GetLegal.com Signs On
New Partner in Progress

The Association is proud to welcome GetLegal.com as its newest Partner in Progress. GetLegal.com is a legal information and Internet client development company which specializes in website design, content development and search engine marketing. This new partnership will help CCBA members establish and manage the benefits associated with the increase of social media and online marketing programs.

As a result of the growing rise of social media platforms over

Dues Unpaid?

Members whose 2010-2011 dues are unpaid as of January, 2011 will be officially dropped from the Camden County Bar Association and will forfeit the benefits associated with membership.

Once dropped, it will be necessary to submit a new application for approval by the Board of Trustees should you desire to resume your membership in the future.

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Karbasian to Receive Devine Award
Past CCBA President to be honored at January 28th Luncheon

Past CCBA President (2006-07), Carolyn Kornas Karbasian, Esq., has been named recipient of the Association’s 2010 Honorable Peter J. Devine, Jr. Award.

Ms. Karbasian will receive her award at a luncheon in her honor on Friday, January 28th, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel’s Riverside Pavilion in Cherry Hill.

Established in 1981 in honor of the popular Judge Devine, Bar President in 1967-68, the Devine Award is the Bar Association’s most prestigious award. It is presented annually by the Association in recognition of distinguished service to the Association and its members.

The festivities get underway at Noon with a cash bar networking reception followed by lunch and the award presentation at 12:30 p.m.

Continued on Page 15

Association Officer and Trustee Nominations Open
Have a voice in your Association’s future!

The Association’s Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for the offices of president-elect, first vice president, second vice president, treasurer, secretary, and for five Board of Trustees openings. The Board seats are for a term of three years beginning on June 1, 2011 and ending in May 2014.

“With 130 years of history, tradition and success, we’re looking to keep the association vibrant and in the forefront of services

Continued on Page 17

IN MEMORIAM

The Association was saddened to learn of the recent passing of three colleagues.

Former member Mario J. D’Alfonzo, Esq., age 59, on Thanksgiving Day, November 25th, following a long illness.

Long time member Michael D. Matteo, Esq., November 29th, at the age of 80.

Kathleen D. Friel, Esq., on December 8th, at the age of 41.

Kathleen had been a CCBA member since 2000, and was a partner in the law firm of Shimberg & Friel P.C. of Cherry Hill.

We extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of these CCBA members. They will be missed.
The Docket

Tuesday, January 4th
Young Lawyer Committee Meeting
Noon
Bar Headquarters, Cherry Hill

Tuesday, January 18th
Special Needs Trusts Seminar
4:00 – 6:15 pm
Tavistock Country Club, Haddonfield

Wednesday, January 19th
Association Trustees Meeting
4:00 pm
Bar Headquarters, Cherry Hill
Municipal Court Practice Committee Meeting
4:00 – 5:00 pm
Haddonfield Municipal Court

Thursday, January 20th
Children’s SSI Project:
Helping Local Children Obtain Disability Benefits Seminar
4:00 – 6:15 pm
The Mansion, Voorhees

Tuesday, January 25th
Black Letter Blast on Criminal Law Seminar
Tavistock Country Club, Haddonfield

Thursday, January 27th
18th Annual Bankruptcy Conference
4:00 – 7:15 pm
Tavistock Country Club, Haddonfield

Friday, January 28th
Social Security Committee Meeting
Noon
Bar Headquarters, Cherry Hill
Young Lawyer Committee Winter Social at Casona
7:00 pm
Casona of Collingswood, Collingswood

Tuesday, February 1st
Young Lawyer Committee Meeting
Noon
Bar Headquarters, Cherry Hill

Tentative Agenda for January 19 Trustees Meeting

A tentative agenda for this month’s regular Board of Trustees meeting follows. The meeting will begin at 4 p.m., at Bar Headquarters in Cherry Hill. All meetings are open to the membership. Anyone interested in attending should notify and confirm their attendance by calling Bar Headquarters at 856.482.0620.

I. Call to Order
II. Minutes from December Meeting
III. Treasurer’s Report
IV. President’s Report
V. Executive Director’s Report
VI. Membership Committee Report
VII. Young Lawyer Committee Report
VIII. Standing Committee Reports
IX. NJISBA Update
X. New Business (if any)
XI. Old Business
XII. Adjourn
XIII. New Business (if any)
XIV. Adjourn
XV. Old Business
XVI. Adjourn

(1-r) Michael H. Foster, Esq., with Stark & Stark, and Robert R. Nicodemo, III, Esq., of the Law Office of Robert R. Nicodemo, III, were presenters at the Association’s UM/UIM seminar at Tavistock moderated by Stephen M. DiStefano, Esq., also with Stark & Stark. The seminar was co-sponsored by the Young Lawyer Committee.
**Out & About**

**Children's Holiday Party**

Tired but still smiling!

Mike Madden & Elf Eynon

Terri Hanni, Nick Hanni & Katherine Wade

**Holiday Party**

Bill Tobolsky & Justin Loughry

Eric Fikry, Amanda Fogland, Steve Urgo & Greg Saputelli

Lou Lessig & Coleen Bezich

Tom Hagner & Mike Kulzer

**Tuesday, January 18th, Tavistock CC**

**Special Needs Trusts (2.4 NJ credits)**

If you are a personal injury attorney, matrimonial practitioner, or workers’ compensation specialist you must consider the need to establish a Special Needs Trust for your disabled client to protect and preserve his needs-based benefits. Statistics establish that approximately one out of every five Americans is considered disabled. Many of these individuals qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid. For them, these benefit programs are an absolute necessity. If you settle the case without considering the possibility of establishing a Special Needs Trust you place these benefits in jeopardy and quite possibly expose yourself to a malpractice action in the future.

Join us and learn the ins and outs of trust administration, when to say “no” to the client/beneficiary and how to deal with the ongoing demands of the beneficiary.

**Thursday, January 20th**

**The Mansion, Voorhees**

**Children’s SSI Project: Helping Local Children Obtain Disability Benefits (2.4 NJ credits)**

Under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program, a child from birth to age 18 may receive monthly payments based on disability if he or she has an impairment, or a combination of impairments, that meet the definition of disability for children and the parents; and, the parents and child are within the allowed resource and asset limits. Over the past several years many children have been awarded disability payments going forward through this program, as well as retroactive benefit payments.

This seminar will teach participants about this important program and how they can join the effort to assist low-income children with obtaining disability benefits.

**Tuesday, January 25th, Tavistock CC**

**Black Letter Blast on Criminal Law (2.4 NJ credits)**

Been a little remiss in keeping up with the steady flow of Criminal and Constitutional cases flowing from the prolific pens of our Appellate Division and Supreme Court? Not quite up to date on the latest Criminal Statutes devised and promulgated by our impeccable elected representatives? Confused by the latest Administrative regulations and edicts from the almighty Administrative Office of the Courts? Have no fear, Black Letter Blast is near. The famed annual Black Letter Blast reconvenes at Tavistock with another all-star panel! As usual, you will leave with terrific seminar materials chocked full of valuable info you will be able to use throughout the year, so we strongly suggest that you request your materials on a CD. Reserve your place early since an overflow crowd is expected.

**Thursday, January 27th, Tavistock CC**

**18th Annual Bankruptcy Conference (3.6 NJ credits)**

In today’s economic climate, knowledge of bankruptcy law is more important than ever to all practitioners, which makes the Annual Bankruptcy Conference a “must attend seminar” for anyone practicing in the bankruptcy courts either occasionally or on a regular basis.

Conference presenters are experts in their fields who will present a program featuring current case law including federal and state cases of particular interest to the bankruptcy practitioner. The Bankruptcy Conference is your opportunity to be on the cutting edge of current trends, issues and rules that will impact your practice and ensure that you are providing your clients with the most up to date counsel.

**FEBRUARY**

2 DWI Review – Part II, Tavistock
9 Labor & Employment Committee Luncheon, Tavistock*
10 Expungements, Rutgers – Camden
15 NJ Basic Estate Administration
24 Substance Abuse, The Mansion

**MARCH**

8 Health Law
24 NJ Basic Estate Planning
TBD Personal Injury
TBD Criminal Law

**APRIL**

21 NJ Criminal Trial Preparation
TBD Ethics
TBD Commercial Debtor-Creditor
TBD Medicare Set-Asides

**MAY**

26 NJ Municipal Court
TBD Joint Probate & Trust and Taxation
TBD Workers’ Compensation
TBD Real Estate

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Association Officer and Trustee Nominations Open

Continued from Page 1

to the legal community and the community-at-large in the ever-changing fast-paced world of the 21st Century” commented Rick DeMichele, chair of the Nominating Committee. “I know there are many talented, energetic and creative members in our Association with strong leadership skills. These are the folks who will help us keep our Association strong and vital” he continued. “If you enjoy participating in Association networking programs and seminars and are interested in being a part of the decision-making process, we’re looking for you.”

Members wishing to be considered for any of the available positions are expected to have the time and means to attend and participate in the monthly Board of Trustees meetings (10), attend and participate in Association & Foundation events and programs throughout the year, and perform other duties that may be assigned by the president.

If you have an interest in helping to shape the future of your Association, and can meet the time commitments outlined above, please send a letter of interest along with a resume to Rick DeMichele, Esq., Chairperson, Nominating Committee, c/o Camden County Bar Association, 1040 N. Kings Highway, Suite 201, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034. Current members of the Board of Trustees whose terms expire at the end of this year must also send a letter of interest to be considered for reappointment.

Lawyers who have practiced five years or less at the Bar of New Jersey or are 35 years or younger are eligible for the position of Young Lawyer Trustee or Vice Chairperson of the Young Lawyer Committee. The Young Lawyer Trustee must make a commitment to attend and chair monthly Young Lawyer Committee meetings; submit a monthly article to the Barrister; and, attend Association Board of Trustees monthly meetings and Young Lawyer and Association events and programs. To be considered for either position, please send a letter of interest along with a resume to Michael V. Madden, Chairperson, Young Lawyer Nominating Committee, c/o Camden County Bar Association, 1040 N. Kings Highway, Suite 201, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034. Both young lawyer posts are for a one-year term beginning June 1st, 2011.

For more information regarding the nominating process, please feel free to contact Executive Director Larry Pelletier at 856.482.0620 or via e-mail at lbp@camdencountybar.org.

The deadline for consideration of nominations is 5 p.m., Friday, February 5th, 2010.

Foundation Update

Resolutions

By Joseph A. McCormick, Jr.

“I resolve that these articles be shorter so that somebody might read them.”

We are all familiar with the practice of New Year’s Resolutions. It is an interesting practice that is marked more often by our failure to keep the many resolutions that we make each year. If I was able to abide by them, I would be back to my high school weight (actually, I’d be happy with my 1990 weight). This year, might I suggest that we narrow the list of resolutions and try to simply do a good deed every once in a while that will help another in need. Large or small, it can’t hurt. This is part of what your Bar Foundation tries to do.

Many of you already have a good start. Thank you to all who volunteered for the Children’s Holiday Party and the Adopt-A-Family program. I also want to thank those who made donations to the Bar Foundation in lieu of giving holiday gifts to co-workers. Your efforts have made a difference and I can only ask that you keep up the good work. Thanks again to Chris Mourtos of the Coastline who donates his facility, staff and fine food for the Holiday Party and for the great efforts Children’s Party co-chairs Jenifer Fowler and Brenda Eutsler, and to Marci Hill Jordan and Michael Ward who co-chaired another successful Adopt-A-Family.

The Foundation has come out with another way that you can continue to help and have a great night out at the same time. On March 4th, we will present the inaugural “Camden County.... Tastefully Yours” tasting event at the Collingswood Grand Ballroom. Superb local restaurants will be on hand to serve their signature dishes. Fine wines will be served and a silent auction will be held with many exciting items available. This event will be an opportunity to sample the finest dishes from many of the best restaurants and establishments in the area. The ticket price will be affordable and it just might be a great place to take your friends for a fun night out. The restaurants will be participating at no charge to the Foundation, which will allow the proceeds to be used to further the charitable works of the Foundation. Who knows, you might discover a new favorite restaurant. So please save the date.

The Bar Foundation has been involved in our community since 1986 providing scholarships and assistance for the under privileged in Camden County. The “Foundation” is there. Won’t you help us build upon it? Let’s help make a difference.

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Exoneration

By Arnold Fishman

Last month the Ethical Humanist Society of Philadelphia hosted Ray Krone as its featured Platform speaker. Ray is the Director of Communication and Training with Witness to Innocence. He was exonerated. He “lost” a decade of his life as an involuntary guest of the State of Arizona – three of those years on the lethal injection waiting list. This man fell through the screen that protects the innocent not once but twice. According to him, his first trial was a sham. But in his second trial, he was properly and vigorously defended. Subsequent DNA evidence, not only proved him innocent, but it led directly to the guilty party. So, once again the system failed.

The criminal justice system was created to protect the citizen from the arbitrary power of the Crown. That power now rests in the Executive Branch of state government. The power of the king went to the executive, but the power of the people went to the legislature. The legislature tells the state what the people want done, and the executive does it. Since it isn’t that simple, the judicial branch acts as the referee. Disputes among the parties are resolved in the courts.

At its essence, the criminal justice system exists to intervene between the unjust excesses of the sovereign visited upon his innocent subjects. And by innocent I don’t mean ultimately acquitted; I mean now, as a person accused. He may get convicted someday, but until then he is innocent as he stands before you merely charged. And by unjust, I mean, since he is still innocent, what ever is done that imposes upon his freedom, while sometimes necessary, is by definition unjust.

The system has hijacked. Its purpose has been converted from safeguarding the people into an institution whose primary function is to convict the guilty. We want to make sure that retributive justice is applied as needed.

We don’t want the guilty to get away with it, and we want to send a message to all those who would transgress. This has occurred with the full cooperation of the “tough on crime” legislators and therefore (theoretically) on behalf of us. How this happened is above my pay scale, but it is in my not so humble opinion, intimately connected to an erosion of the presumption of innocence. Not even so much in the law, as in the minds of those both inside and outside the system. Polls show that jurors, when they are first filing into a courtroom and see the defendant, are asking themselves, “I wonder what he did?” And judges, the finders of both law and fact in the municipal courts where I practice, are forever asking, “What is your defense?” Let me translate that question for you. It means, “We both know your client is guilty as charged now tell me why should I find otherwise?” If the court is impressed with your reason the prosecutor may be called upon to respond, but prima facie your client is guilty. This perception is not without real consequences. It colors the minds and the resulting rulings from the bench on issues from, “May I have a continuance?” or, “What can I get in discovery?” to findings of probable cause and credibility.

His talk whetted my appetite. I schlepped my wife kicking and screaming to the Arden Theater in Philadelphia to see the play, The Exonerated, in which our own Andy Kushry plays an important part. He performs convincingly, and in no particular order, a bigoted sheriff, an overly aggressive cop and an out of control prosecutor. The play has another connection to the CCBA. Esther Flaster, widow of the late Richard Flaster, our former member, directed it. It chronicles the stories of several men and a woman who were tried, convicted and sentenced to death for crimes they didn’t commit. The realization that this could happen to anyone is both chilling and sobering.

Let’s get back to Mr. Krone, the 100th person on death row to be exonerated – there have been many more since then. To pretend that no innocent person has been executed, is naive in the extreme. I waited around to ask him a question. I identified myself as a practicing attorney involved in the criminal justice system. I proposed that the structure contains various players and each tries hard to conscientiously do his job. My question was, “If there was one thing you had the power to change, what would it be?” Without any hesitation, he said, “We have to hold prosecutors responsible.” He attributed evil motives to prosecutorial misconduct. He thought, “They just want to get reelected”; and, “Prosecutors who lose capital murder cases don’t get promotions.” Sadly, in too many cases he may be right.

I, however, am close enough to the problem to understand that a trial takes on a life of its own. We are enculturated to believe that winning is better than losing. When we, me included, get into a contest we like to win. It makes us feel good – much better than we feel when we lose. While that attitude may be supportable in a defense attorney, it is intolerable in the hands of the State. A prosecutor has the added burden of doing justice. A prosecutor must be scrupulous in wielding the power of the crown, and the finders of fact unflagging in presuming the innocence of the accused. Finally, with a system so subject to error, no punishment should be imposed that cannot be undone. The American criminal justice system is failing to fulfill its highest duty: to protect innocent people from wrongful convictions and death sentences.

(1-3) David L. Gollin, Esq., Senior Counsel & Vice President TD Bank, Cherry Hill; moderator Christopher J. Tucci, Esq., Of Counsel Brown & Connery; and Kevin J. Burke, Esq., Counsel & Vice President TD Bank, Cherry Hill, presented the Association’s CLE seminar Claims, Crisis & Outside Counsel Management at the Association’s first seminar co-sponsored by the newly formed In-House Counsel Practice Committee.
All right, technically there was no crime committed nor any scene to return to, but I did make a return visit to a dealer just before Thanksgiving to take a test drive of the new 2011 Mustang. Back in 2006 when Ford introduced the first new Mustang platform since 1979, I grabbed a GT coupe from Winner Ford and spent some time with that car. It was great fun. It was fast for its time, but still suffered from lack of sophistication and top quality materials, the bane of American cars in general. Although it was only about 4 years ago, that Mustang GT V8 produced 300 bhp. It sounded right but I knew that what I was driving was an American muscle car – big, brawny and with little subtlety.

When I heard that Ford was taking the Mustang into new territory for 2011, I was intrigued. It took about 26 years for the last remake and now a new model was appearing only six model years later. What is even more astounding is that the 2011 V6 version has more horsepower than the prior version’s V8! I know that Ford felt compelled to match its archrival, Chevrolet’s Camaro, in power output so it really is no surprise that they stepped up their game. I knew that the V8 GT with 5 liters and 412 bhp would be an outstandingly fast car, but I was more interested in the V6 and the punch that its 3.7 liters provided with 305 bhp.

So it was that on a beautiful fall afternoon I showed up at Winner Ford again in the hopes of finding a new V6 Mustang to take for a spin. I was greeted at the door by about 6 salesmen waiting for their next customer. I will not use the “pack of wolves” analogy since that is neither fair nor correct. Suffice to say that the boys were enjoying the great fall weather in the absence of any Saturday customers at the moment. After thanking them all for greeting me and assuring them that I was not a real customer, they were cajoled into finding me a manual transmission V6 for a ride. I was immediately introduced to Dino Rucci, the General Sales Manager for Winner Ford who did all he could to assist. What I came to learn was that the very first Mustang so equipped had just been dropped off by the car carrier and had not even been prepped. So accommodating was the dealership that they begged me to return in 30 minutes, by which time the car could be washed and ready for a test drive. So, although one half hour later when I returned to find that the car was not quite ready, what was available was a catered lunch of BBQ favorites for Winner’s customers (and myself as well) so I was invited to partake of the ribs, hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage, salads and cornbread. I had just settled into a vacant desk with my plate when the royal purple V6 coupe rumbled into view and the salesman assigned to me exited the vehicle and motioned to me to come outside. In response, I motioned to him with a roll filled with sausage and peppers, the international sign that I was currently engaged in partaking of their free eats, and would be outside directly.

Andy Dasher, my salesman, made sure that we had enough gas to take a reasonably long test drive

Continued on Page 14
From a CCBA Partner in Progress

By Martin H. Abo, CPA/ABV/CVA/CFF

Each year, when the tax season rolls around, we get a number of new clients who want us to prepare their tax return. Usually they had been preparing their returns themselves, but the returns became too complicated and they needed professional help. Unfortunately, we find that these taxpayers often made mistakes in the earlier years that led to the overpayment of taxes and the potential for being singled out for audit. Among the more common errors are:

• Not taking legitimate deductions, such as a deduction for a home office, for fear that it might trigger an audit.
• Failing to deduct tax deductible expenses, especially travel, tolls, tips, taxi and other fares for lack of a receipt.
• Losing the interest deduction by using credit card loans and other personal loans instead of home equity loans for purchase of a car or other big-ticket item.
• Reporting income that does not need to be reported such as tax-exempt income or rental income from a vacation home that’s rented less that 14 days per year.
• Paying IRS penalty notices out of fear, even if the assessments are incorrect.
• Failing to take deductions such as for charitable contributions because the credit card charges have not been paid until the following year.

Another faux pas? Well, hopefully last year you DID NOT give away stocks you owned with a built-in loss to a charity or used it as a gift to a relative. Instead, you should have first sold the investment to take advantage of the resulting capital loss to shelter your capital gains or income from other sources. You should then have donated the cash or given it to your relative. Getting the idea… perhaps this is a good time to consider the current year?

The combination of these mistakes plus a lack of proper tax planning caused these taxpayers to pay considerably more income taxes than was necessary. What’s more, usually the extra tax far exceeded the cost of professional tax preparation. Without wishing to sound self-serving, unless you are highly conversant with the tax code, you’ll usually come out way ahead with professional help.

The above article was retrieved from the “E-mail alerts” disseminated to clients and friends of Abo and Company, LLC, Certified Public Accountants – Litigation & Forensic Consultants. With offices in Mount Laurel, NJ and Morrisville, PA you can check them out at www.aboandcompany.com or by calling 856-222-4723 for their newsletters or updates.

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Partner Marty Abo recently gave an ICLE seminar entitled "The Financial Side of a Law Practice—What They Forgot To Tell You in Law School." The session prepared attendee attorneys for the business of law. They knew how to practice law but wanted to learn how to make money doing it. Whether you are a solo practitioner, in a boutique firm, thinking about leaving a firm to start your own, just beginning in the legal profession or have been running your own firm for years, the handouts authored by Marty are available to members of the Camden County Bar by requesting at www.aboandcompany.com. The seminar was full of essential, easy to understand information designed to help you become successful.

Let us know if you:
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• Need help with estate or trust tax returns;
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To learn more or to receive any of the above, please contact by phone, fax or e-mail:
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The Spirit of Giving Alive & Well in Camden County
Annual Kid’s Christmas Party another Success!

Saturday December 4th, was a brisk but sunny December day as 250 disadvantaged kids from Camden arrived at The Coastline Restaurant in Cherry Hill for the Public Benefits Committee’s annual Christmas breakfast and party with Santa.

Greeted by elves and volunteers of all descriptions, the kids were treated to a hearty breakfast, compliments of Chris Mourtos and his staff, who generously donated their time, food and facility for this annual holiday tradition.

Co-chaired by Brenda Eutsler and Jenifer Fowler this year’s party will be remembered by our guests for a long time to come! Special thanks to all of the volunteers who helped at the wrapping party and the party itself, and to Kohl’s Department store for all of their assistance with the children’s gifts.

Breakfast before presents!

Donna Moffa’s Christmas Goose is always popular!

Our host Chris Mourtos, party co-chair Brenda Eutsler & Russ DePersia

One of our favorite elves.

Let’s go, the fun’s about to start!

Our other favorite elf!

The magic of the holidays

What’s a party without balloons?

There’s room for everyone!

He has arrived.

Great job, volunteers!
Ho, Ho, Ho! And a Jolly Good Time was had by all!

The Association’s Holiday Cocktail Party on December 13th at Tavistock was another festive evening filled with good company, good food and good spirits as members of the bench and bar and their guests turned out for this annual holiday extravaganza!
Happy New Year!

It is hard to believe that January 2011 is here. On behalf of the CCBA Officers, the Board of Trustees and the Bar staff, I wish you and your family a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. The CCBA has a number of new offerings for 2011, which you will hear about; but my focus this month is on Continuing Legal Education (“CLE”).

This past year saw the advent of mandatory CLE, with December 31, 2010 serving as the deadline for Group 2 first year reporting. Our CLE Committee has worked very hard this Bar year to bring you many interesting seminars at a value-added price. In fact, by comparison with other CLE providers, our CCBA seminars are approximately $20 less for our members. We also made the decision to move the seminars, whenever possible, to Tavistock Country Club, which is both more cost-effective for the CCBA and easier for our members to get to (the traffic in Camden County being what it is!). I have heard from a number of you that this has been a good change. So, I know you will agree with me that the CCBA seminars are the best game in town for your CLE needs. Thank you to all of you who have supported our seminars this year, and we look forward to seeing our members this coming year.

I am very excited to announce that this year we have added a new service for CLE. The CCBA has partnered with Classroom 24/7 for on-line CLE programs. We have and will continue to video tape a number of our seminars and offer them on-line. The CLE rules allow us to fulfill up to one half of the mandatory credits on-line. Additionally, CCBA members will receive a discount on the cost. This is a great way to see a seminar you missed or fulfill the CLE credit requirement, any time, any where. Visit http://camdencountycle.learningcenter.com today, for a look at what programs are on-line. I encourage you to visit the site frequently to check for new offerings.

And speaking of new offerings, I am also excited to announce that the Young Lawyer Committee is planning an exciting new series of seminars for the newly admitted lawyers (and for lawyers who may want a refresher course), to fulfill their mandatory CLE requirements for the fundamental courses, such as civil and criminal practice, real estate, and trust and estate administration. The series, entitled CLE On-Tap, will get under way after the first of the year. This promises to be a great new series, offering the opportunity for both education and networking.

I know the seminars planned for the rest of our Bar year will be equally as good as to what was offered the first half. I want to thank the CLE Committee Co-Chairs, Andy Kushner, Marci Hill Jordan and Adam Gersh for all their hard work this year. And, if you have an idea for a seminar, please feel free to contact any one of us. We are always looking for new and interesting topics to offer our members.

LEGAL LINE TO CRIMINAL COURT LAW

Brief Overview of Juvenile Programs

By Matt Spence and J. Gregory Smith

In the Juvenile Justice System, when a juvenile is adjudicated delinquent, there are four basic potential outcomes: probation, community based programs, residential programs, and incarceration.

Probation

Probation takes many forms. Straight probation is where a juvenile must report to a probation officer at least once a month or as directed by the probation officer. It can include, but is not limited to, random urine monitoring, community service, curfew, employment, follow home/school rules, substance abuse treatment on an outpatient basis, counseling, and loss of driving privileges. There is also the Probation-Hybrid. Probation-Hybrid is administered in the same fashion as straight probation with the same potential terms and conditions, the difference being what occurs when probation is successfully completed. With straight probation, the adjudication still appears on the juvenile’s record. With Probation-Hybrid, when the probation is successfully completed, the juvenile’s history is modified to show the charge was dismissed. A special form of quasi-probation is the One Year Rule. The One Year Rule results in a deferred disposition being entered, with the same potential terms and conditions.

The difference between the Rule and probation is that, although the Probation Department may oversee the Rule, the juvenile is not technically on probation and therefore will not be required to report to probation on a regular basis for the Rule period. Additionally, a violation of the terms and conditions of the Rule will not result in a violation of probation (VOP) being filed. If the juvenile successfully completes the Rule period, the juvenile’s history is automatically modified to show the charge was dismissed. It should be noted that a Rule is not available without the consent of the prosecution.

As a practical matter, not all matters are appropriate for Probation-Hybrids or one year rules. They are reviewed on a case by case basis. Generally, crimes of violence and distribution of CDS cases are not eligible.

Community Based Programs

A Community Based Program is designed to address the particular needs of the juvenile during the day, without requiring the juvenile to live away from home. These programs are structured to occur after school, or if it meets during traditional school hours will often include an educational component that meets the juvenile’s needs. The most common are substance abuse, behavioral modification, and psychological/psychiatric programs. Some examples of these programs include but are not limited to the following: Kennedy

Continued on Page 16
The Times Square crystal ball has been packed away for another year, and the fireworks’ booms and crackles followed by the strains of Auld Lang Syne have gone silent. As the frenzy of holiday shopping changed to the frenzy of holiday returns, new calendars have been pinned-up and the long days of January face us as coldly as the what-global-warming temperatures. Port weather is upon us!

While I enjoy Port (the fortified wine from Portugal) and own more than a few bottles, I won’t bore the few of you who share that appreciation by dedicating a column to its virtues. Instead, I thought it might be time to offer some thoughts for those whose casual interest in wine is ripe for expansion and to suggest a few wine books you may want to consider if your gift hints went unheeded.

Whenever asked how one can learn more about wine, I usually counsel what is obvious: taste and learn what pleases your palate. Like the legal tyro whose mind has been molded by a Prof. Kingsfield but who has precious little practical experience, a student of wine may find that while reading about wine sets a good foundation, the real education comes from experience. The truth is that whether a wine is good, or not good, really is up to the taster to determine. One person’s “Wine of the Year” or 95 point beauty that whether a wine is good, or not good, really is up to the taster to determine. One person’s “Wine of the Year” or 95 point beauty rating may be a glass another will be quick to dump. As noted in every issue of Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate, undoubtedly the most influential wine magazine in our country, the reviews, unadorned by photographs or lifestyle articles, offer a “guide to fine wine.”

If one wants to know what wines received what scores in the estimation of a particular palate, subscribing to wine publications like the Advocate or its primary competitor, Wine Spectator, are excellent ways to secure guidance into wines you may want to attempt to locate, purchase and try. However, many of you may feel that reading wine reviews is like reading a court’s decision. Without a foundation of knowledge to employ in evaluating the merits of what is being discussed, the value of the insight provided very well may be lost.

One may choose to go to a wine school, whether it is a formal diploma granting course or something less formal, but most will at best be inclined to cram a little “book learnin’” into already full schedules. With this in mind, I thought it would be appropriate as we start this new year to offer a few suggestions for books worth reading to develop a better understanding of wine reviews, articles or retailer recommendations when deciding what wines to purchase.

Since I entered the world of wine through a side window (back door would be an overstatement), relating how I read and read again the Peter Sichel revision of the seminal Frank Schoonmaker book, The Wines of Germany, would be of little use. Oh, I enjoyed reading about particular producers while drinking wines from the excellent 1971, 1975 and 1976 vintages, but I doubt most people will pursue this somewhat unorthodox indoctrination.

Some of the basic primers on wine to consider are time-tested, available and unlike the latest must read novel, easy to read and absorb by chapter — or in some cases, by the page. One of the most popular introductory books is Wine for Dummies co-authored by Mary Ewing-Mulligan and her husband, Ed McCarthy. While Ed taught school before meeting and marrying Mary, Mary went right from studying English at Penn to the world of wine. By way of disclosure, I have met the authors, and when I needed an expert witness for a wine loss case, I turned to Mary, who holds the coveted and difficult to attain MW (Master of Wine) designation. Their book, now in its 4th edition, is at once comprehensive, informative and yet appropriately irreverent. You can learn about grapes, wine types, and purchasing wine in stores or from restaurant wine lists. Once you have the basics down, you can delve into many of the most popular wine regions and discover the reasons they are popular. The book is detailed without being imposing.

A more basic book that, as a result, may be even more approachable, is Kevin Zraly’s Windows on the World Complete Wine Course. Kevin was the wine director at Windows on the World, the once famous restaurant in the World Trade Center. Long before 9/11, Kevin authored his introduction to wine book, and he has continued to update it periodically. If the Dummies book takes a more irreverent but in-depth look into the pleasures of the vine, the Windows book is more of a sketchbook, a Gilbert Law approach, if you will. It is a quicker read than Dummies, but generally touches the bases and the basics.

Another very different method of wine education is offered by Englishman Hugh Johnson. While Johnson has authored many books, some very detailed and focused, his Pocket Wine Book provides an easy to read, easy to transport, dictionary-styled approach to the subject. While there are rudimentary maps and vintage charts, the text is conveyed in short definition-like biographies arranged alphabetically (of course!). It is very concise, making it the sort of reference book one can visit with a free 20 seconds.

Continued on Page 19
By Kimberly Alford Rice

Law firms, large and small, should develop and implement a solid marketing plan and budget as key to effective business growth. Large firms typically have something that looks like a budget but is often not aligned with a strategic firm marketing plan. Small (or solo) firms usually do not create a specific marketing plan nor budget but rather make marketing investments on an ad hoc basis. To that, I would ask, how’s that working for you?

Commit to making 2011 a more strategic, deliberate year for your firm’s marketing efforts. Six reasons why firms should create a marketing plan and budget for 2011 are:

1. To “map” and drive the firm’s direction. It's tough, if not impossible, to track progress in your marketing efforts without a written, well-conceived plan of what exactly the firm offers, a firm’s market (who you are or should be trying to reach), and what you are realistically trying to achieve within a given period of time. Remember, marketing plans and budgets are NEVER one-size-fits-all and, ideally, it is the marketing plan which drives the budget. (No marketing plan usually means no budget).

2. To avoid spending foolishly. In these challenging economic times, law firms can not afford to spend marketing dollars unwisely, on an ad hoc basis. Every expenditure should be a part of a cohesive plan. Make every dollar work hard and be measurable towards your stated goals.

3. To minimize “black hole” expenditures. This category includes such items as brochures, static websites, general advertisements, announcements, holiday cards, sponsorships, donations, etc. It is too easy to drop serious dollars for very little return on investment. Avoid this trap by developing a plan which allows for these certain expenditures, but cap the spending.

4. To bring focus to the firm’s marketing efforts. A thoughtful marketing plan and budget will help firms (and especially legal marketers) run an effective marketing program on a day-to-day basis if there are benchmarks of what you are trying to achieve and for whom. It is also easier to turn down the occasional attorney “pet” project if it is not included in an overall plan or budget.

Firms should spend most marketing dollars and, more importantly, time, on initiatives which will result in actually achieving measurable goals such as:

1. More business from specific existing clients
2. Specific new clients
3. Heightened awareness and increased referrals from specific referral sources.

5. A Marketing Plan and Budget Creates Measurable Objectives to Evaluate Success. How will a firm evaluate if it had a successful year? Will it depend upon management’s subjective memories or can it devise measurable objectives to compare results against? If a firm fails to set measurable standards in its law firm marketing, how will it know whether or not specific efforts were rewarded? How will a firm determine where to focus its future marketing efforts and dollars if it doesn’t know if a given initiative worked as designed?

A well-crafted marketing plan with objective goals, a purposeful timeline and detailed budget in place can help ask and answer key questions when evaluating your firm’s marketing efforts. The answers guide you to your next steps.

For example, if a firm invests heavily in trade association memberships but lawyers do not leverage their activities to reach new clients and high impact contacts, it may be time to re-evaluate renewing memberships at the same levels.

6. A Marketing Plan and Budget Demonstrates a Firm’s Commitment to its Business. Realistically, if a firm (and its legal marketing team) can’t (or won’t) dedicate focused thought and energy to develop a solid marketing plan and budget to grow and develop business, how can anyone expect business results to improve?

As firms and lawyers confront fierce competitive forces day after day, is there really anything more important to the success of your firm than to plan for its success?

Kimberly Alford Rice is Principal of KLA Marketing Associates (www.klamarketing.net), a business development advisory firm focusing on legal services. As a law marketing authority, Kimberly helps law firms and lawyers develop practical business development and marketing strategies which lead directly to new clients and increased revenues. Additionally, Kimberly provides career management services to lawyers in transition. She may be reached at 609.458.0415 or via email at kimberly@klamarketing.net.
and once I got seated, it was a simple process to adjust the manual seat and power side mirrors. I told Andy of my surprise that this was the one and only manual V6 Mustang that the dealership received and he had the same reaction even though manual transmissions don’t sell very well. I suppose that there are a goodly number of V8 automatics as well. Just more evidence that the country is going to hell in a handbasket.

The coupe that I drove was a completely “base” model which, with delivery costs, was slightly more than $23,000. Even so, power windows, locks, CD player, air conditioning, two air bags, anti lock brakes, traction control, stability control, dual exhausts and limited slip were all standard. Although I couldn’t confirm this independently, Andy told me that the V6 had a forged crankshaft, something that the V8 does not. Quite a package for the cost of a well equipped Hyundai Sonata (not that that is a bad car.)

My reaction to the exterior of the car was as expected. It’s a 1970 Mustang, updated, and that is not a bad thing. Coincidentally, as we were pulling out of Winner’s lot, a group of guys were clustered around a 1970 or 71 Mach I coupe which, truth be told, this 2011 model has it all over the original in looks. Ford has done some nice work on the interior of the car as well. Materials are upgraded (still hard plastic on the door panels though) and the gauges are modern/retro with minimal switchgear. Overall, this is a nicely done interior especially when one considers the price.

But the proof would be in the driving. This car had less than 5 miles on it when I pulled out and despite my co pilot’s urging to really “hit it” I couldn’t bring myself to really push such a tight new engine. Likewise, the new six speed transmission was stiff and needed to work itself in. I was impressed however by the very short throw and positive engagement of the gears. I got back into my Saab after the test drive and it felt like I was rowing in a bucket of molasses by comparison. The engine has a pleasant but not throaty sound that a V8 would produce. I don’t want to damn it by faint praise, but if one is looking for the sound and fury of the 412 horsepower V8, this will not fit the bill. It is a smooth engine, it revs decently although not as freely as one would expect. Torque is good. Even though I did not push the car, acceleration is well worth the price of admission. Again, without comparing this to the V8, this car is faster than it has a right to be in light of the price. I did notice some flat spots but it is not fair to judge the car with essentially no miles on the odometer.

Handling was a different thing entirely. I drove the car at speed on the highway and looked for return roads that would give some feel to “around town” driving. At 80+ mph, the engine barely turned 1900 rpm in sixth gear. No wonder gas mileage is almost 30 mpg on the highway. At 90 mph the car was stable and composed and was able to change lanes quickly and with no drama at all. On local roads the handling was tight and secure and the suspension feels truly sorted. It is a ride that can be borne both on the way to work and on long trips.

I have very few nits to pick. Many of them are inherent in the car, so it is little use carping. For instance, I know that Ford wanted to keep the cost down, but in this day retaining a live rear axle cannot be that much of a savings. Even the simplest independent suspension would at least give them the bragging rights that Ford has moved the Mustang into the twenty-first century. Having said that, I don’t know that I pushed the car anywhere near the limit where the rear live axle would show its deficiencies. Perhaps that speaks much more than any specifications. The seats are adequate, no more. There is little support although they do look kind of retro cool with their rolled vinyl pleats. The interior is dark so if one is looking for color in the form of aluminum or wood, look elsewhere. Mustangs don’t play that game, yo.

As much of a deal as the base V6 coupe is, ticking off a number of option boxes can easily push the MSRP over $32K in very short order. How and whether you want your Mustang optioned pre-supposes that there are no real alternatives (the Camaro excepted) to compete with the original Pony car. Ford continues to impress with its new models and specifically, with this refinement of a classic. As it approaches its fiftieth year, the Ford Mustang is ready to move into the second decade of the 21st century without apology. A dose of technology has gone a long way to help to lubricate its old self from appearing a creaky throwback.
Karbasian to Receive Devine Award

Continued from Page 1

“As a legal professional, Carolyn Karbasian is committed to her practice, clients, the Bar Association and Foundation, and the community. She exemplifies the dedication that the Judge Devine Award was meant to recognize, which makes her a very deserving recipient” said Louis R. Moffa, Jr., who chairs the Devine Award selection committee.

Ms. Karbasian is a partner in the Moorestown law firm of Chierici, Chierici & Smith. A civil trial attorney, she concentrates her practice in insurance defense.

Ms. Karbasian is a 1986 graduate of Rutgers University, and received her JD from the George Washington University National Law Center in 1989, where she graduated with high honors. Since receiving her JD, she has been a member of the ABA, the NJSBA, the Camden and Burlington County Bar Associations and the New Jersey Defense Association.

As an active member of the Camden County Bar’s Young Lawyer Committee, she served as chairperson before being elected to the Board of Trustees, eventually becoming the CCBA’s 80th President, and the 12th President of the Camden County Bar Foundation. In addition to her work with the Young Lawyer Committee, she was an active member of the Public Benefits Committee where she organized a number of projects, including the Red Cross Blood Drive, the Welfare to Work Clothing Drive, the Holiday Coat Drive, the Nursing Home Bingo program, as well as the Children’s Holiday Party and Spring Picnic. Since 2008 she has been serving on the New Jersey Committee on Character, Part V.

Luncheon reservations are $45 per person and can be made by calling Bar Headquarters at 856.482.0620 or by mailing the reservation reply from the flier inserted in this month’s Barrister. Tables of 8 or 10 are available. Spouses and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Don’t miss this opportunity to congratulate and thank our colleague and friend for her commitment to the Camden County legal community and the community at large.

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Capehart Scatchard’s Lora V. Northen, Esq., recently spoke at the New Jersey Self Insurers’ Association Seminar at the Crowne Plaza in Monroe Township, New Jersey. The presentation centered on a mock trial in the workers’ compensation arena.

In addition to her responsibilities as Co-Chair of the Workers’ Compensation Department, Ms. Northen focuses her practice in the representation of employers, self-insured companies, and insurance carriers. Certified as a trial attorney by the Supreme Court of New Jersey in Workers’ Compensation Law.

Randy P. Catalano, Esq., is pleased to announce the relocation of his office from Westmont, NJ to 251 S. White Horse Pike, Suite 100, Audubon, NJ 08106. The telephone (856) 858-1115 and fax (856) 858-1114 remain the same.

Weir & Partners LLP is pleased to announce that John C. Eastlack, Jr., has joined the firm as a partner and will be based in the firm’s Cherry Hill office. Mr. Eastlack will continue to focus on commercial and personal injury litigation, employment law, criminal defense, and administrative matters including the representation of professionals before licensure boards. Mr. Eastlack was formerly with the firm of Holston, MacDonald, Uzdavinis, Eastlack, Ziegler & Lodge in Woodbury.

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LEGAL LINE TO CRIMINAL COURT LAW
Brief Overview of Juvenile Programs

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Behavioral Health Partial Care program, IMANI (formerly Camden Day), and Choices.

Residential Programs

These are out of home placements that occur usually in lieu of incarceration. The programs are typically behavior modification and therapeutic based. Some are specifically geared to certain types of behaviors and/or issues, such as drug addiction or sexual behaviors.

Incarceration

The juvenile justice code recognizes incarceration as a form of rehabilitation. Generally speaking, the courts do not enter a disposition of incarceration until all less restrictive means of rehabilitation have been exhausted. The two juvenile incarceration facilities are Jamesburg (boys) and Hayes (girls).

In the Juvenile Justice System, the courtroom itself is a great resource. When juvenile court is in session, each courtroom has DYFS, YCM, and the JJC liaisons available to assist you and to provide information. A list of many of the Community Based and Residential programs utilized by the Juvenile Justice System may be found on the Bar Association’s home page, www.camdencountybar.org. It is not all-inclusive but it does highlight many of the programs used by the courts to rehabilitate juveniles. The list is intended solely as a resource and not as an advertisement.

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Volunteers Needed for Speed Networking Event at Rutgers-Camden Law School

Looking to connect with other professionals in a fun setting and help law students get a head start on their careers in the process? Looking for a way to help students, but don’t necessarily have a job to offer? Rutgers-Camden Law School has an opportunity for you to help law students build skills essential to their finding a job in a challenging market. Come participate in the Rutgers-Camden Law School Speed Networking Event, on February 17, 2011, 5:45 – 8:00pm. The purpose of this activity is to give law students the chance to meet local professionals, gain industry insight, learn about job opportunities and what it takes to become a successful lawyer. The event will give students an opportunity to learn more about practicing law while gaining valuable insights and advice that can help them in their careers.

Speed networking is very similar to the wildly popular speed dating. It consists of brief conversations between students and practicing lawyers, at regular intervals of time. Once the time is up, the students move on to the next lawyer, then the next, ultimately giving them the chance to meet with several participating attorneys, getting career advice and tools for communicating with professionals. In this structured environment students can talk to people they wouldn’t otherwise have come into contact with, and can decide whether they have an interest in a particular kind of employer or practice area. Following the one-hour speed networking session, there will be a short reception where participants can have the opportunity to speak more informally.

We hope you will be interested and available to participate in our Speed Networking Event on February 17th. To register, submit your name, organization, practice area(s), email address, telephone number and whether or not you are a Rutgers-Camden Law Alumni to Gwen Tolbert (gtolbert@camden.rutgers.edu). Registration closes on January 21st at 5pm. Questions? Feel free to contact us.

GetLegal.com Signs On

Continued from Page 1

the past few years, attorneys are becoming increasingly interested in how these mediums can aid in generating new clients and defending against disgruntled clients.

Social Media is empowering individuals like never before to speak out about their experiences. Most are becoming calloused towards “The Corporate Message (typical website)” and are now researching further to learn what others are saying about your brand and their experiences—so much so, that decisions are being made based on those third party experiences.

GetLegal.com is providing CCBA members exclusive discounts for social media setup and management services to help members make the most of their online marketing efforts and achieve the results they are seeking. To learn more about the valuable benefits being provided by GetLegal.com, contact Greg Sutphin at 610.757.8411.

The Partners in Progress program is an initiative created to provide CCBA members with substantial discounts on products and services directly related to the practice of law. It is, in essence, an exclusive member benefit to make the practice of law cheaper and easier.

The concept is simple but the rewards are many. Selected Partners make a significant financial contribution to the Association in addition to providing a valuable members-only discount on products or services that members use in their practices. Basically, this is a win-win-win arrangement—members receive valuable benefits, partners receive an opportunity to reach the membership, and the non-dues income generated helps us keep annual dues at their current low level.

The success of this program lies in the ability of the Association to demonstrate appreciation for our partners by taking advantage of the products and services they provide. Your help will be immeasurable to our success. So look for the Partner in Progress logo in the Barrister Partner ads for Abo & Company, USI Affinity, and our newest Partner, GetLegal.com, to see what they can do for you.
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Wine & Food

Continued from page 12

Finally, let me suggest a wine book that offers yet another very different perspective. The author is Kermit Lynch, who is both a wine retailer and a respected wine importer. Back in the 1980s, he penned *Adventures on the Wine Route*, an account of his wine buying trips to France in search of quality producers who might be interested in having their wines exported for sale in our country. While you won’t necessarily learn the “ABCs” of wine, the book provides a glimpse into the people, often families, who make wine, and the process of scouting them out and establishing relationships, many of which are enduring ones.

One of the benefits of insinuating oneself into the culture of wine is to be able to meet the people behind the product. While quite naturally there are exceptions, wine people largely are very generous with their time and truly seem to enjoy sharing the bounty of their efforts. This book affords the reader a real insider’s view of a select group of winemakers. The reader will appreciate how and why they became involved in the art and business of winemaking, and learn about the broader communities in which they not only work but live. In some ways, it is like Peter Mayle’s books on residing in Provence, with anecdotes that build upon each other to form a real sense of lifestyle, of little moments woven together to create lasting memories.

While each of these books offers a different approach to educating the reader about wine, all are worth the time invested to expand one’s wine horizons.

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