2003 was a moving (literally) and monumental year for the Court; it was an equally busy year for the Society.

The 2003 Coleman Intern completed the Women and the Law project, which was featured in the Fall issue of The Society Update. The PowerPoint presentation and web pages developed by our intern highlight 19 Michigan women who stand out as champions of Michigan citizens, were trendsetters in the law, were “firsts” in their field, and are role models for aspiring young women.

As part of our maintenance of the historical portrait collection, the Society caused the move of all of the portraits from various Lansing locations to the Hall of Justice. All of the portraits now hang in either the Hall of Justice or the Detroit offices of the Court.

In January, in a memorable and moving ceremony, we dedicated the portrait of former Chief Justice James H. Brickley in the Supreme Court Courtroom in the Hall of Justice.

The Society celebrated its 15th anniversary at this year’s Annual Membership Luncheon held on April 24th in Detroit. Justices Markman and Kelly spoke on behalf of the Court and we presented the second Legal History Award to former Chief Justice Dorothy Comstock Riley.

We continue to oversee and manage the Learning Center Fund and to accept donations on behalf of the Learning Center.

With the help of former Michigan Supreme Court justice and Society board member Judge James L. Ryan, the Society is working to complete a second project begun by the Coleman Intern, which will select and summarize important cases in Michigan Supreme Court history.

In cooperation with Western Michigan University, the Society established the Big Four Writing and Research Fellowship. The fellowship is designed to foster academic research on the history of the Supreme Court of Michigan and dissemination of such research. In September, this year’s fellow, Coreen Derifield, began her work documenting the Michigan Supreme Court’s vital role in shaping labor relations.

The Society continues to focus on the distribution of its various publications, including the Michigan Supreme Court Historical Reference Guide, the Brief History of the Michigan Supreme Court booklet, and the quarterly newsletter The Society Update.

If you haven’t visited the Society’s website, www.micourthistory.org, lately, I strongly encourage you to do so. Over the past year, we added several new pages and have made more information available to visitors.

We continue to work to keep the site updated and full of useful information. It has truly become one of our “crown jewels” and we are proud of the vast amount of easily accessible information it contains.

By clicking on the Resources Menu and then clicking Oral Histories, you can now read and hear any of thirteen
We are proud of the work of the Society and continue to strive to fulfill our mission: to preserve documents, records and memorabilia relating to the Michigan Supreme Court, and to produce publications, special events and other projects to achieve our goals in education and restoration.

We have recently been contacted by the states of Iowa and Arkansas, which are working to set up their own state Supreme Court Historical Societies. They contacted us because, and I quote, “Your state appears to be have one of the best organizations of its kind.” Certainly, we could not have achieved this reputation without the cooperation and on-going support of our members – for that we thank you.

- Wallace D. Riley, President
Save the Date!

Join the Justices of the Michigan Supreme Court and Fellow Society Members for “A Hanging in Detroit”
At the Annual Membership Luncheon
Thursday, April 22, 2004 -- Noon
at
The Detroit Athletic Club
Detroit, Michigan

Have you paid your 2004 Dues?

For your convenience, the Society accepts Visa, MasterCard, and American Express. Please call (517) 373-7589 to make your payment by phone, or complete and mail or fax the following information to: Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society, 1st Floor Hall of Justice, 925 W. Ottawa Street, Lansing, MI 48915
Fax (517) 373-7592

Name ____________________________________________
Address ________________________________
City ___________ State ____________
Zip___________ Phone_____________________

[] Check enclosed   [] Credit Card (Circle one)
Visa    MasterCard    American Express

Name on Card____________________________________
Acct. No. ______________________________________
Exp. Date ______________________
Signature ______________________________________

* Individual Membership: $100
* Corporate/Law Firm Membership: $1000

Total Payment $___________
The Road Ahead: A Message from the Executive Director

The year ahead will be filled with many new challenges, projects and opportunities. The Society will continue to focus on educating Michigan citizens about the history, role and organization of the Michigan Supreme Court, on sharing the “human side” of the Court with interested citizens, and on making all of the Society’s projects and information easily accessible.

Here are just some of the exciting programs you can look for in the upcoming year:

**Publications**

The *Society Update* will continue to be produced quarterly. All of our publications, including past issues of the *Update*, the biographies in the *Michigan Supreme Court Historical Reference Guide*, and the text of the booklet “A Brief History of the Michigan Supreme Court,” are now available on the Publications page of our website.

This year, the Society will be working on a new edition of the *Index to Special Sessions*. This guide, which will be bound as a volume of the *Michigan Reports*, will contain transcripts of all of the special sessions of the Court since 1988, the year the Society was created, and will include an updated index to special sessions of the Court. The Society anticipates this book being published and available to members in the Fall of 2004.

**Coleman Internship**

The Historical Society is proud to welcome Heather Weeks as its 2004 Coleman Intern.

Heather, a senior at Michigan State University, has already earned her Bachelors Degree in German Education and continues to pursue her Bachelors in English. An honor student with a 3.94 GPA, Heather intends to attend law school upon being graduated from MSU and eventually hopes to become a judge.

Heather brings a strong interest in history and an expertise in research and writing to the position. She has served as a writing consultant at Michigan State University and her research and writing skills were strongly evidenced in an independent study project called “The Family Secrets of WWII Survivors”.

Heather will be working on two major projects - the first will be to compile materials for the *Index to Special Sessions*, and the second will be to create a bibliography of research resources, newspaper articles, photographs, and other materials dealing with the Michigan Supreme Court.

**Oral Histories**

The oral history interviews with Justice Boyle have been completed and are being transcribed. We hope to make the text of the interviews available by the Fall of 2004.

**Website**

More additions and revisions are planned for www.micourthistory.org this year. We are currently working on a page that will highlight the homes of the Michigan Supreme Court and will include photos and an architectural description of the Hall of Justice. We are also working on updating our special sessions pages and hope to have them edited by early summer.

**Law Day**

In cooperation with the Hall of Justice Learning Center, the Court of Appeals, and the Michigan Supreme Court, the Society will be co-hosting a Law Day event on Monday, May 3, 2004. More information about the event will be available in the Spring *Society Update*.

**Membership Luncheon**

This year’s annual Membership Luncheon will again be held at the Detroit Athletic Club and will take place on April 22nd. All Society members and their guests are encouraged to attend this event to mingle with Michigan Supreme Court justices past and present and to interact with fellow members. This year’s program will feature David Chardavoyne, author of *A Hanging In Detroit*.

The Society, under the able leadership of our board of directors, continues to grow, change, and improve. Despite the recent down turn in funding available through our IOLTA grant, the Society continues to create and fund worthwhile projects. Despite the addition of many programs and projects, the mission of the Society remains the same: to preserve documents, records, and memorabilia related to the Michigan Supreme Court and to produce publications, events and projects to educate Michigan citizens about the history, role and organization of the Court. Of course, we couldn’t do any of this without your continued membership in and support of the Historical Society and for that we thank you.
## Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society, Inc.
### Statements of Activities - Cash Basis
#### Years Ended December 31, 2003 and 2002

### Public Support and Revenues:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2002</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions/Dues</td>
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<td>MSBF-IOLTA Funds</td>
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<td>Big Four Writing and Research Fund</td>
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<td>Investment Income</td>
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<td>Learning Center</td>
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**Total Public Support and Revenue**

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<td>2003</td>
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### Expenses:
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<td>Program Services: Learning Center</td>
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**Total Expenses**

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<td>2003</td>
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### Net Gain/Loss for the Year

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<td>2003</td>
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### Net Assets - Cash Basis
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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning of Year</td>
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<td>End of Year</td>
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<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
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<td>$25,775</td>
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### Graphs
- **Public Support and Revenue**
- **Expenses**

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*www.micourthistory.org*
Membership Roster

The Society groups its members into three categories: Life Members, which includes the categories of Benefactor, Major Sponsor, and Sponsor; Annual Members, containing the categories of Contributing, Sustaining, Patron, and Student; and Corporate/Law Firm Members. The year listed after each member’s name indicates the year he/she joined the Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society.

Life Members

Benefactor

Over $5,000
Alan T. Ackerman, 1988
Thomas E. Brennan, 1988
Avern L. Cohn, 1989
Dorothy Comstock Riley, 1988
John W. Fitzgerald, 1992
Gordon I. Ginsberg (Sigmund and Sophie Rohlik Foundation), 1997
Wallace D. Riley, 1988
Clifford W. Taylor, 1989
Randall Taylor, 2000
Emmet E. Tracy, 1997
Robert P. Young, 1999

Major Sponsor

$2500 - $4900
Gerard J. Andree, 2001
Anonymous, 2002
Kathryn A. Arch, 2002
Hugh A. Carter, 1988
John M. Wright, 1988
Bryan J. Williams, 1989
Richard E. Whitmer, 1994
Helene N. White, 1997
William C. Whitbeck, 1997
Robert B. Webster, 1993
Richard D. Weber, 1989
Elizabeth A. Weaver, 1989
Eugene G. Wanger, 1995
David C. Vokes, 1989
Amanda Van Dussen, 1991
M. C. Stockmeyer, 1989
Thomas M. Cooley Law School, 1989
Maurice B. Townsend, Jr., 1994

Sponsor

$1000 - $2499
Janet Callahan Barnes, 2001
George J. Bedrosian, 1994
William D. Booth, 1990
Glen V. Bore, 1989
Patricia J. Boyle, 1993
Joyce Braithwaite, 1988
Thomas E. Brennan, Jr., 1990
Prentiss M. Brown, Jr., 1993
Anthony C. Buesser, 1989
Frederick G. Buesser, III, 1990
Alfred M. Butzbaugh, 1989
Kimberly M. Cahill, 2002
Michael F. Cavanagh, 1988
David W. Christensen, 1995
John L. Collins, 1989
James Corden, 1989
John L. Cote’, 1989
Thomas W. Cranmer, 1994
Robert J. Danhof, 1989
Julia D. Darlow, 1989
Julius Denenberg, 1989
David L. Denn, 1989
Eric E. Doster, 1998
Raymond H. Dresser, Jr., 2002
Eugene Driker, 1989
Bruce M. Groom, 1989
Robert P. Griffin, 1988
Louis A. Smith, 1993
James L. Ryan, 1993
Walter Shapero, 2002
Erwin S. Simon, 1990
Louis A. Smith, 1993
Eugene D. Snyder, 1989
N. Otto Stockmeyer, Jr., 1989
Thomas M. Cooley Law School, 1989

Annual Members

Patron

$500-$999
Lanie Anderson, 1995
Frederick M. Baker, Jr., 1998
Louis D. Beer, 1991
Bryan M. Black, 1989
Fred L. Bernard, 1995
John S. Brennan, 1993
William R. Buescher, 1989
Karen Anne Chopra, 1998
William D. Cohan, 1993
Martin L. Critchell, 1998
Gregory J. DeMars, 1989
Nancy J. Diehl, 2001
Douglas Donaldson, 1995
Patricia Drury, 1995
Jan K. G. Dunn, 1993
Elaine Fieldman, 1997
Gerald A. Fisher, 1994
E. Thomas Fitzgerald, 1994
Gerald R. Ford, 1994
Paul V. Gadola, 1993
Michael C. Gergely, 1994
Deborah L. Gordon, 1996
Frank J. Greco, 2002
Roman S. Gribbs, 1996
Gross, Nemeth & Silverman, 2001
Patrick E. Hackett, 1994
Marlyn K. Hall, 1990
R. James Harvey, 1996
Daniel J. Henry, Jr., 1996
Mark R. High, 1995
E. Thomas Fitzgerald, 1994
Gerald R. Ford, 1994
Paul V. Gadola, 1993
Michael C. Gergely, 1994
Deborah L. Gordon, 1996
Frank J. Greco, 2002
Roman S. Gribbs, 1996
Gross, Nemeth & Silverman, 2001
Patrick E. Hackett, 1994
Marlyn K. Hall, 1990
R. James Harvey, 1996
Daniel J. Henry, Jr., 1996
Mark R. High, 1995
Carl F. Ingraham, 1994
John P. Jacobs, 1994
2003 Board of Directors


Memorial/Honorarium

Donations:

Dorothy Comstock Riley
in honor of
Cindy Brzana
Janice Christophel
Barbara Dumouchelle

Charles Getz
in honor of
George E. Bushnell, Jr.
Order the Michigan Supreme Court Historical Reference Guide

The Michigan Supreme Court Historical Reference Guide tells the stories of each of Michigan’s first 100 Supreme Court Justices, from 1805 to 1998. Illustrated with photos of each Justice, this fascinating, 273-page volume also contains an index of special sessions of the Michigan Supreme Court, sorted both by honorees and speakers, as well as a factual chart of the Court by years that lists the Court’s composition each year since 1805.

Call 517-373-7589 to order your copy!

Mission Statement

The Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to preserving documents, records, and memorabilia relating to the Michigan Supreme Court. The Society produces publications, special events and other projects to achieve its goals in education and restoration. Current officers and directors are:

**Officers:**
- Dorothy Comstock Riley, Hon. Chair
- Wallace D. Riley, President
- Frederick G. Buesser, III, Vice Pres.
- Charles R. Rutherford, Secretary
- Lawrence P. Nolan, Treasurer

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- John T. Berry
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- Prentiss M. Brown, Jr.
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- Lawrence G. Campbell
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- Hon. Conrad L. Mallett, Jr.
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- David L. Porteous
- Hon. Wendy L. Potts
- John W. Reed
- Richard D. Reed
- Hon. James L. Ryan

**Executive Director:**
- Angela Bergman

**Society Update** is published quarterly by the Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society. Writing submissions, article ideas, news and announcements are encouraged. Contact the Society at: 1st Floor Hall of Justice, 925 W. Ottawa Street, Lansing, MI 48915
Phone: 517-373-7589 Fax: 517-373-7592
E-mail: abergm@micourthistory.org; Website: www.micourthistory.org