



# Vintage Voices

*Senior Lawyers Division*

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March 2022

It's March – time for spring, Daylight Savings time for much of the country, baseball (although that was in doubt as this was written), St Patrick's Day and March Madness. The latter has been known to stop trials in Tucson. It is rumored that the late Judge John Roll once dismissed court early on Friday so that the jury (and his honor) could get home in time for the Arizona Wildcats' Friday game during the first week of the tournament. I hope the rumor is true.

The Executive Council has not taken off for the month. We continue to work on the programs we have developed. In addition, we're open to any new projects you might want to suggest. Yes, that was an invitation for you to tell us what you'd like us to be doing.

Mentoring: Don Powell has had a very positive response from the University of Arizona College of Law to his suggestion that senior lawyers might be of help to law students. The Student Bar Association, through their president, is enthusiastic about partnering with the Senior Law Division. He is working with the Student Bar president and a staff member to develop a program where members of the SLD can mentor law students. Stay tuned, and as soon as the program is ready to go, we'll be asking for volunteers. (Don, I'm raising my hand to volunteer.)

ASU's College of Law is currently searing for a new dean, so they aren't starting new programs right now. Hopefully, there will be opportunities for mentoring there in the future.

We also want to offer mentoring services in non-law related activities. If you are involved in any organizations that have mentoring programs, let us know. Maybe your Rotary Club has mentoring as an activity, or you are involved in Big Brothers/Big Sisters. If you know of any such groups let Sarah Schneider, our assigned staff member, know. Her email is [Sarah.Schneider@staff.azbar.org](mailto:Sarah.Schneider@staff.azbar.org).

Pro Bono: Pro bono is Dean Christoffel's passion, and it shows in his enthusiasm and myriad of ideas for getting senior lawyers to participate in pro bono service. One of his latest projects is to develop a program to teach senior lawyers how to do clinics. Clinics are offered to a group of people in areas such as bankruptcy and family law. By running clinics, which teach clients how to represent themselves in simple cases, a pro bono service provider can help more people. Dean's hoping that by teaching the fundamentals on running different types of clinics to senior

lawyers, we'll be able to reach more people who otherwise would have no access to legal services.

In addition to this project, Dean continues to work on making it easier for senior lawyers to practice under Rule 38. Finally, he continues his search to identify organizations and opportunities for pro bono services outside the major metropolitan areas. If you have any ideas on the latter subject, or on anything related to pro bono work, you can let Dean know at [dean.christoffel@gmail.com](mailto:dean.christoffel@gmail.com).

Transition: The drop-in sessions which the transition work group has sponsored are a hit. Because of their popularity, we've already scheduled the next 3 sessions.

- March 17: Bob McWhirter program on the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- April 21: Pro Bono for Senior Lawyers. This will be a panel discussion on all things related to how senior lawyers can do pro bono legal work.
- May 3: The program we'd hoped to have in March will be held then. The topic is "what's your status with the bar?" The session will be led by Gary Stuart, SLD Executive Committee member and Sarah Corpening, a State Bar staff member, and will cover the various categories of bar membership and how you move between them. Gary also will discuss ethical issues related to this topic.

As I told you last month, all drop-in sessions are free and are virtual. You will find information on the exact dates in announcements in the Senior Lawyers Division Online Community Forum, and you will need to register. The link for registration will be in the announcement.

Engaging Senior Lawyers: It would be nice if I could assume that we are doing everything right so that's why you all don't have other suggestions for what else the Executive Council should be doing. However, that would be a little presumptuous. So, I'll reiterate the invitation to let me know what other projects you'd like us to undertake. This remains **your** division, and we want to have your ideas on new activities. If you have any such thoughts, please email me at [sallybob75@comcast.net](mailto:sallybob75@comcast.net)

State Bar Convention: We're still working on the program for the Senior Lawyers Division breakfast. As a reminder, we will have a half-hour to bring you up to date on the Senior Lawyer Division happenings, followed by a CLE on a topic that's pertinent to Senior Lawyers. Following the breakfast, you are free to attend any session of CLE at the Bar Convention or to stay and talk with friends you haven't seen in a while. The pertinent details of the Senior Lawyers Division presentation at the State Bar Convention are as follows:

Date: June 29, 2022

Time: 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

Place: Wild Horse Pass Resort

Cost: \$35 – which includes not only your breakfast, but also any of the CLEs offered at the convention that day.

Dues: The task force on dues for senior lawyers continues to meet and will give their recommendations to the Board of Governors sometime around April 1 (or at least that is the deadline they were given). Dean Christoffel, our President-elect and a task force member, has been providing regular updates on the Senior Lawyers Division community forum. I know you've seen them, since you are good about commenting on each proposal. Dean welcomes these comments and any ideas you have. If you would prefer to contact him directly, you can do so at [Dean.Christoffel@gmail.com](mailto:Dean.Christoffel@gmail.com).

ABA Liaison: We have been able to have Louraine Arkfeld attend our last two meetings. Louraine is a long-time member of the ABA and a former chair of its Senior Lawyer Division. She will be providing us with information that the ABA has gathered to help senior lawyers in transition or about other topics of interest to senior lawyers. If you go on the senior lawyers website of the State Bar, you can find articles which may be of use to you as you navigate changes whether personal or professional.

Elections: Elections for new members of the Senior Lawyers Division Executive Council will be in May. If you are interested in joining the Council, look for an announcement on the community forum or let Sarah Schneider know at [Sarah.Schneider@staff.azbar.org](mailto:Sarah.Schneider@staff.azbar.org).

For your entertainment: I grew up with a father and mother who both loved mysteries or, in the parlance of the time, "who-dun-its". As a result, I'm a huge fan as well. The oldies by Agatha Christie (I like Jane Marple best followed by Hercule Poirot) and Nero Wolf are still great escape. I have also become a fan of Louise Penny's Inspector Gamache novels, set in Canada, Martin Walker's Bruno series set in France, and Donna Leon and her character, Guido Brunetti, set in Venice. Most recently, I've started reading Iona Wishaw's books featuring Lane Winslow. While most of Wishaw's books are set in British Columbia, her 7<sup>th</sup> book, *A Match Made for Murder*, is partly set in Tucson. Ms. Wishaw is an Amphitheater High School alumna. If you have suggestions for mysteries, or any other books, send them to me at [sallybob75@comcast.net](mailto:sallybob75@comcast.net).

I did get a recommendation for a television series from Alyce Pennington, a recently retired Commissioner/Judge Pro Tem in Tucson. Alyce tells me that the 8-part Ken Burns series on Muhammed Ali on PBS was excellent. I haven't watched it yet, but anything Ken Burns does is top-flight.

I also got a travel recommendation from Larry Robertson. He and his wife recently celebrated a milestone birthday in Zihuatanejo, Mexico. This area is about 150 miles north of Acapulco and has both mountains and a coastline. Larry said that food, ambiance, and deep-sea fishing were among the things that made his trip especially pleasant.

I'd welcome any of your ideas for leisure activities. Travel, books, movies, hobbies, television: whatever you want to recommend to your fellow senior lawyers will be most welcome.

I also need new anecdotes about the many great lawyers we've had in our history. I enjoy any such stories and hope you do too

Until next month, enjoy March. There's plenty to celebrate. March 1 is National Peanut Better Lover's Day; March 3 was World Wildlife Day; March 4 was National Grammar Day and March 4-5 National Day of Unplugging. Other March celebrations are International Women's Day on March 8, Mario Day on March 10, Pi Day on March 14, March 20, International Day of Happiness, March 25, Tolkien Reading Day, and March 29, World Piano Day. Something should appeal to you.