

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- OCTOBER BAR MEETING – OCTOBER 20
- LINN LAW CLUB NEWS
- JUDGES SOUGHT: MIDDLE SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL TOURNAMENT – OCT. 29
- BENCH-BAR AFTER WORK SOCIAL – NOV. 2
- FREE 1 HR IOWA CITY CLE – NOV. 10
- JUDGES NEEDED FOR UNIVERSITY OF IOWA MOCK TRIAL TOURNAMENT +
GET FREE CLE – NOV. 19-20
- CITIZENSHIP AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT
- SAVE THE DATES: LAST CHANCE SEMINAR, BENCH-BAR EVENT, KERNELS
- DUES REMINDER
- CLE YEAR-TO-DATE 2016 SUMMARY
- LCBA MEETING DATES 2016-2017
- 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: ROCK TOP BAR & GRILL

OCTOBER BAR MEETING – OCTOBER 20

The next meeting of the Linn County Bar Association will be held on [Thursday, October 20](#), from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. at the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art on Third Avenue SE across from Greene Square Park. The meeting room is located on the third floor. Parking is available behind the building on the Second Avenue side. The speaker

will be attorney Lisa Gavin of Iowa Legal Aid. She will provide a presentation on responding to the legal needs of disaster survivors.

Lunch is \$10.00 and will be catered by Fresh Deli and Grill. The menu includes; beef and potato meat pies (sauteed beef and shredded potatoes wrapped in a bread pocket), beef hashweh (rice cooked with sauteed beef) topped with baked lemon chicken, hummus and pita chips, mediterranean salad, kalamata olives and baklava for dessert. The vegetarian option will include spinach pies. There will be bottled tea (sweetened and unsweetened) and water.

An RSVP request was emailed to LCBA members October 10. RSVPs are due 2 p.m., Wednesday, October 19 and are required only if you plan to attend.

LINN LAW CLUB NEWS

The Linn Law Club will be holding a volunteer day on Saturday, October 29. Volunteers may choose between judging the Middle School Regional Mock Trial Competition or participating in a Habitat for Humanity build day. A social event will follow. More details to come.

If you know any new attorneys in town (fewer than 10 years of practice and/or under age 40) who would like to be added to the Linn Law Club email list, please have them contact Katie Frank (kfrank@spd.state.ia.us) and ask to be added to the list.

JUDGES SOUGHT FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL TOURNAMENT

Judges are needed for this year's Middle School Regional Mock Trial Competition on Saturday, October 29 at the Linn County Courthouse. (NOTE: New location from last year!) Volunteers are needed for approximately 60 attorney judge slots. No experience is necessary. There will be three rounds: 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 1 p.m. You can sign up to judge more than one round. Beverages and snacks will be provided for the attorney volunteers.

There are several reasons why this would be a great year in particular for local lawyers to participate:

1. There is not an Iowa Football game on 10/29
2. The competition will be at the Linn County Courthouse in real courtrooms for the first time since the flood of 2008
3. Judge Bruns is working hard to recruit real judges for every round so any lawyer who agrees to judge will have the opportunity to serve on a panel with a real judge and get some quality face time.

More detailed information will be provided to judges before the event. If you are able to volunteer, please contact Jenni Semelroth at jsemelroth@hotmail.com or [319-329-5536](tel:319-329-5536).

BENCH BAR AFTER WORK SOCIAL NOVEMBER 2

Join your colleagues and members of the 6th Judicial District bench for another informal bench bar gathering on November 2 at 5 p.m. at Dublin City Pub, 415 1st St. SE, Cedar Rapids. This will be the third such social hour this year between the judges and the members of the Linn County Bar Association.

FREE 1 HOUR IOWA CITY CLE – NOVEMBER 10

A free 1 hour CLE will be held Thursday, November 10 from 1-2 p.m. at the University of Iowa College of Law, Levitt Auditorium. The topic is Racial Disparities in the Criminal Justice System. The CLE is co-sponsored by the ACLU of Iowa and *The Journal of Gender, Race & Justice* at Iowa Law. Please email daniel.zeno@aclu-ia.org to register for this live CLE.

This free CLE will use data to examine the current crisis of racial disparities in the criminal and juvenile justice systems in Iowa, including data surrounding stops, arrest, police use of force, conviction, incarceration and school discipline. It will include discussion of racial profiling and equal protection cases, as well as consider various legal and public policy based reforms.

JUDGES NEEDED FOR UNIVERSITY OF IOWA MOCK TRIAL TOURNAMENT + GET FREE CLE NOV. 19-20

On November 19-20, the nationally ranked and former two-time national championship University of Iowa Mock Trial Program is hosting an intercollegiate mock trial tournament: the 16th Annual Cornshucker Challenge. The tournament is looking for attorneys to volunteer as judges -- no prior experience nor trial experience is necessary to serve as a judge. The tournament will consist of four rounds (Saturday and Sunday round at both 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.) with each round lasting no more than three hours. Individuals can sign up for as few or as many rounds as they'd like to judge. In an effort to give back to the legal community this year, any individual who judges a round will also be given the option to participate in a free 1 hour ethics CLE over lunch (also provided) on either day. The CLE will be different each day, so an individual could potentially earn 2 hours of ethics CLE credits if they so choose.

Please come join us at the 16th Annual Cornshucker Challenge as it is one of the longest-running and most competitive undergraduate mock trial tournaments in the nation. This year, the tournament will play host to more than a dozen teams that were at the National Championship Tournament last year, including five teams that placed in the top-10 at that tournament. In addition to providing valuable experience for the students who compete, the tournament serves as a fundraiser for the program and allows them to participate in the elimination tournaments later this year.

Individuals interested in judging and/or the CLE are encouraged to contact ISBA member and faculty head coach, Ryan Seelau, at ryan-seelau@uiowa.edu.

CITIZENSHIP AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

The Board of Governors is seeking nominees for its Citizenship Award. Any LCBA member may nominate any other LCBA member for this award. The following factors will be considered in determining the award recipient(s):

1. Active participation in civic organizations that provide services to others in the community, state and/or country (not necessarily just to other lawyers);
2. Active participation in activities designed to further the interests of the Iowa bar (whether at the local, regional or state level);
3. Demonstrates a strength of character and ability to motivate others to action to benefit the community, state and/or country; and
4. Supports, promotes and “goes above and beyond” to further the interest of others in the local community.

Current Board of Governors members and LCBA officers are not eligible for this award. Please submit your nominations for the Citizenship Award to LCBA president Caitlin Slessor at cls@shuttleworth.com by **Monday, December 5**. The Citizenship Award(s) will be presented at the Bench/Bar event on January 19.

SAVE THE DATE! LAST CHANCE FOR ETHICS SEMINAR; BENCH-BAR & KERNELS GAME

Save the date for the following LCBA events, which are free to all dues-paid LCBA members:

7th Annual Last Chance for Ethics Seminar: **Thursday, December 8, 2016** beginning at 4 p.m. at Dublin City Pub, 415 1st St. SE, Cedar Rapids. The CLE will be at minimum 90 minutes, though possibly 2 hours. A definite schedule will be released at a later date. All dues-paid LCBA members may attend this CLE free of charge. Stay tuned for more information. Mark your calendars!

Bench-Bar Event: **Thursday, January 19, 2017** beginning late afternoon at the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Carnegie Library (main level). At this year's Bench-Bar Event, the LCBA will be honoring its 50 year members as well as announce the 2016 recipient(s) of the LCBA's Citizenship Award. More details will be announced as the event date nears.

Kernels Game: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 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.

DUES REMINDER

Dues invoices for the 2016-2017 year were sent to all LCBA members this past August, and reminder invoices were recently sent to those who had not yet paid. Please be advised that any member who has not paid dues yet will need to pay a \$25 late fee. If you are not sure whether you paid your dues, please contact Leigh Van Dee at lvandee@lwclawyers.com. For information on dues amounts, please see the section below titled “How to Join the LCBA and Dues Information.”

LCBA YEAR-TO-DATE 2016 CLE SUMMARY

The following LCBA programs have been approved for CLE credit:

Iowa Activity ID #	Federal Activity ID#	Date of Program	Program Description	Iowa Credit Hours	Ethics Hours	Federal Credit Hours
242989	n/a	2/18/2016	Dr. Brian Farrell/ Matt Brandes	0.50	0.00	0.00
242990	n/a	3/24/2016	Bruce Walker, ISBA President	0.50	0.00	0.00
243009	n/a	4/21/2016	Brent Long, CRPD - Gun and violent crimes	0.50	0.00	0.00
242949	n/a	6/23/2016	Rob Hogg - Legislative Update	0.50	0.00	0.00
236178	236178	7/14/2016	Summer Outing CLE	3.00	1.25	2.75
244718	n/a	9/15/2016	Carroll Edmondson, 6th Judicial District	0.50	0.00	0.00

LCBA MEETING DATES 2016-2017

The Linn County Bar Association will hold its regular monthly meetings the third Thursday of the month September – November, February – April and June. The meeting dates for 2016-2017 are listed below. Meetings are held at the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art from 12-1 p.m. A notice will be published should the location, time or date be changed for any meeting.

Thursday, September 15, 2016

Thursday, October 20, 2016
Thursday November 17, 2016
Thursday, February 16, 2017
Thursday, March 16, 2017
Thursday, April 20, 2017
Thursday, June 15, 2017 (tentative; meeting June 23 if ISBA Annual Meeting same date)

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); and August.

NEW MEMBERS

The Linn County Bar Association is pleased to announce the addition of the following new members, announced at the September 2016 bar meeting:

- 1) **Vince Geis**, Shuttleworth & Ingersoll
- 2) **Jared Knight**, Simmons Perrine Moyer Bergman
- 3) **Crystal Pound**, Simmons Perrine Moyer Bergman

TRANSITIONS

Erick J. Skogman has joined Elderkin & Pirnie as an Associate. Mr. Skogman earned his BBA degree from the Henry B. Tippie School of Management in 2003. He then earned his JD from the University of Iowa College of Law in 2014. He was formerly with Simmons Perrine Moyer Bergman PLC.

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

Simmons Perrine Moyer Bergman PLC is looking for an **experienced paralegal** to join the business and transactions group. The ideal candidate will handle a wide range of responsibilities related to business formation and organization and will need to be able to work independently. *Send letter and resume to: Simmons Perrine Moyer Bergman PLC, Attention: Cheyrl Hines, 115 3rd Street SE, Suite 1200, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401. (October 2016)*

Brady Preston Brown PC is looking for an **attorney or attorneys** to associate with its office. The terms of the association are flexible. The firm is exploring a range of options, from a new graduate to experienced attorney(s) looking to make a lateral move. Please contact Matt Preston at 319-866-9277 if you are interested. *(July 2016)*

Office Space for Rent: The space is ideally configured for a law office with optional office furniture, wireless network, and computer and phone system available. The space currently available is 1,357 square feet. Additional space may also be available if needed. There is free onsite parking. If you are interested in the space, please contact Matt Preston at (319) 866-9277 or mpreston@bradyprestonbrown.com *(June 2016)*

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 Linn County Bar Association 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 court's contact numbers.

The website also has contact information for all LCBA members. You can view the member directory at www.linncobar.org/directory/attorneys/index.html. Let the LCBA webmaster know 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. Membership in the LCBA is free the first year of membership. Annual base membership dues for all others can be viewed on the LCBA's website here: <http://www.linncoabar.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.linncoabar.org/wp-content/uploads/220265.pdf>

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: ROCK TOP BAR & GRILL

It was time to eat. Now that I think about it, I could say that just about anytime. So let's start over. It was nearly noon. Time for lunch. I was hungry. It was time to eat (sounds better). We hop in the car and away we go to the newest restaurant in Cedar Rapids (to the best of my knowledge). The name of the restaurant is Rock Top Bar & Grill. The location is 951 Blairs Ferry Road, Cedar Rapids. The entry to the restaurant parking area is off of Rockwell Drive.

This is a brand new building with two levels. Level one has a bar and seating for many in the dining areas. The second level includes a bar and seating for dining, both inside and outside. Upon arriving, we were promptly taken to a table on the first level. The interior design is best described as minimalist. In this large dining area, there were no televisions, no window coverings and a shiny concrete floor. It was easy to hear your neighbors' conversation, not that I would listen. The waiter quickly brought our menu to the table and promptly served the ice tea that I had ordered.

As I looked at the menu they had six classifications. They were: Small Plates, Greens, Share Plates, Large Plates, Hand Held and Sides. Each classification offered five or six choices. For example, the Share Plates featured Pork Belly Sliders, or, Lobster Rolls (someone next to us was eating them and they looked good), or, Chorizo (includes sausage, corn salad, cabbage, cilantro and a bun), or, wings, or, Mac N Cheese.

I chose from the Greens. It was called Herbed Chicken which included grilled chicken breast on mixed greens with red onion, feta, marinated cherry tomatoes, fried chick peas, avocado and balsamic vinaigrette. The presentation was good. The salad looked very appetizing. Everything was fresh. I particularly liked the fried chick peas. The chicken

breast was large, and though it was sliced, it covered more than half of the salad. The service was very good.

The drinks menu included at least fifty different beers, five or six red wines, five or six white wines and several cocktails.

This restaurant concept is interesting. The decor is unique. It is not exactly comfortable. It is not uncomfortable. It is modern. I am not sure it has a theme. The menu offerings are limited. We did not see nor were we offered a dessert menu. Will I go back? Maybe. My lunch, including the ice tea and tip, was \$16.

Gene the Critic