

# Genesee County Bar Association

315 E. Court St., Flint, MI 48502-1611

(810)232-6012 • fax: (810)232-8310

e-mail: [gcba@gcbalaw.org](mailto:gcba@gcbalaw.org) • web page: [www.gcbalaw.org](http://www.gcbalaw.org)

December Notes N' News

2006

## New Members

Welcome new member **David Alexander Mason, Jr.**

## Case Evaluation Late Fee Donors

Thanks to **Ricky Carlson, Jim Dillard, Michael Guss, Tom Connolly** and **Michael Behm** for donating their November Circuit Court Case Evaluation late fees.

## Baby Barristers Born

. . . to **Mark Latchana** and Elizabeth Hughes-Latchana on the birth of their daughter Abigail Louise on 11-28-06, Beth's birthday (what a birthday present). Abigail weighed 7 lbs. 3 ounces and was 20" long. Congratulations are also in order to the proud grandparents, **Judge Richard L. Hughes** and Suzanne Hughes.

## Condolences

. . . to **James C. Dillard** on the death of his son, Ryan James Dillard.

. . . to GCBA employee **Starlynn Estep** on the death of her mother Ruby Byrne.

. . . to **Hon. Mark C. McCabe** on the death of his father, Emmet G. McCabe.

. . . to **Randy Petrides** on the death of his mother, Elsie Petrides.

## GCBA Senior Attorneys

The GCBA senior attorneys will meet at 12 noon on December 14<sup>th</sup> at Valley Coney Island at Linden and Miller Rd. Anyone over 65 (retired or not) is welcome to attend.

## Thanks

. . . to **Margie Latter, Morgan Jakeway, Hon. Joseph Farah, Andrea Legendre, Chuck Tom McKone, Joan Pierson, Jeremy Piper, Hon. Robert Ransom, and Edward Hennekee** for donating clothes to Ellen's Closet and King's Closet.

. . . to **Edwin Jakeway** for making a donation to the GCBF in memory of Guy Hill.

## Attorney Update

Effective January 2, 2007, **Teresa Knight** will relocate her office to 720 Church St., Flint, MI 48502. Phone: 810-760-9882. Fax: 810-655-4424.

## Centennial Inn Recognized

The State Bar of Michigan (SBM) has recognized the Genesee County-based Centennial American Inn of Court as a special purpose bar association. An American Inn of Court is a group of judges, attorneys, law professors, and students who meet periodically to discuss matters of interest to the legal community, emphasizing professionalism, ethics, and civility in the practice of law. Centennial is one of six American Inns of Court in Michigan and one of more than 325 chapters active in the country. For membership information, please contact Administrator Linda Pohly at (810) 733-7480.

## Upcoming Seminars

Centennial America Inn of Court and the GCBA Family Law Committee has scheduled a Domestic Relations Mediation Seminar for February 19, 2007 (Courts closed that day). More information to follow.

The Federal Practice Committee has scheduled a Civil/Criminal Seminar for March 13, 2007, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Federal Court. An admission ceremony will follow in the court room of the Honorable Paul V. Gadola.

## Gift Wrappers

Thanks to Holiday Dinner gift wrappers: **Corinn Burhans, Lorraine Nemecek, Elizabeth Nemecek, Ann Lossing Ruwart, Ruth DeMaria, Lythia Lucia, Lane Lucia, Lynn Burt, Kay Rushton, Lynnmarie Johnson, Libby Mannor and GCBA Staff Tina, Star and Ramona.**

## Calendar of Events

### December

- 14 Holiday Party; Celebrations; 5 p.m.
- 20 Holiday Dinner; Masonic Temple; 4 p.m.
- 25-26 Courts and GCBA closed for Christmas.

### January

- 1-2 Courts and GCBA closed for the new year.
- 15 Courts and GCBA closed for ML King Day.

**SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR A LIST OF HOLIDAY DINNER DONORS!**

## 2006 Holiday Dinner

*Through the years, the Holiday Dinner has grown significantly. In 2005, we fed 971 individuals compared to 750 in 2004. Fund raising has not kept pace with our needs and last year we faced a modest deficit. This deficit was bridged after a plea was made to members after the dinner. In order to avoid another shortfall, the Holiday Dinner Committee is increasing our fund raising goal to \$7,500.00. Thanks to all of our current donors!*

### Santa's Helper – \$250 donation

Hon. John L. Christensen  
Valdemar Washington  
Dennis & Karen Lazar



### Santa's Elf – \$150 donation

Joan Pierson  
John Siler

### Holiday Chef – \$100 donation

Roger Isaac  
John & Nance Greene  
Hon. Larry Stecco & Susan DeCourval  
Howard Bueche  
Kathleen Buckley-O'Neill, Dave O'Neill, & Scott Rider  
Hon. Michael Theile  
Hon. Judith Fullerton  
Kimberly Cahill  
Philip Beauvais  
Janey Dillard  
Sander Simen  
Hon. Joseph Farah  
Daniel Rittman  
Clifford Hart  
Carol Fossee  
Thomas Connolly  
Bernard McAra  
Hon. Robert & Lynne Ransom  
Anthony Maxwell  
John Wright, Craig Wright, & Jason Metcalf

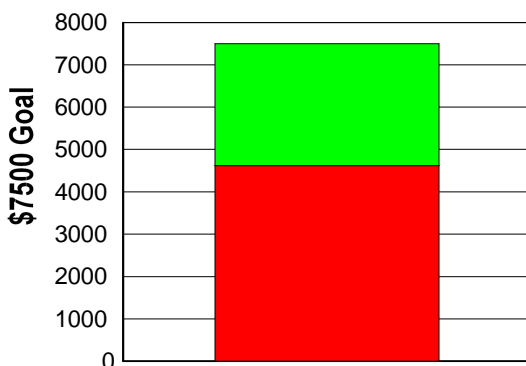


### Santa's Reindeer – \$0-\$50 donation

Beverly Martin  
Hon. Peter Anastor  
K.C. & Shari Baran  
Andrea Legendre  
Anne Randall  
Jill Nylander  
Anthony Vance  
Barney Whitesman  
Tracey Merithew  
Herbert Booth  
LindaLee Massoud  
Byron Latter  
Tess Sullivan  
Chris Pianto  
Teresa Knight  
Shayla Blankenship  
Denise Hamilton  
Robert Chimovitz  
Dolores Coulter  
Jakeway, Jakeway & Jakeway, P.C.  
Ed & Donna Henneke  
George Killeen  
Michael & Pamela Mason  
Jeff Himelhoch  
Glenn Simmington  
John Pavlis  
Norm Gottlieb  
Richard & Arlene Ruhala  
Sandra Carlson  
Richmond Riggs  
Hon. Thomas Yeotis  
Robert MacDonald  
Gilbert Rubenstein  
Bob Segar  
Ira Bare  
Richard Barron  
Donald Wascha  
Barbara Menear  
George Brueck  
Jeff Birrell  
Anthony Tomaszewski  
Garan Lucow Miller  
John Lukes  
Christenson & Fiederlein, P.C.  
Hon. Mark McCabe  
Hon. Arthalu Lancaster  
Ward Chapman  
S. Olof Karlstrom  
L. David Lawson  
Michael Winterfield  
Randy Petrides  
Lynne Taft, James Draper, & Suzanne Gregory  
Martin Tyckoski  
Cooley, Moulton & Smith  
Robert Shegos

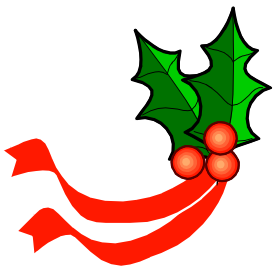


## **Holiday Dinner Fundraising**



**\$4615 As of 12-4-06**

*It is not too late to donate. Please make your check payable to the Genesee County Bar Foundation, in care of 315 E. Court Street, Flint, MI 48502. 100% of your donation is spent on the Holiday Dinner!*



# GCBA & GCBF



## 2006 COMMUNITY HOLIDAY DINNER

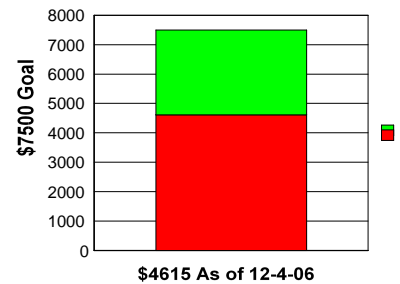
December 20, 2006 from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Masonic Temple, Downtown Flint

### DONOR FORM:

Donations are needed to support this program, which are used exclusively to purchase items for the dinner. Categories of giving:

- Santa's Helper \$250 pays for 50 toys for 50 children
- Santa's Elf \$150 pays for 150 children's pictures with Santa
- Holiday Chef \$100 pays for a meal for 25 guests
- Santa's Reindeer \$0-50 every \$5 pays for a child's toy

**Holiday Dinner Fundraising**



Enclosed is a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_made payable and sent to:

Genesee County Bar Foundation, 315 E. Court St., Flint, MI 48502. Your

gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. As required by relevant Federal Statute we hereby confirm that we did not provide any goods or services in exchange for your gift.

### VOLUNTEER FORM :

**Wednesday, December 20, 2006**

1:30-3:30 p.m. Decorations/Set up \_\_\_\_\_

6:00-7:00 Sing/Entertainment \_\_\_\_\_

3:30-5:30 p.m. First Shift \_\_\_\_\_ **Assignments will be made upon arrival**

5:30-7:30 p.m. Second Shift \_\_\_\_\_ **Assignments will be made upon arrival**

6:30-8:00 p.m. Clean Up & Delivery \_\_\_\_\_ **Volunteers with vans are also needed to help deliver items back to the GCBA.**

Please note special consideration for job duties: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you want to volunteer a few hours of your time to this worthwhile cause, please fill out the form and return by fax to the GCBF/GCBA at (810) 232-8310.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_



TO: PRACTICING ATTORNEYS & FIDUCIARIES

FROM: HON. ROBERT E. WEISS, CHIEF PROBATE JUDGE  
HON. JENNIE E. BARKEY, JUDGE OF PROBATE

RE: RECENT COURT OF APPEALS DECISION

In a decision released September 28, 2006 (*Estate of Sandra Wolfe-Haddad v County of Oakland*, #260478) the Michigan Court of Appeals stated:

“MCL 600.871(1) requires probate courts to collect a fee based on the total value of all assets held by an estate that is subject to probate. The statute does not define the term ‘value’ to exclude security interests held in the estate’s assets. Because this statute is not ambiguous, it must be enforced as written . . .”

The court of appeals also referenced the recent change to MCR 5.307 and stated: “Therefore, to the extent that MCR 5.307(A) permits deductions not permitted by the statute, the court rule must yield.” See *Wolfe*, #260478.

As you know, in the past the Genesee County Probate Court has always deducted encumbrances from real property when calculating the inventory fee. In light of this recent decision, the Court will no longer be able to continue that practice.

**As a result, the Genesee County Probate Court will assess the inventory fee in a decedent’s estate on the gross value of the assets held for all inventories filed on or after December 1, 2006.**

# Season Greetings

The Genesee County Bar Association,  
Genesee Association of Legal Support Professionals &  
Friends of the Legal Community

## Holiday Party 2006

Thursday December 14th

at

### Celebrations

3503 Beecher Rd Flint, MI  
Reservations and Information 810 733.5598

The Party of Parties

Start 5pm

Cocktail Hour Buffet 5:30pm to 7:30pm

#### Who is Invited

Genesee County 67th & 68th District Courts, Circuit Court, Family Court, Probate Court and staff, All Federal Courts and Staff, Federal Bankruptcy Court and staff, All Judges and staff,  
Genesee County Sheriff, Friend of the Court Prosecutor, Registrar of Deeds, Treasurer, Drain Commission & Clerks Offices and staff, All Attorneys, paralegals and support staff, Court Reporters, Process servers, Title Companies and all others who are associated with the legal community.



Dancing \*Drink Specials\* Conversation\* and more Dancing  
Bring the Whole Office.

# *Lunch with Larry*



Join your friends and colleagues for “*Lunch with Larry*” on Monday February 5, 2007. What better way to thank the Battiste family for their hard work during the GCBF & GCBA’s Annual Holiday Dinner than giving them our luncheon business?

We had thirty-one members, spouses and friends show up last year and would like to increase our numbers this year. Everyone will be given a red GCBA sticker in order to identify ourselves.

No RSVP necessary – just show up. See you there!

# *January Membership Meeting*

*featuring  
Centennial American Inn of Court  
members*

*Chris Christenson & Craig Fiederlein*

*on*

## **MEDIATION**

*Monday, January 22, 2007  
Masonic Temple - 12 noon*

An early R.S.V.P. would be appreciated. Luncheon free to Sustaining Members; \$10 members; \$15 non-members; \$15 walk-ins. Unpaid no-shows will be billed \$15.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_  I will Pay at the Door

CREDIT CARDS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Debit Card  Visa  MasterCard Charge my credit card for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Account #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Last 3#'s on back of card: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address of credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to the GCBA at 315 E. Court St., Flint, MI 48502; or fax to (810) 232-8310; or email the GCBA at [rls@gcbalaw.org](mailto:rls@gcbalaw.org); or register on line at [www.gcbalaw.org](http://www.gcbalaw.org). No refunds after the Friday before each luncheon. **No-shows not paid in advance will be billed \$15. TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTED!**

*Notes N' News*  
*A Little of What's Inside This Issue!*

Season's Greeting from  
Ramona, Tina & Star

- ◆ Holiday Dinner
- ◆ Lt. Col. Swartwood Holiday Message
- ◆ Holiday Party



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