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NWSBA 2011 Installation Night

Association Honors Judge Joel Greenblatt and Judge James Etchingham

The Northwest Suburban Bar Association marked the changing of the guard on June 23, with its Installation Dinner and swearing in of new officers.

The Honorable William O. Maki, presiding judge in the Third Municipal District of Cook County, performed the installation and swearing in of new officers: Donald J. Cosley, president; Neil H. Good, executive vice president; Michael A. Meschino, first vice president; William F. Kelley, second vice president; Ronald F. Wittmeyer, treasurer; and Nichole M. Waltz, secretary.

Judge Maki also installed new members of the Board of Governors, serving from 2011 to 2014: Anna Markley Bush, Andrew H. Haber, Maxwell Petersen, Kenneth C. Apicella and Rafi R. Arbel, plus Steven Kyriazes, association attorney; and Nicholas Richardson, parliamentarian. Both will serve from 2011 to 2012.

The Honorable Kay Hanlon and the the Honorable Jill Cerone-Marisie, both of the Circuit Court of Cook County's Third Municipal District, served

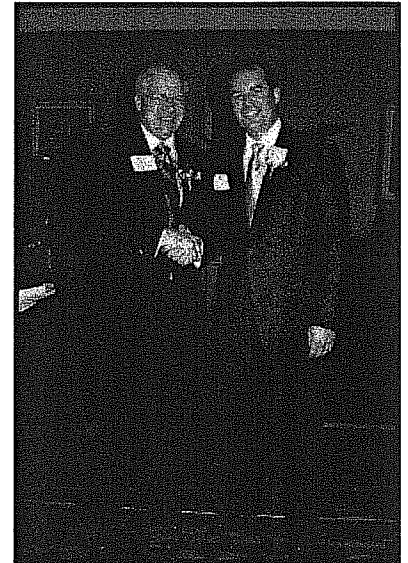
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as masters of ceremonies for the evening, held at Rolling Green Country Club in Arlington Heights.

The two introduced outgoing NWSBA President Lee F. DeWald with a light-hearted exchange

Incoming President Donald J. Cosley with The Honorable William O. Maki, Presiding Judge of the Third Municipal District. Judge Maki performed the swearing in ceremony for the 2011-2012 Board of Governors.



that included Judge Hanlon telling of their searching for "dirt" on DeWald. "No one is this squeaky clean," she joked. They called DeWald "a well-respected member of the community, an exceptional president and a really nice guy," before thanking him for his tireless work on behalf of NWSBA.

DeWald offered his heartfelt thanks to the executive committee, and praised all of the chair-people with whom he has worked. He is very proud of the fact that shortly before Installation, the Illinois State Bar Association had recognized NWSBA members' pro bono work by presenting the NWSBA with ISBA's John C. McAndrews Pro Bono Service Award. The award is named in memory of Rock Island attorney John McAndrews, who established the Legal Aid Service of Rock Island County in the 1970s, and worked hard to provide legal services to those who could not afford them.

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As he had last year, upon taking the reins of the organization then celebrating its 50th anniversary, DeWald urged all members to get involved, to “run an event, attend an event, assist at an event and be committed to NWSBA for the next 50 years.” He offered praise to Colin Gilbert for organizing the “first traveling CLE on a bus” (the recent Cubs rooftop outing) and pointed out that the Pub Crawlers monthly event continues to draw crowds. “We’re doing great things in the community. It makes me proud that you allowed me to lead you.”

Donald Cosley will be a wonderful president, DeWald told the crowd. “He’ll take you to the next step, and continue on for the next 50 years.”

In accepting the presidential gavel, Cosley thanked the Honorable Hyman Riebman, who named Cosley parliamentarian 12 years ago. “He took a chance on a young lawyer,” he said. Cosley remarked that over the past 12 years he had participated in over 300 meetings and events for the Bar Association.

He said he would tell those considering joining the NWSBA that there are two particular reasons to sign up:

- Being part of NWSBA can help create balance in a lawyer’s life, with social connections and networking. “The more involved you get, the better balance you have, and the better your life is,” Cosley said.
- Being part of NWSBA provides social events where lawyers—many of them in solo practices or small partnerships and who thus wear many hats—can interact and get to know other lawyers. The social benefits are substantial, Cosley said.

“I look forward to the challenges of the upcoming year. I’m extremely humbled and honored,” he said.

In presenting the “Outgoing President’s Plaque,” Cosley called DeWald “truly outstanding this year. It’s an honor and privilege to present this plaque in recognition of his exceptional leadership and devoted service to Northwest Suburban Bar Association.”

The Honorable James P. Etchingham and the Honorable Joel L. Greenblatt received the President’s Award for Distinguished Public Service. Judge Etchingham was appointed to the bench of the Circuit Court of Cook County in March 1994 and served until

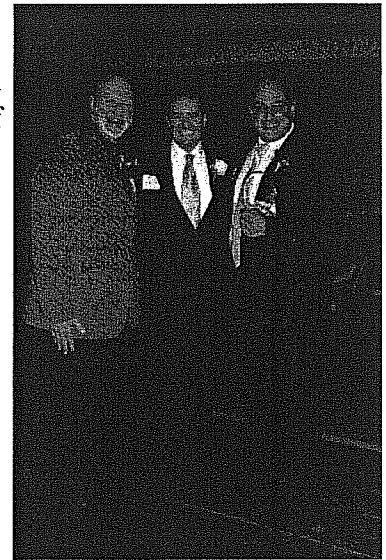
his appointment ended in 1996. He was reappointed in May 1998 and has served in a variety of courtrooms since then. Since the inception of the Domestic Violence Division in December 2010, Judge Etchingham has been dually assigned to that division as well as to the Third Municipal District.

Judge Greenblatt has served as a judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County since August 2004. He was elected as an Associate Judge in April 2007. He was transferred to the Third Municipal District in September 2005. He currently presides over the domestic violence call, as well as requests for civil orders of protection.

As a family practice attorney, he is in Domestic Violence courtrooms frequently, Cosley said.

Both Judge Greenblatt and Judge Etchingham “manage all of the varying aspects of what goes on in their courtrooms very well.” He called Judge Greenblatt a “perfect fit” for the Domestic Violence courtroom. “Through his temperament, sense of humor and quick wit he’s able to keep the courtroom on an event keel. He treats all with the utmost respect. He doesn’t do just the easy thing, he does the right thing -- and that’s not always easy to do.”

Judge Greenblatt thanked Cosley for his remarks and humorously noted the disparity in the biographies for him and his fellow honoree, Judge Etchingham. “I’m truly humbled and deeply honored,” he said, adding that the lawyers in the NWSBA are among the profession’s best and brightest. He shares the award with the dedicated staff of the Domestic Violence courtroom, he said. “Domestic Violence call is challenging but quite rewarding.” He asked for compassion for those who pass through the courtroom and said those in the legal profession should “always remember, above all, the people we serve.”



Incoming President Donald Cosley (center) named Judge Joel Greenblatt (left) and Judge James Etchingham (right) as recipients of the 2011 Distinguished Public Service Award.

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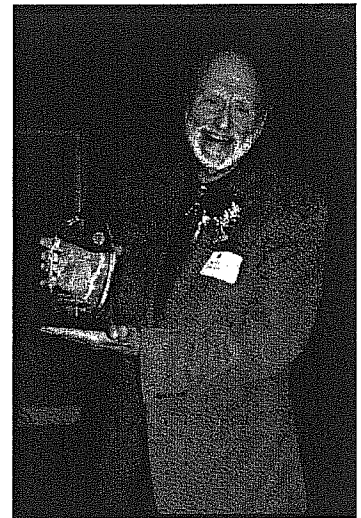
In introducing Judge Etchingham, Cosley said lawyers who find out their cases are assigned to the judge are relieved. Among the remarks said about him are "He gets it," "He's a great guy" and "He's a great family man." Cosley told of Etchingham's having helped arrange, many years ago, a day at Wrigley Field for a young boy stricken with cancer and the impact it had on the boy's life.



The Honorable Judge James Etchingham with his wife Beth and their boys Patrick, Matt, Jim and Jack. Judge Etchingham was the recipient of the 2011 Distinguished Public Service Award.

Judge Etchingham, too, thanked the bar association for the honor. "I've been the beneficiary of a lot of wonderful presiding judges in my career," he said. He called former presiding judge James Geocaris (retired)

his mentor, and referred to the Third District's newest presiding judge, Judge Maki, as a "very cerebral, exceptional, wonderful human being." He thanked his family, including his siblings, father, wife Beth and four sons, joking that the occasion provided a reason for all four to show up in jackets and tie. On a serious note, he said, "Domestic Violence is the only courtroom in which there's no presumption of innocence. It's a tough courtroom, but one I've grown to love. You really do have the opportunity to make a difference."



The Honorable Judge Joel Greenblatt, recipient of the 2011 Distinguished Public Service Award.

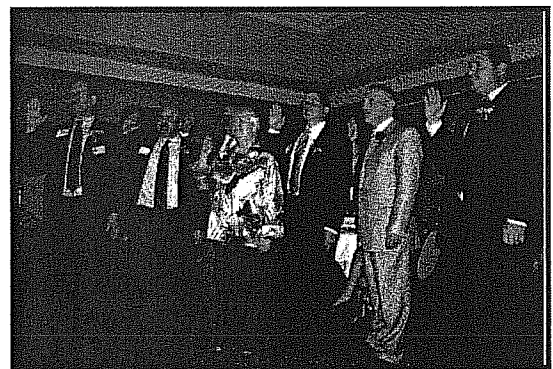
Music during the evening was provided by Vazquez. Sponsors included Kelley, Kelley & Kelley, Attorneys at Law; Riebandt & DeWald; Republic Title; the Law Offices of Michael A. Meschino; and ADR Systems.

Installation Photo Recap



The Honorable Judge William O. Maki (center) with the 2011-2012 Executive Committee. Left to right: Ronald Wittmeyer, Treasurer; William Kelley 2nd Vice President; Michael Meschino, 1st Vice President; and Neil Good Executive Vice President.

More photos on Page 21 and online at: www.nwsba.org



2011-2012 Elected Board Members, Andrew Haber, Anna Markley Bush, Maxwell Petersen, Rafi Arbel and Kenneth Apicella are joined by our new Parliamentarian, Nicholas Richardson and new Association Attorney, Steven Kyriazes as they are sworn in by The Honorable Judge William O Maki (not seen).