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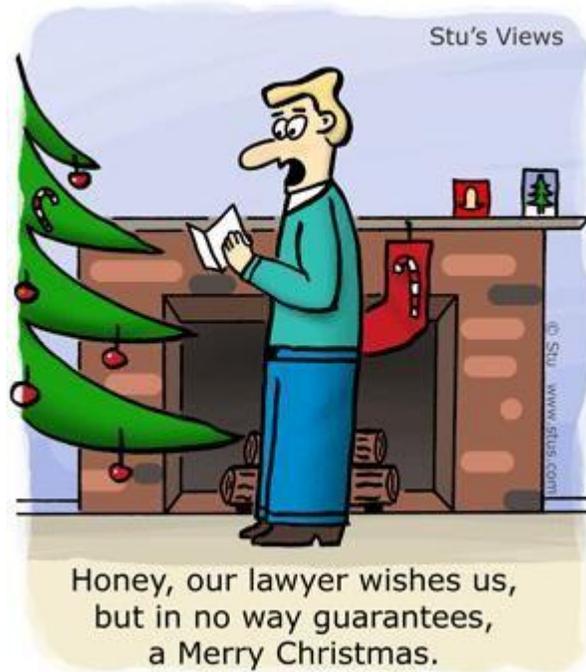
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Decatur Bar Association February 2020



The Decatur Bar Association kicked off the winter season with our annual Christmas party. We are rolling into 2020 with a NEW social event, an opportunity to meet our State's Attorney and Circuit Clerk candidates and hear their plans for office, and more quality educational opportunities.



We held our annual holiday party on December 12, 2019, at the Decatur Club. It was a well-attended and beautiful event. Thank you to our generous sponsors: Platinum Sponsor – McCarthy-Bickes Mediation Center

*Gold Sponsor – Town & County Bank
A big thank you also to our committee, Judge Erick Hubbard, Carol Craig, and Amanda Wiese for your help in planning the party to ensure it was a successful event.*

2Civility Mentorship Program – Call for Mentees

The DBA is now a member of the IL Supreme Court 2Civility Mentorship Program. Mentors and mentees are paired up and receive a maximum of 15 hours of CLE for the mentorship training and meetings during the 1-year program.

We have several excellent mentors waiting to be paired up with a mentee. Please contact Lindsey Shelton at decaturbarmentor@gmail.com if you are interested in becoming a mentor or mentee. A “mentee” is defined as an attorney who is in their first five years of practice in Illinois. A “mentor” is someone with more than 5 years of practice.

Attorney’s Lounge Bulletin

Please note that trainers from Tyler Technologies will be training court staff on the Circuit Clerk’s new records management system from 2/10/2020 to 4/7/2020. They need a “home base” and will use the east side of the Attorney’s Lounge. They will leave their belongings and computers in the Lounge, and may conduct conference calls from the lounge. Thank you for your courtesy and patience.

Macon County State’s Attorney and Circuit Clerk Candidate Forum – Primary February 17, 2020



2020 Primary Candidates

State’s Attorney:
Scott Reuter, Republican
Phil Tibbs, Republican

Circuit Clerk:
Sherry Doty, Republican
Jennifer Yborra, Republican

Please join us at Millikin University Commons, 1230 W. Main St., 3rd Floor, for an opportunity to meet the candidates for Macon County State's Attorney and Circuit Clerk! You will hear the candidates' platforms and be able to ask questions of the candidates. Light refreshment will be provided. The Macon County community at-large is invited to attend.

Winter Social Event



Please join us at Decatur Brew Works on March 11, 2020 from 5-7 P.M. for our Winter Social. Our Membership Survey indicated many of our members would be interested in this event. We heard you and present this new social and networking opportunity! The event will be open bar and take place in the back room of Decatur Brew Works (same place as our Bar Results Social). See you there!

Upcoming CLE

CLE Day
 May 29, 2020
 Final Times TBA
 Decatur Public Library

Upcoming Events:

Winter Social
 Decatur Brew Works
 March 11, 2020
 5-7 p.m.

Law Week:

May 1 -8, 2020
 Law Day: May 1, 2020

Golf Outing and Annual
 Meeting
 May 15, 2020
 Southside Country Club

Golf Outing/Annual Meeting Save the Date!

Our annual golf outing and Annual Meeting will be held on **May 15, 2020** at Southside Country Club. Watch your email for details.

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 have the costs 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, the Board will bring this issue to a majority vote at our annual meeting in May.

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!



Member Survey Results

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Member Survey. We received excellent suggestions and are working on implementing changes to the Attorney's Lounge, including a new(er) computer, we added a new Winter Social event, and hired Millikin University's Performance Consulting to take over hosting and ongoing updates to our website. We'll keep you posted as these improvements take place.

Upcoming CLE

Save the date for our annual CLE Day: May 29, 2020 at the Decatur Public Library. Our CLE committee is hard at work to plan a full day of FREE CLE. Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided.

In Memoriam

Robert "Bob" Whitmer passed away on April 22, 2019. Bob worked in the title insurance business for over 40 years at Chicago Title Insurance Company, Decatur Title Corporation, Macon County Title, LLC, and First Community Title Services, Inc. Funeral services were held at Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home.

The bar association schedules 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.
