



FROM THE PRESIDENT

May is a busy month to be the President of the Akron Bar. There is Law Week, including the Law Day Luncheon, and the Red Mass and the Sir Thomas More Award. As for the Sir Thomas More Award, the rumor that Jeff Heintz wants to be referred to as "Sir Jeff Heintz" is not true, at least to my knowledge, but I am not taking any chances and will be addressing him that way until he says otherwise. The Federal Court Luncheon and the Senior Lawyer Awards Dinner recognizing Don Hicks were both well attended and, in fact, the Senior Lawyer event was sold out. In looking across the rooms at each event recognizing Jeff and Don, I was reminded of a wise person who once said, "An individual's worth is measured by the people gathered around them." As evidenced in the events for Jeff Heintz and Don Hicks, they are wealthy individuals. Someone should Google that wise person's remarks to properly credit them, but if no one else came up with that, then I am the wise person. These gatherings bring us closer together as individuals and promote professionalism in our Bar.

These events could not take place without the effort of the staff at the Akron Bar Association and a host of member-volunteers. To all of you, I say "Thank you." In talking to Akron Bar Executive Allen Nichols the other day I told him how proud I was of the staff and I thank them regularly for their efforts. They have been the MVPs of my term in office. The staff have really grown as a team this past year and, without being asked, have taken on additional responsibilities.

Each day it is evident that they are more and more confident in their own abilities. As much as it is "our" Akron Bar Association, they too have claimed pride in ownership of this organization. This says a lot about them as well as Allen's leadership. Please tell the ABA staff how much you appreciate their efforts. If there is someone you want me to specifically acknowledge, please let me know.

In the Bar's never-ending quest to provide you with exclusive opportunities to achieve excellence as a lawyer, we are happy to announce the creation of the Legal Services Referral Network. Through this program, members experienced in legal research and writing will be able to offer their services to other members in need of legal writing and research assistance. Please review the program guidelines and consider offering your expertise to your fellow Bar members. If you are interested in joining the LSRN, simply [go online and fill out the application](#). It is another way to connect with your fellow members and market your skills.

The Ohio Supreme Court Commission on CLE has announced some revisions to CLE Rules & Regulations that will take effect on July 1, 2019. First, the minimum program time for all continuing legal education classes will be modified from sixty minutes to thirty minutes.

Currently, Live Webinars are treated as equiva-

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lent to self-study programs and subject to the 12-hour per compliance period cap. After July 1, programs that meet the criteria of Live Interactive Webinars will no longer be subject to the 12-hour cap. Live Webinars that are not deemed to be sufficiently Interactive will be subject to the 12-hour cap.

There will also be changes to CLE teaching credit when teaching at a Law School. After July 1, part-time and adjunct professors who teach at a law school will receive three credit hours of CLE for each semester hour of a course taught the first time they teach a course. Full-time professors and subsequent teachings of a law school course by part-time or adjunct professors will receive one-half hour of CLE for each semester hour taught.

If you would like to be a presenter on a topic and, like me, have only 30-minutes of knowledge floating around your brain at a time, the ABA would be happy to assist you in planning and offering a 30-minute CLE. Please contact Mary Beth Vehorn, Director of Legal Professional Development at cle@akronbar.org or 330-436-0112.

I attended my last Akron Bar Foundation Board of Governors Meeting the other day. At the meeting, the Foundation authorized a grant to the Akron Bar for new audio-visual equipment and contributed monies to the Building Fund. Additional grants went to the Rise Program; the Law Week Community Event; Mock Trial; The Peace of Mind Program; the Battered Women's Shelter; Bondage Breakers; the Broken Chains Ministry; The Salvation Army Community Service Program; and Victim Assistance. Additionally, the Akron Bar Foundation Scholarship program gave \$45,000 in scholarships.

If you are looking to make a charitable donation, please remember the Akron Bar Foundation.

Baba's recipe today is family. Family dinners, cooking, and time spent together helps bring everyone closer. She has, and does, pass her recipes down to her children, grandchildren, and even daughters-in-law. They then have passed that knowledge to others, who in turn, have become part of Baba's extended family. Nothing makes Baba happier than hearing that. If you have tried any of the recipes I've posted over the past year, let me know, and welcome to the family!

Finally, over the past couple of weeks and really for the past year, work for the Bar and Roderick Linton Belfance has meant that I have left the house at 6:10 am and gotten home around 10 pm or been gone for several days. During that time, my wife, Mikki, has always been supportive and has never once complained about my schedule. (Please, no jokes that she is happy to have me out of the house!) I was with a group of friends one day who asked me who my best friend was. As I recall, I said, "While others may think I am their best friend, I would say that Mikki is my best friend." Again, in my mind that is how I said it. Mikki, who has a nearly-photographic memory, later advised me that I said, "Well, if I had to pick someone, I guess it would be Mikki." Obviously, you can see how those statements differ. So, if you see her at Judge Tammy O'Brien's court, let Mikki know that I have publicly acknowledged that she is my **Best Friend!**

Bill

William G. Chris, President



"Moeto Semejstvo"