



**MEETING RECAP**  
**THE PAULINE NEWMAN**  
**IP AMERICAN INN OF COURT**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2012**

The first monthly meeting in the second year of the Pauline Newman IP American Inn of Court took place in the Madison Building of the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. A reception in the lower level of the atrium began at about 6:00 p.m. The meeting convened in the auditorium at 7:08 p.m.



President Al Tramosch made some introductory remarks. This Inn

is unique in that it focuses not only on the bench, bar and law students, but also on the USPTO. Yesterday was the first anniversary of the enactment of the America Invents Acts. There will be joint meetings this year with other Inns of Court. Officers of the Inn were introduced. New members were invited to introduce themselves.

Teresa Rea, the Deputy Director of the USPTO, made remarks. The USPTO has been busy this summer with rule implementation. Eight inter parties review and five covered business methods reviews have already been filed since yesterday, when provisions of the AIA took effect. The APJs are working on reducing the appeals backlog. The Examiners are working on reducing the examination backlog. Prioritized (Track 1) Examination is worth paying for. The Patent Prosecution Highway is also working well, and have a high allowance rate. The USPTO is working with the European Patent Office on Cooperative Patent Classification. There is a new Ombudsman program. There is a new First Action Interview Program, for which a request must be made before the first Office action. There is a new Quick Path Pilot Disclosure Program, which can be used when a new reference is discovered after the close of prosecution. There is also a new After-Final Office Action



Program. Prioritized Examination is faster than Accelerated Examination. There will be smaller fees for Prioritized Examination for small and micro entities.

Bill Stoffel discussed upcoming meetings of the Inn this year, including that the Inn's new URL is [www.newmaninn.org](http://www.newmaninn.org). George Bert spoke about Dr. Chakrabarty's appearance at the meeting in October. Laurin Mills spoke about the November meeting on patent litigation. The December meeting will be a joint holiday meeting with the Giles Rich Inn. The topic for the January meeting has not been chosen yet. Rob Rowan about the February meeting, which will be a joint meeting with the George Mason Inn re trademark litigation. In March, Don Chisum of Chisum on Patents will be the featured speaker. The topic for the April meeting is to be determined later. The May meeting will be our annual dinner. Volunteers were invited for pupillage groups.

Gerry Mossinghoff, former head of the USPTO, gave tribute to the current leadership of the USPTO. "Congress has done a marvelous job with the American Invents Act."

Ted Essex, President of the Giles Rich Inn, who is an International Trade Commission judge, said that you can make good friends at Inns of Court, and you can learn from "people who are smarter than yourself." The Inns help ideas circulate. Get the smartest people to help in the Inn, and then stay out of their way.



Pauline Newman gave the concluding remarks. The English barristers were required to be members on an Inn of Courts, and took their meals in common. The Inns of Court encouraged civility. Chief Justice Burger tried to adapt features of the English Inns of Court to American circumstances in founding the American Inns of Court. Pupillage groups are an important aspect of the Inns of Court.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

*Photographs were taken by Bill Stoffel.*

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Christopher Swift  
Secretary-Treasurer