

AABA-LAW

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A PUBLICATION OF THE AMARILLO AREA BAR ASSOCIATION

“We hope that all of you will join us for our final lunch meeting of this bar year and spend a little time with us reflecting upon some of the history of our bar association and its influence on the practice of law in the Texas Panhandle.”

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“Please do sign up for the Spring Institute CLE. It is a wonderful opportunity to hear some great speakers. Chris Jensen has worked hard to bring these speakers in for our event. Do not let him down. Do it for your bar association. Do it for yourself. There will be something for lawyers in every practice area.”

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AABA 2016 SPRING INSTITUTE

The Amarillo Area Bar Association’s Spring Institute is fast-approaching! We made a significant change to the Spring Institute last year. The seminar was held on FRIDAY MORNING, (not on Saturday morning) at the Amarillo College Business & Industry Center located near downtown Amarillo. We had tremendous positive feedback so we will do it again. **The Spring Institute Seminar will be held on Friday, April 29**, beginning at 8:00 am. We have some great speakers lined up for the seminar. James Wesley (“Wes”) Christian, an accomplished trial lawyer based in Houston, will discuss the use of experts in state and federal courts. Dr. Mitch Jones served as a psychiatric expert in the murder case made famous in Truman Capote’s book *In Cold Blood*. Dr. Jones will discuss his role as an expert witness in the context of this legendary story.

The seminar will conclude on Friday morning in time for all of the golfers to make their way to Ross Rogers golf course for our annual scramble. So, take the whole day off on Friday, come to the seminar hungry (the Underwood law firm will once again provide a hearty breakfast) and in your loudest golf attire ready to be inspired by our tremendous speakers. Lunch will be provided at Ross Rogers prior to the scramble, as usual. There will not be any planned activities for the Spring Institute on Saturday, April 30, until the Spring Institute Dinner that evening at the Amarillo Country Club. Following our annual meeting and dinner, we will be entertained by Jim LaFavers Band.

You will be receiving registration forms for the Spring Institute in the mail soon. I hope that you all will sign up for all of the Spring Institute activities!





PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By: Dusty Stockard

Happy April to our Bar Association. This is the last newsletter you will receive before the Spring Institute and the second to the last time you will have to read this president's ramblings on page 2. Fortunately, starting in September you will be receiving wisdom, insight, and legal reasoning from your new president, Mark Logsdon. I know he has been working on his articles well in advance in order to keep Matthew Agnew from the premature aging I have provided him by blowing every deadline he has ever given me.

Speaking of Spring Institute, each of you should have received your registration forms. Despite the fact that I delay my articles to well past the last minute, I encourage each of you to get those in as early as possible so that we may be sure to plan accordingly for attendance.

As was the case last year, the CLE will take place on Friday morning with a wonderful afternoon of golf to follow. Taylor Kelley and Chris Jensen have guaranteed wonderful weather for the event. Not that I doubt their guarantees, but I am not playing in the freezing rain like we did some years ago. Thanks again to Don Patterson for raising both hands in favor of going ahead with play that day. I still have frostbite 6 years after the event.

The venue for the dinner this year has changed. (On a side note, I feel very lawyerly saying or writing the word "venue".) The dinner is at the Amarillo Country Club this year. If you are unfamiliar with the location or need the address, ask Wade Arnold—he lives there.

Please do sign up for the CLE. It is a wonderful opportunity to hear some great speakers. Chris Jensen has worked hard to bring these speakers in for our event. Do not let him down. Do it for your bar association. Do it for yourself. There will be something for lawyers in every practice area.

Have a wonderful April!



AMA-LAW is published monthly from September through May by the Amarillo Area Bar Association.

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	Single Issue
Business Card	\$50
Quarter-Page	\$75
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Contact Us

For more information about your local area bar association or for address changes, contact Jo Ann Holt, Executive Director, at:

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Also visit our website at www.amarillo-bar.org for information and links to both local and state-wide legal resources.



HONORING OUR AABA PAST PRESIDENTS

The AABA will honor its past presidents during the final bar meeting of this bar year on April 14 at the Amarillo Club. Mark White, who is a past president of the AABA, will provide a fun and interactive review of the accomplishments, deeds, and misdeeds of past presidents of the AABA. For those of you who may not know, Mark recently resigned his position as a long-time partner of the Sprouse Law Firm to become Executive Vice President and General Counsel for Amarillo College, a new position created by the Amarillo College Board of Regents.

We hope that all of you will join us for our final lunch meeting of this bar year and spend a little time with us reflecting upon some of the history of our bar association and its influence on the practice of law in the Texas Panhandle. Mark's presentation will not only be informative, it will be entertaining. We also hope that the many of our past presidents will attend and contribute to the presentation. Please mark your calendars for Thursday, April 14, 11:45 a.m., at the Amarillo Club for our last lunch bar meeting of this bar year.



AMARILLO AREA ESTATE PLANNING COUNCIL

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL INSTITUTE ON ESTATE PLANNING

Thursday & Friday, May 12 and 13, 2016

William R. ("Trey") Cousins III – Family Limited Partnerships and What We Have Learned from Litigating with the IRS.

Chris Stack, Esq., - Maximizing the Value of 529 Plans.

G. Murphy Davis – Advising Clients in the Current Uncertain Markets

John H. Brown – Applying Exit Planning Concepts to Buyouts at Death / Planning for the Future of Your Business

Walter T. "Four" Price – Legislative Update & Interim Changes for the 85th Legislative Session.

Clay Stribling – Donor Advised Funds

Professor Lee Schwemer – Recent Tax Cases, Regulations and Rulings Relating to Insurance and Insurance Planning (Including Deferred Compensation Issues) Family Limited Partnerships, Valuation Issues, Defined Value Clauses, Marital and Charitable Deductions, Crummey Clauses, Administrative Expense Deductions, Qualified Plans and IRAS, and Other "Hot" Estate Planning Topics

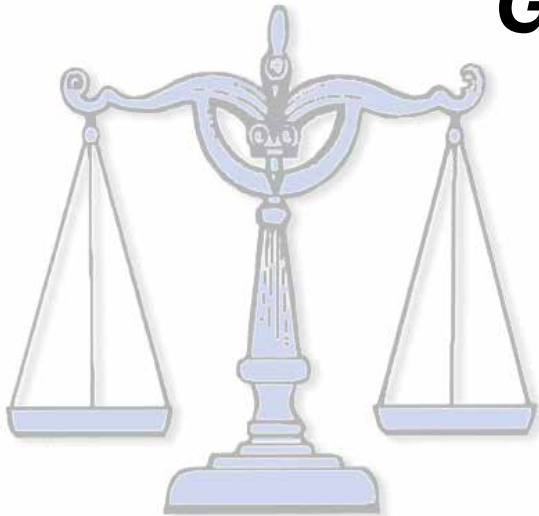
George A. Snell, III – A Short Course on Oil and Gas Properties for Estate Planners



7TH COURT OF APPEALS UPDATE

By Chief Justice Brian Quinn

GONE FISHING!



HISTORY IN THE MAKING DOWNTOWN AMARILLO'S ORIGINAL HIGH-RISE CELEBRATES 90 YEARS



The Historic Amarillo Building, built in 1925, proudly celebrates her 90th Birthday!

Restored to its Art Deco grandeur by owners Kevin and Ginger Nelson, Amarillo's history permeates throughout as Amarillo's most respected businesses, accounting and law firms continue to make their mark.



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Images courtesy The Amarillo Public Library

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AAYLA UPDATE

By Blair Oscarsson



AAYLA had its bi-annual Las Vegas CLE on February 20, and it went off without a hitch. I want to give a HUGE thank you to Committee Chairs Taylor Kelley and Courtney White. This event is so much work, and they did an outstanding job. Thanks, also, to the presenters who made the trip to Vegas and provided us with great CLE.

On another note, AAYLA is accepting nominations for Young Lawyer of the Year through April 15. Nominees should have demonstrated exceptional service to their clients and

to the community. Please send your nominations to me at boscarsson@pf-lawfirm.com.

And finally, I want to remind everyone to email me with your pro bono hours. You'll remember that way back in September, I asked you to keep track of your pro bono work and report to me so that I can accumulate that information and share it with the whole Bar. Some of you wrote wills for veterans; some of you volunteered at the Legal Aid clinics; some of you quietly took cases for people who could never pay your

bill. You should be keeping track of your pro bono work for bookkeeping reasons anyway, so just run that report and send it to me.

P.S. Stay tuned for an email with an invitation for the upcoming Old Lawyer Luncheon!

LEGAL BRIEFS



Fishbowl Drawing

For their valor and service, the Fishbowl Drawing was awarded to Barry Peterson, Justice Patrick Pirtle, and Judge Dan Schaap for covering for the late arriving speaker. Each award winner gave the money back to the AABA.

If you have news, we want to hear from you. Send your information to the AABA: email director@amarillobar.org, fax 379-9259, or call 371-7226.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Special Order No.2-86

1. The District Judges of this Court have considered and adopted the attached amendments to the local civil and criminal rules of this Court. The amendments revise LR 5.4 and adopt new rules LR 7.5 and LCrR47.4.

2. Unless modified after receipt of public comment, these rules shall take effect on September 1, 2016 and shall apply to all proceedings in civil and criminal actions thereafter commenced and, insofar as just and practicable, all civil and criminal actions then pending.

3. Any persons who desire to comment on any of these rules may do so by submitting written comment to:

Clerk of Court
Unites States District Court for the Northern
District of Texas
Attention: 2016 Rules Revision Comments
1100 Commerce Street, Room 1452
Dallas, Texas 75242-1452

The deadline by which the clerk must receive comments is June 1, 2016.

For a copy of the 2016 Proposed Local Rules Amendments, please email layla_ahl@txnd.uscourts.gov

YOUNG LAWYER OF THE MONTH: MARGARET S. ADAMS



Margaret S. Adams

Maggie was raised in Youngstown, Ohio, with the exception of five years her family spent in Naples, Florida. After graduating from high school in 1998, Maggie attended Denison University where she received her undergraduate degree in Psychology. After attending law school at Ohio Northern University, Maggie was ready for warmer weather and moved to Sarasota, Florida in 2005. Though originally planning to pursue a career in

criminal law, she began her practice in estate planning and probate after successful completion of the Florida Bar Exam. While living in Sarasota, Maggie met her husband Ron, a native of Amarillo, Texas. While both Maggie and Ron enjoy warm weather, boating, and fishing, they moved to Ohio in 2010 to spend more time with Maggie's family, having passed the Ohio Bar Exam in 2007 to be able to better assist the "snow birds" in Florida.

The "Adams Family" had been visiting Amarillo regularly for the past ten years and in 2015, while visiting family in Amarillo, Maggie had the opportunity to join the Wealth Planning practice at Sprouse Shrader Smith, PLLC. While looking forward to meeting the legal community in Amarillo, in their spare time Maggie and Ron enjoy hiking, camping, boating, and chasing their twin four year old boys.



SAVE THE DATE

AMARILLO AREA ESTATE PLANNING COUNCIL TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL INSTITUTE ON ESTATE PLANNING

Thursday & Friday
May 12 and 13, 2016

AABA History Quiz

WIN A ROLLING BRIEFCASE!

Be the first to correctly answer the question below and send your answer to magnew@bf-law.com and you will win a rolling briefcase provided by the State Bar of Texas.

Question: Where was Senior United States federal judge Mary Lou Robinson born?

March's Answer: Tim Newsom

March's Winner: Brent Huckabay



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Joby Mills, Secretary-Treasurer
Tim D. Newsom, Immediate Past President

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Jo Ann Holt, Executive Director
Matthew Agnew, Editor of AMA-LAW

YOUR BAR EVENTS - APRIL 2016

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 AABA Board Meeting, Petroleum Room, Amarillio Club	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 AABA Bar Luncheon, Past President's Luncheon, Sunburst Room, Amarillo Club	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Spring Institute Seminar, Amarillo College Business and Industry Center, Golf Tournament, Ross Rogers	30 Spring Institute Dinner/Installation, Amarillo Country Club