

Vintage Voices

Senior Lawyers Division

July 2021

You have spoken, and you have chosen. Welcome to our July edition of the newly named *Vintage Voices*, our Senior Lawyers Division bi-monthly newsletter. We received a bunch of good suggestions for names, and many of you voted, although the turnout, percentagewise, was more like what you'd expect for a school bond election than for a presidential election.

The SLD Executive Council is taking a summer hiatus as most sections and divisions of the bar do, so we aren't meeting in June or July. This month's newsletter will try to fill you in on what's happened in May and June.

Mentoring

At our May meeting, Don Powell reported on the training program put on by the State Bar for mentors and mentees participating in the State Bar's program for one-to-one mentoring. This program was started in 2019 and pairs experienced lawyers who have been vetted by the Bar with young lawyers seeking mentoring. A younger lawyer wanting assistance contacts the bar to find out when the next training is. Both mentors and mentees must attend the training. There were 12-15 pairs in the first group and the same number in the second groups which started recently. After training, the mentor and mentee must meet at least once a month for a year. If they complete the year's program, they receive 8 credits of CLE, which includes 2 credits of ethics.

The Lawyer Down the Hall program is a short-term program. Normally, the program is used when a lawyer contacts Roberta Tepper with Practice 2.0 and needs help with a substantive question rather than a technical question. If the issue is substantive, Roberta contacts Kendra who matches the person seeking assistance with a lawyer who works in the area.

Both of these programs are really helpful. If you are still practicing, the one-on-one program would be an easy and rewarding way to get CLE credit. If you are venturing into a new area of practice or have an area of expertise that you could share with another lawyer, the Lawyer Down the Hall program might be one you could use or to which you could contribute.

Encouraging Involvement

One of the areas we want to become more involved with is bringing you CLE programs that you want. We are particularly anxious to serve those of you who find it difficult to leave your practice and drive to Phoenix or Tucson to attend a seminar in person (now that we have the ability to travel again.) Carlene Lacy in Mohave County and Mary Helen Maynard in Santa Cruz County have been in contacting senior lawyers in their communities to see what those lawyers are interested in. The Mohave County Bar Association is helping. We really want to hear from you in all 15 counties to see

what might be most beneficial to you and what types of CLE programs you might want to attend if they were by Zoom. Thanks in advance for all your suggestions.

Dues issue

Unless you haven't been on the Senior Lawyers Digest in the last several months, you know that the issue of dues for Senior Lawyers is a topic of discussion. Walter Nash, our Division chair, raised it with Denis Fitzgibbons, the State Bar President, and Denis instructed staff to gather financial and other information so the Board of Governors can consider what changes, if any, should be made to dues for Senior Lawyers. The Executive Council of the Board of Governors has considered this issue and assigned it to the Finance and Audit committee for review. While I know that many of you are concerned about progress on the issue getting stalled in committee, as a personal opinion, this seems to me to be a prudent step. The Board of Governors ultimately are the stewards of the money the Bar receives from all of us. I wouldn't expect to have them make any decision of the potential financial impact a change in dues could make without having all the facts. I encourage all of you to call or email your representatives on the Board of Governors to express an opinion on the issue.

Pro Bono

Did you attend the May 27 seminar on Rule 38? If so, you got a lot of cool information on how to practice law under this rule even if you're retired. The seminar also was recorded and available until May 30. The materials for the seminar included a road map to Rule 38 certification. All materials from the seminar are posted on the website for the Senior Lawyers division. You also can get them by clicking [here](#).

Dean Christoffel also has spoken to the Pro Bono Services Network (all legal services providers) about doing a seminar on guardianships (both adult and children) in the fall. It would be free if put on by the Pro Bono Services Network. We need to determine if there is enough interest to put it on, so please let either Stephanie or me know if that's something in which you are interested. My email address is sallybob75@comcast.net. Stephanie's is stephanie.austin@staff.azbar.org.

Tail coverage for lawyers who have retired and want to do pro bono work is a real concern. Dean has done some research and learned that, some insurance companies will continue to provide tail coverage after you retire if you perform work under Rule 38 and the pro bono organization provides malpractice insurance. Other insurance companies will not. His suggestion is that each lawyer should contact their own carrier to determine if the company will continue tail coverage for volunteer service. He also suggested pressing the carrier because they may initially say no, but later concede they will provide coverage. Maybe we should all be lobbying our insurers to get them to provide this coverage. Just a thought. Many of the pro bono organizations do provide malpractice insurance.

Transition

The only news in this arena is that there will be a succession planning seminar in July. Look for it. We are still discussing the best vehicle to provide information on the experiences of other lawyers who have transitioned in their practices so that those considering doing so can see what others have done.

Elections

We need another at large member and a Secretary, and the Executive Council will select persons to fill those positions at the August meeting. If you're interested (and we hope you are), please let Walter (walternashlaw@gmail.com) or Stephanie (stephanie.austin@staff.azbar.org) know.

The results of the election for the Executive Council for 2021-22 are as follows:

Name	Title	Term
Walter Nash	President	2021-2022
Dean Christoffel	President-Elect	2021-2022

TBD	Past President	2021-2022
OPEN	Secretary	2021-2022
Mary Maynard	Treasurer	2021-2022
Ella Johnson	District Rep. 1	2020-2022
Carlene Lacy	District Rep. 2	2020-2022
Sally Simmons	District Rep. 3	2020-2022
Larry Robertson Jr.	District Rep. 3	2020-2022
Thom Cope	District Rep. 3	2021-2023
Denise Blommel	District Rep. 4	2020-2022
Donald Powell	District Rep. 4	2020-2022
Richard Goldsmith	District Rep. 4	2020-2022
Gary Stuart	District Rep. 4	2021-2023
Louie Araneta	District Rep. 4	2021-2023
Richard Davis	Member-at-large	2021-2022
OPEN	Member-at-large	2021-2022

State Bar Convention

Those who attended the virtual breakfast meeting of the Senior Lawyers Division at the state bar convention on June 18 had a great time. Hopefully you learned something new. More importantly, I hope you got to connect with old friends. We are looking to hold a, hopefully, in person event sometime this year.

Kudos

At the annual State Bar convention, three senior Lawyers received special recognition. Mark Harrison was named Member of the Year posthumously. Lonnie Williams and Hon. Donn Kessler (Ret.) received President's Awards. All three men have contributed greatly to the betterment of our profession with decades of service. Congratulations!

That's it for this issue - our first as *Vintage Voices*. Please make your voice one that is heard and get in touch with me (again, sallybob75@comcast.net) if you have something or someone to feature in this newsletter.