

Change for the Better

By Michael J. Dennin



Change of season signals renewed purpose and drive for the YLC. Many good things are happening with the Bar Association and our Young Lawyer Committee. Being able to lead our group in the past few months has provided opportunity to build on the past and move forward. While summers are often quiet and relaxing we were busy organizing our Lobster Bake and associated events. Our Lobster Bake committee of Mike Madden, Rachel Licausi, Adam Gersh, Bill Cook, Dave Hasner, Victoria Schall, Lindsey Wagner, Matt Spataro, Kathy DelPrato and Larry Pelletier formed to create a tremendous event! All of the hard work paid off and the Bake was a tremendous success. Thank you especially to all of those who came and to our sponsors. Without participation none of this would have been possible. LARC again is receiving a significant charitable scholarship from our Foundation.

The Bake is an example of what we can do as a group for the community. Membership in our Association and Young Lawyer Committee allows us to effect change. However, we are only as strong as our members. This year we instituted our first annual clerk informational luncheon at the Superior Court in Camden. The Judges were kind enough to allow us to speak with the incoming and outgoing clerks about the benefits of joining the Bar Association. Brenda Eutsler, our President, and I discussed what gifts our association provides to attorneys in terms of charity, personal development and education. Most, if not all, signed an application for membership. The session was also a nice breather to converse with peers and have a hot lunch spread. There is no downside as membership is free to clerks, law students and first year attorneys.

We have new faces every day in our Association. I have yet to meet a person who is unhappy as a member. Young attorneys and law students often are not aware of what the Bar Association offers or how they can be helped through the Bar. One goal this year is to increase awareness among all younger and new attorneys. In addition to the clerk informational we are planning an informational luncheon at Rutgers Law School as well so we may reach out to local law students. We had a mixer and meet and greet with the diversity group at Rutgers in Camden in September. This event was well attended and hopefully beneficial for the students. This is something we will build on and grow. These events were timely in light of the Meet the Judges and Law Clerks reception on September 19. It was a pleasure to see all of the Judges and clerks at the event at the Boathouse. The atmosphere was perfect and the food was delicious, just in time for the new Court year.

Fall brings so many great events that lead us into the holiday season. Our group is changing as well for the better. The annual Halloween party at the Anna Sample House is coming up, as are numerous CLE events and the Autumn Scramble. The Autumn season gives us reason to change for the better. We are moving forward as a group and are stronger than we were last month. Our values remain the same. The Lobster Bake was quite a spark to the giving season, and we will continue our success while building on the past.



THE WEBBY AWARDS

Webby Award: 2009 and 2008 for Best Legal Websites

