

IN BRIEF**FJAA** Federal Judicial Assistants Association**OFFICERS 2009-2010****PRESIDENT—CYNTHIA HUBBARD**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The last time you heard from me it was New Year's and now it's already springtime. Thankfully it's finally starting to feel like spring in Charleston, as it has been one of the coldest and wettest winter's I can remember. But pollen is everywhere, so spring and summer can't be far behind.

Plans are moving along smoothly for the conference in Boise, and a registration form is included in this newsletter. The committee has worked diligently and efficiently in putting together a wonderful program of speakers for this year's conference, as well as planning an entertaining optional event for Friday night.

Our membership numbers are down pretty significantly from this time last year. Membership is critical to the success and future of our Association, so please encourage past members to renew their membership and non-members to join.

Consider sharing your newsletter, conference experiences, and all that you have gained from being a member - the networking, the new friendships and educational/training opportunities - with someone who has not yet joined FJAA.

To those new members and those who have recently renewed their membership, I thank you.

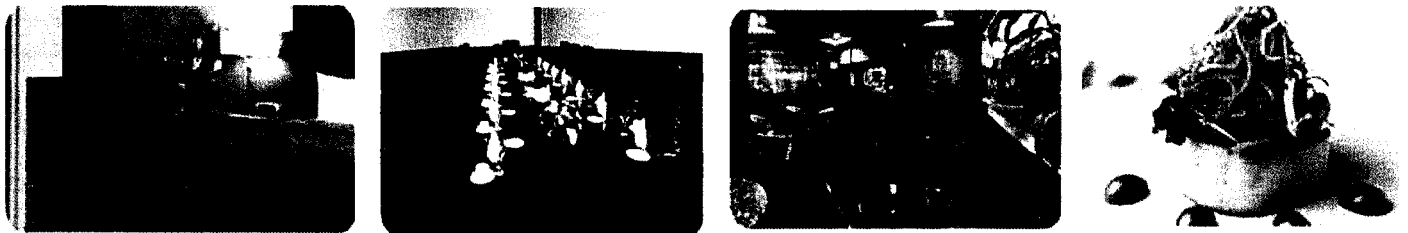
Cindi Hubbard, President



2010 FJAA CONFERENCE—BOISE, IDAHO

OCTOBER 7-10, 2010

The Grove Hotel
 245 S. Capitol Blvd
 Boise, Idaho 83702
 Phone: 888-961-5000
www.grovehotelboise.com



Room Rate: \$99.00. *Be sure to ask for the FJAA conference rate (Group No. 71138) in order for us to fulfill our room block and not incur additional charges for meeting rooms and event space. Thank You. See the conference committee welcome and the registration materials within this newsletter for further details.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW RETIREES REPORTED IN THIS ISSUE:

*Confirm # 119141
1017-10110
3/19/10*

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|--------------|---|
| 5th Circuit | Nancy Smith, Northern District of Texas |
| 7th Circuit | Helen Anderson, Court of Appeals, Indiana |
| 8th Circuit | Linda Haukedahl, District Court of North Dakota |
| 9th Circuit | Marian Mon, Northern District of California |
| 9th Circuit | Sheila Lund, District of Nevada |
| 10th Circuit | Barbara Elliott, USDJ Brack, Las Cruces, NM |
| 11th Circuit | Miriam Thomas, Court of Appeals, Miami, Florida |

Don't forget to sign up for a lifetime membership in FJAA! And, make sure we have your e-mail so that we can continue to be in touch with

FJAA GOALS

- To promote the general welfare of its members;
- To encourage the highest ethical standards of conduct among its members;
- To promote continuing education and professional development of its members;
- To further the exchange of ideas and practical information relating to judicial support; and
- To foster among its members a feeling of camaraderie and mutual confidence.

www.fjaa.net

Please take time to view our new FJAA website. There is a members-only section which contains the last four newsletters, a list of current members, and the Treasurer's Report. The members-only section can be accessed with your member PIN number — type in the word "member" as the username. Changes, corrections, and additions will be made quarterly as the newsletter is posted.

If you have anything you would like to have posted on our website, please send it to

Cindi_Hubbard@scd.uscourts.gov

In Appreciation of our Security Officers

By Donna Silva, Las Vegas

Based on the amount of concerned phone calls and kind e-mails I personally received from fellow Judicial Assistants across the country checking on the well-being of our court-family, I know that many of you are aware of the tragedy that occurred in Las Vegas on January 4, 2010. For those of you who were not aware of the news, sadly a disgruntled pro se defendant approached the lobby of the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse, pulled out a shotgun and began shooting. A gunfight ensued with the U.S. Marshals and other Court Security Officers involved. When it was over, the shooter was dead and tragically, Stan Cooper, one of our Court Security Officers, was killed. One of our U.S. Marshals, Joe Gardner, was shot, but thankfully has recovered from his injuries. Because of the heroic efforts of our Court Security Officers and the United States Marshal Service, the security was not breached at our building and miraculously, there were no other casualties.

In the weeks following the shooting, with the healing process underway, we all felt such enormous gratitude and respect for the men and women who come to work every day to protect and keep all of us safe. As a result of this, a committee was formed, and an Appreciation Luncheon was scheduled, to honor our United States Marshals and Court Security Officers. Representatives from all of the agencies in the building helped by bringing in food, decorating, setting up and serving the over 350 people who attended this event throughout the course of the afternoon. It was a great way to show our gratitude to the men and women who protect us and also a way to come together as a court family and talk about what we all went through.

I hope that by reading this article you will take the time to think about those whom you work with. Sometimes people are annoyed that there is a wait to go through the metal detectors, or that they have to take their belts or jewelry off, or that vehicles have to be searched before parking in the parking garage. But, after an unfortunate incident such as this, one learns to appreciate why all of these safeguards are in place and what is done to protect us.

I've included the text from one of the thank you notes we received after the luncheon from Court

Security Officer Mike Gerrity:

There are only a few words that can truly describe yesterday's tribute: SPECTACULAR, ENORMOUS, UNBELIEVABLE, LOVINGLY HANDLED, WOW !!!

The emotions expressed and shown during yesterday's luncheon means so much to me and my Court Security Officer co-workers. Words cannot express our pride that you thought enough of us to host such an event.

We, the Las Vegas Court Security Officers, thank each and everyone who made this luncheon happen. Those who volunteered their time, those who decorated, those who donated food and beverages, those who cooked, baked, served, cleaned and attended to us, we offer our deepest gratitude.

Thank you, One and All, Mike Gerrity



Please take time to thank your Court Security Officers and Marshals and realize that they put their lives on the line every day to make sure that we all have a safe environment to work in.

Scholarship Report

By Tina DeMonaco

*JA to U.S. District Judge Paul G. Rosenblatt
Phoenix, AZ*

I am currently working towards a paralegal certificate. My class for Spring 2009 was a 16-week course entitled "Ethics."

In this course we learned about the rules of professional responsibility, the ethical obligations, and what could be considered an act of unauthorized practice of law, as they relate to paralegals.

We also learned what constitutes conflicts of interests for paralegals and how important the phrase "confidentiality" is to the role of paralegals.

We wrote weekly essays on challenging ethical questions that didn't have "black and white" answers.

One of our assignments was to develop a series of questions to use to interview a paralegal who had been in the field for at least five years and then write a paper about the interview. I found this assignment interesting because I had the opportunity to interview two paralegals at two different law firms and get two different perspectives on the paralegal profession.

We also had several guest speakers: a former Chief Bar Counsel for the State Bar of Arizona; an attorney with the State Bar of Arizona who is charged with deciding what constitutes the unauthorized practice of law; an attorney who advocates for attorneys who are accused of violating their rules of professional conduct; and the last speaker was a paralegal who has been in the field for the last 30 years.

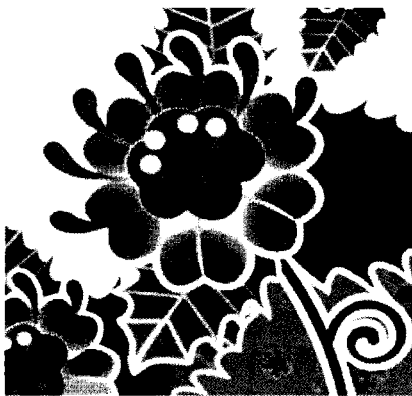
Our last assignment for the semester was a term paper. Each student was given a particular case to analyze that dealt with ethical issues. Then, we had to present the facts and the court's legal reasoning to the class.

This Ethics class was very interesting because not everything is "black and white" - there are gray areas.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the FJAA Board for awarding me a scholarship; it was so unexpected. Also, I would like to thank the members of the FJAA who, by paying their dues, contribute to the scholarship fund.

Wanted

Start thinking now about items that would make interesting door prizes.



The 2010 Conference Committee needs your help. They will be collecting items for door prizes and ask you to bring with you donations from your state or region. There are no rules. Any size, shape, or value accepted! But do remember that most people will be traveling with a suitcase. Please bring your contribution with you to the registration table.

Thank you! The Committee appreciates your participation.

CIRCUIT NEWS

FIRST CIRCUIT

Mari Rosa Jorge



Circuit Court news: Maria Hamilton has accepted the position of Chief Deputy Clerk with the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. Ms. Hamilton was a career law clerk for Judge Richard G. Stearns of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts for thirteen years. Ms. Hamilton began her new position with the court on March 29, 2010.

In other Circuit news, Kelly McQuillan has been laterally transferred to the position of Assistant Circuit Executive for Space and Facilities for the First Circuit. Kelly is fully dedicated to serving the space and facilities needs of all of the courts in the circuit and to working in cooperation with the Administrative Office, GSA, the Marshals Service, and other federal courts throughout the country. Welcome and congratulations to both of them!

District of Puerto Rico: I am sorry to report the death of the Honorable Gilberto Gierbolini-Ortiz. Judge Gierbolini was born in 1926 and died on December 29, 2009, at 83 years of age. He received a B.A. from the University of Puerto Rico in 1957 and an LL.B. from the University of Puerto Rico Law School in 1961. Before becoming a United States District Judge, having been nominated by President Jimmy Carter and confirmed by the Senate on February 20, 1980, he was in the United States Army, an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and a judge on the Superior Court, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. He also held other positions in the Commonwealth government between 1969 and 1972, later being in private practice from 1973 to 1980, when he started his federal judgeship. Judge Gierbolini assumed senior status on December 27, 1993. His service was terminated on March 23, 2004, due to retirement. May he rest in peace.

It is with great pleasure that I share the news of Mildred Cabán's nomination to serve as the next Bankruptcy Judge in the District of Puerto Rico. She will sit in Ponce, on the Southern part of the island. Ms. Cabán graduated from New York University School of Law, receiving her J.D. degree in 1986. She also holds a bachelor's degree from Barnard College, New York. Ms. Cabán is a partner at the firm of Goldman Antonetti & Córdova, P.S.C.,

where her practice has focused on bankruptcy and creditors' rights. She has a wealth of experience handling a large number of complicated bankruptcy matters involving tax, labor, environmental, and corporate issues. Ms. Cabán has been active in various organizations, including the American Bankruptcy Institute and the Puerto Rico Bankruptcy Bar Association. At the start of her career in Puerto Rico, Mildred was a law clerk to the Honorable Héctor Laffitte of the District of Puerto Rico. It is during this time that I met Mildred, and throughout the years, we have stayed in contact. We welcome her to the court family and wish her all the best.

Previously I have reported on the DPR's portrait project. The attached link provides some information on the artist commissioned with the task and the final stages of the same:

<http://www.metrowestdailynews.com/features/x126577945/Framingham-artist-completes-series-of-judge-portraits>.

District of Massachusetts: Through a press release dated January 14, 2010, the Judges of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts informed that Jennifer Boal was selected to be a Magistrate Judge, subject to the required background investigation. When appointed, Magistrate Judge Boal will sit in Boston, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Magistrate Judge Joyce London Alexander. Previously serving as the Chief of the Civil Division in the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts, she supervised 40 lawyers charged with overseeing affirmative and defensive cases in which the United States is a litigant. Prior to being named Civil Chief, Ms. Boal served in the Criminal Division for three years, prosecuting economic crimes and asset forfeiture cases. She also served as an Assistant United States Attorney from 1991 to 1999 in the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. During her tenure with the Department of Justice, Ms. Boal has received several national awards. In 2006, she

First Circuit, continued from page 11

CIRCUIT NEWS

received a Department of Justice Director's Award for her work on United States ex rel Driscoll v. Serono, a health care fraud case that resulted in a \$700 million recovery for the United States. In 1993, she received a Director's Award for her work on an international money laundering and asset forfeiture case. Magistrate Judge Boal is a graduate of Haverford College in Haverford, Pennsylvania, and Cornell Law School, in Ithaca, New York. She currently serves on the Board of Managers of Haverford College and resides in Winchester, Massachusetts.

THIRD CIRCUIT

Judge Joseph A. Greenaway has been elevated to the District Court of New Jersey by President Jimmy Carter. Judge Ackerman received his Commission on November 3, 1979 and was sworn in on January 3, 1980.

The District of New Jersey recently mourned the loss of our esteemed Senior District Judge Harold A. Ackerman. Judge Ackerman passed away at the age of 81 years after having served our Court for 30 years.

Judge Ackerman served in the U.S. Army where he attained the rank of Sergeant. Upon his discharge, he attended Rutgers Law School in Newark, New Jersey. He received his degree in 1951 and worked in private practice for approximately three years before beginning a 54-year judicial career, first in the New Jersey Workers' Compensation Court. Thereafter, he served in several judicial posts in both the State and County Courts before being nominated



Roseanna Lambiase

During his tenure as District Judge he presided over thousands of cases and was the first judge in the nation to assert federal jurisdiction in organized crime cases.

Judge Ackerman was especially known for his very close relationship with his law clerks and staff, having daily lunches with them discussing cases and generally socializing with his "family." Judge Ackerman is sorely missed.



FOURTH CIRCUIT

Suzanne Thorne Barber

It is hard to believe that I have already completed four months of my temporary duty assignment here in Washington, D.C. While I am working in the Article III Judges Division, my counterpart here, Candace Levitsky, is working in the Magistrate Judges Division. Candace's regular position is as the Judicial Assistant to Magistrate Judge John Kaull in the Northern District of West Virginia. In addition to Candace and myself, there are a few other temporary duty "detailees" from various clerks offices and bankruptcy courts. Most of our work involves supporting the teams and the systems analysts who are putting together requirements for future electronic case management. When the work day is done, we are free to enjoy this wonderful city.

With winter over, I can now walk home from work each day. I live one block from the National Portrait Gallery and four blocks from the National Mall. Can you imagine what a treat it is to exit the A.O., go towards the U.S. Capitol Building, and then walk along Pennsylvania Avenue with the beautiful Washington Monument in sight! I'm enjoying the many museums, and have even learned to enter them through side doors when protest rallies are converging on the Mall! Oh, and the cherry blossoms . . . breathtaking. Each day adds to the memories that I'll have of this exciting year. To learn more about this program, go to the J-Net and click on "Court/AO Exchange." Next, click on "Temporary Duty Assignments" for an overview of the program and to view opportunities. And let me know if you have any questions. I'll be happy to share more of my experience with you.

CIRCUIT NEWS

FIFTH CIRCUIT



Lisa P. Martin

Happy Spring to all! The weather is beautiful here in Mississippi. . . this week. You never know in the South what it will be from one day to the next — sometimes it snows on Easter. There is not much news here in the Northern District of Mississippi, however, Nancy Smith from the Northern District of Texas has some news to report on the following page. My best wishes to all of you.

SIXTH CIRCUIT

Beverly D. Gerken

Welcome Aboard!

A Special Welcome to Pamela Goers from the EDMJ who is working as a temporary Judicial Assistant with Magistrate R. Steven Whalen at the USDC in downtown Detroit. Pamela shared the following: "I've been working in the legal field for 24 years, most recently as Legal Assistant/Office Manager for Baum & Associates, P.C. in Bloomfield Hills, MI. Mr. Baum retired after 40+ years on September 22, 2009, I love the work and thrive on the fast-paced atmosphere. I would love to stay on at the USDC full-time! I love to read sci-fi/fantasy/mystery novels, but I usually figure out the "who and the how" by the third chapter. I'm a sports nut - especially the Red Wings and Tigers. I've been married to my wonderful husband James for 20 years; we have a spoiled Papillion named Elliot and a wild and crazy parrot named Alex. Some days it's quite the zoo."

Meet your new FJAA Officers
 Gudrun Swoboda Gazzo - Secretary (L)
 Beverly D. Gerken - 6th Cir. Rep (R)



CIRCUIT NEWS

Nancy Smith Retires!

On March 26, 2010, the District Court and the Dallas Bar honored Magistrate Judge William F. Sanderson, Jr., and me with a reception at the Belo Mansion (home of the Dallas Bar) from 3 to 5 p.m. I have 39 years with the U.S. Courts and almost three with the U.S. State Department. A ceremony was held with several presentations and speeches and then we had time to visit. The District Clerk's office presented me with a watch with a gold seal of the United States District Court, Northern District of Texas. It's the first one ever given and it is beautiful.

Before the ceremony our present and former law clerks honored us with a luncheon at the Stephen Pyles Restaurant where they presented Judge Sanderson with a Kindle and they gave me a silver heart necklace with my initials and dates of my years of government service.

Also on that date I received a bouquet of flowers, which I'm holding in the picture, from the Judicial Assistants/Secretaries, Court Coordinators of the U.S. District Court and Bankruptcy Court.

On Saturday the 27th the District Clerk's office, Judicial Assistants/Secretaries and friends honored me at a luncheon where we all had a great time and shared many memories.

My official retirement date is April 2nd but Judge Sanderson will be staying on until his successor's background check is completed. I



will come to the office a couple of days each week to keep the paper work flowing but at the same time sleeping a little later and not fighting the morning traffic.

I want to take this opportunity to tell you all how honored I feel to have worked with each of you these past 39 years. I was lucky enough to serve as an officer with the Federal Magistrate Judges Secretaries Association and to have been a committee member with the Federal Judicial Assistants Association. The yearly conferences have been a highlight and I look forward to returning as a visitor. Please keep in touch. email nasmith60@hotmail.com. Home address: 8502 Bellingham Drive, Dallas, TX 75228, home phone 214-321-9210; cell phone 214-236-0185.



Congratulations and Best Wishes to Nancy!!!

A free one-year membership for the year 2010 is available to all new JAs that are/were hired between September 1, 2009—September 1, 2010. This free one-year membership is available only to first-time FJAA members.

CIRCUIT NEWS

SEVENTH CIRCUIT



Linda Rux

Winter is fighting to stay with us here in the Midwest, but there are some signs that Spring is on the way. I'm never sure if Daylight Savings Time helps at this time of the year, since when the time changes, we are plunged into darkness in the morning again. It is nice, however, to have extra light in the evening.

I am thrilled to announce that my frequent emails (I will not call it nagging) were worth the effort. I am happy to say the Seventh Circuit FJAA has a larger membership for 2010 - some are former members who have rejoined, and others are new to FJAA. I welcome them all!

Melissa Hardin (Western District of Wisconsin) reports that William Conley has been confirmed as a new judge in the Western District of Wisconsin and will assume his duties as soon as the President signs his commission. Jacki Koll (Eastern District of Wisconsin) informed me that Anne Rawlins-Malquist, former Judicial Assistant to Judge Myron L. Gordon in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, passed away on February 17 at the age of 89. She had devoted her career to the legal profession.

Sharon Anderson, (7th Circuit Court of Appeals) received her 30-year pin in February. She began her career in 1980 with the District Counsel of the IRS, then moved to the U.S. Attorneys Office in 1985, and has worked for Judge Joel M. Flaum since 1988 - all in the Dirksen Federal Building here in Chicago. Sharon indicated that Judge Flaum also celebrated a landmark date - his 35th Anniversary as a judge on January 21, 2010. Sharon is one of our members who came back.

We have two new members who are new to the court and new to FJAA - Kaylaine Hendricks and Jonna Anderson. Kaylaine is Judicial Secretary to Judge Suzanne B. Conlon, Senior Judge of the Northern District of Illinois. Kaylaine previously worked in law firms in California and Chicago in the civil litigation area. She is happy to be back with the courts, having working for Judge Conlon in the 1990s.

Jonna Anderson is Judge Michael S. Kanne's (CA07) new judicial secretary. She replaces her mother, Helen Anderson, who retired on January 2, 2010, after having worked with Judge Kanne for 41 years. Jonna remembers coming to chambers with her mother when she was 7 years old, playing "princess" of the Jasper County courthouse "castle" while her mom worked late into the evening. As Judge Kanne's main chambers is in Indiana, Jonna now makes her home there, having moved from North Carolina where she resided since 1989. Prior to accepting Judge Kanne's offer, she worked for the 8th largest insurance company in the country as a business relations consultant (corporate liaison), assigned to 21 title insurance agencies covering six states. Although she has spent a great deal of her working career in the insurance industry she is no stranger to the legal world - she has worked in law firms and started her career at the age of 14 helping her mom, then the Jasper County Circuit court reporter, type transcripts and depositions after school. Jonna has four children who are all grown, and two grandchildren. She finds her new job to have a significant shift in pace and routine, but welcomes the change from her previous job, which required extensive travel. Jonna's passion is her horse who, she says, is her best friend. Jonna is truly honored to work for Judge Kanne, whom she has always deeply respected and admired.

Joan Carlson, a long-time employee of the courts in the Eastern District of Wisconsin (30+ years) passed away on March 28. Joan had just retired last month as JA to Magistrate Judge Patricia J. Gorence (WIED). We extend our sympathies and condolences to Joan's son and grandchildren and her court family.



EIGHTH CIRCUIT

CIRCUIT NEWS

Congratulations to **Anita Wolrab**, Judicial Assistant to the Honorable Michael J. Melloy, who celebrated her 25th year with the courts on December 14, 2009. Anita said she has been lucky to witness all aspects of the different courts, beginning as a deputy clerk in the clerk's office of the Bankruptcy Court in 1984. When Judge Melloy's JA decided to be a stay-at-home mom, she began her tenure as his JA in March 1989. During her tenure as a JA in the Bankruptcy Court, she helped organize and was one of the founding members of the Bankruptcy Judges Secretaries Association.



Rebecca Baertsch

In August of 1992, Judge Melloy was elevated to the District Court, and in February 2002, he was elevated to the Court of Appeals. "It has been an amazing journey for

me these past 25 years. I have been blessed with working with many kind and friendly people."

Welcome to **Sheila Belden**, Judicial Assistant to the Honorable Jeffrey L. Viken, U.S. District Judge for the District of South Dakota.

Congratulations to **Linda Haukedahl**, Judicial Assistant to the late Honorable Rodney S. Webb, on her retirement. Linda retired on March 1, 2010.

The sunshine is finally breaking through and the snow is mostly melted here in Minnesota. Happy Spring!

HAPPY RETIREMENT TO LINDA HAUKEDAHL

by Gretchen Ehlen, Library Technician, U.S. Courts Library - 8th Circuit

On March 1, 2010, Linda Haukedahl, Judicial Assistant to the late Judge Rodney Webb, retired after 38 years of federal service. Linda spent most of her years of service with the U.S. Attorney's Office and with the U.S. District Court of North Dakota, working with Rodney Webb in both offices.

A retirement party was held on February 26, 2010 in the Judge Rodney Webb Ceremonial Courtroom at the Quentin Burdick U.S. Courthouse. The party was attended by family, friends, and many past and present colleagues. A short program was emceed by Judge Karen Klein, with speeches honoring Linda given by Judge Ralph Erickson and former law clerks Bernie Reynolds and Doug Murch.

During her tenure, Linda served for two years as the Eighth Circuit Judges Secretaries Advisory Group representative and has been, and continues to be, an active member of the Federal Judicial Assistants Association. In her retirement Linda is looking forward to reading, gardening, volunteering, and spending time at her lake cabin with her husband and grown daughter. Congratulations and best wishes to Linda!



Here, Linda is surrounded by many of the law clerks with whom she worked during her years with the U.S. Courts.

CIRCUIT NEWS

NINTH CIRCUIT

Stephanie Lawley

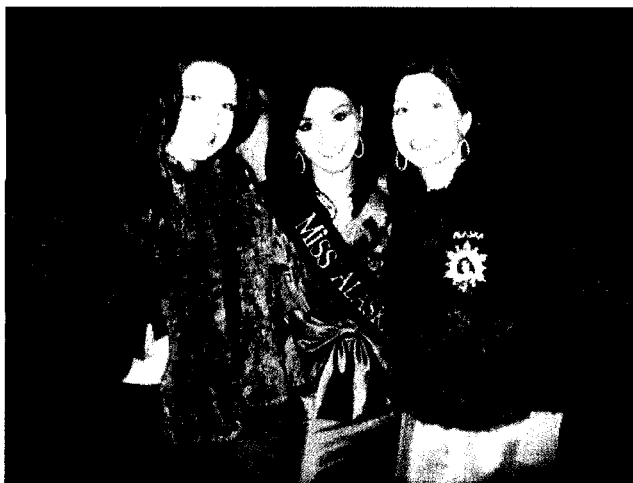
Feb. 5, 2010: First Fresno Federal Judge Dies: M.D. Crocker Is Recalled as Astute, Polite and Succinct (Fresno Bee - registration req) "M.D. Crocker, Fresno's first federal judge and a four-decade veteran of the federal bench first appointed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, died Tuesday at his Chowchilla home. He was 94. Judge Crocker served under 10 presidents -- from Eisenhower through George W. Bush -- in a storied legal career that even saw him preside over a 1986 trial in Las Vegas that involved singer Wayne Newton. 'He had a way of putting whatever he wanted to say in the most succinct statement,' said former colleague U.S. District Judge Oliver Wanger [E.D. - CA]. 'He would use fewer rather than many words. He had great insight into people and a tremendous amount of common sense.' "

Congratulations to Marian Mon, Judicial Assistant to the Hon. Susan Illston in the Northern District of California. Marian will be retiring on April 30th after 42 years of federal service!

On February 20, 2010 the federal court in Alaska celebrated its 50th Anniversary of the U.S. District Court for Alaska. For this half century celebration, a celebration hosted by the Cook Inlet Historical Society was held at the Anchorage Museum. A panel of distinguished judges shared the rich and colorful history of Alaska's court with those in attendance. Graced with a series of highly competent and coura-

geous judges, the court has functioned effectively through its first half century to adjudicate complex and challenging Alaska issues, to referee substantive Native matters, and to mediate state relations with the federal government.

Our own Ninth Circuit Representative, Stephanie Lawley (yours truly), traveled to Las Vegas on January 30, 2010 to watch her daughter, Miss Alaska Sydnee Waggoner, compete in the Miss America Pageant. The competition was exciting and the live television broadcast on TLC made watching even more enjoyable. While we congratulate Miss Virginia for winning the crown, Alaska is proud of our own Sydnee Waggoner for representing all of us at the Miss America Pageant.



Miss Alaska, 2010

SAD NEWS FROM ARIZONA

On March 28, 2010, Mary Molyneaux, Judicial Assistant to U.S. District Judge Frederick J. Martone, passed away after suffering several strokes. Mary relocated to Arizona from Massachusetts and worked with Judge Martone for 24 years in three different courts—first in the Maricopa County Superior Court, then the Arizona Supreme Court and the last eight years in the U.S. District Court. Mary will be remembered for her wonderful personality, her dedication, her love of cats, her devotion to American Idol, and her promising career as an Elvis impersonator! She will be sorely missed by everyone.

CIRCUIT NEWS

TENTH CIRCUIT

Don't tell me another quarter has gone by. That is one drawback about getting older – the time just flies! And the countdown to Boise is marching along. It'll be here before I can turn around. I'm sure there's more about the Conference elsewhere, so be sure to check it out.

My dear friend, Barbara Elliott (USDJ Brack, Las Cruces, NM), retired on February 26, and she and Cliff have sold their home and moved to Colorado Springs. All of this took place in less than a month. My head is still spinning. Colorado Springs is where their grandkids live and where they are having a house built. I talked with Judge Brack last week and he said he didn't know what to do without Barbara or how to interview for her replacement. You see, Barbara was with Judge Brack for 27 years. On the bright side, she plans on attending the conference in Boise, so we'll be seeing her then.

Sheryl Gilchrist (USMJ Sebelius, Topeka, KS) sent the latest newspaper article on Senior Judge Wesley E. Brown, who is 102 years old. The Wichita Eagle writes:

Judge Wesley Brown began working at about age 10, after his father fell ill and he had to help support his family. That was about 1917, and the federal judge in Wichita said that beginning work at a young age is one reason he's still showing up to the courthouse every day at 102.

"I've worked all my life," Brown said recently in an interview. "I wouldn't know what else to do."

Judge Brown sets quite an example for us. He has been a federal judge since 1962, when he was appointed by President John F. Kennedy.

I've checked out the new Website, and I like it. Having the links at the top makes it very easy to use. Good job, Debra!

Membership for the Tenth Circuit is down, so I am going to have to start bugging those who were members last year. This is too great an organization not to belong!



Ann Neff

CIRCUIT NEWS

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

Agatha Ellis

We honor and mourn two great giants of the judiciary who passed away in December 2009: Judge John C. Godbold of Montgomery, Alabama, and Judge Anthony A. Alaimo of Brunswick, Georgia — both will be greatly missed, but never forgotten.

Judge Godbold was appointed to the bench in 1966 and holds the distinction of the only judge to ever serve as Chief Judge of two federal circuits, the Fifth Circuit and the Eleventh Circuit. He was the Director of the FJC from 1987-1990, he was awarded the Devitt Award, inducted into The Alabama Academy of Honor, a law professor at The Cumberland School of Law, a veteran of World War II, and held countless other distinctions and honors. He was a gentle and kind judge who could often be heard whistling as he walked the halls of the courthouse. Judge Godbold died December 22 at the age of 89.

Judge Alaimo was appointed to the bench in 1971 and served as Chief Judge of the Southern District of Georgia from 1976 to 1990. A World War II prisoner of war, a book has recently been written by Vincent Coppola, *The Sicilian Judge: Anthony Alaimo, an American Hero*, that tells the amazing story of this great judge. Judge Alaimo died December 30 at the age of 89.

Most folks move South in retirement — in the Eleventh Circuit a trend has begun to move North. Congratulations to Tom Kahn, who on December 20, 2009, retired as Clerk of Court for the Eleventh Circuit. Tom dedicated more than 41 years of service to his country. After retiring as a Captain from the U.S. Navy, he served for the past 12 years as Eleventh Circuit Clerk. A grand farewell luncheon was held in his honor with much ribbing for moving to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan! We wish Tom and his family all the best in retirement.

We bid farewell to Miriam Thomas, Judicial Assistant to Judge Rosemary Barkett. Miriam retired December 31, 2009, after 11-1/2 years as Judge Barkett's assistant. She, her hus-

band, and all the pets moved to Rutherfordton, NC, in January and seem to be adjusting quite well despite the harsh contrast of winters between Florida and North Carolina. We wish Miriam and her family much happiness in retirement and we understand that the guest room is ready for visitors!

We are delighted to welcome Stephanie Colas. Stephanie was a new hire in the Court of Appeals in December 2009 as Judge Rosemary Barkett's assistant in Miami, Florida. Stephanie brings 33 years of legal and administrative experience from her private law firm career where she developed her skills primarily in the practice areas of commercial litigation and personal injury. She considers it a privilege to fill a position in the judiciary and considers it as "a once in a lifetime opportunity to serve the court and work with such fine a judge as Judge Rosemary Barkett."

Judge Beverly B. Martin was elevated from the Northern District of Georgia bench to the Eleventh Circuit bench. A native of Macon, Georgia, Judge Martin fills the vacancy created when Judge R. Lanier Anderson, also a native of Macon, elected to take senior status in 2009. Judge Martin was appointed to the bench in 2000 and has become a member of the Eleventh Circuit bench in January 2010.

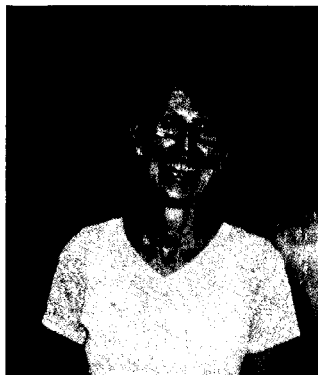
Judge Martin brings with her another new hire to the federal courts, Elizabeth James. Elizabeth, a native of Macon, Georgia, was a paralegal with a small white-collar criminal defense firm. She is a mother of a precious 18-month-old boy and feels honored to be working for Judge Martin. Glad to have you with us — welcome Elizabeth!

Congratulations to John Ley on his appointment as Clerk of Court for the Eleventh Circuit in February 2010. John served as the Chief Deputy Clerk for the past two years, having joined the Eleventh Circuit after retiring as a Colonel from the U.S. Army. We are excited to have John as Clerk, and we wish him the best of luck in his new role.

CIRCUIT NEWS

D.C. CIRCUIT FEDERAL CIRCUIT

Lisa Einsel



All's quiet on the home front court-wise.

However, we've just had our annual National Cherry Blossom Festival (March 27-April 11). The festival celebrates the blossoming of the thousands of cherry trees, which were a gift from Japan in 1912.

In addition to the beautiful scenery around the Tidal Basin, there were also fireworks, a parade and a Japanese street fair.

We wish you all a beautiful spring!



FJAA MEMBERS NEEDED

If you have not sent in your renewal membership, or if you haven't joined FJAA, it's not too late — contact your circuit representative listed in this newsletter—guarantee your copy of the Newsletter in your electronic mailbox and an opportunity to participate in the annual educational conference.

Professional Development and Continuing Education
Committee

FJAA Scholarship Applications

For questions or inquiries, please contact:

Sheryl A. Gilchrist, PP, PLS, Chair, Professional Development & Continuing Education Committee, United States District Court, 444 Southeast Quincy Street, Suite 475, Topeka, Kansas 66683

785-295-2734

sheryl_gilchrist@ksd.uscourts.gov

Have you been with the government for 30 years?

Please share your story with us.

FJAA wants to applaud and feature members who have been with the government 30 years or more. If you would like to be recognized in *In Brief*, please contact your circuit representative and send in a short article about the changes you have experienced during your government tenure. Please include a photograph with your submission.



CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVES

Please stay in touch with your circuit representative with newsworthy items for the next issue of the newsletter. Last day for submission 6/15/2010

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Go to www.fjaa.net for a complete list of officers, circuit representatives, committee memberships, and other great information.

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STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVE



FJAA WINNER: *Congratulations to Diane Markley. Diane is the 2010 winner of the \$100 FJAA drawing. Diane was notified on April 1st. Her response? "IS THIS FOR REAL????? Being it's April Fool's Day, I'm not sure if I should believe it or not!"*

Treasurer's Report as of March 31, 2010


Pamela Angelette, Treasurer

Bank of America Checking account balance \$27,033.82.

I would like to remind the Circuit Representatives to submit their postage receipts to me for reimbursement.

IN BRIEF**BACK PAGE EDITOR'S CORNER****Federal Judicial FJAA Assistants Association**

Martha Gore, Editor
Retired Administrative Assistant to
Judge Mary M. Schroeder
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**NEWSLETTER
PUBLICATION
DATES**

January 15, 2010

April 15, 2010

July 15, 2010

October 1, 2010

**IN BRIEF**

You are invited to write articles for our Newsletter. Help keep our membership informed not only in reporting in and about the Circuits but also submitting informational and educational articles. Stories of interesting travels, special triumphs, and fundraising achievements are also welcome.

Keep your issues of *In Brief* coming to your electronic mailboxes. If you have not sent in your renewal membership mail your check to your circuit representative today. Your membership must be current in order to continue receiving the FJAA Newsletter. A listing of circuit representatives is also within this newsletter. Go on line at www.fjaa.net for more information.

Dear Readers:

I challenge you, no matter what your age, to think young and dare to try something new. I have just returned from spending time with glass and bead artisans at the Bead and Glass Expo in Las Vegas. When I first agreed to attend and I looked at the class offerings, I was sure that I was too old to try something new — especially in working with glass.

But I was invited to go with Ann Sherman and her sister, Ilene, so I decided to go along for the ride. This trip turned into a great experience for it not only exposed me to a new art form, which I love and plan to perfect, but there were even more important benefits of gaining new friends and spending happy times with my “already” friends, which included lunch with Donna Silva!

Let me tell you about my new friend, Jan. Jan works with stained glass — she is on the faculty of a college and conducts on-going classes of 30 students or more in stained glass and fused glass. In addition, she is always looking to advance her skills and continue her education in the arts by attending classes herself. To that end, with her behind the wheel, she and another friend drove from California to Las Vegas to attend the five-day Bead and Glass Expo.

Ann and Ilene know Jan and were thrilled to learn that she was coming. It was through their plan to have dinner with Jan, that I had the opportunity to meet her. What was to be a quiet dinner with Jan turned into a dinner party of eight — Jan invited a “few” friends to join us. After having shared a meal with Jan, I can appreciate and understand that she must be shared with others. Dinner with Jan was an inspiration.

Some of the marvels to me: Jan has a cell phone and knows how to operate all the features; she has a computer and knows how to use it, and talks to her son via Skype — lots of folks near her age don't know how to turn on a computer; she can carry on an informative conversation on any subject; has a quick wit and great sense of humor; has an extraordinary memory for names and places; eats like the rest of us; stays up late; and knows how to have fun. Now you might think that there is nothing unusual about what I've told you — Jan is a delightful and very lively lady who has already celebrated her 90th birthday!

My new friend, Jan, has invited us to visit her — she says she has a spare room! Look out Jan! With Jan as my role model, I plan to never be too old. And so I say to all who will listen: The only thing preventing you from exploring new things and making new friends is you, alone.

Celebrate Life!

Martha

The purpose of the Federal Judicial Assistants Association (FJAA) is to promote the general welfare of its members: to encourage the highest ethical standards of conduct; to promote continuing education and professional development; to further the exchange of ideas and practical information related to judicial support; and to foster a feeling of camaraderie and mutual confidence among its members. *In Brief* is a non-copyrighted, in-house publication of the FJAA. Circulation includes members and potential members of the FJAA. Opinions recited herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the FJAA. Comments regarding *In Brief* may be sent to the Editor: editor.inbrief@gmail.com