



# *Vintage Voices*

*Senior Lawyers Division*

Vintage Voices  
December 2023

Happy Holidays!

From your Executive Council:

**President** – Don Powell  
**President Elect** – Denise Blommel  
**Past President** – Hon. Dean Christoffel  
**Secretary** – Glenn Gimbut  
**Treasurer** – Mary Maley Maynard  
**District Rep. 1** – Richard Platt  
**District Rep. 2** – Lou Diesel  
**District Rep. 3** – Walter Nash  
**District Rep. 3** – David Vasquez  
**District Rep. 3** – John Messing  
**District Rep. 4** – Gary Stuart  
**District Rep. 4** – Neil Irwin  
**District Rep. 4** – Charles Thomson  
**District Rep. 4** – Dave Stoller  
**Member at Large** – Richard Davis  
**ABA Liaison** – Louraine Arkfeld

## *Looking forward to 2024*

After a busy 2023, your Executive Council is eagerly anticipating 2024. The Division has had a successful run of well-attended Drop-In programs; instituted the new Creative Writing Listserv; was pleased to have its Treasurer appointed to the Arizona Supreme Court's Pretrial Justice Committee; negotiated a mentoring agreement with the Young Lawyers Division; held a great Continuing Legal Education program at the State Bar Convention and generated a lot of camaraderie at the Senior Lawyers Breakfast.

Our Drop-Ins continue to provide super content. John Messing is chairing our efforts. The December 5, 2023 Drop-In will feature Attorney Maria Crimi-Speth speaking about Artificial Intelligence and Intellectual Property. More AI programs will be forthcoming as we all need to

know and learn more about this technology. We are also planning another Drop-In later in January about dementia – another topic that we need to all learn about as much as we can. We will also hear from the Arizona Supreme Court’s director of the CASA and Foster Care Review Board volunteer programs in the Spring about ways we can help our young people who need assistance.

We are also working on a series of Drop-Ins to help us with the never-ending questions of transition from active law practice to the “R” word – or maybe something else.

We are so proud of Mary Maynard for being appointed to the Arizona Supreme Court’s Pretrial Justice Committee. Mary and new Executive Councilmember Dave Stoller will be working with that Committee to address due process and other basic justice issues for those involved with the pretrial phase of criminal proceedings.

Gary Stuart, prolific author, is our administrator of the Creative Writing Listserv. Please see the instructions (email and Community Digest) from Sarah Schneider, our intrepid State Bar staff liaison, on how to join us. We really appreciate the State Bar hosting this Listserv and hope to hear all about your writing adventures.

David Vasquez is heading our Pro Bono efforts. He will be giving me information during 2024 to share with you about how you can help.

Our President, Don Powell, continues to lead in the mentoring area. Our Division’s partnership with the Young Lawyers Division is only held up by the vacancy at the State Bar’s staff for mentorship. Meanwhile, Don and other Council members are working with a group of first-generation law students at the University of Arizona. Please stay tuned for more mentoring opportunities in the new year. And, don’t forget, the State Bar has a formal mentoring program available to you.

### *Congratulations*

Division Member Ann Halarambie won the Gold Book Award from Literary Titan for her new book (with a five star review!) *Not Nicholson*.

"The **Literary Titan Gold Book Award** is bestowed upon books that exemplify exceptional standards in the presentation of original content. For both fiction and non-fiction works, this award appreciates the meticulous development of unique characters or subjects presented in an authentically engaging context. Whether it is an innovative narrative structure for a fiction book or a compelling argumentation in a non-fiction work, we value the ability to support fresh themes and ideas. The award also honors the craft of elegant prose, showcasing a talent for transforming simple words into compelling, beautifully constructed text. This prestigious accolade is our tribute to books that represent an extraordinary achievement in the literary world."

Way to go Ann!!!!

Join Ann on our new Listserv.

## *Pop Culture*

OK, Trekkies, I cannot wait for *Strange New Worlds* to start again. How about you? Have you seen the *Ahsoka* series (Star Wars) on Disney+? I liked it better than *Andor*.

I just learned that *The Marvels* fizzled at the box office. Oh well. By the way, I cannot get into the new *Loki* series as I lost track of the storyline.

For those of you who like British spy/mystery stories, try *Slow Horses* on AppleTV or *Treason* on Amazon Prime. The new series of *Bosch Legacy* on Amazon Prime is amazing.

The *Barbie* movie was so much fun. I still have my Barbie doll – ladies out there, do you? I want to watch *Oppenheimer* when it is on streaming so I can take a break or two. The poor reviews scared me away from *Napoleon*.

## *Et cetera*

Your Executive Council will meet again December 27, 2023. We have great representation and attendance at our Zoom meetings from across Arizona and the country as Mary spends time in Michigan and Neil spends time in Indiana.

Please keep adding to the conversation on our Division's Senior Lawyer Digest.

Best for 2024,



*Denise*