

EARL E. O'CONNOR INN OF COURT THE INNFORMATION

May 2012

Volume 21 (more or less), Issue 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 8, 2012 Regular Meeting	5:15 Social Hour 6:00 Dinner 6:50 Program
May 15, 2012 Speed Mentoring	5:30
May 17, 2012 Joint Meeting	6:00 Cocktails 7:00 Dinner
June 7, 2012 Ethics CLE	1:30 Program 4:30 Reception

MAY PROGRAM TOPIC:

“Damages Experts: How to Develop, Attack and Defend Damages Experts in Discovery and in Trial,” by Judge Hauber’s team.

SPEED MENTORING

Tuesday, May 15, 2012 5:30-7:30, at the offices of Polsinelli Shughart. Join us for refreshments, fun, and informal mentoring at this interactive event where mentees will be rotated through several mentors over a series of short speed “dates” (aka mentoring sessions). Check your email for a link to RSVP.

ETHICS CLE

See the attached brochure for the details on our 2012 Ethics CLE. Support our Inn by attending the CLE and inviting others.

MEMBERSHIP

New Member Applications - Applications for new members will be made available on our Inn website starting in July. An email will be sent to current members at that time to advise that the applications have been posted. Applications will be due in August with membership decisions made by the board shortly after the deadline. If you are aware of attorneys who would make great additions to our Inn, please feel free to pass on the information about the applications. Current members will not need to reapply.



President’s Message

Each year our Inn participates in a joint meeting with other Kansas chapters of the American Inns of Court. Last year, our Inn hosted a meeting in Overland Park. This year, the joint meeting will be hosted by the Judge Hugh Means Inn of Court of Lawrence. Members of the Sam A. Crow Inn of Topeka and the Wesley E. Brown Inn of Wichita will also attend. By now, each of you should have received a personal invitation from the Hugh Means Inn. Please RSVP by May 15, 2012.

The joint meeting will be held Thursday, May 17, 2012 at the new Oread Hotel on the campus of the University of Kansas, east of the KU football stadium. The Oread (as well as the Eldridge Hotel in downtown Lawrence) will make special packages available to those who wish to spend the night. The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. with cocktails, followed by dinner at 7:00.

The guest speaker will be Mark Morris, a veteran reporter with the Kansas City Star, who writes a column about local courts and criminal issues. Mr. Morris has reported on many highly publicized cases, including the recent indictment of Bishop Robert Finn. Mr. Morris is the co-author of *Fatal Error*, a true story about murder and the inter-

net which became a made-for-TV movie. He was also part of a team that wrote a series in the Star in 2010 about human trafficking. That series received an award from Investigative Reporters and Editors, Inc. as well as the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award for outstanding coverage of injustice against the underprivileged.

In addition to an opportunity to hear an important and interesting speaker, the joint meeting is a chance to meet members of other Inns and “compare notes.” At last year’s joint meeting, I also had an opportunity to visit personally with the speaker before and after dinner and to ask questions that were of interest to me. I am sure this will be true again this year.

On June 7, 2012, our Inn’s Thirteenth Annual Ethics in Litigation will be held at the Ceremonial Courtroom at the Federal Court House in Kansas City, Kansas beginning at 1:00 p.m. The featured speaker will be Stuart Teicher, Adjunct Professor of Law at Rutgers, who will discuss the ethical uses of new technologies in marketing, developing and sustaining a modern law practice. Among other topics, he will discuss the transmission of information over wireless networks, the use of social networks for marketing and case development, and

“cloud” storage of information. Following his presentation, Professor Teicher will moderate a panel discussion with U.S. District Judge Julie A. Robinson, Wyandotte County District Court Judge Kate Lynch, Kansas Disciplinary Administrator Stan Hazlett, and criminal defense attorney Jacquelyn Rokusek, a member of our Inn. A reception with Professor Teicher and the other panelists will be held in the courthouse immediately following the seminar. Please plan to attend so that we will have a good showing by our Inn.

Finally, don’t forget the Johnson and Wyandotte County Bar Associations’ Bar Show on June 14, 2012 at 8:00 p.m. at The Jewish Community Center, 5801 West 115th Street in Overland Park. Veronica Dersch and other members of our Inn have worked hard on this year’s Bar Show, and it promises to be an impressive and memorable event.

This is my last President’s Message, as I pass the reins to next year’s president, Ellen Goldman. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your president. Thank you for giving me this opportunity. I have enjoyed it tremendously.

—Charles A. Getto

THE INFORMATION

New Member Profiles

DENISE PORTNOY

Denise Portnoy is an associate at the law firm of Spencer Fane Britt & Browne, LLP practicing in the areas of Labor and Employment Law. Denise grew up in Leawood. She obtained her undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas Honors Programs in political science and psychology. She went to law school at the University of Minnesota. Several things drove Denise to law school, including a love of people and public speaking. As most of us, she watched trial lawyers on television and movies and thought it looked like fun. When starting to think about life after college, she continued to be drawn to law school and “went for it.” During her first year of practice, she had the privilege of arguing before the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit as well as being second chair for a week-long jury trial. She is very grateful for the unique experiences so early in her career. Growing up in the Kansas City area gives her a love for the town and the people who live in it. She recently moved back home after being away for five years so she spends free time visiting family and friends and taking advantage of the fun events around town. Denise is married to Dan, who is a prosecutor in Platte County, Missouri.

PETER SIMONSEN

Peter Simonsen is an attorney at the law firm of Payne & Jones. Peter is licensed in Kansas, Missouri and Colorado, and is a litigator with a focus on family law and general civil litigation. Originally from Kansas City, Peter obtained his undergraduate and law degrees from Kansas University. He became a lawyer because of the encouragement of his grandfather. The aspect of practicing law that Peter enjoys most is developing relationships with his clients while helping them resolve problems. Peter resides with his wife in Prairie Village, Kansas. When not working, Peter enjoys skiing in Colorado.

LYNN R. JOHNSON

Although a new member to our Inn, Lynn R. Johnson has been a widely-respected trial attorney in Kansas City since 1970, when he started his practice at the law firm of Schneider, Shamberg & May. Lynn’s passion and dedication to justice was born out of his western Kansas roots. Growing up on a family farm in Kanona, Kansas, Lynn learned the values of accountability, service, and hard work. Lynn carries those values in his everyday practice: “Growing up, my family emphasized accountability and caring for others. I love representing people. I am able to help individuals who have been seriously injured, or families who have lost a loved one, obtain justice. In doing so, I hold corporations, insurance companies, or individuals accountable for their decisions.”

Lynn’s formal education, which began in a one-room country school house in Kanona, KS, led to an undergraduate degree from Kansas State University in 1967 and Juris Doctorate degree with honors from Washburn University School of Law in 1970. Lynn is a life member of the Alumni Associations of both universities and has served as President of the Washburn Law School Association. Lynn remains at the law firm where he started, now known as Shamberg, Johnson, and Bergman. Lynn is married to the love of his life Jacqueline and together they have one son, Randy Lovelace.

JESSICA MADRID

Jessica R. Madrid practices with the Williamson Law Firm’s personal injury and wage and hour practice division. Born and raised in El Paso, Texas, Jessica attended the University of Texas at El Paso. Majoring in Political Science, she graduated Cum Laude and moved to Lawrence, Kansas in 2005. Jessica then attended the University of Kansas School of Law. Following law school, Jessica served as a law clerk for the Honorable Jeffrey L. Bushur of the 16th Judicial Circuit Court of the State of Missouri. After two years with Judge Bushur, she decided to dedicate her career to helping people.

A special thanks to members of our Newsletter Committee who interviewed our new members and wrote the profiles for this newsletter: Karen Nations, Jason Buchanan, Lee Urban, and Nancy Crawford.

The mission of the American Inns of Court is to foster excellence in professionalism, ethics, civility, and legal skills.

*All meetings at Homestead
Country Club, 6510 Mission Road,
Prairie Village, KS 66208*

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THE INNFORMATION

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Technethics: Ethical Uses of New Technology in Modern Law Practice



The G. Thomas VanBebber Thirteenth Annual Ethics in Litigation Forum

Presented by the Earl E. O'Connor American Inn of Court on Thursday, June 7, 2012, 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

This forum will provide guidance from a distinguished legal ethics lecturer, judges, and attorneys regarding everyday ethical situations. The forum will be interactive and challenging, encouraging participants to examine ethical scenarios and “best practices” for the use of new technologies in modern law practice.

When: Thursday, June 7, 2012
1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Reception immediately following

Where: Ceremonial Courtroom, Sixth Floor
Robert J. Dole U.S. Courthouse
500 State Ave., Kansas City, Kansas



Cost: \$120 including reception
\$150 after May 29, 2012
\$100 government attorney rate
\$10 discount for first-time attendees

CLE: 3.0 KS Ethics; 3.0 MO Ethics

REGISTRATION (1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.) *Please allow time for security clearance at the Courthouse entrance. Cell phones and other electronic devices are allowed in the building only if you have a current District of Kansas bar registration card and a photo ID.*

OPENING REMARKS & INTRODUCTION

Charles Getto

President, the Earl E. O'Connor American Inn of Court

SESSION 1 (1:40 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.) **Presentation: “Technethics”**

Stuart Teicher, Esquire

Practicing Attorney; Adjunct Professor of Law, Rutgers Law School; Ethics Investigator, State of New Jersey ; and “CLE Performer”

In a fun, interactive, thought-provoking presentation, Mr. Teicher will discuss the ethical uses of new technologies in marketing, developing, maintaining, and sustaining a modern law practice rooted in the principles of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct. Discussion topics include the transmission of information over wireless networks, use of social networking for marketing and case development, storage and transmission of information in the “cloud,” and much more.

SESSION 2 (3:40 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.) **Panel Discussion: Local Ethical Perspectives in New Technology**

This distinguished panel will address practical ethical scenarios presented to them, discussing their own experiences and models for developing “best practices” for the use and integration of new technology.

- **Honorable Judge Julie A. Robinson**, U.S. District Judge, District of Kansas
- **Honorable Judge Kate Lynch**, Wyandotte County District Court
- **Mr. Stanton A. Hazlett**, Disciplinary Administrator
- **Ms. Jacquelyn Rokusek**, Criminal Defense Attorney
- **Mr. Stuart Teicher**, Moderator

RECEPTION (4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.)

Please join our presenter and panelists for complimentary wine, non-alcoholic beverages, and hors d'oeuvres in the Courthouse immediately following the seminar.

Technethics: Ethical Uses of New Technology in Modern Law Practice



The G. Thomas VanBebber Thirteenth Annual Ethics in Litigation Forum

Presented by the Earl E. O'Connor American Inn of Court on Thursday, June 7, 2012, 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

We take credit cards! To register using PayPal, follow these steps:

1. Go to www.paypal.com and log in to your own account. (You must have an existing PayPal account to use this payment/registration method. It only takes minutes to set one up.)
2. Click on the tab marked "Send Money."
3. Enter EEOCinn@gmail.com in the "To" field.
4. Enter registration fee in "Amount" field.
5. Select "Services" in the "For" field and click on "Continue."
6. Enter "2012 Ethics CLE" in the Subject box for the optional message to recipient.
7. VERY IMPORTANT: Enter your full name in the "Message" box to ensure proper credit.
8. Click on "Send Money." You should get a confirmation that says "You have sent \$120.00 to EEOCinn@gmail.com."
9. Print "Transaction Details" if you desire or need a receipt for your own records.

This forum is an excellent opportunity for all practitioners to receive timely and pragmatic advice from a distinguished panel of judges and attorneys about both the complex and routine ethical issues attorneys face daily.

Cancellation Policy: 80% of the registration fee will be refunded for cancellations received up to 48 hours before the event. No refunds after that time.

Parking: Free parking is available in the Jury lot at Washington Blvd. & 5th St. Parking is also available for a nominal fee in the lot on the corner of 5th and Minnesota.

G. Thomas VanBebber Thirteenth Annual Ethics in Litigation Forum Technethics: Ethical Uses of New Technology in Modern Law Practice Thursday, June 7, 2012, 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Fees – Check the Appropriate Box or Boxes

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Early Registration | \$120 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Government Attorney Rate | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Late Registration (after May 29) | \$150 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | First-time Attendee Discount | -\$10 |

Total Registration Fee: \$ _____

Payment Method:

- Enclosed Check
 Credit Card, using PayPal

Please make your check payable to The Earl E. O'Connor American Inn of Court and send it with this form to: Attn: Kevin Breer, Polsinelli Shughart, 6201 College Boulevard, Suite 500, Overland Park, Kansas 66211. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Goodenow at (913) 782-5544 x 4, or via email at Stephanie@Goodenowlaw.com.

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