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President's Message

The IJA was recently honored by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois, **Mary Ann McMorrow**, by inviting me, as President of the organization, to speak at her installation on September 9, 2002 in Springfield. After a very kind introduction by Justice **Charles Freeman**, I spoke of the groundbreaking accomplishments of Justice McMorrow. Judge **Nancy Arnold**, of Cook County, also spoke of the many triumphs during Justice McMorrow's career. Justice **Thomas Fitzgerald** administered the oath of office. Justice McMorrow has been a dedicated supporter of the Illinois Judges Association for many years, both as a Board member and a member of many committees. We, as judges in Illinois, are truly fortunate to have her as the leader of our branch of government.

I and members of the Executive Committee, as well as members of the Government Affairs Committee, will be visiting Springfield during the months of October and November. We will be speaking to members of the General Assembly on issues concerning the Judiciary of the State of Illinois.

31st Annual Convention
December 12 - 14

Happenings...

Collectively in the last two months, we have lost over 100 years of judicial service with the retirement of the following judges: **David Bone**, 7th Circuit, since 1982; **David L. Underwood**, 2nd Circuit, since 1979; **Ronald Himel**, Cook, since 1983; **Joan M. Pucillo**, Cook, since 1987; **Ronald B. Mehling**, 18th, since 1985; **Dennis M. Huber**, 4th Circuit, since 1979; **Stephen G. Evans**, recalled judge from the 9th Circuit, since 1975; **Edward M. Fiala, Jr.**, Cook, since 1976; **Pamela Jensen**, 16th since 1987; **Glynn J. Elliott, Jr.**, Cook since 1983; **Janice R. McGaughey**, Cook since 1992. Welcome aboard: **Kelly D. Long** from the 4th Circuit and **Richard Mitchell** of the 7th Circuit.

The Illinois Judges Association hosted a meeting with visiting Judge **Gwan Park** from South Korea and the Korean American Bar Association. The President of the Korean American Bar Association, **Bonita Cho**, and several members met with Judge Park and myself in my chambers recently. It was my pleasure to present Judge Park with an IJA pin and make him an honorary member.

Judge **Milton Wharton**, President of the St. Clair County Bar Association, and Justice **Richard P. Goldenhersh** were among attendees in an ecumenical service entitled, *A Call for Peace and Justice*, in Belleville.

Justice **S. Louis Rathje**, retired, was recently honored with the American Bar Association's Award of Excellence by the National Conference of State Trial Judges.

Yours truly has been chosen as a panel member on the upcoming American Bar Association/Chicago Bar Association seminar entitled, *Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges*. Federal Judges **Ruben**

Castillo and **Joan Humphrey Lefkow**, and Appellate Court Justice **Shelvin Louise Marie Hall** will also be members of a panel entitled, *Behind the Bench*. The conference will take place September 26 and 27 in Chicago. To register call 312/554-2056.

The American Bar Association is sponsoring a *Mediation for Judges* program. The IJA, along with the Illinois State Bar Association and the Illinois Judicial Council are co-hosting the event. For information please check our IJA website (ija.org) or contact Hon. **Edward Schoenbaum**, 1108 South Grand Ave., Springfield, 217/524-78936 or e-mail, edschoen@abanet.org.

Chief Justice **Mary Ann McMorrow** has recently been appointed to the Board of Trustees at the John Marshall Law School.

IJA members who participated in *Race Judicata*, a triathlon event were Judges **Rick Stevens**, **Tom Chiola**, **Rena Van Tine** and **Jesse Reyes**.

Don't forget to keep **December 13 and 14** open for what looks to be one of our best conventions ever. Featured **luncheon speaker** will be US Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, **Patrick Fitzgerald**. Our morning session, *Is Homophobia Unethical?*, deals with two changes in Illinois Supreme Court Rules which forbid judicial prejudice and lawyer discrimination based on sexual orientation. The session will be hosted by the IJA and the ISBA with Justice **McMorrow**, Judge **Evans**, and Judge **Nancy Katz** as panelists. Our afternoon program will consist of a panel of experts who will discuss terrorism, the law and the courts moderated by **Joel Daly** and **Walter Jacobson**.

Don't forget the Red Mass, October 6 - honoree Justice **Mary Jane Theis**.