
The MESSENGER

Larimer County Bar Association

AUGUST 2006

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings:

Well, here it is - almost the end of summer 2006 and among the many things that I put off to the end was to communicate with the Bar membership and let you all know what your Larimer County Bar Association has been doing recently.

The Executive Committee has been working diligently to accomplish three core tasks: 1) to provide the membership with a law library which contains both necessary and useful information, including on-line services; 2) providing for the Larimer County area access to legal services through our Pro Bono Program; and 3) provide the membership with continuing legal education at a reduced cost or at no cost. I believe it has been successful in all three of these tasks.

With regard to the Ralph Coyte Memorial Library, the Committee, along with the Library Committee has recently worked out a deal with Thompson-West to obtain Westlaw on-line services in the library. This will replace LOISLaw. A West representative will be at Term Day (information below) to tell you about the services and to schedule training sessions for those services. As part of the Westlaw deal, costs were reduced on books and updates for books we are currently receiving. The LCBA is also working to make access to the library more user-friendly (how the heck do you get in that place??). This is your library, please use it - this is THE BEST bar sponsored law library in the state, don't waste it.

The Pro Bono program has undergone some changes, but its mission remains the same - to provide legal services for those in the County that cannot afford legal services. The program has a new paralegal, Cindi Hendrix. Cindi had filled in for Jessica, our previous paralegal, when Jessica was out on maternity leave. Cindi is very helpful and she has some good ideas to assist the program. Heather Zadina is coordinating the program.

One issue that has arisen with the Pro Bono Program is the ongoing need for attorney volunteers to take the cases. The LCBA has tried a number of things to increase the number of volunteers, but our numbers continue to come up short. Heather will try to address this issue by sending out an email with information regarding new intake clients to attorneys whose practice areas are the same or similar to the client's needs. If an attorney has time and an interest in the client as a pro bono project, the attorney will then contact Heather and that client will be assigned to that attorney. If no one will take the client, Heather will make calls to attorneys or others on the Committee will make the calls and each will attempt to match up the client with an attorney. Please contact Heather if you are interested in a client and please help out if you can do so. Thanks.

The CLE efforts for the last year have been very successful. Besides the outstanding and very popular Ethics Seminar, put on by the Professionalism Committee, the LCBA has sponsored several other CLE's, including one on family law and a seminar concerning the 1st and 6th Amendments. For Law Day, the Young Lawyers brought in Judge Matsch, who gave a very memorable talk.

Finally, September 8 is our Fall Term Day. Cathy Vlasak has and is sending out information on the various activities scheduled for that day - but as a quick note, coffee and donuts will be served prior to the business meeting from 8-9 ; business meeting from 9-11, with the CBA President, Elizabeth A. Starrs giving a short state of the Bar and Past President, Roger Clark, introducing new Larimer County Bar members; a golf tournament at Highland Meadows will start around 12 (contact David Johnson) and in the evening, dinner at the Stonehouse Grill in downtown Fort Collins (contact Dick Gast). I hope to see you at one or all these functions.

Daniel C. Muffly
LCBA President



TERM DAY INTRODUCTIONS

If you are a new lawyer or know of a new lawyer in town, please contact Roger Clark at 669-8668 or rclarklaw@yahoo.com.



FALL TERM DAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2006 Agenda

- 8:00 -9:00** Coffee and donuts at the Justice Center second floor food court
- 9:00** Business Meeting
in the Jury Assembly room.
- 12:00** LCBA Term Day Golf

Highland Meadows Golf Course, 6300 Highland Meadows Parkway, Windsor, Colorado. We still have room and are still taking golf reservations. Tee times will be assigned by David Johnson and he will contact you on September 7 of your tee time. Send your check in the amount of \$85 per player and reservation form below to: David Johnson, Liggett, Smith & Wilson, 425 West Mulberry Street, Suite 112, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521, 482-9770. **Reservation deadline is August 25, 2006.**

- 6:30** LCBA Term Day Dinner

Upstairs at the Stonehouse Grille, 125 South College Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m. (cash bar). Buffet Dinner at 7:30 p.m. Music by Mark Sloniker. **Dinner Cost is \$10 per person for each attorney and spouse/guest.** Send your check in the amount of \$10 per person and reservation form below to: Richard Gast, Myatt Brandes & Gast, P.C., 323 South College Avenue, Suite 1, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521, 482-4846. **Reservation deadline is August 31, 2006.**



JUDICIAL NEWS AND UPDATES

Since the initiation of the small claims mediation program, we have had over 75 attorneys serve as mediators. Based upon the interest of the attorneys and their commitment to continued involvement, we now typically have 3 mediators at every court session, including the weekend and evening sessions. I state the obvious to those of you who have been involved when I report that our litigants in small claims court are very well served by you. You are fulfilling a unique role in resolution of small claims disputes. At the same time, you walk away from each mediation session with a better awareness of yourself and the dispute resolution process. That awareness will only assist you in your own practice. To those who have been involved, thank you very much for your past and continued involvement. To those who have not been involved, please consider joining the program to help with the distribution of mediator labor. [Call Debra Koontz at 498-6214 to sign up!]

Due to courtroom space limitations and the fact that Courtroom 3D will be needed on a full-time basis for district court duties, the small claims court must necessarily move to Courtroom L-2 in Loveland. Beginning September 1, 2006, all weekday morning and afternoon sessions will be held in Loveland. Evening and Saturday court will continue to be held in Fort Collins. It is obviously critical to the continued success of the mediation program that our Larimer County attorneys continue to serve as mediators in the Loveland

courtroom. Yes, it will create an inconvenience for some of you and I appreciate that reality. However, please remember the dozens of cases that were settled by agreement in our mediation process that would have otherwise been resolved in the adversarial environment of trial on the merits. This worthy pro bono effort must survive, and your time contribution is of critical importance. Thank you very much in advance.

Magistrate John A. Jostad



UPCOMING CLE'S FROM LARIMER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION AND THE YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION

Watch for more details on an upcoming Brown Bag CLE sponsored by the Young Lawyers on Wednesday, September 13, 2006 on Temporary Civil Restraining Orders by Magistrate Jostad.

The Library Committee welcomes the Membership to a Brown Bag Seminar on Wednesday, October 11, 2006, at which Randi Scherr of Thomson West will conduct training on the use of the Coyte Library's new Westlaw subscription. Specific time and location to be announced, but please be sure you reserve a couple hours of mid-day time to take advantage of Ms. Scherr's considerable expertise in this area.



LARIMER - WELD ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL SUPPORT STAFF BROWN BAG LUNCHEON SEMINAR

WHAT: NEW PROBATION/COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROGRAM

Presented by Michael Ruttenberg MS, LMFT
Assistant Director, Larimer County Community Corrections

WHEN: Friday, September 22, 2006
12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

WHERE: Jury Assembly Room, Side A

1 CLE Credit. The cost of the Seminar is \$5.00 for LWALSS Members and \$10.00 for Non-Members. Please send your money and registration to: March, Olive, & Pharris, LLC, Jodi Morse, Legal Assistant, 110 East Oak Street, Suite 200, Fort Collins, Colorado 80524. If you have any questions, please contact Jodi Morse at (970) 482-4322 or jodim@frii.com

OFFICE SPACE

Established Loveland law firm has office space available for rent.

Ball, Easley, Wabeke, Brummet & Johnson
(970)667-2131

SEEKING LEGAL CONTRACT WORK

A research project or brief due? Temporary overload of work? Paralegal on maternity leave? I am an attorney with private practice and in-house counsel gas utility experience who formerly worked as a paralegal available for contract work. Areas of emphasis are: estate planning and administration; business and non-profit incorporations; tax; litigation; real estate and HOA; municipal; contractual and transactional; and collections.

Carol Johnson
970-669-1138

NEW PROBATION/COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROGRAM ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

Larimer County has a new and unique probation/community corrections program called AIMM (Alternatives to Incarceration for Individuals with Mental Health needs). This program was developed as a partnership between Larimer County Community Corrections, Larimer Center for Mental Health, the 8th Judicial District Probation Department, and The Sheriff's Office. AIMM is designed for repeat offenders with significant DSM IVtr axis one mental health disorders. These types of diagnosis would include (and not limited to) Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective, Schizophreniform, Panic Disorder, Bi-polar, and Attention Deficit Disorder. We are unable to accept defendants into the program that have a primary Axis II DSM IVtr diagnosis, such as anti-social personality disorder or borderline personality disorder. We are also unable to accept defendants that have a primary diagnosis of substance dependency or abuse.

We are trying to serve offenders whom their mental illness has a direct relationship and impact on the crimes that have been committed, or have been accused of committing. The program is designed to integrate mental health treatment and probation level supervision in one location, by a cross trained team of mental health and corrections personnel. The program is voluntary, the defendant needs to be aware of all the contact and treatment requirements. They need to be willing to engage in and receive these services. The program also requires a sentence to probation for at least one year, with a term and condition being - following all terms and conditions of the AIMM program.

Once we receive a referral on a defendant we will review all information and determine if they meet the basic requirements of the program. If they do, we will contact the person being referred and explain the program to determine if they are interested. If they are interested, we

will schedule a face to face evaluation by a licensed mental health practitioner. Once the evaluation is complete, the case will be brought to the AIM screening committee for a decision on acceptance. The program will then notify all interested parties through a memo as to our decision; this usually includes the referral agent, the presiding judge, the district attorney's office and defense counsel. We will make every effort to have an AIM program representative at sentencing for all defendants whom have been accepted into the program.

The types of services and supervision we provide can be very demanding for some defendants. We have a drop in site for participants, we frequently require participants to check in at the drop in site on a daily basis, or make daily phone contact with a verifiable plan for the day. We will be providing medication management and administration of psychiatric medication, weekly meetings with a cross trained case manager to provide probation level supervision, case management with a specialist as needed to assist the participant in basic needs, such as employment and housing assistance, weekly individual therapy (reducing in frequency as treatment progresses), family and couples therapy as needed, group therapy as appropriate, and random substance abuse testing. We will also get all participants registered at Larimer Center for Mental Health for services with the Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, and prescription assistance programs. All of the above services and supervision will reduce over time as indicated by the participant's compliance with supervision and progress in treatment. We also coordinate with other providers to insure continuity of care and to not replicate services.

We have been providing services since December 2005. We have seen great support from The Judicial Bench, The Office of the District Attorney, The Office of the Public Defender and the community at large. The Judicial Bench, The Office of the District Attorney, and The Office of the Public Defender have all been very supportive of the program by making referrals and agreeing to or having defendants sentenced to the program. If you would like further information a referral form or have any questions please contact Michael Ruttenberg, AIM Program Director, at 970-498-7554.



**August 9, 2006
For Immediate Release**

Contact Stacy Chesney
(303) 824-5347
Colorado Bar Association

Larimer County Bar Association Says No Judicial Term Limits

The Larimer County Bar Association Executive Committee has unanimously voted to oppose a proposed constitutional amendment to impose term limits on Colorado appellate judges.

Larimer County Bar President Dan Muffly stated that the amendment would significantly reduce the checks and balances of the three branches of state government by injecting politics into the selection and retention of judges. Mr. Muffly stated, "We need stability, quality and excellence from our judiciary, and this poorly-conceived constitutional amendment takes that away."

The proposed amendment is retroactive. If adopted, Colorado would lose 5 of the 7 sitting justices of the Colorado Supreme Court and 7 of the 19 sitting judges of the court of appeals at the next general election.

The Colorado Bar Association also is adamantly opposed to this amendment. The CBA's Board of Governors unanimously voted to oppose the amendment and is supporting the political committee that has been formed to organize opposition to the amendment, Citizens to Protect Colorado Courts ("CPC").

**Term Day Golf - September 8, 2006
Highland Meadows Golf Course
6300 Highland Meadows Parkway
Windsor, Colorado**

Taking golf reservations now. If we can get enough foursomes signed up, we can have a shot gun start at 1 p.m. David Johnson will contact you on September 7 of your tee time.

Send your check in the amount of \$85 per player and reservation form below to:

David Johnson
Liggett, Smith & Wilson
425 West Mulberry Street, Suite 112
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521
482-9770

Deadline to register is August 25, 2006



Term Day Golf Reservation for September 8, 2006 at Highland Meadows Golf Course

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

_____ Phone No: _____

Checks in the amount of \$85 per player made payable to
Larimer County Bar Association

**Fall Term Day Dinner - September 8, 2006
Upstairs at the Stonehouse Grille
125 South College Avenue
Fort Collins, Colorado**

Cocktails at 6:30 p.m. (cash bar)

Buffet Dinner at 7:30 p.m.

Music by Mark Sloniker

Dinner Cost is \$10 per person for each attorney and spouse/guest.

Send your check in the amount of \$10 per person and reservation form below to:

Richard Gast
Myatt Brandes & Gast, P.C.
323 South College Avenue, Suite 1
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521
482-4846

Deadline to register is August 31, 2006



Term Day Dinner Reservation for September 8, 2006 at Stonehouse Grille

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

_____ Phone No: _____

Checks in the amount of \$10 per person made payable to
Larimer County Bar Association

Diamonds are Forever



*Colorado Association of Legal Support Staff
Annual Meeting and Educational Conference
September 15-16, 2006*

*Fort Collins Marriott
350 East Horsetooth Road
Fort Collins, Colorado*

*Hosted by the Larimer-Weld Association of Legal Support Staff
*CLE Credits Applied for**

Friday, September 15, 2006	
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Registration (Please visit the vendors)
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	“Trust and Estate Legislation in Colorado 2006” Peter W. Bullard of Bullard & Larson LLP
2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Break
2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	“Computer Security and Use Tips” Julie Kistic of PC Therapy in Greeley
3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Break
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	“Dragon-Slaying 101” Kathryn Severns, author and motivational speaker
6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Reception, Dinner and Casino Night
Saturday, September 16, 2006	
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Delegate check-in and orientation
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Annual Meeting – Installation of New Officers
10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	“Diamonds are a CALSS' Best Friend” Susan Harrison, Owner of Jewelry Emporium
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	First Board Meeting
Lunch and Afternoon	On your own
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Social Hour – Cash Bar
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Banquet – Entertainment - Lounge Music with John Shober

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

There will be a \$50 charge to all CALSS members who register for ALL events. Non-members may attend all of the activities for \$60 or the seminars for \$25/seminar. Please mail your registration form with check payable to **CALSS Annual Meeting Fund** to: Cathy L. Vlasak, PLS, Harden, Hass, Haag & Hallberg, P.C., Post Office Box 1606, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522 by September 10, 2006. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Boker at wcrossier@gwest.net or 970-356-1115, or Renie Shovlin at Renie.Shovlin@Greeleygov.com or 970-350-9760.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Fort Collins Marriott
350 East Horsetooth Road
Fort Collins, Colorado

Room Rates: \$99/night for single, double, quad
Check in: 3:00 p.m.
Check out: 12:00 p.m.

Reservations: 970-226-5200 or 800-228-9290 (mention Colorado Association of Legal Support Staff)

NOTE: Deadline for Hotel Reservations: August 15, 2006



REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____
Address _____
Telephone (w) _____ (h) _____

Membership Status (check all that apply):

- _____ CALSS Member
- _____ CALSS Officer
- _____ CALSS Chairman
- _____ Advisory Group Member
- _____ Annual Meeting Delegate
- _____ Annual Meeting Alternate Delegate
- _____ **I am attending my first Annual Meeting!**

Certification:

- _____ Certified Professional Legal Secretary
- _____ Accredited Legal Secretary
- _____ Certified Professional Secretary
- _____ Certified Legal Assistant
- _____ Other _____

- Please check all that apply, I will attend:
- () Trust and Estate Legislation in 2006
 - () Computer Security and Use Tips
 - () Dragon-Slaying 101
 - () Friday Reception, Dinner and Casino Night
 - () Saturday Breakfast
 - () Annual Meeting
 - () Diamonds are a CALSS' Best Friend
 - () First Board Meeting
 - () Banquet () Beef () Chicken () Vegetarian

I would like to purchase extra guest tickets for:

Friday Reception, Dinner and Casino Night _____ tickets x \$25 = \$ _____
 Saturday Breakfast _____ tickets x \$23 = \$ _____
 Saturday Evening Banquet _____ tickets x \$40 = \$ _____
 Meal preference () Beef () Chicken () Vegetarian
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Peter W. Bullard is a partner in the Fort Collins firm of Bullard & Larsen, L.L.P., and has practiced law for over 32 years – 10 in Indiana and 22 in Colorado. He limits his practice to wills, trusts, estate planning, probate and business law. He is married to Judy, who teaches in the Headstart program in the Poudre School District. They have two children, Emily and Sarah, both Colorado State University graduates. Mr. Bullard attended Indiana University School of Law (J.D. 1973). He has been active in bar association matters, having served as Larimer County Bar Association President (2000-2001) and as a member of the CBA Board of Governors, 2001-2004. He is chair of the Larimer County Trust & Estate Bar Committee (2001 to present). He has been a member of the CBA Trust & Estate Section for several years, a member of its Council (2004-2006) and its Statutory Revisions and Rules and Forms Committees, and has served on SRC subcommittees, including the Uniform Guardianship & Protective Proceedings Act Subcommittee. He authored "Navigating Colorado's Trust Registration Statutes," published in the Colorado Lawyer, March, 2002. He has been a member of the Northern Colorado Estate Planning Council for 18 years. Mr. Bullard lectures on estate planning, trust and probate topics. He has been active locally in many community activities, including the Board of OpenStage Theatre (2004-present), the Board of the Poudre Valley Hospital District (Vice President, 1994-1998), the Poudre Valley Hospital Board of Retirement (1989-94), the Poudre R-1 District Advisory Board (1993-94), Rocky Mountain High School Accountability Committee (1991-94), Fort Collins-Foothills Rotary Club (President, 1990-91), the Chamber of Commerce (Leadership Class, 1988-89), the Fort Collins Building Board of Appeals and Liquor Licensing Authority (Chairman, 1988-89), the Larimer County Bicentennial Committee (Chairman, 1986-88).

Julie Kiscic started PC-Therapy in Greeley five years ago. She has a doctorate in Animal Science/Molecular Biology from Colorado State University and a Master's degree in Animal Physiology from the University of Minnesota. Julie worked in marketing for a company called DuCoa, a joint venture between DuPont and ConAgra. After a time, she decided to change careers.

Computers have always been her hobby/obsession. She was the "go to" person when co-workers had problems with their computers. Starting PC-Therapy was a means to feed her computer addiction. The fun thing about technology and her business is that it is a daily mental work-out routine, which she finds very challenging and fulfilling. Her goal for PC-Therapy is to provide computer services and consultations for small businesses and home users that are helpful, comfortable and fun, removing the intimidation that often plagues end users.

Kathryn Severns has had a varied and interesting career including jobs in radio, television, public relations, publishing, and music. She has lived in Dallas, New York, Washington, DC, London, and Belfast, Northern Ireland. Her current career as an author, motivational speaker, and seminar leader began with the publication of her second book, *Tiara Training – A 14-Step Empowerment Program for Women*. The book is the result of work she did with a life coach while exploring new career choices. *Tiara Training* uses enjoyable interactive exercise, royalty archetypes, fairy tales and a tiara to help women step into their power, be their own Fairy Godmother and live happily ever after.

Kathryn has appeared on numerous radio and television programs promoting *Tiara Training* and has traveled around the country conducting *Tiara Training* seminars and workshops. She also offers one-on-one *Tiara Training* mentoring for clients. Kathryn is an accomplished musician and has written several books on decorating and crafts, has written for national magazines and for the *Rocky Mountain News*. She continues to live happily ever after in Denver, Colorado.

Susan Harrison was born and raised in Denver, graduating from Colorado State University in 1979. She has taken several courses through the Gemological Institute of America. Susan is passionate about her jewelry business and knows the ins and outs of diamonds, gemstones and fine metals. She became manager of the Jewelry Emporium and subsequently bought the business in 1990, which is located at the Plaza, southwest of the Foothills Mall in Fort Collins. The Jewelry Emporium features merchandise from more than 50 designers, along with other well-made products such as Waterford crystal and Lladro figurines. Many of the jewelry pieces in the store are limited editions, and Susan's goal is to provide the buyer with a unique design to fit that buyer's needs and desires. Her long-term, knowledgeable employees add stability to the Jewelry Emporium, drawing repeat business from clients and helping new purchasers find just that right piece.

LARIMER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
C/O HARDEN, HASS, HAAG & HALLBERG, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
POST OFFICE BOX 1606
FORT COLLINS, COLORADO 80522