

Society Update

FROM THE MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Society's 10th is First Rate! CELEBRATION SECOND TO NONE

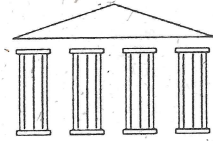
Society Board members gathered for a photo before the Annual meeting on May 20, 1998, at the Detroit Athletic Club. Newly elected directors include Christine Oldani and Thomas McNish. In addition, Fred Buesser, III, was elected Vice President.

As they begin their eleventh year of service to the Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society, the Board of Directors will focus on long range plans for membership and programs, as well as developing a larger presence in libraries and schools through the WEB site and the newly constructed exhibit, "A Decade In Review."

Tom Kavanagh, Jr., Chair of the Long Range Planning Committee said that he's pleased to offer his experience in planning and marketing to the Society. "Now is a good time to take inventory, organize our ideas and focus on the future."



MSCHS Board of Directors (sitting from left to right) Charles Rutherford, Wallace Riley, Stuart Hoffius and Larkin Chenault. (standing from left to right) Tom McNish, Roger Lane, Dave Porteous, Gene Mossner, Larry Nolan, Fred Buesser, Wendy Potts, Christine Oldani, Tom Brennan, John Reed, James Ryan, and Tom Kavanagh, Jr. Missing from the photo were directors Alan Ackerman, Prentiss Brown, Jr., George Bushnell, Jr., Maura Corrigan, Bob Dethmers, John Fitzgerald, Denise Langford Morris, and John Riecker.



From the President

Thanks to all the members who joined us for the 10th Anniversary Dinner on May 20, 1998. It was heartwarming to see such enthusiastic support for the Society and the projects it has established. The evening was a celebration of Court history and its Historical Society's work.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Board of Directors, past and present, for their vision, dedication, and participation in the Society for the past ten years. As with any organization, it takes the power of people to make the ideas take shape and to turn good intentions into action.

In addition to our Board, many thanks to our faithful membership who make the Society a success with their continued contributions of time, talent, and treasure.

We hope that all of our Board and Society members will join in the 2K Membership Drive. Our goal is to double our existing membership by the year 2000!

-Wallace D. Riley

July 1998

Editor, Ellen Campbell
The Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society, Inc.
The Michael Franck Building
306 Townsend Street, Lansing, Michigan 48933-2083

10th Anniversary Celebration Photos



Justice Michael Cavanagh, Nancy Gram, and Society Secretary, Charles Rutherford.



Chief Justice Conrad Mallett, Jr., Judge Marrietta Robinson, Barbara Mallett, and Judge James Robinson.



Former Justice Charles Levin, Judge Trudy DunCombe Archer, and Mayor Dennis Archer.



Hugh Munce, Former Chief Justices Mary Coleman and Thomas Brennan.



Society V.P., Fred Buesser, Leonard Chafla, Justice Clifford Taylor, and Judge Robert Webster.



Nkrumah Wynn-Johnson, State Bar President Ed Brady, Jr., and Linda Rexer.

THE COLEMAN INTERNSHIP honors

both Former Chief Justice Mary Coleman and her husband Judge Creighton Coleman. The internship was awarded to Jill Moore, from St. Mary's College, whose project this summer is the Society's historical reference guide. Pictured below are former C.J.'s Coleman and Riley.



THE "BIG FOUR" FUND was announced at the anniversary dinner, with special thanks to Judge Avern Cohn, Emmet E. Tracy, Jr., Charles R. Rutherford, Dorothy Comstock Riley, and Frederick Buesser, III, for making outstanding contributions to the new the historical research and writing fund named for the Michigan Supreme Court's "Big Four" Justices Campbell, Christancy, Cooley, and Graves. Pictured below are Emmet E. Tracy, Jr., Wallace Riley, and Judge Avern Cohn.

**JUSTICE PATRICIA**

BOYLE was honored by her "brothers and sisters" of the Court as it was formally announced that she would not seek re-election in 1998. The Justice in turn, paid tribute to former MSC justices in her remarks at the Society's anniversary dinner.



I want to thank the Society for inviting me share some of the spotlight on this historic occasion and, of course, I want to thank Bob (Griffin) for his generous comments. Having begun as opponents for election to the Court, we became good friends; not only was Bob a superb lawyer and careful craftsman, he was a consensus builder and among one of the most honorable associates of my professional life. Add Marge's warmth, hospitality, and mother wit, and you'll understand why and how the Griffins enriched our Court.

I have special memories of each of the justices here, Mary Coleman, of course, as role model, but also for the soundness of her opinions ... Larry Lindemer, a fine, fine justice, Tom Brennan and Jim Ryan, prodigious intellects and mesmerizing orators, each. Dennis Archer's energy, diligence, and genius for solutions ... Charles Levin, whose remarkable creativity kept my little grey cells in constant ferment ... Dorothy, whose scholarship and devotion to the law and the Court I miss every single day. I have been privileged to know you all and to continue to reflect on your contributions to the life of Michigan's law. I need to mention also Mennen Williams. He lives for me as my example of decency, humanity, vision, and humility. In the most difficult decisions of my professional life, I still ask myself, "I wonder what Mennen would have done." Reflecting upon her own career, Justice Boyle closed her remarks with a quote from Oliver Wendell Holmes, "A man must involve himself in the life and passion of his times, or stand in peril of being judged never to have lived at all."

Conservation Studio Tour

DIRECTORS GO ON SITE



Prior to the festivities of the 10th Anniversary Dinner and the Annual Board Meeting, the Society Directors enjoyed an interesting experience that educated them on the art and science of portrait preservation and restoration.

Kenneth Katz, Conservationist and owner of Conservation and Museum Services, in Detroit, toured the Board members through his studio and explained the painstaking process of restoration.

"A restoration artist in our studio can labor over a piece for months to bring it back to its original state of beauty and value." Said Ken.

A veteran in the field of conservation, Ken was trained in Cooperstown, N.Y., and worked for several years at the Detroit Institute of Art honing his craft.

In his presentation, Ken pointed out that repairing artwork takes more knowledge than just knowing how to replicate a certain style of painting. It is a unique blend of art, science, and history. "We have to know the materials these artists used and what chemicals and procedures to use in restoring the piece properly." Ken said.

The Board members asked many questions about time, procedure, materials, and cost in order to understand how to approach the Court's restoration needs.

"Their questions were great," said Ken, "and with continued understanding, the Society can make a thoughtful contribution to Michigan's judicial (art) history."

Membership Profile

After living in New Orleans for the past ten years, portrait artist, and Society member Robert Maniscalco is back home in Detroit, with an exciting new gallery experience for art and history fans alike.

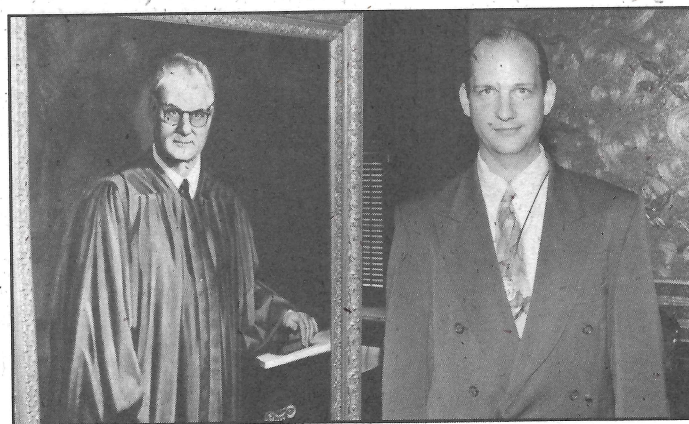
Many Society members recognize Rob for his portraits of Justices Blair Moody, Jr., and Eugene Black in formal Court portraits. Other works by Rob are displayed in hundreds of distinguished private and public collections throughout North America.

In addition to showings by some of the country's top artists, working in a variety of mediums and styles, The Studio Gallery of Robert Maniscalco will feature quality services that are difficult to find.

"I am pleased to feature hand carved frames from all over the world," said Rob. In addition to these unique and magnificent creations, The Studio Gallery offers restoration service for paintings and antiques.

"In the tradition of my *Power of Positive Painting* seminars, the Studio Gallery also offers classes in painting, portraiture, and figure drawing. And as in all my classes, the emphasis is on liberating the artist within," Rob added.

We're pleased to salute Rob, as he inspires so many people to commemorate, cherish, and celebrate the human spirit!



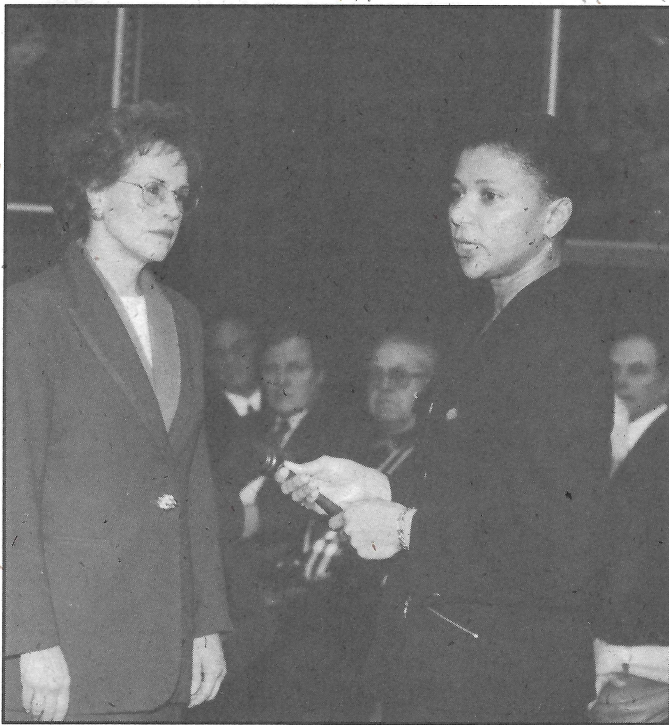
Here's Rob with his portrait of Justice Eugene Black. The Studio Gallery of Robert Maniscalco is located at 17329 Mack Avenue, Detroit. (313) 886-2993

A Visit with Justice Marilyn J. Kelly

As the 99th justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, Marilyn J. Kelly follows in a line of judicial service that has a rich history. But Justice Kelly adds much to the Court with her own life story.

Beyond her impressive and lengthy CV, Justice Kelly brings her own style to the Court which reflects her sharp mind, generous spirit, and gentle humor. We asked her to tell us about the development of her legal career and her thoughts about her service on the Bench.

My career developed along a continuum that began early in my schooling. I had the pleasure of being exposed to several good teachers who interested me in foreign languages and cultures. The interest grew into a resolve to study abroad. The year I spent in Paris awakened an awareness in me of the role and importance of government, especially as I



Justice Kelly receives her gavel from former State Bar of Michigan president, Victoria Roberts, and family, friends and colleagues of Kelly packed the Michigan Supreme Court for her investiture ceremony on January 8, 1997.



Justice Kelly at her investiture ceremony.

was made to look back on my own country through the eyes of Europeans. That led, on my return home, to my seeking election to the Michigan State Board of Education. During my twelve years there, I learned the extent to which our legal system underpins our government, in fact, our whole way of life. After that, a career in the law seemed to me inevitable.

I greatly enjoyed law school and the practice of law. And still I delight in working with language — criticizing an obscure passage in a statute, marveling at an attorney's clever turn-of-phrase in a pleading, or simply enjoying an extraordinary typographical error.

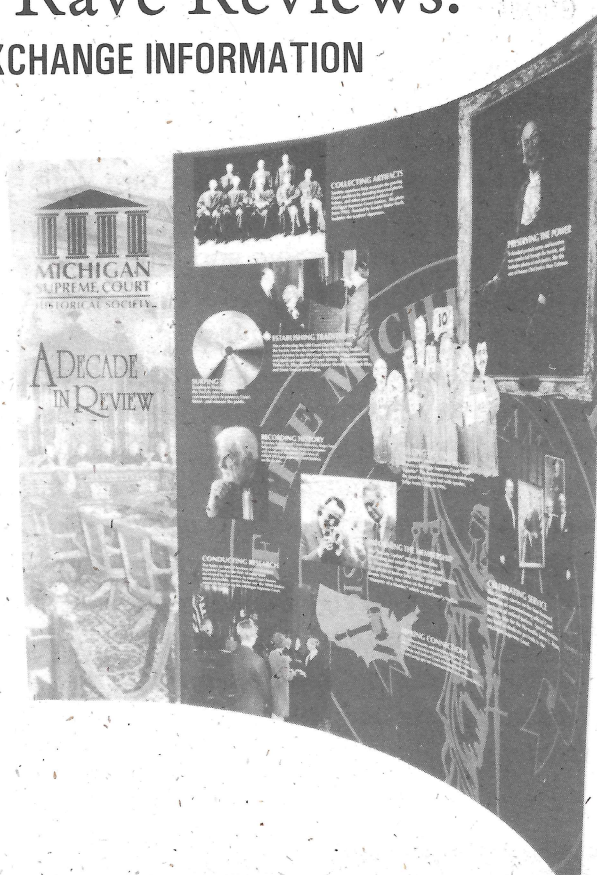
And being a judge? Without a doubt, it is the best. As another judge put it, "In private practice, lawyers measure success by beating the other side, persuading a jury to acquit someone who is probably guilty, getting a million dollars in a case worth half that much. In this position, I can always do what I think is right. There's nothing to compare with the satisfaction of doing justice, even the smallest case. That's why this is the best job in the world."

Roundtable Receives Rave Reviews!

JUDICIAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES EXCHANGE INFORMATION

Twenty-two representatives from judicial historical societies all over the U.S. met in Washington D.C. on Tuesday, June 2, 1998, for the Second Annual Judicial History Round Table at the Supreme Court.

The day long program featured Leon Silverman, of the United States Supreme Court Historical Society, who spoke about board leadership. As president he expressed the importance of effective board recruitment and motivation. Brad Williams of the 9th Circuit discussed the basics of fund raising and the possible sources we may investigate in securing program funding. Judge Jack Hightower of Texas, focused on special events, highlighting the need for soliciting by groups, firms and organizations. In the afternoon, a panel discussion featured Nancy Dobson, (FL), Steve Flanders (2nd Circuit), Paul Lucko (TX), and Kathy Shurtleff (U.S. Supreme Court). Presentations were effective and concise. The assembly discussed publications, newsletters, and educational programs. Everyone agreed that the Roundtable was a successful event!



Pictured above is the MSCHS exhibit, "A Decade In Review," which we shared with other attendees. Below (left) is a group photo of the Roundtable attendees, and (right) featured speaker Nancy Dobson from the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society.



COLEMAN INTERN FOCUSES ON REFERENCE GUIDE

We're pleased to welcome Coleman Internship recipient, Jill Moore to the Society office this summer. Jill is diligently working on the Michigan Supreme Court Historical Reference Guide. The Society's publication (due this fall) will feature three sections including short biographical sketches on each justice with a photo, an updated index to Special Sessions of the Court, and the third section features two charts of Court history year by year, and justice by justice.

In discussing the project Jill said, "This is the aspect of historical research that I enjoy the most ... the study of the human condition. These justices have interesting lives that lead them to service on the Bench. I think Society members will enjoy this publication."

The Reference Guide is a publication that will provide general information through the biographies, and lead readers to other helpful sources about Michigan Supreme Court justices.



Former Chief Justice G. Mennen Williams with President Truman in 1952. Photo courtesy of UPI

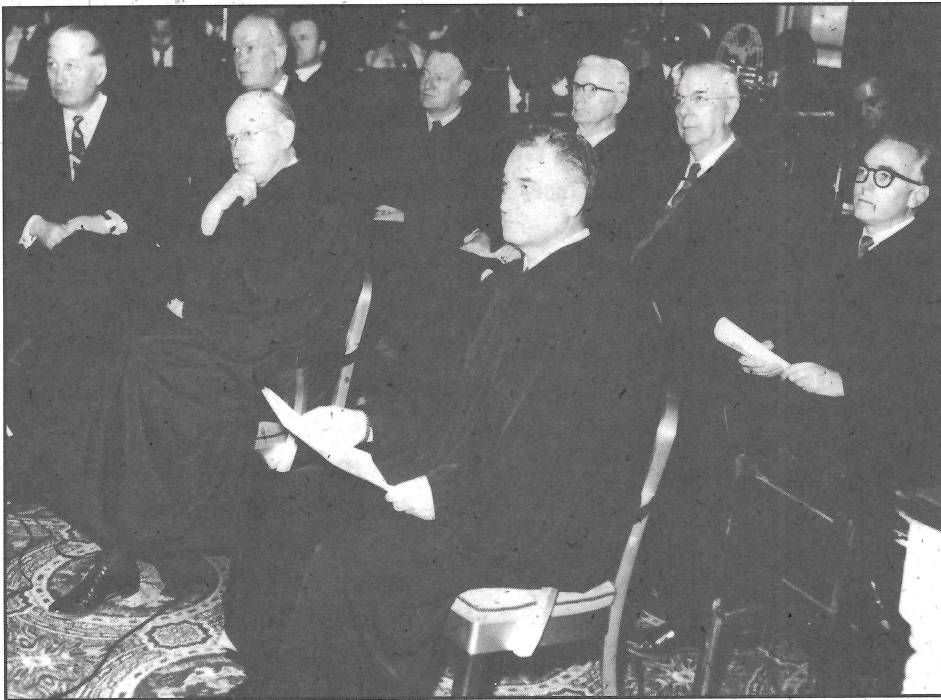
MSC QUIZ

Here's a puzzler you can use to stump your golfing buddies with...it might be safer than betting on your game!



1. Which justice was Chief Justice for six days?
2. Which justice was married to Justice Epaphroditus Ransom's niece?
3. Which justice was personally invited by President Hoover to a White House Reception?
4. Which justice's middle name was Moon?
5. Which justice entered the court in the position of Chief Justice?
6. Which two justices were born in Ireland?
7. How many justices came from Canada?
8. Along with Justice Dennis W. Archer, which justice was at one time Mayor of Detroit?
9. There are seven pairs of justices on the court, each one sharing the same last Name. Who were they?
10. Of those pairs, which served on the court at the same time?

For the answers ... check the "back nine" otherwise known as page 8!



HISTORICAL PHOTO: The Court of 1957, gathered for a State of the Judiciary. From left to right (back row) Chief Justice John Dethmers, Justices Harry Kelly, John Voelker, Edward Sharp, Leland Carr, and George Edwards. In the front row, Justices Talbot Smith and Eugene Black. This is Michigan Supreme Court number 117 since Michigan's statehood. These eight justices served for one year together.

State Bar 26th MICHIGAN LEGAL MILESTONE

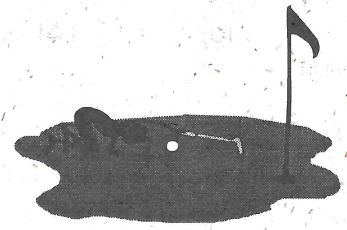
"Milo Radulovich and the fall of Macarthyism" is the title of the next Michigan Legal Milestone. It will be dedicated on Wednesday, September 2, 1998, at Detroit College of Law/MSU.

This fascinating Michigan case that was investigated by the CBS "See It Now," reporter Edward R. Murrow was the single blow to end Senator Joseph Macarthy's witch hunt for communists in the U.S.

Mr. Radulovich will be present at this special event along with Michael Ranville, author of "To Strike at a King," the story of this milestone in legal history. Don't miss this historical event!



This historical photo collage is courtesy of CBS, the Detroit Public Library and University of Michigan.



QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Edward Sharpe was Chief Justice for six days, replaced by John R. Dethmers
2. Alpheus Felch
3. Mary Stallings Coleman
4. Sanford MOON Green
5. Louis H. Fead
6. Thomas A. E. Weadock and Isaac Marston
7. John B. Swainson, John S. McDonald, Nelson Sharpe, George Clark, Flavius Brooke
8. Territorial Justice Solomon Sibley
9. Nelson Sharpe, Edward Sharpe Talbot Smith, Otis Smith Harry Kelly, Marilyn Kelly John Griffin, Robert Griffin James Witherell, Benjamin Witherell Clark Adams, Paul Adams
10. Nelson Sharpe and Edward Sharpe served 1934-1935

Thomas M. Kavanagh and Thomas G. Kavanagh served together 1969-1975

TRIVIA EXTRA: It was former Chief Justice Thomas E. Brennan, who while serving with both Kavanaghs distinguished them with the nicknames, "Thomas the Mighty" and "Thomas the Good."