



AMERICAN INNS of COURT

I'ANSON-HOFFMAN INN OF COURT NEWSLETTER

2023

VOL. 34, NO. 1

Hello Inn-members! It's been a while since our newsletter committee last updated you, so please enjoy the latest edition to catch up on our Inn.

NEXT MEETING

**JOINT MEETING with
The James Kent Inn of Court**

**Norfolk Botanical Gardens
April 19, 2023
5:30**

(RSVP Link will be forthcoming closer to meeting)

Make sure you try to attend this upcoming meeting, as well as our last meeting of the year at the Wren Chapel. We always look forward to our meeting with the James Kent Inn, and our sister Inn always makes a great showing. Plus, the Botanical Gardens is a gorgeous venue and you don't want to miss it!

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE!



The American Inns of Court awarded the I'Anson-Hoffman Inn the highest level, platinum status, for the 8th year running! Our very own President Eveleigh and Treasurer, Regina Amick, were privileged to attend the American Inn of Courts Gala at the United States Supreme Court. Very few Inns maintain the level of excellence of the I'Anson-Hoffman Inn, and it was a real treat for our leadership to show out in stunning attire at the black-tie event.

OCTOBER MEETING RECAP

The Inn had its orientation and first regular meeting on October 12, 2022, at the William and Mary Law School. We greeted a vibrant group of new members and celebrated our platinum status.





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We were treated to an engaging presentation by Professor Allison Larsen of William and Mary Law School, on “Circuit Court Personalities.” Professor Larsen presented the findings of an upcoming paper, co-authored by Professor Neal Devins, regarding the “personalities” of the various Federal Appellate Circuits, and how their social dynamics correlate to dispositions and procedures. Interestingly, some Circuits pride themselves on displays of cordiality and fellowship, while others maintain more of a tense, partisan dynamic. Her findings also indicate the social dynamics of Circuits may play a role in how many cases are heard *en banc*.

NOVEMBER MEETING RECAP

In what has become a celebrated tradition for the Inn, Pupilage Group 2 once again prepared a rousing game of Jeopardy for its presentation.



Toastmaster and all-around Inn superstar, Wiley Grandy, warmed up the crowd and set the stage for the fierce competition.



The game was a hit with the Inn, and the competition was intense, as always. This year’s categories included “All In the Family” (Family Law) and “Beggars Can’t be Choosers” (Choice of Law). The competition was tight up until Final Jeopardy. By correctly guessing one of the most vexing Final Jeopardy questions in Inn History, **Pupilage Group 4** ultimately prevailed! Group 4 was the only group who correctly answered how “Pennsylvania” was spelled in the original Constitution (P-e-n-s-y-l-v-a-n-i-a with one “n” before the “s”), and as a result **Group 4** is hereby commemorated forever in the annals of Inn History as Jeopardy Champions!

JANUARY MEETING RECAP

Our January meeting took place at the Hampton Yacht Club, where the champions of Jeopardy, Group 4, gave us a fascinating presentation on “Selected Topics of Legal Malpractice.” First, the Inn totaled up the results of its annual contribution to the Foodbank of Southeast Virginia, and the results were impressive. The Inn donated money and food totaling 3500 meals to needy families. Thanks for your generosity, and thanks to Mark Favaloro and Aaron Kass for keeping us connected to the food drive!



Andy Fox gave us an inspiring toast on the importance of “lifting each other up” in this challenging profession of law. For the main event, Group 4 led us into a discussion on selected topics of legal malpractice, utilizing several hypotheticals of our favorite Seinfeld Characters.

The group highlighted some key distinctions in establishing a claim for malpractice in a civil vs.

criminal case. Notably, a plaintiff in an action regarding a criminal case must establish actual innocence by a preponderance of the evidence. In other words, it’s quite difficult to bring a successful malpractice claim against a criminal defense attorney. Phew. Thanks to Group 4 for putting together an interesting and useful presentation.



Thanks to all our members for helping us forge another successful year. Let’s finish strong with a nice showing at our final meetings!

Until next time,

Andrew Gordon
Newsletter Committee 2022-23

P.S. – A fond farewell to our outgoing Newsletter Editor and Executive Committee member, **Micaylee Noreen**, who is moving to California. Thanks for everything, Micaylee, and good luck to you in Cali! But, if any of you notice any errors in this edition, it’s all Micaylee’s fault for not catching my mistakes.