New Haven County Bar Association
171 Orange Street, 2nd Floor
New Haven, CT 06510

Upcoming Events Calendar

For more information, or to register for an event, visit www.newhavenbar.org or call 203-562-9652

February
10 - Solo/Small Firms & LRS Mixer, NHBCA Office, 5:00pm - 7:00pm
17 - Executive Committee Meeting, Carmen Anthony’s, 12:30pm - 2:00pm
21 - FNHCB Liberty Bell Winter Gala, New Haven Lawn Club, 6:00pm - 11:00pm
26 - Lunch with a Judge: Featuring the Hon. Janet C. Lawn Club, 6:00pm - 11:00pm

16 - Film Screening, “Girls Rising,” Quinnipiac University School of Law, 5:30pm - 7:30pm
17 - Executive Committee Meeting, Carmen Anthony’s, 12:30pm - 2:00pm
18 - FNHCB Board of Directors Meeting, NHCBA, 1:00pm - 2:00pm
26 - Shoreline Section Happy Hour, Madison Beach Hotel, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

April
16 - Members Only - Scotch & Cigar Tasting, The Owl Shop, 6:00pm - 8:00pm
21 - Executive Committee Meeting, Carmen Anthony’s, 12:30pm - 2:00pm
23 - FNHCB Jazz for Justice Fundraiser, 9th Note

May
1 - Clerk’s Appreciation Luncheon, The Graduate Club, 12pm & 1pm seatings

NEW HAVEN’S VICTOR BOLDEN CELEBRATED AT JOINT NHCBA & CBA CELEBRATION

A capacity crowd of bench and bar celebrated Victor A. Bolden, Connecticut’s latest federal judge at a reception held on January 21 at the Union League Restaurant jointly sponsored by the NHCBA and the CBA’s Federal Practice Section.

New Haven’s Corporation Counsel since 2009, and a member of the Board of the NHCBA, Judge Bolden is slated to become President of the NHCBA next term. He previously worked at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund and at Wiggin & Dana. He was a staff attorney at the

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NHCBA
Encouraging Each Other to Excellence...

MARBLE COLUMNS
THE NEW HAVEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION VOL XX, NO. 2 Winter 2015

BENCH AND BAR CELEBRATE HOLIDAY PARTIES

Continued on page 15
**President’s Column**

*by Howard K. Levine*

Last night I attended yet another meeting about the future of bar associations. As it always does, the discussion turned to how best to entice the newest generations of lawyers to participate. This, of course, led all of the older generation of lawyers around the table to comment on how difficult it is to understand the “new generation,” and never the twain shall meet.

It is no secret that I am not on Facebook or any social media, so I am not in the best position to say that I do or don’t “understand” this new generation. What I do understand is that they exist and are different from my generation, just as my generation is different from the lawyers who are now approaching and entering retirement. The precise differences among all may be novel, but the fact that there are differences is not.

Many of these membership discussions focus exclusively on younger lawyers. The attention is necessary, and laudable, but the narrowness of the effort is not. We cannot forget that our association, and our profession, is comprised of those different generations, and we neglect any one of them at our peril.

It is incumbent upon all of us, of whatever generation, to make allowances for and embrace those things we don’t understand, whether it’s new social media or old movie quotes. We can’t succumb to Steely Dan’s resignation that “No we can’t dance together, no we can’t talk at all.” (When you get to write this column, you can put in your own generationally appropriate quotes.)

One of the gospels of the New Haven County Bar I have tried to share is that membership is important because it brings us together. The practice of law is stressful, but it is made better and more effective by knowing and appreciating one another. We are a community that does not erect barriers and laudable, but the narrowness of the effort is not. We cannot forget that our association, and our profession, is comprised of those different generations, and we neglect any one of them at our peril.

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**Editor’s Column**

*A Life of Meaning*

*by Jonathan J. Einhorn*

May be out on a limb here, but Bill Callahgher lived a life of meaning. Put aside the obvious issues for a moment and think about our own lives: What have we accomplished of value? How have we helped others that leads to a feeling of consequence? Bill took our calls, helped us without reservation, and fought aggressively and without restraint for his clients. Not only was he an encyclopedia of Connecticut law, but he shared that knowledge freely. He was a past president of each of Connecticut’s significant bar associations: the NHCCA, the CBA and the CTLA. Time-consuming, thankless work, but work that recognizes the significance of our brotherhood and sisterhood, our role in society, and our common good. That’s meaningful, which is all we can ask. To live a life of meaning is a standard for us all.

John Gardner, one of the great minds of our country, wrote this: “Meaning is something you build into your life. You build it out of your own past, out of your affections and loyalties, out of the experience of humankind as it is passed on to you. ... You are the only one who can put them together into that unique pattern that will be your life.”

Whatever issues arose after his death will be resolved, but a man’s life should not be judged by a single issue taken out of context.

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**CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION CALENDAR**

The NHCCA is certified by the New York State CLE Board as an Accredited Provider of continuing legal education in the State of New York. We offer courses that are appropriate for both newly admitted and experienced attorneys.

**Ethics 2015**

Feb. 25 | Seminar 3:00pm - 6:00pm
Gateway Community College, Room N101-B, New Haven

Speakers: Frances Mickelson-Dera, First Ass’t. Bar Counsel
Dezi Ionovski, Asst. Statewide Grievance
Prosecutor

Anthony Nuzzo Jr., Nuzzo & Roberts

A don’t-miss interactive workshop to help lawyers avoid practicing outside the Rules of Professional Conduct. Includes: how to set up and maintain trust accounts; draft different types of fee agreements; recognize and address conflicts of interest. 3 CLE Credits

**Landlord Tenant Law in CT: Practice and Procedure**

March 26 | Seminar 4:00pm - 6:00pm
Superior Court, 235 Church St., 9th Fl., New Haven

Speakers: Noble F. Allen, Hinckley Allen
Suzanne Colasanto, Chief Housing Court Clerk

Highlights: understand the legal concepts in landlord and tenant law and the statutory triggers in summary process. Includes: how to properly prepare a notice to quit; learn crucial evidence strategies; gain tips for proper housing court procedures; understanding the difference between commercial and residential evictions; get the latest in recent landlord tenant case law and statutes. 2 CLE Credits

**NUTS & BOLTS BASIC PRACTICE SERIES**

**Seminare: 8:00am - 10:00am | The Graduate Club**

Each seminar qualifies as 2 CLE Practice Area Credits

**Feb. 5: Overview of Residential Real Estate Closings**

Speakers: Joan C. Molly, Loughlin FitzGerald
Josh Lulekberg, First American Title Insurance

**March 5: Criminal Law**

Jack Doyle, Senior Assistant State’s Attorney

**March 19: Wills, Trusts & Estates, and Probate Court**

Speakers: Matthew C. Brown, Wiggin and Dana
Michael T. Clear, Wiggin and Dana

**April 2: Depositions 101**

Speakers: Penny Q. Seaman, Wiggin and Dana
Charles B. Price, Jr., Price Green

**April 16: Anatomy of a Superior Court Case**

Speakers: W. Glen Pierson, Loughlin Fitzgerald
Eric P. Smith, Faxon Law Group

Registration is available online at www.newhavenbar.org or by calling (203) 562-9652

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**American Civil Liberties Union Foundation after graduating Harvard Law School.**

Chief Judge Janet Hall spoke of him at the reception, as did NHCCA President Howard Levine. Besides extolling his legal skills, all noted his calm composure and the fact that he is just a “great guy.”

He succeeds District Judge Janet B. Arterton who assumed senior status in July. He is expected to sit in Bridgeport and is joining what is likely the oldest federal District Court in the country, according to United States Court of Appeals Judge Jose Cabranes.
**THE BRIEF CASE**

**NEWS**

Retirement Celebration for Patricia A. King, Chief Disciplinary Counsel. Monday, October 9th, 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm, Anthony's Ocean View, 450 Lighthouse Road, New Haven, CT. A reception will be held at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies for a one day conference surrounding Environmental Law Conference.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

Law Office Share (Branford): Established, high visibility location in the center of town. Includes furnished reception area/waiting room, secretarial space, library/conference room, free parking. Equipped with phones, fax, internet, copier, etc. Possible referrals; Reasonable rent. 203-483-7573.

Orange Office Share: Established location, includes private office, shared reception area, secretarial space, conference room, photocopier, internet/phone with answering, furniture if desired, and free parking. Possible case referrals. Reasonable rent. Call 203-891-9800.

**Environmental Law Conference**

The NHCB is partnering with the Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy, and the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies for a one day conference surrounding new directions in environmental law. The conference will be held at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies in New Haven on February 18th. New York State CLE credit is available. For more information, including panel and workshop descriptions and registration, visit: www.law.yale.edu

**Small Claims Attorney Program Seeks Volunteers**

The CBA is seeking retired volunteer attorneys to participate in the expansion of the Small Claims Volunteer Attorney Program to the New Haven Judicial District. The program will run on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 2:00pm at 235 Church Street, New Haven, Room 401 on the 6th Floor. Malpractice insurance is provided by the CBA for retired attorneys who participate in this program. Past or present CBA membership is not required to participate. If you are interested in volunteering or would like to learn more about the program, please contact Pat Kaplan at attorneyspat@kaplan.gmail.com.

**2015 Leadership Circle**

Support opportunities range from recognition of your firm or organization as a "Champion" at the $10,000 contribution level down to designation as a "Friend" at the $500 contribution level. Each level includes tickets to all Association major events and activities, sponsorship recognition at all Association events, and print advertising in both the legal and general communities. Recognition in Marble Columns alone reaches nearly 1,400 attorneys, legal professionals and judges. The program covers all bar activities in the calendar year 2015.

**ON THE MOVE**

Attorney Colleen M. Garlick joined Neubert, Pepe & Monteith, P.C. as an associate with the firm. Attorney Garlick joins the firm's Professional Malpractice & Liability Defense, Hospital & Medical Liability Defense and Litigation & Appeals practice groups.


The New Haven office of Halloran & Sage LLP recently welcomed attorneys Craig Lifland, Martha Royston, Frederick Trota, and Nicole Tung to the New Haven office.

**Assistant Editor's Column**

NLHAA Marks 50th Anniversary

by Andrew S. Knott

The New Haven Legal Assistance Association celebrated 50 years of providing free legal representation to the area’s indigent residents on November 1 with a “50th Anniversary Gala and the Connecticut Bar Foundation symposium, Justice for all: The history and Future of Legal Aid in Connecticut” at the Omni Hotel two weeks later.

Founded by Frank Dineen on April 7, 1964, LAA was incorporated to “secure justice for and to protect the rights of those residents of New Haven County unable to engage legal counsel” and as a response to the City’s aggressive redevelopment program’s negative impact on poor neighborhoods.

As one of the first legal aid programs in the country, LAA’s work attracted national media attention—Newsweek, Time, and the New York Times—and a visit from then Supreme Court Justice Arthur J. Goldberg, who said that LAA would “take its place as another of the great historic contributions of this city to the progress of the nation.” I hope that we will see in city after city... programs such as this which will be equal justice and dignity to all.”

After working as a “neighborhood lawyer” for a local social service agency, Dineen saw that there was a need for a social service agency that that provided legal services to those who otherwise could not afford one. In 1964, local attorneys James Cooper, Joseph DiSesa and Charles Parker incorporated the NHCAA to “secure justice for and to protect the rights of those residents of New Haven County unable to engage legal counsel.” Soon thereafter, the Municipal Legal Aid Bureau that was run by the city merged with NHCAA.

Initially staffed primarily by students and recent Yale Law grads such as Clarence Thomas, Hillary Clinton, Bruce Morrison, and many other local lawyers too numerous to list, Frank Dineen is still there and is something of a living legend, according to Susan Garcia-Noth, its executive director. Like anything else, NHCAA has had its ups and downs, and the downs primarily revolve around money, or lack thereof. By 2005, Connecticut’s legal aid organizations, which were funded by IOLTA interest to the tune of around $10 million, took a hit when the real estate bubble burst, cutting IOLTA interest to around $1 million. The legislature came to the rescue, and NHCAA survived thanks to an increase in court fees, some of which were sent to legal aid.

At its inception, the NHCAA had difficulties with the concept, describing it as a social experiment that was “taking food out of the mouths of the families of practitioners,” but as NHCAA grew, so did the bar’s understanding and acceptance of it. Now, fifty years later, ten of the seats on NHCAA’s board of directors are held by NHCAA appointees. Our bar has changed, but NHCAA has stayed true to its original mission. Just ask Frank Dineen.

Photos from 50th Anniversary Gala
Bench and Bar Celebrate Holiday Parties continued from page 1

Annual Holiday Party

On Thursday, December 11, 2014, over 180 NHCBA members, special guests, and members of the judiciary gathered at The Q Club for the NHCBA Annual Holiday Party. The New Haven Young Lawyers Section held their annual Marine Foundation Toys for Tots collection, which amassed over 200 toys. Thank you to everyone who donated!

Guests were invited to O’Tooles Irish Pub and Restaurant for an afterparty sponsored by O’Tooles and the New Haven Young Lawyers Section.

Shoreline Section Holiday Party, December 4

The NHCBA thanks the Holiday Party’s generous sponsors for their support of the event.

Webster Bank
Insurance Specialists, Inc.
LexisNexis
New England Payroll Services
LawPay Credit Card Processing

Holiday Leadership Dinner, December 3

Restaurant Review

New Haven’s best-kept secret doesn’t have to do with politicians, with lawyers, or with judges (although there are some of those too). It’s the best lunch place in the city!

And that would have to be Charley’s Place at the Yale School of Management at Evans Hall. And yes, it’s open to the non-Bulldogging public too. A cafe-ria-style restaurant located in that monstrosity of a building at 165 Whitney Avenue (across from the Peabody Museum), where lunch is served 11:30 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. weekdays, with a limited number of choices, but always incredibly well-prepared, healthy and reasonably priced.

Three serving stations are more than enough: one area serves fat sandwiches like house roasted turkey (I even had lox there once!), and divers salads (and occasionally soup), the next has largely pan-asian cuisine (great dumplings last week, usually some food with noodles or ramen), often Korean; and the third hosts larger entrees including gourmet chicken dishes from around the world, chili, and other international cuisine.

Best of all, Friday is Pizza Day. Now for those of us New Haven pizza snobs, you’d think that would be a loser, but in fact, a large round pizza oven in sight behind the open counters produces a nice thin pizza, usually adorned with three choices of toppings (but strangely, no pepperoni or bacon!).

The SOM is a cashless building, such that you need to use a credit card to pay for lunch, but at $6.50 for smaller lunches and $8.50 for larger ones, it’s a bargain. There’s also a small café near the front door with pastries, various coffees, lattes, chai tea, cappuccino, etc. There’s some sandwiches, fruits, and salads, should you be in a rush, and its hours are more liberal (8:00am to 5:00pm).

The architecture is very open and modern, the employees are very friendly, and in warmer weather there are tables around a beautifully landscaped courtyard. My prediction is that at some point in the near future, it’ll be so crowded that its use might be restricted, but right now Charley’s Place is the best-kept lunch secret in New Haven. See you there.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE

Volunteer Opportunities

February 11 (6:00pm): McConaughy Terrace book donation and reading event with United Way and Junior League

February 28: New Haven Stair Climb for the American Lung Association

March 2: New Haven Reads donation and reading event at Weder Grant School (Read Across America Day)

Weeks of March 9th and 16th: New Haven Reads volunteer tutoring week(s)

April 3, 10, 17, 24 (3:00-5:00pm): Fair Haven Fitness Program

May 9: Beach clean-up, Branford

July 14-17 - L.A.W. Camp for Teens

Monthly: Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen

For more information or to sign up to volunteer, please contact Public Service Committee co-chairs Tony Interlandi (tony@interlandilaw.com) or Joseph Solimene (jsolimene@solimene.com)

Restaurant Review

Best Kept Lunch Secret in New Haven: Yale’s SOM

by Jonathan J. Eisborn

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Call to Action
The NHCBA’s Diversity Committee is excited to bring you an assortment of activities to promote and celebrate the diversity of the NHCBA. The Committee’s programs aim to increase diversity at all levels and in all areas of the legal profession in our Bar, as well as to increase the Bar’s awareness of the need to take measures which actively promote diversity in the profession. Some of our plans include a Best Practices Diversity Inclusion/Retention Workshop for managing/hiring attorneys in our bar and a Summer Associate/Clerk Mixer to show new talent the best that the NHCBA has to offer. Additional details coming soon.

If you want to help us fulfill our goals, please contact the NHCBA’s Diversity Committee Chair, Christine Jean-Louis, at christine.jeanlouis@gmail.com. The Committee welcomes everyone!

Welcome, Cindy!
The NHCBA office is excited to introduce Cindy Martin. She has joined our team as the Association’s Administrative Assistant. Cindy came to the NHCBA through a temp-to-hire position with Kaiser Whitney Staffing. She has previous office experience working in real estate and legal offices. Many of you have already gotten to know Cindy at events and through the LRS program. Please join us in giving her a warm welcome.

Volunteer Opportunity: Ask A Lawyer Clinics
Our Ask A Lawyer clinic series is off to a great start this year. We are still in need of volunteers for upcoming clinics, especially for our new program at the Cheshire Public Library, so please contact Kim if you are interested in getting involved. kmichau@newhavenbar.org.

Large Turnout at Memorial Service

by Jonathan J. Einhorn

One of New Haven’s favorite sons, Sam Dixon, who died young and was known as the best dressed lawyer in New Haven was spoken of by Hartford lawyer Bill Gerace.

Cynthia Bott spoke of the late Bill Gallagher, who will always be a legend, 2014-2015 president of the NHCBA, the CBA, and the CTLA. Many of us will always remember him playing barefoot with the Ancient Mariners. The late Morris Gamm, who died at 106, was eulogized by his son, John Gamm (“In a jam, call Gamm”).

The late Jackson King was memorialized by his daughter and former partner, Susan Shaw. Her father was a punter at Colgate. Rick Florentine spoke on behalf of Bob Perrotti, who was a mentor to him in his practice. Jeff Rosenberg was eulogized by Doug Dalena.

Erika Todd-Trotta spoke about the late Robert Ruggiero, and the Hon. Ralph Marcarello spoke eloquently about Paul Sabetta, whom he described as “an ordinary man who did extraordinary things.” Paul Scholder, who loved sailing and his New England town, is still trying product liability cases, was memorialized by Sidney Gimple. All will be missed.

In one of the NHCBA’s most unique and most beloved functions, eleven members of the legal community who passed away over the previous year were remembered by their family and colleagues at the Service of Remembrance on November 6, 2014.

As usual, attendees spilled in to the hallways of the courtroom from 9:45 to 10:45.

The event was chaired by Steve Jacobs, who has received the mantle from his father Dick Jacobs who ran the event as long as can be remembered (“Too long,” he modestly says). Administrative Judge Brian T. Fischer gave opening and closing remarks. Recently installed NHCBA President Howard K. Levine spoke briefly. Also in attendance were the Superior Court judges and referees sitting in New Haven as well as United States District Judge Janet Hall and several retired judges.

Max Brunswick, a tireless fighter was well known to all and was memorialized by his friend and New Haven bar probation judge, Jack Keyes. Geoff Hecht eulogized his friend and former partner, Milt (“Mickey”) Caplan, a Hillhouse and Yale graduate.

Continued on page 14
he demonstrated that he was not going to tolerate her taking something just because someone else wants it. Seems to me that if you’re going to call another lawyer as a witness, you first pick up the phone and explain just that. “I’ve got a proceeding. I think I’m going to need you as a witness. Here’s what I expect you’ll be able to say. Can I talk to you about it? It’s scheduled for this date in Whenever. Do you think you can make it?”

That leads to some type of discussion about what’s what, when, and why, and it lets me know if we can work around our respective schedules. Then I’ll follow up with a letter and let me know if you need a subpoena. Makes sense, no? If, at the end, we’re going to have to throw stones at each other, at least let’s try to get off on the right foot before we get to that stage.

The danger in not behaving that way is that we forget just how small our state is and how often we run into each other. Why start off making an enemy? I don’t think we’ve become so self-impressed that we don’t take phone calls, have we? I remember Frank Drumm, the former Chief Clerk of our Supreme Court and a gentleman, I was calling that office for some type of information or other. I needed to speak to Frank. It was about 4:30. The phone rang.

“Hello, Supreme Court?”

“Can I speak to Frank Drumm please?”

“That’s me.”

“Frank. It’s Willie Dow. What are you doing answering the phone?”

“Well,” says Frank, “I learned that in the Army. When the phone rings, you pick it up and answer it.”

I was never in the Army, but I try to follow Frank’s advice. I happen to think it’s good practice to talk to people on the phone. It’s maybe less efficient, certainly less formal, and definitely not as “official.” But it works well. And you can learn a lot by listening.

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**Editor’s Column, continued from page 2**

or a certain conduct, which we agree is not acceptable. And I certainly can’t minimize or ignore what he did. What is a meaningful life, then?

Gardiner continues, The first thing we mean is that life should be about more than material success. The person leading a meaningful life has found some way of serving others that leads to a feeling of significance.

Second, a meaningful life is more satisfying than a merely happy life. Happiness is about enjoying the present; meaning is about dedicating oneself to the future. Happiness is about receiving; meaningfulness is about giving.

As lawyers, we learn more in maturity than just acquiring skills, otherwise, we’d be roofers or bricklayers. We learn not to engage in self-destructive behavior; how to manage our tensions, and that resentment, envy and pity are among the worst form of drugs. We learn that the world loves talent but thrives on character.

As lawyers, we learn that most people think about themselves, they are neither for you nor against you; we learn that no matter how hard we try to please, some people will not love, and for many, this is a troubling concept. As a lawyer, Bill Gallagher may have struggled to please too many, and in the end that may haunt his reputation, but it doesn’t detract from his true character. I was wrong: I’m not out on a limb. Bill was a great lawyer, and he, like only a small number of his peers, led a meaningful life.

**Ask-A-Lawyer Clinics Need Volunteers**

NHCBA is signing up attorneys for our Ask A Lawyer clinics in New Haven, East Haven, Branford, North Branford, Cheshire, Northford, and Yale.

Contact NHCBA to volunteer (203) 562-9652

**Lawyer Referral Service**

Continued on page 7
Closings have been getting harder and harder with new regulations being proliferated seemingly every hour of the day and night. It leads one to distraction when preparing documents, making calls, and scheduling exactly where a closing will take place.

Our longtime friend and brother, Steve Ketaineck from West Haven, took it all to a whole new level a few weeks ago. The affable Ketaineck, who has practiced on the shores of West Haven for over thirty years, was racing over the new Q Bridge heading towards the Elm Street Law Offices of Vincenzo Gallo in the downtown area of the Elm City itself.

Everyone was waiting the arrival of Attorney Ketaineck, who was representing Bob Anastatio of Stratton Properties, a well known developer with a fine reputation. Bob, Attorney Gallo, the Buyers and the realtors were all awaiting the arrival of the West Haven Wizard. They may just have been waiting for God Almighty?

It seems that either the turn was tighter or the speed was faster around the bend in the road, or perhaps a little of both, as Steve came off connector in the vicinity of the K of C building.

As he negotiated the turn, jersey barriers formed a gauntlet to this left and his right. Lord Tennyson’s epic poem, “The Charge of the Light Brigade” comes to mind.

Barriers to the left of him, barriers to his right, on drove the brave closing attorney. Well, for a little while, he drove, and then he crashed. His car kissed off one sand barrier to the right and crashed to the left into the waiting concrete sabres of a jersey barrier. Alas, his tank-a Hyundai-didn’t handle the impact so well.

He gathered himself, like any Blue Devil from West Haven would, and made a call to Vin Gallo. The conversation went something like this: “Vin, I’m not going to make the closing for a while. I have to wait for the police, the tow truck and my wife. I’m not sure which of them I am going to be happier to see,” as he described what had happened in this one-car accident. “I’ll try to get there as soon as I can, but it could be an hour or more.”

Attorney Gallo recently conquered fatherhood as he and his lovely wife Vanessa had beautiful little Sophia. He took in the lessons of patience from fatherhood and gave Attorney Ketaineck his condolences. He then quickly jumped in the race car—well, okay, a Prius—owned by Attorney Ketaineck’s client, Bob.

They were bound and determined that this closing was going to take place. They were on their way to the accident scene. Sort of giving the vision of “ambulance chasing” an entirely different look and feel.

While Steve dodged cars waiting for the police and others to arrive, Vin and Bob raced towards the wounded West Haven barrister. Batman and Robin couldn’t have done it better. They soon arrived and parked behind the crumpled mess of metal (plastic?) that use to be an automobile. Steve could not believe his eyes.

“Are you guys nuts!” he bellowed as he grabbed his file and started shoveling papers through the window for his client to sign.

The signing couldn’t have lasted five minutes, though it seemed like an eternity to Steve as cars and trucks continued to whip by him.

After practicing law in an office for decades, Steve had now become the first ever attorney in America to perform a drive-through closing! And he had Bob and Vin to thank for it.

As he watched them pull away, he looked lost and confused. Then his wife arrived and he snapped back into reality real fast!

Vin “Batman” Gallo hit the gas and headed back with Bob “Robin” Anastatio to the “Gallo Cave” on Elm Street. Steve was left with a throbbling finger, a totaled Hyundai, and a concerned wife. And he had one more thing - a smile on his face.

For all the time that you hear someone say, “Now I’ve seen it all,” well, Steve Ketaineck and his crew can now certainly say that with respect to a real estate closing, THEY HAVE SEEN IT ALL!!!

I take this opportunity, in these days of email, texting, Spotify, Instagram, Facebook and the like, to reflect on those thrilling days of yesteryear when the telephone was the desired means of communication among and between lawyers. There was a time, ladies and gentlemen, that when we had a need to communicate with others, before writing a letter, text or email, we would pick up the phone and ask a question, provide information, or even advise an adversary that there was a problem. This, as I recollect it, was a way to resolve problems informally, before getting into high or even medium dudgeon and writing something that would be permanent and may have to be retracted later. Whether it was a letter, a pleading, or an email—there’s a bunch of folks at Sony chocking on these right now—there was wisdom in verbal communication that allowed a dialogue and a flexibility that encouraged courtesy and rational behavior.

Looking to meet other attorneys in small firms? Looking to learn how the Lawyer Referral Service can help you?

Join us for Happy Hour on Tuesday, February 11th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at the NHBCA office, 171 Orange Street, downtown New Haven.

Sponsored by the Solo/Small Firms & Lawyer Referral Service Committees

by William F. Dow III, Jacobs & Dow, LLC

What brought this to mind was a recent letter I received from an attorney who, unbeknownst to me, expected me to testify at a proceeding. I didn’t know the gentleman. I was unaware of the proceeding. I wasn’t an attorney or a party in the case.

Nevertheless I was informed by counsel that: “I expect to present your testimony on [date] at 10:00 a.m. [in a distant court]. Please arrange your schedule to allow for your appearance at trial in the event that you are needed.”

This was followed two days later by the unannounced arrival of an investigator serving me a subpoena and requesting an interview.

I sincerely hope that this lawyer has not been practicing very long in our fair state. If not, it’s time for a short etiquette course.

Most of us, I think, were trained to try to accommodate others, lawyers or not, upon reasonable request. Similarly, most of us, lawyers or not, don’t like being told to do

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The Foundation of the New Haven County Bar

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Foundation Update
THE YEAR AHEAD
by Shari-Lynn Cusano Shore

The Foundation of the New Haven County Bar is off to a great start for the 2014-2015 year. We recently gave out two grants to the community to very deserving groups. Specifically, we granted $2,500 to The Diaper Bank (photo page 9), one of the largest diaper banks in the country. The diaper bank serves more than 2,400 children each month. Our grant will increase the number the organization serves each month by an additional 22 children. We also granted $2,500 to BH Care: The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services (UC-DVS) (photo page 9). UC-DVS specifically requested the grant for their lock replacement fund, which allows local victims of domestic violence to put locks on their homes as part of their safety plan. The UC-DVS lock replacement fund assists over 7,000 people each year and our grant will increase the victims assisted by at least 20. We are looking forward to receiving even more applications for our Spring 2015 grant cycle.

Our flagship event, the Liberty Bell Gala, will take place this year on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at the New Haven Lawn Club. We are proud to honor Anthony P. Rescigno, the President of the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce, as our Liberty Bell award recipient. Mr. Rescigno exemplifies the eligibility criteria for the Liberty Bell award, especially due to his dedication to give back and grow the local New Haven community.

The Foundation is also hosting a new event this year: Jazz for Justice. Jazz for Justice is an evening out in New Haven centered on a concert of local jazz musicians. The event will be held in May 2015 and details will be provided soon. We are also pleased to announce that we are hosting our Second Annual Barge Dodge Regatta on September 3, 2015 at the Pequotnook Yacht Club.

You will soon receive The Foundation’s Annual Report & Appeal highlighting all of our successes from the 2013 fiscal year, including, but not limited to, the $10,000 in micro-grants disbursed to the New Haven Community, as well as over $11,000 that we were able to donate to New Reach through the ever-popular snowball tournament. Our most recent snowball tournament was held on November 20, 2014 and was again graciously co-sponsored by Milano & Wanat. We are still collecting donations through February. The Foundation is focused on what we can give back to the community. We look forward to another successful year and appreciate your continued support. Thank you.

Carolyn Breen Witt Lawyers’ Lounge

The Lawyers’ Lounge on the 7th floor of the New Haven Superior Courthouse is undergoing a makeover. New paint and a security door have already been added. The committee is in the process of selecting new furniture, artwork for the walls, power-cords, and a water cooler and coffee station, among other amenities. But we need your help.

The room will be dedicated to the Association’s previous long-time Executive Director, Carolyn Breen Witt. Donors who contribute $150 or more to this appeal will receive their name on a plaque hung inside the lounge.

Donations should be made to The Foundation of the New Haven County Bar, attn.: Julia Baldini, 171 Orange Street, New Haven, CT 06510. Donations are tax deductible. For questions, contact Julia Baldini (jbaldini@newhavenbar.org) or William Sadek (William.Sadek@jud.ct.gov).

HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS SNOWBALL TOURNAMENT

A record number of teams, players and spectators braved the seasonal chilly conditions at the 16th Annual Hope for the Holidays Snowball Tournament at the SpornPlex in North Branford on November 20, 2014. Law firm teams from tournament organizer Milano & Wanat, Wiggin & Dana, Martha Cullina and Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessy were joined by a multiple teams representing the New Haven Young Lawyers Section, as well as Quinnipiac Law School, UConn Law School, and rookie entrants the TACs of New Haven Superior Court. The “winners” of the event are New Reach’s Careways, Life Haven, and Martha’s Place, homeless shelters for women and children, as all proceeds benefit that worthy cause through The Foundation.

FOUNDATION GRANTS

(Grant Making Chair, Connie Frontis)

Liberty Bell Gala
And the presentation of the Liberty Bell Award to Anthony P. Rescigno & New Haven Chamber of Commerce
Saturday, February 21, 2015
6:00pm – 11:00pm
New Haven Lawn Club
Individual Tickets $125; Table of 10 $1,250
Cocktail party and gala, 3 course dinner, and dancing. Complimentary beer and wine.
Black tie optional.

(L-R) Shari Shore; Susan DeLeon, Director of UCDVS; Roberta Cook, Executive Director, BHCare; Peter Rahe