



THE BAR REVIEW

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2022 HIGHLIGHTS





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EVENTS AT A GLANCE

12/9-10	SBA Trial Academy
12/14-15	December CLE by the Hour
12/18	SBA Christmas Party
1/25	SBA Membership Luncheon – 12:00 p.m. - Petroleum Club

DECEMBER 2022

Save the Dates 2023

Shreveport Bar Association’s
Continuing Legal Education

MAR

2-3

Federal 5th Circuit
Appellate Advocacy
& 5th Annual
Northwest Louisiana
Appellate Conference

SEPT

13-14

Recent Developments
by the Judiciary
Seminar

OCT

13

North Louisiana
Criminal Defense
Seminar

DEC

13-14

December CLE
by the Hour



From The President

by Don Armand, darmand@padwbc.com

My term as SBA president ends on December 31.

Now, I have to say

thanks:

- No CLE chairman could be more tireless and talented than Magistrate Judge Mark Hornsby. Judge Hornsby put on multiple, first-rate seminars in multiple formats to allow you to choose the best for you – two days of concentrated CLE (Recent Developments by the Judiciary and December CLE By the Hour), specialty seminars (North Louisiana Criminal Law, North Louisiana Appellate), Lunch and Learns and, ultimately, the Trial Academy. Judge Hornsby, *thank you*.
- Because of Layne Clark, my program chair, SBA lunches are back to stay. Attendance was huge at some and strong at every lunch this year, in part because great CLE at a discount was offered at almost every lunch. Layne, *thanks*.
- The endless work and ingenuity of Meredith Bro and her committee made Law Week an unprecedented success. Young SBA lawyers made first-time appearances at Centenary College (which Centenary loved) and conducted a mock trial at Caddo Heights Elementary (which resulted in a unanimous jury verdict convicting the Big Bad Wolf). Law Week fundraising netted a whopping \$8,000 for the Bar Foundation, far surpassing past years' contributions. Meredith, *thanks*.
- Jimmy Mijalis, Curtis Joseph and Alexander Mijalis put on another hugely successful golf tournament, with a reborn tennis tournament. It was a blast as always. Jimmy, Curtis, Alexander, *thanks*.
- Judge Mike Pitman turned this year's Memorial and Recognition Ceremony into what it should always be – perceptive, respectful memorials for the lawyers we've lost and a true celebration of the new lawyers we just gained. Judge Pitman, *thanks*.
- The Krewe of Justinian is having another spectacular year and this is going to be a Mardi Gras season to remember. Captain Nancy Cooper, *thanks*.
- I was blessed with gifts and energy of a truly great Executive Committee. To Nancy Cooper, Kenny Haines, Brian Flanagan, Donna Frazier, Judge Donald Hathaway, Judge Emily Merckle, Heidi Martin, Valerie DeLatte, Anna Priestley, Chris Forrester, Audrius Reed, Larry Pettiette, Gemma Zuniga and Joy Reger, *thanks*.
- Hal Odom and Chris Slatten keep this publication right. Hal, Chris, *thanks*.
- To my other committee chairs – Ben Marshall, Marty Johnson, Patrick Jackson, Marcus Edwards, Brian Homza, Melissa Allen and Steve Soileau, *thanks*.
- Be proud that the SBA is one of the four largest local bar associations in Louisiana, because you joined and participate. To you, SBA members, *thanks*.

My two final, and most important *thanks* –

If you want to know why the SBA thrives, the answer is simple – Dana Southern. Dana and her assistant, Kendall Riggs, are rock stars. We are all blessed to have them, me the most. Dana, Kendall, *THANKS*.

To you all, for the privilege of serving as SBA president, I say, *THANKS*.



Appellate Advocacy Seminar of the Bar Association of the Federal Fifth Circuit and the Shreveport Bar Association's 5th Annual Northwest Louisiana Appellate Conference

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 2-3, 2023

The Bar Association of the Federal Fifth Circuit "BAFFC" is proud to join with and be a 2023 sponsor of the 5th Annual Northwest Louisiana Appellate Seminar and to host a joint federal and state Appellate Seminar on March 2 – 3, 2023, at the Petroleum Club in Shreveport, Louisiana.

March 2, 2023 – will include a half-day (4 hours) afternoon seminar sponsored by the BAFFC and will focus on demystifying the United States Fifth Circuit. Presentations will be made by the Fifth Circuit Clerk of Court, Lyle Cayce, and a panel of Fifth Circuit judges providing guidance on brief writing and oral argument at the Fifth Circuit.

The BAFFC seminar will be followed by a cocktail party and dinner honoring U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Carl E. Stewart.

March 3, 2023 – will include a full-day (6 hours including 1 hour ethics and 1 hour professionalism) seminar sponsored by the Second Circuit Court of Appeal and the Shreveport Bar Association and will focus on changes in procedures and processes at the Clerk of Court. Presentations will be made by Louisiana Supreme Court Associate Justice Scott Crichton, Judge Frances Pitman, the new Appellate Judges, Craig Marcotte and Danny Ellender, Clerk of Court Robin Jones, Central Staff Director Jenny Segner, and Appellate Board-Certified Specialist Kenny Haines.

The cost of the entire seminar (10 hours total) (dinner not included) is \$350 for BAFFC Members and SBA Members and \$400 for non-BAFFC Members and non-SBA Members.

The cost to attend the cocktail party and dinner is \$50 per person (cash bar)

Attendance to all events is limited to 150. Make your reservations now. A complete registration is coming soon.



December CLE By The Hour December 14 & 15, 2022

**Petroleum Club, 15th Floor
416 Travis Street, Shreveport**

**13 Louisiana CLE Credits (including 1 Hour Ethics & 1 Hour Professionalism)
13 Texas CLE Credits Approved (including 2 Hours Ethics)**

(Please Circle Classes Attending)

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

- 7:30 A.M. Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 A.M. Oil and Gas Update
90 Minutes *Drew Burnham – Cook, Yancey, King & Galloway*
- 10:00 A.M. Break
- 10:05 A.M. Drafting Commercial Leases
60 Minutes *William Bradford and Melissa Scott Flores – Blanchard, Walker, O’Quin & Roberts*
- 11:05 A.M. Break
- 11:10 A.M. Deposition Tips and Best Practices
60 Minutes *James C. McMichael Jr. – McMichael & Carter*
- 12:10 P.M. Lunch (included with all-day registration, or \$30)
- 1:00 P.M. Louisiana Legislative Recap
60 Minutes *Thomas Pressly - Louisiana State Representative*
- 2:00 P.M. Break
- 2:05 P.M. Federal Practice & Procedure Update
60 Minutes *Magistrate Judge Kayla D. McClusky and Magistrate Judge Carol Whitehurst - United States District Court, Western District of Louisiana*
- 3:05 P.M. Break
- 3:15 P.M. Fourth Amendment Update
60 Minutes *Judge Donald Hathaway and Judge Brady O’Callaghan - First Judicial District Court*

Thursday, December 15, 2022

- 7:30 A.M. Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 A.M. The Professionalism of Wellness
60 Minutes *Judge Michael Pitman – First Judicial District Court*
- 9:30 A.M. Break
- 9:35 A.M. Domestic Violence & Protective Orders
90 Minutes *Mary Winchell and Audrius Reed – Shreveport Bar Foundation and Chris Bowman - Caddo Parish District Attorneys Office*
- 11:05 A.M. Break
- 11:10 A.M. Bossier City Court
60 Minutes *Judge Santi Parks– Bossier City Court*
- 12:10 P.M. Lunch (included with all-day registration, or \$30)
- 1:00 P.M. Ethics
60 Minutes *Justice Scott Crichton - Louisiana Supreme Court*
- 2:00 P.M. Break
- 2:05 P.M. Workers’ Comp & Third-Party Subrogation
60 Minutes *Kris Jackson and Patrick Cole - Thomas, Soileau, Jackson & Cole and Mary Lou Salley Bylsma - The Law Office of Jack M. Bailey Jr.*
- 3:05 P.M. Break
- 3:15 P.M. What’s New In Personal Injury Litigation
60 Minutes *Ebonee Norris - The Norris Law Group*

Registration Fees: [Complete this form or register online at shreveportbar.com](http://shreveportbar.com)

Individual Session Rates

Non-Member - \$75 per session
SBA Member - \$65 per session

All Day Wednesday (6.50 hours) Non-Members - \$450
SBA Members - \$350

All Day Thursday (6.50 hours) Non-Members - \$450
SBA Members - \$350

Both Days (13 hours) Non-Members - \$600
SBA Members - \$500

Name _____
Billing Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone No. _____ Fax No. _____
Email _____

(Please include email for materials to be sent)

Materials: The registration fee includes course materials provided electronically. A link to the seminar materials will be sent to you via email prior to the seminar. Because neither internet access nor electrical outlets are guaranteed, we suggest that you either print or save the PDF materials to your laptop, and fully charge your batteries if you wish to review the materials at the seminar.

Full registration refund until November 15, 2022, less a \$25 admin. fee. After November 15, full credit less a \$25 admin. fee may be applied to future SBA sponsored CLE for up to one year.

Please charge to my _____ V _____ MC _____ AMX
Card No. _____
Expiration Date _____ SIC#: _____
Signature _____

Please remit with payment to:

Shreveport Bar Association, 625 Texas Street, Shreveport, LA 71101
Questions? Call (318) 222-3643 or Email dsouthern@shreveportbar.com

The 2022 SBA Professionalism Award Goes to Ben Marshall

by Marcus Edwards., marcus@msrlaw.com



Ben Marshall

The Shreveport Bar Association Professionalism Award is given annually to an attorney who exemplifies the highest ideals of the practice of law. This year's recipient is Ben Marshall Jr. Ben is passionate about family, faith and college football, but his commitment to professionalism rivals all three.

Ben graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1976 and then (like the current Head Coach of LSU Football Brian Kelly after him) left Indiana for Baton Rouge. He received his Juris Doctor from the LSU Law Center in 1979, and joined Mayer, Smith & Roberts L.L.P. in 1980 where he has practiced for 42 years. Ben served as SBA Secretary-Treasurer in 1991, and on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel between 1992 and 1994. But he is perhaps best known in the Shreveport community as "Bonsai Ben" of Sportstalk with J.J. and Bonsai Ben.

Anyone who has seen Ben's CLE presentation "Professionalism Palooza: 15 Rockin' Reminders" (featuring classic rock songs with lyrics linked to anecdotes and axioms about professionalism) knows

that he is enthusiastic and evangelical about maintaining professionalism in the practice of law. But Ben also practices what he preaches. He arrives first, every day, in a suit and tie with a starched, white shirt. He is keen to speak directly to even the most challenging opposing counsel in even the most challenging circumstances to ensure as much clarity as can be achieved and seeks amicable resolution at every turn. Ben is driven by a belief that, ultimately, attorneys are supposed to solve problems, and that everyone – including clients, other attorneys and judges – benefits when we focus on doing exactly that.

Perhaps most impressively, Ben is most heartened when he earns the respect of opposing counsel and parties by scrupulously treating them and their cases with respect. But for me, it was Ben's memorial speech for Alex F. Smith Jr. during the 2014 Memorial & Recognition Ceremony that best displayed his commitment to professionalism. Ben prepared for the speech like he would for a trial, and somehow delivered as stirring a celebration of the practice of law as I've ever heard, even though it was a memorial for a man I had never met.

Ben considers the SBA Professionalism Award to be the closest thing to the Heisman for our Bar, and he is well deserving. It is my honor and pleasure to announce Ben Marshall Jr. as the recipient of the 2022 SBA Professionalism Award.



2022 Professionalism Recipient Ben Marshall Jr. and Marcus Edwards



2022 Professionalism Recipient Ben Marshall Jr. and SBA President Don Armand



Marcus Edwards Announcing the 2022 Professionalism Award Recipient



Debbie Marshall, 2022 Professionalism Award Recipient Ben Marshall, and daughter Katherine Salvail



Nancy G. Cooper
President

Nancy Googe Cooper Will Lead the SBA in 2023

Nancy Googe Cooper begins her term as president of the Shreveport Bar Association on January 1, succeeding Donald Armand to the one-year post. Nancy was born and raised in Shreveport and graduated from Captain Shreve High School in 1987. She obtained a degree in economics from Baylor University in 1991 and graduated from Loyola School of Law in 1994. She and her husband Neal are the proud parents of their daughter Suzanne and sons William and Nathan. Nancy practiced law primarily in San Antonio, Texas, for the first half of her career while Neal was serving in the military. She represented clients in south central Texas in general civil defense litigation including employment discrimination, trucking accident litigation, and products liability. She obtained her general and family law mediation certifications and worked as a volunteer mediator for the Bexar County Dispute Resolution Center. Nancy and Neal returned to Shreveport in 2010, and she has spent the last decade representing children in abuse and neglect cases and children involuntarily admitted to psychiatric treatment facilities. She served on the Shreveport-Caddo Metropolitan Planning Commission for seven years, she chairs the Captain Shreve Academic Foundation, and she is the 2022-23 Captain of the Shreveport Bar Association's Krewe of Justinian.

Serving with Nancy on the 2023 SBA Executive Council are **Kenneth P. Haines**, president-elect; **Donald Armand**, immediate past president; **Elizabeth M. Carmody**, vice-president; **Anna Brown Priestley**, secretary-treasurer; **Sam Crichton**, member-at-large; **Christopher G. Forester**, member-at-large; **Heidi Kemple Martin**, member-at-large; **Judge Emily Merckle**, member-at-large; **Judge Donald E. Hathaway Jr.**, judicial liaison; **Gemma Zuniga**, Young Lawyers' Section president; **Valerie DeLatte**, Women's Section President; and beginning March 2023 **Amy Gardner Day**, Krewe of Justinian Captain.



Kenneth P. Haines
President-Elect



Donald Armand
Immediate Past President



Elizabeth M. Carmody
Vice-President



Anna Brown Priestley
Secretary-Treasurer



Sam Crichton
Member-At-Large



Christopher G. Forester
Member-At-Large



Heidi Kemple Martin
Member-At-Large



Judge Emily Merckle
Member-At-Large



Judge Donald E. Hathaway Jr.
Judicial Liaison



Gemma Zuniga
Young Lawyers' Section



Valerie DeLatte
Women's Section



Amy Gardner Day
Captain, Krewe of Justinian



Shreveport Bar Foundation

by Lawrence W. Pettiette Jr., lpettiette@padwbc.com

An evening to remember is no hyperbolic statement when describing the debt retirement party hosted by the Shreveport Bar Foundation and underwritten by four past and current presidents. The paid promissory note on display was enlarged courtesy of Choice Copy Service. Frank Thaxton explained the origins of the Shreveport Bar Foundation as a successor to the Shreveport Pro Bono Project. Roy Payne recalled how he came up with the idea to buy a building and move out of lease space at the American Tower, which included a substantial capital campaign. Layne Clark was Shreveport Bar Foundation President when this dream was implemented and became a reality. Julie Lafarge eloquently explained how the reality came with the burden of debt and maintaining a building while at the same time moving the mission of the Shreveport Bar Foundation forward in service to the community. Specifically, she recalled the tragic story that dominated the Shreveport news scene one week. The victim had not been a client of the Shreveport pro bono project as a protective order was not a service offered at the time. After this death, Julie and others started a project which is now known as the Legal Representation for Victims of Domestic Violence (“LRVDV”) program. Through good management, grants and a lot of uncompensated effort,

we now have two staff attorneys providing this valuable service to Bossier and Caddo parish.

Tucker Smathers, who has provided CPA services for both the Shreveport Bar Foundation and Shreveport Bar Association from the beginning, is retiring and was honored with a gift for her many years of sound financial advice. As these brief presentations unfolded, everyone in the room realized not as an epiphany, but as a logical conclusion, that the Shreveport Bar Foundation has come a long, long way, but now as we go forward do not forget the Shreveport Bar Foundation needs you to continue: make a positive contribution to this community; perhaps even a life-saving resource.



Thanks again to all who helped pay the building debt. Predictably, we immediately had to replace the roof and the parking lot, but since the building is free and clear, we were able to secure a sufficient line of credit at a favorable interest rate.

Do not forget the Ask-A-Lawyer every third Monday; the Shreveport Bar Foundation is always looking for good, active board members.

It has been a pleasure to serve as the 2022 Shreveport Bar Foundation President. We accomplished much but more remains to be done: make something good happen.





*Best Wishes from Your Shreveport Bar Association and Foundation Staff,
SBA Executive Council and SBF Board Members
for a Merry Christmas and a Peaceful, Prosperous New Year!*

Donald Armand
Brittany Arvie
Elizabeth Carmody
Nancy Cooper
Ted Cox
Amy Gardner Day
Valerie DeLatte
Lucy Espree
Brian Flanagan
Chris Forester

Donna Frazier
Judge Donald Hathaway
David Hemken
Callie Jones
Drew Martin
Heidi Martin
Judge Emily Merckle
Larry Pettiette
Anna Priestley
Audrius Reed

Kendall Riggs
Dana Southern
Becky Vishnefski
Angela Waltman
David White
Stacey Williams
Mary Winchell
Gemma Zuniga

Monroe Inn of Court

by Hal Odom Jr., rhodom@la2nd.org

Professionalism and recent developments inaugurated the 2022-'23 year for the Judge Fred Fudickar Jr. American Inn of Court (Monroe, La.).

On October 24, Mike Street, of Watson, McMillin & Harrison, in Monroe, tipped his hat to the upcoming Halloween night with "Return of the Living Dead: 10 Lessons Classic Horror Movies Teach Us About Professionalism and the Practice of Law." Mike began by asking, "What could we possibly learn from watching horror movies? I'm glad you asked." Citing the classic "Friday the 13th" (1980), he advised lawyers not to be "distracted by shiny/ attractive objects," like cellphone calls and texts. "Those camp counselors were picked off, one by one, while the counselors weren't paying attention. You're expected to perform your job to the best of your ability."

Moving to "The Shining" (also from 1980), Mike advised, "Some risks or clients are just not worth the money. Sure, Jack was struggling to pay bills, and he was driving himself crazy to replicate that initial success. But sometimes you just need to take a hard pass." From "Christine" (1983), not only can "cars become possessive and jealous," but "insurance is a necessity!" It's not just for you, but for your partners' or associates' work.

After covering a few more flicks with surprising hints of professionalism, he extracted the lessons that teamwork is important, you should always finish the job, and you should never run or hide from your problems. "The shadowy specter of something scary like your escrow accounting isn't going to go away – and the more you put off tackling it, the more difficult it will be to master."

On November 14, Hal Odom Jr., of the Second Circuit, presented "Recent Developments in Criminal & Civil Appeals (Second Circuit)," following the format of previous years' programs. The most important legislative development was the amendment to La. C.C.P. arts. 154 and 158, recusal of judges, which is something of a growth industry in northeast La. After a motion to recuse is filed, the judge now has seven days in which to grant the motion or to ask the Supreme Court to appoint an ad hoc judge. The amendment specifies

no enforcement process, and a rule for mandamus might only irritate the judge more, so it is hoped that the time limit will persuasively encourage swift resolution of such motions.

In the time frame January 1 through October 31, 2022, the court had rendered 149 formal opinions. Of these, 98 were civil, with an affirm rate of 71%, amend or affirm in part 12%, and outright reversal 15%. There were 45 criminal opinions, including 62% to affirm, 36% to amend or remand, and only one to reverse outright. There were also six juvenile cases, four to affirm and two to amend or reverse. In the same time, the court rendered 325 writ dispositions, 92 civil (motions, writs, juvenile or workers' comp) and 233 criminal (motions and writs). The 149 opinions are up from 135 over the same period last year, probably reflecting the gradual reopening of courts after COVID-19 lockdowns.

Hal also discussed the various Second Circuit opinions that had been reversed by the Supreme Court, for instance the clarification in *State v. Brown*, 21-01336 (La. 6/29/22), 345 So. 3d 988, along with *State v. Gasser*, 22-00064 (La. 6/1/22), 346 So. 3d 249, which resolved conflicting jurisprudence by holding that an illegal verdict (either because it was nonresponsive or non-unanimous) will still create jeopardy with respect to the greater charged offense.

Both meetings were held at the Lotus Club, on the ninth floor of the historic Vantage/ ONB Building on DeSiard Street in downtown Monroe. Even though an hour of CLE was guaranteed (professionalism in October), an open bar offered and superlative heavy hors d'oeuvres served, a mere eight members attended in October and 10 in November. The secretary, Mike Street, announced that this year's president will be Charlen Campbell, a sole practitioner and mediator in Monroe. Charlen said she was studying ways to bring more and younger members into the Inn, and announced that the December meeting would feature Prof. Bill Corbett, of the LSU Law Center, to give his own update on matters of civil law and procedure.

Dates for future meetings are set for December 12, 2022, February 13, March 13, April 10 and May 8, 2023.



Federal Bar Donates \$10,000 to Barksdale Charity

The Federal Bar Association of North Louisiana recently held its 9th Annual Clay Shoot Fundraiser at Los Paloma Gun Club. The beneficiary of the event was Operation Bright Holiday, a project exclusive to Barksdale Air Force Base that helps send first-year airmen home for the holidays.

Chief Judge Maury Hicks and Judge Mark Hornsby, on behalf of the FBA, presented a \$10,000 check to Capt. Katherine Nash. Among the many beneficiaries of the fund have been a young service member who was able to return home for a last visit with an ill grandparent, and a young couple who were able to visit family members they had not seen since their wedding. Thanks to Operation Bright Holiday, scores of other airmen, chosen by officers based on exemplary work and need, have been able to enjoy a well-deserved holiday with family.



2022 Champions Connor Arthur, Mike Gibson, David Miller, Kyle Chandler, Reggie Quillin; Sponsor Glenn Langley

There were 70 shooters this year, and the staff at Gregorio, Chafin, Johnson & Tabor did a great job with the details and making sure the event was a success. The current officers of the Local FBA chapter are President-Whitney Howell; Vice President-Will Huguet; Treasurer-Jason Nichols; & Fundraising Chair-Scott Chafin.

Sponsors for the 2022 Clay Shoot were Boeing; Bradley Murchison Kelly & Shea; Scott J. Chafin, Attorney at Law; James, Hardy & Haley, CPAs; Kean Miller, LLP; Louisiana Association for Justice; Dr. Milan Mody with The Orthopaedic Clinic; Pilant Court Reporting; Rice & Kendig; Sound Minds; Poljak Group Wealth Management at Steward Partners; and Wilkinson, Carmody, & Gilliam.



Brian Flanagan, Walt Gaskins, Robbie Moody, Mike Shannon, Marshall Perkins



Dale Colvin, Jonathan McCartney, Mark Gilliam



Logan Hunt, Seth Miller, Drew Blackburn, Will Huguet, Whitney Miller



Marshall Johnston, Scott Chafin, Chief Judge Maury Hicks, Rodney Arbuckle, Wes Chafin



Nolan West, Brandon Pang, Dakota Hawkins, Jarrett Lofton, Will Rhodes



Rick Githens, Chris Slatten, Keith Carter, Milton Getz, Bobby Matthews

Perspectives on Professionalism

by Justice Scott Crichton, scrichton@lasc.org

Section 3(c) of La. Supreme Court Rule XXX defines professionalism, in pertinent part, to include “elimination of bias or discriminatory communication or conduct” and “sensitivity to cultural and other differences when interacting with members of the public, judges, jurors, litigants, attorneys, and court personnel.”

My friend Don Horton was an educator and businessman, not a lawyer. However, his contributions to the community and his interactions with persons from all walks of life evidence the vitality of this concept for all of us in the legal profession. Each of us can aspire to meet Don’s example by exhibiting these traits throughout our legal careers.

The article, previously published in The Times, follows:

DIVERSITY MATTERS – REMEMBERING DON HORTON



It was more than just raucous YMCA locker room banter between two “grown ass men” (as CBS Mornings cohost Gayle King often quips); and it was even more than a racial epithet-peppered kerfuffle. They seemed to be on the brink of combat, and for a few anxious minutes, I pondered whether to intervene. As I gingerly approached, hoping to quell the intensity, one of them held out his hand, “I’m Don Horton and am just a black janitor and this is Fleet Howell, a rich white lawyer.”

Turns out, the two were the best of friends and frequently referred to each other as “brothers,” all the while trying to annihilate each other on the handball court before adjourning for dinner with their spouses.

The joy their deep friendship brought to them was infectious – and I was drawn to them. Eventually, my wife and I found ourselves joining the Hortons and Howells

for dinners and various events (however, I never had the skills to join either one on the handball court).

Over the next several decades, I had countless lunch visits with Don, a man that many of my contemporaries already knew – starting with those who had attended Captain Shreve High School.

Don, who had a BA in English and Masters in Education, taught Honors English and Humanities at Captain Shreve High School (1970-77), where he also served as assistant principal (1977-87). He would weave into our conversations vignettes drawn from Sophocles, *Oedipus the King*, *Oedipus at Colonus* and *Antigone*. Since the collection of Plato’s *Republic* deals with justice, character and the “just man,” Don observed that I needed to read all 10 books, officially assigning it, for my “reading pleasure and in [my] spare time.”

After Don retired from a quarter century in the school system in 1987, he wasn’t done; his entrepreneurial spirit kicked in. For the next 30 (plus) years, Don started many successful businesses, some of which included: C & H Services, Inc. (a thriving janitorial services company of which he was co-owner and the source of his humble “just a janitor” introduction); Fast Tax Service, Inc.; Premier Management Company; and even a coffee shop (which I frequented).

Don also lived a life of service, and in doing so made our community a better place for all. Don knew the importance of ensuring access to first-rate medical care for the citizens of north Louisiana and for years served as chair of the Development and Fundraising Committee for LSU Health Sciences Foundation, raising substantial funds to provide care to those in need irrespective of their ability to pay.

He also served on the prestigious Committee of 100 for Economic Development, Inc., a Louisiana nongovernmental organization that promotes public policies aimed at retaining existing businesses and recruiting new, innovative businesses to our state.

For two four-year terms, 1995-99 and 2001-05, he served on the Judiciary Commission of Louisiana, a constitutionally created body consisting of three judges, three lawyers and three “citizens” (not public officials and not lawyers). Empowered to investigate complaints of misconduct of judges, the Commission holds trials and makes recommendations on appropriate sanctions to the La. Supreme Court. Drawing from his background as assistant principal at Captain Shreve,

where he was known for swift and sure discipline, Don was an engaged member. After intently listening to the proceedings and hearing from his eight colleagues on the Commission, Don's "method," when he deemed it warranted, was to launch into intense and sometimes blistering cross-examination, with the recalcitrant judge usually apologizing and exclaiming, "You will never see me again!"

In 2002, the Shreveport Bar Association honored Don with the prestigious Liberty Bell Award. From a field of many nominations, each year the SBA selects one person, usually a nonlawyer, who has demonstrated dedication to community service that "strengthens the effectiveness of the American system of freedom under law." Don often complained that the trophy bestowed to him, which was a replica of the Liberty Bell, had a crack in it and the SBA should replace it with a nondefective bell. Of course, such comments were again examples of Don's humor and humility, as when examined on that statement, Don conceded his unsurprisingly deep knowledge about the Liberty Bell and how it sustained its famous 1846 crack.

Consistent with his commitment to "freedom under law," issues of diversity and equality always mattered to Don. Growing up in the South during the period of integration and especially working as a teacher and administrator in a previously all-white segregated high school, he witnessed outrageous racial disparity and endured pain. Treating people equally and with dignity mattered to Don. And so, during the last 10 years of his life, Don became a partner in Diversity Matters, a firm that addressed human relations issues, especially those involving race in the workplace. Don, always forward-thinking and hopeful, considered his work to be less about color of skin and more about understanding and appreciating the diverse cultures in America.

One last, unforgettable moment for me was my campaign inaugural event in 2012, at which I was honored that Don agreed to speak. To keep all three speakers on track, I emphasized no more than five minutes for each. Before the speeches were set to commence, I noticed Don with a full glass of chardonnay. I didn't think too much about it – until I saw him with a second glass and on his way to the podium. In front of the several hundred in attendance, fueled with plenty of chardonnay, he was undaunted by time restraints – Don let it rip! Yes, nail biting at first but ultimately he gave the best speech of the evening. Just like Fleet, I was proud to call him my friend, my brother.

Don knew the Lord and God's word. For many years, he worshiped at Little Union Baptist Church, (of course)

teaching Sunday school. Next to God, family was most important. Don adored his wife, whom he affectionately called "Miss Ruby," and loved his son, Calvin. A close runner-up to God and family was relationships – diverse and meaningful ones. When Fleet died in 2014, Don was never quite the same; he had lost his best friend, one who relentlessly battled him on the handball court, one who invited him into successful business ventures and one with whom he could celebrate important occasions.

During the first half of this year, I learned that Don's health was rapidly declining. After knowing and loving the now 89-year-old Don Horton for more than three decades, I couldn't comprehend what it would mean to lose Don – both for the Shreveport community and personally for me. I visited him at his home, bringing food and conversation, intent on letting him know that our friendship was undying.

Don died on October 20, 2022. Don will live on in our hearts: for those he taught at Captain Shreve and Little Union, for his colleagues and employees in the business world, even for those once recalcitrant but now rehabilitated judges – and for people like me who so richly benefited from the wisdom and devoted friendship that he provided.

I imagine Mahalia Jackson greeting Don with her song "A City Called Heaven," a place, in the hands of God, where we're all the same. I imagine Fleet embracing Don with a commendation of "well done, my brother" followed by an invitation to once again battle on the handball court.

Meanwhile, for me, I guess that I better get busy with my reading assignment, the ten books of Plato's *Republic*, as there will surely be a test.



Memorial & Recognition Ceremony

This year the Shreveport Bar Association paid tribute to eight deceased members of the legal profession at the First Judicial District Court and Shreveport Bar Association – sponsored Memorial and Recognition Ceremony on Thursday, November 3, 2022.

Honorable Ramona L. Emanuel, Chief Judge, presided over the ceremony, and SBA Memorial and Recognition Chair Honorable Michael Pitman served as Master of Ceremonies for the program. Judge Pitman worked with the Judicial Administrator, David McClatchey, and with Gailyn Dennis from the First Judicial District Court to plan a great memorial program.

Deceased members were honored and their presenters were **Roy Loret Beard** presented by M. Thomas Arceneaux; **Russell Oliver Brabham** presented by Curtis R. Joseph Jr.; **Joseph “Joey” Anthony Cannatella Jr.** presented by David L. White; **Samuel William Caverlee** presented by Herschel E. Richard Jr.; **Lawrence M. “Larry” Johnson** presented by Stephen A. Glassell; **Sydney Banks Nelson** presented by John Hammons; Dean R. Veatch presented by Hon. (Ret.) Thomas Wilson; and **Michael Hugh Wainwright** presented by Charles C. Grubb.

Following the ceremony, Gemma Zuniga, president of the Young Lawyers’ Section of the SBA, introduced 16 new attorneys to the Court: **Jacque P. Biggs, Madison Elizabeth Crusan, Holly H. Dorward, Stephanie Jo Durr, Kelsi Flores, Stephen Andrew Folk-Cruthirds, Parker John Hall, Anna Chandler Higgins, Caitlin Ann Huettemann, Kourtnee A. Jones, Reagan Elizabeth LaPietra, Sarah Michelle Milkovich, Connor O’Brien, Terry G. Pittman Jr., Chris A. Procell, and Ghazal Ullah.**

This annual event holds great importance to the Court, as well as to the family and friends of the departed, the members of the Bench, the Bar, and our community.

Copies of the memorials from this year, and going back to 1936, can be read under the Memorials link on the Caddo Clerk of Court’s website.





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Purchase a Justinian flag today. 100% of the proceeds will be donated to the Shreveport Bar Foundation, which provides charitable legal assistance and education to the public through two primary programs: The Pro Bono Project and the Legal Representation for Victims of Domestic Violence Program ("LRVDV").

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Krewe of Justinian Flag

Price: \$150

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Veterans Program Luncheon Highlights



Caddo Magnet High School
Color Guard



Centenary College Choir



Col (Ret.) Ted Cox, Major General Andrew
Gebara and Col (Ret.) John Odom



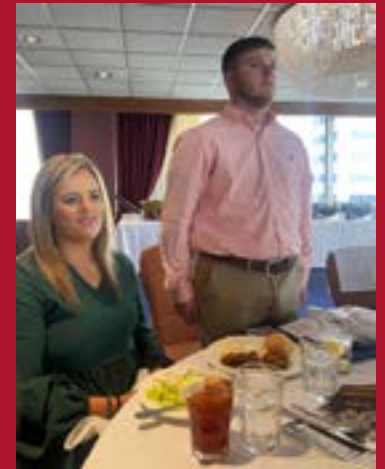
Col (Ret.) Ted Cox



Guest Speaker Gift



Major General Andrew Gebara



SBA Administrative Assistant
Kendall Riggs and Marine
Veteran Tyler Riggs



Dr. Gale Odom



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Welcome

New Members

Jacque Biggs

Thomas Soileau Jackson & Cole

Collin Donner

Litigation Practice Group

Holly Dorward

Cook, Yancey, King & Galloway

Kelsi Flores

Law Clerk, First Judicial District Court

Parker Hall

Casten & Pearce APLC

Anna Chandler Higgins

Seabaugh & Sepulvado

Connor O'Brien

Law Clerk, First Judicial District Court

Ghazal Ullah

Perkins & Associates LLC

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UPCOMING EVENTS

*2023 SBA MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEONS

12:00 Noon at the Petroleum Club (15th Floor)

DECEMBER 8-9

SBA Trial Academy
Tom Stagg Courthouse and
Caddo Parish Courthouse

DECEMBER 14-15

December CLE by the Hour
Petroleum Club (15th Floor)

DECEMBER 18

SBA Christmas Party
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Silver Star Grille

*JANUARY 25

SBA Member Luncheon
12:00 Noon at the Petroleum Club (15th Floor)
Speaker: TBD

You can now use the Amazon Shopping app on your mobile phone to sign up for AmazonSmile and select "Shreveport Bar Foundation Pro Bono Project" as your favorite charity.

This is a great opportunity for you to support us through AmazonSmile donations.

Do you want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you?

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3. - Select "Shreveport Bar Foundation Pro Bono Project" as your charity.
4. - Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app.

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**Shreveport Bar Foundation
Pro Bono Project**





**The Shreveport Bar Association
cordially invites SBA Members,
Spouses or Significant Others
& Local Law Students to a**

Christmas Party

on Sunday,

the Eighteenth of December 2022

from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

at

Silver Star Grille

9462 Ellerbe Road, Shreveport

Please bring an unwrapped toy for Common Ground, Inc. or
monetary donation designated for the Gingerbread House Children's
Advocacy Center and The Cara Center

R.S.V.P. by 12/16

dsouthern@shreveportbar.com

Dress: Holiday Casual