

Law Related Education

The newsletter of the Illinois State Bar Association's Committee on Law Related Education

The Illinois State Bar Association's Law-Related Education Newsletter is provided free of charge on a quarterly basis during the school year. We are dedicated to promoting law-related education resources and discussion topics appropriate for use in classroom or community settings. If you do NOT wish to receive this complimentary newsletter, please reply and indicate in the message line that you wish to be removed from our mailing list. Statements, expressions of opinion or comments appearing herein are those of the editors or contributors, and not necessarily those of the Association or the Committee.

Chair's column

BY RAQUEL G. (ROCKY) MARTINEZ

The Standing Committee on Law-Related Education for the Public (LRE) had another exceptional year, due to the efforts of an abundance of volunteers. The LRE is comprised of only 16 appointed members but the impact of our Committee is supplemented by associate members and auxiliary volunteers. We accomplished most of the goals and objectives that were contained in a detailed and ambitious, eight-page, strategic plan and far surpassed

our expectations for the year! Woot, woot! This article will provide an overview of the LRE's proudest accomplishments in 2015-16.

The LRE serves several constituencies (e.g., the public, lawyers, and judges) and does so through the combined activities of six standing committees. These highlights will be outlined by summarizing the successes of the LRE and its standing

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The growth of law-related education

BY LAUREN EVANS DEJONG

The importance of law-related education has been touted by our country's leaders for ages. In 1837, Abraham Lincoln addressed the youth of Springfield, Illinois, proclaiming, "Let reverence for the laws be breathed by every American mother to the lisping babe that prattles on her lap; let it be taught in

schools, in seminaries, and in colleges; let it be written in primers, spelling-books, and in almanacs; let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice."

However, law-related education did not become a more formalized movement until recent times. Prior to the 1960s,

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(Notice to librarians: The following issues were published in Volume 2 of this newsletter during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016: September, No. 1).

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committees.

ILCIVICS.ORG

Some projects require the intervention of the entire LRE and the leadership of our Bar Association. In our endeavors to make civics and law-related education more accessible to the public, the ISBA has acquired an additional domain on the World Wide Web. The rationale is that it will be easier for John Q. Public to find ILCIVICS.ORG, than it would be to locate the Illinois State Bar Association's (i.e., isba.org) public education resources page(s). The domain name links to the ISBA's "For the Public" Page, which identifies civics resources for everyone, especially teachers. So from this time forward, you will see **ILCIVICS.ORG** and "Civics Education Resources" on all of our publications.

Mock Trials

The Mock Trial Invitational gives high school students an opportunity to experience our legal system from a unique perspective - the inside. The ISBA promotes knowledge of the judicial branch of government in Illinois through this high-level state-wide competition. Thank you to all of the teams, guests and volunteers who made the 34th Annual 2016 ISBA High School Mock Trial Invitational a smashing success this year! Umberto Davi, the ISBA President, addressed over 700 attendees. Of course, none of this would have been possible without the extraordinary work of Katy Karayannis (the Mock Trial Coordinator), the Illinois Trial Team (a U of I Student Organization), the U of I College of Law & its staff or Sarah Taylor (the Chair of the Mock Trial Committee). This year's event was held on April 2nd and 3rd at the University of Illinois College of Law in Champaign-Urbana. The case involved a dispute between two hockey players during a semi-pro game that spiraled out of control. The Mock Trial Resources page contains a wealth of information about the competition, including a plethora of pictures and identification of the: 38 high

school teams; top 3 teams; teams that competed in the final round; achievement award winners for outstanding witnesses and attorneys; winner of the Schechter Law Test award and attorney, judge and student volunteers. Please visit <http://www.isba.org/teachers/mocktrial> for more information. Timothy Christian High School won the Invitational and represented Illinois at the National High School Mock Trial Championship on May 12-14, 2016, in Boise Idaho.

Civics Education

Volunteer lawyers and judges donate their time and expertise to the public and students of all ages through the LRE's civics education programs, and will continue to do so in 2016-17. . Lawyers in Classrooms (<http://www.isba.org/lawyersinclassrooms>) remains available for grade school and high school students and encompasses a wide variety of law-related subjects. The LRE also partnered with other civic-minded organizations to offer interesting programs. For example, Courtroom to the Classroom continues to be an interactive Power Point presentation brought to high school students through a joint effort of the ISBA and the Illinois Judges Association (IJA). Additionally, the Adult Education component is almost complete and is expected to be rolled out later this year. This civics education program will be available to community groups and local associations. Judge Chmiel was successful in spearheading an ISBA Speaker's Bureau and is working diligently to make a continuing legal education program on the Electoral College available this fall -- before the Presidential Elections. On March 4, the LRE attended the 2016 DuPage County Social Studies Conference at Wheaton-Warrenville High School in Wheaton, which included more than 500 social studies teachers from DuPage County and the surrounding areas. On March 11, LRE representatives attended the Spring Conference of the Illinois Council of Social

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Published at least four times per year.

To subscribe, visit www.isba.org or call 217-525-1760.

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Studies Teachers at Milliken University in Decatur. During that same time, the LRE had a presence during a meeting of the 42 Democracy Schools, which is an initiative of the Illinois Civics Mission Coalition and the McCormick Foundation.

Communications

This Committee managed the LRE's publications and administered the LRE webpage so that it contained easy access to current and relevant data for our various constituencies. This included publishing the newsletter, developing a plan for reorganizing the website, and identifying the pamphlets and lessons plans that needed revisions.

Membership

For the very first time, the LRE contacted Regional Superintendents of Education to advise them of the free educational and civics resources that are available through

the ISBA. The LRE officially welcomed new strategic partners into the fold, through representatives from the ABA and the McCormick Foundation and the Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education (IICLE). Several social gatherings were hosted throughout the year for members, prospective members and volunteers. The LRE is committed to making participation a fun and pleasant experience. The LRE had display tables in the vendor exhibition area during the Mid-Year and Annual ISBA Meetings to promote the services and volunteer opportunities that are available through our Standing Committee.

Strategic Planning

Benjamin Franklin is noted for saying "those who fail to plan, plan to fail." That is not true of the LRE. Throughout the year, the Planning Committee reviews the existing strategic plan, suggests revisions

and sets goals and priorities for the coming year.

Readers can learn more information through our website pages (<http://www.isba.org/teachers> for non-ISBA members and <http://www.isba.org/committees/lawrelatededucation> for ISBA members). As always, we welcome suggestions and feedback. Please contact Kim Furr, our stellar ISBA staff liaison, via email at kfurr@isba.org or by calling 1-800-252-8908, so that we may continue improving our services to you.

It has been an honor and a very rewarding experience to serve as Chair of the LRE during 2015-16. It is with great pleasure that I pass the gavel onto Marylou Kent. The LRE will be in good hands under her capable leadership. I am wishing the best of luck to the LRE, Marylou and all of the terrific volunteers in 2016-17. ■

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The growth of law-related education

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the phrase “law-related education” was met with opposition; people felt isolated from the world of law. In the 1950s and 1960s, significant social and political events resulted in an atmosphere of distrust and fear throughout the country. For many, this caused a desire to strengthen democratic attitudes among the citizenry. This desire was reinforced by a Purdue University poll that indicated that high school seniors were surprisingly ignorant of the Bill of Rights. This was of major concern to many because, without knowledge of the law, it was believed that younger generations would not be able to function effectively within the confines of democracy.

In 1962, U.S. Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan addressed the National Council for Social Studies on “Teaching the Bill of Rights.” Speaking on social issues, he stated, “These problems cannot be adequately considered, and surely not solved, without a deep awareness of the interdependence of our legal and educational systems.” Justice Brennan’s endorsement led to the development of law-related education institutes for teacher education throughout the nation.

While interest in law-related education was high, few programs were actually developed and implemented in the classroom. It is believed that this was due, in part, to a lack of communication between educators, lawyers, law personnel and community members. A critical event in the development of law-related education came in 1971 with the establishment of a Special Committee on Youth Education for Citizenship by the American Bar Association. Its purpose was to promote the development of law-related education programs, help coordinate services and avoid wasteful duplication of efforts. Its goals included assisting schools in implementing law-related education programs in school curricula.

The involvement of the [American Bar Association](#) was a signal to other bar associations and boards of education

highlighting the importance of law-related education and this helped cement a partnership between the legal and education communities. By 1977, thirty-seven states had implemented more than 500 law-related education programs. Momentum grew. Bar associations and educational agencies became involved in civic education. Attention converged on effective teacher training programs. The American Bar Association emphasized the importance of effective teacher training, stating that “[w]hile lawyers, judges and law enforcement officials can help by making occasional classroom visits, only teachers can be expected to bear the instructional burden and implement the goals of law-related education.”

In 1978, Congress passed an amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act known as the Law-Related Education Act of 1978. The Act reinforced the federal government’s active involvement in law-related education and made the important recommendation that law-related education be included in our schools. It also defined law-related education as “an education to equip non-lawyers with knowledge and skills pertaining to the law, the legal process and the legal system, and the fundamental principles and values on which these are based.”

The regulations issued by the United States Department of Education in support of the Act provided that law-related education helps students “respond effectively to the law and legal issues in our complex and changing society.” According to the American Bar Association:

Law-related education embraces a rich and varied array of programs for all grade levels. These programs share a common goal of fostering the knowledge, skills and values students need to function effectively in a society defined by its democratic institutions, pluralism and the...

rule of the law. Law-related education strives to develop the active citizens a democratic society requires: those who can understand, live in, and contribute positively to the civic communities to which they belong.

The involvement of bar associations in law-related education across the country in the wake of the enactment of the Law-Related Education Act has been tremendous. The [Illinois State Bar Association Standing Committee on Law-Related Education for the Public](#) (“LRE”) is but one example of many. In furtherance of its purpose “to equip non-lawyers with knowledge and skills pertaining to the law, the legal process and the legal system”, the LRE hosts the annual [Illinois High School Mock Trial Invitational](#); provides a database of [lawyers who are available to speak in classrooms](#); publishes [informational materials for the public](#) on a variety of civil and legal issues primarily affecting children and parents; and publishes a [quarterly newsletter](#) with additional information and resources for teachers.

Law-related education continues to evolve. Illinois now requires one full semester of civics for all students enrolling in high school on or after July 1, 2016. This new requirement is intended to help young people acquire and learn to use the skills, knowledge and attitudes that will best prepare them to be competent and reasonable citizens throughout their lives. According to the new law, the content of the civic course must focus on government institutions, the discussion of current and controversial issues, service learning, and simulations of the democratic process. Certainly, as described by the U.S. Department of Education, helping students “respond effectively to the law and legal issues in our complex and changing society,” is a very lofty goal, indeed. ■

Granite City High School: A Democracy School with a proud tradition of service

A strong belief that civic engagement among its students prepares them to become productive and responsible citizens and a long-standing tradition of community service and civic engagement compelled Granite City High School, a school of 1900 students, located in Granite City, Illinois, to apply for a designation as a Democracy School. This designation was awarded to the school in 2015 through the Illinois Civic Mission Coalition.

Vincent Willaredt, social studies department chair, reports that Granite City High School is replete with unsung heroes who do good work without the need for any reward. The long tradition of community service at Granite City High School began with the Student Council's 35-year-old tradition of preparing holiday baskets for those in need. In keeping with this example, the first action the school took after being designated a Democracy School was to use its Democracy School stipend to provide every third grader in the district with the student's own book on U.S. presidents. Mr. Willaredt hopes to inspire these future high school students early on.

Seventy-five percent of GCHS students are involved in at least one school extracurricular activity, many of which focus on service to the community. For example, the Student Council has sponsored safe driving campaigns that have won awards from the Department of Transportation; the National Honor Society sponsors some of the area's largest blood drives as defined by units of blood collected; and the school's athletic teams raise funds for cancer. The faculty is working to help students be intentional about the value of these activities and their importance to the community. They hope students will take the spirit of volunteerism into their adult lives as responsible citizens.

Granite City High School builds a sense of community with its Renaissance Committee, a group of students and staff with a mission to improve student

responsibility through incentive programs and to bolster school and team spirit through special events. Even before freshmen enter the school, they are involved in summer activities to help them transition to high school. The community building continues through the fall with activities such as the Welcome Back pep rally. The Renaissance Committee builds a partnership with the community through activities the GCHS Warrior Car show. The school also reaches out to the business community through several other cooperative programs. It's no wonder that business and homes throughout the community proudly display signs that say "We are GC."

The Granite City High School curriculum fosters a strong sense of citizenship. Students and teachers in social studies and other classes discuss current events, including so-called "hot" or controversial topics. The social studies curriculum includes a Global Issues class, which gives students the opportunity to earn college credit through St. Louis University. The school also offers a unique option for students to take a third semester of American History that is focused on more recent U.S. history. GCHS wants to enhance community involvement in classes outside the social studies curriculum and will consider a service learning program.

With the Democracy School designation, Granite City High School hopes to increase student interest in the political process through more interaction with the process and public officials. Granite City High School faculty are concerned that some students may not have a positive attitude toward politics and have accepted that as a challenge. The staff even hopes to encourage more student-parent discussion about matters of public policy.

Through some unique opportunities, Granite City High School students are becoming more directly engaged in the democratic process. Large numbers of

students register to vote and frequently serve as election judges. They also participate in mock elections at school. This strong spirit of civic engagement must have been at work when one GCHS student awoke before dawn to arrive at the courthouse early and become the first 17-year old in the state to register to vote under the new state law.

Granite City High School and neighboring O'Fallon Township High School, also recently named a Democracy School, join Belleville East High School and Belleville West High School as examples of Metro-East schools in which civic engagement is alive and well. ■



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O'Fallon Township High School: A Democracy School focused on civics engagement

O'Fallon Township High School, a school of 2600 students in O'Fallon, Illinois (just east of St. Louis Missouri) was recently designated a **Democracy School** by the **Illinois Civic Mission Coalition**. This special designation recognizes schools for providing students with authentic experiences in the rights, responsibilities and tensions of a constitutional democracy. Through these experiences, participating schools equip students with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary for informed and effective engagement in our democracy.

Christopher Busse, social studies chair and one of the drafters of the O'Fallon Township High School's application for Democracy School status, attributes achievement of the designation to the school's long-standing culture of student civic engagement and community service, which permeates classes and extracurricular activities. Social studies and other faculty members make use of the **Choices Materials from Brown University**. These materials stress critical thinking, multiple perspectives, and textual analysis, with use of primary sources. For example, one history teacher requires students to do an oral history of a veteran, which are then incorporated into a student-produced documentary. In this way, students learn the history of the nation along with individual stories.

In one social studies elective offered at O'Fallon Township High School, students have several opportunities for interactive civics engagement. This class includes opportunities to serve as jurors for Washington University Law School's Moot Trials; to travel to the local courthouse to participate in a question-and-answer session with a judge, prosecuting attorney and defense attorney; and to take on different roles in the American adversarial system through a mock trial experience.

In another elective offered at the school,

students are encouraged to participate in the McKendree University Model United Nations Conferences in the fall and spring. Students research and represent the international interests of different world countries in a forum with representatives from other area schools.

O'Fallon Township High School students are also regular participants in both the **Illinois State Bar Association Mock Trial Invitational Program**, in which students prosecute and defend a lawsuit, and the teen court of St. Clair County, a unique juvenile justice program that allows first-time, non-violent offenders to appear before a special peer jury after admitting guilt.

Civic engagement is not limited to the classroom at O'Fallon Township High School. Without any administrative directive, faculty (in their classes) and students (in their clubs and activities) tend to gravitate toward community involvement. Just a few examples of this include:

- the Gay-Straight Alliance teams up with the Wellness Club to sponsor a blood drive;
- the Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps participates in the Special Olympics bowling program;
- the Robotics club hosts a pennies for patients' fundraiser for the Leukemia/Lymphoma society;
- the Honor Society organizes a food drive; and
- the art club produces sculptures for the city's parks.

Because of their focus on civic engagement, O'Fallon Township High School is well-prepared for the new requirement that students take a full semester of civics while in high school. The school requires five semesters of social studies, including a semester course in civics or American government, two

semesters of American history, and two additional semesters of electives from the social studies curriculum.

O'Fallon Township High School and neighboring Granite City High School, also recently named a Democracy School, join Belleville East High School and Belleville West High School as examples of Metro-East schools in which civic engagement is alive and well. ■

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Upcoming CLE programs

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September

Thursday, 09/01/16- Webinar—
Introduction to Legal Research on
Fastcase. Presented by the Illinois State
Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA
Members Only. 12:00- 1:00 pm.

Thursday, 09/08/16- Webinar—
Advanced Tips for Enhanced Legal Research
on Fastcase. Presented by the Illinois State
Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA
Members Only. 12:00- 1:00 pm.

Thursday, 09/08/16- Webcast—
Monetizing Intellectual Property. Presented
by IP. 12:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Friday, 09-09-2016- Webcast—
Telemedicine: Diagnosing the Legal
Problems. Presented by Health Care. 9:00
a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**Wednesday, 09/14/16- Webcast—Hot
Topic: Union Dues/Fair Share—Friedrichs v.
California Teachers Association. Presented
by Labor and Employment. 10:00 a.m. –
12:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, 09-14-16—Webinar—2016
Military Law Overview. Presented by
Military Affairs. 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
(maybe later).**

**Thursday, 09/15/16- CRO—Family Law
Table Clinic Series (Series 1). Presented by
Family Law. 8:30 am – 3:10 pm. Vid: NONE
THESE WILL NOT BE RECORDED OR
ARCHIVED.**

**Friday, 09-16-06- CRO and Live
Webcast—The Fear Factor: How Good
Lawyers Get Into (and avoid) Bad Ethical
Trouble. Master Series Presented by the
ISBA—WILL NOT BE RECORDED OR
ARCHIVED. 9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

Wednesday, 09-21-16—Webcast—
Restorative Practice in Illinois: Practical
and Creative Alternatives to Resolve Civil

and Criminal Matters. Presented by Human
Rights. Part 1- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Part
2- 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Thursday, 09-22-16- Webcast—Family
Law Changes and Mediation Practice.
Presented by Women and the Law. 11:00
a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, 09/22/16- CRO and
Webcast—Recent Developments in
E-Discovery in Litigation. Presented by
Antitrust. 1:00- 5:15 pm.**

Thursday, 09/22/16- Webinar—
Introduction to Boolean (Keyword) Searches
for Lawyers. Presented by the Illinois State
Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA
Members Only. 12:00- 1:00 pm.

**Monday, 09/26/16- Friday, 09/30/16—
CRO—40 Hour Mediation/Arbitration
Training Master Series. Presented by the
ISBA. 8:30 am – 5:45 pm each day. MASTER
SERIES WILL NOT BE ARCHIVED.**

**Friday, 09-30-16—DoubleTree
Springfield—Solo and Small Firm
Practice Institute Series. A Balancing Act:
Technology and Practice Management
Solutions. Presented by GP, SSF. 8:00 a.m. –
5:10 p.m.**

October

Wednesday, 10-05-16—CRO—
Cybersecurity: Protecting Your Clients and
Your Firm. Presented by Business Advice
and Financial Planning; co-sponsored by IP
(tentative). 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, 10/06/16- Webinar—
Introduction to Legal Research on
Fastcase. Presented by the Illinois State
Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA
Members Only. 12:00- 1:00 pm.

**Thursday, 10-06-16—Webcast—Nuts
and Bolts of EEOC Practice. Presented by
Labor and Employment. 11:00 a.m. – 12:30**

p.m.

**Monday, 10-10-16—CRO and Fairview
Heights, Four Points Sheraton—What You
Need to Know to Practice before the IWCC.
Presented by Workers Compensation. 9:00
a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Thursday, 10/13/16- Webinar—
Advanced Tips for Enhanced Legal Research
on Fastcase. Presented by the Illinois State
Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA
Members Only. 12:00- 1:00 pm.

**Thursday, 10-13-16—IPHCA,
Springfield—Open Meetings Act:
Conducting the Public's Business Properly.
Presented by Government Lawyers. 12:30 –
4:00 p.m. This program will not be recorded
and put in the archives.**

**Thursday, 10-13-16—CRO and
webcast—Limited Scope Representation:
When Less is More. Presented by Delivery of
Legal Services. 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, 10-19-2016—Webcast—
Tips for Combating Compassion Fatigue.
Presented by Women and the Law. 10 a.m.
– 11 a.m.

**Wednesday, 10-19-16- CRO and Live
Webcast—From Legal Practice to What's
Next: The Boomer-Lawyer's Guide to
Smooth Career Transition. Presented by
Senior Lawyers. 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Thursday, 10/20/16- Webinar—
Introduction to Boolean (Keyword) Searches
for Lawyers. Presented by the Illinois State
Bar Association – Complimentary to ISBA
Members Only. 12:00- 1:00 pm.

**Friday, 10/21/16- Galena, Eagle
Ridge Resort—Obtaining a Judgement
and Collections Issues. Presented by:
Commercial Banking, Collections, and
Bankruptcy. 8:50 am - 4:30 pm ■**