

## From the President — June 2011

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### *To A Great Experience!*

Summer is here and another year of our Bar Association comes to a close. I can not believe that my year as Bar President has come to an end and this is my last Barrister Article (at least as President of the Association). The year has certainly gone by very quickly; though I was warned it would! It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the 84<sup>th</sup> President of our great Bar Association and I am truly grateful for all the encouragement and support I have received from so many of you during my term. The support and commitment of our membership has enabled our Bar Association to remain one of the largest, most active and respected county Bar Associations in New Jersey.

I would like to thank the Executive committee, Lou Lessig, Brenda Eutsler, Gary Boguski, Casey Price, Jenifer Fowler and Mike Madden; as well as the Board Trustees, the Young Lawyer's Committee, the Committee Chairs and my "consigliere," for all their hard work and dedication to our Bar Association, making my job so much easier. Each and every one of you gave of your valuable time, going above and beyond what was asked; and it is through all of your efforts that this year has been such a success. Special thanks to Foundation President Joe McCormick for not only his hard work and tireless effort on behalf of the Foundation, making this a successful Foundation year; but for your support and friendship to me.

We accomplished a lot this year, adding to our signature events and seminars. Our CLE program expanded with more offerings, including the addition of *CLE on Tap* for newly admitted attorneys and the CLE On-line, to meet the needs of our membership for mandatory CLE. The CCBA entered the age of social media with a blog, refining our Facebook page, and joining Twitter! In lieu of the annual Bench-Bar luncheon, we had the first *Cocktails and Conversation, Bench-Bar Cocktail Party*, which, based on your feedback, was a big success and certainly worth continuing. The Young Lawyer's Committee held the first Lobster Bake, to benefit the Larc School, which generated more excitement and enthusiasm, from both the organizers and participants, than I have seen in a number of years. The Foundation Tasting Event was also a great addition. More importantly, the attendance at all of our events and CLE programs was up, and this is thanks to all of you, the members.

I would also like to thank the Federal & State Judges in Camden County, and in particular Judge Orlando, together with Judge Brown, Judge Colallilo, Judge Fernandez-Vina and Judge Rand, for their support of the Bar Association. Your open door policies, together with your valuable input, have made the relationship between the Bench and the Bar even stronger.

Finally, I would like to thank our Bar Association staff, Denise Wybark, Kathy Caira and the newest member of our team, Kathy DelPrato. Your hard work, dedication and spirit are what make this Bar Association run so well. And a very special thanks goes to our Executive Director, who has been a good friend for a long time. I have relied on your good humor, sensibility and judgment throughout this year. The success of the Bar Association, and in particular, this year, is due in no small part to all of you.

I leave our Bar Association in the very capable hands of Lou Lessig. Our biggest challenge will continue to be maintaining our relevance and worth to all our members. I know that Lou is up for that challenge and will continue the successes we have had over the years, positioning the CCBA to be well-suited for the future.

Though the summer is upon us, and the Bar year winding down, please remember that the CCBA does not really close, and June is an active month. We have the Annual Children's Picnic on June 4<sup>th</sup>, the Installation Dinner Dance on June 11<sup>th</sup> at the Aquarium and the Bar Outing with the Burlington County Bar Association at the Flying W on June 17<sup>th</sup>. I hope to see many of you at these events.

This has truly been a great experience for me and I want to thank all of you for a wonderful year. Have a great summer.

