# **Winnebago County Bar Association**



# **Bar Rag**

Edmund Jelinski – President Meghan Healy – Vice President Elect Elizabeth Nevitt – Secretary Kathleen Diedrich/David Rashid - Treasurers Brenda Marks – Legal Secretary

E-Filing – Presented by Stacy James and Leigh Anne Kohls

Place: Primo – 2605 Jackson Street, Oshkosh WI 54901

Time: Thursday, October 17th, Noon – 1:30pm

Cost: \$13.00 – to the Winnebago County Bar Association

**RSVP:** no later than Tuesday, October 15th to Brenda:

bmarks@azco-inc.com or calling 920-380-7627

Mark your calendars for these CLE Presentations

November 21 Property Disputes

December 19 ½ day Ethics – Followed by Christmas Party

Please note that for the rest of 2013 – the WCBA CLE Luncheon Presentations will be held on the third Thursday of the month.

We are hoping that more judges can attend and contribute to our lively discussions!

**New Attorney -** Rich Kewley has joined Di Renzo & Bomier – handling family law and personal injury cases. Please welcome him to the area!

**Legal Assistance Clinic** - The Winnebago County Bar Association provides a free legal clinic at various public libraries in the county. We are always in need of attorneys in all practice areas, to help at the clinics.

The locations are:

Menasha Public Library on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month;

Neenah Public Library on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month; and

Oshkosh Public Library on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month.

All clinics are from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Even if you can only come for an hour, we can use your help! This is a very important service we are able to offer our community.

We are currently updating our list of referral attorneys. Referral attorneys are volunteers who do not need to attend a clinic but agree to phone conference with clinic clients for free for approximately 15-30 minutes to counsel them on their legal issues. The time of the phone conference can be worked out at the convenience of the attorney and client. The clinic will email you scans of their intake forms so that you have a bit of background on the case before the phone conference.

If you would like to remain on the referral list, or are interested in being added to it please respond with your areas of specialty and how many referrals per month you would be willing to take on.

Please contact the Legal Assistance Clinic at - legalassistanceclinic@gmail.com

#### **Mentoring Program**

As most of you know, Outagamie and Winnebago Counties have initiated a mentorship program to assist newer lawyers in our area. We have a number of new lawyers matched with experienced attorneys and the program is working well, so far. We have a number of people willing to serve as mentors, but not nearly as many newer lawyers asking for help. We also have lawyers who want mentors in specific areas, but don't have mentors who practice in those areas.

If you are a newer lawyer, even if you are working at a firm, and want someone to go to with questions about your practice area, as well as about procedures, judges, etc. in our area, please contact either Liz Nevitt (<a href="liz@nevittlawoffice.com">liz@nevittlawoffice.com</a>) or Tajara Dommershausen (<a href="tdomm@pdlawoffice.com">tdomm@pdlawoffice.com</a>) and send one of them your completed application form – which is attached to this newsletter.

The main areas in which we are very short of mentors are: elder law, guardianship and business transactions/litigation. We have a lot of willing mentors in the criminal and family law areas, but we can always use more to match with our newer lawyers.

Another benefit of our mentorship program will be the addition of an e-mail list serve for all those signed up in the program. The list is available to anyone signed up as a mentor and anyone who has asked for a mentor, regardless of whether you are actually matched yet. Questions can be posed to the list and anyone on the list can respond.

For anyone who has signed up either to get a mentor, or to serve as a mentor, you are going to be included in the new e-list, which is handled by the State Bar of Wisconsin. It is similar to the other e-lists administered by the State Bar.

Soon, each of you will receive a message, asking you to confirm your membership in our list. Please click on the link in the e-mail message to confirm your membership. If you do not receive one within about a week after you get this newsletter, please contact Liz Nevitt at (920) 589-2166 or <a href="liz@nevittlawoffice.com">liz@nevittlawoffice.com</a>.

If you would like to be included in our e-list, please sign up for the mentorship program

This is a great tool for our newer lawyers – and maybe a good reminder for those of us who have been practicing for a while!

We really want to help integrate our newer lawyers into our bar associations. We also want to make sure they learn about the practices and "quirks" in our counties. Our mentorship program can do this. Please consider helping us, or signing up for a mentor. Anyone can contact Liz or Tajara with any questions."

**Newsletter** - If, as a member, you would like to post an announcement in the monthly newsletter, please let us know. As in the past, these can be new-hires, job postings, spacefor-rent or other announcements that have to do with your practice.

If you are a member of the WCBA, as well as a member of another non-profit organization, you are welcome to post event announcements to the rest of the membership encouraging them to attend – for example – the date for the Neenah Rotary Uncorked and Uncapped fundraiser, or the Black & Pink Ball benefitting the non-profit you are a board member for. We'd be happy to let everyone know. Send us an email and we'll make sure it's printed.

Keep in mind, you are the contact person and will be listed in the newsletter as the point of contact for more information and questions.

## Because Life is Hard. Confidential Assistance for Wisconsin Lawyers and Judges.

The Wisconsin Lawyers Assistance Program (WisLAP) program **is a member service of the** State Bar of Wisconsin which provides free, confidential assistance to lawyers, **judges, law students and their families in coping with** substance abuse or
dependence, mental health challenges, or other stressors which negatively impact quality of
life and/or the practice of law.

WisLAP maintains a professionally staffed telephone helpline and a support network of trained volunteers. Confidential support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (including holidays) at (800) 543-2625.

Confidentiality is the cornerstone. WisLAP treats each request for help with the same confidentiality as the lawyer-client relationship. WisLAP is exempt from reporting professional misconduct to the Office of Lawyer Regulation under the provisions of Wisconsin Supreme Court Rules 20:8.3(c).

## WisLAP Program Goals:

- To assist in the identification of legal professionals who may be troubled;
- To assist WisLAP clients in their personal recovery from addiction, physical or mental health conditions;
- To educate the legal community on identification, assessment, referral, treatment and community based resources available to meet the needs of judges, lawyers, law students and their families;
- To provide a network of trained volunteers who are available to respond to the needs of WisLAP clients through a peer assistance model;
- To monitor and assist clients while they work to gain admission to practice law, rehabilitate and return to the practice of law, to the bench or to a better quality of life;
- To establish and maintain a cooperative relationship with the Supreme Court of Wisconsin, the Office of Lawyer Regulation, the Board of Bar Examiners and the legal community at large.

If you, someone in your family, or a colleague are experiencing mental, emotional, or physical problems, WisLAP can help. **Confidential support is available 24/7 by calling (800) 543-2625.**