

the

Association

press



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE REFLECTIONS

Tony Tunney, IL



Remember in childhood how long the time span from one Christmas to the next seemed? How things change with age! More than half way through my term as President of ADTA, I am greatly looking forward to our 60th Anniversary celebration at our Annual Meeting in Portland in May, and

am awestruck by how fast this year has passed. Our organization had an outstanding convention in Tucson in 2000 at which time **Jeff Peterson** passed the gavel to me. Since that time both Patty and I have been very busy attending to the affairs of the Association and representing our group at numerous meetings of the DRI, FICC, IADC, Excess/Surplus Lines Claims Association, American Civil Trial Bar Roundtable and at the DRI sponsored Insurance Roundtable. We have had a wonderful opportunity to meet people from around the country who are committed to the success of attorneys practicing in the defense of civil litigation.

While attending many meetings, I have also had the opportunity to work with the outstanding officers and members of the Executive Council who have worked hard all year to continue the day-to-day operations of the Association.

George Walker and the Technology Committee are working to improve our website, and in

this issue of the *Association Press* we will announce the renaming of our web page from www.defenseattorney.org to www.adtalaw.com. Not only have we changed the name of the website, but we are working to improve its content and our links to other sites of interest to our members.

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Sam Pace, Jim Gauthier, Lynnette Crebo and the other members of the Roster Committee have worked hard not only to completely revamp our Roster, but also to rename it the Directory and to review and revise the list of recipients of this important book.

At the same time that the Roster Committee was performing its work, **Bruce Keplinger** chaired the Handbook Committee and he, **Gordon Broom** and Lynnette Crebo have completely revamped the format and content of our Membership Handbook to make it more functional, informative and easy to use.

Gordon Broom, as Chair, and Bruce Keplinger as Vice-Chair, have continued the outstanding work of putting together and improving the *Association Press*. What started out as little more than a newsletter several years ago has evolved into a publication that contains useful information for all of our members.

Steve Crislip, our National Membership Chairman, in conjunction with **Duane Grummer**, the Western Region Chair, **Lou Scofield**, the Central Region Chair, and **Jerry Weedon**, the Eastern Region Chair, and **Gary Morrison**, the Northern Region Chair, have continued to maintain and increase our Association's membership at a time when many organizations are finding it difficult to maintain their membership levels. Their efforts are complimented by the work done by each of the State and Province Membership Chairs and it is my hope that when we meet in Portland in May of 2001, we will be able to announce that our active membership as of that meeting will exceed the number of active members that we had when we left Tucson. As always, **Ed Curran** has continued to keep a steady hand on the Association's finances and has become the Alan Greenspan of the ADTA.

James Gauthier, with the able assistance of Lynnette Crebo, has continued to expend the frenetic energy which we have all come to recognize in his management of the office of Secretary of the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys. Among Jim's many jobs is the task of receiving and initially reviewing all original applications for membership from Steve Crislip and passing them along to members of the Executive Council for their review and analysis. Jim also maintains all of the records of the Association so that the information contained within our Directory and Handbook is both

up to date and current. In addition to all of those duties, Jim also serves as the official, "unofficial," photographer of the Association and is responsible for many of the photographs contained within our publication, which explains why Jim's face rarely graces these pages.

During the course of this year I have had the pleasure of working closely with our Convention Chairs, **Jim and Veronica Hiller**, Co-Chairs, **Steve and Francene English**, and Special Co-Hosts, **Doug and Lucy Houser**. Each of these people has put in a substantial amount of time and effort to organize the events at our Annual Meeting and to insure that each of us will have an outstanding time during our stay in Portland. In addition to serving as this year's Convention Chair, Jim Hiller is also the Chair of our Special Women and Minorities' Membership Subcommittee and in that regard, he has expanded the scope of the committee and sought out more women and minorities to become members of our Association. I am grateful to Jim, Veronica, Steve, Francene, Doug and Lucy for all of their efforts in organizing our 60th Anniversary celebration in Portland!

Over the course of the past few years, I have had the opportunity to serve as Convention Chair during **Patricia Kerrigan's** term as President, to have served as Vice-President during **Russ Robert's** term, President-Elect during **Jeff Peterson's** term and to have **James Jennings** serve as President-Elect and **Steven Enochian** as Vice-President during my term. Each of these officers has brought a great deal of energy, creativity and innovation to their tasks and I have learned from each of them as we have used our best efforts to improve our Association and to make membership in ADTA relevant to each member's law practice.

As I have traveled from meeting to meeting over this past year one question is frequently asked of me. Has the time commitment that you have made to this Association been worth it? That question is difficult to answer because there are clearly two meanings contained within the question. Has serving on the Executive Council of ADTA and becoming an officer and weaving through the chairs of ADTA leadership been worth it to me? Absolutely! The benefit of having served this Association in my various capacities over the past several years is not measured in dollars and cents and new business generated; however, those aspects are not to be dismissed, the true benefit of becoming actively

involved in an association such as ours is in the quality of the people that you have an opportunity to meet and in the lasting friendships that you are able to make.

But for my service in the ADTA, there are at least twenty people that I now count among my friends whom I would otherwise not have had an opportunity to meet. The character, quality and integrity of the members of the Executive Council of this organization, our officers and the officers and directors of our sister organizations is outstanding. Each of the persons that I have had an opportunity to meet over the past few years are lawyers of the greatest skill and people of the highest quality.

Long after one's term as President of the Association expires, the friendships made on the "circuit" continue forward for many years into the future. Patty and I are most appreciative of the opportunity that the Association has given us to serve as your representatives to the various sister organizations and to have had the opportunity to meet and make friends with the outstanding people who represent our organization and the organized defense bar.

The registration materials for our Portland convention have already arrived in our mailbox, the expiration date for registration is **March 21, 2001**. Do not wait until the last minute to register. Patty and I are greatly looking forward to meeting and greeting as many members of our Association that can make the trip to Portland and to share with each of you the experiences of the city that *USA Today*

Magazine once placed on its cover under the banner "**Portland: Is it the Perfect City?**". Come to our Annual Meeting, May 2 - 6, 2001, and answer that question for yourself!



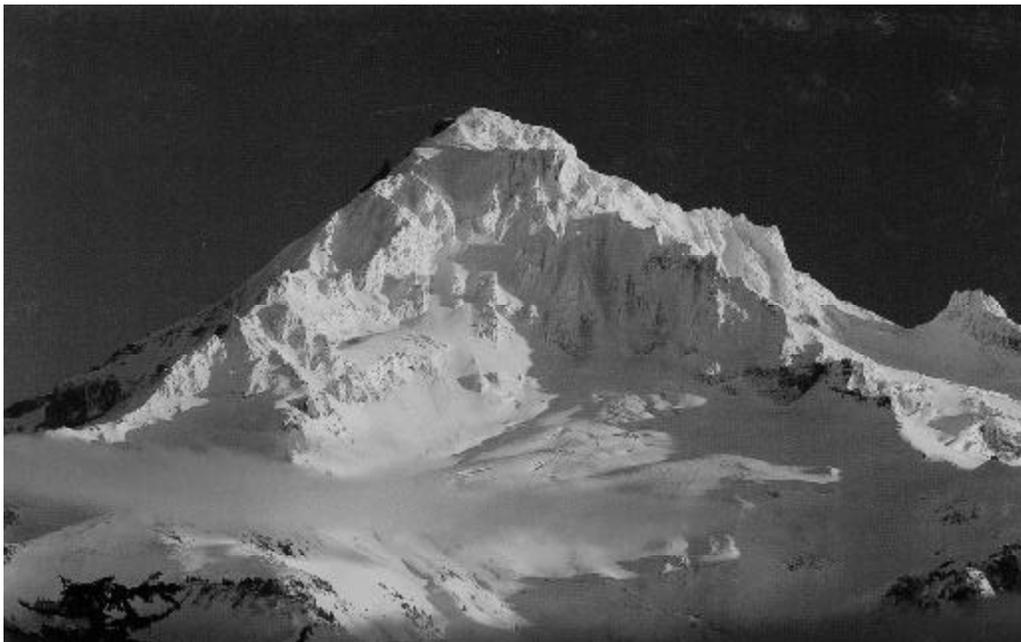
PORTLAND – CITY OF ROSES, AND CITY OF SURPRISES

*James L. Hiller, OR
2001 Convention Co-Chair*

Please plan on coming to the 2001 Annual Convention, to be held in Portland, Oregon from May 2 to 6. **Steve and Francene English**, along with **Veronica** and me, will be hosting this convention, and we are guaranteeing a marvelous time for all.

The Executive Council had its mid-year meetings in Portland in November, and most of the Council members had spent little or no time in Portland prior to the meeting. If there was one overriding reaction by those who attended, it was, "I had no idea how beautiful your City is, and how much there is to do here." And that was in November, when the days are short and cold.

Early May, on the other hand, is a wonderful time of year in Portland, with average high temperatures expected to be near 70°. We hope the famous Northwest rain will be mostly gone by then, and no matter the weather, we have a wonderful array of events planned.



The convention will be held at the historic **Benson Hotel**, in downtown Portland. The hotel, of course, has elegant guest rooms with all the modern conveniences. But one of the main reasons we picked this hotel is because it, for sure, has the best lobby and public space of any hotel in Portland, if not the entire country. You will love it!

So what is there to do in Portland? We will have some of our usual activities, such as the annual golf tournament. This will be held on Thursday at the **Reserve Golf Club's Fought Course**, site of the annual Fred Meyer Challenge. Golfers will not be disappointed. And tennis players should not feel left out, as we will have a tennis tournament at the **Multnomah Athletic Club**, the largest (and some say the best) private athletic club in the nation. Tennis will be on Friday this year, so you can participate in both golf and tennis.

Judging from the November Executive Council Meeting, I think the optional tours will set this convention apart. For starters, on Friday afternoon, there will be a tour of the **Columbia River Gorge**. This is Portland's hidden gem, where the mighty **Columbia River** cuts through the snowcapped peaks of the **Cascade Range**. Many of the Executive Council members visited the Gorge in November, and they could not believe how gorgeous it was (see photos taken by ADTA photographer laureate Jim Gauthier). They were also surprised that they had heard so little about the Gorge beforehand. This trip is not to be missed (unless, of course, you would rather play tennis).

Speaking of the Columbia River, after cutting through the Gorge, this River then runs through Portland and continues west to the sea. On Saturday, we are also going west to the sea, visiting **Cannon Beach**, on the dramatic Oregon coast. This will be a great opportunity to see some beautiful country and experience the Pacific Ocean – Northwest style.

If you do not want to go all the way to the Coast on Saturday, there will be a shorter trip available, to the **Oregon Wine Country**. We will have a tasting at two wineries, separated by lunch in-between. It should be lots of fun.

And what about the evenings? You won't be surprised to learn that we have something planned every night, with music and mirth at each event. Thursday, we will be having cocktails at the turn-

of-the-century **Pittock Mansion**, a lovely venue overlooking the city. Friday, we will have a dinner cruise on the **Portland Spirit**, a three-level luxury yacht with lots of space for dining, dancing and fun. Saturday night is our annual black tie dinner dance. This year we will go off-site to the lovely **Portland Golf Club**, and we have hired **Design**, a band that will keep you dancing all night long.

And did I mention the CLE program? **Steve Enochian** has put together a great program that will include an actual mock jury presentation, which should be quite interesting and insightful. And Steve has also arranged for our Saturday morning general interest/inspirational speaker **John McShane**. McShane is a lawyer, who "dispatched his demons" after nearly committing suicide, and he has been described as a "spellbinding speaker with an important message for all lawyers and their spouses."

We are truly excited about this convention, and Steve, Francene, Veronica and I do look forward to your visit. Trust me, you will not be disappointed.



MEET JAMES JENNINGS, MAN FROM VIRGINIA

Russ Roberts, VA

While many associate **James Jennings** with his ever-present bow tie and an obsession with fishing, ADTA is blessed to have him as our next president. As president-elect, he stands next in line to



assume the presidency of ADTA at our Portland meeting. He brings to the office a meld of strong intellect, management skills and good humor.

James was born in Temple, Texas but spent his formative years in the Southside Virginia mill town of Danville. From there he went to Washington and Lee University to obtain his degree in English. After a tour of duty as a U.S. Navy officer, he returned to W&L where he obtained his law degree in 1972. During his law school career he served as Lead Articles Editor for the law review and was awarded the Order of the Coif. He graduated *magna cum laude*. He then served as clerk to the Hon. Alex M. Harman, Jr. at the Supreme Court of Virginia. In 1973 James joined the Roanoke firm now known as Woods, Rogers & Hazelgrove, P.L.C.. The firm is the largest Virginia firm located West of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

James' career with the firm has been as a litigator handling toxic tort, products liability and business and commercial cases. He has tried countless cases in Virginia and West Virginia state and federal courts. He now heads a litigation team responsible for the most serious and complex cases handled by the firm.

James' professional accomplishments are extensive. He has served as: President of the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys and chair of the board of its acclaimed Journal of Civil Litigation, President of the Virginia Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), Chairman of the DRI Railroad Law Committee, named as a fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation in addition to his service to ADTA as an Executive Council member and as Vice President and President Elect.

Equally significant is James' service to his community and university. In 1994 he received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Washington and Lee. He has served as the president of the Roanoke Opera, vice president of the Art Museum of Western Virginia and as a director of Downtown Roanoke, Inc. and the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Jennings family consists of his wife, the former Anne Moran of Rhode Island, and three daughters, Helene, Ann Conway and Mary.

James attacks his pastimes of fishing and tennis with the same zeal as he does a multimillion dollar lawsuit. Nearly every mountain stream in

Virginia has been ravaged by his Patton-like approach to fishing and many have been vanquished by his finesse with a racquet.

We all look forward to the Jennings era at ADTA.



ONE MAN'S PERSPECTIVE

(Unknown Author)

An American businessman was at the pier of a small coastal Mexican village when a small boat with just one fisherman docked. Inside the small boat were several large yellow fin tuna. The American complimented the Mexican fisherman on the quality of his fish and asked how long it took to catch them. The Mexican fisherman replied, "Only a little while, *senor*." The American then asked, "Why didn't you stay out longer and catch more fish?" The Mexican fisherman said he had enough to support his family's immediate needs. The American then asked, "But what do you do with the rest of your time?" The Mexican fisherman said "I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children, take siesta with my wife, Maria, stroll into the village each evening where I sip wine and play guitar with my *amigos*. I have a full and busy life, *senor*."

The American scoffed, "I am a Harvard MBA and could help you. You should spend more time fishing and with the proceeds, buy a bigger boat. With the proceeds from the bigger boat you could buy several boats, eventually you would have a fleet of fishing boats. Instead of selling your catch to a middleman you would sell directly to the processor, eventually opening your own cannery. You would control the product, processing and distribution. You would need to leave this small coastal fishing village and move to Mexico City, then LA and eventually NYC where you will run your expanding enterprise."

The Mexican fisherman asked, "But *senor*, how long will this all take?" To which the American replied, "15-20 years."

"But what then, *senor*?" The American laughed and said, "That's the best part. When the time is right you would announce an IPO and sell your company stock to the public and become very rich, you would make millions."

"Millions, señor? Then what?" To which the American replied, "Then you could retire. Move to a small coastal fishing village where you would sleep late, fish a little, play with your children, take siesta with your wife, stroll to the village in the evenings where you could sip wine and play your guitar with your amigos."



INTERNET & TECHNOLOGY REPORT

George Walker, AL
Chair, Internet & Technology Committee

The Internet and Technology Committee continues to look for ways in which we can assist the membership in these ever more electronic days. Since our last report, we have changed our web site name to www.adtalaw.com. Please click on the site and take a look. Then, put it in your "favorites" for easy future reference.

The web site continues to attract attention from a variety of web surfers and other electronic nomads. The question page has produced more than 40 inquires, although few are related to substantive association matters. Nevertheless, the question page serves an important function and your chairman has enjoyed his responsibility responding to the myriad of inquires.

There has been a great deal of discussion among the membership generally and among the members of the Executive Council particularly about the adequacy, the look, the content, and the design of the web site. There is some thought that the site should be more substantive, perhaps to include case law discussions as is featured on the FICC web site; others believe that the site is exactly right for our needs. Some would like to have



a more user-friendly format; others believe that the site as presently constituted is easy to use. There are other thoughts and discussions ongoing that relate to the quality of our web site, and we will keep the conversation moving. The Committee believes that some web site upgrade is in order, and invites the views of the membership on any and all web site issues. Please contact me at georgew@handarendall.com with any suggestions you have for improving the web site and making it more worthwhile, useful, and beneficial to our membership.



IN MEMORIUM

Gordon Broom, IL

G. Gordon Burroughs, age 91, of Edwardsville, Illinois, died on Sunday, November 12, 2000. He was born on October 28, 1909. He married Virginia Simpson on November 9, 1940. She survives. Also surviving are two daughters: Barbara Meadows and husband, Douglas of St. Louis, Deborah Burroughs of California; three grandchildren: Kevin Meadows, Kerry Meadows, Carl and Kimberly Meadows; and one great-grandchild: Kyle Meadows.

Mr. Burroughs attended the University of Illinois and received his AB degree in 1931 and law degree in 1933. He was admitted to practice law in the State of Illinois in 1933. He practiced law with his father, William G. Burroughs, uncle George Burroughs and brother-in-law, David Simpson. He was the lead partner of the law firm for many years. The law firm is known today as Burroughs, Hepler, Broom, MacDonald, Hebrank & True, and consists of 28 attorneys. The Burroughs law firm is the largest law firm in the St. Louis Metro East area and one of the largest in the State of Illinois outside of Chicago. During his practice, he was a prominent defense trial attorney practicing in the State and Federal Courts in southern Illinois. Mr. Burroughs was a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy during World War II. His memberships included the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys; Federation of Insurance and Corporate Counsel; Illinois Bar Association; Illinois Association of Defense Trial Attorneys. He served six years on the Ethics Committee of the Illinois Bar; president of the Madison County Bar

Association; past president of The Edwardsville Kiwanis and a 50-year member of The Edwardsville Rotary Club; from 1952-80, he served on the Regional Board of School Trustees of Madison County; Board of Edwardsville National, Mark Twain and Mercantile Banks; and as Edwardsville City Attorney. He was a member of the Sons of American Revolution.

Mr. Burroughs was one of the early members of the ADTA. He was very proud of his membership and was a regular attendee at its annual meeting for many years.

Ed Curran, CT

Bruno Marraccini, who just recently became a member of ADTA (January 22, 2000), a Sacramento lawyer, died July 16, 2000, three months after being diagnosed with lung cancer. He was only 51 years old at the time.

A native of Stockton, California, he worked his way through the University of California, Berkeley, graduating in 1970. He then enrolled in the evening program at McGeorge School of Law of the University of the Pacific, working during the day as a research clerk for judges in the Sacramento courthouse. After obtaining his JD, he became admitted to the California Bar in 1975 and began practicing with the law firm of Fitzwilliam, Memering, Stumbos & DeMers. Subsequently, he left that firm with several other lawyers to found the firm of Bolling, Walter & Gawthorp.

He was a member of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Defense Association. He was also a member of California Defense Counsel. He belonged to the Sacramento County and American Bar Associations, the State Bar of California; the Trucking Industry Defense Association and the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Bruno was an experienced and resourceful trial attorney and a familiar figure around the Sacramento county courthouse where he was known for his exuberant and dramatic courtroom style.

He is survived by his wife of twenty years, the former Peggy Ash, by his son, Michael, and his daughter, Stephanie, and by his brothers and sisters: Ron, Ricky and Leanna. We extend our condolences to all of them.



NEW MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK READY SOON

At the Executive Council meeting in Portland, approval was given to proceed with the publishing of a new Membership Handbook. The soft-cover Membership Handbook will be replaced with a permanent three-ring 9x7 inch binder. Instead of receiving a bound Handbook each year, members will receive the current annual membership information in loose-leaf form. Each year the new membership information will simply be put in the three-ring binder and replace the previous year's insert. The binder will fit nicely on a bookshelf or the desk for easy reference.

The Membership Handbook will provide membership information alphabetically and by state. In addition, it will provide the office and home addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses and fax numbers. Spouse names will also be included. The Handbook will be blue with gold lettering and will emphasize Defense Trial Attorneys. The Handbook is the product of the work of a committee chaired by **Bruce Keplinger**, and included **Gordon Broom, Tony Tunney** and **Lynnette Crebo**. You are going to love it!



A LITTLE HUMOR

If you take an Oriental person and spin him around several times, does he become disoriented?*

Do infants enjoy infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery?*

Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?*

"I am" is reportedly the shortest sentence in the English language. Could it be that "I do" is the longest sentence?*

What hair color do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men?*

If olive oil comes from olives, where does baby oil come from?*

*George Carlin



ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Adrienne Baumgartner, LA



JAMES H. "BLACKIE" HOLMES, III RECEIVES MORRIS HARRELL PROFESSIONALISM AWARD



James H. "Blackie" Holmes, III, Partner, Burford & Ryburn, L.L.P., Dallas, has been awarded The 2000 Morris Harrell Professionalism Award.

The award, presented annually by The Texas Center for Legal Ethics and Professionalism and the Dallas Bar

Association, was first awarded in 1999 as the Texas Center Professionalism Award. It was renamed in 2000 in honor of its first recipient, renowned Dallas attorney Morris Harrell. The award is given to an attorney who "best exemplifies, by conduct and character, truly professional traits others seek to emulate and who all in the bar admire . . . a lawyer who is well respected by his or her peers and makes them proud of the profession."

The legal community has recognized Blackie's high caliber legal skills and ethics. In addition to the Morris Harrell Award, he has received the Presidential Citation from the State Bar of Texas for his work on the professionalism committee. He was also chosen to work as Co-Chair of the Texas Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Professionalism. Blackie is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, Texas Bar Foundation, Dallas Bar Foundation, and Southwestern Legal Foundation.

He is also an Emeritus Member of the Patrick E. Higginbotham American Inns of Court.

Blackie assumed the duties of President of the Dallas Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates for the year 2000.

Robert Fraser (OR) was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers in October, 2000.

H. Jeffrey Peterson (MN) was inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers at the College's 50th Annual Meeting held in Washington D.C.

Gordon R. Broom (IL) has been elected President of the Missouri/Southern Illinois Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Patricia Alvarez (TX) has been appointed Vice President of the Texas Association of Defense Counsel. In addition, she was appointed Vice-Chair of the Trucking Committee of the DRI.

O'Neal Walsh (LA) has been elected Vice President of the Louisiana Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates at its annual meeting in November. He will serve a one-year term beginning January, 2001. He presented the closing argument in the ABOTA Masters in Trial Program in New Orleans in December 2000. He was also on the Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel program in Sedona, AZ on the subject of Defense Practice After The Turn Of The Century And The Effects Of Audits and Billing Guidelines.

Steve Gerber (NJ) has been named Chair of the DRI's Employment Law Committee.

Phyllis Hix (CA) has been appointed Chair of the Reinsurance Committee of the IADC for 2001. Phyllis was recently appointed as a faculty member of the Cerro Coso Community College, a part of the Kern Community College District in Central California.

Jim Gauthier (NY) received the John Leach Award for outstanding service to the New York State Bar's Tort Insurance And Compensation Section. He served as Chair of that Section in 1994. The Section has over 4500 members and is one of the largest Sections of the Bar.

Jerry Weedon (FL) has been appointed by the Mayor to the Jacksonville Human Rights Commission. In addition, he is heading up the Business

Liaison Committee working with the Chamber of Commerce on diversity issues.

Walter E. Zink II (NE) has been assigned as the Assistant Adjutant General (Army) by the Nebraska National Guard and in February, 2000, he was confirmed by the United States Senate to the Federal rank of Brigadier General.



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Daniel R. Formeller, IL

With a lame duck Congress and a lame duck President, legislation during the end of the last session was predictably sparse and focused on very narrow agendas. Thoughts of omnibus legislation and major programs vanished as both parties prepared for a transition in power and a shift in legislative agendas.

There were several important rules changes made in 2000. Both the Federal Rules of Evidence and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure were amended in significant ways. The major changes in the Federal Rules of Evidence were made to the "700 series" of rules dealing with expert witnesses. Since many state courts now look to the Federal Rules of Evidence for guidance in this area, trial lawyers should review the rule changes carefully. Rule 701 has been amended to distinguish between expert and lay testimony as opposed to the difference between expert and lay witnesses. Rule 702 has been amended to incorporate the Daubert standards

into the Rule and to give trial lawyers a clearer set of criteria for reliable expert testimony. Rule 703 has been amended so that the proponent of the opinion shall not disclose facts or data otherwise inadmissible to the jury unless the court rules specifically that their probative value outweighs their prejudicial effect.

The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure were amended effective December 1, 2000. Although there were several minor amendments, some significant changes were made to Rule 26, the Rule governing discovery. District Courts no longer have the option of opting out of the initial disclosure requirements under Rule 26(a)(1). The amendment also changes the time period within which parties must make initial disclosures. These disclosures must now be made within 14 days after the Rule 26 conference. Rule 26(f) has been amended to eliminate the need for face-to-face discovery conferences. Finally, Rule 30 has been amended and the amendments change the manner in which parties conduct depositions. Rule 30(d)(2) provides that depositions are limited to one day or seven hours unless authorized by the court or stipulated by the parties. The Rule also has been amended to change the techniques for making and preserving objection during depositions and new Rule 30(d)(4) allows a party to limit or terminate a deposition if it is being conducted in bad faith or in a manner such as to annoy, embarrass or oppress the witness.

Looking forward, the new administration has already placed tort reform on their agenda and it is likely that some states will also revisit this issue. There are also likely to be more Federal Regulations dealing with federal preemption, product liability, consumer products and products that affect the environment.



THE ASSOCIATION PRESS

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Hammond, LA

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Gainesville, FL

Douglas A. Welp
Evansville, IN

Luis Martínez-Lloréns
San Juan, Puerto Rico



ADDITUR

Jennifer Parrish and **George Walker** (not the Mobile George Walker) tied the knot on January 6th and honeymooned in Puerto Rico.

Bill Sampson (KS) writes that Dru, his wife, now serves as Leadership Gifts Director for the Henry W. Bloch School of Business at the University of Missouri at Kansas City. She is enjoying working in Kansas City. Two of their children continue at law school: Lara at George Washington and Andy at the University of Virginia. Their son, Seth, lives in Lawrence and he hopes to go to Israel this summer.

The **Gauthier's** daughter, Lauren was sworn in as a member of the New York State Bar in January, 2001.

We had quite a group in New Orleans for the DRI Convention. Hopefully no one gained too much

weight. We noted there were a lot of ADTA members on the dance floor for Rockin' Doopsie.

As a member of the United States Marshal's Posse, **Phyllis M. Hix** (CA) rode her palomino, Beau, carrying the California flag to lead the Rose Parade on January 1, 2001.

Send us news about you and your family, including grandchildren. We all want to share the good news!

The name John Grisham probably catches your eye. After all, he is a lawyer. His stories always have something to do with the law. The Testament deals with the distribution of an estate to an unexpected and virtually unlocatable beneficiary. An alcoholic lawyer travels the jungles and waterways of South America in pursuit. His adventure, at times like "Titanic" on a minute scale, is a story that keeps you turning pages. A central figure in the story is a person who operates from the noblest of purposes.

By way of contrast, The Brethren is populated with ne'er do wells. Three former judges orchestrate an E-Mail blackmail scheme. Other players include a U.S. Congressman and a CIA Director with his own vision of the world. Typically, one tries to anticipate how the author will end his stories. These tales end in more acceptable fashion than did The Firm. (Could a first year associate really whoop up on the senior partners in any firm like that guy did?)

At any rate, the stories both move along without tiring out the brain. And they do have a little bit to do with the law.



BOOK REVIEW

Patrick G. Cullen, MD

The Testament, Dell Books (1999) (\$7.99 in paperback and The Brethren, Double Day (2000) (\$27.95 in hardback) both by John Grisham.

A TWO-FER

MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION

I would like to nominate _____ for (prime)(associate) membership in
(proposed members' name)

the ADTA. Please send an application to _____
(name)

at _____,
(city) (state) (zip)

Office telephone: _____ Office fax: _____

Year admitted to practice in my state: _____

Name of Member (Print)

Signature of Member

Return to:

Stephen R. Crislip, Jackson & Kelly; 1600 Laidley Tower, Post Office Box 553, Charleston, WV 25322

Tel.: (304) 340-1180;

Fax: (304) 340 1050;

Email: scrislip@jacksonkelly.com

Membership Requirements

A trial lawyer doing principally defense work in insurance and self-insurance activities, with more than five (5) years defense trial experience is eligible.

Prime Members: *The first lawyer member from a firm is the prime member. There can only be one Prime Member from any town, city, or metropolitan area of less than a million population. One additional Prime Member is allowed for each additional one million population, or portion thereof, for a city or metropolitan area.*

Associate Member: *Partners or associates of a Prime Member are eligible and encouraged for membership as Associate Members, at the will of the Prime Member.*



ADTA DIRECTORIES SENT TO OVER 800 CLAIMS PROFESSIONALS

Sam Pace's (PA) committee has completed its work on the new ADTA Directory, formerly known as the Roster. The new Directory features a new cover and a new format. The ADTA retained the service of a public relations consultant, Richard Simpson, to help design and lay out the new Directory. From there, countless hours were spent checking addresses and updating the data on each member.

In addition to revising the content and look, the mailing list of those who were to receive the Directory was updated as well. The list of 2900 addressees had not been revised for over 10 years. In addition to contacting each addressee, the membership was asked to submit five names of claims professionals to whom the Association should send

the Directory. This resulted in 332 new names of persons who receive our Directory. These new addressees were added to the approximately 500 found to still be active on the existing list.

The purpose of the Directory is to provide the names of our membership to potential clients throughout Puerto Rico, Canada and the United States. Membership in the ADTA is an endorsement to a client that you are a qualified and skillful defense attorney in your community.

The Executive Committee is putting more emphasis on the Directory as a means of promoting the membership of the ADTA to the insurance industry and other clients around the country. Members are asked to provide names of potential clients who should be on the mailing list. The Executive Committee will do its best to keep the list current and to make the Directory a valuable benefit to our members. E-mail or fax names and addresses of the persons who should receive the Directory to Lynnette Crebo at lcrebo@hrva.com or 309-676-3374.

THE ASSOCIATION PRESS

ATTN: GORDON BROOM

103 WEST VANDALIA STREET, POB 510

EDWARDSVILLE, ILLINOIS 62025