

PLANO BAR ASSOCIATION

March 2008 - Newsletter

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our March meeting will be held at noon on Friday, March 7 at Tino's Mexican Restaurant in Collin Creek Mall. Our speaker will be Manuel Gonzalez of Albin Harrison Roach. He will speak on "When Your Client Needs a Criminal Attorney."

OTHER DATES TO CALENDAR

- Meetings:
 - April 4 - Amy Benavides of Hermes Sargent Bates will speak on "Professionalism and Dealing with Problematic Opposing Counsel" (ethics credit).
 - May 2 - Bob Reagan of Reagan McLain will speak on "Collections and Fraudulent Transfers."
 - July 4 – HOLIDAY NO MEETING.
 - August 1 - social only meeting, no CLE.
 - September 5 - Tom Culpepper of Thompson Coe will speak on "Update on the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act."
 - October 3- Alex Shiliday of Hermes Sargent Bates will speak on "Insurance Law Issues Every Lawyer Needs to Know."
- PBA sponsoring the Plano Legal Clinic – this year's spring clinic for the PBA to sponsor will be in April, instead of March. The date will be April 17. Mark your calendar now. More information will be provided next month.
- RoughRider's Baseball Game – Mark your calendars for the perennial fun, family time. The date is May 5 at 7:00 pm. More information later.
- Collin County Bench Bar Conference – May 30, 31 & June 1, at a spa resort in League City, Texas. Put this on your calendar; more details in future months.

PLANO LEGAL CLINIC

As of January 2008, the Plano clinic will no longer be held on the 3rd Monday of the month. It will now be held the 3rd Thursday of each month. Legal Assistance of Northwest Texas is actively seeking volunteers to help at the monthly clinics in Plano. If you can help, contact Jan Kearney at Legal Aid of North Texas.

NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY UPDATE

As has been reported previously, our National Adoption Day project in Collin County continues to be a tremendously fulfilling and successful event each year – particularly this past November. In the meantime, we received the following thank you letter from one of the families benefited by National Adoption Day:

Dear Plano Bar Association,

We adopted a sibling group of four children on National Adoption Day, November 17. We wanted to thank you for the time and effort you expended to make our dreams come true. It was a lovely occasion!

Sincerely,

David and Carolyn Kilpatrick

BOARD OF DIRECTOR POSITIONS

If you are interested in serving our Association as a board member starting in June (board for 2008-2009), please contact Melinda Eitzen or Israel Suster. In particular, the directors who have been serving as treasurer, secretary, and CLE coordinator have served for several years and are hoping to step down this year. Additionally, we are seeking members interested in serving as a director and taking on responsibility for our Referral Service and our monthly newsletter. If you have an interest in any of these positions we would especially like to speak with you.

CLE & CRUISE

The Plano Bar Association is sponsoring a cruise in November that will feature CLE. The dates are November 6 through the 10 and the cruise will leave from Galveston and stop at ports in Mexico. The cost is \$517.00 per person, not including transportation to Galveston. More information will be coming soon, but mark those dates and plan to bring the entire family.

DO YOU KNOW AN AREA ATTORNEY WHO IS NOT A MEMBER OF PBA?

If you know an attorney who lives or practices in the Plano area and is not a member of PBA, urge them to join. As you know, we have regular CLE speakers at our monthly meetings, we provide numerous opportunities for attorneys to serve the community, we offer opportunities for networking with other attorneys, and we have FUN. So forward a copy of this newsletter to your non-member attorney friends and urge them to fill out an application and join today. You can also refer them to our website at www.planobar.com where they can find an application and information about joining.

PLANO BAR ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 35TH ANNIVERSARY

This is the 35th year that our bar association has been in existence. One interesting thing to review at this point is the list of names of the former presidents of our association. Many prominent members of our county and our legal community have provided leadership for us. Take a look at the attached roster.

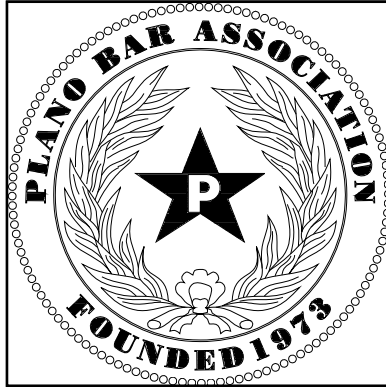
1973-74	Byron H. Schaff	1991-92	Tom Ford
1974-75	David McCall	1992-93	Richard Armstrong
1975-76	Bill Kramer	1993-94	Nancy B. Amick
1976-77	Robert T. Dry, Jr.	1994-95	John A. Goren
1977-78	Howard Shapiro	1995-96	Deborah Brown Kovac
1978-79	Richard Schell	1996-97	Michael R. Puhl
1979-80	Jim G. Bray	1997-98	Scott Carpenter
1980-81	William Roberts	1998-99	Jean Power
1981-82	John O'Keefe Barry	1999-2000	Sharon Curtis
1982-83	Howard Hamilton	2000-01	Savannah (Dyer) Sorrels
1983-84	Stephen Chapman	2001-02	Ann Shuttee
1984-85	Ray Wheless	2002-03	Gwen Rawls
1985-86	Harry F. Smith	2003-04	Susan Whitson Periquet
1986-87	Alex Modelski	2004-05	Shawn Ismail
1987-88	Charles F. Sandoval	2005-06	Shelly Dukes
1988-89	Nathan E. White, Jr.	2006-07	Keith E. Davis
1989-90	Douglas T. Floyd	2007-08	Melinda Eitzen
1990-91	Luke Laman		

LAWYER MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS

In recent years, as a result of the considerable rigors of practicing law, many within our profession have suffered from the physical and mental effects of chronic stress, including heart disease, hypertension, burnout, depression and substance abuse or dependency. To assist in combating this, Martha Dickie, State Bar of Texas President, has appointed a task force on Lawyer Mental Health Issues. They are coordinating a project to distribute articles originally appearing in the Texas Bar Journal to those having an interest. If you are interested in obtaining copies of any of these articles, contact Chris Long at 877-953-5535.

PBA officers and directors for 2007-2008

Melinda Eitzen, President	972-403-1200
Israel Suster, President Elect	972-380-0130
Doug Floyd, Treasurer	972-578-8186
Bert Starr, Secretary	972-633-2588
Laura Calhoun, Director- CLE	214-423-5100
Connie Pena, Director- CLE	214-423-5100
Stuart Brown, Director- Social	972-731-6789
Kimberly Killebrew, Director	972-436-9300
Charles Chesnutt, Director	972-735-0757
Keith Davis, Immediate Past President	214-473-9626



Plano Bar Association

850 E. CENTRAL PARKWAY, SUITE 120

Plano, Texas 75074

972-578-8186

972-578-8412 FAX

PLANO BAR ASSOCIATION DUES NOTICE

2008-2009

DUES ARE \$65.00 PER YEAR. PLEASE PAY BEFORE JUNE 1, 2008. IF YOU PAID AFTER JANUARY 1, 2008 YOU ARE PAID UP FOR 2008 AND TO JUNE 1, 2009. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: PLANO BAR ASSOCIATION and MAIL TO: DOUGLAS T. FLOYD, 850 East Central Parkway, SUITE 120, PLANO, TX. 75074

IF YOU DO NOT KNOW HOW TO USE A WORD PROCESSOR, PLEASE HAVE SOMEONE THAT DOES INPUT THE INFORMATION. PLEASE PROVIDE COMPLETE INFORMATION TO INCLUDE CITY, STATE & ZIP CODE. MOST MISTAKES ARE MADE BECAUSE WE CANNOT READ YOUR HANDWRITING.

NAME: _____

FIRM NAME: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

OFFICE TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

FAX NUMBER: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

BAR CARD NUMBER: _____

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

The Plano Bar Association has sponsored a Lawyer Referral Service for over 25 years. The LRS is a certified as a lawyer referral service as required by the State of Texas under Article 320d, Revised Statutes, Certification No. 9307.

If you would like to join the lawyer referral service, please read the following information.

Plano Bar Association (PBA) Lawyer Referral Service (LRS)

BY JOINING THE LRS, YOU AGREE THAT YOU WILL CHARGE NO MORE THAN \$20 FOR THE INITIAL CONSULTATION WHICH MAY LAST FOR UP TO 30 MINUTES

The method of operation is that each member agrees to pay his or her proportionate share of the cost of operation of the LRS.

Currently we advertise the LRS in the Verizon yellow pages for southern Collin County and northern Collin County. The annual cost of operation is approximately \$30,000.00. We currently have 25 members making the average annual cost per member \$1,200. The Verizon yellow pages generate about 400 calls per month in all categories.

We also advertise the LRS in the AT&T yellow pages for Collin and Dallas Counties. The annual cost of operation is approximately \$30,000.00. We currently have 10 members making the average annual cost per member \$3,000. It will go down if more join. The AT&T yellow pages generate about 500 calls per month.

All calls are routed through an answering service. The system works as follows:

There are 6 categories of referral: personal injury, family law, criminal law, bankruptcy, wills and probate and general civil. A potential client calls the referral number and someone at the answering service takes the call. The person gives the answering service the category of the law that they require an attorney. The answering service refers the potential client to three attorneys in that category. The attorney's names are rotated each time and an attorney is 1, 2 and 3 on a rotating basis. You may put your name in one or more categories.

State Bar rules require that you may not charge more than \$20 for the initial 30 minute consultation.

BY JOINING, YOU AGREE THAT THE ABOVE REFERRAL SERVICE ANNUAL DUES ARE AN ESTIMATE. YOU MAY BE ASSESSED ADDITIONAL DUES IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THE NEXT YEAR. FAILURE TO PAY THE ASSESSMENT WHEN REQUESTED WILL CAUSE YOU TO BE TERMINATED FROM THE REFERRAL SERVICE AND BAR YOU FROM FURTHER

PARTICIPATION IN THE REFERRAL SERVICE WITHOUT SPECIAL APPROVAL OF THE BOARD.

IF YOU JOIN AFTER JULY 1, THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF \$50.00 TO COVER THE SERVICE FEE CHARGED BY THE ANSWERING SERVICE TO ADD EACH ADDITIONAL ATTORNEY.

Remember, in order to be a member of the LRS you must first be a member of the Plano Bar Association. The annual dues to join the Plano Bar Association are \$65.00. The fiscal year for PBA starts June 1.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN, PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO PLANO BAR ASSOCIATION, c/o Douglas Floyd, 850 East Central Parkway, Suite 120, Plano, Texas 75074, and complete the following form and return it with your check:

NAME: _____

DAYTIME TELEPHONE NO.: _____

NIGHTTIME TELEPHONE NO: _____ (if you want calls after hours)

CHECK THE CATEGORIES IN WHICH YOU WISH TO RECEIVE CALLS.

1. ___ Personal Injury includes auto accidents, medical malpractice, product defects
2. ___ Bankruptcy
3. ___ Criminal Law (THIS INCLUDES JAIL CALLS 24/7)
4. ___ Family Law includes divorce, modification and adoptions
5. ___ Wills and Probate
6. ___ General Civil - this is a broad category that includes civil matter including, civil litigation, contract review and drafting.