

PLANO BAR ASSOCIATION

July 2008 - Newsletter

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our general membership meetings typically are held on the first Fridays of each month. This month, that's Independence Day. No meeting that day. Enjoy the holiday.

OTHER DATES TO CALENDAR

- Meetings:
 - 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."
- Collin County Bar Estate Planning Section – July 8, 2008, Coyt Randal Johnson will speak on "File Documentation, Retention, and Destruction" at Ralph & Kacoo's in Allen, for .75 hours of MCLE (all ethics). The section meets on the second Tuesday of every other month.

BELLINI FEST

Live music, free pizza, and – bellinis! All will be featured at the bar's annual Bellini Fest from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. July 17 at the Campisi's, southeast corner of 121 and the tollway. A band is scheduled, the pizza is served from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., and PBA will provide two drink tickets. No charge for PBA members. Nonmember cost is \$20. What a great time to join PBA!

The bellini is an internationally well known cocktail that originated in Italy. The bellini was invented sometime between 1934 and 1948 by head bartender Giuseppe Capriani of Harry's Bar. The unique pink color reminded Capriani of the color of the toga worn by the saint who was the subject of a 15th painting by 15th century Venetian artist Giovanni Bellini. Thus, the name "bellini" attached to

the drink, which consists of pureed white peaches and Prosecco, an Italian sparkling wine. The original recipe was made with a bit of raspberry or cherry juice, which gave the drink its color.
Togas not required.

LAW FIRM MERGER

Denton law firm Gregory & Conner is merging with Koons, Fuller, Vanden Eykel & Robertson. Gregory & Conner will become the Denton office of Koons Fuller, effective July 1, 2008. Attorneys Mike Gregory, Charla Bradshaw Conner, and Alyson Gregory Richter will join 22 family law attorneys in four North Texas locations: Uptown Dallas, West Plano, and Southlake Town Square. The Denton location will be at 303 N. Carroll Blvd., Denton 76201, 940.387.1600.

Koons Fuller offers services for complex divorce litigation; high net-worth property settlements; marital agreements; asset tracing, valuation and division; child custody, visitation, support and paternity; appeals; mediation; arbitration; and collaborative law.

DUES

Dues for 2008-2009 are past due. If you would like to join the Plano Bar Association, please complete the attached application and send your dues, which are only \$65 per year. Please type your personal information directly on the form or, if you handwrite, *please be sure to print legibly* to ensure we can reach you. Please also update us with any changes.

REFERRALS

An application for inclusion in the association's Lawyer Referral Service is attached. The fee of \$50 pays for the answering service for each attorney.

DO YOU KNOW ANY AREA ATTORNEYS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF PBA?

If you know any attorneys who live or practice in the Plano area and are not members of PBA, please 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. Please forward a copy of this newsletter to your non-member attorney friends and urge them to fill out applications to join. You can also refer them to our website at www.planobar.com where they can find an application and information about joining.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

At midnight on July 1, 1997, Hong Kong reverted back to Chinese rule in a ceremony attended by British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Prince Charles of Wales, Chinese President Jiang Zemin, and U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. A few thousand Hong Kongers protested the turnover, which was otherwise celebratory and peaceful.

In 1839, Britain invaded China to crush opposition to its interference in the country's economic, social, and political affairs. One of Britain's first acts of the war was to occupy Hong Kong, a sparsely inhabited island off the coast of southeast China. In 1841, China ceded the island to the British with the signing of the Convention of Chuenpi, and in 1842 the Treaty of Nanking was signed, formally ending the First Opium War.

Britain's new colony flourished as an East-West trading center and as the commercial gateway and distribution center for southern China. In 1898, Britain was granted an additional 99 years of rule over Hong Kong under the Second Convention of Peking. In September 1984, after years of negotiations, the British and the Chinese signed a formal agreement approving the 1997 turnover of the island in exchange for a Chinese pledge to preserve Hong Kong's capitalist system. On July 1, 1997, Hong Kong was peaceably handed over to China in a ceremony attended by numerous Chinese, British, and international dignitaries. The chief executive under the new Hong Kong government, Tung Chee Hwa, formulated a policy based on the concept of "one country, two systems," thus preserving Hong Kong's role as a principal capitalist center in Asia.

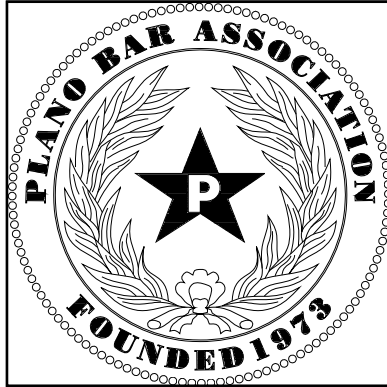
PLANO BAR ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 36TH ANNIVERSARY

This is the 36th 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	2008-09	Israel Suster

PBA officers and directors for 2008-2009

Israel Suster, President	972.380.0130
Bert Starr, President Elect	972.633.2588
Doug Floyd, Treasurer	972.578.8186
Laura Calhoun, Secretary	214.423.5100
Shelly Shilling, Director- CLE	972.333.8609
Connie Pena, Director- CLE	214-423-5100
Kim Killebrew, Director- Social	972-436-9300
Stuart Brown - Membership	972.731.6789
Keith Davis - Website	214.473.9626
Evy Davis - Newsletter	214.769.0019
Melinda Eitzen, Immediate Past President	972.403.1200



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.