

HARTFORD COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Presidents



Compiled by the Hartford County Bar Association History Committee



*2008 marks the 225th
year anniversary of
the Hartford County
Bar Association.
When reflecting upon
this historic milestone
we are reminded
that our long and
rich history is rooted
in the development
of Hartford's legal
community.*

INTRODUCTION

In 1708, Richard Edwards, at 60 years old, reportedly became the first regularly admitted Hartford County attorney. He could not be characterized as ordinary. He was the ancestor of two presidents, a governor, New York and Connecticut Judges and Aaron Burr. Richard Edwards had been acting as an attorney since 1684. The practice of law at that time would not be recognizable today. There was no requirement of legal training, virtually no legal textbooks, and English common law was not binding upon the colonies. It was described as a time when “superstition was more persuasive than legal argument.”

In 1730, the number of attorneys appointed by the County Courts was limited by statute to eleven, three of whom were allocated to Hartford. Additionally, there was one King’s Attorney judicially appointed to each county. The statutory restriction on the number of attorneys allowed to practice proved unworkable and the statute was repealed the following year. Although one would have expected that the number of attorneys would sharply increase once the statutory limitation was lifted, by 1751, there was actually a decrease in the number of Hartford Bar members. The cause was linked to the division of Hartford County land to form the counties of Windham (1726) and Litchfield (1751), as well as allowing county courts in 1750 to appoint and issue oaths to attorneys.

Over the next few decades, the number of attorneys steadily grew and included many illustrious Bar members. Judge Tapping Reeve was admitted to the Hartford Bar in 1771. In 1781, Alexander Wolcott, Jr., Noah Webster, Jr., and John Trumbull became part of the Hartford Bar. Notable members, Titus Hosmer, William Samuel Johnson, and Chief Justice Oliver Ellsworth, became known as the “Three Mighties.” Past-president Joseph P. Kenney detailed the development of this time period as follows:

Prior to the Revolution, over a hundred attorneys from the colonies had received their education at the Inns of Court. Sir William Blackstone, was undoubtedly, the greatest of the Inn graduates, having trained at the Middle Temple. His lectures became the Commentaries upon publication, and were the introductory text at both the Litchfield Law School and later at William and Mary.

The apprenticeship system was the one generally used in the colonies to teach all the trades and professions. For the practicing attorney, the apprentices served as secretary, factotum and law clerk. This method was employed in the legal profession until the advent of the twentieth century.



The American Revolution radically altered the system. Gone were the Inns of Court. Banished were the Tory lawyers who left the colonies, or were banned by statute. Accordingly to local historians, not one attorney in Connecticut embraced the Crown once the shooting commenced.

Who were these young gentlemen after the Revolution who had been adjudged fit to practice law? As the petition filed to the honorable County Court at Hartford in April 1782, proclaimed, "By leave to say they are young gentlemen of unexceptional moral character, of liberal education and possessed of a competent knowledge in the principles and practice of law to be admitted to the Attorneys Barr."

This era was indeed both fortunate and fateful to the young nation still recovering from its wounds. It spawned a class of giants who were to bring the republic through its early struggles.

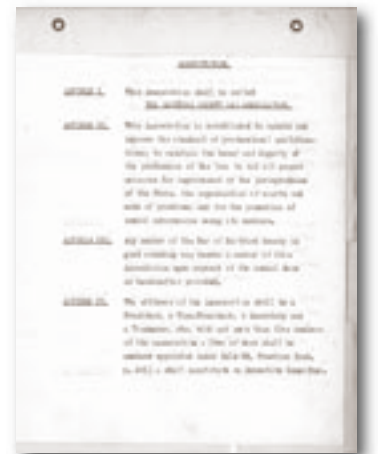
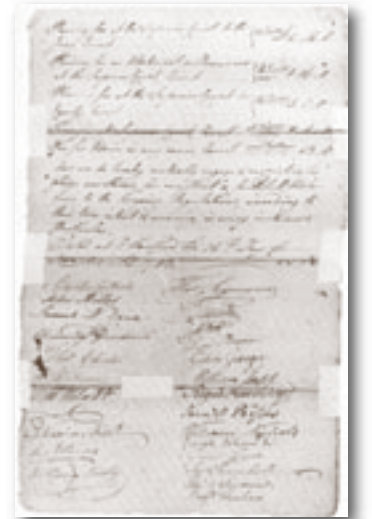
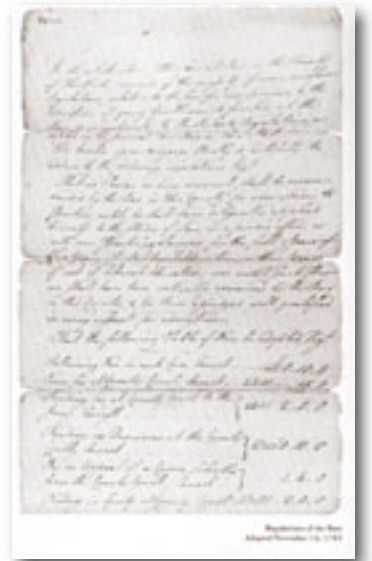
The formation of an Association of Hartford County Bar members can be traced to November 14th, 1783 when a formidable group of thirty two men gathered at the well known local establishment known as Ripley's Tavern. On that date, "Regulations of the Barr" were adopted. The group members included Oliver Wolcott, Jr., Enoch Perkins, John Trumbull, Ephraim Root and Oliver Ellsworth. By accounts from the time, the initial purpose for the organization was to improve the Bar by controlling the number of attorneys, their qualifications and the allowable fees charged. It was a direct response to what was characterized as a rapid increase in the number of attorneys. Despite this effort, registered practicing attorneys grew steadily. As Noah Webster had commented: "Never was such a rage for the study of law."

Hartford County Bar lawyers during this early time period were instrumental in developing the profession. They were scholars, judges and the founders of Hartford's leading law firms. Throughout the ensuing years, Association members continued to make significant contributions to the legal and Hartford County community.

The membership of the Hartford County Bar Association has consistently elected Bar leaders who are accomplished attorneys, politicians and businessmen. Each president has played a pivotal role in shaping the organization. Each has brought forth his or her unique personality and talents to confront the challenges of the day. Each has served with diligence and professionalism. Each has worked to improve relations between bar members, the judiciary and the public. Every president prominently fostered and enhanced the Association while continuing the tradition of excellence established by their predecessors.

In celebration of our 225th year anniversary, the Hartford County Bar Association proudly presents this HCBA History Committee compilation of Bar Presidents, beginning with the oldest known president – Charles E. Perkins.

KATHRYN CALIBEY
President (2008-2009)



Hartford County Bar Association Presidents

YEARS SERVED	PRESIDENT'S NAME	PAGE	YEARS SERVED	PRESIDENT'S NAME	PAGE
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1917-1922	<i>Charles E. Gross*</i>	7	1973-1974	<i>William R. Davis</i>	52
1922-1926	<i>William F. Henney*</i>	8	1974-1975	<i>Maxwell Heiman*</i>	44
1926-1928	<i>Lucius F. Robinson*</i>	9	1975-1976	<i>Joseph P. Kenny*</i>	45
1928-1930	<i>Bernard F. Gaffney*</i>	10	1976-1977	<i>Robert F. Taylor*</i>	46
1930-1932	<i>John T. Robinson*</i>	11	1977-1978	<i>Joseph F. Skelley, Jr.*</i>	47
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1940	<i>Josiah H. Peck*</i>	16	1982-1983	<i>Joseph A. Lorenzo*</i>	49
1940-1942	<i>Henry J. Marks*</i>	17	1983-1984	<i>Paul W. Orth</i>	54
1942-1944	<i>Frank E. Healy*</i>	18	1984-1985	<i>Bernard Poliner</i>	55
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1946-1948	<i>Joseph P. Cooney*</i>	20	1986-1987	<i>William A. Roberto</i>	56
1949-1949	<i>Robert P. Butler*</i>	21	1987-1988	<i>John M. Bailey*</i>	50
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1953-1954	<i>Julius B. Schatz*</i>	25	1991-1992	<i>Robert L. Wyld</i>	58
1954-1955	<i>J. Ronald Regnier*</i>	26	1992-1993	<i>Ernest J. Mattei</i>	58
1955-1956	<i>James F. Kennedy*</i>	27	1993-1994	<i>Vincent F. Sabatini</i>	59
1956-1957	<i>Frederick J. Rundbaken*</i>	28	1994-1995	<i>Vincent L. Diana</i>	59
1957-1958	<i>John F. Downes*</i>	29	1995-1996	<i>John L. Bonee, III</i>	60
1958-1959	<i>John J. Kenny*</i>	30	1996-1997	<i>James G. Green, Jr.</i>	60
1959-1960	<i>Wallace R. Burke*</i>	31	1997-1998	<i>James J. Szerejko</i>	61
1960-1961	<i>Charles N. Segal*</i>	32	1998-1999	<i>Elizabeth A. Schumacher</i>	61
1961-1962	<i>Frederick W. Beach*</i>	33	1999-2000	<i>Michael Ruben Peck</i>	62
1962-1963	<i>Cornelius D. Shea*</i>	34	2000-2001	<i>Francis J. Brady</i>	63
1963-1964	<i>William K. Cole*</i>	35	2001-2002	<i>Glenn E. Coe</i>	64
1964-1965	<i>Harold I. Koplowitz*</i>	36	2002-2003	<i>John C. Matulis, Jr.</i>	65
1965-1966	<i>Joseph J. Trantolo, Sr.*</i>	37	2003-2004	<i>Steven M. Greenspan</i>	66
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1967-1968	<i>Max M Savitt*</i>	38	2005-2006	<i>Dennis J. Kerrigan, Jr.</i>	67
1968-1969	<i>Thomas J. O'Donnell*</i>	39	2006-2007	<i>Anthony J. Natale</i>	67
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1970-1971	<i>Edward S. Pomeranz*</i>	41	2008-2009	<i>Kathryn Calibey</i>	68
1971-1972	<i>Ralph C. Dixon*</i>	42			

* Deceased



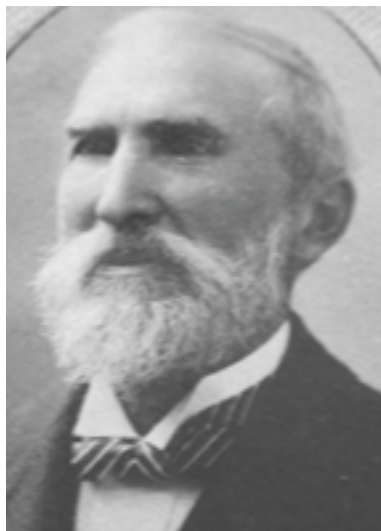


Biographical Sketches of Deceased
Hartford County Bar Association Presidents



CHARLES E. PERKINS

Elected 1886



Charles Enoch Perkins was the nephew of Harriet Beecher Stowe and part of a prominent family of lawyers. He was born in Hartford on March 24, 1832, attended Hartford High School and graduated from Williams College in 1853. He studied law in Hartford with his father, Enoch Perkins, who was one of the signers of the 1783 document that laid the foundations for the Hartford County Bar Association. After two years of study, Charles was admitted to the Bar in 1855.

Charles Perkins was a member of the Hartford Monday Evening Club, a club to which Samuel Clemens also belonged. He was also known as an “enthusiastic” hunter of caribou and duck. He married and had five children. His wife, whose maiden name was Lucy M. Adams, was a descendant of Presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams.

Mr. Perkins was regarded as one of the most prominent lawyers in northern Connecticut. Although he held positions as City Attorney and Water Commissioner, he was not a “politician.” Instead, his legal skills led him to “cases of great interest” that often drew him beyond Connecticut. He was recognized as “an encyclopedia of authorities” due to his vast experience in civil law. During his legal career, he represented Samuel Clemens, who characterized Charles Perkins as “an old personal friend & the best lawyer in Hartford.” In 1883, he was judicially appointed to take evidence in an injunction suit referred to as the “Great Railroad Fight,” involving the rights of the New York and

New England Railroad. He later became a director of the East Granby and Suffield Railroad Company.

At one point during his legal career, Charles Perkins was offered the position of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Errors. He declined, “feeling that his natural gifts better qualified him for the bar than the bench.” He was a partner in the law firm of Perkins and Perkins (a predecessor

to Howard, Kohn, Sprague and Fitzgerald) until his death in 1917.

Charles E. Perkins is the oldest known president of the Hartford County Bar Association, a position he held for 31 years: 1886 to 1917. Prior to becoming president, he spearheaded a petition in 1877 to establish the Hartford County Bar library and served on the Bar’s library committee.

Upon his death, the honorary pall bearers included Governor Holcomb, ex-Governor Baldwin, Judge Prentice, former Congressman Lewis Sperry, Hartford County Bar President, Charles E. Gross and Judge William F. Henney. Reports of his death recited the following quote:

His career at the bar has been a long, honorable and distinguished one. With him abided the old fashioned idea that the practice of law was a profession and not a trade. No act of his, while living, detracted from the honors of old associated with the legal profession. Dead, the memory of his career will be an incentive to other and younger men to keep undimmed the common heritage of the bar.



CHARLES E. GROSS

Elected 1917

Charles E. Gross was born in Hartford on August 18, 1847. His illustrious ancestors included Elder William Brewster of the Mayflower, Connecticut Governors John Webster and Thomas Welles, Governor Thomas Pierce of Plymouth Colony and Captain Joseph Wadsworth who hid the Charter in the Charter Oak.

He attended both New Haven and Hartford public schools, and graduated from Hartford High School in 1864. He went on to and graduated from Yale College with honors in 1869. He was President of the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity there. Mr. Gross did not attend law school, but instead, studied first with the Hon. Charles Hoadley, State Librarian and then under the attorneys at the Hartford firm of Waldo, Hubbard & Hyde.

Upon admission to the Connecticut Bar in 1872, Charles Gross practiced with Waldo, Hubbard & Hyde. Upon the death of Judge Waldo, Mr. Gross became a partner with the firm, and it was renamed Hyde & Shipman. In 1894, the firm later became known as Gross, Hyde & Shipman. Their clients included companies such as Aetna Insurance, Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance, Travelers Bank & Trust, Colonial National Bank, and the Board of Water Commissioners of Hartford. The firm's offices were located at 2 Central Row in downtown Hartford, a quite prominent building in its day.

Mr. Gross was a Democrat politically, although he generally shied away from political affairs. He turned down many political nominations, providing his full attention to his practice instead. He had a "patriotic spirit." He was a member and Governor of the Society of Colonial Wars; a member and Governor of the Society of Mayflower Descendants, and a member of the Connecticut Society Sons of the American Revolution.



Photo courtesy of Connecticut Historical Society

Mr. Gross was a member of the Yale Alumni Association and served as president of many corporate entities. He had an interest in historical



research pertaining to the early years of the Connecticut Colony and New England. He was a long time member of the Connecticut Historical Society and served as its president in 1917 and 1918. He also served as president of the Wadsworth Athenaeum in Hartford.

Mr. Gross represented Samuel Colt's wife, Elizabeth Hart Colt. The Hartford Courant reported that it was Charles Gross who proposed

that Elizabeth Colt build a memorial to her husband in a small park later bearing their name. Upon Elizabeth Colt's death, he was one of the executors of her estate.

Charles Gross served as President of the Hartford County Bar Association for five years from 1917 to 1922. He died shortly after his term ended.

Upon his death in 1925, at the age of 78, many noted members of the Hartford County Bar spoke in his memory. Francis H. Parker called Mr. Gross eloquent, courteous and sincere. He characterized him a great leader of his time. Mr. Gross' former partner, Alvan Waldo Hyde, praised him as charitable and considerate. John T. Robinson explained that Mr. Gross had what he called the "3 essential qualities of a successful lawyer," namely industry, ability and character. Finally, another of Mr. Gross' former partners, Arthur L. Shipman, opined that Gross was confident and loyal. He also illuminated Mr. Gross' activities outside of law: traveling, reading, studying pictures and objects of art, and enjoying social life.



WILLIAM F. HENNEY

Elected 1922



William F. Henney was born in Enfield on November 2, 1852. He graduated from Hartford Public High School in 1870 and Princeton University in 1874. He studied law under Henry C. Robinson and was admitted to the Bar in 1876.

Mr. Henney was a prominent lawyer in Hartford for fifty years. In his early years, he earned the reputation as being industrious, intellectual and of the highest character. It was said of him that: "He believed in the law as the great instrument of human justice; and the achievement of the ends of justice he conceived to be a lawyer's duty, a duty infinitely transcending the satisfaction of success in the trial of causes."

Well read in history and general literature, Henney authored essays and poetry. He was the class poet at Hartford High School, as well as, at Princeton where he obtained a Master of Arts in 1877.

Mr. Henney had a long record of public service. He was a Hartford City Police Court Judge from 1883-1888, whereupon he became the Hartford City Attorney. He was the mayor of Hartford from 1904-1908 and later served as a representative to the Republican National Committee and on the Board of State Police Commissioners. Before becoming President of the Hartford County Bar Association, he served as President of the Connecticut Bar.

He was described as being: "Of a dignified and somewhat retiring nature, he was, nevertheless, warm-hearted, generous and friendly. He particularly delighted in friendly association with his fellow members of the Bar."



LUCIUS F. ROBINSON

Elected 1926



L*ucius F. Robinson*, a native of Hartford, was born on June 12, 1863. He was the son of Henry Cornelius Robinson and Eliza Niles (Trumbull) Robinson. He attended Hartford High School and Yale University, where he earned his A.B. in 1885. He later received an LL.D from Yale in 1926.

After his admission to the Bar in 1887, he practiced law in Hartford with his father in the firm H.C. and L.F. Robinson. His brother, Henry S. Robinson, who became a lawyer in 1891, and his youngest brother, John T. Robinson, subsequently joined the partnership. Their firm eventually became Robinson, Robinson and Cole.

Lucius Robinson was a member of Hartford's Court of Common Council from 1889 to 1891, serving as president of that body in the latter year. He was on the Board of Fire Commissioners, the Board of Park Commissioners and a member of the State Park and Forest Commission. He served as a member of the Commission until his death and was its chairman for twenty years.

In 1887, Lucius Robinson was appointed a director of the Hartford Public Library. In 1890, he was named a director of the First National Bank, where he stayed for over half a century. In 1900, he was elected a director of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company, and his term on that board was the longest in the annals of the Company. He was also elected a director of the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company, the Connecticut Fire Insurance Company, and the Phoenix Insurance Company. His industrial directorships included the Colt's Patent Fire

Arms Manufacturing Company, Veeder-Root Incorporated, and the Billings and Spencer Company. For many years he was on the board of the Hartford Retreat.

Mr. Robinson was powerful defender of state's rights. He was deeply opposed to national prohibition and fought its repeal while serving as a director of The Association Against The Eighteenth Amendment. In 1933, he chaired the constitutional convention where Connecticut ratified repeal.

During the first World War, he was a member of the Connecticut State Guard First Infantry, serving as a private in Company B, and was also appointed by Governor Marcus Holcomb to the State Council of Defense.

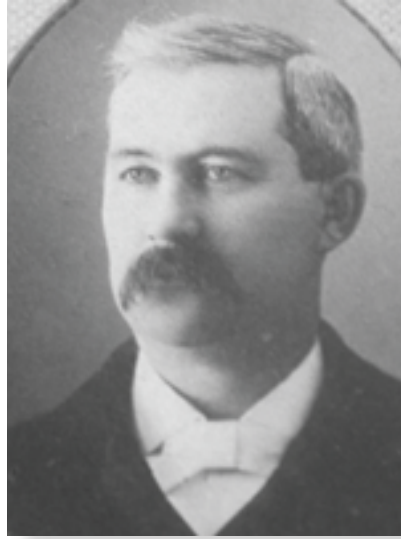
Notwithstanding the strength and energy which he expended in public and other outside interests, his greatest devotion was to the practice of law. He was viewed as gifted practitioner. As a colleague remarked: "few, if any, lawyers were his equal in the general breadth of their practical legal knowledge, and no member of the bar of Connecticut excelled him in the understanding of corporate law and procedure." He attained a position of prominence among the lawyers in the State and served as President of both the Hartford County Bar Association and the State Bar.

As he advanced into the later years of his life, he relinquished to some extent his active work but, up until the time of his death, he "maintained an alert mind and vigorous personality keeping hold of the connections which he cherished most in the practice of his profession."



BERNARD F. GAFFNEY

Elected 1928



Bernard F. Gaffney was born in New Britain on June 23, 1861. A lifelong resident of that city, Bernard Gaffney is known for his prominent legal and judicial career, as well as, his outstanding commitment to his community.

He grew up in New Britain, working on his family farm, and attended New Britain public schools. He saved enough money to attend college at Yale. At Yale, he was known for spending most of his time in the library and graduated in 1887. After college, Gaffney began his law career by studying under Attorney Philip Markley. He was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in 1889.

Bernard Gaffney was married to Alice Lee Sherlock, and together they had three sons and one daughter. All three sons became attorneys in New Britain, and all eventually practiced with their father, who began as a solo practitioner.

Early in his career, he served as New Britain Corporation Counsel. In 1904, he was the Democratic candidate for the District of Berlin Judge of Probate. He won the election, and was re-elected to the position every two years until his retirement in 1931, at the age of seventy. During his judgeship,

Gaffney served as President of the Hartford County Bar Association from 1928 to 1930.

Judge Gaffney was known for his devotion to the citizens of New Britain. He was a religious man and took part in many charitable activities, especially assisting the Polish churches and charities, as New Britain had a large Polish population. He was also a member of the New Britain Board of Education, a member of the City Finance Board, a member of the Commission on the City Charter and the City Zoning Commission, and Chairman of the New Britain Draft Board during World War I.

Judge Gaffney had a reputation for being noble, highly ethical and a fighter for his clients. Although a true competitor, he was recognized as always fair-minded and courteous to his opponents. Judge Gaffney was an idealist, which stemmed from his deep love for reading poetry, history, religion and philosophy. He died on March 31, 1936, at the age of 74.



JOHN T. ROBINSON

Elected 1930



John T. Robinson,, son of Henry C. and Eliza Trumbull Robinson, was born on April 25, 1871. A Hartford High School and Yale graduate, he spent his entire life in Hartford. He studied law in his father's office and was admitted to the Bar in 1896. He began the practice of law, inspired by a great family tradition, by joining his father and oldest brother.

His career at the bar was long, happy and successful. He tried many important cases and was frequently called upon by other lawyers for help. One lawyer, in a public address, described John T. Robinson as a commanding figure: "His Grecian head, his tall and graceful figure, his ringing voice, and his flow of natural eloquence made him a forceful advocate."

John T. Robinson was chairman of the Republican Town Committee from 1903 to 1906; Executive Secretary to Governor George P. McLean from 1901 to 1903; and a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1904. He served as United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut from 1908 to 1912. Throughout his life, John T. Robinson was an advisor in the councils of the Republican Party and a staunch upholder of constitutional government.

He became president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1930. It was during John T. Robinson's term that a reorganization of the Association occurred, resulting in the adoption of a new Constitution and By-laws. Upon the unanimous adoption of the new governing documents, he was elected temporary president of the Association until the April, 1932 Annual Meeting.

Outside the legal arena, John T. Robinson had a fondness for the outdoors. He loved the woods, fields and streams. He was a devoted follower of Isaac Walton, and it was said that some of his happiest times were those when he could indulge in "the gentle art of angling."



HUGH M. ALCORN

Elected 1932



Hugh M. Alcorn of Suffield was born on October 24, 1872. He attended the Connecticut Literary Institution and graduated from Yale. His long and prominent career in law and politics began when he studied law with the Hartford firm of Case, Bryant and Case. Beginning in 1903, he served two terms in the Connecticut House of Representatives. In 1908, he was judicially appointed as State's Attorney for Hartford County. He was successively re-appointed to that position for thirty-four years. When he resigned in 1942, he "had established the longest tenure of the office in the history of a post that had begun in colonial time with the King's Attorneys." It was reported that as State's Attorney, he prosecuted over fifteen thousand criminal cases during that period, many of which "were of national prominence, resulting in federal legislation to control white

slavery, loan shark operations and medical standards." Although not successful, Hugh Alcorn was the Republican nominee for Governor in 1934. Both prior to and following his run for governor, he was a delegate to the Republican National Committee.

Hugh Alcorn was an active Hartford County Bar member and was appointed to chair the Reorganization Committee. Under his leadership, the Committee drafted a reorganization proposal for the Association, which ultimately resulted in the adoption of a new Constitution and By-laws. Hugh Alcorn was first Association president elected under this new scheme. He served as president of the Hartford County Bar Association from 1932-1934.



JOSEPH F. BERRY

Elected 1934



Joseph F. Berry, was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on February 13, 1880, to Charles F. and Emily C. (Morgan) Berry. One of five children, his lineage stems from both Maine and Massachusetts, and his family represented a merger of two of the most prominent early American families.

Mr. Berry attended public schools in Boston. He graduated from Tufts in 1901 and Harvard Law School in 1904. He was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar and, in 1907, became a member of the Connecticut Bar. Upon his graduation from Harvard, Mr. Berry became an associate with the Boston firm Choate, Hall & Stewart, still in existence today. In 1907, he moved to Connecticut, where he became an attorney for the New Haven Railroad. In 1914, he became attorney for the Connecticut Company.

Mr. Berry relocated to Hartford in 1919, where he partnered with Edward M. Day in the firm which evolved into Day, Berry and Howard and is currently Day, Pitney LLC. While in Hartford, Mr. Berry gained the reputation as one of the state's most successful defense attorneys. He was admired by both the bench and bar. Described as a "skilled, firm antagonist" he was also known as one who was "unfailingly courteous" never carrying his hard-fought battles outside the courtroom.

While Mr. Berry was fond of golf and "motoring," he was also a prominent member of many organizations. He was president of the University Club and president of the Tufts College Alumni Club of Hartford. He was a member

of the American Bar Association Board of Governors and the Connecticut delegate to the ABA. While active in the ABA, Mr. Berry insured that every new ABA president came to Hartford to meet the "local bar." He served as president of both the Connecticut Bar Association and the Hartford County Bar Association.

Joseph Berry was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1934. He previously served as clerk for the Association from 1923 through 1930. Prior to his presidency, he was an active member of the 1928 committee appointed to draft a re-organization scheme for the Bar Association, which resulted in the adoption of a new Constitution and By-laws. He was elected as part of the first officer slate under the newly organized Association.

In 1944, Mr. Berry served with Joseph Cooney and Solomon Elsner on the Bar's Post-War Advisory Committee to assist returning Bar member soldiers.

Joseph Berry died in 1953 at age 73. Member delegations from the Hartford County Bar Association, the Connecticut Bar Association, the University Club of Hartford were among the hundreds of people attending his funeral service. All living past presidents of the state bar were in attendance. At the service, it was noted that Mr. Berry tempered "justice with thoughtfulness" and that "in him there was a clear cut brilliance of integrity which never sold his fellow man for a handful of silver."



ALEXANDER W. CREEDON

Elected 1936



Alexander W. Creedon practiced law in Hartford. He was a prosecutor in the Hartford Police Court and Assistant Secretary of the state republican party in 1922.

He had a long and active history with the Hartford County Bar Association, serving on committees, as one of the bar delegates to the state bar convention, and as president from 1936 - 1938.

The familiar structure of the current Association was adopted by Alex Creedon during his presidency. His term saw numerous new committees formed to address the issues facing the lawyers of the time. In 1936, a membership committee was established to increase the roster of Association members. In 1935 there were approximately 700 practicing Hartford attorneys of which “only” 241 were Association members. A Public Relations Committee was formed to “work to benefit the legal profession and to counteract unfavorable notoriety.” A Committee on Practice and Procedure was appointed to cooperate with other bar associations in presenting suggestions to the Judges on practice and procedure. A committee on Junior Bar Activities began because “there was a singular lack of intimacy between the younger and older members of the Bar.” The predecessor to our current Young Lawyers Committee was formed to foster contact with older attorneys, welcome new members and establish bar activities of interest to that group. He also set up a legislative committee and a winter “outing” committee whose purpose was to emphasize cultural rather than social programs.

Alex Creedon’s presidency made a significant impact upon not only the Bar but the Hartford County community. It was under his leadership and guidance that the Bar became involved in a legal aid program assisting the poor with legal representation. In February of 1938, at the University Club in Hartford, then President

Creedon outlined a proposal for active participation in legal aid activities on the part of the Association. He suggested that an organization be set up through the voluntary cooperation of younger members of the Bar (those practicing three years or less) under the supervision of a Supervisory Committee of the Association. The Executive Committee voted to approve “the principle of Legal Aid” and a committee was established to present a legal aid program for the Association. Within a month, rules and regulations governing the legal aid activities by the Bar were adopted. The purpose of the program, as expressed in these early documents, was “to provide for a system of legal aid for those unable to pay for legal services who are residents of Greater Hartford in cooperation with the Bureau of Legal Aid of the City of Hartford.” The legal aid plan went into active operation in June of 1938, and as of the 1940 Annual Meeting, Hartford County Bar Association lawyers had handled a total of 101 cases.



CHARLES WELLES GROSS

Elected 1938



Charles Welles Gross was born in Hartford on October 13, 1876. His father was the prominent attorney and prior Hartford County Bar president, Charles E. Gross. He graduated from Hartford Public High School in 1892, where he was a classmate of Hartford's Mayor Edward L. Smith. Mr. Gross went on to earn his Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University in 1898, and earned his law degree from Harvard University. He was a member of the fraternity Phi Beta Kappa. He was admitted into the Connecticut Bar in 1902.

Mr. Gross married Hilda Frances Welch, and they had two sons: Spencer, born in 1906, and Mason Welch, born in 1911. Charles' son, Mason, went on to serve as President

of Rutgers University and to star on two television game shows from 1949-1955 called "Think Fast" and "Two for the Money."

After his admission to the Bar, Mr. Gross practiced with his father's Hartford law firm of Gross, Hyde & Shipman. In 1920 the firm was renamed Gross, Gross and Hyde and was located at the Phoenix Mutual Building.

Outside his law practice, Charles Welles Gross was President of the Board of Trustees for the Hartford Seminary Foundation. He also served as President of the Hartford County Bar from 1938 to 1940 and the Connecticut State Bar Association. He died in 1957 at age 81.



JOSIAH HENRY PECK

Elected 1940



Josiah Peck was born on March 5, 1873, in Bristol, Connecticut. He graduated from Yale in 1895 and received his law degree from Harvard Law School in 1898.

Josiah Peck was a prodigious reader with a special love for English history. He also loved playing cards having grown up in a whist-playing family. He was known as an expert who was never critical of his partner's playing. One of his prized possessions was a gold pin bestowed by the Select Society of Whist Cranks. The society was comprised of the thirteen best players in America.

Josiah Peck initially practiced in New York City but later opened his own firm in Hartford in 1901. He was a generalist recognized for his distinguished ability and knowledge. He became known as a "lawyer's lawyer" with much of his business actually supplied by lawyers seeking advice or

assistance. He was a compassionate man who helped those who had fallen on hard times or who were in need. He declined an appointment to the Superior Court bench in 1921, as he did not want to be the one to pass sentence on those convicted.

In 1940, Mr. Peck was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association. He viewed this position as an honor which he deeply appreciated. Unfortunately, he died during his term of office. Upon his death it was written:

Mr. Peck was one of that refreshing minority who believe the law is a profession; who practice leisurely with the purpose of promoting justice; in whom the fire of ambition does not outshine or consume the spark of charity.



HENRY J. MARKS

Elected 1940



Henry Marks was born in Hartford on November 11, 1888. He graduated from Hartford High School in 1906 and Yale Law School in 1910. He immediately began practicing law with the firm of Bill and Tuttle. In 1920, he joined the firm of Tuttle, Gilman and Marks. He later became a senior member of Gilman and Marks. He practiced with them until his death, which occurred unexpectedly while at his office in July of 1947.

Henry Marks was a World War I veteran and served as a legal adviser for the West Hartford selective service during World War II.

Mr. Marks served as an Assistant Corporation Counsel and was active in his community. He was a member of the Men's Club of Congregation Beth Israel, the Hartford Foundation of Public Giving, and Tumble Brook Country Club. He was also a trustee of Society for Savings of Hartford.

Mr. Marks participated in the American and Hartford County Bar Associations. He was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association upon the death of Josiah Peck.



FRANK E. HEALY

Elected 1942



F*rank Healy* from Windsor Locks had an illustrious history in politics prior to being elected President of the Hartford County Bar. For 45 years, he represented the Seventh Senatorial District as a member of the Republican State Committee and eventually became the “dean” of the State Republican party leaders. He served as Clerk of the House in 1889, Clerk of the Senate in 1901, and Clerk of the 1902 Constitutional Convention. He was the State Tax Commissioner in 1906 and also served as Republican House Majority Leader and Speaker of the House. He served as one of the early Connecticut Attorneys General from 1919 to 1927.

Mr. Healy became a lawyer in 1893 after graduating with honors from Yale Law School. Prior to attending law school he was a coroner. He had been a coroner since 1935, and, subsequent to serving his two terms as the state Attorney General, he was judicially appointed as Coroner of Hartford County. He was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1942.



LUCIUS F. ROBINSON, JR.

Elected 1944



Lucius F. Robinson, Jr. (known as “Lu”) was born in Hartford in 1896, the grandson and son of the founders of Robinson and Cole. He graduated from Yale in 1918, served in World War I, and then attended Harvard Law School, graduating in 1921. He immediately joined the family law firm and remained there until his death in 1987 at age 91. Early in his career he also served as a Hartford Corporation Counsel.

His father, Lucius F. Robinson, Sr., vigorously opposed the 18th (prohibition) amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Lucius Robinson, Jr., adopting his father’s views, was active in a “junior” group known as the “Hartford Crusaders” that cooperated with the Association Against the 18th Amendment and the Women’s Organization for Prohibition Reform. Robinson, Jr. also took a role in favor of Wendell Wilkie in the 1940 national election.

In 1940, he was named to the boards of Connecticut General (today CIGNA), and the Hartford College of Law (now the University of Connecticut School of Law). He was appointed by Governor Baldwin to serve on a committee to review institutions for the mentally and physically handicapped. He recommended that the institutions be taken over by the state to centralize care, as opposed to leaving them in the hands of individual boards of directors. He also chaired a board to study revisions to Connecticut’s minor courts.

In 1941, when Lucius Robinson, Sr. died, “Lu” took his father’s place on the board of the Hartford Steam Boiler Company. He eventually became a member of the Yale

Corporation (its board of trustees) and received its Nathan Hale Award for his service to the University and the state.

In 1944, Robinson, Jr. became president of the Hartford County Bar Association. He held that office until 1946. In that capacity, he set up a Post-War Advisory Committee to assist soldiers when they left the service. The committee worked with the University of Connecticut School of Law, then on Woodland Street, to institute re-training courses and use of

the library by returning bar members.

On July 6, 1944, when the devastating Hartford circus fire occurred, Robinson, as Bar president, appointed a committee of three attorneys to insure that the settlement agreement between the circus, the circus receiver, and the fire victims was properly administrated. Under his guidance, the Bar Association established a substantially reduced legal fee schedule to be applied to the plaintiffs that sought arbitration under the settlement. This action met with a most favorable reception from both the public and the press.

In 1950, he became a member, and subsequently vice chairman, of the Hartford Redevelopment Agency and remained on the board until he moved to Farmington in 1958. In 1956, he became president of the Connecticut Bar Association.

In the Robinson and Cole firm history, it is noted the Robinson, Jr. became a full partner at age 46. The history continued that his loyalty, sense of fairness, wit and sympathy bound the firm and created within it a special and rare quality.



JOSEPH P. COONEY

Elected 1946

Joseph Cooney, a Hartford native, was born in 1907. He attended St. Peter's School and Hartford High School graduating in 1924. He went to Georgetown University and received his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center in 1929. Throughout his life, Joseph Cooney, remained a loyal Georgetown alumnus and, in 1965, he received the University's distinguished John Carroll Award.

In 1929, Mr. Cooney became a member of the Connecticut Bar and briefly practiced with John M. Bailey. He was elected as Connecticut State Senator for the 2d district at age 24 and served three additional terms. During that time, he joined then Mayor, Thomas J. Spellacy's law firm. In 1938, he started his own law practice in association with John P. Cotter. In 1941 he became an Assistant United States Attorney. In 1942, he and then U.S. Senator Thomas J. Dodd worked together in the successful prosecution of a highly publicized German spy case. He later represented the Roman Catholic Church and many of its institutions within Connecticut.

He served on numerous boards including the Saint Joseph College Board of Associate Trustees and Saint Francis Hospital. He became president of both the Connecticut Hospital Association and the Hospital Council of Greater Hartford.



Joseph Cooney was an active participant in the organized bar. He served as president of the Hartford County Bar Association from 1946 through 1948. Prior to becoming president, he was active on a variety of Bar committees including the Post-War Advisory committee set up in 1944 to help those bar members returning from military duty and the Circus Disaster Committee to assist the public after the Hartford fire. After his presidency concluded he was a member and eventual Chair of the Association's Grievance Committee from 1961 through 1965. He was Chair of the Connecticut State Bar Judiciary Committee from 1961-1965 and became President of the Connecticut Bar Association in 1965.

He was a member of the American Bar Association House of Delegates from 1966 to 1967, and elected as a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and to the International Society of Barristers. In 1975, Governor Grasso appointed him the Chairman of the Judicial Selection Committee.

Joseph Cooney was a skilled, devoted and respected attorney. He was known to deeply enjoy the camaraderie of his fellow lawyers and used his talents for the education and training of younger attorneys. Upon his death in 1984, it was said:

Joe combined a quick wit, great personal charm, a wonderful memory and a fearlessness and courage of his convictions which, taken with his native gifts and acquired skills, made him the most formidable of foes and powerful of allies.



ROBERT P. BUTLER

Elected 1948



Robert P. Butler was born in Prairieville, Michigan in 1884. He graduated with a B.A. from Cornell in 1905 and a M.A. from Trinity College in 1906. He studied for the Bar in the old-fashioned way of reading the law, rather than attending a law school. He was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in 1915, and subsequently the federal courts.

Robert Butler practiced law, but also took on public sector jobs. He was a clerk at the City Court early in his career, and then became Hartford Corporation Counsel from 1922 to 1924. In 1931, he was a keynote speaker at the Democratic State Convention. Butler lived in Hartford for over 65 years. Once established, he moved to West Hill in West Hartford with his wife and son. He was an active member of the Asylum Hill Congregational Church.

In 1934, he was appointed to the part-time post of United States Attorney by President Roosevelt and held it for one of the longest tenures on record, until 1945. During World War II, he was called upon to register aliens and to enforce laws enacted against Axis countries. The Hartford Courant reports, however, that he was concerned with fairness and told local employers not to discharge German or Italian workers who were not eligible for U.S. citizenship.

While U.S. Attorney, he contacted the attorneys for the Ringling Brothers Circus and helped organize a settlement arising from the disastrous fire of 1944. He was appointed by Lucius Robinson Jr., president of the Hartford County Bar Association, to be chairman of the Bar Disaster Committee on the fire, and he would regularly announce the status of payments issued by the receiver.

After the end of his tenure as U.S. Attorney, Butler continued to practice law for many years under the firm name of Butler, Volpe and Sacco.

Robert Butler had a long history of local bar activity. Prior to serving on the Circus Disaster Committee, he served along with Joseph Berry, Hugh Alcorn, and Solomon Elsner on the Committee responsible for re-

organizing the Bar Association and drafting the Constitution and By-laws adopted in 1932. In 1948, he became president of the Hartford County Bar Association.

Butler was a participant and patron of the arts. He belonged to a choral club and was at one time a theatre and music critic for the Hartford Times. He frequently wrote letters to the Hartford Courant editor. In a humorous debate with the editor in 1942, Butler attacked the Courant for rejecting an idea put forth by columnist Westbrook Pegler that automobile bumpers be removed and given to the wartime scrap drive. To Butler, the beauty of an automobile should bow to “the arms and legs of men on the fighting line” who needed the steel made from the scrap. The editor replied that Butler was on an “emotional crusade.”

Butler died on February 7, 1971 at age 87. He left a good portion of his estate to his college- Cornell- to establish a program to encourage the art of speaking and writing the English language.



SOLOMON ELSNER

Elected 1949



Solomon Elsner was a prominent Hartford community leader. He was born in Hartford on April 20, 1883 and died in the city on April 18, 1962, two days before his seventy-ninth birthday. He graduated from Yale in 1905 and then started practicing law. By 1912 he was a local fire commissioner. He became a prosecutor in city court in 1920 and, in 1921, he became a City Court judge. Although his term ended in 1923, he was known by the honorific title of “Judge Elsner” thereafter. He lived at 700 Prospect Avenue in Hartford with his wife and four sons.

In 1930, Judge Elsner served a term as Hartford Corporation Counsel, a part-time position, and both before and after the corporation counsel post, he continued with his private practice. He was counsel for G. Fox department store for over forty years. He was also an active member of Temple Beth Israel and in the 1950’s led the national fund-raising campaign for Reform Judaism. He was involved with every important civic activity in Hartford, including serving on the board of Hartford Hospital, establishing Mt. Sinai Hospital and the University of Hartford, directing yearly campaigns for the Community Chest (United Way), the YMCA and the Hebrew Home. He was instrumental in establishing Connecticut Blue Cross and served as its statewide president from 1952 to 1960. He also served as president of the Greater Hartford Community Chest and vice president of the Hartford Chamber of Commerce.

From 1951 he was on the board, and later chairman, of both the Hartford Redevelopment Agency and the Greater Hartford Flood Commission. When he died, then Mayor William E. Glynn stated that Judge Elsner had worked tirelessly on redevelopment issues and helped Hartford obtain a designation as an All-America City.

One of Judge Elsner’s major achievements was acting as chairman of the municipal board of inquiry into the 1944 Hartford circus fire that killed 169 people and injured over 550. His prominent board issued a report in late 1944 with numerous recommendations including better review by city agencies of leases of city property and more serious attention by the police department in issuing licenses for public amusement.. The report was widely praised and became a national model for fire safety reforms.

Judge Elsner was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association on March 25, 1949 for a one-year term, succeeding attorney Robert P. Butler. He had been a long time Bar Association member. In 1925, he was unanimously elected to the Association’s prestigious Committee on Admissions. He also was a member of the committee appointed in 1928 to draft a reorganization scheme for the Bar Association. In 1944, he along with Joseph Cooney and Joseph Berry were appointed to the Post-War Advisory Committee to help returning bar member soldiers.



LEO V. GAFFNEY

Elected 1951



L*eo Vincent Gaffney* was a New Britain native born April 14, 1903. He attended public schools in New Britain and the Carlton Academy. He received both his undergraduate and law degree from Yale. Upon admission to the bar he practiced with his father and two brothers.

Leo Gaffney was an active member of his local community. He served as the first chairman of the New Britain Board of Adjustment from 1938 through 1947; chairman of the Redevelopment Commission from 1959 through 1961; and chairman of the New Britain Zoning Board. He was president and later chairman of the 1933 campaign of the “Crusaders” New Britain branch, an organization dedicated to repeal the Eighteenth Amendment. This was a cause for which he was an “ardent advocate.” He also served as a director of the Burritt Mutual Savings Bank.

Leo Gaffney was a “skilled trial lawyer.” He was a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He was an Assistant Attorney General from 1935 until 1944, when he was appointed as United States Attorney for the district of Connecticut. His tenure as US Attorney was short. He resigned within the year to become a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor.

Leo Gaffney served as president of the Hartford County Bar Association from 1951 to 1952. He also served as president of the Connecticut Bar Association.

After 37 years of practicing law, on August 2, 1964, he became a Superior Court Judge. Upon his sudden death in September of 1969, he was characterized as having a “keen understanding” of human nature and behavior and as being an individual who was “vigorous” “enthusiastic” and “compassionate.”



CYRIL COLEMAN

Elected 1952



Cyril Coleman, an outstanding attorney and mayor of Hartford for two terms, died tragically at the age of 56 on September 20, 1958. Coleman was born in Meriden on September 1, 1902 and attended Harvard College and its law school. When he graduated from law school in 1927, he immediately began his legal career at the seven-member Day, Berry and Howard law firm (later to grow to one of Connecticut's largest law firms).

In 1930, he was appointed by then Mayor Francis Maloney to a post on the city Zoning Board of Appeals. Soon after, he moved to Hartford, living at 777 Prospect Avenue with his wife and four children.

While he was engaged in law practice, he also participated in many civic functions. From 1935 to 1937 he served on the Hartford Police Commission. At other times he was a member of the Metropolitan District Commission and the Hartford Park Board, a director of the Hartford Public Library, on the State Judicial Council, a trustee of the Children's Museum and the Bushnell Memorial.

In 1944, Coleman was retained as local counsel by Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey to defend their interests in the litigation arising from the Hartford Circus Fire. He appropriately represented his client, but at the same time acted in the best interest of the victims of the fire. He helped draft the arbitration agreement that provided payment in full to those who had been injured or killed as a result of the fire.

In the late 1940's, Coleman became a member of the Citizens Charter Committee (CCC), a group that sponsored

reform of the structure of Hartford government. Under the group's proposed charter, which received legislative and referendum approval, election of council members was to be on a "nonpartisan" basis and the executive business was to be conducted by a city manager. Coleman received the highest number of votes in the first city council election under the new charter in November, 1947. He became the city's ceremonial mayor as of January 6,

1948. He served two terms as a much respected mayor. In 1950 he was given a good government award by the Hartford Junior Chamber of Commerce.

In the spring of 1952, Cyril Coleman was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association. His participation in bar activities led to his serving as a delegate to the board of governors of the American Bar Association. He also was a member of the Bar Grievance Committee and served as chairman of the Hartford Bar Library Association.

He became active in the state Democratic party, receiving appointments by Governor Abraham Ribicoff to the Hartford Bridge Commission and later the Greater Hartford Bridge Authority in 1958.

Arthur Weinstein, another Hartford attorney, once reflected on Coleman's legal career, especially in reference to his legal work on the circus fire cases, and called him a "prince among princes."



JULIUS B. SCHATZ

Elected 1953



Julius B. Schatz was born in Hartford on October 25, 1901, and died on December 3, 1986 at the age of 85. He was a graduate of New York University and Boston University Law School. He then returned to Hartford, passed the Connecticut Bar in 1926, and was in private practice for over 50 years. His long-time partners were Arthur Weinstein and Edward Seltzer. Schatz was a rainmaker, representing both plaintiffs and defendants, mostly in personal injury litigation. Late in his career, in 1978, he entered into a partnership with his son, Richard, also an attorney and former Assistant State's Attorney.

Active in civic affairs, Schatz was, in the 1930's, president of the Young Men's Hebrew Association and in the 1950's president of Mt. Sinai Hospital. He participated in programs of the Hartford Jewish Federation.

In 1944 Schatz represented one of the Hartford Circus Fire victims. His efforts resulted in putting the Ringling Brothers Corporation into receivership. His actions voided the "first in time-first in right" rule, so that every victim had an equal chance to obtain relief. He also became the attorney for renowned lawyer Edward S. Rogin who was named receiver of the circus. The receivership concluded with an arbitration agreement by which all victims received full payment.

In 1952, Schatz was elected as vice-president of the Hartford County Bar Association when Cyril Coleman advanced as president. The following year, the Association's nominating committee proposed M. Joseph Blumenfeld as the next president. This move was highly controversial, as

there had been only one reported instance when the nominating committee did not nominate for president the current sitting vice-president. The annual meeting had record attendance of five hundred members. Schatz was nominated from the floor for president. After a voice vote in favor of Schatz, a standing vote was requested. Schatz won this vote by nearly 10 to 1. Upon his victory, Schatz declared, "This is democracy in action. I love it. You all must know how it feels." He promised

to dedicate himself to the Association and requested united cooperation of the membership.

Schatz was described over the years as bright and flamboyant, a bon vivant and a marvelous story-teller. He was one of the original members of the "Bard's Club," which put on an annual program to cast "praise and insults" alike at the Connecticut bench and bar.

In an April 16, 1962, humorous remembrance, political reporter Jack Zaiman recalled the Schatz style and commented on his love of cigars:

For Schatz, by himself, supports the country's cigar industry. What he does to a cigar is beyond description. He attacks it like a tiger closing in on its prey. If a cigar was made for smoking, you certainly would be unable to prove it by Schatz. The only concession he makes to the protocol of smoking a cigar it to light it. After that, the cigar is on its own.



J. RONALD REGNIER

Elected 1954



Ronald Regnier was born in Manchester, New Hampshire, but lived in Greater Hartford for most of his life. He was a graduate of Trinity College and Yale Law School. He was a senior partner in the Hartford law firm of Regnier, Taylor, Curran and Langenbach.

Mr. Regnier was a member of the American Bar Association, a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a charter member of the World Peace through Law organization. He served as president of the University Club of Hartford, the Hartford Golf Club, the Connecticut State Seniors Golf Club, and the Trinity Club of Hartford. He was a member of the Trinity Alumni Association and the Trinity College Board of Fellows. Mr. Regnier was a director and trustee of the YMCA and a director of the Phoenix Mutual

Life Insurance Company of Hartford. He was a Judge of the Town Court of Glastonbury from 1943 to 1949, and again from 1951 to 1954.

In 1954 he was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association. He later became president of the Connecticut State Bar Association in 1961.

During his long career, Mr. Regnier was recognized for his leadership and service. He received the Alumni Medal of Trinity College in 1963, the "Man of the Year" award from the Yale Law School Association of Northern Connecticut in 1966, and the YMCA Knox Distinguished Leadership Award in 1986.

Ronald Regnier died on August 11, 1987 at age 81.



JAMES F. KENNEDY

Elected 1955



James Kennedy was born in Hartford on September 14, 1903 and remained a life long resident of the City. He graduated from Hartford High School and from Fordham University School of Law in 1927. He was a member of the Gamma Eta Gamma Legal Fraternity.

In 1929, he formed a law firm with two fellow Hartford High graduates, Daniel C. Flynn and Thomas J. Birmingham. He later practiced in the firm of Kennedy, Zacagnino and Clark.

James Kennedy was an Alderman from the 11th ward from 1929 to 1933. He was appointed in 1930 as a special assistant to the corporation counsel in the revision of the city charter and ordinances. In 1943, he became a prosecutor in the Hartford Police Court and was also chosen as Republican Alderman-at-Large to fill an unexpired term.

In 1951, Kennedy became Deputy Judge of the West Hartford Town Court and subsequently served as Judge from 1953-1956. During this time, in 1955, he was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association. In 1956, he was named president of the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Claimants Compensation Attorneys.

James Kennedy died young, at the age of 58, after a long illness. His funeral was attended by a specially appointed delegation from the Hartford County Bar Association and a number of community leaders.



FREDERICK J. RUNDBAKEN

Elected 1956



Frederick J. Rundbaken was born in Hartford in 1894. He graduated from city public schools and then attended M.I.T. and N.Y.U. Law School. He was admitted to the Connecticut bar in 1917.

He served as an army pilot in World War I and subsequently became state commander of the Disabled War Veterans organization. He was also a judge advocate general in the Connecticut National Guard with the rank of Colonel. His son, William C. Rundbaken, also served as a pilot in World War II and was killed in action over Czechoslovakia in December, 1944.

Rundbaken was a member of the Bar for over fifty years. He was a partner in the firm of Rundbaken, Lyter and Lehrer and encouraged and assisted many young attorneys at the commencement of their careers. He also was a special public defender in the federal courts. In one case in 1959, Circuit Judge Medina thanked him for his “industry and his thorough and competent representation” of a habeas corpus petitioner.

Rundbaken was a trustee and treasurer of Temple Beth Israel and participated in the National Council of Christians and Jews. He was an active Democrat and supported Herman P. Koppelman in his efforts to become a congressman from the first congressional district. He was appointed Finance Chairman of the West Hartford Democratic Party in the 1950's.

In 1949, he achieved a long standing goal by receiving an appointment as a judge of the West Hartford Town Court. He held the position for two years. The Hartford Courant

noted that Judge Rundbaken intended to “crack down” on drunk drivers during his tenure.

In his important work with high school students, Rundbaken appeared in November, 1949 at the Couples Club of the First Church, Congregational. There he protested the fact that West Hartford did not have any indoor recreational facilities, such as a pool or gym, for youngsters. He

offered \$100 as seed money to Hall High School students and their parents to correct the situation. The Hall students took up the matter the next day and their efforts led to the founding of the Veterans Skating and Cornerstone pool facilities.

Rundbaken served the Hartford County Bar Association for many years. He was a longstanding chair of the Bench Bar Committee; Chair of the Nominating Committee; and Chair of the Military Affairs Committee during which time the committee began the Bar Association's newsletter entitled “Bar-fly.” The newsletter was broadcast to soldiers on duty during World War II. The newsletter evolved and continued for many years. Rundbaken was elected president of the Association in 1956 for a one-year term.

Frederick Rundbaken was a man of dry wit and good humor. He was asked to be a toastmaster at various functions and was the marshal of the Memorial Day parade in 1952. He died in 1979 at age 85.



JOHN F. DOWNES

Elected 1957



John F. Downes was born in New Britain. He attended Suffield Academy and graduated from Fordham University School of Law in 1929. He was admitted to the Connecticut Bar that same year and practiced in New Britain until he retired in 1973.

Mr. Downes was an active member of the Republican Party. He was appointed by Governor Meskill to the Commission of Special Revenue and later became Vice Chairman of the Commission. He was a prosecuting attorney for the New Britain Police Court and eventually served as a Judge of that court and the City Court. He was a member of the Daly Council Knights of Columbus and the Bishop Tierney Assembly Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Downes was involved in both state and local bar associations. He became president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1957. At his annual meeting, the business

meeting and dinner was followed by the 1957 production of the Bard's Club entitled "Res Ipsa Loquiter," which was a parody on court reorganization. Attorney Douglass B. Wright was the president of the Bard's club and was leader of the orchestra.

Mr. Downes was also president of the New Britain Lawyers Club, Chairman of the New Britain Police Board, Chairman of the Hartford County Bar Grievance Committee and Director of New Britain Family Services.

John Downes died on July 28, 1983. He was 78 years old.



JOHN J. KENNY

Elected 1958



John J. Kenny was a Dartmouth graduate and served as Corporation Counsel for the City of Hartford until 1955. Unfortunately, available details about John Kenny's legal career are sketchy at best. However, it is known that during his tenure as Corporation Counsel, Kenny sought to dignify the city's delivery of legal aid services; proposed the creation of a City Traffic Authority parking

division; and sought improved air transportation systems for Bradley field.

John Kenny served as president of the Hartford County Bar Association from 1958 to 1959.



WALLACE R. BURKE

Elected 1959



Wallace Burke was born in Providence, Rhode Island. He graduated from Farmington High School and from Georgetown University with a LLB and Masters of Laws.

Mr. Burke began practicing law in Hartford in 1940 with Frederick Runbaken, Frank Odlum and Maurice Blumer. He was regarded as a “defender of the individual” and was a popular civic leader.

From 1948 to 1950 he was a Judge for the Farmington Town Court. In 1950 he became an Assistant U.S. Attorney for Connecticut. He was appointed as Connecticut’s Public Utilities Commissioner in 1961.

Mr. Burke’s community involvement was extensive. He was on the Farmington River Valley Flood Control Commission, Chair of the Farmington Town Counsel, and President and Chair of the Farmington Investment Corporation.

He led the New England Conference of Railroad and Public Utility Commissioners and the Central Committee of Farmington’s Democratic Party. He also was a delegate to the 1956 National Convention.

Mr. Burke strongly believed in the importance of educating the young. He established and directed an education scholarship memorial fund and was the founder of “Farmington Foundation” which provided free loans to college students.

Wallace Burke was an energetic member of the Hartford County Bar Association serving on numerous committees including Ethics. For many years he chaired the Barrister’s Ball Committee. He became president of the Association in 1959.

One year prior to his death in 1969, he was appointed by President Johnson to the Interstate Commerce Commission.



CHARLES N. SEGAL

Elected 1960



Charles N. Segal served as president of the Hartford County Bar Association from 1960 to 1961. Little is known of his background other than he was a Captain in the Army Air Force, became executive vice-chairman of the Connecticut Citizens Political Action Committee in 1946 and, in 1955, became the first president of the Connecticut Chapter of National Association of Claimant Compensation Attorneys.

During his presidency, Charles Segal accepted, on behalf of the Hartford County Bar Association, the first award of merit to a local association presented by the State Bar Association. The award, established to promote awareness and efforts on behalf of local Bars, was a surprise presentation at the CBA's annual meeting.

In a December, 1960, "President's Column" of *The BAR-fly*, Charles Segal addressed the membership on what he saw as the proper direction of the Association:

Your Bar Association is continuously striving to bring to its members something of benefit and inspiration to them in their professional capacities. Lawyers are the capillaries of the blood-system of the Bar. If Bar Associations do not nourish and cause them to function, the system withers and the Association dies. ... Bar Associations must benefit the people. If they do not, they sterilize their abilities, to the great loss of their public which is their privilege and bounden duty to serve. We must ever be aware of the popular conceptions and misconceptions regarding the legal profession and to consider what the Bar could do to bring its true function to society, and its very real contributions to progress and the general welfare, more fully to the public attention.

He remained active as a past-president chairing the Insurance Liaison Committee.



FREDERICK W. BEACH

Elected 1961



Frederick Beach was born in Plymouth, Connecticut on September 18, 1903. He attended Bristol High School and graduated from Yale College in 1924 and Yale Law School in 1927. He belonged to Phi Delta Phi Fraternity and Corbey Court.

He was admitted to the Bar in 1927 and eventually practiced with the firm of Beach & Calder in Bristol. He was Corporation Counsel for the City of Bristol from 1937 to 1939 and was a Judge of the Bristol City Court from 1943 to 1949.

Mr. Beach was civic minded and participated in numerous community organizations. He was a director of Bristol Federal Savings and Loan Association; Bristol Bank & Trust Company and United Bank and Trust Company. He was president of the Chamber of Commerce from 1948-1950. He also served on The Bristol Brass Corporation and The Sessions Clock Company.

He served as the Hartford County Bar President from 1961 to 1962.



CORNELIUS D. SHEA

Elected 1962



Cornelius D. Shea was born in Hartford in 1905 and attended Hartford Public High School, and Fordham University, both undergraduate and law school. He returned to Hartford (his home was for many years on Elizabeth Street) to practice law and remained there all his life. He married and had three children, one of whom was Cornelius D. Shea, Jr., a state prosecutor. Shea served as a Hartford Police Court prosecutor and Police Court Judge. From 1932 to 1934, he was a state senator from the third district. He was an active Democratic politician.

Subsequently, he shared space with Edward S. Rogin, receiver of the Ringling Brothers Circus, and represented injured plaintiffs at arbitrations that occurred after the fire of July, 1944. He testified in favor of Attorney Rogin at a hearing to determine the size of Rogin's fee for being receiver. In 1988, he recalled that one of his clients was a boy injured at

the fire. He bought the boy a balloon just before a conference with the defense attorneys which made a favorable impression on them.

Shea was president of the Hartford County Bar Association from 1962-1963. After his tenure on the executive committee he served as Chair of the Past-President Advisory Committee. He was legal advisor to the Hartford police from 1971 to 1974. He was chosen Man of the Year by the Toga Club in 1990. He was a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Knights of Columbus.

When he died in 1990, in addition to his wife and children, he was survived by seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



WILLIAM K. COLE

Elected 1963



William K. Cole grew up in Hartford, attending Kingswood Oxford School in West Hartford and then Yale University and School of Law. He received his law degree in 1939 and practiced with Robinson and Cole in Hartford. He began practicing labor law but later focused on matters of banking and insurance. His firm's history reveals that "while Cole's vocation was law, his avocation was writing." He also was known for his study of French history and his widespread travels to France.

William Cole was in the Army Signal Corps from 1942-1945. He was a director of the Legal Aid Society of Hartford

County and became its president from 1958 to 1962. He also served as an officer of the Greater Hartford YMCA, president of the Hospital Council of Greater Hartford, and as member of the executive committee of Hartford Hospital.

He was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1963 and had U.S. Senator Thomas J. Dodd as his Annual meeting keynote speaker. He later served as the Connecticut Bar President in 1975. During his presidency with the Hartford County Bar Association, Cole, in 1963 and established the Association's Scholarship Committee.



Scene at the annual meeting of the Hartford County Bar Association as Senator Thomas J. Dodd gives the principal address. Seated at his left is Homer D. Babbidge, president of the University of Connecticut, another speaker.



HAROLD I. KOPLOWITZ

Elected 1964



Harold I. Koplowitz was born in New Britain. He graduated from New Britain High School and then attended the University of Pennsylvania. He received his law degree from Boston University School of Law. After law school he returned to New Britain where he practiced law for over fifty years. During that time he served as a prosecuting attorney and Corporation Counsel.

Mr. Koplowitz was an Army veteran of World War II and was an active member of the Tephareth Israel Synagogue and Temple B'nai Israel. He belonged to the American, Connecticut and Hartford County Bar Associations.

In 1964, Harold Koplowitz became president of the Hartford County Bar Association. As president he instituted a Civil Rights Committee, worked to establish a committee to act upon the readiness of bar members who returned to practice after court-imposed suspension, and established an outreach program between the Hartford Bar and the Bar

Association in Thesalonica, Greece in conjunction with the City of Hartford's "people to people" project. He also revived the infamous "Bards Club" to entertain members at the Annual Meeting.

A major initiative of Koplowitz during his presidency was in response to a request by District Court Judge Blumenfeld that the Association take an active role in supplying the federal court with experienced counsel for indigent criminal defendants. Koplowitz appointed a committee, headed by Wallace Burke, to establish and supervise a group of volunteer lawyers to assist in the defense of indigent Hartford area accused. Eventually, the Bar Association voted to approve the U.S. Senate Bill establishing the right of legal representation for persons with matters before Federal agencies.

Harold Koplowitz died on September 11, 1990.



JOSEPH J. TRANTOLO, SR.

Elected 1965



Joseph J. Trantolo was born in Licodea Eubea, Italy in 1910 and immigrated to Connecticut with his family in 1911. He attended Weaver High School and graduated from Trinity College in 1933. He attended Hartford School of Law (later to become UConn Law School) and was admitted to the Bar in 1938.

Joseph Trantolo was a prosecutor and judge of the Hartford Police Court. Mr. Trantolo opened his office in Hartford Connecticut in 1938 where he practiced law throughout his career. In 1960 he formed the partnership of Trantolo, Lach and Krawiecki and in 1969 and 1971 he was joined in the firm by his sons, Joseph J. Trantolo Jr. and Vincent J. Trantolo. They subsequently created the present day firm of Trantolo and Trantolo. In 2007, Keith V. Trantolo joined his grandfather's firm to become the third generation of family practicing law.

Mr. Trantolo was a valued member of the Hartford County Bar Association. He served on a number of committees prior to his presidency in 1965. As president, his efforts supported both the membership and the community. He appointed a Committee on Probate Practice and Procedure which acted as a liaison between bar members and Probate Judges. He also was instrumental in having the Bar work with the Community Renewal Team's "war on poverty" effort to establish a north-end legal services program for Hartford. This effort resulted in the formation of the Neighborhood Legal Services Corporation. In 1966, Joseph Trantolo served as a Director of the Legal Services Corporation representing the Hartford County Bar Association.



MAX M. SAVITT

Elected 1967



Max M. Savitt was a native of Springfield, Massachusetts. He attended Middlebury College and graduated from Cornell University Law School in 1926.

He became a prosecutor for the Hartford Police Court in 1939 and remained there until 1941. In 1942, he served in the Navy as a flight school administrative officer. He rose through the ranks to become a Lt. Commander. Upon discharge, Max Savitt remained in the Naval Reserve and served as president of the Navy League.

He became a Police Court Judge and in 1967, he was appointed to the Connecticut Circuit Court.

Community involvement was an important part of Max Savitt's life. He was a director of Mount Sinai Hospital, a director of the Hartford Chapter of the American Red Cross, and a Corporator of Hartford Hospital and The Institute of Living. He was a Director of the Boys' Clubs of Hartford, Director of the Hartford Rotary Club and a member of the

Community Chest Advisory Council. He was Director of the National Probation and Parole Association and chaired the Connecticut Prison Association Committee on Rehabilitation of Alcoholics. He served as president of the Cornell Club and the Officers' Club of Hartford. He was on the University of Hartford's Educational Advisory Committee and the West Hartford Advisory Board for Parks and Recreation. He also chaired the West Hartford Traffic Safety Commission. Along with his brother Bill Savitt, who owned Savitt Jewelry, Max embarked on a number of charitable and civic activities including setting up WCCC Radio Station, promoting a basketball program which raised \$10,000 for Navy Relief, and helping to establish a swimming pool at the Connecticut School for Boys.

Max Savitt was elected to serve as President of the Hartford County Bar Association from 1967 to 1968, however, his term was cut short by his judicial appointment. He died in 1979 at the age of 75.



THOMAS J. O'DONNELL

Elected 1968



Thomas J. O'Donnell was a lifelong resident of Bristol. He was born on March 23, 1914, received his B.S. degree from Niagara University in 1936 and his law degree from University of Connecticut Law School in 1939.

His legal career began in public service. He was a prosecutor for the Bristol City Court and in 1951 became Corporation Counsel for the City of Bristol. After serving the City of Bristol, Thomas O'Donnell joined the practice started in 1907 by Judge William Malone to form the firm of Malone & O'Donnell. This firm, after growth and merger, eventually evolved into the present office of Furey, Donovan, Tracy & Daly, P.C.

Thomas O'Donnell became president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1968 when he took over for Max Savitt upon his appointment to the bench. During his presidency, a successful program of seminars was launched.

In 1973, he was appointed as a Judge of the Circuit Court and one year later joined the Court of Common Pleas. He became a Superior Court judge in 1978 and remained on the bench becoming a senior judge and state trial referee in 1984. Thomas J. O'Donnell died in 1987.



JAMES C. PARAKILAS

Elected 1969



James C. Parakilas was born in Enfield on May 13, 1914 and remained a life-long resident of the town. He graduated from Enfield High School in 1932 and the University of Maryland. He attended Georgetown University where he received both his law degree and a Master of Law. He began practicing in Connecticut in 1939 and at the time of his death was the oldest practicing attorney in Enfield.

He served as an Army Chief Adjudicator in the Philippines during World War II; prosecuting attorney in the Thompsonville Municipal Court from 1941 to 1942; and

Judge of the Municipal Court from 1955 to 1957. He was Chairman of the Enfield Democratic Town Committee and was involved with the State Democratic Party for many years. He started the first Housing Authority in the Town of Enfield and served on the building committee of Johnson Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Parakilas was a founding member of the Enfield Bar Association. He became president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1969 with the promise to “shake things up” with new ideas and programs.



EDWARD S. POMERANZ

Elected 1970



Edward S. Pomeranz was a native of Hartford and a graduate of Yale University and Yale Law School. He was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in 1927. He practiced with a special interest in the area of Worker's Compensation Law. That field remains the hallmark of the office he founded Pomeranz, Drayton & Stabnick.

In 1970, Ed Pomeranz was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association after serving many years on numerous committees. Upon his election, his colleagues noted that Ed had been practicing in Hartford for four decades and "is still putting younger lawyers to shame with his incredible vitality." He was also known as a fair man with a keen wit.

For many years, Ed served on the Committee for Recommendations for Bar Admission. He was also a Trustee of Kingswood Oxford School and a past president of Yale Law School Alumni Association.

Until his death in 1992 at age 87, Ed shared his expertise by lecturing at Association events and providing counsel and advice to members of his firm.



RALPH C. DIXON

Elected 1971



Ralph Conyers Dixon was born in East Hartford on February 12, 1913. He graduated from Wesleyan University, Phi Beta Kappa in 1933, and then attended Yale Law School. Upon graduating law school in 1936, he was hired as a summer attorney at Day, Berry & Howard. He subsequently became an associate and, in 1944, a partner in the firm.

Early in his legal career, Mr. Dixon, kept ties to his home town. In 1938, he became a prosecutor in East Hartford. He also served as corporation counsel and as the judge of the East Hartford Municipal Court.

In the early 1940's Mr. Dixon served in the U.S. Naval Reserves. During World War II he was a lieutenant on convoy duty in the Atlantic and later served in the Office of General Counsel in the Bureau of Ships in Washington, D.C.

Upon returning from the war, his legal career focused upon trial work. His fellow Hartford County Bar Association members described him as a "preeminently renowned trial lawyer" whose talents were often sought for complex "big" cases.

Ralph Dixon maintained an active role in both community and bar activities. He was a director and member of the Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Hartford Development Commission, a director of the Institute of Living and a former president of the Hartford Golf Club. He was also a member of the American Judicature Society, the International Association of Insurance Counsel as well as a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers and in the American Bar Foundation.

In the mid-1970's, Mr. Dixon was appointed vice-chairman of the Advisory Council for Unification of the Courts. He worked in that capacity to improve the state's court system

and was chosen as one of the first trial referees in a special program to help reduce the court's case backlog.

During his career, Mr. Dixon was awarded numerous honors including the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Wesleyan, the Greater Hartford Jaycees Boss of the Year Award and the Hartford Chapter of National Secretaries Association Boss of the Year Award.

He was an active member of the Hartford County Bar Association serving on and chairing various committees. He became president of the Association in 1971. During his term as President, he spearheaded the Association's efforts to raise funds for the benefit of the Hartford County Bar Library whose services were in jeopardy. He also appointed, in 1972, a committee to administer and sponsor a formalized Volunteer Defender's Program. The purpose of the program was to represent indigent defendants who have been charged with criminal defenses. At that time, Mr. Dixon stated that "this represents another area in which the members of the Bar are devoting time to the fundamental position that every person, regardless of color or wealth, is entitled to effective legal representation."

Ralph Dixon in March of 1984 at the age of 71. Upon his death, he was eulogized by U.S. District Court Judge M. Joseph Blumenfeld and Connecticut Supreme Court Chief Justice John A. Speziale who commented:

I'm shocked and deeply saddened to hear of Ralph Dixon's passing. I have always respected him as a hardworking, knowledgeable and dedicated attorney who earned the reputation of being a lawyer's lawyer.



VALENTINO D. CLEMENTINO

Elected 1972

Valentino D. Clementino was a Hartford native. Having attended the old Brown School on Market Street and Weaver High, he went on to earn his undergraduate and law degrees from Boston University. He was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in January of 1935.

Val began his legal career, not far from where he was born and educated, at a law office located on Main Street in Hartford. He practiced with Francis A. Pallotti, a former State Attorney General and Frank Covello. Both Pallotti and Covello later became Superior Court judges. His private practice career was interrupted in 1943 when Val left to become the rationing attorney for the District of Connecticut O.P.A. Four years later he returned to practice opening an office at 36 Pearl Street. He had a special tie to his Pearl Street location as described by a fellow bar member: "No doubt a traditionalist at heart, when they tore down his building to make way for the new Hartford National Bank edifice, Val bided his time and then moved right back to his old stamping ground by taking office space in the new structure."

After his assignment with O.P.A., Val was drawn to public service. In 1947, he was appointed to and served for two years on Hartford's Zoning Board of Appeals. He then ran for and was elected to the City Council as a Charter Group endorsed candidate. He served on the Council from 1949 until 1951. In 1954, he served on Hartford's Pension Commission.



Val Clementino was past president of the Young Italian American Association and a member of Windsor Rod and Gun Club, the PBOE Lodge #19, and Manchester Country Club. He was also a 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council 11.

He was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1972. He was viewed as a leader who had a profound "understanding of the problems and issues confronting the organized bar." Upon his election to the presidency the BAR-fly reported:

Coming from a family of four brothers and three sisters, Val acquired an instinct for competition and fair play which helped structure his competence and integrity as an attorney, and particularly as a court room advocate. Even in relaxation, he enjoys the competitive spirit of golf and bridge and plays to win. He also enjoys the more contemplative leisure time pursuits and is an avid outdoorsman. He loves fresh water fishing and duck hunting and derives great satisfaction from communing with nature.

In 1977, Val Clementino joined the law firm of Adinolfi, O'Brien and Hayes. He died on February 15, 2007 at the age of 95. He was survived by his wife of 69 years, Mae (Colgan) Clementino, their three children, five grandchildren and five great grandchildren.



MAXWELL HEIMAN

Elected 1974

M*axwell Heiman* was born in Hartford. He graduated from Farmington High School in 1950, the University of Connecticut in 1954 and Boston College School of Law in 1957.

Before becoming a judge, “Max” Heiman was known as a skilled lawyer practicing with the firm of Furey, Donovan & Heiman in Bristol. In 1987, he was appointed to the Superior Court. As a trial judge, Judge Heiman was known as a “stickler for courtroom decorum and respect for the bench.” In 1990, he was elevated by Governor O’Neill to the Appellate Court. Judge Heiman had chaired the task force that led to the establishment of the court upon which he eventually served. He was an dynamic and scholarly appellate judge greatly respected by the bar and beloved by his law clerks.

Max Heiman was on the Board of Directors of Jewish Family Services and on the Newington Board of Education from 1970 to 1975. He was a Fellow of American College Trial Lawyers, a life member and fellow of the American Bar Foundation, and on the Connecticut Bar Examining Committee. He was president of the Connecticut Bar Association from 1981 to 1982 and then served on the American Bar House Delegates and the Board of Governors. While a Judge, he served on judicial panels on ethics and professional liability. From 1993 to 1994 he was president of the Connecticut Judges Association.



Judge Heiman was a dedicated member of the Hartford County Bar Association. He served on the Bench Bar Committee and as chair of the Criminal Justice Committee overseeing the Federal District Court public defender program. He was president of the Association from 1974 to 1975. As a past-president, Judge Heiman remained an active participant in the Association. In 1995, he presented a speech to the HCBA

Strategy Session reflecting upon how the organized bar could improve public perception of the bench and bar. His message expressed his optimism and respect for the profession:

I look at the leadership of the organized bar and see a renewal of the idealism with which the bar leaders of my generation approached the profession. I see a renewal of spirit that recognizes the unique place that the lawyer holds in a democratic society, an understanding of the responsibility that tests upon us by reason of the privileges we enjoy as members of the legal profession.

Judge Heiman died on November 5, 1997. After his death, the Hartford County Bar Association created a memorial award in his honor presented to an outstanding young lawyer in Hartford County.

JOSEPH P. KENNY

Elected 1975



Joseph P. Kenny, a Hartford Lawyer, graduated from the University of Connecticut Law School in 1944. Upon graduation, he began working and honing his trial skills with Julius B. Schatz in the prominent firm of Schatz and Weinstein. After several years he became a partner in the firm became known as Schatz, Weinstein, Seltzer and Kenny. In 1951, Mr. Kenny went into practice with his brother, John J. Kenny. Their firm evolved into Kenny, Brimmer, Melley & Mahoney, with which he continued to be affiliated until his death at age 73.

From all accounts, Joseph Kenny was an astute and learned attorney with a commanding presence in the courtroom representing both plaintiffs and defendants in a variety of civil cases. He was an advocate of the American Board of Trial Advocates, an elite group at the time of fifty Connecticut attorneys. He also served as chairman of the Governor's Ad Hoc Committee to Review Judicial Nominations.

Mr. Kenny was elected president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1975. Described as "one of the last great wordsmiths," he was often a guest columnist to the *BAR-*

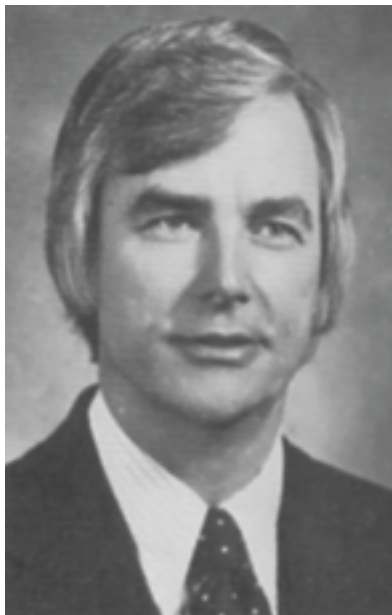
fly, the Association's newsletter and was instrumental in providing information and text to the Association's 200th year anniversary publication. We can gain insight into the thoughts of Joe Kenny through his own words published in a 1964 comment:

Your mind moves back in memory over the mist shrouded peaks and the recessed valleys where triumph and disaster forged the crucible of your childhood at the bar. You remember with silent awe the giants who bestrode our bench of yesterday and, in pique, behold the present regression...Now we are all expert trial lawyers...The practice has become a race, and the profession, a morning greeting of "How's business?" ...Perhaps there is still time somewhere, somehow, for our fraternity to be young again, and to walk alone and unafraid, through time and space armed only with the tomes of our Common Law, the breath and life of free men everywhere.



ROBERT F. TAYLOR

Elected 1976



Robert F. Taylor was born in Hartford on December 31, 1930. He graduated in 1952 with honors from Lehigh University and from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1955. After law school, he was a Lieutenant in the Navy and served at the Pentagon from 1956 through 1959.

Mr. Taylor was a senior partner in the firm of Regnier, Taylor, Curran and Eddy. He was a member of the American

Board of Trial Advocates, Federation of Insurance and Corporation Counsel.

Mr. Taylor resided in Simsbury for thirty-four years during which time he became president of the S.W. Simsbury Homeowners Association.

He became president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1976.



JOSEPH F. SKELLEY, JR.

Elected 1977



Joseph F. Skelley, Jr. was born in Hartford on May 27, 1927. He attended Hartford schools and was a WWII veteran serving in the US Army from 1944-1946. He graduated from Wesleyan University in 1950, attended Yale University, and received his LLB from University of Connecticut in 1956. In that same year, he was admitted to the Connecticut Bar.

Joseph Skelley “enjoyed a distinguished career.” He was an Assistant State’s Attorney from 1969 to 1972. He was a founding partner of the firm Tulin and Skelley in 1962, which later became Skelley Rottner. Mr. Skelley was a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He belonged to the International Association of Defense Counsel, the American College of

Trial Lawyers Ethics Committee, and the Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers. He served as Chairman of the Statewide Grievance Committee, state president of the Defense Research Institute from 1978 to 1981, and president of the Connecticut Defense lawyers Association. He was a trial practice lecturer at the University of Connecticut School of Law and a Counselor to the Oliver Ellsworth American Inns of Court. He also was a member of the State Elections Enforcement Commission.

Mr. Skelly was a long time member of the Hartford County Bar Association and served as president from 1977 to 1978.

Joseph Skelley died on November 1, 1995 at age 69.



MILTON KREVOLIN

Elected 1979



Milton Krevolin was born in New Haven, the son of a Russian immigrant and his wife. He was a 1937 graduate of Hillhouse School. He attended Providence College and graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1942.

After law school, Mr. Krevolin served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was a first lieutenant. He was stationed in the South Pacific with the Cryptography Security Office and later served under General Douglas MacArthur's command investigating war crimes.

Mr. Krevolin served as president of Jewish Family Services and the Young Business and Professionals Division of the Jewish Federation.

He began practicing in 1953 with Arthur Feinstein in the firm of Krevolin and Feinstein. He was a Superior Court Special Master and an Arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association. He was also appointed as Chairman of the Connecticut Judicial Selection Committee.

He dedicated many years of service to the Hartford County Bar Association and became president in 1979.



JOSEPH A. LORENZO

Elected 1982



Joseph A. Lorenzo was born and resided in Hartford all his life. He graduated from Weaver High School in 1944 and then attended Trinity College and the University of Connecticut School of Law.

Joseph Lorenzo was a Navy veteran of World War II and an Army veteran of the Korean War. He was a Colonel in the Army National Guard for 30 years and served as a Judge Advocate. When he retired, he was bestowed the honorary rank of General.

Joseph Lorenzo practiced as a Hartford trial attorney for 41 years. During that time he was Assistant Corporation Counsel. He was also active in Hartford Democratic politics and a member of the Board of Directors of the West Hartford Art League.

He became president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1982.



JOHN “JACK” MICHAEL BAILEY

Elected 1987

Jack Bailey was born in 1944, the son of one of the most powerful political leaders in Connecticut history, John Moran Bailey, and brother of Barbara Kennelly, who served in Congress for 17 years. He was married to Elizabeth Dee Bailey and had two sons, John and Brian.

Jack graduated from Ashland College in Ohio and the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. During college, he interned for President Lyndon B. Johnson and worked at the 1964 and 1968 Democratic national conventions. He was admitted to the Connecticut Bar in 1972 and practiced in the Hartford firm of Bailey and Weschler.

Jack's legacy is not in the political arena but in public service with a life-long career in law enforcement. In a Connecticut Law Tribune piece, Jack was described as “a stylish, imposing figure with his trademark dark suits, White Owl cigars and tough talk against crime.” His prominent career began in 1975 when he was a deputy assistant state's attorney in Manchester. In 1979, he was appointed as Hartford's state's attorney, and he served in that capacity for 14 years until appointed as Chief State's Attorney in 1993. During his tenure as Chief State's Attorney, Jack Bailey was recognized by Christopher Morano, who was Bailey's deputy and later became his successor, as being “on the cutting edge of law enforcement and criminal justice issues.” In describing Jack's career, Attorney Morano commented: “He had an uncanny ability to see new and innovative ways to combat crime long before others.”



The long list of Jack's accomplishments includes establishing a Cold Case murder investigation squad, a Nuisance Abatement Unit, and an Elder Abuse Unit that became a national model. He also was the first to have prosecutors exclusively assigned to drug cases and initiated vertical prosecution in gang cases.

Jack was elected as president of the Hartford County Bar in 1987. He is remembered for organizing one of the most memorable annual meetings with the keynote speaker being then U.S. Vice President George Bush. Jack later served as president of the Connecticut Bar Association.

Jack's life was cut short in 2003 at age 59.

He was described by Attorney General Richard Blumenthal as a “prosecutor's prosecutor” and by Ernest J. Mattei, who was at that time the Hartford County Bar Association President, as a person of character who was “forthright, honest and above-board.” Then Governor John Rowland was quoted as stating: “Jack's life made a difference not only to those who knew him but to countless people who never even met him... We all carry a piece of Jack with us wherever we go.”

The Hartford County Bar Association instituted a periodic public service award in memory of Jack Bailey. This award is presented to a Hartford County lawyer who, like Jack, epitomizes the highest ideals of the legal profession while dedicating his or her professional life to public service.





Quotes from Contemporary
Hartford County Bar Association Presidents



WILLIAM R. MOLLER

Elected 1966



Wesleyan University;
University of Connecticut School of Law

When I became president, the executive director, then referred to us as "executive secretary," had recently resigned. Luckily, we were able to find a quick replacement as the Bar Association membership had greatly increased. The increased membership was so significant that the executive board was expanded by two positions. I appointed close to 200 attorneys to serve on the then 30 standing committees of the Association. Even so, I added two new standing committees: the Corporation Counsel Committee and the Women Lawyers & Status of Women Committee headed by Ethel Donaghue. Due to the number of active committees, I had each Board member take responsibility for three committees. I recall that during my presidency I urged the Association to become involved in the issue of housing equality and opportunity within Hartford County. The Committee on Civil Rights commenced a program of education among the Bar and public regarding expanding the availability of adequate housing in Hartford County to all races. I was proud that our organization stood at the forefront of this pressing problem.

WILLIAM R. DAVIS

Elected 1973



Providence College
University of Connecticut School of Law, LL.B
RisCassi and Davis, P.C

The role of the president is much different today than it was in 1973-74 when I served. I was very fortunate to follow Val Clementino and precede Max Heiman in this office. During these years, we formed a very close professional relationship, which made the years of service very meaningful. The main concerns of the president related to the Annual Dinner (and we were very fortunate to have outstanding speakers including Edward Bennett Williams), the Annual Outing, the Barrister's Ball and the Bench Bar Meetings, which were more frequent due to the shorter assignment of judges. This is in contrast to today when the activities of the Association are much wider in scope involving more in the way of committee activity. Thus, the duties and responsibilities of the president have greatly increased. I truly enjoyed the period of time that I was involved in the Hartford County Bar Association, which culminated in the presidency. I found it to be a most rewarding experience that, as I think about it today, doesn't seem that long ago.

JOHN R. FITZGERALD

Elected 1978



University of Connecticut;
University of Connecticut School of Law, JD
Howard, Kohn, Sprague & Fitzgerald, LLP

I was president in 1978-1979. I am now approaching 81 years of age and must confess that the events of 29 years ago are growing dim in my memory. I do recall that I did not become president by the usual route of "passing through the chairs." In fact, I had never held any office in the Association prior to my election to the presidency. There was internal stress within the organization, a divisive contest between factions. I was a compromise candidate which both of the factions were willing to appoint. I do believe that during my tenure, the Association was able to come together and move forward with its many worthwhile projects.

NICHOLAS P. CARDWELL

Elected 1980



Trinity College,
University of Connecticut School of Law, JD
Law Offices of Nicholas P. Cardwell

I was admitted to the Connecticut Bar on August 11, 1964, but did not begin the practice of law until January, 1967. I became active in the Hartford County Bar Association and was appointed by then president Robert F. Taylor as Chairman of the Bench/Bar Committee. In the 1970s the Bench/Bar Committee was immensely popular with both lawyers and judges. Thereafter, I became Treasurer of the Association and started up the chairs. My most significant accomplishment as president was the creation of a joint committee which provided a forum for presiding judges and a representative from the various legal disciplines to discuss issues related to court procedures. My brother, Donald Cardwell, was the M.C. at the annual meeting concluding my term as president. William Cohen, the U.S. Senator from Maine and later to become Secretary of Defense, was the guest speaker. Some of the years I remember most fondly as a practicing lawyer were those when I was actively involved with the Hartford County Bar Association.



GARY A. FRIEDLE

Elected 1981



Colgate University;
University of Connecticut School of Law, JD
Law Offices of Gary A. Friedle

I recall that, at the time of my election, I was the second youngest president of the Bar Association. One major initiative of which I remain proud concerns continuing legal education. Up until the time of my presidency, the Hartford County Bar presented continuing legal education programs free of charge. While attending a conference of Bar Presidents in Chicago, I learned that we were the only Bar Association that did not charge for CLE's. Upon my return, I instituted a nominal fee for each event sponsored during the year and made sure that I never missed an event so that I could be on hand to explain the benefit of this new practice. During my presidency I also believed that the Hartford County Bar didn't reach out enough to the satellite bars, so I made it a point to attend dinner meetings of each Bar Association within the county. I think in some respects this fostered a greater sense of cohesiveness among all the attorneys.

PAUL W. ORTH

Elected 1983

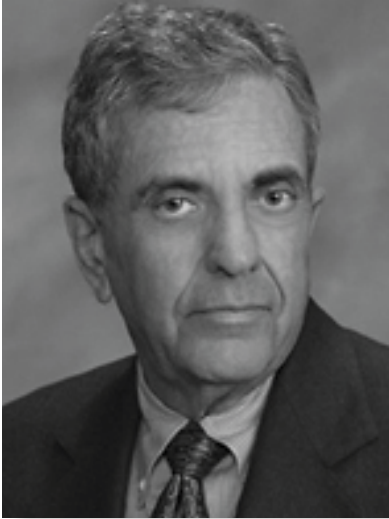


Dartmouth College;
Harvard Law School, JD
MacDermid, Reynolds & Glissman, PC

I became president in 1983, the two hundredth anniversary year of the HCBA. It was a special honor for me to lead such a distinguished and historic bar association during its bicentennial. In addition to the activities to commemorate the bicentennial, the Association published a book that included a historical overview of the organization and a pictorial directory of members and judges. In August of 1983, the HCBA participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the Criminal Court Building at 101 Lafayette Street in Hartford. After the ribbon cutting ceremony, the members of the Bar gathered at the Officers Club for the festivities. During my year as president, the Hartford Bar Association took an active role in assisting and supporting the good work of Neighborhood Legal Services and The Legal Aid Society. The Association enjoyed many of the activities that are currently held such as the Annual Golf Outing, Bench Bar Dinners and various social and educational programs. I am proud to be among the esteemed group of past presidents of the Hartford County Bar Association.

BERNARD POLINAR

Elected 1984



University of Connecticut;
Boston University, LL.B
Poliner, Poliner, Antin & Cienava Rocco, PC

I reflect on my year as president with great pride. The mission of the Hartford County Bar Association was to sponsor such programs and events as the Barrister's Ball and the Annual Outing. Our volunteer members provided a quality Continuing Legal Education Program, educating our members on various areas of law. The Lawyer Referral Service was an outstanding program that benefited the public, providing access to Hartford County attorneys. Many of these programs continue today. During my presidency, our Association was active with speaker's luncheons that included such guests as radio personality, Brad Davis; then Connecticut Attorney General, Joseph Lieberman; and U.S. Congresswoman Nancy Johnson. Our monthly Board of Directors' meetings were held at the Officer's Club and Carbone's Restaurant. I have fond memories of my year as our Association's president.

ALBERT ZAKARIAN

Elected 1985



Trinity College;
Columbia University, LL.B
Day Pitney LLP

I became active in the Hartford County Bar Association in 1982 after completing four years of service as chairman of what is now known as the Litigation Section of the Connecticut Bar Association. I began as co-chair of the Bench-Bar Committee, serving with Bill Davis. In 1985, I became president, succeeding Bernie Poliner. At that time, we lost our very able Executive Director, Mary Elizabeth St. Clair, who moved onto the Connecticut Bar Association. We were without an executive director for most of my year as president, but fortunately, with a great staff and dedicated officers, we had a very successful year. At the Barrister's Ball we had record attendance, with more than 400 lawyers and guests. During my year as president, I worked hard with the other officers to grow and strengthen our continuing legal education programs, as well as our Lawyer Referral program. I am particularly proud of the success we achieved that year in involving more of the younger lawyers in the activities of the Hartford County Bar Association. During my years as a lawyer I have been privileged to serve on various boards and work with different charitable institutions. My service to the Hartford County Bar Association, in particular, I will never forget. I have nothing but fond memories about the Hartford County Bar Association, the Hartford County Bar Foundation (where I now serve as president), and the friendships I have formed with so many fine lawyers practicing in Hartford County.



WILLIAM A. ROBERTO

Elected 1986



University of Connecticut;
University of Akron, JD
William A. Roberto, LLC

At age 39 I was, at the time, the youngest president of the Hartford County Bar Association. Prior to the term of my presidency, a new executive director was hired from Michigan. The Bar office also had relocated to Russ Street from its long time location downtown. While president, we continued to expand our social endeavors such as the Barristers Ball and the Annual Golf Outing. The speaker I engaged for the Annual Meeting was Louis Nizer of New York. Mr. Nizer was a prolific author and artist of national repute. One of the major initiatives during my term was the continued growth of the continuing legal education program which has endured to this day. I also focused on continuity and staff retention.

HON. JOHN R. CARUSO

Elected 1988



University of Connecticut;
University of Connecticut School of Law, JD
Connecticut Superior Court Judge

1965 was a major milestone in my life. I graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Law, passed the Bar examination, was sworn in at the old New Haven County Courthouse, joined the Hartford law firm of RisCassi, Davis & Linnon (now RisCassi & Davis), passed the exam to be a Certified Public Accountant and, most importantly of all, joined the Hartford County Bar Association. Bill Davis asked me to help with the incorporation of the Association and hence began a lifelong active relationship with HCBA. I have served on or chaired the Bench/Bar Committee, the Family Law Committee, the Barristers Ball and the Golf Committee. In 1988, I became president of the Association after having served on the Board of Directors and as Secretary, Treasurer and Vice-President. Jack Bailey was my immediate predecessor and was instrumental in obtaining the Vice-President of the United States George H.W. Bush as the speaker at my inauguration. The event was attended by over 750 people and all three major TV networks covered the event held at the former Statler Hotel in Hartford. The Vice-President was euphoric since he learned on the day of the event that his major opponent for the Republican nomination for President, Senator Robert Dole, had withdrawn from the race. My oldest daughter, upon first meeting the Vice-President said in a very loud voice "Mr. Vice-President, Mr. Vice-President, I want you to meet my father, he's going to President" meaning of course of the HCBA. I had a wonderful year as president, helped the Association to a more secure financial footing and had the very able and helpful assistance of the Board, Officers and the staff who served under the direction of our new Executive Director, Jan Ambruso.

A. RAYMOND MADORIN

Elected 1989



Trinity College;
University of Connecticut School of Law, JD
Law Offices of A. Raymond Madorin

I was installed as president of The Hartford County Bar Association on March 30, 1989, at Hartford's Parkview Hilton. Justice T. Clark Hull served as a lively Master of Ceremonies and U.S. Attorney Stanley A. Twardy provided the Keynote Address. The Association members enjoyed such annual activities as the Annual Golf and Tennis Tournament. During my year, committee activities included the Law Day Center Court ceremony, "The Trial of Goldilocks," Legal Information booths at the Hartford Civic Center, a radio program and the First Annual 5K Road Race. The organization enjoyed an active, vibrant and involved membership of more than 2300 lawyers and judges. Bench-Bar ties were strong and the HCBA held several dinners featuring such guests as Judge Meskill, who spoke on the topic "Lawyers Public Image as Presented by the Media." I am proud of my year as president of this outstanding organization.

CATHERINE P. KLIGERMAN

Elected 1990



Saint Joseph's College;
University of Connecticut School of Law
Catherine P. Kligerman Attorney At Law

It was a privilege and honor to be elected the first woman president of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1990. Several things about my presidency readily come to mind. First and foremost was the support of the Bar Association's Board of Directors and Staff. For the first time the Barristers Ball committee led by John Bonee and Judge Jonathan J. Kaplan selected the Wadsworth Atheneum for the site of the Ball. It was a sold out event with 650 members and guests in attendance. We balanced the Association's budget and ended the fiscal year with a surplus. This was achieved by reviewing every line item and controlling some of the advertising costs of the lawyer referral services. At the same time we brought our budget under control, we also increased membership in the Association to an all time high. Membership was increased by bench bar dinners on timely topics, CLE on changes in the law and reaching out to non-members in the legal community to make them aware of the benefits of belonging to the Association.



ROBERT L. WYLD

Elected 1991



University of Vermont;
Georgetown University Law Center, JD
Shipman & Goodwin LLP

I served as Hartford County Bar Association president for the 1991-1992 term. I assumed the presidency of the Association at a somewhat challenging time for the profession and for the organized Bar. In the wake of recent lawyer scandals, I focused my term on core programs intended to improve the public's perception of lawyers. In the area of Continuing Legal Education, against the looming specter of mandatory CLE, the Association sought to concentrate on nuts and bolts programs particularly relevant to practicing lawyers. The Association also sought to reevaluate the Lawyer Referral Service with a view towards greater efficacy and economic feasibility. In the area of pro bono, while maintaining the Association's traditional commitment to the provision to legal services to the poor, the Association advocated a more expansive definition of pro bono activities designed to encourage the participation of greater numbers of lawyers. The Association also laid the groundwork for programs on professionalism and civility which came to fruition during the following term. It was a great privilege to serve as president of the Association and to work with such competent staff and such a large range of terrific lawyers.

ERNEST J. MATTEI

Elected 1992



Trinity College;
Georgetown University Law Center, JD
Day Pitney LLC

It was a great honor for me to be elected by my peers to be President of the Hartford County Bar Association in 1992. My biggest thrill was having the opportunity to work with a dedicated staff and committed lawyers who freely gave their time to improve the HCBA and address issues relevant to members of the HCBA. During my tenure, we held the first Bench Bar Leadership Conference on March 12, 1993 at Hartford Superior Court. In an effort to increase membership recruitment and retention and improve attendance at HCBA functions, we established a Managing Partners' Committee. In addition, we established a committee to liaison with University of Connecticut's School of Law students. We also established the Past President's Committee which has been beneficial to the Association both for its substantive contributions and its social outlet for the past presidents. I continue to be actively involved with the HCBA and I support its events and educational programs, serving as a program chair and moderator of the Bench Bar Committee. I have also had the opportunity to be involved in the HCBA's long range planning efforts. My service to the Bar continues as a member of the Board of Directors of the Hartford County Bar Foundation, the HCBA's charitable arm.



VINCENT F. SABATINI

Elected 1993



University of Rhode Island;
Suffolk University School of Law, JD
Sabatini and Associates, LLC

I was president in 1993-1994. I was honored to be selected and to serve. I enjoyed working with my fellow officers and directors. A special thanks should be given to the Hartford County Bar Association staff, especially Jan. Three things stand out during my tenure. The first is the institution of sponsoring portraits for Supreme Court and Appellate Court judges from Hartford County. The first recipient was the Honorable John E. Daly. The second event that stands out is holding the Barrister's Ball at the Wadsworth Atheneum. It was truly a magnificent event. Third is with the suggestion and cooperation of Judge Aronson, then presiding judge in Hartford, the Hartford County Bar Association initiated the Special Master Program for the Hartford Judicial District. A stellar list of Hartford County Bar Association members volunteered to help the court pretry cases. The Program is still in existence today.

VINCENT L. DIANA

Elected 1994



Trinity College;
University of Chicago School of Law, JD Diana,
Conti & Tunila, LLP

Elected president in 1994, I was determined to play a leading role in the activities of the Association. I attended each and every committee meeting during my tenure. Membership improved, assets increased, we converted to computers and upgraded some of the bar programs. Lawyer referral, with the great help of incoming president John Bonee, finally took off. New fee schedules were adopted and which remained for many years. During my presidency, we congratulated judges who were newly appointed, including three new federal judges. The Barrister's Ball was held in January, 1995. It had snowed all day and the snow was deep. We did not cancel the event which was held at the Hartford Club. By the time of the event, the snow had stopped, all the streets had been plowed and seventy percent of the members came to a great event.



JOHN L. BONEE III

Elected 1995



Trinity College;
Suffolk University Law School, JD;
BoneeWeintraub LLC

Several initiatives on my part can be mentioned during my leadership role with the Hartford County Bar Association. As an officer, I co-chaired the first Bench Bar Civility Conference in Connecticut held at the Hartford Superior Court in 1993 with 19 judicial attendees. The program's huge success has been duplicated around the state and has returned to Hartford during our Anniversary year. A judge from Portland, Oregon was the invited speaker during my Annual Meeting. His engaging topic of specialized "Drug Courts" impacted the local bench and bar to action culminating with the formation of the Hartford Community Court under the leadership of Judge Ray Noriko. As president I focused on increasing the general joie de vivre of the Association's membership. The importance of our Association's congeniality and close personal relationships became especially self evident to me.

JAMES G. GREEN, JR.

Elected 1996



Boston College;
University of Virginia, JD 1980
Pepe & Hazard LLP

It was an honor to have served as President of the Hartford County Bar Association. Trinity College President, Evan Dobbelle, delivered the keynote address at our Annual Meeting. During my presidency the Association moved its headquarters to its present location, 179 Allyn Street in Hartford. With the dedicated assistance of Vincent Trantolo, the HCBA sponsored a Thanksgiving fundraising endeavor to benefit Foodshare, thus laying the groundwork for the future establishment of the Hartford County Bar Foundation. The HCBA also established an Ethics Program for newly admitted lawyers. This endeavor was spearheaded by our deceased member Ralph Elliot. During my year, the Hartford County Bar published a pictorial directory of its membership. I am proud to have served as President and I am currently serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Hartford County Bar Foundation.



JAMES J. SZEREJKO

Elected 1997



University of Connecticut;
University of Hartford (M.P.A.);
Suffolk University, JD
Halloran & Sage LLP

I was installed as president of The Hartford County Bar Association on April 16, 1997 at the Association's 214th Annual Meeting. The HCBA's committees, as always, did an outstanding job of planning and executing several high quality continuing legal education programs during my tenure. The Federal Practice Committee organized a reception for then newly appointed Judges Janet Hall and Christopher Droney. The Bench Bar Committee, chaired by our current president, Kathryn Calibey, sponsored a very successful event honoring retiring Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, Antoinette Dupont, held at the Wadsworth Atheneum. The Barrister's Ball and Annual Outing were complete successes. In June 1997, the HCBA headquarters moved from Hungerford Street to its present location, 179 Allyn Street. This undertaking, spearheaded by James Green, my predecessor, has provided an efficient facility for the HCBA staff, as well as being accessible to our members. The success of my year was due, in large measure, to a dedicated and hard working group of volunteer officers, board and committee chairs, the countless lawyers and judges who support this outstanding organization, and its competent and dedicated staff.

ELIZABETH A. SCHUMACHER

Elected 1998



Siena College;
Western New England School of Law, J.D.

Attorney Elizabeth Schumacher has the distinction of being the second woman president of the Hartford County Bar Association. Attorney Schumacher no longer practices within Hartford County; however, during the time that she practiced here she was an active member of the Association. She served on a number of committees, including chairing the Bench-Bar Committee before becoming an officer. Under Attorney Schumacher's leadership as president, the HCBA, in January of 1999, launched its website and secured a web address. This was a very exciting time for the Association. Also during her year, the annual Law Day activities included the Center Court Ceremony featuring The Honorable Guido Calabrese as the keynote speaker. Among her other accomplishments as president, Elizabeth Schumacher held the Judge Maxwell Heiman Memorial Dinner and Award Ceremony on November 17, 1998. This memorable event featured keynote speaker, Reverend Robert F. Drinan, Professor of Law at Georgetown University and honored Attorney Hope Seeley with the first distinguished Heiman Award.



MICHAEL RUBEN PECK

Elected 1999



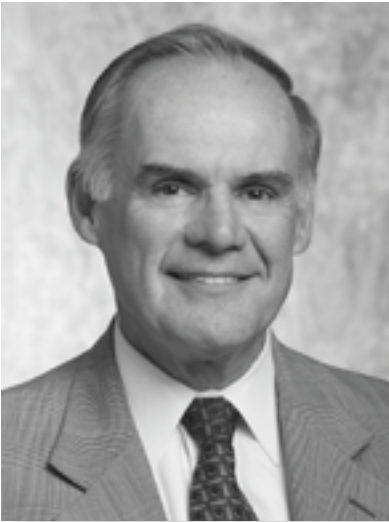
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University;
University of Detroit, JD
Michael Ruben Peck Attorney at Law

My tenure as president of the Hartford County Bar Association was a time in my professional life that I reflect on with tremendous pride. Prior to becoming president, I was privileged to oversee the creation of the Max Heiman Memorial Award which was presented to Attorney Hope Seeley. One of the highlights of my presidency was serving into the year 2000, which the Bar celebrated with a statewide Millennium Barrister's Ball that drew an unprecedented number of guests. In conjunction with the Ball, that year we also held the Ball's first silent action which raised more than \$20,000 to benefit the newly established Hartford County Bar Foundation. During my term I had the opportunity to work with many of the best lawyers and judges in the state of Connecticut. I served with an outstanding group of Officers and Board members. I was also fortunate to have many new committee and event chairs whose efforts brought to fruition great programs for the membership. Our Board of Directors meetings became lively with the introduction of our "Happy Moments" and "The CLE Minute" round table discussions. One of the finest traditions of the HCBA is the Memorial Service and during my year we expanded the committee. To this day, the Memorials Committee has remained an essential function of the Association, inviting family members and colleagues of the decedents to take part in the Center Court service. The year of my Hartford County Bar presidency was the highpoint of my professional life, with the possible exception of a "not guilty" verdict in a murder case. As with many of the presidents before me, and I'm sure with those who have followed, my year's success was tied to the wonderful and talented Association support staff and Jan Ambruso, the Association's exceptional Executive Director.



FRANCIS J. BRADY

Elected 2000



Worcester Polytechnic Institute;
George Washington University School of Law, JD;
Harvard Law School, LLM
Murtha Cullina LLP

I consider the year of my presidency to be one of consolidation and continuation. As is traditional, the year started with the Annual Meeting. Justice Christine Vertefeuille graced the event by delivering her first speech since her appointment to the Connecticut Supreme Court. The consolidation aspect may be attributed to the strengthening of programs that were created in the years immediately prior to my presidency. Principal among those was the Hartford County Bar Foundation, which was established during the Presidency of Michael Peck. The HCBA made a full commitment to supporting and encouraging the Foundation, and indeed, as President I was fortunate enough to be involved in the actual distribution of gifts from the Foundation (examples include gifts to Open Hearth Shelter and Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry). The continuation of HCBA traditions included the return of the Barristers' Ball to the Hartford Club, which served as a delightful venue. Law Day continued its successful tradition by recognizing Evan Dobelle (the then President of Trinity College) as the Liberty Bell Award recipient and by having as its keynote speaker Attorney General Richard Blumenthal. The year concluded at the April 2001 Annual Meeting. Incoming President Glenn Coe had developed the President's Excellence Award to be presented by the immediate Past President. Accordingly, I was the beneficiary of President Coe's initiative and was able to present the first Excellence Award to the very well deserving Attorney William R. Davis, who among his many accomplishments, was a past HCBA president.



GLENN E. COE

Elected 2001



Andrews University;
University of Connecticut School of Law, JD
Rome McGuigan PC

I am humbled and yet proud to have served as a president of the most ancient and venerable Hartford County Bar Association which, despite its age, has great dynamic vitality and continued relevance to its members and the bench. At the Annual Meeting, I encouraged our members to strive for excellence in our profession. At the start of the year, we demonstrated our profession's commitment to excellence by establishing the President's Award for Excellence which was awarded at the Annual Meeting by departing president, Francis Brady, to the very distinguished William R. Davis, a past-president of the HCBA; and by recognizing Dennis Kerrigan's past and anticipated contributions (a future HCBA president), with the Maxwell Heiman Award for outstanding accomplishments by an attorney with less than 10 years experience at the bar. During the year, we furthered our commitment to excellence by offering what I understand was then the largest number of CLE programs/seminars with the highest number of attendees. We also opened even wider the doors of the HCBA by establishing a standing Diversity Committee headed by Attorneys Robert Simpson and Debra Ruel that held its first Town Hall meeting on Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Healthcare, by having a vibrant Young Lawyers Committee that sponsored many activities for present and future HCBA leaders including wine tastings and a ski trip to Mt. Snow, and by having as guests at our Board of Directors meetings Attorneys Marilyn Diaz, President of the Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association, and Yvonne Parker Blair, President of the Crawford Black Bar Association. Our profession continued to expand its involvement with the wider community by inviting Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez and his Chief of Staff, Matt Hennessy, to a Directors Meeting, and by supporting the work of Hartford area charities through the energetic and imaginative leadership of Attorneys Vincent Trantolo and Kathryn Calibey who headed up the Hartford County Bar Foundation. What a delight to be part of the HCBA!



JOHN C. MATULIS, JR.

Elected 2002



Trinity College;
University of Connecticut School of Law, JD
Januszewski, McQuillan & DeNigris

I was installed as HCBA president on Tuesday, March 26, 2002 at the Hartford Club. The Honorable Thomas J. Meskill, fellow Trinity College alumnus, former Mayor, Congressman, and Connecticut Governor, was the keynote speaker. At the time of the meeting, Judge Meskill was Senior Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. The next month, I met with the station manager at WTIC-AM, NewsTalk 1080, to discuss the concept of a public service radio program where Hartford County Bar Association members would take calls from radio station listeners and give them legal advice over the air. Thus was born "Law Talk," which provided a public service, heightened the profile of the Association in the community, and served as a means to refer callers and listeners to the HCBA Lawyer Referral Service. Our Municipal Law Committee, under the leadership of John King, sponsored a successful event concerning Hartford's Renaissance: "Adrien's Landing-Anchor and Rising Star." The Barrister's Ball was held that year on February 1st at the grand ballroom of the Bond Hotel. Later that year "The Children's Place," a tranquil reading area, located at the Hartford Public Library's Campfield Avenue branch, was dedicated in memory of Attorney Kathleen Murrett by the HCBA Family Law Committee. Just as I had been warned by my predecessors, and as I have since warned my successors, the year sped by more rapidly than I could ever have imagined. The highlights listed here, which are just a few of the Association's significant activities that year, demonstrate the Association's commitment to its community, to public service, and to enhancing the image of the profession. The year has long since ended. But the memories and friendships continue.



STEPHEN M. GREENSPAN

Elected 2003



University of Pennsylvania;
University of Connecticut School of Law, JD
Day Pitney, LLP

As I think back on my wonderful year as Hartford County Bar President, I immediately think of the many friendships that I formed with other officers and Bar leaders. I was honored to work with so many professional, talented and committed people. The theme of the programs that we sponsored during my year as steward of the Bar Association was what lawyers did for the Hartford community --- outside the courtroom, the conference room and the boardroom. While lawyers are too often the subject of humorless jokes, I hope that the community-based educational and outreach programs that we sponsored demonstrated that lawyers are an important part of the fabric of the community.

MATTHEW DALLAS GORDON

Elected 2004



Bard College, Annendale-on-Hudson;
University of Connecticut School of Law, JD
Matthew Dallas Gordon LLC

The Hartford County Bar Association is not only one of the oldest bar associations in the nation, it is also truly one of the best. From my first year as an associate at Day, Berry & Howard (yes, old habits die hard) people such as Al Zakarian, Ernie Mattei and Jim Tancredi demonstrated that HCBA lawyers are expected to practice law in a civilized and professional manner. Many years later, those same people, and many others, continue to set a good example for the rest of us. As president, I only hope I fulfilled the directive of another past-president, Michael Ruben Peck, to leave the organization better off than I found it. If I accomplished that task, I will consider my year a great success. Truth be told, it is the committee chairs and the incredible volunteer work of Jan Ambruso and the rest of the HCBA staff that enable the Association to flourish. Thanks to everyone for their hard work.



DENNIS KERRIGAN

Elected 2005



College of Holy Cross;
William & Mary, JD
Zurich North America

The highlight of my presidency was establishing the John M. Bailey Public Service Award, now given every other year to a worthy government attorney in honor of our late Chief State's Attorney and past president. My first legal job was serving as Jack's legal intern after my first year of law school and I thought the award would be an appropriate tribute to his dedication to the organized bar, public service and citizens of Connecticut. I am pleased that Jack's service to the Hartford County Bar Association and the people of the State of Connecticut will be remembered for years to come. I also had the pleasure of hosting my old friend and longtime Chicago Federal Public Defender, Terry MacCarthy, for one of the most well-attended and enjoyable trial practice seminars the Association has ever held. That evening, more than one hundred area private and public sector attorneys gathered for dinner at the Hartford Club and had the pleasure of hearing Terry's entertaining presentation on cross examination. Another highlight for me actually occurred after my presidency had ended when I organized a holiday luncheon with more than twenty past presidents of the Association. In addition to sharing fond memories of our bar service, we also used the luncheon as a forum to share ideas on how to improve the Association. Several of those ideas were adopted by the Association Board and continue to this day. I am grateful for the opportunity to have been part of such an important and effective organization, and I look forward to being a member for many years to come, no matter where my practice may take me.

ANTHONY J. NATALE

Elected 2006



Providence College;
Suffolk University, JD
Pepe & Hazard LLP

During my term as president, we continued many of the fine events that, because of the hard work and dedication of our members and HCBA staff, have become the mainstay of our Association. These events include the Annual Meeting, the Barrister's Ball, the Law Day Program and our Annual Golf Outing. In addition to these programs, noted trial advocacy lecturer James McElhaney conducted a very well-attended program for our members. American Bar Association President, Michael Greco, also made an appearance as a featured speaker at a jointly sponsored luncheon with the Connecticut Bar Association. We also held the very first "Meet & Greet" social with the University of Connecticut School of Law. In addition to the HCBA signature events, and in conjunction with the Young Lawyers Committee of the HCBA, our members visited and spoke with students in Hartford's high schools including its Law and Public Service Academy. We discussed the many opportunities that the legal profession has to offer. Also, and as part of our community outreach program, our members also served as mentors to dozens of high school students in Hartford who have aspirations of pursuing a career in the legal profession. Our outreach program with the Hartford Public School system continued under Presidents Baio and Calibey and it is my hope that it will become a mainstay of our Association.



CLAUDIA A. BAIO

Elected 2007



Trinity College;
University of Hartford (State Certification, Secondary Education);
University of Connecticut School of Law, JD
Baio & Associates, P.C.

My initiatives as president focused on outreach into the community and among the Bar and Bar Associations. Part of this mission focused on increasing diversity and awareness. To achieve our goals, we reached out within our Association to bridge the gap between young lawyers and senior lawyers. We reached out beyond the HCBA to other Bar Associations and, we reached out to the future of the bar- the youth in our greater Hartford community. It was an exciting year in which we developed and enhanced relationships with sister organizations. Working collaboratively we were able to accomplish such things as a coordinated e-journal to the three major local Bar Associations, holding a collaborative celebration of diversity of the bar with the celebration for the concurrent women presidency of the various local and minority bars and working with several student endeavors. I am proud to have served as HCBA's third woman president.

KATHRYN CALIBEY

Elected 2008



University of Connecticut;
Western New England School of Law, JD
RisCassi and Davis, P.C.

I began my presidency in April of 2008 with my longtime friend, prior HCBA officer and Appellate Court Judge, Alexandra DiPentima as the Annual Meeting speaker. My year is unusual as it is truly one of noteworthy milestones. It is the two hundred twenty-fifth year anniversary of our Association, the fiftieth anniversary year of Law Day, and the fiftieth anniversary year of the Association's Barrister's Ball. We are commemorating the Association's rich history, spanning over two centuries, with a celebration dinner to include Senator Christopher Dodd as the keynote speaker and a special tribute to the Association's past-presidents. The collected annals of the Bar Association's past presidents reveal that my predecessors were not only remarkable and talented attorneys but stellar leaders in their communities. I am privileged to be included among them. As the current president, the primary focus of my initiatives is on preparing for the future needs of our membership by strengthening the Association's infrastructure. This includes reviewing the governing documents, updating

the office technology, and taking measures to ensure financial strength through non-dues revenue. In working to achieve these goals, I have found the camaraderie and dedication of my fellow officers, committee chairs and the membership at large to be extraordinary. Leading this organization, while working with the incredible Association staff and the many accomplished attorneys and judges, has been an experience I will always cherish.

Annual Meetings



Annual Meetings



Through the Years...







THE HARTFORD COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.

Leadership 2008-2009

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