2007 Distinguished Service Award Ceremony Program

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Distinguished Service Award Ceremony

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Alumni Weekend 2007
Lowell E. Baier, LL.B. '64, is an attorney, architect-builder, and conservationist whose multi-dimensional career has defined a highly active and dedicated professional life. Baier is the author of a revolutionary jurisprudence for interpreting and applying what became one of America's most potent foreign-trade import laws. The president of Baier Properties, Inc., in Bethesda, Md., and a placemaker in commercial real estate, he is also a serious student of 19th century bronze sculpture. His collection is sought after by museum curators.

But, it's his passion for wildlife that encouraged his tireless work over the past three decades as an historical researcher and writer on natural resource and wildlife conservation history, policy development, and legislation.

His initial association with a wildlife conservation organization began in the late 1960's when he helped organize the National Capital Area Chapter of Safari Club International, serving as vice president from 1968-1974. He is one of 20 founders of the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, which has generated and funded in excess of $50 million since its 1974 inception in efforts to re-establish historically suitable habitats for the animals.

As executive vice president of the Boone and Crockett Club, Baier was the principal spokesman and driving force in orchestrating and negotiating the Federal government's very complex acquisition of Theodore Roosevelt's Elk horn Ranch in Medora, N.D. The property consists of 5,200 deeded acres and an 18,350 acre grazing allotment.

In The Cradle of Conservation: Theodore Roosevelt's Elk horn Ranch, an Icon of America's National Identity, Baier explained that the very idea of conservation of America's natural resources and protection of its scenic wonders was inspired and conceived by Theodore Roosevelt at the Elk horn Ranch. It was here that the conservation ethic in America was born, which has since become a part of America's cultural and national identity.

He was also instrumental in organizing a national fundraising campaign to raise the challenge sum of $500,000 for the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service for habitat and riparian restoration, environmental mitigation, grass banking utilizing native prairie grasses, relief pastures for local ranchers, educational programs, and interpretative signage and exhibits.

One of four finalists for Anheuser Busch's 2007 "Conservationist of the Year" based on a national vote, Baier is also a nominee for Field & Stream magazine's "Heroes of Conservation."
The Distinguished Service Award was founded in 1997 to recognize graduates of the Indiana University School of Law—Bloomington who are distinguished in service to their communities and the School of Law in ways far exceeding traditional business, professional, and civic duties. Through their hard work, their passion, and their accomplishments, these alumni define Indiana Law's ideals for community service and serve as accomplished role models for ours and the greater community.
Jane Raley has devoted her legal career to representing the poor. An experienced criminal defense attorney who specializes in appellate and other post-verdict litigation, she worked at the Office of the State Appellate Defender for 15 years where she represented indigent felony defendants on appeal. During this time, she handled hundreds of appeals, winning reversals in appellate courts throughout Illinois and in the Illinois Supreme Court.

Raley, a 1982 Indiana Law alumna, also received her BA in political science at Indiana University. As a law student, she interned at a local public defender’s office and participated in the Inmate Legal Assistance Project. She attributes her devotion to public interest law to the deep impression these experiences made in her life.

From 1990 to 1994, she was the senior staff attorney at the Capital Resource Center, where her practice was devoted entirely to death penalty work. In addition to litigating her own capital cases, she recruited and trained attorneys for a statewide program to provide lawyers for capital defendants in post conviction and federal habeas proceedings.

Among Raley’s more significant capital cases include *Kubat v. Thieret*, where she won a reversal of the death sentence in one of the first cases under the new Illinois death penalty statute to reach federal court, and *People v. Hernandez*, where she was one of the trial counsel who represented Hernandez in two death penalty trials in DuPage County. The case against Hernandez and his co-defendant Rolando Cruz gained national attention and the State eventually dropped the charges against Hernandez.

Raley joined the faculty at Northwestern University School of Law as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Law and Senior Staff Attorney at the Bluhm Legal Clinic’s Center on Wrongful Convictions in 2000. The center’s mission is to identify and rectify wrongful convictions; raise public awareness of the prevalence, causes, and social cost of wrongful convictions; and to promote substantive reform of the criminal justice system.

Her clients are often defendants wrongfully convicted of capital offenses. During her tenure at Northwestern, cases tackled by Raley and her students have garnered national media attention, including the A&E documentary “Countdown to an Execution,” which told the story of Darnell Williams, an Indiana death-row inmate whose sentence was commuted to natural life by Governor Joseph Kernan shortly before Williams’ scheduled execution. After the parole board voted 5-0 to recommend clemency, Kernan became the first Indiana governor in 50 years to grant clemency.
Past Recipients

Andrew B. Buroker, JD’89
Donald P. Dorfman, LLB’57
Miles Gerberding, LLB’56
John M. Hamilton, JD’86
Feisal Amin Rasoul Istrabadi, JD’88
Abigail L. Kuzma, JD’81
Jerry Moss, JD’62
Lindy G. Moss, LLB’52
Jeffrey R. Pankratz, JD’91
Bruce Polizotto, JD’67
Rapheal M. Prevot Jr., JD’84
John Purcell, JD’76
Jeff Richardson, JD’77
Rynthis Manning Rost, JD’80
Taylor C. Segue III, JD’83
Elizabeth Shuman-Moore, JD’82
Dan E. Spicer, JD’73
Milton O. Thompson, JD’79
William W. Weeks, JD’79
Brian P. Williams, JD’81
C. Daniel Yates, JD’73

Please join us following the ceremony for fellowship, hors d’oeuvres, and drinks with your fellow alumni and current students.
Elizabeth (Betsy) Shuman-Moore, JD’82

Betsy Shuman-Moore is a practicing attorney and director of the Project to Combat Bias Violence. An endeavor supported by the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights, the Lawyers’ Committee has affiliates in Washington, D.C. and in cities across the country.

Since 1990, Shuman-Moore has supervised attorneys working for the Project, the only comprehensive Midwest resource for hate crime survivors. The project provides pro bono assistance in a broad range of civil rights cases and legal representation for victims of hate crimes based on race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, and disability.

In her 16 years with the organization, Shuman-Moore has seen more than 100 community forums and training sessions and, more importantly, the convictions of many offenders, implementation of a strong Illinois statute, innovative settlements, and court awards of up to $6 million.

Community residents, law enforcement professionals, and social service professionals benefit from education about hate crime laws and from Project staff members who work to improve hate crime policy in cooperation with governmental agencies and social service, religious, and advocacy organizations.

In addition to professional work, Shuman-Moore serves on the boards of directors of the Lawyers’ Committee for Better Housing, the Appleseed Fund for Justice, and the Center for New Community; she is also a member of the Cook County State Attorney’s Hate Crime Prosecution Council and its Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Advisory Council. She was selected as a civil rights “Super Lawyer” in Illinois in 2005; received the Thomas and Eleanor Wright Award from the Chicago Commission on Human Relations for her outstanding leadership in the fight against hate crime in 2002; and earned the Public Interest Law Initiative Distinguished PILI Alumni Award in 1993.

Before joining the Chicago Lawyers’ Committee, Shuman-Moore spent seven years as staff attorney and legal director for the Leadership Council for Metropolitan Open Communities, where she litigated many fair housing cases. She has authored a number of articles on hate crime, sexual harassment in housing, and fair housing. Admitted to the bars of the State of Illinois, District Courts for the Northern Districts of Illinois and Indiana, and the trial bar for the Northern District of Illinois, she holds a bachelor of social work degree from the University of Illinois.*

*Shuman-Moore, a 2006 Distinguished Service Award recipient, is in Bloomington to accept her award this evening.
Service defines Kenneth Yahne’s life. For more than 40 years, he has devoted efforts to his country, his community, and the legal profession.

Following his 1968 graduation from Indiana Law, the Fort Wayne, Ind., native was drafted into the United States Army where he earned both an Army Commendation Medal and a Bronze Star for his work as a legal clerk and later as a claims adjuster in Vietnam.

He practiced corporate law for 35 years with Lincoln National Life Insurance Co. in Fort Wayne before retiring in 2003. During those years, he inspired the company’s volunteer community. At Lincoln, he developed and oversaw the Lincoln National Corporation Pro-Bono Legal Services Program for nearly 20 years.

Yahne is president of the St. Mary’s Church Finance Committee. He oversees the inner-city church’s budget and the operation of the St. Mary’s Soup Kitchen, which serves more than 20,000 meals monthly. He was instrumental in energizing the “Bells of St. Mary’s” Campaign, which provided Soup Kitchen funding and more than $125,000 in scholarships to make private education available to more children. He was instrumental in the Church’s 1998 capital campaign, and called upon again in 1993 to visualize and implement a complete re-build after a lightning strike and devastating fire.

He is also a co-founder and president of the Indiana Equal Justice Fund, which was established with the express purpose of facilitating the passage of the Civil Legal Aid Bill, which provides $1 million annually to qualifying legal assistance programs.

Yahne continues to make an impact as current chairman of the board for Workers for the Blind, an organization that arranges social activities for people who are visually impaired. He has also launched his new career in used cars, arranging transportation for those in need through social services agencies.

In 1989, the American Corporate Counsel Association awarded him its “Pro Bono Service Award for Outstanding Achievement” in recognition of the success of Lincoln’s corporate law program. He was named 1993 Allen County Pro-Bono Attorney of the Year, received the Indiana Bar Foundation Pro Bono Publico Award in 1995, and was made an Indiana Bar Foundation Fellow in 1999. In 1995, he was one of 11 lawyers appointed by Chief Justice Randall Shepard to the Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Statewide Pro Bono Initiative Committee, and he was an instrumental member of the Committee to Study the Legal Needs of the Poor in Indiana.
“Our vision is to be a highly visible and influential law school whose faculty, students, and graduates advance knowledge, justice, and the public good in the nation and around the world.”