

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Does Anybody Read This Stuff?

Prior to my election as president of the Kansas Bar Association, I served on the KBA Board of Governors for a number of years. As I was brainstorming topics for this month's column, an experience I had with a prior KBA president came to mind. During a Board of Governors meeting many years ago, a former president made some remarks that were completely opposite from statements he made in his KBA *Journal* column. When the inconsistency was pointed out, he remarked with surprise, "You actually read my columns?"



For those of us who do not consider ourselves strong writers, the task of writing a monthly column for the *Journal* is particularly daunting. I have been told that one of the most important things a writer should consider is the audience. When your audience is a group of lawyers, professionals trained to critically evaluate issues and problems, the task seems even more intimidating. ...

YOUNG LAWYERS SECTION NEWS

The Benefits of Inexperience

Oscar Wilde once wrote, "In America, the young are always ready to give to those who are older than themselves the full benefits of their inexperience." I find this never more true than right now, as I write my first article for the *Journal of the Kansas Bar Association*.



When Susan McKaskle reminded me earlier this year that I would be tasked with writing an article in each issue of the *Journal* during my year as the president of the Young Lawyers Section (YLS), I honestly thought nothing of it. Writing comes somewhat naturally to me, which is great since a large portion of being an attorney involves writing! But as the time drew near, I realized wow, this would be mailed out to the almost 7,000 attorneys across Kansas, who are no doubt better writers than me.

Before I get to the quote by Oscar Wilde, allow me the opportunity to introduce myself. ...

LEGAL ARTICLE



Caring When a Parent Does Not – The State's Role in Child Welfare

By Roberta Sue McKenna

The history of child welfare has an inglorious past. Its roots in the United States are traceable to Colonial America, where the child – not the parents – could be deemed the culprit in a family conflict and be punished by death.

Today, societal goals of protecting children can and do merit government intervention into troubled families. In Kansas, the Revised Kansas Code for Care of Children (the Child in Need of Care or CINC code) provides the statutory basis for such intervention. This article provides a road map for practitioners unfamiliar with the CINC code and related adoption and administrative proceedings. ...

KANSAS BAR FOUNDATION

The Rewards of Fellowship

By James D. Oliver

The Kansas Bar Foundation extends to all Kansas lawyers the invitation to become "Fellows." This is not a just a gimmick or small and trivial thing. The term "fellow" is often used in academics to describe membership in a group of learned people who work together as peers in the pursuit of

knowledge or practice. "Fellow" is also a term of honor for someone who is a peer, an equal, or a comrade united by the same occupation, interests, or profession. Fellowship – genuine, congenial, rewarding friendship, and mutual respect – is enjoyed when fellows work together toward common interests,

goals, beliefs, responsibilities, experiences, concerns, and activities. We are happiest, not as just members of a crowd, or isolated individuals, but when we identify our common ideals, chart a course to reach them, and work together with our peers. ...