Recognition

In my last column, I encouraged everyone to take the next step and recognize those around you who you are thankful for and thank them for being part of your personal “good news.” As we begin 2014, I want to recognize the volunteers that do the heavy lifting and make the KBA function as well as it does. Of course, the Board of Governors and officers handle the general governance of the KBA. They are listed in the front of every Bar Journal. They do a great job of representing our diverse membership and ensure that all viewpoints are considered in the KBA decision making process.

Next, we have the Kansas Bar Foundation officers and board of trustees. They keep the KBF on track as it helps support worthwhile causes around the state. They are listed in the Bar Journal (Page 11).

The KBA and KBF also have a number of committees, task forces, and panels. Many of our general membership may not be aware of just how many there are. They and the chairperson(s) of each are as follows:

- Access to Justice: Patrick H. Donahue
- Annual Meeting Planning: TBD
- Annual Survey of Law: Hon. Steve Leben and Larkin E. Walsh
- Awards: Sara S. Beezley
- Bar Prep: Timothy O’Brien
- Bench Bar: Teresa L. Watson
- Board of Publishers: TBD
- Continuing Legal Education: Mira Mdivani
- Disaster Response Committee: TBD
- Diversity: Eunice C. Peters and Christi L. Bright
- Ethics Advisory: J. Nick Badgerow
- Ethics Grievance: Jane M. Isern
- Fee Dispute Resolution: Hon. Kurtis I. Loy
- Investment (KBF): C. David Newbery
- Task Force for Mandatory IOLTA (KBF): Linda S. Parks
- IOLTA (KBF): Gabrielle M. Thompson
- Joint Operating Committee: TBD
- Journal Board of Editors: Richard D. Ralls
- Legislative: Melissa A. Wangeman
- Media-Bar: Prof. Mike Kautsch
- Membership: Chelsey G. Langland and Vincent M. Cox
- Nominating: Lee A. Smithyman
- Paralegals: Sharon C. Wood
- Scholarship (KBF): Katherine L. Kirk
- Standards for Title Examination: Richard L. Friedeman
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Each of these committees, task forces, and panels also has other members who actively participate in the matters that come before them. The complete membership lists for each are available online through the KBA Leadership Guide at http://www.ksbar.org/aboutus.

More familiar to all are the KBA Sections that are available for members to join. Each of the sections provides tangible benefits to their members that go beyond general KBA membership. They and the president of each are as follows:

- Administrative Law: Martha J. Coffman
- Agricultural Law: Aaron M. Popelka
- Alternative Dispute Resolution: Paula J. Wright
- Appellate Practice: Steven J. Obermeier
- Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law: Douglas D. Depew
- Construction Law: Rudolf H. Beese
- Corporate Counsel: Amanda J. Kiefer
- Corporation, Banking and Business Law: Michael J. Mayans
- Criminal Law: Robin Fowler
- Elder Law: Emily A. Donaldson
- Employment Law: Kelly M. Nash
- Family Law: Jennifer Goheen-Lynch
- Government Lawyers: Scott Gordon
- Health Law: Catherine M. Walberg
- Immigration Law: Matt L. Hoppock
- Indian Law: Vivien J. Olsen
- Insurance Law: Catherine M. Walberg
- Intellectual Property Law: Jason O. Howard
- Litigation: Peter S. Johnson
- Oil, Gas and Mineral Law: Ryan A. Hoffman
- Real Estate, Probate and Trust Law: Stewart T. Weaver
- Solo and Small Firm: Calvin K. Williams
- Tax Law: Jason P. Lacey
- Young Lawyers: Jeffrey W. Gettler
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The other officers of these sections are also available online in the KBA Leadership Guide. The officers of the sections rotate on an annual basis and provide section members with a great opportunity to get involved in the KBA in an area of law that is important to them. Section membership also allows other KBA members and the general public to find attorneys who practice in those areas of law by doing an attorney search on the KBA website.

In addition, we have regular contributors to the KBA Journal, such as Matthew D. Keenan, whose articles are always educational and many times outright hilarious. Larry Zimmerman’s technology column is a must read for people like me who sometimes struggle to let technology do all it can for their practice.

Hopefully, after reviewing the above information, you are now more aware of all the things that the KBA does for our
profession and our membership. Without all of those named above, the KBA simply would not be able to do what we do. The amount of time and quality of effort given to these groups within the KBA is simply incredible to me. It makes the job of being president seem insignificant in comparison. Everyone who is involved in any of these groups has my most sincere gratitude, respect, and appreciation for a job well done.

About the President

Dennis D. Depew is an attorney with the Depew Law Firm in Neodesha. He currently serves as president of the Kansas Bar Association.

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