The Pennsylvania Bar Association and local bar associations throughout Pennsylvania will join together in March 2000 for a statewide public education campaign about child support. With a theme of “Your Kids Come First,” the new campaign is designed to educate the public about the latest changes in the child support laws throughout Pennsylvania. The campaign’s goal is to inform parents about the support laws as well as the recent changes in guidelines and eligibility. The campaign was created by the PBA Client and Community Relations Committee, the sponsor of two successful past education campaigns on the topics of wills and real estate.

“We are hoping that every local bar association in the state will join with us in this important effort to help Pennsylvania’s children by educating their parents about the new support guidelines.”

Community Relations Committee.

“We are hoping that every local bar association in the state will join with representatives from the Pennsylvania Bar Association at the PBA Leadership Forum.

For more information on the 34th Annual Seminar of the Conference of County Bar Leaders, call County Bar Services Director Arthur J. Birdsall, ext. 2218 at (800) 932-0311.

The seminar agenda as it was available at press time appears on page two.

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(Continued on page 8)
PBA Launches Law Day 2000 Program

In partnership with county bar associations across the state, the Pennsylvania Bar Association is launching its first statewide, coordinated Law Day effort titled “Celebrate Students: Judges & Lawyers Go Back to School.”

Designed by a special Law Day 2000 Committee, which is composed of judges, lawyers and county bar association executive directors, the Law Day 2000 celebration will focus on getting judges and lawyers into as many classrooms as possible during the first week of May to teach a class about the law. The program’s goal is to educate children about their legal rights and responsibilities in the new millennium and draw attention to the law in a fun and informative manner.

“I’m calling on all Pennsylvania lawyers to be a partner in the first celebration of Law Day in the new millennium, “ said PBA President Louis N. Teti. “It will be an exciting program for judges and lawyers across the commonwealth, and one that will have a lasting impact on Pennsylvania’s children.”

To achieve these goals, the PBA, in conjunction with Temple/LEAP and several county bars, has developed the Lesson Plan & Idea Guide for K-12 Classrooms. This easy-to-use booklet provides judges and lawyers with everything they will need to visit a classroom. From actual lesson plans including directions for the presenter to ready-to-copy handouts to tips on delivery, this guide will enable judges and lawyers to step from the courtroom/office into the classroom with ease (and little preparation).

PBA members wishing to participate in Law Day 2000 are urged to call the Law Day 2000 Hotline at 1-877-329-7621 to register.

—

CCBL Scholarships Available

Do you want to attend the 34th Annual Seminar of the Conference of County Bar Leaders but you don’t have the available funds? Tuition scholarships are available for county bar leaders. For more information, contact PBA County Bar Services Director Arthur J. Birdsall at (800) 932-0311, ext. 2218.

34th Annual Seminar of the Conference of County Bar Leaders
Feb. 25-26, 2000
The Nittany Lion Inn, State College

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, Feb. 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Pennsylvania Association of Bar Executives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Feb. 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration • PBA Supermarket</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.-9:50 a.m.</td>
<td>President’s Roundtable Discussion</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Malpractice Avoidance: Is There Danger in Suing for Fees?</td>
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<tr>
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<td>*Conference members who attend this presentation will receive up to 5% discount on their PBA-endorsed mal-practice insurance, plus 90 minutes of CLE ethics credit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>The Future of Your Bar Association</td>
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<td>*Conference members who attend this program will receive 90 minutes of CLE substantive credit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 a.m.-1:30 pm</td>
<td>Kick-Off Luncheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m.-2 p.m.</td>
<td>Hotel Check-in Break and Networking Session</td>
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<td>2:00 p.m.-2:50 p.m.</td>
<td>Three Breakout Sessions</td>
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<td>• Multidisciplinary Practice: Is it in Your Future?</td>
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<td>*Conference members who attend this program will receive 50 minutes of CLE substantive credit.</td>
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<td>• Legal Journals: They Come in All Shapes and Sizes</td>
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<td>• Planning Your Year as Bar President</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Young Lawyer’s Division Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.-3:50 p.m.</td>
<td>Three Breakout Sessions</td>
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<td>• The Role of Associations in the New Millennium</td>
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<td>• Legal Services: What Are We Doing? What Should We be Doing?</td>
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<td>4:00 p.m.-4:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Plenary Session: Balancing Life and the Law in the New Millennium</td>
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<td>*Conference members who attend this program will receive 45 minutes of CLE ethics credit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:45 p.m.-5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Educating the Public About the Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Reception at the Bryce Jordan Center</td>
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<td>Saturday, Feb. 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast Buffet</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m.-9:00 am</td>
<td>Three Networking Breakfast Meetings (small, medium and large bar associations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Bar Leader Forum/Business Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:10 a.m.-10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>PBA Leadership Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Stand on Your Chair (An enjoyable way to learn how to deal with life’s changes.)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>*Conference members who attend this presentation will receive 90 minutes of substantive CLE credit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>CCBL Executive Committee Meeting</td>
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the county line
How to...Apply for Grant Requests

When submitting a request for a grant from the Pennsylvania Bar Trust Fund, county bar associations must follow the policy and procedures outlined below.

Policy for Approval of Grants

The Trust Fund shall approve only such grants that “promote educational and charitable purposes associated with the legal profession and the administration of justice...with particular reference to the promotion of such purposes in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.” (Section 3.01, Indenture of Trust)

In the furtherance of this policy, the trustees shall approve grants in the following categories:
1. Requests for commencement of a new project in conformance with the purposes of the Trust.
2. Such programs in conformance with the purpose stated above which are sponsored directly by the Trust, whether new or continuing.

Procedure for Application for Grant

Each application for grant funds from the Pennsylvania Bar Trust must follow the guidelines below:
1. Be received 30 days prior to each meeting in order that the request can be circulated to the trustees. The Trustees generally meet twice a year, usually October and April. General deadlines for receipt of grant requests is Sept. 1 for the October meeting and March 1 for the April meeting.
2. Contain information relating to the purpose of the grant, benefits derived, population to be served and the amount requested supported by a detailed budget. This is necessary to determine whether the grant meets the objectives of the Trust.
3. Establish the fact it is a “seed money” request for the commencement of a new project, except for Trust-sponsored programs.

If the above criteria are met, all grants will be forwarded to the Grants Committee for review. It will determine whether the grant is appropriate and if the money should come from loss control funds or from the charitable Trust.

Approval of Grant

Upon determination of approval or rejection of the grant application, the grantee will be notified in writing by the secretary of the Trust. This letter shall state approval or the reason(s) for rejection, and in the case of approval, instructions for requesting the funds.

Grant funds will only be distributed upon the proper completion of a "Request for Payment” form and will be disbursed at the close of each calendar month. These forms will be supplied with your approval letter (local reproduction is permitted).

Disbursements of Grant Funds

Grant funds not expended within one year or within the time period applied for in the grant request shall revert to the Trust Fund. Notice thereof shall be given to the grantee and if no satisfactory reason for the delay is provided to the Trust by the next scheduled meeting of the Trust, for reinstatement of the grant, the funds so allocated will be made available for other purposes.

Status Reports

Fund grantees shall be required to provide the Trustees with a semi-annual report on the status of the project to determine the need for its continuation. All unexpended funds remaining at the conclusion or discontinuance of the project shall revert to the fund.

Grant Refund Policy

The Trustees of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Insurance Fund and Trust adopted the following policy relating to grants by either Pennsylvania Bar Association Trust Fund or Pennsylvania Bar Association Insurance Fund at their April 17, 1999 meeting:

In the event of the sales materials developed or produced with the use of funds from a Pennsylvania Bar Association Insurance Fund grant or a Pennsylvania Bar Association Insurance Fund grant, all proceeds of the sales, after deduction of actual reproduction costs of the materials sold, shall be refunded to the Fund making the grant provided that:

a. The amount of any total refund shall not exceed the total amount of the grant.
b. This policy shall be applicable to all grants approved on and after April 15, 1999, unless otherwise specifically provided in the specific grant, and
c. This Resolution does not address other types of reimbursements, which will be reviewed on a grant by grant basis.

For more information about submitting grant requests, contact PBA Governance Manager Sandra L. Graver at 1-800-932-0311, ext. 2221, P.O. Box 186, Harrisburg, PA 17108-0186, info@pabar.org.
YCBA Partners with York Chamber of Commerce on Mediation Program

The York County Bar Association and the York County Chamber of Commerce have partnered on a new mediation program aimed at resolving business disputes for Chamber members at a reduced rate. The program is being offered to members as a quick and less conventional way to resolve differences and maintain important business ties in the York community.

“We’ve been working together for some time to come up with a program that begins with negotiation and moves on to mediation as a more formal way of settling disputes,” says Walt Tilley, an attorney with Stetler & Gribbin. “We feel it will make the judicial system more efficient.”

“The program is a great benefit to our members,” adds Barry Carbaugh of the Barry Group and current chamber chairman. “And it is a great example of two leading community organizations coming together for a common goal of settling legal disputes for business.”

Chamber members can apply for mediation services to resolve business and commercial disputes. Cases involving individual consumers, divorce or criminal conduct are not eligible. Once the application is received, a mediator is assigned within five days and a mediation conference is scheduled. Mediators are chosen from an approved list of members of the Chamber and the YCBA.

All parties involved in the case and their counsel must appear at the conference, be prepared to discuss all issues and approve any settlement. Within five days of the mediation conference, a report is filed with the Chamber and the YCBA.

The fee for chamber members is $250 and includes scheduling and preparation as well as one mediation session up to four hours. Additional mediation sessions for chamber members cost $250 for each successive half-day. Non-members are charged $350 for mediation services, plus $350 for each successive half-day mediation session.

Legislative Update: Assessment Appeals

Rep. Larry Roberts (D-Fayette) offered Amendment 3477 to House Bill 1154, which would permit an attorney-in-fact to represent a property owner in an assessment appeal before a board of assessment appeals. House Bill 1154 passed with the amendment included on Oct. 20.

We view the local bars as the basis for a grassroots network that will carry our message to legislators in their districts. Many legislative leaders have told us that a grassroots network is essential to increasing our political power in Harrisburg.

As we continue to make great strides, our mission will become more difficult because the composition of the state legislature has changed over the past 35 years. In 1970, approximately 40 percent of the legislature had law degrees. Today, it is 18 percent, and this trend is destined to continue. We can no longer rely upon the practicing lawyer/legislator to understand the issues of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and have an empathetic point of view toward PBA interests.

To illustrate this point, 172 legislators voted for the amendment to HB 1154 permitting an attorney-in-fact to represent property owners before a board of assessment appeals. We asked you, our members, to contact your Senators and Representatives to express your opposition to this measure, and we thank you for doing so. In order for the PBA to continue to be an important player in the legislative process, we need our members to be involved.

—The PBA Legislative Department

Gilbert Nurick Award

Recommendations are being sought for a qualified PBA member to receive the 2000 Gilbert Nurick Award.

Established in 1991, the award signifies outstanding contributions to and leadership in bar activities. The award recognizes the honoree for dedication to and promotion of the organized bar resulting in improved leadership for incoming bar association officers.

If you believe there is a member of your bar association worthy of this award, please contact PBA Member Services Representative Jaymee L. Mehrmann at (800) 932-0311, ext. 2229, by Feb. 1. The award will be presented during the 34th Annual Seminar of the Conference of County Bar Leaders, which is being held Feb. 25-26.
Pennsylvania Bar Institute Courses

Here is the most recent listing of live courses being offered by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. Dates, times and locations are subject to change. Contact PBI’s Customer Service Department for more information at (800) 932-4637, (800) 247-4724 or (717) 796-0804.

Taxes Affecting Decedents’ Estates, January 27, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., 6 CLE credits (5 substantive, 1 ethics)
West Chester

Demonstrative Evidence in the New Millennium, February 10, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 4 CLE credits (substantive)
Allentown

Feldman on Long-Term Care Planning, live via satellite, February 18, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 3 CLE credits (substantive)

Recent Developments in Assessment Law, February 24, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., 4 CLE credits (substantive)
King of Prussia

Premises Liability, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., 4 Points, 6 CLE credits (substantive, 1 ethics)

State College
March 7
Greensburg
March 14

13th Annual Civil Litigation Update-2000, live via satellite, March 29, 2000, 9:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., 6 CLE credits (5 substantive, 1 ethics)
Allentown
Chambersburg
Doylestown
Easton
Erie
Greensburg
Homesdale
Indiana
Kingston
Lancaster
Lewisburg
Media
Montrose
New Castle
Reading
Scranton
Stroudsburg
Warren
West Chester
West Decatur
Williamsport
York

Nominations Sought for County Bar Recognition Awards

The 34th CCBL Annual Seminar again will be highlighted by the presentation of the PBA County Bar Recognition Awards, recognizing outstanding projects and activities conducted by county bar associations during the 1999 calendar year. This awards program is unique in that it does not place your bar in competition with other county bars for statewide recognition. Instead, it is designed to recognize projects of all county bar associations that in some way contributed to the improvement of the legal profession, the justice system, or the community.

Those bar associations whose projects meet the criteria will be presented an award, and a news release will be distributed to the media in their counties. The project must have been undertaken during 1999, although it may have begun previously or will be continued in 2000 and beyond. There is no requirement that it be entirely contained within the calendar year. A bar association may submit more than one project for consideration but no more than three.

To obtain an entry form, please call PBA Member Services Assistant Nyla R. Crummel, ext. 2227, at (800) 932-0311. The form must be returned by Tuesday, Feb. 1. Please include any support material that you believe is relevant to the project, including any brochures, program or other printed matter. This material will then be kept on file at PBA headquarters.

Please submit an entry on behalf of your local bar association so that we may give your efforts appropriate recognition in your community and to your colleagues across the state.
Allegheny County

Courtroom Videography
The American Guild of Court Videographers officially recognized Pittsburgh as the birthplace of courtroom videography and Allegheny Bar Association member Seymour A. Sikov as the first attorney to introduce the use of video in courtrooms.

Berks County

Toys-for-Tots Campaign
This past holiday season, the Berks County Bar Association once again helped the Marine Corps in their Toys-for-Tots Campaign.

New Location for Retreat
Looking for an innovative alternative to Pennsylvania’s conference facilities, the Berks County Bar Association held its 1999 Bench Bar Conference at the Princess Resort in Freeport, Grand Bahamas. The scenic beauty of Freeport combined with the Conference’s well organized agenda, made the retreat a success. Many participants agreed that most important to this success was the congeniality that existed among all those who attended.

Blair County

Lawyer’s Contributions
Thanks to Blair County lawyer T. Dean Lower, residents of Hollidaysburg and visitors to the town are afforded a spectacular view of Hollidaysburg and the surrounding region. Lower, a member of the Blair County Bar Association since 1949, contributed a substantial amount of money to the Borough of Hollidaysburg to help make the overlook, named the T. Dean Lower Overlook in his honor, a reality.

I Signed the Constitution
The Blair County Bar Association took place in the “I Signed the Constitution” ceremonies at the Hollidaysburg Area High School. The Bar was represented by President Robert P. Rea.

Chester County

Sexual Harassment Courses
The Chester County Bar Association is conducting courses for area high school seniors educating them on the laws of sexual harassment in schools and the workplace. Since the youth program was started, more than 10,000 Chester County students have benefited from the courses and approximately 30 attorneys have volunteered their time.

Delaware County

Art Show and Auction
On Oct. 21, the Delaware County Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Section joined the Heisman Fine Arts Gallery to present a benefit art show and auction. Funds raised by the event were donated to the Delaware County Legal Assistance Association, which provides a wide range of legal services to indigent citizens of Delaware County, and the Delaware County Bar Association Young Lawyer’s Section Holiday Party for underprivileged children.

Lawyers Go Back to School
The Delaware County Bar Association sent lawyers back to elementary school on Nov. 19. Attorneys were placed in every classroom in the Chester-Upland School District to read to nearly 3,500 children. The event was coordinated by the DCBA’s Community Outreach Committee to focus community attention on literacy and the importance of reading.

Lackawanna County

Youth Achievement Award
In November, the seventh annual Youth Achievement Award was presented by the Lackawanna Bar Association’s YLD to United Neighborhood Centers of Lackawanna County for the educational and social services it offers to local children and youth. The award was implemented by the YLD in 1993 to honor outstanding resources with a mission dedicated to young people.

Lehigh County

Adopt-A-Highway Sponsor
The Bar Association of Lehigh County has been approved by PennDot as an Adopt-A-Highway sponsor. Under the agreement with the Commonwealth, the BALC has pledged to remove litter from the intersection of Routes 78 and 100 four times a year.

Lycoming County

Heart Walk
On Oct. 24 the American Heart Association’s Heart Walk attracted support from the Lycoming Law Association and its members. This participation is a continuation of the efforts of the law association to become more involved in the support of community activities.

Montgomery County

Check Presentation
Montgomery Bar Association President David Narkiewicz presented Montgomery Legal Aid Director Harvey Strauss with a check for...
$30,000 at the Bar’s recent board of directors’ meeting. The donation will assist Legal Aid in providing civil legal representation to the less fortunate in Montgomery County. In addition to this donation, bar association members devoted nearly 2,000 hours last year to helping Montgomery County Legal Aid clients and donated $43,000 to Legal Aid—the highest amount ever raised by the local legal community.

**Thanks-For-Giving Run**

The first Montgomery Bar Association Thanks-For-Giving Run was held on Nov. 20. Proceeds from the 5-k run and 1-k walk were used to buy Thanksgiving dinners for needy families in Norristown.

**Legal Expo**

In October, 300 attorneys and legal managers attended the 1999 Delaware Valley Legal Expo sponsored by the Montgomery Bar Association and the Independence Chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators. The event featured over 60 vendors and several free educational seminars.

**Monroe County**

**Mock Trial Invitational**

The Monroe County Bar Association held its annual Mock Trial Invitational on Nov. 20 at East Stroudsburg High School. Students from area high schools argued a fictitious case prepared by local attorneys in preparation for the PBA’s statewide competition held in February. Attorneys who awarded points for poise, articulation, control of witness and effective use of argument judged the mock trial teams.

**Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration**

Four members of the Monroe County Bar Association were honored for their dedicated service to the county at the association’s Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration on Oct. 21. The honorees were: Alex L. Bensinger, Edward L. Williams, J. Joseph McCluskey and Maxwell H. Cohen.

**Schuykill County**

**Holiday Gifts**

The Schuykill County Bar Association Women’s Law Caucus recently organized donations that provided two families from Shenandoah and one family from Pottsville with food certificates and gifts for the holidays. Many association members and their families helped make this program a success.

**Washington County**

**The Public’s Law School**

The public was invited to attend a four-week lecture series, The People’s Law School, sponsored by the Washington County Bar Association in October. Designed to provide basic knowledge about the areas of the law that affect daily life, the series featured presentations by attorneys, district judges and court personnel.

**Wayne County**

**Community Service Award**

The Wayne County Bar Association and the Dorflinger Suydam Wildlife Sanctuary honored Dr. Harry D. Propst with the 1999 Judge James Rutherford Community Service Award on Sep. 23. Dr. Propst is well known for his association with Wayne Memorial Hospital, having served as its chief of staff since 1957.

**Westmoreland County**

**Make a Difference Luncheon**

The Westmoreland Bar Foundation hosted a women’s Make a Difference luncheon Oct. 8. The luncheon benefited the Working Women’s Closet Program, which provides appropriate interview clothing to women who are changing careers or are actively trying to enter or reenter the work force. The program is sponsored by the YMCA of Westmoreland County. The price of admission to the event was one gently worn business outfit. The Foundation intends to continue collecting clothing from members throughout the year.

**Wilkes-Barre**

**Judge Speaks at Meeting**

Judge A. Richard Caputo of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania delivered the principal address at the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association/Luzure County Bar Association’s recent quarterly meeting. Judge Caputo stressed the importance of the independence of the judiciary as a “cornerstone of our democracy.”

**York County**

**Historian Commissioned**

Historian Thomas L. Schaefer was commissioned by the York County Bar Association to write a 200-plus page book linking the legal community to the establishment of the country’s infrastructure from the pre-Revolutionary era to the 20th Century. Now working on the concept, research and discovery phase, Schaefer hopes to finish the book by April 2000.

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**Send Us Your News**

If you have submissions for future issues of *The County Line*, please send in the enclosed “News and Views” form or contact PBA County Bar Services Director Arthur Birdsall at (800) 932-0311, ext. 2218.

March 20 is the deadline for the next issue of the newsletter.
Nominations for the CCBL 2000 Arthur J. Birdsall Award Accepted Until Feb. 1

Created by the CCBL Executive Committee last year, the award is given periodically “to recognize a bar executive who has been a faithful steward of bar traditions, who is committed to the success of his or her bar association, who has enhanced significantly the stature of his or her bar association, who cooperates with other bar executives and bar leaders to make the CCBL the best it can be, and who puts his or her self second to the needs of the bar association whenever and whatever they may be.”

To nominate someone for this award, contact PBA Member Services Representative Jaymee L. Mehrmann at (800) 932-0311, ext. 2229, by Feb. 1. The award will be presented during the 34th Annual Seminar of the Conference of County Bar Leaders Feb. 25-26 at the Nittany Lion Inn, State College.

United States Third Circuit Update

Revisions have been made to the Third Circuit’s Local Appellate rules and the Internal Operating Procedures of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. These amendments went into effect on Jan. 1, 2000. Copies of the revisions can be requested by contacting Assistant Circuit Executive Lynne C. Kosobucki at Room 22409 United States Courthouse, 601 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106 or by telephoning 215-597-0718. The amendments are also available on the Third Circuit Web site, pacer.ca3.uscourts.gov (Please note that this address does not begin with www.).

Many of the amendments to the Local Appellate Rules and Internal Operating Procedures were prompted by the December 1998 amendments to the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, as well as the court’s practice in handling habeas corpus, including death penalty, cases.

PBA, Local Bars To Sponsor Child Support Education Campaign (Continued from page 1)

us in this important effort to help Pennsylvania’s children by educating their parents about the new support guidelines.”

Working with the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association, the PBA will place ads in newspapers throughout the state and will make available a statewide toll-free hotline for callers to receive a free brochure outlining guidance on child support issues. Thanks to monetary grants from the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation and the Pennsylvania Bar Trust, the PBA will be able to provide statewide advertisements, informational brochures and marketing materials to all local bar associations at no cost. Local bar associations also will be asked to hold public educational seminars on the child support changes during the weeks of March 27 - April 7, 2000 to coincide with the campaign.

The campaign will be kicked off at a March 27, 2000 news conference in Harrisburg to which representatives from the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section, the Domestic Relations Association of Pennsylvania, local bar associations, child advocacy groups, churches and community groups will be invited. These groups, as well as legislators, will receive copies of the brochure to distribute to their constituents.

For more information about the campaign, call Marcy Mallory (ext. 2247) or Jennifer Branstetter (ext. 2216) in the PBA Communications Department at (800) 932-0311.