

# President's Page

## Decatur Bar Association October 2019



The Decatur Bar Association has had a fantastic 2019 so far, promoting collegiality among our members and contributing to our community. Read on for a recap of our summer and fall events and information about upcoming social and educational offerings.



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*The Salvation Army Cookout on September 13, 2019 was our best year yet, raising over \$2400 for the Salvation Army. Thank you to the committee, Hon. Erick Hubbard, Lindsey Shelton, Drew Hickey, Carol Craig, and Wendy Morthland, as well as all of our attendees and donors.*

*We had a wonderful time at the annual Decatur Bar Association Corn Roast held August 9, 2019 at Fletcher Park in Mt. Zion. Thank you to our sponsor, Lisa Hahn Peterman, for her generous support, as well as to the committee, Shane Mendenhall, Carol Craig and Craig Runyon. Food was catered by Lock, Stock, and Barrell. Next year, we plan to hire a few babysitters so those with kids can relax while the kids play at the park!*



### 2Civility Mentorship Program

The DBA has applied for membership in the 2Civility Mentorship Program. Mentors and mentees can be paired up and receive a maximum of 15 hours of CLE for the mentorship training and meetings during the 1-year program. We will provide more information after we are accepted to the 2Civility program, including a CLE opportunity to be trained as a mentor.



*Many of our members came out for our annual Bar Results Social. It was held October 10, 2019 at Decatur Brew Works. We celebrated Kathleen A. Wrigley and Craig Rich passing the bar – [Congratulations!](#) Kathleen has joined Samuels, Miller, Jackson, Shroeder and Sly, and Craig has joined Heavner, Byers and Mihlar. Catering provided by Coney McCane's. Thank you to Craig Runyon for coordinating the event.*

## Christmas Party Sponsorship

*This year, we present a new opportunity for sponsorship of the Christmas Party. The DBA will be hosting the party at the Decatur Club, as we have for the past few years. It's a beautiful, cozy venue and has been a big success in past years. If you or your firm are interested in sponsoring, we offer sponsorships in amounts of \$100, \$250, and \$500. We will mention your sponsorship as part of our advertising for the party. Please reach out to Drew Hickey if you would like to sponsor. 217-429-4296. The Christmas Party will be held on December 12, 2019 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.*



## Upcoming CLE

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PILI Macon County Self-Represented Litigant Help Desk

**October 31, 2019**

Lunch: 11:30 a.m., Sponsored by Bolen, Robinson, and Ellis

Program: 12:00 p.m.

Jury Assembly Room

Macon County Courts Facility

Introduction to Local Practice

Hon. Phoebe Bowers, Hon.

Erick Hubbard, Laura

Richardson, Thomas Bowman, and Drew Hickey

**November 5, 2019**

3:30 p.m.

Attorney's Lounge

Macon County Courts Facility

Criminal Practice and

Procedure in Macon County

Hon. Thomas E. Griffith et. al.

**November 7, 2019**

Lunch: 11:30 a.m.

Program: 12:00 p.m.

Jury Assembly Room

Macon County Courts Facility

Cannabis Law Changes in IL

Lindsey Shelton

Macon County State's Attorney's Office

**November 14, 2019**

Lunch: 11:30 a.m.

Program: 12:00 p.m.

Jury Assembly Room

Macon County Courts Facility

## Proposed Dues Increase in 2020

The last time the DBA increased dues was, as far as anyone can remember, about 15 years ago. Of course, the cost of living has increased since then and so has the cost of our events and CLE programming. To continue offering our excellent programming and events, we propose a dues increase from \$100/year to \$125/year. This is an incredible value.

The benefits of your membership each year:

- 16-18 hours of FREE CLE credit at an average of \$40/hr = \$640
- Annual Local CLE Day with 7+ credits and lunch: \$350
- Brown Bag Lunch (when not sponsored by a firm): \$10/head
- Annual Meeting and Golf Outing = \$100/head
- Christmas Party = \$50/head
- Corn Roast = \$50/head
- Social events throughout the year = \$50/head each
- Total: \$1,250/year

All of the above will continue to be provided for your annual contribution of \$125.

Per Article VI, Section 1 of the Decatur Bar Association Bylaws, we will bring this issue up for a majority vote at our annual meeting in May.

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*We appreciate your membership and the excellent participation of the bench and bar in our events each year. We look forward to continue to provide these benefits and more!*

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## Member Survey

We have developed a survey for our membership to gauge your interest in additional activities, amenities for the Attorney's Lounge, and to collect ideas on additional ways we can serve our members.

Please follow this link to take the survey. The survey link will also be distributed via email.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5YK8JM7>

### Upcoming Events:

Christmas Party

December 12, 2019

5-7 p.m.

Decatur Club

## In Memoriam

Wayne L. Bickes passed away on July 2, 2019. Wayne was retired from Bickes, Wilson and Moss since 2018, after serving as an attorney for over 50 years. Attorneys from the Decatur Bar Association gathered for the funeral service at Brintlinger and Earl on Sunday, July 7, 2019 to honor him and express condolences to the family.

Everett E. Nicholas, Jr. passed away on May 21, 2019. Everett practiced for more than 50 years and was a founding partner of Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton & Taylor, before retiring in 2015. A memorial service to honor his memory was held on June 1, 2019 at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

David Alan Spence passed away on August 14, 2019. David most recently practiced in McLean County, Illinois, after practicing as a Macon County Assistant State's Attorney and in private practice for over 20 years. Graveside services honoring his life were held on August 24, 2019 in Graceland Cemetery.

**The bar association is working on scheduling memorials as appropriate for our recently passed members. Memorials are a unique and long-held tradition for the Decatur Bar Association. The memorial is an opportunity to make a public record of the deeds and legacies of our deceased members. All matters pending in the courthouse are suspended during the memorial. All members are strongly encouraged to attend, as the presence of the bench and bar is greatly appreciated by the family and loved ones of the honorees. Details to come.**