

the ADVOCATE

Volume 63 | Special Edition

Celebrating this
year's award
recipients

Distinguished Lawyer,
Jurist, Professionalism,
Pro Bono, and more!



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University of Idaho
College of Law



RECOGNIZING

a tremendous legacy of teaching

The University of Idaho College of Law is honoring six faculty members who retired at the close of the 2020 academic year, leaving behind a tremendous legacy of teaching during their nearly 180 combined years of service. Each has contributed significantly to scholarship in their field and have taught and mentored hundreds of students during their tenure. The impact of their contributions will be felt for many years to come, both at the College and throughout the legal community in Idaho and beyond. Please join us in recognizing and celebrating these remarkable faculty members for their years of dedication to our students and to legal education in the State of Idaho.

A scholarship fund has been established to honor their commitment to the College and will be given each year to a rising 3L student based on need, and a demonstrated commitment to public service, the community and the College of Law. If you are interested in making a contribution to the fund in honor of your favorite professor you may donate by contacting Michele Bartlett at bartlett@uidaho.edu or online at uidaho.edu/giving/law. When donating please select the "College of Law Faculty Scholarship Fund."

Mark Anderson

Criminal Law and Business Associations,
instrumental in hiring the next
generation of faculty

Ben Beard

Property, Commercial Law and E-Commerce;
long-time associate dean

Barbara Cosens

Water Law; Water Resources advisor;
established the Water Resources Program

Maureen Laflin

Mentor in Mediation, established Clinical
programs and the Northwest Institute

Monique Lillard

Torts, Remedies and Workplace Law,
first woman associate dean

Jack Miller

Tax and Elder Law; former dean of the College of Law

On the Cover



Lane Erickson is a partner with Racine Olson PLLP in Pocatello, where he has practiced law for over 20 years with his main focus being estate planning, trusts, and probate law. A passion for photography allows him to flex the creative side of his brain. The cover photo was taken in mid September in the Buckskin area just outside of Pocatello. The leaf had fallen from the tree above into the crack of the rotted tree stump below exactly how the image looks. The color contrasts and textures depicted autumn perfectly. Sometimes the little details capture a season better than a broad landscape. That's how Mr. Erickson feels about this photograph.

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David E. Kerrick, Diane K. Minnich, and Lindsey M. Welfley



Congratulations 2020 Award Recipients

David E. Kerrick
Diane K. Minnich
Lindsey M. Welfley

Welcome to the first Special Awards Edition of *The Advocate*. Typically we honor many of our award recipients at several Idaho State Bar Annual Meeting events – this year has been anything but typical. Due to the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and to ensure we prioritize the health and safety of our members, your families, and your colleagues, our 2020 Idaho State Bar Annual Meeting was moved to a virtual format without the inclusion of our usual slate of social events.

Despite this change in format, our award recipients deserve to be adequately recognized for their outstanding achievements, dedication to the Bar, and stellar professionalism. This year, in lieu of the in-person presentation of these awards we have compiled a selection of articles and briefs about each award recipient in this Special Edition of *The Advocate*.

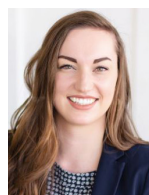
We invite you to read about the individuals being honored this year in a variety of categories and congratulate your colleagues for their recognition. We continue to work through the changes required by the current pandemic and look forward to using this time to improve how we serve our members.
Best,



David E. Kerrick
Idaho State Bar President
Third and Fifth Districts



Diane K. Minnich
Executive Director
Idaho State Bar &
Idaho Law Foundation, Inc.



Lindsey M. Welfley
Communications Director
Idaho State Bar &
Idaho Law Foundation, Inc.

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Photos courtesy of Gary Cooper.

Gary L. Cooper, *Cooper & Larsen*

Pocatello attorney Gary Cooper has been a mainstay of the Eastern Idaho legal community since he got his start in the 1970s. One of this year's Idaho State Bar Distinguished Lawyers, Gary is an Idaho native who has dedicated his career to exceptional legal practice, community service, and family values.

Gary grew up in Caldwell not really knowing any lawyers or otherwise having any interaction with the legal profession. After graduating high school, Gary attended the University of Idaho to pursue his undergraduate degree in political science. His senior year of undergrad, Gary wasn't quite sure what his next step was going to be. He recalls being stopped one day in the hall during the spring of 1972 by Professor Syd Duncombe, then head of the political science department at the University of Idaho.

"He asked me what I was going to do with my life, and I told him I had no

idea." Professor Duncombe suggested that Gary go to law school. "He told me they're building a new law school and the bar is really low for entrance, so I am pretty sure I can get you admitted." Gary reluctantly followed the professor to his office where he made sure Gary completed the paperwork and said he would take care of delivering it. By the afternoon of the next day, and much to Gary's surprise, the professor presented him with the acceptance paperwork and it was that swift decision that set his course for the next three years and the rest of his life.

Although he had come to grips with the decision to go to law school, Gary still wasn't entirely sold on being a lawyer. His brother in law, Coeur d'Alene attorney Bill Boyd, was an important encouragement throughout those three years. "Bill was very encouraging during law school. I had my weak moments and Bill was always there to encourage me to keep going.

I think he was probably looking after my wife more than me, but he was a great support."

During law school Gary met another attorney in Caldwell, John Gunn, who would shape his professional values and become a good friend. Gary worked for John in the summers during law school doing research to help with expenses and learned much of his early lawyering skills from John. This support system from his extended family and colleagues was an important factor in Gary's success after graduation. Gary graduated with his law degree from the University of Idaho College of Law in 1975 and was admitted to the Idaho State Bar that same year along with his good friends Ron Kerl, Hank Boomer, and Dennis Goff.

Immediately after law school Gary found that jobs in private practice were tough to come by. It took a few months to find a job. Finally, he got a lead on a



Gary's daughter, Lizz (left), Gary Cooper (middle), and Bill Olson (right) in 1993 on a fishing trip at Island Park.

job opportunity in Pocatello and took the drive to go interview for an open position. The “open position” didn’t work out, but with the help of John Gunn, Gary was able to get an interview at Racine, Huntley & Olson who were not looking for another lawyer at the time. Because Lou Racine knew some relative of Gary’s wife’s brother’s wife, Lou decided to take a chance and hire a long-haired kid from Caldwell who didn’t yet know what a jury instruction was. Gary learned his first lessons about negotiating when he negotiated his salary with Lou, Bill, and Bob over lunch that

day. Little did Gary know at the time, that opportunity in Pocatello would shake out to be “just about the luckiest break a guy could get. Those guys were tremendous mentors to me.”

Gary practiced at Racine, Huntley & Olson in Pocatello for 23 years working with the likes of Mark Nye, Jim Manning, Randy Budge, John Bailey, John Ingelstrom, Brent Roche, Reed Larsen, Eric Hunn, and Dan Green – “those guys were good friends and good lawyers. I just fell into a really lucky deal. I got to practice law with some of the great lawyers in

Idaho.” Gary considers this formative time as the makings of his career; the ability to work with such positive role models and strong personalities had a profound impact on how he viewed his responsibilities to his clients, colleagues, and the profession as a whole.

In 1998, Gary left the Racine firm and set out to open his own firm with colleague Reed Larsen. Together they formed Cooper & Larsen and have been practicing together ever since. Gary says, in retrospect, it feels like he has had two careers – 23 years with Racine and Olson



Gary's son, Pete (front left), Lou Racine (back left), Bill Olson (middle), Gary Cooper (front right), and John Ingelstrom (back right) on another fishing trip in 1992 at China Bar on the Salmon River.

and 23 years with Reed. Having spent his entire career in the relatively small town of Pocatello, Gary's law practice has encompassed a little bit of everything, with a particular focus on trial work.

Gary has litigated numerous types of cases, with several major verdicts book-marking his tenure as a trial lawyer. In 1995, Gary spent five months in trial on a crop loss case involving thousands of acres of potatoes that were damaged by a herbicide used to control wild oats. Gary was one of the lead trial lawyers on this case with Dwight Baker, Scott Marotz, and John Bailey representing the farmer. The verdict was very favorable, but litigating with Baker, Marotz, and Bailey against formidable defense lawyers in front of

District Judge Marvin Smith was the best learning experience a lawyer could have at that stage of his career.

During his time at Cooper & Larsen, Gary and his team have tried and settled dozens of cases ranging from brain injuries and wrongful death, to lawyer malpractice and medical malpractice. Gary notes that each of these cases were defended zealously by some of Idaho's best defense attorneys, and while many of these verdicts ended in his clients' favor, it was never an easy battle in the courtroom. This was where Gary's professionalism, the importance of which he learned from his mentors early in his career, shown through. Gary learned to "lose graciously" as well, because that is part of being a trial lawyer.

In addition to his civil litigation practice, Gary has spent the past several years expanding his knowledge base and working in legal capacities that are outside his comfort zone. He serves as a tribal judge for the Shoshone Bannock Tribal Court in Fort Hall and has handled cases as a lawyer in the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Court. He also represents the Pocatello Chubbuck Auditorium District and the City of Lava Hot Springs. Those experiences have challenged him to find unique ways to solve important problems.

More recently, Gary served on the Idaho Civil Justice Reform Task Force. The goal of this group – made up of judges and attorneys from all over the state – was to examine Idaho's civil justice system for



Pictured left to right, Bill Boyd, Gary's son Aaron, Lou Racine, and Randy Budge talking shop in Gary Cooper's kitchen in 1993.

weak points and to propose corresponding solutions. The resulting proposed changes to the relevant rules of civil procedure were adopted by the Idaho Supreme Court and Gary is confident that these changes will significantly improve Idahoans' experience with the judicial system.

In 2010, Gary's impressive trial advocacy skills and resume earned him induction into the American College of Trial Lawyers and into the American Board of Trial Advocates. Both of these memberships are a point of pride for Gary, and rightfully so. His dedication to protecting the recovery, safety, and interests of his clients is lauded as exemplary by his colleagues and adversaries alike.

Outside of the courtroom or office, Gary finds solace in the wide range of outdoor activities our state has to offer. Both hunting and fishing have always been a big part of his life. Early in his career, after a great deal of pestering, Gary was invited to fish with Bill Olson and hunt with Lou Racine. He never passed on an opportunity

to be with them in the field. Gary recalls he learned a lot about being a lawyer, how to accept responsibility, and how to treat other people on those fishing and hunting trips. Bill and Lou never complained when Gary brought his sons, Aaron and Pete, and daughter, Elizabeth, fishing and hunting.

When Herm McDevitt, a long-time Pocatello lawyer, passed away, his two sons, Mark and Mike "really became part of our family and still are to this day." Now, Gary's oldest son, Aaron, is a fishing guide in Alaska. "It's very fun to have a guide in the family. We get to experience some really amazing guided trips." Gary's sons and Herm's sons still spend at least two weeks every year hunting ducks and geese on the Fort Hall Bottoms which is one of the most rewarding experiences a "guy like me can experience."

Gary and his wife Jane have been married for nearly 50 years and, in addition to their three children, they have five grandchildren. Aaron lives in Alaska with his

wife and children. Pete is an engineer in Boise where he lives with his wife and children. And their daughter, Elizabeth, lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico with her husband where she works in the tech industry as a software engineer. Gary and Jane are immensely proud of their children and have enjoyed watching them grow into solid and responsible adults.

Gary would like to extend his gratitude to Reed Larsen who is "the brother I never had." Also, to his good friend Ron Kerl. "We have had a great run practicing law together in Pocatello." Gary has also tried to pay it forward by mentoring young lawyers like JD Oborn, Javier Gabiola, James Ruchti, and Tony Sasser. "I have had the privilege of working with some of the best young lawyers in Idaho and it excites me to see them mature into exceptional lawyers." Gary also is adamant that without the help of paraprofessionals like Natalie Shaffer, Barbie Snell, DeeAnn Transtrum, and Julie Pile none of the achievements mentioned in this article would have been possible.



Photos courtesy of Maureen Laflin.

Maureen E. Laflin, *University of Idaho College of Law*

Maureen Laflin, one of this year's Idaho State Bar Distinguished Lawyers, has been a familiar name in the area of legal education since the early 90s. Recently retired from the University of Idaho College of Law, Professor Laflin's passionate and innovative approaches to legal education in Idaho have helped shape the minds of Idaho's new lawyers for decades.

Born in 1955 to parents who were both lawyers, Maureen is the youngest of six siblings. Her mother graduated from the University of Washington School of Law in 1942. Interestingly, although both of her parents were lawyers, Maureen's mother practiced law while her father did not. Maureen's father used his legal education to support his business, civic activities, and politics. Their careers provided Maureen with the unique perspective that law school doesn't simply lead to a law

practice. "I grew up believing that legal skills were an incredibly good tool to have and that it truly helps to focus one's thinking."

Maureen graduated with her undergraduate degree in social work and Spanish from the University of Dayton in 1977. Upon graduation, she worked as a community organizer on a women's employment project in upstate New York and worked part-time on her master's degree in social work. At lunch one day, Maureen's supervisor and mentor asked why she didn't just go to law school. The question piqued Maureen's interest and reinforced her parents' lesson regarding the power and versatility of a law degree. The next thing she knew, she was moving back to her hometown to attend St. Louis University School of Law. She recalls this sharp turn in her career trajectory "felt like a way to obtain a level of education

and credentialing to make sure I had a voice on issues I cared about."

After obtaining her law degree in 1982, Maureen spent the next nine years gaining experience in a variety of legal capacities, including private practice and government work. She handled everything from criminal appellate cases to toxic torts, civil rights, employment, and labor law cases, before eventually narrowing her focus to a field that best allowed her to use her skills, interests, and competencies – legal education.

In 1991, Maureen moved to Idaho with her family and obtained a grant-funded position at the University of Idaho College of Law. Later, she transferred to a tenure tract position, was granted tenure in 2001, and attained the rank of Full Professor in 2005. After 29 years in academia, she retired this past month and is now Professor Emerita. "The highlight



Pictured left to right, Maureen's daughter Margaret, Maureen Laflin, and her son Brendan in Seattle for a fall wedding.

of all my legal career has been my work as a professor. It has allowed me to use my social work skills, managerial skills, and legal expertise to instill in students professional integrity and clinical excellence.” Under Maureen’s direction for 21 years, the University’s clinical program expanded significantly and received national recognition.

Maureen focused her teaching, scholarship, and outreach predominately on

appellate work and dispute resolution. She has published five law review articles and 13 additional articles, including nine in *The Advocate*. Additionally, she has provided more than 50 CLE presentations. While serving on numerous state and federal committees, Maureen was instrumental in the creation of a number of state and federal rules, including the Idaho Civil Mediation Rules, the Idaho Privilege Rule, and the Idaho Criminal Mediation Rules.

She was pivotal in the development of the Ninth Circuit Pro Bono Program, the Federal District Court Pro Bono Program, and the state’s ADR program. These landmark accomplishments were an important way to help the bench, bar, and students.

As an outgrowth of her work on the Supreme Court’s ADR committee, in 1997 Maureen started the annual Northwest Institute for Dispute Resolution, an opportunity for students, practitioners, and



Maureen Laflin and one of her law students.

judges to receive formal training in the areas of alternative methods for resolving civil disputes. Hundreds have received this training and have gone on to apply it in their individual settings. In addition, she has provided five trainings for Idaho judges in the area of criminal mediation.

Maureen directed the University of Idaho's Appellate Clinic for many years. Over the course of a decade, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit recognized Maureen and her students for the quality of their representation in eight different opinions. One of the more

significant appellate cases handled by the clinic was the Marcus Mathews appeals, which were based on Indian Sovereignty and ineffective assistance of counsel. Maureen and her students argued this case three times before the Idaho Supreme Court, once in the Federal District Court, and in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The initial student assigned to this case continued her involvement for almost 10 years. The relentless dedication to serving the profession and citizenry at large displayed by this student is a tribute to Maureen's mentorship.

In 2014, Maureen, Jessica Long, and clinic students took on a Class Action Lawsuit related to the Syringa Mobile Home Park in Latah County. The property owner neglected residents and left them with no potable water for 93 days, raw sewage in the park, and up to two weeks with no water at all. "It was devastating and just so tragic," Maureen recalls. The lawsuit was handled by 24 law students over the years with roughly three-quarters of the faculty and numerous practitioners having been consulted at some point during the course of the suit. "This was another great exam-



Maureen and her son on a trip to New York City.

ple of teaching the students how to tap into experts and resources. You'll never know everything, but there are people who can help you." This case was the focal point of a story on National Public Broadcasting.¹

The Mathews and Syringa cases showed students that they could do valuable work and helped them believe they could succeed at something daunting yet impactful.

When she's not in the classroom, Maureen has spent much of her time traveling the globe deepening her connections with people and cultures. She belongs to The Grail, an international movement and community of women of different cul-

tures, called to create a sustainable world, transforming our planet into a place of peace and justice. She has traveled to Central America on multiple occasions and this past summer to Tanzania with the group. She and her family lived in South Africa for six months at a Grail Center.

In addition to traveling and seeing the world from different perspectives, Maureen's deepest loves are her family and friends. She enjoys spending time with them on the water, at Family Game Night via Zoom, and hiking with friends and her dog, Jax. As a member of the Palouse Woodworkers Collective, she enjoys making furniture. This past fall, the 3rd Street

Art Gallery in Moscow exhibited her table in its Wood and Word show. In January of this year, she was sworn in as a member of Moscow City Council, which is currently grappling with the health and economic issues related to the coronavirus pandemic.

Maureen would like to thank her family, friends, and colleagues for their support, inspiration, and guidance.

Endnotes

1. Daniel Zwerdling, Mobile Home Park Owners Can Spoil an Affordable American Dream, Nat'l Pub. Radio (Dec. 16, 2016, 1:32 PM), <https://www.npr.org/2016/12/26/502590161/mobile-home-park-owners-can-spoil-an-affordable-american-dream>



Photos courtesy of Justice Jones.

Hon. Jim Jones, *Parsons Behle & Latimer*

This year's Distinguished Jurist, former Chief Justice of the Idaho Supreme Court Jim Jones, is a product of the Magic Valley. Growing up on a farm near Eden (outside Jerome), Justice Jones spent his childhood chasing cattle and moving sprinkler pipes, all the while growing more and more certain he didn't want to be a farmer. This early desire to do something bigger than oneself would lead Justice Jones from the fields of Eden, to law school, through the war in Vietnam, and to the bench of Idaho's highest court.

At the inspiration of an uncle, Justice Jones began his higher education in 1960 at Idaho State University pursuing his undergraduate degree in civil engineering. In January 1961, President John F. Kennedy was sworn into office, uttering the famous words, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." It was with these words that Justice Jones' perspective shifted. "Those

words shot through me like a bolt of lightning," Justice Jones says.

He promptly switched his major from civil engineering at Idaho State to political science at the University of Oregon and set his sights on law school. Justice Jones was urged on by one of his professors, James R. Klonosky, to continue exploring politics and current events. He encouraged Justice Jones to critically analyze both sides of every issue instead of making a snap judgment. Justice Jones' intention was to become a lawyer, serve in the Army, and then serve as a Senator; all inspired by the career trajectories of Presidents Kennedy, Nixon, and Johnson.

Justice Jones graduated with his J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law in Chicago in 1967. He went into the Army through ROTC and served 407 days in Vietnam with a heavy artillery battalion. His first legal experience was defending courts martial for members of the

unit. Justice Jones received several combat decorations as well as an Army Commendation Medal for his civic service with an orphanage in Tay Ninh Province. He was honorably discharged as a Captain in 1969.

Upon his return to the States, Justice Jones spent three years in Washington D.C. working as the legislative assistant for Idaho Senator Len Jordan. Jordan was a rancher in Hells Canyon, a savvy businessman, and Governor of Idaho for one term in the 1950s. Jordan carefully considered all aspects of legislation coming before the Senate and insisted that Justice Jones do likewise in working up position papers. Jordan's example had a marked impact on Justice Jones' life and has stayed with him as a guiding principle throughout his entire career.

After working in Senator Jordan's office, Justice Jones then returned to Idaho and opened his own law practice in Je-



Justice Jones and his wife, Kelly, kayaking in Ha Long Bay, just north of Hanoi in Vietnam.

rome in 1973. He practiced there from 1973 to 1982. Justice Jones says one of the highlights was being able to practice in the same town as Roger Burdick, then another Jerome attorney, now Chief Justice and a “dear friend.” Toward the end of his stint in Jerome, Justice Jones followed up on his interest in politics by running against George Hansen in the Republican Primary in 1978. He came up with just shy of 45% of the vote after a two-month campaign.

Not one to be easily dissuaded, Justice Jones ran against Hansen again two years later in 1980. This run didn’t turn out much better. Another two years later in 1982, Justice Jones ran for Attorney General. He roughed it through a tough primary and a tough general election but was elected and spent eight years in the Attorney General’s Office.

Just before he assumed office as Attorney General, the Idaho Supreme Court issued a decision that shook the State – the

Swan Falls water rights decision in December 1982. This decision effectively gave Idaho Power Company a claim to the full flow of the Snake River at Swan Falls Dam. Justice Jones worked closely with former Governor John Evans over the next three years to get that “genie back in the bottle.” Justice Jones credits the late Ray Rigby of Rexburg as an important colleague to have by his side during this time. “Ray was often called ‘Mr. Water’ and had a vast knowledge of water law. He helped get my office involved up to our necks in the case and was extremely helpful throughout the process.”

Justice Jones notes one of his former Deputy Attorneys General, Clive Strong, is “one of the smartest people in the country on water law. His dogged work on the case was critical to the favorable outcome.” Justice Jones continued, “It was extremely helpful to have so many accomplished lawyers to turn to over the years.”

When his term as AG was coming to

a close in 1990, a seat opened up in the U.S. Senate, so Justice Jones decided it was time to try to achieve the goal he had set for himself in 1961. He ran for the Senate in the Republican primary that year. It was not to be, so he decided to set up his own private practice in Boise. He practiced in Boise for 14 years, doing predominately civil work in a wide-ranging practice.

In 2004, then-Justice Wayne Kidwell announced he would not be running for reelection to the Idaho Supreme Court. That same day Justice Jones recalls he was meeting with Al Lance to discuss a legal matter. Lance asked Justice Jones if he was going to be throwing his hat in the ring and Justice Jones responded with a resounding, “You’ve got to be kidding.” That casual question planted a seed that Justice Jones began to mull over. Reflecting on his experience in appellate work and his desire for a new challenge, Justice Jones decided to give it a shot and ran unopposed for the open seat on Idaho’s highest court.



Justice Jones in his Army dress blues on Veterans Day in 2016. His granddaughter, Kylee, asked him to visit her school for a Veterans Day program.

His election to the Idaho Supreme Court in 2004 began his 12-year career on the bench, from which he retired in January 2017.

During his time on the bench there have been several decisions that have marked his career. Justice Jones pointed to two opinions he authored as particularly important – *Idaho Ground Water Association v. Idaho Department of Water Resources* and *Wasden v. State Board of Land Commissioners*.

Idaho Ground Water, issued in 2016, was an important ruling that brought together two longstanding concepts of Ida-

ho water law. In his decision, Justice Jones melded the concepts of prior appropriation and beneficial use into one seamless doctrine. “I had the rare opportunity to help shape Idaho’s water future as a result of the Swan Falls settlement, which resulted in the Snake River Basin Adjudication, and then to shape how the water would be managed in the *Idaho Ground Water* and other Court decisions.”

The *Wasden* case provided an opportunity to solidify the intended role of the position of Idaho’s Attorney General. Justice Jones wrote that the Attorney General is responsible for representing the people

of Idaho and has the ability to stand up for the rights of Idahoans. As a former Attorney General, Justice Jones had a particularly poignant inside view of the application of this ruling.

Justice Jones retired from the Idaho Supreme Court in January 2017. Two weeks after announcing his retirement, he received a call from his physician with a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. After undergoing surgery and chemotherapy, he is happy to report that he has been cancer free ever since.

Justice Jones is currently of-counsel with Parsons Behle and Latimer and



Justice Jones received the Ken Harward Award from the Association of Cities in 2017 in recognition of his exceptional contributions benefiting the city governments of the State of Idaho.

spends much of his free time writing, including a weekly column for several Idaho daily newspapers. Justice Jones published a book in 2016, *A little dam problem*, about the water rights fight between the State of Idaho and Idaho Power Company. He published another book in 2019, *Vietnam...Can't get you out of my mind*, about his Vietnam service and how it has influenced his life since. Justice Jones says, "That experience is deeply embedded in my soul and has had a profound influence on my life."

Justice Jones is married to Boise author Kelly Jones who has also published a number of novels. Between the two of

them, they have three children and eight grandchildren. "Kelly and my family have been an important ingredient of any success I've had." Justice Jones is a fossil hunter and has spent the last 12-14 years chasing fossils throughout Idaho and into surrounding states. At age 78, he claims an affinity with other fossils.

In 2008, Justice Jones started as Chair of the Idaho Pro Bono Commission and still serves as a member of the Commission in his retirement. Upon his retirement from the bench, Justice Jones served three years on the Board of Directors of Jannus, Inc., which operates a number of social service programs, including the

Idaho refugee program. Combining the two interests, Justice Jones has provided pro bono legal assistance to refugees since his retirement.

Justice Jones would like to thank his judicial colleagues for their support and friendship over the years, his many talented law clerks who have made up for his failings, and his judicial assistant, Tresha Griffiths, who worked with him for 40 years, starting in Jerome in the 1970s. "During my time in practice and on the bench, I've had the opportunity to see how Idaho lawyers compare with those from out of state and I'm proud to say that our Bar is second to none."



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Photo courtesy of Jenn Jensen.

Jennifer Meling-Aiko Jensen, *Holland & Hart, LLP*

Idaho native, Jennifer “Jenn” Jensen, has set herself apart as this year’s Idaho State Bar Outstanding Young Lawyer. Dedicated to the betterment of both herself and the legal profession as a whole, Jenn has spent the past seven years diligently serving the legal community, working tirelessly for her clients, and setting an example for the next generation of lawyers. The resounding support of her nomination for this award is a notable testament to the respect she has earned from her colleagues.

Jenn received her B.A. in English from Boise State University in 2008 – right in the thick of the recession – and, not sure what direction to take, decided to take a chance on the legal profession. With a general understanding and reverence for the rule of law as a pillar of our society, Jenn hoped the law would be a rewarding career path. She graduated from the University of Idaho College of Law in 2013

and was admitted to the Idaho State Bar that same year.

Immediately after law school, Jenn completed a year-long clerkship for the Hon. N. Randy Smith of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Jenn credits this clerkship as providing her an important role model in Judge Smith, stating, “He has such a great legal mind and is so personable. He was always willing to talk through issues and was always interested in each of his clerks’ careers. He is a professional role model but also a personal role model because of the way he approaches his whole life.”

After clerking for Judge Smith, Jenn began working at Holland & Hart in Boise as an associate in their commercial litigation group – she has remained there ever since. Jenn enjoys working in the team setting and finds this to be one of the best parts of being a young lawyer. “I’m always on a team and I love being on a team.

We’re always learning new things; every case is different. Every client has a different kind of business, and we have to learn their business in order to represent them well.”

Another highlight of being a young lawyer: the newness of career experiences. Jenn mentions that even after six years of practicing law, the practice still feels new and exciting. “I don’t know if that ever changes. I’d imagine at some point maybe you feel like you’ve seen this all before. But for now, the work can still feel fresh, and that makes it fun.”

That notion of keeping work fun is continually fostered by Jenn’s supervisor and mentor, Erik Stidham. “He is a formidable advocate. I’ve had the privilege of working almost six years with him. I learned how to practice law from him.” Jenn points out Erik’s impressive ability to solve problems and get people to come to an agreement, or perhaps more importantly, a resolution

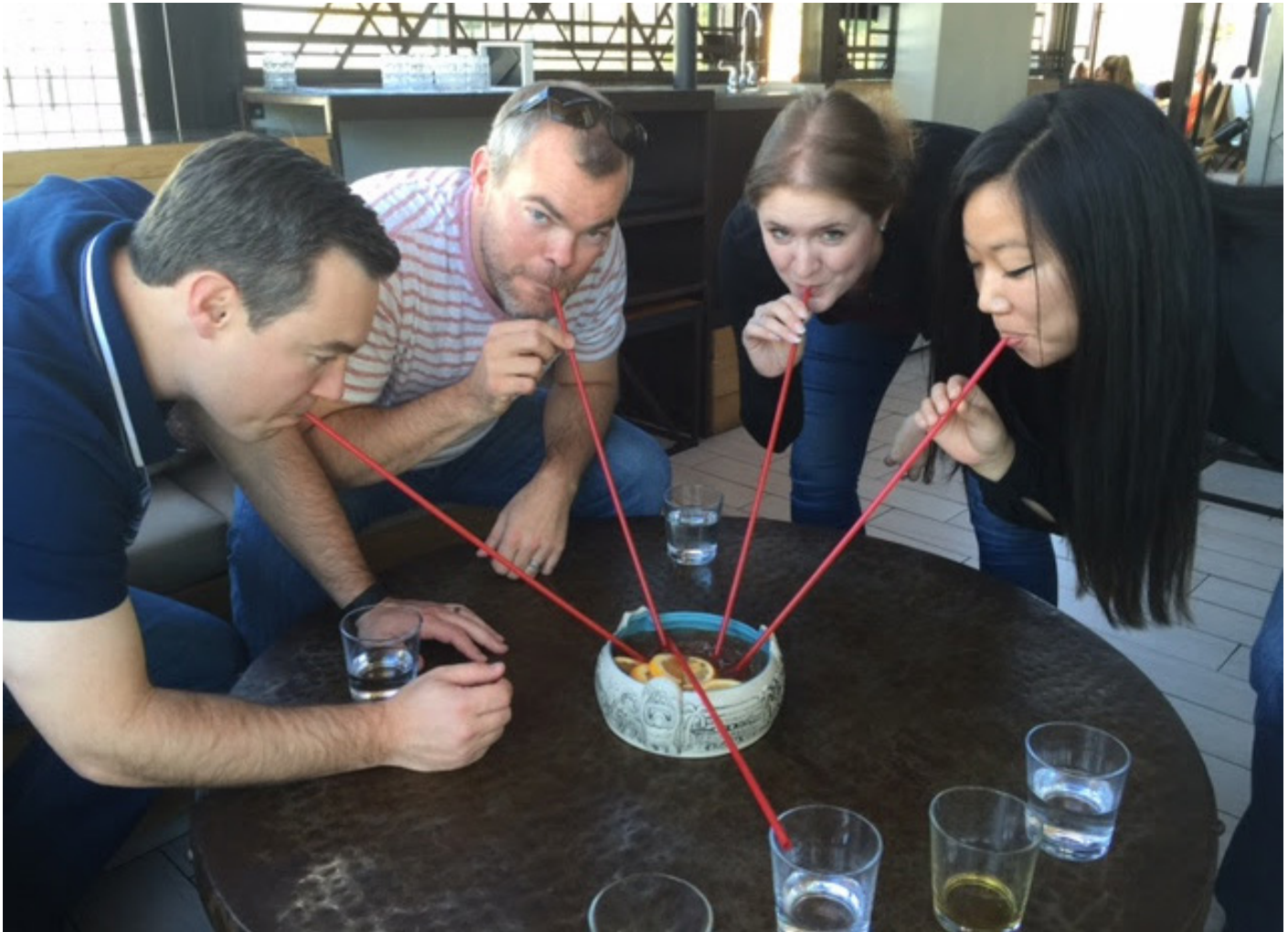


Photo credit and fifth straw belonging to Erik Stidham.

Pictured left to right, Brian Wonderlich, Dean Bennett, Alex Grande, and Jenn Jensen at their commercial litigation practice group retreat in 2015.

– all while keeping things funny and fun for the team.

Jenn's affinity for teamwork is readily echoed by her colleagues in their praise for her aptitude and legal skill. Among this praise, Newal Squyres wrote in support of her nomination: "I have worked with Jenn [...] on a number of cases (including two class actions on which she was a major contributor on the team). She is one of the best young lawyers I've ever had the pleasure of working with [...] She is a thinker, she ponders things, she has a fierce intellect, and she has an endearing humility – everything one could ask for in a colleague."

Aside from her work at Holland & Hart, Jenn is actively involved in the legal community. She is a member of Idaho Women Lawyers and does extensive work with both the Idaho State Bar and the

American Bar Association. Most notably, in late 2015 the Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioners appointed Jenn as Idaho's first Young Lawyer Delegate to the American Bar Association. As one of three delegates, Jenn represents Idaho alongside Deborah Ferguson and Larry Hunter at the ABA House of Delegates and is involved in the consideration and adoption of new policy resolutions related to the legal profession nationwide.

Jenn is also attentive to the needs of Boise's law students and volunteers as a mentor. Jenn enjoys the optimism and contagious spirit of the law students as they seek out what they want to do in the law. She mentions that it's both refreshing and important to stay connected to that positive mindset as you progress through your career.

Looking back to her own experience

during law school, when asked if there was one piece of advice she would give her younger self, Jenn said, "I was hoping it would all be meaningful, engaging, and rewarding. I would tell myself *it will be*."

Jenn would like to extend her gratitude to her husband, Will, who encouraged her to make the leap into the legal profession 10 years ago and who has continued to encourage her ever since. She would like to thank Judge Smith for the year-long introduction to the legal system and the life-long friendship, Erik Stidham for all the chances he was willing to take on her, Brian Wonderlich for prompting her to welcome new challenges, her office BFF Alex Grande for sticking by her since day one of the practice of law, and her many colleagues at Holland & Hart and in the legal community for their support and camaraderie.

Professionalism Awards



Top row from left to right: Alan Wasserman, Thomas Callery, Hon. Thomas Sullivan, and Steve Millemann. Bottom row from left to right: Jodi Nafzger, Robert Lewis, Amy Cunningham, and Mick Ohman. Not pictured: Thomas Robertson.

Professionalism Awards

This year's Professionalism Award recipients have devoted their careers to the practice of law in a way that upholds the highest standards of civility and professionalism. Each of these individuals embodies a reputation of mutual respect and camaraderie with their colleagues. In addition to submitting biographical information, each recipient was asked to respond to the following questions:

First, what advice would you give your younger self as you entered your law practice?

And, what ideals or values do you let guide your professional life?

Alan M. Wasserman, Coeur d'Alene

Advice: "Be adventurous. Sweat the details, yes, but don't be afraid to make missteps."

Values: "Justice, justice, always seek justice."

Alan is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He arrived in Idaho in August 1977 as a VISTA volunteer with Idaho Legal Aid Services and was admitted to the Idaho State Bar the following February. Except for a few short breaks, he has remained as a staff attorney and then as the managing attorney for the Coeur d'Alene office of Idaho Legal Aid Services ever since, providing free legal representation to residents of the First District primarily in housing, public benefits, and elder law matters. He has also given his time to various local organizations, including sitting on the Boards of Hospice of North Idaho and the Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations and as a member of the Dalton Gardens Planning and Zoning Commission.

Thomas W. Callery, Lewiston

Advice: "Don't take yourself too serious-

ly. Get some exercise and a good nights sleep."

Values: "Keep the interests of the client first and foremost. Tell the truth."

Thomas graduated from the University of Idaho College of Law in 1978. He has practiced in Lewiston since 1979 and for many years with Robert Brower, Garry Jones, and more recently with Karin Seibert and Zach Battles. Thomas practices general civil law with an emphasis on workers' compensation. Notably, Thomas has represented the State of Idaho Second Injury Fund throughout North Idaho.

Hon. Thomas A. Sullivan, Caldwell

Advice: "New attorneys take an oath to represent their clients with vigor and zeal, and rightly so. Young attorneys sometimes have a little too much, or misplaced, vigor and zeal. It's a highly competitive and adversarial system. Lawyers and clients want

to *win*. As important as the outcome of the ‘battle’ is, remember this: a calm, pleasant, respectful, and focused, presentation in my opinion is always more persuasive than a presentation that comes across as heated, emotionally driven, and attack-oriented, especially in civil cases. I would be remiss if I didn’t include here a motto that one of my mentors, Klaus Wiebe, had printed and hung on our office wall that summarized our mindset as public defenders for clients who were frequently in the ‘underdog’ role in an upcoming trial: Always show up, look good, play hurt, never give up.”

Values: “I was raised with a strong work ethic and I believe that every job, and every case, big or small, is important and one should strive to do their best at whatever job they find themselves engaged in, even if it’s not their dream job. I believe it fosters better outcomes and a better work environment to approach your work with a positive attitude, making sure to be a team player, freely helping your colleagues. I also hold firm to the basic principle that every side to a dispute should have a chance to be fully, fairly, and patiently heard.”

Judge Sullivan obtained his undergraduate degree from Louisiana State University in 1986, his Juris Doctorate from University of Oregon School of Law in 1992, was admitted to the Oregon State Bar in 1992, and to the Idaho State Bar in 1994. His legal career has included clerking for Third District Judge Wayne Fuller in 1993, associate attorney with the Law Offices of Van Bishop in Nampa from 1994 to 1996, associate attorney with the Caldwell firm of Wiebe & Fouser from 1996 to 2009 predominantly practicing trial court level and appellate level public defense, staff attorney for Third District Judge Susan Wiebe from 2009 to 2015, and finally Canyon County Magistrate Judge from 2015 to present.

Steven J. Millemann, McCall

Advice: “Take the time to listen and learn. One of clients’ biggest sources of frustration is their sense that they have never been afforded the opportunity to tell their story, even to their attorney. Providing a client that opportunity is not only valuable for the client, it is the foundation of

your ability to effectively advise and represent the client. Evaluate your case and fully advise your client as to the legal and economic ramifications of each potential course of action before any action is undertaken, not months later. Don’t be afraid to speak the words ‘I don’t know.’ If you are slow in getting to a client’s project, communicate with the client, let the client know that you haven’t forgotten about them or their work.”

Values: “I aspire to treat clients as I would want to be treated, respecting that, given accurate and complete evaluations of their legal issue, they will make intelligent decisions. Whether in a transaction, administrative proceeding, or judicial proceeding, my goal is to treat the process, decision makers, staff, and participants with respect and to recognize that doing so enhances my ability to be a zealous and effective advocate for my client.”

Steve graduated from the Gould School of Law at the University of Southern California in 1975. Upon graduation, he was selected as a Reginald Heber Smith Fellow, which paid for three years of his salary at the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund, a legal aid program that serviced the coal mining communities of eastern Kentucky. Steve spent three years representing retired coal miners and widows in federal court litigation against the United Mine Workers Health and Retirement Funds.

At the conclusion of his three-year commitment, his wife and he returned to the West and decided to spend the winter of 1978-79 in McCall. That winter turned into 42 years and a law practice which continues to provide a diversity of professional experiences which he would not have thought possible in a small town. Steve’s practice has focused on civil litigation (with an emphasis on real estate related disputes, construction defect issues, and land use issues), real estate development, administrative law, and transactional work.

He and his wife have raised two children and Steve was fortunate to be actively involved in youth sports coaching, particularly soccer. He has also had a long-standing relationship with the Payette Land Trust, of which Steve was a co-founder in 1992. Steve values the outdoor opportunities his area has to offer and particularly enjoys fly fishing, skiing, biking,

and swimming. Steve and his wife escape to Mexico periodically but are very grateful for where they live.

Jodi A. Nafzger, Boise

Advice: “Remember you will have many vocations in your life. Your law practice is only one of them. You are also a daughter, a sister, a wife, a friend, and you may one day be a mother. Work hard in all of these vocations and prioritize them.”

Values: “Lawyers are privileged to be a part of a noble profession. We are expected to be educated and industrious. We should also be unfailingly ethical. Beyond our education and experience, some of the most important work habits are common courtesy and civility. I also try to teach my students about the importance of humility in the practice of law.”

Jodi Nafzger was a founding faculty member at Concordia University School of Law where she taught Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, and Professional Responsibility. She also served as Interim Director of Clinical Education. Previously she was an Assistant City Attorney for nine years with the Boise City Attorney’s Office. Her professional experience also includes private-sector public relations and marketing work in Alaska and Idaho.

She currently serves as chair of the Boise City Ethics Commission, on the governing board of the Professionalism & Ethics Section, and on the Idaho Women Lawyers Board of Directors. She is also a graduate of the Idaho Academy of Leadership for Lawyers. Jodi has volunteered with the Idaho Trial Lawyers Association Street Law Clinic, the Idaho Military Legal Alliance Wills Clinics, the Ada County Domestic Violence Court, Soundstart, and New Beginnings Law Academy, among other pro bono contributions.

Jodi received a B.A. in journalism in 1996 from the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Journalism. She earned her Juris Doctor in 1999 from the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law. Upon graduation, Jodi was admitted to the Missouri Bar and then moved to Alaska with her law school classmate and husband, Christian. They moved to Idaho in September of 2001 and were both admitted to the Idaho State Bar. Jodi and Christian enjoy exploring the West with their boys and dogs.

Robert D. Lewis, Boise

Advice: “Your reputation is everything. Be truthful. Don’t let them see you sweat.”

Values: “Good luck is rare. Be grateful.”

Robert Lewis came to Idaho for the first time and started law school in 1977. He graduated from the University of Idaho College of Law in 1980 and served as a law clerk for Hon. Jesse R. Walters for one year in District Court and almost one year in the new Idaho Court of Appeals.

Thomas Robertson graduated from Princeton University with an undergraduate degree in philosophy in 1967. He attended graduate school in philosophy at the University of Illinois and subsequently graduated from law school at the University of Illinois in 1984. He was admitted to the Idaho State Bar in 1984. Thomas began his law practice in Twin Falls at the firm of C.G. McIntyre, John R. Coleman, and John S. Ritchie where he remained for the remainder of his career. Thomas had a general civil practice which became focused in the areas of estate planning and

She is currently serving as the Acting Executive Director.

Amy was lead counsel in ground breaking litigation involving videophones in the prison system for deaf inmates. She was lead counsel in federal nationwide impact litigation that gave the Protection and Advocacy system access to coroner’s reports in death investigations. She serves on the Idaho Supreme Court Guardianship and Conservatorship Committee and the Supported Decision-Making subcommittee. Amy co-authored a public report on abuse and neglect in a public institution for which DRI received the 2019 National Disability Rights Network Disability Advocacy Award.

She has been a member of the Diversity Section of the Idaho State Bar, an Idaho State Bar Annual Meeting presenter, and CLE presenter for the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program. She is a graduate of the NDRN Leadership Academy. She also served on the Board of Directors for Health West. Amy and her husband have two children and she loves hiking the numerous trails and floating the numerous rivers in Idaho.

“Do the right thing, not the easy thing.”

– Amy Cunningham

Robert went to work with Tony Cantrill in 1984 and enjoyed his company for 36 years. Robert developed a strong interest in litigation. His practice included transactions and counseling a couple of vehicle dealerships. He gradually shifted to litigation almost full time with jury and court trials in Cassia County, Twin Falls County, Ada County, Minidoka County, Bannock County, and Canyon County.

Robert has appeared in about 30 Idaho appeal cases now memorialized in the Idaho Reports, and in the Ninth and Tenth Federal Circuits. He has served on the Idaho Professional Conduct Board for 20 years. Robert has been married to his wife, Sally, for 37 years and they have raised two successful daughters who attended Boise public schools. Robert retired on June 30, 2020.

guardian and conservator matters. He is now retired from practice.

Amy Cunningham, Pocatello

Advice: “Find a cause and fight for it. As an attorney you are in a unique position to provide a voice for those who have none. Do the right thing, not the easy thing.”

Values: “Honesty, communication, and service. When I began practicing criminal law, my mentor advised me that as a criminal defense attorney the most important thing to maintain is your credibility. This advice has served me well. My approach to the practice of law is honest and open, my cards are always on the table. Over the years many people have shared their stories, many of which have been tragic, to make changes to individual circumstances and large systems. I am honored, blessed and humbled to have served as a voice for their change.”

Amy Cunningham graduated *cum laude* from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. She was admitted to the Colorado State Bar in 1994 and the Idaho State Bar in 1997. Amy was a Deputy Public Defender for the Colorado Public Defender system. For the past 24 years she has worked at DisAbility Rights Idaho (DRI), a non-profit serving Idahoans with disabilities. Amy started as a staff attorney and in 2014 became the Legal Director.

John M. “Mick” Ohman, Idaho Falls

Advice: “Set goals, strive always for excellence, demonstrate exemplary conduct, and remember to take time for your personal pursuits.”

Values: “Nothing is more important than one’s good name and reputation, which can in no manner be better advanced than by good character, high moral standards, and absolute integrity. As Polonius says, in Hamlet, ‘to Thine own Self be true...’”

Mick Ohman attended Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska for both his undergraduate and graduate education, receiving his B.S. in business administration in 1971 and his J.D. in 1972. He was admitted to the Idaho State Bar in 1973 and is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, U.S. District Courts of Idaho and Nebraska, and both the Idaho and Nebraska Supreme Courts.

Mick is an attorney and shareholder at Cox, Ohman, & Brandstetter, Chtd. in Idaho Falls. He practices civil law and has served the legal community in a variety of capacities, most notably as a member of the Idaho Trial Lawyers Association specializing in civil litigation.

Thomas M. Robertson, Twin Falls

Advice: “Return phone calls with as little delay as possible. Communicate bad news to your client with the same promptness as the good. Remember every task appears more difficult the longer the delay in getting started.”

Values: “Honesty, courtesy to opposing counsel, quality work product, and patience.”



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Denise O'Donnell Day Pro Bono Awards



Top row from left to right: Katherine Coyle, Catherine Mabbutt, J.J. Winters, and Wendy Olson. Bottom row from left to right: Elijah Watkins, Whitney Welsh, Jonas Reagan, and John Bulger. Not pictured: Tracy Gorman.

Denise O'Donnell Day Pro Bono Awards

The late Denise O'Donnell Day, and namesake of this award, was a titan of pro bono service to underrepresented Idahoans. Her legacy of service, dedication to her community, and overall standard of professionalism in practice are pillars for any member of the Idaho State Bar to aspire to. Each year, we honor Denise's legacy by awarding attorneys in each judicial district with the Denise O'Donnell Day Pro Bono Award, recognizing their admirable decisions to prioritize pro bono service in their practices. In addition to providing biographical information, this year's recipients were asked the following two questions:

First, why is pro bono work important to you?

And, what advice would you give your younger self as you entered your law practice?

Katherine M. Coyle, Coeur d'Alene

Why Pro Bono: "As an elder law attorney, I work with senior citizens who are on limited income or need public benefits. I strongly believe that all Idahoans should have equal access to good attorneys, regardless of their income. For that reason, I am happy to accept referrals from the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program and do other volunteer work in my community."

Advice: "I would tell myself that 'I don't know, let me do some research' can be a correct answer and sometimes the best answer. I have found that the best lawyering is done after reflection and pause, as opposed to my early inclination to fire off the first knee-jerk reaction that came to mind."

Katherine Coyle attended Gonzaga

University School of Law and was admitted to the Idaho State Bar in 2008. She was hired as an associate by Coeur d'Alene attorney Michael Wytychak III in 2008 and worked alongside him until his retirement in 2015. Upon his retirement, Katherine took over the practice, now called Coyle & Wytychak Elder Law.

She is a certified elder law attorney and is active in the First District Bar, National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, CareNet Kootenai, the Coeur d'Alene Estate Planning Council, and the Alzheimer's Association. Additionally, Katherine serves on the board of the Lake City Senior Center and the Kootenai Health Ethics Advisory Committee.

Catherine M. Mabbutt, Moscow

Why Pro Bono: "It is an opportunity to

help someone navigate a legal case who generally can't afford an attorney. I have met some amazing people doing pro bono work."

Advice: "Learn from an experienced attorney and work with a mentor."

Catherine Mabbutt graduated from the University of Idaho College of Law in 2001 and has worked in Moscow ever since. She has done quite a bit of family law cases and also criminal defense. Catherine has had a Latah County Public Defender contract since 2014. She got her

anything to have."

Advice: "Watch and listen to those who came before you. I have learned volumes working side-by-side with the other rock star attorneys who show up to the clinics week after week and give hours of their valuable time without compensation or recognition. By their examples, I have learned compassion, the importance of being frank, and that sometimes, lawyering is simply reassuring someone that they're going to be OK."

J.J. Winters is a fourth-generation Ida-

tically supports, but strongly encourages her participation in the pro bono clinics. Without supportive employers like him, attending the clinics would be impossible, and she is grateful for that ability.

Wendy J. Olson, Boise

Why Pro Bono: "Access to justice is critical to our democracy. It is also expensive. Providing pro bono representation allows people or organizations without the means to readily access the courts to do so. I think those of us with law licenses have a moral as well as a professional obligation to ensure everyone has access to justice. I also have been very fortunate to work with public law lawyers who do what the rest of us call pro bono work day in and day out. They are an inspiration."

Advice: "Spend as much time as you can understanding people and understanding the role of our legal system in this country. Patience, process, and clear communication are so critical."

Wendy Olson graduated with her J.D. from Stanford Law School in 1990. Immediately after graduation she clerked for U.S. District Judge Barbara Rothstein from 1990 to 1992. From 1992 to 1997, Wendy worked in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. She then served as Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Idaho for over a decade, from 1997 to 2010. In 2010 she was appointed as U.S. Attorney for the District of Idaho and served in that role until 2017. She is now a partner at Stoel Rives in Boise.

Elijah M. Watkins, Boise

Why Pro Bono: "There are many things that people of all socioeconomic backgrounds can do for themselves. Competent legal services are not always one of them. As attorneys it is our duty and privilege to help others in, at times, life changing areas where only we can offer that help."

Advice: "You can't stop time and it will eventually all work out, so just put your head down and go."

Elijah Watkins graduated from the University of Illinois College of Law in 2009. He joined the Chicago office of

“As attorneys it is our duty and privilege to help others in, at times, life changing areas where only we can offer that help.”

– Elijah Watkins

B.S. in political science from the University of Idaho in 1998. Catherine has been the Latah County Coroner since November 2006. She graduated from Sacred Heart School of Nursing in Spokane and worked as a nurse in the ER.

J.J. Winters, Caldwell

Why Pro Bono: "I volunteer at clinics because they are relatively easy and impactful ways to give back, and it keeps my perspective in check. Whether it's the ITLA Street Law Clinic in Ada County, or the IVLP Family Law or Veterans Clinic in Canyon County – I walk out of each session with a little more humility, and I remember that I have a lot to be grateful for. Sometimes, what we perceive as our own personal problems in life are the same 'problems' that someone else would give

hoan. Raised on a ranch and potato farm in rural Idaho, her parents taught her the values of hard work and service to others from a very early age. J.J. graduated *cum laude* from Boise State University with a degree in business administration. She earned her law degree in 2017 from the University of Idaho College of Law, where she was a member of the mock trial and moot court teams, and managing and symposium editor for the Idaho Critical Legal Studies Journal. Upon graduating, she was presented University of Idaho's Pro Bono Above and Beyond Award.

J.J. has been actively involved in Inns of Court, the Idaho Women Lawyers, and is currently Vice President of the Third District Bar Association. For the past three years she has worked as a staff attorney for the Honorable George Southworth, Administrative District Judge in Canyon County, who not only enthusias-

Latham & Watkins LLP that same year. Elijah moved back home to Idaho in 2012 where he took a position with Stoel Rives LLP and became a partner in 2019.

gan prosecuting domestic violence cases. Advocating for victims and doing her part to keep the community safe within the context of a work environment that con-

to that community, and looks forward to continuing that effort for the rest of his career.

“*Each pro bono case I have taken I have tried to work as if the client had unlimited funds in an attempt to come closer to that ideal I once held that all parties in the courtroom operate on a level playing field.*”

– Whitney Welsh

Whitney Welsh, Boise

Why Pro Bono: “My entire view of the justice system turned upside down when I first realized in law school that it was actually true that one party could prevail in a case because s/he had more money. Each pro bono case I have taken I have tried to work as if the client had unlimited funds in an attempt to come closer to that ideal I once held that all parties in the courtroom operate on a level playing field.”

Advice: “Not only is it okay to bring who you are to the practice of law, it is imperative.”

Whitney Welsh graduated from the University of Montana Law School in 2005. She relocated to Boise following a year-long clerkship at the Montana Supreme Court. Whitney always knew she would work in the public sector, but had pictured it to be for a people-helping non-profit organization or state legal aid work. She found the Ada County Prosecutor’s Office because she was moving to Boise and could apply online.

Whitney felt that she had found what she was meant to do the moment she be-

stantly challenges her explains why she has been there ever since.

Jonas A. Reagan, Twin Falls

Why Pro Bono: “I have always believed that it is important to use one’s privilege and education to lend assistance to those in need.”

Advice: “I have only been practicing for three years, but I would say to take more time for yourself. Burn out is real, and you cannot help others until you properly care for yourself.”

Jonas Reagan grew up in Arkansas and attended Vermont Law School to focus on environmental issues. The law school instilled a sense of public duty to give back to the community in its students which led him to seek out pro bono opportunities in Idaho. Jonas is admitted to the Idaho State Bar where he practices predominantly water, environmental, and natural resource law with some general practice thrown in.

Working out of the Twin Falls office of Barker, Rosholt & Simpson has allowed him to become a part of the community, and under the mentorship of the late John Rosholt, Jonas found the need to give back

John J. Bulger, Pocatello

Why Pro Bono: “Sometimes you need to shore up the playing field to give the little guy a fighting chance.”

Advice: “One of the most difficult and valuable skills you will strive to learn is when to be silent. I’m still working on that one.”

A Montana native, John Bulger graduated from the University of Montana School of Law in 1988. He clerked for two Montana Supreme Court justices before entering government practice. John moved to Idaho in 2008 to marry an Idaho girl. He has been a member of the Idaho State Bar since 2010. John worked for one of the big firms before settling nicely into his current work at Hearn Law, practicing with friends.

Tracy W. Gorman, Idaho Falls

Why Pro Bono: “The selfish reason is that it gives me a good feeling to be able to help someone who would be taken advantage of in the court system if they had to try and represent themselves against seasoned lawyers in life changing cases (custody of children, etc).”

Advice: “Accept your own style as a lawyer. When a potential client says they want a pit bull, it’s just fine to let them know they should hire someone else.”

Tracy Gorman is from Seattle, Washington. Her career started as a registered nurse in the Army Nurse Corps in 1986. She attended law school at Georgetown University in Washington D.C. Her husband retired from the military and they moved to Idaho Falls in 2002. Tracy was a stay at home mom until 2008. Since then she has worked mostly in family law. In addition to her regular work, she serves on the magistrate’s commission and the Idaho State Bar character and fitness committee—opportunities she’s sure she would have never had if she still lived in D.C.

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Service Awards



Top row from left to right: Ingrid Batey, Jennifer Brumley, Nance Ceccarelli, and Matt Christensen. Bottom row from left to right: Susan Eastlake, Pamela Howland, Christopher Pooser, Julie Stomper, and Matt Wolfe.

Service Awards

The individuals selected for this year's Service Awards include attorneys and non-attorneys alike who have committed their time and expertise to the service of the legal profession. Whether it's serving in leadership or in a more intimate setting, these individuals are dedicated to the betterment of the profession. In addition to providing biographical information, the recipients were asked to answer the following two questions:

First, what advice would you give your younger self as you entered your law practice?

And, what ideals or values do you let guide your professional life?

Ingrid C. Batey, Caldwell

Advice: "Although it is a cliché, I'd say take care of yourself first. Get enough sleep, get some exercise, and protect your free time.

If you are burned out and exhausted you won't be of much help to anyone."

Values: "Integrity, intellectual honesty, courage, and compassion are values that are important to me both personally and as a prosecutor."

Ingrid Batey obtained her undergraduate degree from the College of Idaho and is a *summa cum laude* graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. After law school she clerked for the Honorable George Southworth. Ingrid has been at the Canyon County Prosecutor's Office since 2017, where she supervises misdemeanor attorneys and carries a caseload of felony crimes of intimate partner violence.

She is the current president of the Third District Bar Association and sits on the Board of Directors for Advocates Against Family Violence, an organization that provides shelter, affordable housing, and other resources to victims of domestic violence in Canyon County and sur-

rounding areas. She has been admitted to practice law in Idaho since 2016.

Jennifer K. Brumley, Coeur d'Alene

Advice: "I would tell myself to keep your options open in what area of law you want to work in. It may not be what you planned and it could surprise you."

Values: "Be honest to myself and my clients. Be creative and think outside the norm to resolve a case. Work hard to be excellent at what I do. Give back to my profession and my community through volunteering. Have balance and enjoy life with family and friends. Memories and taking vacations are what life is about but it also fuels the soul to be able to work hard and be dedicated to difficult work in the practice of family law."

Jennifer Brumley is a native Idahoan

and moved to Coeur d'Alene in 1978. She graduated from Coeur d'Alene High School and attended the University of Idaho for her undergraduate degree in communication and a teaching certificate in speech and journalism. She attended the University of Idaho College of Law for law school. Jennifer is licensed in Washington and Idaho. She was a prosecutor in Spokane and Coeur d'Alene for a total of five years. She went to work at the law firm now known as Amendola Doty & Brumley, PLLC in 2005 where she specializes in family law.

Jennifer currently serves on the board for the Coeur d'Alene Symphony Orchestra. She is also a school board trustee for School District 271. Jennifer sits on two Idaho Supreme Court committees, the Court Assistance Office Committee and the Idaho Child Support Guidelines Committee. Jennifer has served in all capacities in the Idaho State Bar's Family Law Section, having been a delegate first and then working through the offices of Secretary, Vice Chair, Chair, and Past Chair. She is currently serving again as a delegate for the council.

Jennifer has been married to her husband, Kevin, for 12 years. Jennifer has a son who will be a senior at Lake City High School and a daughter going into 5th grade at Ramsey Elementary. Her entire family loves Spartan races and travels to support each other and race together. Jennifer loves to relax at Priest Lake with her family and friends and spend as much time as she can in the outdoors.

Nance Ceccarelli, Lewiston

Advice: "Although younger than I am today, I was an older, non-traditional, newly minted lawyer. Harking to days gone by, I'd remind myself to remember my middle school Latin – it's not just for rules of construction! 'Memento audare semper,' 'Ex nihilo nihil,' and 'Disce tuum a senioribus.' Paraphrasing, sometimes in life, we need to take risks to succeed; and small steps diligently taken, with eyes and ears open alongside your mentors, gets you through obstacles and to your goals in a most enjoyable way!"

Values: "Mentoring, volunteerism, and

leaving things a little better than you found them (I hope!). Lawyers are charged with solving problems and puzzles. Lawyers should not always wear black. I believe that building networks and coalitions of varied thinkers and personalities along the way are critical components to creative problem solving."

Nance Ceccarelli attended the University of Idaho College of Law and was admitted to the Idaho State Bar in 2007. She has practiced in Lewis County and Nez Perce County. Prior to law school Nance worked for the University of Idaho managing a federal labor department grant. Nance has done a little bit of everything throughout her career.

She worked for many years as a regional HR manager for 30+ home improvement retail stores, worked for the National Rifle Association, the American Forests Association, the Soil Conservation Service, and USDA Intergovernmental Affairs. Nance has delivered singing telegrams for a living and played sing-a-long piano in a bar, too. She and her husband enjoy upland bird hunting throughout the West and living on Moscow Mountain where they consider themselves owned by nine English Setter dogs.

Matthew T. Christensen, Boise

Advice: "Years ago, while still in the Young Lawyers Section, I wrote an article titled 'How to Talk Good: Lessons Learned from Grandpa Max' – a series of fictional letters written to a young attorney (published in the October 2007 Advocate). The advice in those letters still stands."

Values: "Chief Justice Warren Burger once said that 'lawyers, as officers of the court, should be problem-solvers, harmonizers, and peacemakers – the healers, not the promoters of conflict.' Lawyers who remember their counseling and healing roles are abundantly more helpful to their clients. Attorneys also should act as the voice of reason for the communities we serve. If we all kept this in mind, our profession would be more respected and lawyers would generally be happier."

Matt joined Angstman Johnson in 2008 as an associate attorney. Now the managing partner of the firm, Matt has a civil

litigation practice involving commercial law (finance and secured transactions), bankruptcy, real property, and business matters. He also has a transactional practice involving real estate, finance and business matters, including franchising. Matt frequently represents bankruptcy trustees and other fiduciaries in recovering assets and administering estates.

Prior to joining the firm, Matt was a Junior Partner at a Meridian law firm and also established a solo practice. In addition to practicing law, Matt is an adjunct professor at the University of Idaho College of Law where he teaches international trade/business, real estate transactions, and law practice management courses.

Matt obtained his Bachelor of Arts in international studies from Brigham Young University in 2002. He earned his J.D. and LL.M. in international and comparative law degrees from Duke University School of Law in 2005. While at Duke, he was an articles editor for the Duke Journal of Gender Law & Policy. In addition to practicing law and teaching, Matt also enjoys spending as much time as possible with his wife and children and expanding his ever-growing library of books.

Susan Eastlake, Boise

Advice: "I am not a lawyer, I am a CPA who was Treasurer of the Idaho Law Foundation for many years. My advice is to choose partners who share your values. Your profession is important, but so are the other facets of your life."

Values: "Honesty, confidentiality, continuing education to maintain competency, and respect for all people."

Susan Eastlake is the second oldest of seven children, raised on a farm in northern Ohio. She married Bill Eastlake and moved to Boise in 1969. Together they raised three children. Susan is active on state and local boards on issues of transportation planning and on numerous non-profit boards. She received her B.S. in medical technology from Ohio State University and her Masters of Accounting from Boise State University. Susan is a licensed CPA in Idaho and has practiced accounting for over 30 years with the firm of Medlin, Rourke & Eastlake, specializing in tax and litigation support.

Pamela S. Howland, Boise

Advice: “Find a lawyer job that makes you happy. There are many options out there!”

Values: “Work hard and be nice.”

Pam Howland has been litigating cases in Idaho state and federal courts since 2001 and has represented employers from around the country against claims encompassing a variety of employment laws, including claims of discrimination,

cases that impact Idaho employers and to sharing what she knows with the people who need to apply this knowledge in their every day jobs.

Pam is active in the Idaho State Bar and the local community. She is the former Chair of the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program Policy Council. Pam received her B.S. in business from Montana State University in 1993 and graduated *summa cum laude* from Gonzaga University School of Law with her J.D. in 2000.

“*Building meaningful relationships based on trust and mutual respect with clients and colleagues is an essential part of the practice for me.*”

– Julie Stomper

harassment, non-compete, wrongful termination, FLSA, FMLA, and ADA. She has tried cases in both state and federal court, has defended employers in arbitration proceedings, and regularly helps employers resolve claims through mediation. In addition to her employment litigation practice, she also regularly counsels employers on how to avoid litigation on topics related to discipline, termination, retaliation, internal policies and procedures, and evolving (and complex) laws such as the FLSA, ADA, and FMLA. In February 2016, Pam formed Idaho Employment Lawyers, a boutique firm dedicated to handling Idaho employment law issues.

Pam is passionate about employment law and speaks regularly on employment law topics. In the past year, she has spoken to a variety of different audiences, including attorneys, paralegals, human resource professionals, business owners, and students on performance management, work place investigations, harassment and discrimination, social media, and changing laws on gender identity and sexual orientation. Pam is dedicated to assisting employers and human resource professionals as they maneuver through the minefield of changing employment laws and guidelines. She is dedicated to staying abreast of recent employment law trends, laws, and

W. Christopher Pooser, Boise

Advice: “Work hard and find a specialty. That’s the key to gaining expertise. Be flexible. You may find a specialty that you never considered and that you love. Learn to work efficiently and find balance with work and your personal life. That’s the key to true success.”

Values: “Trust and follow your moral compass always. Be honest. Be hard on the issues but soft on the people. Be a tireless advocate for your client.”

Christopher Pooser is an appellate attorney in Stoel Rives LLP’s Boise office. He represents clients before state and federal appellate courts, including the Idaho Supreme Court and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Christopher also works to advance appellate practice in Idaho.

He is the co-founder and past-chair of the Idaho State Bar’s Appellate Practice Section and is an editor and contributor to the Idaho Appellate Handbook (6th ed., 2019). He is a member of the Idaho Supreme Court’s Appellate Rules Advisory Committee and regularly represents pro bono clients in appeals through the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program. Christopher

graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a B.A. in architecture and received a J.D. from Tulane University Law School. He is licensed to practice in Idaho, the United States District Court for the District of Idaho, and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Julie Stomper, Idaho Falls

Advice: “Speak up. Ask for what you want, including leadership and service positions. Take risks. Have fun along the way.”

Values: “The values that guide my professional and personal life are connection, honesty, and growth. Building meaningful relationships based on trust and mutual respect with clients and colleagues is an essential part of the practice for me.”

Julie earned a B.A. in international relations from Tufts University and a J.D. from Gonzaga University School of Law. She was admitted to the Idaho and Wyoming State Bars in 2006 and has practiced real estate law with Beard St. Clair Gaffney PA since admission. Julie currently serves as the Co-Chair of the Idaho Academy of Leadership for Lawyers Steering Committee, the Chair of the Idaho State Bar’s Attorney Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being, and as a committee member of the Idaho Lawyer Assistance Program.

T. Matthew Wolfe II, Boise

Advice: “I would encourage myself to continue to get involved more with the Bar. A lot of what I have been able to accomplish in my career is because I was not afraid to get involved in different Sections.”

Values: “As I mentioned before, I really think it is important to be involved in as many activities as your time allows. Not to be cliché, but you only live once, so you should make the most of it. I work hard when I am at work, so when I am home I can just enjoy time with my family.”

Matt Wolfe was part of the second class of Concordia University School of Law, graduating in 2016. After graduating from law school, Matt moved to Boston to get his LL.M. in taxation. He started working at Generations Law Group in July 2017. Matt serves as an Officer of the Fourth District Bar Association and as the CLE Chair of the Young Lawyers Section.



Idaho State Bar

ANNUAL MEETING

Thank you to our 2020 Annual Meeting Speakers

The 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting has been a new experience for all of us. We appreciate our speakers who took the time to prepare material and present on topics regardless of the change in format. Thank you for your commitment to providing quality legal education!

Todd Sexton, Identillect Technologies

Bradley G. Andrews, Idaho State Bar Counsel

Phil McGrane, Ada County Clerk

Stephen Kelson, Christensen & Jensen, P.C.

Jason M. Brown, May, Rammell & Wells, Chtd.

William F. Brown, Counsel to Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

Reed W. Larsen, Cooper & Larsen

Marvin M. Smith, Hawley Troxell

Kari M. Campos, Ball Ventures, LLC

Latonia Haney Keith, Concordia University School of Law

Prof. McKay Cunningham, Concordia University School of Law

David C. Cooper, Northwest Trustee & Management Services

Stephen W. Trefts, Northwest Trustee & Management Services

Kimmer W. Callahan, Callahan and Associates, Chtd.

Leslie M. Hayes, Office of the Idaho Attorney General

Bryan A. Nickels, Duke Scanlan & Hall, PLLC

Trudy H. Fouser, Gjording Fouser, PLLC

Bree Buchanan, National Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being

Hon. Peter G. Barton, Fourth Judicial District

Carsten A. Peterson, Hawley Troxell

Melodie A. McQuade, Givens Pursley LLP

Michael T. Carney, University of Idaho College of Law



Photo courtesy of Dan Featherston.

Dan Featherston with his two sons who are both attorneys, Brent and Jeremy, as well as his granddaughter Isabella who is currently attending the University of Idaho enrolled in the 3+3 program and heading to law school in one year.

60 Years of Admission: Admitted in 1960

James Annest

James Annest went into the practice of law at the encouragement of his father and out of great respect for attorney Henry Vernon “HV” Creason. After receiving his Bachelor’s in history at Grinnell College in Iowa, he attended the University of Idaho College of Law. Finishing his law studies in the office of former district judge Kales Lowe, James then went into general practice. He nods to Willis Moffett and Louis Racine as his guiding beacons. Racine was there whenever James needed him and his guidance was the most valuable to James’ practice.

When asked what he likes best about being an attorney, he replied, “To me the law business is the first greatest profession, the second being farming. There is very little about the law that I don’t love and respect except, of course, judges who

disagree with me.” James cites his most proud professional accomplishment as “serving the legal needs of people both rich and poor who needed help. I’ve been involved in some interesting cases including the American Falls dam financing litigation. I felt I made a significant influence on the result of the Government paying for the dam instead of the local farmers.” He recommends that new bar members put great effort into their practice and tons of hard work.

James is a member of the Business & Corporate Law, Family Law, Litigation, and Workers’ Compensation Sections as well as a long participant in the Idaho State Bar Lawyer Referral Service. James enjoys his continued law practice, as well as farming, saying he would retire, “but wouldn’t know what to do with myself.” He lives in Burley, had two sons, one who has since died, and 10 grandchildren.

Robert C. Youngstrom

Robert Youngstrom attended the University of Idaho acquiring his undergraduate degree in business administration before also finishing his law degree. His practice centered mostly around workers’ compensation law. He worked with the State of Idaho Industrial Commission as a Referee from February 1967 until October 1994.

Robert cites the changes today to have everything to do with technology: “I can remember when the copy machine was carbon paper!” In honor to his alma mater, he is an avid donor to the University of Idaho. He also supports many local politicians and environmental causes, including the Save the Redwoods League. Robert enjoys spending time during his retirement maintaining his large yard with many trees, shrubs, and flowers.

50 Years of Admission: Admitted in 1970

Robert L. Aldridge

Bob somewhat accidentally went into the study of law after taking a test to show his “satisfaction in a career” his senior year of college. Law was his top return so after taking the LSAT, achieving high scores, and obtaining a scholarship, he went to law school. He cites his wife and his faith for sustaining him through any adversity in life and during his career.

Bob is most proud of his pro bono and volunteer work as well as overcoming the

Robert R. Audley

Robert is a graduate of the University of California-Berkeley School of Law. In addition to Idaho, he holds licenses in California and Oregon. He and his wife, Judith, live in Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Robert P. Baker

Bob graduated from Stanford Univer-

came one of the largest in sales for that industry. One of Bob's proudest accomplishments includes his own litigation after leaving the semiconductor sector and resulting in victory of the largest wage-claim case in Idaho. He sees the differences in law today as being much less focused on paper and more on the virtual office. He and his wife, Jeannine Mehrhoff, enjoy exercise, extensive travel, reading, golf, and their continued contacts with friends and family.

Michael G. Brady

Michael is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He served as Assistant Attorney General to the State of Idaho from 1970-1971 and as a visiting professor at the University of Idaho College of Law in 1994. Michael has been in private practice in Boise for years. He is a member of the Idaho, Oregon, Utah, and Washington State Bars. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Boise.

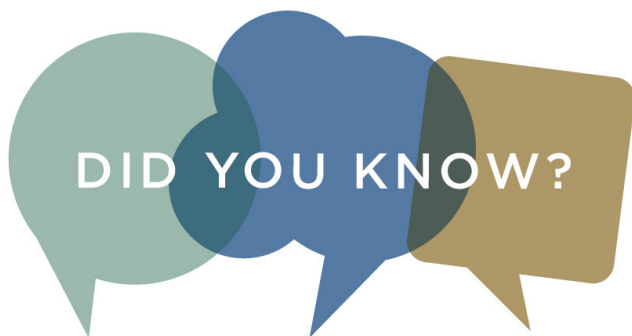
M. Dean Buffington

Dean completed his B.S. in accounting at the College of Idaho and his J.D. at Willamette University College of Law. Prior to co-founding the firm of Buffington, Mohr, McNeal, of which he is now a consultant, he was an Executive Vice President and Manager of the trust and private banking group of First Security Bank of Idaho.

Dean is a member of the Taxation, Probate & Trust Law Section and has served on the IOLTA Fund and Multidisciplinary Practice Committees. He is a past member of the Board of Trustees for the St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center Foundation and a past member of the College of Idaho Board of Trustees. He and his wife, Judy, live in Boise.

David W. “Tony” Cantrill

A native Idahoan, Tony was born and raised in Pocatello. He graduated from Pocatello High School, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Idaho State University in 1966, and received his Juris Doctorate in 1970 from the University of Idaho College of Law. Law as a profession “sound-



*... in 1970 you could buy
men's leather dress shoes for \$6.99
and a brand new Chrysler Newport for \$3,861.*

challenges posed by going into private practice. He counsels new attorneys to be active with the Bar and to find a good mentor attorney. Bob has been active with the Bar as a member of the Professionalism & Ethics and Taxation, Probate & Trust Law Sections. He received the 6.1 Challenge Award in 2007, Service Award in 2008, and Pro Bono Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009. He is most proud of being invited to testify in 2003 in Washington D.C. for the Special Committee on Aging for the U.S. Senate. When introduced to testify, the Senator said, “Who would have thought that the best laws in the nation were in Idaho.”

Bob finds joy in his family, church, work, playing piano, playing hockey with young team members, and mentoring fellow attorneys. He and his wife, Kim, enjoy gardens and their five acres of pasture as well as traveling, collecting and appraising oriental rugs, and creating positive change in the world.

sity in 1957 with an economics degree and from Stanford Law School in 1967. He worked for a law firm in Salt Lake City until 1969 when he went to work for the legal department of Albertson's, where he did real estate work for leases and acquisitions of stores until he retired in 1991. He and his wife, Elizabeth, live in Boise.

Robert L. Bilow

Bob, after obtaining his undergraduate degree in history, went on to graduate from the University of Washington School of Law. Going into law was, “Somewhat of a knee-jerk reaction after college.” His practice focuses on general law with an emphasis on federal securities litigation defense. He joined Hawley and Robert Troxell and enjoyed working with them for 11 years.

Bob is most proud of taking a failing semiconductor company and growing it into a very successful company that be-



Photo courtesy of Bob Bilow.

Bob Bilow enjoys the company of his two dogs.

ed like fun and from the first day of law school it was and continues to be.”

Tony served in the Army, including the reserves from 1963-1969. In 1970, he entered private practice in Boise concentrating on litigation. Tony cites the district judges on the bench when he began practice as having the largest influence on his career: Ray Durtschi, Bud Hagan, W.E. Smith, and Marion Callister. He has tried cases in five states and almost every county in the state of Idaho.

In addition to the Idaho State Bar, Tony is a member of the American Inns of Court, Defense Research Institute, Idaho Association of Defense Counsel, and is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He and his wife, Susan, have three children and six grandchildren. Tony joined the Idaho Judicial Council

as its Executive Director in December of 2015.

P. Thomas Clark

Tom believes his brother chose the practice of law for him. “When I was in college, he decided that I should go to law school.” After obtaining his undergraduate degree in business administration, Tom graduated from the University of Idaho College of Law and went into general practice with an emphasis on family law, criminal law, DUI defense, and personal injury. His good friend, Mike McNichols, had a strong influence on his career. “Over the years we spent a lot of time together including two trips to London.”

Tom is a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers, belongs to the

Family Law and Litigation Sections, and received the Idaho State Bar Professionalism Award in 2004. He counsels young attorneys to, “Work hard. You need to be courteous and professional to your peers, clients, and staff. Most of all, be honest.” Tom says he has too many hobbies which include woodworking, reading, golfing, boating, RVing, and more. He still enjoys going to work every day and interacting with the people in his office as well as clients. He and his wife, Doris, have six children and a total of 13 grandchildren.

Thomas E. Cooke

Tom selected law to allow him to be his own boss and the practice offered him a chance to live where he wanted, make a

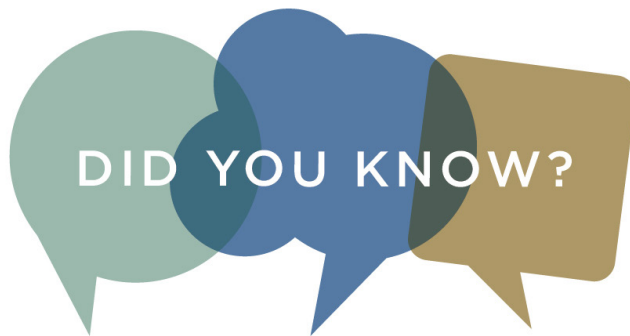
living, and do something useful. His father gave him encouragement and had wanted to be an attorney himself but could not go to college during the Great Depression. Tom is most proud of building his practice and a firm of attorneys where he primarily focused on trial law. His firm now has offices in Priest River and Sandpoint.

He counsels young lawyers to find a mentor, take all the continuing legal education available, read the advance sheets, and work hard, but do not neglect your family life. Tom finds joy in volunteer work and learning Spanish. He and his

many cases of locals who appreciated his representation. "It was the service side of the practice that motivated me." Dan gives this advice to young attorneys: "Develop good positive relationships with as many of the other members of the Bar as you can, particularly the senior members who can help you with issues that inevitably will come up." He used to enjoy hunting and horse packing in the backcountry extensively. Now he is passionate about his family and enjoys skiing. He and Sandra have three children, Brent, Jeremy, and Tiffany, and five grandchildren. Brent

ney. Rich's practice focused on representing defendants in civil litigation. He cites his father Perce Hall, as a role model of integrity and honesty. Rich also felt that J. Charles Blanton was a lifetime friend and influence.

Along with Jack Gjording, Rich was first to receive the Idaho Association of Defense Counsel's Carl P. Burke Award of Excellence in Legal Defense. He received the Richard C. Fields Civility Award for 2017-2018 as well. He is proud of being a mentor to many outstanding attorneys who went on to have successful careers. Personally, he is very proud of his four daughters and their extended families. Rich enjoys singing and golfing. He and his wife, Tonya, have four daughters and six grandchildren.



... in 1970 the Boeing 747 made its first commercial passenger trip to London.

wife, Melodye, have a daughter and four grandchildren. They moved to Arizona a few years ago to enjoy the sunshine.

W. Brent Eames

Brent is a graduate of George Washington University Law School. He holds a license in the District of Columbia and Missouri. He and his wife, Linda, live in Logan, Utah.

Daniel P. Featherston

Dan's undergraduate work was interrupted by military service and he became an Army medic in Germany where he met his wife, Sandra. Dan "just sort of drifted into" the practice of law after wanting to do the opposite of what everyone else was doing and noticing nobody was going to law school. He cites the senior attorneys in Sandpoint, Steve Bistline and Jimmy Hunt, as being guiding resources who answered his questions during his early career.

Dan is most proud of "generally helping people," stating that he used to get

and Jeremy both became lawyers and Tiffany is a mother and does some work in the family law office. His granddaughter, Isabella, is continuing the family tradition and is currently in law school at the University of Idaho.

Norman L. Gissel

Norm is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He received the Idaho State Bar Service Award in 1989 and the Pro Bono Award in 2001. Norm was pivotal in the litigation that helped to bankrupt the Aryan Nation organization in Idaho. He and his wife, Diana, live in Coeur d'Alene.

Richard E. Hall

Rich's undergraduate degree was in political science. He attended the University of Idaho in 1966 and Harvard Law School in 1969. Rich hated chemistry, and did not want to become a doctor, as that seemed his path; since his father was a lawyer, he decided to become an attor-

John M. Hancock

John is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He also holds a license in Washington. He and his wife, Marilyn, live in Bellevue, Washington.

Linda Judd

Linda received her undergraduate degree in political science, her J.D. from the University of Idaho College of Law, and practices primarily in civil rights and environmental law. She chose the profession "because of [her] long term interest in the law and to support [her] father's construction work." Linda nods to her partner, husband, and best friend, Jim, as being the most influential to her career. They practiced law together for 15 years until he took the bench as a District Judge in Coeur d'Alene - "his thinking has always intrigued me."

Linda has served as an Idaho Law Foundation Board member and as its President and has sat on many committees including the Pro Bono Commission, Delivery of Legal Services, Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program Policy Council, and Continuing Legal Education Committee. She received the Professionalism Award in 1993 and the Distinguished Lawyer Award in 2005. She finds joy in time with her partner, Jim, and family, reading, traveling, and walking. Her passions continue to be her husband, family, and the rule

of law. Their family includes their son, Richard, two grandchildren, and a great-grandchild.

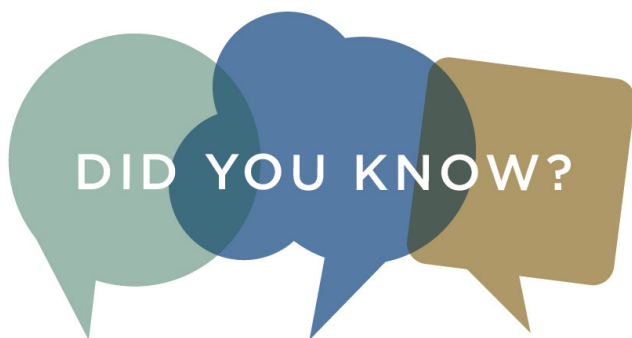
David R. King

David is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He and his wife, Marjorie, live in Salt Lake City, Utah.

ley Troxell. Joe cites Jess and Jack Hawley and Bob Troxell as initial influences, followed by Tom Miller and Craig Meadows who continued to mentor him, instilling a respect for the profession, its practitioners, and its role in our society.

Joe would like to acknowledge Jack Barrett, Dick Fields, and Rich Hall who all had additional roles influencing his development and career. Joe was selected for induction into the American College

difference in addressing important issues facing Idahoans. He finds joy in his family and enjoys watching sporting events, driving to McCall or similar areas, and being in the outdoors working on his land with many trees, shrubs, and flowers. He is passionate about the fact that “one person truly can make a difference, how we treat others really does matter in this life, there are values we all share in common that must be preserved and passed on from one generation to the next.” He and his wife, Marilyn, or “Spunky” as Gary addresses her, had four sons, one of whom sadly passed recently, and eight grandchildren with one more on the way.



... in 1970 the U.S. lowered the voting age to 18 from 21 under President Nixon.

Donald E. Knickrehm

Don graduated with his B.A. with honors from Idaho State University and his J.D. from Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California-Berkeley. His professional experience is mainly in shopping center development and leasing with focus on retail centers in the western states. He has been active in community affairs throughout his career including his service as: Board of Directors and Chairman of the Greater Boise Auditorium District, Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors and Chairman of the Boise Valley Economic Partnership, and Chairman of the Northwest YMCA Steering Committee. He and his wife, Joy, live in Eagle.

Joseph D. McCollum, Jr.

Joe obtained his undergraduate degree in business finance from the University of Idaho and his law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of Law. After practicing in California for two years he accepted a position in Boise with Haw-

of Trial Lawyers, has been honored with “Special Recognition of Retirement” by the Idaho Hospital Association, and was a member of the Idaho Judicial Council for 12 years. He recognizes that the practice has changed from when he began and sees the diversity of practicing attorneys as a much-needed improvement to the daily practice. Joe and his wife, Carolyn “Lyn,” have three children, four grandchildren, and live in Boise.

Gary L. Montgomery

Gary states, “From a very early age, I have always had a keen interest in the law and the role of attorneys in preserving our rights and personal freedoms.” He loved the idea of being able to help those who were unable to defend themselves. He cites U.S. District Judge Marion Callister as having a large influence on his career stating, “He genuinely cared about those he represented and always treated others with respect and professional courtesy.”

Gary served four years as Majority Leader in the Idaho House of Representatives, feeling he was able to make a real

S. Richard “Dick” Rubin

Growing up in a lower middle-class home, Dick was always struck by the fact that people were often treated differently based on social standing, especially when it came to the criminal justice system. His early career was greatly influenced by Judge Daniel Duke who worked with the State Attorney General’s office prosecuting the Ku Klux Klan in Georgia during the 60s.

Professionally, Dick has enjoyed the opportunity to teach in the U.S. and Europe and has been a part of the Federal Defender Program. His personal pride comes from seeing both of his children continue his work with the Federal Defender Program. Dick found that during his years in private practice with a firm, he was frustrated by not being able to assist all the clients he would have liked to due to the needs of the firm. He feels that he spent the following 25 years overcoming that by working with Federal Defenders and assisting all of the clients who came through the door. He has been a longstanding member of the Professional Conduct Board, received the Professionalism Award in 2007, and the Distinguished Lawyer Award in 2016.

Dick has this to say to new attorneys: “I would say that he/she has become a member of a very, very special group, one that has and is destined to change the world and that he/she should never give up trying to do just that. And that challenging the status quo is always the right thing to

do whenever he/she sees any inequality or injustice anywhere.” He and his spouse, Suzanne, enjoy traveling, seeing the latest movies, and trying out new restaurants. Both of their children, Amy Rubin and Daniel Rubin, are attorneys and they have three grandchildren.

Gardner W. Skinner, Jr.

Gard chose law as a profession because “[he] thought [he] could make a difference as a lawyer and the law had always interested [him].” He is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law after obtaining his undergraduate degree in history. He cites many mentors throughout his career including Jay Webb, Mack Redford, Bill Tway, Byron Johnson, Dick Kading, Mickey Turnbow, Jim Gillespie, and Judge Bud Hagan.

Gard counsels new attorneys to, “Find good mentors, make sure you are prepared, be honest, and keep your word.” He finds joy in his family and friends as well as hiking, biking, skiing, rafting, golfing, gardening, and intermittent napping. Gard and his wife, Jeannette, have seven children, 12 grandchildren, and live in Boise. One of their sons, Dan Skinner, followed in his footsteps and is a local attorney. Gard enjoyed his relationships with clients and other lawyers and continues to believe that law, when practiced well, is an honorable and useful profession.

Richard A. Skinner

After completing his B.A. in history at Stanford University, Rick received his J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School in 1970. He chose law because he liked the intellectual challenge and saw it as an avenue to help solve people’s problems. He states, “My clients gave me new issues to address and reasons to seek new legal solutions and approaches, and for the most part, have been fun to work with.”

Rick is proud of having worked with Idaho Legal Aid and with the Idaho Housing and Finance Association and related entities to have an impact on low income/affordable housing throughout his career. He recommends young attorneys “find something you are passionate about, if you can, and focus on that with tenacity.” In addition to his professional work,



Rick Skinner enjoys fishing in his free time and shows off his latest cast.

Photo courtesy of Rick Skinner.

he is personally proud of watching his family grow and mature. He has found his work with the homeless population at the Corpus Christi House since its beginning very rewarding. Rick states that he still enjoys trying to solve legal problems and engaging with others both personally and professionally. He is a self-proclaimed “obsessive” fly fisherman, likes road bicycling, downhill and cross country skiing, gardening, and hiking.

He and his wife, Carole, have two daughters and four grandchildren. Their daughters, Sara and Hayley, after working for their father during their summer vacations, both went into the medical field

rather than practicing law.

Wayne B. Slaughter

As a senior at Regis College in Denver, Wayne’s Jesuit professors and school peers helped steer him toward law school. Wayne wanted to stay in Colorado for law school and was admitted to Denver University School of Law. Halfway through, his studies were interrupted by the Vietnam War. After finishing his active duty training, Wayne returned to law school to finish his J.D. and was allowed to take and pass the Colorado Bar Exam in his last quarter.



Photo courtesy of the Slaughter family.

Wayne Slaughter (right) with his two sons, Ben and Adam, after a big day on Baldy at River Run Lodge in Sun Valley. Ben is also an attorney.

While perusing a bulletin board on campus he found a clerkship job posting for Idaho. Being an avid skier, he thought working for Justice McFadden and being able to ski in Idaho was a great match for him. While working with Chief Justice McFadden he obtained appellate and legal writing experience and began working with Jim Risch in the Ada County Prosecutor's Office to obtain trial experience. During his early years in Idaho, Wayne focused on litigation dealing with the aviation industry. He cites his early litigation experience in private practice with Jess Hawley, Jack Hawley, and Craig Meadows, federal judges Ray McNichols, Ed Lodge, and Marion Callister, and his mentors and friends Gerald Schroeder, Alan Schwartz-

man, and Bill Woodland as all being very influential to his career.

During his years in private practice Wayne was fortunate to be involved in some of the biggest trial and litigation issues in the country involving the aviation industry, antitrust, and product liability. After approximately 20 years in private practice he went in house with the JR Simplot Company as general counsel for the Agribusiness Group for about 15 years prior to retirement. Wayne recommends to new attorneys: "Be active and close with the Bar association and your legal and judicial colleagues." He and his wife, Gail, ski and hike often with their golden retriever, Indy. They have two sons; Ben Slaughter, a Boise attorney and Adam

Slaughter who lives in Australia and is the director of Asia/Pacific for United Health. They are the proud grandparents of three grandsons.

Franklin N. Smith, Jr.

Frank chose the practice of law as an outgrowth of participating in debate competition in high school and majoring in history and political science as an undergraduate. Although challenging, he worked mostly full time while attending school and kept motivated by reminding himself that in a few short years he would become a member of one of the most noble professions in all of Western history, giving him the opportunity to serve oth-

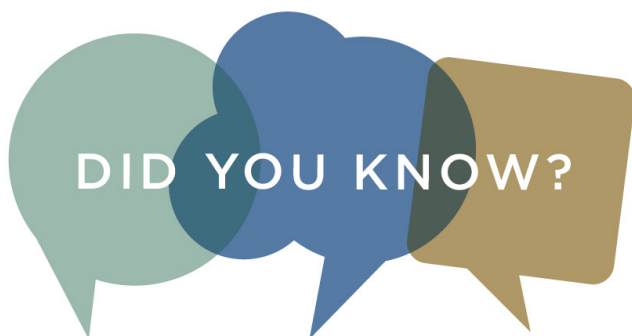
ers while at the same time serving himself. He graduated from the University of Utah College of Law with his J.D. and from the University of Maryland with his M.S. degree.

Frank's practice mostly focused on construction, real estate, government contracts, and renewable energy law. He cites Idaho Falls attorneys Ted Pike and Gene Bush as having a great influence on his career as his mentors. Frank currently enjoys staying active, watching his children

His advice to new attorneys: "Good lawyering is not as much about being a lawyer as it is about serving clients. Law is a profession (in the old-fashioned sense of that word) because it is committed to an ethic that places professional responsibility above self-interest."

Ted chose the practice of law after obtaining his degree in history stating, "History helps inform why and how law became what it is. The connection fascinated me and still does." He and his wife, Kathy,

sion trips through United Methodist Volunteers and has been a member of the Idaho Falls Rotary Club. John advises young attorneys to "take time for yourself and your family. Contribute time, talent and money to your community and the Bar. Respect your fellow attorney and treat him/her the way you would like to be treated." John is passionate about making the world a better place, truth, honesty, civility, the Constitution, and the rule of law. His hobbies now include reading, playing golf, cooking, and baking. With all this he still hopes to find time to resume playing his guitar, the piano, and learning to speak Spanish. He and his wife, Brenda, have five children; two biological and three by marriage. They have 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



... in 1970 Simon and Garfunkel released their final album together, Bridge Over Troubled Water.

and grandchildren prosper and succeed, and keeping up on the news of the world. He also enjoys reading, a little golf, a little fishing, and a little travel here and there. Frank reflects, "We have much to learn about ourselves and society in general by taking a few minutes every day to watch and consider some small aspect of Nature, which is all around us but is too often overlooked because of the demands and distractions of a busy law practice." He and his wife, Joyce, have five children, two stepchildren, and seven grandchildren.

Theodore V. Spangler, Jr.

Ted earned his law degree from the University of Idaho College of Law after his undergraduate work at Boise State University. Ted spent 35 years with the Idaho Attorney General's Office where he was assigned to the Idaho State Tax Commission full time. He has assisted with the Idaho State Bar's Bar Exam Preparations, received the Idaho State Bar Service Award in 2010, and cites "arguing before the U.S. Supreme Court" as a lifetime highlight.

live in Boise, have three children, 10 grandchildren, and are passionate about international travel, live theater, reading, volunteering on the Idaho State Bar Professional Conduct Board, and serving in their church.

John G. St. Clair

John went into the "family business" following his maternal grandfather (a District Judge), his paternal grandfather, father, and uncle who all practiced law. Recognizing that narrowing down a major influence in his career is difficult with so much support from family, friends, pastors, teachers, or professors, John acknowledges Winston Beard, his partner/fellow shareholder of nearly 40 years as being such. He views the most significant thing he was involved in during his career as being asked to serve as founding director of the Idaho Community Foundation whose work he sees as "the most significant charitable venture in Idaho."

In addition, John served as an Army JAG officer participating in several mis-

G. Kent Taylor

Kent is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He and his wife, Nancy, live in Twin Falls.

Lary C. Walker

Lary is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He and his wife, Marianne, live in Weiser.

Richard P. Wallace

Rich had an interest in the ministry but never tried it. His father was a doctor, however Rich did not have a propensity for math and science. His father then encouraged him to work for himself and to pursue a career in the law. Rich graduated from Whitman College and obtained his J.D. from the University of Idaho College of Law. He encourages younger attorneys to "never give up," to focus on time management, and to put family first. Rich is most proud of his marriage of 50 years to Gail Ann, and of his sons. He and Gail Ann live in Coeur d'Alene where they work on their 10 acres of land and enjoy golf. They have four sons and 12 grandchildren.

James C. Weaver

Jim is a graduate of the University of Idaho College of Law. He and his wife, Peggy, live in McCall.

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Additional Awards

Section of the Year

The Appellate Practice Section, established in 2014, continues to provide valuable resources for their members, as well as the entire membership of the Idaho State Bar. The Section provides representation and resources for appellate attorneys in both the civil and criminal bars. The Section provides weekly Op-Clips from the Idaho Supreme Court, the Idaho Court of Appeals, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court as a service to its membership.

In October 2019, the Section released a new edition of the Idaho Appellate Handbook, 6th Edition. The Section also held a CLE entitled *Strategies for the Appellate Practitioner*, featuring national speakers including: Amir Ali, MacArthur Justice Center in Washington D.C. and Director of the Harvard Criminal Justice Appellate Clinic; Eric B. Wolff, Perkins Coie Seattle and former law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Scalia; and Steve Masciocchi, Holland & Hart Denver. The CLE also featured Idaho's own appellate practitioners including former Justice Jim Jones of Parsons Behle and Latimer, Leslie Hayes with the Office of the Idaho Attorney General, Bryan Nickels with Scanlan, Griffith, Aldridge and Nickels, and Mary York with Holland and Hart.

The Section encourages members to get to know appellate judges on more of a personal level by co-hosting meet and greet events with appellate judges and by honoring members of our judiciary on special occasions. Recent events include two in partnership with the University of Idaho College of Law in Boise and Moscow and a celebration of Justice Gerald Schroeder's 50 years of service to the Idaho judiciary with the Fourth District Bar Association.

Charitable donations have been made by the Section to Attorneys for Civic Education and Concordia University School of Law's National Appellate Advocacy Competition moot court team in the past year.

The Section welcomes new members throughout the year and invites members of the bar to view their past CLEs on-

mand on the Idaho State Bar website. The Section also gives its members discounts on the Appellate Handbook and CLEs.

Retiring Idaho Judges

The following Magistrate and District judges have retired from the bench or will be retiring from the bench this year. We would like to thank them for their dedicated service on the bench and for representing the standard for civility and professionalism to our membership.

Hon. Stephen S. Dunn, District Judge at the Sixth District Court in Pocatello. Judge Dunn graduated from Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School and was admitted to the Idaho State Bar in 1977.

Hon. Rick L. Bollar, Magistrate Judge at the Minidoka County Magistrate Court in Rupert. Judge Bollar graduated from the University of Idaho College of Law and was admitted to the Idaho State Bar in 1986.

Hon. David C. Epis, Magistrate Judge at the Elmore County Magistrate Court in Mountain Home. Judge Epis graduated from the University of Idaho College of Law and was admitted to the Idaho State Bar in 1989.

Hon. Mark S. Rammell, Magistrate Judge at the Madison County Magistrate Court in Rexburg. Judge Rammell graduated from Willamette University College of Law and was admitted to the Idaho State Bar in 1986.

Hon. James A. Schiller, Magistrate Judge at the Canyon County Magistrate Court in Caldwell. Judge Schiller graduated from the University of Idaho College of Law and was admitted to the Idaho State Bar in 1982.

Hon. Steven A. Thomsen, Magistrate Judge at the Bannock County Magistrate Court in Pocatello. Judge Thomsen graduated from Gonzaga University School of Law and was admitted to the Idaho State Bar in 1977.

The Advocate Awards

The Advocate Awards are presented each year in three different categories to individuals who contributed to the magazine during the previous calendar year. The recipients are selected by the Editorial Advisory Board. We'd like to thank everyone who contributes to this publication – your work truly makes this endeavor possible, as we are one of the few remaining Bar publications that solely relies on volunteer submissions. Thank you!

Best Article

In the February 2019 issue sponsored by Idaho Women Lawyers, Judge Candy Dale and Anne Henderson penned a unique, memorandum-style article titled "On the Bench and Before the Bar: Diversity as a Core Value." Their memorandum to Idaho's legal community drew attention to the importance of diversity both on the bench and among the Idaho State Bar's membership. They addressed the latest gender-based diversity statistics provided by the Idaho State Bar's most recent membership survey and the "consideration of the effect unbalanced benches can have on the legitimacy of the courts."

Not only did the content of this article catch the attention of the Editorial Advisory Board, so too did the unique use of the memorandum format to encourage continued discussion and action. The authors provided practical application for how to promote diversity on the bench and included examples of how this is already being done in other states. The concluding thoughts from Judge Dale and Ms. Henderson drove home the importance of supporting efforts to improve gender representation on the bench in hopes of creating a more representative judiciary.

Best Issue Sponsorship

The Diversity Section's sponsorship of the June/July 2019 issue stood out to the Editorial Advisory Board for its cohesive theme, exploration of new and important topics, the inclusion of law student authors, and relevant practical guidance for practitioners. The issue began with Kylie Hicks and Tanner Bean's overview of the Idaho Interfaith & LGBT Summit on Religious Liberty and Nondiscrimination Solutions that took place in early 2019. This article highlighted the importance of bringing together individuals with opposing viewpoints to candidly discuss issues in a respectful, productive venue. Next, Jeffrey Dodge wrote about the importance of diversity not only within the legal profession but also in pre-law and law school environments. His exploration of these programs and firsthand experience provided a great perspective for readers.

Another article full of firsthand, real life experience was Will Ranstrom's writing on how understanding similarities between yourself and those who may differ from you in lifestyle or beliefs can be the route to resolution and harmony, instead of tension and vitriol. Next, Anna Eberlin discussed the "Mansfield Rule" and its

potential application within Idaho's legal community to encourage the promotion of more women and minorities into leadership roles.

The final two articles again provided relevant practical guidance on two very different topics. Mary Shea penned an article for lawyers in the family law arena addressing important information about LGBTQ families. This article covered everything from the complexities of parental rights, to alternative reproductive technologies. Finally, Brenda Bauges and Tenielle Fordyce-Ruff capped the issue with guidance for employers to avoid gatekeeper bias in their hiring processes. The authors discussed both Idaho and Federal employment laws as well as real world tips for how to structure your hiring decisions in a way that protects both you and your potential candidates.

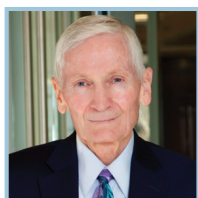
In addition to the stellar content, the Editorial Advisory Board noted the ease of working with the Diversity Section and their selected authors in the review, editing, and production processes. These volunteer efforts across the board make the process more seamless and ultimately result in a top-notch magazine for the Idaho State Bar membership.

Best Cover Photo

The cover of the November/December 2019 issue was selected as this year's Best Cover Photo. Taken by Hon. Tom Whitney in the Third Judicial District, this gorgeous winter landscape was taken while snowshoeing on Mount Rainier. The Ta-toosh Range is shown in the photograph with Mt. Rainier behind the photographer. Judge Whitney notes, it is not necessary to climb very high to enjoy the unique winter landscape at Mt. Rainier National Park.

Parking is available at the Paradise Ranger Station, the appropriately named site within the park which is kept open year-round even though it is one of the snowiest places on Earth. Once parked there, almost anyone of any athletic ability can be snowshoeing in this spectacular setting. Hon. Tom Whitney is a District Judge serving primarily in Canyon and Owyhee counties. He is also an avid backpacker and outdoor photographer. Judge Whitney's winning photo is pictured on the next page.

Parsons Behle & Latimer is pleased to congratulate Justice Jim Jones on being recognized as the 2020 Distinguished Jurist by the Idaho State Bar.



Jim Jones is of counsel in the firm's Boise office, and concentrates his practice on mediation, appeals and legal consultations on a broad range of legal-related issues. He also dedicates time to pro bono work.

Jim's legal career spans more than 50 years, including serving as Chief Justice of the Idaho State Supreme Court, a position he served from 2015 to 2017.

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The 4th District Bar Association would like to thank the following individuals for their assistance in providing no-cost CLE presentations to assist our membership with the unique challenges we are all facing during the recent global pandemic.



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Ethics During the Pandemic: Remote Work, Remote Court and Welcoming Clients Back to the Office - June 3, 2020

Bradley G. Andrews, Idaho State Bar Counsel

Legal Issues with Returning Employees to Work During the Pandemic - June 16, 2020

Jennifer S. Dempsey, Andersen Schwartzman Woodard Dempsey, PLLC, and Leslie Hayes, Idaho Attorney General's Office

Insurance Implications of the COVID-19 Pandemic - July 2, 2020

Haley K. Krug, Andersen Schwartzman Woodard Dempsey, PLLC

More CLEs coming to a computer near you!!

Limitations of Government Authority in Response to Public Health Emergency - August 7, 2020 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. (MT)

Professor Stephen R. Miller, University of Idaho College of Law

Elections and Voting Issues During the Pandemic

– August 10, 2020 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. (MT)

Brian P. Kane, Office of the Idaho Attorney General



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