

A Message from the Society President: A Look Back at 2007

As 2008 gets underway with bitter cold and winter storms, we pause to reflect not only on the busy year the Society had in 2007, but also on the progress we've made and the projects we've completed over the past 20 years. April 2008 will mark the 20-year anniversary of the creation of the Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society, and we are looking forward to honoring that occasion with you at our Annual Membership Luncheon. But enough looking ahead – let's take a look back at the work we've completed over the past year.

SPECIAL EVENTS

It was business as usual at the Detroit Athletic Club last April, when nearly 150 of our members and friends joined the Society and the Court for the 2007 Annual Membership Luncheon. Professor Paul Carrington, of Duke University School of Law, spoke about Thomas M. Cooley and his illustrious career.

In July, the Historical Society assisted in planning a program for the Conference of Chief Justices on Mackinac Island and has since offered materials and support to two other state courts considering the creation of historical societies.

On October 1, the night before the Court's opening session, the executive board of our newly created Advocates Guild hosted the first annual Advocates Guild Dinner in the 6th floor rotunda at the Hall of Justice. There, members of the Advocates Guild enjoyed a reception and

dinner with members of the Court. The following morning, we once again participated in the Court's opening session, reporting to the Court on the Society's recent activities.

ARCHIVES AND ORAL HISTORIES

Over the summer oral historian Judy Christie completed and transcribed the oral history of Erwin Simon. Simon is a former clerk of Justice Henry M. Butzel, and also his son-in-law. The transcript will be made available on our website in 2008.

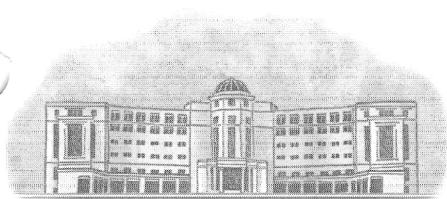
The Society continues to maintain an inventory of the Court's collection of portraits (which now numbers 87) and to inspect and evaluate them annually.

RESEARCH AND PROJECTS

Thanks in part to a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, two Michigan educators, Brian Stevens and Cassandra Heos, spent the summer working with our Executive Director to create the Verdict of History lesson plans, which provide high school teachers with lesson plans and mini-moot court activities dealing with some of the Michigan Supreme Court's significant cases. These lesson plans were unveiled at the Center for Civic Education Through Law's annual teacher conference in December. The plans will also be made available at no charge to teachers through other conferences and on-line.

The Significant Cases Committee continues to work with Professor Paul Moreno to complete the second part of the Verdict of History project – publication of a list of

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some of the Michigan Supreme Court's significant cases and articles discussing the cases and their impact on Michigan citizens.

Additionally, the 2007 Coleman Intern, Laura Langolf, completed projects listing all of the former Court clerks and commissioners and their dates of service.

MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to the creation of the Advocates Guild, approximately 50 new attorneys joined the Historical Society in 2007. As our long-standing members continue to reach life members status, recruiting new members to support the Society is becoming increasingly important.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors met three times over the past year to conduct the business of the Society. In April, we elected one new director, Scott S. Brinkmeyer, to the board. Thanks to all members of our board for their hard work and their dedication to our mission.

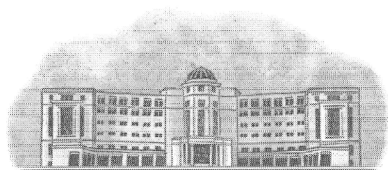
We also want to thank you, our loyal members, for your participation and support over the past year. We look forward to continuing to pursue our mission and to bringing the history of the Court to the citizens of the state.

Save the Date!

Join the Justices of the
Michigan Supreme Court
and Fellow Society Members
At the Annual Membership Luncheon

Thursday, April 24, 2008 -- Noon
at

The Detroit Athletic Club
Detroit, Michigan



MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Left to Right (Back Row) Richard D. Reed, Scott S. Brinkmeyer, Hon. Alfred M. Butzbaugh, Hon. Charles L. Levin, Michael Murray, and Frederick G. Buesser, III (Vice President)

(Middle Row) John W. Reed, Christine D. Oldani, Mary Massaron Ross, Janet K. Welch, Ronald D. Keefe, Eugene D. Mossner, Hon. Michael G. Harrison, and Lawrence P. Nolan (Treasurer)

(Front Row) Charles R. Rutherford, Carl W. Herstein (Secretary), Wallace D. Riley (President), Hon. Avern L. Cohn, and Frank J. Kelley

Not Pictured: Lawrence G. Campbell, Hon. Conrad L. Mallett, Jr., Hon. Denise Langford Morris, and Hon. Wendy L. Potts

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Dykema Gossett PLLC

Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith PC

Kienbaum Opperwall Hardy & Pelton PLC

Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone PLC

SBM Appellate Practice Section

Thomas M. Cooley Law School

Can't Wait for 2008:

A Message from the Executive Director

It's hard to believe that I have now been the Executive Director of the Historical Society for over seven years. I continue to be honored to be working with this wonderful organization and our outstanding board members.

2008 will be a special year for the Society as we will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary. I am looking forward to making 2008 one of our most successful years yet.

Publications and Website

This year, the Society will continue to distribute our existing publications and to create and distribute our newsletters.

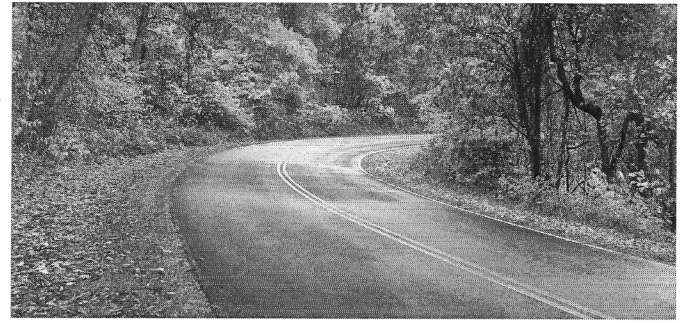
I am very excited to be overseeing a redesign of the Historical Society's website. The new site will feature many new elements and will be up and running before our April membership luncheon.



Annual Membership Luncheon

This year's Luncheon will be a celebration of the Society's 20-year anniversary. The program will feature a look back over the many projects and programs in which the Society has been involved since its creation.

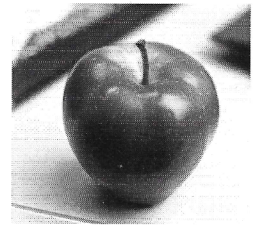
We will also be honoring one of our original board members, John W. Reed, with the Legal History Award.



I sincerely hope you can join us for this wonderful event on Thursday, April 24, at the Detroit Athletic Club.

Education

The Verdict of History teaching units are officially complete – now we'll focus on getting them to teachers. We are planning to present the lessons at the Learning Center's teacher conference and will be publicizing their availability to high school teachers around the state.



Coleman Internship

I am very pleased to welcome this year's Coleman Intern, Brittany West, to the staff. Brittany is a senior at Michigan State University, majoring in English. She is an honor student and a member of James Madison College.

Brittany will be working with me to find supporting materials and images to accompany our Verdict of History articles and to edit the articles and prepare them for publication and distribution.

Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center Update

In October 2007, the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center celebrated five years of educating the public about the important role that the law plays in the everyday lives of citizens.

Since its gala opening, the Learning Center has welcomed more than 55,000 visitors. The majority of tour groups continue to be civics students from Michigan, but visitors from around the world learn about our court system at the Learning Center. In the past six months visitors have traveled from as far away as Germany, Ukraine, China, and Nepal.

With the generous support of the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center Fund, the Learning Center continues to update exhibits and offer educational programs.

In the coming months, the Learning Center will host several programs, including:

- Law Day (May 1)
- Exploring Careers in the Law, 10th–12th grades (June 23–27)
- Exploring Careers in the Law, 7th–9th grades (July 14–18)
- One Court of Justice Educator Workshop (August 19)

If you would like to schedule a tour or know of anyone who would like to participate in special programs at the Learning Center, visit <http://courts.mi.gov/plc/> or contact Rachael L. Drenovsky, Learning Center Coordinator, at 517-373-5027 or drenovskyr@courts.mi.gov for more information.

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
Patricia Hill Burnett, 2006
Avern L. Cohn, 1989
Lawrence P. Nolan, 1989
Richard D. Reed, 1989
Wallace D. Riley, 1988
Karla Scherer, 1988
Clifford W. Taylor, 1989
Randall Taylor, 2000
Emmet E. Tracy, 1997
Robert P. Young, 1999

Major Sponsor

\$2500 - \$4900

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Anonymous, 2002
Dennis W. Archer, 1988
Prentiss M. Brown, Jr., 1993
Hugh A. Carter, Jr., 2002
Mae E. Corrigan, 2002
Maura D. Corrigan, 1993
Dan Gemuend, 2002
George A. Googasian, 1989
Robert P. Griffin, 1988
J.C. Huizenga, 2002
John P. Jacobs, 1994
Charles L. Levin, 1988
Richard B. Poling, Jr., 2002
Charles R. Rutherford, 1990
David J. Sparrow, 1994
Rodger D. Young, 2002

Sponsor

\$1000 - \$2499

Lanie Anderson, 1995
Frederick M. Baker, Jr., 1998
Janet Callahan Barnes, 2001
George J. Bedrosian, 1994
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Glen V. Borre, 1989
Patricia J. Boyle, 1993
Joyce Braithwaite-Brickley, 1988
Thomas E. Brennan, Jr., 1990
Anthony C. Buesser, 1989

Frederick G. Buesser, III, 1990
Alfred M. Butzbaugh, 1989
Kimberly M. Cahill, 2002
Michael F. Cavanagh, 1988
Karen Anne Chopra, 1998
David W. Christensen, 1995
William D. Cohan, 1993
John L. Collins, 1989
Richard P. Condit, 1994
James Corden, 1989
John L. Coté, 1989
Thomas W. Cranmer, 1994
Martin L. Critchell, 1998
Robert J. Danhof, 1989
Julia D. Darlow, 1989
Julius Denenberg, 1989
David L. Denn, 1989
Nancy J. Diehl, 2001
Eric E. Doster, 1998
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Eugene Driker, 1989
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Albert J. Engel, 1989
John Feikens, 1989
Lynn A. Feldhouse, 1995
Elaine Fieldman, 1997
Gerald A. Fisher, 1994
E. Thomas Fitzgerald, 1994
Paul V. Gadola, 1993
Miles C. Gerberding, 2001
Leonard D. Givens, 1994
Ronna Stevens Gold, 1993
Deborah L. Gordon, 1996
Thomas A. Gottschalk, 1995
Frank J. Greco, 2002
Roman S. Gribbs, 1996
Bruce M. Groom, 1989
Gross, Nemeth & Silverman, 2001
Patrick E. Hackett, 1994
William P. Hampton, 1994
R. James Harvey, 1996
Boyd A. Henderson, 1988
Mark R. High, 1995
Joseph N. Impastato, 1993
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Frank J. Kelley, 1993
Stephen M. Kelley, 1993
Marilyn J. Kelly, 1997
Cornelia G. Kennedy, 1990
Thomas G. Kienbaum, 1997

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D. Michael Kratchman, 1994
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Helen M. Kuhnmuensch, 1993
Terri Lynn Land, 1996
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Don LeDuc, 2000
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Dean S. Lewis, 1989
Lawrence B. Lindemer, 1990
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Eugene D. Mossner, 1990
Michael Murray, 2001
Robert Nitschke, 2000
Patrick J. O'Brien, 1993
John Corbett O'Meara, 1989
Christine D. Oldani, 1998
Roland L. Olzark, 1991
Alice McCann Osburn, 1994
Edward H. Pappas, 1994
William D. Parsley, 1997
William Patterson, 1989
Dennis J. Pheney, 1994
David L. Porteous, 1992
Wendy L. Potts, 1994
Kenneth E. Prather, 1990

Memorial/Honorarium Donations:

*In honor of Charles R. Rutherford,
Adam Strauss*

*In honor of Wallace D. Riley,
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Wayne F. Pratt, 1993
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 Douglas D. Roche, 1994
 John T. Rogers, 1994
 Mary Massaron Ross, 1997
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 Thomas Ryan, 2001
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 Michael D. Schwartz, 1989
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 Walter Shapero, 2002
 Erwin S. Simon, 1990
 Louis A. Smith, 1993
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 Amanda Van Dussen, 1991
 Robert G. Waddell, 1994
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 Richard D. Weber, 1989
 Robert B. Webster, 1993
 William C. Whitbeck, 1997
 Helene N. White, 1997
 Richard E. Whitmer, 1994
 J. Bryan Williams, 1989
 Robert C. Williams, 1990
 John M. Wright, 1988
 Gilbert L. Ziegler, 1994
 Eileen D. Zieslesch, 2003

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\$500-\$999

Louise Alderson, 2002
 Marjory Basile, 2002
 Henry Baskin, 2001
 Angela Bergman, 2001
 Jeff Bernstein, 2002
 Earl E. Borradaile, 2002
 Conrad A. Bradshaw, 2002
 Megan Maher Brennan, 2001

Bill and Laura Brickley, 2002
 Scott S. Brinkmeyer, 2004
 John F. Burns, 2001
 Lawrence G. Campbell, 1999
 Lawrence S. Charfoos, 2001
 Carole L. Chiamp, 2001
 Sam Cucinella, 2001
 Gregory J. DeMars, 1989
 Michael Ellis, 2000
 Elias Escobedo, 2003
 Julie I. Fershtman, 2002
 Michael Gadola, 2002
 Carl L. Gromek, 2004
 Michael M. Hathaway, 2001
 Carl W. Herstein, 2000
 Jeffrey G. Heuer, 2001
 Kenneth N. Hylton, Sr., 2003
 Ronald D. Keefe, 2002
 Phillip J. Kessler, 2004
 Karen S. Kienbaum, 1995
 Daniel N. King, 2002
 Roger S. Krause, 2001
 Richard D. Kuhn, 2001
 Thomas L. Ludington, 1995
 Gerald Marcinkoski, 1996
 Stephen A. Mazurak, 2002
 Dennis C. Muchmore, 2002
 Lambro Niforos, 2003
 Elizabeth M. Pezzetti, 1994
 Rosalind Rochkind, 2001
 William A. Sankbeil, 2001
 Louis E. Simhauser, 2000
 James W. Smith, 2002
 Theodore St. Antoine, 2001
 Guy L. Sweet, 2003
 Janet K. Welch, 2000
 Joan E. Young, 2002

Sustaining

\$250-\$499

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 Michael E. Baum, 2005
 John M. Engler, 2006
 James G. Gross, 2006
 Donald A. Hines, 2004
 Richard Kitch, 2004
 William N. Kritselis, 2004
 Barbara Menear, 2004
 Jeffrey Paulsen, 2005
 James Vlastic, 2004

Contributing

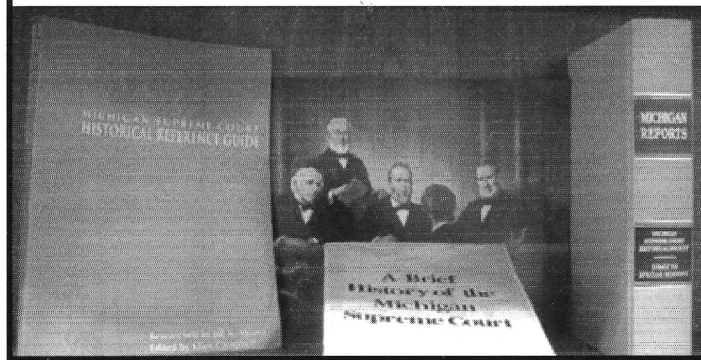
\$100-\$249

John W. Allen, 2007
 Joseph T. Barberi, 2007
 Jan Bertee, 2007
 Timothy A. Baughman, 2007
 Ernest Bazzana, 2007
 Michael Beale, 2007

Robert E. Bright, 2006
 John J. Bursch, 2007
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 Megan K. Cavanagh, 2007
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 Mark Cooney, 2007
 Daniel P. Dalton, 2007
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 Kristen Netschke, 2007
 Margaret Nichols, 2007
 John R. Nussbaumer, 2007
 Julie McCann O'Connor, 2007
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 Bridget Brown Powers, 2007
 Ronald Reynolds, 2007
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 Daniel J. Rust, 2007
 Wayne Richard Smith, 2007
 Liisa R. Speaker, 2007
 Michael L. Stefani, 2007
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 June Summers Haas, 2007
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Mission Statement

The Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation, collects, preserves and displays documents, records, and memorabilia relating to the Michigan Supreme Court and the other Courts of Michigan, promotes the study of the history of Michigan's courts, and seeks to increase public awareness of Michigan's legal heritage. The Society sponsors and conducts historical research, provides speakers and educational materials for students, and sponsors and provides publications, portraits and memorials, special events and projects consistent with its mission.

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Dorothy Comstock Riley

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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

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