From the Dean's Desk

One of my favorite duties as dean of Baylor Law School is traveling across the state to meet with Baylor Lawyers. I especially like it when I get to be the bearer of good news.

During a visit to Amarillo late last month, I had the delightful opportunity to surprise Bill Brian (JD '74) with the news that he has been selected by the Baylor Law Alumni Association Executive Committee as the 2014 Baylor Lawyer of the Year. It's a much-deserved honor for Bill, who in addition to once having served on the Baylor University Board of Regents, has been a longtime supporter of Baylor Law School. U.S. District Court Judge for the Northern District of Texas the Hon. Ed Kinkeade (JD '74) describes his longtime friend, Bill, as "a quiet giant."

In this issue of *Rocket Docket*, you can read more about Bill and his memories of Baylor Law School.

As you may have noticed, the Executive Committee selected our Baylor Lawyer of the Year much earlier than it has done in the past. Normally, the selection and announcement are made in the fall. Starting this year, the selection and announcement will be made around this time so our honorees can hold the title throughout the selection year.

The 2014 Baylor Lawyer of the Year announcement was part of a three-city stop we dubbed the "West Texas Baylor Law Roadshow." Baylor University President and Chancellor Ken Starr, members of our Office of Alumni Relations and I visited Midland/Odessa, Amarillo and Lubbock. It's part of our effort to reach out to as many Baylor Lawyers as we can in this vast state. You can read more about our "roadshow" in this issue of *Rocket Docket*.

Once again, I congratulate Bill Brian, the 2014 Baylor Lawyer of the Year!

Bill Brian Selected 2014 Baylor Lawyer of the Year

On Jan. 28, during a Baylor Lawyers reception in Amarillo, Baylor Law School Dean Brad Toben made the surprise announcement that the Baylor Law Alumni Association Executive Committee had selected Bill Brian as the 2014 Baylor Lawyer of the Year.

A former regent of Baylor University, Brian received his bachelor of arts degree and a juris doctor degree from Baylor in 1974. He also earned his LLM degree in taxation from Southern Methodist University's School of Law in 1975.

He has practiced with the Courtney Law Firm in Amarillo and its predecessors for 37 years, and has been certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in the field of Estate Planning and Probate Law since 1984. He also served as briefing attorney for the then Seventh Court of Civil Appeals in Amarillo from 1975-76.

Brian has authored continuing education papers for the State Bar of Texas, South Texas College of Law, Baylor University, Amarillo Area Estate Planning Council and other sponsors. He is a life Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation and is a past member of the council of the State Bar of Texas Real Estate, Probate, and Trust Law Section. He is past editor of the ***General Practice Section Newsletter*** (Probate Law portion) and of the ***Real Estate, Probate, and Trust Law Reporter*** (Estate Tax portion) of the State Bar of Texas. In addition, he has occupied leadership roles in other professional, civic and religious organizations, including the Amarillo Bar Association, Amarillo Area Bar Foundation, Salvation Army, Panhandle-Plains Historical Society, Panhandle Baptist Foundation, Baptist St. Anthony's Foundation, Amarillo Chamber of Commerce, Baptist General Convention of Texas, the *Baptist Standard*, Baylor University and the Amarillo Chapter of American Red Cross.

Brian's current volunteer involvement is with the Baylor Law Alumni Association, Baptist University of the Americas, Samaritan Pastoral Counseling Service of Amarillo, Baptist St. Anthony's Ethics Committee, Amarillo All American Soap Box Derby and Stop Predatory Gambling in Texas.

He and his wife, Carol, are members of the First Baptist Church of Amarillo, where he teaches senior adults in Sunday school, sings in the choir, serves as deacon and is a discussion leader in the new member class. Carol, also a Baylor graduate (BA '73), has served on the staff of First Baptist Church of Amarillo since 1978, where she also teaches third graders in Sunday school and sings in the choir. Carol also serves as a Trustee for Buckner, International.

Rocket Docket interviewed Brian about his recent honor.

What was your reaction when it was announced that you were the 2014 Baylor Lawyer of the Year?

I could not have been more surprised when Dean Toben announced at a January reception for Baylor lawyers here in Amarillo that I had been selected. It is really a humbling experience because I look at the names of Baylor Lawyers who have received the Baylor Lawyer of the Year designation in prior years and I think, "What am I doing here among these whom I admire so much?"

For you, personally, what does it mean to be named Baylor Lawyer of the Year?

For me personally, it is a great honor and at the same time sobering when I look at the criteria for selection. I

am grateful to the Baylor Law Alumni Association Executive Committee for honoring me, and my wife, Carol, as Dean Toben correctly pointed her out at the Amarillo reception. The Lord has graced me with her companionship and direction as my wife for more than 40 years. I am also reminded of the influence of parents, sisters and friends upon my life.

What are some of your most vivid memories as a student at Baylor Law?

In Professor (William) Boswell's torts class I can remember the thrill of reciting on a case and hearing Professor Boswell say, "Precisely." And the agony of defeat when in the same class reciting I would hear Professor Boswell say to me, "Not at all." In other words, I had completely missed the point of the case. Then I remember the time when Ed Kinkeade and I landed in Matt Dawson's practice court class on the first day of class and selected seats in the middle of the middle of the room. Those who had the great experience of being instructed by Professor Dawson in the practice court class remember that those who sat in the middle of the middle were called on more frequently than any other position in the class. It seems like Ed (now judge) Kinkeade and I were called on every day. Another memory I have is of being in Professor John Wilson's remedies class. The topic, one day, turned to a discussion of charitable organizations. Professor Wilson correctly described these as eleemosynary institutions. He asked whether anyone in the class could spell eleemosynary. One or two hands went up without success in spelling that word. Then the professor said that if anyone could at that moment spell "eleemosynary" correctly, he would give that person an "A" in the course for the term. Well, hands (including mine) shot up all over the room. Nobody in the class could spell eleemosynary, but I forever learned the correct spelling of that word as a result of that experience. I also remember the genuine and continuing interest of Law School professors in me and in my fellow students long after we had graduated from Law School. I especially remember Professor (Edwin) Horner and Professor (David) Guinn in this way.

How did Baylor Law prepare you for your career?

Baylor Law School requires a core curriculum designed to prepare each graduate for the practice of law. I am grateful for the commitment of faculty and administration to that theory of training. It meant the world to me as a beginning lawyer.

What advice do you have for current Baylor Law students?

For current students I recommend that they study hard and take opportunities to learn outside of the classroom. And don't neglect regular attendance in church. It is a great temptation in the very busy days of Law School to skip worship services on Sunday mornings. We are called by the Scripture not to forsake assembling together for worship. I hope that commitment to faith will remain the center of the life of each student, not only during Law School days, but after graduation, as well.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

Dean Toben shared with me awhile back a book that features the presidents of the United States who have been lawyers. Among the presidents featured was, of course, Abraham Lincoln. His notes for a law lecture — generally believed to have been delivered about the year 1850 — while brief, are too lengthy to quote in full here. But among the advice he gave was, "The leading rule for the lawyer … is diligence. Leave nothing for tomorrow which can be done today." Lincoln goes on to comment on such things as whether to encourage litigation, and about fees and lawyer honesty. I commend Lincoln's entire notes (available online) to the reading of every Baylor Lawyer.

Baylor Law Hits The Road

Baylor Law School's Office of Alumni Relations took its show on the road in late January.

Dubbed the "West Texas Baylor Law Roadshow," Baylor Law reached out to Baylor Lawyers in Midland/Odessa, Amarillo and Lubbock.

"Baylor Law School has produced thousands of alumni, many of whom are practicing throughout the state," said Berkley Knas, Director of Alumni Relations at Baylor Law. "It is an honor and a privilege to connect with Baylor Lawyers across Texas."

Along with Knas, Baylor Lawyers in Midland, Amarillo and Lubbock had the opportunity to meet with Baylor University President and Chancellor Ken Starr and Baylor Law School Dean Brad Toben.

"It's so gratifying to see Baylor Lawyers all across this state who are the living embodiments of what Baylor Law strives for — creating great lawyers who also serve their communities," Dean Toben said. "That, of course, was in full evidence with our friends and colleagues in Midland, Amarillo and Lubbock."

During the roadshow's stop in Amarillo, the 2014 Baylor Lawyer of the Year, Bill Brian (JD '74), was announced.

"Having the opportunity to surprise Bill with this honor made this trip just that much more special," Dean Toben said.

The receptions were a success due in large part to the hosts and host committees that helped to pull the events together.

"In Amarillo and Midland we had Baylor Lawyers and friends of Baylor Law open their homes to us," Knas said. "These receptions on the West Texas Baylor Law Roadshow were made possible by the host committees, consisting of Baylor Lawyers, who helped us to organize the gatherings. We couldn't have done it without them."

News & Notes

Baylor Lawyers Hiring Baylor Lawyers
Attention Alumni! Are you needing to hire a lateral attorney? Or are you an experienced attorney looking to make a job change? The Baylor Career Development Office can help! We regularly post positions for experienced attorneys on our online job board, so please contact Daniel Hare at 254.710.7617 or at Daniel_Hare@baylor.edu for information on how you can utilize this valuable tool.

Upcoming Alumni Networking Events

San Antonio Baylor Law Alumni Reception With Dean Toben & Dean Jackson Teague
Thursday, Feb. 27, 2014
5:30-7 p.m.
Cox Smith
112 E. Pecan St.
Suite 1800
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Dallas Baylor Lawyer Network Reception With Dean Toben
Tuesday, April 8, 2014
6-7:30 p.m.
Carstens & Cahoon, LLP
13760 Noel Road
Suite 900
Dallas, Texas 75240

Professor David Guinn's Annual Skeet Shoot
Saturday, Aug. 30, 2014
5-7:30 p.m.
Waco Skeet & Trap Club
7209 Karl May Drive

Waco, Texas 76708

Baylor Law Alumni Weekend
Friday & Saturday, Oct. 10-11, 2014

Alumni Notes

1970s

W.H. "Bill" Brian Jr. (JD '74) has been named the 2014 Baylor Lawyer of the Year. Brian is a partner with the firm of Courtney, Countiss, Brian & Bailey, L.L.P. in Amarillo.

1980s

Jerry Clements (JD '81) has been re-elected chairwoman of the law firm Locke Lord LLP. She has headed the firm since 2006. As leader of the law firm, Clements had overseen the 2007 merger between Texas-based Locke Liddell & Sapp, and Chicago-based Lord, Bissell & Brook. She also was instrumental in expanding the firm's international presence with offices in London and Hong Kong.

Jerry L. Stovall Jr. (JD '89) of Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, L.L.P. in Baton Rouge, La., has been listed in Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business for Louisiana. Stovall's practice areas are labor and employment.

1990s

James Carter (JD '98) was elected to become a Fellow of The Texas Bar Foundation. Each nominee must be elected by the Texas Bar Foundation Board of Trustees and membership is restricted to Texas attorneys. Election is a mark of distinction and recognition of Carter's contributions to the legal profession. Carter is a partner with Drought, Drought & Bobbitt, LLP in San Antonio.

Roy DeFriend (JD '90) was named the Groesbeck, Texas 2013 Citizen of the Year. He was presented with the award at a Groesbeck Chamber of Commerce banquet. He has served as the district attorney for Limestone County since 2001.

Greg McConnell (JD '95), assistant general counsel with Tenet Healthcare Corporation in Dallas, was recently elected as the 2014 chair of the Dallas Bar Association Health Law Section.

2000s

Edel Cuadra (JD '02) has joined Phelps Dunbar LLP's Dallas/Fort Worth office as counsel.

Robert Greeson (JD '04) was promoted to partner in the global legal practice of Norton Rose Fulbright's U.S. member firm.

In Memoriam

The Hon. Ernest F. Cadenhead (JD '67), 81, passed away on Jan. 26, 2014 in Brownwood. A native of Brown County, Cadenhead was born in Brownwood on May 25, 1932. He graduated from Brownwood High School, the University of Texas at Austin and Baylor Law School. He served his country as a first lieutenant in the United States Air Force, and as a captain in the Air Force Reserves. Cadenhead was active in the American Legion, Post 196, and had been post commander twice. Cadenhead was an attorney in Brownwood for many years. He had a private practice and had served as a justice of the peace, county attorney, county judge and retired as 35th District Court judge. Cadenhead loved politics and was a proud Democrat. He also loved to talk and was fortunate to have many, many friends. He was a man of faith and honor, and will be sorely missed by his family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Dr. Ernest F. Cadenhead Sr. and Cassie Sneed Cadenhead; his stepmother, Inez Chandler Cadenhead; his beloved wife, Mary Edwards Cadenhead; and his daughter, Mary Ann Cadenhead. He is survived by his son, Ernest F. Cadenhead III; his daughter and son-in-law, Nancy and Dr. Chris Stephens; his son, Pete Cadenhead; his granddaughter, Kate Stephens; his brothers and sisters-in-law, Ben and Sondra Cadenhead, and Dr. John and Ginger Cadenhead.

Clinton Montgomery (JD '50), 88, of Waco died Jan. 10, 2014. Montgomery was born Aug. 22, 1925, near Athens, Texas, to Clint and Lena (Sisk) Montgomery. They moved to Waco in 1940, and Montgomery graduated from Waco High School in 1942. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1943, serving first in the Seabees, then 18 months of Officer Training at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., and Duke University at Durham, N.C., followed by a year with a Motor Torpedo Boat (PT) Squadron. Upon discharge from active duty in 1946, he remained in the Naval Reserve, where he was commissioned an ensign, then promoted to lieutenant junior grade serving as an instructor for five years. He received a JD from Baylor Law School and was licensed to practice law in 1950. He also was also licensed to practice in the U. S. District Courts for the Southern and Western Districts of Texas. He was a member of the Texas State Bar and the Waco-McLennan County Bar associations. After 15 years in the legal departments of casualty insurance companies and five years of private practice, Montgomery joined the staff of regional counsel for the Department of Veterans Affairs in Waco. Upon retiring in 1990, he investigated EEO discrimination complaints on a contract basis at VA facilities

throughout the United States until 1998. Montgomery married Inez (Minter) Stapp in Houston on Sept. 1, 1961. They had lived in Waco since 1979. He served as an elder at Richfield Christian Church, where both he and Inez served on various committees and were active in other aspects of their church life. He held the rank of Knight in the Order of Knights of Pythias since 1971. From a prior marriage, Montgomery had two sons who predeceased him, Jerry A. Montgomery and John D. Montgomery. He also was predeceased by his parents; one brother, Don Montgomery; one sister, Phila Vestal; parents-in-law, Alfred and Clara Minter; and one brother-in-law, Dean Minter. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Clara Inez; two daughters, Randie Johnson and husband, Bruce; and Ann Batterson.

David Martin Moses (LLB '51), 91, passed away on Jan. 19, 2014 in Murphy with family by his side. Moses was born July 11, 1922 to Robert Lewis Moses and Mary Caroline Little Moses in San Antonio. He grew up in Pearsall and graduated from Pearsall High in 1940. He went on to graduate from Schreiner Junior College and obtained his law degree from Baylor Law School. In addition, he proudly served his country during World War II as a U.S. Marine. Moses raised three children with his first wife, Ethel Beach, of 22 years. On March 10, 1973, he married the love of his life, Margaret Ann Crews. With their union, he gained three more adult children and together their family grew to more than 35 grandchildren, including great and great-great grandchildren. His legacy of love and service will live on through all of his family. Moses was a dedicated servant of the Methodist faith, with a membership spanning over four decades at Munger Place United Methodist before moving his membership to Ridgewood Park United Methodist. He had more than 20 years in service with the Wilkinson Center and as a Gideon for more than 30 years. He served in many other areas and organizations after retiring in 1985 from Home Insurance Company. Moses is survived by his wife, Margaret Ann Moses, of Dallas; brothers, Bob Moses of Austin; Andy Moses and wife, Jane, of New Mexico; children/stepchildren, Dennis Malcolm Moses of Farmersville; Caroline Germaine Moses of Royse City; Joan Iris Moses of Dallas; Brenda Selby of Garland; Melvin Crews and wife, Debbie, of Garland; Suzie Ballard and husband, Jack, of Canton; as well as many grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

Ted Lee Potter (LLB '68), 71, passed away on Dec. 22, 2013. Potter was born on July 1, 1942, and was raised in Dallas, attending Woodrow Wilson High School. He later graduated from Southern Methodist University in Dallas and received his law degree from Baylor Law School in Waco. Potter practiced law for 46 years in Central Texas, residing in Belton. He is survived by his son, Donald Gene Potter, and wife, Tina, of Mesquite; daughter, Debi Potter of Mesquite; and son, Victor Potter, of Fort Worth. Potter has four grandchildren and three nieces. Potter was predeceased by his parents, Tom and Ruby Potter; brothers, Jack and Gene Potter; daughter, Deanna Potter; and son, Richard Potter.

The Hon. Melvin Whitaker (JD '58), 81, a former state district judge, district attorney and city council member, passed away Jan. 26, 2014 after collapsing from heart failure as he prepared to lead a Sunday school Bible class at Evangelistic Temple. Whitaker was born Sept. 16, 1932, in Old Gulf, Matagorda County to George

and Lenora Whitaker. They moved to Coahoma in Howard County shortly after he was born, later moving to Houston in 1943. Whitaker graduated from high school in 1951, attending Baylor University for one quarter before entering the United States Marine Corp, where he served during the Korean War from 1951 to 1953. After his discharge, he graduated from Baylor University in 1957 with a B.A. He earned his JD from Baylor Law School in 1958. While attending Baylor he met the love of his life, Emma Lee Moore. They married on Dec. 1, 1956. After his graduation from Baylor, the Whitakers moved to Beaumont, where they lived from 1958 to 1965. Whitaker practiced law there, also serving as treasurer and secretary of the Jefferson County Bar Association and as the second congressional district director of the Texas State Junior Bar. After meeting the late Palestine attorney Jim Bob Paxton at a full gospel meeting in Beaumont, Paxton offered Whitaker a job with his firm in Palestine - a town he had never been to before, according to a family member. In 1965, the family moved to Palestine, where they have lived since except for one year in Pensacola, Fla., followed by one year in Washington, D.C. Whitaker served as counsel for Federal National Mortgage Association and later as trial counsel for the U.S. Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C. Upon the family's return to Texas, Whitaker resumed his trial practice in Palestine. He was a trial lawyer for most of his professional life. He was elected to the Palestine City Council and was serving as finance commissioner in 1973 when Texas Gov. Dolph Briscoe appointed him district attorney for the 173rd Judicial District to which he was elected for three terms (1973-1984). This district covered Anderson, Henderson and Houston counties. In 1984, Texas Gov. Mark White appointed Whitaker as a judge of the 349th Judicial District Court for Anderson and Houston counties to which he was elected in November 1984. He was re-elected in 1988 without opposition. He left the bench in Palestine around 1991, and then served as visiting senior judge in the drug courts in Dallas. He and his son, Palestine attorney Stuart Whitaker, opened up their firm, Whitaker & Whitaker, in April 1994. At the time of his death, the senior Whitaker was still practicing law. Whitaker leaves behind his wife of 57 years, Emma Lee Whitaker; son and law partner, Stuart Whitaker, of Palestine; daughter, Karen Hardwick, of Garland; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.