

# Willamette Valley American Inn of Court

September 17, 2020  
6:00 - 7:30 pm





# Agenda

- Welcome & Announcements
- Board Introductions
- President's Remarks, Program Plan for 2020-2021
- Team Tingleaf presentation on Professionalism
- Q&A

# 2020-2021 Program Plan

Presented by: Inn President, Hon. Daniel Wren

Team Tingleaf  
presents  
Professionalism

Team Perez presents  
Mentoring & Leadership

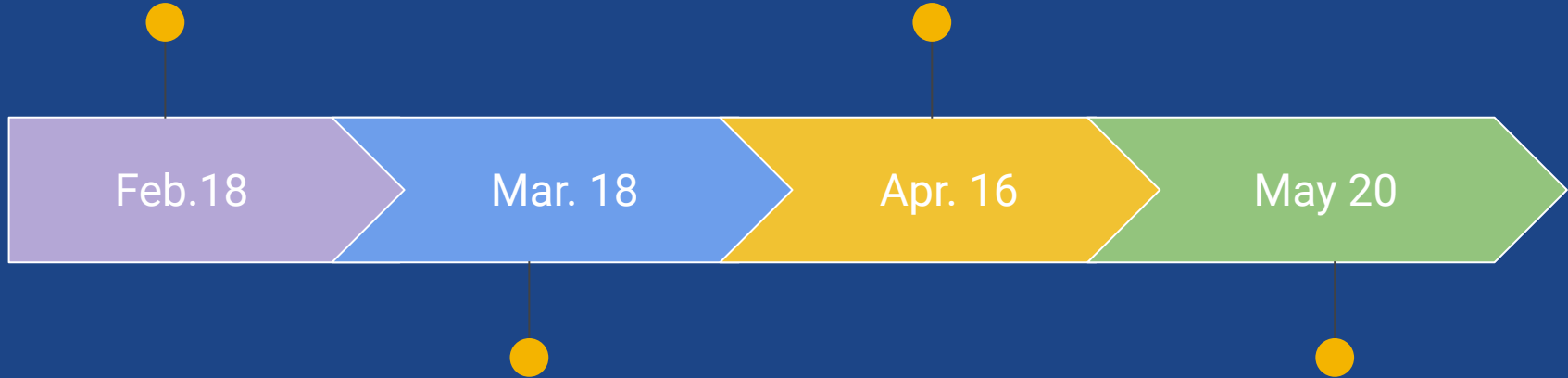


Team Hirsch  
presents  
Civility

Team Gardiner  
presents  
Trial Practice Skills

Team Brown & Wilson  
presents  
Wellness & Self-care

Team Denning  
presents  
Ethics



Feb. 18

Mar. 18

Apr. 16

May 20

Team Parker  
presents  
Practice Management

Team Sinks  
presents  
Revels Social Event

# Professionalism

Presented by:  
Toby Tingleaf and Tiffany Hamilton

- OSB Statement on Professionalism
- History of the Inns of Court
- The Willamette Valley American Inn of Court
- Member Survey
- Achieving Excellence
- National AIC Resources, including IMS
- Q&A

# OSB Statement of Professionalism

*Adopted by the Oregon State Bar House of Delegates and Approved by the Supreme Court of Oregon effective September 16, 2019*

*As lawyers, we belong to a profession that serves our clients and the public good. As officers of the court, we aspire to a professional standard of conduct that goes beyond merely complying with the ethical rules. Professionalism is consistent conduct that includes compliance with all ethical rules promulgated by the Oregon Supreme Court, courageous representation of clients, striving for the public good and complying with the following principles in dealing with our clients, opposing parties, opposing counsel, the courts and all others:*

- I will promote the **integrity** of the profession and the legal system.
- I will work to ensure **access to justice** for all segments of society.
- I will avoid all forms of **discrimination**.
- I will **protect and improve the image of the legal profession** in the eyes of the public.
- I will support a **diverse** bench and bar.
- I will promote **respect** for the courts.
- I will support the **education** of the public about the legal system.
- I will work to **achieve my client's goals, while** at the same time **maintain my professional ability** to give independent legal advice to my client.
- I will always **advise** my clients of the **costs** and potential **benefits or risks** of any considered legal position or course of action.
- I will **communicate fully and openly with my client**, and use **written fee agreements** with my clients.
- I will **not** employ tactics that are intended to **delay, harass, or drain** the financial resources of any party.
- I will always **be prepared** for any proceeding in which I am representing my client.
- I will **be courteous and respectful** to my clients, to adverse litigants and adverse counsel, and to the court.
- I will only **pursue** positions and litigation that have **merit**.
- I will **explore all legitimate methods and opportunities to resolve disputes at every stage** in my representation of my client.
- I will support **pro bono** activities.



# History of the Inns of Court

## Founded in London

- For Barristers
- In England and Wales

## History

- 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> century law taught in London by the clergy
- 1218 clergy were prohibited from practicing in secular courts
- Resulted in laymen practicing and teaching law
- Henry II and Henry III prohibited teaching within the city of London to protect their schools from competition
- Common law lawyers worked in guilds of law, which became the Inns

## Four Inns

### Gray's

- Located in Camden near the boundary of London
- Do not have local authority status

### Lincoln's

- Located in Camden near the boundary of London
- Do not have local authority status

### Inner Temple

- Within historic bounds of London
- Operate as own local authority

### Middle Temple

## Membership and Governance

### Grades of Membership

- Students
- Barristers
- Masters of the bench (benchers)

### Irish Inns of Court

- The Honorable Society of King's Inns

# Revels

A traditional period of merrymaking and entertainment (annual)

- Extension of the nationwide entertainment period running from All Saints Eve to Candlemas
- Singing, dancing, feasting, mock trials
- Plays, even Shakespeare
- Elected princes
  - Inner Temple – Prince of Sophie
  - Middle Temple – Prince D'Amour
  - Lincolns – Prince of the Grange
  - Grays – Prince of Purpoole
- Died off in the 1600s but back with sketches, songs and jokes

# The American Inns of Court

## US Chief Justice Warren Burger

- Began in 1970s
- First formed in 1985\*

*\* Caveat, actually smaller ones were forming, first documented was in Salt Lake in 1980, but '85 is when national formed.*

- ❖ Each local Inn is devoted to promoting professionalism, civility, ethics, and legal skills amongst the American bench and bar, in a collegial setting, through continuing education and mentoring
- ❖ AIC strives to help members become more effective advocates and counselors with a keener ethical awareness, learning side-by-side with the most experienced judges and attorneys in their community.

## American Inns of Court

- Over 350 Inns
- Every major city in the US has one
- Not required to join in the US
- No formal or legal relationship with English Inns
- WVAIC is a typical Inn
- Some Specialty Inns
  - Family, Bankruptcy, IP, etc.

## Levels of Membership

- **Masters of the bench (benchers)** – judges, experienced lawyers, and law professors
- **Barristers** – lawyers with some experience who do not meet the minimum requirements for Masters
- **Associates** – lawyers who do not meet the minimum requirement for Barristers
- **Pupils** – law students

# The American Inns of Court Professional Creed

*Whereas, the Rule of Law is essential to preserving and protecting the rights and liberties of a free people; and*

*Whereas, throughout history, lawyers and judges have preserved, protected and defended the Rule of Law in order to ensure justice for all; and*

*Whereas, preservation and promulgation of the highest standards of excellence in professionalism, ethics, civility, and legal skills are essential to achieving justice under the Rule of Law;*

*Now therefore, as a member of an American Inn of Court, I hereby adopt this professional creed with a pledge to honor its principles and practices:*

*I will will treat the practice of law as a **learned profession** and will uphold the **standards** of the profession with **dignity, civility and courtesy**.*

*I will value my **integrity** above all. My word is my bond.*

*I will develop my **practice with dignity** and will be **mindful in my communications** with the public that **what is constitutionally permissible may not be professionally appropriate**.*

*I will serve as an officer of the court, **encouraging respect for the law** in all that I do and avoiding abuse or misuse of the law, its procedures, its participants and its processes.*

*I will **represent** the interests of my client **with vigor and will seek the most expeditious and least costly solutions** to problems, resolving disputes through negotiation whenever possible.*

*I will work **continuously to attain** the highest level of **knowledge and skill** in the areas of the law in which I practice.*

*I will **contribute time and resources to public service, charitable activities and pro bono work**.*

*I will work to make the legal system **more accessible, responsive and effective**.*

*I will **honor** the requirements, the **spirit and the intent** of the applicable **rules or codes of professional conduct** for my jurisdiction, and will encourage others to do the same.*

# Vision

- A legal profession and judiciary dedicated to professionalism, ethics, civility, and excellence.

# Mission

- The American Inns of Court **inspire** the legal community to advance the rule of law by **achieving** the **highest level of professionalism through example, education, and mentoring.**

# Strategic Goals

- To promote a high quality member experience
- To have a greater impact on the profession
- To be a **primary resource for mentoring and education focused on professionalism**, which includes ethics, civility, and excellence
- To be widely recognized as a **leader in promoting professionalism**, which includes ethics, civility, and excellence
- To have effective ongoing communications with members and alumni of the American Inns of Court
- To establish a highly effective governance structure and culture
- To grow and diversify American Inns of Court revenue streams



## Chief Justice Ed Peterson's idea

- Started by Judge Greg West, Mike McClinton, Don McCann and Kathy Evans.
- First meeting September 17, 1992.
- First program, presented by Chief Justice Peterson's team: *The Clash of the Titans*
- Chief Justice Carson's team won an award for their April 1998 program, which was recognized as one of the best programs in the country.
- These accomplishments were recognized in the *Bencher* magazine.



## Serving Marion, Polk, Linn, and Yamhill counties since 1992

*To foster excellence in professionalism, ethics, civility and legal skills for judges, lawyers, academicians, and students of law in order to perfect the quality, availability and efficiency of justice in the United States.*

More historical information, photos, and the Inn News Archives are posted on the website.

# Achieving Excellence

Justice Wallace P. Carson,  
Jr. receives the *Lewis F.  
Powell, Jr. Award for  
Professionalism and Ethics*

Presented by :

The American Inns of Court  
October 21, 2006  
Washington, DC



# Revels in the Willamette Valley

May 2013



# Professionalism:

*A Judge's Perspective*  
By Hon. John V. Acosta

## Discussion

How are the AIC's creed, vision, and goals designed to assist the WVAIC membership with addressing the professionalism issues discussed in Judge Acosta's article



# 2020 Needs & Values Survey

- ❑ How many and who responded?
- ❑ Interest in national AIC presentation?
- ❑ What types of programming are members interested in?
- ❑ Interest in increased mentoring and, if so, what types of activities?
- ❑ Support for various options to cover increases to member costs?
- ❑ Do members value the Inn's affiliation with national AIC?
- ❑ Ideas for increasing membership?
- ❑ The "one thing" the Inn could change to be more useful to members?

- 33 - Good mix of member levels
- Most are interested or neutral
- Planned programming; judge's night; creative, team-led presentations; litigation skills; mix of topics
- Strong interest amongst mentors; mentoring circle, brown bag, and informal activities are popular ideas
- Most support increase to all tiers; good support for income-based fees
- Most value, neutral, or want more info
- Encourage guests, law students, alums; increase diversity; improve quality
- Mics, diversity, mix it up, end earlier, it's good as-is

## Using and connecting members with AIC resources

- Inns Management System (IMS)
  - Invoicing (new credit card payment option!)
  - Manage meeting reminders and check-in (CLE credit tracking)
  - Manage pupillage teams
  - Website content
- Leveraging AIC leadership and programming support
- Evaluated costs and established reduced fees in light of COVID-19

## Setting our sights on Achieving Excellence

- Set a goal for Gold for 2020-2021
  - Submit 2 programs to AIC
  - Meet admin/IMS due dates
  - New member orientation
  - Mentoring efforts / evaluation
- Set up teams and a program plan for the year
- Encouraging team leads and team members to develop quality programs
- Member satisfaction survey - seeking your input

# Q&A

Help us brainstorm ways to achieve excellence, connect, facilitate teamwork, and grow as an organization -- even in challenging times!