

"Fall Sunrise on Ouray Co. Rd. 9" – image by Angela Classen

NEXT MEETING: September 25, 2019

The next meeting of the Legal Assistants of the Western Slope is scheduled for Wednesday, September 25, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. at the offices of Hoskin Farina & Kampf, Grand Junction, Colorado. **Please note we will begin with a short business meeting, and our guest speaker will begin at approximately 4:30.** This is our last meeting for 2019.

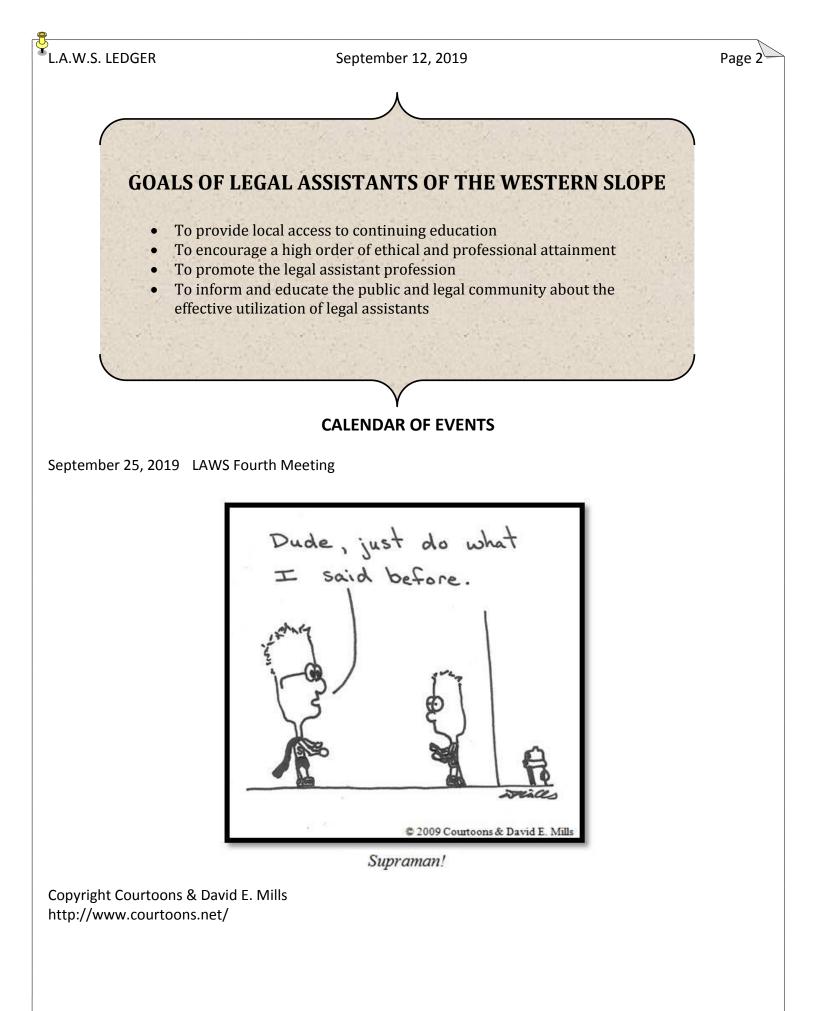
Our guest speaker will be Kelianne Chamberlain who will speak on the topic of constitutional law, including a discussion of the history and application of the Bill of Rights, a discussion about standards applicable to judicial review of the constitutionality of state action, and a review of the famous cases *Brown v. Board of Education* and *Obergefell v. Hodges*.

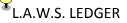
If you plan to attend, please RSVP with Kathy Begg by phone (970-986-3400) or e-mail (kbegg@hfak.com) so we can have an accurate head count. Also, please invite a friend! Let's spread the word about our great organization!

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

"... we haven't had that spirit here since 1969..."

From *The Hotel California*, by The Eagles. But you knew that.

The world in 2019 reflects on the 50th anniversary of the pivotal year 1969. From the inauguration of President Richard Nixon in January to the ill-fated Rolling Stones Altamont concert in December, 1969 is exceptional in its significance as an historical year. Men walked on the moon in July. A black cat spooked the Chicago Cubs in September, leading some to believe that the '69 Amazing Mets were amazing only because of some black magic. A music festival in August became the world's most famous mud bath and, at least momentarily, brought the hope of eternal brotherhood to a planet tired of war. A music festival in December ended in murder and the strange story of a violent Hells Angel. If society evolves gradually, it evolved a little less gradually in 1969.

The legal profession was – of course – not inoculated from the events of 1969.

Though not official, the first chronicle of America's Dumbest Criminals may have occurred in 1969. On January 8, 1969, a branch of the Citizens Bank and Trust in Maryland was robbed by Billie Austin Bryant. The astute Mr. Bryant may have targeted CB&T because he was familiar with it, having been a long-time customer. The bank's tellers, of course, knew exactly who the robber was and easily identified Mr. Bryant to the FBI. Mr. Bryant's getaway car was an equally stealth decision. Mr. Bryant absconded from the heist in his maroon Cadillac.

Billie Austin Bryant remains as the fugitive with the shortest time on the FBI's 10 Most Wanted List – only two hours. He would, though, kill two FBI agents while on the run from the law. In November, 1969, the sentencing judge told Bryant that he "would die in jail . . . at the time God so appoints."

The federal minimum wage in 1969 was \$1.30.

The only prosecution in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy took place in 1969, in New Orleans.

Jim Garrison was the District Attorney of Orleans Parish, Louisiana. Jim Garrison will be remembered in the history books as either a patriot who stood resolutely in the face of extreme adversity to serve the interests of justice or as a narcissist who couldn't stop looking at his own image in the pool of water that is the television screen. Garrison charged David Shaw, a New Orleans businessman who was also prominent in the city's gay community, with conspiring in tandem with anti-Castro *ex post facto* CIA agents to assassinate Kennedy. Shaw, a highly decorated World War II veteran, was quickly acquitted. Garrison was ridiculed for the remainder of his life for his dismal prosecution of Shaw. The ridicule intensified when Garrison later faced accusations of taking bribes from an operator of illegal pinball machines, though he was acquitted on all charges.

In 1969, *Roe v. Wade* was still four years away, *Gregg v. Georgia* was seven, and President Reagan's appointment of the Supreme Court's first woman justice, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, was twelve. Chief Justice Warren Burger was replaced by Justice Earl Warren. America's first black Justice, Thurgood Marshall, was in his third year on the high court.

In 1969, Skamania County, Washington passed a law making it a felony to kill a Bigfoot. No one has ever been prosecuted under the statute and there appears to be no *stare decisis* in the area of Bigfoot law.

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The Public Health Cigarette Smoking Act of 1969 restricted the marketing and advertising of tobacco and required cigarette manufacturers to print health warnings on their packaging. Broadcast outlets, impacted by an immediate loss of income, sued the United States government. *Capital Broadcasting Company v. Mitchell* (1971) was brought in the District Court in the District of Columbia, alleging that the statute unconstitutionally prohibited the "dissemination of information with respect to a lawfully sold product," an infringement of First Amendment protections. SCOTUS denied cert.

On May 12, 1969, the International Olympic Committee selected Denver to host the 1976 Winter Olympic Games. Denver rejected the IOC's offer, to this day the only city ever to do so.

Citing "[t]he particular form of abomination which shocked the sensibilities of our forefathers," Kansas in 1969 became the first state to pass laws targeted specifically against gay people. Prior to their passage, sodomy laws had historically been used as sentence enhancers, usually cited as aggravating circumstances in sex crimes against children. The 1969 legislation, in fact, was part of a comprehensive revision of the Kansas criminal code and sodomy was reduced from a felony to a misdemeanor but was criminal only if the participants were of the same sex.

An important First Amendment case was heard by the Supreme Court in 1969. In the case of *Tinker v. Des Moines Sch. Dist.*, 393 U.S. 503 (1969), the Court, in a 7-2 decision, held that high school students in Des Moines, Iowa had First Amendment protections to wear black arm bands protesting the Viet Nam war and that the students' protections exceeded the authority of the school administrators who claimed that the arm bands would "materially and substantially interfere" with their ability to maintain order in the school. Justice Potter Stewart, voting with the majority, wrote that children do not have First Amendment protections equal to those of adults, but do have rights of communication through "words . . . and actions." Justice Hugo Black dissented, holding that the arm bands were a distraction that prohibited the administrators from discharging their duties. Justice John Harlan also dissented, holding that the administrators had every right to prohibit the arm bands if they were doing so to maintain order in the school and not because they were deliberately subrogating the rights of the students.

Perhaps in connection with the moon landing in July, NASA in 1969 adopted 14 CFR 1211, the Extra-Terrestrial Exposure Law. The purpose of the regulation was to ensure that astronauts who happen to witness creatures from outer space faithfully reported their sightings to the government but without a lot of public fanfare. (See the Bigfoot law, *supra*).

The most infamous crime of 1969 was, of course, the Tate-LaBianca murders by the Charlie Manson "family" in August. If Woodstock's "3 Days of Peace & Music" were the embodiment of the ideals of social justice and brotherhood that defined the 1960s, the Manson murders were the front-page, on-tv-every-night reality that ravished the hope. And, there was one more.

On December 6, 1969, the Rolling Stones played a *pro bono* concert at the Altamont Motor Speedway in California. For reasons not entirely clear – perhaps on the recommendations of the Grateful Dead and the Jefferson Airplane - the Stones hired San Francisco area Hells Angels for the concert's security, payment being \$500 of beer. The Angels' only task was to keep the 300,000 concert goers from damaging the Stones' equipment. That's not what happened.

During the third song of the set – "Sympathy for the Devil" – a fight broke out near the stage and a fan, 18-year old Meredith Hunter, was stabbed by Hells Angel Alan Pasarro. In his murder trial, Pasarro claimed that Hunter was armed with a revolver, had climbed onto the stage to attack Mick Jagger, and confronted Pasarro. Video of the event confirmed Pasarro's testimony and he was acquitted. In 1985, Pasarro's body was discovered floating in a reservoir with \$10,000 in cash in his pockets.

~ Rob Jones, President

Again – if anyone has suggestions for where I can find continuing education articles to include in future issues, please let me know. Thanks!

SPEAKER BIO

Kelianne Chamberlain joined Hoskin Farina & Kampf, P.C. in 2015 and works from the Grand Junction office. Kelianne assists clients with estate planning, including wills, trusts, powers of attorney, and prenuptial agreements, probate and trust administration, real estate transactions, and business planning and transactions. Prior to joining the firm, Kelianne practiced with The Business Law Group in Colorado Springs and with Aron & Hennig, LLP, in Laramie, Wyoming. She enjoys working with clients through their personal and business planning goals and transactional events. She is a member of the St. Mary's Estate Planning Council, the Colorado West Estate Planning Council, and the board of directors of RiversEdge West. She also belongs to the Trust and Estate and Elder Law Sections of the Colorado Bar Association.



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LEGAL LOL



The Wrong Guy

A man who had been involved in a hit-and-run...ran. He knew he was drunk, and he also knew that getting caught would mean a second conviction of driving under the influence. So he got out of his vehicle, stumbled to the next intersection, and flagged down a car at the stoplight.

"I've been in an 'accidentally," he drunkenly explained to the driver. "I need somebody to drive me home."

The driver of the car looked at him thoughtfully. "All right," he finally said. "Get in."

The intoxicated hitchhiker couldn't believe his luck. How often do you find such a willing accomplice on the first try? After just a few fumbles he got the car door open and climbed in beside his Good Samaritan.

But then the drunk man noticed something was wrong. True, his head was spinning. But he could swear that the driver had immediately made a U-turn and headed back in the direction of the accident.

"Hey, man, what are you doing?" he asked weakly.

The undercover cop reached under the seat and pulled out his identification and badge.

"Buddy," he said, "this just isn't your day."

From "America's Dumbest Criminals" by Daniel Butler, Alan Ray & Leland Gregory, copyright 1995

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JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dufford Waldeck has an immediate opening for an experienced Paralegal/Legal Assistant. Our ideal candidate will have exceptional communication and organizational skills, proofreading skills, along with the desire to learn and be an effective team player. Candidates must be proficient in Word, Outlook, and Excel. Preference given to those with a Paralegal certificate or equivalent experience. This position could be full-time, part-time, or contract. All candidates will be asked to complete a Microsoft Word Skills Test. Salary commensurate with experience. EOE.

Interested applicants can apply through Indeed: <u>https://www.indeed.com/job/paralegal-legal-assistant-1b726ca18f94d59c</u>

Rider & Quesenberry seeks a qualified full time receptionist for busy multi-law firm suite. Must be able to handle multiple phone lines allotted among different firms and transfer calls/take messages accordingly. Duties include answering phones, greeting clients, conference room set-up/clean-up, running errands, data entry and other general office duties as assigned. Valid driver's license required. Familiarity with WordPerfect, Microsoft Office, including Word and Outlook preferred. For further information or to apply, please contact Peggy Williams, RIDER & QUESENBERRY, LLC, 970-257-1917, peggy@gibusinesslaw.com

CRIME & PREJUDICE

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