

# Okaloosa-Walton Bar Association

President: Wanda Clapp  
Vice-President: Ashley Smith-Herndon

Secretary: Martin W. Lester  
Treasurer: Coy H. Browning

May 2006 Edition

## Next Meetings

Law Day Judicial Reception

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Aunt Martha's Bed & Breakfast

315 SE Shell Avenue, FWB (behind Staff's)

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$20.00 per person

Law Day Luncheon

Friday, May 12, 2006

Emerald Coast Convention Center

Okaloosa Island

Time: 12:00 noon

Cost: \$20.00 per person

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### **MASSIVE ELECTION FRAUD**

**INCUMBENT VOWS TO REMAIN IN  
POWER; OPPONENTS DECRY  
VOTE IRREGULARITIES**

**POLICE BATTLE STUDENT  
PROTESTERS**

. . . is how the headlines might read if the Bar election had taken place in Ukraine. Fortunately, this being America, everything went according to plan and all incumbents were returned to office. Your officers for the 2006-2007 year are:

Ashley Smith Herndon – President

Martin W. Lester – Vice President

Coy Browning – Secretary

Jennifer Copus – Treasurer

### **LAW DAY JUDICIAL RECEPTION**

On Thursday, May 11, please join the OWBA in honoring our local judiciary by drinking beer and eating shrimp. The reception at Aunt Martha's is always worth attending. Our guest of honor is the Hon. Robert T. Benton from the First District Court of Appeal. Judge Benton will also be speaking at the Law Day Luncheon on Friday. Cost is \$20.00 per person. Entertainment to be provided by the Jazz Mackerels, led by our own Glenn Swiatek, "notary-at-large".

### **LAW DAY LUNCHEON**

Our annual Law Day Luncheon will be held at 12:00 noon on Friday, May 12, at the Emerald Coast Convention Center (the new Courthouse?) Our speaker will be the Hon. Robert T. Benton of the First District Court of Appeal. Cost is \$20.00 per person. Staff are welcome. The luncheon

will also feature the annual Liberty Bell award, recognizing a non-lawyer who has made a substantial contribution to the justice system over the past year.

### **POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

Murphy & Clapp, P.A., has an opening for a legal assistant. Experience preferred. Please contact Tom Murphy or Wanda Clapp at 651-2606.

### **NEW HIRES**

Ketchel & Lester LLP is pleased to announce the hiring of Scott Bridgford as an associate attorney in the firm's Shalimar office (okay, our ONLY office). Scott, a native of Fort Walton Beach, is a 2006 graduate of the University of Alabama Law School. He received his undergraduate degree from Emory University, and his high school degree from Fort Walton Beach High School (which we're willing to overlook).

Please join us in welcoming Scott back to the local community. He will be in attendance at future Bar meetings to carry Terry's coat and fetch me drinks.

### **FAREWELL FROM YOUR SECRETARY**

This newsletter marks the last of my tenure as your Secretary. I hope you have enjoyed my attempts to make the newsletter more interesting and fun to read, and to communicate the Bar's news in a lighthearted manner. I appreciate all the support I have received over this year, particularly from Lorilee Corbett, our long-suffering office manager and master e-mailer.

To any I may have inadvertently (or deliberately) offended by my attempts at humor . . . get over it. Jeez, it's all in fun.

Any opinions expressed are the writer's, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the OWBA management, the Bar in general, the judicial system, or anyone else.

### **QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

Our final Quote of the Month is wise advice from Abraham Lincoln, who, before he became President, ran a small law practice in Springfield, Illinois:

*“‘Yes’, Mr. Herndon [Lincoln’s law partner] reports him as advising a client, ‘we can doubtless gain your case for you; we can set a whole neighborhood at loggerheads; we can distress a widowed mother and her six fatherless children, and thereby get for you six hundred dollars to which you seem to have a legal claim, but which rightfully belongs, it appears to me, as much to the woman and her children as it does to you. You must remember, however, that some things legally right are not morally right. We shall not take your case, but we will give you a little advice for which we will charge you nothing. You seem to be a sprightly, energetic man. We would advise you to try your hand at making six hundred dollars in some other way.’”*

***We are only as strong as our weakest link...please support your local Bar Association.***