



## YOUNG LAWYER CORNER

# Tough

By Michael J. Dennin



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Members of our Association are tough people. It doesn't matter if you are an attorney or non attorney member. You are tough because you sacrifice time, effort and love for the group while simultaneously handling daily business and stress with ease. Having been practicing now for 8 years, I see what toughness is. Toughness is positive, and the Association staff at sets a positive tone.

A personal thank you to all of the members of the Bar Association for your hard work and dedication in 2012. This past year has been filled with dedication and results. We on the Young Lawyer Committee appreciate everything the staff at the Bar has done, including Larry Pelletier, Kathy DelPrato and Denise Whybark. Every event that was held went off perfectly. We take for granted how easy everything seems when we go to seminars, charity events and awards dinners. Since this is my first year as a Bar Trustee I am relatively new to the inner workings of our Bar. I can say that we Young Lawyers have been received and supported by the entire Association and we thank you again.

We've had a very positive year so far, and our events are only as good as the folks who attend and sponsor them. Involvement and

attendance at our events is most appreciated. We are continuing our year as we slowly move into the spring. The past several months have been a whirlwind. From Hurricane Sandy to the election to Newtown we have seen more than we need to for a long time. God Bless those who are struggling with these events—we cannot forget them. The days and months go by quickly and it can be easy to lose perspective in our busy days. It is tough to keep everything on our minds, especially when we are doing 20 different things in 20 different places at the same time. No one ever said being a lawyer was easy, or else everyone would do it. We like to inflict self punishment on behalf of our clients. That is part of the job.

The Young Lawyer group had a good February and is planning for the spring and summer. We enjoyed our 3rd Annual Dinner at Casona on February 22. The evening consists of a wonderful happy hour and dinner in Collingswood. It gives us time to get to know one another better in a social setting and to cut loose a bit on a weekend. New relationships and memories were formed and the atmosphere was great. Another very significant event was the Halo Ball. The Halo Ball is sponsored by the SJYPA, South Jersey Young Professionals

Association, and it is a prom-like dance to raise money for the KROC Community Center in Camden. The KROC Center is now under constructions and is being built on a 24 acre site on the remediated old landfill in the Cramer Hill section of Camden. When completed, the Center will feature athletic facilities, a senior center, auditorium, food pantry and teaching kitchen, a social center and more additional amenities than I can count. This is the brightest project to come to Camden for quite some time. Most of the funding comes from the Salvation Army, while the remainder is raised privately. Being active in the SJYPA is good for YLC members, and a very good outlet for when we stop being young, but are not quite elevated to seasoned member status.

More events are happening, from the CLE on Tap series starting back up, to the Cathedral Kitchen and programs at the Anna Sample House, to Wills for Heroes and the Foundation's Beer Tasting event. Our plate is filling back up. We will soon announce the date for the September Lobster Bake and begin planning. It is tough to keep track of everything, but that is a good thing. Toughness is something familiar, but this is why we are lawyers, right?

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

January 2013

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