

Gridiron – Tickets Still Available

After 55 years, you would have thought the writers, directors and cast members of the annual Gridiron would have had enough. Well, look out faithful readers, because the 56th Annual Gridiron Show will be blowing the roof off the dump that is the Chase Park Plaza's Khorassan Room this November 16, 2012. Are you ready?

That same question was also posed to Gridiron co-director Bill Thomas, who was uncharacteristically non-responsive. "Ready for what?" he sarcastically inquired, "For your next question, yes. Ask me another question." The question of what is the theme of the show this year was met with a similar amount of vitriol. "You know, I get asked that question year after year. And my answer is the same every time. You are going to get a dose of the same stuff you get every year. Deal with it."



He previewed some of the music in the show, which includes a spoof of recently departed Donna Summer's "Hot Stuff," not surprisingly called "Same Stuff." Gridiron co-director Tom Germeroth shared this about the show's opener: "Low quality food, expensive drinks, cheap jokes, off-key singing, yeah, we got it all this year. Just like, um, let's see, the last 55 years." Germeroth then gave a glimpse into the show's closing number, which puts a few questions to the audience including this one from Tom: "I mean, why do you people keep inflicting this punishment on yourselves? One of these days you will say enough is enough. Just make sure it is after my run of directorships ends in a few years. Thanks."

The cast is chock full of enthusiastic players, nimble dancers and aurally pleasing singers. They just don't have a very big part in the show. You will see, however, a lot of this year's President, Matt Casey, in the videos and live numbers, along with a cast of tens of less talented and near tone deaf performers willing to give it their all to earn every bit of that \$100 per ticket, or table of 10 now available by calling LASL Executive Director Jim Susman. And trust me, with this year's material, they will have their work cut out for them.

Look for numbers from the likes of Carly Rae Jepsen, Michael Jackson, Grand Funk, J. Giles Band, and a reputed reappearance of the "Three Amigos." It is not too late to get good seats to the show, but it is too late to cancel your already made reservations. Please join us and continue to support this unique, fun and collegial event we call Gridiron. See you all soon.

President's Column

Matthew C. Casey

A Strong Tradition and a Noble Purpose

The Lawyers Association of St. Louis is an organization defined more by its history than by its charter. It was formed in November 1934. St. Louis in 1934 resembled St. Louis in 2012 in at least two respects: The economy sucked and the Cardinals were on fire, having defeated the Detroit Tigers to win the World Series. [Author's note: Sorry, this was drafted while the Cardinals were up 3-1 over the Giants in the league championship]. Otherwise, things looked very different. Gasoline was 8 cents per gallon. The FBI finally caught up with, and did in, Baby Face Nelson. The City of St. Louis boasted a population of 820,000, served by only 10 Circuit Judges (who canceled all jury trials for six weeks each summer in deference to the humidity of St Louis summers and the lack of air-conditioning in the courthouse). The Supreme Court sat in two divisions; known colloquially as the MoPac division and the Frisco Division. Twenty years prior to the onset of MAI's dictate that only "ultimate facts"

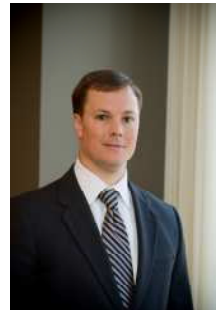
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Tour de Law CLE Seminar Series

As almae matres throughout the area celebrate Homecoming, it is not uncommon for alumni to pine over their school days. Members of the Lawyers Association of St. Louis are not immune from such longings. So while you are fondly recollecting your 7:40 am Property class, it is the perfect opportunity for you to register for the upcoming CLE series, "Tour de Law."

With the support of USA&M, the Lawyers Association is presenting 7 continuing education programs over the next 8 months. Each 1 hour program will focus on a different aspect of pre-trial litigation, from case intake to mediation and everything in between. The programs will feature speakers from

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are submitted, verdict directing instructions frequently ran on for pages hypothesizing minutia of fact. Trial by "ambush" was largely the rule, there being a greatly diminished duty to disclose witnesses or statements prior to trial. In that era, the Law was still a profession, not a business; cases were concluded with a handshake because a lawyer's word was his bond.

In 1934, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis was the only game in town, as far as local Bar groups was concerned. But membership in that organization was by invitation only. Most members hailed from a Waspish background and practiced in the corporate, banking or railroad spheres. And invitations tended not to be extended to certain "types," such as claimants' attorneys, Jews, and perhaps those whose last name ended in a vowel. In reaction to the exclusivity of The Bar Association, an amalgam coterie of, on the one hand, ostracized trial lawyers and, on the other hand, high minded but otherwise blue-blooded silk stocking lawyers coalesced to create a new association open to *all* lawyers and that is The Lawyers Association of St. Louis.

Today, I am proud that my Great Grandfather, Charles W. Casey, and my Grandfather, John C. Casey (neither of whom possessed the "credentials" for inclusion in that other association), were among the charter members of the Lawyers Association of St. Louis. No doubt they shared a sense of egalitarian zeal with other charter members to improve the legal profession and the delivery of legal services to every St. Louisan. Decades before formal Public Defender programs, The Lawyers Association enlisted its membership to defend indigent criminal de-

fendants, *pro bono*. The Association took the initiative to protect the public from the predatory and unscrupulous unauthorized practice of law then prevalent. It created its law journal, "Bench and Bar"; it led the fight to establish the Missouri Bar as an "integrated" Bar under the supervision and control of the Supreme Court; it started an annual memorial service to remember colleagues who passed away in the preceding year; it established an annual Gridiron Show to poke fun at the foibles and pretenses of the Bench and Bar; and it established an annual Award of Honor to acknowledge those whose career might inspire others to "noble purpose and honorable effort in the practice of law".

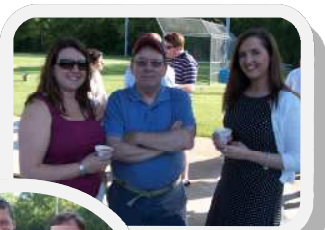
I am happy to report that many of these early programs, such as the Award of Honor, Judicial Appreciation Night, and the Memorial Service, retain their original vitality. In two short weeks, the curtain will rise for the 56th time on the Gridiron Show. This year, commencing November 13th, the Association presents a monthly breakfast CLE. Yet what is most impressive about the Lawyers Association of St. Louis is how it has retained its soul over the years. It continues its tradition of service to the public, improvement of the legal system, and civility to colleagues.

The Lawyers Association of St. Louis has a rich history, a strong tradition and a noble purpose, and it is for that reason that I am proud to be its President in 2012.

Matt Casey

**with special thanks to my father, Tom Casey (a past president and an Award of Honor recipient of the Lawyers Association), who contributed to this article.*

Picnic Moves To New Home In Maplewood



Congratulations to ...

... Justin Guerra of Holloran, White, Schwartz & Gaertner on the birth of his son, Joseph James Guerra.
...Allison J. Schultz joining Brinker & Doyen as an associate.
...Erwin Switzer, an attorney with Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale has been appointed by Gov. Jay Nixon to the St. Louis Board of Police Commissioners.
...Jamie Boock of Rossiter & Boock, LLC, for being named the St. Louis area recipient of the Lon O. Hocker Trial Lawyer Award.
...Sarah Jane Hunt joining the Law Offices of Kevin J. Dolley.
...Tracy Zuckett, Andrew Eastman and Morgan Murphy for joining Brown & James, PC. Zuckett joined as a principal and Eastman and Murphy as associates. They were each formerly with Moser Marsalek.

Upcoming Events

56th Annual Gridiron Show

- Friday, November 16
- Chase Park Plaza
- 6:00 p.m.

Holiday Party

- Wednesday, December 12
- The Moulin
- 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Bowling Invitational

- Wednesday, January 23 (tentative date)
- Saratoga Lanes

Tour de Law

Pretrial Practice from Case Intake to Mediation

A Breakfast CLE Series Presented Jointly by

The Lawyers Association of St. Louis

And

United States Arbitration & Mediation Midwest, Inc.

All Programs Moderated by
Matt Casey or Tracy Zuckett

Tuesday, November 13

- Case Selection & Investigation
- Matt Devoti & Matt Reh

Tuesday, December 4

- Written Discovery
- Mark Gaertner & John Michener

Tuesday, February 5

- Depositions of Parties & Fact Witnesses
- Terri Applebaum & Seth Gausnell

Tuesday, March 5

- Depositions of Experts
- Marcy Graham and Tom Magee

Tuesday, April 2

- Motion Practice & Summary Judgment
- Tom Neill & Bharat Varadachari

Tuesday, May 7

- Mediation
- Dan Ryan & Steve Reuter

Tuesday, June 4

- Ethics
- The Bar Plan

7:45 a.m. Registration

8:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. Program

Anticipating approval of 1 hour of MO CLE credit per session

Pricing Information

- LASL Member Price = \$10 per seminar OR \$50 for the series
- Non-Member Price = \$20 per seminar OR \$100 for the series

Location & Parking

The Series will be held in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the Laclede Gas Building (720 Olive Street). Parking is available in the parking garage immediately east of the Laclede Gas Building on Pine Street (between 7th & 8th Streets).

Reservations

Reservations may be made by contacting Jim Susman at susgroup@gmail.com or 314/991-LAWS (5297). Space is limited.

All Proceeds will be donated to The Backstoppers.

The Lawyers Association of St. Louis

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Tracy Zuckett
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Past Presidents

Matt Devoti
Tom Germeroth
Tom Schwartz

Executive Director

Jim Susman
314/991-LAWS (5297)
susgroup@gmail.com
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Mike Gunn Receives Association's Prestigious Award of Honor



Judicial Appreciation



Matt Casey (left) congratulates The Honorable William R. Price, Jr., a former Missouri Supreme Court Justice, who was the featured speaker at the association's annual Judicial Appreciation program.

Germeroth and Thomas Speak to Saint Louis University Law School Students



Tom Germeroth and Bill Thomas spoke to 3rd year law students at Saint Louis University on the importance of networking and relationships within the legal community.

Association Members Give Back to the Community



Tour De Law Seminar — Continued from Page 1

both the defense and plaintiff bars so that each topic can be viewed from different perspectives. (See flier on page 3.) The programs will be held on the first Tuesday of each month, except in November, when it will be held on the second Tuesday, and January, when there will be no program. Each program will be held at the Laclede Gas Building, 720 Olive Street, 4th Floor Conference Room, St. Louis, with coffee and bagels available from 7:45 am and the program starting at 8:00 am.

One of the purposes of this Association, as set for in the Articles, is to promote excellence and high legal standards with the profession. To that end, the cost of this CLE series is nominal. For members, the entire series is only \$50. Individual programs can be attended for \$10 each. Additionally, all fees will be donated to The Backstoppers.

Through the "Tour de Law" series, members will receive a great value and will have completed almost half of their CLE requirements for the year. More importantly, the series will satisfy those wistful dreams of early morning law school classes, a least until next year's Homecoming.

Cook Off Held on Chilly Fall Day

