

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- JANUARY LCBA EVENT: BENCH-BAR GATHERING
- LINN LAW CLUB NEWS
- VOLUNTEER JUDGES NEEDED FOR CORNELL COLLEGE MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION
- SAVE THE DATE: KERNELS GAME
- CLE 2017 SUMMARY
- LCBA MEETING CALENDAR
- NEW MEMBERS
- TRANSITIONS
- WANT ADS
- PARALEGAL INTERNSHIPS WANTED
- COURT SCHEDULES & LCBA MEMBER CONTACT INFO ON LCBA WEBSITE
- HOW TO JOIN THE LCBA and DUES INFORMATION
- AMENDMENTS TO IOWA COURT RULES
- RESTAURANT REVIEW: McGuire's
- LCBA GIVING AT WORK: Kids First Law Center

NEXT LCBA EVENT: BENCH-BAR GATHERING JANUARY 18

All Linn County Bar Association members are cordially invited to attend the LCBA's 2018 Bench-Bar Event. The Bench Bar Conference will be Thursday, January 18, 2018 from 4:30 –7:00 PM at Cedar Rapids Museum of Art. The Bench-Bar Event will feature:

- A tribute to our 50 year members of the LCBA (Ben Blackstock, Lew Eells, Phillip “Flip” Klinger, Frank Mitvalsky and Jim Affeldt)
- Recognition of Hon. Marsha Bergan on her retirement
- Recognition of the recipient of the LCBA's annual Citizenship Award.

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer will be served. We will also have the pleasure of a repeat appearance by guest musicians Carlis Faurot and Mike Maas.

Please plan to attend this important and fun event! This event is free of charge to all dues-paid LCBA members.

LINN LAW CLUB NEWS

Thank you again to everyone who donated and volunteered to help with the Linn Law Club Annual Holiday Gift Drive! This year's efforts exceeded our expectations. Through the legal community's generosity, the Drive brought in \$11,744.00 in monetary donations; provided grocery gift cards to 21 families; and was able to provide gifts to 111 individuals! We would like to also extend an extra amount of gratitude to Bradley & Riley PC for raising the most money of any firm/organization.

Attorneys interested in learning more about Linn Law Club and its events, including some exciting upcoming social and volunteer opportunities, may join the Club's email list. To join, please email LinnLawBoard@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEER JUDGES NEEDED FOR CORNELL COLLEGE MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION – FEB. 17-18

Judges are needed for Cornell College's Regional Mock Trial Competition Feb. 17 and 18 at the Kirkwood Hotel and Convention Center. Rounds are:

- Round 1: Saturday, February 17 at 9:00 AM
- Round 2: Saturday, February 17 at 2:00 PM
- Round 3: Sunday, February 18 at 9:00 AM
- Round 4: Sunday, February 18 at 2:00 PM

Volunteers do not need to read materials or otherwise prepare for judging, and will be provided with complimentary snacks, beverages, and lunch. To volunteer to judge or for any questions, please contact mocktrial@cornellcollege.edu.

SAVE THE DATE! KERNELS GAME

Save the date for the LCBA Kernels game, admission to which is free to all dues-paid LCBA members: **Wednesday, May 30, 2018** at Veterans Memorial Stadium, 950 Rockford Road SW, Cedar Rapids. Join your fellow LCBA members for a **12:05 p.m.** Cedar Rapids Kernels baseball game.

LCBA 2017 CLE SUMMARY

The following 2017 LCBA programs have been approved for CLE credit:

| Iowa Activity ID # | Date of Program | Program Description | Iowa Credit Hours | Ethics Hours | Federal Credit Hours |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 253803 | 2/16/2017 | LaSheila Rice- CR Civil Rights Commission | 0.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 257369 | 3/16/17 | Judge Kepros - EDMS Challenges and Tips | 0.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 262149 | 4/20/17 | John Monroe – Mental Health Commitments | 0.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 265272 | 6/15/17 | Liz Mathis – Legislative Update | 0.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 266205 | 7/13/17 | Summer Outing CLE (federal CLE for only federal bench, ethics presentations) | 3.25 | 1.00 | 1.25 |
| 274542 | 9/21/17 | Data Breach, CyberSecurity | 0.50 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 271541 | 10/19/17 | Jim Kringlen - 40 Years of Case Law Highlights from Iowa Legal Aid | 0.75 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 283829 | 11/16/17 | Jessica Malott - Immigration Law | 0.50 | 0.00 | 0.50 |
| 281438 | 12/14/17 | Last Chance Ethics seminar | 2.00 | 2.00 | application pending |

LCBA MEETING CALENDAR

The Linn County Bar Association will be holding regular monthly meetings on the third Thursday of October – November, February – April and June.

The speakers for the next few meetings are: Hon. Brent Appel, Iowa Supreme Court Justice (February 15, 2018); Hon. Chris Bruns and Kellee Cortez, Assistant District Court Administrator, Sixth Judicial District (March 15, 2018); and Dr. Brad Buck, Superintendent of Cedar Rapids Community School District (April 19, 2018).

There is no regular monthly meeting during the following months due to other LCBA events scheduled as indicated: December (Last Chance Ethics CLE); January (Bench Bar Event); May (LCBA Day at the Kernels); July (Summer Outing).

NEW MEMBERS

The Linn County Bar Association welcomes the following new members:

Katherine Haganman, Iowa Legal Aid

TRANSITIONS

Simmons Perrine Moyer Bergman PLC is pleased to announce that **Mr. Travis M. Cavanaugh**, **Ms. Laura A. Jensen** and **Mr. Jacob W. Nelson** have become members of the firm.

Mr. Cavanaugh is engaged in estate and wealth transfer planning, general business and corporate law, and taxation law. He has been with the firm since 2012. Prior to practicing law, Mr. Cavanaugh worked as a public accountant for two years at PricewaterhouseCoopers in Chicago, Illinois. **Ms. Jensen** is a member of the firm's Wills, Trusts, Estate Planning, and Probate Practice Group. After law school, Ms. Jensen worked as an associate at Mayer Brown LLP in Chicago, IL and then worked as a field organizer with Organizing for America Wisconsin prior to joining the firm in 2013. **Mr. Nelson** is an attorney with the firm's Business and Commercial Litigation Group. His practice is centered on general commercial litigation, distribution and franchise-related litigation, and construction law. Prior to joining the firm in 2015, Mr. Nelson worked as a litigation attorney at Foley & Lardner LLP in Milwaukee, WI.

If you would like to announce your law firm comings and goings, new office locations, attorneys named to partnership, or whatever your "NEWS" is, please let us know and we will put it in TRANSITIONS section of the Scriptum. Submissions should be sent to webmaster@linncobar.org.

WANT ADS

Space for Rent: Ideally configured for a law office. Approximately 2,000 square feet near Lindale Mall between Collins Road and Blairs Ferry Road. Separate outdoor entrance and address. Ample onsite parking. If interested contact Mark Seidl at 377-9770 or mseidl@scclaw.com

Kirkwood Community College offers online Employers Services, available at no charge, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To learn more about this topic, call 398-5689 or go to jobs@kirkwood.edu

If you would like to publicize open attorney positions or available law office space in your building, let us know and we will publish it here. Contact webmaster@linncobar.org. We will run your "Want Ad" for three (3) consecutive Scriptum editions. If your space or employment needs are met during your three-month Ad run, though, please drop us a line so we know to delete your Want Ad from future issues.

PARALEGAL INTERNSHIPS WANTED

Are you interested in helping train and mentor future paralegals? The Paralegal Program at Kirkwood Community College continues to grow. Kirkwood paralegal students are required to intern in a legal environment as part of their education. You can help tomorrow's paralegals gain valuable experience by agreeing to supervise a paralegal intern. The internship requires that the student complete 120 hours in a legal setting, and compensation is not required. If you are interested in mentoring a paralegal intern, please call Greg Clevenger at 398-5576.

COURT SCHEDULES & LCBA MEMBER DIRECTORY ON LCBA WEBSITE

Did you know the LCBA publishes each day's court schedules for Linn County District Court, Associate Court and Small Claims/Traffic court? Head over to the LCBA website at www.linncobar.org and click on "Court Schedules & Info" at the top. You can also see the judge assignments, local Orders and the court's contact numbers.

The website also has contact information for all LCBA members at www.linncobar.org/directory/attorneys/index.html. Advise the LCBA webmaster if any changes need to be made. If you have a new address, please notify the LCBA at P.O. Box 74127, Cedar Rapids, IA 52407-4127, or via email at webmaster@linncobar.org.

HOW TO JOIN THE LCBA and DUES INFORMATION

Membership in the LCBA is open to lawyers admitted to practice in Iowa and who live or work in Linn County. The first membership year is free. Annual base membership dues for all others is listed on the LCBA's website at: <http://www.linncobar.org/about/dues/> A voluntary charitable assessment of \$100 is included on all dues statement; payment of the

assessment is not required. The assessment goes towards funding legal related charitable organizations in Linn County. The membership application is at this link: <http://www.linncobar.org/wp-content/uploads/220265.pdf>

Dues notices for the 2017-2018 LCBA membership year were mailed to members in August 2017. If you did not receive your dues notice, please contact the LCBA at linncobar@gmail.com.

Only LCBA members current on their dues may attend LCBA sponsored events such as the Last Chance Seminar CLE, Bench-Bar gathering and LCBA day at the Kernels.

Current annual base membership dues are \$150 for members admitted to any bar 5-49 years and \$120 for members who have been admitted to any bar fewer than five years. There are also special dues amounts for government employees, employees of certain non-profit organizations, and full-time judges and certain other government entities. Please see the full dues policy here: <http://www.linncobar.org/about/dues/>

Please note there is a \$25 late charge for dues that were not paid by September 30, 2017.

AMENDMENTS TO IOWA COURT RULES

Please click on this link for a list of recent Amendments and New Rules:

http://www.iowacourts.gov/Court_Rules_Forms/Recent_Amendments_New_Iowa_Court_Rules/

RESTAURANT REVIEW: McGuire's

It was Sunday noon and church services were just finished. It was time for Sunday brunch or maybe lunch. As we headed out of the parking lot my wife and I knew it was going to be brunch at one of our favorite places. Let me tell you about it and you can judge this restaurant experience for yourself.

As we arrived we could tell there was a large crowd as many people were mingling outside. We approached the front counter and told them we wanted a table for two. They told us it would be a 15 minute wait. We said fine and they took my cellphone number and said they would text me when a table was available. In 12 minutes I received a text message that our table was ready (this was really neat).

We were immediately seated and handed menus. In about one minute our waiter appeared and took our order. We selected from the brunch menu (there was also a full menu available). My wife ordered the cheese omelet and I ordered eggs Benedict. In less than three minutes our food and drinks started being served. First, hot and yummy beignets

along with Irish coffee. The Irish coffee had a mixture of hot coffee and Irish whiskey, topped with fresh whipped cream and a cherry on top. The beignets and the Irish coffee made for a great brunch all by itself. But there was more to come.

In about eight minutes we were served the cheese omelet and the eggs Benedict. Those entrees included roasted potatoes and a separate dish of fresh fruit served in a light cream sauce. The eggs Benedict were perfectly cooked, had the right amount of hollandaise sauce and were served at the right temperature. They were great. The fruit included pineapple, cantaloupe and grapes. Very refreshing. The roasted potatoes were crunchy and perfectly seasoned. I even got a taste of the cheese omelet and it was pretty good (it is hard for a cheese omelet to be better than good).

Now for the real surprise. The charge for each meal was \$10.99. That is right. That included the entree and beignets and the Irish coffee. To summarize, the food was excellent, the service was very good and the price was right. A great brunch. I forgot to tell you. There was also live music. This restaurant is doing something right.

Now for the bad news. This restaurant is located in Destin, Florida, 996 miles from Cedar Rapids. It is called McGuire's. Of course it is not bad news for us as we are on our winter vacation.

Gene the Critic

McGuire's is located at 33 US-98, Destin, FL 32541. <https://www.mcguiresirishpub.com/>

LCBA GIVING AT WORK

Each year the LCBA uses charitable contributions from its members as well as monies from LCBA regular dues payments to provide funding to local non-profits that provide legal services to individuals in Linn County and make the judicial system in Linn County more accessible to the public. This new column, "LCBA Giving at Work", spotlights some of the work performed by recipient organizations of LCBA funding.

In addition to providing legal representation for children, LCBA funds also support educational workshops for kids whose parents are divorcing. Over 400 children a year attend Kids First Law Center's workshops, where they find a safe place to talk with other kids their age, gain skills to handle common divorce scenarios, and obtain age-appropriate information about what to expect.

In a recent workshop for middle school kids, one boy shared that the hardest part of the divorce was helping his dad carry his mom from the car to the house when she was drunk. Another boy, age 14, shared that he is getting a job to help his mom afford her house. At the workshops, children are able speak honestly and openly and know they are being heard and supported.

The middle school kids noted what they learned at the end of class. These are powerful take-aways that will help them in many other contexts:

- *how to handle my emotions*
- *I'm not alone*
- *it's not my fault*
- *how to solve problems and ask questions*
- *other people are going through this too*
- *how to tell my parents how I feel*
- *I learned from other people's experiences*
- *I can always share my feelings*

Thank you to LCBA members for their generous gifts to Kids First!

Jenny Schulz, Executive Director, Kids First Law Center