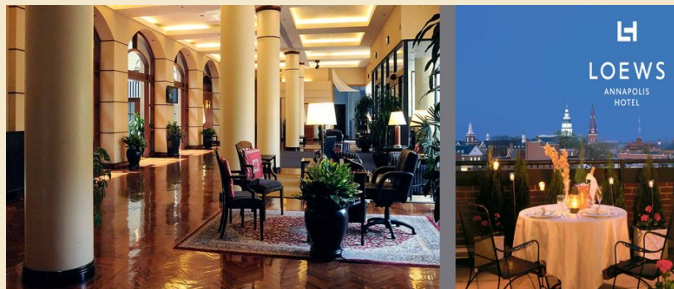


Save the Date

DCBA Day on Your Own in New York City
Saturday, November 10, 2012
REGISTER TODAY!



<https://www.dcba-pa.org/pdfs/eventAds/1110nyc.pdf>



2013 Bench/Bar Conference
Friday, May 3, 2013 - Sunday, May 5, 2013
Loews Annapolis Hotel
More Information to Follow

Junior League of Harrisburg

The Junior League of Harrisburg is inviting potential members to a social event on August 15, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at The Civic Club of Harrisburg. (See flyer at end of newsletter)

The Junior League of Harrisburg is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and to improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The Junior League is now accepting provisional member applications through August 31, 2012. If interested, visit the JLH website at www.jl-hbg.com or contact Erin Grady at ekgrady@gmail.com.

September Newsletter Deadline

If you would like an event advertised in our newsletter, please submit it by the deadline below to liz@dcba-pa.org.
NO LATER THAN Friday, August 24, 2012.

Thank you.



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF HARRISBURG

Women building better communities®

Now accepting applications for the 2012/13 year!

Making Friends While Making a Difference

The Junior League of Harrisburg invites ladies 21+ to come and learn more about our organization and to meet and socialize with current Junior League members. Bring a friend! An information social for prospective members will be held on the following date:

Wednesday, August 15 at 6pm
Civic Club of Harrisburg
612 North Front Street, Harrisburg

If you are unable to make it to the August Social but are interested in joining JLH, please send an email to juniorleagueharrisburg@gmail.com. Applications are due by August 31, 2012, and can be found at: www.jl-hbg.com.

The Junior League of Harrisburg is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and to improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

An RSVP is highly encouraged but not required. Please RSVP at:

www.jl-hbg.com